



Ordinary Meeting

BUSINESS PAPER

Tuesday, 25 February 2025 at 7:00 PM

Griffith City Council Chambers

Phone: 1300 176 077

Web: www.griffith.nsw.gov.au Email: admin@griffith.nsw.gov.au



COUNCILLORS

Councillor Doug Curran (Mayor)	dcurran@griffith.com.au
Councillor Shari Blumer	sblumer@griffith.com.au
Councillor Mark Dal Bon	mdalbon@griffith.com.au
Councillor Jenny Ellis	jellis@griffith.com.au
Councillor Scott Groat	sgroat@griffith.com.au
Councillor Anne Napoli (Deputy Mayor)	anapoli@griffith.com.au
Councillor Tony O'Grady	togrady@griffith.com.au
Councillor Christine Stead	cstead@griffith.com.au
Councillor Laurie Testoni	ltestoni@griffith.com.au

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN ADDRESS COUNCIL IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS

Council generally meets every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7.00 pm in the Council Chambers.

Addressing the Council on Business Paper matters

Members of the public are welcome to attend Council Meetings and address the Council on agenda items provided proper notice is given. Visit Council's website for more information. To apply to address Council on Business Paper matters, please complete an online [Public Address to Council Declaration Form](#) before 12:00 noon on the day of the meeting.

Notice of Motion via Councillor

You are able to lobby a Councillor to raise a Notice of Motion to have a matter considered by the Council at a future meeting.

Petition

A petition can be presented to the Council through a Councillor. If you would like to present a petition to an Ordinary Meeting of Council, please contact one of the Councillors to arrange.

Customer Request Management system

The Customer Request Management system (CRM) manages the processing of customer requests. Customer requests can be then easily responded to, allocated to responsible officers and checked. The system will automatically escalate requests that have not been actioned. To log a request, please contact Council's Customer Service Team on 1300 176 077.

Direct correspondence to the General Manager

You may write directly to the General Manager about your issue or concern via letter or email. You may contact the General Manager at admin@griffith.nsw.gov.au or mail correspondence to: The General Manager, PO Box 485 Griffith NSW 2680.

For more information on public participation refer to [Council's Agency Information Guide](#).

Councillors' obligations under the Oath or Affirmation of Office are as follows:

Oath

I [*name of Councillor*] swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of Griffith and the Griffith City Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the [Local Government Act 1993](#) or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

Affirmation

I [*name of Councillor*] solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of Griffith and the Griffith City Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the [Local Government Act 1993](#) or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

Councillors' obligations under the Code of Conduct in relation to conflicts of interest include:

[What is a pecuniary interest?](#)

A pecuniary interest is an interest that you have in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to you or a person referred to in clause 4.3 of the Code of Conduct.

[Disclosure of pecuniary interests at meetings](#)

A Councillor who has a pecuniary interest in any matter with which Council is concerned, and who is present at a meeting of Council at which the matter is being considered, must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable.

The Councillor must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting of Council:

- (a) at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by Council, or
- (b) at any time during which the Council is voting on any question in relation to the matter.

[What is a non-pecuniary conflict of interest?](#)

Non-pecuniary interests are private or personal interests a Council official has that do not amount to a pecuniary interest as defined in clause 4.1 of the Code of Conduct. A non-pecuniary conflict of interest exists where a reasonable and informed person would perceive that you could be influenced by a private interest when carrying out your official functions in relation to a matter.

[Managing non-pecuniary conflicts of interest](#)

Where Councillors have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter they must disclose the relevant private interest they have in relation to the matter fully and in writing as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the non-pecuniary conflict of interest.

[Click here to lodge an online Conflict of Interest Form.](#)

How Councillors manage a non-pecuniary conflict of interest will depend on whether or not it is significant.

A non-pecuniary conflict of interest will be significant where it does not involve a pecuniary interest, but it involves:

- (a) a relationship between a Councillor and another person who is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that is particularly close, such as a current or former spouse or de facto partner, a relative or another person from the Councillor's extended family that the Councillor has a close personal relationship with, or another person living in the same household.
- (b) other relationships with persons who are affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that are particularly close, such as friendships and business relationships. Closeness is defined by the nature of the friendship or business relationship, the frequency of contact and the duration of the friendship or relationship.
- (c) an affiliation between the Councillor and an organisation (such as a sporting body, club, religious, cultural or charitable organisation, corporation or association) that is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that is particularly strong. The strength of a Councillor's affiliation with an organisation is to be determined by the extent to which they actively participate in the management, administration or other activities of the organisation.
- (d) membership, as the Council's representative, of the board or management committee of an organisation that is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration, in circumstances where the interests of Council and the organisation are potentially in conflict in relation to the particular matter.
- (e) a financial interest (other than an interest of a type referred to in clause 4.6 of the Code of Conduct) that is not a pecuniary interest for the purposes of clause 4.1 of the Code of Conduct.
- (f) the conferral or loss of a personal benefit other than one conferred or lost as a member of the community or a broader class of people affected by a decision.

If the significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises in relation to a matter under consideration at a Council meeting, Councillors must manage the conflict of interest as if a Councillor had a pecuniary interest in the matter by complying with clauses 4.28 and 4.29 of the Code of Conduct. That is, a Councillor who has a significant non-pecuniary interest in a matter under consideration at a Council meeting must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable. The Councillor must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting of Council:

- (a) at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by Council, or
- (b) at any time during which the Council is voting on any question in relation to the matter.

If Councillors determine that they have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter that is not significant and does not require further action, when disclosing the interest they must explain in writing why they consider that the non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances.

Councillors should refer to Council's Code of Conduct policy for further information in relation to managing conflicts of interest at Council Meetings.

Opening Affirmations

Option 1

Let us meet in this Council Chamber in a spirit of fellowship and goodwill to represent all the members of our community in its cultural and religious diversity.

To be honest and objective in all our deliberations.

To respect the views of the residents, the rights of all Councillors to express their opinions without fear or favour and to make decisions for the common good of our community.

Option 2

Almighty God

We ask that you guide us in our decision making.

Protect us and the community we serve.

Direct our deliberations for the progress of this City and the true welfare of its people.

Option 3

I ask those gathered to join us now for a few moments of silence as we reflect on our roles in this Chamber. Please use this opportunity for reflection, prayer or thought, to focus on our shared intention to work respectfully together for the well-being of our whole community.

Acknowledgment of Country

Griffith City Council acknowledges the Wiradjuri people as the traditional owners and custodians of the land and waters, and their deep knowledge embedded within the Aboriginal community.

Council further pays respect to the local Wiradjuri Elders, past, present and those emerging, for whom we acknowledge have responsibilities for the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of the local Wiradjuri people.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL
TO BE HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
TUESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2025 AT 7:00 PM**

MEETING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held in the Griffith City Council Chambers on **Tuesday, 25 February 2025**.

In accordance with Griffith City Council's Code of Meeting Practice and as permitted under the Local Government Act 1993, this meeting is being live streamed and recorded by Council staff for minute taking and webcasting purposes.

No other webcasting or recording by a video camera, still camera or any other electronic device capable of webcasting or recording is permitted without the prior approval of Council.

Those that are participating in this meeting are advised that your image and what you say will be broadcast live to the public and will also be recorded. You should avoid making statements that might defame or offend and note that Council will not be responsible for your actions and comments.

Members of the public may address Council in relation to the items listed in this Agenda by contacting Council on 1300 176 077 by 12.00 pm on the day of the meeting.

The agenda for the meeting is:

- 1 Council Acknowledgments
 - 2 Apologies and Applications for a Leave of Absence or Attendance by Audio-visual Link by Councillors
 - 3 Confirmation of Minutes
 - 4 Business Arising
 - 5 Declarations of Interest
 - 6 Presentations
 - 7 Mayoral Minutes
 - 8 General Manager's Report
- | | | |
|------|-----|--|
| CL01 | p19 | Adoption of the 2023/24 Annual Financial Statements & Auditor's Reports |
| CL02 | p27 | DA 167/2024 - Multi-dwelling development - construction of two new two-storey dwellings and retention of the existing dwelling |
| CL03 | p39 | Review of Solar Energy Farms and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Policy |

- CL04 p43 Second Quarter Performance Report 2024/25 - Budget Review and Operational Plan Incorporating the December Delivery Program Progress Report
- CL05 p53 Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) NSW Annual Conference 2025 - Griffith 1-3 May 2025
- CL06 p57 Local Government NSW 2025 Destination and Visitor Economy Conference
- CL07 p63 Support for Annual Sikh Games - 2025 Shaheedi Tournament
- 9 Information Reports
- CL08 p69 Investments as at 31 January 2025
- 10 Adoption of Committee Minutes
- p78 Minutes of the Floodplain Management Committee Meeting held on 5 December 2024
- p81 Minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting held on 11 February 2025
- 11 Business with Notice – Rescission Motions
- 12 Business with Notice – Other Motions
- p86 Notice of Motion - Councillor Shari Blumer
- 13 Outstanding Action Report
- p92 Outstanding Action Report
- 14 Matters to be dealt with by Closed Council
- CCMM01 Significant Service - Civic Recognition
- personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors) 10A(2) (a)
- CC02 Minutes of the General Manager Recruitment Committee Meeting held on 13 February 2025
- commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
 - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
 - (iii) reveal a trade secret 10A(2) (d)

Brett Stonestreet

GENERAL MANAGER

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
TUESDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2025 COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM**

PRESENT

The Mayor, Doug Curran in the Chair; Councillors, Shari Blumer, Mark Dal Bon, Jenny Ellis, Scott Groat, Anne Napoli, Tony O'Grady, Christine Stead and Laurie Testoni

STAFF

General Manager, Brett Stonestreet, Director Economic & Organisational Development, Shireen Donaldson, Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, Director Infrastructure & Operations, Phil King, Acting Director Business, Cultural, Financial Services, Max Turner, Director Sustainable Development, Joe Rizzo and Minute Takers, Leanne Austin and Antoinette Galluzzo

MEDIA

Allan Wilson, The Area News

1 COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Meeting opened with Councillor Tony O'Grady reading the Opening Affirmation and the Acknowledgement of Country.

2 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE OR ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK BY COUNCILLORS

No apologies or requests for leave of absence were received.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

25/021

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in Griffith City Council Chambers on 28 January 2025, having first been circulated amongst all members of Council, be confirmed.

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli

Against

Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

4 BUSINESS ARISING

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary Interests

Councillors making a pecuniary interest declaration are required to leave the meeting during consideration of the matter and not return until the matter is resolved.

Councillor Shari Blumer
CCMM01 DA 99/2024 – 5 MW Battery Energy Storage System
Reason – Are commercial in confidence

Councillor Shari Blumer
CC01 Renewal of Lease Agreement - Zecca Pty Ltd - 239 Banna Avenue, Griffith
Reason – The business I work for often does work for these matters

Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillors making a significant non-pecuniary interest declaration are required to leave the meeting during consideration of the matter and not return until the matter is resolved.

Councillor Laurie Testoni
CCMM01 DA 99/2024 – 5 MW Battery Energy Storage System
Reason – Customer of the business I manage

Less Than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillors making a less than significant non-pecuniary interest declaration may stay in the meeting and participate in the debate and vote on the matter.

Councillor Mayor Doug Curran
CL01 Assignment of Part Lease from Peter John Turkington to Precision Aviation - Hangar Site 17, Griffith Aerodrome
Reason – A family member of the applicant works for me. The recommendation has no bearing on my employee or myself.

6 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

CL01 ASSIGNMENT OF PART LEASE FROM PETER JOHN TURKINGTON TO PRECISION AVIATION - HANGAR SITE 17, GRIFFITH AERODROME

25/022

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Laurie Testoni that:

- (a) Council approves the assignment of the 1/3rd lease share from Peter John Turkington over Hangar Site 17, Griffith Aerodrome to Precision Aviation Pty Ltd ACN 116 836 947.
- (b) Precision Aviation Pty Ltd will be responsible for all costs associated with the preparation of the assignment document, together with Council's Administration fee.
- (c) The annual lease fee continues to be charged in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy, currently \$1.51/sq metre for 'airside' areas 1000-4000sq metres in addition to rates and charges.
- (d) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to execute the assignment document on behalf of Council under the Common Seal.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

CL02 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2025

25/023

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Christine Stead that:

- (a) Council nominates the Mayor (or his delegate), Councillor Jenny Ellis and the General Manager (or his delegate) to attend the 2025 National General Assembly of Local Government from 24 – 27 June 2025.
- (b) Councillors proposing to submit draft motion(s) for the National General Assembly of Local Government to forward to the General Manager by Monday 24 February 2025. The draft motion(s) will be reported to the Ordinary Meeting of Council on Tuesday, 11 March 2025 for Council's consideration.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady

Against

Councillor Mark Dal Bon

Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 1.

CL03 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - STATEMENTS UNDER SECTION 413(2)(C) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1993

25/024

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that:

- (a) In accordance with Section 413 of the Local Government Act, 1993, Council forward to the Auditor the Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June, 2024.
- (b) Council delegate authority to the following people to sign the Statement by Councillors and Management for the General Purpose Financial Statements and the Special Purpose Financial Statements:
 - (i) Councillor Doug Curran in his capacity as Mayor or nominee;
 - (ii) Councillor Anne Napoli in her capacity as the Deputy Mayor or nominee;
 - (iii) The General Manager, Brett Stonestreet; and
 - (iv) Council's Responsible Accounting Officer, Max Turner.

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against
Councillor Mark Dal Bon

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 1.

CL04 ADOPTION OF COUNCILLOR EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

Councillors Ellis and Stead moved the following MOTION that:

Council adopt the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy as attached to the report, including the suggested amendments as listed in Table 1 of the report.

Councillors Dal Bon and Groat moved the following AMENDMENT that:

Council adopt the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy as attached to the report, including the suggested amendments as listed in Table 1 of the report, with Appendix III Summary of Maximum Amounts to revert back to the current policy figures (Page 80 of the business paper).

The amendment was PUT and LOST.

For
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Scott Groat

Against
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Jenny Ellis

Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

The division was declared LOST by 2 votes to 7.

25/025

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Christine Stead that Council adopt the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy as attached to the report, including the suggested amendments as listed in Table 1 of the report.

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 3.

9 INFORMATION REPORTS

CL05 RESPONSES TO COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

25/026

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Laurie Testoni that the report be noted by Council.

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

10 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

Nil

11 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

12 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – OTHER MOTIONS

Nil

13 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

25/027

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that the report be noted.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

14 MATTERS TO BE DEALT WITH BY CLOSED COUNCIL

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in Section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

Set out below is Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 in relation to matters which can be dealt with in the closed part of a meeting.

The matters and information are the following:

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors)**
- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer**
- (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business**
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:**
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or**
 - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council, or**
 - (iii) reveal a trade secret**
- (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law**
- (f) matters affecting the security of the Council, Councillors, Council staff or Council property**
- (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege**

- (h) information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on Community land.**
- (i) alleged contraventions of any code of conduct requirements applicable under section 440 of the Local Government Act 1993.**

25/028

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that:

- (a) Council resolve to go into closed Council to consider business identified.
- (b) Pursuant to section 10A(1)-(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, the media and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business to be considered is classified confidential under the provision of section [10A(2)] as outlined above.
- (c) The correspondence and reports relevant to the subject business be withheld from access to the media and public as required by section 11(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

Council resolved that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items listed below, and that discussion of the report in open Council would be contrary to the public interest.

CCMM01 DA 99/2024 - 5 MW BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM

Reason: Legal Proceedings 10A(2)(g)

CC01 RENEWAL OF LEASE AGREEMENT - ZECCA PTY LTD - 239 BANNA AVENUE, GRIFFITH

Reason: Commercial Advantage 10A(2)(d)

CC02 RESULTS FROM 2024 COUNCIL STAFF SURVEY - CONNECTYOU

Reason: Personnel Matters 10A(2)(a)

Council closed its meeting at 7:26pm. The public and media left the Chamber. Livestream was disconnected.

REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL

25/029

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Laurie Testoni and Christine Stead that Open Council be resumed.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

Open Council resumed at 8:17pm.

Livestream was reconnected.

Upon resuming open Council the General Manager reported that the following resolutions had been made in Closed Council:

Councillor Laurie Testoni and Shari Blumer left the meeting having declared a pecuniary and significant non-pecuniary interest, the time being 7:26 am.

MATTERS DEALT WITH IN CLOSED COUNCIL

CCMM01 DA 99/2024 - 5 MW BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM

25/030

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Christine Stead that:

- (a) Council delegates authority to the General Manager to enter an agreement under s34(3) Land and Environment Court Act 1979 to grant development consent to development application 99/2024(1) for a 5 MW distribution battery energy storage system at 116 Cremasco Road, Yenda generally subject to the conditions recommended in the development application assessment report and the conditions recommended by Scott Barwick in his letter of 4 February 2025.
- (b) The General Manager report to a future Council Meeting the details of the agreement following negotiations under Section 34 (3) Land and Environment Court Act 1979.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead

Against

Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli

The division was declared PASSED by 4 votes to 3.

Councillor Laurie Testoni returned to the meeting at 7:33pm.

25/031

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Christine Stead that the meeting suspend standing orders to allow Ben Di Rosa, Daniel D'Aquino and Michaela Cangelli to address Council.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

Director Phil King left the meeting at 7:36pm, and returned at 7:38pm.

25/032

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that the meeting resume standing orders.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

CC01 RENEWAL OF LEASE AGREEMENT - ZECCA PTY LTD - 239 BANNA AVENUE, GRIFFITH

Councillors Stead and Ellis moved the following MOTION that:

- (a) Council authorises the General Manager to negotiate a new rental agreement with Zecca Pty Ltd. The annual rental will be \$53,045 (current rental rate) Excl GST for three (3) years In addition to the payment of rates and charges. The lessee is to continue to maintain all equipment and services to the property.
- (b) On negotiation of the annual rental and terms, Council enters into a lease agreement with Zecca Pty Limited for a term of three (3) years, with a further option of three (3) years for 239 Banna Avenue, Griffith.
- (c) Zecca Pty Ltd will be responsible for all costs associated with the preparation of the new lease agreement, together with an Administration fee payable to Council on the signing of the agreement by all parties.
- (d) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to sign and seal the lease document.

Councillors Dal Bon and O'Grady moved the following AMENDMENT that:

- (a) Council authorises the General Manager to negotiate a new rental agreement with Zecca Pty Ltd. The annual rental will be \$53,045 Excl GST for the first year and increase annually thereafter in accordance with the CPI. In addition to the payment of rates and charges. The lessee is to continue to maintain all equipment and services to the property.
- (b) On negotiation of the annual rental and terms, Council enters into a lease agreement with Zecca Pty Limited for a term of three (3) years, with a further option of three (3) years for 239 Banna Avenue, Griffith.
- (c) Zecca Pty Ltd will be responsible for all costs associated with the preparation of the new lease agreement, together with an Administration fee payable to Council on the signing of the agreement by all parties.
- (d) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to sign and seal the lease document.

The amendment was PUT and LOST.

For
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady

Against
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

The division was declared LOST by 2 votes to 6.

25/033

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Jenny Ellis that

- (a) Council authorises the General Manager to negotiate a new rental agreement with Zecca Pty Ltd. The annual rental will be \$53,045 (current rental rate) Excl GST for three (3) years In addition to the payment of rates and charges. The lessee is to continue to maintain all equipment and services to the property.
- (b) On negotiation of the annual rental and terms, Council enters into a lease agreement with Zecca Pty Limited for a term of three (3) years, with a further option of three (3) years for 239 Banna Avenue, Griffith.
- (c) Zecca Pty Ltd will be responsible for all costs associated with the preparation of the new lease agreement, together with an Administration fee payable to Council on the signing of the agreement by all parties.
- (d) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to sign and seal the lease document.

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Christine Stead

Against
Councillor Tony O'Grady

Councillor Laurie Testoni

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 1.

Councillor Shari Blumer returned to the meeting at 8:13pm.

CC02 RESULTS FROM 2024 COUNCIL STAFF SURVEY - CONNECTYOU

25/034

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Tony O'Grady that the report be noted by Council.

For

Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 8:21pm.

Confirmed:

CHAIRPERSON

CLAUSE	CL01
TITLE	Adoption of the 2023/24 Annual Financial Statements & Auditor's Reports
FROM	Max Turner, Acting Director Business, Cultural and Financial Services
TRIM REF	25/14443

SUMMARY

Council is required to present its audited financial reports, together with the Auditor's reports in accordance with Section 419 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

The Audit Office (AO) of NSW has taken over the responsibility for completing the audit and audit sign off for the majority of NSW Local Government authorities as from the 2023/24 financial statements including Griffith City Council's audit.

The 2023/24 audit was completed and lodged on 13th February 2025. At the request of the auditors, Council applied for an extension of time initially until 15th December 2024 and a further request by the AO until the 15th February 2025 to complete the financial statements preparation, audit and lodgement with the Office of Local Government. The due date for lodgement is normally 31 October annually. The Office of Local Government granted both of the requested extensions and Council lodged the Annual Statements of account within that revised time frame. The auditors closing report highlighted the following issues to note:

1. Griffith City Council is one of many councils that have continued to not recognise Rural Fire Services red fleet assets (as previously advised to Council) however due to the quantum of these assets being deemed immaterial the Griffith City Council audit opinion is not qualified in relation to that matter.
2. An accounting issue relating the Griffin Green Housing Development did require some additional time and required the re-statement of some prior period accounts however this is a one-off issue that will not affect future audits. Whilst there were no major issues of concern with the conduct of the audit. There are some continuing areas that staff will work to improve upon in order to complete future year ends as timely and efficiently as possible.

RECOMMENDATION

Council adopt the 2023/24 Annual Financial Reports and associated Auditor's Reports as presented.

REPORT

Council's Annual Financial Reports are made up of the following reports:

- (a) General Purpose Financial Reports;
- (b) Special Purpose Financial Reports; and
- (c) Special Schedules.

