



Ordinary Meeting of Council

AGENDA

12 February 2025

Commencing at 5:30PM

**National Theatre
100 Wallace Street, Braidwood**

Presentations for items listed on the Agenda can be made in writing, via Zoom or in person. A live stream of the meeting can be viewed at: <http://webcast.qprc.nsw.gov.au/>

Statement of Ethical Obligations

The Mayor and Councillors are reminded that they remain bound by the Oath/Affirmation of Office made at the start of the council term to undertake their civic duties in the best interests of the people of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council and to faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act, to the best of their skill and judgement.

The Mayor and Councillors are also reminded of the requirement for disclosure of conflicts of interest in relation to items listed for consideration on the Agenda or which are considered at this meeting in accordance with the Code of Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice.

On-site Inspections - Nil

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council advises that this meeting will be webcast to Council's website. Images and voices of those attending will be captured and published.

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Confidential - Not for Publication

16 REPORTS FOR CLOSED SESSION

16.1 Legal Matters Update - 1 July 2024 to 31 December 2024

Item 16.1 is confidential in accordance with s10(A) (c) (di) (e) (g) of the Local Government Act 1993 because it contains information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; AND commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it; AND information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law; AND advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege and discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.

16.2 Deed of Settlement Minister Education and Early Learning: Bungendore Properties Reinstatement

Item 16.2 is confidential in accordance with s10(A) (e) of the Local Government Act 1993 because it contains information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law and discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.

17 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Open Attachments

- Item 9.1 Draft Community Strategic Plan
Attachment 1 Community Strategic Plan Community Engagement Report (Under Separate Cover)
Attachment 2 Draft Community Strategic Plan (Under Separate Cover)
- Item 9.2 Community Engagement Strategy 2025-2028
Attachment 1 Draft Community Engagement Strategy 2025-2028 (Under Separate Cover)
- Item 9.3 Post Exhibition Report - Cat Containment Policy
Attachment 1 Draft QPRC Cat Containment Policy (Under Separate Cover)
Attachment 2 Draft Cat Containment Policy - Full Submissions in Categories (Under Separate Cover)

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ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL**

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- Item 9.4 Regional Economic Development and Community Investment Program
Attachment 1 Rail Trails for NSW - Evaluation Summary (Under Separate Cover)
Attachment 2 MRT Trail Development Plan Stage 1a (Under Separate Cover)
Attachment 3 MRT Trail Development Plan Stage 2 (Under Separate Cover)
- Item 9.5 Renewal of Licence Agreement with Queanbeyan Players - 18 Barrow Place, Queanbeyan East
Attachment 1 Draft Licence - 18 Barrow Place (Renewal 2025) (Under Separate Cover)
- Item 11.1 Local Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes - 4 February 2025
Attachment 1 LTC Minutes - 4 February 2025 (Under Separate Cover)
- Item 14.5 Questions With Notice - New Hume Recycling Centre
Attachment 1 Tara Cheyne MLA - Media Release - New recycling facility contract announced - 31 January 2025 (Under Separate Cover)

Closed Attachments

- Item 16.2 Deed of Settlement Minister Education and Early Learning: Bungendore Properties Reinstatement
Attachment 1 Sale Contract - 2 Majara Street and Majara Road Reserve (Under Separate Cover)
Attachment 2 Sale Contract - 4, 6 and 10 Majara Street (Under Separate Cover)



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE QUEANBEYAN-PALERANG REGIONAL COUNCIL held via Zoom and in the WB Freebody Council Chambers, Nellie Hamilton Centre, 257 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan on Wednesday, 29 January 2025 commencing at 5:30pm.

ATTENDANCE

Councillors: Cr Winchester (Chairperson)
Cr Broadbent
Cr Grundy
Cr Livermore
Cr Preston
Cr Schweikert
Cr Taskovski
Cr Waterhouse
Cr Willis (via Zoom from 5.53pm)
Cr Wilson

Staff: R Ryan, General Manager
M Duff, Director Infrastructure Services
J Richards, Director Community, Arts and Recreation
K Monaghan, Director Corporate Services
R Ormella, Director Development and Environment

Also Present: L Ison (Minute Secretary)

1. OPENING

The meeting commenced at 5.36pm.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the Land upon which the meeting was held.

3. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

586/25

RESOLVED (Winchester/Broadbent)

That the apology for non-attendance from Cr Macdonald be received and that leave of absence be granted.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**4.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 18 December 2024**

587/25

RESOLVED (Winchester/Preston)

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in the Braidwood National Theatre on Wednesday 18 December 2024 be confirmed.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

5. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

588/25

RESOLVED (Winchester/Livermore)

That Councillors and staff now disclose any interests and reasons for declaring such interest in the matters under consideration by Council at this meeting.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Cr Winchester declared a less than significant non-pecuniary interest in Item 9.3: Naming of Bungendore Sports Hub Playing Fields, stating a person named in the report was a member of my group for the recent Council election. He proposed to leave the Chamber when the matter was considered.

Cr Taskovski declared a significant pecuniary interest in Item 10.7: Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates, stating he is an employee of the specified company or other body. He proposed to leave the Chamber when the matter was considered.

6. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC FORUM

At this stage of the proceedings, the time being 5.39pm, Cr Winchester advised that the meeting should now adjourn for the Public Forum.

589/25

RESOLVED (Winchester/Preston)

That the meeting be adjourned to conduct the Public Forum.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned for the Public Forum at 5.39pm and resumed at 5.48pm.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

590/25

RESOLVED (Winchester/Broadbent)

That the meeting adjourn for five minutes to enable time to sort technical issues for remote attendance of Cr Willis.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 5.48pm and resumed at 5.53pm.
Cr Willis joined the meeting at 5.53pm.

7. MAYORAL MINUTE

There was no Mayoral Minute.

8. NOTICES OF MOTIONS OF RESCISSION

There were no Notices of Motions of Rescission.

9. REPORTS TO COUNCIL - ITEMS FOR DETERMINATION

9.1 Demolition of Local Heritage Item - Jembaicumbene Bridges, Araluen Road, Reidsdale **RESOLVED (Wilson/Preston)**

591/25

That Council:

1. Endorse the demolition of a local heritage item being three (3) timber bridges across Jembaicumbene Creek along Araluen Road, Reidsdale, and implement the recommendations provided by Council's Heritage Advisor and the Heritage Report.
2. Receive a report on the remaining timber bridges in QPRC area, their heritage status and condition prior to Council being asked to endorse the demolition of any more such bridges.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

9.2 Warrigal Residents Committee Donation Request **RESOLVED (Wilson/Waterhouse)**

592/25

That Council:

1. Decline the donation request of \$4,163 to Warrigal residents under Category C of the Donations Policy.
2. Write to the NSW Government asking that they consider rates, water and sewer relief for pensioners in this situation.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Having declared an interest in the following item, Cr Winchester vacated the Chair and left the Chamber at 6.05pm. The Deputy Mayor assumed the Chair.

593/25 **9.3 Naming of Bungendore Sports Hub Playing Fields**
RESOLVED (Preston/Schweikert)

That Council:

1. Endorse the naming of the two new grass fields at the Bungendore Sports Hub – Field One: Anthony Rayner Field and Field Two: Garry Cook Field.
2. Place the proposal on public exhibition for 28 days and if no objections are received, adopt the name and formalise with a public event and naming celebration.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Cr Winchester returned to the Chamber at 6.16pm and assumed the Chair.

9.4 Renewal of Alcohol Restrictions in Local Government Area and Addition of New Area at 1 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan
MOVED (Wilson/Grundy)

That Council:

1. Endorse the renewal of Alcohol Free Zones (AFZs) and Alcohol Prohibited Areas (APAs) in Queanbeyan-Palerang as outlined in this report.
2. Endorse the addition of 1 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan to the list of AFZs and APAs as requested by Monaro Police District.
3. Place the renewal of existing AFZs and APAs, and the addition of 1 Farrer Place, on public exhibition for a period of 30 days.
4. Undertake targeted engagement with key stakeholders of 1 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan including Queanbeyan Senior Citizens, Sleepbus, and St Vincent de Paul Night Patrol.
5. Receive a further report on the results of the community and stakeholder consultation.

AMENDMENT (Willis/Waterhouse)

That Council:

1. Note the request from the Monaro Police District to add 1 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan to the list of Alcohol Free Zones (AFZs) and Alcohol Prohibited Areas (APAs).
2. Defer consideration of the matter until after a Councillor workshop on whether the existing AFZs and APAs are needed, having regard to advice from the NSW Department of Planning and Environment that: "AFZs and APAs should be used where there is demonstrable community need, deal with short-term issues and regularly reviewed to see if they are still needed."

The amendment (of Crs Willis and Waterhouse) was put and lost.

For: Crs Grundy, Schweikert, Waterhouse and Willis
Against: Cr Broadbent, Livermore, Preston, Taskovski, Wilson and Winchester

The motion of (Crs Wilson and Grundy) was brought forward.

594/25

RESOLVED (Wilson/Grundy)

That Council:

1. Endorse the renewal of Alcohol Free Zones (AFZs) and Alcohol Prohibited Areas (APAs) in Queanbeyan-Palerang as outlined in this report.
2. Endorse the addition of 1 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan to the list of AFZs and APAs as requested by Monaro Police District.
3. Place the renewal of existing AFZs and APAs, and the addition of 1 Farrer Place, on public exhibition for a period of 30 days.
4. Undertake targeted engagement with key stakeholders of 1 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan including Queanbeyan Senior Citizens, Sleepbus, and St Vincent de Paul Night Patrol.
5. Receive a further report on the results of the community and stakeholder consultation.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

9.5 Monaro Street Upgrade - Detailed Design

MOVED (Wilson/Preston)

That Council:

1. Proceed with the detailed design and construction of Option 3 for the Monaro Street Upgrade.
2. Receive a further report regarding options for the replacement of the 300mm water main in Monaro Street.
3. Consult with affected property owners and business operators in the Monaro Street project area prior to inviting open tenders for the construction of the Monaro Street Upgrade.

AMENDMENT (Grundy)

That Council:

1. Proceed with the detailed design of Option 1 which is to be delivered in stages, with the first stage using the remaining grant funds of \$12 million.
2. Receive a further report on the staged construction details including costs and possible funding mechanisms.
3. Consult with affected property owners and business operators in the Monaro Street project area prior to inviting open tenders for the construction of the Monaro Street Upgrade.

The amendment was withdrawn by the mover.

The motion (of Crs Wilson and Preston) was brought forward.

