



LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF COUNCIL

TO BE HELD AT

THE ADMINISTRATION CENTRE, LITHGOW

ON

04 JUNE 2007

AT 6.00pm

# AGENDA

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**PRESENT**

**QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERY**

**PRESENTATIONS:** - Gavin Priestly - Centroc Broadband Project

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 7 MAY 2007**

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

**NOTICE OF MOTION - NIL**

**NOTICE OF RECISION - NIL**

**MAYORAL MINUTES**

Friends of the Earth – Australia  
Make a Wish Foundation  
NSW Mayors Agreement on Climate Change

**CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS**

General Manager Reports  
Regional Services Report  
Community and Corporate Services Reports

**REPORTS FROM DELEGATES – NIL**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS – NIL**

**QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

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AGENDA – POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING OF COUNCIL

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CENTRE

## MAYORAL MINUTE

ITEM:1            04/06/07 - MAYORAL MINUTE - FRIENDS OF THE EARTH,  
                         AUSTRALIA

### MAYORAL MINUTE – 04/06/07 – FRIENDS OF THE EARTH, AUSTRALIA

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## REFERENCE

NIL

## SUMMARY

This report outlines correspondence received from Friends of the Earth Australia in relation the Federal Governments nuclear transportation and disposal plans.

## COMMENTARY

Correspondence was received from the Friends of the earth Australia in relation to the Federal Governments nuclear transportation and disposal plans and their hope in Council considering reaffirming Council's current policy of opposition to the trucking of nuclear waste through the Blue Mountains.

As discussed at a recent meeting, the federal government is planning to establish a nuclear waste facility in the Northern Territory for Commonwealth waste, primarily from Lucas Heights. The government has expressed a preference for trucking the waste as opposed to train or marine transportation. As such, there is a serious risk that large quantities of nuclear waste will be trucked through the Blue Mountains for decades to come.

Whereas the previous proposal to establish a dump in South Australia involved low – level and short – lived intermediate-level waste, the current proposal also includes long-lived intermediate-level waste. This includes uranium fission products and very long-lived transuranic isotopes such as plutonium, from the processing or irradiated targets at Lucas Heights.

Other wastes produced at Lucas Heights include:

- A stockpile of over 5,000 drums of low-level radioactive waste
- A stockpile of over 200 cubic metres of intermediate – level solid waste, some with “unknown radioactive inventory”.
- Over 800 drums of "historical wastes" including radioactive thorium, beryllium and uranium
- Approximately 130 drums per year of radioactive “compactable low level solid waste”, eg vials, gloves etc
- Approximately 20 drums per year of drums of solidified radioactive “sludge” produced in the treatment of reactor waste-waters
- Several thousand cubic metres of radioactive “non-compactable contaminated items”, eg materials from the decommissioned old Lucas Heights reactor, pipes, machinery etc. The exact amount of waste will be determined by the reactor decommissioning option chosen by ANSTO.

During the discussions Council was provided with the NSW Governments response to the unanimous, cross – party parliamentary inquiry which concluded that the proposal to truck nuclear waste through NSW should be abandoned. That unanimous finding, reflected concerns expressed by numerous local council's as well as emergency service organisations.

Friends of the Earth also have concerns about the proposed nuclear dump in the NT, including the following:

- None of the sites under consideration was considered suitable when scientific and environmental criteria were used to determine potential dump sites in the 1990's (Bureau of Resource Sciences 1997 report).
- The Federal Government intends to override an Act of the NT Parliament which aims to prevent the imposition of a nuclear dump.
- Legislation has been enacted in the federal parliament to reduce the level of scientific scrutiny associated with the dump proposal and to remove opportunities for judicial review.
- The option of ongoing storage of waste at Lucas Heights has been ruled out even though numerous bodies have acknowledged the viability of that option – namely the federal government itself, the regulator ARPANSA, the Lucas Heights nuclear agency ANSTO, the Australian Nuclear Association, and the cross – party report of the NSW parliaments nuclear Waste Inquiry.

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Leaflet and Letter

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** Council reaffirm its opposition to the transport of Nuclear Waste through its Council area.