The Financial Reports presented have been audited and comply with the following:

- (a) The Local Government Act, 1993 and the Regulations made thereunder;

- (b) Australian Accounting Standards and professional pronouncements; and
- (c) The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

The Financial Reports were received by the Office of Local Government prior to the revised deadline of 15 February 2025.

A copy of the full 2023/24 Annual Financial Statements has been provided to Councillors under separate cover.

General Purpose Financial Reports

The Financial Reports provided to Council are a Consolidated Report incorporating the Ordinary, Waste, Water and Sewer Funds.

Council has 100% ownership and control of Griffith Health Facilities Limited which is a company established for the primary purpose of raising community funds which are to be utilised for the planning, design, construction and ongoing capital maintenance of the Griffith Community Private Hospital. The results of this entity have been consolidated into Council's Financial Statements and are disclosed in Note D-2.

Council's ownership interest in the Western Riverina Library (a joint venture) is disclosed in Note D2-2 and share of assets and profit/(loss) are consolidated into Council's Financial Statements.

Special Purpose Financial Reports

The special purpose financial reports provide a detailed break-up of the Water and Sewer Funds, which are business units of Council. The Special Purpose Financial Reports have been drawn up in accordance with the following:

- Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.
- Applicable Australian Accounting Standards.
- NSW Government Policy Statement "Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government".
- Office of Local Government guidelines "Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality".
- The Local Government Act, 1993 and Regulations.
- The NSW Office of Water Best-Practice Management of Water and Sewerage Guidelines.

Special Schedules

The Special Schedules of Council have not been audited by the Audit Office of NSW as this is not a requirement.

Council has met its National Competition Policy (NCP) requirements as can be seen in the Special Purpose Financial Reports and Special Schedules.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL POSITION

1. Operating Result

A consolidated operating surplus of \$596K before capital amounts was recorded in the 2023/24 financial year. This was made up of the following results by fund:

Fund	Actual \$ '000	Budget \$ '000	Variance \$ '000	Notes
General	(\$4,623)	(\$3,765)	(\$858)	Actual column incl Waste Fund surplus \$1.37M
Water	\$2,243	\$1,890	\$353	
Sewer	\$2,976	\$1,963	\$1,013	
Total	\$596	\$88	\$508	

Whilst the consolidated operating result is favourable to budget, it should be noted there are a number of major contributing factors for these variances:

- timing differences for receiving income and incurring operational expenditure compared to the budget;
- the recognition of grant income as prescribed by accounting standards; and
- accounting treatment of Griffin Green Housing Project and the timing of receiving financial grants and contributions in prior years that needed to be re-stated and aligned with required accounting standards that resulted in a material impairment (non-cash) being recognised in the 2023/24 year.

It is important to note that the result in the General Fund is a significant deficit position that needs to be rectified in future years in order for Council to remain financially viable.

An analysis of the General Fund's actual result is as follows:

General Fund

The operating result for the General Fund was a deficit of (\$4.623M). This was \$0.86M worse than budget. The key factor that impacted this result:

- Other expenses – Write-down of inventories held for resale. In relation to the Griffin Green Housing Project, Council received grant funding or recognised contributions towards the project in prior years (2021/22 & 2022/23) as income and also recognised the construction costs of the project as an asset in its Balance Sheet in accordance with accounting standards. The accounting treatment required in the 2023/24 accounts needed to reflect the latest carrying value of the asset upon settlement with Argyle Housing with a balance of \$4.9M required on settlement therefore the impairment reflects the receipt of over \$6.0M from grants and contributions received in previous years. The accounting treatment in the 2023/24 accounts recognises this impairment and the re-statement of prior year's funds received which is the major reason for the deficit result in the General Fund. It is important to note that the impairment entry is non-cash related.

The surplus generated by the Waste Fund was \$1.37M, this was slightly better than the budget of \$1.17M.

When assessing the financial performance of the General Fund the surplus from the Waste Fund should be added back.

Once these adjustments are made it is clear the long-term sustainability of the General Fund needs to be addressed, hence the process Council took to apply for a Special Rate Variation with tranche one implemented in the 2024/25 year and the second tranche being included in the 2025/26 budget with these directly needed to provide future sustainability to the General Fund.

Water Fund

The operating result for the Water Fund was a surplus of \$2.24M. This was \$353K above budget. This variance is primarily related to more normalised potable water usage given drier

and hotter weather through the July to December 2024 period as residents consumed or used more water.

The result is primarily due to:

- Higher investment returns of \$605K above budget
- Revenue from the sale of potable water of (\$473K) lower than budget
- Materials & Contracts expenditure of \$318K lower than budget.

Sewer Fund

The operating result for the Sewer Fund was a surplus of \$2.976M. This was \$1,013M above budget. The major contributing factors to this variance were:

- Annual Charges were \$259K above budget
- User fees & charges were \$249K above budget
- Better than forecast investment returns being \$473K above budget
- Employee Costs were \$166K below budget.

Summary

The effect of higher levels of inflation as well as compliance with annual employee wages under the local government award continues to add pressure on operating results, which will ultimately lead to reduced net cashflow generation. Council will need to retain strong control on all areas of expenditure to manage cash reserves along with implementing the second tranche of the SRV in the 2025/26 year which will assist in closing the revenue gap required to maintain the General Fund in a financially sustainable level into the future.

When assessing the long-term financial sustainability of Council's operations, it is important to consider the results by each Fund, as well as the Consolidated position.

2. BORROWING COSTS AND DEBT SERVICING

Council did not take up any new loans throughout the 2023/24 financial year.

On a cash flow basis, loan principal of \$3.1M was repaid during the year along with a further \$1.0M in interest charges. Total loan liabilities at 30 June 2024 were \$30M.

Significant borrowings taken up by Council in recent years will need ongoing servicing. Fortunately, Council had the foresight to lock in these loans at a fixed rate while the cost of debt was well below the long-term average. These loans relate to:

- Water Reclamation Plant (Sewer Fund)
- CBD Redevelopment (General Fund)
- Griffith Regional Sports Centre (General Fund)
- Griffith Regional Aquatic Centre - 50m pool (General Fund)
- Griffin Green Infrastructure (General Fund)
- Collina Infrastructure (General Fund).

The above loans expire between 2029 and 2031. Approximately 50% of the debt is in the General Fund and serviceability will need to be managed carefully so that these can be adequately serviced whilst maintaining a satisfactory level of working capital which is why the Special Rate Variation is recommended to be fully implemented in 2025/26.

3. CASH ON HAND, INVESTMENTS AND RESERVES

Council experienced an increase in Cash Assets and Investments for the 2023/24 financial year. Cash and Investments increased from \$75.3M at 30 June 2023 to \$81.5M at 30 June 2024.

While cash on hand increased, consideration needs to be given to the advance payment of the Financial Assistance Grant for \$6.4M received in June 2024.

As at the 30 June 2024 the balance for unrestricted funds in the General Fund was \$139K, up from \$133KM at 30 June 2023. This will result in no additional funds being allocated to Internal Reserves from the 2023/24 years results.

The amounts in reserve are as follows:

External Reserves	2023/24	2022/23
Reserve Name	Closing Balance \$ '000	Closing Balance \$ '000
Developer Contributions - General	7,064	5,769
Developer Contributions - Water	9,938	8,088
Developer Contributions - Sewer	6,274	5,052
Specific Purpose Unexpended Grants/Cont's - General	6,586	7,423
Specific Purpose Unexpended Loans - General	-	558
Water Supply Fund	25,046	23,084
Sewer Supply Fund	17,228	15,184
Stormwater Management	794	758
Griffith Community Private Hospital	1	1
Total External Restrictions	72,931	65,917
Internal Reserves		
Reserve Name	Closing Balance \$ '000	Closing Balance \$ '000
Employee Leave Entitlements	2,338	2,231
Waste Management	4,729	4,512
Griffith Health Facilities Ltd	23	22
St Vincent's Private Community Hospital (Sinking Fund)	68	229
Major Projects (CBD & Sports Precinct)	276	1,311
Parks & Gardens	169	161
Griffith Community Centre – Sinking Fund	21	20
Pioneer Park Strategic Reserve	104	100
New Art Gallery Building	109	104
Floodplain & Drainage Mitigation	584	558
Total Internal Restrictions	8,421	9,248
Unrestricted Cash Available		
Reserve Name	Closing Balance \$'000	Closing Balance \$'000
Unrestricted Cash Available	139	133
Total Unrestricted Cash	139	133
Total Reserves at 30 June 2024	81,491	75,298

Council will need to carefully manage unrestricted and internally restricted cash reserves, particularly given the Federal Government has made advanced payments for the FA Grants since 2016/17. This may not continue in the future and for the 2023/24 year the forward payment was reduced to 75% of the FAG grant payable.

Council will also need to be prudent with future capital expenditure in the General Fund using own / unrestricted funds. The deterioration of the General Fund's operating position continues to place a significant strain on reserves to ensure they are fully cash backed.

4. INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT (IPPE)

Council incurred \$31.4M of payments for capital works in 2023/24. \$18.1M of this expenditure was for renewal of existing assets and the balance for additions of new assets. Major capital expenditure related to Roads, Buildings, Plant and Water supply network infrastructure.

The net carrying amount for Council IPPE is \$1,003B. The major categories are:

Asset Category	\$ M
Roads	358
Water	172
Sewer	136
Buildings	107
Stormwater	68

5. PERFORMANCE RATIOS

Operating Performance Ratio

This ratio measures how well Council contained operating expenditure within operating revenue (excluding capital grants / contributions and revaluations). In 2023/24, the operating performance ratio decreased to 0.50% (2022/23: 10.9%). This is attributable to the impairment on Griffin Green Housing stock which is a one-off event that will not impact future performance. The result still exceeds the OLG benchmark of >0.00%.

Own Source Operating Revenue Ratio

This ratio measures fiscal flexibility and the degree to which it relies on external funding sources such as operating grants & contributions. In 2023/24, the own source revenues increased slightly to 64.5% (2022/23 62.1%). This ratio remains just above the minimum 60% benchmark set by the Office of Local Government (OLG).

Unrestricted Current Ratio

This ratio assesses the adequacy of working capital and the ability to satisfy short term Obligations as they fall due. This ratio has been relatively stable over the last 5 years however as a result of re-classifying Council owned HS water allocations from a current asset to Intangibles (even though the entitlements can be sold at any time in an active market) the ratio has declined to 1.34x for 2023/24 and the re-stated figure for 2022/23 was 1.16x. The minimum benchmark set by the OLG is 1.50x therefore it will be important to improve this ratio moving forward so that adequate levels of working capital are always available. It is expected that this ration will improve to above benchmark in the 2024/25 year.

Debt Service Ratio Cover

This ratio measures the operating cash to service debt including interest, principal and lease payments. In 2023/24 Council's ratio was 4.51x (2022/23 was 6.36x) with both years comfortably above the OLG benchmark minimum of 2.0x.

Rates, Annual Charges, Interest & Extra Charges Outstanding Percentage

This ratio assesses the impact of uncollected rates and annual charges on Council's liquidity and the adequacy of recovery efforts. This ratio is impacted by the timing of Council's 3rd Trimester Water/Sewer billing which is billed in June annually, but is not due for payment until July. In 2023/24 Council's ratio was 9.71% (2022/23 8.34%) with both under the OLG Benchmark of 10%.

Cash Expense Cover Ratio

This liquidity ratio indicates the number of months Council can continue paying for its immediate expenses without additional cash inflow. In 2023/24 Council's Cash Expense Cover Ratio was 10.58 months (2022/23 was 10.11 months) with both years well above the OLG benchmark of greater than 3 months.

Finally, I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to the management and staff at Council, in particular the Finance, Revenue Services and Asset Management staff, who have worked diligently on preparing the financial information and reports in order to have them completed accurately and lodged on time.

OPTIONS

No other options to note, as it is a requirement for Council to adopt the audited annual financial accounts when presented.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

These results maintain Council's "Fit for the Future" status and continues a strong financial performance built up over the past several years.

LEGAL/STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

In accordance with Section 419 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

419 Presentation of Council's Financial Reports

- a) A Council must present its audited financial reports, together with the auditor's reports, at a meeting of the council held on the date fixed for the meeting.
- b) The Council's auditor may attend the meeting at which the financial reports are presented.
- c) A Council's auditor who carries out the functions of the auditor under an appointment by the Auditor-General must attend the meeting at which the financial reports are presented if the council gives not less than seven (7) days' notice in writing that it requires the auditor to do so.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 3.2 Ensure Council's financial sustainability through effective financial management that is transparent and accountable.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

Finance Manager

Council's External Auditor – Audit Office of NSW

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) GCC Annual Financial Statements Public Notice Presentation of Financial Statements (under separate cover) [⇒](#)
- (b) Griffith City Council - Financial Statements - 2023-24 (under separate cover) [⇒](#)

CLAUSE	CL02
PROPOSAL	DA 167/2024 - MULTI-DWELLING DEVELOPMENT - CONSTRUCTION OF TWO NEW TWO-STOREY DWELLINGS AND RETENTION OF THE EXISTING DWELLING
PROPERTY	23 School Street – Lot 1503 DP 751709 and Lot 7301 DP 1152958 Crown Reserve for Drainage
LOCATION	Hanwood
ZONING	RU5 Village
APPLICABLE PLANNING INSTRUMENT	Griffith Local Environmental Plan, 2014
EXISTING DEVELOPMENT	Dwelling House
APPLICANT	Ryan Colpo – Colpo Builders
OWNER	Robert & Elaine Dal Bon
DIRECTORS OF COMPANYNA (IF APPLICABLE)	
APPLICATION DATE	1 November 2024
REASON FOR REFERRAL FROM TRIM REF	Submissions received objecting to DA Pat Ngwira, Senior Development Assessment Planner 25/9918

SUMMARY

Proposal

- An application has been received for the construction of two x two storey units in the rear yard of an existing dwelling house – 23 School Street Hanwood, with access from Ash Street.
- The proposed development is consistent with the objectives of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, applicable State Environmental Planning Policies and the *Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014*.
- The proposal also complies with the applicable development controls in the *Griffith Residential Development Control Plan 2020* (as amended).
- Council accepted this application on 1 November 2024 and notified it between 18th of November and 2nd of December 2024. Two submissions in objection were received during the notification period.
- The application has been referred to the Ordinary Meeting of Council on the basis of submissions in objection.
- It is recommended that the *Multi dwelling housing development – two new two-storey dwellings and retention of the existing single storey dwelling* at 23 School Street, Hanwood (Lot 1503 DP 751709) application be approved subject to conditions based on the details contained in the report.

Type of Development

Local Development

Main Issues

Submissions were received during the notification period objecting to the proposed development.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) Griffith City Council as the consent authority pursuant to section 4.16 of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979, approve Development Application 167/2024 over 23 School Street Hanwood (Lot 1503 DP 751709) and adjacent Crown Reserve 7301 DP 1152958 (for access and drainage), for a multi-dwelling development including the construction of two new two storey dwellings, subject to conditions.**
- (b) Development Application 167/2024 be delegated to the Planning & Environment Manager for the preparation and issue of the Notice of Determination.**

In accordance with the Local Government Act (section 375A - Recording of voting on planning matters) Council must record the Councillors' votes in relation to this matter.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is a corner lot located on the northern side of School Street and eastern side of Ash Street approximately 200 m from Hanwood Public School. The land has an area of 955 m² with a frontage to School and Ash Streets of 24 and 42 metres respectively, has a depth of approximately 20 metres and currently contains a single storey dwelling. The site can be accessed via a concrete driveway off School Street. A Crown drainage channel (vested in Council) runs along the Ash Street frontage (Lot 7301 DP 1152958).

The site is generally flat and void of vegetation. The locality is located within Hanwood Village with surrounding land uses predominantly residential. The character of the precinct is a mixture of single residential dwellings with some dual and multiple dwelling and dual occupancy infill development. The style of dwellings in the locality are a mixture of housing styles of fibro, weatherboard, or brick construction. Figure 1 below gives the aerial view of the subject site and the surrounds.

LOCATION MAP



Figure 1 - site location - 23 School Street Hanwood

BACKGROUND

Site History

The development history of the subject site has been established following research of Council’s electronic data management system and research of Council’s physical archives. Based on the information available the following can be established:

- A previous building consent for construction of the existing dwelling (BA274/78) was granted on 25 August 1978. Addition of a garage to the existing dwelling with a total area of 60 m² was approved on 15 April 1981 (BA117/81).

Timeline of Events Pertaining to the Development Application

01/11/2024 – DA Lodgement via NSW Planning Portal – fees paid

07/11/2024 – DAP – referral of application:

Building Surveyor – responded 08/11/2024.

Development Engineers – responded 11/11/2024.

Street Numbering – responded 19/11/2024.

Engineering Design & Approvals Manager (for Flood Report) – responded 02/12/2024.

- 18/11/2024 – Notification of application undertaken and closed on 02/12/2024 – two submissions objecting to DA received.
- 10/12/2024 – Submissions uploaded to portal for applicant to address. Response received 14/01/2024.
- 22/01/2024 – Application assessment completed & preparation of Business paper undertaken.

Days with Council: 117 days to Council business meeting 25 February 2025.

PROPOSAL IN DETAIL

The applicant intends to construct two double storey buildings on the site, with the existing single dwelling house which is located on the site to be retained (refer to **Figure 2** below for Site Plan).

The proposal is therefore classified as a multi-dwelling housing development which is defined in the Griffith Local Environmental Plan, 2014 (GLEP) as:

3 or more dwellings (whether attached or detached) on one lot of land, each with access at ground level, but does not include a residential flat building.

The proposed attached units of the multi-dwelling development will share a new vehicle crossover to Ash Street and each unit will have a single car garage plus a tandem car space in front of the garage. The ground floor of each unit includes laundry with a water closet (w.c), living area, kitchen and sitting area connecting to an outdoor area and private open space area. The upper level includes two bedrooms each with their own en-suite. The existing dwelling unit has four (4) bedrooms and will continue to gain access from School Street. This access is formed to Council's standards. The existing dwelling unit has a double garage.

The proposal includes the planting of trees and the establishment of open space areas for the units and a garden bed. The application also seeks to use Lot 1503 DP 751709, an adjacent Crown drainage reserve located between the site and Ash Street for access and drainage purposes.

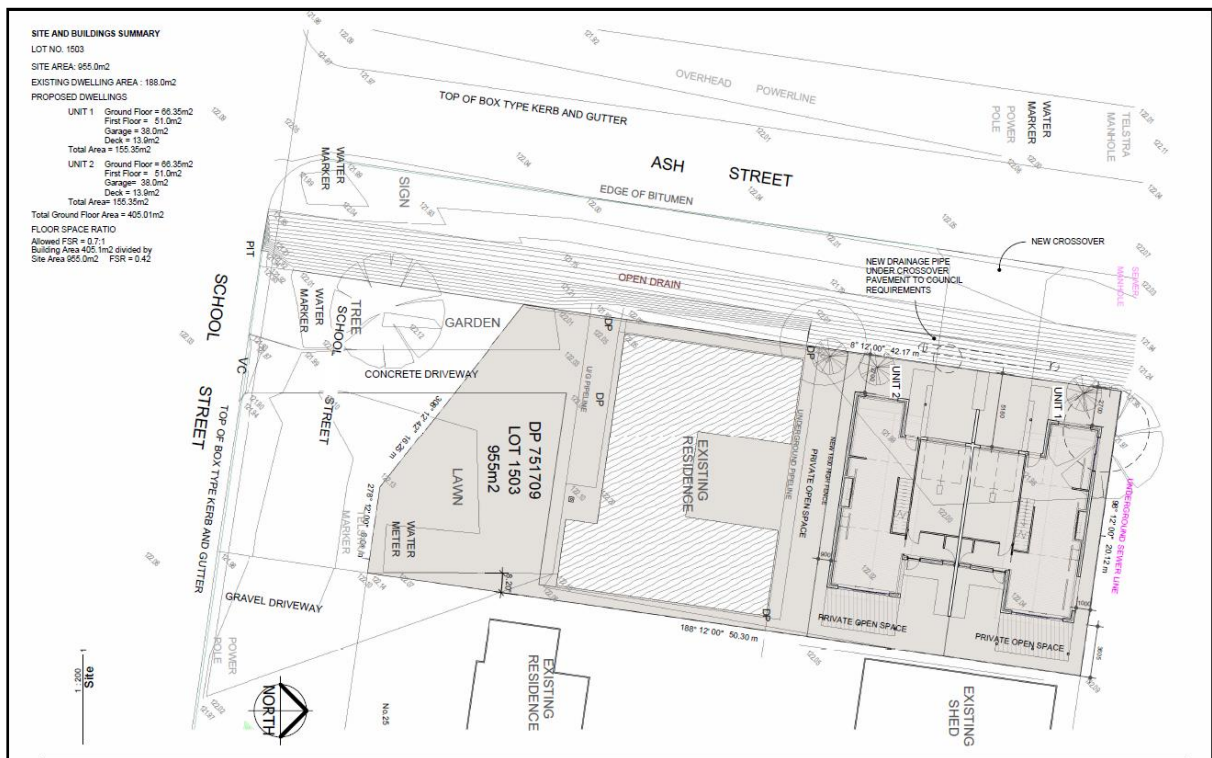


Figure 2 - Site Plan of the development (with dual occupancy in black, Source: Common Material)

ASSESSMENT UNDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT 1979

In determining a development application, a consent authority is to take into consideration Section 4.15 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979. The full assessment report is provided as **Attachment E**, however following matters are of relevance:

SECTION 4.15 (1)(a)(i) any environmental planning instrument

Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014

The proposed development is for construction of a double storey dual occupancy on the site on which there is an existing single dwelling house to be retained and this falls under the definition of **multi dwelling housing** in the Dictionary of *Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014*, which is defined as:

multi dwelling housing means 3 or more dwellings (whether attached or detached) on one lot of land, each with access at ground level, but does not include a residential flat building.

The subject land is zoned RU5 Village and under Part 2 Land Use Table of *Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014* a **multi dwelling housing** is development that can only be permitted with the consent of Council as it is neither permitted without consent nor prohibited. On this basis the proposed development is considered permissible.

