

# Business Paper



Pearsons Lookout

Ordinary Meeting of Council  
to be held at  
Council Administration Centre  
180 Mort Street, Lithgow  
on  
Monday 25 May 2026  
at 6:30 PM

# ORDER OF BUSINESS

---

<b>1. Administration Reports</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>1.1. GM - 25/05/2026 - Local Government Remuneration Tribunal Determination 2026</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>1.2. F&amp;G - 25/05/2026 - Quarter Three Budget Review</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>1.3. P&amp;P - 25/05/2026 - Alternate Fuel Rebate Policy - Rescind</b> .....	<b>13</b>
<b>2. Council Committee Reports</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>2.1. WWW - 25/05/2026 - Water, Wastewater &amp; Waste Infrastructure Committee Meeting Minutes - 5 May 2026</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>2.2. I&amp;PD - 25/05/2026 - Local Transport Forum Meeting Minutes - 7 May 2026</b> .....	<b>17</b>
<b>3. Questions with Notice</b> .....	<b>18</b>
<b>3.1. QWN - 25/05/2026 - Cr Ticehurst - Wastewater Loan to fund the delivery of the Wastewater Capital Works Program</b> .....	<b>18</b>
<b>3.2. QWN - 25/05/2026 - Cr M Ticehurst - Lithgow Sewerage Treatment Plant</b> .....	<b>22</b>
<b>3.3. QWN - 25/05/2026 - Cr Smith - Questions Concerning the Opposition to the Lake Lyell Pumped Hydro Project Submission &amp; Following Responses</b> .....	<b>25</b>
<b>3.4. QWN - 25/05/2026 - Cr Fredericks - Chifley Police on the Diversion Route</b> .....	<b>28</b>
<b>4. Notices of Motion</b> .....	<b>29</b>
<b>4.1. NOM - 29/04/2026 - Cr Ticehurst - Numbered Street Addresses for all Lithgow City Council Facilities</b> .....	<b>29</b>
<b>5. Business of Great Urgency</b> .....	<b>31</b>
<b>6. Closed Council</b> .....	<b>32</b>
<b>6.1. CONFIDENTIAL - I&amp;PD - 25/05/26 - Kremer Park - Retaining Wall Update</b> .....	<b>32</b>

---

## Acknowledgement of Country

---

### **Acknowledgement of Country**

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.

### **Declaration of Webcasting**

I inform all those in attendance at this meeting, that the meeting is being webcast and that those in attendance should refrain from making any defamatory statements concerning any person, Councillor or employee, and refrain from discussing those matters subject to Closed Council proceedings as indicated in clause 14.1 of the code of meeting practice.

### **Public Attendance**

In accordance with the mandatory requirements of the NSW Local Government Code of Meeting Practice, clause 15.20, members of the public attending a meeting of Council

- (a) must remain silent during the meeting unless invited by the chairperson to speak,
- (b) must not bring flags, signs or protest symbols to the meeting, and
- (c) must not disrupt the meeting.

### **Council Meeting Emergency Procedures**

Procedures to be outlined in the meeting.

---

## Present

---

## Apologies

---

---

## Declaration of Interest

---

### **Ethical Decision Making and Conflicts of Interest**

#### ***A guiding checklist for Councillors, officers and community committees***

### **Oath or Affirmation of Office**

Councillors are reminded of the Oath or Affirmation taken of office, made under section 233A of the *Local Government Act 1993* when elected.

### **Ethical decision making**

- Is the decision or conduct legal?
- Is it consistent with Government policy, Council's objectives and Code of Conduct?
- What will the outcome be for you, your colleagues, the Council, anyone else?
- Does it raise a conflict of interest?
- Do you stand to gain personally at public expense?
- Can the decision be justified in terms of public interest?
- Would it withstand public scrutiny?

### **Conflict of interest**

A conflict of interest is a clash between private interest and public duty. The test for conflict of interest:

- Is it likely I could be influenced by personal interest in carrying out my public duty?
- Would a fair and reasonable person believe I could be so influenced?
- Conflict of interest is closely tied to the layperson's definition of 'corruption' – using public office for private gain.
- Important to consider public perceptions of whether you have a conflict of interest.

**There are two types of conflict:**

- **Pecuniary** – regulated by the *Local Government Act 1993* and Office of Local Government. A person with a pecuniary interest should at least disclose and not vote, but it would also in these cases be appropriate to leave the chamber.
- **Non-pecuniary** – regulated by Codes of Conduct and policy. ICAC, Ombudsman, Office of Local Government (advice only). If declaring a Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest, a person with a non-pecuniary interest can choose to either disclose and vote, disclose and not vote or leave the Chamber.
- Local Government Act 1993 and Model Code of Conduct  
For more detailed definitions refer to the *Local Government Act 1993*, Chapter 14 Honesty and Disclosure of Interest and adopted Code of Conduct.

**Identifying problems**

**1st** Do I have private interests affected by a matter I am officially involved in? **2nd** Is my official role one of influence or perceived influence over the matter? **3rd** Do my private interests conflict with my official role?

**Disclosure of pecuniary interests / non-pecuniary interests**

Under the provisions of Section 440AAA(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (pecuniary interests) and the Model Code of Conduct it is necessary for you to disclose the nature of the interest when making a disclosure of a pecuniary interest or a non-pecuniary conflict of interest at a meeting.

**A Declaration form should be completed and handed to the General Manager** as soon as practicable once the interest is identified. Declarations are made at Item 3 of the Agenda: Declarations - Pecuniary, Non-Pecuniary and Political Donation Disclosures, and prior to each Item being discussed.

**Confirmation of Minutes**

---

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held 29 April 2026.

## 1. Administration Reports

---

### 1.1. GM - 25/05/2026 - Local Government Remuneration Tribunal Determination 2026

**Strategic Context for this matter:**

**Responsible Governance & Civic Leadership:** To develop community confidence in the organisation by the way it is directed, controlled and managed.

**Author:** Vanessa Browning – Director Finance and Governance

**Responsible Officer:** Ross Gurney - General Manager

---

### Executive Summary

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal (the Tribunal) is established under Chapter 9, Part 2, Division 4 of the Local Government Act. The Tribunal's role is to determine categories of Councils then to determine the maximum and minimum amounts of fees to be paid to Mayors and Councillors in each of the categories.

The Tribunal has recently determined the Mayoral and Councillor fees for the 2026/27 financial year. This report recommends that the Mayoral and Councillor fees be set for the 2026/27 year, with consideration of the determination. The Tribunal's Annual Determination Report is included as an attachment.