**ITEM:2            04/06/07 - MAYORAL MINUTE - MAKE A WISH FOUNDATION**

**REPORT FROM: NEVILLE CASTLE, MAYOR**

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**REFERENCE**

NIL

**SUMMARY**

This report outlines correspondence received from the Make a Wish Foundation in relation to Lithgow helping the Foundation light up Australia at Christmas.

**COMMENTARY**

"Will Lithgow have the best lights in Australia this Christmas?"

The Make a Wish Foundation ask Lithgow Council to help them light up Lithgow and prove to Australia that Lithgow indeed has the biggest and brightest lights in the land.

Make A Wish Australia's mission is to bring magic and joy to children and young people with life-threatening illnesses by granting their most cherished wishes. Their vision is for all Australians to have the opportunity to share the power of a wish.

2007 is their second year of the "Wish Upon a Christmas Light" competition - a nationwide competition allowing people who decorate their homes for Christmas to enter a competition which offers a grand prize of \$10,000 and also allows people via the entry fee, to help raise funds to grant more wishes for children with life-threatening illnesses.

After completing an entry form that can be picked up at any Credit Union Australia Branch or any Donut King Store, or by registering online and paying the entry fee of \$40, entrants are encouraged to light up their home to win either the Grand Prize of \$10,000 or one of the state/territory prizes of \$1,000, \$700 or \$300 for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place respectively.

People are then encouraged to vote for their favourite home via SMS - to encourage voting there is a 3 night holiday in New Zealand as a random voter's prize.

Make a Wish would very like our support in promoting this competition in our Council region.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

## ATTACHMENTS

NIL

## RECOMMENDATION

### THAT:

1. The information be received and;
2. Council advertise this competition in the local media.

**ITEM:3            04/06/07 - MAYORAL MINUTE - NSW MAYORS AGREEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

**REPORT FROM: NEVILLE CASTLE, MAYOR**

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## REFERENCE

NIL

## SUMMARY

This report outlines correspondence received from the Local Government Association of NSW in relation to the NSW Mayors agreement on climate change.

## COMMENTARY

The Local Government Association of NSW is writing to Council to inform us that the Local Government and Shires Association of NSW have established a NSW Mayors Agreement on Climate Change.

The 2006 LGA Annual Conference resolved (arising from a motion by Waverly Council) that all mayors be encouraged to sign a NSW Mayors agreement on climate change. If Councils in NSW agree to sign such an agreement it is proposed that NSW mayors would agree to the following:

NSW Mayors support the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate change (UNFCCC) (Kyoto Protocol) targets and agree to:

- Strive to meet or beat the Kyoto protocol targets in their own operations, activities and communities, through actions ranging from anti-sprawl, land use policies to urban forest restoration projects to information campaigns.
- Urge the State and Federal Government to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the greenhouse gas emission reduction target, suggested for Australia in the Kyoto Protocol, of 108% of its 1900 baseline; and

- Urge the Federal Government and the deferral opposition to build on the Prime Ministers commitment to developing and investing funding in programs to meet the target Australia agreed to at Kyoto in 1997 by now formally ratifying the Kyoto Protocol and that target.

In the USA 319 Mayors across the country have united to pledge their commitment to reducing greenhouse gases by signing the mayors Climate Change Agreement. Under this agreement US Cities have committed to take several actions. These actions include lobbying the federal and state governments to enact policies and program to "meet or beat" the target set out in the Kyoto Protocol, and to strive to meet or exceed Kyoto Protocol target by taking actions in their own operations and communities. The NSW Mayors agreement has been modelled on the US Agreement. Councils are also advised of the opportunity to commit to a local emissions reduction target of a 30 per cent cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020.

Councils who wish to sign up to the NSW Mayors agreement can respond to the Association or alternatively councils can wait for the release of the Climate Change Action Pack in August 2007 which will provide information to support the agreement.

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

NIL

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

##### **THAT:**

1. The Information be received
2. Council consider signing the Climate Change Agreement

## GENERAL MANAGERS REPORTS

### ITEM:4 GM - 04/06/07 – TV BLACK SPOT PROGRAM

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#### REFERENCE

NIL

#### SUMMARY

This report outlines correspondence received from the Federal Member for Calare, Mr Peter Andren in relation to the television reception in the Lithgow area.

#### COMMENTARY

Correspondence has been received from the Federal Member for Calare, Mr Peter Andren in relation to television reception in the Lithgow area.

