



Ordinary Meeting

BUSINESS PAPER

Thursday, 19 June 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)
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Anne Napoli (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

dcurran@griffith.com.au
sblumer@griffith.com.au
mdalbon@griffith.com.au
jellis@griffith.com.au
sgroat@griffith.com.au
anapoli@griffith.com.au
togrady@griffith.com.au
cstead@griffith.com.au
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
THURSDAY, 19 JUNE 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 **Thursday, 19 June 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
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- | | | |
|------|-----|--|
| CL01 | p25 | Adoption of the Draft Delivery Program 2025/26 - 2028/29
Incorporating the Draft Operational Plan (Budget) for 2025/26 and
Resourcing Strategy |
| CL02 | p30 | Making of Rates and Charges for the Period 1 July 2025 to 30 June
2026 |
| CL03 | p40 | Adoption of Disability Inclusion Action Plan |

- CL04 p43 Endorsement of Council's Governance Framework, Legislative Compliance Policy and Register
- 9 Information Reports
- CL05 p46 Consumption & User Fees & Charges Report for Griffith Sporting Organisations & Not-for Profit entities
- CL06 p55 Office of Local Government - Free Speech in Local Government in NSW Guideline
- 10 Adoption of Committee Minutes
- 11 Business with Notice – Rescission Motions
- 12 Business with Notice – Other Motions
- 13 Outstanding Action Report
- p77 Outstanding Action Report
- 14 Matters to be dealt with by Closed Council

Brett Stonestreet

GENERAL MANAGER

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
TUESDAY, 10 JUNE 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

The Area News, Cai Holroyd

1 COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Meeting opened with Councillor Anne Napoli 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

25/149

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Jenny Ellis that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in Griffith City Council Chambers on 27 May 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
Councillor Tony O'Grady

Against

Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

4 BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

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 Jenny Ellis
CL01 - DA 172/2022 - 21 Large Lot Residential Subdivision, 2 Public Roads and Residue Lot
Reason – This DA directly impacts my home.

Councillor Shari Blumer
CL08 - Temporary Licence Agreement - Occupation of Road Reserve (Railway Street) adjoining 82 Kooyoo Street, Griffith with Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA)
Reason – The business that I work for and have an interest in does the work for these clauses.

Councillor Shari Blumer
CL09 - Short-term Licence Renewal - Griffith Rodeo Club Inc., Griffith Rodeo Grounds, Scenic Hill, Griffith
Reason – The business that I work for and have an interest in does the work for these clauses.

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.

Director Sustainable Development, Joe Rizzo
CL12 - Community Grants Round 1, 2024-2025
Reason - I am a board member of GPSO which provides services in the region in the same industry as Kurrajong which is applying for a grant under Clause 12.

General Manager, Brett Stonestreet
CC02 - Minutes of the General Manager Recruitment Committee Meeting held on 30 May 2025
Reason – This meeting relates to the position I currently hold with Council.

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 Shari Blumer
CL12 - Community Grants Round 1, 2024-2025
Reason – I am a member of the musician club.

Councillor Jenny Ellis
CL12 - Community Grants Round 1, 2024-2025
Reason – I am a member of the musician club.

Councillor Anne Napoli
CL01 - DA 172/2022 - 21 Large Lot Residential Subdivision, 2 Public Roads and Residue Lot
Reason – This DA will have no significant influence to family or myself.

Councillor Anne Napoli
CL02 – DA 27/2025 - Co-Living Development Comprising Twenty-two (22) Accommodation Units, including demolition of existing development.
Reason – I have previously received phone calls and emails from the public in regards to this DA. The resolution of this DA will have no significant influence to any members of my family or to myself.

Councillor Christine Stead
CL01 - DA 172/2022 - 21 Large Lot Residential Subdivision, 2 Public Roads and Residue Lot
Reason – I spoke to a land owner today.

Councillor Christine Stead
CL02 - DA 27/2025 - Co-Living Development Comprising Twenty-two (22) Accommodation Units, including demolition of existing development.
Reason – I have spoken to objector regarding the co-living development.

6 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

CL01 DA 172/2022 - 21 LARGE LOT RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION, 2 PUBLIC ROADS AND RESIDUE LOT

Councillor Jenny Ellis left the meeting having declared a pecuniary interest, the time being 7:08pm.

25/150

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that the meeting suspend standing orders to allow Angelo Cirillo, Tim Ellis, Judith Pedler and Brendon Zambon to address Council.

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

Against

Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

25/151

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

For
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
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.

25/152

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Christine Stead that the report **LAY ON THE TABLE.**

In accordance with the Local Government Action (section 375A - Recording of voting on planning matters) Council must record the Councillor's vote in relation to the matter.

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

Against
Councillor Scott Groat

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 1.

Councillor Jenny Ellis returned to the meeting at 7:39pm.

CL02 DA 27/2025 - CO-LIVING DEVELOPMENT COMPRISING TWENTY-TWO (22) ACCOMMODATION UNITS, INCLUDING DEMOLITION OF EXISTING DEVELOPMENT.

25/153

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that the meeting suspend standing orders to allow Mark Secivanovic (Zoom) and Andrew Rowe to address Council.

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.

25/154

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Shari Blumer that the meeting resume standing orders.

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.

25/155

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Christine Stead that the report **LAY ON THE TABLE.**

In accordance with the Local Government Action (section 375A - Recording of voting on planning matters) Council must record the Councillor's vote in relation to the matter.

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.

CL03 REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S LOCAL POLICIES 2025

Councillors Jenny Ellis and Laurie Testoni moved the following **MOTION** that:

- (a) Council endorse the draft local policies as per Attachment (A) to the report.
- (b) The draft local policies be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days allowing 42 days from the date of advertising for submissions to be received.
- (c) Following the public exhibition period, a further report be presented to Council to adopt the draft local policies or to consider submissions received.

Councillors Anne Napoli and Christine Stead moved the following **AMENDMENT**:

- (a) Council endorse the draft local policies as per Attachment (A) to the report.
- (b) The draft local policies be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days allowing 42

days from the date of advertising for submissions to be received.

- (c) Following the public exhibition period, a further report be presented to Council to adopt the draft local policies or to consider submissions received.
- (d) In relation to the Restricted Premises and Sex Service Premises Policy the following changes be advertised:

No part of a restricted premises or sex services premises is to be located:

- within ~~200~~ 500 metres walking distance from any residential dwelling or residentially zoned land (excluding a bona fide caretakers residence on industrial zoned land); or

- within ~~200~~ 500 metres walking distance of any place of worship, school, community facility, child care centre, hospital, or any place likely to be visited by children for recreational or other pursuits; or in arcades or other thoroughfares open to the public or used by the public; or

within ~~200~~ 500 metres walking distance from any other lawfully operating restricted premises or sex services premises.

The amendment was **PUT** and **CARRIED**.

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

Against
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 2.

25/156

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Anne Napoli and Christine Stead that:

- (a) Council endorse the draft local policies as per Attachment (A) to the report.
- (b) The draft local policies be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days allowing 42 days from the date of advertising for submissions to be received.
- (c) Following the public exhibition period, a further report be presented to Council to adopt the draft local policies or to consider submissions received.
- (d) In relation to the Restricted Premises and Sex Service Premises Policy the following changes be advertised:

No part of a restricted premises or sex services premises is to be located:

- within ~~200~~ 500 metres walking distance from any residential dwelling or residentially zoned land (excluding a bona fide caretakers residence on industrial zoned land); or

- within ~~200~~ 500 metres walking distance of any place of worship, school, community facility, child care centre, hospital, or any place likely to be visited by children for recreational or other pursuits; or in arcades or other thoroughfares open to the public or

used by the public; or

within ~~200~~ 500 metres walking distance from any other lawfully operating restricted premises or sex services premises.

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.

**CL04 ENDORSEMENT OF DRAFT MODEL SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY AND DRAFT
MODEL MEDIA POLICY FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION**

25/157

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

- (a) Council endorse the draft Model Social Media Policy and draft Model Media Policy as attached to this report.
- (b) The attached draft Model Social Media Policy and draft Model Media Policy be placed on public exhibition for 28 days.
- (c) If submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.
- (d) If no submissions are received, the draft Model Social Media Policy and draft Model Media Policy be considered as adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.

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.

**CL05 ENDORSEMENT OF DRAFT MODEL COUNCILLOR AND STAFF
INTERACTION POLICY FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION**

25/158

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Laurie Testoni and Tony O'Grady that:

- (a) Council endorse the draft Model Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy as attached to this report.

- (b) The attached draft Model Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy be placed on public exhibition for 28 days.
- (c) If submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.
- (d) If no submissions are received, the draft Model Councillor and Staff Interaction Policy be considered as adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.

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

Against
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 2.

CL06 ENDORSEMENT OF DATA BREACH POLICY FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION

25/159

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

- (a) Council endorse the draft Data Breach Policy, as attached to the report, for public exhibition for 28 days.
- (b) If submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.
- (c) If no submissions are received, the draft Data Breach Policy be considered as adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.
- (d) Council endorses the Data Breach Response Plan as attached to the report.

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.

CL07 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL 2025 - DETERMINATION OF FEES PAYABLE TO MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

25/160

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

- (a) Council endorses the Councillor Annual Fee for the 2025/26 financial year at an increase of 3% above the current rate amounting to \$21,733 in 2025/26.
- (b) Council endorses the additional Annual Mayoral Fee for the 2025/26 financial year at an

increase of 3% above the current rate amounting to \$47,420 in 2025/26.

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.

**CL08 TEMPORARY LICENCE AGREEMENT - OCCUPATION OF ROAD RESERVE
(RAILWAY STREET) ADJOINING 82 KOOYOO STREET, GRIFFITH WITH
COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA (CBA)**

Councillor Shari Blumer left the meeting having declared a pecuniary interest, the time being 8:27pm.

25/161

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

- (a) Council enters into a licence agreement with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) for a term of 6 months with the commencement date being the date of Council's Notice of Determination, DA 68/2025.
- (b) Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) to pay all applicable costs and charges associated with the preparation of the licence agreement together with Council's Administration Fee, as per Council's adopted Revenue Policy for 2024/2025.
- (c) The licence fee be charged in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy, currently \$500 pa for 2024/2025 financial year, in addition to rates and charges, if applicable.
- (d) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to execute the licence agreement on behalf of 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.

**CL09 SHORT-TERM LICENCE RENEWAL - GRIFFITH RODEO CLUB INC., GRIFFITH
RODEO GROUNDS, SCENIC HILL, GRIFFITH**

25/162

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Laurie Testoni and Scott Groat that:

- (a) Council enters into a short-term licence agreement with Griffith Rodeo Club Inc. for part

Lot 563 DP 751743 (estimated at 47.5 hectares) for grazing and part Lot 7008 DP 1024076 for Griffith Rodeo Grounds, Scenic Hill, Griffith for a further term of 1 year, commencing 1 May 2025.

- (b) The annual fee for the short-term licence agreement to be charged in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy - currently \$686.00 p/a for the 2024/2025 financial year together with the payment of rates and charges, if applicable.
- (c) Council authorise the General Manager to execute the short-term licence agreement on behalf of 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.

Councillor Shari Blumer returned to the meeting at 8:30pm.

CL10 NAMING OF GOSLETT PARK

25/163

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Doug Curran and Scott Groat that:

- (a) Council note the submissions received.
- (b) Council add the name "Goslett" to the Griffith City Council Road & Park Name Register.
- (c) Council adopt the name of Goslett Park to the median strip located in Ortella Street, Griffith.

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.

CL11 INSTALLATION OF OUTDOOR AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) IN GRIFFITH CBD

25/164

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

- (a) Council install an Automated External Defibrillator AED to be available 24/7 on the

exterior of the Kooyoo Kiosk.

- (b) Council allocate \$3,000 from the 2024/25 Community Grants funding budget for the purchase and installation of a suitable outdoor AED and storage cabinet.
- (c) Council host St John's Ambulance to conduct a public Workshop on the use of AEDs (at a cost of approximately \$700, to be funded from the 2024/25 Community Grants funding allocation) at a date to be confirmed.
- (d) Council advertise and promote the location of the 24/7 publicly accessible AED.

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.

CL12 COMMUNITY GRANTS ROUND 1, 2024-2025

Joe Rizzo left the meeting having declared a Significant Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest, the time being 8:35pm.

25/165

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

- (a) Council endorse the following Community Grant Applications as received for Round 1 2024/2025:

Yenda Rotary – Christmas Carols Yenda	\$2,500
Intereach – International Women's Day event	\$2,000
Kurrajong – Kurrajongs Got Talent	\$2,500
Lifesource Church – Youth event	\$1,730
Total	\$8,730

- (b) Council endorse the remaining funds of \$28,212 (less \$8,730 of Community Grants approved) to be allocated to additional requests and requirements for funding to this report (less any successful quick turnaround or individual achievement applications which may be approved prior to June 30, 2025). Items include
 - i. \$3,000 to the Bush Bursary (Refer Attachment c)
 - ii. \$4,800 to the Multicultural Council for Rent Payment for July – October 2025 at the Griffith Community Centre
 - iii. If approved by Council (under separate Report), Council allocate \$3,700 to the purchase of an outdoor Automated External Defibrillator, case, installation and training.

For

Councillor Doug Curran

Against

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

The division was declared PASSED by 9 votes to 0.

Joe Rizzo returned to the meeting, the time being 8:36pm.