The objectives for Zone RU5 Village set down in the Land Use Table are as follows:

- To provide for a range of land uses, services and facilities that are associated with a rural village.
- To enable development that will not hinder the future expansion of the village.

- *To provide for a range of land uses, services and facilities that are associated with a rural village.*

The proposed development is not an urban sprawl but promotes the residential uses and it does not create land uses conflict. The proposal also contributes to meeting the housing needs of the Hanwood community. For these reasons, the proposed multi dwelling housing is considered to be consistent with the aims and objectives of the Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014 and those applicable objectives of the RU5 Zone.

SECTION 4.15 (1)(a)(iii) any development control plan

Griffith Residential Development Control Plan 2020 is the relevant development control plan for this application and there are no variations to any of the controls under this policy which need to be addressed. The assessment report in whole is provided as **Attachment E** to this business paper

SECTION 4.15 (1) (d) any submissions made in accordance with the Act or the Regulations

The provisions of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* and *Griffith Community Participation Plan* set down consultation, concurrence and advertising requirements for specific types of development applications and taking into consideration any submissions received in response to the notification process.

As a result of the public participation process, Council received two (2) submissions in response to the notification of the development application (**see Attachment C**). The applicant prepared a response to the concerns raised over the two (2) submissions (**see Attachment D**). A summary of the concerns raised over the two submissions have been detailed in the below Table and how the applicant has addressed each of the concerns.

Submission	
ISSUE	Submitters' Objections, Applicant's Response & Council Assessment
Loss of privacy	<p>Submitters object on the basis that the proposed development includes second-storey windows from two residences that directly overlook a backyard and two bathrooms. This intrusion into the private spaces is significant and unacceptable.</p> <p><i>Applicant's Response:</i></p> <p><i>The submissions raise concerns with the proposed building height, and concerns for privacy loss. The Village precinct height controls specify a maximum height of 9m; the proposed development proposes a height of 6.81m from ground to the ridgeline. Further, the Griffith Residential Development Control Plan 2020 specifies the following criteria relating to privacy, of which it is noted the proposed design achieves and exceeds:</i></p> <p><i>4.9 Visual And Acoustic Privacy – Controls:</i></p> <p><i>a) Dwellings or additions should be designed so that windows, balconies and decks are not situated directly opposite windows of primary rooms (living, kitchen, dining) of any adjoining dwellings, unless privacy issues can be addressed.</i></p> <p><i>b) Habitable room windows of adjacent dwellings within a distance of 9 m;</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>should be offset to limit views between windows; or</i> • <i>should have sill heights of 1.7 m above floor level, or should have fixed translucent glazing in any part of the window within 1.7 m of the floor level; or</i> • <i>Should use other means to obscure the view between windows.</i> <p><i>The proposed development is sited well over 9m from the adjoining dwellings at 21 and 25 School Street. The proposal presents limited opportunities for a loss of privacy of adjoining properties, and no balconies have been incorporated into the design. The image provided in the submission of the yard at 21 School Street is not a true representation of any likely views from the proposed dwellings; the included photo is taken directly looking over the fence from the road reserve adjoining that property. The proposed dwellings will be over 20m distance from this property. Given that the first floor is the two bedrooms and ensuites, the privacy of the occupants is likely desired to be protected. It is also noted that the proposed dwellings are not directly in line with the dwellings at 21 & 25 School Street. It is noted that the NSW Planning Principles for privacy hold overlooking from bedrooms as less significant than overlooking from living areas.</i></p> <p><u>Council Officer's Assessment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is noted that the dwellings at 21 and 25 School Street are directly opposite and adjacent to the existing dwelling units on 21 School Street respectively. The attached two-storey dual occupancy will overlook the outbuildings on the two sites (refer Figure 1 above in this report); • The second floors of each proposed dual occupancy contain the bedrooms rather than main living areas, which are at ground level; • Based on these facts it is considered that the proposed development will have minimal impact on the loss of privacy.
<p>Overlooking, height and amenity impacts</p>	<p>Submitters object on the basis that the proposed multi dwelling housing development, especially the attached double storey building component will create a direct line of sight into areas of the property adjacent and across the streets. As such, this proposed development will diminish reasonable enjoyment of the homes and backyards as it lacks adequate measures to mitigate the impacts.</p> <p><u>Applicant's Response:</u> <i>The submissions raise concerns with the proposed building height, and concerns for privacy loss. The Village precinct height controls specify a maximum height of 9m; the proposed development proposes a height of 6.81m from ground to the ridgeline.</i></p> <p><u>Council Officer's Assessment:</u></p> <p>According to Clause 3.16 in the <i>Griffith Residential Development Control Plan 2020</i>, Griffith's villages are important residential settings which offer alternative settings to the urban areas and strategically placed multi-dwelling housing are supported.</p> <p>Hanwood is located in close proximity to employment generating rural industries with large work forces. Locating diverse housing options in</p>

	<p>these villages to support workers including multi dwelling housing should be promoted.</p> <p>Furthermore, and as stated in the Applicant's response above the proposed development meets the maximum height requirement. For these reasons, it is considered that the height of the attached two-storey unit building is not an issue, the location is suitable and the design is adequate to minimise adverse visual amenity impacts as the plans will form part of the conditions package should the Council approve the proposed development.</p>
<p>Negative impact on appeal of village lifestyle</p>	<p>Submitters object on the basis that a two-storey unit building will conflict with the established character of the neighbourhood where single-storey residences predominantly provide a sense of openness and privacy. Such two-storey development will set a precedent for further intrusive developments in the area. Submitters note that there are no similar two-storey dwellings in the surrounding precinct.</p> <p><i>Applicant's Response:</i></p> <p><i>The proposed development contributes to achieving the desired future character for the Hanwood Village Precinct by providing a multi-dwelling housing development. The GRDCP202 specifies for villages: Infill development in the villages should be supported, including strategically placed multi-dwelling housing. Secondary dwellings should also be supported to increase densities and support population increase in the Villages. Yenda, Hanwood and Bilbul are all located in close proximity to employment generating rural industries with large work forces. Locating diverse housing options in these villages to support workers including boarding houses, multi-dwelling housing and secondary dwellings should be promoted.</i></p> <p><i>Currently the streetscape of Ash Street at the subject site consists of extended Zinacalume® fencing, and overgrown grasses on the road reserve and drainage channel. The proposed development is expected to be an improvement to the streetscape of Ash Street. The subject property and the location is an appropriate site for a development as is proposed.</i></p> <p><u>Council Officer's Assessment:</u></p> <p>On the basis that the proposed multi dwelling housing development is consistent with the character expected of the villages and compliant with the village controls it is considered that the proposed development will have minimal negative impact on appeal of village lifestyle.</p>
<p>Legal access to Ash Street</p>	<p>Submitters object on the basis that the subject site (Lot 1503 DP 751709, 23 School Street) has no legal access to Ash Street due to the presence of Crown land which is between the site and Ash Street.</p> <p><i>Applicant's Response:</i></p>

	<p><i>It is our understanding that an access to Ash Street over a drainage channel is permitted, similar to other properties in Hanwood. An easement for access can be established if necessary, for legal access to Ash Street.</i></p>
	<p><u>Council's Assessment:</u></p> <p>Lot 7301 DP1152958 (Ash Street) is Reserve Land for the purposes of Urban Services. Council has the vested power to give owners consent on behalf of Crown Land for properties of this nature as a trustee.</p> <p>Landowner's consent has been provided by Council for this application to include Lot 7301 DP1152958. Murrumbidgee Irrigation has an interest in this drainage channel. For this reason, the proposed development is also conditioned (if approved by Council) to obtain and submit to Council, written approval from Murrumbidgee Irrigation prior to the issue of the occupation Certificate.</p>
<p>Increased flood risk</p>	<p>Submitters object on the basis that the proposed development will generate additional stormwater runoff, thus the drainage channel may not have the capacity to handle the increased water volume from the proposed development. The overwhelming of the channel may cause localised flooding for the surrounding properties.</p> <p><u>Applicant's Response:</u></p> <p><i>It's "... noted that an Onsite Detention System will be required to be developed for the site in accordance with Council's Onsite Detention LOCAL POLICY – CS-CP-404. The primary aim of the OSD policy is to ensure that new developments and redevelopments do not increase the volume or peak discharge of run-off within a catchment. This system would be designed by an appropriately qualified engineer, post consent".</i></p> <p><u>Council's Assessment:</u></p> <p>The proposed development will be conditioned that all stormwater runoff be directed to Council's street system via the on-site detention system for disposal should Council approve the development. The design and details including hydraulic calculations will have to be submitted to Council for approval.</p> <p>Council's Development Engineers have advised that the subject site is not located within the flood planning area and not within flood prone land for the 1% Annual Exceedance (AEP) event.</p> <p>However, the proposed development will be conditioned requiring provision of on-site detention which will limit stormwater runoff from the proposed development to pre-development flows should Council approve the development.</p>
<p>Inconsistencies in the Statement of Environmental Effects (SOEE)</p>	<p>There is inconsistency in relation the size of the garage space for each of the units. Site Plan indicates a single car space for each unit while the SOEE says a double garage is provided for each of the two units.</p>

<p>Report</p>	<p><i>Applicant's Response:</i></p> <p><i>We wish to clarify that the parking for the proposed development is via an attached single car garage for each unit. It is noted that 2-bedroom units in the village zone require 1.5 spaces per dwelling, with the development requiring 3 spaces. Should tandem parking be included in the calculation, the development can provide parking for 4 vehicles, which exceeds the 3 required. Appendix 1 Griffith Parking Code, of the GRDCP2020 allows for tandem parking/vehicle stacking in the following instance:</i></p> <p><i>3.2.3 vehicle stacking (tandem parking)</i></p> <p><i>- A) the provision of tandem parking, that is parking of a vehicle directly behind another vehicle, where access to the parking space is via the end of the space, is generally not included for the purpose of tallying car space numbers, except for:</i></p> <p><i>i. Single dwellings and residential units where one space may be provided in front of a garage or carport for every residence or unit.</i></p> <p><u>Council's Assessment:</u></p> <p>The submission is correct as is confirmed by the applicant in stating that each unit provides a single car garage. However, the proposal has the potential to provide tandem parking which is in accordance with Clause 3.2.3(a)(i) in Appendix 1 of the <i>Griffith Residential Development Control Plan 2020</i> (as amended). The above Clause supports the provision of parking of a vehicle directly behind another vehicle for single dwellings and residential units where one space is provided in front of a garage for every residence or unit. On the basis of this analysis, it is considered that the submitter's concerns have been addressed and the tandem parking will be sufficient measure to satisfy the requirement.</p>
<p>Overall observation</p>	<p>One submitter is not opposed to development applications in the Village of Hanwood but they both request that Council consider all of their concerns by either refusing this application or requiring the applicant to make substantial changes. They have suggested some mitigation measures (refer to Attachment C).</p> <p><i>Applicant's Response:</i></p> <p><i>We understand that the neighbours are concerned with change in their neighbourhood, however we are of the opinion that the proposal would provide minimal opportunities for views from the proposed bedroom windows, and privacy would not be reduced as a result of these proposed dwellings. The proposal is consistent with the desired future character for the Hanwood Village precinct.</i></p> <p><u>Council's Assessment:</u></p> <p>Having reviewed the submissions and the applicant's response; it has been assessed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the proposed development is consistent with the aims and objectives of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and its corresponding Regulation, applicable State Environmental

	<p>Planning Policies, Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014 and the controls in the Griffith Residential Development Control Plan 2020;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the proposed multi dwelling housing has been designed to minimise impact on the loss of privacy and negative appeal of village lifestyle;• the accessway will be constructed to include a concrete culvert with concrete headwalls and guideposts to delineate the accessway;• the proposed development will be conditioned requiring provision of on-site detention which will limit stormwater runoff from the proposed development to pre-development flows;• the tandem parking will be sufficient measure to satisfy the required car parking spaces;• the proposed development should be supported because it will increase the density of housing in Hanwood which is consistent with the future character of the Village Zone. Therefore, approval of the proposed development will mean providing diverse housing options in the village which provides employment generating rural industries with large work forces; and• the proposed development is assessed and recommended to be approved on its own merit and not in comparison with other developments which might have been previously refused or approved by Council.
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SECTION 4.15 (1) (e) the public interest

The provisions of section 4.15(1)(e) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 provides an overarching requirement to take into account the public interest. It is considered that the public interest is best served by the consistent application of the requirements of the relevant Commonwealth and State government legislation, environmental planning instruments, development control plan, Council policy, and by Council ensuring that any adverse effects on the surrounding area and the environmental are avoided.

On the basis that the proposed development is considered to be consistent with the aims and objectives of Griffith Land Use Strategy: Beyond 2030; Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014 and other relevant environmental planning instruments, development control plans or policies; and Land and Environment Court Planning Principles, it is therefore unlikely to raise any issues that are contrary to the public interest.

In light of this comprehensive assessment, it can be concluded that the proposed development is unlikely to give rise to any issues that are contrary to the public interest. The development plan adheres to the highest standards of responsible land use and development, and as such, it is expected to benefit the community by providing additional housing needs and necessary infrastructure.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

As per the Recommendation.

OPTION 2

Refusal to grant consent for reasons provided by Council.

OPTION 3

Any other resolution of Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This proposal doesn't include any policy variations, and there are no adverse policy implications for Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no adverse financial implications for Council through adopting the recommendation. If the application were to be refused, the applicant or owner has the lawful ability to pursue an appeal through the Land & Environment Court.

LEGAL/STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

There are no reasonably anticipated legal or statutory implications for Council through adopting the recommendation.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no reasonably anticipated adverse environmental implications through supporting the proposal.

COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

There are not considered to be any adverse impacts for the wider community in supporting this application. The proposal complies with Council's Development Control Plan and Housing Strategy.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 7.1 Encourage respectful planning, balanced growth and sustainable design.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team, Director Sustainable Development, Planning and Environment Manager, Acting Development Assessment Coordinator, Building Services Coordinator, Environmental Health Coordinator, Engineering Designs & Approvals Manager, Applicant and the Community through the Community Participation Plan.

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) DA 167/2024 - Draft Conditions (under separate cover) [⇒](#)
- (b) DA 167/2024 - Public Application Documents (under separate cover) [⇒](#)
- (c) DA 167/2024 - Combined Submissions (under separate cover) [⇒](#)
- (d) DA 167/2024 - Response to Submissions (under separate cover) [⇒](#)
- (e) DA 167/2024 - Assessment Report (under separate cover) [⇒](#)

CLAUSE	CL03
TITLE	Review of Solar Energy Farms and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Policy
FROM	Carel Potgieter, Planning & Environment Manager
TRIM REF	25/11682

SUMMARY

The Griffith Solar Energy Farms and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Policy was endorsed at an Ordinary Meeting of Council on 23 July 2024. As part of the endorsement it was resolved that Council review the Solar Energy Farms and Battery Energy Storage Systems Policy within three (3) months of the new Council term. The purpose of this report is to permit the review of the policy by the new elected Council.

RECOMMENDATION

Council note this report and not amend the Solar Energy Farms and Battery Energy Storage Systems Policy.

REPORT

The Griffith Solar Energy Farms and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Policy was endorsed by Council on 24 July 2024. The policy provides potential applicants with:

- Considerations for site selection.
- Mandatory assessment requirements including a detailed list of technical studies and plans to submit with a development application.
- Stringent development controls around the siting, design and environmental safeguards required for solar farms and BESS developments.
- Standard conditions of consent pertaining to hazards and risk associated with BESS and financial assurances for rehabilitation of a site at the end of the lifespan of a solar farm.

The Policy applies to all new development applications for electricity generating works involving solar photovoltaic systems (solar farms) with a capacity of more than 1.0 MW which are not co-located with a large-scale electricity user such as an industry. The policy also applies to all development applications for electricity generating works involving Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). The policy does not apply to electricity generating works which can be installed under State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 or State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development) 2008 as exempt or complying development.

Solar farm and BESS developments are considered forms of electrical generating works as defined in the Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014 and State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021.

Consent Authority

The consent authority for electricity generating works varies based on the capital investment value of the development. State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021 includes triggers for Regionally significant development and State significant development:

- Regionally significant development: Electricity generating works with a Capital Investment Value (CIV) of more than \$5 million. The Regional Planning Panel is the consent authority for Regionally significant development.
- State significant development: Electricity generating works with a CIV of more than \$30 million. The Minister for Planning or delegate is the consent authority for State significant development.
- Local development: Electricity generating works with a CIV of less than \$5 million. Griffith City Council or delegate is the consent authority for local development.

Overview of the Policy and Intent

The objectives of the policy are as follows:

- To minimise potential land use conflicts.
- To ensure any visual impacts of the development are mitigated.
- To avoid the sterilisation of productive agricultural land where possible.
- To ensure that adequate provisions are made to restore developed land at the end of the life of the development including financial assurances for land owners.
- To ensure hazards and risks associated with Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) are assessed with mitigation measures (if required) proposed to avoid offsite impacts.

The policy prescriptively reflects the requirements in the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure's (DPHI) Large Scale Solar Energy Guidelines which presently only applies to State significant development (see Attachment B). The DPHI Guidelines provide the most contemporary controls relating to the assessment and determination of solar farms in NSW. As such, Council believes the use of the controls and requirements in the Guidelines for non-State significant solar farms is justified.

The Policy also includes requirements to ensure hazards and risks associated with Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) are assessed with mitigation measures (if required) proposed to avoid offsite impacts. To this end, during the drafting of the policy Council discussed the issue with the Hazards section of DPHI and FRNSW including reviewing the Large-scale external lithium-ion battery energy storage systems – Fire safety study considerations (Fire and Rescue NSW, 2023) (see Attachment C). Council has recommended the preparation of a Preliminary Hazard Analysis (PHA) for BESS developments as well as the imposition of conditions of consent requiring a Fire Safety Study and Emergency Response Plan to be prepared.

Additional development controls are also included in the policy which restrict the location of solar farms and BESS to avoid visual impacts to neighbours and occupants of dwellings in the locality.

Finally, one of the key objectives of the policy is to avoid the use of productive agricultural land for the use of solar farms or BESS developments. To this end, Applicants are required to submit an Agricultural Impact Assessment, including:

- A detailed assessment of whether the project would significantly impact the local or regional agricultural industry, including production and supply chains.
- Justification for the project considering other alternatives which would have lesser impacts on agricultural land. Applicants must demonstrate that other project sites and siting options have been considered and state the reasons why the site and layout was chosen over alternative options.
- An analysis of whether site design could be amended to reduce impacts.
- Consideration of cumulative impacts of multiple solar energy projects on agriculture in the region.

DA 99/2024 – 5MW Distribution Battery Energy Storage System

The above noted development application was submitted to Council on 1 July 2024 during the public exhibition of the Policy. Although the Policy had not been endorsed, Council assessment officers required the Applicant to consider the Policy in their DA submission.

The Applicant's DA submission did not contain a Preliminary Hazard Analysis (PHA) to assess the hazards and risks of the proposal on surrounding land holdings and residents. To ensure the potential fire related impacts of the development were mitigated and managed in consultation with Fire and Rescue NSW and the Rural Fire Service, Council imposed a condition in accordance with the Policy requiring a Fire Safety Study and Emergency Response Plan to be prepared prior to the construction of the development. Council staff recommended approval of the proposal subject to these and other conditions.

At the 12 November 2024 Ordinary Meeting of Council the development application was formally refused.

On the 18 December 2024 the Applicant lodged a formal Appeal to the decision in the Land and Environment Court.

At the 11 February 2025 Ordinary Meeting of Council it was resolved that:

- (a) Council delegates authority to the General Manager to enter an agreement under s 34(3) Land and Environment Court Act 1979 to grant development consent to development application 99/2021(1) for a 5 MW distribution battery energy storage system at 116 Cremasco Road, Yenda generally subject to the conditions recommended in the development application assessment report and the conditions recommended by Scott Barwick in his letter of 4 February 2025; and,***
- (b) The General Manager report to a future Council Meeting the details of the agreement following negotiations under Section 34(3) Land and Environment Court Act 1979.***

Conclusions

The Policy includes detailed submission requirements to ensure any future development applications for BESS developments include a detailed PHA which can be reviewed by Council and potentially the Hazards Team at the Department of Planning or an independent hazards and risk consultant. The policy appears to be robust and it is not recommended that any amendments are made at this time.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

As per the Recommendation.

OPTION 2

Any other resolution of Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

LEGAL/STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 7.4 Improve sustainable land use.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) Attachment A - Griffith Solar Energy Farms and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Policy (under separate cover) [⇨](#)
- (b) Attachment B - NSW Planning Solar Energy Guidelines (under separate cover) [⇨](#)
- (c) Attachment C - FRNSW - Tech info sheet - Large-scale external LiBESS - Fire safety study considerations (under separate cover) [⇨](#)

CLAUSE	CL04
TITLE	Second Quarter Performance Report 2024/25 - Budget Review and Operational Plan Incorporating the December Delivery Program Progress Report
FROM	Vanessa Edwards, Finance Manager Tanya Pattison, Communications & Integrated Planning Coordinator
TRIM REF	25/12403

SUMMARY

Council is required to review its Operational Plan within two months of the end of each quarter. Council must review both its financial position and the Operational Plan Actions (Performance Indicators) adopted for 2024/25 for the quarter ended 31 December 2024. In addition, under the Office of Local Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting Requirements, Council is required to present a progress report, in respect to the principal activities detailed in the Delivery Program, every six months.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) Council note the variations to the 2024/25 original budget for the quarter ended 31 December 2024 as presented in this report.**
- (b) The Financial Review and any additional approved variations for the quarter ended 31 December 2024 be adopted.**
- (c) Council adopt the 31 December 2024 Operational Plan Review advising the extent to which the Operational Plan Actions (Performance Indicators) have been achieved.**
- (d) Council endorse minor amendments to the Organisational Structure as per this report.**

REPORT

The Operational Plan is a statutory requirement under Section 405 of the Local Government Act, 1993. It requires Council to provide information on the statement of objectives (Operational Plan Actions) and performance targets for each of its principal activities. Council is also required to review its income and expenditure each quarter under Division 3, Section 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

Each of these requirements will be dealt with as follows:

1) REVIEW OF THE OPERATIONAL PLAN ACTIONS (Performance Indicators)

Council staff have completed a review of the extent to which the Operational Plan Actions (Performance Indicators) have been achieved. This review is included as an attachment to this report, Attachment (h).

2) BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENTS AND REVISION OF ESTIMATES

The Financial Review document comprises:

- Report by the Responsible Accounting Officer at 31 December 2024.
- Income and Expense Budget Review Statement (Fund Level) at 31 December 2024.
- Income and Expense Budget Review Statement (Function Level) to 31 December 2024.
- Capital, Cash and Investments Budget Review Statement at 31 December 2024.
- Budget Review Contracts at 31 December 2024.
- Budget Review Consultancy and Legal Expenses at 31 December 2024.
- Budget Review Councillor Expenses at 31 December 2024.

REVISED OPERATING STATEMENT

The revised operating statement at 31 December 2024 currently shows an estimated surplus from operating activities before capital amounts of **\$1,192,321**. The original adopted Operational Plan for 2024/25 showed a deficit from operations before capital grants of **(\$352,317)**.

The variations requested by each manager are shown on the comparatives operating statement summary, and also on the individual program income and expenditure.

The overall review of the first six months reveals a number of operating budget variations as summarised below, compared to the original budget for 2024/25.

FUND	Original Operating Budget	September Review	December Review	Revised Operating Budget
Ordinary	(\$4,690,991)	\$841,138	\$101,157	(\$3,748,696)
Waste	\$1,241,197	\$40,000	\$0	\$1,281,197
Water	\$1,663,299	\$157,839	\$152,252	\$1,973,390
Sewer	\$1,434,178	\$0	\$252,252	\$1,686,430
TOTAL	(\$352,317)	\$1,038,977	\$505,661	\$1,192,321

*Favourable, Increase / (Unfavourable, Decrease)

ORDINARY FUND VARIATIONS

Operating revenues within the ordinary fund have increased by **+\$1,765,697** from the original budget projection.

The variations in **operating revenue** are summarised as follows:

- Rates & Annual Charges increased by **+\$4,050**
- User Charges increased by **+\$6,707**
- Operating Grants & Contributions increased by **+\$1,436,534**
- Other Operating Revenues increased by **+\$318,406**

Operating expenditure has increased by **+\$823,402** from the original budget projection.

The variations in **operating expenditure** are highlighted as follows:

- Employee Costs decreased by **-\$307,295**

- Materials & Contracts increased by **+\$1,130,631**
- Other Operating Expenses increased by **+\$66**

As detailed in the first four columns of attachment **(b)**, the General Fund is in a significant deficit position of **(\$3,748,696)** despite the first tranche of the Special Rate Variation (10.5%) being levied in the 2024/25 year. This has improved by \$940k in the first and second quarters mainly as a result of the timing in receipts of certain operating grants and contributions which is offset by an increase in materials and contracts that is tied to these funds. Whilst there will be some further likely improvements to the General Fund it is anticipated that the Fund will still be in a significant deficit position at year end. It will be important to keep working towards a breakeven or surplus result in the General Fund on the short to medium term if Council is to be in a position to continue to maintain its services at the current level and maintain community assets to a safe and acceptable standard.

WASTE FUND VARIATIONS

Operating revenues within the waste fund have increased by **+\$40,000** from the original budget projection.

The variations in **operating revenue** are summarised as follows:

- Rates & Annual Charges increased by **+\$40,000**

Operating expenditure has not changed from the original budget projection.

WATER FUND VARIATIONS

Operating revenues within the water fund have increased by **+\$350,000** from the original budget projection.

The variations in **operating revenue** are summarised as follows:

- Interest increased by **+\$350,000**

Operating expenditure has increased by **+\$39,909** from the original budget projection.

The variations in **operating expenditure** are highlighted as follows:

- Employee Costs decreased by **-\$2,252**
- Materials & Contracts increased by **+\$42,161**

SEWERAGE FUND VARIATIONS

Operating revenues within the sewer fund have increased by **+\$250,000** from the original budget projection.

The variations in **operating revenue** are summarised as follows:

- Interest increased by **+\$250,000**

Operating expenditure has decreased by **-\$2,252** from the original budget projection.

The variations in **operating expenditure** are highlighted as follows:

- Employee Costs decreased by **-\$2,252**

GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CAPITAL PURPOSES

Income from Grants and Contributions for capital purposes has increased by **+\$5,154,172** from the original budget projection of **\$9,695,525** to total **\$14,849,697**. This increase is

almost entirely related to the timing of recognising capital grants awarded in the previous financial year as the accounting standards prescribe an income and expenditure matching principle.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

There is a projected increase of **+\$11,153,603** on capital expenditure items in the December quarterly review. The original budget projected a capital spend of **\$39,222,844**. It is important to note that this increase is related to timing differences as the majority of this expenditure was budgeted in 2023/24.

Each fund is summarised as per the following:

- The Ordinary Fund increased capital expenditure by **+\$7,231,404**
- The Waste Fund increased capital expenditure by **+\$1,619,045**
- The Water Fund increased capital expenditure by **+\$1,552,778**
- The Sewer Fund increased capital expenditure by **+\$750,376**

CASH FLOW STATEMENT ANALYSIS

There is an overall reduction in cash of **-\$18,107,784** from 30 June 2024. The original budgeted decrease in cash was **-\$13,735,291**; therefore, the net result of the September and December reviews is a decrease in cash of **-\$4,372,493**. It is usual that some of the capital projects may not be completed or started during the financial year. As each quarterly review is completed, there will be adjustments to both the operating and capital expenditure that may improve the final cash balance at year end.

Outlined in the Cash Flow Statement, and summarised below, is the estimated unrestricted cash available at 30 June, 2025.

Total Cash & Investment Funds at 30/6/24 (Actual)	\$87,992,231
Decrease due to 2024/25 Operational Plan	(\$13,735,291)
Decrease from September 2024/25 Quarterly Review	(\$4,267,208)
Decrease from December 2024/25 Quarterly Review	(\$105,285)
Total Cash & Investment Funds at 30/06/25 (Estimate)	\$69,884,447

Restricted Cash Balances as at 30/6/25 (Estimate)	
Closing Externally restricted cash balance at 30/6/25	\$62,627,781
Closing Internally restricted cash balance at 30/6/25	\$3,692,000
Available (Estimated) Unrestricted Cash at 30/6/25	\$3,564,666
Total Cash & Investment Funds at 30/6/25 (Estimate)	\$69,884,447

CONCLUSION

The result of the September and December 2024/25 Quarterly Review processes has seen a total increase in the surplus of approximately **+\$1,544,638**. The revised consolidated surplus as at 31 December 2024 is forecasted to be **+\$1,192,321**.

3) ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AMENDMENTS – (Q2 2024)

1 October 2024 to 31 December 2024

Previous Position	Type of Change	Change to FTE	New Position	Reason for Change	Directorate	Date Appr.
E- planning Administrator	1.0FTE allocated utilising vacant FTE for two years	Using Vacant FTE until 2027	E-Planning Administrator	Removed from the Structure and then added back on – funded for the first two years with 0.4FTE from Customer Service and 0.6FTE from Building Surveyor	Sustainable Development	8 Oct 2024
Senior Customer Service Officer	Extending position	Nil	Senior Customer Service Officer	Position extended by 6 months	Sustainable Development	14 Oct 2024
Trades Assistant	Converting FTE to an Apprentice Journeyman Plumber	Nil	Apprentice Journeyman Plumber	Require an Apprentice Plumber in the structure	Utilities	25 Nov 2024
Assistant Civil Designer	Reallocating FTE to the Civil Designer	Nil	Civil Designer	Incumbent transferring to position as study requirements met for the Civil Designer position	Utilities	25 Nov 2024
HR & Risk Administrative Officer	Reporting line	Nil	HR& Risk Administrative Officer	Reporting directly to the Director instead of the Senior WHS & Risk Coordinator	Economic & Organisational Development	2 Dec
Draftsperson	FTE added to make a full-time position	0.2 FTE	Draftsperson	Require a full time Drafts person	Utilities	25 Nov 2025
Stormwater & Flood Engineer	Change title and provide a training pathway	Nil	Graduate Stormwater & Flood Engineer	Provide a pathway to become a Stormwater & Flood Engineer	Utilities	25 Nov 2024
5 (Apprentice / trainee	Allocating 5.0 Term	Nil	Apprentice Mechanic	Funded positions	Infrastructure & Operations	2 Dec 2024

Previous Position	Type of Change	Change to FTE	New Position	Reason for Change	Directorate	Date Appr.
positions – funded OLG	FTEs to the structure (temporary positions)		Apprentice Gardener Apprentice Welder/Boilermaker Trainee – Business Administration Support Officer Trainee – Development Assessment Planner		Sustainable Development	
Electrical Technician	Incorporating a Trainee pathway	Nil	Automation Technician Pathway	Provide Council with a second Automation Technician	Utilities	16 Dec 2024
IT Support Officer	Title change	Nil	IT Applications Administrator	Seeking a higher level specialist	Economic & Organisational Development	9 Dec 2024
Assessment Officer Casual	FTE added to the structure to make the position a permanent full-time position	1.0 FTE	Assessment Officer	Request made by incumbent and Supported by the SMT	Sustainable Development	23 Dec 2024

Position Description Reviews;

Administration Officer – Pioneer Park Museum
 ePlanning Administrator
 Development & Building Administrator
 Workforce Planning Administrator – Learning & Development
 Civil Designer
 Draftsperson
 Graduate Stormwater & Flood Engineer
 IT Applications Administrator
 IT Support Administrator

Full Time Equivalent (FTE), as per organisational structure

Date – end of qtr.	FTE (permanent, & trainees)
30/06/2024	308 (2 additional positions for Utilities 24/49045) Vacant
16/09/2024	308.2 (0.2FTE added to Business Administration Pioneer Park)
16/09/2024	308.4 (0.4FTE added to Curator position)
24/11/2024	302.4 (6 Term positions for Works have been removed – terms completed)
25/11/2024	302.6 (FTE increase of 0.2FTE for the Draftsperson)
19/12/2024	301.8 (.08FTE removed from the structure) – ePlanning term completed
30/12/2024	300.8 (Animal Rehoming Officer – term removed)
23/12/2024	301.8 (Assessment Officer 1 FTE added to the structure)

4) DELIVERY PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

In accordance with Section 404 of the Local Government Act 1993, The General Manager is required to ensure that progress reports are provided to Council with respect to the principal activities detailed in the Delivery Program at least every six months. Performance Measures are listed in Attachment (h). A summary of the significant projects completed/underway in the six months from July 2024 to December 2024 include:

Project	Progress	Expected Completion/Comments
Griffith Southern Industrial Link Road Strategy – Thorne Road 4a	Ongoing	June Qtr. 2025
Kurrajong Avenue Rehabilitation	Ongoing	June Qtr. 2025
Kookora Street / Walla Ave Roundabout	Completed	Dec Qtr. 2024
Griffith CBD Upgrade Program Yambil Street Stage 4	Ongoing	Yambil Street re-opened. Footpath areas under construction. Seating and gardens to be installed. Completed by March Qtr. 2025.
Tharbogang Waste Management Centre		
○ Quarry Floors Development	Ongoing	Gravel extraction being undertaken.
○ Existing Landfill Restoration	Ongoing	Restoration plan developed. Restoration to be undertaken in future years - \$4.8M.
Griffith Reservoir Refurbishments		
○ Griffith 9ML Reservoir Refurbish	Completed	Sep Qtr. 2024.
○ Reservoir Mural	Completed	Sep Qtr. 2024.
Boorga Road/Dickie Road Sealing	Completed Completed	Boorga Rd Mar Qtr. 2024. Dickie Rd Sep Qtr. 2024.
Hanwood Flood Pump & Levee	Ongoing	Roadworks completed December 2024. Completed March Qtr. 2025
Lake Wyangan and Catchment Rehabilitation Strategy		
○ South Lake Wyangan Water Treatment	Ongoing	18 week treatment trial completed. Supplementary treatment underway due for completion June Qtr. 2025.
○ Infrastructure Works Northwest Foreshore Recreation Area	Ongoing	Council adopted Master Plan Sep 2023. Total Budget \$2.03M. Stage 1 \$1.03M LRCIP (4) due for completion June Qtr. 2025.

Project	Progress	Expected Completion/ Comments
		Stage 2 \$1.0M Griffith City Council. Included in 2024/25 budget. Revised date for completion report to Lake Wyangan Catchment Management Committee 2025.
Memorial Garden Upgrade	Completed	Stage 1 Completed November 2024. 27 Sugar Gums removed along Railway Street. London Plane trees to be planted in May 2025.
New Cemetery Masterplan Development	Ongoing	Updated studies required. Funding required. To be further considered by the New Cemetery Committee.
Crematorium	Ongoing	Proposed installation 2025/26.
Mountain Bike Track (Abattoir Road)	Completed	Stage 1 completed. Opening held 30 May 2024. Stage 2 (\$200K, funded). Toilet amenities block completed January 2025.
Hanwood Oval Amenities	Completed	Opening held 3 Dec 2024. New change rooms, showers, referee rooms, canteen, spectator area, upgraded power supply.
CCTV Yambil Street Stages 3-4	Ongoing	20 CCTV Cameras to be installed. Completion anticipated by Mar Qtr. 2025.
Airport Runway Lighting	Ongoing	Completed by June Qtr. 2026.
Yoogali Shared Pathway - Mackay Ave	Ongoing	To be completed by Jun 2025. Bridge construction commenced. Footings completed.
Water Mains Renewal Program	Ongoing	As per Capital Works Budget.
Renewals of Gravity Sewers	Ongoing	As per Capital Works Budget.
Griffith Livestock Marketing Centre Electronic Identification Readers	Completed	Completed by Dec Qtr. 2024.
Annual Road Reseals and Maintenance Program 2024/25	Urban reseal – Completed Rural reseal – Completed Regional	Dec Qtr. 2024. Jun Qtr. 2025.

Project	Progress	Expected Completion/ Comments
	reseal – Completed	Dec Qtr. 2024.
Tharbogang Park	Ongoing	Completed by June Qtr. 2025. Project supplemented by State Government Local Small Commitment Allocation Program Grants to install shade sails.
Lake Wyangan Master Plan Implementation – Housing enabling infrastructure	Ongoing	Housing Support Program awaiting Australian Government Funding Agreement. Due for completion June Qtr. 2026.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

As per the Recommendation.

OPTION 2

Another resolution of Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As a result of the September and December 2024/25 Quarterly Review processes, the Ordinary Fund's budgeted deficit has improved by +\$942,295, the Water Fund's budgeted surplus has improved by +\$310,091, and the Waste Fund's budgeted surplus as improved by +\$40,000 and the Sewer Fund's budgeted surplus has improved by +\$252,252.

LEGAL/STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

In accordance with Section 405 of the Local Government Act, 1993.
In accordance with Division 3, Section 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation, 2021.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 3.2 Ensure Council's financial sustainability through effective financial management that is transparent and accountable.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team
Management Accountant

The majority of the source information contained in this review has been supplied by the individual managers responsible for each department or program.

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) Report by Responsible Accounting Officer at 31 December 2024 (under separate cover) [⇒](#)
- (b) Income & Expenses Budget Review Statement (Fund Level) at 31 December 2024 (under separate cover) [⇒](#)
- (c) Income & Expenses Budget Review Statement (Program Level) at 31 December 2024 (under separate cover) [⇒](#)
- (d) Capital, Cash & Investment Budget Review Statement at 31 December 2024 (under separate cover) [⇒](#)
- (e) Budget Review Contracts at 31 December 2024 (under separate cover) [⇒](#)
- (f) Budget Review Consultancy, Legal & Vandalism Expenses at 31 December 2024 (under separate cover) [⇒](#)
- (g) Budget Review Councillors Expenses at 31 December 2024 (under separate cover) [⇒](#)
- (h) Quarterly Operational Plan Review - 2024-25 - Q2 (under separate cover) [⇒](#)

CLAUSE	CL05
TITLE	Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) NSW Annual Conference 2025 - Griffith 1-3 May 2025
FROM	Shireen Donaldson, Director Economic & Organisational Development
TRIM REF	25/13787

SUMMARY

This report seeks Council's authority to nominate delegate(s) to attend the 2025 Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) - NSW Annual Conference to be hosted by Griffith City Council from 1- 3 May 2025.

ALGWA is the peak body for women in Local Government. A voluntary-run organisation, ALGWA supports both employees and elected representatives.

The 2025 ALGWA NSW Annual Conference is designed to provide training and support for councillors and staff, whether they are new to local government or have been involved in Council for a long time. It's an opportunity to learn and gain valuable insights from guest speakers along with networking with other delegates from across NSW.

Griffith City Council is proud to host this important event in 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) Council be represented at the 2025 ALGWA Conference to be held in Griffith 1-3 May 2025.**
- (b) The Mayor (or delegate), two Councillors (Councillors &) and General Manager (or delegate) attend the Conference.**
- (c) Councillor expenses to attend the Conference be paid by Council in accordance with the Councillor Expenses & Facilities Policy.**

REPORT

The Australian Local Government Women's Association NSW Branch (ALGWA) supports and promotes women in local government through advocacy, advice and action. The Annual Conference is an opportunity to come together and engage in learning and networking that will assist in personal and professional development.

Griffith City Council is proudly the host for the 2025 Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) NSW Branch Annual Conference.

As delegates will be residents of Griffith, the full Conference package per person, will not require the inclusion of Accommodation for Griffith delegates, and local travel arrangements will apply. Therefore, cost for the Conference, based on 2024 Conference is approximately \$1,100 per person (early bird rate).

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

That Council be represented at the 2025 ALGWA NSW Annual Conference as per the recommendation above.

OPTION 2

- (a) Council be represented at the 2025 ALGWA Conference to be held in Griffith 1 – 3 May 2025.
- (b) The Mayor (or delegate), one Councillor (Councillor) and General Manager (or delegate) attend the Conference.
- (c) Councillor expenses to attend the Conference be paid by Council in accordance with the Councillor Expenses & Facilities Policy.

OPTION 3

- (a) Council be represented at the 2025 ALGWA Conference to be held in Griffith 1 – 3 May 2025.
- (b) The Mayor (or delegate), Councillors (.....) and General Manager (or delegate) attend the Conference.
- (c) Councillor expenses to attend the Conference be paid by Council in accordance with the Councillor Expenses & Facilities Policy.

OPTION 4

That Council note the report and not be represented.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Councillor Expenses & Facilities Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Conference Attendance (per delegate):

- Registration (\$1,100 per delegate – early bird rate)
- Accommodation (Nil)
- Travel (Councillor travel allowance in Griffith would apply)

For four (4) delegates to attend the 2025 ALGWA Conference the total cost associated will be approximately \$4,400.

LEGAL/STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This report has relevance to the Council's Strategic Plan.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

(a) ALGWA Conference 2025 flyer [↓](#)

56

Griffith invites you to

taste the inspiration

NSW ALGWA 2025 CONFERENCE

Thursday 1 May - Saturday 3 May 2025

visitgriffith.com.au



AUSTRALIAN LOCAL
GOVERNMENT WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATION
NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH



CLAUSE	CL06
TITLE	Local Government NSW 2025 Destination and Visitor Economy Conference
FROM	Shireen Donaldson, Director Economic & Organisational Development
TRIM REF	25/13797

SUMMARY

The Local Government NSW (LGNSW) 2025 Destination and Visitor Economy Conference will be hosted by Tweed Shire Council, from Monday 26 May to Wednesday 28 May 2025. This report seeks Council authority to nominate delegate(s) to attend the Conference in Kingscliff, NSW in the Tweed Local Government Area.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) Council be represented at the Local Government NSW (LGNSW) 2025 Destination and Visitor Economy Conference in Kingscliff, NSW from 26 May to 28 May 2025 by the Mayor (or his delegate) and General Manager (or his delegate).**
- (b) Expenses to attend the Local Government NSW 2025 Destination and Visitor Economy Conference be paid by Council in accordance with the Councillor Expenses & Facilities Policy.**

REPORT

The LGNSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference is an annual event, coordinated by Local Government NSW for local councils, providing a forum for discussion on the latest tourism news and ideas. It is an opportunity to network with peers and build on professional development.

Council's policy provides that attendance at conferences where an overnight stay is involved should be reported to Council for approval.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

As per the Recommendation.

OPTION 2

Council may amend attendees.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

GC-CP-407 – Councillor Expenses & Facilities Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Conference registration plus accommodation, travel and meals as per budgeted line items for Councillors and Staff.