### Administration's Recommendation

THAT Council:

1. Set the remuneration in 2026/2027 for Councillors (2025/2026 is \$15,450).
2. Set the remuneration in 2026/2027 for the Mayor (2025/2026 is \$32,718).
3. Set the 2026/2027 car lease payable by the Mayor (2025/2026 is nil).

### Attachments

1. LGRT-2026- Annual- Determination-final [1.1.1 - 86 pages]

### Reference to any relevant previous minute

Min. No. 25-137 Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 26 May 2025

### Background and discussion

#### Allocation of Councils into Categories

Section 239 of the Local Government Act (LG Act) requires the Tribunal to determine the categories of councils and mayoral offices at least once every 3 years. A review of categories was last carried out by the Tribunal in 2023.

The categories of general purpose councils are as follows:

Metropolitan	Non-Metropolitan
Principal CBD	Major Regional City
Major CBD	Major Strategic Area
Metropolitan Major	Regional Strategic Area
Metropolitan Large	Regional Centre
Metropolitan Medium	Regional Rural
Metropolitan Small	Rural Large
	Rural

Under the classifications, Lithgow Council is classified as **Regional Rural**.

### Tribunal's Annual Review

In its 2026 Annual Review, as it has done in past three yearly reviews, the Tribunal undertook a Section 239 determination, having invited and received submissions about proposed changes. As a result, it has concluded that it is necessary to rectify a criteria anomaly identified in the Regional Strategic category established by the 2023 Annual Determination, as well as adjusting the population criteria for the Major Strategic Area category, from 300,000 to 200,000.

The Tribunal found that the allocation of most councils into the current categories continued to be appropriate having regard to the 2023 review, the current category model and criteria, and the evidence put forward in the submissions received. However, the Tribunal has reclassified Dungog Shire Council as 'Rural Large' due to population growth.

The Tribunal has indicated it will undertake a further review of the categories of councils as part of its 2027 determination.

The Tribunal's Determination Report includes details of written submissions, some from Councils requesting re-categorisation or changes to current category criteria. The current state of the remuneration structure continues to be a key issue of concern raised in submissions.

A significant number of submissions received provide commentary on the structure, including examples of how it could be improved. Suggested improvements included:

- Fees for Deputy Mayors,
- Changes to the role of Mayors and Councillors, including the impacts of the changes to the Code of Meeting Practice,
- Regional and Rural mayors and councillors (inadequacy of the remuneration structure),
- Issues of fees being set by Councils, and
- A review of the Remuneration Structure.

### Determination of Fees

The Tribunal has determined a 3.7% increase in the minimum and maximum fees applicable to each category from 1 July 2026. As outlined in the attachment, this determination was *"to reflect the cost of living, in the expectation that there will be further increases in those costs, driven by the consequences of the war in the Middle East, which is already having adverse impacts on the Australian community"*.

Currently the Tribunal, consistent with its obligations set out in the LG Act, determines a minimum and maximum remuneration range for Councillors and Mayors. It is then up to individual Councils, to fix the annual fee for Councillors and Mayors. Furthermore, the tribunal does not have the authority to determine a fixed mandatory fee.

Minimum and maximum fees are set out in the tables below:

## General Purpose Councils - Non-Metropolitan

### Councillor/Member Annual Fee (\$) effective 1 July 2026

Category	Minimum	Maximum
Major Regional City	21,900	38,050
Major Strategic Area	21,900	38,050
Regional Strategic Area	21,900	36,110
Regional Centre	16,420	28,890
Regional Rural	10,920	24,080
Rural Large	10,920	19,590
Rural	10,920	14,450

### Mayor/Chairperson Additional Fee\* (\$) effective 1 July 2026

Category	Minimum	Maximum
Major Regional City	46,500	118,530
Major Strategic Area	46,500	118,530
Regional Strategic Area	46,500	105,220
Regional Centre	34,160	71,350
Regional Rural	23,250	52,560
Rural Large	17,440	42,030
Rural	11,620	31,510

## Setting of Fees

The Local Government Act requires:

*248 Fixing and payment of annual fees for councillors*

- (1) A council must pay each councillor an annual fee.*
- (2) A council may fix the annual fee and, if it does so, it must fix the annual fee in accordance with the appropriate determination of the Remuneration Tribunal.*
- (3) The annual fee so fixed must be the same for each councillor.*
- (4) A council that does not fix the annual fee must pay the appropriate minimum fee determined by the Remuneration Tribunal.*

In addition to the above fees, Council also provides the Mayor with a motor vehicle which is available for private use. No lease fee is currently payable for this.

Councils set Councillor and Mayoral fees for each financial year based on the Tribunal's determination. The fee levels accord with each Council's category as set by the Tribunal.

In 2024, the Council increased the Mayoral and Councillor fees towards the mid-range of the Regional Rural category. The fees had historically been set at the lower end of the annual fee range. Since 1 July 2022, Councillors have received superannuation contributions as determined by Council (Min. No. 22-42 Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 2 March 2022). From 1 July 2025, the superannuation guarantee percentage increased to 12%.

Below are the current Councillor and Mayoral fees and the amounts with the addition of a 3.7% increase:

- Councillors fees - 2025/26 being \$15,450 and 3.7% increase being \$16,021.
- Mayoral fee - 2025/26 being \$32,718 and 3.7% increase being \$33,928.
- Car lease payable by the Mayor - 2025/26 being nil.

The prior year resolution is included below (Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 26 May 2025).

### **25 -137 RESOLVED**

THAT Council:

1. Set the remuneration in 2025/26 for Councillors at \$15,450.
2. Set the remuneration in 2025/26 for the Mayor at \$32,718.
3. Set the 2025/26 car lease payable by the Mayor at nil.
4. Note that Councillor Ticehurst and Councillor Fredericks will donate to a charity their \$450 increase.

### **Consultation and Communication**

N/A

### **Policy**

N/A

### **Legal**

Council is required under the Local Government Act 1993 to pay the remuneration in accordance with the limits set by the Tribunal.

### **Risk Management**

N/A

### **Financial**

- Draft 2026/2027 budget - \$200,476 (including 12% superannuation).
- Cost centre - 800154
- Future potential impact - \$199,491 (including 12% superannuation) would be required to fund a 3.7% increase on 2025/2026 fees. This would require a small reduction to the budget as part of the September 2026 Quarterly Review of \$985.

## 1.2. F&G - 25/05/2026 - Quarter Three Budget Review

**Strategic Direction:** Responsible Governance & Civic Leadership: To develop community confidence in the organisation by the way it is directed, controlled and managed.