9 INFORMATION REPORTS

Nil

10 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE DISABILITY INCLUSION & ACCESS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21 MAY 2025

25/166

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Laurie Testoni that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Disability Inclusion & Access Committee meeting held on 21 May 2025 be adopted.

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.

11 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

12 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – OTHER MOTIONS

NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR TONY O'GRADY

25/167

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

- (a) Council request a report on the feasibility of charging the business rating category for the stormwater levy on the basis of land area and not a flat rate of \$25 per assessment

as well as any statutory regulations we may need to follow.

- (b) Council identify any other issues that may arise relating to these changes including timing of when any change could be implemented.

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.

NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR JENNY ELLIS

25/168

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Shari Blumer that Council investigate the cost and feasibility of flattening the western wall of the Community Gardens amphitheatre, including the realignment of irrigation and re-turfing of the area. The findings are to be included in the Community Gardens Masterplan for future consideration.

For

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

Against

Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Anne Napoli

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 2.

13 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

25/169

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Laurie Testoni 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.**

25/170

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

Against

Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Laurie Testoni

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.

CC01 CODE OF CONDUCT REVIEW PANEL

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

**CC02 MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MANAGER RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 30 MAY 2025**

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

Council closed its meeting at 8:49pm.

The public and media left the Chamber.

Livestream was disconnected.

REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL

25/171

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Laurie Testoni 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 9:14pm.

Livestream was reconnected.

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

MATTERS DEALT WITH IN CLOSED COUNCIL

CC01 CODE OF CONDUCT REVIEW PANEL

25/172

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Christine Stead that Council appoint KPMG, Centium and O'Connor Marsden and Associates as members of Council's Code of Conduct Reviewer Panel for the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2028.

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.

**CC02 MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MANAGER RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 30 MAY 2025**

Brett Stonestreet left the meeting having declared a Significant Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest, the time being 8:51pm.

Shireen Donaldson, Graham Gordon, Phil King, Max Turner, Joe Rizzo and Antoinette Galluzzo left the meeting the time being 8:51pm

Councillors Scott Groat and Christine Stead moved the following **MOTION** that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the General Manager Recruitment Committee meeting held on 30 May 2025 be adopted.

Councillors Anne Napoli and Christine Stead moved the following **AMENDMENT** that an additional applicant be added to the short listed applicants for interview.

The amendment was **PUT** and **LOST**.

For
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Christine Stead

Against
Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Shari Blumer
Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni

The division was declared LOST by 3 votes to 6.

25/173

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Scott Groat and Christine Stead that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the General Manager Recruitment Committee meeting held on 30 May 2025 be adopted.

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.

Brett Stonestreet, Shireen Donaldson, Graham Gordon, Phil King, Max Turner, Joe Rizzo and Antoinette Galluzzo returned to the meeting the time being 9:14pm.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 9:18pm.

Confirmed:

CHAIRPERSON

CLAUSE **CL01**

TITLE **Adoption of the Draft Delivery Program 2025/26 - 2028/29 Incorporating the Draft Operational Plan (Budget) for 2025/26 and Resourcing Strategy**

FROM **Brett Stonestreet, General Manager**

TRIM REF **25/55312**

SUMMARY

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held 13 May 2025, it was resolved that the following documents:

- Draft Delivery Program 2025/26 - 2028/29 incorporating the Draft Operational Plan (Budget) for 2025/26;
- Draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2025/26 - 2034/35;
- Draft Workforce Management Plan 2025/26 - 2028/29; and
- Draft Asset Management Plan 2025/26 – 2034/35

be placed on public exhibition for 28 days. The public notification period concluded on Wednesday, 11 June 2025. This report considers a number of submissions received during the notification period.

RECOMMENDATION

Council adopt the following documents:

- **Delivery Program 2025/26 - 2028/29 incorporating the draft Operational Plan 2025/26 (Budget),**
- **Ten Year Long Term Financial Plan 2025/26-2034/35,**
- **Workforce Management Plan 2025/26-2028/29,**
- **Asset Management Plan 2025/26 – 2034/35.**

as attached to the report including any additional amendments as a result of submissions received during the exhibition period.

REPORT

Under the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Guidelines every NSW council is required to prepare the following documents:

- Community Strategic Plan
- Delivery Program
- Operational Plan (Budget)
- Resourcing Strategy consisting of Long-Term Financial Plan, Asset Management Plan and Workforce Management Plan
- Annual Report
- State of our City Report.

Council is required to adopt its Delivery Program 2025/26 - 2028/29, Operational Plan (Budget) 2025/26, Long-Term Financial Plan 2025/26 - 2034/35, Workforce Management

Plan 2025/26 - 2028/29 and Asset Management Plan 2025/26 – 2034/35 by 30 June 2025 in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993.

The IPR Guidelines state that Council must have an annual Operational Plan (Budget), adopted before the beginning of each financial year, outlining the activities to be undertaken that year, as part of the Delivery Program. The Operational Plan (Budget) must include Council's detailed annual budget, statement of revenue policy, estimated income and expenditure, ordinary rates and special rates, proposed fees and charges, Council's proposed pricing methodology and proposed borrowings.

Council, at its Ordinary Meeting held 13 May 2025, resolved the following:

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Scott Groat that:

- (a) Council endorse the placement of the following draft documents on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days:
- Draft Delivery Program 2025/26 - 2028/29 incorporating the draft Operational Plan 2025/26,
 - Draft Ten Year Long Term Financial Plan 2025/26-2034/35
 - Draft Workforce Management Plan 2025/26-2028/29
 - Draft Asset Management Plan 2025/26 – 2034/35.
- (b) Council hold a Community Opinion Group (COG meeting) during the public exhibition period to review and discuss the draft documents.
- (c) Following the public exhibition period, the abovementioned documents, including any submissions received, will be presented to Council for consideration and adoption before 30 June 2025.

Council also endorse for exhibition, the following further amendments relating to the Draft Delivery Program and Draft Ten Year Long Term Financial Plan - Ten Year Capital Works Program.

- (d) Line 34 Civil Infrastructure Drone replacement \$7,410 - move this item to 2027/28 going forward 7.5 yr replacement.
- (e) Line 37 Street lighting Additional lights general \$33,051 - reduce this figure to \$16,525.
- (f) Line 44 IT services Annual PC replacement \$124,218 - reduce this figure to \$110K.
- (g) Line 74 Parks and gardens Scenic hill lighting etc \$140k - move \$70k of this budget to 2026/27 budget.
- (h) Line 76 Parks and gardens Wood park toilet block \$250K - move this item to 2026/27 budget.

Public notification included notices in the Council Catch Up, publication on Council's Connect Griffith website, radio advertising and social media posts. A Community Opinion Group meeting was held in the Council Chambers on 3 June 2025, specifically to consult with the community in relation to the proposed budget as well as Council Café on 15 May 2025. The public notification period ended 11 June 2025.

Details of the submissions received along with comments provided by Senior Management Team are attached to this report (Attachment (a)).

The budget includes the second tranche of the Special Variation (SV) of 10.5 per cent for the 2025/26 year after which the annual rate increase will revert back to the rate peg increase as announced by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) each year.

A copy of the documents including amendments arising from the resolutions from the 13 May meeting are attached to this report. Changes as per internal submissions have also been included in the attached documents.

Following resolution by Council, the final documents, including any further amendments, will be updated and uploaded to Council's website, prior to the 30 June deadline.

OPTIONS

Council is required to adopt the Delivery Program 2025/26 - 2028/29, Operational Plan (Budget) for 2025/26, Long-Term Financial Plan 2025/26 - 2034/35, Workforce Management Plan 2025/26 - 2028/29 and Asset Management Plan 2025/26 – 2034/35, subject to any further amendments advised, by 30 June 2025 in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993.

Council must prepare and adopt a financially responsible budget including a Long Term Financial Plan in order to fund its services and facilities in the short, medium and long term.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Council must adopt an annual budget by 30 June each year in order to be able to levy rates and charges.

Serious Moderate Risk: High financial loss of \$1 million to \$15 million.

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

By preparing the IPR documents in accordance with the prescribed [Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines](#), Council is meeting its legal and statutory obligations.

[Local Government Act 1993](#) key requirements

1. Delivery Program (s404)
 - Covers a 4-year period aligned to the council term.
 - Outlines how the council will implement the Community Strategic Plan.
2. Operational Plan (s405)
 - Prepared annually.
 - Details the specific activities, budget, and performance measures for the year.
 - Must include a statement of revenue policy and schedule of fees and charges.

3. Resourcing Strategy (s403)

- Includes long-term financial planning (minimum 10 years), asset management planning, and workforce management planning.
- Supports the implementation of the Community Strategic Plan.

Moderate Low Risk: Minor policy or regulatory breach resolved through amended practices.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Minimal environmental impact handled internally.

REPUTATION / COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Limited adverse public/staff reaction and/or negative publicity.

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Council must prepare and adopt a financially responsible budget including a Long Term Financial Plan in order to fund its services and facilities in the short, medium and long term.

Serious Moderate Risk: Significant degradation of prolonged interruption of services or operations over one to two weeks. Significant impact to staff and service standards. Significant impact to contractor performance and delivery.

WHS / HR IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: No injuries/Nil impact to service delivery.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 3.1 Undertake Council activities within a clear framework of strategic planning, policies, procedures and service standards.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

Councillors

Community Opinion Group meeting held 3 June 2025

Consultation for a period of 28 days through Connect Griffith website

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) Table of Submissions (under separate cover)
- (b) Basketball Court Proposal (under separate cover)
- (c) Tom Mackerras - Attachment to Submission (under separate cover)

(confidential)

- (d) Manjit Singh - Letter of Submission (under separate cover)
- (e) Internal Submission - Section 68 Approvals (under separate cover)
- (f) Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2025/26 - 2028/29 (under separate cover)
- (g) Long Term Financial Plan 2025/26 - 2034/35 (under separate cover)
- (h) Asset Management Plan 2025/26 - 2034/35 (under separate cover)
- (i) Workforce Management Plan 2025/26 - 2028/29 (under separate cover)
- (j) Addendums adopted Council Meeting 13 May 2025 - these have been reflected in above documents (under separate cover)

CLAUSE **CL02**

TITLE **Making of Rates and Charges for the Period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026**

FROM **Vanessa Edwards, Finance Manager**

TRIM REF **25/63500**

SUMMARY

Following the adoption by the Council of the 2025/2026 Operational Plan, Council is to formally make the ordinary rates and charges for the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

(a) Levying of Ordinary Rates and Charges for 2025/2026 Ordinary Rates.

- (i) That Council, having adopted its Operational Plan for the year commencing 1 July 2025 and after giving public notice in accordance with Section 532 of the Local Government Act, 1993 of its draft Operational Plan for the year commencing 1 July 2025 and after considering submissions concerning that Plan in accordance with Section 494 of the Local Government Act, 1993 hereby resolve to make and levy an Ordinary Rate consisting of a base amount percentage (minimum charge) and also an ad valorem rate for the residential, farmland and business categories of all rateable land in the Local Government Area as per the following differential rating mix per category:**
- Residential - 25% base amount / 75% ad valorem amount levied**
 - Business - 10% base amount / 90% ad valorem amount levied**
 - Farmland - 30% base amount / 70% ad valorem amount levied**
 - Farmland - Irrigable - 20% base amount / 80% ad valorem amount levied**
- (ii) The percentage and dollar value of the base amount payable by the making and levying of an ordinary rate for the residential, farmland and business categories is calculated to produce the following minimum base amounts of the total ordinary rate levy:**
- Residential - 25% base amount / \$359.00 per rateable assessment**
 - Business - 10% base amount / \$365.00 per rateable assessment**
 - Farmland - 30% base amount / \$934.00 per rateable assessment**
 - Farmland – Irrigable - 20% base amount / \$1,015.00 per rateable assessment**
- (iii) An ad valorem amount for the various rating categories, including residential, farmland and business categories for all rateable land within the Local Government Area for an ordinary rate commencing 1 July 2025 according to the following amounts;**
- Residential (75% ad valorem rate) resulting in a dollar value of zero point zero zero four eight one three zero zero (\$0.00481300) cents in the dollar**

applied to the land value for all rateable lands within the residential category in the City based upon the land value at a base valuation date of 1 July 2024.

- Business (90% ad valorem rate) resulting in a dollar value of zero point zero zero seven zero six eight zero zero (\$0.00706800) cents in the dollar applied to the land value for all rateable lands within the business category in the City based upon the land value at a base valuation date of 1 July 2024.
- Farmland (70% ad valorem rate) resulting in a dollar value of zero point zero zero three zero seven zero zero zero (\$0.00307000) cents in the dollar applied to the land value for all rateable lands within the farmland category in the City based upon the land value at a base valuation date of 1 July 2024.
- Farmland – Irrigable (80% ad valorem rate) resulting in a dollar value of zero point zero zero three eight three five zero zero (\$0.00383500) cents in the dollar applied to the land value for all rateable lands within the farmland (irrigable intensive) category in the City based upon the land value at a base valuation date of 1 July 2024.

(b) That Council, having adopted its Operational Plan for the year commencing 1 July 2025 and after giving public notice in accordance with Section 496(A) of the Local Government Act, 1993 and after considering submissions concerning that Plan, hereby resolve to make and levy a charge of \$25 per residential and business assessment and \$12.50 per residential Strata title assessment and \$5 per business Strata assessment in the urban area for the provision of Urban Stormwater Management Services.

(c) Waste Management Charges for 2025/2026 (incorporating waste collection, landfill operations, maintenance and capital developments).

