



# MINUTES

Finance Committee

held at

Council Administration Centre  
Committee Room  
180 Mort Street, Lithgow

on

Wednesday 23 November 2022

at 5:00 PM

# ORDER OF BUSINESS

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## **1. Acknowledgement of Country**

I would like to begin this meeting by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of this land on which we meet today. I would also like to pay respect to Elders both past, present and emerging.

The Chair acknowledged the traditional custodians of this land we are on here today, and paid respect to their elders both past, present and emerging.

## **2. Present**

Present: Councillor E Mahony, Councillor D Goodsell, Craig Butler - General Manager.

Officers: Ross Gurney - CFIO, Jonathon Reid - Finance Manager, Trinity Newton – Minutes.

## **3. Apologies**

Apologies: Mayor Maree Statham, Councillor S McGhie

## **4. Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest made.

## **5. Staff Reports**

### **5.1. Investment Report October 2022**

The CFIO presented the report and explained the movements in the cash & investments balance and high value Accounts Payable transactions.

The General Manager gave advice on the natural disasters recovery projects and impacts on cashflow.

It was raised that the great work that is being done in the LGA should be communicated to the community more effectively. With the SRV proposal being finalised, there will be a new focus on communication efforts to connect with the community on different levels on a broad range of matters.

Cr Mahony queried whether there was a conversation occurring with government departments about prepayments on grant funding? The CFIO advised that quite a few grants are partly paid up front, however, it depends on the grant.

### **ACTION / RECOMMENDATION**

THAT

1. Investments of \$27,124,919 and cash of \$3,479,364 for the period ending 31 October 2022 be noted.
2. The enclosed certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted.
3. The commentary on funding requirements for restricted reserves be noted.

**MOVED:** Councillor D Goodsell

**SECONDED:** Craig Butler

**CARRIED:**

## **5.2. Options for a Sustainable Future**

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The General Manager and CFIO presented the report to the 28 November meeting on the Options for a Sustainable Future. The report recommends that Council authorise the General Manager to notify IPART of Council's intention to lodge an SRV application.

### **ACTION / RECOMMENDATION**

That the Finance Committee note the discussion on the Options for Sustainable Future.

**MOVED:** Councillor D Goodsell

**SECONDED:** Craig Butler

**CARRIED:**

## **5.3. 2022/23 Quarter One Budget Review**

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The Committee reviewed the report which has been included in the Ordinary Meeting of Council business paper for 28 November 2022 which was issued earlier today.

The CFIO explained that the reasons for the significant change in Council's projected operating result (before capital) from original budget \$3.6M surplus to \$6.4M surplus substantively relates to the extraordinary extent of road repairs following multiple natural disasters. Further detail is provided in the financial impacts of Natural Disasters section in the Report to Council meeting.

There have been \$131K of net employment cost savings identified in the budget. The budget improvement plan is ongoing.

OLG has been covering the year-on-year increases in the Emergency Services Levy via a grant, however, LCC has to pay the full amount annually. There is no guarantee that the OLG's grant subsidies will continue in future years.

Cash outflows were slowed due to a low unrestricted working capital balance at the end of September.

### **ACTION / RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the Finance Committee note the 2022/23 Quarter One Budget Review report which will be presented to the 28 November 2022 Council meeting.

**MOVED:** Councillor D Goodsell

**SECONDED:** Craig Butler

**CARRIED:**

## **6. General Business**

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There was no general business raised.

## **7. Meeting Close**

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There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 6:16 pm.