LEGAL/STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 2.1 Develop and maintain partnerships with community, government and non-government agencies to benefit our community.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) Desitination and Visitor Economy Conference Draft Program [↓](#) 59



DRAFT - PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Document Date | 31 January 2025

DAY 1 MONDAY 26 MAY 2025			
Mantra on Salt Beach, Kingscliff			
1.00pm	Registration and Trade Area Open		
2.00pm	Conference Commences Day 1		
2.00pm	Welcome (10 mins)	Setting the Scene - Cr Phyllis Miller OAM , President LGNSW	
2.10pm	Keynote with Q&A Office of 24-Hour Economy Commissioner (40 mins including questions)	Michael Rodrigues , 24 Hour Economy Commissioner NSW	
3.00pm	Afternoon Tea Trade Area Sponsored by		
3.30pm	WORKSHOPS - Delegates pre-booked concurrent workshop streams below		
3.30pm - 4.15pm	Stream 1 - Plantation Room 1	Stream 2 - Plantation Room 2	Stream 3 - Plantation Room 3
	Smart Destinations: AI Tools & Trends 70 pax Jess Quinlan , Trip Advisor Daniel Blicking , TRVLR.ai	Drive Tourism: Accelerating Local Destinations 70 pax Speaker , to be confirmed Speaker , to be confirmed Sponsored by	Creative Destinations through Art, Culture and Museums 70 pax Speaker , to be confirmed Brett Adlington , CEO Museums & Galleries of NSW
4.15pm	Bus transfers to Welcome Reception venue – Botanica Plantation House (15-20 mins)		
4.45pm	Welcome Reception Botanica Plantation House 13 Duranbah Road, Duranbah <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction by LGNSW David Reynolds, CE LGNSW • Welcome by Cr Phyllis Miller OAM, President LGNSW • Premier Partner Address • Entertainment 		
6.45pm	Bus transfers from Botanica Plantation House to Mantra on Salt. Delegates are encouraged to pre-book at local restaurants for dinner		

ONE VOICE FOR COUNCILS

1/4



DESTINATION & VISITOR
ECONOMY
CONFERENCE

Mantra at Salt Beach, Kingscliff | 26-28 May 2025



Strategic Partner



Destination Host





DAY 2 TUESDAY 27 MAY 2025											
Mantra on Salt Beach, Kingscliff											
8.00am	Registration/Information Desk and Trade Area open Arrival tea and coffee										
9.00am	<p style="color: green; font-weight: bold;">Conference Day 2 - Plenary Sessions</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 40%; padding: 5px;"> 9.05am Welcome & Introduction (5 mins) </td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> Conference MC, to be confirmed </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> 9.10am Welcome to Country (5 mins) </td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> Welcome to Country, to be confirmed </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> 9.15am LGNSW Welcome address (10 mins) </td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> Cr Phyllis Miller OAM, President LGNSW </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> 9.25am Destination Host Council Welcome (10 mins) </td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> Mayoral Welcome Speaker, to be confirmed </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> 9.35am Panel session with Q&A Focus: Rural & Regional Events Attracting Tourism (40 mins) </td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> Troy Green PSM, General Manager, Tweed Shire Council Michael Thurston, General Manager, Destination North Coast Speaker, to be confirmed MC/Facilitator </td> </tr> </table>	9.05am Welcome & Introduction (5 mins)	Conference MC , to be confirmed	9.10am Welcome to Country (5 mins)	Welcome to Country , to be confirmed	9.15am LGNSW Welcome address (10 mins)	Cr Phyllis Miller OAM , President LGNSW	9.25am Destination Host Council Welcome (10 mins)	Mayoral Welcome Speaker , to be confirmed	9.35am Panel session with Q&A Focus: Rural & Regional Events Attracting Tourism (40 mins)	Troy Green PSM , General Manager, Tweed Shire Council Michael Thurston , General Manager, Destination North Coast Speaker , to be confirmed MC/Facilitator
9.05am Welcome & Introduction (5 mins)	Conference MC , to be confirmed										
9.10am Welcome to Country (5 mins)	Welcome to Country , to be confirmed										
9.15am LGNSW Welcome address (10 mins)	Cr Phyllis Miller OAM , President LGNSW										
9.25am Destination Host Council Welcome (10 mins)	Mayoral Welcome Speaker , to be confirmed										
9.35am Panel session with Q&A Focus: Rural & Regional Events Attracting Tourism (40 mins)	Troy Green PSM , General Manager, Tweed Shire Council Michael Thurston , General Manager, Destination North Coast Speaker , to be confirmed MC/Facilitator										
10.15am	<p style="color: green; font-weight: bold;">Morning Tea Trade Area</p> <p>Sponsored by </p>										
11.00am	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 40%; padding: 5px;"> Keynote with Q&A (50 mins including questions) </td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> Gus Balbontin As the former Executive Director of Lonely Planet he led the company through significant cultural, structural and product transformation that put the company back in the black and ready to tackle a digital future. As a current investor founder and owner of a creative studio he is involved heavily in educating the next cohort of entrepreneurs and corporate innovators. Gus is globally recognised for his influence in developing cutting edge products and technologies for companies including Google X, Nokia, Apple, Amazon and the list is still growing. </td> </tr> </table>	Keynote with Q&A (50 mins including questions)	Gus Balbontin As the former Executive Director of Lonely Planet he led the company through significant cultural, structural and product transformation that put the company back in the black and ready to tackle a digital future. As a current investor founder and owner of a creative studio he is involved heavily in educating the next cohort of entrepreneurs and corporate innovators. Gus is globally recognised for his influence in developing cutting edge products and technologies for companies including Google X, Nokia, Apple, Amazon and the list is still growing.								
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11.50am	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 40%; padding: 5px;"> Ministerial address (10 mins) </td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> Ministerial Speaker, to be confirmed </td> </tr> </table>	Ministerial address (10 mins)	Ministerial Speaker , to be confirmed								
Ministerial address (10 mins)	Ministerial Speaker , to be confirmed										
12.00pm	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 40%; padding: 5px;"> Award Presentation NSW Top Tourism Town Awards (30 mins) </td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> NSW Tourism Association Presented by Speaker, to be confirmed </td> </tr> </table>	Award Presentation NSW Top Tourism Town Awards (30 mins)	NSW Tourism Association Presented by Speaker , to be confirmed								
Award Presentation NSW Top Tourism Town Awards (30 mins)	NSW Tourism Association Presented by Speaker , to be confirmed										
12.30pm	Lunch Trade Area										



DESTINATION & VISITOR ECONOMY CONFERENCE
 Mantra at Salt Beach, Kingscliff | 26-28 May 2025



1.30pm	Delegates Site Visits & Bus Transfers Please assemble at main entrance of Mantra on Salt Beach for bus transfers (site visit departures at least 5mins apart)	
Site Visit 1	PEDALS, PASTURES AND PLATTERS: NRRT Better Bikes, Hosanna Farmstay, Tweed Valley Cheeses Farmhouse	
1.30pm – 5.30pm	Bus transfer, 30 mins each way Walking & Bike tour – easy to moderate Comfortable clothing and walking shoes. You will be cycling a distance of 8.3 km on an E-Bike Capacity: Max 50 pax (2 groups of 25)	Embark on a journey through the scenic countryside on the Northern Rivers Rail Trail with Better By Bikes, showcasing active transport innovation. Then, soak in the rustic charm of Hosanna Farmstay, where you'll find wide open spaces and old-fashioned fun. Finally, indulge in a delectable tasting at Tweed Valley Cheeses, featuring locally crafted delights.
Site Visit 2	COASTAL CHIC RETREATS: Visit a Local Holiday Park, The Blue Water Motel, Halcyon House	
1.40pm – 5.30pm	Bus transfers, easy to moderate walking required at each site location however some climbing & descending of stairs may be required Capacity: Max 25 pax	Discover the perfect blend of beachfront bliss and boutique luxury. Tour a family-friendly Holiday Park, explore the retro vibes of the refurbished Blue Water Motel, and experience the sophistication of Halcyon House, where modern elegance meets coastal tranquillity.
Site Visit 3	FRUITS, FERMENTS, AND FUN: Tropical Fruit World & Ventura Brewing	
1.45pm – 5.30pm	Bus transfer, 30 mins each way Easy walking Capacity: Max 50 pax	Dive into a tropical adventure starting at Tropical Fruit World, a sensory haven of exotic flavours and lush landscapes. Wrap up your day with a refreshing alcoholic kombucha experience at Ventura Brewing, where innovation meets the art of brewing.
Site Visit 4	SACRED SANDS AND STORIES: Fingal Head Walk on Country, Mimi's Final Head SLSC & Minjungbal Museum	
1.50pm – 5.30pm	Bus transfer, 30 mins each way Easy walking Capacity: Max 50 pax	Immerse yourself in the natural beauty and cultural richness of Fingal Heads. This "Walk on Country" will connect you with the land through captivating stories, Indigenous heritage, and breathtaking coastal views.
5.30pm	Site visits return to Mantra on Salt Beach	
6.40pm	Bus Transfer from Mantra on Salt Beach to Husk Farm Distillery (20 – 25 mins)	
7.00pm – 10.00pm	Conference Dinner Husk Farm Distillery 1152 Dulguigan Road, North Tumbulgum Address by Cr Phyllis Miller OAM , President LGNSW Entertainment	
10.00pm – 10.30pm	Bus Transfers from Husk Farm Distillery to Mantra on Salt Beach	



DESTINATION & VISITOR ECONOMY CONFERENCE
 Mantra at Salt Beach, Kingscliff | 26-28 May 2025



Strategic Partner



Destination Host



DAY 3 WEDNESDAY 28 MAY 2025	
Mantra on Salt Beach, Kingscliff	
8.15am	Registration/Information Desk and Trade Area open Arrival tea and coffee
9.00am	Day 3 Plenary Sessions
9.05am	Welcome and Housekeeping (5 mins)
9.10am	Keynote Session and Q&A (30 mins + 15 mins questions) International Market Update - Tourism Australia Speaker, to be confirmed
10.00am	Morning Tea Trade Area
10.30am	Panel Session and Q&A Leveraging Tourism through Music and Culture (30 mins + 10 mins questions) Richard Everson, GM, Destination Southern NSW - Value of Visitor Economy to Councils Speaker, to be confirmed Speaker, to be confirmed
11.10am	Keynote address and Q&A Destination NSW (45mins + 10 mins Questions) Speaker, to be confirmed Destination NSW
12.05pm	Announcement Host Council 2026 (5 mins) Conference MC, to be confirmed
	Closing remarks (5 mins) Cr Phyllis Miller OAM, President LGNSW
12.15pm	Grab and Go Lunch served in Trade Area
12.45pm	Conference concludes

CLAUSE	CL07
TITLE	Support for Annual Sikh Games - 2025 Shaheedi Tournament
FROM	Shireen Donaldson, Director Economic & Organisational Development
TRIM REF	25/18765

SUMMARY

A letter seeking Council support for the 27th Shaheedi Tournament in June 2025 has been received from the Gurdwara Singh Sabha Society Griffith.

The letter seeks a cash contribution from Council of \$15,000, an increase of \$5,000 from what has been provided by Council in past years, noting Council allocates in the Annual Budget an amount of \$10,000 to provide cash sponsorship of the Tournament. The letter also seeks assistance with the development of a Traffic Management Plan and the implementation of Traffic Control; various event support mechanisms; the waiving of hire fees of the Griffith Regional Sports Centre (GRSC); and the installation of a streetlight at Kidman Way and Rae Road.

Council has previously prepared Traffic Management material for the Tournament. Traffic Control on the event weekend has been implemented by a private contractor at a cost to event organisers.

The hire cost of the entire Griffith Regional Sports Centre (as per the 2024/25 Revenue Policy) is \$3,250 per day (two-day hire will be \$6,500).

The installation of a streetlight on Kidman Way is not instrumental to the event at Ted Scobie Oval, so should be treated separately as a budget item related to streetlighting and is not considered in this Report.

RECOMMENDATION

Council provides the following support to the 27th Shaheedi Tournament:

- (a) \$10,000 cash contribution;**
- (b) Cost of preparation of a Traffic Management Plan;**
- (c) Installation of flags on Jondaryan Ave and Mackay Ave;**
- (d) Multiple rubbish bins at event sites;**
- (e) VMS Boards on Kidman Way, south of Rae Road; and**
- (f) Cost of hire of Ted Scobie Oval Collina (No associated fee in current Revenue Policy, Council Plant and Plant Operator is provided by Council for event setup and pack down).**
- (g) Promotion of the event in Council communications.**

REPORT

The Shaheedi Tournament (Sikh Games) is an annual event attracting some 20,000 visitors to Griffith over the June long weekend, estimating an approximate \$5M injection into the local economy (based on economic .id event forecasting tool). The 27th Tournament is expected to be attended by 20,000 -25,000 spectators from Australia and New Zealand.

The organising committee estimate the cost of producing the Tournament to be in the vicinity of \$200,000. The source of funds for most of this expenditure is via donations. The Committee indicate clean-up of Ted Scobie Oval to be in the vicinity of \$12,000 (undertaken by event organisers),

The implementation of Traffic Control is estimated to be \$5,000 - \$6,000 (undertaken by event organisers and private contractor). To address parking complaints from the community, Police have indicated they would require:

- Council to provide Compliance Officers to conduct parking enforcement in the Collina area for the duration of the event.
- A Council contact phone number be provided so that police can refer parking complaints to Council Compliance Officers.

In previous years, damage to Ted Scobie Oval has been sustained during the event as some of the oval areas were used for parking which was not permitted. Strictly enforced parking control on the oval can impact the availability of parking around the oval.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

As per the Recommendation.

OPTION 2

Council resolves to:

- (a) Adopt recommendations as per listed in the Report; and also
- (b) Increase the cash contribution component of the request from \$10,000 to \$15,000.

OPTION 3

Council resolves to:

- (a) Adopt recommendations as per listed in the Report; and also
- (b) Waive the associated hire and cleaning fees of the Griffith Regional Sports Centre, this being \$6,500.

OPTION 4

Council resolves to:

- (a) Adopt recommendations as per listed in the Report;
- (b) Increase the cash contribution component of the request from \$10,000 to \$15,000; and also
- (c) Waive the associated hire and cleaning fees of the Griffith Regional Sports Centre, this being \$6,500.

OPTION 5

Any other resolution of Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council allocates in the Annual Budget an amount of \$10,000 to provide cash sponsorship the annual Sikh Games.

Council also allocates funding to accommodate in-kind contributions of Traffic Management Plans when requested and approved by significant events.

The revenue policy has a charge per facility and the hire of the Griffith Regional Sports Centre is summarised as follows.

Full day INDOOR hire - All courts (up to 8 hours)	\$2,500
Outdoor Special Event Hire - Whole Day (8 hours)	
Athletics	\$250
Hockey	\$250
Netball	\$250
TOTAL	3,250 per day (\$6,500 2 days)

Councillors would be aware Council has commenced considering the draft budget for 2025-26 and 10-year long term financial plan. Council's General Fund is under pressure and the recommendation in this report has been drafted accordingly.

LEGAL/STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

The community enjoys the multicultural aspect of the Sikh Games. Residents close to Ted Scobie Oval may experience inconvenience over the weekend due to excessive traffic around the area.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 4.2 Encourage an inclusive community that celebrates social and cultural diversity.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) Request for Financial Assistance - Annual Sikh Games - 2025 - 27th Shaheedi Tournament [↓](#) 67



**THE GURDWARA SINGH SABHA SOCIETY GRIFFITH
(NSW) INCORPORATED**

11 Rae Road Griffith NSW 2680 - PO Box 231 Griffith NSW 2680
Registration No: Y2825805 - ABN: 23 959 601 199
Email: info@griffithgurdwara.com.au

Griffith City Council

27 January 2025

Doug Curran
Mayor
Griffith City Council
PO Box 485
Griffith NSW 2680

Dear Doug,

31 JAN 2025

RECEIVED BY

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
Griffith City Council

31 JAN 2025

REGISTERED

Griffith City Council

31 JAN 2025

RECEIVED BY
CUSTOMER SERVICE

Re: Annual Sikh Games – 2025 – 27th Shaheedi Tournament

The organising committee of Gurdwara Singh Sabha Society Griffith NSW (Inc.) and the Sikh community of Griffith will be holding the Annual Sikh Games 2025, 27th Shaheedi Tournament, on 7 and 8 June 2025 at Ted Scobie Oval Collina and Griffith Regional Sports Centre.

The Shaheedi Tournament in Griffith is organised in the memory and honour of martyrs who sacrificed their lives for their faith and the Sikh values of life. This tournament promotes and keeps alive the most popular sports of Punjab in general and among the Sikh community in particular. The tournament also provides an opportunity for people living in metropolitan cities to visit Griffith and experience the welcoming hospitality of the local community. Last year's 26th Tournament was attended by over 20,000 people from Australia, New Zealand, and other countries. These visitors stayed in Griffith and surrounding towns as far as Wagga Wagga, contributing significantly to the local economy and tourism industry. It is estimated that the 26th Tournament injected over \$5 million into the local economy. Each year, the Tournament continues to grow, attracting increasing numbers of teams and spectators.

Community donations and sponsorships are the primary source of funding for the Shaheedi Tournament. The total cost of hosting the 26th Tournament was approximately \$335,000, all of which was spent locally. These funds were generously donated by the local community, primarily the Sikh community, and local businesses.

We estimate that the 27th Shaheedi Tournament will cost \$350,000. Therefore, the organizing committee and the Sikh community of Griffith respectfully request Griffith City Council provide financial assistance to help cover some of the costs associated with managing and hosting the 27th Shaheedi Tournament.

We would be extremely grateful if the Council could consider the following for the current term of the Council (2025 to 2028):

1. A contribution of \$15,000 towards the Shaheedi Tournament.
2. Cover the cost of preparing the Traffic Management Plan (TMP).
3. Implementation of Traffic Control during the event, in accordance with the approved TMP.
4. Cover the cost of installing flags on Jondaryan Ave and Mackay Ave.
5. Waive the cost of hiring Ted Scobie Oval Colina.
6. Waive the cost of hiring the Griffith Regional Sports Centre.
7. Provide an adequate number of event rubbish bins to be placed around the oval.
8. Provide VMS Boards on Kidman Way, south of Rae Road.
9. Install a streetlight at the intersection of Kidman Way and Rae Road for the safety of traffic and pedestrians.

For further information or to discuss this request, please do not hesitate to contact Harpreet Singh, General Secretary, on 0403 374 490.

Yours sincerely

Sukhwinder Singh
President

CLAUSE	CL08
TITLE	Investments as at 31 January 2025
FROM	Vanessa Edwards, Finance Manager
TRIM REF	25/16224

SUMMARY

This report details Council's year-to-date investments performance as at the month of January 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

The report be noted by Council.

REPORT

In accordance with Section 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, it is hereby certified that the investments detailed in the attached schedules have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, its Regulations and Council's current Investment Policy and Strategy which were last amended and adopted on 14 July 2023.

Management is striving to continuously build up cash and investment returns to ensure ongoing financial stability, allocate funds to reserves and provide ongoing liquidity into the future.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

As per the Recommendation.

OPTION 2

Any other Resolution of Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The actions taken comply with Council's current investment policy and strategy, and the Ministerial Order as provided by the NSW Office of Local Government.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As at the 31 January 2025, Council had received a total of \$1,709,551 in interest coupon payments.

The overall net interest income recognised (when combining both interest received and mark-to-market entries) at 31 January 2025 was \$2,470,117. The annual revised budget for 2024/25 is \$2,973,000. The attached Statement of Funds report includes the original

adopted budget, as well as the revised budget, to provide a complete understanding of the performance of investments year to date.

Council has a mix of growth and fixed income investments in the portfolio and at certain times growth assets are exposed to equity market fluctuations (volatility) as well as rises in interest rates and may incur non-cash valuation reductions that can impact on reported profits. These are long term assets and Council has no intention of divesting any of these assets when at cyclical lows and therefore crystallising any losses. Invariably, these assets will regain and increase their values over time and they make up a valuable diversity in Council's portfolio overall.

Due to the high volatility across investment markets, it is difficult to obtain cash yields whilst maintaining appropriate diversification of investments and not be exposed to potential fluctuations in the carrying value of these assets. Council's investments are diversified primarily across TCorp Managed Funds, term deposits, fixed income bonds and floating rate notes which are largely determined by the restrictions in place by the Minister's Order. Council's investments are diversified, all highly rated and of high quality.

LEGAL/STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Section 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 1.1 Provide clear, accessible, relevant information.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| (a) | Statement of Funds at 31 January 2025 ↓ | 71 |
| (b) | Investments Returns Analysis - 12 Months Annualised Yields ↓ | 72 |
| (c) | TCorp Monthly Economic Report - January 2025 ↓ | 73 |

CL08 Attachment (a) Statement of Funds at 31 January 2025

(a) Statement of Funds at 31 January, 2025

GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL
Statement of Funds Invested under Section 625 of the Local Government Act, 1993
31 January, 2025

INVESTMENTS

Annual Return	Type	Valuation Balance as at 31 January, 2025	Interest Recognised January, 2025	Revaluation Movements Recognised January, 2025	Fund as a Percentage of Total Investments
Cash/Managed Funds					
5.270%	Pendal Institutional Cash Fund	8,796.37		43.32	0.01%
6.620%	Perpetual Credit Income Fund	1,107,017.66		7,824.16	1.55%
6.95%*	NSW Treasury Corp -Long Term Growth Fund	1,874,617.99		38,830.72	2.62%
4.01%*	NSW Treasury Corp -Medium Term Growth Fund	5,997,606.32		63,226.39	8.38%
2.71%*	NSW Treasury Corp - Short Term Income Fund	4,026,000.51	15,292.72	2,690.90	5.62%
3.500%	UBS Cash Management Trust Account	73,648.60	324.81		0.10%
3.500%	ANZ Premium Business Saver Account	7,715.09	25.00		0.01%
Term Deposits					
5.050%	AMP 365 Day Term Deposit Maturity 5/6/25	2,000,000.00	8,416.65		2.79%
5.180%	BOQ 183 Day Term Deposit Maturity 10/06/2025	1,099,763.48	4,760.32		1.54%
4.480%	Westpac Bank 2 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 9/9/2026	3,000,000.00	11,200.00		4.19%
4.950%	NAB 2 Year Term Deposit Maturity 9/9/2025	2,000,000.00	8,250.00		2.79%
4.850%	BOQ 2 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 10/6/25	2,000,000.00	8,090.72		2.79%
4.590%	Westpac Bank 18 Month Term Deposit Maturity 30/3/26	3,000,000.00	11,475.00		4.19%
4.880%	ING 3 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 8/11/2025	4,000,000.00	16,355.80		5.59%
4.750%	Westpac Bank Notice Saver 60 Day	2,718,409.26	10,922.66		3.80%
4.600%	Westpac Bank Notice Saver 31 Day	5,751,975.13	22,384.64		8.03%
5.000%	NAB 3 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 9/10/2026	3,500,000.00	14,583.33		4.89%
5.420%	Rabo Bank 1 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 27/06/2025	2,500,000.00	11,291.66		3.49%
5.450%	NAB 1 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 02/07/2025	2,000,000.00	9,083.32		2.79%
5.480%	Rabo Bank 1 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 02/07/2025	2,000,000.00	9,133.32		2.79%
5.250%	Rabo Bank 4 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 25/07/2029	2,000,000.00	10,937.49		2.79%
5.190%	NAB 2 Year Term Deposit Maturity 29/06/2026	2,000,000.00	8,650.00		2.79%
5.300%	Rabo Bank 4 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 26/06/2028	2,500,000.00	11,041.66		3.49%
5.090%	Rabo Bank 5 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 14/01/2030	2,000,000.00	4,241.67		2.79%
Bank Bonds/Floating Rate Notes #					
1.250%	NSW Treasury Corp Bond (\$2.5M Face Value) Maturity 20/3/25	2,490,950.00		6,525.00	3.48%
1.250%	NSW Treasury Corp Bond (\$2M Face Value) Maturity 20/11/30	1,682,860.00		4,480.00	2.35%
2.000%	NSW Treasury Corp Bond (\$2M Face Value) Maturity 8/3/33	1,619,100.00		(1,320.00)	2.26%
1.750%	Government of the ACT Bond (\$600k Face Value) Maturity 17/5/30	525,252.00		1,368.00	0.73%
5.113%	NAB FRN (\$1.7M Face Value) Maturity 10/05/2027	1,703,859.00		697.00	2.38%
4.450%	NAB FRN (\$1.6M Face Value) Maturity 18/10/2027	1,600,480.00		1,472.00	2.24%
4.848%	WBC Floating Bond (\$2.5M Face Value) Maturity 12/12/2025	2,500,900.00		225.00	3.49%
5.172%	WBC Floating Bond (\$2.5M Face Value) Maturity 21/01/2025	1,502,850.00		(450.00)	2.10%
5.356%	Bendigo Adelaide Bank FRN (\$800k Face Value) Maturity 08/05/2027	804,416.00		(136.00)	1.12%
Total		71,596,217.41	196,460.77	125,476.49	100%

*YTD Fund Return

Bank Bonds/Floating Rate Notes will have positive or negative revaluations from month to month. Upon maturity date the principal investment will be paid back in full.