(i) That whereas the Council has adopted the Operational Plan for the period commencing 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 it hereby resolves to make and levy, in accordance with Section 496 of the Local Government Act, 1993, a charge of four hundred and eight dollars (\$408.00) for the provision of domestic waste management services for each residence for which the service is available within the City and surrounding villages. Such charge to provide for the removal on a once per week basis of waste contained in one 240 litre mobile garbage bin from each separate occupancy, whether rateable or not.

(ii) That whereas the Council has adopted the Operational Plan for the period commencing 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 it hereby resolves to make and levy, in accordance with Section 496 of the Local Government Act, 1993, a domestic waste service charge in respect of vacant residential land an annual charge of fifty six dollars (\$56.00) per assessment.

(iii) That whereas the Council has adopted the Operational Plan for the period commencing 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 it hereby resolves to make and levy, in accordance with Section 496 of the Local Government Act, 1993, a charge of one hundred and thirty five dollars (\$135.00) for the provision of domestic waste recycling collection services for each residence for which the service is available within the City and surrounding villages. Such charge to provide for the removal on a once per fortnight basis of recyclable waste contained in one 240 litre mobile garbage bin from each separate occupancy, whether rateable or not. For any new assessments for the service, the charge will only become effective upon the commencement of the service and will be charged on a pro-rata basis.

- (iv) That whereas the Council has adopted the Operational Plan for the period commencing 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 it hereby resolves to make and levy, in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act, 1993, a charge of six hundred and ninety three dollars (\$693.00) per requested service for the year commencing 1 July 2025 for the provision of waste management services for each non-residential property for which the service is utilised within the City. Such a charge to provide the removal as requested on a once per week basis of waste contained in one 240 litre mobile garbage bin from each separate occupancy, whether rateable or not.
 - (v) That whereas the Council has adopted the Operational Plan for the period commencing 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 it hereby resolves to make and levy, in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act, 1993, a charge of one thousand seven hundred and fifty three dollars (\$1,753.00) per requested service for the year commencing 1 July 2025 for the provision of waste management services for each non-residential property for which the service is utilised within the City. Such charge to provide for the removal as requested on a once per week basis of garbage contained in a 660 litre mobile garbage bin from each occupancy, whether rateable or not.
 - (vi) That whereas the Council has adopted the Operational Plan for the period commencing 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 it hereby resolves to make and levy, in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act, 1993, a charge of two thousand eight hundred and ninety seven dollars (\$2,897.00) per requested service for the year commencing 1 July 2025 for the provision of waste management services for each non-residential property for which the service is utilised within the City. Such charge to provide for the removal as requested on a once per week basis of garbage contained in an 1,100 litre mobile garbage bin from each occupancy, whether rateable or not.
 - (vii) That whereas the Council has adopted the Operational Plan for the period commencing 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 it hereby resolves to make and levy, in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act, 1993, a charge of two hundred and seventy dollars (\$270.00) for the provision of industrial/commercial waste recycling collection services for each requested service for which the service is available within the City and surrounding villages. Such charge to provide for the removal on a once per fortnight basis of recyclable waste contained in two 240 litre mobile garbage bin. For any new assessments for the service, the charge will only become effective upon the commencement of the service and will be charged on a pro-rata basis.
- (d) Sewerage Rates and Charges for 2025/2026
- (i) That whereas the Council has adopted the Operational Plan for the period commencing 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 it hereby resolves to make and levy, in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act, 1993, a residential sewerage charge in respect of residential land an annual charge of one thousand and twenty nine dollars (\$1,029.00) per tenement.
 - (ii) That whereas the Council has adopted the Operational Plan for the period commencing 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 it hereby resolves to make and levy, in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act, 1993, a residential sewerage charge in respect of non-connected residential land within 75 metres of service, an annual charge of eight hundred and four dollars (\$804.00) per assessment.
 - (iii) That whereas the Council has adopted the Operational Plan for the period commencing 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 it hereby resolves to make and

levy, the following charges in relation to non-residential properties, in accordance with Section 535 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

Sewerage charges for non-residential properties for the 2025/2026 year will be based on:

- Water Consumption (C)
- Sewer Discharge Factor (SDF)
- Annual Access Charge (AC)
- Sewerage Treatment Charge (STC)
- Trade Waste Administration Charge (if applicable) (TWAC)
- Trade Waste Usage Charge (if applicable) (TWUC)
- Trade Waste Discharge Factor (if applicable) (TWDF)

An annual sewer charge of one thousand nine and twenty nine dollars (\$1,029.00) for all chargeable properties connected to the Griffith City sewer system that has no water meter connection and has an estimated annual usage of less than five hundred kilolitres per annum (<500 kL). No consumption is chargeable. (CBD Area - Low)

An annual sewer charge of two thousand four hundred and three dollars (\$2,403.00) for all chargeable properties connected to the Griffith City sewer system that has no water meter connection and has an estimated annual usage of greater than five hundred kilolitres but less than eleven hundred kilolitres per annum (>500 to <1,100 kL). No consumption is chargeable. (CBD Area - Medium)

An annual sewer charge of four thousand two hundred and six dollars (\$4,206.00) for all chargeable properties connected to the Griffith City sewer system that has no water meter connection and has an estimated annual usage of greater than eleven hundred kilolitres per annum (>1,100 kL). No consumption is chargeable. (CBD Area - High)

An annual sewer charge of five hundred and fifty two dollars (\$552.00) for all non-residential properties not connected to the Griffith City sewer system that are within 75 metres of a water meter connection. No consumption is chargeable.

(iv) Access Charges (based on meter size)

An annual sewer access charge of five hundred and fifty two dollars (\$552.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a 20mm connection.

An annual sewer access charge of seven hundred and fifty three dollars (\$753.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a 25mm connection.

An annual sewer access charge of one thousand two hundred and twenty seven dollars (\$1,227.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a 32mm connection.

An annual sewer access charge of one thousand eight hundred and ninety six dollars (\$1,896.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a 40mm connection.

An annual sewer access charge of two thousand nine hundred and twenty eight dollars (\$2,928.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a 50mm connection.

An annual sewer access charge of seven thousand four hundred and seventy six dollars (\$7,476.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has an 80mm connection.

An annual sewer access charge of eleven thousand six hundred and seventy three dollars (\$11,673.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a 100mm connection.

An annual sewer access charge of twenty six thousand one hundred and ninety six dollars (\$26,196.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a 150mm or 200mm connection.

A sewerage treatment charge of two dollars and six cents (\$2.06) per kilolitre.

(v) Annual Trade Waste Administration Charge

An annual trade waste administration charge of one hundred and thirty eight dollars (\$138.00) for Category One properties.

An annual trade waste administration charge of two hundred and forty six dollars (\$246.00) for Category Two properties.

An annual trade waste administration charge of six hundred and thirty nine dollars (\$639.00) for Category Three properties.

A trade waste treatment charge of one dollar and sixty eight cents (\$1.68) per kilolitre.

(e) Water Charges 2025/2026

That whereas the Council has adopted the Operational Plan for the period commencing 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 it hereby resolves to make and levy the following charges, in accordance with section 535 of the Local Government Act 1993:

(i) Access Charges

An annual water access charge of one hundred and fifty six dollars (\$156.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a 20mm connection.

An annual water access charge of two hundred and thirty seven dollars (\$237.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a 25mm connection.

An annual water access charge of three hundred and seventy two dollars (\$372.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a 32mm connection.

An annual water access charge of five hundred and seventy six dollars (\$576.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a 40mm connection.

An annual water access charge of eight hundred and ninety one dollars (\$891.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a 50mm connection.

An annual water access charge of two thousand two hundred and fifty three dollars (\$2,253.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has an 80mm connection.

An annual water access charge of three thousand five hundred and nineteen dollars (\$3,519.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a 100mm connection.

An annual water access charge of seven thousand eight hundred and ninety nine dollars (\$7,899.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has either a 150mm or 200mm connection.

An annual water access charge of two hundred and thirty seven dollars (\$237.00) for all land rateable to the Yenda water supply that has a dual connection (one raw meter and one potable meter regardless of meter size).

An annual water access charge of one hundred and fifty six dollars (\$156.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that is within 225 metres of a water main and can be connected to that supply but is not connected. No consumption is chargeable.

An annual water access charge of two hundred and ninety seven dollars (\$297.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that is part of a neighbourhood or strata title development which has a shared meter. No consumption is chargeable.

An annual water access charge of six hundred and twenty four dollars (\$624.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith water supply that has a connection but is unmetered and has an estimated daily usage of less than one kilolitre per day (<1 kL), these being CBD (C1) properties. No consumption is chargeable.

An annual water access charge of one thousand and eighty nine dollars (\$1,089.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith water supply that has a connection but is unmetered and has an estimated daily usage of more than one kilolitre but less than six kilolitres per day (>1 - <6 kL), these being CBD (C2) properties. No consumption is chargeable.

An annual water access charge of three thousand nine hundred and seventy two dollars (\$3,972.00) for all land rateable to the Griffith water supply that has a connection but is unmetered and has an estimated daily usage of more than six kilolitres per day (>6 kL), these being CBD (C3) properties. No consumption is chargeable.

(ii) Consumption Charges

A water supply consumption charge of eighty seven cents (\$0.87) per kilolitre for all potable water supplied per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply up to a maximum of two hundred kilolitres (200 kL).

A water supply consumption charge of eighty seven cents (\$0.87) per kilolitre for all potable water supplied per rateable connection to crisis accommodation centres as determined by council.

A water supply consumption charge of one dollar and eighty six cents (\$1.86) per kilolitre for all potable water supplied per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply in excess of two hundred kilolitres (200 kL).

A water supply consumption charge of forty nine cents (\$0.49) per kilolitre for all raw water supplied per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply.

A water supply consumption charge of three dollars and eighteen cents (\$3.18) per kilolitre for all potable water supplied from designated standpipes at Griffith and Yenda.

A water supply consumption charge of one dollar and sixty cents (\$1.60) per kilolitre for all non-potable water supplied from designated standpipes at Griffith and Yenda.

The rebate for an additional one hundred kilolitres (100kL) of free water for publicly accessible nature strips or reserves will be available for the 2025/2026 financial year.

(iii) Backflow Charges

An annual backflow prevention testing charge of one hundred and sixty five dollars (\$165.00) per high risk testable backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention testing charge of seventy five dollars (\$75.00) per medium risk testable backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of fifty four dollars (\$54.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 20mm medium-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of fifty seven dollars (\$57.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 25mm medium-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of sixty nine dollars (\$69.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 32mm medium-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of seventy two dollars (\$72.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 40mm medium-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of seventy eight dollars (\$78.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 50mm medium-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of two hundred and ten dollars (\$210.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 80mm medium-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of two hundred and fifty five dollars (\$255.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 100mm medium-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of three hundred and eighty four dollars (\$384.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 150mm medium-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of six hundred and twenty one dollars (\$621.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 200mm medium-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of sixty three dollars (\$63.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 20mm high-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of seventy five dollars (\$75.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 25mm high-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of eighty seven dollars (\$87.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 32mm high-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of ninety three dollars (\$93.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 40mm high-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of ninety nine dollars (\$99.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 50mm high-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of two hundred and forty six dollars (\$246.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 80mm high-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of three hundred and twenty one dollars (\$321.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 100mm high-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of four hundred and ninety eight dollars (\$498.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 150mm high-risk backflow prevention device.

An annual backflow prevention rental charge of nine hundred and forty eight dollars (\$948.00) per rateable connection to the Griffith or Yenda water supply that has a testable 200mm high-risk backflow prevention device.

(f) Interest on Overdue Rates for 2025/2026

That whereas the Council has adopted the Operational Plan for the period commencing 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026, it is determined that in pursuance of Section 566 of the Local Government Act, 1993 the interest rate for overdue rates and charges from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 will be 10.5% per annum as advised by the Office of Local Government.

REPORT

Pursuant to section 494, 496, 496A, 497 and 501 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council is required to make the Rates and Charges for the 2024/2025 year.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

As per the Recommendation.

In accordance with the Local Government Act, 1993, Council is required to adopt an Ordinary Rating structure comprising of one of the following:

- (a) an ad valorem rate (to which a minimum may be applied); or
- (b) a base amount (of up to 50%) to which an ad valorem rate is added.

OPTION 2

Any other resolution of Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Requirement of the Local Government Act (1993).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 - SECT 494

Ordinary rates must be made and levied annually

494 ORDINARY RATES MUST BE MADE AND LEVIED ANNUALLY

- (1) A council must make and levy an ordinary rate for each year on all rateable land in its area.
- (2) Each category or subcategory of ordinary rate is to apply only to land of the same category or subcategory.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The rate structure and special charges adopted will be the basis of the estimates for the 2024/2025 budget.

LEGAL/STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

The 2024/2025 Operational Plan has been prepared in accordance with section 405 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

In accordance with Section 494 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council must make and levy an ordinary rate on all rateable land within its area.

The structure of the rate must be in accordance with Section 497 of that Act.

The special charges proposed for the provision of sewerage and trade waste services are in accordance with Section 501 of the Local Government Act 1993.

The annual charge proposed for the management of storm water is in accordance with Section 496A of the Local Government Act 1993.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Adoption of rates and charges will assist Council to meet its environmental obligations.

COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

The setting of rates and charges has been undertaken following a public exhibition period and the opportunity for community input.

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.