595/25

RESOLVED (Wilson/Preston)

That Council:

1. Proceed with the detailed design and construction of Option 3 for the Monaro Street Upgrade.
2. Receive a further report regarding options for the replacement of the 300mm water main in Monaro Street.
3. Consult with affected property owners and business operators in the Monaro Street project area prior to inviting open tenders for the construction of the Monaro Street Upgrade.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

9.6 Investment Report - December 2024

596/25

RESOLVED (Broadbent/Livermore)

That Council:

1. Receive the Investment Report for the month of December 2024.
2. Note the investment return for December 2024 was \$1,238,470.
3. Note the investment portfolio has been made in accordance with the Local Government Act (1993), the Local Government (General) Regulation (2021) and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council's Investment Policy.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

9.7 Policy Review**MOVED (Waterhouse/Preston)**

That:

1. Council endorse the following Policies and place on public exhibition for 28 days commencing 3 February 2025:
 - Social Media Policy
 - Media Policy
 - Petition Policy
 - Related Party Disclosures Policy
 - Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy
 - Boundary Fences Adjoining Council Public Reserves Policy
2. If no submissions are received, the Policies be adopted.
3. The following Policies be moved from Strategic to Operational:
 - Playground Management Policy
 - Activity Cost Attribution and Distribution of Governance Policy

AMENDMENT (Willis/Wilson)

That:

1. Council endorse the following Policies and place on public exhibition for 28 days commencing 3 February 2025, noting the amendments to the Social Media and Petition Policies:
 - Media Policy
 - Related Party Disclosures Policy
 - Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy
 - Boundary Fences Adjoining Council Public Reserves Policy
 - Social Media Policy with following amendments:
 - Clause 3.1: Delete X as a platform Council uses.
 - Clause 3.3: A new Council social media account, or a social media account proposed by a Council related entity (e.g. a Council Committee), can only be established or deleted with the written approval of the General Manager or their delegate and the endorsement of the Council.
 - Clause 3.4: Where a Council social media platform account is established or deleted in accordance with clause 3.3, Council endorsement is required to amend clause 3.1 of this policy.
 - Petition Policy with following amendments:
 - Delete Clause 3.6
 - Amend Clause 6.4: A Petition Organiser may lodge a petition by forwarding it to the General Manager via email to council@gprc.nsw.gov.au, via mail to PO Box 90 Queanbeyan NSW 2620, by hand delivery to the General Manager's office in 257 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan, or in person to Council offices in Queanbeyan, Bungendore or Braidwood where it will be forwarded to the General Manager.
 - Amend Clause 6.8: Council will decide what action, if any, it will take on a petition after the petition is tabled during the Public Forum at a Council Meeting.
2. If no submissions are received, the Policies be adopted.
3. The following Policies be moved from Strategic to Operational:
 - Playground Management Policy
 - Activity Cost Attribution and Distribution of Governance Policy

The amendment (of Crs Willis and Wilson) was put and lost.

For: Cr Willis and Wilson

Against: Crs Broadbent, Grundy, Livermore, Preston, Schweikert, Taskovski, Waterhouse and Winchester

AMENDMENT (Winchester/Preston)

That:

1. Council endorse the following Policies and place on public exhibition for 28 days commencing 3 February 2025, noting the amendments to the Social Media and Petition Policies:
 - Media Policy
 - Related Party Disclosures Policy
 - Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy
 - Boundary Fences Adjoining Council Public Reserves Policy
 - Social Media Policy with following amendments:
 - Clause 3.3: A new Council social media account, or a social media account proposed by a Council related entity (e.g. a Council Committee), can only be established or deleted with the written approval of the General Manager or their delegate and the endorsement of the Council.
 - Clause 3.4: Where a Council social media platform account is established or deleted in accordance with clause 3.3, Council endorsement is required to amend clause 3.1 of this policy.
 - Petition Policy with following amendments:
 - Delete Clause 3.6
 - Amend Clause 6.4: A Petition Organiser may lodge a petition by forwarding it to the General Manager via email to council@gprc.nsw.gov.au, via mail to PO Box 90 Queanbeyan NSW 2620, by hand delivery to the General Manager's office in 257 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan, or in person to Council offices in Queanbeyan, Bungendore or Braidwood where it will be forwarded to the General Manager.
 - Amend Clause 6.8: Council will decide what action, if any, it will take on a petition after the petition is tabled during the Public Forum at a Council meeting.
2. If no submissions are received, the Policies be adopted.
3. The following Policies be moved from Strategic to Operational:
 - Playground Management Policy
 - Activity Cost Attribution and Distribution of Governance Policy

The amendment (of Crs Winchester and Preston) was put and carried.

For: Crs Broadbent, Grundy, Livermore, Preston, Taskovski,
Wilson, Waterhouse and Winchester

Against: Crs Schweikert and Willis

The amendment became the motion.

Cr Schweikert foreshadowed a contrary motion:
That consideration of the policies be deferred following a Councillor workshop.

The motion (of Crs Winchester and Preston) was brought forward.

597/25

RESOLVED (Winchester/Preston)

That:

1. Council endorse the following Policies and place on public exhibition for 28 days commencing 3 February 2025, noting the amendments to the Social Media and Petition Policies:
 - Media Policy
 - Related Party Disclosures Policy
 - Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy
 - Boundary Fences Adjoining Council Public Reserves Policy
 - Social Media Policy with following amendments:
 - Clause 3.3: A new Council social media account, or a social media account proposed by a Council related entity (e.g. a Council Committee), can only be established or deleted with the written approval of the General Manager or their delegate and the endorsement of the Council.
 - Clause 3.4: Where a Council social media platform account is established or deleted in accordance with clause 3.3, Council endorsement is required to amend clause 3.1 of this policy.
 - Petition Policy with following amendments:
 - Delete Clause 3.6
 - Amend Clause 6.4: A Petition Organiser may lodge a petition by forwarding it to the General Manager via email to council@qprc.nsw.gov.au, via mail to PO Box 90 Queanbeyan NSW 2620, by hand delivery to the General Manager's office in 257 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan, or in person to Council offices in Queanbeyan, Bungendore or Braidwood where it will be forwarded to the General Manager.
 - Amend Clause 6.8: Council will decide what action, if any, it will take on a petition after the petition is tabled during the Public Forum at a Council meeting.
2. If no submissions are received, the Policies be adopted.
3. The following Policies be moved from Strategic to Operational:
 - Playground Management Policy
 - Activity Cost Attribution and Distribution of Governance Policy

The resolution was carried.

For: Crs Broadbent, Livermore, Preston, Taskovski, Wilson,
Waterhouse and Winchester

Against: Crs Grundy, Schweikert and Willis

9.8 Register of Declarations of Pecuniary Interests and Other Matters - Councillors and Designated Persons

598/25

RESOLVED (Wilson/Schweikert)

That in accordance with s440AAB of the Local Government Act (1993), the Register of Annual Returns of Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and Other Matters by Councillors be tabled.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

10. REPORTS TO COUNCIL - ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

10.1 Fines Amendment (Parking Fines) Bill 2024 and Draft Regulations

599/25

RESOLVED (Wilson/Schweikert)

That the report be received for information.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

10.2 Jerrabomberra Traffic Campaign - Project Update

600/25

RESOLVED (Wilson/Broadbent)

That the report be received for information.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

10.3 Summary of Road Renewal and Maintenance Activities - 2nd Quarter 2024/25

601/25

RESOLVED (Preston/Schweikert)

That the report be received for information.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

10.4 2024 QPRC Business Survey

602/25

RESOLVED (Willis/Preston)

That the report be received for information.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

10.5 Green Flag Award 2024-25

603/25

RESOLVED (Preston/Broadbent)

That the report be received for information.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

- 604/25 **10.6 Bi-Annual Compliance Reporting**
RESOLVED (Preston/Grundy)
That the report be received for information.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Having declared an interest in the following item, Cr Taskovski left the Chamber at 7.28pm.

- 605/25 **10.7 Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates**
RESOLVED (Preston/Grundy)
That the report be received for information.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Cr Taskovski returned to the Chamber at 7.40pm.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned for a short break at 7.40pm and resumed at 7.52pm.

- 606/25 **10.8 HSEQ Quarterly Report - 1 October to 31 December 2024**
RESOLVED (Broadbent/Preston)
That the report be received for information.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

- 607/25 **10.9 Councillor Workshops**
RESOLVED (Livermore/Preston)
That the report be received for information.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

11. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- 608/25 **11.1 Local Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes - 3 December 2024**
RESOLVED (Waterhouse/Schweikert)
That Council endorse the 3 December 2024 Local Traffic Committee draft meeting minutes and the associated recommendations as follows:

 1. LTC 30/2024 – Approve the Traffic Control Devices Plan, Googong Neighbourhood 2 Town Centre.
 2. LTC 31/2024 – Approve the Traffic Control Devices Plan, Tralee Subdivision Stage 2B.
 3. LTC 32/2024 – Decline the Traffic Control Devices, Sheedy Lane Timed No Parking.
 4. LTC 33/2024 – Approve the 2025 Music by the River and the subsequent traffic guidance scheme for the event.
The resolution was carried unanimously.

- 609/25 **11.2 Bungendore Floodplain Risk Management Committee Meeting Minutes - 5 December 2024**
RESOLVED (Schweikert/Taskovski)

That Council note the minutes of the Bungendore Floodplain Risk Management Committee held on 5 December 2024.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

- 610/25 **11.3 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Minutes December 2024**
RESOLVED (Broadbent/Winchester)

That Council note the draft minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee held on 9 December 2024.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

12. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

There were no Notices of Motions.

13. REPORTS TO COUNCIL - DELEGATES REPORTS

There were no Delegates Reports.

14. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

- 611/25 **14.1 Questions With Notice - Bus Shelter Program**
RESOLVED (Willis/Preston)

That the report be received for information.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

- 612/25 **PROCEDURAL MOTION**
RESOLVED (Schweikert/Grundy)

That Items 14.2 to 14.4 be adopted together by way of a single resolution.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

- 613/25 **RESOLVED (Winchester/Preston)**

That Items 14.2 to 14.4 be carried.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

- 614/25 **14.2 Questions With Notice - Bungendore Lead Contamination Works**
RESOLVED (Winchester/Preston)

That the report be received for information.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

- 615/25 **14.3 Questions With Notice - Proposed Car Park off Wallace Street, Braidwood**
RESOLVED (Winchester/Preston)

That the report be received for information.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

- 616/25 **14.4 Questions With Notice - Nerriga Road, Braidwood**
RESOLVED (Winchester/Preston)

That the report be received for information.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

15. NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DEAL WITH MATTERS IN CLOSED SESSION

At this stage of the proceedings Cr Winchester advised that there were items on the Agenda that should be dealt with in Closed Session.

Cr Winchester then asked if, in accordance with Clause 59.6 of the Council's Code of Meeting Practice, there were any presentations as to why the matters listed below should not be dealt with in Closed Session.

There were no presentations.

16. REPORTS FOR CLOSED SESSION

- 617/25 **RESOLVED (Winchester/Broadbent)**

That pursuant to Section 10A of the *Local Government Act, 1993* the following items on the agenda for the Ordinary Council meeting be dealt with in Closed Session for the reasons specified below:

Item 16.1 RFT 2024-78 Supply and Installation of Road Safety Barrier Systems - Tender Evaluation

Item 16.1 is confidential in accordance with s10(A) (c) of the Local Government Act 1993 because it contains information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business and discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.

Item 16.2 Deed of Agreement Minister Education and Early Learning: Bungendore Properties Reinstatement

Item 16.2 is confidential in accordance with s10(A) (e) of the Local Government Act 1993 because it contains information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law and discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.

Item 16.3 Restart NSW Fund: RNSW1934 – South Jerrabomberra Innovation Precinct Notice of Project Financial and Scope Management Audit

Item 16.3 is confidential in accordance with s10(A) (c) of the Local Government Act 1993 because it contains information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business and discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.

For: Crs Broadbent, Grundy, Livermore, Preston, Schweikert, Taskovski, Wilson, Waterhouse and Winchester
Against: Cr Willis

The meeting then moved into Closed Session at 8.08pm to discuss the matters listed above.