**Author:** Jonathon Reid - Financial Services Manager

**Responsible Officer:** Vanessa Browning – Director Finance and Governance

---

### Executive Summary

This report provides the Quarterly Performance Report on the 2025/2026 Operational Plan for the period of 1 July 2025 to 31 March 2026, with a recommendation that variations to income, expenditure and capital budget estimates; and that the revised financial result of a \$513K consolidated operating surplus (before capital grants) be noted.

The Director Finance & Governance, as the Responsible Accounting Officer, has reviewed the report and advises that the Council's projected financial position at 30 June 2025 will be **satisfactory** compared with the Original Budget.

The report also provides an update on the capital expenditure budget, cashflow and reserve balances.

### Administration's Recommendation

THAT Council:

1. Note the contents of the report and the projected consolidated operating result (before capital) of \$513K surplus for the 2025/2026 Operational Plan as detailed in the Quarterly Budget Review Report for the period 1 July 2025 to 31 March 2026.
2. Note the commentary on the capital expenditure budget, cashflow and reserve balances.
3. Adopt the income, expenditure and capital budget variations to the 2025/2026 Council budget as outlined in the attached Quarterly Budget Review Report.

### Attachments

1. March 2026 QBRS Attachment [1.2.1 - 10 pages]

### Reference to any relevant previous minute

Min. No. 26-36 Ordinary Meeting of Council 23 February 2026.

### Background and discussion

The Director Finance and Governance, as Responsible Accounting Officer, has stated in the Quarterly Performance Report that the Council's projected financial position as at 30 June 2026 will be **satisfactory**, having regard to the original budgeted position.

Council's projected position at 30 June 2026 has decreased from an operating result (before capital) of \$1.6M surplus (after adoption of the December Quarterly Review) to an expected \$0.5M surplus.

The following outlines the main changes to the Council's projected financial position at 30 June 2026 since the Original Budget:

1. Capital grants have decreased by \$5M, predominantly due to the deferral of landslip restoration works to be funded under Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA). The deferred works reduce capital grant income and capital expenditure.
2. Operating grants have increased by \$2.4M arising from both higher expenditure than projected relating to grant funded maintenance (as income is recognised when expenditure occurs) and from grant applications that Council has been successful in achieving since the development of the Original Budget.
3. Materials and Services have increased by \$1.8M, mostly arising from increased expenditure associated with grant-funded activities. Some increases have occurred due to unforeseen events, including the October 2025 water outage, timing-related changes to works and programs, and escalation costs (higher CPI and fuel costs) since the development of the Original Budget.
4. A net increase in capital expenditure of \$1.9M arising from the timing of and scope of works, which has been offset by increased grant income recognition, or funded from reserves.

### Summary of the July to March Quarterly Budget Review Report

Details of the July to March 2026 Quarterly Budget Review Report are provided in the attachment to the Business Paper. Below is a summary table:

Budget	Result \$'000
Original Budget	1,505
September Review	1,467
December Review	1,598
March Review	513

### Reasons for Changes in Revenue and Expenditure Projections

Projected total income to 30 June 2026 has increased by \$1.4M, with variances over \$50K, including:

- \$650K increase to income based on waste collected at the Lithgow Waste Facility,
- \$405K increased income for ongoing maintenance work on Donkey Steps,
- \$350K in insurance claims income,
- \$123K grant for Red Hill Bridge Replacement Project,
- \$117K grant for Assessment of Regional FOGO Processing in Lithgow,
- \$90K grant for Wild Foods Festival,
- \$83K increased income for Sewer Developer Contributions,
- \$50K increase in investment income due to more funds being invested at higher rates,
- \$88K reduction in grant income, for Adaptive Skills Hub, as recognised in prior year, and
- \$511K reduction in DRFA funding in line with projected works.

Projected total operating expenditure to 30 June 2026 has increased by \$1.1M, with variances over \$50K, including:

- \$1.7M increase in depreciation expense due to the impact of revaluations,
- \$365K for ongoing maintenance of Donkey Steps,
- \$264K for Dam Safety Compliance Checks (reserve funded),

- \$117K for assessment of Regional FOGO Processing in Lithgow (grant funded),
- \$126K increase arising from the impact of the October 2025 water outage (reserve funded), and
- \$75K for Wild Food Festival (grant funded)

The net effect of the increase in projected total revenue, together with the increase in projected total expenditure, is a change in the expected consolidated operating result from a surplus of \$8.5M (December budget) to a surplus of \$7.0M at 30 June 2026.

### Capital Expenditure Budget

The Quarter Two budget for the 2025/26 Capital Works Program was \$36.7M. The Quarter Three review of the Capital Works Program resulted in a net increase of \$1.1M, bringing the program's total to \$37.7M.

Material variances to the Capital Works Program in Quarter Three, being greater than \$250K, are:

- \$2.5M budget added for Wolgan Road (DRFA funded),
- \$911K budget added for Main Street Footpath (loan funded),
- \$500K budget added for Sewerage Treatment Plant - Capital Works Program, and
- \$2.9M net decrease in DRFA funded restorations due project scheduling.

### Cash and Investments / Reserve Balances / Cashflow

The Cash and Investments Statement at 31 March 2026 is shown in the table below.

<b>Cash and Investments Statement (\$'000)</b>				
	<b>30 June 2025 Position</b>	<b>30 September 2025 Position</b>	<b>31 December 2025 Position</b>	<b>31 March 2026 Position</b>
<b>Externally Restricted</b>				
Developer Contributions	1,913	2,060	1,979	2,307
Special Purpose Grants	33,822	30,667	26,749	23,558
Water Supplies	3,864	4,922	4,298	4,194
Sewerage Services	294	410	(316)	(197)
Domestic Waste	8,531	9,857	9,547	9,526
Unexpended Loans	1,700	984	593	380
	<b>50,124</b>	<b>48,901</b>	<b>42,849</b>	<b>39,768</b>
<b>Internally Restricted</b>				
Land & Buildings	85	84	80	72
FAGS	3,359	0	0	0
Plant & Equipment	0	0	0	0
Bonds, Deposits & Retentions	400	351	261	318
Works in Progress	137	137	137	137
Carry Over Works	63	66	43	27
Commercial Waste	2,769	3,910	4,225	4,492
ELE	661	661	161	161
Election	77	77	77	77

Other	1,223	350	2,545	2,618
<b>Total Internally Restricted</b>	<b>8,774</b>	<b>5,638</b>	<b>7,530</b>	<b>7,902</b>
<b>Unrestricted (working capital)</b>	-	(2,196)	(3,264)	333
<b>Total Cash and Investments</b>	<b>58,898</b>	<b>52,343</b>	<b>47,115</b>	<b>48,003</b>

There is sufficient cash and investments to fund the Council's external and internal restrictions, with a \$333K in unrestricted working capital. With a small working capital fund and movements in the balance due to cash flow, action is continuing to be taken to manage cash flow:

- Executive review of all requests for expenditure greater than \$25K,
- Executive review of all requests to recruit vacancies,
- Executive review of contract variations greater than \$25K,
- Review of works and program scheduling,
- Recovery action to encourage payment of outstanding accounts, and
- Submission of claims for grant funded works completed.

