



Emerging Economy Committee

to be held at

176 Meeting Room

Mort Street, Lithgow

on

Wednesday 6 August 2025

at 5:00 PM

Minutes

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The Chair, Deputy Mayor, declared the meeting open at 5:05 pm.

1. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair, Deputy Mayor Ring, acknowledged Wiradjuri Elders past and present of the Wiradjuri nation - the original custodians of the land on which the Lithgow's communities reside and extended respect to our neighbouring nations.

2. Present

Councillor C Coleman
Councillor T Evangelidis
Councillor S Ring (Chair)
Councillor R Smith

Also in attendance

Ross Gurney	General Manager
Vanessa Browning	Director Finance and Governance
Jonathon Edgecombe	Director Infrastructure and Project Delivery (Via Teams)
Shaun Elwood	Director People and Places
Sarah Lewis	Minutes Secretary
Bruce Mills	Emerging Economy Manager

3. Apologies

Apologies were received for the following members.

Councillor E Fredericks
Councillor D Goodwin
Councillor E Mahony

Jessica Gadd LEEP Engagement Officer

4. Declaration of Interest

The Chair called for any declarations of interest.

There were no declarations of interest made.

5. Confirmation of Minutes

MOTION

The amended Minutes of the Emerging Economy Committee Meeting held on the 9 July 2025 were taken as read and confirmed.

MOVED: Councillor C Coleman

SECONDED: Councillor T Evangelidis

CARRIED

6. Administration Reports

6.1. Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program (RPPP) Grant Application

Bruce Mills provided the Committee with an overview of the report.

Council has submitted a \$1.76 million funding application under the Australian Government's Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program (rPPP), seeking to unlock over 23 hectares of strategically located former industrial land in Lithgow for future job creation, advanced industry development, and sustainable infrastructure investment. A successful grant will leverage \$1.4 million in new external co-funding to resolve strategic land constraints that have stalled for decades and further private industrial investment at key underutilised sites.

Council has applied for Stream One: Precinct Development and Planning for project funding of between \$500,000 to \$5million to activate partnerships and deliver an investment-ready precinct plan. This has been put in for potential investment ready land to make it employment lands. Business Case applications for stage one have occurred.

Bruce provided an overview of statistics for the Lithgow LGA and the potential lost of major employers and the change coming to the LGA with the 2050 Net-Zero commitment and the closure of Mount Piper and the coal mines.

LEEP Precinct Development to create areas for attracting employment

- Defence and Precision Manufacturing Precinct (rPPP)
- Rail, logistics and Associated Manufacturing Precinct (rPPP)
- Adventure tourism and training precinct (rPPP)
- Health, Allied Health and Aged Care Precinct (REDCIP)
- Retail and Entertainment Precinct - Place making Design Stage
- Retail and Entertainment precinct - Engagement and Activation (OSG)

Council has received letters of support from local businesses and landowners for the rPPP application.

The committee discussed the current Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Lithgow Rail Yard site and potential options going forward.

MOTION

THAT the Committee note the report on the strategic employment lands RPPP grant application and that the LEEP team have one-on-one meetings with Councillors to discuss the EOI for the Lithgow Rail Yard site.

MOVED: Councillor C Coleman

SECONDED: Councillor R Smith

CARRIED

6.2. Charles Hoskins Building - Update

A verbal update was provided to the committee regarding the Charles Hoskins Building and its potential uses moving forward.

Council has received a number of Expressions of Interest for the space and its potential uses.

Council is looking at all options, but will not be making a commitment at this stage as prioritising staff facilities is the main concern.

MOTION

THAT the Committee note the information provided on expressions of interest for use of the Charles Hoskins Building.

MOVED: Councillor C Coleman

SECONDED: Councillor T Evangelidis

CARRIED

6.3. Michelle Zeibots - Lithgow Locomotive Workshop Site Sale

Dr Michelle Zeibots, Jeremy Dawkins, and James Issacs were invited to present to the Committee regarding the current Expression of Interest (EOI) for sale of the Lithgow Rail Yard.

Dr Zeibots discussed the potential future options for the site and its importance to the Lithgow LGA and the Australian locomotive manufacturing industry.

MOTION

THAT the Committee note the presentation from Michelle Zeibots and action in progress with regard to the current EOI for sale of the Lithgow Rail Yard.

MOVED: Councillor T Evangelidis

SECONDED: Councillor R Smith

CARRIED

7. General Business

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 7:16 pm.