16.1 RFT 2024-78 Supply and Installation of Road Safety Barrier Systems - Tender Evaluation

618/25

RESOLVED (Wilson/Preston)

That Council award Contract No. 2024-78 for Supply and Installation of Road Safety Barrier Systems to Western Safety Barriers Group Pty Ltd for the tendered Schedule of Rates incorporating CPI increment, commencing 3 March 2025 for three years, with an option to extend the contract for two additional periods of 12 months each.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

16.2 Deed of Agreement Minister Education and Early Learning: Bungendore Properties Reinstatement

619/25

RESOLVED (Preston/Taskovski)

That Council:

1. Approve the Draft Deed of Settlement with the NSW Minister for Education and Early Learning and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council, which establishes the legal framework for the current Class 3 NSW Land and Environment Court proceedings to be resolved and facilitate the return of the Bungendore properties acquired by the Minister to the ownership of the Council and the Crown at no cost to the Council.
2. Authorise the General Manager to negotiate changes subject to these not being inconsistent with Council's legal advice.
3. Receive the final Deed of Settlement at the next meeting.

For: Crs Broadbent, Grundy, Livermore, Preston, Taskovski, Willis, Wilson, Waterhouse and Winchester
Against: Cr Schweikert

16.3 Restart NSW Fund: RNSW1934 – South Jerrabomberra Innovation Precinct Notice of Project Financial and Scope Management Audit

620/25

RESOLVED (Winchester/Wilson)

That the report be received for information.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

621/25

RESOLVED (Winchester/Broadbent)

That the meeting now return to Open Session.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The meeting returned to Open Session at 8.18pm.

The doors of the Chambers were opened to allow the public to enter.

In accordance with Clause 253 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, the Mayor then read out the decisions of Council made in Closed Session.

17. CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

The time being 8.20pm, the Mayor announced that the Agenda for the meeting had now been completed.

**CR KENRICK WINCHESTER
MAYOR
CHAIRPERSON**

ITEM 5 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS/PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The provisions of Chapter 14 of the *Local Government Act, 1993* regulate the way in which Councillors and nominated staff of Council conduct themselves to ensure that there is no conflict between their private interests and their public trust.

The Act prescribes that where a member of Council (or a Committee of Council) has a direct or indirect financial (pecuniary) interest in a matter to be considered at a meeting of the Council (or Committee), that interest must be disclosed as soon as practicable after the start of the meeting and the reasons for declaring such interest.

As members are aware, the provisions of the *Local Government Act* restrict any member who has declared a pecuniary interest in any matter from participating in the discussions, voting on that matter, and require that member to vacate the Chamber.

Council's Code of Conduct provides that if members have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest, the nature of the conflict must be disclosed. The Code also provides for a number of ways in which a member may manage non pecuniary conflicts of interest

Recommendation

That Councillors and staff disclose any interests and reasons for declaring such interest in the matters under consideration by Council at this meeting.

9.1 Draft Community Strategic Plan (Author: Ryan/Monaghan)

File Reference: 51.1.1-01

Recommendation

That Council endorse the draft Community Strategic Plan 2042 for public exhibition and that the community engagement report be reported to Council at the first Council meeting in April 2025.

Summary

NSW Councils are required to prepare and endorse a Community Strategic Plan (CSP) by 30 June in the year following the local government election. The CSP identifies the community's main priorities and aspirations for the future and strategies for achieving those goals. All other Council planning will support the achievement of the community objectives documented in the CSP.

Broad community engagement was conducted from 1 February to 15 March 2024, with feedback provided about key challenges facing the Queanbeyan-Palerang community and capturing changes since the previous CSPs were reviewed in 2017 and 2021. The Community Engagement Report is provided as an attachment.

Further engagement will be undertaken with the community during the exhibition of the draft CSP to check whether the Community Vision Statement and the Objectives are in line with community expectations.

Background

QPRC worked with the Canberra Region Joint Organisation (CRJO) and 11 member councils on a collaborative regional approach to refresh the CSP's for each local government area.

The joint approach was used previously in 2022 and allowed the development of a Regional Community Strategic Plan which highlighted the regional priorities and aspirations that have been used to advocate for our communities.

Report

The CSP forms part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) framework required for NSW Councils. It is based on a 20-year horizon, defining the key issues and ambitions of the community, and setting strategic directions that guide all other Council planning. The community ambitions have been organised under the 5 key themes of community, economy, environment, infrastructure and civic leadership.

Whilst Council has a custodial role in initiating, preparing and maintaining the CSP on behalf of the local government area, it is not wholly responsible for its implementation. Other partners such as state agencies, non-government organisations, business and industry joint organisations and community groups may also contribute to delivering the strategies of the plan.

9.1 Draft Community Strategic Plan (Author: Ryan/Monaghan) (Continued)

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations

Chapter 3 of the Local Government Act provides a set of guiding principles for local government. The principles address the way that councils provide leadership, plan for the future and make decisions about services and resources. The Act requires that Integrated Planning and Reporting should be the centre of all Council plans, activities, resourcing decisions and improvement strategies.

The Following is a summary of the requirements of section 402 of the Act relating to the Community Strategic Plan:

- Each local government area is to have a Community Strategic Plan that has been developed and endorsed by the council on behalf of its community.
- The Community Strategic Plan is to identify the main priorities and aspirations for the future of the local government area.
- The Community Strategic Plan must cover a minimum timeframe of 10 years. The Community Strategic Plan must establish strategic objectives together with strategies to achieve those objectives.
- The council must review the Community Strategic Plan before 30 June in the year following an ordinary election of council.
- The council may endorse the existing plan, or develop and endorse a new Community Strategic Plan, as appropriate, to ensure that the area has a Community Strategic Plan covering at least the next 10 years.

Financial, Budget and Resource Implications

CRJO member councils participated in the joint project to share staff and consulting resources to undertake community engagement across Canberra Region. The CRJO covered all expenses relating to the engagement of the consultant and associated community engagement.



Links to QPRC/Regional Strategic Plans

The Community Strategic Plan is the highest level strategic planning undertaken by Council and all other plans must support achievement of the CSP objectives.

Conclusion

This report recommends that the draft CSP be placed on exhibition. All public submissions will be presented to Council, prior to endorsing the CSP. There is an opportunity for amendments following the exhibition period.

Attachments

- | | |
|--|--|
|  Attachment 1 | Community Strategic Plan Community Engagement Report (<i>Under Separate Cover</i>) |
|  Attachment 2 | Draft Community Strategic Plan (<i>Under Separate Cover</i>) |

9.2 Community Engagement Strategy 2025-2028 (Author: Richards/de Hoog)

File Reference: 2.7.1

Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the draft Community Engagement Strategy 2025-2028 for public exhibition for a period of 28 days.**
 - 2. Receive a future report on the results of community feedback on the draft.**
-

Summary

The Community Engagement Strategy has been prepared as the overarching guide for how Council will engage with the community. The strategy has been prepared in line with the guidelines from the Office of Local Government for a Community Engagement Strategy and functions as the Community Participation Plan under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

The draft strategy is attached and presented to Council recommended for public exhibition.

Background

The Community Engagement Strategy (Strategy) is a crucial component of Council's Integrated Planning & Reporting (IP&R) Framework. The Strategy must be prepared based on social justice principles.

The Strategy outlines the community engagement and public exhibition practices that Council will undertake for projects, policies, concept designs, infrastructure, budgets and more.

Report

The Community Engagement Strategy is based on four social justice principles of equity, access, participation, and rights. These social justice principles are further defined using the community participation plan principles outlined in Section 2.23 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. These principles are the right to be involved, relationship building, and ensuring that communication is clear, timely, accessible and inclusive, relevant, transparent, and considered. These are explained in the strategy.

The draft strategy has been developed to replace and combine the Community Engagement and Participation Plan, an out-of-date Community Engagement Strategy and the Stakeholder and Community Engagement Policy Framework. The new strategy includes the key features of those documents and brings them into one strategic document.

The strategy does not replace the need to develop plans for engaging with the community on specific projects, policies, or other Council strategies, but it provides the overarching framework for developing these plans.

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations

The Local Government Act 1993 requires councils to establish and implement a strategy for engagement with the local community (called its Community Engagement Strategy) when

**9.2 Community Engagement Strategy 2025-2028 (Author: Richards/de Hoog)
(Continued)**

developing its plans, policies, and programs, and for the purpose of determining its activities (other than routine administrative matters).

The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 requires all planning authorities such as councils to outline how and when the community will be engaged across planning functions like policy making and assessment.

Financial, Budget and Resource Implications

The strategy has no specific financial implications.

Links to QPRC/Regional Strategic Plans

Strategic Pillar 5 - Capability


Contemporary civic leadership and governance that is open, transparent and accountable.

5.2 Council is an open, accessible and responsive organisation.

Conclusion

The Community Engagement Strategy 2025-2028 is a key component of Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting framework. The draft strategy is recommended for public exhibition.

Attachments

Attachment 1  Draft Community Engagement Strategy 2025-2028 (*Under Separate Cover*)

9.3 Post Exhibition Report - Cat Containment Policy (Author: Ormella/Corey)

File Reference: 3.4.98-08

Recommendation

That Council adopts the Draft Cat Containment Policy.

Summary

At its meeting of 14 August 2024, Council resolved to place the Draft Cat Containment Policy on Public Exhibition for a period of 42 days. The policy was exhibited from 21 August 2024 to 9 October 2024 (**Resolution No 378/24**).

Notable findings from the public exhibition included:

- 869 visits to the Your Voice - Draft Cat Containment Policy exhibition page
- 185 visitors that either answered one of the three questions or provided a detailed comment regarding the policy.

The report below presents a summary of the community consultation for the amended policy. Given the widespread community support for the amended policy, this report seeks Council's adoption of the policy.

Background

Cats play a significant, but complex role in our society and culture and while pet cats bring health and comfort benefits to their owners, they have a natural instinct to hunt. Undomesticated (feral) cats hunt for their survival.

Cat containment has significant benefits for natural wildlife, it also benefits the cat. Evidence from the Threatened Species Council states that cats that are contained to their own properties can live 10 years longer than those free to roam.

Additionally, Council has significant populations of stray cats living in urban areas including parts of Queanbeyan and Braidwood. These populations are supported by humans direct feeding or from scavenging in rubbish. These populations continue to grow each year causing problems for native wildlife, fighting and transmitting disease. Ensuring that pet cats are contained to their own properties gives Council more options to conduct targeted eradication of these urban populations.

Report

The community consultation consisted of a survey with four questions. The first question asked in the survey was "are you a cat owner?".

47.5% of respondents owned cats and 52.5% did not. This provides a good range of responses to the further questions.

The second question asked if respondents support the amended cat containment policy. 75% of respondents support the amended policy.

9.3 Post Exhibition Report - Cat Containment Policy (Author: Ormella/Corey) (Continued)

The third question asked if respondents were supportive of the proposed implementation timeframes. 61% of respondents were supportive of these timeframes.

The fourth question was an option to provide a free text comment. There were various comments received and these have been categorised to allow them to be addressed in the report.

- Comments in Support of the Policy
- Comments Against the Policy
- Comments Related to Implementation Timeframes
- Comments Related to methods of Cat Containment
- Comments Related to Farm Cats and Rural Areas
- Comments Related to the Companion Animals Act, 1998
- Comments related to Feral Cats

These submission themes are addressed below:

Comments in Support of the Policy:

The overwhelming majority of comments received were in support of the amended policy. These comments were received from people who own cats and people who don't own cats. The main reasons cited for support of the policy were protection of wildlife, neighbourhood amenity and animal welfare.