The adoption of rates and charges will enable Council to deliver its Operational Plan for the next financial year.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

Revenue Team Leader

Councillors

Senior Managers and Operational Staff

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

CLAUSE CL03**TITLE** Adoption of Disability Inclusion Action Plan**FROM** Shireen Donaldson, Director Economic & Organisational Development**TRIM REF** 25/59412

SUMMARY

Council adopted the original Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) on 27 June 2017. A new plan was undertaken in 2021, with the 2021-2025 Disability Inclusion Action Plan being adopted on 9 November 2021. The Plan must be reviewed every 4 years and be “remade” within 12 months of the review. This Plan has been extensively reviewed in preparation for a remade Plan in 2026. The community will have opportunity to provide further feedback in the preparation of the “remade” Plan within the next 12 months.

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held 22 April 2025, it was resolved that the Disability Inclusion Action Plan be placed on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days. Submissions were received until 30 May 2025. The purpose of this report is to seek Council’s endorsement of the most recently reviewed DIAP.

The Disability Inclusion & Access Committee considered the current Plan at the Meeting of 28 May 2025 and discussed the opportunity to make submissions on behalf of the community and experiences they have encountered.

There were 55 responses received from the community and staff through surveys conducted by Council. Submissions and recommendations/responses are attached.

RECOMMENDATION

Council adopt the Disability Inclusion Action Plan with amendments as itemised in the report.

REPORT

Under the Disability Inclusion Act 2014, local governments are required to review Disability Inclusion Action Plans (DIAP). A DIAP demonstrates local government’s commitment to people with a disability on improving access to services, facilities and jobs and is also designed to change perceptions about people with a disability.

The DIAP strategies and actions link to Griffith City Council’s Strategic Plan ‘We are Griffith 2025-2035 and incorporates the four key focus areas of:

- Leadership
- Liveability
- Growth
- Sustainability.

The community, stakeholders and Council employees were consulted in the review of the Plan using face to face meetings and agency, community and staff surveys.

By endorsing the reviewed Disability Inclusion and Action Plan (Attachment A), Council will be demonstrating its intent to include a broad range of initiatives that will improve access to facilities, employment and information, inclusion and change perceptions about people with a disability.

SUBMISSIONS	RESPONSE/ RECOMMENDATION
SUBMISSION 1 (As per Attachment (b) Suzanne Biondo)	Review employment and recruitment processes and procedures for accessibility. Deliver training to all Council staff and committee members around inclusive practices for working with people with disability such as Human Rights Commission Disability Awareness Training • Training sessions delivered by Council Human Resources, Workforce Planning Ongoing Review Council Policies such as Anti-Discrimination & Equal Employment Opportunity, Sick Leave and Carers Leave.
SUBMISSION 2 (As per Attachment (c)) Community Petition charging point for mobility scooters in the main street that is easy to access by those with limited mobility who use mobility scooters in Griffith)	Petition presented at DIAC committee for review. Quotes currently being investigated for Kooyoo Mall.
STAFF SUBMISSION REPORT (As per Attachment (d))	Comment: Comments reflected in the plan.
COMMUNITY CHECK-IN SUBMISSIONS REPORT (As per Attachment (e))	Comment: Comments reflected in the plan.

OPTIONS

As per the Recommendation.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Anti-Discrimination & Equal Employment Opportunity HR-CP-202.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Financial implications are incorporated in operational budgets and upgrades.

Minor Low Risk: Low financial loss <\$10,000

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The DIAP is required under the Disability Inclusion Act 2014. The DIAP should be developed and reviewed in accordance with the [NSW Disability Inclusion Action Planning Guidelines](#).

Moderate Low Risk: Minor policy or regulatory breach resolved through amended practices.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

There may be minor environmental impacts as a result of access requirements at facilities.

Minor Low Risk: Minimal environmental impact handled internally.

REPUTATION / COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The community is has provided feedback in line with the review of the Community Strategic Plan.

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. 2.2 Maximise opportunities to secure external funding for partnerships, projects and programs.

4.1 Make our community safer.

4.2 Encourage an inclusive community that celebrates social and cultural diversity.

4.3 Provide and promote accessibility to services.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) Disability Inclusion Action Reviewed Plan (under separate cover)
- (b) Submission - Suzanne Biondo (under separate cover)
- (c) Community Petition - Charging Point for Mobility Scooters (under separate cover)
- (d) Staff DIAP Survey Report (under separate cover)
- (e) DIAP Community Check-In Report (under separate cover)

CLAUSE CL04**TITLE Endorsement of Council's Governance Framework, Legislative
Compliance Policy and Register****FROM Leanne Austin, Governance Manager****TRIM REF 25/60811**

SUMMARY

Council has developed a Governance Framework document as part of its ongoing commitment to transparency, accountability and ethical leadership. The development and adoption of this framework is considered best practice and provides a clear structure to support good governance across the whole organisation.

In addition, Council has recently reviewed and updated its Legislative Compliance Policy and Legislative Compliance Register to ensure alignment with current legislative and operational requirements. The Governance Framework, updated Legislative Compliance Policy and Legislative Compliance Register are now presented to Council for endorsement, with the Policy proposed to be placed on public exhibition.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) Council place Council's draft Legislative Compliance Policy on public display for 28 days.**
- (b) If any submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.**
- (c) If no submissions are received, the reviewed policy be considered as adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.**
- (d) Council endorse the Governance Framework and Legislative Compliance Register as attached to the report.**

REPORT

While not a legislative requirement, the development of a formal Governance Framework is considered best practice and demonstrates Council's commitment to good governance. The Governance Framework provides clarity around the roles, responsibilities and decision-making processes within Council and strengthens alignment with legislative obligations and Council's strategic objectives. It acts as a key reference document for both staff and elected members, supporting consistent, informed and lawful conduct across the organisation. By formalising and articulating Council's approach to governance, the Framework enhances internal accountability and reinforces public confidence in Council's operations.

Councils are guided by a broad range of legislation, regulations, and policies to ensure they make sound decisions that achieve positive outcomes for their communities. Compliance with relevant laws and mandatory policies or guidelines is essential to fulfilling these responsibilities.

In support of this, Council's Legislative Compliance Policy aims to:

- Prevent, and where necessary, identify and respond to breaches of laws, regulations, codes, or organisational standards;
- Promote a strong culture of compliance within the organisation; and
- Assist Council in achieving the highest standards of governance.

Amendments have been made to the Legislative Compliance Policy to ensure it remains current and reflective of Council's operational context. It is proposed that the reviewed Policy be placed on public exhibition for community feedback (refer Attachment B).

Additionally, Council's Legislative Compliance Register has been reviewed and updated to reflect relevant legislative requirements. The updated Register is provided for Council's consideration (refer Attachment C).

Together, the Governance Framework, the Legislative Compliance Policy and the Legislative Compliance Register represent an integrated approach to strengthening governance, legislative compliance and organisational performance. These documents are presented to Council for endorsement.

OPTIONS

The Governance Framework should be reviewed at least once in every Council term. The Legislative Compliance policy specifies review every two years.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

It is proposed that this policy be placed on public exhibition prior to adoption.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Low financial loss <\$10,000

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Major High Risk: Significant policy or regulatory breach/s including court proceedings. Material fines and penalties and restrictions to Council operations due to non-compliance. Significant exposure not covered by insurance.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Major High Risk: Extreme environmental impact requiring restorative work, EPA intervention including significant fines.

REPUTATION / COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Major High Risk: Extreme adverse public/staff reaction and/or major widespread negative publicity. GM or Council intervention required up to a month. Low staff morale.

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Moderate Low Risk: Short term interruption of services or operations. Limited impact to staff and service standards. Short term contractor performance affected.

WHS / HR IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Catastrophic Extreme Risk: Death or permanent disability or illness/ Unable to deliver vital services.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 3.1 Undertake Council activities within a clear framework of strategic planning, policies, procedures and service standards.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) Draft Governance Framework (under separate cover)
- (b) Draft Legislative Compliance Policy and Procedure (under separate cover)
- (c) Draft Legislative Compliance Register (under separate cover)

CLAUSE CL05**TITLE** Consumption & User Fees & Charges Report for Griffith Sporting Organisations & Not-for Profit entities**FROM** Max Turner, Acting Director Business, Cultural and Financial Services**TRIM REF** 25/58423

SUMMARY

At the meeting of 25 March 2025 Council resolved *the General Manager prepare a report detailing the water use charges for registered sporting organisations and not for profit organisations in the Griffith LGA for FY24. (25/081)*

A report on the Consumption & User Fees & Charges Report for Griffith Sporting Organisations & Not-for Profit entities was requested by Council as an information report. The various consumption figures as well as fees and charges levied are contained in the attachment to this report.

RECOMMENDATION

The report be noted by Council.

REPORT

This report details the consumption of water as well as the various fees and user charges that are levied on Sporting organisations as well as Not-For-Profit organisations within the Griffith LGA.

Each of the entities listed in the tables included in this report receive water (raw and potable) via Council's pressurised reticulation network. The network incurs costs to maintain, upgrade and replace infrastructure. These costs need to be recovered through Council's Water Fees and Charges Schedule (Revenue Policy).

This is similar to the Murrumbidgee Irrigations Network and Usage Charges for Pressurised Supply Systems, as per Attachment (b).

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

The report be noted by Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Low financial loss <\$10,000

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Policy or regulatory breach has no impact.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Minimal environmental impact handled internally.

REPUTATION / COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Limited adverse public/staff reaction and/or negative publicity.

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Nil impact to service delivery.

WHS / HR IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: No injuries/Nil impact to service delivery.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 4.7 Provide a range of sporting and recreational facilities.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) Consumption & User Fees & Charges Summary Report (Sporting Organisations & Not-For-Profit Entities) (under separate cover) (confidential)
- (b) Letters - Griffith Kart Club Inc and Griffith Jockey Club [↓](#)



Griffith Kart Club inc.

112 Whites Rd, Tharbogang
NSW 2680

Email: griffithkc.secretary@gmail.com

8/01/2025

To: Mr Brett Stonestreet
The General Manager
Griffith City Council

RE: Griffith Kart Club Water usage concession for upkeep of facility for community use

Dear Mr Stonestreet,

We write to you asking the Griffith City Council, to assist us in further enhancing our facility to be one of the premier kart facilities in Australia. The Griffith Kart Club was formed in 1975 on land at Tharbogang, which was leased to the club and is this year celebrating its 50th Anniversary.

In 2025, after Re-Affiliating with the national body of Karting, Karting Australia, The club will host a total of 8 events, 5 of which will be major meetings getting competitors from all over the country, consisting of Zone, State, and National level events. It is anticipated that each of the larger events will attract between 100 and 200 Participants + pit crews and families and support personnel.

We write, asking Griffith City Council for Support, in the way of Providing the use of Water, for no fees to help maintain and improve the facility. The facility is currently mostly covered in weeds, making maintenance costly and a constant biosecurity threat from unwanted species. consistently spraying weeds with chemicals to help control them.

The current committee has plans to further improve the site. Watering, installing sprinkler systems and expanding the grassed areas, just one of the areas highlighted to make it a better experience for the community.

With grounds that are more presentable and easier to maintain, the club can offer the facility to other community groups, Creating a engaged and connected community, ensuring Griffith is a great place to live, promoting a healthy and active lifestyle, while also opening up the facility for events, and gatherings outside of karting.

We have a group of dedicated members, volunteers and committee members who maintain our facility at no cost, but we have very limited capacity to raise funds, and with current costs going up in areas like Insurance and Electricity and thus require Councils assistance.

We hope Council consider this proposal as an investment in our town's reputation, and tourism/sporting industries.

If you would like to meet with us to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact me on my mobile on [REDACTED]



Regards Sam Belardo
Club President
Griffith Kart Club
Email: [REDACTED]



PO Box 2217
GRIFFITH
NSW 2680

President: Bernie Connolly – [REDACTED]
Secretary: Carolyn Kidd – [REDACTED]
griffithjockeyclub@gmail.com
www.griffithjockeyclub.com.au

The Mayor
Griffith City Council,
Griffith NSW 2680
dcurran@griffith.com.au
06/02/2025

Dear Mayor Curran,

Water Consumption Charge

We request that Council reduce the Water Consumption Charge for the Griffith Jockey Club (GJC). This water is used to maintain the race track and is not used in the public enclosure. We are not seeking a reduction in the Water Access Charges, currently \$2,190 per annum, as we consider this more than adequately covers the cost of providing raw water to Dalton Park.

Council currently charges GJC 48c/kilolitre (kl) or \$480/megalitre (mgl) for all water consumed by GJC. (1 mgl = 1,000 kl) Council accesses the water from Murrumbidgee Irrigation (MI), who charges all Councils within its area \$20.61/mgl or 2c/kl as its Usage Charge. This includes the Government Bulk Water Recovery Charge of \$7.44/mgl. MI charges are published on their website and a copy of their Schedule of Charges 2024-25, is attached to this letter with relevant areas highlighted.

The council is charging GJC significantly more than the price it pays MI for the water. We remind the council that GJC is a small not-for-profit organisation that puts on a public event each year for the community. An essential requirement of GJC putting on a Race Day is to provide a turf track that meets all Racing NSW standards of consistency and safety for jockeys and horses alike. To help us achieve this, our average annual water consumption over the past five years has been 3,331kl or 3.33mgl. A small committee of volunteer members undertake the maintenance of the track throughout the year. The race track is also the designated safety area for all horses at Dalton Park in the event of bushfires. We are obligated to keep the track green during the bush fire season.

The GJC appreciate Council's ongoing support and we request that Council's Water Consumption Charge to GJC be the same as MI's Usage Charge of \$20.61/mgl or 2c/kl. The reduced price to apply from the current billing period and in the future.