Balance of Griffith City Council Trading Bank Account 8,703,560.16
GHFL/HHF Bank Account Balances 24,126.65

Total Cash & Investments at 31/01/2025 80,323,904.22

RETURN ON INVESTMENTS

Return on Investments Analysis	Actual
Accumulated Return on Investments Brought Forward	2,109,814.39
Interest received on Griffith Health Facilities Limited Bank Accounts YTD January 2025	171.21
Return on Investments for the month of January 2025	321,937.28
Trading Bank Account Interest Received for the month of January 2025	38,194.59
Total Return of Investments YTD January 2025	2,470,117.45

Fund	Original Budget Annual Total	Revised Budget Annual Total	Budget YTD	Actual YTD
Ordinary Fund	1,200,000.00	1,200,000.00	700,000.00	717,567.47
Water Fund	670,000.00	1,020,000.00	889,970.00	973,031.22
Sewerage Fund	250,000.00	500,000.00	516,039.00	577,663.46
Waste Fund	250,000.00	250,000.00	145,831.00	198,011.80
Western Riverina Library	3,000.00	3,000.00	1,750.00	3,843.50
Total	2,373,000.00	2,973,000.00	2,253,590.00	2,470,117.45
			Percentage of Year at Report Date	58.33%

In accordance with Section 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, I hereby certify that the investments detailed above are made in accordance with the Local Government Act, its regulations and Council's investment policy adopted on 14 July, 2023.

RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

(b) Investments Returns Analysis - 12 month Annualised Yields

INVESTMENT RETURNS ANALYSIS - 12 MONTH ANNUALISED YIELDS			
Month	Average Funds Invested for the month	Return on Investment/ Revaluation Adjustments	Yield %
Feb-24	\$62,632,743	\$228,370	0.36%
Mar-24	\$58,302,926	\$350,050	0.60%
Apr-24	\$54,803,438	-\$85,447	-0.16%
May-24	\$54,025,221	\$263,094	0.49%
Jun-24	\$57,401,074	\$202,223	0.35%
Jul-24	\$64,108,890	\$443,392	0.69%
Aug-24	\$66,824,501	\$321,454	0.48%
Sep-24	\$66,444,946	\$322,607	0.49%
Oct-24	\$67,268,190	\$62,279	0.09%
Nov-24	\$66,657,673	\$448,748	0.67%
Dec-24	\$66,599,699	\$262,196	0.39%
Jan-25	\$69,757,354	\$321,937	0.46%
12 Month Annualised Performance			4.93%
Current Year Performance Jul 24 - Jun 25			3.28%
(Cash basis only, net of fees)			



January 2025
Published: 3 February 2025

Monthly economic report

The global economy

Financial markets over the past few months have been focused on the implications of Donald Trump winning the US Presidential election. There continues to be heightened uncertainty around what policies will be implemented, and when, with most attention focused on tariffs. The uncertainty is likely to remain elevated for the foreseeable future as US policies are gradually announced and other countries respond. In the meantime, this uncertainty will generate volatility in financial markets, with comments by President Trump regarding potential policy measures frequently triggering reactions in equity, currency and bond markets.

Despite the uncertainty around government policy changes, the US economy has continued to grow strongly, buoyed by robust consumer spending. The labour market has also remained tight, with employment growth exceeding expectations in recent months. With inflation expected to gradually fall towards the US Federal Reserve's (Fed) 2% target, the Fed lowered interest rates by another 25bps in December.

However, the continued resilience of the US economy saw investors further pare back their expectations for rate cuts in 2025, with investors now only expecting 2 more rate cuts in this easing cycle. The uncertainty over President Trump's policies is creating a challenging backdrop for the Fed, with the central bank likely to proceed cautiously with future interest rate cuts.

The European economy remains weak, with Germany experiencing particularly challenging conditions due to its large manufacturing sector. There is uncertainty around the fiscal outlooks in several European economies, including fears that the US will impose tariffs on European exports. France and Germany have also been impacted by political instability in recent months.

The weak economic conditions saw the European Central Bank cut rates further in January, with investors expecting more rate cuts throughout this year. Central banks in Canada, Sweden and Switzerland also cut interest rates in December and/or January. In contrast, the Bank of Japan raised its policy rate to 0.5%, reflecting greater confidence that higher wages growth will keep inflation close to its 2% target.

China's economy grew by 5% in 2024, in line with authorities' growth target of 'around 5%'. Growth has been driven by strong manufacturing production and exports, with household spending weak and the property sector still in a severe downturn. However, strong manufacturing investment has resulted in overcapacity, with China's economy experiencing deflation for the past 2 years. The outlook for China's economy this year will partly depend on how large and broad-based US tariffs on China's exports are and how China responds.

The Australian economy

The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) held interest rates steady at its December meeting, but investors interpreted its communication as signalling that rate cuts could occur sooner. In particular, the Board noted that the recent run of weaker economic data has provided it with more confidence that inflation is falling sustainably to target.

Importantly, underlying inflation was significantly lower in the December quarter than the RBA had expected. In 6-month annualised terms, underlying inflation was 2.7% in the quarter – only a touch

above 2.5% (the midpoint of the RBA's target band). Despite the continued resilience of the labour market, slower wages growth and easing pressures in the housing market are seeing the disinflationary process continue. Combined with the broad-based slowing in inflation in other advanced economies, this could provide the RBA with enough confidence to start its easing cycle in February. Investors see a 90% chance of the first rate cut occurring in February, with 3 rate cuts in total currently expected in 2025.

Financial market commentary

After a challenging December, where global bond yields rose sharply and most equity markets fell, January was a more positive month for investors with many equity markets recording solid gains. Bond market moves were mixed, but the moves were smaller than in December.

Equity markets (performance in local currency, excluding dividends)

US equity markets were very volatile over December and January. The S&P500 rose by 2.7% in January, reversing its 2.5% fall in December. All sectors were higher in January, except for the IT sector, which was weighed down by large falls in the share prices of some AI-related companies (particularly after news about Chinese AI startup, DeepSeek, surfaced). The announcement of US tariffs on imports from Canada, Mexico and China on 31 January (to take effect 4 February) also weighed on US equities.

The ASX200 rose strongly (+4.6%) in January, with gains in all sectors except the utilities sector. This reversed the 3.3% decline in December. European share markets outperformed in December and January, with a particularly strong rise in Germany's share market in January (+9%). This could reflect optimism about the outlook for Europe's economy and company profits because of continuing rate cuts and the expectation that European governments will increase their spending.

Bond yields

Despite some volatility in the month, US 10-year bond yields were little changed in January overall (-3bps). This follows a sharp rise in December (+38bps) as investors responded to the heightened uncertainty around President Trump's policies and the expectation that some policies are likely to be inflationary for the US (e.g. tariffs). A paring back of rate cut expectations by the Fed also likely contributed to the higher bond yields, though to a lesser extent.

The sharp rise in long-end US yields dragged up bond yields in other advanced economies, particularly across Europe. Australian 10-year bond yields rose by noticeably less than US yields over December and January (+9bps), with soft domestic data and a more dovish RBA limiting the move higher.

TCorp bond yields moved broadly in line with Commonwealth Government bond yields in January, with the 10-year spread ending the month at +68bps.

Currency and commodity markets

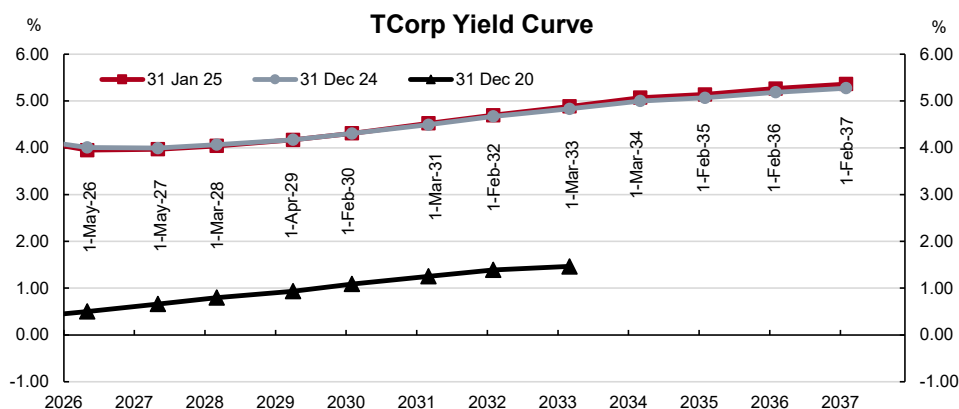
The sharp rise in US bond yields in December saw the Australian dollar depreciate sharply against the US dollar (-5%), reaching US\$0.61 in mid-January. The Australian dollar then appreciated slightly over the second half of January, ending the month a little above US\$0.62. Over the past few months, the Australian dollar has depreciated by significantly less against a broader basket of currencies, which is a more relevant gauge when assessing the impact on the domestic economy.

Oil prices were volatile in January but ended the month 2.8% higher, partly in response to the US imposing sanctions on Russia's oil industry. However, oil prices are still below their average level in 2024.

Financial market performance

Currency markets January 2025	Previous month close	Month high	Month low	Month close	Month change
AUD/USD	0.619	0.631	0.615	0.622	0.5% ▲
AUD/EUR	0.598	0.605	0.598	0.600	0.4% ▲
AUD/JPY	97.28	98.50	95.80	96.50	-0.8% ▼
AUD/GBP	0.495	0.510	0.499	0.502	1.5% ▲
AUD/BRL	3.823	3.845	3.634	3.634	-4.9% ▼
AUD/INR	52.98	54.43	52.85	53.86	1.7% ▲
AUD/CNY	4.517	4.579	4.498	4.505	-0.3% ▼
Equity markets* January 2025	Previous month close	Month high	Month low	Month close	Month change
MSCI World ex Australia	3812	3965	3778	3943	3.4% ▲
MSCI Emerging Markets	1075	1096	1039	1093	1.7% ▲
S&P/ASX200	8159	8532	8192	8532	4.6% ▲
S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries	3092	3234	3063	3234	4.6% ▲
S&P500 (US)	5882	6119	5827	6041	2.7% ▲
FTSE 100 (UK)	8173	8674	8202	8674	6.1% ▲
Stoxx600 (Europe)	508	540	508	540	6.3% ▲
DAX (Germany)	19909	21732	19906	21732	9.2% ▲
CAC 40 (France)	7381	7950	7282	7950	7.7% ▲
Nikkei 225 (Japan)	39895	40083	38445	39572	-0.8% ▼
Hang Seng (HK)	20060	20225	18874	20225	0.8% ▲
Shanghai Composite (China)	3352	3263	3161	3251	-3.0% ▼
Bovespa (Brazil)	120283	126913	118533	126135	4.9% ▲
IPC (Mexico)	49513	52050	48957	51210	3.4% ▲
S&P/BSE Sensex (India)	78139	79944	75366	77501	-0.8% ▼
*Returns are in local currency, and exclude dividend payments					
Bond markets (%) January 2025	Previous month close	Month high	Month low	Month close	Month change
RBA Official Cash Rate	4.35	4.35	4.35	4.35	0.00 –
90 Day Bank Bill	4.42	4.40	4.25	4.25	-0.17 ▼
180 Day Bank Bill	4.49	4.50	4.31	4.31	-0.19 ▼
New institutional term deposits	4.60	4.60	4.50	4.50	-0.10 ▼
3 Year CGS Bond	3.82	4.07	3.79	3.82	0.00 ▼
10 Year CGS Bond	4.36	4.63	4.37	4.43	0.07 ▲
10 Year US Bond	4.57	4.79	4.52	4.54	-0.03 ▼
10 Year German Bond	2.37	2.65	2.38	2.46	0.09 ▲
10 Year Japanese Bond	1.10	1.26	1.10	1.25	0.14 ▲

TCorp bonds (%) January 2025	Previous month close	Month high	Month low	Month close	Month change
20-May-26	4.01	4.14	3.94	3.95	-0.06 ▼
20-May-27	3.99	4.19	3.96	3.97	-0.03 ▼
20-Mar-28	4.07	4.30	4.02	4.04	-0.03 ▼
20-Apr-29	4.17	4.43	4.15	4.17	0.00 ▼
20-Feb-30	4.31	4.57	4.28	4.31	0.00 ▲
20-Mar-31	4.49	4.77	4.49	4.52	0.03 ▲
20-Feb-32	4.67	4.95	4.67	4.70	0.03 ▲
08-Mar-33	4.83	5.13	4.85	4.88	0.05 ▲
20-Mar-34	5.00	5.29	5.02	5.07	0.07 ▲
20-Feb-35	5.07	5.36	5.10	5.14	0.07 ▲
20-Feb-36	5.19	5.49	5.21	5.27	0.08 ▲
20-Feb-37	5.28	5.58	5.30	5.36	0.09 ▲
CIB 2.75% 20 Nov 25	2.58	2.69	2.53	2.54	-0.04 ▼
CIB 2.50% 20 Nov 35	2.66	2.86	2.67	2.70	0.04 ▲



Source: TCorp

Commodity markets (US\$) January 2025	Previous month close	Month high	Month low	Month close	Month change
Brent Oil (per barrel)	74.6	82.0	75.9	76.8	2.8% ▲
Iron Ore (per tonne)	103.6	106.1	97.3	106.1	2.4% ▲

TCorp forecasts	June-25	Dec-25	Jun-26	Dec-26
RBA Official Cash Rate	3.85	3.10	2.35	2.35
90 Day Bank Bill	3.60	2.85	2.50	2.50
10 Year CGS Bond	4.00	3.25	3.25	3.75



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About New South Wales Treasury Corporation (TCorp)

TCorp provides best-in-class investment management, financial management, solutions and advice to the New South Wales (NSW) public sector. With A\$116 billion of assets under management, TCorp is a top 10 Australian investment manager and is the central borrowing authority of the state of NSW, with a balance sheet of A\$193 billion. It is rated Aaa (Stable) by Moody's, AAA (Stable) by Fitch, and AA+ (Negative) by S&P.

Disclaimer

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**FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE MURRAY ROOM ON
THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2024 COMMENCING AT 2:00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor Scott Groat (Chair), Laurie Testoni (Councillor - Alternate), Luigi Forner (Community Representative), Steve Mortlock (Community Representative), Steve Manwaring (Department Planning, Industry & Environment), Michael Borg (SES), Chris Palmer (Murrumbidgee Irrigation)

Quorum = 3

STAFF

Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, Water and Wastewater Manager, Durgananda Chaudhary, and Minute Secretary, Joanne Bollen

1 APOLOGIES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Steve Mortlock and Luigi Forner that apologies be received from General Manager, Brett Stonestreet, Engineering Design & Approval Manager, Jason Carrozza, Joseph Dal Broi (Community Representative), Susanne Skof (SES) and Joshua Stanbury (SES).

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Luigi Forner and Steve Mortlock that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 August 2024, having first been circulated amongst all members, be confirmed.

3 BUSINESS ARISING

Nil.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary Interests

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

Less Than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

5 ITEMS OF BUSINESS

CL01 PROJECT UPDATE - HANWOOD STORMWATER PUMP AND LEVEE PROJECT

Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, provided an update to the Committee on the Hanwood Stormwater Pump and Levee Project.

Drainage works have been completed, four pumps are installed with power supply, with one pump being commissioned today and works on the road construction will commence this week.

The project is nearing completion and the aim is to have it finalised prior to Christmas.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Steve Mortlock and Luigi Forner that the information be received.

CL02 PROJECT UPDATE - MCCORMACK ROAD YOOGALI LEVEE - STAGE 2 PROJECT

Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, provided an update to the Committee on the McCormack Road Yoogali Levee, Stage 2 Project.

Stage 1 of the project has been completed with culvert upgrades. Stage 2 and 3 incorporates the levee construction along McCormack Road and Burley Griffin Way up to the Yoogali intersection.

Council has consulted extensively with Transport for NSW about the design and asset requirements as well as future plans for Transport for NSW to widen Burley Griffin Way.

At this point in time Stage 3 of the project has been put on hold.

With the funding that is available Council will progress with Stage 2a and 2b, which is McCormack Road element of the levee. A tender report will be presented to the Council Meeting on Tuesday, 10 December 2024.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Steve Mortlock and Luigi Forner that funding information for Stage 2a and Stage 2b be sent to Steve Manwaring for clearance to commence works.

Stage 3 of the project has been put on hold due to funding constrictions. Steve Manwaring advised that applications for funding will open in March 2025.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Steve Mortlock and Luigi Forner that Council investigate other options for Stage 3 and present a report to the Committee in February 2025.

CL03 PROJECT UPDATE - REVIEW OF LAKE WYANGAN FLOOD STUDY AND FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT STUDY AND PLAN BY TORRENT CONSULTING

Dan Williams from Torrent Consulting provided an update to the Committee on the Review of Lake Wyangan Flood Study and Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan that is currently being undertaken.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Steve Mortlock and Luigi Forner that the Data Collection Report be presented to the Committee in February 2025.

6 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

The Outstanding Action Report was noted.

Councillor Laurie Testoni left the meeting, the time being 4:07pm.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Piping of North Merribee Supply Canal

Murrumbidgee Irrigation (MI) has commenced works on the North Merribee Channel and an update on the progress was provided to the Committee by Chris Palmer from MI.

The Committee discussed the works and some concerns of community members regarding flood waters were also addressed.

7.2 Letter received from Yenda Progress Association

A letter received from the Yenda Progress Association was tabled in the Committee meeting. The letter was regarding:

1. North Merribee Channel Realignment;
2. Emergency Main Canal Breaching Protocol;
3. Upgrade EMR Flood Gates option.

The Committee noted the letter and responses to the Yenda Progress Association will be drafted and presented at the next meeting, prior to the responses being sent to the Yenda Progress Association.

8 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Floodplain Management Committee is to be held in February 2025 (date TBC).

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 4:32pm.

**TRAFFIC COMMITTEE
HELD IN MURRAY ROOM, GRIFFITH ON
TUESDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2025 COMMENCING AT 10:30 AM**

PRESENT

Councillor Anne Napoli (Chair), Tony O'Grady (Councillor - Alternate), Tony Leadbitter (Police Representative), Glenn Smith (Police Representative), Greg Minehan (Transport for NSW Representative, via Zoom), Michael Rowley (Member for Murray Representative)

STAFF

Development & Traffic Coordinator, Greg Balind, Development & Traffic Engineer, Ronelle Green, Engineering Design & Approvals Manager, Jason Carrozza and Minute Secretary, Melanie Hebrok

Governance Manager Leanne Austin was present for CL01.

1 APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Greg Minehan and Michael Rowley that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10 December 2024, having first been circulated amongst all members, be confirmed.

3 BUSINESS ARISING

Nil.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary Interests

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

Less Than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

5 ITEMS OF BUSINESS

CL01 INDUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS – MANDATORY

Leanne Austin, Governance Manager, presented the induction process for Council Committee members at the beginning of a new Council term, including requirements relating to the Code of Conduct, Conflicts of Interest and Gifts and Benefits declarations.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Tony Leadbitter and Michael Rowley that the Committee members note the Committee Induction requirements and complete induction process outlined in this report.

Leanne Austin left the meeting, the time being 10:36 am.

CL02 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT - 'VINTAGE FESTIVAL' EVENT 2025

Mr Balind advised that there was some uncertainty regarding whether or not the event was going ahead following limited communication from the organiser. He noted the Committee could approve the Traffic Management in principle and would be advised electronically if the event ends up being cancelled.

Mr Minehan asked for it to be noted that endorsement will be revoked if a valid Certificate of Currency is not produced at least 21 days prior to the event, leaving enough time for the required Road Occupancy Licence process to be completed.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Tony Leadbitter and Michael Rowley that the Traffic Committee:

- (a) Support the implementation of the Traffic Control Plan as per attachment 'A'
- (b) Note the Traffic Management Plan, Special Event Transport Management Plan and Event Management Plan as submitted
- (c) Condition the support of the event on the provision to the Committee of a valid Certificate of Currency/insurance policy.