Comments Against the Policy:

Very few comments were received against the policy. These comments disputed the widely available evidence that roaming cats are a threat to native wildlife and suggest that Council concentrate on other matters.

Comments Related to Implementation Timeframes:

Various comments related to the implementation timeframes in the amended policy were received. These included comments that the policy was not being implemented soon enough and comments that it was being implemented too soon.

Various comments requested a grandfathering clause on existing pets. This is not considered appropriate to bring about the required behavioural change in pet owners soon enough. The impacts on the natural environment and neighbourhood amenity are well known and action is needed now. It is considered that the staged implementation timeframes allow for current cat owners to make the required changes to contain their pets to their own properties while also meaning that the benefits of the policy will be realised in a shorter timeframe.

Comments Regarding Methods of Cat Containment:

Various comments regarding methods of cat containment were received. These included comments implying that the policy would require cats to be kept indoors. This is not the case. The policy requires that cats be contained to the property where they live. There are various methods of cat containment that still allow cats to enjoy the outdoors. These include fencing modifications, cat enclosures or 'catios', crates, leashes and other structures that allow for cats to be contained.

Some submissions suggested that cat containment is cruel to cats. Research does not support this. Contained cats live happy and fulfilled lives and may in fact live longer and be

9.3 Post Exhibition Report - Cat Containment Policy (Author: Ormella/Corey) (Continued)

healthier than those allowed to roam as they are not exposed to risks such as traffic accidents, diseases and dog attacks.

Comments Related to Farm Cats and Rural Areas:

Several comments relating to farm cats and how the policy would be applied in rural areas were received. The amended policy would apply to all land in the QPRC area including land zoned RU1.

Council recognises that farm cats play an important role in pest reduction and management in some rural areas. It is noted that in most instances farm cats will be roaming between the main dwelling house and outbuildings on the property including sheds and barns. Farmers should ensure that their farm cats do not regularly roam off the property and do not form hunting packs that may have negative impacts on native wildlife. Populations of farm cats should also be controlled through appropriate management and desexing of females where required.

Comments Related to the NSW Companion Animals Act, 1998:

Several comments relating to the NSW Companion Animals Act 1998 were received. These comments related to Section 5 of the policy which replicates sections of the Act. This Act is NSW state legislation and cannot be amended by Council. It would continue to be applicable regardless of the policy and has simply been replicated for information purposes.

Comments Related to Feral Cats:

Council acknowledges that feral cats are a problem in some parts of the Council area. Council will use its regular communications channels such as newsletters, website and social media channels to promote the use of the App- Feral Cat Scan:
<https://www.feralscan.org.au/feralcatscan/>

Residents can report sightings and activity relating to feral cats on this app. The data is then used by relevant agencies to target control actions.

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations

There are several risk, policy and legislation considerations to be taken into account when adopting this policy.

Roaming cats pose a significant risk to wildlife and the natural environment. The QPRC community regularly raise the importance of the natural environment. The lack of implementation of cat containment requirements is a risk to our natural environment.

The Companion Animals Act, 1998 does not prohibit roaming cats in the same way as it does for dogs. For this reason, the Cat Containment Policy functions as a Local Orders Policy under the Local Government Act 1993. It sets out the circumstances in which Council will consider the keeping of cats to be inappropriate. In this regard, cats that are roaming off their own properties will be being kept inappropriately, allowing Council to issue orders requiring the cat to be contained to its own property.

Financial, Budget and Resource Implications

Council's communications on the phased implementation of the Policy are key for its success. Residents and the community would give effect to the policy through proactive cat containment.

9.3 Post Exhibition Report - Cat Containment Policy (Author: Ormella/Corey) (Continued)

Council's Ranger Services and Animal Management Staff would have the role of implementing the policy based on the service levels in the adopted Service Plans. Separate budget requests would be made for eradication work for the feral cat populations.

Council's Animal Management Facility is dated and almost always at capacity. Current works to the facility in response to the Canine Parvovirus Incident in 2024 are focused on the areas that house dogs. There are no proposed upgrade works to the areas used to house cats. Where there is a need for additional resources for the management of cats, this would be part of the budget process.

There may be an additional revenue stream through undertaking enforcement activities, but this will be minimal.

Links to QPRC/Regional Strategic Plans

The policy aligns with Strategic Objective 3.3 of the Community Strategic Plan:


3.3 Our land, vegetation and waterways are managed in an integrated and sustainable manner.

Conclusion

The Draft Cat Containment policy seeks to expand the current cat containment areas to cover the entire local government area. This policy is expected to have significant benefits to the natural environment and wildlife, as well as providing benefits to cats themselves. The policy contributes significantly to Council's efforts to sustain and enhance the natural environment.

The community consultation for the amended policy has shown widespread community support. The adoption of the Draft Cat Containment Policy will allow for the development of an education and communications package targeting cat owners.

Attachments

- | | |
|--|---|
| Attachment 1 | Draft QPRC Cat Containment Policy (<i>Under Separate Cover</i>) |
|  Attachment 2 | Draft Cat Containment Policy - Full Submissions in Categories (<i>Under Separate Cover</i>) |

9.4 Regional Economic Development and Community Investment Program (Ref: ;
Author: Richards/Deebank)

File Reference: 11.2.2-03

Recommendation

That Council endorse an application to the Regional Economic Development and Community Investment Program for funding to construct an initial stage of the Monaro Rail Trail.

Summary

Over the last ten years, extensive planning has taken place to bring the Monaro Rail Trail (MRT) to an investment-ready position. The project offers a range of economic, health, environmental and social benefits to the community.

The NSW Governments' Regional Economic Development and Community Investment Program (REDCIP) has been identified as a potential source of funding for the construction of the initial stage of the project.

Council endorsement to submit an application for this project is sought.

Background

Over the past six years, a suite of reports have been completed to progress the planning of the Monaro Rail Trail. These reports have been presented to Council at regular workshops and Council Meetings, including:

- Feasibility Study (2019)
- Stage 1 Trail Development Plan (2022)
- Stage 2 & Stage 3 Trail Development Plans (2023)
- Revenue Source Analysis (2023)
- Town-based Cost Benefits Analysis (2024)
- Biosecurity Assessment & Risk Management Plan (2024)
- Biodiversity Assessment Report (2024)
- Community Consultation and Engagement Report (2024)
- Draft Business Case (2024)

The project has been driven by a committed group of highly skilled volunteers with extensive professional experience in engineering and infrastructure project management, in partnership with the economic development units at Snowy Monaro Regional Council (SMRC) and QPRC. To date, the time commitment of volunteers to this project would easily be thousands of hours.

SMRC has received \$1m from the Investing in Our Communities Program to construct a 2-3km section of trail at Bombala that is due for completion in October 2026.

9.4 Regional Economic Development and Community Investment Program (Ref: ; Author: Richards/Deebank) (Continued)

QPRC resolved to support and facilitate the progression of rail trail proposals, since the adoption of the QPRC Tourism Plan in August 2017 (**Resolution PLA 089/17**). At its meeting on 14 September 2022, Council agreed to 'identify funding opportunities for the construction of the initial stage of the MRT, and subject to the support of Council, prepare and submit funding applications' (**Resolution 366/22**).

The MRT is an infrastructure project that offers significant benefits to our community. Once constructed in its entirety, it will offer a 213km cycling and walking route between Queanbeyan and Bombala, primarily along the disused rail corridor. This would act as both an iconic cycle tourism experience and an active transport route.

This proposal is for the construction of the first 21km of the trail from Queanbeyan to Royalla. The MRT will act as an enabler for economic activity along the route, including in the hospitality, retail and services sectors, providing significant benefits around a proposed trailhead adjacent to the Queanbeyan CBD. Further, a tourism experience with this level of regional and national appeal would offer significant opportunities for Queanbeyan in associated place branding and destination awareness, being recognised as the starting point for this epic cycling experience.

In addition to economic opportunities, the trail will:

- Provide health and wellbeing benefits, providing a safe and accessible place for people to exercise and experience nature.
- Create a 25km cycling/walking circuit at the northern end, connecting the Queanbeyan Railway Station, the river walk, the shared path alongside Ellerton Drive, through Jerrabomberra and South Jerrabomberra, and back to Queanbeyan along the rail corridor.
- Facilitate active transport by allowing for connection with commuter cycling routes in residential and commercial areas including Queanbeyan, Jerrabomberra, Southern Jerrabomberra, Googong, Fyshwick, Hume and Tuggeranong.
- Help to support a sustainable visitor economy and offer opportunities for immersive ecological education.
- Showcase the region's rich cultural heritage, including opportunities for Indigenous cultural experiences and storytelling, subject to continuing consultation.
- Provide improved access for firefighting and evacuation during bushfire emergencies.

Report

The NSW Government has opened the Regional Economic Development and Community Investment Program (REDCIP), a \$50M program that offers grants of up to \$5M for infrastructure projects that can create economic opportunities consistent with the Regional Development Trust's key focus areas of:

- Aboriginal economic development.
- Community connection and capacity building.
- Improving regional service delivery.
- Sustainable regional industries.

It is proposed that QPRC apply for a \$5M grant to construct the initial phase of the MRT which will be 21km from Queanbeyan to Royalla.

9.4 Regional Economic Development and Community Investment Program (Ref: ; Author: Richards/Deebank) (Continued)

A 20% cash co-contribution by the applicant is required for REDCIP. Following a meeting between QPRC, the MRT community group and NSW Departmental representatives in January 2025, it was agreed that an application could be lodged requesting an exemption from this requirement.

Acceptance of the grant, if successful would be contingent on this exemption being approved.

This project would deliver a rail trail from the Queanbeyan Railway Station (linking to the Queanbeyan CBD via the river walk) to a location adjacent to the solar farm at Royalla. The trail would be sealed to a location nearby Gilmore, ACT, allowing a connection to/from the Tuggeranong Valley. Beyond Gilmore, the trail would continue unsealed for another 7.7km.

Completing this first 21km would not only be a local connector, but a tourism asset in its own right, as it would be the second longest rail trail in New South Wales, behind the Northern Rivers Rail Trail (54km) and equal to the successful Rosewood to Tumberumba Rail Trail. A 2022 report by the NSW Government (see attached) found that the latter trail met most key indicators for positive impact. The challenges it faced were primarily related to a cumbersome legislate process which has since been amended.

Trail heads would be established at Queanbeyan Railway Station and Royalla, with an option to include another at the South Jerrabomberra Town Centre. The ACT Government may also consider a trail head at Gilmore, with an existing tunnel under the tunnel highway facilitating an easy connection into suburban Tuggeranong.

Project Cost

The project cost, annual maintenance and asset renewal allowance were calculated in the detailed Trail Development Plans prepared by Mike Halliburton Associates and adjusted for CPI to today's values. The annual maintenance of the project, a cost to QPRC, is calculated at \$67,294 (approx. \$3,000/km), and an allowance for asset renewal over a thirty-year lifespan (to match the maximum lease duration) is calculated at \$86,074.

It is expected that annual trail maintenance costs in the first four years will not reach the \$3,000/km due to the as-new condition of the trail. Further, modelling of additional revenue sources (e.g. sale of steel tracks, advertising, events) shows that maintenance costs are likely to be offset in the initial years of the project.

The Cost-Benefit Analysis, delivered by UTL Utilities in March 2024, found that approximately 60% of the overall economic benefits of the MRT will accrue to Queanbeyan-Palerang businesses, despite only hosting 15% of the total trail length and 10% of the total construction cost. The benefit-cost ratio (BCR) for QPRC, calculated over a 30 year asset life is 8.83.