The \$23.6M balance of the special purpose grants reserve includes \$22.9M for DRFA funding received in advance.

Cashflow continues to be carefully managed to ensure that Council has sufficient liquid funds available to make payments on time. Management's actions have ensured that cash inflows match cash outflows.

### Consultation and Communication

N/A

### Policy

N/A

### Legal

The Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 set out the requirements for the quarterly reporting of the achievement of performance targets and the submission of a budget review statement after the end of each quarter.

### Risk Management

The Quarterly Performance Report assures that the Council has effective financial management practices in place.

### Financial

As detailed in this report.

### 1.3. P&P - 25/05/2026 - Alternate Fuel Rebate Policy - Rescind

**Strategic Context for this matter:**

**Enhancing Our Natural Environment:** To balance, protect and enhance our diverse environmental elements, both natural and built, for the enjoyment and support of both current and future generations.

**Author:** Shaun Elwood - Director People and Place

**Responsible Officer:** Ross Gurney - General Manager

---

#### Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to formally rescind Policy 5.7 - Alternate Fuel Rebate, as the program has been discontinued and is no longer administered by Council. As resolved at the 29 April 2026 Council Meeting, the consideration to rescind this Policy was deferred to the next Council Meeting.

Providing rebates to eligible residents for the replacement of coal fired appliances is not a core Council service and there has been little demand for rebates over the past 5 years. In addition, the Council does not have the financial capacity to continue to fund rebates to replace of coal burning appliances without making reductions in other discretionary allocations, for example, the Financial Assistance Program.

#### Administration's Recommendation

THAT Council rescind Policy 5.7 Alternate Fuel Rebate.

#### Attachments

1. Policy 5.7 - Alternate Fuel Rebate - V 1 [1.3.1 - 5 pages]

#### Reference to any relevant previous minute

Min. No. 19-275 Ordinary Meeting held on 23 September 2019

Min. No. 26-85 Ordinary Meeting held on 29 April 2026

#### Background and discussion

The Alternate Fuel Rebate Policy was adopted to support a Council rebate program designed to incentivise the use of alternate fuel burning appliances within the local government area. The objective of Policy 5.7 was to provide a process for providing rebates to eligible resident for the replacement of coal fired appliances with an alternate cleaner system.

The Alternate Fuel Rebate program is no longer operational and is not funded within the Council's recurrent budget / Operational Plan. The policy no longer serves a functional purpose, and retaining it presents a risk of confusion or misinterpretation by the community and staff. Rescinding the policy will ensure Council's policy framework remains current, accurate, and aligned with active programs.

The rebate program has ceased operation due to lack of demand, changes in funding availability, program priorities, and external policy settings. Council no longer receives or processes applications under this scheme, and no rebates have been issued for a significant period.

In 2021/2022, there were four applications received, with two accepted and paid, one denied and one that did not complete the process. In 2022/2023, there was one application received that was denied, which is the last application received.

Despite the program's cessation, the policy remains listed among Council's current policies, creating the potential for:

- Community misunderstanding regarding the availability of rebates,
- Unnecessary administrative enquiries, and
- Inconsistency between Council policy and operational practice.

At the 29 April 2026 Ordinary Meeting, Council resolved to defer the rescission of Policy 5.7 Alternate Fuel Rebate until the next Ordinary Meeting of Council.

The rebate amount within the Policy is \$1,000 or \$1,400 for eligible pensioners. Should Council determine not to rescind the Policy, an alternative funding source in the way of the reduction of other programs would be required.

### **Consultation and Communication**

No community consultation has been undertaken or is required, as the policy relates to an inactive program and does not affect current services.

### **Policy**

Subject to Council's resolution, the Alternate Fuel Rebate Policy will be removed from Council's policy register and website and will be archived in accordance with Council's records management requirements.

### **Legal**

There are no legal implications arising from rescinding the policy. The policy is not required under legislation and does not underpin statutory functions.

### **Risk Management**

Nil

### **Financial**

Should Council resolve to retain the Alternate Fuel Rebate Policy, the Administration will need to determine 2026/27 program reductions to promote the program and fund rebates. In this case, other budget reductions would be put to Council with the 2026/27 Operational Plan, for consideration at the 29 June 2026 Ordinary Meeting.

## 2. Council Committee Reports

---

### 2.1. WWW - 25/05/2026 - Water, Wastewater & Waste Infrastructure Committee Meeting Minutes - 5 May 2026

#### Strategic Context for this matter:

**Caring for Our Community** To retain, respect and strengthen both our overall sense of community, and the unique linked communities of groups, rural areas, villages and towns that make up the Lithgow LGA.

**Developing Our Built Environment** To provide a choice of effective public and private transport options, suitable entertainment and recreational facilities, and lifestyle choices while enhancing the existing rural areas, villages and towns that make up the Lithgow LGA.

**Author:** Sharron Wood – Executive Assistant

**Responsible Officer:** Matthew Trapp - Director Water, Wastewater and Waste

---

#### Executive Summary

This report provides details of the minutes of the WWW&W Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 5 May 2026.

#### Administration's Recommendation

THAT Council note the minutes of the WWW&W Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 05 May 2026.

#### Attachments

1. Infrastructure Committee WWW Draft Minutes 05 05 2026 [2.1.1 - 12 pages]

#### Reference to any relevant previous minute

Min. No. 26-63 Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 23 March 2026

#### Background and discussion

The Committee discussed several standing agenda items relating to strategy and potential future impacts on the Council and the community arising from water, sewerage, and waste management, as well as related strategies.

Several topics were discussed, including the Cullen Bullen Sewerage Scheme, changes to waste management and operations at the Portland Landfill site, together with action items from the water outage action plan. There was discussion regarding project management practices and scoping, which will form part of the information that is provided to the Finance Committee in future and at a future Councillor workshop

All recommendations were moved as per the report, with several actions provided for the Committee members and officers to undertake before the next Committee meeting.

One item was raised in General Business by Cr Smith with the following recommendation put and carried:

**Action:** A report on Council's drought response options and financial implications to be brought to the next Infrastructure Committee meeting including Council drought management and plans for drought.

**Recommendation:** That a future report be brought back to the infrastructure committee on drought management and support.

## **Financial**

As per reports and minutes.