CL03 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT - 2025 SHAHEEDI TOURNAMENT (SIKH GAMES)

Mr Balind advised that documentation needed for the event was outstanding. Some information was received late last week and is yet to be assessed by Council officers.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Tony Leadbitter that the report **LAY ON THE TABLE** until the 11 March 2025 Traffic Committee meeting to allow the event organiser to submit further information.

An updated report will be brought back to the March meeting.

CL04 TRAFFIC CONTROL - CITRUS SCULPTURES - BANNA AVENUE

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Greg Minehan and Tony Leadbitter that the Traffic Committee:

- (a) Support the implementation of the Traffic Control Plan on Banna Avenue on Sunday, 12 October 2025 and Sunday, 26 October 2025 to allow for the construction and dismantling of the citrus sculptures.
- (b) Support the implementation of the Traffic Control Plan on Banna Avenue and Visitors Centre Carpark on Friday, 17 October 2025 relevant to the 'Springfest Launch Event.'
- (c) Support the implementation of the Traffic Control Plan on Banna Avenue from Sunday, 12 October 2025 to Sunday, 26 October 2025 to facilitate the exhibition phase of the event.
- (d) Note the Transport Management Plans associated with both the Construction/Dismantling and Launch events.

CL05 INSTALLATION OF NO STOPPING ZONE - WILLANDRA AVENUE

Mr Balind presented the proposal to install a No Stopping Zone on the northern side of Willandra Avenue following a number of complaints with regards to heavy vehicles parking and causing sight distance issues for vehicles exiting the Harvey Norman Gateway Complex and rear delivery lane.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Greg Minehan and Tony Leadbitter that the Traffic Committee recommend the installation of a 30 metre No Stopping zone area and associated R5-400n signs on the northern side of Willandra Avenue (fronting 76-84 Willandra Avenue) as per the attached plan.

CL06 SAFETY CONCERNS - CORNER FARRONATO ROAD AND MACKAY AVENUE

The Committee discussed the letter outlining safety concerns when eastbound drivers use Farronato Road to perform U-turns to head westbound on Mackay Avenue.

Mr Minehan to inspect the site prior to the next meeting and bring back for discussion.

Mr Balind to notify the complainant.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Greg Minehan that the report **LAY ON THE TABLE**.

6 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

The Committee discussed and updated the Outstanding Action Report.

Bus Zone on Wyangan Avenue / Messner Street

No new information. The Committee agreed to take this off the Action Report and advise residents to voice concerns directly with bus company.

Sidlow Road / Stafford Road Intersection

Gateway treatment applied - new bigger stop signs installed as well as second stop signs on the north and south approach to Stafford Road. Tree trimming done. To be taken off Action Report.

Speed Zone Reviews

Murrumbidgee Avenue/Beaumont Road will go to Regional Director in February, with approval update to be given at the next meeting. Will then move on to Slopes Road.

Yenda Railway Crossing Update

Mr Rowley enquired if there was an update on the Railway Crossing in Yenda. He noted the road condition was very poor due to heavy vehicles using Beelbanger & Twigg Roads to bypass Yenda, despite it not being an approved B double route. Mr Balind advised he has put in a works request for the area in June 2024 after it was raised by the Committee previously. Mr Carrozza said Council's Director of Infrastructure & Operations Phil King is continuing discussions with UGL about an upgrade to the crossing. Mr King to update the Committee on the status.

The item is to be added to the Outstanding Action Report.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Greg Minehan and Tony Leadbitter that the report be noted.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 City to Lake Event

Mr Balind advised that a valid Certificate of Currency has been submitted for the event.

7.2 No Stopping Zone – North Griffith Public School

Mr Balind said there have been requests for a no stopping zone at North Griffith Public School. A report will be presented at the next Committee meeting.

7.3 Removal of Bus Zones in Speirs Street and Accessible Parking

Mr Balind asked for an update by TfNSW with regards to the removal of the existing bus zones in Speirs Street. Mr Minehan advised that as there is an electronic tag for the bus stop, the removal process may take longer. He will advise when he has more information from the responsible TfNSW officer.

Mr Balind said the reason for the removal request to be expedited was that East Griffith Public School have asked for a disabled parking zone at the school to accommodate new mobility impaired students starting. He noted that the no stopping bus zone could be converted into disability parking spaces once the bus zone is removed.

The Committee discussed other possible solutions to add accessible parking to the school, as it was noted that the converted bus stop parking would not be exclusively for the school and could be used by club patrons etc, not solving the issue the school currently has. Another idea was to remove staff parking which Councillor Napoli said would be a much safer option, away from traffic around the school.

Mr Carrozza said staff will forward these concerns to the school and bring a report back to the Committee.

7.4 Funding for realignment of Railway Crossing at Willbriggie

Mr Minehan advised that he has been approached by the project engineer for the realignment works at Willbriggie Railway Crossing which have now received funding. Phil King will be contacted for Council endorsement following the Traffic Committee's previous concurrence with the proposal back in 2014.

8 **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Traffic Committee is to be held on Tuesday, 11 March 2025 at 10:30 am.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 11:12 am.

TITLE Notice of Motion - Councillor Shari Blumer

FROM Shari Blumer, Councillor

TRIM REF 25/19574

SUMMARY

A Notice of Motion was received from Councillor Shari Blumer on Tuesday, 18 February 2025.

This Notice of Motion seeks Council support for a Strategic Water Policy for the Griffith Local Government Area (LGA).

This Strategic Water Policy will seek to inform State & Federal politicians (and candidates) and senior bureaucrats for the purpose of advocacy and grant and funding applications.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) Council agrees to the creation of an overarching ‘Strategic Water’ policy.**
- (b) That the draft policy document be reported to Council for consideration during April 2025.**

REPORT

The next two years are very important for Griffith as an LGA with a Federal election in the next three months, Basin Plan Review being handed down at the end of 2026 and the NSW State election in the first quarter of 2027. There is also:

- a) A water panel happening at the New South Wales (NSW) Australian Local Government Women’s Association (ALGWA) conference in May 2025
- b) The Murray Darling Association (MDA) conference at the end of September 2025 in Griffith.

Considering all this activity, it would be helpful if the Griffith LGA had a single policy document to take to State & Federal leaders and government officers for the purpose of advocacy.

The policy could refer to associated policies, including but not limited to:

- a) Consumptive water plan – water treatment plant, essential water infrastructure and sewage treatment
- b) Lake Wyangan – Environmental, Flora & Fauna, Lifestyle, Workforce attraction, potential Aboriginal Landholder partnership and water quality
- c) Drought Resilience Plan for Griffith.

And refer to policies of allied organisations, including:

- a) Murrumbidgee Irrigation – Priorities
- b) RAMJO Strategic Statement of Priorities – 2022-2026 Number 1 Priority is to 'Improve Water Security'
- c) Murray Darling Association.

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM COMMENT

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) Notice of Motion - Cr Shari Blumer [↓](#) 88
- (b) Notice of Motion content [↓](#) 90



Notice of Motion

Notice of Motion

Councillor's Name * Cr Shari Blumer

Date * 18-Feb-25
12:03:11 PM

Time * 12:03:11 PM

Brett Stonestreet
General Manager
Griffith City Council
GRIFFITH NSW 2680

Dear Mr Stonestreet, I Creation of an Overarching Water Strategy for the Griffith Local Government Area
**hereby give notice of
the following Notice
of Motion for the
Council Meeting to be
held as indicated
below: ***

Council Meeting 2/25/2025
Date: *

Signature *



Extract from Griffith City Council's Code of Meeting Practice:

Giving notice of business to be considered at Council Meetings

3.10 A councillor may give notice of any business they wish to be considered by the council at its next ordinary meeting by way of a notice of motion. To be included on the agenda of the meeting, the notice of motion must be in writing and must be submitted by 12 pm, five business days before the meeting is to be held.

3.11 A councillor may, in writing to the general manager, request the withdrawal of a notice of motion submitted by them prior to its inclusion in the agenda and business paper for the meeting at which it is to be considered.

3.12 If the General Manager considers that a notice of motion submitted by a Councillor for consideration at an ordinary meeting of the Council has legal, strategic, financial or policy implications which should be taken into consideration by the meeting, the general manager may prepare a report in relation to the notice of motion for inclusion with the business papers for the meeting at which the notice of motion is to be considered by the Council.

3.13 A notice of motion for the expenditure of funds on works and/or services other than those already provided for in the council's current adopted operational plan must identify the source of funding for the expenditure that is the subject of the notice of motion. If the notice of motion does not identify a funding source, the general manager must either:

(a) prepare a report on the availability of funds for implementing the motion if adopted for inclusion in the business papers for the meeting at which the notice of motion is to be considered by the council, or

(b) by written notice sent to all councillors with the business papers for the meeting for which the notice of motion has been submitted, defer consideration of the matter by the council to such a date specified in the notice, pending the preparation of such a report.

Questions with notice

3.14 A councillor may, by way of a notice submitted under clause 3.10, ask a question for response by the general manager about the performance or operations of the council.

3.15 A councillor is not permitted to ask a question with notice under clause 3.14 that comprises a complaint against the general manager or a member of staff of the council, or a question that implies wrongdoing by the general manager or a member of staff of the council.

3.16 The general manager or their nominee may respond to a question with notice submitted under clause 3.14 by way of a report included in the business papers for the relevant meeting of the council or orally at the meeting.

In relation to Section Not Applicable

**3.13 - Please identify
the source of funding
for expenditure if
applicable: ***

Privacy Protection Notice

- This information is being collected to process your notice in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice policy.
- This information is voluntarily required to process your request and will not be used for any other purpose without seeking your consent, or as required by law.
- Your information may comprise part of a public register related to this purpose.
- This form will be retained in Council's Records Management System and disposed of in accordance with the Local Government Disposal Authority.
- You can access and correct your personal information at any time by contacting Council.
- For further details on how the Griffith City Council manages personal information, please refer to our Privacy Management Plan.

SUMMARY

This Notice of Motion seeks Council support for a Strategic Water Policy for the Griffith Local Government Area (LGA).

This Strategic Water Policy will seek to inform State & Federal leaders and government officers for the purpose of advocacy.

RECOMMENDATION

- a) Council agrees to the creation of an overarching 'Strategic Water' policy.
- b) That the draft policy document be reported to Council for consideration during April 2025.

REPORT

The next two years are very important for Griffith as an LGA with a Federal election in the next three months, Basin Plan Review being handed down at the end of 2026 and the NSW State election in the first quarter of 2027. There is also:

- a) A water panel happening at the New South Wales (NSW) Australian Local Government Womens Association (ALGWA) conference in May 2025
- b) The Murray Darling Association (MDA) conference at the end of September 2025 in Griffith.

Considering all this activity, it would be helpful if the Griffith LGA had a single policy document to take to State & Federal leaders and government officers for the purpose of advocacy.

The policy could refer to associated policies, including but not limited to:

- a) Consumptive water plan – water treatment plant, essential water infrastructure and sewage treatment
- b) Lake Wyangan – Environmental, Flora & Fauna, Lifestyle, Workforce attraction, potential Aboriginal Landholder partnership and water quality
- c) Drought Resilience Plan for Griffith.

And refer to policies of allied organisations, including:

- a) Murrumbidgee Irrigation – Priorities
- b) RAMJO Strategic Statement of Priorities – 2022-2026 Number 1 Priority is to 'Improve Water Security'
- c) Murray Darling Association.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

As per the recommendations in this Notice of Motion.

OPTION 2

As per the recommendations in this Notice of Motion and subject to any amendments to the draft document as considered appropriate by Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

As above.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

If this recommendation is agreed to, it should be funded out of current Council resources.

LEGAL/STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 2.1 Develop and maintain partnerships with community, government and non-government agencies to benefit our community.

CONSULTATION

'What our Community Said' Report

ATTACHMENTS

N/A

TITLE Outstanding Action Report

TRIM REF 25/10341

RECOMMENDATION

The report be noted.

ATTACHMENTS

(a) Outstanding Action Report - Council Meeting [↓](#)

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OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

Council Meeting Date	MEETING ITEM	Action Officer	CRM No.	Minute No.	Council Resolution	Additional Information
28 January 2025	CL01 REQUEST TO ENTER INTO A LICENCE AGREEMENT - YENDA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION FOR THE USE OF THE YENDA TENNIS CLUBHOUSE - PART CROWN RESERVE 62949, LOT 701 DP 1030376, YENDA PLACE, YENDA	CPO	155430	25/003	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Christine Stead that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Council enters into a short-term licence agreement for a 12-month term with the Yenda Progress Association over Part Crown Reserve 62949, Lot 701 DP 1030376, Yenda Place, Yenda for use of the Yenda Tennis Clubhouse commencing on 3 February 2025. (b) The Yenda Progress Association will be required to pay an administration fee to Council on the signing of the agreement by all parties, currently \$182.00 in accordance with Council's Revenue Policy. (c) In lieu of an Annual Fee the Yenda Progress Association will be responsible for the general cleaning and upkeep of the building. (d) The Yenda Progress Association will be responsible to pay for the power used during the term of the agreement. Council will attend to the supply charges. (e) Council authorise the General Manager to execute the short-term licence agreement on behalf of Council. 	<p>12/02/2025: Council will instruct solicitors to prepare draft licence agreements as per resolution.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

28 January 2025	CL02 EXTENSION OF LEASE TERM - MURRUMBIDGEE LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT (MLHD) (SAFE HAVEN) LEASE OF STATE BANK HOUSE - 81 KOOYOO STREET, GRIFFITH	CPO	155432	25/004	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Tony O'Grady that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Council approves the amendment of the current lease term with MLHD (Safe Haven) for 1 year + 2-year term (3 years) with the commencement date of 15 December 2023 to 14 December 2026. (b) Griffith City Council and MLHD shall pay their own legal expenses in regards to the amendment of the current lease term. MLHD will attend to the registration and agency costs in relation to the registering of the lease, together with Council's administration fee, as per Council's adopted Revenue Policy. (c) Council authorise the Mayor & General Manager to execute the lease agreement on behalf of Council under the Common Seal, if required. 	12/02/2025: Council will instruct solicitors to prepare draft licence agreements as per resolution.
28 January 2025	CL03 RENEWAL OF LICENCE AGREEMENT - MURRUMBIDGEE LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT (MLHD) - 78 KOOKORA STREET, GRIFFITH	CPO	155433	25/005	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Christine Stead that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Council enters into a licence agreement with Murrumbidgee Local Health District over part Lot 3 Section 125 DP 758476 for a term of 2 years, backdated, commencing 1 January 2024, with an optional third year in Council's favour. 	12/02/2025: Council will instruct solicitors to prepare draft licence agreements as per resolution.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<p>(b) Council advertises its intention to enter into a licence agreement with Murrumbidgee Local Health District over part Lot 3 Section 125 DP 758476 for a period of 28 days. Should any submissions be received, a report will be presented to Council for consideration.</p> <p>(c) Should no submissions be received, Council enters into a licence agreement with Murrumbidgee Local Health District over part Lot 3 Section 125 DP 758476 for a further term of 2 years, backdated, commencing 1 January 2024, with an optional third year in Council's favour.</p> <p>(d) Murrumbidgee Local Health District pay all applicable costs and charges associated with preparation of the licence agreement together with Council's Administration Fee.</p> <p>(e) The licence fee be charged in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy, currently \$686 per annum for the 2024/2025 financial year, together with rates and charges if applicable.</p> <p>(f) Council authorises the Mayor and General Manager to execute the licence agreement on behalf of Council under the common seal, if required.</p>	
28 January 2025	CL04 ENDORSEMENT OF DRAFT COMMUNITY	C&IPC	155435	25/006	RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that:	12/02/2025: On Public Exhibition until 27 March 2025.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

	STRATEGIC PLAN FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Council place the draft Griffith Community Strategic Plan 2025-2035 on public exhibition for 28 days. (b) At the completion of the public exhibition period, a report will be provided to Council for consideration and adoption of the Griffith Community Strategic Plan 2025-2035. 	
28 January 2025	CL05 REQUEST FOR FUNDING - MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL FOR RENTAL AT GRIFFITH COMMUNITY CENTRE	GM	155437	25/009	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Scott Groat that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Council support the rental of an office in the Griffith Community Centre for a nominated period of 12 months at a value of \$1,248 (ex. GST) per month for the Multicultural Council of Griffith. (b) Council investigate further funding options for Multicultural Council of Griffith at a Council Workshop during the 2025/26 budget process. 	17/02/2025: The tax invoice for rental support from Nov 2024 till 30 June 2025 has been charged to the Community Grants Budget allocation. Councillors will consider draft budget for 2025/26 during April 2025 and determine source of funds for rental until Oct 2025.
28 January 2025	CL06 ADOPTION OF COUNCILLOR EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY AND REPORT RE PROVISION & CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL	Gov M	155440		<p>MOVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Scott Groat that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Council adopt the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy as attached to the report, including the suggested amendments as listed in Table 1 of the report. (b) Council note the information provided in relation to the Notice of Motion considered at the 26 November 2024 Council meeting. (c) Council declare the Council Administration 	<p>30/01/2025: Report to adopt the draft Policy has been prepared for the 11 February 2025 Council Meeting.</p> <p>12/02/2025: Policy adopted at the Council Meeting of 11 February 2025.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<p>Building/Chambers alcohol free and prohibit the consumption of alcohol at the Griffith City Council Administration Building/Chambers at 1 Benerembah Street, Griffith.</p> <p>The division was declared LOST by 5 votes to 4. Councillor Jenny Ellis MOVED a MOTION that Council adopt the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy as attached to the report, including the suggested amendments as listed in Table 1 of the report. Due to the lack of a Seconder this MOTION LAPSED.</p>	
10 December 2024	CL05 ENDORSEMENT OF DRAFT BOARDING HOUSE & CO-LIVING HOUSING POLICY FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION	SGO	153961	24/345	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Christine Stead that:</p> <p>(a) Council endorses the draft Boarding House & Co-living Housing Policy and place the draft policy on exhibition for a period of 28 days and provide members of the community at least 42 days in which to comment due to the annual closure period.</p> <p>(b) Should any submissions be received, a report be provided to Council.</p> <p>(c) Should no submissions be received, the Boarding House & Co-living Housing Policy be considered adopted as at the end date of the public exhibition period.</p>	<p>18/12/2024: On Public Exhibition until 22 January 2025. 23/1/2025: Submissions received. Report to be presented to Council in February/March 2025.</p>
10 December 2024	CL09 PROPOSED COUNCIL COMMITTEE STRUCTURE 2024 - 2028	DEOD/ Gov M	153969	24/349	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Jenny Ellis that:</p>	<p>20/12/2024: Advertising to commence from 10 till 31 Jan</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The Committee structure as attached to this report (Attachment A) be adopted for the 2024-2028 term of Council. (b) Council appoint Councillors to Council Committees, for a two-year term. (c) Purpose and scope be determined for new Committees by appointed Committee Chairpersons and Councillors. (d) Council advertises for community representation on the above Council Committees in January 2025, with nominations being considered by Councillors appointed to each Committee prior to recommendation to Council in a further report. (e) Council write to all previous Committee members to advise of the new Committee structure and of the forthcoming opportunity to nominate for membership. (f) At the first meeting of each new Committee, each Committee is to review a draft Terms of Reference for recommendation to Council for adoption. 	<p>2025. Councillor representatives to be reviewed in 2 years' time.</p> <p>13/01/2025: Committee Structure and Councillor appointments completed. Draft Committee scopes to be finalised, with SMT and committee Chairs, and advertising for community members to commence in January 2025.</p> <p>23/1/2025: Advertising commenced 21/1/2025 to 13/2/2025.</p> <p>17/02/2025: Community nominations to be considered. Report to Council 11 March 2025.</p>
	CC01 TENDER NO. 05-24/25 - YOOGALI LEVEE UPGRADE - STAGE 2A & 2B NEGOTIATIONS REPORT	DU	153983	24/366	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Scott Groat that Council proceeds with Yoogali Levee Upgrade – Stage 2a & 2b construction with B&C Plumbing Pty Ltd based on the revised project cost as shown in Figure 1 of this report.</p>	<p>13/01/2025: Funding allocated by Federal Government. NSW Reconstruction Authority to give approval to engagement of contractors.</p> <p>3/02/2025: Approval from Minister, received funding project completion date extended to 30 June 2025.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