Direct economic benefits will impact accommodation providers, restaurants, cafes retailers, tour operators and local taxi and rideshare operators. The project will bring increased visitation to the region, particularly the Queanbeyan CBD, with benefits flowing throughout the supply chain and in local job creation.

9.4 Regional Economic Development and Community Investment Program (Ref: ; Author: Richards/Deebank) (Continued)

The funding application components are shown below:

Item	Cost
Construction cost	3,705,780
Allowances (survey, approvals, lease administration costs)	98,595
Construction access	87,218
Project management (10%)	371,158
Contingency (25%)	927,896
Discount for 7.7km unsealed	(500,500)
Brand strategy and marketing assets	170,000
Industry development project	130,000
Total	4,940,147

Biodiversity

The Biodiversity Report delivered by Macrozamia Environment Consultants in January 2024 assessed the terrestrial biodiversity occurring in the rail corridor and the likely impacts of the proposed MRT. The report found that 'the issues identified can be effectively avoided or managed' with the following management actions:

- Using already cleared or impacted areas for rail trail alignment and locating amenities.
- Conducting targeted species surveys prior to construction to guide the detailed implementation of the trail.
- Realigning parts of the trail to minimise impacts to native vegetation.
- Implementing the Weed Management Plan.

Additionally, the report noted the opportunity for positive impact arising from the MRT, by incorporating ecological education in the interpretive experience for riders along the trail.

The Biosecurity Assessment & Risk Management Plan, delivered by Macrozamia in May 2024, included the following:

- Identification of relevant biosecurity threats.
- A risk assessment and management plan with design and equipment recommendations to mitigate risks.
- Costs for biosecurity mitigation measures.
- Recommendations for ongoing maintenance and trail management.
- Consultation with adjacent landholders, Meat and Livestock Australia, Integrity Systems, NSW Crown Lands and Southeast Local Land Services.

The report found that 'biosecurity risks identified can be successfully managed to acceptable levels of likelihood and consequence'. It considered the economic risk of a biosecurity failure for adjacent landholders and agriculture businesses and found that negative impacts are unlikely with the implementation of management actions.

9.4 Regional Economic Development and Community Investment Program (Ref: ; Author: Richards/Deebank) (Continued)

Process

The NSW Rail Trails Framework, released by the NSW Government in 2022, details the process for establishing a rail trail. The Framework includes consultation and planning that have now been completed.

Before constructing a rail trail, Council would need to enter into a lease with Transport for NSW (TfNSW) for the rail corridor. Early discussions with TfNSW indicate that a lease would be for a nominal fee, for a term up to 30 years and the inclusion or exclusion of individual assets would be negotiated on a project-by-project basis. The time line for this project is shown below:

Milestone	Date
Grant application	Feb 2025
Grant outcome	May 2025
Tender process	March-May 2026
Finalise lease	Apr 2026
Site works commence	Aug 2026
Works complete	Apr 2027

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations

This project has been planned in accordance with the NSW Rail Trails Framework, legislated under the Transport Administration Amendment (Rail Trails) Act 2022.

This report to Council is simply seeking permission to apply for a grant and, as such, carries limited risk in itself.

A successful application, and a subsequent funding agreement, would be the subject of a future Council report.

Financial, Budget and Resource Implications

Council will not be offering a co-contribution as part of this application and is seeking full construction costs including project management and an allowance for contingency. If the proposed application is successful and Council resolves to execute a funding agreement in the future, QPRC would be required to accept the ongoing maintenance of the rail trail for the lease period.

The annual maintenance will reach a maximum of \$67,294, rising to this ceiling over the first decade of operation. The project requires an annual depreciation allowance of \$86,074 for asset renewal over a thirty-year lifespan (the maximum duration of the lease).

A revenue stream will be available to partially offset these costs; recovered by the sale of steel tracks, event hosting, advertising and sponsorship. This will be variable dependent on the length of trail (subject to future extension) and an agreed model for governance and operation with SMRC.

9.4 Regional Economic Development and Community Investment Program (Ref: ; Author: Richards/Deebank) (Continued)

Links to QPRC/Regional Strategic Plans




The MRT has been endorsed in a range of local, regional and state strategies and plans. Cycle tourism, the MRT and connected cycling networks are identified as opportunities and key projects in:

- QPRC Tourism Plan 2017-25
- QPRC Sports Facilities Strategic Plan
- QPRC Delivery Program 2022-26
- QPRC Community Strategic Plan 2042
- Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Economic Development Strategy – 2023 Update
- South East and Tablelands Regional Plan 2036
- Destination Southern NSW Destination Management Plan 2022-30
- NSW Visitor Economy Strategy 2030

Conclusion

It is recommended that Council endorse an application to the REDCIP seeking funding for the construction of an initial stage of the Monaro Rail Trail.

Attachments

- | | |
|--|--|
| Attachment 1 | Rail Trails for NSW - Evaluation Summary (<i>Under Separate Cover</i>) |
|  Attachment 2 | MRT Trail Development Plan Stage 1a (<i>Under Separate Cover</i>) |
|  Attachment 3 | MRT Trail Development Plan Stage 2 (<i>Under Separate Cover</i>) |
|  | |

9.5 Renewal of Licence Agreement with Queanbeyan Players - 18 Barrow Place,
Queanbeyan East (Author: Ryan/Turland)

File Reference: 46.1.1-42

Recommendation

That Council endorse the renewal of the licence agreement over 18 Barrow Place, Queanbeyan East, with Queanbeyan Players for \$1,500 per annum for a further two-year term.

Summary

Council is asked to consider endorsement for the renewal of the licence agreement between Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council (QPRC) and the Queanbeyan Players over 18 Barrow Place, Queanbeyan East.

Background

The licence agreement was last considered by Council on 8 June 2022.

Report

The Queanbeyan Players (QP) are a community theatre group based in Queanbeyan. The volunteer members of the non-profit organisation perform a wide variety of plays and performances, drawing in members of the local community to share and promote culture.

QP have a current licence agreement with Council over the QPRC-owned property at 18 Barrow Place, Queanbeyan East. They use the property to construct and store their theatre props.

Previously QP operated under a long-term lease with Council. A 21-year lease was signed and entered into in 1992. However, since the expiry of this lease, Council has preferred to adopt shorter-term licence arrangements for increased flexibility for asset control.

The building at 18 Barrow Place is on Council owned Operational Land. While there are no plans to sell or re-purpose the property in the foreseeable future, there are advantages to leaving all options available as QPRC continues to develop its long-term asset management strategy. For this reason, the recommendation is to renew the access licence for a further two-year term.

Under the licence agreement, QP have an obligation to maintain the property and keep it in good condition.

In addition to the monetary fee paid under the licence, QP have also agreed to increase their public acknowledgement and promotion of the support Council is providing for their programs by allowing for the use of the property at a subsidized rate. Specifics of what this acknowledgement will look like are still yet to be determined. A possible example is the inclusion and placement of the QPRC logo on promotional material.

9.5 Renewal of Licence Agreement with Queanbeyan Players - 18 Barrow Place, Queanbeyan East (Author: Ryan/Turland) (Continued)

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations

The property is classified as Operational Land under the Local Government Act 1993. This means that some of the controls and requirements for lease and licence agreements over Council Community Land are not applicable in this instance. This is a non exclusive licence, and Some QPRC events equipment and items are also stored at the property, and the Tourism and Events team have access to the sheds for this purpose.

Under the Licence, the QP are required to maintain adequate levels of insurance coverage for Public Liability.

Financial, Budget and Resource Implications

Under the current licence arrangement, QP pay a nominal peppercorn rent of \$1, if and when requested.

The intention under the new licence agreement is to introduce a modest fee. This is being done to ensure some return to Council for the private use of a public asset. Even so, the proposed fee is far below market or commercial rent, in recognition of QP's not for profit status and services to the local community.

The proposed licence fee under the new agreement is \$1,500 per annum (excluding GST). QP will also continue to pay rates on the property, which are valued at approximately \$2,000 annually.

While there has been no market assessment of the commercial rental value, the gross valuation of the property as listed by the NSW Valuer General (VG) is assessed at \$1,110,000 as of 2024.

Links to QPRC/Regional Strategic Plans

Promoting and facilitating community participation in local shared and the promotion of community events and performances are consistent with the objectives under the QPRC Events Strategy.

Conclusion

It is recommended that Council endorse the renewal of the licence agreement on the proposed terms.

Annexure A – Map of Licenced Area



Attachments

- Attachment 1 Draft Licence - 18 Barrow Place (Renewal 2025) *(Under Separate Cover)*


10.1 Captains Flat Lead Management Network Update (Ref: ; Author: Ryan/Ryan)

File Reference: 24.4.1-40

Recommendation

That the report be received for information.

Report

Council determined to establish a Captains Flat Lead Management Network and agreed on a Terms of Reference at the 26 June 2024 meeting (**Resolution 286/24**).

Expressions of interest were called and the Network has been meeting on a monthly basis since August 2024. Community members include: Greg Durr, Kevin Phillips, Ellanor Pavlovich, Sue Gough, William Taylor, Cade McDermott, Matthew Fullerton and Darryl Potts. These volunteers represent the Captains Flat Lead Working Group, Captains Flat Community Association, Molonglo Rail Trail Inc, Primary School in addition to being local residents.

Staff supporting the Network include the General Manager, Director Community Arts and Culture, Director Development and Environment, and representatives from NSW Premiers Department.

Agencies which have attended and provided information and presentations, include NSW Transport, Crown Lands and Legacy Mines. Ramboll was invited to attend, the cost of which was funded by Council, and they provided a detailed explanation and received questions regarding their studies and reports, which contributed to the generic Remediation Action Plan.

Matters discussed have included the Tarago Road contamination consultation and decision, the Containment Cell and calls for Expressions of Interest (EOI) that was implemented by QPRC, the Station Masters Cottage, Heritage Trail, Foxlow Parklet, Miners Road and the SES Station.

It is appreciated that community members have felt frustrated as to the progress of matters. Agencies have given of their time and attended the meeting with presentations and been open to answering questions raised. The delegation and structure of the Network is such that private matters are not discussed, and there is limited capacity to act on any historical Lead Taskforce outcomes.

Frustration has also been expressed by the lack of funding for the implementation of projects and actions identified in Lead Abatement Plans on Council owned land.

Staff are preparing a report for the next meeting that will summarise the number and nature of responses on the EOI process for the potential development needs anticipated for the Containment Cell by private landholders. The Development and Planning team are meeting and providing a concierge service to ensure there is support and advice given about each other responses development requirements.

The issue of Private Land Remediation and how residents can source funding for their own Detailed Site Investigations is not resolved. At the meeting held on 4 February 2025 the example of the Lake Macquarie Lead Mitigation Grants Program was discussed, and this is being investigated. This may be the subject of a future report to Council seeking advocacy

**10.1 Captains Flat Lead Management Network Update (Ref: ; Author: Ryan/Ryan)
(Continued)**

and representation to the NSW Government for a similar program to be developed for Captains Flat.

The matter of the SES having to relocate has been recently conveyed, which has led to a meeting between QORC, SES and NSW RFS to discuss the issue and find a resolution.

Attachments

Nil

10.2 Update on Memorial Park, Googong (Ref: ; Author: Ryan/Richards)

File Reference: 23.1.1-03

Recommendation

That the report be received for information.