**2.2. I&PD - 25/05/2026 - Local Transport Forum Meeting Minutes - 7 May 2026****Strategic Context for this matter:**

**Developing Our Built Environment** To provide a choice of effective public and private transport options, suitable entertainment and recreational facilities, and lifestyle choices while enhancing the existing rural areas, villages and towns that make up the Lithgow LGA.

**Author:** Leah Stubbs – Executive Assistant Infrastructure & Project Delivery

**Responsible Officer:** Richard Jane - Director of Infrastructure and Economy

---

**Executive Summary**

This report provides details of the minutes of the Local Transport Forum held on 7 May 2026.

**Administration's Recommendation**

THAT Council:

1. Note the minutes of the Local Transport Forum held on 7 May 2026: and
2. Not support any proposal to utilise the Hoskins Building car park as a public car park (Item 9.1); and
3. Support the traffic changes proposed by Transport For NSW created to improve efficiencies of the Great Western Highway closure detour route resulting in improvements to accessing local transport networks (Item 9.2); and
4. Work with Transport For NSW to continue to monitor impacts on the detour route and local roads and make appropriate amendments to the proposed changes as deemed necessary (Item 9.2).

**Attachments**

1. Draft Minutes LTF 07 05 2026 [2.2.1 - 6 pages]

**Reference to any relevant previous minute**

Nil.

**Background and discussion**

At the Local Transport Forum held on 7 May 2026, the following items were discussed. Recommendations were outside the forum's delegations and require Council to formally approve the recommendations:

- 9.1 Hoskins Building Car Park – use as a public car park.
- 9.2 Local Traffic Management Plan – Great Western Highway Closure Impacts.

**Financial**

N/A

### 3. Questions with Notice

---

#### 3.1. QWN - 25/05/2026 - Cr Ticehurst - Wastewater Loan to fund the delivery of the Wastewater Capital Works Program

**Report by** Councillor Martin Ticehurst

---

#### Commentary

As Council and Councillors would be aware, at the last Ordinary Meeting of the Lithgow City Council on 29 April 2026 the Council, Councillors resolved on a 5-4 vote to approve borrowing for a new Wastewater Loan of \$5.5 million to fund the delivery of the Wastewater Capital Works program and to continue Wastewater services to the community.

With respect to the above resolution, I request that the General Manager and Senior Council staff provide detailed answers to the following Questions with Notice.

**Q1.** Given as stated in the report that, 'the Wastewater Reserve is projected to close this financial year with a negative balance of (\$2.5 million), and a negative balance of (\$4.2 million) as at the end of the 2026/27 financial year'; How much of the \$5.5 million dollar Loan will be for as further stated in the report, 'Wastewater Capital Works' and how much of the Loan will be for as stated in the report, 'to ensure adequate cash balances'?

**Q2.** Had the Council not approved this new \$5.5 million Wastewater Loan; What is the stated 'legislation' that the Council would have breached in continuing to have a negative balance in the Wastewater Fund Reserve and what is the legal or financial penalty for any such breach?

**Q3.** How is this new borrowing of a new \$5.5 million dollar Wastewater Loan, 'consistent' as stated in the report with the 16 Principles under the Council's Borrowing Policy 8.12, which provides the framework for Council's debt management and establishes the requirements for Council approval of borrowings?

**Q4.** With the second principal under the Council's Borrowing Policy 8.12 in part indicating that, 'Borrowings will only be considered after all alternative financing options have been investigated and proven less advantageous to Council'; What prior borrowing other alternative financing options were investigated, in particular with our Council Auditors Intentus, the NSW Audit Office and NSW Office of Local Government?

**Q5.** With the fourth principal under the Council's Borrowing Policy 8.12 indicating that, 'If necessary external advice may be sought in relation to borrowings and interest risk management.; Why were the Council and Councillors advised in the report that quote, 'No external consultation is required to establish a Council loan facility'?

**Q6.** Could Councillors be advised where Council Minutes confirm the Director of Finance and Governance statements at (Livestream 1:50:30) the last Council Meeting that the, 'initial indications of the concerns regarding the Wastewater Fund were raised in the August Finance Committee which was obviously tabled to a Council Committee afterwards' and further where 'the Wastewater issue (had) been raised a few times during the Finance Committee'.

#### Attachments

Nil

## Management Comment

### Q1 Response

The purpose of the loan is as follows:

- Return funding to the Wastewater Reserve for past capital expenditure,
- Ensure that capital works to be completed in 2025/2026 are funded, and
- Fund capital works programmed for 2026/2027.

Other projects that have recently been completed, are in progress or planned are to achieve:

- New infrastructure to enable development,
- Renewal required to ensure continuous supply of a critical service to the community, and
- New and upgraded assets to achieve mid to long-term savings through asset rationalisation.

The table below outlines major projects undertaken in 2024/2025, in progress within 2025/2026, or planned in 2026/2027/

Asset	Current value	Removed Assets	Replacement value
West Bowenfels SPS (including pipework and reticulation, enables approximately 350 allotments + existing)	\$5,311,603	Hillcrest SPS	\$378,000
		Buttress Place SPS	\$345,000
Sweet Briar SPS (including pipework and reticulation)	\$2,495,908	Hospital SPS	\$264,000
		Bowen Vista No.1	\$217,000
		Bowen Vista No.2	\$314,000
Magpie Hollow Road (Enables development of 31 allotments including already serviced area)	\$2,000,000	Magpie Hollow Road	\$210,000

With the consideration for the removal of some assets as part of the rationalisation of the sewerage and asset system, the projects that are being completed as part of the works will replace some of the assets that are either no longer suitable or are not able to serve the development areas.

### Q2 Response

Sections 409 and S.205 of the Local Government Act outline a range of circumstances that require councils to collect funds in external restricted reserves, including Wastewater income, and mandate that they may only be used for the purpose for which they are collected.

All externally restricted reserves, including Wastewater, must be fully utilised for this specified purpose and cannot be allocated to another purpose or the Council's general operations, without loan agreements approved by the NSW Local Government Minister.

Additionally, due to the rejection of the \$7.2M DRFA flood claims, \$3.6M was borrowed from internally restricted reserves, exhausting the available funding from this source. As previously outlined to Council, unrestricted cash is a challenge being mentioned, and any limited funding available from internally restricted reserves would need to be preserved to cover any deficit at the end of financial year.

A negative reserve would result in insufficient cash to pay staff and suppliers, which would impact the provision of a critical service to the community, as there are insufficient alternative funding

sources available to internally borrow. This would lead to legal implications and potential court awarded financial consequences relating to breaches of contractual obligations.

Any consequence for overdrawing Wastewater reserve funds would be determined by the Office of Local Government.