In relation to the Capertee and Hartley areas, he has informed that those translator facilities are provided by Council under the former black spot program and as such are Council's responsibility for service and maintenance.

Regarding reception problems being experienced in the Lithgow urban area itself, council does not state if the problem is in relation to the analogue or digital service. However, my Lithgow office is aware of digital transmission problems within the area and has made enquiries to both WIN and Prime technicians. Mr Andren is still awaiting a reply from WIN and will forward it to Council when received.

Prime suggests the problem being experienced in Lithgow urban area with their digital signal may be due to the translator atop Reservoir Hill. That translator which also acts as a feeder to the Lithgow, east translator was allocated channel 59 which is 746.5Mh. Due to possible interference from another nearby service also operating on channel 59, Prime was given an offset to 746.625Mh.

Prime informs that digital television and set top boxes are preinstalled with allocated frequencies such 746.5. Generally they will recognise the offset signal (746.625) but may revert back to the present frequency. I am told that under certain conditions this may not occur at once but may take some time. A possible remedy for this is to finetune the receiver manually.

Council also enquired the time frame for replacement of analogue with digital transmission. The department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (DCITA) advises transmission of analogue television in Australia will cease during 2010-2012. I understand this will be assessed with regard to the consumer uptake at the time.

Regarding self – help retransmission facilities such as those established under the analogue Black Spot Program, no determination has yet been made about government assistance with their conversion from analogue to digital.

However a new body with DCITA is to be established to investigate the technical options and cost of converting the self-help transmission sites to digital. This issue is to be considered by the government and Digital Australia during 2007.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

**ATTACHMENTS**

NIL

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the information be received.

**ITEM:5 GM - 04/06/07 - CRIME PREVENTION PLAN FOR LITHGOW**

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**REFERENCE**

NIL

**SUMMARY**

This report outlines correspondence from the Local Member in relation to crime prevention in Lithgow.

**COMMENTARY**

Correspondence was received from the Local Member for Bathurst in relation to crime prevention in Lithgow.

The Local Member recently met with the Board of the Lithgow Information and Neighbourhood Centre (LINC) and advised that they keen to develop some strategies to deal with anti social behaviour in Lithgow.

The matter of Crime Prevention Plan for Lithgow was discussed and the Local Member advised LINC that this would have to be coordinated with Lithgow City Council.

The Local Member advises that LINC will be writing to Council in regards to this matter and the Local Member would be happy to coordinate an appropriate response with the Attorney Generals Department if a decision is made to proceed to finality with a Crime Prevention Plan for Lithgow.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

**ATTACHMENTS**

NIL

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the information be noted.

**ITEM:6            GM - 04/06/07 - CHARLES STURT BATHURST - NEW DENTAL SCHOOL**

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**REFERENCE**

NIL

**SUMMARY**

This report provides an update to the Committees on the successful funding for the establishment of a new Dental School for central NSW at Charles Sturt University.

**COMMENTARY**

The Committees will recall a recent request to support the funding application for the establishment of a Dental School by the CSU.

The Federal Budget announced the school would receive funding and as a result CSU will now prepare the school of dentistry at its campus throughout central NSW.

CSU would like to thank Council for its support of the program and look forward to further advancing all areas of rural health.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

This report is inline with Council policy of endeavouring to provide access to higher education services within our region.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications to Council as a result of this report.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Letter from CSU (Dataworks 346006)

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** this report be submitted for information.

**ITEM:7            GM - 04/05/07 - EXPANSION TO LITHGOW CORRECTIONAL CENTRE**

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**REFERENCE**

NIL

**SUMMARY**

This report provides the Committees with advice from the State member, Gerard Martin regarding the forwarding of Council's submission to the relevant Minister.