We look forward to your continuing support.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Bernie Connolly
President - GJC


**Murrumbidgee
Irrigation**

Schedule of Charges 2024-25

Effective 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

Access Charge (excludes Towns Main Supply)

Connection Type	Flow Rate	Charge	Notes
Unmetered	-	\$1,489	Recovers the cost of operating and maintaining outlets to a property. The charge applies for each outlet on the property. Flow Rate refers to the design flow rate of the outlet.
Mechanical Meter	-	\$1,688	
Low Flow Meter	0-1ML/day	\$1,927	
Small Meter	0.5-6ML/day	\$2,187	
Medium Meter	1-15ML/day	\$2,379	
Medium Large Meter	2-30ML/day	\$2,924	
Large Meter	4-60ML/day	\$3,377	
Extra Large Meter	5-100ML/day	\$3,791	
Custom Meter	>100ML/day	\$4,342	
Meter only (inc pumping licences)	Variable	\$2,059	

Network and Usage Charges (excludes Towns Main Supply)

Charge type	Charge	Notes
Customer Account	\$410 inc GST per account	This charge covers the cost of account administration and is applied at the customer account level.
Delivery Entitlement (DE)	\$11.15 per DE	Recovers the cost of operating and maintaining channels and infrastructure.
Usage	\$13.17 per ML	The cost for delivery of water, up to 100% of the customer's Delivery Entitlements.
Excess Usage	\$24.32 per ML	The cost for delivery of water, where usage is in excess of 100% of the customer's Delivery Entitlements, up to 120% of Delivery Entitlements (Usage \$13.17 + Delivery Entitlement \$11.15 per ML).
Casual Usage	\$36.48 per ML	Casual Usage applies to water deliveries in excess of 120% of the customer's Delivery Entitlements or where the customer does not hold any Delivery Entitlements.
Casual Usage Rebate	\$12.16 per ML	A casual usage rebate is available to customers located in parts of the system where no DEs are available to be issued.
Pressurised Supply Systems		The electricity costs incurred to operate IHS pump stations. The information to determine the Energy charge is based on the location of the pump station, the amount of electricity used and the time of day it was used. Charges are calculated every 6 months with customers billed as soon as practicable. Pump station energy charges will be published on MI's website at that time. Customer usage information is available in MI's online water ordering facility.
Energy – Peak & Shoulder Weekdays 7:00am-10:00pm	\$83 to \$425 per ML inc GST	
Energy – Off-Peak All other times	\$21 to \$104 per ML inc GST	
Filtration (per ML used)	\$14.22 inc GST	
Conveyance	\$1.29	Conveyance (recovery of conveyance licence charge, net of the Irrigation Corporation & Districts Rebate)

Network and Usage Charges – Towns Main Supply

Category	Customer Account	Delivery Entitlement	Usage	Excess Usage*	Casual Usage^	Notes
Towns Main Supply	\$410	\$27.27	\$13.17	-	-	Towns have Special Purpose Access Licences with higher access priority than other customers.

*The cost for delivery of water, where usage is in excess of 100% of the customer's Delivery Entitlements, up to 120% of Delivery Entitlements.

^Casual Usage charge is applied to water deliveries in excess of 120% of the customer's Delivery Entitlements or where the customer does not hold any Delivery Entitlements.

2024-25 SCHEDULE OF CHARGES – Effective 1 July 2024 (published 14 June 2024)

Environmental Watering – NSW Environment & Heritage Group only

Customer Account	Conveyance Contribution (per ML)	Water Usage (water delivery charge only)	Asset Maintenance
\$410	0.15ML + per ML delivered	\$13.17	At cost + GST

Government Bulk Water Recovery Charges – for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

Bulk Water Charges are regulated State Government charges determined by IPART and passed through to all customers.

	Fixed Charges (per ML of Water Entitlement)		Usage Charges (per ML of water used)
	High Security	General Security	
WaterNSW Charges	\$4.86	\$1.67	\$5.79
Rural Murray Darling Basin Charges	\$2.17	\$0.75	\$0.43
WAMC Murray Darling Basin Charges	\$0.76	\$0.76	\$0.33
WAMC Charges collected by WaterNSW	\$1.20	\$1.20	\$0.89
Total Charges collected by WaterNSW	\$8.99	\$4.38	\$7.44

Prudent Discounts

Prudent discounts are applied to some customers that are able to pump directly from the Murrumbidgee River and would not otherwise use our services. Prudent discounts lower the fixed costs for all customers by increasing network utilisation and revenue for the business.

Usage Charges	
Usage 18,905 – 28,905 ML	\$21.79 per ML
Usage > 28,906 ML	\$20.49 per ML

Other Charges

Charge Type	Charge
Garden Licence – Small (includes up to 2ML water allocation)	\$2,183 per annum
Garden Licence – Large (includes up to 4ML water allocation)	\$2,859 per annum
Delivery of water for household and domestic use only	A discount of 50% is applied for licences installed after 1 January.
Residential Connection – Small	\$1,249 per annum
Residential Connection – Large	\$1,404 per annum
	Government bulk water fixed charges and customer account charge billed separately.
Tanker Fill – filling of a water tanker direct from water source, up to 10,000L. Excludes Council tanker fills.	\$70 per load
Locking and Unlocking of Unmetered Supply for Water Allocation transfer	\$110 inc GST per application
Contractual Non-Compliance Investigation	At cost + GST per hour
Meter Verification	The costs incurred in removing an in-situ meter and sending it to the manufacturer for verification at the customer's request. The costs incurred will be determined at the time on a case-by-case basis and will depend on make, location, and engineering requirements. Customers will be advised of the costs prior to the meter being removed. See notes for further details.
Waste Water Discharge	Waste Water is defined in MI's Drainage Use Rules
Application	\$2,700 inc GST per application
Renewal	\$1,680 inc GST per annum
Incident investigation	At cost + GST
Incident investigation - Laboratory	At cost + GST, capped at \$13,000 inc GST
Connection	Physical connection/disconnection of the customer to/from the Murrumbidgee Irrigation network. The costs will be determined at the time of connection or disconnection on a case-by-case basis depending on location and engineering requirements. Customers will be advised of the costs prior to the commencement of Works.
Disconnection	
Capital Contribution to infrastructure	A capital contribution made by a customer participating in an expansion project, in exchange for receiving additional flow rate share. The additional flow rate share will be in proportion to the capital contribution. The cost for each ML of additional flow rate share will be published prior to invoicing.

2024-25 SCHEDULE OF CHARGES – Effective 1 July 2024 (published 14 June 2024)

Capital Contribution to infrastructure – Sturt Benerembah Expansion Project	A capital contribution made by customers participating in the Sturt Benerembah expansion project, in exchange for receiving additional flow rate share. The additional flow rate share will be in proportion to the capital contribution, at a rate of \$12,375 (inc GST) for each ML of additional flow rate share. This project is only available to customers located downstream of the intersection of Gum Creek Road and Lockhart Road.
Capital Contribution to infrastructure – Warburn Tabbita Expansion Project	A capital contribution made by customers participating in the Warburn expansion project, in exchange for receiving additional flow rate share. The additional flow rate share will be in proportion to the capital contribution, at a rate of \$18,150 (inc GST) for each ML of additional flow rate share.
Interest – Charged on accounts from the date which the debt becomes due	Interest is charged at the post-judgment interest rate set by the NSW Supreme Court on debts that have fallen overdue or debts accounted for under agreed payment arrangements.

General Information

This Schedule of Charges should be read in conjunction with our Schedule of Fees, Charges Rules and our Contracts. The following can be found by visiting www.mirrigration.com.au.

The Schedule of Charges is valid for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. This is the date from which each individual charge applies unless otherwise specified.

How are the charges determined?

Murrumbidgee Irrigation runs an integrated network of 3,500km of supply and drainage infrastructure. Underpinning this infrastructure is a network of a mostly fixed assets which drive the majority of our cost base. These fixed costs relate to the size and amount of assets MI owns with the costs charged to customers based on the size and number of assets as well as the supply, maintenance and upgrades performed on these assets.

Capital contributions charges for expansion projects are determined by taking into account the market value of delivery entitlements on that system, as well as calculating the total capital cost of the project, less the portion underwritten by Murrumbidgee Irrigation and apportioning it per ML of flow rate share available. The capital costs underwritten by Murrumbidgee Irrigation are calculated using board approved parameters to ensure a benefit to all customers.

Our Board reviews our pricing structure annually and periodically undertakes an independent economic analysis of cost drivers and network costs. Customer participation is invited throughout this process.

Feedback on our network services is welcome at any time by contacting us. This feedback helps us to identify areas for network development, reconfiguration or retirement and to prioritise our asset management program.

Government bulk water recovery charges

The Government bulk water recovery charges relate to the Murrumbidgee Regulated River and the Water Sharing Plan for the Murrumbidgee Regulated River Water Source 2016. Murrumbidgee Irrigation may recover these charges under the Water Entitlements Contract and the Water Delivery Contract. MI recovers the cost of the NSW Government's contribution to the Murray-Darling Basin Authority for costs related to the Murray-Darling Basin Agreement. MI also recovers the costs of on-river (bulk) water services provided by WaterNSW.

When are my charges due?

- Access, Customer Account, Delivery Entitlement, Residential Connections, Government Bulk Water Recovery Charges and Unmetered Usage charges are billed annually in arrears in May.
- Usage and Prudent Discount charges are billed annually in arrears in July.
- Energy and Filtration charges are billed biannually in arrears for the periods July to December and January to June once MI has received the relevant information from the energy supplier.
- Garden Licences and Waste Water Discharge renewals are billed annually in advance in July or upon initial installation.
- Capital contribution charges (other than Sturt Benerembah Expansion Project) require a deposit upon executing an agreement and the balance payable within 28 days after issue of a final invoice at completion of the works.

2024-25 SCHEDULE OF CHARGES – Effective 1 July 2024 (published 14 June 2024)

- Capital contribution charges for Sturt Benerembah Expansion Project will be issued upon executing an agreement.
- Other charges are billed at the time of provision of the service.
- Interest on overdue accounts is charged from the date the debt becomes due. Interest accrues daily and is charged monthly.
- A Meter Verification charge is payable as follows:
 - If the Meter Verification demonstrates the meter is operating within allowable tolerances, the Customer will be responsible to pay the Meter Verification charge.
 - If the Meter Verification reveals the meter is not operating within allowable tolerances, the Meter Verification charge will not be levied by Murrumbidgee Irrigation.

Customers experiencing difficulty paying a bill by the due date should contact us on 02 6962 0200. Payment arrangement options may be available.

What if I have a question about the charges or my bill?

Questions and enquiries are always welcome and can be made via:

- **email** info@mirrigation.com.au
- **phone** 02 6962 0200
- **letter** Locked Bag 6010 Griffith NSW 2680

In the event of a dispute over charges, resolution mechanisms are outlined in our Contracts.

CLAUSE	CL06
TITLE	Office of Local Government - Free Speech in Local Government in NSW Guideline
FROM	Brett Stonestreet, General Manager
TRIM REF	25/64361

SUMMARY

The Office of Local Government (OLG) has released Circular No. 25-11 dated 3 June 2025, advising councils of the publication of a new Free Speech in Local Government in NSW Guideline. The guideline, adopted under section 23A of the *Local Government Act 1993*, provides clear and practical direction on how free speech applies within the local government context.

All councils and council officials must now take this guideline into account when carrying out their functions.

RECOMMENDATION

Council note the information provided.

REPORT

The Free Speech Guideline has been issued by the OLG to clarify the rights and responsibilities relating to free speech in local government settings. It addresses the balancing act between free expression and compliance with existing codes and meeting rules.

The guideline offers practical insights and requirements in several areas:

- It outlines the implied freedom of political communication under the Australian Constitution and its relevance to local government activities.
- Reinforces that open community engagement is central to a councillor's role under the *Local Government Act 1993*.
- Clarifies how councils should apply relevant Model Code of Conduct provisions to ensure they support appropriate public commentary by councillors.
- Summarises the statutory protections available to councillors in defamation contexts.
- Explains how rules around council and committee meetings interact with free speech rights and available enforcement mechanisms.
- Emphasises the need for councils to ensure their media and social media policies do not unnecessarily limit councillors' ability to communicate with the public.

Councils and council officials must take the Free Speech Guideline into consideration when exercising their functions. The Free Speech Guideline is also to be considered by conduct reviewers when dealing with code of conduct matters that have been referred to them.

OPTIONS

Not Applicable

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council will take the guidelines into consideration when reviewing policies and procedures to align with the Free Speech Guideline.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Low financial loss <\$10,000

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Policy or regulatory breach has no impact.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Minimal environmental impact handled internally.

REPUTATION / COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Limited adverse public/staff reaction and/or negative publicity.

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Nil impact to service delivery.

WHS / HR IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: No injuries/Nil impact to service delivery.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 3.1 Undertake Council activities within a clear framework of strategic planning, policies, procedures and service standards.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

Office of Local Government Circular

ATTACHMENTS

- | | | |
|-----|---|----|
| (a) | OLG Circular 25-11 Free speech in Local Government in NSW Guideline ↓ | 57 |
| (b) | Free Speech in Local Government in NSW - Guideline June 2025 ↓ | 59 |

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
Office of Local Government



Circular to Councils

Subject/title	Free speech in local government in NSW Guideline
Circular Details	Circular No 25-11 / 03 June 2025 / A963853
Previous Circular	N/A
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / Council Governance Staff / Complaints Coordinators / Conduct Reviewers
Contact	Council Governance/ (02) 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Council to Implement

What's new or changing?