### Q3 Response

The principles set out in the Borrowing Policy were considered in developing the Wastewater loan proposal. For example, the funds are being borrowed to fund capital, not operating expenditure. Also, Council may borrow money to fund the acquisition of a new asset or an asset that replaces an existing asset with one that is significantly upgraded and has an economic life of greater than 10 years.

### Q4 Response

A range of considerations were made to seek alternative funding, including:

- Deferral of capital expenditure, which was not sufficient to avoid the need for loan funding;
- Review of Council's internal reserves as a source of internal borrowing. As outlined above, these reserves have been borrowed against due to the rejected flood claims, and the limited funding that may remain is required to provide a contingency for the risk that Council has ongoing, limited, unrestricted cash for general purposes. This limited funding is insufficient to address the needs of the wastewater fund.
- As outlined above, externally restricted reserves cannot be used for purposes other than the purpose the funds were collected for, without Ministerial approval.
- Grant funding – there were no grant programs available that met the timeframes required.
- Development staging was also reviewed to determine likely timeframes for payment, which determined that there would be insufficient income by year end.

### Q5 Response

Initial financing of the projects and works undertaken in the budget for 2025/26 and 2026/27 are largely funded by the Development Servicing Plan and charges associated with providing enabling infrastructure to development areas. These charges are applied to developments at the time of issue, however, are payable at any time between the Subdivision Works Certificate being provided and the application for finalisation and linen release. These charges, whilst outstanding, have CPI applied until payment is made, including where outstanding payments are remaining on payment plans for development.

Alternatively, charges across the rate base must be increased to cover infrastructure spend, enabling further works and development to be completed. Noting there are increases across the water and sewer services already proposed for the coming financial year, further increases to enable development infrastructure were not feasible with affordability and the ongoing issues with cost of living.

### Q5 Response

As stated in the Policy, advice may be sought, but it was not deemed necessary for this loan, as there is an income source to make repayments. Additionally, as part of the quotation process, loan structure to minimise interest risk exposure is discussed with the financial institutions.

To minimise interest risk exposure, it has been determined that a ten-year repayment term, with refinancing options every 2 years, provides certainty of repayments, particularly given the current inflationary pressures, and the flexibility to be able to reduce the overall principal at each roll over period without break costs associated with a fully fixed loan structure.

### Q6 Response

A verbal indication that there were concerns regarding the likely closing balance of the Wastewater Fund was given to the Finance Committee meeting held on 11 August 2025 by the Director Finance and Governance, end-of-year processes were still underway, and amounts had not been finalised to enable formal reporting.

Item 6.1 2024/2025 Financial Results report within the business paper of the 17 November 2025 Combined Finance and Infrastructure Committee Meeting outlined concerns regarding the Wastewater Fund. An overview of the cause of the lower fund cash balance and actions to be considered was also included. This was the first opportunity after the completion of the audited Financial Statements to formally table this at a Committee Meeting. The minutes of this meeting were adopted by Council at the 1 December 2025 Council Meeting.

The Wastewater Fund cash reserve is also reported as part of the Investment Reports tabled at Council Meetings and Finance Committee Meetings monthly and as part of the Quarterly Budget Reviews tabled at the November 2025, and February 2026 Council Meetings.

### 3.2. QWN - 25/05/2026 - Cr M Ticehurst - Lithgow Sewerage Treatment Plant

**Report by** Councillor Martin Ticehurst

#### Commentary

**With respect to the Lithgow Sewerage Treatment Plant,** I have received the following information:

“We are aware that the smells from the Lithgow Sewerage Works and swamps near the Lithgow Tip happen regularly and as local residents we have to tolerate them – but not all of them, all of the time!

Over the past few months, other nearby residents and ourselves have noticed that the daily smells are now frequently much worse bearing on being intolerable for those with children and aged family members; and so thick at times that the smell can be described as one in which you ‘can almost taste it.’

Other residents have reported that the Council has installed a new ‘stink pipe’ down in the gully at the end of the cul-de-sac which is releasing excess gasses when the Sewerage Works have a problem?

**Q.** Could the Council provide a response to the above background information on the operations of the Lithgow Sewerage Treatment Plant and Tip and the smell/s emanating out of the facilities?”

**With respect to the new Cullen Bullen Sewerage Treatment Plant:**

#### Summary Application No: 21931

**Applicant:** LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL  
**Premises:** Cullen Bullen Sewage Treatment Plant  
 951 PORTLAND ROAD, CULLEN BULLEN, NSW, 2790  
**LGA:** LITHGOW CITY **Catchment:** Macquarie  
**Application type:** New licence  
**Application status:** Pending  
**Activity type:** Miscellaneous licensed discharge to waters (at any time)  
**Received:** 05 Jul 2024  
**Pollution incident management plan:** No

**Q.** Are there any problems, delays with Management Plans, etc. with the Lithgow City Council's still PENDING Summary Application 21931 for the Cullen Bullen Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP), given that it was received by the EPA nearly 2 years ago?

**Q.** Is it correct that the Cullen Bullen STP is not operating and has been for some time with Contractors several times each day, pumping sewerage from the Cullen Bullen STP and taking it and dumping it into the Council's Portland Sewerage Treatment Plant? If correct, what are the financial costs for these daily Contractors actions?

#### Attachments

Nil

### Question

I request that the General Manager and Senior Council staff provide detailed answers to the following Questions with Notice.

1. Could the Council provide a response to the above background information on the operations of the Lithgow Sewerage Treatment Plant and Tip and the smell/s emanating out of the facilities?"
2. Are there any problems, delays with Management Plans, etc. with the Lithgow City Council's still PENDING Summary Application 21931 for the Cullen Bullen Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP), given that it was received by the EPA nearly 2 years ago?
3. Is it correct that the Cullen Bullen STP is not operating and has been for some time with Contractors several times each day, pumping sewerage from the Cullen Bullen STP and taking it and dumping it into the Council's Portland Sewerage Treatment Plant? If correct, what are the financial costs for these daily Contractors actions?

### **Management Comment**

1. Could the Council provide a response to the above background information on the operations of the Lithgow Sewerage Treatment Plant and Tip and the smell/s emanating out of the facilities?

**Response:** The operations of the Lithgow Sewerage system remain compliant and unchanged with our regulatory and licensed approach. The vents placed within the system release gases to the atmosphere, which can cause vacuum and hydraulic locks in the network.

Council has no records of odour complaints emanating from the Lithgow Sewerage Treatment Plant nor the landfill site for a considerable amount of time.

The Council does have a process of removing and replacing old sewer vent pipes throughout the network, however, without reference to the location relating to the matter, it is difficult to provide any investigation, findings or solutions. There have been no sewer vents replaced in the area for some time, and the main contractor utilised for these works is no longer available.