**COMMENTARY**

Written advice has been received (as attached) from the Member for Bathurst, Gerard Martin MP regarding the forwarding of Council's correspondence to the Premier, Minister for Planning and the Minister for Justice. At the time of preparing the business paper no further advice had been received.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

This advice is inline with Council's resolution date 21 May 2007.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications to Council as a result of this report.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

NIL

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Letter from Member for Bathurst(Dataworks 345668)
2. Council's letter to Premier

## RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** this report be submitted for information.

**ITEM:8            GM - 04/06/07 - FORMER XSTRATA LANDS - CRANE ROAD AND  
                         IVATT STREET**

**REPORT BY: GENERAL MANAGER – PAUL ANDERSON**

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### SUMMARY

To advise Council of a meeting held with representatives of the company that has purchased part of the former Xstrata lands containing 10 dwellings

### COMMENTARY

A meeting was held on 29 May 2007 with representatives of Marie Edward Pty Ltd, the company that has purchased lot 12 DP 1077891, containing 10 dwellings. The discussions were positive with the company intending to prepare subdivision proposals for vacant land within the holding and also the subdivision of existing dwellings to be offered for sale to residents, subject to issue of building certificates. In the interim, tenancy agreements are proposed. The company intends to forward correspondence to the residents in the near future to advise of their plans.

### POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

### ATTACHMENTS

1. Nil.

## RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the information be received and residents that have registered an interest to be kept informed be advised of the latest development.

## REGIONAL SERVICES REPORTS

**ITEM:9            REG - 21/05/07 - NAMING OF ELECTRONIC SCOREBOARD, TONY LUCHETTI SPORTSGROUND, LITHGOW**

**REPORT FROM: GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL SERVICES, ANDREW MUIR**

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### REFERENCE

Nil

### SUMMARY

Proposal to name the electronic scoreboard at Tony Luchetti Sportsground, Lithgow, after Leslie “Bunny” Abbott in honour of his dedication and commitment to timekeeping at rugby league matches in the Lithgow district for the past fifty two (52) years.

### COMMENTARY

Council has been approached by representatives of the Lithgow Storm Junior RLFC, Workmen’s Club RLFC and the Lithgow Bears RLFC who have requested that Council consider naming the new electronic scoreboard at Tony Luchetti Sportsground, Lithgow after Leslie “Bunny” Abbott, who has been the official timekeeper of all rugby league matches at Tony Luchetti Sportsground, Lithgow for the past fifty two (52) years.

Bunny’s skill in rugby league saw him play for the St George Club from 1935 until 1938, and then moving on to play for Western Suburbs Lithgow in 1939, followed by a season with the newly formed Factory Club, during which he captained the Group 10 and Western Division Representative Teams.

After retiring from playing football in 1941, Bunny officiated many games, including representative games, in his role as referee until 1948.

In 1948, Bunny turned his focus toward coaching, claiming success with Lithgow’s St Patrick’s team (winning 4 successive first grade grand finals between 1948 and 1951), and being runners up in 1952. Unfortunately, in 1953, St Patrick’s did not field a team, however in 1954, the Club reformed and won the Group 10 second division competition, achieving an impressive record of winning 5 from 6 Group 10 premierships.

Retaining his interest in league, Bunny became involved in the administration of the Lithgow District League, with his involvement including being a member of the Management Committee, Referee’s appointment board, and the Judiciary Committee, together with his appointment as vice president until the league folded in the mid 1960’s.

In 1955, Bunny was appointed the Official Timekeeper for Rugby League in Lithgow, for both the Junior and Senior Leagues, a position which he still holds to date, meaning 2007 is his 52<sup>nd</sup> year as timekeeper. Through his dedication and love of football, Bunny has not missed one game of either junior or senior divisions during this period. As a testimony to the respect he has achieved, Bunny is a life member of Lithgow St Patrick’s, Shamrocks, Lithgow Bears, Workmen’s Club and Group 10 Senior and Junior divisions.

In total, Bunny has given sixty eight (68) years of continual voluntary service to rugby league, and after recently turning 92 years old, is looking forward to the coming seasons, with no intention of handing in his stopwatch.

Bunny has been trained to proficiently use the new scoreboard, and now also undertakes the duties of scoring as well as timekeeping for all games conducted at Tony Luchetti Sportsground, Lithgow.

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Funding will be required for the purchase and installation of a plaque commemorating the dedication and naming of the scoreboard which can be obtained from the recurrent budget for the Tony Luchetti Sportsground.

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** Council officially name the electronic scoreboard at Tony Luchetti Sportsground, Lithgow the “Bunny Abbott Scoreboard”.