Report

Cemeteries are critical infrastructure for both health and social reasons. The Cemeteries Strategic Plan that was endorsed by Council at the meeting of 8 May 2024 (**Resolution 198/24**) noted that with 300 new burials used across the LGA each year, the Queanbeyan General Cemetery would reach capacity within two years.

Two actions were taken to lengthen the expected life of the Queanbeyan Cemetery.

1. Council agreed to stop reservations of plots
2. Additional land within the cemetery was reclaimed

These actions have delivered 405 available plots for sale. This should provide up to 3 years of availability of sites. It should be noted that the Queanbeyan Cemetery will continue to operate well past this time for former reservations, double burials, bush burials and memorials for ashes.

The process to find a new Memorial Park site to address future interment needs was commenced by the Queanbeyan City Council in 2009. In 2015 a preferred search area was confirmed by Council and a detailed search commenced within this area. In 2017 the site on Old Cooma Road was purchased. It was chosen due to its location (< 15km from Queanbeyan) and its physical characteristics (**Resolution No 171/17**).

A Gateway determination was issued in 2017 by the then Department of Planning authorising Council to proceed with the planning proposal on this land. In 2021 Council received formal notification that the Planning Proposal to amend the Queanbeyan LEP to make a cemetery a permissible use on 1187 & 1241 Old Cooma Road, Googong was published in the NSW Government Gazette.

In 2022 the NSW government determined that cemeteries with at least 5,000 new interment sites would be assessed as State Significant Developments (SSD). The project can be followed on the NSW Planning Major Projects website, where it notes the current status, being Prepare Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/googong-memorial-park>

All SSD projects require development consent from either the Independent Planning Commission or the Minister before they may proceed. Prior to determination, they are subject to a comprehensive assessment and community participation. The NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (the Department) co-ordinates this assessment. All SSD projects are determined on their merits, having regard to their economic, environmental and social impacts and the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

The NSW Government Department of Planning has developed streamlined Secretary's Environmental Assessment requirements (SEARS) for cemeteries to assist in preparing development applications. SEARS requirements are extensive and the technical and other

10.2 Update on Memorial Park, Googong (Ref: ; Author: Ryan/Richards) (Continued)

studies that will support the Development Application are still in progress. These requirements have been summarised below:

Issue	Requirements
Statutory Context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address all relevant legislation, environmental planning instruments, plans, policies and guidelines and identify compliance with requirements and standards • Summary of the detailed assessment of project impacts with integration of findings/recommendations of technical reports • Justification and evaluation of the project as a whole.
Estimated Development Cost and Employment	Estimated development cost and estimate of retained and new jobs that would be created during the construction and operational phases, including details of the methodology used.
Site Selection and Context	Holistic justification to support the selection of the site and the relationship with existing and future surrounding land uses.
Design Quality	Demonstrate how the development will achieve design excellence e.g. reviewed by the State Design Review Panel.
Built Form and Urban Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design showing how built form responds to the context, site characteristics, streetscape and existing and future character of the locality. • Demonstrate how a high-quality development will be delivered, including consideration of accessibility.
Environmental Amenity	Assessment of amenity impacts on the surrounding locality, including lighting, visual privacy, visual amenity, view loss and view sharing and overshadowing. Provide a high level of environmental amenity for surrounding residential or other sensitive land uses.
Visual Impact	Visual analysis of the development from key viewpoints showing proposed and likely future development and addressing impacts on the existing catchment.
Public Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate how the development maximises the amount, access to, and quality of, public spaces. Ensuring public space: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ is welcoming, attractive and accessible ○ maximises permeability, connectivity and opportunities for passive recreation. ○ maximises amenity including adequate facilities, solar access, shade and wind protection. ○ minimises potential vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian conflicts. • Address Crime Prevention through Environmental Design.
Trees and Landscaping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess number, location, condition and significance of removed/retained trees noting any existing canopy coverage. • Landscape plan with proposed site planting and evidence that opportunities to retain significant trees have been explored. • Demonstrate contribution to mitigating the urban heat island effect, contribution to the urban tree canopy cover and maximising opportunities for green infrastructure.

10.2 Update on Memorial Park, Googong (Ref: ; Author: Ryan/Richards) (Continued)

Issue	Requirements
Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD)	Demonstrate how industry recognised building sustainability and environmental performance standards will be met, including minimising greenhouse gas emissions and consumption of energy, water and material resources.
Traffic, Transport and Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport and accessibility impact assessment including analysis of the existing transport network (road, pedestrian, bicycle and public transport infrastructure) and current daily and peak hour vehicle movements. • Detail pedestrian and vehicular access arrangements, parking and rates, end-of-trip facilities, drop-off/pick-up-zone(s), bus bays and provisions for servicing and loading/unloading. • Construction Traffic Management Plan including how impacts on existing traffic, pedestrian and bicycle networks would be managed and mitigated.
Biodiversity	Assessment of biodiversity impacts, including preparation of a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report.
Air Quality	Only where a crematorium is proposed.
Noise and vibration	Noise and vibration assessment detailing construction and operational noise and vibration impacts on nearby sensitive receivers & structures with management and mitigation measures.
Ground and Water Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of the suitability of ground conditions for burial and potential impacts on soil resources and related infrastructure and riparian lands on and near the site, including soil erosion, salinity, and acid sulfate soils. • Surface and Groundwater Impact Assessment that assesses potential impacts on surface water resources (quality and quantity) including related infrastructure, hydrology, dependent ecosystems, drainage lines, downstream assets and watercourses and groundwater resources.
Water Management	Integrated Water Management Plan outlining water-related servicing infrastructure required with opportunities to reduce water demand including any on-site treatment, reuse and detention facilities, water quality management measures, and nominated discharge points.
Flood Risk	Identify flood planning level as set out in the LEP or SEPP including flood risks and management measures, potential effects of climate change and any relevant provisions of the NSW Flood Risk Management Manual.
Hazards and Risks	Where dangerous goods and/or hazardous materials are involved provide a Preliminary Risk Screening and a Preliminary Hazard Analysis. If the development is adjacent to or on land in a pipeline corridor, report on consultation outcomes with the operator of the pipeline and prepare a hazard analysis.
Contamination and Remediation	Assess and quantify any soil and groundwater contamination and demonstrate that the site is suitable (or will be after remediation).
Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify, quantify and classify likely waste streams to be generated during construction and operation.

10.2 Update on Memorial Park, Googong (Ref: ; Author: Ryan/Richards) (Continued)

Issue	Requirements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide measures to manage, reuse, recycle and safely dispose of waste. • Identify waste storage areas, collection access paths/roads, and appropriate servicing arrangements.
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report identifying, describing and assessing any impacts to any Aboriginal cultural heritage sites or values associated with the site.
Environmental Heritage	Statement of Heritage Impact and Archaeological Assessment with measures for minimisation and mitigation if there are potential impacts on environmental heritage.
Social Impact	Social Impact Assessment that is targeted and proportionate to the project's context and likely impacts
Infrastructure Requirements and Utilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess impacts on existing utility infrastructure & service provider assets surrounding the site & determine any upgrades required. • Provide an infrastructure delivery and staging plan.
Bush Fire Risk	If the site is bush fire prone or a bush fire threat is identified on or adjoining the site, provide a Bushfire Assessment that details bush fire protection measures.
Management and Maintenance	Plans for operation and long-term care and maintenance of the development.
Construction, Operation & Staging	Details on staging process and how construction and operation will be managed and any impacts mitigated.
Contributions and Public Benefit	Address requirements of contribution plan(s), planning agreement or EPI requiring a monetary contribution, dedication of land and/or works-in-kind.
Engagement	Detail engagement undertaken including how issues raised and feedback provided have been considered and responded to.

This project is complex and detailed and is being managed for Council, to the completion of the Development Application (DA), by experienced consultants, Gyde Consulting.

The requirements noted above, and the ensuing comprehensive technical reports and studies, have been undertaken over the last three years. It was anticipated that formal lodgement of the DA could occur in December 2024, however this has been delayed due to additional groundwater studies being required. In particular, because groundwater level changes naturally over time, a long term environmental management plan is being prepared. The groundwater studies will impact the final proposed design and staging of the site.

Completion of all requirements will occur over the next couple of months after which the site design and landscape plan can be finalised to address groundwater management. The QS will be completed, and the project will be submitted to the Department in a pre-lodgement informal check. The final plans will be presented to Council at that time. We are working to ensure that all details are covered so to minimise any delay in final approvals. Part of the SSD DA approval process is public exhibition and notification of stakeholders.

Attachments

Nil

10.3 Regional Sports Complex Business Plan Review Update (Ref: ; Author: Ryan/Richards)

File Reference: 12 February reports

Recommendation

That the report be received for information.

Report

In 2012, Council resolved to commence detailed planning of a regional sporting hub which could provide a sporting centre of excellence servicing Queanbeyan and the wider southern tablelands region.

To achieve progressive funding, the complex was designed to be built in four stages. The Development Application for the Sports Complex included Stages 1 and 2 but did not include Stage 3, the Aquatic Centre.

Stage 1A

- One synthetic national grade hockey pitch
- Two natural grass premier standard football pitches with 200-500 LUX lighting
- One premier standard synthetic pitch with 1000LUX lighting
- A major pavilion with athletes amenities, function centre & café
- A minor pavilion with amenities
- Multi-tiered seating
- Access roads Carpark and paths

Stage 1B

- Two additional fields with amenities

Stage 2

- Four-court multi-purpose sports stadium for basketball, netball and other sports such as indoor hockey, futsal and concert venue for concerts /conferences

Stage 3

- 50 metre enclosed competition standard pool
- Hydrotherapy pool
- Training and administrative facilities

At the meeting of August 2018, Council agreed to lodge a business case to the NSW Regional Sporting Infrastructure Fund for a grant to construct Stage One of the Queanbeyan-Palerang

10.3 Regional Sports Complex Business Plan Review Update (Ref: ; Author: Ryan/Richards) (Continued)

Regional Sports Complex and to place a full masterplan for all stages on public exhibition for community comment (**Resolution 276/18**).

A number of assumptions of social and economic benefit were used in the business plan. With the RSC stage 1A in operation, it is possible to assess these assumptions against actual financial performance and user groups experience. Strategic changes and economic performance have been analysed and consultation with existing and potential user groups is currently in progress. These evaluations will determine the progress and expected benefits that will come from pursuing Stages 1B, 2 and 3.

It is expected that Business Plan Review will be the subject of a Councillor workshop in March or April 2025 and that the paper will be before Council at the next meeting following the workshop.

Attachments

Nil

10.4 Update on Captains Flat Pool (Ref: ; Author: Ryan/Richards)

File Reference: 12 February reports

Recommendation

That the report be received for information.

Report

At the 24 July meeting, Council resolved to seek approval from the NSW Department of Regional Development (the Department) to redirect a grant for \$576,630 from the NSW Stronger Country Communities Fund (Round 5) to another local community infrastructure project. Council further determined to engage a suitably qualified consultation to investigate the feasibility of remediation of the pool as proposed a prepare a new scope of works. **(Resolution 340/24).**

The Department determined that they could not approve reallocating funds to another project as applications are considered on merit and a different project may not have been sufficient to attract funding in that round.

The original resolution to defer the grant was due to an unsuccessful tender process with contractors quoting more than funding available to address the issues at the pool and with no guarantee that the works would be successful due to the aging infrastructure.