The only erection of a new pipe in the area is the Landfill gas pipe at the Lithgow Solid Waste facility, however, its treatment of methane and gases within the landfill is to turn this into CO<sub>2</sub>, which is odourless and tasteless.

2. Are there any problems, delays with Management Plans, etc. with the Lithgow City Council's still PENDING Summary Application 21931 for the Cullen Bullen Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP), given that it was received by the EPA nearly 2 years ago?

**Response:** The issues relating to the Cullen Bullen Sewerage Scheme were reported at the most recent Infrastructure Committee meeting, where the licensing process and discharge license issues were discussed. In summary, the EPA NSW are the licensing authority for discharges to waterways and require legislative assurance that the facility discharge is not harmful to the environment. The miscellaneous license application has been submitted, with ongoing work on the application to satisfy the EPA's requirements. Continuing down the path of a discharge license that is not guaranteed and may be changed at any time would require an additional expense to the Council of nearly \$300K prior to submission.

The administration is reviewing this pathway and other options to improve outcomes and use the effluent more beneficially than discharging to the environment. This includes the establishment of reuse water usage by private parties and the Council for uses such as dust suppression in roadworks and for agricultural use, subject to further risk analysis. Other options are being developed for the Council's review and will be better options than the discharge license.

3. Is it correct that the Cullen Bullen STP is not operating and has been for some time with Contractors several times each day, pumping sewerage from the Cullen Bullen STP and taking it and dumping it into the Council's Portland Sewerage Treatment Plant? If correct, what are the financial costs for these daily Contractors actions?

**Response:** No, this is not correct. Cullen Bullen STP is operating well to treat the incoming sewerage and stabilise the effluent. Due to the lack of a license for environmental discharge and reuse options, the Administration has been moving the treated effluent from Cullen Bullen to the Portland STP, where it can then be further treated and discharged to the environment.

The cost of the service is approximately \$20,000 per month, with the flows being delivered to Portland STP and waste activated sludge being brought back from Portland to Cullen Bullen. This is in no way ideal, and hence the reasons the Administration continues to develop options for discharge, reuse and Council owned trucking services.

Matthew Trapp  
Director – Water, Wastewater and Waste

### 3.3. QWN - 25/05/2026 - Cr Smith - Questions Concerning the Opposition to the Lake Lyell Pumped Hydro Project Submission & Following Responses

**Report by** Councillor Ray Smith

---

#### **Commentary**

##### Question 1.

The April Ordinary Meeting of Council resolved to reject the unendorsed Council Submission and endorsed to submit an alternate Submission by Cr Smith.

At present what Submission stands as the Primary Submission supplied to State Planning?

##### Question 2.

Has Council Administration read responses regarding the E.I.S from E.P.A, Water NSW, NSW NPWS, Dept of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water? All Departments requested pre-approval recommendations, assuming Council has or will read the Government Dept responses will they fully support the recommendations in writing to State Planning

##### Question 3.

E.P.A stated the E.I.S does not provide the information required to allow completion of assessment, many areas were unclear, with errors and omissions, Water N.S.W stated that engagement claims made in the E.I.S did not occur during the E.I.S process or any technical specialist reports .

Lithgow Council Resolutions pointed out areas of misinformation and poor engagement with the community.

Will Council Administration support the Government Departments along with our own shortcomings in writing to State Planning?

##### Question 4.

Engagement & Consultation has been a major concern regarding the Project for some time. The Project's Community Consultation Committee only late last year were supplied critical information, thus:

- During construction the Dam to be dropped 3-4 metres
- 137 Ha of native bushland to be cleared
- Farmers Creek area to be declared a "NO GO " zone
- requiring offsite environmental offsets
- 1200 vehicular movements per day

Now the E.I.S has been exhibited and noted in Government Depts Responses, a number of serious issues are now revealed. Conveniently obscured is the lowering of the lake not by 3-4m but by 13.5 m's during the construction phase.

Will Council stand back and allow what will surely be the decimation of the Lake and all around it? This includes the Tourism and Recreational value, of which Council's asset - the Campground may be nothing but a liability. Flora and Fauna will suffer irreversible damage and reduce the attraction and liveability of the L.G.A. Knowing this - major lowering of water. must not occur.

Will Council take all possible action to prevent this happening?

#### **Attachments**

Nil

## Management Comment

### Question 1

Min. No. 26-75 from the 29 April 2026 Ordinary Meeting stands as the Council's primary submission on the Lake Lyell Pumped Hydro Energy Storage EIS.

It is noted that the primary submission was placed as an addendum to the Administration's objecting submission on the Planning Portal. On 7 May 2026, the General Manager wrote to the Director, Energy Assessments, Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure with the following requests:

1. The original submission be formally withdrawn or clearly identified as rejected and not representing Council's position; and
2. The submission endorsed by Council be clearly communicated as the sole and definitive position of Lithgow City Council.

### Question 2

The Administration is aware of the formal EIS responses provided by the referenced government agencies. Council provided a formal submission to the EIS (Min. No. 26-75). At present, the Department of Planning has not requested any additional information or material from Council regarding the referenced government agency responses.

### Question 3

Following the close of the EIS public exhibition period and submissions, the Department of Planning has not requested additional information or material from Council in relation to the government agency EIS responses or the lodged Council submission (Min. No. 26-75).

### Question 4

The Administration will continue to act consistently with the formal submission of objection to the proposal detailed in the EIS (Min. No. 26-75).

Council will also continue to advocate for the 'prior to commencement of construction measures' requested in the initial Administration submission to the EIS of 28 April 2026 (subsequently rejected by the Council in minute No. 26-75).

These conditions in the rejected submission included that the applicant:

- (a) Prepare and implement a Lake Level and Water Quality Management Plan to the satisfaction of Council and relevant water management authorities that addresses all matters in this condition. A copy of the plan shall be provided to Council.
- (b) Design and operate the plant so that the daily operational lake level variation of between 1.4 metres and 2.7 metres in Lake Lyell does not cause turbidity, erosion of lake banks, disturbance of lakebed sediments, or any other water quality impact that detracts from the clear and pristine character of the lake.
- (c) Continuously monitor water quality and turbidity in Lake Lyell throughout operation and maintain monitoring results in a publicly accessible format. Where monitoring identifies turbidity or water quality exceedances attributable to plant operations, the applicant shall implement corrective measures immediately and notify relevant water management authorities without delay.
- (d) Ensure the detailed design of all water intake and discharge infrastructure minimises velocity, turbulence, and disturbance at the point of entry and exit so as to protect water clarity, aquatic habitat, and the recreational and aesthetic values of the lake.
- (e) Assess and manage the cumulative effects of daily lake level variation on bank stability, riparian vegetation, aquatic habitat, platypus populations, recreational infrastructure such as jetties and boat ramps, and the visual character of the lake foreshore, and implement mitigation measures to the satisfaction of relevant agencies.