**ITEM:10            REG - 04/06/07 - TREES (DISPUTES BETWEEN NEIGHBOURS) ACT 2006**

**REPORT BY: GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL SERVICES - ANDREW MUIR**

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#### **SUMMARY**

To advise Council of the introduction of the Trees (Disputes Between Neighbours) Act 2006

#### **COMMENTARY**

The Trees (Disputes Between Neighbours) Act 2006 and Trees (Disputes Between Neighbours) Regulation 2007 commenced in February 2007. It is claimed that the new legislation presents an accessible solution for neighbour disputes regarding trees which have caused, are causing, or are likely to cause damage to property in the near future, or trees which are likely to cause injury to a person.

It enables a person to apply to the Land and Environment Court (LEC) for an order to remedy, restrain or prevent damage to property or prevent injury when a tree is situated on adjoining property. The Act **does not** apply to trees on land owned or managed by a Council.

The Act is designed to apply to trees on privately owned land in residential, village, township, industrial or business zones which are the same type as such zones but may be named differently.

The process for a person to take action in the Court is designed to be relatively inexpensive with a focus on negotiated resolutions. The Court cannot make an order unless it is satisfied that a reasonable effort has been made to resolve the matter. The scope of the orders that can be made by the Court includes trimming or removing the tree, costs and payment of compensation for damage to property.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

None to Council.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Nil.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the information be received.

**ITEM:11            REG - 04/06/07 - LAND AND ENVIRONMENT COURT APPEAL -  
DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION NO 504-2004 - LOT 301 PEACHTREE  
ROAD, MEGALONG VALLEY**

**REPORT BY: GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL SERVICES - ANDREW MUIR**

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**SUMMARY**

To advise Council of the outcome of the appeal in the Land and Environment Court

**COMMENTARY**

The hearing into the appeal against Commissioner Moore's decision in relation to the proposed "Church/Retreat" was heard on 29 May 2007. Justice Lloyd rejected the appeal and awarded costs to Council. At the time of this report further details were awaited.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Council has been awarded costs by the Court.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The subject of this report.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the information be received and further information be provided when available.

## **COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS**

### **ITEM:12        COMM - 21/05/07 - ESKBANK HOUSE AND MUSEUM -                   EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST REPORT**

#### **REPORT FROM: COMMUNITY AND CULTURE MANAGER - P.HALL**

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#### **REFERENCE**

Minute 07-79: Policy and Strategy Meeting 05/03/07

#### **SUMMARY**

It was resolved at the Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting on the 5 March 2007 that Council prepare an Expressions of Interest pack and call for responses to ascertain options for the ongoing management, development and usage of Eskbank House. This report provides Council with the outcomes of that process.

#### **COMMENTARY**

Expressions of interest were called for from commercial operators or community groups to manage Eskbank House and Museum events advertising in the Lithgow Mercury with written responses closing on 4 May 2007. No responses were received.

The commercial operator who had initially raised the issue of operating the facility some months ago was contacted to seek information as to why he had not made a submission. He indicated that with the detail provided he did not think it was viable to operate as a sole commercial operator so he had not responded to the expression of interest.

The operations of Eskbank House are supervised by the Cultural Development officer who currently works and will continue to work three weekdays at Eskbank House.

The Cultural Development Officer has proposed a plan for volunteer management to enable weekend operations at Eskbank House including volunteer tour guides, specialist hobbyist groups and partners to assist in operation of facility on the weekends as an alternative and this is now recommended to Council. The partners program in particular would offer the opportunity for interest groups to work with Council to ensure this valuable asset is developed and promoted effectively.

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The volunteer programme would have to comply with Lithgow City Council's Occupational Health and Safety Volunteer Policy.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Progression of this program will require continued financial commitment from Council and there is an existing budget. The ability to fund capital improvements to the facility will be enhanced by the conversion of weekend coverage to volunteers.

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## RECOMMENDATION

### THAT:

1. Council note there were no responses to the Expression of Interest to operate Eskbank House
2. Council endorses a Volunteer Tour Guide and Partner Program to assist in the long term management and development of the facility.

### ITEM:13            **COMM - 04/06/07 - SPECIAL PARKING RATE ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES FOR THE 2007/08 RATING YEAR**

#### **REPORT FROM: INTERNAL SERVICES MANAGER MRS C FARNSWORTH**

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### REFERENCE

Min 06-07: 06.02.06 Policy and Services Committee Meeting 6 February 2006.  
Question Without Notice 21 May 2007

### SUMMARY

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on the 21 May 2007, Councillor Thompson requested a report to advise of the additional properties to be included in the Special Parking rate from the 2007/08 rating year.

