



# MINUTES

Infrastructure Committee Meeting

held at

Council Administration Centre  
Committee Room  
180 Mort Street, Lithgow

on

Tuesday 6 May 2025

at 5:00 PM

# ORDER OF BUSINESS

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<b>1. Acknowledgement of Country .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Present .....</b>	<b>3</b>
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<b>7.6. Biosolids Management .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>8. General Business .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>9. Meeting Close .....</b>	<b>6</b>

The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 5:00pm.

## **1. Acknowledgement of Country**

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Lithgow City Council acknowledges Wiradjuri Elders past and present of the Wiradjuri nation - the original custodians of the land on which the Lithgow's communities reside. The Council also extends our respects to our neighbouring nations.

## **2. Present**

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Present: Councillor C Coleman, Councillor S Ring, Councillor R Smith, Councillor E Mahoney

Officers: Matthew Trapp - Executive Manager Water Wastewater & Waste, Ross Gurney - General Manager, Rebecca Hodgson – Minute Taker

## **3. Apologies**

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Apologies: Councillor D Goodwin

## **4. Declaration of Interest**

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There were no declarations of pecuniary interest made.

## **5. Confirmation of Minutes**

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The Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Infrastructure Committee meeting on 8 April 2025 to be taken as read and confirmed.

**MOVED:** Councillor C Coleman

**SECONDED:** Councillor S Ring

## **6. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

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There were no matters arising from previous minutes.

## 7. Staff Reports

### 7.1. Standing Item - Water Resourcing and Security Project

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The committee received the Water Security and Resourcing Projects report. Discussion focused on the strategic value of the Clarence to Wallerawang Pipeline, with consideration given to the potential for relying solely on the Lithgow water supply and discontinuing the use of Fish River water, sustainable both now and into the future.

#### **ACTION / RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the committee receive the report on the Water Security and Resourcing Projects.

**MOVED:** Councillor C Coleman

**SECONDED:** Councillor S Ring

**CARRIED**

### 7.2. Standing Item - Sewerage systems

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The committee discussed the Sewerage Systems report, with a focus on the ownership and responsibility for common/joint sewerage systems. It was noted that there is ongoing uncertainty regarding whether these assets fall under Council or property owner`s responsibility. Due to the uncertainty, Council will continue to maintain these systems with the possibility to offer incentives for private property connections under a Sewer Fix Program.

#### **ACTION / RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the committee:

1. Note the sewerage system report. The Administration will bring points for discussion to the next meeting to be workshopped by the Committee.
2. Supports in principle the position for Council to not maintain or own common sewerage or joint sewer lines across the LGA.

**MOVED:** Councillor C Coleman

**SECONDED:** Councillor S Ring

**CARRIED**

### 7.3. Standing Item - Waste Management

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The Committee received the report on Waste Management. The Pinedale site was discussed as part of the report with a long-term lease identified as a potential option. It was suggested that the Mayor engage with the relevant Minister or Parliamentary Secretary or the Premier.

#### **ACTION / RECOMMENDATION**

That the committee:

1. Receive the report on waste management.
2. Endorse the Mayor's direct engagement with the Premier or other State representatives regarding the potential acquisition of the Pinedale asset.

**MOVED:** Councillor E Mahoney

**SECONDED:** Councillor C Coleman

**CARRIED**

### 7.4. Standing Item - Tech Talk and Education

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The Committee noted the report on education and technical information. A copy of the Water Industry Handbook was provided to all committee members. The Committee discussed water leaks and current preventative measures, including the engagement of DCCEEW to assist with leak detection. Policy guidelines in this area were also noted.

#### **ACTION / RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee:

1. Note the report on education and technical information.
2. Requests a report be provided to the next meeting regarding statistics on water leaks on private properties. The committee will review the policy for undetected leaks.

**MOVED:** Councillor S Ring

**SECONDED:** Councillor E Mahoney

### 7.5. Strategic Projects Report

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#### **ACTION / RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the Committee received the report on the WWW Directorate strategic projects.

**MOVED:** Councillor S Ring

**SECONDED:** Councillor E Mahoney

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## 7.6. Biosolids Management

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The Committee received and discussed the report on biosolids management.

### **ACTION / RECOMMENDATION**

THAT further research be undertaken to investigate biogas options and biosolids opportunities.

**MOVED:** Councillor S Ring

**SECONDED:** Councillor E Mahoney

**CARRIED**

## 8. General Business

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### **Discussion Items:**

- The resolution from the previous Council meeting regarding the maintenance of the median strip on the Great Western Highway was discussed.
- The committee discussed the proposal to join the Energy and Water Ombudsman scheme.

### **ACTION / RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the committee:

1. Recommends that Council enter into discussions with Transport NSW to seek clarification on arrangements and hand back maintenance responsibility for the Great Western Highway median strip.
2. Requests the Executive Manager of Water Wastewater & Waste to provide a report outlining the cost, benefits, and inclusions associated with membership of the Energy and Water Ombudsman scheme.

**MOVED:** Councillor E Mahoney

**SECONDED:** Councillor R Smith

**CARRIED**

## 9. Meeting Close

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Next Meeting: Tuesday 1 July at 5:00pm in the Council Committee Room

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 6:24pm.