- The Office of Local Government (OLG) has issued a guideline on free speech in local government in NSW (the Free Speech Guideline). The Free Speech Guideline is available on OLG's website [here](#).
- The Free Speech Guideline provides practical guidance to councils on what free speech means in the context of NSW local government.

What will this mean for council?

- The Free Speech Guideline has been adopted as a guideline under section 23A of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act).
- Councils and council officials must take the Free Speech Guideline into consideration when exercising their functions.
- The Free Speech Guideline is also to be considered by conduct reviewers when dealing with code of conduct matters that have been referred to them.

Key points

The Free Speech Guideline provides guidance on the following:

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Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
www.olg.nsw.gov.au



- the implied freedom of political communication under the Australian Constitution and how free speech is regulated in Australia
- why the ability to engage freely with the community is central to a councillor's role as an elected representative prescribed under the Act
- the relevant provisions of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW that recognise the importance of public comment by councillors and how they should be applied by councils to ensure they do not unduly inhibit free speech
- the protections available to councillors in relation to civil liability for defamation
- the meeting rules constraining what can be said at council and committee meetings, how they can be applied and the relationship between these and the enforcement mechanisms available under councils' codes of conduct
- how council media and social media policies should be applied so as not to unduly constrain councillors' ability to engage with the community via the media and online.

Where to go for further information

- The Free Speech Guideline is available on OLG's website [here](#).
- For further information please contact the Council Governance Team on 02 4482 4100 or by email at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.

Brett Whitworth
Deputy Secretary, Office of Local Government

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

dphi.nsw.gov.au



Free speech in local government in NSW

A guideline

June 2025





Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land, and we show our respect for Elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.

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Free speech in local government in NSW

First published: June 2025

More information

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Introduction

The recent review of the councillor conduct framework and concerns that some councils may have implemented their codes of conduct in a way that unduly constrains councillors' ability to engage freely with the community has highlighted the need to provide practical guidance to councils on what free speech means in the context of NSW local government.

In a broad sense political communication relates to any form of campaigning around a discussion or decision. In the case of elected officials there is an implied public trust that political communication to support debate will be fair. Unfortunately, where the debate is not fair and includes victimisation or vilification, that public trust is quickly lost.

This guideline (Guideline) provides guidance on the following:

- the implied freedom of political communication under the Australian Constitution (the Constitution) and how free speech is regulated in Australia,
- why the ability to engage freely with the community is central to a councillor's role as an elected representative prescribed under the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act),
- the relevant provisions of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW (Model Code of Conduct) that recognise the importance of public comment by councillors and how they should be applied by councils to ensure they do not unduly inhibit free speech,
- the protections available to councillors in relation to civil liability for defamation,
- the meeting rules constraining what can be said at council and committee meetings, how they can be applied and the relationship between these and the enforcement mechanisms available under councils' codes of conduct,
- how council media and social media policies should be applied so as not to unduly constrain councillors' ability to engage with the community via the media and online.

This Guideline has been issued under section 23A of the Act. Councils and council officials must take it into consideration when exercising their functions. This Guideline is also to be considered by conduct reviewers when dealing with code of conduct matters that have been referred to them.

How is free speech regulated in Australia?

The High Court of Australia has found that the Constitution contains an implied freedom of political communication which imposes limits on the laws that Australian Parliaments can make.

The implied freedom of political communication as established by the High Court, is a constitutional principle that ensures Australians can make informed choices as electors. It's not a personal right, but rather a restriction on governments' ability to interfere with the free communication of political

information. This freedom is derived from the Constitution's provisions for representative government, which require that members of Parliament be "directly chosen by the people".

It is important to note that the freedom of communication under the Constitution is not absolute. It can be limited by laws that are "reasonably appropriate and adapted to serve a legitimate end which is compatible with the maintenance of representative and responsible government"¹.

¹ *Lange v Australian Broadcasting Corporation* [1997] HCA 25, (1997) 189 CLR 520

Why is free speech important in NSW local government?

Local government in NSW is a democratic institution. A democratic system of local government allows local communities to shape decisions impacting on their future, (such as the delivery of infrastructure and services and the exercise of place-making functions), by electing community representatives to serve as members of the local council's governing body.

Councillors' ability to freely engage with their communities and to participate in public debate on issues impacting on the council and the community via the media and social media is key to their being able to exercise their functions as democratically elected representatives effectively.

Why is making public comment an important part of a councillor's role as an elected representative?

Key provisions in the Act reflect the important role councillors have as elected representatives and impact on the way in which they engage and communicate with their communities when undertaking that role.

Under section 223 of the Act, the council's governing body is responsible for providing civic leadership, regularly consulting with community groups and

stakeholders, and keeping them informed of the council's decisions and activities.

Mayors of councils have a separate and special role as the leader of the council. Among other things, the role of a mayor prescribed under section 226 of the Act includes:

- being the leader of the council and a leader in the local community,
- advancing community cohesion and promoting civic awareness,
- being the principal member and spokesperson of the governing body of the council, including representing the views of the council as to its local priorities, and
- promoting partnerships between the council and key stakeholders.

Individual councillors also have an important role under section 232 of the Act in facilitating communication between the local community and the governing body.

Section 232 of the Act also places a responsibility on individual councillors to uphold and represent accurately the policies and decisions of the governing body. As noted in the Office of Local Government's (OLG) Councillor Handbook²², the requirement to uphold the policies and decisions of the council should be read in the context of the implied freedom of political communication under the Constitution. In practical terms, councillors remain free to speak about the policies and decisions of the council, but they must accept these decisions are lawfully made if passed by a majority and must not misrepresent them.

How does the Model Code of Conduct apply to public comment by councillors?

The ethical and behavioural standards all council officials are required to comply with when exercising their functions are prescribed under the Model Code of Conduct. These standards meet the expectations of free and fair debate.

There are key provisions of the Model Code of Conduct that can guide councillors when making public comment and to assist in understanding what comment is not appropriate.

Part 3 of the Model Code of Conduct prescribes "general conduct"

²² <https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Councillor-Handbook-2024.pdf>

obligations councillors must comply with. Among other things, these provide that councillors must not conduct themselves in a way that:

- is likely to bring the council or other council officials into disrepute,
- is improper or unethical,
- causes, comprises or involves intimidation or verbal abuse,
- constitutes harassment or bullying behaviour (as defined by the code) or is unlawfully discriminatory.

Clause 7.6(h) of the Model Code of Conduct further provides that while councillors can critique and comment on the advice provided by staff, they must not make personal attacks on council staff in public forums including social media. Councillors also need to be aware of the duty they owe council staff and members of the community under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* to take reasonable care that their acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons.

Part 8 of the Model Code of Conduct prescribes councillors' obligations in

relation to the use and disclosure of council information. Among other things, councillors have obligations to:

- protect confidential and personal information,
- only release confidential or personal information if authorised to do so,
- not use confidential or personal information to cause harm to the council or anyone else, and
- not disclose confidential information discussed during a closed session of a council or committee meeting or any other confidential forum.

The provisions of Part 9 of the Model Code of Conduct are designed to ensure that complaints alleging breaches of the code of conduct are dealt with appropriately, fairly and confidentially and to prevent councils' codes of conduct from being weaponised. The relevant provisions prohibit making allegations about, or disclosing information about, suspected breaches of a council's code of conduct in public forums and disclosing information about code of conduct complaints that have been made.

What comment falls within the regulatory scope of a council's code of conduct?

A council's code of conduct only regulates conduct that is connected with a councillor's official role or the exercise of their official functions. It does not apply to conduct that occurs in a private capacity or that is not linked to a councillor's official role.

Any comment made by councillors in a private capacity does not fall within the regulatory scope of a council's code of conduct. However, a councillor cannot

simply avoid disciplinary action for a breach of the code of conduct by prefacing their comments with a disclaimer that what they are about to say is being said in a private capacity. If what a councillor says is clearly connected to their role as a councillor, then it falls within the regulatory scope of the code of conduct, even if it is made on a private social media platform or they do not identify themselves as a councillor when saying it.

How should councils apply their code of conduct to public comment by councillors?

The Model Code of Conduct was deliberately designed to align with the implied freedom of political communication. It should not be applied by councils in a way that impedes councillors' ability to engage with the community or to participate in robust

public debate on issues impacting on the council or the local community.

Councillors should refrain from engaging in personal attacks on their fellow councillors, council staff and others when commenting publicly.

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However, it is entirely acceptable and appropriate for councillors to disagree with their council, other council officials and members of the community when making public comment.

Without the ability to disagree with others, councillors would not be able to participate in public debate or to engage in public advocacy on local issues, impeding their ability to exercise their functions as elected officials under the Act.

Disappointingly, in recent years, it is apparent councils' codes of conduct are increasingly being weaponised to discourage or punish councillors for making legitimate public comment.

A healthy democratic system of local government requires robust public debate on local issues. This leads to good decision making and ensures councils are accountable to their communities and responsive to its needs. Well-functioning councils should not fear healthy public debate. They should be able to explain and justify their decisions or, where they are not

able to do so, revisit their decisions to address legitimate community concern.

It is inevitable that councils, councillors, council staff and members of the community will disagree with, dispute or may even be offended by comments made by councillors when engaging with the community. Unless the comment involves a clear breach of the provisions of the code of conduct referred to above (e.g. because it is personally disparaging, abusive or intimidating), the code of conduct is not the appropriate mechanism for addressing that comment.

In a healthy, functioning democracy, the appropriate way to respond to public comment that others disagree with is to engage with that comment by publicly rebutting, challenging, or disputing it as part of legitimate public debate on the issue, not by making a code of conduct complaint about it.

Equally, councillors who initiate public debate by making provocative public statements cannot reasonably complain when others who dispute their comments publicly challenge them.

Can the expression of a councillor's views give rise to a conflict of interest?

Before being elected to council, many councillors will have been active community members and may have advocated on or campaigned on local issues or have been actively involved in community organisations that did so. This may be one of the reasons why they chose to stand for election to the local council.

The Model Code of Conduct expressly recognises this and has been designed to ensure that it does not operate in a way that prevents councillors from participating in decisions on matters simply because they have expressed a view on them or campaigned on them.

Clause 5.2 of the Model Code of Conduct provides that a councillor will have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter where a reasonable and informed person would perceive they could be influenced by a “private interest” when carrying out their official functions in relation to that matter.

Clause 5.3 further provides that the personal or political views of a council

official do not constitute a “private interest” for the purposes of clause 5.2.

What this means is that aside from any other interest in a matter, a non-pecuniary conflict of interest will not exist solely because a councillor has expressed a view on a particular issue or has publicly advocated or campaigned on it. Similarly, such a conflict of interest does not exist merely because a councillor is or was affiliated with a community organisation that has campaigned or advocated on a particular issue, unless the organisation - or any of its members the councillor has a close personal relationship with - has a separate material interest that would be affected by the council's decision.

However, councillors do need to be mindful that comments they make on matters before the council that could be seen to indicate they have formed an inflexible view on a matter, have the potential to make the council's decision on that matter susceptible to legal

challenge on grounds of bias because of prejudgement.

The leading legal authority on this is the NSW Court of Appeal case of *McGovern v Ku-ring-gai Council* (2008) (McGovern).³.

Bias by pre-judgment will arise where the perception is that the position of the decision-maker is said to be “incapable of change”. This form of apprehended bias was central to the facts in McGovern, which considered the effect that the strongly expressed views of

two councillors had on the final decision reached by the governing body of the council.

What this means in practice is that councillors are entitled to express a view on matters before the council but not in such a way that would suggest in the mind of a fair-minded observer that they have pre-determined the matter and could not be persuaded to alter their position by the debate on that matter.

What protections do councillors have in relation to defamation?

As with other members of the community, councils and councillors can be sued in defamation for comments made in public forums such as council and committee meetings, in the media and on social media.

Unlike members of Parliament, councillors do not enjoy absolute privilege in relation to what they say at council and committee meetings. Absolute privilege provides complete protection for statements made during

parliamentary proceedings meaning that defamation proceedings cannot be brought with respect to such statements.

By contrast, councillors can be sued in defamation in relation to their statements at meetings. They are partially protected from defamation by the defence of ‘qualified privilege’, but only to enable them to speak freely and publicly in undertaking their duties at meetings. To be protected, any

³ *McGovern v Ku-ring-gai Council* (2008) 42 NSWLR 504

comment or statement a councillor makes at a meeting must be relevant to the council business, made in good faith and without malice.

As with statements made at meetings, councillors can also be sued in defamation for other public statements they make, including on social media. In the case of social media, councillors also need to be mindful that they may be considered a 'publisher' of any content uploaded onto a social media platform they administer and can be sued in defamation for that content. This includes content that is uploaded by a third party on the social media platform and/or that appears on their social media platform because the councillor has 'liked', 'shared', or 'retweeted' the content.

Section 731 of the Act provides councillors with a level of protection from civil liability action, including in relation to defamation, for undertaking council-related and council-endorsed activities as a councillor. Protection from civil liability is only provided where a councillor's actions are undertaken in

good faith and for purposes related to council activities.

This protection against civil liability is given effect under council's councillor expenses and facilities policies adopted under section 252 of the Act which allow councils to meet councillors' legal costs in defending proceedings in certain circumstances.