### COMMENTARY

Council in past years has charged a parking rate to business properties in Main Street, Mort Street and Railway Parade Lithgow. During 2005/06 various properties were identified and charged the parking levy but as an ongoing program Council has considered expanding the areas which utilise parking to ensure all business properties are captured in the 2007/08 rating levy. The Parking rate is levied at 0.818 cents in the dollar based on the valuation of the property.

The parking rate is used or reserved for current or future improvements to parking areas within the CBD.

It should be noted that if a property is identified within the parking area, and they are categorised as 'residential', they will not be charged parking unless the use of the property is changed at any time to 'business'.

The areas identified are the:

- Central section of Railway Parade (Dental and Doctor's surgery)
- Mort Street from Lithgow Street to Bridge Street - both sides
- Cook Street (Main Street Lane to Mort Street)
- Coles, Aldi, Pottery Estate developments

| PROPERTY                  | VALUATION | LEVY TO BE INCLUDED FOR SPECIAL PARKING FROM 2007/08 |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| 11580                     | 65,000    | 531.70   | Cook St, Lithgow      |
| 11590                     | 80,300    | 656.85   | Cook St, Lithgow      |
| 11600                     | 72,000    | 588.96   | Cook St, Lithgow      |
| 35000                     | 48,000    | 392.64   | Mort St, Lithgow      |
| 35010                     | 48,000    | 392.64   | Mort St, Lithgow      |
| 35050                     | 49,800    | 407.36   | Mort St, Lithgow      |
| 35080                     | 30,000    | 245.40   | Mort St, Lithgow      |
| 35110                     | 47,600    | 389.37   | Mort St, Lithgow      |
| 35090                     | 30,000    | 245.40   | Mort St, Lithgow      |
| 35190                     | 79,000    | 646.22   | Mort St, Lithgow      |
| 35320                     | 55,400    | 453.17   | Mort St, Lithgow      |
| 35420                     | 58,800    | Non Rateable   | Mort St, Lithgow      |
| 35430                     | 117,000   | 957.06   | Mort St, Lithgow      |
| 40390                     | 56,300    | 460.53   | Railway Pde, Lithgow  |
| 102513                    | 2,250,000 | 18405.   | Bent St, Lithgow      |
| 103869                    | 1,050,000 | 8,589.00   | Valley Drive, Lithgow |
| 102884                    | 800,000   | 6,544.00   | Valley Drive, Lithgow |
| <b>TOTAL PARKING LEVY</b> |           | <b>\$39,905.30</b>                                   |                       |

Prior to levying the parking rate, Council is required to undertake the following process:

- Identify and resolve the properties to be charged;
- Contract a surveyor to undertake a 'meets & bounds' survey;
- Notify ratepayers they will be rateable for parking from the 2007/08 financial year;
- Apply the parking rate from the 1 July 2007 rating period.

A meets and bounds survey was requested by Craven Elliston and Hayes (Lithgow) Pty Ltd and was submitted to Council on the 19 January 2007.

Individual notification was sent to all property owners who would be affected by the change and only one letter has been received from a business property in Mort Street.

### **Policy Implications**

Nil

### **Financial Implications**

Additional parking income of \$39,905.30 for 2007/08

### **Legal Implications**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS - 1.** Map of the affected areas

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the information be received.

**ITEM:14            COMM - 04/06/07 - REQUEST FOR A CHANGE IN RATING  
CATEGORY AND LEVY ADJUSTMENT - PROPERTY 13160 - 61  
ENFIELD AVE, LITHGOW**

**REPORT FROM - INTERNAL SERVICES MANAGER - C FARNSWORTH**

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**REFERENCE**

Nil

**SUMMARY**

The owner of 61 Enfield Avenue Lithgow has corresponded with Council requesting a change in category, for rating purposes, from business to residential as well as an adjustment to the rates levied on the property from 1 July 2004 to date. This report recommends re-categorisation for the 2006/07 year only.

**COMMENTARY**

Council has been requested by the owner of 61 Enfield Avenue Lithgow:

- 1) to amend the category of their property for rating purposes
- 2) to adjust the rates levied on the property applicable from 1 July 2004
- 3) to refund a credit balance should it remain after the full payment of rates for the 2006/2007 financial year.