12 November 2024	CL12 GRIFFITH WORKER AND HOUSING SHORTAGE TASKFORCE	GM	152784	24/299	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Scott Groat that:</p> <p>(a) Council note the submission as received and included in this report in regard to the draft Griffith Worker and Housing Shortage Taskforce.</p> <p>(b) Council refer the submission as referred to in (a) above to PSA Consultants to inform the review of the Griffith Housing Strategy 2019.</p>	<p>2/12/2024: Report referred to PSA consultants for consideration as part of Griffith Housing Strategy.</p> <p>13/01/2025: Consultants to hold public forum on 18 February 2025.</p>
12 November 2024	NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR SHARI BLUMER - 5 NOV 2024	GM DSD	152783	24/298	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Scott Groat and Tony O'Grady that:</p> <p>(a) Council agrees to additional wording in recommendation 14 to the 'Report on Strategies to Increase Housing Supply August 2024', seeking input from staff and the community more widely';</p> <p>(b) A report be prepared by the Directorate of Sustainable Development and be provided to Council at a meeting in May 2025.</p>	<p>2/12/2024: Report to be presented in May 2025.</p> <p>3/02/2025: Workshop held 21 February 2025 developer forum to be Scheduled April 2025.</p>
26 March 2024	CL02 COMMUNITY GARDENS LARGE SCALE EVENT MASTERPLAN	USD	144180	24/075	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Glen Andreazza that:</p> <p>(a) Council adopts the Community Gardens Large Scale Event Masterplan as exhibited.</p> <p>(b) Council finalise the estimated costing and implement permanent power supply to service food vans adjacent to Willandra Avenue, relocation of existing backstage storage</p>	<p>12/4/2024: Manager of Urban Design to arrange meeting with relevant staff to discuss fencing.</p> <p>06/05/2024: Meeting held on site to discuss fencing on Thursday, 2 May 2024. Costing of fencing being prepared.</p> <p>20/05/2024: Draft Costing will be presented to Council at a meeting in June.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<p>container to be permanently located behind Stuart McWilliam Stage subject to existing budget allocation of \$50,000.</p> <p>(c) Council finalise a staged design of fencing for the Community Gardens site.</p>	<p>04/06/2024: Draft Costing will be presented to Council at a meeting in July.</p> <p>15/07/2024: Draft Costing will be presented to Council meeting 10 September 2024.</p> <p>05/08/2024: Meeting held with contractor to obtain quotes for shade sails over stage area.</p> <p>19/08/2024: No quote received as yet.</p> <p>02/09/2024: Initial quote received. Requires further clarification.</p> <p>14/10/2024: Draft design received. Quotation to be obtained and schedule for Council Workshop in January 2025.</p> <p>13/01/2025: Scheduled for Council Workshop on 18 February 2025.</p> <p>3/02/2025: Scheduled for Council Workshop on 20 May 2025.</p>
26 March 2024	MINUTES OF THE NEW CEMETERY MASTERPLAN COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 7 MARCH 2024	DIO		24/084	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Simon Croce and Christine Stead that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the New Cemetery Masterplan Committee meeting held on 7 March 2024 be adopted, including the SMT Comment as printed below:</p> <p>SMT Comment: Should Council support the above recommendation it is proposed that Council should adopt the following in lieu of the recommendation above.</p>	<p>15/04/2024: Funeral Directors have been advised.</p> <p>17/06/2024: DA has been lodged.</p> <p>1/07/2024: Council's legal representatives have been requested to draft a Deed of Agreement.</p> <p>02/09/2024: Council staff met with Council's legal representatives the week commencing 26 August 2024. DA's have been submitted and Council's planning staff have requested additional information.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

				<p>(a) Council invite Griffith Regional Funerals to submit a Development Application for assessment with respect to the installation and operation of a cremation service to be located at Lot 4 DP775986 Wakaden St, Griffith and that the owner of the property sign the Development Application.</p> <p>(b) Council appoint an external planner to assess the development application with the determination remaining with Griffith City Council. The assessment report of the development application to be determined by a meeting of Council.</p> <p>(c) In the event that Griffith City Council approved the development application that a deed of agreement be drafted between Griffith City Council and Griffith Regional Funeral Services detailing the lease and conditions of use of the cremator. The documentation is to include reference to the owner of the property and their concurrence to the installation and use of the cremator. Further, that the owner concurs to the circumstances that the cremator may be removed from the property. Legal costs to prepare the above documentation are the responsibility of Griffith Regional Funeral Services.</p>	<p>14/10/2024: Report to Council Meeting 10 December 2024, for both DA's.</p> <p>15/01/2025: Waiting on Council solicitor to provide update on licence agreement.</p> <p>20/01/2025: Draft lease has been provided to Council staff to review.</p> <p>3/02/2025: Draft Lease Report to 25 Feb 2025 Council Meeting.</p> <p>17/02/2025: The draft lease has been finalised. The next steps</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council considers and adopts budget for 2025/26 in June 2025. 2. Report to Council July 2025 for endorsement of draft list and authority to progress tender process to purchase cremator.
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OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<p>(d) Subject to a, b and c above being completed, that Council proceed to acquire and install the cremator.</p> <p>(e) Funding to be drawn from the long-term financial plan 2025/26 approximately \$400,000 installed.</p> <p>(f) The fees applicable to the lease of the cremator as detailed in confidential attachment A as previously reported to Council and the Committee will be included in Council's revenue policy and are subject to annual review.</p>	
12 March 2024	NOTICE OF MOTION - UPGRADE TO ORIGINAL BAGTOWN'S FIRST BLACKSMITH STORE SITE	DI&O DSD	143524	24/066	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Dino Zappacosta and Simon Croce that Council upgrade the original Bagtown's first Blacksmith Store site at the Intersection of Old Wilbriggie (sic) Road and Research Station Road.</p>	<p>18/03/2024: Councillors and SMT inspecting site 19/03/2024 to discuss scope.</p> <p>02/04/2024: Site inspection completed. Project scope to be referred to Council Workshop on 21 May 2024.</p> <p>03/06/2024: Scope of works were determined at Council Workshop.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Survey site; 2. Install gravel surface in a safe location to provide access to site; 3. Remove vegetation that surrounds identified tree; and 4. Install sign with narrative depicting historical significance of site. <p>Plan of Scope of works to be discussed at Council Workshop on 29 October 2024.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

						<p>22/10/2024: Project rescheduled for presentation to 18 February 2025 Workshop.</p> <p>13/01/2025: Rescheduled to be presented to Council Workshop 18 March 2025.</p>
12 July 2022	NOTICE OF MOTION – COUNCILLOR TESTONI – YENDA MASTERPLAN	GM	119905	22/167	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Laurie Testoni and Glen Andraezza that:</p> <p>(a) Council undertake a master planning exercise for the village of Yenda. Factors such as future residential sub divisions, lifestyle blocks and rural residential to be considered along with future amenities for the village, such as sporting infrastructure to be considered. With a number of major projects nearing completion the time is right to focus on what opportunities are there for our region with growth and development. Yenda has a lot of potential for growth and by investigating strategies for the future it would benefit the growth on not only the village but that of the ever-expanding Griffith City limits. It would be important for community engagement and with the next Community Opinion Group meeting to be held in Yenda it is a great opportunity for Griffith City Council to engage with community.</p> <p>(b) Council schedule a Councillor Workshop to refine the scope of the Master Plan.</p>	<p>01/08/2022: This matter will be scheduled for discussion at Council Workshop 16 August 2022.</p> <p>05/09/2022: Council to submit an application to NSW Department of Planning and Environment for grant funding under Regional Housing Strategic Planning Fund Round 1 to complete a Yenda Masterplan. Application close 30 September 2022.</p> <p>04/10/2022: Grant application submitted.</p> <p>03/01/2023: NSW Government advised the Grant application successful on 30 November 2022. Expressions of Interests invited to coordinate and undertake the Yenda Masterplan.</p> <p>13/02/2023: Tender awarded to CBRE.</p> <p>01/05/2023: Site inspection and survey completed. Landowner, MI and staff consultation completed. Draft Masterplan presentation to 20 June Council Workshop.</p> <p>17/07/2023: Draft Masterplan to go to Council in September/October 2023.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<p>(c) Staff prepare the scoping document and report to Council for consideration of source of budget resources, time line, amendment and adoption of scoping document.</p>	<p>03/10/2023: Draft Masterplan to go to Council 14 November 2023. 06/11/2023: Draft Masterplan to go to Council Meeting in December 2023. 04/12/2023: Draft Masterplan to go to Council Meeting in February 2024. 15/01/2024: Report to March 2024 Council Meeting. 18/03/2024: Council Meeting for 14 May 2024. 06/05/2024: Consultant engineers will be invited to address Councillors at Council Workshop on 18 June 2024 regarding engineering challenges with respect to management of drainage. 01/07/2024: Meeting being arranged with property owner of Stage 1 of the Masterplan. 05/08/2024: Property owners will be contacted again seeking meeting. 19/08/2024: Further attempts to contact owners continuing. 14/10/2024: Council staff met with owner representatives on 20 September 2024. Awaiting on refined design from Council consultant. 3/02/2025: Consultant provided feedback Wednesday 29 January 2025. Report to be presented to Council in March 2025.</p>
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OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT
OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT – COMPLETION BY OTHER AGENCIES PENDING

Council Meeting Date	MEETING ITEM	Action Officer	CRM No.	Minute No.	Council Resolution	Additional Information
28 May 2024	MINUTES OF THE LAKE WYANGAN & CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 15 MAY 2024 DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT – LAKE WYANGAN	CPO	146292 /2024	24/156	RECOMMENDED on the motion of Tom Mackerras and Frank Battistel that: (a) Council refer the Draft Plan of Management for Lake Wyangan, incorporating Jack Carson Wildlife Reserve (Crown Reserve 159017) and North Lake Wyangan (Crown Reserve 1002998) to the Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016 for approval. (b) Upon approval of the Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016 Council amends the Draft Plan of Management Lake Wyangan if required, and place it on public exhibition as per Section 38 of the Local Government Act 1993. (c) Native Title advice has been approved. (d) A report be presented to Council to adopt the final Plan of Management for Lake Wyangan on completion of the exhibition period, to consider all submissions.	28/05/2024: Draft PoM emailed to Councillors. 03/06/2024: Sent to Minister for approval to be exhibited. 17/02/2025: Meeting held with Crown Land staff 11 Feb 2025. Schedule of outstanding POMs requested urgent attention of Minsters Office.
28 May 2024	CL02 DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT - SOUTH-WEST GRIFFITH PRECINCT PARKS	CPO	146289 /2024	24/154	RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Shari Blumer that: (a) Council refers the draft Plan of Management for South-West Griffith Precinct Parks to the Minister administering the	03/06/2024: Sent to Minister for approval to be exhibited. 17/02/2025: Meeting held with Crown Land staff 11 Feb 2025. Schedule of outstanding POMs requested

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT
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					<p>Crown Land Management Act 2016 for approval. Property details being Crown Reserves Griffith Regional Sports Centre (66750), Beilby Park (74741), Kooragee Park (77295), Willow Park, Venetian Park, I.O.O F Park and City Park (Prt R.81439), Yarrabee Park (90788) and Perre Park (90942) together with Council owned land Borland Leckie Park, Yawarra Three Ways Park, Burley Griffin Community Gardens, Public Reserve Park, Locklea Park, Cappello Close and Lanza Grove Public Reserve</p> <p>(b) Upon approval from the Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016 Council amends the draft Plan of Management for South-West Griffith Precinct Parks if required, and places it on public exhibition as per Section 38 of the Local Government Act 1993.</p> <p>(c) Native Title advice has been provided.</p> <p>(d) A report be presented to Council to adopt the final Plan of Management for South-West Griffith Precinct Parks on completion of the public exhibition period, to consider all submissions.</p>	urgent attention of Minsters Office.
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OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT
OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT – COMPLETION BY OTHER AGENCIES PENDING

28 May 2024	CL01 DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT - GRIFFITH CBD PRECINCT	CPO	146288	24/153	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Melissa Marin that:</p> <p>(a) Council refer the Draft Plan of Management for the Griffith CBD Precinct Crown Reserves to the Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016 for approval. Property details being R.74539 – Lot 1 Sec 43 DP758476 (Visitor's Centre and Carpark and Old Bowling Club) R.83521 – Lot 1 DP 87811 (Carpark Visitor's Centre) R.61588 – Lots 2 & 4 Sec 8 DP 758476 and Lot 7 Sec 9 DP 758476 (CWA Park and Memorial Park) R.159000 – Lots 2 & 8 Sec 9 DP 758476 (Griffith Library) R.85064 – Lots 19 & 20 Sec 7 DP 758476 and Lot 1 DP 1272062 (Banna Park) R.82722 – Lots 1, 8-9 Sec 15 DP 758476 (Couchman Carpark) R.1003025 – Lot 1 DP 1035387(Aquatic Centre).</p> <p>(b) Upon approval of the Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016 Council amends the Draft Plan of Management for the Griffith CBD Precinct Crown Reserves if required, and place it on public exhibition as per Section 38 of the Local Government Act 1993.</p>	<p>03/06/2024: Sent to Minister for approval to be exhibited.</p> <p>17/02/2025: Meeting held with Crown Land staff 11 Feb 2025. Schedule of outstanding POMs requested urgent attention of Minsters Office.</p>
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OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT
OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT – COMPLETION BY OTHER AGENCIES PENDING

					(c) Native Title advice has been provided. (d) A report be presented to Council to adopt the final Plan of Management for the Griffith CBD Precinct Crown Reserves on completion of the exhibition period, to consider all submissions.	
23 April 2024	CL03 DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT - MISCELLANEOUS CROWN RESERVES	CPO	144994	24/115	RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Laurie Testoni that: (a) Council refer the Draft Plan of Management for the Miscellaneous Crown Reserves, Kart Club - Reserve 64662 (Lot 96 DP 756035), Wumbulgal Recreation Reserve – Reserve 64911 (Lot 106 DP 751679), Rankins Springs Camping Area – Reserve 65432 (lot 7003 DP 1001194) and Dave Wallace Range – Reserve 1003005 (Lot 2 DP 48802) to the Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016 for approval. (b) Upon approval from the Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016 Council amends the Draft Plan of Management for Miscellaneous Crown Reserves if required, and place it on public exhibition as per Section 38 of the Local Government Act 1993.	20/05/2024: Awaiting approval from Minister. 17/02/2025: Meeting held with Crown Land staff 11 Feb 2025. Schedule of outstanding POMs requested urgent attention of Minsters Office.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT
OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT – COMPLETION BY OTHER AGENCIES PENDING

					(c) Native Title advice has been provided. (d) A report be presented to Council to adopt the final Plan of Management for the Miscellaneous Crown Reserves on completion of the exhibition period, to consider all submissions.	
23 April 2024	CL05 DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT - BAGTOWN CEMETERY	CPO	144997	24/117	RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Dino Zappacosta and Laurie Testoni that: (a) Council refer the Draft Plan of Management for the Bagtown Historic Cemetery - Crown Reserve 52849 (Part Lot 731 DP 751709) to the Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016 for approval. (b) Upon approval of the Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016 Council amends the Draft Plan of Management for the Bagtown Historic Cemetery and place it on public exhibition as per Section 38 of the Local Government Act 1993. (c) Native Title advice has been provided. (d) A report be presented to Council to adopt the final Plan of Management for Bagtown Historic Cemetery on completion of the exhibition period, to consider all submissions.	06/05/2024: Awaiting approval from Minister. 17/02/2025: Meeting held with Crown Land staff 11 Feb 2025. Schedule of outstanding POMs requested urgent attention of Minsters Office.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT
OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT – COMPLETION BY OTHER AGENCIES PENDING

<p>12 December 2023</p>	<p>CL04 COMPULSORY ACQUISITION - AFFECTING LOT 27 DP751709 - BEAUMONT ROAD, HANWOOD - HANWOOD LEVY</p>	<p>CPO</p>	<p>140274</p>	<p>23/303</p>	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Glen Andreazza and Melissa Marin that:</p> <p>(a) Council approves the acquisition of Crown Land, shown as Lot 1 DP 1296073 in Plan of Acquisition affecting Lot 27 DP 751709 under the provisions of the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 for the purposes of the Local Government Act 1993 Section 186.</p> <p>(b) Council make application to the Minister and/or Governor of the Local Government Act 1993 for approval to acquire Lot 1 DP 1296073 as shown in plan of acquisition affecting Lot 27 DP 751709 by compulsory acquisition process under Section 187 of the Local Government Act 1993.</p> <p>(c) Council continues to negotiate with Department of Planning & Environment to acquire the land by agreement, or as determined by the Valuer General as defined in Section 55 of the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991.</p> <p>(d) Following receipt of the Governor's approval, Council give effect to the acquisition by publication of an Acquisition Notice in the NSW</p>	<p>15/01/2024: Application preparation in progress. 03/06/2024: Application submitted. 17/02/2025: Meeting held with Crown Land staff 11 Feb 2025. Requested urgent attention of Minsters Office.</p>
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OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT
OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT – COMPLETION BY OTHER AGENCIES PENDING

					<p>Government Gazette and such other publication as may be required by law.</p> <p>(e) Upon acquisition of the land, Council resolves to classify the acquired land as operational land pursuant to Section 31 of the Local Government Act 1993.</p> <p>(f) Council pay compensation to all interest holders entitled to compensation by virtue of the compulsory acquisition on the terms set out in the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991.</p> <p>(g) Council delegate authority to the General Manager to execute the documents on behalf of Council under the Common Seal if required.</p>	
12 December 2023	CL05 COMPULSORY ACQUISITION - AFFECTING LOT 7322 DP1164483, MALLEE STREET, HANWOOD - WATER DRAINAGE WORKS	CPO	140275	23/304	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Glen Andreazza and Melissa Marin that:</p> <p>(a) Council approves the acquisition of Crown Land, shown as Lot 1 DP 1295951 in Plan of Acquisition affecting Lot 7322 DP 1164483 under the provisions of the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 for the purposes of the Local Government Act 1993 Section 186.</p> <p>(b) Council make application to the Minister and/or Governor of the Local Government Act 1993 for approval to acquire</p>	<p>15/01/2024: Application preparation in progress. 03/06/2024: Application submitted. 17/02/2025: Meeting held with Crown Land staff 11 Feb 2025. Requested urgent attention of Ministers Office.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT
OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT – COMPLETION BY OTHER AGENCIES PENDING

					<p>Lot 1 DP 1295951 as shown in plan of acquisition affecting Lot 7322 DP 1164483 by compulsory acquisition process under Section 187 of the Local Government Act 1993.</p> <p>(c) Council continues to negotiate with Department of Planning & Environment to acquire the land by agreement, or as determined by the Valuer General as defined in Section 55 of the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991.</p> <p>(d) Following receipt of the Governor’s approval, Council give effect to the acquisition by publication of an Acquisition Notice in the NSW Government Gazette and such other publication as may be required by law.</p> <p>(e) Upon acquisition of the land, Council resolves to classify the acquired land as operational land pursuant to Section 31 of the Local Government Act 1993.</p> <p>(f) Council pay compensation to all interest holders entitled to compensation by virtue of the compulsory acquisition on the terms set out in the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991.</p> <p>(g) Council delegate authority to the General Manager to</p>	
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OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT
OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT – COMPLETION BY OTHER AGENCIES PENDING

					execute the documents on behalf of Council under the Common Seal if required.	
14 February 2023	CL03 PCYC PROPOSAL TO ERECT AND FITOUT AN INTEGRATED GYMNASTICS AND COVERED OUTDOOR MULTI-SPORTS COMPETITION FACILITY - OLYMPIC STREET, GRIFFITH	GM	128874	22/034	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Simon Croce that:</p> <p>(a) Council endorse in principle the lease of (Part Lot 1 DP1272062. Crown Reserve 85064, 3 Olympic Street, Griffith) to PCYC NSW for a period of 20 years.</p> <p>(b) The annual lease fee be in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy (Schedule of Fees and Charges) as at the date of execution of the Lease. 2022/23 annual lease fee to Not for Profit Organisations is \$607.</p> <p>(c) PCYC pay all applicable costs and charges associated with the preparation of the lease agreement (this would include the survey plan preparation for leasing and registration fees if required). Also, an Administration Fee of \$481 (page 13 Revenue Policy) will be applicable.</p> <p>(d) Council communicate the above terms to PCYC NSW and subject to their agreement, Council advertise the proposed lease for a period of 28 days seeking public submissions.</p>	<p>06/03/2023: Letter written to PCYC advising terms of proposed lease. Letter of response received accepting terms. Proposed lease to be prepared by Council and publicly exhibited.</p> <p>4/07/2023: Council staff have obtained a quote for subdivision from PHL. Once the Survey Plan has been finalised a Two (2) Lot subdivision is required to create a Lot for PCYC and a Lot for the remaining land.</p> <p>31/07/2023: PCYC finalising planned subdivision.</p> <p>04/12/2023: Council seeking additional information from PCYC prior to lodgement of their DA.</p> <p>29/04/2024: PCYC contacted 24/4/24. PCYC considers current scope of project will exceed allocated budget. Currently reviewing scope to align with budget. PCYC anticipate lodging a DA with Council July 2024."</p> <p>19/08/2024: PCYC advised DA will be submitted by November 2024.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT
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					<p>(e) All public submissions be reported to Council for consideration. Should no submissions be received, Council authorise the General Manager and the Mayor to sign the lease under Council seal.</p> <p>(f) Council progress the subdivision of the subject land and authorise the General Manager and Mayor the authority to sign documents under Council seal as required. All costs in relation to the subdivision to be paid by the PCYC NSW.</p>	<p>2/12/2024: PCYC advised a DA will be submitted Jan 2025.</p> <p>17/02/2025: Meeting held on 9 Dec 2024.</p>
22 February 2022	NOTICE OF MOTION – YOOGALI SHARED BICYCLE PATH	DIO	114000	22/057	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Simon Croce and Anne Napoli that:</p> <p>(a) Council consider the construction of the Griffith to Yoogali shared bicycle track as a priority.</p> <p>(b) Council undertake a full costing of the track and bridge as to facilitate funding opportunities to contribute towards the new construction.</p>	<p>14/03/2022: Funding estimate for Path and Bridge: \$1.4 million. 100% funding request submitted to Transport for NSW Active Transport Program.</p> <p>16/01/2023: TfNSW has informed Council that its application for 2.5m shared pathway is unsuccessful. Council has been invited to make a submission to TfNSW Active Transport for a 4.5m wide shared pathway for scoping and design. Submission lodged by Council.</p> <p>05/06/2023: Funding application successful. Design to commence.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT
OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT – COMPLETION BY OTHER AGENCIES PENDING

						<p>17/07/2023: Inception meeting scheduled for 18 August 2023. Project to be completed 20 June 2025.</p> <p>18/09/2023: Ongoing consultation being held with stakeholders.</p> <p>04/12/2023: Staff updated realignment of plans and have sent to TfNSW representatives for review. Draft tender documents have been prepared. Majority of vegetation removed on proposed pathway.</p> <p>04/03/2024: Tree removal nearing completion.</p> <p>18/03/2024: Tree clearing complete. Tenders for bridge to be called for in March 2024.</p> <p>06/05/2024: Tenders close on Monday, 13 May 2024. Councillor briefing Tuesday, 21 May 2024.</p> <p>03/06/2024: Report to Council 11 June 2024.</p> <p>17/06/2024: Contract awarded. Tenderer advised.</p> <p>13/01/2025: Concrete footings for the bridge complete. Further construction to take place from February 2025.</p>
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