Consistent with section 731 of the Act, the OLG's 'Guidelines for the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities for Mayors and Councillors in NSW'⁴ state that councils' councillor expenses and facilities policies should only allow reasonable legal expenses to be reimbursed to a councillor for defending an action in defamation, provided the outcome of the legal proceedings is favourable to the councillor. It is not permissible for councils to meet the cost of defamation proceedings initiated by councillors or for seeking advice in respect of possible defamation, or in seeking a non-litigious remedy for possible defamation.

⁴ <https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/Guidelines-for-the-payment-of-expenses->

[and-the-provision-of-facilities-for-Mayors-and-Councillors-in-NSW-2009.pdf](#)

How is public comment regulated in council and committee meetings?

The meeting rules prescribed under councils' codes of meeting practice place some constraints on what can be said at council and committee meetings.

The Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (the Regulation) and the Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW identify certain types of behaviour at meetings as constituting an 'act of disorder'. A councillor commits an act of disorder at a council or committee meeting if they

- contravene the Act, the Regulation or the council's code of meeting practice, or
- assault or threaten to assault another councillor or person present at the meeting, or
- move or attempt to move a motion or an amendment that has an unlawful purpose or that deals with a matter that is outside the jurisdiction of the council or the committee, or address or attempt to address the council or the committee on such a motion, amendment or matter, or
- insult, make unfavourable personal remarks about, or impute improper motives to any other council official, or allege a

breach of the council's code of conduct, or

- say or do anything that is inconsistent with maintaining order at the meeting or is likely to bring the council or the committee into disrepute.

Where a councillor commits an act of disorder at a meeting, the chairperson may require the councillor to apologise without reservation for the act of disorder, withdraw an offending motion or amendment that constitutes the act of disorder or retract and apologise without reservation for a statement that constitutes the act of disorder. Where the councillor fails to comply, they may be expelled from the meeting.

The chairperson can require a councillor to address an act of disorder committed at an earlier meeting where the councillor failed to comply with the chairperson's direction at that meeting and can be expelled from meetings until such time that they comply.

Under reforms being considered by the Government, in the future, councillors may be also required to forego their monthly fee in any month in which they

have been expelled from a meeting for disorder.

Acts of disorder can also potentially constitute a breach of the code of conduct. While there are provisions in the Model Code of Conduct that relate specifically to behaviour at meetings, it is preferred that bad behaviour at meetings, is dealt with at the meeting at which it occurs by the chairperson under the disorder provisions, and that acts of disorder are not subsequently relitigated under the council's code of conduct unless the conduct is particularly egregious.

There are several reasons for this. The disorder provisions are a simpler, more efficient and cost-effective way of dealing with bad behaviour at meetings. It allows bad behaviour to be dealt with at the time it occurs and in the presence

of the public thereby ensuring the offending councillor is made publicly accountable for their behaviour.

Relitigating incidents that were addressed as disorder at the meeting it occurred through the code of conduct process, is not only a waste of council time and resources, but it also tends to suggest a misuse of the code of conduct process.

There are of course exceptions to this. Many of the decisions made by the OLG and the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal to take disciplinary action against councillors for serious misconduct have concerned conduct occurring at meetings and there will be occasions where the conduct in question is so egregious that stronger action than is available under the disorder provisions may be warranted.

What administrative arrangements apply to public comment by councillors?

Many councils have adopted media and social media policies that put in place administrative arrangements for engagement with the media and

managing councils' and councillors' online presence.

While its appropriate for councils to put in place appropriate administrative

controls for engagement with the media and social media use to manage legal and other risk and ensure the council is complying with its statutory obligations, these should not operate in a way that constrains councillors' ability to freely engage with the community via the media or online.

Council media and social media policies should not require councillors to seek the permission of staff before commenting in the media or online. However, councillors are encouraged to

The key principles that should inform councillors' engagement with the media or online are as follows:

- As a member of the governing body and as a representative of the community, councillors are free to express their personal views.
- However, when doing so, councillors must not purport to speak for the council unless authorised to do so and must make it clear that they are expressing their personal views as an individual councillor and that they are not speaking for the

check their understanding of the facts of a matter with staff before commenting on an issue in the media or online to ensure they have correct and current information.

To ensure that council media and social media policies are fit for purpose and do not unduly constrain councillors' ability to freely engage with the community, OLG has issued a best practice Model Media Policy and Model Social Media Policy which are available on its website⁵.

council (unless authorised to do so).

- Councillors must uphold and accurately represent the policies and decisions of the council (see section 232(1)(f) of the Act).
- Councillors must not disclose council information unless authorised to do so.
- In the interests of promoting a positive, safe and harmonious organisational culture, councillors should endeavour to resolve personal differences privately and must not prosecute them publicly through the media or online.

⁵ <https://olg.nsw.gov.au/councils/governance/best-practice-governance-policies-consultations/>

Appendix 1: Key takeaways



Legal foundation

- The Australian Constitution implies a freedom of political communication, essential for informed democratic participation.
- This is not a personal right, but a limit on government power to restrict political discourse.
- Restrictions are only valid if they are appropriate and serve a legitimate democratic end.



Importance in local government

- Local democracy empowers communities to influence decisions about their future by electing representatives to local council.
- Public comment, including through media and social media, is central to fulfilling a councillor's role under the *Local Government Act 1993*.



Public comment and the Model Code of Conduct

- The Model Code of Conduct is aligned with the implied freedom of political communication.
- While councillors must comply with the code of conduct when commenting publicly, councils should not apply their

code of conduct in a way that impedes councillors' ability to engage with the community or to participate in robust public debate.

- Councillors should refrain from engaging in personal attacks on others when commenting publicly. However, it is acceptable and appropriate for them to disagree with their council, other council officials and members of the community when making public comment.
- The Model Code of Conduct only applies to behaviour related to a councillor's official role, not their private actions.



Conflict of interest

- Expressing a view or being affiliated with an advocacy group does not automatically create a conflict of interest.
- A conflict only arises if there is a material interest involved or a close personal relationship with someone who has one.
- Councillors must avoid prejudging matters, which could lead to legal challenges for bias.



Defamation and legal protections

- Councillors can be sued for defamation, including for social media posts.

- Qualified privilege applies to comments made in good faith when exercising council duties.

- Legal costs may be covered by council only if the councillor acts in good faith and wins the case.



Council and committee meetings

- The prescribed meeting rules prohibit acts of disorder at meetings.

- Councillors may be expelled for failure to comply with rulings by the chair in relation to acts of disorder.

- Preferably, acts of disorder should be addressed at the meeting, not through the code of conduct process—unless egregious.



Media and social media policies

- Council media and social media policies should not operate in a way that constrains councillors' ability to freely engage with the community via the media or online.

- Councillors should be free to express personal views but must:

- Not claim to speak for the council unless authorised.

- Accurately represent council decisions.

- Avoid disclosing confidential information.

- Councils should not require councillors to seek staff approval before commenting publicly.

TITLE Outstanding Action Report

TRIM REF 25/62958

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
27 May 2025	CL01 YENDA GROWTH AREA MASTER PLAN REQUEST FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION	SP	160424	25/137	RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Jenny Ellis that: (a) Council adopt the draft Yenda Growth Area Master Plan and Site Specific Section 12.4 of the Griffith Residential Development Control Plan and place on public exhibition for a period of 28 days. (b) Should no submissions be received, the Yenda Growth Area Master Plan and Site Specific Section 12.4 of the Griffith Residential Development Control Plan are adopted and in accordance with clause 6.3 of the Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014, Stage 1 of the growth area is released for development. (c) Should submissions be received, the Yenda Growth Area Master Plan and Site Specific Section 12.4 of the Griffith Residential Development Control Plan is to be reported back to Council including a report detailing any amendments to the Master Plan and a review of all submissions received.	03/06/2025: On Public Exhibition until 27 June 2025.
27 May 2025	CL02 HANWOOD GROWTH AREA MASTER PLAN REQUEST FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION	SP	160425	25/138	RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Laurie Testoni that: (a) Council adopt the draft Hanwood Growth Area Master Plan and place on public	03/06/2025: On Public Exhibition until 27 June 2025.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<p>exhibition for a period of 28 days.</p> <p>(b) Should no submissions be received, the Hanwood Growth Area Master Plan is adopted and Council endorses the preparation of a Section 7.11 Contribution Plan to ensure the development of the growth area including the provision of roadworks, drainage network and open space proceeds on an equitable and fair basis for landowners and developers.</p> <p>(c) Should submissions be received, the Hanwood Growth Area Master Plan is to be reported back to Council including a report detailing any amendments to the Master Plan and a review of all submissions received.</p>	
27 May 2025	CL03 ADOPTION OF PLAN OF MANAGEMENT - MISCELLANEOUS CROWN RESERVES - (KART CLUB - WUMBULGAL RECREATION RESERVE - RANKINS SPRINGS CAMPING AREA - DAVE WALLACE RANGE)	CPO	160426	25/139	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Laurie Testoni that:</p> <p>(a) Council adopt the Plan of Management – Miscellaneous Crown Reserves pursuant to Section 40 of the Local Government Act 1993 and in accordance with Section 3.23(6) of the Crown Land Management Act 2016.</p> <p>(b) Council give public notice of the adoption of the Plan of Management – Miscellaneous Crown Reserves.</p>	04/06/2025: PoM was adopted at the Ordinary Meeting of Council 27 May 2025. Public notice of the adoption to commence on 04/06/2025.
27 May 2025	CL06 ENDORSEMENT OF DRAFT GRIFFITH	EDC	160427	25/142	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Jenny Ellis that:</p>	03/06/2025: On Public Exhibition until 27 June 2025.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