The Captains Flat pool is an important social and community asset and needs extensive upgrade or replacement.

However, determining a suitably qualified consultant to investigate the likelihood of being able to remediate the pool sufficiently has been problematic. Council's Manager of Utilities reviewed the original investigation report and noted that the consultant had carried out the leak investigation appropriately. The question remains whether any remediation will be enduring since the pool (built in the 1960s) is at the end of its useful life.

Since the grant cannot be diverted to another project, it is now planned to carry out the repairs that will address the leaks in part. The report noted that water loss is attributed to cracks throughout the pool structure. The grant can achieve these works including a new layer of epoxy finish, filling the cracks in the main pool and a retiling of the toddlers' pool. This would allow the pool to remain open, while a longer-term solution is determined.

This scope of works will be delivered by a number of smaller contracts and will be programmed for completion once the pool has closed in March 2025, in time for the season reopening in November 2025.

Access improvements are being addressed similarly to Queanbeyan and Braidwood with the installation of a pool pod.

Attachments

Nil

10.5 Councillor Workshops (Ref: ; Author: Ryan/Ison)

File Reference: 12 February 2025 reports

Recommendation

That the report be received for information.

Councillor workshop items are published in the Agenda of the next Council meeting. From 23 January to 5 February 2025, the following workshop was held.

Workshop Date: 5 February 2025

Workshop Items and External Presenter/s (if applicable)
<p>Model Code of Meeting Practice OLG Consultation Paper</p> <p>The Office of Local Government (OLG) have released a consultation draft of the amended Model Code of Meeting Practice, now on their website https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/councils/governance/model-code-of-meeting-practice/reforms-to-the-model-code-of-meeting-practice/</p> <p>Submissions are due 28 February, and Council will be preparing a submission. Members of the public are also able to make submissions. This discussion focussed on seeking the Councillors feedback.</p>
<p>Community Strategic Plan Draft</p> <p>A recap of the results of community engagement and a review of the final draft Community Strategic Plan and Community Vision prior to being endorsed by Council for public exhibition.</p>
<p>Canberra Region Joint Organisation Briefing</p> <p>A briefing to Council about what the CRJO is, how it was established, and governance framework. An overview was given on the Joint Organisation legislative mandate, being the three principle functions of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– strategic planning and priority setting– intergovernmental collaboration, and– shared leadership and advocacy <p>And how it operates and delivers its core business, CRJO meetings, advocacy for the region and for the local government sector, regional planning and member projects and services.</p> <p>Presenter: Sharon Houlihan, Executive Officer, CRJO</p>
<p>Plans of Management for Queanbeyan Park, QEII Park and Queanbeyan Showground</p> <p>The Local Government Act and the Crown Lands Management Act require Council to prepare plans of management for all areas classified as community land. This workshop will cover the process for preparing Plans of Management and identify the first three that have been prepared. All Plans of Management will eventually come before Council and then be placed on public exhibition for community comment prior to formal endorsement of the plans by Council and, where applicable, the Crown.</p>

10.5 Councillor Workshops (Ref: ; Author: Ryan/Ison) (Continued)**Workshop Items and External Presenter/s (if applicable)****Cat Containment Policy**

Staff presented the submissions received on the draft Cat Containment Policy that was published and placed on public exhibition in October/November 2024. The amended policy will be applicable for the whole local government area, was supported by 75% of those responses received, of which 47.5% were cat owners. The main themes of the community feedback were discussed. This Policy will be presented to the Council meeting for adoption.

Attachments

Nil

11.1 Local Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes - 4 February 2025 (Ref: ; Author: Duff/Greer)

File Reference: 31.4.1

Recommendations

That Council endorse the 4 January 2025 Local Traffic Committee draft meeting minutes and the associated recommendations as follows:

- 1. LTC 01/2025 – Approve the 2025 Queanbeyan Multicultural Festival Event for 2 March.**
 - 2. LTC 02/2025 – Approve the 2025 Queanbeyan Rodeo Event for 8 March.**
 - 3. LTC 03/2025 – Approve the 2025 Husky Ultra Festival Event for 20 February.**
-

Summary

This report submits the minutes and recommendations arising from the Local Traffic Committee (LTC) meeting held 5 February 2025, for Councils information and consideration. The LTC is a technical review committee who advises Council on matters within its delegations, to provide an opinion or recommendation as appropriate.

Council may require this advice for certain traffic control management, traffic control devices and facilities. Matters related to state roads or functions not under Council jurisdiction must be referred directly to Transport for NSW or relevant organisation.

The LTC will only review reports that have been prepared by Council staff and submitted to the LTC in accordance with its delegations. The LTC does not undertake investigations of traffic matters or traffic design solutions. However, it can provide comment on such proposals submitted to Council.

Attachments

Attachment 1 Local Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes - 4 February 2025 (*Under Separate Cover*)

14.1 Questions With Notice - Nerriga Road, Braidwood (Ref: ; Author: Duff/Greer)

File Reference: 12 February 2025 Council Reports

Recommendation

That the report be received for information.

Report

The following questions were submitted by Cr Waterhouse on 22 January 2025, and responses provided below:

1. What progress has been made on the upgrading of gravel portion of Nerriga Road?

The Nerriga Road upgrade (MR92 Nerriga Road Ningee Nimble Reconstruction) is progressing through the project planning phase.

The project is funded from the NSW Government for a total budget of \$12.138M. The final project value within this budget will be determined following the approvals, procurement tendering and contract award processes.

Land acquisition activities have commenced for Water NSW and Crownland parcels. A Review of Environmental Factors (REF) has identified a targeted survey for an endangered orchid which will need to be completed and assessed.

Potential Archaeological Deposits (PAD) investigation is nearing completion, pending further advice regarding potential artefacts within the project area.

A design review of project elements including stormwater devices, site compound and stockpile facilities is being undertaken.

Procurement of contractors for clearing fence lines and limit of works has commenced. Telstra has engaged contractors for the relocation of services, with expected completion date late February 2025.

The next steps and indicative project timeline as follows; subject to REF, PAD and other project approval processes:

- Telstra relocation works completed – April 2025
- Designs completed – May 2025
- Site establishment and commence early works – July 2025
- Planning investigations and reviews completed – October 2025
- Land acquisitions approved – November 2025
- Approvals and consents obtained – December 2025
- Tenders issued – December 2025
- Contracts awarded – February 2026
- Construction completed – December 2026

14.1 Questions With Notice - Nerriga Road, Braidwood (Ref: ; Author: Duff/Greer)
(Continued)

2. What plans are there for the repair/ restoration of the dilapidated portions of Nerriga Road from the edge of Braidwood to the Durran Durra incline? Is funding available for this?

Five significant patches located between Braidwood and Durran Durra are planned for stabilisation this financial year 2024/25.

Shoulder grading and drainage improvements have already been completed in preparation for road stabilisation contractors to commence.

The patches are approximately 5.1km in length with a total planned budget of \$1.76M to complete the following works:

- Insitu stabilisation of the existing road pavement
- Two coat seal as the finish surface
- Reinststate line marking

Planned commencement date is 24 March 2025 and works expected to be completed by 30 June 2025.

Attachments

Nil

14.2 Questions With Notice - Bungendore Lead Contamination Works (Ref: ;
Author: Ryan/Ryan)

File Reference: 12 February 2025 / 24.4.1

Recommendation

That the report be received for information.

The following questions were submitted by Cr Willis on 21 January 2025. Responses have been provided by Transport for NSW.

1. Has Transport for NSW contacted QPRC about planning for the following activities?

a. A detailed site investigation of lead contamination along the Bungendore rail corridor, due to start in February 2025?

Transport for NSW (Transport) will send updates to Council and community members on our project database before site investigation work starts. At this stage, a start date has not been confirmed.

b. Installation of dust monitors on residential properties in Bungendore as part of the investigation?

Transport will contact the relevant property owners, including Council before installing dust monitors. At this stage, a start date has not been confirmed for the consultation and installation of the monitors.

c. A detailed site investigation of the rail corridor between Bungendore and Captains Flat to determine the extent of lead contamination and what remediation action should be taken?

Transport will send updates to Council and community members on our project database before site investigation work starts. At this stage, a start date has not been confirmed.

2. Does QPRC have any information it can share with the Bungendore community about planning for these activities including when a community information session will be held in Bungendore?

Transport is planning to hold a community information session in Bungendore after we complete the Detailed Site Investigation. Transport will keep Council informed of progress and provide updates as our investigations continue.

Transport will invite Council to the community information session and seek support from Council staff to promote the event through Council's communication channels (eg Facebook and Website).

Attachments

Nil

14.3 Questions With Notice - Captains Flat Lead Progress (Ref: ; Author: Duff/Ormella)

File Reference: 52.3 / 12 February 2025 reports

Recommendation

That the report be received for information.

The following questions were submitted by Cr Willis on 12 November 2024, and responses are provided by staff below:

1. Since the commissioning of Lake George Captains Flat Mine Review, Assessment of Remediation Options (GHD 2018), what specific actions have QPRC taken to progress the agenda of private land remediation within Captains Flat?

Through working with the Captains Flat Lead Taskforce over approximately three years Council officers have been part of the wider network of government agencies involved in investigation and planning for land remediation.

Government agencies that have land interests in Captains Flat continue to be involved in their land management and remediation

QPRC primary involvement in the Lead Taskforce was as a landowner and manager, however the work extended to include a project aimed at assisting private landowners. The outcome from this project was the adoption of Council's Contaminated Land Policy, Guideline and Standard Remediation Action Plan.

To support private landowners the Council has also developed fact sheets, conducted community meetings, met with private land holders to discuss specific issues and maintain a web page with information to support residents and landowners. The work that QPRC and the Lead Taskforce has undertaken is for use for ancillary development on existing residential lots and is aimed at saving residents time and money.

Council has continually raised and promoted the issue of private land contamination and development impacts as a major issue needing to be resolved.

Outputs included:

- Contaminated Land Management Policy (in accordance with the CBJO Model Policy)
- Developed
 - Contaminated Land Guidelines
 - Standard Remediation Action Plan.
- Progressed discussions with two local private waste facilities around disposal options
- Progressed discussions with Legacy Mines for capacity in the waste cell on the mine site for private use
- Provided specific advice to community members around development requirements
- Produced fact sheets explaining the process
- Attended community meetings as part of the Lead Taskforce to provide advice on private land development matters
- Facilitated community meetings to discuss private land development requirements and issues

14.3 Questions With Notice - Captains Flat Lead Progress (Ref: ; Author: Duff/Ormella) (Continued)

2. What specific plans has QPRC made, since being involved in the Lead Taskforce (2021), to progress their land manager responsibilities to conduct remediation?

Land in Captains Flat which is in Council's ownership has the following Lead Abatement Plans:

- Project specific Lead Abatement Plan for Foxlow Parklet
- Playing Courts and Swimming Pool Lead Abatement Plan
- Southern End of Foxlow Street Lead Abatement Plan

The Foxlow Parklet project is progressing and will be completed in 2025.