Officers from Council's Regional Services have inspected the site and reports that the property contains a fibro clad dwelling and garage used for residential purposes.

The property is currently rented through an external real estate agent who has provided supporting documentation in the form of residential tenancy agreements valid from 6 August 2004.

In consultation with the Department of Local Government on this matter, Council was advised it was a matter for the Council to determine the acceptance of a re-categorisation. In terms of the time frame in which any re-categorisation should be applied, the Department has suggested that a policy position would assist Council in these matters in future and this is recommended to Council.

In considering the request to retrospectively re-categorise the premises, Council may consider that notification of the categorisation is made each year through the distribution of rating notices. Previous rating years' rates have already been paid in accordance with the notifications for the rating year without the lodging of a request to vary the category.

It is recommended that Council approve the change of category for rating purposes from business to residential on the basis that the property has been used for residential purposes from the 1 July 2006 to date with an impost of \$1,446.96 on Council's rating income of the year to be observed.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

A total of \$1,446.96 income will be lost if the recommendation to change the categorisation for the 2006/07 year.

In considering the issues, the request to re-categorise retrospectively the calculated amounts would be as follows:

|               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 2004/05:      | \$1,053.99        |
| 2005/06:      | \$1,252.85        |
| 2006/07:      | \$1,446.96        |
| <b>TOTAL:</b> | <b>\$3,753.80</b> |

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The owner of the property is entitled appeal Council's decision on this matter through the Land and Environment Court. The Local Government Act (1993) nominates (s 526) that an appeal must be made within a 30 day period. Council is obliged through the Local Government Act 1993 to inform the owner of the decision in a particular manner and with reference to the options for appeal the owner may have,

### **CONCLUSION**

Council may wish to consider the request to re-categorise the rating category on this property retrospectively however the recommendation is to offer the re-categorisation for the 2006/07 year.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **THAT:**

- 1) Council approve an amendment to the rating category of 61 Enfield Avenue, Lithgow from business to residential applicable from 1 July 2006;
- 2) Council adjust the rate levy on Property 13160 from 1 July 2006 to date which will result in the writing off income of \$1,446.96;
- 3) Council determine that a Policy be prepared to summarise the considerations for any future request for rating re-categorisation;
- 4) The General Manager be authorised to discuss the outcomes of this decision and negotiate on matters arising if necessary.

## ATTACHMENTS

## ITEM:6 GM - 04/06/07 - CHARLES STURT BATHURST - NEW DENTAL SCHOOL



## Lithgow City Council

Council

The Grange

Panorama Avenue

28 MAY 2007 Bathurst NSW 2795

Australia

## VICE-CHANCELLOR

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ABN: 83 878 708 551

Doc No .....

GDA Ref .....

Years .....

25 May 2007

Councillor Neville Castle  
Mayor, City of Lithgow Council  
PO Box 19  
**Lithgow NSW 2790**

Dear Councillor Castle

As you will now know Charles Sturt University was successful in obtaining \$65.1 million in the Commonwealth Budget for the establishment of a new dental school for inland NSW.

The success of this proposal was, in no small measure, built on the enormous support we received from our inland communities as represented through their local councils. On behalf of the University, its staff and students, we wish to extend our gratitude to you and City of Lithgow Council for your support and we look forward to continuing to work with our local councils and communities to drive further investment and reform in the development of educational opportunities for the people of inland NSW.

We acknowledge the important role that local government plays at a grassroots level in articulating the needs and expectations of our local communities. Your letter of support, and the letters from all our councils in inland NSW, was critical in giving voice to those needs and expectations and for helping Charles Sturt University to achieve our mutual aims – an end to the rural dental crisis.

As soon as the decision was communicated to the University on Budget Night, work commenced on establishing what will be a state-of-the-art dental school for inland NSW. With pre-clinical and clinical operations in Orange and Wagga Wagga, and dental education clinics in Bathurst, Albury-Wodonga and Dubbo, Charles Sturt University will not only expand the opportunities for students in inland NSW, but will also deliver important dental services through our clinical education facilities integrated into each campus location.

We will also work closely with local dentists outside our direct campus areas to provide clinical education opportunities for students and contribute further to expanding the number of dental services available for rural people, even before our first dentists graduate.

