

AGENDA

Ordinary Meeting of Council

to be held at

Council Administration Centre

180 Mort Street, Lithgow

on

Monday 22 June 2020

at 6:00 pm

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1. Acknowledgement of Country

Acknowledgement of Country

I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land we are on here today, and pay respect to their elders both past, present and emerging.

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.

Present

3. Apologies

4. Declaration of Interest

5. Confirmation of Minutes

Ordinary Meeting of Council 25 May 2020.

6. Commemorations and Announcements

7. Public Forum

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, public attendance will not be permitted. In the interim, the public can address Council via live video conference or by lodging a written submission.

8. Mayoral Minutes

9. Notices of Motion

9.1. Notice of Motion - 22/06/2020 - Eskbank Railway Station Precinct

Report by Councillor Wayne McAndrew

Commentary

Eskbank Railway Station Precinct is owned by the NSW Government, is heritage listed and has been earmarked for future tourism opportunities. The Station platform was recently remodeled as part of the widening of platforms to take the new width trains. We were under the impression that as part of the platform work the Station itself was to be repaired and bought back to it's original working condition. Other important and valuable aspects of the precinct are the good's shed, locomotive depot and the four kilometer State Mine branch line.

Attachments

Nil

Recommendation

THAT Council as a matter of urgency request a report from the appropriate NSW Government Department on the present condition of Eskbank Railway Station and the scope of work planned for its restoration and what is planned for the rest of the precinct

9.2. Notice of Motion - 22/06/2020 - Postal Voting for NSW Local Government Elections

Report by Councillor Cassandra Coleman

Commentary

It was reported in the Sydney Morning Herald of 4 June 2020 that the Berejiklian government is considering universal postal voting for the next local government elections likely to be held on 4 September 2021.

We as a Council should strongly oppose mandatory postal voting. It would have the effect of disconnecting our community from the traditional election day voting experience which is common to state, federal and Council elections. It would also have the effect of disenfranchising some voters and would undermine the principle of compulsory voting which is a keystone of Australia's democracy. Local government is as important to our democracy as the other levels of government - why should it be treated as a poor relation?

Not only is this suggestion a "blow to democracy" it is also a big hit to our local schools' hip pockets. Many schools take advantage of the social and community interaction that occurs on election day by hosting sausage sizzles and cake stalls. This in turn provides an economic boost to much-needed community projects and initiatives that benefit school children across the Lithgow district.

Attachments

Nil

Recommendation

THAT Lithgow City Council write to the Local Government Minister, Shelley Hancock, expressing strong opposition to the concept of universal postal voting for NSW Local Government elections.

9.3. Notice of Motion - 22/06/2020 - Pioneer Park

Report by Councillor Cassandra Coleman

Commentary

The following question was sent to me and other Councillors by the Secretary of Tidy Towns, Kathleen Compton.

Would Lithgow City Council provide additional improvements in Pioneer Park such as:

- Toilet and bus shelter walls decorated with images of brightly coloured native birds (parrots, cockatoos, etc.) and local flowers (waratah, wattle, etc);
- Additional brightly coloured seating;
- Games for children (eg. hopscotch, a maze, etc.);
- Upgrade of the garden areas with local native species.

Attachments

Nil

Recommendation

THAT Lithgow City Council meet with representatives of the Lithgow Tidy Towns committee as a key stakeholder in order to provide a formal response.

10. Staff Reports

10.1. Economic Development and Environment Reports

10.1.1. ECDEV - 22/06/2020 - DA114/19 Farm Stay Accommodation, 165 Caloola Halt Road, Megalong Valley

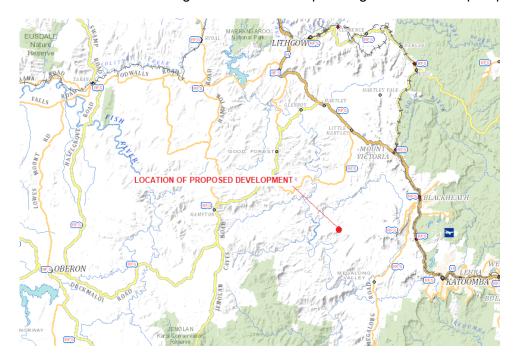
Report by Director of Economic Development & Environment

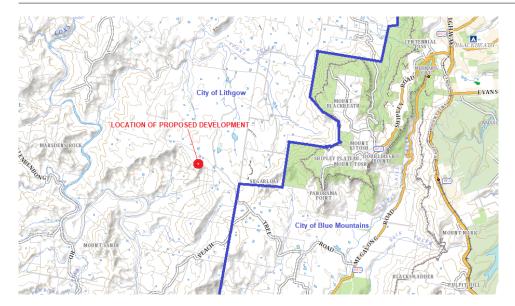
Summary

To assess and recommend determination of Development Application DA114/19 for farm stay accommodation at 165 Caloola Halt Road, Megalong Valley (Lot 104 DP 1205799).

Commentary

Council is in receipt of a Development Application for farm stay accommodation proposed to be located at 165 Caloola Halt Road, Megalong Valley. The proposed development seeks consent for farm stay accommodation that will comprise five small one bedroom cabins (49 square metres each) on the land which is a relatively remote rural property in the Megalong Valley at the south-eastern edge of the Lithgow local government area (see location maps below). Details of the location of the cabins on the land and the proposed floor plans are provided in Attachment 1. The proposal and its location are described in greater detail in the planning assessment report provided in Attachment 2.





Ordinarily, a development application such as DA 114/19 could be assessed and determined under delegated authority. This application is being reported for determination by Council meeting for the following reasons:

- Strong objections to the proposal have been received by five adjoining landowners
- Unresolved issues regarding access to the land via a right of carriageway

The above items have been extensively addressed in the planning assessment report in Attachment 2 and are summarised below.

There have been five objections to the proposal received from adjoining landowners. The issues raised in the submissions of objection have been addressed in the planning report in Attachment 2 and include the following:

- The development will overlook adjoining properties;
- The proposal is not "farm stay accommodation", there is no farm house on the land, the proposal is inconsistent with the LEP farm stay definition;
- The proposal includes five dwellings looking directly into main living areas;
- There is potential for permanent residents to occupy cabins:
- Concerns over the condition of access road, particularly in wet conditions;
- The access road not suitable for additional demand and will result in additional impacts from increased traffic:
- There is insufficient water supply for consumption and fire fighting;
- Concern over wastewater system and drainage into catchment, runoff on to adjoining sites and into dam;
- Concern that visitors will enter adjoining land and leave gates open etc., threats to bio security and farming operations;
- The land is an inappropriate location for farm stay accommodation;
- The proposal will result in reduced amenity of the surrounds as a result of heavier use and denser population;
- The access over the right of carriageway passes within 25m of dwelling and will result in an unreasonable additional impact;
- The development is excessive relative to the size of the land;
- There is no allowance for on-site management and will operate as an unregulated and unsupervised tourist facility;
- The proposal will involve unauthorised, inappropriate use of shared right of carriageway;
- The rights of other landowners and users of the right of carriageway have not been considered;

- Concern over potential use of separated part of land;
- Building construction materials are inadequate and represent a fire risk;
- Management of occupants and bushfire risk;
- Occupants will behave as tourists and may not have sufficient regard for amenity of surrounding residents;
- Visual prominence of cabins, out of keeping with prevailing built form, no screening;
- · Noise generation, large groups socialising, group parties; and
- Access to river not possible, impacts of crossing private land.

It should also be noted that Blue Mountains City Council was given the opportunity to comment on the application and advised that where no works are proposed or required in the Wards Road road reserve (in Blue Mountains City Council area) then no objection was raised or further comment required. As no required works were identified, no further comment was required from Blue Mountains City Council.

The above items raised in objections are addressed in detail in the attached planning assessment report and can, for the most part, be adequately addressed in the development application documents or can be addressed via regulation through consent conditions. Due to the contentious nature of the application based on the submissions received from surrounding residents and landowners, this application is being reported to Council's Ordinary Meeting for consideration.

The other reason this application is being reported to Council for determination is in relation to the access arrangements to the site and the lack of public road access. The subject land obtains access from a public road (Wards Road, within the Blue Mountains local government area) via a 1.6km long "right of carriageway" over an existing single lane access track through Lot 103 DP 1205799. This access is formally recognised in an instrument created under section 88B of the *Conveyancing Act 1919* which identifies the "right of carriageway over track in use" over Lot 103 and benefiting Lot 104 (the land subject to this application). The access track has also been recognised by Council as Caloola Halt Road (a private road). The applicant for the farm stay accommodation does not own the land over which the right of carriageway passes (Lot 103).

Of relevance to this application is that Lot 103 is not part of the development application and the owner of Lot 103 has not consented to the application (and lawfully is not required to) and is one of the objectors to the proposal. The farm stay accommodation will intensify the use of the access track and it has been identified that the access track will require upgrading to ensure public safety, to manage bushfire risk and to minimise environmental impacts from additional traffic. These required upgrades to the access track will likely involve works beyond the existing "track in use" as identified in the section 88B instrument and will take place on private land not subject to the development application (Lot 103). To address these requirements, the recommended draft consent conditions include requirements that the applicant undertake the necessary works to upgrade the access track to Council's satisfaction. This will require the applicant to obtain the necessary approval from the owner of Lot 103 to undertake the works.

As detailed in the attached planning assessment report, if Council is inclined to support Development Application 114/19 for farm stay accommodation, it is recommended that a deferred commencement consent be issued. This will enable the 'in principle' approval of the development application subject to the separate consideration and resolution of the access road issues and upgrades prior to the farm stay accommodation operational consent being activated. The draft deferred commencement conditions in the attached planning assessment report require the applicant to work with the owner of Lot 103 (and the other affected landowners as relevant) and obtain Council approval for the access upgrade works prior to the activation of the farm stay accommodation consent. The operational consent cannot operate until the deferred commencement requirements have been met.

Alternative options open to Council include refusal of the application or to approve the application without the recommended deferred commencement conditions.

The refusal of the application is not recommended as the proposal generally satisfies the requirements of the *Lithgow Local Environmental Plan 2014* and it is considered that the various environmental and operational impacts of the proposal can be appropriately regulated and mitigated through conditions of consent subject to the satisfactory resolution of the identified access issues. The impacts of the proposal are addressed and outlined in the planning assessment report in Attachment 2.

The approval of the application without the deferred commencement conditions is not recommended for the reasons outlined above and as detailed in the planning assessment report. Council needs to be satisfied that the identified access upgrade works can be undertaken on Lot 103 before the consent is activated. Because of this, the approval of the development without adequately addressing the access issues will result in a substandard land use and development outcome that does not properly address the demands of the development.

Policy Implications

There are no specific Council policies applicable to this development application.

The development application was subject to public exhibition and notification of adjoining landowners in accordance with the Lithgow City Council Community Participation Plan. Five submissions objecting the proposal were received from adjoining landowners. These are addressed above and in the planning assessment report in Attachment 2.

Financial Implications

- Budget approved N/A
- Cost centre N/A
- Expended to date N/A
- Future potential impact N/A

Legal and Risk Management Implications

In determining a development application, Council as the consent authority is also required to take into consideration the matters of relevance under Section 4.15 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. These are addressed in the planning assessment report in Attachment 2.

Attachments

- 1. DA 114/19 Plans [**10.1.1.1** 12 pages]
- 2. DA 114/19 Planning Assessment Report [10.1.1.2 53 pages]

Recommendation

THAT

- 1. Development Application DA 114/19 be APPROVED as a Deferred Commencement Consent subject to the proposed conditions of consent in the attached planning assessment report.
- 2. A Division be called in accordance with the requirements of Section 375A(3) of the *Local Government Act* 1993.

10.1.2. ECDEV - 22/06/2020 - Road renaming - New Road 066/08DA Moyne Estate

Report by Director of Economic Development & Environment

Reference

Min 17-131: Ordinary Meeting of Council held 8 May 2017

Summary

To advise Council of a partial road renaming under DA066/08 for Moyne Estate Subdivision seeking to rename a section of Delaney Drive to Moyne View.

Commentary

Council has received a request from the developer of 066/08DA for Moyne Estate Subdivision in Little Hartley to rename part of Delaney Drive being a new road within the subdivision. The original naming of Delaney Drive includes the access road into the subdivision which is an east-west alignment which extends over the river and branches off north and south forming a t-intersection. It was suggested that for emergency services purposes and addressing that the north-south section of road from cul-de-sac to cul-de-sac be renamed.

Therefore, the propose road name is provided below:

Road Name	Reasoning/Meaning
Moyne View	Moyne comes from the name of the property which dates back to the 1820's.
	View is appropriate for cul-de-sac and is for a 'roadway commanding a wide
	panoramic view across surrounding areas'.

The proposed road name meets the principles set out in the Geographical Names Board Addressing User Manual and is similar themed naming to the rest of the estate. Therefore, the road renaming process for part of Delaney Drive to 'Moyne View' can commence.