	HOUSING STRATEGY FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION				<p>(a) Council adopt the draft Griffith Housing Strategy 2025 and place on public exhibition for 28 days.</p> <p>(b) Should no submissions be received, the draft Griffith Housing Strategy 2025 is adopted.</p> <p>(c) Should submissions be received, the draft Griffith Housing Strategy 2025 is to be reported back to Council including a report detailing any submissions received.</p>	
13 May 2025	CL02 ENDORSEMENT OF THE DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM 2025/26 TO 2028/29 INCORPORATING THE DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN (BUDGET) 2025/26 AND RESOURCING STRATEGY	DBCF FM MA	159890	25/122	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Scott Groat that:</p> <p>(a) Council endorse the placement of the following draft documents on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Delivery Program 2025/26 - 2028/29 incorporating the draft Operational Plan 2025/26, <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Ten Year Long Term Financial Plan 2025/26-2034/35 <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Workforce Management Plan 2025/26-2028/29 <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Asset Management Plan 2025/26 – 2034/35. <p>(b) Council hold a Community Opinion Group (COG meeting) during the public exhibition period to review and discuss the draft documents.</p>	27/05/2025: On public exhibition till 11 June 2025.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<p>(c) Following the public exhibition period, the abovementioned documents, including any submissions received, will be presented to Council for consideration and adoption before 30 June 2025. Council also endorse for exhibition, the following further amendments relating to the Draft Delivery Program and Draft Ten Year Long Term Financial Plan - Ten Year Capital Works Program.</p> <p>(d) Line 34 Civil Infrastructure Drone replacement \$7,410 - move this item to 2027/28 going forward 7.5 yr replacement.</p> <p>(e) Line 37 Street lighting Additional lights general \$33,051 - reduce this figure to \$16,525.</p> <p>(f) Line 44 IT services Annual PC replacement \$124,218 - reduce this figure to \$110K.</p> <p>(g) Line 74 Parks and gardens Scenic hill lighting etc \$140k - move \$70k of this budget to 2026/27 budget.</p> <p>(h) Line 76 Parks and gardens Woodpark toilet block \$250K - move this item to 2026/27 budget.</p>	
13 May 2025	CL04 REVIEW OF COUNCIL POLICIES - CUSTOMER SERVICE & USE OF COUNCIL FOOTPATHS	SGO	159892	25/001	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Laurie Testoni that:</p> <p>(a) Council place the draft Customer Service Policy and</p>	19/05/2025: On public exhibition until 11 June 2025.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<p>Use of Council Footpaths Policy on public display for 28 days.</p> <p>(b) If any submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.</p> <p>(c) If no submissions are received, the reviewed policies be considered adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.</p>	
13 May 2025	NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR MARK DAL BON	IMA	159898	25/132	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Mark Dal Bon and Christine Stead that :</p> <p>(a) Council place the naming proposal (Valentini Bridge) for the new walkway bridge adjacent to Mackay Avenue and Macedone Road, on public exhibition for 28 days.</p> <p>(b) If no public submissions received, the name be formally adopted and appropriate new signage be developed for Council's review and implementation,</p> <p>(c) If any public submissions are received, then a further report be provided to Council for determination.</p>	30/05/2026: On public exhibition until 4pm, Friday, 27 June 2025.
22 April 2025	CL02 DISABILITY INCLUSION ACTION PLAN - CHECK-IN & REVIEW	DEOD	159019	25/107	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Tony O'Grady that:</p> <p>(a) Council place the 2021-2025 Disability Inclusion Action Plan on public exhibition until 30 May 2025 to seek submissions from members of the community for inclusion in a reviewed Plan.</p>	<p>12/05/2025: Currently on Public Exhibition.</p> <p>10/06/2025: Report to Council 19 June 2025.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<p>(b) Council refer the 2021-2025 Disability Inclusion Action Plan to the Disability Inclusion & Access Committee for review and submission.</p> <p>(c) Council engage with the community to seek feedback for inclusion in the reviewed Plan.</p> <p>(d) Council amend the existing 2021-25 Disability Inclusion Action Plan and present to Council for adoption in June 2025 pending a remake of the Plan by June 2026.</p>	
22 April 2025	CL04 RENEWAL OF LICENCE AGREEMENT FOR OCCUPATION OF ROAD RESERVE FOR THE DISPLAY OF VEHICLES - DASAT PTY LTD (ACN 681432593) (GRIFFITH CITY VOLKSWAGEN) - 126 MACKAY AVENUE, YOOGALI	CPO	159022	25/109	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Scott Groat that:</p> <p>(a) Council enters into a licence agreement with Dasat Pty Ltd over that part of Council's road reserve being an area of 351m2 adjoining 126 Mackay Avenue, Yoogali, to be used as a vehicle display area for a term of 10 years, with a commencement date of 21 March 2025.</p> <p>(b) Council advertise its intention to enter into a licence agreement with Dasat Pty Ltd for the use of Council's road reserve adjoining 126 Mackay Avenue, Yoogali 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 will enter into a licence agreement with Dasat Pty Ltd for the use of Council's road reserve adjoining 126 Mackay</p>	<p>19/05/2025: Currently being advertised. DASAT Pty Ltd have been advised that the licence renewal has been approved pending submissions. Cater and Blumer have been advised of Council's resolution and subject to no submissions received can proceed to prepare the licence agreement.</p> <p>10/06/2025: No submissions. Draft licence agreement received.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<p>Avenue, Yoogali for a term of 10 years.</p> <p>(d) Dasat Pty Ltd will be required to pay all applicable costs and charges associated with the renewal of the licence agreement, together with Council's administration fee, as per Council's adopted Revenue Policy</p> <p>(e) The annual licence fee be charged in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy, for leasing of road reserves for business purposes, where the lease forms an integral part of the business. Amount of \$1,333.47 has been invoiced for the 2024/2025 financial year, in addition to rates and charges. The annual fee to increase with CPI thereafter.</p> <p>(f) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to execute the licence renewal on behalf of the Council under the Common Seal.</p>	
8 April 2025	CL01 BOORGA ROAD R5 - LARGE LOT RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN	CSP	158562	25/088	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Jenny Ellis that:</p> <p>(a) Council endorse the public exhibition of proposed Section 12.3 of the Griffith Residential Development Plan for a period of 28 days.</p> <p>(b) Should submissions be received, a report with recommendations be presented back to an Ordinary Council Meeting for final endorsement.</p>	<p>16/04/2025: On public exhibition, submissions close 19 May 2025 at 4:00pm.</p> <p>5/05/2025: Date for closure of public submissions extended to 9 June 2025.</p> <p>10/06/2025: If any submissions are received a further report will be presented to Council.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					(c) Should no submissions be received, the amendments to the Griffith Residential Development Control Plan are considered endorsed the day after the close of the public exhibition period.	
8 April 2025	CL02 NSW SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM - EARLY INVESTMENT ROUND	GM	158563	25/089	RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Jenny Ellis that: (a) Council submit an application under the NSW Sustainable Communities Program - Early Investment Round. (b) The project to be submitted is the "Griffith City Beautification & Tourism Enhancement Project Stage 1" and as detailed in this report.	5/05/2025: Application lodged in April 2025, prior to closing date.
8 April 2025	NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR JENNY ELLIS	DBCF FM MA	158565	25/095	RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Tony O'Grady that Council allocate sufficient funds from the cash reserves set aside for the Regional Art Gallery project (currently at \$109K) based on quotes received for the following items and report back to Council: (a) Signage for the front of the Gallery - to be designed, manufactured, and installed. (Approximately \$5K) (b) New hanging track system - to enhance the display and functionality of exhibition spaces. (Approximately \$10K) (c) Repainting of the walls and ceiling of the whole gallery - To refreshen and cover water damaged ceilings (National	5/05/2025: Staff investigating each of the items to establish accurate costing and to submit grant application to paint the War Memorial Museum, subject to negotiation of the War Memorial Trust. Anticipate items to be adjusted at September 2025/26 quarterly review when all issues have been resolved. 19/05/2025: Grant application to be submitted by end of June 2025.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					average: \$60-\$100/ sqm; Gallery is 422sqm therefore up to \$42K).	
8 April 2025	CC01 ENTER INTO LEASE AGREEMENT FOR OPERATION OF A CREMATOR	DIO FM	158567	25/101	RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Laurie Testoni that: (a) Council enter into a lease agreement with Griffith Regional Funeral Services and the Landowner of 172-174 Wakaden Street, Griffith for the operation of a Cremator. Refer Attachment A, subject to an amendment to the term of the Lease being 3 years from the commencement date with the first option 1 year and second option 1 year. (b) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to sign the Cremator Lease Agreement under Council Seal. (c) Council commence the tender process to procure a cremator in 2025/26 subject to approving funding to purchase the cremator in the final 2025/26 budget.	5/05/2025: Draft lease document returned to Solicitors for modification as resolved by Council. Instructions to execute amended lease document.
25 March 2025	NOTICE OF MOTION - THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR DOUG CURRAN - WATER USE CHARGES	DBCF	158012	25/081	RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Doug Curran and Tony O'Grady that Council request the General Manager prepare a report detailing the water use charges for registered sporting organisations and not for profit organisations in the Griffith LGA for FY24.	14/04/2025: A report will be presented to Council in May 2025. 19/05/2025: Report to Council on 10 June 2025. 2/06/2025: Report to Council on 19 June 2025.
25 February 2025	NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR SHARI BLUMER	GM	156778	25/051	RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Jenny Ellis that:	17/03/2025: Draft Strategic Water policy being prepared. Report to Council April 2025.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Council agrees to the creation of an overarching 'Strategic Water' policy. (b) The draft policy document be reported to Council for consideration during April 2025. (c) Council make a submission to the Legislative Assembly Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development inquiry into the Impacts of the Water Amendment (Restoring Our Rivers) Act 2023 on NSW regional communities. The closing date for submissions is 14 April 2025. 	<p>19/05/2025: Draft document being reviewed. Report to Council June 2025.</p> <p>10/06/2025: Report to Council July 2025.</p>
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. (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. (c) Should no submissions be received, Council enters into a licence agreement with 	<p>12/02/2025: Council will instruct solicitors to prepare draft licence agreements as per resolution.</p> <p>17/03/2025: With Council's solicitor.</p> <p>5/05/2025: Agreement sent to MLHD for signing.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<p>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	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> <p>(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.</p> <p>(b) Council investigate further funding options for Multicultural Council of Griffith at a Council Workshop during the 2025/26 budget process.</p>	<p>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 October 2025.</p> <p>5/05/2025: Office rental from July to October 2025 included in Draft 2025/26 budget document to be considered at Council Meeting 13 May 2025 in accordance with resolution part a.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

						<p>Councillors will need to address <u>part b of the resolution during deliberation of the draft 2025/26 budget at the meeting to be held 13 May 2025.</u></p> <p>19/05/2025: Current funding of office rental support included in draft Budget 2025/26 to October 2025. No funding included in budget beyond this date.</p>
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> <p>17/03/2025: Councillor briefing 23 April 2025.</p> <p>5/05/2025: Draft Housing Strategy to be reported to Council to initiate public exhibition process in June 2025.</p> <p>19/05/2025: Draft Griffith Housing Strategy 2025 report to Council Meeting 27 May 2025.</p> <p>10/06/2025: Draft Griffith Housing Strategy on Public Exhibition.</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>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> <p>31/03/2025: Developer forum scheduled 10 April 2025. Report to Council May 2025.</p> <p>5/05/2025: The 'Report on Strategies to Increase Housing Supply August 2024 forms part of</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					(b) A report be prepared by the Directorate of Sustainable Development and be provided to Council at a meeting in May 2025.	the Draft Housing Strategy to be placed on exhibition during June 2025, and endorsed by Council in July 2025. <u>It is proposed that the director of Sustainable Development report as part of the resolution part b, be presented to Council at a meeting in August in 2025.</u> 19/05/2025: Draft Griffith Housing Strategy 2025 report to Council Meeting 27 May 2025. 10/06/2025: Draft Griffith Housing Strategy on Public Exhibition.
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 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>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> <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>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

						<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> <p>10/06/2025: Workshop held and further NoM received.</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>(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</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> <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>19/03/2025: Draft lease document has been finalised.</p> <p>Next steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Status report for New Cemetery Masterplan

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					<p>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>(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</p>	<p>Committee Wednesday, 2 April 2025. For Information only.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Draft lease report to Council Tuesday, 8 April 2025. 3. Lease executed. 4. Council adoption of 2025/26 Budget and Revenue Policy Tuesday, 24 June 2025. 5. July 2025 Council to call for tenders for provision and installation of cremator unit. <p>14/04/2025: From the minutes of the Council Meeting held 08/04/2025.</p> <p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Laurie Testoni that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Council enter into a lease agreement with Griffith Regional Funeral Services and the Landowner of 172-174 Wakaden Street, Griffith for the operation of a Cremator. Refer Attachment A, subject to an amendment to the term of the Lease being 3 years from the commencement date with the first option 1 year and second option 1 year. (b) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to sign the
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					policy and are subject to annual review.	<p>Cremator Lease Agreement under Council Seal.</p> <p>(c) Council commence the tender process to procure a cremator in 2025/26 subject to approving funding to purchase the cremator in the final 2025/26 budget.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the lease document will be executed prior to the Council Meeting of 22 April 2025.</p> <p>5/05/2025: Draft lease document returned to Solicitors for modification as resolved by Council. Instructions to execute amended lease document.</p>
12 March 2024	NOTICE OF MOTION - UPGRADE TO ORIGINAL BAGTOWN'S FIRST BLACKSMITH STORE SITE	DI&O DSD	143524	24/066	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>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.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

						<p>Plan of Scope of works to be discussed at Council Workshop on 29 October 2024.</p> <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> <p>31/03/2025: Discussed at workshop 18 March, Matter referred to the Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee 8 May 2025.</p> <p>19/05/2025: Included in Committee Agenda for 25 June 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 Andreazza 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</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>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<p>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>(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>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> <p>03/10/2023: Draft Masterplan to go to Council 14 November 2023.</p> <p>06/11/2023: Draft Masterplan to go to Council Meeting in December 2023.</p> <p>04/12/2023: Draft Masterplan to go to Council Meeting in February 2024.</p> <p>15/01/2024: Report to March 2024 Council Meeting.</p> <p>18/03/2024: Council Meeting for 14 May 2024.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>01/07/2024: Meeting being arranged with property owner of Stage 1 of the Masterplan.</p> <p>05/08/2024: Property owners will be contacted again seeking meeting.</p> <p>19/08/2024: Further attempts to contact owners continuing.</p>
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						<p>14/10/2024: Council staff met with owner representatives on 20 September 2024. Awaiting on refined design from Council consultant.</p> <p>3/02/2025: Consultant provided feedback Wednesday 29 January 2025. Report to be presented to Council in March 2025.</p> <p>17/03/2025: 13 Feb 2025 Consultant has submitted plans for Masterplan for Council Review.</p> <p>01/04/2025: Report to Council Meeting May 2025.</p> <p>10/06/2025: Document on Public Exhibition until 27 June 2025.</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>13/01/2025: Concrete footings for the bridge complete. Further construction to take place from February 2025.</p> <p>3/03/2025: Construction of bridge commenced 4 March 2025.</p> <p>17/03/2025: Contractors completed installation of bridge. Approaches under construction.</p> <p>01/04/2025: Ramps for the bridge will be complete, by the week commencing 19 May. Public access to the bridge as from the following week. The remaining works include; final seal of path, lighting, line marking, intersection treatments and signage.</p> <p>5/05/2025: One ramp concrete completed, asphalt of path scheduled for mid-May 2025.</p>

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						19/05/2025: Minor works to be completed.
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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 Ministers Office. 3/03/2025: Crown Lands Dept has reviewed the draft PoM – pending some minor amendments – the draft PoM can be placed on public exhibition – Staff working through the requested amendment/s. 5/05/2025: Draft Plan of Management – Lake Wyangan can now be placed on Public Exhibition. 19/05/2025: Lake Wyangan draft PoM can now be placed on Public Exhibition. 10/06/2025: To be placed on Public Exhibition.
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

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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>	<p>urgent attention of Minsters Office.</p> <p>3/03/2025: Crown Lands Dept has reviewed the initial draft PoM – they have requested some updates / amendments be made to the PoM. Staff working through the requested amendment/s with consultant.</p> <p>5/05/2025: Status remains unchanged.</p> <p>19/05/2025: Status remains unchanged.</p> <p>10/06/2025: Status remains unchanged.</p>
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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 Ministers Office.</p> <p>3/03/2025: Crown Lands Department has requested amendments – Staff working through these, draft PoM will then be referred back to Crown Lands for review.</p> <p>5/05/2025: Status remains unchanged.</p> <p>19/05/2025: Status remains unchanged.</p> <p>10/06/2025: Status remains unchanged.</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 Ministers Office. 3/03/2025: Exhibition period completed, Report for adoption to be presented at a future Council Meeting. 02/04/2025: Report to Council 22 April 2025. 5/05/2025: The MISC Reserves PoM has been referred to Council Meeting of 27 May 2025 for adoption. 10/06/2025: PoM was adopted at the Ordinary Meeting of Council 27 May 2025. Public notice of the adoption to commence on 04/06/2025.

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					(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 Ministers Office. 3/03/2025: Crown Lands Department has requested amendments –Staff working through these, draft PoM will then be referred back to Crown Lands for review. 5/05/2025: Status remains unchanged. 19/05/2025: Status remains unchanged.