This funding also recognises that training students in rural Australia is the most effective way to ensure that graduates remain to practice in rural locations. The provision of health services, and health professionals, is critical to the sustainability of

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The Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) Provider Number is 00005F (NSW) and 02597E (QLD) for Charles Sturt University.

rural towns. Charles Sturt University views its role as contributing positively to redressing the decline in the rural health workforce and ensuring our rural communities both survive and thrive.

We hope that this decision represents a policy shift away from the over-reliance on "outreach programs" operated by metropolitan universities in addressing rural workforce needs and a move to greater direct investment in regional institutions.

Charles Sturt University will continue to work to identify and address tangible solutions to rural workforce requirements and will continue to press the Government, with the support of our local communities and councils, for the funding to establish programs that represent a long term viable solutions to rural workforce needs. While Charles Sturt University cannot offer every course where a skill shortage is identified, it will work with its local communities and councils, as well as with other institutions, to ensure the issues are understood by Government and addressed.

Unlike the older metropolitan universities, that have accumulated an endowment of billions of dollars in cash reserves from years of government contributions, student fees and income generated from investment by the Government in research and teaching infrastructure, each major new programs at Charles Sturt University must be supported by funding from the Government if it is to be successful. Your support in the past, and into the future, will ensure that this investment in rural education and research is forthcoming and applied to providing tangible solutions in inland NSW.

Once again, on behalf of the University, its staff and students, we wish to extend our thanks to you and City of Lithgow Council for your support. We look forward to inviting you in the near future to join with us at a celebration dinner that is being planned for July.

Yours sincerely



**Professor Ian Goulter**  
Vice-Chancellor and President



**Professor Mark Burton**  
Director, Dental School Implementation  
CSU Centre for Inland Health

**ITEM:7 GM - 04/05/07 - EXPANSION TO LITHGOW CORRECTIONAL CENTRE**



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES • LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**Gerard Martin, M.P.**  
Member for Bathurst

Electorate Offices:  
State Office Block  
140 William Street  
BATHURST

24 May 2007

Ref: LCC:07  
Your Reference:

Lithgow City Council  
Scanned

Cr Neville Castle  
Mayor  
Lithgow City Council  
PO Box 19  
LITHGOW NSW 2790

25 MAY 2007

Doc. No .....  
GDA Ref. ....  
Years .....

Dear Cr Castle

Thank you for your correspondence in regards to the proposed expansion of the Lithgow Correctional Centre.

I have forwarded your correspondence to the Premier, Morris Iemma, the Minister for Planning the Hon Frank Sartor, the Minister for Justice and The Hon John Hatzistergos.

Yours faithfully

Gerard Martin, MP  
**MEMBER FOR BATHURST**

BATHURST  
Telephone: 6331 1555  
Facsimile: 6331 1566

All Correspondence to: PO Box 712, BATHURST 2795  
'e'mail: [gerard.martin@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:gerard.martin@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

22 May 2007

The Hon. Mr Morris Iemma  
Premier  
Ministerial Office  
Level 40  
Governor Macquarie Tower  
1 Farrer Place  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Premier

**RE: PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE LITHGOW CORRECTIONAL CENTRE**

I refer to the above issue and advise that Lithgow City Council resolved at the Council meeting held on 21 May 2007 that advice be provided to the Premier, the Minister for Corrective Services and the Minister for Planning, that Lithgow City Council area is opposed to the proposed expansion of the Lithgow Correctional Centre.

The Council's determination of this matter has been formed with consideration of the sentiments expressed to Lithgow City Councillors individually and at a public meeting attended by over 300 residents. It is also reflected in the petition Council has received with over 1256 signatures.

Council also seeks confirmation that there will be no consideration of mixed classification facilities being constructed in Lithgow.

As this matter is to be the subject of a development application which will be made directly to the Minister for Planning in the very near future, Council would be grateful for your consideration of accepting a delegation from the Council to discuss this issue with you and/or the Minister for Corrective Services personally at your convenience.

Please contact the Personal Assistant, Miss Casey Clarke, on (02) 6354 9999 should further information be required or to set up a time for a meeting.

Yours sincerely

COUNCILLOR NEVILLE CASTLE  
MAYOR

CC: Minister for Corrective Services, Minister for Planning  
CC: Gerard Martin, Local Member