Policy Implications

Council's Policy 10.10 Addressing, Road naming and Locality Naming is applicable for this road naming process and will be followed appropriately. Hence the request for a Council resolution to commence the road naming process.

Financial Implications

- Budget approved NA
- Cost centre NA
- Expended to date NA
- Future potential impact Council will incur some minor advertising cost in accordance with Council's Policy, however the developer will be responsible for costs of any signage.

Legal and Risk Management Implications

Nil.

Attachments

1. Map - Moyne Farm Estate Stage 3 [10.1.2.1 - 1 page]

Recommendation

THAT Council advertise the road name 'Moyne View' for the north south section of Delaney Drive, Little Hartley, in local media; notify emergency authorities ad residents in the area requesting submissions to be made for a period of twenty-eight (28) days after which:

- a. If no submissions against the proposal are submitted, Council proceed with the gazettal process of the name and notify all residents and emergency authorities accordingly.
- b. If submissions against the proposal are submitted, a report be furnished to a meeting of Council for determination.

10.1.3. ECDEV - 22/06/2020 - Lithgow Solid Waste Facility In-House Operation

Report by Director of Economic Development & Environment

Reference

Min No: 20-34 Ordinary Council Meeting 29 January 2020 Min No: 20-46 Ordinary Council Meeting 24 February 2020

Summary

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the preferred method of in-house operation by Council of the Lithgow Solid Waste Facility. This must commence 1 January 2021 so approval is sought for the next important phase of tender for dry hire of major plant and equipment.

Commentary

Lithgow Solid Waste Facility (SWF) is currently operated under contract by Henry Plant and Equipment Hire. The contract commenced in 1994 and will terminate on 31 December 2020 (Minute No. 20-34).

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 24 February 2020 Council resolved (Minute 20-64):

THAT Council note the proposed in-house operation of the Lithgow Solid Waste Facility at the completion of the existing contract with Henry Plant and Equipment Hire Pty Ltd.

Council was advised at its Ordinary Meeting of 24 February 2020, on different options for operating the site. These are reproduced below:

- 1. Full operational contract: The contractor would be responsible for the entire operation of the site including supply of all plant, operators, site management, resource recovery and compliance with all regulatory requirements (e.g. stormwater management, leachate management, environmental monitoring etc). This contract would effectively be an extension of the current contract scope as Council currently performs some of these duties including managing regulatory requirements and funding resource recovery.
- 2. Wet hire plant: The contractor supplies plant (including fuels, lubricants, servicing) and operators. Council would become responsible for site management, all regulatory requirements and control all resource recovery activities including collecting revenue for materials (e.g. scrap metal).
- 3. *Dry hire plant:* The contractor supplies plant only. Council would hire plant and provide fuels/lubricants and, depending on agreement, servicing. Council would provide all staff to manage the site including operators of plant and supervisors. Council would be responsible for all site activities as for wet hire.
- 4. *Purchase own plant:* This is similar to the dry hire option above but Council would purchase plant and be responsible for all servicing.

Following Council's resolution on 24 February 2020 for an in-house operation, Option 1 (Full operational contract) is no longer being considered. With 'In-house' operation a decision is required on how to procure plant and equipment for site operation (i.e. deciding between options 2, 3 and 4).

Plant procurement - detailed analysis

An internal Project Team has been formed to oversee the process leading to commencement of 'inhouse' operations calling on the experience of high-level staff with financial, governance, risk management, human resource and plant procurement expertise. A detailed risk assessment and financial analysis has been undertaken by the Project Team for operating the site and to determine the preferred option for plant procurement.

Option 4 (purchase own plant) has been discounted as insufficient cash reserves are available at this time. COVID-19 impacts on Council's cash inflows have affected the availability of funds in internally restricted reserves, including the plant replacement reserve.

Option 2 (wet hire) has the following main disadvantages:

- Insufficient control over operators and no scope for multi-skilling wet hire does not allow flexibility for operators to move between machines nor perform tasks outside of machine;
- Wet hire does not allow Council to adequately train operators;
- Not practical when workload for plant highly variable; and
- Potential conflicts with contractor over how plant can be utilised, particularly Work Health & Safety.

Lithgow SWF is currently open 9 hours per day (10 hours during daylight savings). Each machine (e.g. the landfill compactor and tracked loader) is only required for a maximum of 3 or 4 hours per day. Each operator must be available to use different machines as workload dictates. When not in a machine, operators must also be available to undertake other important tasks such as load inspections, resource recovery, maintenance of the recycling areas and general site duties. Wet hire does not allow flexibility to use operators for multiple tasks. Should the wet hire option be adopted Council would still be required to employ staff for these critical tasks. The Project Team concluded Option 2 (wet hire) is not the preferred model for landfill operations.

The project team has concluded that Option 3 (dry hire) provides the greatest benefits to Council and will provide the opportunity for local plant hire companies to bid for the work. The main advantages of dry hire are:

- Allows Council to train operators appropriately;
- Allows operators to be utilised for other duties when not in a machine (e.g. resource recovery);
- Contract open to local plant hire companies
- Potential for machines to be utilised at rural sites;
- Flexibility to change operations, particularly to adapt to changing regulatory and resource recovery environments;
- 5 year plant hire contract would allow supply of new machinery;

Whilst the actual cost of dry hire for plant procurement will not be known until after the tender process, initial analysis indicates this option will meet the proposed budget and is a procurement model adopted by other Councils undertaking in-house operation of landfill sites. It is therefore the recommendation of the Project Team to proceed to tender for dry hire of major landfill plant and equipment for the operation of Lithgow Solid Waste Facility.

Local employment

It is the intention to provide local employment where possible. The dry hire option allows plant operators to be directly employed by Council ensuring local employment opportunities. Should the dry hire option proceed employees of the existing landfill contractor would have the opportunity to apply to seek employment by Council to undertake the same or similar duties.

Communication Strategy

In-house operation of Lithgow SWF is a significant change in the delivery of an important Council service function following many years of contract operation. There will likely be a high level of community interest and concerns regarding changes in the level of service delivery. To ensure a smooth transition, a detailed Communication Strategy is being developed. Part of the Communication Strategy will include regular community updates via the normal media channels (including social media) and bi-monthly updates to Councillors via Information Sessions. Councillors will be provided details about the communication strategy, when developed.

Policy Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

- Budget approved income and expenditure included in the draft 2020/21 budget.
- Cost centre N/A
- Expended to date N/A
- Future potential impact will be included in Council's Long Term Financial Plan.

Legal and Risk Management Implications

A detailed risk assessment and financial analysis has been undertaken for Council's future operation of the Lithgow Solid Waste Facility.

Attachments

Nil

Recommendation

THAT Council:

- 1. Approve the proposal to adopt a practice of dry hire of plant and equipment for the operation of the Lithgow Solid Waste Facility, and,
- 2. Note the intention for tenders to be advertised for dry hire of major landfill plant and equipment including landfill compactor, tracked loader, wheeled loader and excavator.

10.1.4. ECDEV - 22/06/2020 - Variation of Covenant - DA202/19 - Proposed Dwelling, Jerry's Meadow Road, Sodwalls

Report by Director of Economic Development & Environment

Summary

To seek a variation to a Section 88B Covenant under the Conveyancing Act 1919 for electricity supply arrangements relating to a proposed dwelling on land known as Lot 2 DP 1136625, Jerry's Meadow Road Sodwalls.

Commentary

Council is in receipt of a Development Application for a two bedroom, single storey dwelling on land situated at Lot 2 DP 1136625, Jerry's Meadow Road Sodwalls. The application can be determined under delegated authority except for the existence of a Section 88B Covenant relating to electricity supply. The covenant states:

The registered proprietor of the lots burdened shall arrange for the supply of electricity to the lots prior to the construction of any dwelling therein. The provision of such supply shall be at the registered proprietors' expense and shall be required to be undertaken prior to the release of the Subdivision Certificate.

Council being the prescribed authority who may vary the covenant.

The covenant was created on DA511/05, modification of consent for the boundary adjustment/subdivision. The reticulation of electrical supply was varied due to the applicant at the time unable to receive notification of arrangement for the provision of electricity prior to the issue of the subdivision certificate.

The current Development Application requests that the 88B covenant be varied to allow the use of a solar system and back-up generator instead of a connection to the electrical supply.

The applicant has provided the following justification:

- It is estimated that the property is located over 4kms to the closest electrical services,
- The development proposes to install an efficient solar system with battery backup as well as a 6Kva electric start Yamaha Generator,
- No external electrical connection is required,
- More cost efficient,
- Reduces carbon footprint,

The applicant sought advice from Endeavour Energy who raised no objection to a dwelling being constructed utilising a standalone generation system.

As the development proposes to vary a covenant Council's approval is required to vary the covenant.

The Development Application may then be determined under delegated authority.

Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

- Budget approved N/A
- Cost centre N/A
- Expended to date N/A
- Future potential impact N/A

Legal and Risk Management Implications

In determining a development application, a consent authority is required to take into consideration the matters of relevance under Section 4.15 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

Attachments

Nil

Recommendation

THAT Council varies the 88B restrictive Covenant for the proposed Development Application, DA202/19 as it relates to reticulated electricity supply.

10.1.5. ECDEV - 22/06/2020 - Gate Fees for Bushfire Generated Waste at Lithgow Solid Waste Facility

Report by Director of Economic Development & Environment

Reference

Min No: 20-82 Extra Ordinary Meeting of Council 6 April 2020 (Postponed meeting of 23 March 2020)

Summary

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the situation regarding gate fees at the Lithgow Solid Waste facility for bushfire generated waste.

Commentary

At the Extra Ordinary Meeting of Council on 6 April 2020 (Postponed meeting of 23 March 2020) Council considered a report on gate fees at Lithgow Solid Waste Facility for Bushfire waste and resolved (Minute 20-82) to place on public exhibition for a period of 28 days proposed changes to the fee structure at Lithgow Solid Waste Facility as follows:

- Bushfire Waste (No Asbestos Contamination) \$97 per tonne (Current Mixed Waste Charge)
- Bushfire Waste (Asbestos Material Only) \$179 per tonne (Current asbestos charge)
- Bushfire Waste (Soil Contaminated with Asbestos) \$138 per tonne
- No Charge for uncontaminated residential loads e.g. Trailer loads (as per contract)

The above fee structure was placed on public exhibition via the 'Council Column' in the Village Voice newspaper for a period of 28 days with no submissions received.

Public Works Advisory is co-ordinating the clean-up from the 2019/20 bushfire season with Laing O'Rourke, the nominated clean-up contractors. Council is being kept updated of the progress through the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE). Approximately 5,900 tonnes of bushfire waste has already been received at Lithgow SWF, including over 3,200 tonnes of asbestos contaminated waste.

DPIE has now advised that the State has arranged with Laing O'Rourke to dispose of asbestos contaminated bushfire waste at either the Genesis Facility at Eastern Creek or the Suez Elizabeth Drive Landfill Facility at Kemps Creek with only non-asbestos waste going to Lithgow SWF. The decision on final disposal sites was based on the capacity of receiving waste facilities, landfill gate charges, volume of waste from each LGA, overall waste haulage costs and distance to licensed waste facilities.

The decision by the State to dispose asbestos contaminated bushfire waste at facilities other than Lithgow SWF has somewhat reduced the need to vary the gate fees for this material. Nonetheless it is proposed to apply these gate fees should any asbestos contaminated bushfire waste be delivered to Lithgow SWF.

Policy Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

- Budget approved N/A
- Cost centre N/A
- Expended to date N/A
- Future potential impact N/A

Legal and Risk Management Implications

Contractual requirements do apply. However, the Contract is outdated and subject to interpretation.

Attachments

Nil

Recommendation

THAT Council endorse the following fee structure for bushfire waste at the Lithgow Solid Waste Facility:

- Bushfire Waste (No Asbestos Contamination) \$97 per tonne (Current Mixed Waste Charge)
- Bushfire Waste (Asbestos Material Only) \$179 per tonne (Current asbestos charge)
- Bushfire Waste (Soil Contaminated with Asbestos) \$138 per tonne
- No Charge for uncontaminated residential loads e.g. Trailer loads (as per contract)

10.1.6. ECDEV - 22/06/2020 - Bushfire Community Resilience & Economic Recovery Fund - Destination Marketing

Report by Director of Economic Development & Environment

Reference

Min No 20-126: Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 25 May 2020.

Summary

To inform Council of the development of a Destination Marketing Program to utilise the \$50,000 allocation from the Bushfire Community Resilience & Economic Recovery Fund (BCRERF).

Commentary

At its Ordinary Meeting of 25 May 2020, the Council considered a report in relation to the allocation of funding under Bushfire Community Resilience & Economic Recovery Fund and in relation to Destination Marketing resolved:

20 -126 RESOLVED

THAT Council endorse the following projects and activities for a variation to the Phase One funding from the Bushfire Community Resilience and Economic Recovery Fund:

• Tourism marketing into Sydney – increase budget to \$50,000, extension of time required; and a budget proposal be brought back to the next Council meeting.

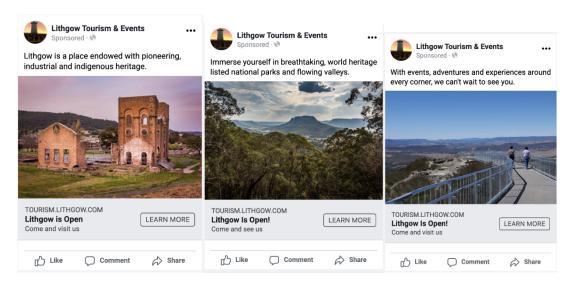
With the easing of restrictions allowing regional travel, Councillors may be aware of some of the activities occurring immediately and in the short term co-ordinated through Council's Economic Development and Tourism team including digital campaigns and upgrading of the Lithgow Tourism Website; production of 4 new movies to be added to the Lithgow Tourism site and You Tube Channels; the electronic database mail campaign; and a journalists familiarisation program.

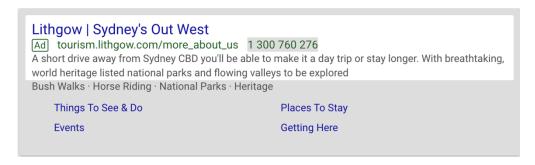
Phase 2 of the destination marketing campaign is being developed to target September - December 2020 and will utilise funds from the Bushfire Community Resilience & Economic Recovery Fund allocation of \$50,000. This allocation must be spent by 31 December 2020.

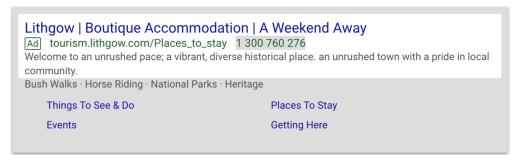
The 2nd phase of the destination marketing campaign will incorporate the following elements:

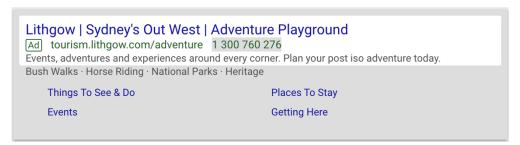
- 1. **Electronic Direct Mai**l Four email blasts over the period. One for each month from September through to December.
- 2. **Database** Growth and development of the subscriptions database within the Lithgow Tourism website. Incorporating: onboarding email, welcome communications, bounce back management and ongoing marketing. The database, as it grows, will be segmented based on user activities and destination areas of interest.
- 3. **Public Relations Strategy** Development and publication of Lithgow destination stories incorporating PR, press, online, magazines and familiarisation approaches/visits.
- 4. **Taboola Native Advertising** Taboola is the world's most popular content discovery & native advertising platform. Native advertising is the concept of creating ads that are so cohesive with the page content, assimilated into the design, and consistent with the platform behaviour that the viewer feels the ad belongs there.
- 5. **Facebook/Instagram** Significant 4-month presence targeting the 3-hour drive destination tourism market. Key words search terms, including weekenders, 4wd, camping, gateway, experience, fishing, walks, valley, mountains, discovery, drive, road trip, day trips
- 6. **Google Search/SEM (Search Engine Marketing) Retargeting** Full keywords SEM Plan and fully optimised, competitor analysis on keyword, optimised towards lead conversions target registration on Lithgow website.

Examples of current in-market campaign marketing:









Remaining Bushfire Community Resilience & Economic Recovery Fund Allocation

At the 25 May 2020 meeting, Council resolved to allocate \$65,711 of the BCRERF allocation to the removal of dangerous trees within private property (Min. No. 20-126). The NSW Grants Management Office have advised that they would prefer new activities align more closely to the priority areas of focus, being:

- **Economic Recovery** events or initiatives to support local business recover, such as business support events and industry recovery plans, etc.
- **Community Resilience** events or initiatives to support community recovery and wellbeing, such as BBQ's, shows, concerts, etc.

It is proposed that, in the event that the Grants Management Office does not approve projects endorsed by Council, that any remaining BCRERF allocation be utilised for projects to assist the tourism sector in bushfire recovery. The extended completion date for all projects remains at 31 December 2020.

Policy Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

- Budget approved \$50,000 allocated from the Bushfire Community Resilience & Economic Recovery Fund
- Cost centre TBA.
- Expended to date Nil.
- Future potential impact Nil.

Legal and Risk Management Implications

Nil.

Attachments

Nil

Recommendation

THAT Council:

- 1. Note the program of destination marketing initiatives to be funded from the \$50,000 allocation from the Bushfire Community Resilience & Economic Recovery Fund (BCRERF).
- 2. Endorse the allocation of any remaining BCRERF allocation for projects to assist the tourism sector in bushfire recovery.

10.1.7. ECDEV - 22/06/2020 - Adoption of Lithgow 2040 Local Strategic Planning Statement

Report by Director of Economic Development & Environment

Reference

Min 20-45 Ordinary Meeting of Council 24 February 2020

Summary

The purpose of this report is to put to Council for consideration the outcomes of the public exhibition and the post exhibition changes to the draft Lithgow 2040 Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS).

The report also seeks Council's adoption of the revised LSPS to enable uploading to the NSW Planning Portal by 1 July 2020 to accord with Council's obligations under Section 3.9 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979. The LSPS commences on the date it is published on the portal.

Commentary

Role of the Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS)

The key roles of the LSPS are to:

- provide a 20-year land use vision for the LGA;
- outline the special characteristics which contribute to local identity;
- identify shared community values to be enhanced or maintained;
- direct how future growth and change will be managed;
- identify and give effect to the goals, directions and actions of the Central West and Orana Regional Plan; and
- identify where further detailed strategic planning may be needed.

The LSPS's planning priorities, strategic principles and actions provide the rationale for decisions on how land will be utilised to achieve the community's broader goals. The LSPS is a living document that has a mandated 7-year review cycle.

Local Strategic Planning Statement relationship with other strategic documents

The LSPS brings together and builds on planning work found in Council's other plans, studies and strategies, in particular, *Lithgow Land Use Strategy 2010-2030 (LUS);* its supporting and informing documents; and Lithgow Local Environmental Plan 2014.

The LSPS works with Council's *Our Place Our Future Community Strategic Plan 2030 (CSP)* which has similar but broader purpose on how Council will act to meet the community's needs.

In future review cycles, there will be opportunities for the LSPS to be more closely integrated with Council's CSP as the LSPS is built into the integrated planning and reporting framework of Council.



Figure 1 Source: Department of Planning Industry and Environment

Public Exhibition

The draft LSPS was placed on public exhibition for 34 days from 6 March 2020 to 9 April 2020. It was advertised in the Village Voice; was available for public viewing on Council's *Have your Say website;* at Council's Administration Centre and the three town libraries (prior to COVID-19 closure). It was also promoted on Council's social media and E-Newsletter.

During the exhibition period Council had scheduled 3 open house sessions, however, only the first of these was held in Lithgow, whilst the sessions planned for Portland and Wallerawang were cancelled due to Council's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a result, where possible, the displays of the exhibition posters were moved to the front windows of the libraries to give some exposure throughout the period. Media Releases were issued directing the community to Council's website and providing telephone and email contact details for Council's Strategic Planning staff. Council also notified relevant public agencies and neighbouring Councils.

In response to the exhibition, a total of 13 submissions were received consisting of:

- 7 public agency submissions; and
- 6 private submissions.

The receipt of these submissions was acknowledged, and they were uploaded onto the LSPS *Have your Say* webpage following the conclusion of the exhibition period for transparency. The names and contact details on the private submissions were redacted where requested.

Post Exhibition Changes

Table 1 and 2 attached to this report provide a summary of the submissions received, along with officer's comments and details of the proposed post exhibition changes to the LSPS document.

In summary, most of the submissions received were supportive of the draft LSPS and the comments were focused on suggestions of ways the document could be improved or strengthened. However, the submissions did highlight the following areas where Council has not yet established policy or where further strategic work and focus is required. These are:

- Climate Change;
- Renewable Energy;
- Water Sensitive Urban Design and
- Transport Planning.

The LSPS has, where possible, provided a starting point with new actions to commence policy discussion in these areas. Council will revisit these areas during the revision of the Community

Strategic Plan and the development of the strategic planning documents identified in the LSPS prior to its next review. The following summarises the key post exhibition changes to the document:

Structure Plans

Corrected key anomalies to provide clarity.

Liveability Theme

New Principle 9 - Seek to improve the liveability of our urban areas by creating links in our blue and green grids.

Planning Priority 1

New Action 1.3 - Develop a comprehensive DCP which will provide detailed planning and design guidelines for future development consistent with the Lithgow LEP 2014.

Infrastructure Theme

New Principle 8 - Minimise the impact of new developments on key transport routes through appropriate planning.

Planning Priority 5

New Commitment Statement - Continue to collaborate with Transport NSW to improve the connectivity of new development areas such as South Bowenfels and the Marrangaroo Urban Release Area.

New Commitment Statement - Consider water sensitive urban design (WSUD) principles in the provision and delivery of water and wastewater infrastructure.

New Action 5.4 - Develop guidelines in Council's DCP and supporting Engineering Guidelines to address water related infrastructure, stormwater management and water sensitive urban design.

New Action 5.5 - Undertake the Marrangaroo Traffic Study to identify the required road network and transport facilities required to support the Urban Release Area.

New Action 5.6 - Continue to collaborate with Transport NSW for the upgrade and signalisation of the intersection at Col Drewe Drive and the Great Western Highway.

Planning Priority 8

Delete Action 8.5 and move to Council Commitment Statement- Manage land use conflict by supporting pre-existing land uses in the case of nuisance complaints in a manner consistent with the NSW *Right to Farm Policy*.

Planning Priority 10

New Commitment Statement - Engage and partner with Local Land Services and Land Care to manage and protect our natural resources

New Action 10.4 - Review and update the riparian and waterway provisions of the LEP and DCP.

Planning Priority 12

New Action 12.3 - Partner with the RFS to undertake a review of the Lithgow Bushfire Risk Management framework considering the principles outlined in Chapter 4 of the *Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019 guide*.

New Action 12.4 - Investigate Councils capacity to become a Power Partner with the Cities Power Partnership

New Action 12.5 - Review and finalise the Draft Lithgow Climate Change Risk Assessment Adaptation Report

Implementation, Monitoring and Reporting

Introduced a new timeframe of "immediate" for actions to be completed within 1 year of the LSPS adoption and pushed short timeframe out to 1-3 years as below. This provides greater clarity on priority projects and those that are more easily implemented.

Immediate 0-1 year Short 1-3 year

The following actions were moved from short to immediate:

1.3,3.1, 4.3, 5.2, 5.3,5.5,7.2, 7.4,8.2,8.3,8.4,9.4,9.6,10.2,12.2,12.4. Most of these actions will be addressed through the following projects:

- o Rural and Rural Residential Strategy
- o Comprehensive Development Control Plan
- House Keeping LEP review.

Publishing Changes

A series of publishing edits were made to the document to provide clarity, assist understanding and or to achieve consistency in language.

Next Steps

- Following adoption by Council, a Mayoral Address and General Manager's message will be added to the document.
- The document will be given a final check for formatting and publishing standard.
- The document will be referred to the Western Region Office of Department Planning Industry and Investment.
- The document will be uploaded for publishing on the NSW Planning Portal by 1 July 2020.
- Council will commence implementation of the LSPS actions.
- Council will monitor and report on the implementation of the LSPS to ensure its planning priorities are being achieved. This will be undertaken through the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (IP&R) framework under the Local Government Act 1993.

Matters arising from Councillor Briefing Session

A Councillor Briefing Session was held on 15 June 2020 to update Council on the outcomes of the LSPS public exhibition phase and to provide a recap of the LSPS process. The following matters were discussed and are clarified below:

Rural and Rural Residential Strategy

The completion of the Rural and Rural Residential Strategy is a key priority identified as Action 3.1 in the LSPS to be completed within the "immediate" timeframe of the 2020/2021 financial year. The project will be completed in-house by Council's Strategic Planning Team, building on the significant body of work undertaken to date and the findings of the Lithgow *Locally Significant Agricultural Lands Report being prepared by DPI (Agriculture)* and DPIE expected to be issued shortly.

Review of Lithgow Local Environmental Plan 2014

Section 3.21 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act) requires councils, every five years, to review their LEP and determine what updates are required.

Council has undertaken a preliminary Health Check on the Lithgow LEP 2014 as part of the process in developing the LSPS. As a result, the LEP was found to be still meeting its objectives and not requiring major changes at this point in time. Council will be preparing an initial housekeeping LEP amendment in the second half of 2020 to address minor implementation anomalies and will follow up with a major review following the completion of the strategy work outlined in the LSPS priorities

and actions. This includes consideration of a zoning boundary issue at Lidsdale, which the Council will be aware of, as part of the housekeeping LEP.

Consideration of Planning Proposals (Spot Rezonings /LEP amendments)

Council can consider proponent- initiated planning proposals (spot rezoning) at any time and is not constrained by Council's LEP periodic review program. In these circumstances it is incumbent on the proponent to justify the site and strategic merits of the proposal and its consistency with Council's LSPS planning principles and priorities.

Planning Proposal Fee Structure

Council has adopted in its annual fees and charges a fee for the processing of Planning Proposals. This fee covers Council's administrative and professional staff costs incurred in the processing of owner-initiated planning proposals.

The proposed fee for 2020/2021 is unchanged from 2019/2020 as follows:

Minor - \$15,000 payable in two stages. Stage 1 Lodgement \$8,000 and Stage 2 \$7,000. Should the proposal not receive initial Council support half of the lodgement fee will be refunded.

Major - \$25,000 payable in two stages. Stage 1 Lodgement \$8.000 and Stage 2 \$ 17,000. Should the proposal not receive initial Council support half of the lodgement fee will be refunded.

Stage 2 follows initial Council support and is payable prior to referral for Gateway Determination.

The assessed fee is dependent on the complexity and scale of the Planning Proposal.

Recording of voting on planning matters

Under Section 375A of the Local Government Act, 1993 a Division is required to be called whenever a motion for a planning decision is put at a meeting of the council or council committee. The adoption of a Local Strategic Planning Statement is a planning decision for the purposes of this Division.

Policy Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

- Budget revised \$41,680
- Cost centre 800106 Various Strategic Documents including LSPS.
- Expended to date \$32,380 (of which only \$1,800 advertising costs attributed to LSPS project as completed in house)
- Future potential impact N/A

Legal and Risk Management Implications

Nil arising from this report. The completion of the LSPS will satisfy Council's obligations under Section 3.9 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979.

Attachments

- Table 1. Draft LSPS Summary of Public Authority and Agency Submissions [10.1.7.1 16 pages]
- 2. Table 2. Draft LSPS Summary of Private Submissions [10.1.7.2 7 pages]
- 3. Lithgow 2040 Local Strategic Planning Statement [10.1.7.3 58 pages]

Recommendation

THAT

- 1. Council adopt the revised Lithgow 2040 Local Strategic Planning Statement as attached to the business paper.
- 2. Council notes that a Mayoral Address and General Manager's message will be added to the LSPS prior to uploading to the NSW Planning Portal.
- 3. The LSPS be uploaded to the NSW Planning Portal to be published on or prior to 1 July 2020.
- 4. A DIVISION be called in accordance with the requirements of Section 375A(3) of the Local Government Act, 1993.

10.1.8. ECDEV - 22/06/2020 - Rent Relief

Report by Director of Economic Development & Environment

Reference

Min No 20-102: Extraordinary Meeting of 27 April 2020. Min No 20-134: Ordinary Meeting of 25 May 2020.

Summary

To provide Council with the opportunity to review its current position in relation to rent relief for its commercial tenants impacted by COVID-19.

Commentary

At its Extraordinary Meeting of 27 April 2020, the Council considered a report on rent relief for commercial tenants impacted by COVID-19 and resolved the following:

That:

- Council provide a 50% reduction in rental to the commercial tenants on the attached list from the 1st rental period applicable from 1 April 2020 until the last rental period applicable to 30 June 2020.
- 2. The Matter be reviewed at the 22 June 2020 Council meeting.

Council also resolved the following at its Ordinary meeting of 25 May 2020.

THAT In addition to Council's Min. No. 20-102 of 27 April 2020 immediately put in place the following:

- 1. Council approve the rent relief procedure outlined in this report to facilitate a timely response to tenants who are financially impacted by COVID-19.
- 2. Council authorise the General Manager to consider and approve or reject a request for rent relief from the tenants listed on the Rent Relief Table (whether Category A, B or C tenants), having regard to the tenant's circumstances and the leasing principles set out in the Code.

Council instructed its property agents, LJ Hooker Lithgow, to provide a 50% rent reduction for April, May and June 2020 to the tenants on the commercial list provided at the meeting of Council on 27 April 2020. As some tenants pay weekly, others pay monthly, and some had paid rent in advance, LJ Hooker Lithgow confirmed that it would make appropriate adjustments equivalent to 50% rent reduction for 3 months for each of the tenants listed.

Council also instructed LJ Hooker Lithgow to refer any tenants requiring additional rent relief to Council. This would allow Council to consider requests for additional rent relief in accordance with the resolution of Council on 25 May 2020. (In addition, a notice was placed on Council's website inviting Council's tenants to make contact if they needed rent relief.)

Two submissions have been received relevant to the 25 May 2020 resolution which are under consideration.

Given the relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions it is recommended that the relief provided through Council's two resolutions on the matter is sufficient. No further action is necessary at this stage in relation to a blanket reduction pursuant to the resolution of 27 April 2020. Should any further submissions be received for assistance in the short term it may still be considered on a case by case basis in accordance with the resolution of 25 May 2020.

Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

- Budget approved Annual projected revenue from relevant properties \$159,612.48
- Cost centre 800089
- Expended to date N/A
- Future potential impact The monthly rental from relevant properties would be \$13,301 per month. 50% reduction for April, May and June will have an impact of \$19,951.56. With individual applications for relief received this may increase but not to the same extent as the overall 50% reduction.

Legal and Risk Management Implications

Nil.

Attachments

Nil

Recommendation

THAT Council note the report on rent relief for Council's commercial tenants

10.2. Infrastructure Services Reports

10.2.1. IS - 22/06/2020 - Fee Waiver Request - Rugby League - Hire of Sporting Fields

Report by Director of Infrastructure & Services

Summary

Council is in receipt of two (2) requests for a reduction in sporting ground fees for three local rugby league teams:

- Lithgow Workies Wolves RLFC
- Lithgow Bear RLFC
- Portland Colts RLFC

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's determination of the clubs' requests for a **r**eduction of fees for the 2020 Rugby League Season.

Commentary

It should be noted that the Lithgow Workies Wolves and the Lithgow Bears both share the Tony Luchetti Sportsground as their home ground for training and home games whereas the Portland Colt use the Kremer Park, Portland for their training and home games.

With the impact of COVID-19 restrictions, most sporting games / competitions were suspended due to the government restrictions put in place to stop the spread of the virus. All 3 teams have adhered to these restrictions by suspending competition and training in early April when the restrictions commenced.

With the NSW Government recently announcing the easing of lockdown restrictions, the Group10 and Mid-West Rugby League plan to commence their 2020 Season from 1 July 2020. As part of planning for the competition to restart, the teams have put forward a request for Council consideration to reduce / waive the fee for the hire of the abovementioned facilities. The teams have raised concerns such as:

- Loss of sponsorship from community businesses who are unable to assist due to financial impacts from the recent bushfires and the COVID19 pandemic;
- Short season meaning less home games; and
- With some restrictions still in place, the teams will not be able to raise funds from gate entry / raffles at local sponsors businesses

Under Council's current 2019/2020 fees and charges, below is what each team would be charged for their full season.

Lithgow Workies	Wolves -	Lithgow Bears -		Portland Colts -	
Tony Luchetti Spo	rtsground	Tony Luchetti Spo	ortsground	Kremer Park	
Bond:	\$449.50	Bond:	\$449.50	Bond:	\$326.00
Ground Rental:	\$2,678.00	Ground Rental:	\$1,249.00	Ground Rental:	\$1,273.50
Training:	\$1,960.50	Training:	\$1,249.00	Training	\$1,273.50
Lighting per Hour:	\$ 64.00	Lighting (per hour): \$64.00	(Includes Lighting)
Total:	\$5,088.00	Total:	\$2,947.50	Total:	\$2,873.50
(Excludes Lighting)		(Excludes Lighting)	1	(Includes Lighting)	

Administration have put together 2 options for Council's consideration for the fee reduction to assist the local teams to continue the 2020 Season.

OPTION 1 – 50% Reduction of Ground Rental and Training Fees

This option retains 100% fee for bond and lighting to retain asset security and cover direct costs.

Lithgow Workies				Portland Colts -	
Tony Luchetti Spo	rtsground	Tony Luchetti Sportsground		Kremer Park	
Bond:	\$449.50	Bond:	\$449.50	Bond:	\$326.00
Ground Rental:	\$1,339.00	Ground Rental:	\$624.50	Ground Rental:	\$636.75
Training:	\$980.25	Training:	\$624.50	Training	\$636.75
Lighting per Hour:	\$ 64.00	Lighting (per hour):	\$64.00	(Includes Lighting))
Total:	\$2,768.75	Total:	\$1,698.50	Total:	\$1,599.50
(Excludes Lighting)		(Excludes Lighting)		(Includes Lighting)	

OPTION 2 – Bond, Ground Rental, Lighting and Training Fees reduced to 50% *This option reduces all fees to 50%.*

Lithgow Workies Tony Luchetti Spo				Portland Colts – Kremer Park	
Bond:	\$224.75		\$224.75		\$163.00
Ground Rental:	\$1,339.00		•	Ground Rental:	\$636.75
Training:	\$980.25	Training:	\$624.50	Training	\$636.75
Lighting per Hour:	\$32.00	Lighting (per hour):	\$32.00	(Includes Lighting)	
Total:	\$2,544.00	Total:	1,473.75	Total:	\$1,436.50
(Excludes Lighting)		(Excludes Lighting)		(Includes Lighting)	

Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

- Budget approved as per 2019/2020 fees and charges.
- Cost centre sporting ground fee income.
- Expended to date N/A
- Future potential impact 50% loss of budgeted income for the recommenced rugby league season.

Legal and Risk Management Implications

Nil.

Attachments

- 1. Request Fee Discount Waiver COVID 19 Shortened 2020 Season Lithgow Workies Wolves Rugby Lea [10.2.1.1 2 pages]
- 2. Request Waive Reduce Fees Rugby League Clubs on Community Fields Mid West Rugby League Footbal [10.2.1.2 2 pages]

Recommendation

THAT Council endorse Option 1 - 50% Reduction of Ground Rental Fees / Training Fees for the 2020 Rugby League Season for Lithgow Workies Wolves, Lithgow Bears and Portland Colts.

10.2.2. IS - 22/06/2020 - Council COVID19 Response - Use of Sportingfields in LGA

Report by Director of Infrastructure & Services

Reference

Min No 20-123: Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 25 May 2020.

20-123 RESOLVED

THAT

- 1. The item Fee Waiver Request Rugby League Hire of Sporting Fields be deferred until the 22 June 2020 Ordinary Meeting of Council.
- 2. A report be presented to Council to include how all sporting codes will abide by the constraints imposed by the public health order.

Summary

This report provides details of the necessary actions required for all local sporting code to abide by the constraints imposed by the current Public Health Order. Please note that the Public Health Order guidelines and advice provided to sporting bodies is changing rapidly and some information within this report may not be applicable by the date of the June 2020 Council meeting.

Commentary

With the easing of restrictions, the NSW Government has recently announced that all sporting codes (Junior and Senior) can return to training and competition from 1st July 2020.

As Council owns and/or manages the sporting fields within the Local Government Area, Council require all sporting codes to abide by the requirements of the Public Health Order when returning to their respective sports. Under the NSW Public Health Order, sporting groups must have a COVID19 Safety Plan in place on how they will keep participants, volunteers and workers safe.

With respect to the return of sport to the Lithgow LGA, each organisation is required to implement a safety plan for their management and players. It is the obligation of each individual sporting organisation to ensure compliance with the plan, which aims to satisfy Council that appropriate risk mitigation measures are in place. The plan and conditions included therein will apply to all Council facilities. It is up to the organisation to produce, implement and suggest changes to their Plan where appropriate.

A summary of the key requirements of each plan are as follows, and apply to each organisation at a minimum level:

Managers, coaches and participants:

- 1. Detail relating to length and scheduling of training sessions to reduce overlap.
- 2. For larger team sports, consider maintaining some small group separation at training.
- 3. Defined training areas for each training group, maintaining base density requirement of 4 square metres per person and physical distancing (>1.5 metres).
- 4. No sharing of personal equipment.
- 5. Training/playing attendance register kept.
- 6. Guidance for travel arrangements (e.g. physical distancing on public transport, limit car pool/taxi).
- 7. Sanitising requirements, including use of sanitising stations.
- 8. Avoid physical greetings (i.e. hand shaking, high fives etc.).
- 9. Avoid coughing, clearing nose, spitting etc.

- 10. Limit of facility access to toilets and medical facilities and minimise / eliminate use of communal facilities.
- 11. Restrictions on facility access to limit anyone who has:
 - a. COVID-19 or has been in direct contact with a known case of COVID-19 in the previous 14 days.
 - b. Flu-like symptoms or who is a high health risk (e.g. due to age or pre-existing health conditions).
 - c. Travelled internationally in the previous 14 days.

Parents, caregivers and spectators

- 1. Only essential participants should attend to minimise numbers at attendance of training and competition; not more than one parent/carer to attend with children; gathering numbers should not exceed government allowances (COVIDSafe Roadmap maximum gatherings: Step 1 (10 people), Step 2 (20 people), Step 3 (100 people))
- 2. Any spectators should observe physical distancing requirements (>1.5 metres).
- 3. Detailed attendances register to be kept.
- 4. Managed access including separate entry/exit points, managed traffic flows, stagger arrival/departure times.
- 5. Bar/canteen operations to include food and cash handling protocols, hygiene and cleaning measures and established zones.

It should be noted that with the changing conditions, the above restrictions may change with or without notice in accordance with the NSW Public Health Order. At this time, the Safety Plans provided accommodate for changes to restrictions in that levels of restrictions are identified. This will allow the same Safety Plan to be in place over the course of the restriction-easing process and ensure consistency of the application of safety measures. For the information of Council, an unmodified copy of the template Safety Plan to be used by all local sporting organisations is attached to this report.

Council continues to monitor and seek advice from NSW Public Health, State and Federal Governments on the ongoing changes to COVID-19 restrictions. For all facilities where Council directly manages the sport or activity (such as at the J M Robson Aquatic Centre), Lithgow City Council is not exempt from the requirements above. In these instances, Council will produce its own Safety Plan and communicate relevant restrictions with participants and the public.

Policy Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

- Budget approved N/A
- Cost centre N/A
- Expended to date Nil.
- Future potential impact Nil.

Legal and Risk Management Implications

Nil.

Attachments

1. Template - COVID-19- Safety Plan [10.2.2.1 - 11 pages]

Recommendation

THAT Council

- 1. Note the restrictions of play applicable to sporting codes which are outlined in the report.
- 2. Continue to request that all sporting codes implement a COVID-19 Safety Plan detailing response to the abovementioned restrictions at a minimum, prior to the commencement of their respective seasons.

10.2.3. IS - 22/06/2020 - Improved Disability Access Main Street Lithgow

Report by	Director of Infrastructure & Services
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Reference

Min No 20-77: Ordinary Meeting of Council held 23 March 2020.

Summary

This report seeks to outline options for consideration of improved disability access to Lithgow Mobility Aids at 23 Main Street, Lithgow.

Commentary

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held 23 March 2020, a Notice of Motion was included in the agenda, which requested a disability ramp in front of Lithgow Mobility Aids at 23 Main Street, Lithgow.

Council has maintained that it cannot directly action this request. In designing footpaths, Council must adhere to the guidelines and specifications contained within Australian Standard 1428.1 and Austroads Guide to Road Design in order to ensure consistent, safe and equitable access for all pedestrians. The difficulty in this instance is that the area immediately outside Lithgow Mobility Aids and Headspace has an old style of kerb which is double height.

Should Council create a ramp perpendicular to the kerb, the gradient would greatly exceed the required 1:10 (a maximum standard for disability access) and increase the risk of a wheelchair tipping over. Alternatively, should Council construct a ramp and associated handrails parallel to the kerb, there would be insufficient total footpath width to cater for standards of disability access. This is because a ramp 5 metres in length would need to share the existing footpath width of 3 metres. A 1.8 metre total width is required for both the ramp and pathway individually to allow sufficient free space for disabled pedestrians utilising the ramp and those simply passing by. There is insufficient space to accommodate this option.

However, reducing transport disadvantage throughout Lithgow and creating inclusive environments is a valuable strategic objective, particularly in areas where existing infrastructure is constructed to outdated standards. Outside the installation of a ramp, there are other cost-effective options which may be considered to improve disability access while not causing large-scale disturbance to the immediate area. The following options are available.

1. Installation of disabled spaces and access in an alternative location.

This is by far the most effective solution. Accessibility standards aim to be all inclusive by their nature, accommodating individuals with a wide range of mobility issues. This is covered by clause 1.14 of the Federal Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport Guidelines and Disability Discrimination Act. Where Council seeks to provide disability access, individuals with varying levels of mobility must be considered, hence the above standards of footpath width, grade and crossfall. To its credit, Lithgow Council has provided a number of accessible parking spaces to the rear of Headspace and Lithgow Mobility Aids, and disability access is clearly promoted from the rear of the building.

Similarly, there is also disabled access directly off Main Street approximately 50 metres from the front door of the resident's premises. This access is in an area where the kerb is standard height and therefore suits the installation of a pram ramp. Please note that AS2890.5:2020 (Parking facilities – On-street parking) requires that a pram ramp be available immediately adjacent to a disability space.

Additional awareness and public communication strategies may be required to highlight the availability of these accessible entrances and parking features to the rear of 23 Main Street.

2. Holistic review of accessibility of the Main Street precinct.

Where there are widespread accessibility issues in areas where infrastructure has been constructed to standards non-compliant with current guidelines, it is suggested that a broad review be conducted to action accessibility matters in a consistent fashion. Lithgow City Council has an action plan in place for the revitalisation and upgrade of the Main Street precinct, including improvements to disability access. The area adjacent to 23 Main Street, Lithgow is included in the next stage of the action plan, being Stage 2. Both parking availability and disability access will be targeted by this program.

3. Installation of alternative accessible transport infrastructure to address concerns in part.

It should be noted that any alternative accessibility infrastructure installed will not be inclusive of all mobility restrictions. A ramp is the only option to cater for all levels of mobility and installation of any alternative may encourage those with reduced mobility to use this access rather than the compliant disability parking to the rear of the building. From an engineering and disability access perspective, it is strongly encouraged that those requiring disability access should be encouraged to use the compliant access to the rear of the building which is supported by marked disability parking spaces. However, accessibility to the front of 23 Main Street may be improved through the installation of the following:

- Handrails and intermediate rails (with a diameter of 30 65mm) at a height of 1000mm above the nosing of the step. Compliance with AS1657 must be maintained.
- Removal of paving in the immediate area of the rails, and replacement with concrete to improve slip resistance and ensure surfaces will be consistent and even.
- Tactile ground surface indicators at the top and the foot of the stairs to cater to those with impaired vision.
- Installation of high visibility tread markings for any step between top and bottom.

As it stands, implementation of Option 3 will involve kerb removal, concreting of new stairs, fabrication and installation of handrails and installation of tactile ground indicators. This will come at a cost to Council of approximately \$8,000 - \$10,000. Insufficient funds exist in the 2019/20 Operational Plan to complete this work in the current financial year.

Lastly, please note that this option cannot be accompanied by a disabled parking space in front of Lithgow Mobility Aids as a compliant ramp is a necessity, as outlined above. Should steps and rails be installed, any motorist can park in front of Lithgow Mobility Aids, reducing the benefits of its installation.

Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

- Budget approved Nil
- Cost centre Nil
- Expended to date Nil
- Future potential impact \$10,000 excl. GST

Legal and Risk Management Implications

Nil

Attachments

Nil

Recommendation

THAT

- Through consideration of the options presented, Council maintain compliant disability access to the rear of the building with no changes to the footpath and parking layout in front of 23 Main Street; and
- 2. Council consider holistic compliance with transport and pedestrian accessibility standards in future stages of the Main Street revitalisation project.

10.3. Water and Wastewater Reports

10.3.1. WWW - 22/06/2020 - Water Report

Report by	Director of Water & Wastewater

Reference

Min No 20-124 Ordinary Meeting of Council 25 May 2020

Summary

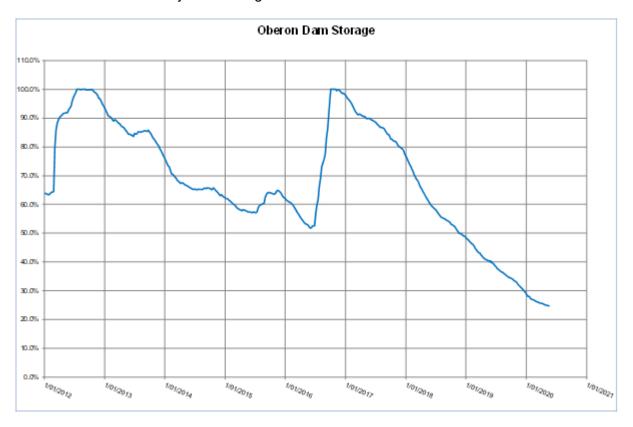
This report provides an update on various water management matters.

Commentary

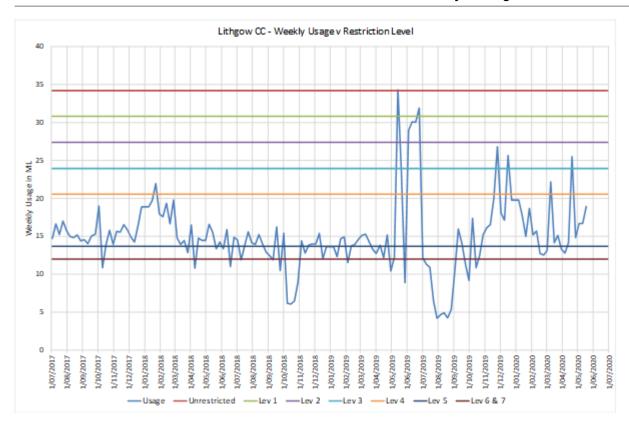
Current Dam Levels for both Farmers Creek No. 2 Dam and Oberon Dam

Farmers Creek No. 2 Dam has a capacity of 450ML. Storage volume on Friday 12th June 2020 was 78.84%. Clarence Transfer System operated until the 9th February 2020 and is currently shut down due to the level within Farmers Creek Dam.

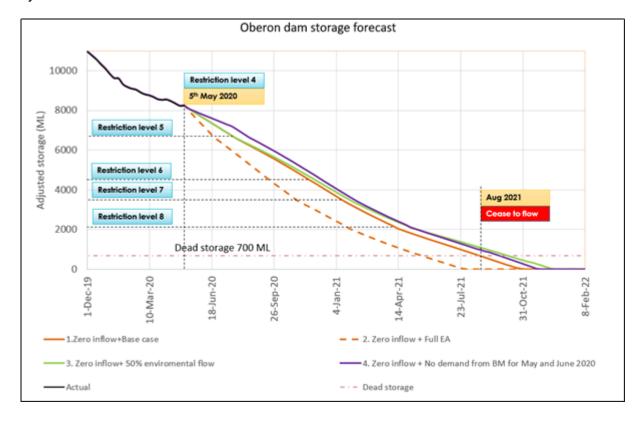
Oberon Dam has a capacity of 45000ML Storage volume on Monday 1 June 2020 was 24.2%. Total volume banked is currently approx. 6.5%, so storage adjusted for bank is 17.7%. Level 5 Restrictions come into effect when adjusted storage reaches 15%.



Level 4 restrictions on the FRWS are now in effect. Level 4 restriction trigger is 20% of adjusted storage. As can be seen in the below Usage v Restriction Level the current demands of the Council are on average lower than the current restriction level where Council exceeds the weekly usage allocation Council's banked water is reduced. Banked water is not subject to restrictions. This means that Council is managing water demand in accordance with the FRWS Drought Management Strategy.



As discussed at the May Ordinary Meeting of Council, WaterNSW have prepared depletion curves for the Oberon Dam. The depletion curves provided below are based on zero inflows to Oberon Dam and provides 4 scenarios based on assumed usage of the customers of FRWS. What this shows is the worst-case scenario of when the dam will reach a point where no water can be extracted. Zero in-flows into the dam is highly unlikely but has been used to provide the worst-case scenario to ensure management options and/or projects can be implemented prior to full drawdown of the system.



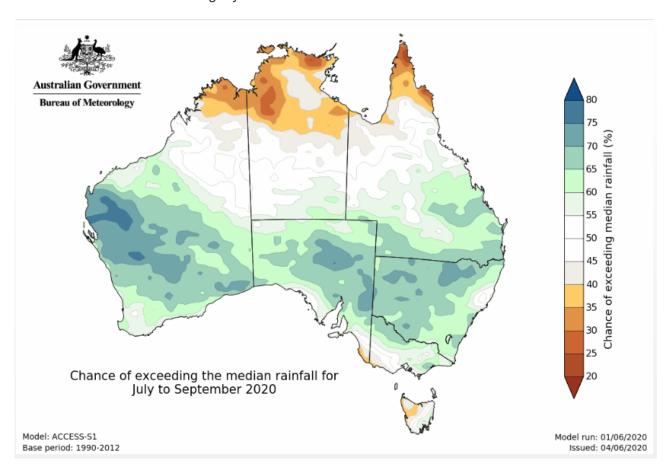
When Restriction Level 8 on the Oberon Dam is triggered Council's access to water from the FRWS is zero (0). At this time Council will be solely reliant on water from Farmers Creek Dam and supplementary water via the Clarence Colliery Water Transfer Scheme. Based on the worst-case scenario Council's access to water from the FRWS will cease 10 January 2021 as shown by scenario 2.

WaterNSW are continuing to refine the depletion curves and adjusting these in accordance with estimated water usage of the individual customers of the system.

Climatic and Rainfall Outlook

The following climatic and rainfall outlook is taken from the Bureau of Meteorology website.

- Winter (June to August) is likely to be wetter than average for northeast SA, western NSW, and scattered parts of southern Queensland.
- Winter days are very likely to be warmer than average across most of Australia
- Winter nights are very likely to be warmer than average almost nationwide.
- For the first half of June, most of WA, the southern NT, SA, NSW, Victoria and Tasmania are likely to be drier than average (mostly 60–75% chance).
- Winter (June to August) is likely to be wetter than average for northeast SA, western NSW, and scattered parts of southern Queensland (mostly 60–65% chance)
- Once past June, wetter conditions are established. July to September is likely to be wetter than average for the southern half of Australia (60–70% chance). However, the far southwest and southeast have slightly lower chances.



Current Water Usage from Each Supply

Table 1 below indicates total output from the Oakey Park Water treatment Plant (consumption), the volume transferred from the Clarence Water Transfer System (CWTS) and the volume of water purchased from Water NSW (Fish River Scheme) for 2017/2018 and 2018/2019 and a cumulative total by month for 2019/20.

Total for 2017/18	1,388.1	760.2	810.4
Total for 2018/19	1,318.6	318.7	762.4
Licence Limit (ML/a)	1500	1293	1778
Month	Oakey Park WTP	Clarence Transfer	Fish River Supply
	(ML)	(ML)	(ML)
July	44.076	134.529	58.251*
August	138.509	101.154	52.728*
September	21.471	39.166	60.926*
October	121.740	0	55.891
November	135.40	5.686	63.306
December	161.052	87.424	60.764
January	134.910	159.358	110.443#
February	42.20	45.0	56.00*
March	93.445	0	77.839
April	131.565	0	67.174
May	177.450	0	27.178
June			
TOTAL	1201.818	572.317	690.500

^{*} The volume of water taken from FRWS in incorrect due to metering issues when FRWS supply the Lithgow area.

#January volume includes the last week of December 2019

System Configuration

Due to a break that occurred on the FRWS pipeline feeding into Lithgow at Wallerawang OPWTP supply is feeding Lithgow and Marrangaroo. FRWS continue to feed water to Wallerawang, Lidsdale, Portland, Rydal, Cullen Bullen and Glen Davis. This will continue until such time as the water main can be replaced via a new pipeline route to remove the failed section form under the rail corridor.

Clarence Water Transfer Scheme

Clarence Transfer System was shut down on 9 February 2020 due to the level of dam and remains off.

Oakey Park Water Quality Summary

There were no exceedances of the health guideline values of Australian Drinking Water Guideline (ADWG).

Council has again received several complaints of dirty in the area of Inch Street, previously the cause of dirty water was due to Contractors filling a water tanker without approval. The increased velocity and rapid shut down of the hydrant standpipe caused suspended material to be released and flushed through the system which resulted in these dirty water complaints. Staff were previously able to identify the contractor and contacted the Principal Contractor at the time and this activity ceased. The activity is assumed to be taking place again, but we are unable to confirm the contractor responsible.

Treatment Plant Monitoring Results

Samples are taken on a monthly basis at various locations within the STPs and WTP in accordance with Environment Protection Licence requirements. Samples were collected on 27 May and taken to Sydney Water for testing. There was one exceedance recorded at Wallerawang Sewerage Treatment Plant for Total Nitrate.

Fish River Water Scheme Water Quality Summary

There were no exceedances of the health guideline values of Australian Drinking Water Guideline (ADWG).

Water Mains and Service Issues

Council experienced 6 breaks during the period 20 May to 12 June. The below provides the date and location of the breaks during the period.

28 May 2020 - Tank Street, Lithgow (service)

29 May 2020 - Oxley Street, Wallerawang

6 June 2020 - Sandford Ave, Lithgow

7 June 2020 – Wrights Road, Lithgow

8 June 2020 - Main Street, Lithgow

9 June 2020 - Barton Ave, Lithgow

Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

- Budget approved N/A
- Cost centre N/A
- Expended to date N/A
- Future potential impact N/A

Legal and Risk Management Implications

Nil.

Attachments

Nil

Recommendation

THAT Council note the report as an update on water management issues.

10.4. Finance and Assets Reports

10.4.1. FIN - 22/06/20 - 2019-20 Quarter Three Budget Review

Report by Chief Financial & Information Officer

Summary

This report provides the Quarterly Performance Report on the 2019-2020 Operational Plan for the period of 1 January 2020 to 31 March 2020 with a recommendation that variations to income, expenditure and capital budget estimates are voted and that the revised financial result of \$1.628M consolidated operating surplus before capital grants be noted.

The Chief Financial and Information Officer, as Responsible Accounting Officer, has reviewed the report and advises that Council's projected financial position at 30 June 2020 will be **satisfactory** compared with the original budget.

The report also provides information on emerging cashflow issues due to cash receipts being lower than usual, as well as proposed actions to address the issues over the coming twelve months.

Extension to Statutory Deadline

To provide NSW councils with flexibility to adjust to the rapidly shifting circumstances and to allow them to provide appropriate financial support to their local communities, a number of statutory deadlines for 2019-20 and 2020-21 were modified. The 2019/20 third quarter Budget Review Statement (QBRS) must be reported to Council in June 2020. All future QBRS remain due as per the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, that is, two months after the end of Quarters 1, 2 and 3.

Commentary

Details of the January to March 2020 Quarterly Budget Review Report are provided in the attachment to the Business Paper. Below is a summary table:

2019/2020 Quarterly Budget Comparison			
Budget	Income	Expenditure	Result
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Original Budget	49,686	44,056	5,630
September Review	51,251	44,697	6,554
December Review	52,529	45,592	6,937
March Review	50,718	46,986	3,732

2019/2020 Quarterly Budget Comparison - By Fund			
Budget	Income	Expenditure	Result
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
General	35,506	32,053	3,453
Water	7,458	7,503	(45)
Wastewater	7,755	7,427	328

Reasons for Changes in Revenue and Expenditure Projections

Projected revenue to 30 June 2020 has decreased by \$1.8M during Quarter Three, mainly due to the following reasons:

- Reduction of expected capital grants and contributions by \$2.6M mainly due to Cullen Bullen Sewerage Scheme project budget being transferred to the 2020/21 financial year;
- Reduction of projected Gain on Sale of assets by \$291K as a result of fleet sales being on hold due to COVID-19;
- Increase in operating grants by \$617K due to additional grants expected for the bushfire recovery grant, pension rebate grant, Emergency Services Levy grant and Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme subsidy; and
- Increase in other revenues by \$453K due to RFS Section 44 reimbursement due to be received.

Quarter 3 revenue budget variations include COVID-19 impacts of a projected \$140K reduction in budgeted revenue due to commercial rent reductions and waivers (\$20K), loss of interest on overdue rates and charges (\$63K) and loss of income from closure of facilities (\$56K).

Projected operating expenditure to 30 June 2020 has increased by \$1.39M during Quarter Three, mainly due to the following reasons:

 The material and contracts expense budget has been increased by \$1.23M, mainly due to RFS Section 44 claim related costs (offset by grant income), costs due to the incident at Wallerawang STP (funded from the sewer reserve) and private works projects (offset by income).

Projected End of Year Results

The net effect of the decrease in projected revenue and the increase in projected expenditure is a decrease in the expected consolidated operating result from a surplus of \$6.937M to a surplus of \$3.732M at 30 June 2020.

The operating result before capital grants is a key Office of Local Government performance measure with a benchmark of a balanced operating result (i.e. nil surplus / deficit). Council's revised consolidated operating result at 30 June 2020 is a \$1.628M surplus before capital grants which would exceed the OLG benchmark.

At the end of Quarter Three 2019/20, it is projected that both the General Fund and the Sewer Fund will have surplus operating results (before capital grants) at 30 June 2020. It is forecast that the Water Fund will have a (\$65K) operating deficit (before capital grants) at 30 June 2020.

Reasons for Changes in the Capital Expenditure Budget

The 2019/20 capital expenditure budget has decreased from \$28.04M (excluding loan repayments) at the end of Quarter Two to \$19.65M (excluding loan repayments) mainly due to the transfer of projects to the 2020/21 year.

Projects transferred to future capital works programs include:

- Lake Lyell Septic / Sewer Upgrade (\$768K) design works nearing completion;
- Cullen Bullen Sewerage Scheme (\$2.45M) change to design has delayed the commencement of construction; and
- Lithgow Resource Recovery Centre (\$3M) construction delayed due to negotiations and planning for the future operation of Lithgow Solid Waste Facility.

Cash and Investments

Council has had minimal unrestricted cash in recent years, with most cash held in externally or internally restricted reserves and invested in term deposits to maximise investment returns. The strategy to maximise returns can result in temporary unrestricted cash deficits when cash outflows are greater than cash inflows.

As shown in the table below, at 31 December 2020, Council had a temporary unrestricted cash deficit of (\$319K). In normal circumstances, the temporary shortfall would have been addressed by expected cash receipts, particularly from rates and water charges.

Cash and Investments Statement				
	30 June 2019 Position	30 September 2019 Position	31 December 2019 Position	31 March 2020 Position
Externally Restricted	Position	Fosition		Position
Developer Contributions	1,887	1,959	1,909	1,960
Special Purpose Grants	3,321	1,246	475	2,233
RMS Grants	5,521	-	-	-
Water Supplies	1,462	2,083	1,661	73
Sewerage Services	6,297	8,248	7,702	7,960
Domestic Waste	4,168	5,436	5,604	5,580
Unexpended Loans	2,591	2,579	2,579	2,579
Total Externally				
Restricted	19,726	21,550	19,931	20,386
Internally Restricted				
Land & Buildings	4,852	4,792	4,536	5,683
Plant & Equipment	961	775	477	27
Bonds, Deposits & Retentions	630	671	644	614
Works in Progress	1,037	1,025	1,034	1,067
Carry Over Works	2,017	1,393	1,247	1,677
ELE	831	831	831	831
Election				
Total Internally Restricted	10,326	9,487	8,770	9,899
•				
Unrestricted	-	494	(319)	(2,318) *
Total Cash and Investments	30,052	31,532	28,382	27,966

In the COVID-19 environment, Council is not only experiencing a loss of income but also an increase in outstanding debts resulting in reduced cash inflows. Following the May 2020 rates instalment due date, it was apparent that there had been an estimated 40% reduction in rates receipts compared with a similar period for the prior year and a 47% fall in receipts from the February 2020 instalment due date. Cashflow issues have also been exacerbated by delays in issuing water accounts following the installation of smart meters. Ratepayers with overdue accounts will be encouraged to set up payment arrangements to pay in regular instalments by direct debit.

The Quarter Three budget review projects a shortfall in internally restricted funds of \$2.318M at 30 June 2020. In consultation with Council's external auditors, the cash shortfall at the end of the financial year may be managed as a short-term internal borrowing which will be repaid as cash inflows return to a normal level.

It is anticipated that Council's cash receipts will be significantly impacted until at least late in 2020. It is also expected that it may take more than a year for Council's volume of outstanding debts to return to a normal level. The Office of Local Government has set a maximum overdue interest rate for 20/21 of 0% to 31 December 2020. In addition, until 26 September 2020, Councils cannot commence proceedings for the recovery of rates or charges against a person without first considering specific matters that relate to that person's individual circumstances.

Actions on Emerging Cashflow Issues

Actions proposed in response to Council's cashflow issues and to address the expected shortfall in unrestricted cash include:

- Reviewing any proposed carryovers / revotes of budgets from 2019/20 to determine projects which can be deferred until late in 2020/21 or the following year;
- Reviewing the 2020/21 draft capital works program for projects which can be deferred until late in 2020/21 or the following year; and
- Reviewing the 2020/21 draft capital works program for multi-year projects which should have budgets moved to following years.

Capital projects funded from grants, contributions, loans and externally restricted reserves should have no funding issues and be able to proceed. Cash availability will be limited for revenue and internally restricted reserve funded projects (e.g. plant replacement). The 2020/21 capital works program would be focussed on projects with available funding and asset renewal projects. Any proposed changes to the draft 2020/21 capital works program will need to be included in the draft 2020/21 Operational Plan which will be considered by Council at the July meeting.

Council's cashflow will be carefully monitored over the coming months and further adjustments may need to be made to programs and service delivery depending on the level of cash inflows. Any further changes to Council's cashflow position will be reported to the July Finance Committee meeting.

Policy Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

As detailed in this report.

Legal and Risk Management Implications

The Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (General) Amendment (Planning and Reporting) Regulation 2009 sets 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.

Attachments

1. January - March 2020 Quarterly Report final [10.4.1.1 - 21 pages]

Recommendation

THAT Council:

- 1. Note the content of the report and the revised consolidated operating result before capital grants of \$1.628M for the 2019/20 Operational Plan as detailed in the Quarterly Budget Review Report for the period 1 January 2020 to 31 March 2020.
- 2. Adopt the income, expenditure and capital budget variations to the 2019/20 Council budget as outlined in the attached report.
- 3. Note the information provided on Council's emerging cashflow issues and the proposed actions in response to lower cash inflows since March 2020.

10.4.2. FIN - 22/06/2020 - July 2020 Temporary Budget

Report by Chief Financial & Information Officer

Summary

Following the State Government's extension to statutory deadlines, Council is in a position where there is a time delay for the usual Council authorisations for income and expenditure from 1 July 2020. The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of temporary measures to ensure that Council can operate within legislative and regulatory requirements for the period prior to Council's consideration of the 2020/21 Operational Plan at the 27 July 2020 meeting.

Commentary

To provide NSW councils with flexibility to adjust to the rapidly shifting circumstances and to allow them to provide appropriate financial support to their local communities, a number of statutory deadlines for 2019-20 and 2020-21 were modified. A new Operational Plan (2020-21) must be developed for adoption by 1 August 2020, reflecting the existing Delivery Program.

The following issues were not covered by the statutory deadline extensions and require resolution of Council:

- Extension of the existing 2019/20 fees & charges to 27 July 2020; and
- Adoption of a temporary July 2020 expenditure budget to comply with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

Local Government Regulation 211 states that a Council's financial year budget lapses at the end of the financial year apart for some very specific items:

- work already carried out or started or contracted to be carried out,
- any service already provided or contracted to be provided,
- any goods already provided or contracted to be provided.

It is recommended that Council adopt a temporary expenditure budget for July 2020 of 1/12th of the 2020/21 operational and capital budgets, which equates to \$3.875M of expenditure from continuing operations and \$1.563M of capital expenditure.

Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

As detailed in this report.

Legal and Risk Management Implications

The recommendations of this report will ensure that Council complies with the requirements of the NSW Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

Attachments

Nil

Recommendation

THAT Council:

- 1. Extend the existing 2019/20 fees & charges to 27 July 2020.
- 2. Adopt a temporary July 2020 expenditure budget set at 1/12th of the 2020/21 operational and capital budgets.

10.5. People and Services Reports

10.5.1. PS - 22/06/2020 - Farmers Creek Pathway

Report by Director of People & Services

Reference

Min 17 – 267: Ordinary Meeting of Council held 25 September 2017
Min 20-71: Ordinary Meeting of Council held 9 March 2020
Min 20 – 107: Ordinary Meeting of Council held 27 April 2020

Summary

This report discusses the objectives of the Farmers Creek Masterplan and options for extension of the shared pedestrian/cycle pathway east of Tank Street Lithgow.

Commentary

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held 9 March 2020, Council resolved (Min 20-71)

THAT:

Council note the report on the Farmers Creek shared pathway along Burton Street and that a resident site meeting be held as soon as possible.

The resident site meeting was held on Wednesday 18 March 2020.

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held 27 April 2020 Council considered a further report on construction of the shared pathway along Farmers Creek including Burton Street and resolved (Min 20-107),

THAT

- 1. The matter be put on hold
- 2. An information session be held to review the Farmers Creek Masterplan and the Council's intentions.

This matter was further discussed at a Councillor Information session held 18 May 2020 where Councillors discussed options including that the matter be brought back to Council at the 22 June 2020 meeting.

The Farmers Creek Masterplan, adopted by Council on 25 September 2017 (Min 17 - 267) following extensive community consultation, provides Council and the community with a multi-pronged strategic framework for the development and use of the Farmers Creek Precinct which includes the following statement:

"Lithgow City Council well appreciates the greater role and value of Farmers Creek as a potentially unifying green corridor though the Lithgow urban area — as a place for local leisure and recreation, to link together and access other attractions within the town area, to restore native vegetation and enhance the city's biodiversity while also "softening" the urban landscape, to offer educational opportunities and nature encounters, and to enhance water quality.

To realise these benefits in a co-ordinated and staged manner Council has recognised the need for an overarching vision and masterplan to guide the delivery of recreational opportunities and environmental improvements to the Farmers Creek Precinct."

The Masterplan includes strategies for vegetation and weed management, for linking public open space by way of a shared pedestrian/cycle pathway to recreational destinations and for encouraging greater community use and subsequent improved community health outcomes. The shared path cycleway is a key part of the Masterplan.

Shared Pathway Works

The Masterplan has identified three stages of shared pathway works. Stage 1 is to establish a continuous mostly creekside pathway from Burton street in the east to the Visitor Information Centre in the west. The aim is to create a critical mass of pathway and destinations that will encourage early community take-up and appreciation.

As part of Stage 1 works, the shared pathway has been progressively lengthened and now extends from immediately east of the Geordie Street Crossing to the Montague Street dog off-leash area, a distance of approximately 3 kilometres. This includes an existing non-standard asphalt section along Sandford Avenue of approximately 700 meters which will be upgraded to 2.5m wide standard in a future stage of works.

The planned current stage of pathway works funded 50% each by Council and a Clubgrants Category 3 Infrastructure Grant, extends the shared path for approximately one additional kilometre from near Tank Street along the creek corridor to Guy and Burton Streets then to Saywell Park and possibly Lake Pillans and includes:

- Construction of approximately 760 meters of 2.5-metre-wide concrete shared path.
- Reconstruction of the Tank Street/ Macaulay Street intersection to improve safety.
- Some safety improvements to the existing asphalt pathway between Sandford Avenue and Montague Street dog off leash area.
- The construction of two new pedestrian bridges over State Mine Creek at Guy Street and Farmers Creek near Burton Street. (Quotations for the bridges have been received with the contract ready to be awarded.)

Burton Street Proposal – Option 1

This original proposal in the Masterplan is to construct a footpath to shared path standard along the eastern side of Burton Street to the Inch Street intersection where the narrow existing footpath will be used for pedestrians with cyclists using a marked on road lane on Inch Street between Burton Street and Saywell Park. Alternatively, a marked on road lane could be installed on Burton Street to avoid the need for a shared footpath.

Following concerns expressed by Burton Street residents in relation to safety and amenity, alternative routes have been investigated as follows:

Option 2

This route uses a combination of on-road and footpath alignments to extend from just east of the Montague Street dog-off leash, over Farmers Creek at the Tank Street road bridge and along Tank, Gay, Donald and Bennet Streets and past Eskbank House to Inch Street where it connects to the recently constructed shared standard footpath to Blast Furnace Park and on to Lake Pillans..

This route diverts significantly away from the Farmers Creek corridor, however, consistent with the Masterplan objectives, it provides connections to key visitation sites including Eskbank House, Blast Furnace Park and Lake Pillans. Option 2 would require the pathway to pass a small number of residential properties on Tank and Gay Streets and would involve a number of road crossings.

Option 3

This route follows the same alignment as Option 1 as far as Guy Street where it diverts along Guy, Laidley and Atkinson Streets to Inch Street and then Saywell Park. This option requires the construction of a bridge over State Mine Gully Creek. A larger number of property frontages on Guy and Laidley streets will be impacted by this route and the narrow width of the Atkinson Street bridge over Farmer's Creek will create a potential pinch point.

Environmental Works Undertaken to Date

Council has undertaken significant environmental works along the creek corridor in recent years including:

- An allocation of \$125,000 in 2019/20 and a further \$90,000 funded through the Drought Communities program Round 1.
- \$150,000 in 2018/19

These works have been focussed on the following:

- Addressing significant infestations of Grey Willows, Black Willows, Cotoneaster, Blackberry, English and Montpellier Broom, and Privets. The aim of this program of works was to provide an initial control of these weeds, and to drastically reduce them in number.
- Achieve localised eradications of Priority Listed Willow species.
- Treat African Love Grass infestation at Coalbrook Street and install native trees.
- Install native trees on State Mine and Farmers Creek to replace weed infestations that had been removed and to stabilise banks.

A further \$40,000 is included in Council's draft 2020/21 Operational Plan for weed management within the Farmers Creek corridor.

Conclusion

Council adopted the Farmers Creek Masterplan in September 2017 in order to create a unifying green corridor through the Lithgow Urban area as a place for leisure and recreation, to link together various attractions, to restore native vegetation and enhance the city's biodiversity while softening the urban landscape, to offer educational opportunities and nature encounters, and to enhance the water quality of Farmers Creek.

Implementation works aim to progressively reinstate many of the environmental values that have been lost for decades and to promote community pride and enjoyment. Increasingly many communities throughout Australia have come to develop a re-appreciation of their "degraded" waterways.

Council does not have a blank canvas to work with in rolling out the shared pathway and must therefore make a number of compromises due to factors such as cost, boundary encroachments and the width of creek and road corridors.

Option 1

The eastern side of Burton Street was determined in the Masterplan to be the most logical and practical route for the pathway to proceed as it has no formed footpath and is wide enough to accommodate a 2.5 metre wide footpath.

Alternatively, a marked on-road cycle lane within the Burton Street road reserve could be constructed instead. Burton Street is a no-through road, with very low traffic volumes and is wide enough to accommodate an on-road cycle lane. Kerb side parking would still be permissible as the marked cycleway would be located between the kerb side parked cars and centre of the Burton Street.

The benefits of the shared pathway are for the whole community. While the residents of Burton Street have expressed opposition to this proposal, it is considered that the impacts on those residents will be minor and in fact there are likely to be net benefits as they can also use the shared path to access places of interest along Farmers Creek and beyond. The section of creek between Guy and Burton Streets also lends itself to further greening as a pleasant resting area with park benches. Further weed removal between Burton Street and Atkinson Street is also proposed in the coming year which will have considerable benefits for creek health and public amenity.

Option 2

Despite moving away from the Farmers Creek corridor, Option 2 along Tank, Gay, Donald and Bennet Streets and past Eskbank House to Inch Street has significant merit as it provides an immediate connection and access to historic Eskbank House Museum, Blast Furnace Park and Lake Pillans Wetlands which are popular destinations for locals and visitors alike.

Option 2 removes the need to construct two bridges (State Mine Creek at Guy Street and Farmers Creek at Burton Street) and the re-construction of the Tank Street/Macauley Street intersection and is therefore clearly the most cost-effective option presented in this report. Option 2 represents the shortest construction timeframe and a significant part of Option 2 takes advantage of wide streets with low-traffic volumes. This option also provides the most direct route to the important heritage precinct of Blast Furnace Park and Lake Pillans Wetlands by connecting with the recently constructed concrete pathway to the Blast Furnace ruins. While street crossings will be required for this route, good sight distance can be achieved in all locations.

Option 3

This route impacts a large number of property frontages on Guy and Laidley streets and at a future point a shared path bridge may be required next to the Atkinson Street bridge over Farmer's Creek.

The consent of the grant provider will be required to any proposed amendment to the route from Option 1.

Policy Implications

NIL.

Financial Implications

- Budget approved \$540,000
- Cost centre PJ 400152
- Expended to date \$77,440
- Future potential impact \$462,560 to be expended. Continuation of the Farmers Creek Pathway project has been included in the draft 2020/21 capital works program (funded from grants and a Council contribution).

Legal and Risk Management Implications

NIL.

Attachments

- 1. OPTION 1 [10.5.1.1 1 page]
- 2. OPTION 2 [10.5.1.2 1 page]
- 3. OPTION 3 [10.5.1.3 1 page]

Recommendation

THAT Council determines a preferred route for the shared pathway east of Tank Street Lithgow.

10.5.2. PS - 22/06/2020 - Union Theatre Works Project Variations and Delays

Report by Director of People & Services

Reference

Min No 19-06: Confidential Extra-Ordinary Meeting of Council held 29 January 2019

Summary

This report provides Council with an update on a number of cost variations and delays with completion of Lithgow Union Theatre Upgrade works.

Commentary

At the Extra-Ordinary Meeting of Council held 29 January 2019 (Min19-06), Council awarded tender 05/18 to Renascent Australia Pty Ltd for the value of \$925,184.70 (including GST) to undertake construction works at the Union Theatre. The contracted works involved:

Enhancing back of house facilities including new dressing rooms, toilet facilities and storage facilities, lifts and curtains. This project aims to transform the Union Theatre to support increased participation in Lithgow's thriving arts and cultural sector and to make the theatre suitable for visiting performances.

Project Variations

Works commenced in early May 2019. A number of variations submitted by Renascent are summarised as follows:

Variatio n	ltem	Cost including GST	Comment
V 1	Prepare Hazardous Materials Report	\$4,706.90	Council did not have a current report that identified all hazardous materials including asbestos, lead paint etc. Renascent required such a report before they would commence works. This requirement was not identified in their tender submission.
V 2	Internal lift shaft design changes	\$15,112.90	Replace core filled blockwork lift shaft as designed with glass clad steel lift shaft. This was a Council initiated variation
V 3	Hazardous Materials removal and associated costs	\$209,384.34	The Hazardous Materials Report found unbonded asbestos material in the subfloor area where excavation works for the stage lift and drainage works were to occur. The unbonded asbestos material was not easily visible and was previously unknown to Council. Its origin is unclear but could have been the residue of lagging used in the past to insulate water pipes from an old heating system. Construction works were delayed for several weeks while the material was removed and disposed and a clearance certificate provided. A breakdown of these costs is as follows:

			Sampling, identification and supervision by licensed asbestos consultant - \$34,802.90 (GST)
			Demolition and Removal to authorised landfill by licensed asbestos consultant - \$124,558.50 (GST)
			Renascent Site Manager supervision, associated costs, overheads and margins – \$59,956.60 (GST)
			Less credit for groundworks allowed for in tender - \$9,935.20
			TOTAL \$209,384.34 – (GST)
			In seeking Council agreement to the works, Renascent initially provided a cost estimate in the order of \$40,000 and it was not until completion of the Hazmat works that Council was advised of the extent of costs.
			Council is asked to note that these works were to remove unbonded friable asbestos only in areas where works were to occur and there continues to be unbonded friable asbestos present elsewhere in the subfloor areas.
V 4	Lower Level floor works	\$484	Make good sections of the existing lower level timber floor.
V 5	Additional structural inspections and design changes	\$3,206.50	Additional site visits and design work by the consulting engineer to amend structural drawings.
V 6	Mechanical services	(\$9,680)	Payback for air-conditioning units removed from scope of works by Council as cost saving measure
V 7	Design changes	\$19,833.24	A number of additional costs and credits for design changes
V 8	Underfloor works	\$4,501.20	Minor changes to make good lower timber floor
V 9	Sanitary fittings	\$4,015.57	Reconciliation for Provisional Sum Allowance
V 10	HWS	\$697.08	Reconciliation for Provisional Sum Allowance
V 11	Tiling	\$239.76	Reconciliation for Provisional Sum Allowance
V12	Stage stair handrail	Rejected	
V13	Floor coverings	(\$2,458.02)	Payback Reconciliation for Provisional Sum Allowance
V 14	Projector	(\$1,760)	Removed from scope of works by Council to reduce cost

V 15	Lift changes	(\$4,719)	Reconciliation for Provisional Sum Allowance
V16	Sewer diversion works	(\$5,736.50)	Reconciliation for Provisional Sum Allowance
V 17	Curtain changes	\$2,734	Council requested colour change
V 18	Electrical fittings	\$4,028.75	
V 19	Increased wall height	\$24,797.74	Higher wall heights required due to error in architects' plans
V 20	Electrical board relocation	\$4,114	ECB needed to be moved away from stage curtains.
V 21	Remove lead based paint lower floors	\$8,107	As identified in Hazardous Materials Report
V 22	Rood safety anchors for compliance	\$1,518.55	Council initiated variation to install anchors on existing Theatre roof at same time as anchors were installed on new roof.
V 23	Timber deck handrail	\$1,940.84	Extend handrail to bottom of stair for compliance
V 24	Roof modifications	\$3,980.90	To adjust for errors in original plans.
V 25	Bathroom floor	\$907.50	
	changes		To adjust for errors in original plans.
TOTAL		\$289,957.25	

The variations total of \$289,957.25 (GST inclusive) represents 31% of the awarded tender price. While many of the variations are what might be typically expected in a construction project of this type, the Hazardous Materials removal and associated costs were not anticipated at the commencement of works and it was not until completion of the Hazmat works that Council was advised of the extent of costs above the initial estimate.

Project Delays

The scope of works includes the supply and installation of two lifts – a platform lift to convey users from the hall floor to stage level, and a two story shaft lift to convey users and equipment between the upper and lower floors.

With a scheduled Practical Completion date of 10 March 2020, Renascent advised Council in January 2020 that their lift supply sub-contractor had entered into voluntary liquidation. At that stage, Council had paid a total of \$79,061.40 (GST Inclusive) in progress payments to Renascent for the lifts with a further \$27,406.50 (GST Inclusive) remaining for payment on installation. It appears that all monies paid to the sub-contractor by Renascent were lost.

Council obtained legal advice that the insolvency of the subcontractor does not relieve the Principal Contractor of any obligations to carry out the work. Accordingly, Council has entered a Deed of Variation with Renascent requiring them to supply and install the lifts at no additional cost to Council (other than the final payment due on installation) and with following conditions:

- Extending the date for practical completion to 30 September 2020;
- The defects liability period will not commence until the date of practical completion which cannot occur until completion of the Lift Works; and
- If the works including the Lift Works do not reach practical completion by 30 September 2020, liquidated damages will be payable by the Contractor to LCC.

Renascent have sourced an alternative lift supply company and have advised Council that they expect delivery and installation will be achieved before 30 September 2020. The lift delays have not delayed completion of the other works which have been completed by Renascent to a good standard.

An Interim Occupation Certificate has been issued by Council allowing for use of the theatre without the lifts, however the theatre has been closed during the Covid 19 shutdown.

Council still holds two Bank Guarantees of \$23,000 each with the first to be released on Practical Completion and the second after the 12 month Defects Liability period.

Policy Implications

Council's Purchasing & Contracting Standard Working Procedure 4.5 requires that where the value of the variation exceeds \$150,000, the variation will need to be reported to Council for acceptance and where the total of smaller variations accumulates to more than \$150,000, this will similarly need to be reported to Council.

Financial Implications

- Budget approved \$1,175,664 (ex GST) including \$775,664 grant. Total \$1,293,230.40 (including GST)
- Cost centre PJ 400117
- Expended to date 2018-19 to 2019/20: \$1,181,742 (ex GST)
- Construction Tender costs \$925,184.70
- Variations net \$289,957.25
- Other project costs \$84,774.40
- TOTAL Expenditure \$1,299,916.35 (including GST)

The above amounts do not include a further \$90,000 allocated by Council in the current year for the upgrade of Union Theatre lighting and sound systems which forms part of the agreed works under the Regional Cultural Fund funding agreement

Legal and Risk Management Implications

NIL

Attachments

Nil

Recommendation

THAT Council

- 1. Approve the payment of \$209,384.34 (including GST) to Renascent Australia Pty Ltd for Hazardous Materials removal and associated costs at the Union Theatre.
- 2. Note the payment of a further net \$80,572.91 (including GST) in cost variations which have been approved as variations to Council's budgets in previous quarterly budget reviews.

11. Council Committee Reports

11.1. PS - 22/06/2020 - Youth Council Minutes 18 May 2020

Report by Director of People & Services

Summary

This report details the minutes of Youth Advisory Committee (Youth Council) meeting held on 18 May 2020.

Commentary

At the 18 May Youth Council meeting various items were discussed including;

- Youth Week virtual events
- Future Grant opportunities

Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

- Budget approved Nil
- Cost centre Nil
- Expended to date nil
- Future potential impact nil

Legal and Risk Management Implications

Attachments

1. Minutes 18.05.2020 [11.1.1 - 4 pages]

Recommendation

THAT Council adopt the minutes and endorses the recommendations of the Youth Council meeting held on 18 May 2020.

11.2. PS - 22/06/2020 - Women's Advisory Committee Mintues 2 June 2020

Report by Director of People & Services

Summary

This report provides details of the minutes of the Womens Advisory Committee meeting held on 2 June 2020.

Commentary

At the 2 June 2020 Women's Advisory Committee meeting, various items were discussed including;

- -Safe Haven Project
- -Acknowledged of Council support for WAC projects
- -concerns about small businesses re Covid-19
- -Acknowledged the success of the International Womens Day event.

Policy Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

- Budget approved \$1,000
- Cost centre PJ 600071
- · Expended to date nil
- Future potential impact nil

Legal and Risk Management Implications

Nil.

Attachments

1. Women's Advisory Committee Minutes 2 June 2020 [11.2.1 - 5 pages]

Recommendation

THAT Council notes the minutes of the Women's Advisory Committee meeting held on 2 June 2020.

11.3. IS - 22/06/2020 - TALC Committee Meeting Minutes - 4th June 2020

Report by Director of Infrastructure & Services

Summary

This report details the Minutes of the TALC Committee Meeting held on 4th June 2020.

Commentary

At the TALC Committee meeting held on 4th June 2020, there were numerous items discussed by the committee including:

Kiss and Drop Zones

The following items were outside the Committees delegations and require Council to formally approve the recommendation:

Item 6.1 - Confirmation of the Previous Minutes - 4th April 2019

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council

- 1. Note the minutes of the TALC Committee meeting held on the 4th April 2019; and
- 2. Approves the installation of:
 - a. RMS Sign R1-1 (stop sign) at the intersection of McKanes Falls Road and Jenolan Caves Road
 - b. RMS Sign W3-1 (stop sign ahead) in advance of the intersection.
 - c. Stop line at the intersection; and
- Approves the installation of RMS sign R5-400 'No Stopping' signage from the intersection of Bulkley Lane to the intersection with Elizabeth Street on the eastern side of Wallerawang/Rydal Road; and
- 4. Approves the installation of RMS sign R5-13 (5-minute restricted parking) on Tank Street immediately south of the existing taxi zone to allow for 1 available pick up and drop off parking spot. The restrictions shall be in place for a 6-month trial period, with a review of the effectiveness of the restrictions undertaken as the completion of the trial period.

Item 6.2 Request Wildlife Signage - Glen Davis

RECOMMENDATION

THAT as The Gullies Road is a rural, unsealed road in a remote location surrounded by bushland, the request for the installation of Wildlife Advisory signage be denied.

Item 6.3 New Members

RECOMMENDATION THAT Council accept Shane Milne and Nick Kelly as the TALC Committee representatives from Lithgow Police

Item 6.4 - Request - Directional Signage - Lithgow TAFE

RECOMMENDATION

THAT

- Council install the requested directional signage in Bridge Street and Hill Street locations only, at the costs indicated in the report; and
- Council advise Lithgow TAFE of the listing problems associated with the internet and the Yellow Pages.

Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

- Budget approved Nil
- Cost centre N/A
- Expended to date Nil
- Future potential impact Nil

Legal and Risk Management Implications

Nil

Attachments

1. DRAFT Minutes - TALC Committee Meeting - 4 th June 2020 [11.3.1 - 6 pages]

Recommendation

THAT Council

- 1. Note the minutes of the TALC Committee meeting held on 4th June 2020; and
- 2. Note the minutes of the TALC Committee meeting held on 4th April 2019; and
- 3. Approves the installation of:
- 4. a. RMS Sign R1-1 (stop sign) at the intersection of McKanes Falls Road and
- 5. Jenolan Caves Road
- 6. b. RMS Sign W3-1 (stop sign ahead) in advance of the intersection.
- 7. c. Stop line at the intersection; and
- 8. Approves the installation of RMS sign R5-400 'No Stopping' signage from the intersection of Bulkley Lane to the intersection with Elizabeth Street on the eastern side of Wallerawang/Rydal Road; and
- 9. Approves the installation of RMS sign R5-13 (5-minute restricted parking) on Tank Street immediately south of the existing taxi zone to allow for 1 available pick up and drop off parking spot. The restrictions shall be in place for a 6-month trial period, with a review of
- 10. the effectiveness of the restrictions undertaken as the completion of the trial period; and
- 11. Advise as The Gullies Road is a rural, unsealed road in a remote location surrounded by bushland, the request for the installation of Wildlife Advisory signage be denied; and
- 12. Accept Shane Milne and Nick Kelly as the TALC Committee representatives from Lithgow Police; and
- 13. Install the requested directional signage in Bridge Street and Hill Street locations only, at the costs indicated in the report; and
- 14. Advise Lithgow TAFE of the listing problems associated with the internet and the Yellow Pages.

11.4. IS- 22/06/2020 - Operations Committee Meeting Minutes - 10th June 2020

Report by Director of Infrastructure & Services

Summary

This report details the Minutes of the Operations Committee Meeting held on 10th June 2020.

Commentary

At the Operations Committee Meeting held on 10 June 2020, there were numerous items discussed by the committee including:

- 1. Standing Item Capital Works Report
- 2. Standing Item Cullen Bullen Sewerage Scheme Update
- 3. Standing Item Water and Sewer Infrastructure Update
- 4. 2019/2020 Capital Program
- 5. Proposal Partial Permanent Closure of Hassans Walls Road (Up to Lookout)
- 6. Grant Applications Update

The following item were outside the Committee's Delegation and require Council to formally approve the recommendation.

Item 5.7 - Late Report – Speed Zone Review – Great Western Highway

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council;

- 1. Support the proposal to increase speed limits along the Great Western Highway as outlined in the report; and
- 2. In its response to Transport for NSW, the administration request feedback of Council'S request for further speed limit reviews between Lapstone and Marrangaroo.

Policy Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

- Budget approved Nil
- Cost centre N/A
- Expended to date Nil
- Future potential impact Nil

Legal and Risk Management Implications

Nil

Attachments

1. DRAFT Minutes - Operations Committee Meeting - 10 th June 2020 [11.4.1 - 11 pages]

Recommendation

THAT Council

- 1. Note the minutes of the Operations Committee Meeting held on the 10th June 2020; and
- 2. Support the proposal to increase speed limits along the Great Western Highway as outlined in the report; and
- 3. In its response to Transport for NSW, the administration request feedback of Council's request for further speed limit reviews between Lapstone and Marrangaroo.

12. Business of Great Urgency

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.