The Urban Landscapes team working at Captains Flat have specific guidelines around soil disturbance. These include:

- Ensuring that grass is not mowed too low
- Ceasing regular mowing during dry periods/ drought to avoid the creation of dust
- Avoiding digging into the underlying soil

Roads and Transport, Water and Sewer departments have undertaken specific responses and responsibilities including:

- Communication to all relevant staff and contractors, including tool-box talks and meetings addressing lead awareness
- Safe Work Method Statements, Risk Assessment control measures and activities into operating procedures including:
 - No unnecessary digging, excavations or ground disturbance
 - For planned works, ensure lead management is part of the project Environmental and WHS plans
 - In the event of emergency repairs, ensure that spoil is sufficiently dampened to minimise dust
 - Ensure appropriate safe work method statements and PPE

3. Conceptual Site Model was created by Ramboll (Oct 22) commissioned by the Department of Regional Development NSW. The purpose of a conceptual site model (CSM) is to help understand and communicate the potential risks to human health and the environment from contamination in a site. Who has the obligation to progress recommendations contained within the CSM?

The land manager for each specific land parcel.

4. Part 2, Appendix 9 of the CSM – Captains Flat Men's Shed Lead Investigation Report and Exposure Assessment states the lead levels are between 1-7 times that of relevant guidelines for commercial/industrial sites (HIL-D). Has this been communicated to the Men's Shed? If so, when and to whom?

The detailed reports are provided to the landowner.

5. Lead Abatement Options Assessment by Ramboll (Oct 22) The objective for this abatement options assessment is to assess abatement options to address risks from contaminants related to mining activities in identified areas with high and moderate risk to human health. The Lead Abatement Options Assessment states the southern end of the school playing field at the new preschool is being considered separately by the DoE – has this occurred? What is the progress?

This question needs to be directed to the Department of Education.

14.3 Questions With Notice - Captains Flat Lead Progress (Ref: ; Author: Duff/Ormella) (Continued)

6. The report (2.2) states testing hasn't been conducted around the swimming pool inside the fence line. Has this been conducted?

To date testing has not been conducted around the swimming pool inside the fence line.

7. Table 2-4 of the report indicates the preferred abatement option for the Foxlow Parklet is 'Disposal at landfill', however a close second is 'Cap Existing Landform'. Could QPRC consider something like 'soft fall rubber' for the parklet? See 2.8.1 and Appendix 2 Table 2, Option 3a.

Council met with Ramboll regarding the Cap Existing Landform option as it became apparent that there were delays with the opening of the waste cell.

This option still requires disposal of waste and capping first with a geotextile marking layer and then with clean fill. Additionally, the capping layer would require ongoing inspection and maintenance and be subject to an ongoing environmental management plan.

The preferred option as recommended by the consultant is the Disposal at Landfill option. Approval has been granted by EPA and Legacy Mines to stockpile the contaminated soil next to the proposed containment cell. The soil works will be commencing in the next month ready for infill of fresh material. Playground equipment has been purchased and is in storage, with a 3 week installation program when the site is ready.

8. The Lead Taskforce coordinated the development of several Lead Abatement Plans. What has QPRC done to progress the ones that are under their remit?

Council has been focussed on progressing the Foxlow Parklet project. There is no funding or need to date to develop these Lead Abatement Plans.

9. Has QPRC reviewed their property holdings in Captains Flat to identify other properties that need to be remediated and what action has been taken to progress the planning?

Council have considered the lead contamination and remediation requirements for 172 Foxlow Street in 2023, in assessing options for the use of the former medical centre which was provided in an update report in September 2023 (**Resolution 367/23**).

The subject site benefited from development consent DA.2016.125 for a 2 lot subdivision and demolition of existing health care building, however this development consent is now lapsed. It was reported to Council that lodgement of a new DA would trigger a Detailed Site Investigation (DSI) report to identify any lead contamination.

This was intended to be discussed at the Captains Flat Lead Management Network, before a further report was bought back to Council with an estimate of costs for a new DA as was intended in 2016, with revised estimated costs of a DSI and the previous conditions of consent.

More recently, preliminary discussions have been held with SES and RFS regarding the need for the SES to find a new property for their Captains Flat station, and 172 Foxlow Street is being assessed as to its suitability prior to a report being presented to Council on this matter.

Attachments

Nil

14.4 Questions With Notice - Braidwood Carpark Update (Ref: ; Author: Duff/Ramsland)

File Reference: 36.3.3-01

Recommendation

That the report be received for information.

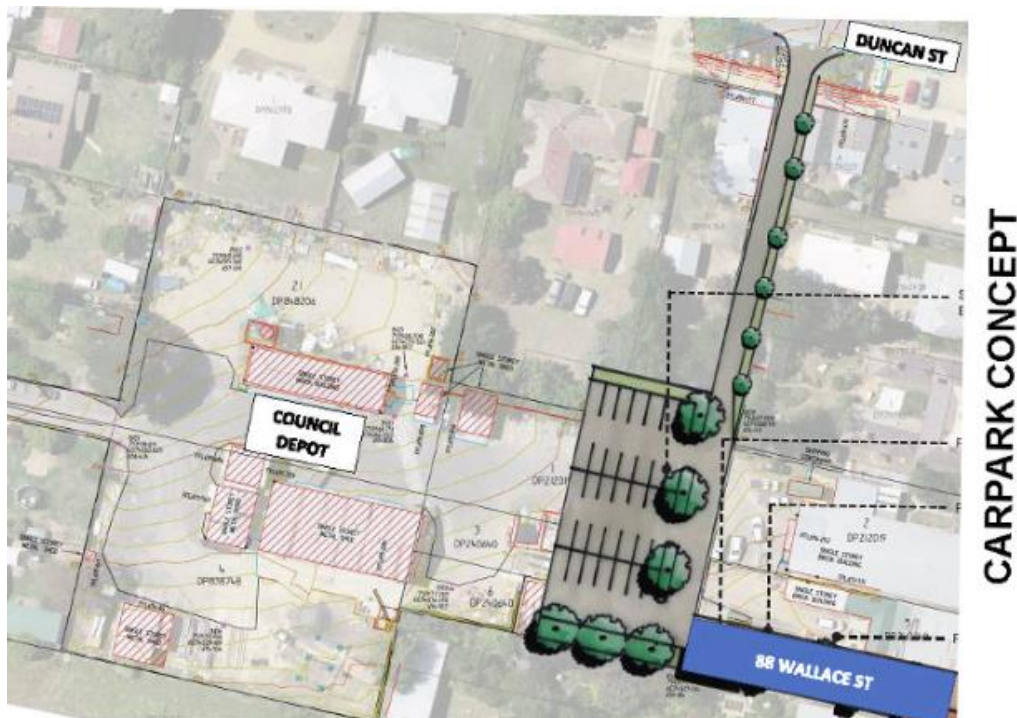
Report

The following question was submitted by Cr Waterhouse on 22 January 2025, and responses are provided by staff below:

- 1. What progress has been made in regard to the planned and funded car park on what is generally called the 'Old D&S site' Wallace Street in Braidwood?**

Council was awarded \$3million under the 'Investing in Our Communities Program' towards the Braidwood Carpark project. The program is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communication and the Arts. This project was reported to Council on 8 May 2024 (**Resolution 197/24**) and is currently in the planning and design phase.

The project is the design and construction of a new carpark at the rear of 88 Wallace Street and 41A Ryrie Street, Braidwood. The objective of the project is to provide additional spaces for longer stay parking and access to Braidwood's commercial centre. Access is to be from Duncan Street.



14.4 Questions With Notice - Braidwood Carpark Update (Ref: ; Author: Duff/Ramsland) (Continued)

The project scope includes:

- Preliminaries such as final designs, approvals and site investigations;
- New water and sewerage services;
- Site decontamination (if required);
- New stormwater mains;
- New electrical work, including a substation;
- Construction of at least 25 spaces with solar panel roofing;
- At least one CCTV camera;
- At least one EV charging station; and
- Carpark signage and landscaping.

The current land use zone and classification did not allow the construction of a public carpark. It was reported to Council in November 2024 that the planning proposal to amend the Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Local Environmental Plan 2022 (LEP) needed to include reclassification and rezoning of land at 88 Wallace St and 41 Ryrie St to operational land and the zoning changed to SP2 – Public Carpark (**Resolution 522/24**).

A Gateway determination was requested and accepted. The planning proposal is expected to go on public exhibition during February in accordance with the requirements of the Gateway. Should no objections be received, the necessary actions to finalise the LEP will be completed.

A contamination investigation was necessary due to the historical use of the land. Onsite investigation works were completed last December, and a report is expected this month to summarise findings.

A request for quotation was sought from specialist consultants to complete a heritage assessment of the project site, and these quotations are currently being reviewed.

Tender documents for the carpark design are being prepared and will be released to the market by the end of February. The award of the design tender is planned for a Council meeting in April following a tender evaluation process.

The project will require the demolition of existing building structures, and therefore the project will require development approval for this portion of works. To reduce delays in commencing construction, tender documents will be prepared and issued concurrently with the DA assessment period.

Noting the interconnected services between the Braidwood Carpark project and the 88 Wallace Street Renewal project, both projects will be delivered under a single program of work if possible.

In summary, the next steps and project timeline as follows:

- Planning Proposal Public Exhibition – February 2025
- Site Contamination Report – February 2025
- Heritage Assessment Completed – March 2025
- Design RFT Award – April 2025
- Design Completed – October 2025
- Demolition DA Approved – April 2026
- Construction RFT Award – April 2026
- Construction Complete – September 2026

Attachments

Nil

14.5 Questions With Notice - New Hume Recycling Centre (Ref: ; Author:
Duff/Browne)

File Reference: 12 February 2025 motions

Recommendation

That the report be received for information.

The following questions were submitted by Cr Willis on 4 February 2025, and responses are provided by staff below:

1. Has Council been advised whether it will have access to the new Hume recycling centre the ACT Government has approved, to be operated by Veolia?

The scoping of the new facility has always included recyclable materials from QPRC region.

If yes, what is the timeframe for construction and when is the centre expected to open?

At this stage the project delivery timeframe has not been conveyed to QPRC, however a briefing between QPRC and ACT Infrastructure is being organised.

2. Has Council received any information about the:

a. Scope of materials that will be received and processed at the centre;

This is included in the Media Release from Minister Cheyne which is attached.

b. Cost to QPRC to transport and process recyclable materials from Queanbeyan-Palerang to the new recycling centre?

The cost to QPRC will be the subject of future negotiations between QPRC, ReCycle (Council's current MRF Contractor), Veolia and the ACT Government; and reported to Council for approval.

Attachments

Attachment 1  Tara Cheyne MLA - Media Release - New recycling facility contract announced - 31 January 2025 (*Under Separate Cover*)

15 NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DEAL WITH MATTERS IN CLOSED SESSION

It is necessary for the Council to adopt a resolution to formalise its intention to deal with certain matters in Confidential Session. The reports are incorporated in the “confidential” business paper which has been circulated to Councillors.

The *Local Government Act, 1993* requires the General Manager to identify those matters listed on the business paper which may be categorised as confidential in terms of Section 10A of the *Local Government Act, 1993*.

Recommendation

That pursuant to Section 10A of the *Local Government Act, 1993* the following items on the agenda for the Ordinary Council meeting be dealt with in Closed Session for the reasons specified below:

Item 16.1 Legal Matters Update - 1 July 2024 to 31 December 2024

Item 16.1 is confidential in accordance with s10(A) (c) (di) (e) (g) of the Local Government Act 1993 because it contains information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; AND commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it; AND information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law; AND advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege and discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.

Item 16.2 Deed of Settlement Minister Education and Early Learning: Bungendore Properties Reinstatement

Item 16.2 is confidential in accordance with s10(A) (e) of the Local Government Act 1993 because it contains information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law and discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.