The rejected Administration submission also recommended that if the proposal is approved, conditions be placed on the consent to assist in reducing the Council's and community's risk exposure from the development and address in the following matters:

1. impacts to Council services, such as local roads and transport, waste, water, sewer and tourism;
2. broader impacts to the community, such as noise, vibration, dust, biodiversity and social impacts; and
3. a requirement to enter a Voluntary Planning Agreement with Council.

Council will continue to advocate and work with the applicant and NSW Government to achieve the submission conditions, and deliver actions that reduce or eliminate the impacts likely on the aquatic ecosystem, biodiversity and community values of the site, in the event that the project is approved by the NSW Government.

Shaun Elwood  
Director People and Places

**3.4. QWN - 25/05/2026 - Cr Fredericks - Chifley Police on the Diversion Route**

**Report by** Councillor Elizabeth Fredericks

---

**Commentary**

1. How many additional patrol hours have been allocated to Chifley Police District for the diversion route compared to April 2025?
2. How many additional patrol officers have been assigned to the Lithgow area since the diversion route was introduced?
3. Is the current level of traffic patrol appropriate for the increase in traffic being experienced compared to the previous financial year?
4. Has the diversion route, and the redeployment of police to monitor traffic behaviour along it, affected the response times, handling of incidents, and progression of court matters relating to domestic violence within the Lithgow LGA?
5. Has the diversion route, and the redeployment of police to monitor traffic behaviour along it, affected the response times, handling of incidents, and progression of court matters relating to other crime categories across the Lithgow LGA?

**Attachments**

Nil

**Management Comment**

The question was forwarded to Transport for NSW (TfNSW) and NSW Police on the same day that the Question with Notice was received by the Administration (19 May 2026). The response will be forwarded to all Councillors as soon as it is received.

Ross Gurney  
General Manager

## 4. Notices of Motion

---

### 4.1. NOM - 29/04/2026 - Cr Ticehurst - Numbered Street Addresses for all Lithgow City Council Facilities

**Report by** Councillor Martin Ticehurst

---

#### **Commentary**

As Council may be aware, the vast majority of travellers utilise various Global Positioning Systems (GPS), either in car or by mobile phone to travel to and from Lithgow and across both NSW and Australia to get to their destinations, including our own various Council facilities.

Additionally, there is the comprehensive use of GPS's by all Emergency Service organisations, in particular the NSW Ambulance Service; so, it is vitally important that where calls are made to or from our Council facilities, that there is a designated numbered street address so as to avoid both delays, confusing messaging or having to rely on someone's local knowledge.

Further, whilst many Council facilities already have a designated street address, many don't and in my opinion, having designated numbered street addresses for all of the Lithgow City Council's facilities may assist greatly all visitors and travellers to use our Council facilities more and aid Emergency Services, particularly those from other regional and remote locations who are called in to assist our communities in after-hours situations.

For example, the Council's Jim Robson Aquatic Centre's address is google listed as 'George Coates Avenue, Lithgow NSW 2790' and the Seven Valleys 7V Visitor Information Centre is google listed as '1137 Great Western Hwy, South Bowenfels NSW.'

#### **References**

NSW Address Policy and User Manual.

Australian Standard AS/4819:2011 Rural and Urban Addressing.

#### **Attachments**

Nil

#### **Recommendation**

THAT Council begin as soon as possible and complete the process of having designated numbered street addresses for all of the Lithgow City Council's facilities

#### **Management Comment**

Modern GPS units do not rely solely on street addresses to locate a chosen destination. They also use 'points of interest' so that the user can simply type "Lithgow Pool" into Google Maps or Apple Maps, and it will automatically suggest "J M Robson Aquatic Centre" and allow for accurate routing to the site (see map snip below). Similar processes can be used for GPS units built into vehicles, and standalone units like TomTom and Garmin.



Street addresses are generally useful when there are several of the same type of building/asset in a given location. For example, there might be scores of residential dwellings on a given street, so a unique identifier, such as a street address, is useful. However, the Lithgow township has only one Aquatic Centre, so a second unique identifier is not a necessity, given the resources that would need to be redirected to a facilities street numbering project, which is not included in the current year or the draft 2026/27 Operational Plan.

The name of the public building or service is much more likely to be used when providing such details to Emergency Services, or if trying to find the building or location as a resident or visitor. Corresponding street blades are also an effective means of directing traffic to a specific service or location.

The work required to designate a specific street address for all Council assets would be a resource intensive and time-consuming process. We have not received any requests for the Council to undertake this exercise.

It is suggested that if the Council sees merit in this proposal, it should first seek the feedback of Lithgow's Local Emergency Management Committee to determine whether our emergency services consider that this project would assist their operations. This information can then be considered by its Infrastructure Committee, with a recommendation being subsequently made to the Council.

Finally, 3.10 of the Code of Meeting Practice states:

*Where a notice of motion or mayoral minute makes a recommendation which, if adopted, would require the expenditure of funds on works and / or services other than those already provided for in the council's current adopted operational plan, it must identify the source of funding for the expenditure that is the subject of the recommendation.*

*If the motion or mayoral minute does not identify a funding source, the council must defer consideration of the matter, pending a report from the General Manager on the availability of funds for implementing the recommendation if adopted.*

The General Manager advises that there are no available funds in planned budgets to implement the recommendation, if adopted.

Jonathon Edgecombe  
Director Infrastructure and Project Delivery

---

## 5. Business of Great Urgency

---

The General Manager / Acting General Manager publicly confirms, that before and during this Ordinary / Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Lithgow City Council, that they have provided all Councillors with full access to all relevant information necessary for the performance of their official functions and necessary to effectively discharge their official functions.

The General Manager / Acting General Manager is aware that Council Staff Members have provided full and timely relevant information to all Councillors, sufficient to enable them to exercise their official functions and in accordance with Council Procedures.

Ross Gurney  
General Manager

In accordance with Clause 241 of the Local Government Act (General) Regulations 2005 business may be transacted at a meeting of Council even though due notice of the business has not been given to the Councillors. However, this can happen only if:

- a) A motion is passed to have the business transacted at the meeting; and
- b) The business proposed to be brought forward is ruled by the Chairperson to be of great urgency.

---

## 6. Closed Council

---

### 6.1. CONFIDENTIAL - I&PD - 25/05/26 - Kremer Park - Retaining Wall Update

#### Reason for Confidentiality

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following: -

(g) Advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege