



Ordinary Meeting

BUSINESS PAPER

Tuesday, 9 June 2026 at 7:00 PM

Griffith City Council Chambers

Phone: 1300 176 077

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



COUNCILLORS

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

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN ADDRESS COUNCIL IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS

Addressing the Council at a Public Forum

Members of the public may address the Council on matters listed in the Council Meeting Agenda at the Public Forum held prior to the Council Meeting, 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 [Request to Speak at a Public Forum](#) before 12:00 noon on the day of the meeting. Public Forums will commence at 6:30 pm prior to the Council Meeting as required.

Notice of Motion via Councillor

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

Petition

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

Customer Request Management system

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

Direct correspondence to the General Manager

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

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

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

Oath

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

Affirmation

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

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

[What is a pecuniary interest?](#)

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

[Disclosure of pecuniary interests at meetings](#)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Opening Affirmations

Option 1

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

To be honest and objective in all our deliberations.

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

Option 2

Almighty God

We ask that you guide us in our decision making.

Protect us and the community we serve.

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

Option 3

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

Acknowledgment of Country

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

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

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL
TO BE HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
TUESDAY, 9 JUNE 2026 AT 7:00 PM**

MEETING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held in the Griffith City Council Chambers on **Tuesday, 9 June 2026**.

In accordance with Griffith City Council's Code of Meeting Practice and as permitted under the Local Government Act 1993, this meeting will be livestreamed via Facebook and a person's image and / or voice may be broadcast.

A recording of the livestream will be published on Council's website for at least 12 months after the meeting or for the balance of the Council term, whichever is the longer period.

Attendance at a Council meeting is to be taken as consent by a person to their image and / or voice being livestreamed.

All speakers should refrain from making any defamatory comments or releasing any personal information about another individual without their consent.

Council accepts no liability for any damage that may result from defamatory comments made by persons attending meetings – all liability will rest with the individual who made the comments.

No other 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.

The agenda for the meeting is:

- 1 Council Acknowledgments
 - 2 Apologies and Applications for a Leave of Absence or Attendance by Audio-visual Link by Councillors
 - 3 Confirmation of Minutes
 - 4 Business Arising
 - 5 Declarations of Interest
 - 6 Presentations
 - 7 Mayoral Minutes
 - 8 General Manager's Report
- CL01 p19 Local Government Remuneration Tribunal 2026 - Determination of Fees Payable to Mayor and Councillors
- CL02 p25 Code of Meeting Practice

- CL03 p29 Local Government NSW Water Management Conference 2026
- CL04 p39 Murray Darling Association Conference 2026
- CL05 p45 Request for Sponsorship MLHD - Waive Fees - Hire of Griffith Regional Theatre
- CL06 p49 Request for Sponsorship - Griffith's Biggest Lap Festival 3 October 2026
- CL07 p53 Quick Turn Around Grant - Ema Munro - Roads, Parks & Pathways Enhancement Committee
- CL08 p65 St Vincent De Paul Care and Support Program
- CL09 p75 Treasury Policy on Council Loan Borrowings
- CL10 p80 Treasury Policy for Investments
- 9 Information Reports
- CL11 p85 Financial Assistance Grant Paid in Advance - Budget Impact
- 10 Adoption of Committee Minutes
 - p89 Minutes of the Griffith Pioneer Park Museum Committee Meeting held on 20 May 2026
- 11 Business with Notice – Rescission Motions
- 12 Business with Notice – Other Motions
- 13 Outstanding Action Report
 - p93 Outstanding Action Report
- 14 Matters to be dealt with by Closed Council

Scott Grant

GENERAL MANAGER

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
TUESDAY, 26 MAY 2026 COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM**

PRESENT

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

STAFF

General Manager, Scott Grant, Director Business, Cultural, Financial Services, Matthew Hansen (Zoom), Director Economic & Organisational Development, Shireen Donaldson, Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, Director Infrastructure & Operations, Phil King, Director Sustainable Development, Joe Rizzo and Minute Taker, Leanne Austin

MEDIA

Nil

1 COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Meeting opened with Councillor Shari Blumer 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

26/134

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that apologies be received from Councillors Jenny Ellis and Scott Groat and a leave of absence granted and approval be given to Director Matt Hansen to attend the meeting via audio visual.

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

26/135

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Laurie Testoni that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in Griffith City Council Chambers on 12 May 2026, having first been circulated amongst all members of Council, be confirmed.

For

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 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 Shari Blumer

CL08 Renewal of Lease Agreement - Griffith Motorcycle Sports Club - Crown Reserve 83396, Lot 1275 DP 751709, Lloyd Priest Drive, Griffith

CL09 Licence Agreement - Road Reserve - Argyle Community Housing Ltd - 2-4 Crossing Street, Griffith

CL10 Surrender of Lease Agreement for Hangar Sites 28 & 29 Griffith Aerodrome and Request for a New Lease Agreement for Hangar Site 28 to Gerard Higgins and a New Lease Agreement for Hangar Site 29 to Robert Ryan

Reason – The business I work for and have an interest in often drafts the contracts 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.

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

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 Anne Napoli

CL02 Community Grants Application - Griffith Women In Business Mentorship Program Graduation Event

Reason – I am an ordinary member of the Griffith Women in Business Committee. As an ordinary member I was not part of the Mentoring Program.

6 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

CL01 COMMUNITY GRANTS APPLICATION - BARNABAS HOUSE RESIDENTIAL DISABLED ACCESSIBILITY

MOVED on the motion of Councillors Anne Napoli and Christine Stead that Council accept the quick Turn Around Grant Application.

For
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon

Against
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared LOST by 3 votes to 4.

The **MOTION** was **PUT** and **LOST**.

CL02 COMMUNITY GRANTS APPLICATION - GRIFFITH WOMEN IN BUSINESS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM GRADUATION EVENT

26/136

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Tony O'Grady that Council decline the application for the Quick Turnaround Grant from Women In Business, noting that the application does not meet the eligibility criteria of Council's Community Grant Program.

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

Against
Councillor Anne Napoli

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 1.

CL03 COMMUNITY GRANTS APPLICATION - GRIFFITH CENTRAL PRESCHOOL

26/137

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Anne Napoli that Council accept the application for Griffith Central Preschool-Multicultural Day.

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

CL04 COMMUNITY GRANTS APPLICATION - KALINDA SCHOOL P AND C

MOVED on the motion of Councillors Anne Napoli and Mark Dal Bon that Council accept the quick Turn Around Grant Application.

For
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon

Against
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared LOST by 3 votes to 4.

The **MOTION** was **PUT** and **LOST**.

CL05 WAIVER OF FEES - GRIFFITH REGIONAL SPORTS CENTRE

26/138

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Laurie Testoni that Council approve the waive of \$250 of court hire fees for the Inclusive Fitness Program for Children with Diverse Needs program.

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

CL06 UPDATE - ACTIVE GRANT PROGRAMS

26/139

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Laurie Testoni that Council note this report.

For
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady

Against

Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

CL07 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT (QBR) - MARCH 2026 (QUARTER 3)

26/140

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Laurie Testoni that Council:

- (a) Endorse the Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBR) for the period ending 31 March 2026, prepared in accordance with the NSW Office of Local Government guidelines.
- (b) Note the Responsible Accounting Officer's certification that Council's financial position remains satisfactory.
- (c) Approve the proposed variations to the 2025–26 budget as outlined in the QBR.
- (d) Authorise submission of the QBR and electronic data return to the Office of Local Government.

For

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

Councillor Shari Blumer left the meeting having declared a pecuniary interest, the time being 7:22 pm.

CL08 RENEWAL OF LEASE AGREEMENT - GRIFFITH MOTORCYCLE SPORTS CLUB - CROWN RESERVE 83396, LOT 1275 DP 751709, LLOYD PRIEST DRIVE, GRIFFITH

26/141

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

- (a) Council enters into a lease agreement with Griffith Motorcycle Sports Club over Crown Reserve 83396, Lot 1275 DP 751709, for a term of 10 years commencing 1 March 2016 with a further 10-year option.
- (b) Griffith Motorcycle Sports Club is responsible to pay for all applicable costs and charges associated with the preparation of the lease agreement together with Council's Administration Fee as per Council's adopted Revenue Policy.
- (c) The annual lease fee will be charged in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy, currently \$713 for the 2025/2026 financial year, in addition to rates and charges.
- (d) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to execute the lease agreement on

behalf of Council under the Common Seal.

For

Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 0.

CL09 LICENCE AGREEMENT - ROAD RESERVE - ARGYLE COMMUNITY HOUSING LTD - 2-4 CROSSING STREET, GRIFFITH

26/142

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Doug Curran and Mark Dal Bon that the matter be deferred pending further information.

For

Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 0.

CL10 SURRENDER OF LEASE AGREEMENT FOR HANGAR SITES 28 & 29 GRIFFITH AERODROME AND REQUEST FOR A NEW LEASE AGREEMENT FOR HANGAR SITE 28 TO GERARD HIGGINS AND A NEW LEASE AGREEMENT FOR HANGAR SITE 29 TO ROBERT RYAN

26/143

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

- (a) Council agrees to the surrender of the current lease agreement with Gerard Higgins over Hangar Site Areas 28 & 29 of the Griffith Aerodrome.
- (b) Council enters into new lease agreements with the applicants, Gerard Higgins and Robert Ryan respectively as outlined in the report, each for a term of five (5) years with an option to renew for a further five (5) years, with commencement to take effect from the date of surrender of the existing lease.
- (c) The lessees, Gerard Higgins and Robert Ryan are to pay all applicable costs and charges associated with the preparation of the new lease agreements together with Council's Administration Fee, as per Council's adopted Revenue Policy.
- (d) The annual lease fee for Hangar Site 28 will be charged in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy for all landside/airside areas per annum, in addition to rates and charges.
- (e) The annual lease fee for Hangar Site 29 will be charged in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy for all landside/airside areas per annum, in addition to rates

and charges.

- (f) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to execute the lease agreements on behalf of Council under the Common Seal.

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 0.

Councillor Shari Blumer returned to the meeting at 7:26 pm.

9 INFORMATION REPORTS

CL11 QUARTERLY REVIEW - KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPIS) - Q3 2025/26

26/144

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

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

CL12 INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

26/145

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

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

10 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE ROADS, PARKS & PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5 MAY 2026

26/146

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Christine Stead that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Roads, Parks & Pathways Enhancement Committee meeting held on 5 May 2026 be adopted.

For

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL TRAFFIC FORUM MEETING HELD ON 12 MAY 2026

26/147

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Anne Napoli and Tony O'Grady that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Local Traffic Forum meeting held on 12 May 2026 be adopted.

For

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

11 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

12 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – OTHER MOTIONS

Nil

13 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

26/148

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Shari Blumer that the report be noted.

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

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 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.**

26/149

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.

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 RFQ NO. 26 – 25/26: DESIGN & CONSTRUCT COLLECTOR WELL FOR G4 PUMP STATION

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

Council closed its meeting at 7:39 pm. The public and media left the Chamber. Livestream was disconnected.

REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL

26/150

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that Open Council be resumed.

Open Council resumed at 7:43 pm.

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 RFQ NO. 26 – 25/26: DESIGN & CONSTRUCT COLLECTOR WELL FOR G4 PUMP STATION

26/151

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Shari Blumer that Council:

- (a) Note the information contained within this report regarding the condition of the existing collector well at the G4 Pump Station and the urgent need for reconstruction works.
- (b) Note that a Request for Quotations (RFQ No. 26-25/26: Design & Construct Collector Well for G4 Pump Station) was undertaken, with all conforming quotations received exceeding the tendering threshold prescribed under Section 55 of the Local Government Act 1993.
- (c) Note that the Senior Management Team determined, pursuant to Section 55(3)(k) of the Local Government Act 1993, that the works constitute a “case of emergency” and

approved proceeding with the project under the applicable exemption provisions of the Act.

- (d) Note that the General Manager has endorsed the decision of the Senior Management Team to proceed with the project under the “case of emergency” exemption contained within Section 55(3)(k) of the Local Government Act 1993.

For

Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Christine Stead
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Tony O’Grady
Councillor Laurie Testoni
Councillor Shari Blumer

Against

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 7:47 pm.

Confirmed:

CHAIRPERSON

CLAUSE	CL01
TITLE	Local Government Remuneration Tribunal 2026 - Determination of Fees Payable to Mayor and Councillors
FROM	Scott Grant, General Manager
TRIM REF	26/58247

SUMMARY

Sections 248 and 249 of the Local Government Act 1993 require councils to fix and pay an annual fee to Mayors and Councillors in accordance with the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal's Annual Report and Determination.

The Tribunal recently determined the 2026 fees payable to Mayors and Councillors determining a 3.7% increase in the minimum and maximum fees applicable to each Council category. This report seeks a Council decision for the fees payable to the Mayor and Councillors for the 2026/27 financial year (effective from 1 July 2026).

RECOMMENDATION

For Council's determination.

REPORT

The Local Government Act 1993 requires the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal to report to the Minister for Local Government by 1 May each year on its determination of categories of Councils and the maximum and minimum amounts of fees to be paid to Mayors and Councillors.

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal recently handed down its 2026 Annual Determination. The Tribunal determined a 3.7% per annum increase in the minimum and maximum fees applicable to each category.

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has categorised Griffith City Council as a Regional Rural Council.

The Annual Determination recommends the minimum and maximum Mayoral and Councillor fees for a Regional Rural Council commencing 1 July 2026, as follows:

	<u>Minimum</u> Fee from 1 July 2026	<u>Maximum</u> Fee from 1 July 2026
Councillor	\$10,920	\$24,080
Mayor (Additional Fee)	\$23,250	\$52,560

Councillor Annual Fee

In accordance with the Tribunal's 2026 Determination the minimum allowable Councillor fee for the 2026/27 financial year is \$10,920 and the maximum allowable Councillor fee is \$24,080.

The current fee payable to Councillors in 2025/26 is \$21,733. (Maximum for 2025/26 was \$23,220).

A 3.7% increase to the current Councillor fee would be \$22,537.

Additional Mayoral Annual Fee

In accordance with the Tribunal's 2026 Determination the minimum allowable additional Mayoral fee for the 2026/27 financial year is \$23,250 and the maximum allowable additional Mayoral fee is \$52,560 per annum.

The current additional fee payable to the Mayor in 2025/26 is \$47,420. (Maximum for 2025/26 was \$50,680).

A 3.7% increase to the current additional Mayoral fee would be \$49,175.

Council cannot fix a fee higher than the maximum amount determined by the Tribunal.

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal Annual Determination (Attachment a) and Circular from Office of Local Government (Attachment b) are attached to this report.

Superannuation

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council 22 March 2022, Council determined to make superannuation contribution payments to Councillors starting 1 July 2022. The payments in 2026/27 will remain at 12%.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

- (a) Council endorse the Councillor Annual Fee for the 2026/27 financial year at a rate of \$...
- (b) Council endorse the additional Annual Mayoral Fee for the 2026/27 financial year at a rate of \$...

OPTION 2

If Council does not fix a fee, Council must pay the minimum fee determined by the Tribunal.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The 2026/27 budget to be adjusted in accordance with Council's resolution. The fees determined by Council for Councillors and the Mayor are to take effect from 1 July 2026.

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

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The determinations of the Tribunal are in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, Chapter 9, Part 2, Division 4 - Local Government Remuneration Tribunal - s.235 – 247 and Chapter 9, Part 2, Division 5 What fees, expenses and facilities may be paid or provided to councillors – s.248 – 254B.

248 Fixing and payment of annual fees for councillors

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

249 Fixing and payment of annual fees for the mayor

- (1) A council must pay the mayor an annual fee.
- (2) The annual fee must be paid in addition to the fee paid to the mayor as a councillor.
- (3) A council may fix the annual fee and, if it does so, it must fix the annual fee in accordance with the appropriate determination of the Remuneration Tribunal.
- (4) A council that does not fix the annual fee must pay the appropriate minimum fee determined by the Remuneration Tribunal.
- (5) A council may pay the deputy mayor (if there is one) a fee determined by the council for such time as the deputy mayor acts in the office of the mayor. The amount of the fee so paid must be deducted from the mayor's annual fee.

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

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 2.3 Mayor and Councillors represent the community, providing strong, proactive leadership.




CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

Local Government Remuneration Tribunal

Office of Local Government

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) Council Circular 26-05 - Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal - Office of Local Government (OLG)   23
- (b) Annual Determination 2026 (under separate cover) 

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
Office of Local Government



Circular to Councils

Subject/title	2026/27 Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal
Circular Details	Circular 26-05 / 15 May 2026 / A1005478
Previous Circular	Circular 25-10 - 21-05 2025/26 Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / Council Governance Staff
Contact	Council Governance Team / 02 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Council to Implement

What's new or changing?

- The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal (the Tribunal) has determined an increase of 3.7% to mayoral and councillor fees for the 2026-27 financial year, with effect from 1 July 2026.
- The Tribunal is required to determine the remuneration categories of councils and mayoral offices at least once every 3 years under section 239 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act). The Tribunal last undertook a significant review of the categories as part of its 2023 determination.
- In undertaking its review this year, the Tribunal concluded that it was necessary to rectify a criteria anomaly identified in the 'Regional Strategic' category established by the 2023 annual determination, and to adjust the population criteria for the 'Major Strategic Area' category, from 300,000 to 200,000.
- The Tribunal found that the allocation of most councils into the current categories continued to be appropriate having regard to the 2023 review, the current category model and criteria, and the evidence put forward in the submissions received. However, the Tribunal has reclassified Dungog Shire Council as 'Rural Large' due to population growth.
- The Tribunal has indicated it will undertake a further review of the categories of councils as part of its 2027 determination.

T 02 4428 4100 TTY 02 4428 4209, E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541
www.olg.nsw.gov.au



What will this mean for council?

- Section 248 and 249 of the Act require councils to fix and pay an annual fee to councillors and mayors from 1 July 2026 based on the Tribunal's determination for the 2026-27 financial year.

Key points

- The level of fees paid will depend on the category the council is in.
- A council cannot fix a fee higher than the maximum amount determined by the Tribunal.
- If a council does not fix a fee, the council must pay the minimum fee determined by the Tribunal.

Where to go for further information

- The Tribunal's report and determination is available at:
<https://www.remtribunals.nsw.gov.au/local-government/current-lgrt-determinations>.
- For further information please contact the Council Governance Team on 02 4428 4100 or by email at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brett Whitworth".

Brett Whitworth PSM
Deputy Secretary, Office of Local Government

CLAUSE	CL02
TITLE	Code of Meeting Practice
FROM	Scott Grant, General Manager
TRIM REF	26/63224

SUMMARY

In 2025, a new Model Code of Meeting Practice for NSW local councils was introduced. After a period of public exhibition, Council formally adopted a new Code of Meeting Practice on 9 December 2025. However, the Local Government (General) Amendment (Model Code of Meeting Practice) Regulation 2025, which established the updated Model Code, has since been disallowed by the Legislative Council. As a result, Council will revert to its previous Code of Meeting Practice while awaiting further guidance from the Office of Local Government.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) Council rescind Minute No. 25/388 – Ordinary Meeting of Council held 9 December 2025:

25/001

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

- (a) ***Council adopt the Code of Meeting Practice Policy as presented including the following amendments.***
 - (b) ***Remove the following statement from Clause 5.2 “The standard of dress for Councillors is business casual. Council blazers are provided for Councillors to wear at Council Meetings”.***
 - (c) ***Council formally records its objection to Clause 5.19 relating to attendance by audio-visual link, and write to the Minister for Local Government outlining Council’s concerns with the clause, including its impracticality for rural and regional councils, the impact on quorums and meeting scheduling, and its inconsistency with modern workplace practices.***
 - (d) ***In relation to Procedural Motions, Clause 22.15 (e) be amended read “the Chairperson may decline to accept the motion, but should supply a reason”.***
- (b) The Code of Meeting Practice previously adopted on 22 January 2025 be reinstated.

REPORT

The Office of Local Government recently advised of the following:

The Local Government (General) Amendment (Model Code of Meeting Practice) Regulation 2025 (Amendment Regulation) which prescribed the 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice

for Local Councils in NSW (2025 Model Meeting Code) has been disallowed by the Legislative Council.

The decision by the Legislative Council to disallow the regulation raises two immediate issues: under what meeting code will the councils operate and, whether the Government will be progressing another regulation for the purposes of prescribing an updated meeting code.

The practical implications of the disallowance

Under section 41(4) of the Interpretation Act 1987, if a regulation ceases to have effect because of its disallowance, and the regulation amended a regulation that was in force immediately before the amending regulation took effect, the disallowance of the amending regulation has the effect of restoring or reviving the previous regulation as of the day of its disallowance.

The disallowance of the Amendment Regulation therefore means that the 2025 Model Meeting Code is no longer prescribed for the purposes of section 360 of the Local Government Act 1993 (**LG Act**) and the previous 2021 version of the Model Meeting Code now becomes the prescribed version.

Under section 360 of the LG Act, councils' adopted codes of meeting practice must not contain provisions that are inconsistent with the mandatory provisions of the prescribed Model Meeting Code. This means that provisions of your council's adopted code of meeting practice based on the now disallowed 2025 Model Meeting Code that are inconsistent with the mandatory provisions of the previous 2021 Model Meeting Code are no longer permissible.

The disallowance of the 2025 Model Meeting Code also means that mandatory provisions of that Code that were not mandated in the previous 2021 Model Meeting Code, are no longer mandatory.

Actions councils should be considering at their next meeting

To minimise confusion about the applicable rules at future meetings and to ensure compliance with section 360 of the LG Act, as the first item of business at the next meeting, your council should rescind its resolution adopting the 2025 Model Meeting Code. This will have the effect of reinstating your council's previous adopted code of meeting practice containing the mandatory provisions of the 2021 Model Meeting Code. Because more than 3 months have passed since your council adopted its current meeting code, the signatures of 3 councillors are not required to rescind the resolution adopting the code.

Meetings of the council and committees comprising only of councillors should be conducted in accordance with the reinstated version of council's meeting code until such time as it is amended.

The disallowance of the Amendment Regulation does not prevent councils from including supplementary provisions in the reinstated version of their previous meeting code based on the provisions of the 2025 Model Meeting Code, provided they are not inconsistent with the mandatory provisions of the 2021 Model Meeting Code. If your council wishes to make amendments to the reinstated version of its previous meeting code, it will be required to prepare and exhibit a draft code in accordance with section 361 of the LG Act.

Next steps for the Government

The Government had been examining the feedback received from Dr Cohn MLC, the Country Mayors Association and Local Government NSW on the Model Meeting Code, with quite advanced drafting on an updated code. This work will be completed shortly.

Formal advice on a new code will be shared with you when the drafting is complete. In the interim, please share a copy of this email with the Mayor and councillors and your governance staff.

In accordance with the above advice, it is recommended that Council rescind its resolution adopting the 2025 Model Meeting Code and reinstate Council's previous adopted code of meeting practice containing the mandatory provisions of the 2021 Model Meeting Code. The Code of Meeting Practice Policy adopted 22 January 2025

Council is awaiting further advice from the Office of Local Government regarding finalisation of a new draft Code.

OPTIONS

Any other resolution of Council. Note that any additional changes to the previously Code of Meeting Policy would require a 42 day public submission period.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Code of Meeting Practice (GOV-CP-413)

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 risk management, strategic planning, policies, procedures and service standards to enhance accountability, resilience and informed decision making.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) (GOV-CP-413) Code of Meeting Practice Policy - Adopted 22 Jan 2025
(under separate cover) 

CLAUSE **CL03**

TITLE **Local Government NSW Water Management Conference 2026**

FROM **Scott Grant, General Manager**

TRIM REF **26/60681**

SUMMARY

This report seeks Council nomination of delegates to attend the 2026 Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Water Management Conference to be held in Ballina from 2 to 4 September 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) Council be represented at the 2026 Local Government NSW Water Management Conference to be held in Ballina from 2 to 4 September 2026.**
- (b) The Mayor and General Manager (or their delegates)attend the Conference.**
- (c) Expenses to attend the Conference be paid by Council in accordance with the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy.**

REPORT

The LG NSW Water Management Conference is an annual event, co-ordinated by local government for local government, providing a forum for discussion on urban water supply and sewerage as well as broader water management issues. This year, it is hosted with Ballina Shire Council and supported by Rous County Council.

The event attracts delegates from NSW and interstate including Councillors and General Managers, water managers and professionals, policy makers from government agencies and key industry stakeholders.

Key topics will include planning for drought for resilience, sustainable funding models of local water utilities, town water security and workforce capability and development. The program will also explore a variety of contemporary challenges with council case studies involving water infrastructure, use of AI in developing sustainable water supply and cybersecurity. The 2026 Conference theme is Local Water, Shared Responsibility.

Councillor Shari Blumer, has been invited to speak at the Conference on Town Water Security, in her capacity as President of the Murray Darling Association. The presentation will discuss why the lens of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan must be refocused, and the critical role that local government should play in implementing the Murray Darling Basin Plan 2.0.

OPTIONS

Any other Resolution of Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Conference Attendee tickets include Day 1, 2 and 3 conference sessions, stream, site visit, welcome reception and conference dinner.

Members (available from 4 May 2026)	Price (incl. GST)
Early Bird (until 30 June 2026)	\$880
Standard (from 1 July 2026)	\$1,080

Note: Councillor Shari Blumer will not be charged a registration fee as she is presenting at the Conference.

Accommodation approximately \$245 per person per night – 4 nights required = \$980 per person.

Flights from Griffith to Sydney to Ballina return – approximately \$1,000 per person.

Incidental meals not included in registration.

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Compliance with Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy.

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 2.1 Develop and maintain partnerships with community, government and non-government agencies to benefit our community.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

(a) Draft Program - 25 May 2026 [↓](#) 

31



Theme: Local Water, Shared Responsibility reflects the idea that while water is managed at the local level by local water utilities, its stewardship is a collective effort - shared across communities, industries, and all levels of government. It recognises that sustainable water management depends on collaboration, informed decision-making, and a mutual commitment to protecting this vital resource for current and future generations.

Conference Program

* Program subject to change

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2026	
2.00pm-2.30pm	Registration & Trade Exhibition Open Location: Ballina RSL – Anzac Room Afternoon Tea served on arrival
2.30pm-5.00pm	Conference Location: Ballina RSL – Auditorium
	Welcome to Country
	Setting the Scene Sean C. Murphy, Conference MC
	LGNSW President Address Mayor Darcy Byrne, President LGNSW
	Address from Host Council Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Mayor, Ballina Shire Council
	Hon Rose Jackson, MLC, Minister for Water
	Address from Supporting Council Cr Robert Mustow, Chair, Rous County Council
	Shared Oversight: Roles and Responsibilities Across NSW Agencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) • Sharne Colefax, Manager, Council Engagement, Office of Local Government • Stephen Beaman, Executive Director, Regulatory Operations, NSW Environment Protection Authority • NSW Health Water Unit <p>Effective oversight of LWUs relies on strong coordination across multiple NSW Government agencies. This panel will explore how DCCEEW, the EPA, NSW Health and OLG work together to regulate and support LWU operations. The discussion will clarify agency roles and responsibilities across drinking water quality, public health,</p>

	environmental compliance and local government oversight, and highlight how agencies collaborate in practice and provide guidance to LWUs.
	<p>Water Directorate - Local Water Utility Forum Brendan Guiney, Executive Officer, Water Directorate</p> <p>This forum brings together local water utilities and key partners to share updates, emerging priorities and practical insights from across the sector. Participants will discuss challenges and opportunities, identify areas for collaboration, and explore how collective action can strengthen service delivery, resilience and long-term stewardship of local water resources.</p>
5.30pm-7.30pm	<p>Welcome Reception Location: Aussie Hotel Ballina, 103 River St, Ballina NSW 2478 Entertainment – Frank Swaby</p>
DAY 2: THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2026	
8.00am-9.00am	<p>Registration & Trade Exhibition Open Location: Ballina RSL – Anzac Room Arrival tea and coffee</p>
9.00am-10.40am	<p>Conference Location: Ballina RSL – Auditorium</p>
	<p>Welcome Sean C. Murphy, Conference MC</p>
	<p>Responding to the NSW Productivity and Equality Commission: An Update from the LWU Reform Program Director, Local Water Utilities Branch NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)</p> <p>The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water’s Local Water Utility Reform Program will provide an update on the implementation of the NSW Government’s response to the NSW Productivity and Equality Commission’s Review of Funding Models for Local Water Utilities.</p> <p>This includes progress on the recommended local water utility investment framework and associated regulatory improvements. It will also cover work in Western NSW to support smaller and remote LWUs in strengthening strategic planning, and to explore reform approaches that improve efficiency, reduce risk, and deliver better water and wastewater services.</p>
	<p>Ballina Shire Council/Rous County Council: Water Security and Bulk Water Supply in the Northern Rivers Phil Rudd, General Manager, Rous County Council Scott Turner, Manager Water and Wastewater, Ballina Shire Council Vaughan McDonald, General Manager from Richmond Valley Council</p>

	<p>Rous County Council are the bulk water supplier for Ballina, Byron, Lismore and parts of Richmond Valley Council. In a fast growing region the County Council model brings a different perspective and set of challenges for all stakeholders to consider when planning for and delivering water to our communities.</p>		
	<p>Planning for Drought Resilience in NSW: The role of rainfall independent water supplies Professor Stuart Khan, Head of School, Civil Engineering, University of Sydney</p> <p>The cyclical nature of droughts and floods across many regions of NSW is complex and difficult to predict with precision and certainty. However, retrospective observances provide assurances that droughts will return and some will be intense and extensive.</p> <p>There are many lessons we can and must learn from our experiences over recent decades. One is the important role that rainfall-independent water supplies can play in mitigating the impacts of drought, at least to urban communities.</p> <p>A second lesson is that effective planning, and even construction, of rainfall-independent supplies must be initiated well before the onset of severe drought. This means communities must be planning for drought, even when dams are full and water supplies appear plentiful.</p> <p>This presentation will explore insights to these lessons, gleaned from communities across NSW and more broadly. It will be helpful for local government water supply planners and engineers, to enable informed planning discussions with council staff, State Government, community members, and other stakeholders.</p>		
	<p>Distinguished Sponsor Address NSW Public Works</p>		
10.40am-11.15am	<p>Morning Tea Location: Trade Exhibition Area, Ballina RSL – Anzac Room Partnered by NSW Public Works</p>		
11.15am-11.45am	<p>Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework Sharne Colefax, Manager, Council Engagement, Office of Local Government</p>		
11.45am-11.50am	<p>Distinguished Sponsor Address GHD</p>		
11.50am	<p>Stream 1 – Local Water Utilities in Action Room: Auditorium Stream Sponsor: Beca Hunter H2O Capacity 280 people</p>	<p>Stream 2 - Innovating Every Drop Room: Anchorage Capacity 50 people</p>	<p>Stream 3 –Navigating Water Risk and Compliance Room: Spinnakers Capacity 100 people</p>
12.00pm	<p>Overview and introduction</p>	<p>Overview and introduction</p>	<p>Overview and introduction</p>

<p>12.05pm-12.25pm</p>	<p>Wes Trotter, Director Utilities, Kempsey Shire Council</p> <p>Co-presenting with Cr Kinne Ring, Mayor, Kempsey Shire Councils</p> <p>Collaborating at scale: Delivering complex water and wastewater infrastructure in regional NSW</p> <p>Kempsey Shire Council is delivering a once-in-a-generation investment in water and sewer infrastructure, supported by a dedicated Program Management Office with Beca Hunter H2O. The partnership is driving five major projects, including three new water treatment plants – Willawarrin, Stuart McIntyre Dam and Crescent Head, Stuarts Point Sewerage Scheme, and Central Kempsey Wastewater Treatment Plant.</p>	<p>Kirralee Donovan, Water Sustainability Lead, Rous County Council</p> <p>Combining behavioural science and digital metering for household water efficiency</p> <p>Residential use accounts for more than 75% of demand across the Rous water supply footprint in northern NSW, making it a key area for achieving reductions.</p> <p>Using behaviour change methodology and applying psychology principles to household use, Rous County Council’s Ripple Effect Program aims to identify effective tools and incentives, establish baseline consumption, and quantify sustained water savings. The intent is to drive meaningful, lasting reductions through strong engagement, testing initiatives, and integrating co design and social diffusion to amplify change.</p>	<p>Anumitra Mirti, Practice Leader – Sustainability – Water, Stantec Australia</p> <p>Co-presenting with Nelson McLeod, Civil Engineer, Stantec Australia</p> <p>Navigating through the Mandatory Regulatory Requirements for NSW Water Utilities</p> <p>Australian Federal and State regulatory reforms are reshaping how water utilities plan, design and manage assets, with new obligations for climate resilience, emissions reporting, risk-based decisions and whole-of-life accountability. Utilities must navigate evolving requirements such as climate-related financial disclosures, strengthened EPA powers and state-level decarbonisation targets.</p> <p>This interactive workshop outlines key reforms and practical adaptation pathways for NSW water utilities, addressing implementation challenges and demonstrating strategies to embed climate readiness, carbon management and long-term resilience into asset planning and delivery.</p>
<p>12.25pm-12.45pm</p>	<p>Graham Attenborough, Director Infrastructure Services, Eurobodalla Shire Council</p> <p>Constructing the Eurobodalla Southern Storage for Resilience - the Challenges and Lessons Graham</p>	<p>Jason Ip, Manager Operations, Riverina Water County Council</p> <p>AI-Assisted Strategy: Developing strategic water supply options to</p>	<p>George Sarandrea, Senior Cybersecurity Consultant, GHD</p> <p>Cyber Spend, No Return: Why Councils Keep Paying and Risk Keeps Growing</p> <p>The NSW Auditor General has made it clear: many councils</p>

	<p>Attenborough, Director Infrastructure Services, Eurobodalla Shire Council</p> <p>Constructing the Eurobodalla Southern Storage for Resilience - the Challenges and Lessons Learnt</p> <p>Planning, designing and constructing a 3,000 ML off-stream storage to secure the supply of water for Eurobodalla Shire's community through to 2070 presented various challenges, from financial and regulatory through to technical and resourcing. This presentation is about exploring these challenges and identifying how they were overcome and what lessons could be learnt and applied to any once in a generation project.</p>	<p>address PFAS Impacts at Tarcutta</p> <p>This presentation explores the integration of AI in developing sustainable water supply strategies for Tarcutta, where PFAS contamination poses a significant challenge. We examine how AI tools assisted in defining the core problem, articulating complex analysis processes, and establishing robust assessment criteria. Attendees will gain insights into the practical learnings and efficiencies gained by using AI to navigate high-stakes environmental planning.</p>	<p>are spending on cybersecurity without reducing risk. This session focuses on what actually works for water utilities by strengthening cyber governance, improving cyber supply chain practices, and targeting investment to deliver pragmatic benefits and operational resilience. Using audit findings as a starting point, the presentation sets out real-world case studies and practical steps councils can implement to improve cybersecurity maturity without complexity or waste.</p>
<p>12.45pm-1.05pm</p>	<p>Robert Scott, Director Infrastructure & Engineering Services, MidCoast Council</p> <p>Sleepwalking into a Water Crisis - Balancing Risk, Revenue and Water Security in the Shadow of the Audit Office Findings</p> <p>Local Water Utilities service almost two million people across regional New South Wales. However, recent NSW Audit Office findings highlight growing concerns about the financial sustainability of many utilities, with operating losses and</p>	<p>Rasika Gunawardana, Process Engineer, NSW Public Works</p> <p>Circularity in Water Treatment Design</p> <p>NSW Public Works received funding from DCCEEW to investigate embedding circular economy principles into water treatment infrastructure. Revisiting concept designs for plants in Jindabyne, Condobolin and Nyngan, the team has assessed recycled material opportunities and market readiness across NSW while developing a practical Circular Design</p>	<p>Nicole Reid, Water Compliance Coordinator, Orange City Council</p> <p>Co-presenting with Jessie Parish, Project Officer – Water, Central NSW Joint Organisation</p> <p>Regional Collaboration – Drinking Water Management Systems Audit Readiness Reviews</p> <p>CNSWJO Water Utilities Alliance undertook a program of drinking water management system readiness reviews across eight member councils. An external consultant performed the readiness reviews, providing</p>

	<p>significant infrastructure investment required to maintain service levels. This presentation explores the structural challenges facing regional water utilities, including dispersed populations, high infrastructure costs and affordability pressures, and asks whether the sector risks “sleepwalking into a water crisis” without stronger long-term planning and investment.</p>	<p>Guide. Delivered in partnership with specialist consultants, the project integrates best-practice circularity assessment and stakeholder engagement to improve lifecycle outcomes and support more sustainable water treatment design and construction</p>	<p>comprehensive reports for each council and a regional report highlighting recommendations for shared opportunities. A working group has collectively addressed opportunities for improvement, provided support and generated opportunities for sharing of resources. This collaborative approach is strengthening regional capability and enabling continuous improvement across all member councils.</p>
1.05pm-2.05pm	<p>Lunch Location: Trade Exhibition Area, Ballina RSL – Anzac Room</p>		
2.05pm-2.10pm	<p>Bus Transfers Delegates depart for site visits</p>		
2.10pm-5.15pm	<p>Site Visits Site visit tours include Ballina Wastewater Treatment Plant, which uses a membrane bioreactor (MBR) process, Lennox Head Wastewater Treatment Plant, where recycled water is supplied to parts of the community through a “purple pipe” (third-pipe) system, and Emigrant Creek Water Treatment Plant, which uses membrane filtration technology together with advanced ozone and activated carbon treatment.</p>		
5.15pm	<p>Site Visits return to Ballina RSL Club</p>		
6.30pm-10.30pm	<p>Conference Dinner Location: Ballina RSL Club - Auditorium 1 Grant St, Ballina NSW 2478 Networking Drinks from 6.30pm, Dinner starts at 7.00pm Partnered by Water Directorate Entertainment by Ben Jam</p>		
<p>DAY 3: FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2026</p>			
8.15am	<p>Registration and Trade Exhibition Open Location: Ballina RSL – Anzac Room Arrival tea and coffee</p>		
9.00am-10.45am	<p>Conference Location: Ballina RSL – Auditorium</p>		
	<p>Overview of the day Sean C. Murphy, Conference MC</p>		

	<p>NSW Shadow Minister’s Address Steph Cooke MP, Shadow Minister for Water and Crown Land</p>
	<p>Promoting sustainable funding of local water utilities Matthew Edgerton, Economist Frontier Economics</p> <p>The Productivity and Equality Commission has recommended that the NSW Government establish a new local water utility (LWU) funding model, to transparently fund the gap between LWUs’ costs of delivering minimum service levels and the revenue that can be recovered from user charges. This model is yet to be confirmed, but there are “no regrets” measures LWUs can pursue to ensure they are well placed to engage with such a model, to promote sustainable funding of their services.</p>
	<p>From Operator to Leaders - Building Capability in the Water Sector Christine Rieksen, Senior Project Officer Skills and Training, DCCEE Lili Elbanna, Senior Grants Officer, Office of Local Government</p> <p>This panel explores how workforce development initiatives can support stronger supervision, mentoring, training pathways and career progression across the water sector. Discussion will include lessons from the Supervisor Uplift Program, workforce planning insights from the 2026 Workplace Composition survey and approaches to developing future capability within regional water utilities.</p> <p>Facilitated by Brendan Guiney, Executive Officer, Water Directorate</p>
	<p>Distinguished Sponsor Address Stantec</p>
10.45am-11.20am	<p>Morning Tea Location: Trade Exhibition Area, Ballina RSL – Anzac Room</p> <p>Partnered by Stantec</p>
11.20am-1.15pm	<p>Past, present, and future, of preventing the transmission of waterborne disease Dr Dan Deere, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Consultant Water Futures</p> <p>This presentation will provide conference delegates with insights into the major events that have shaped our understanding of waterborne disease transmission. You will hear how and why endemic and epidemic diseases have arisen, and our attempts to conquer them. The events leading to the introduction of the most recent health-based targets approach to pathogen control will be described. The jargon terms will be explained and demystified with reference to relatable concepts.</p>
	<p>Murray-Darling Basin Plan Cr Shari Blumer, President, Murray Darling Association</p> <p>2026 marks the statutory 10-year review by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority of the Murray Darling Basin Plan – dubbed by some as Murray-Darling Basin Plan 2.0.</p>

	<p>The Murray Darling Association has repeatedly heard first-hand about the need to broaden the scope of the Murray Darling Basin Plan, to include community and socio-economic considerations and provide for better water quality.</p> <p>The presentation will discuss why the lens of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan must be refocused, and the critical role that local government should play in implementing the Murray Darling Basin Plan 2.0</p>
	<p>Managing Pathogen Risks and Demonstrating Safe Drinking Water</p> <p>Dr Dan Deere, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Consultant Water Futures NSW Health NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)</p> <p>This panel session will involve NSW Health, DCCEEW and a water sector professional discussing how catchment risks, treatment processes and operational controls are used to determine safe drinking water. It will describe how the microbial health-based targets in the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG) have been incorporated into current NSW regulations and guidance, and how LWUs can assess the performance of their supply systems.</p>
	<p>Host Council 2027 Showcase</p>
	<p>Closing remarks Sean C. Murphy, Conference MC</p>
1.15pm	<p>Lunch Location: Trade Exhibition Area, Ballina RSL – Anzac Room</p>
2.30pm	<p>Conference concludes</p>

CLAUSE **CL04**

TITLE **Murray Darling Association Conference 2026**

FROM **Scott Grant, General Manager**

TRIM REF **26/60674**

SUMMARY

This report seeks Council resolution to nominate delegates to attend the 2026 Murray Darling Association (MDA) Conference to be held in Shepparton, 24 to 27 August 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) Council be represented at the 2026 Murray Darling Association Conference to be held in Shepparton from 24 to 27 August 2026.**
- (b) The Mayor (or his delegate), General Manager (or his delegate) and Councillors and attend the Conference.**
- (c) Expenses to attend the Conference be paid by Council in accordance with the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy.**

REPORT

The Murray Darling Association is an association of Local Government municipalities in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria. It also incorporates community groups, businesses, individuals and agencies with an interest in ensuring that the Murray-Darling Basin continues as a viable and valuable asset for all Australians.

The Association provides a focus for Local Government and community participation in the major natural resource issues of the Murray-Darling Basin. It provides information, facilitates debate, identifies needs and priorities, undertakes projects and education initiatives, and promotes research.

Councillors will note that Councillor Shari Blumer is currently the Chair of the Murray Darling Association/ Acting CEO and will be attending in that professional capacity.

OPTIONS

Any other resolution of Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

[82nd National Conference — Murray Darling Association](#)

Full Conference Pack (Study Tour, Conference Day 1, Conference Day 2, Gala Dinner)
Member: \$880

Non Member: \$1,210

Note: One day, two day, study tour, gala dinner and AGM tickets may be purchased separately.

Total registration costs for 4 people: \$4,840

Plus travel and accommodation costs. Accommodation approximately \$3,000 for four people (3 nights each).

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Compliance with Council policy and Award.

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

Depending on the number of Councillors attending this Conference, Council may need to consider rescheduling or cancelling the Ordinary Meeting of Council scheduled to be held 25 August 2026.

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 2.1 Develop and maintain partnerships with community, government and non-government agencies to benefit our community.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

(a) Draft Program [!\[\]\(7f774501c0750e4507cc3f2d2b04ae50_img.jpg\) !\[\]\(49db1d12000816e3e1888348ea2e5608_img.jpg\)](#)

41

2026 National Conference



PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY
2026 HOST



Summary of Events

24 August 2026 - Welcome Reception

TIME	PERSPECTIVE	LOCATION
6:00pm - 7:30pm	Welcome Reception	Be welcomed and network with colleagues and peers in Shepparton!

25 August 2026 - Study Tour

TIME	PERSPECTIVE	LOCATION
8:00am - 5:30pm	Study Tour	Departing from the heart of Shepparton, explore critical water infrastructure, management and treatment, and delve into the importance of water for community and industry.

26 August 2026 - Conference Day 1

TIME	PERSPECTIVE	LOCATION
8:30am - 9:00am	Registrations Open	Conference Venue
9:00am - 9:20am	Acknowledgment of Country, Welcome to Shepparton Welcome to Conference	
9:20am - 3:00pm	Conference Speakers Day 1	Industry, Education, Irrigation, Government perspectives exploring Water Quality, Water/Resource Management, Water Security and the Changing Climate

26 August 2026 - MDA AGM

TIME	MDA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	
3:30pm - 5:00pm	Delegates will consider a range of motion to set the agenda of the Murray Darling Association for the years ahead.	NOT A MDA MEMBER? JOIN US AT OUR AGM AND LISTEN IN AS A GUEST

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY
2026 HOST



Summary of Events^(cont.)

26 August 2026 - Gala Dinner

TIME	GALA DINNER
6:30pm - 9:30pm	Celebrate and socialise with colleagues and peers in Shepparton! Enjoy it's surrounds while you network over local specialties and drinks. Dine with the MDA and enjoy an incredible, seasonally prepared 3-course meal.

27 August 2026 - Conference Day 2

TIME	PERSPECTIVE	LOCATION
9:00am - 1:30pm	Conference Speakers Day 2	Industry, Government, Governance, Education, and Advocacy perspectives exploring our Basin, our Communities, our Environment.

Who will Attend?

Every year, Mayors, Councillors, Chief Executive Officers, General Managers, Executive staff, including key Commonwealth and State departmental staff, and up-and-coming local leaders from all over the Murray-Darling Basin attend the Murray Darling Association's National Conference.

Speakers of the highest calibre also actively participate in this significant event. Previous speakers have included Commonwealth and State Ministers, peak industry representative body leaders, university and CSIRO academics, the Productivity Commissioner, and the Inspector-General of Water Compliance.

Naturally, this event attracts state and national media coverage and is an excellent opportunity to engage with Local, State, and Federal Governments and agencies to inform and influence the decisions that impact your industry.

This is a great engagement and advocacy opportunity with exceptional levels of connectivity and coverage - don't miss out!

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY
2026 HOST



A Powerful Opportunity

Greater Shepparton is synonymous with great food, wine, waterways, and weather.

Shepparton is a regional city located on the floodplain of the Goulburn River in northern Victoria, approximately 181 km north-northeast of Melbourne.

Shepparton is an agricultural and manufacturing centre, and the centre of the Goulburn Valley irrigation system, one of the largest centres of irrigation in Australia. It is also a major regional service city and the seat of Local Government and civic administration for the City of Greater Shepparton, which includes the surrounding towns of: Tatura, Merrigum, Mooroopna, Murchison, Dookie, Toolamba and Grahamvale.

The MDA's 82nd National Conference is an incredible opportunity for the Basin's leaders to come together to network and engage, to be part of the solution - to join the conversation, to inform future policy, and to engage with leading innovators, scientists, educators, and leaders of our time.

This year the National Conference will be focussing on Working together for our Basin's future, a pressing issue that has grown ever more important with the review of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, as well as the implementation of the Basin Plan 2.0.

Join us in Shepparton, tackle the big issues of the Basin and forge a future for councils, catchments, and communities.

The conference will feature keynote speakers and panel sessions including industry heads, State and Federal Government Ministers, Government and representatives, as well as scientists and educators presenting on topical issues that affect Basin water resources and communities.



**PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY
2026 HOST**



CLAUSE	CL05
TITLE	Request for Sponsorship MLHD - Waive Fees - Hire of Griffith Regional Theatre
FROM	Scott Grant, General Manager
TRIM REF	26/54531

SUMMARY

A request has been received from the Murrumbidgee Health and Knowledge Precinct (MHKP) seeking sponsorship in the form of the waiver of venue hire fees for the use of Griffith Regional Theatre for the Regional Health Innovation Showcase to be held on 11 August 2026. The event will bring together health professionals, educators, industry stakeholders and community representatives to explore opportunities and initiatives.

RECOMMENDATION

Council approves the request for sponsorship by waiving venue hire fees at the Griffith Regional Theatre for the Murrumbidgee Health and Knowledge Precinct Regional Health Innovation Showcase to be held 11 August 2026 including room hire, setup, provision of technical assistance and equipment (up to a maximum of \$2,000).

REPORT

Council has received a request from the Murrumbidgee Health and Knowledge Precinct to waive venue hire fees for the Griffith Regional Theatre for the Murrumbidgee Regional Health Innovation Showcase scheduled for 11 August 2026.

The Regional Health Innovation Showcase is intended to provide a collaborative forum for health professionals, educators, industry stakeholders and community representatives to engage in discussions and presentations focused on rural health outcomes, innovation, workforce development and community partnerships.

The guiding theme for the event is *Growing rural health: supporting innovation, workforce and community*. The Showcase aims to highlight initiatives and opportunities that support the sustainability and advancement of regional health services and workforce capacity across the Murrumbidgee region.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

As per Recommendation.

OPTION 2

Any other Resolution of Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Indicative fees are as follows:

Hire of Burley Griffin Room:	\$250.00 (full day)
Labour to set-up room:	\$150.00 (2 hours)
Access before 9am or after 5pm (if required):	\$75.00 per hour
Stage Risers:	\$160.00
Use of our own Smart TV & PC: OR If 2 x TV's required – these would both need to be hired in:	\$100.00 \$500.00
Use of mics for panel discussion:	\$190.00
Tech staff on the day (if required):	\$450.00
Use of the kitchen (if required):	\$150.00
Cleaning fee:	\$50.00

This fee will be drawn from the General Fund to offset Theatre costs.

Note: The venue hire fee will be dependent on which of the above items are utilised by the hirer – estimated between \$1,000 to \$2,000.

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 4.5 Improve access to local health and support services.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

Murrumbidgee Health and Knowledge Precinct

ATTACHMENTS

(a) Request from MHKP [!\[\]\(ce61cd5b7d7b17ad4cb57fc0647cb1ce_img.jpg\)](#) 

48



12 May 2026

Scott Grant
General Manager, Griffith City Council
Email: scott.grant@griffith.nsw.gov.au
Cc: pa@griffith.nsw.gov.au

Re: MHKP Regional Health Innovation Showcase – Venue Sponsorship

Dear Scott,

On behalf of the Murrumbidgee Health and Knowledge Precinct (MHKP), I would like to sincerely thank Griffith City Council for its support of the Murrumbidgee Regional Health Innovation Showcase and for agreeing to be a sponsoring organisation for this premier event for the MHKP.

The Showcase will be held in Griffith on 11 August 2026, bringing together health professionals, educators, industry and community representatives from across the region under the theme: **Growing rural health: Supporting innovation, workforce and community.**

This event presents an exciting opportunity to highlight the strength, capability and future potential of regional health and innovation across the Murrumbidgee, while also showcasing Griffith as a leading regional centre committed to collaboration, growth and community wellbeing.

As part of Council's valued support of the event, we respectfully request consideration of waiving the venue hire fees for the Burley Griffin Room at the Griffith Regional Theatre for 11 August 2026. Support through provision of the venue would represent a significant contribution to the successful delivery of the Showcase, enabling greater regional participation and recognising Griffith City Council as a key MHKP partner in supporting rural health innovation, workforce development and improved community outcomes.

We greatly appreciate Council's partnership and support and look forward to working together to deliver a successful event that reflects the vision of the MHKP and highlights all that Griffith has to offer.

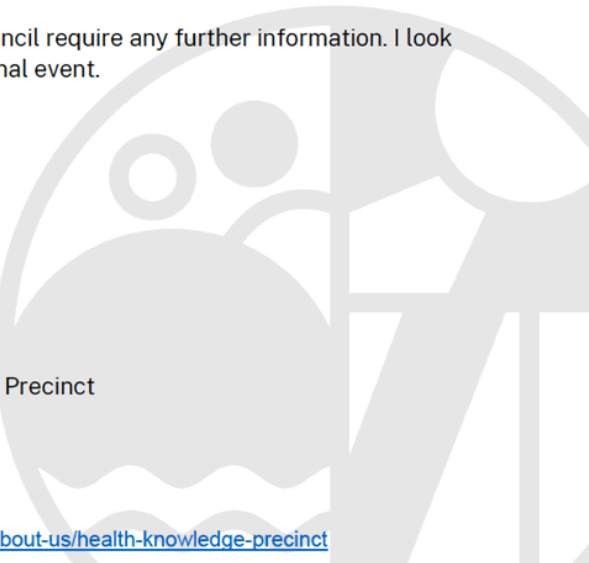
Please do not hesitate to contact me should Council require any further information. I look forward to working with you to deliver this regional event.

Kind Regards,



Maya De Mattia
Manager, Murrumbidgee Health and Knowledge Precinct

Murrumbidgee Health and Knowledge Precinct
Locked Bag 10, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650
MLHD-HealthAndKnowledgePrecinct@health.nsw.gov.au
www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/nsw-health/mlhd/about-us/health-knowledge-precinct



CLAUSE	CL06
TITLE	Request for Sponsorship - Griffith's Biggest Lap Festival 3 October 2026
FROM	Shireen Donaldson, Director Economic & Organisational Development
TRIM REF	26/62021

SUMMARY

A request has been received from organisers of Griffith's Biggest Lap Festival requesting Council's assistance and support in relation to several aspects of the upcoming event, to be held 3 October 2026 in Banna Avenue.

As the event has been occurring since 2012 and has been supported by Council on previous occasions the event is no longer deemed a “new initiative requiring seed funding” under the criteria of the Promotion, Advertisement and Sponsorship of Events Policy. Accordingly, the Application has been now referred to Council for determination.

As Banna Avenue (State Road) and Benerembah Street will be impacted significantly, the event will require extensive Traffic Management and Control services from an external traffic management provider. Council is not sufficiently resourced to provide any traffic management or traffic control services to the event and has no control over any aspect of the event.

The event organisers have requested financial support to the value of \$6,000 for traffic management purposes.

Assistance has been sought from the Biggest Lap Committee on the following:

1. Reviewing and checking the accuracy and compliance of Traffic Management Plan (TMP) and associated event documentation

COUNCIL RESPONSE: At the May Meeting of the Local Traffic Forum, preliminary information was provided regarding changes to traffic control for the upcoming event, including the use of Benerembah Street for marshalling due to increased vehicle numbers (up to approximately 750 vehicles). The main street closure is proposed from approximately 4.30pm to 9.30pm for event laps, with details still to be finalised. Further documentation is expected ahead of the June meeting, with a deadline of 3 June set for organisers to provide final plans. NB Documentation was not supplied for the June Meeting of the Local Traffic Forum.

Council has contacted the event organisers and advised event organisers all Traffic-related documentation should be prepared by a private Traffic contractor and submitted to Council by the first week of July for presentation to the 14 July 2026 Traffic Forum Meeting.

2. Advice regarding the possible implementation and coordination of the Traffic Management Plan where required;

COUNCIL RESPONSE: Event organisers have been advised Council is not able to provide staffing for the event as requested. It is advised the organisers arrange a private Traffic contractor to develop Traffic Plans and provide Traffic Control.

3. Assistance with event promotion through Council's digital advertising platforms, social media channels, and any other available promotional avenues;

COUNCIL RESPONSE: Council is able to share promotional material prepared by event organisers in Council publications, Council social media platforms (local, regional and national) and the digital media board located above Central Plaza. The Organisers should provide graphic material for distribution.

4. Consideration for the use of speakers or public announcement systems along Banna Ave to help advertise and promote the event in the lead-up period and on the day.

COUNCIL RESPONSE: The speaker system in Banna Avenue is aged and limited in use. There is no microphone for use. Use of the system is not recommended for promotion and is restricted to the transmission of pre-recorded music subject to APRA regulations.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) Council support the Griffith Biggest Lap Festival 2026 to the value of \$6,000, noting this event request falls outside of current sponsorship Policy criteria.**
- (b) Council endorse promotion of the Event through normal Council communication and promotional channels with collateral provided by Event Organisers.**
- (c) Council decline providing staff resources for the implementation of related traffic control for this Event.**

REPORT

Event organisers indicate The Griffith's Biggest Lap Festival is intended to be a family-friendly community event showcasing local businesses, automotive culture, live entertainment, food vendors, and community engagement opportunities. Beyond the event itself, it has proven over the years to be a strong economic driver for the local community, with many local restaurants reportedly selling out and accommodation providers booked out across the long weekend.

Last year's event attracted visitors from across Australia, including attendees travelling from as far as Perth and Queensland, bringing valuable tourism and economic benefits into the Griffith region. For the second year running we also have one of Australia's most prestigious automotive magazines, Street Machine, interested in attending to write another article on the event. We believe the continued growth of the event presents a fantastic opportunity to further showcase Griffith as a premier destination for regional tourism and events for the October long weekend and beyond.

Organisers are eager to work collaboratively with Council to ensure the event is a positive and successful experience for the broader community and welcome the opportunity to discuss these requests further and provide any supporting documentation required.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

As per the recommendation

OPTION 2

Any other recommendation of Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This request is managed under the Promotion, Advertisement and Sponsorship of Events Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The general fund contains a budget to provide for the sponsorship of events.

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

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

There are significant risks associated with this type of event which can be mitigated by Traffic Control and Event Management.

Serious Moderate Risk: Significant policy or regulatory breach/s, resolved through negotiation or remedial action. Exposure to possible litigation risks. Most exposures covered by Insurance.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Minimal environmental impact handled internally.

REPUTATION / COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Moderate Low Risk: Minor adverse public/staff reaction and/or negative publicity. Resolved with Manager or Director Comment. No impact on staff morale.

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 2.1 Develop and maintain partnerships with community, government and non-government agencies to benefit our community.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

(a) Email Request [!\[\]\(19971aebb8d7916cc93e5052aae4b15b_img.jpg\) !\[\]\(788fe608b0f9aa667336419a3b28956d_img.jpg\)](#)

52

Shireen Donaldson

From: Griffith's Biggest Lap [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 20 May 2026 10:55 AM
To: Cr Doug Curran
Subject: Request for Assistance - Griffith's Biggest Lap Festival

Dear Griffith City Council,

On behalf of the organizers of the Griffith's Biggest Lap Festival, I am writing to request Council's assistance and support in relation to several aspects of the upcoming event, to be held on October 3rd at the Griffith TAFE grounds (pending).

As this event continues to grow, we are committed to ensuring it is conducted safely, professionally, and in a manner that promotes the Griffith community. We would greatly appreciate Council's guidance and possible assistance with the following:

- Reviewing and checking the accuracy and compliance of our Traffic Management Plan (TMP) and associated event documentation;
- Advice regarding the possible implementation and coordination of the Traffic Management Plan where required;
- Assistance with event promotion through Council's digital advertising platforms, social media channels, and any other available promotional avenues;
- Consideration for the use of speakers or public announcement systems along Banna Ave to help advertise and promote the event in the lead-up period and on the day.

The Griffith's Biggest Lap Festival is intended to be a family-friendly community event showcasing local businesses, automotive culture, live entertainment, food vendors, and community engagement opportunities. Beyond the event itself, it has proven over the years to be a strong economic driver for the local community, with many local restaurants reportedly selling out and accommodation providers booked out across the long weekend.

Last year's event attracted visitors from across Australia, including attendees travelling from as far as Perth and Queensland, bringing valuable tourism and economic benefits into the Griffith region. For the second year running we also have one of Australia's most prestigious automotive magazines, Street Machine, interested in attending to write another article on the event. We believe the continued growth of the event presents a fantastic opportunity to further showcase Griffith as a premier destination for regional tourism and events for the October long weekend and beyond.

We are eager to work collaboratively with the Council to ensure the event is a positive and successful experience for the broader community. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss these requests further and provide any supporting documentation required.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate the Council's ongoing support of local community events and look forward to working together.

Kind regards,

The Griffith's Biggest Lap Festival Committee

CLAUSE	CL07
TITLE	Quick Turn Around Grant - Ema Munro - Roads, Parks & Pathways Enhancement Committee
FROM	Shireen Donaldson, Director Economic & Organisational Development
TRIM REF	26/58128

SUMMARY

A Community Grant Application has been submitted by Ema Munro, on behalf of the Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) Council approve the application submitted by Ema Munro, on behalf of the Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee (s355 of Council), to register and host a National Tree Day event, with volunteers to be registered for the event.**
- (b) Given the Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee has no delegated authority to administer budgets, Council will be the auspicing organisation to administer the grant.**

REPORT

The Community Grant Program supports applications from organisations that address the needs of the community as outlined in Council's Strategic Plan 'We Are Griffith 2025-2035'. The program aims to support new initiatives, activities and projects that increase community capacity to address unmet needs, improve well-being and harmony, and reduce isolation of disadvantaged groups and improve social wellbeing.

The Griffith City Council Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee (RPPEC) have nominated 400m on the eastern side of Citrus Road for tree planting. Griffith City Council will provide irrigation to ensure that the trees survive and become established. The proposed planting will mimic the existing vegetation which was previously planted in 2009 further south on the Citrus Road reserve closer to Calabria Road. The RPPEC is a section 355 of Council, which is eligible under the community grants policy to make an application.

Replanting endemic plant species in the Griffith local government area with the view to re-establishing habitat for local wildlife, cooling the Griffith urban environment, capturing carbon through vegetation absorption, strengthening the soil profile by reducing sediment runoff, helping to clear waterways of silt runoff, and helping pollinators by providing flowers.

Quick Turnaround Grants are for requests that arise during the year outside of the normal Community Grants timeframe subject to available funding and applications meeting Eligibility Criteria (Refer to 3.5 Terms and Conditions and 3.6 Eligibility Criteria in FS-CP-601). Applications are capped at \$2,500. Eligible applications will be considered as per the Eligibility Criteria, available Council grant funding and endorsed by a report to Council.

All Community Grants will now be presented on an individual basis

The RPPEC is a section 355 of Council, which is eligible under the community grants policy to make an application.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

As per the Recommendation.

OPTION 2

Council declines the Quick Turn Around Grant Application.

OPTION 3

Council support an amended amount of funding for the Grant.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Community Grant Program applications are governed by Community Grant Program Policy FS-CP-601.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Council to provide ongoing irrigation to the area, which will be at a cost of Council.

The 2025/2026 amount of funding available in Council's Community Organisation Assistance budget is \$30,387.00.

\$50,847.00	Approved Funding	Account Name	Transaction Description
\$48,347.00	\$2,500	Punjabi Association of Griffith	Quick turnaround grant
\$45,887.00	\$2,460	Griffith Musicians Club	Quick turnaround grant
\$43,387.00	\$2,500	Griffith Italian Museum & Cult	Quick turnaround grant
\$40,887.00	\$2,500	Riverina Tongan Community Assn	Quick turnaround grant
\$38,387.00	\$2,500	Yenda Public School P & C Assn	Quick turnaround grant
\$37,887.00	\$500	Sporting	Individual Achievement Grant
\$37,387.00	\$500	Griffith Veterans' Golf Assn	Quick turnaround grant
\$34,887.00	\$2,500	Basketball NSW 3 x 3 Griffith NAIDOC	Quick turnaround grant
\$32,387.00	\$2,500	Meals on Wheels	Community Grant
\$30,387.00	\$2,000	Griffith Central Preschool	Community Grant

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 4.1 Make our community healthy and safe. 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. 7.2 Protect and improve biodiversity, biosecurity and sustainability.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

- | | | |
|-----|---|----|
| (a) | Community Grants Application Form ↓  | 56 |
| (b) | Assessment Matrix Ema Munro and RPPEC ↓  | 58 |
| (c) | s355 and Committee Terms Of Reference ↓  | 59 |

**Community Grant Program
Eligibility Assessment Matrix**

Applicant - Ema Munroe – Griffith City Council Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee (RPPEC).	Amount Requested - \$1,500
Project: National Tree Day 2026	
Description: Replanting endemic plant species in the Griffith local government area with the view to re-establishing habitat for local wildlife, cooling the Griffith urban environment, capturing carbon through vegetation absorption, strengthening the soil profile by reducing sediment runoff, helping to clear waterways of silt runoff, and helping pollinators by providing flowers.	
How: By working with volunteers and organisations who will come together for Planet Ark National Tree Day. https://treeday.planetark.org/	
Partnerships: Griffith City Council, CWA, Narrandera Landcare, Murrumbidgee Field Naturalists, Riverina Nursery, Wormtech, any new sponsors, community groups and individuals. In 2024 These groups participated in National Tree Day planting on Bromley Rd. In 2025 Many of these same groups and volunteers participated in national Tree Day planting at Lake Wyangan Picnic Ground	
Where: The Griffith City Council Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee (RPPEC) have nominated 400m on the eastern side of Citrus Road for tree planting. Griffith City Council will provide irrigation to ensure that the trees survive and become established. The proposed planting will mimic the existing vegetation which was previously planted in 2009 further south on the Citrus Road reserve closer to Calabria Road	
Dates : Sunday, 26 July 2026	
Additional Information: It is proposed that the grant funding will provide for plants, guards and stakes, also some Seasol fertiliser, some seed raising mixture and trays to raise locally collected seed stock. <ul style="list-style-type: none">•	

Project Budget:

It is proposed to spend the following:

Trees	\$ 500.00
Shrubs	\$ 500.00
Tree Guards	\$ 350.00
Seasol 2L	\$ 30.00
Seed Raising mix & Trays	\$ 40.00
TOTAL	\$1,440.00

Other –

The proposed supports Council’s Community Strategic Plan through the “Valuing our Environment” objective. This project will protect and improve biodiversity, biosecurity and sustainability.

Attachments –

Terms of reference for Roads Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee (TOR029) – Section 355 Committee.

Assessment Matrix Ema Munro- Road, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee

Yes	No	Criteria
X		Is the applicant based in, affiliated with and/or service clients within the Griffith City Council Local Government Area?
X		Does the application align with Griffith City Council's Community Strategic Plan?
X		Is the Applicant a not for profit incorporated body registered with Fair Trade / Committee of Council / ATO Registered Charity / Auspice committee or project?
	X	Has the applicant provided a copy of their most recent annual report and a current liability insurance certificate?
X		Has the applicant provided a budget?
N/A		Has the applicant included quotes for major expense items over \$500?
X		Does the project identify with one or more of the following? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community capacity building - developing and strengthening the skills, abilities, processes and resources that communities need to survive, adapt, and thrive. • Reconciliation and/or social inclusion. • Accessibility for people with disability. • Capacity building of disadvantaged groups and/at risk demographics. • Promotes environmental sustainability. • Promotes neighborhood/community safety. • Community development research/pilot program/new initiative. • Social Wellbeing - feel a sense of belonging and social inclusion in your community.
N/A		Have previous applications from this organisation been acquitted?
	X	Does the application duplicate existing projects/services/activities within Griffith LGA?
	X	Is the application for fundraising purposes only?
	X	Will this application be a Federally or State funded project or program?
	X	Is funding for ongoing administrative or operational costs?
	X	Will the applicant use the funding to solely award scholarships, grants, gifts or donations?
	X	Is the application for Capital Works?

Recommendation:

Is the application eligible, as per the Community Grant Program Public Policy?	Yes
What is the funding amount being applied for?	\$1500
Addition Information:	As this application has been made from Ema under s355 (Roads Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee), no financial reports are attached as this is a committee of Council. It is recommended that the event and location must be registered online through the Planet Ark website, for volunteers to register for the event and have a level of cover for insurance purposes



ROADS, PARKS AND PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

(TOR-029)

1. Establishment and Guidelines:

1.1 The Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee is established under section 355 of the Local Government Act 1993 which states:

*A function of Council may, subject to this Chapter, be exercised:
(b) By a committee of the council*

1.2 The Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee and its members are bound by practices as established in Council policies including:

- GC-CP-402 – Council Committees
- GC-CP-404 – Code of Conduct
- GC-CP-413 – Code of Meeting Practice
- COMM-CP-401 - Media Policy
- COMM-PO-401 - Social Media Policy
- GOV-CP-316 - Child Safe Policy

Each Committee member will be required to sign an acknowledgment form indicating their acceptance of the above policies which are available on [Council's Committee Induction webpage](#).

2. Authority to Act:

- 2.1 The Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee does not have authority to implement actions in areas over which Council has responsibility. The Committee does not have any management functions and is therefore independent of management.
- 2.2 The Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee has no delegated authority to make decisions, it can only refer or recommend matter to the Council for consideration. The Committee forwards the Minutes of every meeting, including any specific recommendations, to the next practicable Ordinary Meeting of the Council for determination.
- 2.3 The Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee does not have any authority to commit or expend any Council funds that are not contained within an adopted budget or subsequent variation to that budget via resolution of Council.
- 2.4 Any recommendation for expenditure other than within an adopted budget must be endorsed by Council through adoption of Committee minutes at the next practicable Ordinary Meeting of Council and cannot be acted upon until the adoption of Committee Minutes at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council.

3. Purpose & Scope:

The Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee will:

- 3.1 Provide advice and recommendations regarding the review of various Council policies and strategies on the development, maintenance and improvement of roads, parks and pathways, promoting accessibility, safety, fit for purpose and aesthetic appeal for the community.
- 3.2 Receive periodic status report on the [Road Review](#) 2024 actions.

Approved:	Directorate: Infrastructure and Operations	Document ID: TOR-029	Version: 1
Relevant To:	Date Issued: 11/03/2025	Revised:	Status: Current
			Page: 1 of 6



ROADS, PARKS AND PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

(TOR-029)

Relevant Documents:

- [Griffith Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategy 2021](#)
- [Griffith Heavy Vehicle Strategy](#)
- [Driveways Maintenance Width Policy](#)
- [Plaques Installed by Council Policy](#)
- [Roads Open Spaces Naming Policy](#)
- [Kerb Guttering Footpath Construction Policy](#)
- [Roads Maintenance Upgrading of Unsealed Roads Policy](#)
- [Playground Strategy](#)
- [Road Review 2024](#)
- [Tree Policy](#)
- [CBD Strategy – Introduction](#)
- [CBD Strategy – Analysis](#)
- [CBD Strategy – Recommendation](#)
- [CBD Strategy – Implementation](#)

4. Alignment to Community Strategic Plan

Objective 1.2 Actively engage with and seek direction from our community and stakeholders.

Objective 4.2 Make our community healthy and safe.

Objective 4.3 Provide and promote accessibility to services.

Objective 4.8 Improve the aesthetic of the City and villages, by developing quality places and improved public realm that supports active, health and inclusive communities.

Objective 5.7 Support transport connectivity.

Objective 6.2 Maintain and develop an effective transport network (airport, public roads, pathways, pedestrian access and transport corridors) for Griffith and villages.

5. Frequency of Meetings:

5.1 Meetings will be held quarterly at dates and times as determined.

The Committee may also call a special meeting in extraordinary circumstances where a majority of members believes this to be necessary.

5.2 Meetings will normally be held at either the Council Administration Building at 1 Benerembah Street, Griffith, or at another accessible venue.

Approved:	Directorate: Infrastructure and Operations	Document ID: TOR-029	Version: 1
Relevant To:	Date Issued: 11/03/2025	Revised:	Status: Current
			Page: 2 of 6



ROADS, PARKS AND PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

(TOR-029)

6. Membership and Quorum:

6.1 The membership of the Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee will be:

- 1 Mayor**
- 1 Councillors Shari Blumer (Chair)**
- 2 Councillor Mark Dal Bon & Councillor Jenny Ellis**
- 12 Community Representatives as endorsed by Council**
- 2 Alternate members representing Griffith Soroptimist**

6.2 Membership shall be appointed by resolution of Council.

6.3 The Mayor, by virtue of holding the office of Mayor, is appointed as a member to all Committees established by Council.

6.4 Minimum number for quorum will be 3.

6.5 Number of voting members will be 15 (including the Mayor if in attendance).

6.6 A quorum is not required for meetings to take place. However, for a decision to be made at a meeting, a quorum of members must be present. If a quorum is not reached, the meeting can be held for information purposes only and discussion recorded as a Report of the Meeting (in lieu of Minutes of the Meeting).

7. Voting:

7.1 For the vote to be carried, a majority (more than half) of the voting members present is required.

7.2 In the event of a tied vote, the Chair will have the casting vote.

7.3 The Mayor will have a voting right at any meeting the Mayor attends.

7.4 Council staff do not have the authority to move or second motions nor vote on issues.

7.5 Representatives of the Dog Park and Soroptimists have one voting right each but alternate representatives may attend if the adopted Committee member is unable to attend.

8. Chairperson:

8.1 Councillor appointed Chairperson is **Councillor Shari Blumer**

8.2 Duties of the Chairperson:

8.2.1 Ensure preparation of agenda before the meeting.

8.2.2 Chair meetings in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice and agreed Terms of Reference. Ensure agenda items are discussed, decisions are made and recorded, as appropriate.

8.2.3 Approve draft meeting minutes.

Approved:	Directorate: Infrastructure and Operations	Document ID: TOR-029	Version: 1
Relevant To:	Date Issued: 11/03/2025	Revised:	Status: Current
			Page: 3 of 6



ROADS, PARKS AND PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

(TOR-029)

- 8.2.4 Represent the Committee as spokesperson.
- 8.2.5 Comment to the media on minor matters only. Media contact on larger projects are to be channelled through the Mayor's Office.
- 8.2.6 The Chairperson may cancel scheduled meetings if there are no scheduled Agenda items for consideration.

9. Directorate and Staff Support

- 9.1 The Responsible Directorate is Infrastructure and Operations.
- 9.2 The Director Infrastructure and Operations will determine staff support to the Committee.
- 9.3 Duties of the Director:
 - Be the nominated contact officer for the Committee.
 - Be the main conduit between the Committee and Council.
 - Be the custodian of information required for the Committee.
 - Coordinate meetings.
 - Provide and or collect reports for inclusion in the Agenda.
 - Approve items for inclusion in Agenda.
 - Monitor and follow-up Action Report.

10. Secretary:

- 10.1 Griffith City Council Governance staff will provide a Minute Secretary and administrative support to the Committee for the purpose of preparing Agendas, Minutes and Action Reports.
- 10.2 Duties of the Secretary:
 - Preparation and distribution of agendas.
 - Issuing notices for meetings (Agendas) at least three days prior to the meeting, ensuring all necessary documents requiring discussion or comment are attached to the Agenda.
 - Taking minutes and notes of proceedings and preparing and distributing minutes of the meeting. Minute taking at Meetings may be shared among Governance staff and technical staff attending the meeting depending on staff loads.
 - Update Action Report and distribute to responsible officer for action.

11. Responsibility of Committee Members:

Approved:	Directorate: Infrastructure and Operations	Document ID: TOR-029	Version: 1
Relevant To:	Date Issued: 11/03/2025	Revised:	Status: Current
			Page: 4 of 6



ROADS, PARKS AND PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

(TOR-029)

- 11.1 Attend meetings and be punctual.
- 11.2 Send an apology if unable to attend a meeting.
- 11.3 Read business papers in advance and undertake necessary research.
- 11.4 Raise issues and concerns, and report on initiatives and issues which may be relevant to or of interest to other members.
- 11.5 Participate in discussions and decision making.
- 11.6 Follow through actions minuted and subsequently adopted by Council.
- 11.7 It is the responsibility of all Committee members to familiarise themselves with and follow practices as contained in the governing Council policies. Refer to Council policies - Section 1.2.
- 11.8 Members must declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest at the start of each meeting or before discussion of a relevant agenda item or topic. Details of any conflicts of interest are to be recorded in the minutes. If members or those invited to Committee meetings find they do have a real or perceived conflict of interest or pecuniary interest they are not allowed to be a part of Committee discussions on the issue. Refer to Council's Code of Conduct for management of conflicts of interest.
- 11.9 Members must only use Council and Committee information for Council purposes and for the purposes for which it was collected. Members are required to maintain the integrity and security of confidential information for which they are responsible.

12. Attendance at Meetings

Attendance at meetings may be by audio visual (such as Zoom).

13. Other Attendees:

Members of the public/agency representatives who are not Committee members may attend Committee meetings by invitation of the Chairperson or Committee only. Such persons shall not be entitled to vote on any decision arising out of that meeting. It is preferred that if a member of the public/agency representative wish to attend a meeting that they address the Committee in relation to the item and leave the meeting before any vote is taken on the matter.

14. Term of Office:

The term of office for Section 355 committees will be the same term as the current Council, unless established as a sunset committee i.e. with a finite time specified.

15. Reporting Framework:

The Committee will report to Griffith City Council via minutes presented to Ordinary Council Meetings.

16. Media Contact

Approved:	Directorate: Infrastructure and Operations	Document ID: TOR-029	Version: 1
Relevant To:	Date Issued: 11/03/2025	Revised:	Status: Current
			Page: 5 of 6



ROADS, PARKS AND PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

(TOR-029)

The Chairperson of a Council Committee is the primary spokesperson on matters that have been discussed by a Committee. Priority should be given to the Chairperson to comment on Council decisions, projects and initiatives associated to the relevant Committee unless the Mayor elects to do so.

Contact with the media should be done in the first instance (where possible) by Media Release. All Chairpersons should notify Council’s Communications and Integrated Planning team of any contact with the media that relates to Council matters.

Committee members may not speak to the media on behalf of the Committee or Council without approval in advance from Council’s Communications and Integrated Planning team.

When communicating with the media, Council Committee members are not to use or disclose information gained during the ordinary course of business of Council in a way that may:

- (a) cause significant damage or distress to a person;
- (b) damage to the interests of Council or a person; or
- (c) confer an unfair commercial or financial advantage on a person or business when dealing with the media; and
- (d) disclose any confidential information discussed during a confidential session of a council or committee meeting or any other confidential forum (such as, but not limited to, Workshops or briefing sessions).

17. Expenses of Committee Members

Council will not generally authorise payment or provide remuneration to Committee members.

18. Insurance

Committee members are covered by Council’s public liability and professional indemnity insurance.

19. Recording of Meetings

Meetings may be recorded by audio or audio-visual means for administrative and minute taking purposes. No other recording is permitted.

20. Review of Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for the Committee will be adopted for the duration of the Council Term. Any amendment to the Terms of Reference as accepted by the Committee shall be forwarded to Council for consideration but cannot be applied until adopted by Council.

Adopted: Council Meeting – 11 March 2025 Minute No: 25/069
 Council Meeting – 22 July 2025
 Council Meeting – 11 November 2025 Minute No. 25/351
 Council Meeting – 9 December 2025 Minute No 25/398
 Council Meeting – 14 April 2026 Minute No 26/079

Approved:	Directorate: Infrastructure and Operations	Document ID: TOR-029	Version: 1
Relevant To:	Date Issued: 11/03/2025	Revised:	Status: Current
			Page: 6 of 6

CLAUSE	CL08
TITLE	St Vincent De Paul Care and Support Program
FROM	Shireen Donaldson, Director Economic & Organisational Development
TRIM REF	26/63488

SUMMARY

A Community Grant application has been submitted by St Vincent De Paul, Care and Support Program

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the application for St Vincent De Paul, Care and Support Program.

REPORT

The Community Grant Program supports applications from organisations that address the needs of the community as outlined in Council's Strategic Plan 'We Are Griffith 2025-2035'. The program aims to support new initiatives, activities and projects that increase community capacity to address unmet needs, improve well-being and harmony, and reduce isolation of disadvantaged groups and improve social wellbeing.

St Vincent de Paul Society (Vinnies) is seeking support to provide food and essential items to disadvantaged people visiting their Griffith centre.

The program offers immediate help such as food, groceries, and clothing, while also connecting clients to longer-term support services. Volunteers meet with individuals, assess their needs, and assist with accessing services like Centrelink, managing bills, and finding housing or other support.

This approach not only addresses urgent needs but helps people improve their overall situation by linking them with the right services.

Demand for support is increasing, with more people experiencing hardship and seeking help for the first time. The program plays an important role in supporting vulnerable community members and helping them achieve greater stability and wellbeing.

Funding will maintain food supplies, support volunteers, and ensure the program can continue to meet growing community demand.

Quick Turnaround Grants are for requests that arise during the year outside of the normal Community Grants timeframe subject to available funding and applications meeting Eligibility Criteria (Refer to 3.5 Terms and Conditions and 3.6 Eligibility Criteria in FS-CP-601). Applications are capped at \$2,500. Eligible applications will be considered as per the Eligibility Criteria, available Council grant funding and endorsed by a report to Council.

All Community Grants will now be presented on an individual basis.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

As per the Recommendation.

OPTION 2

Council Declines the Quick Turn Around Grant Application.

OPTION 3

Council support an amended amount of funding for the Grant.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Community Grant Program applications are governed by Community Grant Program Policy FS-CP-601.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The 2025/2026 amount of funding available in Council's Community Organisation Assistance budget is \$30,387.00.

\$50,847.00	Approved Funding	Account Name	Transaction Description
\$48,347.00	\$2,500	Punjabi Association of Griffith	Quick turnaround grant
\$45,887.00	\$2,460	Griffith Musicians Club	Quick turnaround grant
\$43,387.00	\$2,500	Griffith Italian Museum & Cult	Quick turnaround grant
\$40,887.00	\$2,500	Riverina Tongan Community Assn	Quick turnaround grant
\$38,387.00	\$2,500	Yenda Public School P & C Assn	Quick turnaround grant
\$37,887.00	\$500	Sporting	Individual Achievement Grant
\$37,387.00	\$500	Griffith Veterans' Golf Assn	Quick turnaround grant
\$34,887.00	\$2,500	Basketball NSW 3 x 3 Griffith NAIDOC	Quick turnaround grant
\$32,387.00	\$2,500	Meals on Wheels	Community Grant
\$30,387.00	\$2,000	Griffith Central Preschool	Community Grant

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 2.1 Develop and maintain partnerships with community, government and non-government agencies to benefit our community. 4.1 Make our community healthy and safe. 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)	Community Grant Application Form St Vincent De Paul ↓ 	68
(b)	St Vincent De Paul Assessment Matrix ↓ 	72
(c)	Budget ↓ 	73
(d)	Quote (under separate cover) (confidential)	
(e)	Support letter for Program ↓ 	74
(f)	Public Liability Insurance (under separate cover) (confidential)	
(g)	Annual Financial Report SVDP (under separate cover) 	



Community Grants Program Application 2025/26

Community Grant Application ID

CGA01/05/20262cb7f

I have read the Community Grants Program Policy FS-CP-601 and understood all the requirements needed for this application

- Yes

Organisation

Type of organisation

Business Incorporated Body or Not-For-Profit

Organisation name

St Vincent de Paul Society

Organisation phone number

(02)95680262

Organisation email address

vinnies@vinnies.org.au

Organisation postal address

PO Box 5
Petersham, NSW 2049
Australia

ABN

91161127340

Registered for GST?

Yes

Your contact details

Your name

[REDACTED]

Your phone number

[REDACTED]

Your email address

[REDACTED]

Your postal address

[REDACTED]

Project/activity details

Project/activity title

Griffith Vinnies Care & Support Program

Describe what your project/activity is

The Griffith Vinnies Care & Support Program provides a vital lifeline for local individuals and families experiencing acute hardship, including hunger, financial crisis, and social isolation. This program is designed so that the Conference can meet immediate needs while serving as a trusted entry point to longer-term community supports.

Grounded in the Vinnies vision of offering a genuine "hand up," the program upholds human dignity, restores hope, and empowers people to regain control of their circumstances. A clear intake and assessment process ensures assistance is targeted, appropriate and goes further than hand outs.

So far this financial year, the number of clients assisted by Griffith Vinnies Conference has increased by 13%, 84% required food support, and 22% were seeking help for the first time. 18% were born outside Australia, with a majority from Pacific Island nations, and, compared to the same period last year, the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people seeking assistance has increased by 26.5%.

Demand continues to grow, and our most vulnerable populations are unsure where to connect with other services. Griffith Vinnies Care & Support Program is a compassionate and vital link to community resources, social wellbeing



and capacity building.

How will you do this?

Through our Griffith Conference volunteers, immediate relief will be delivered while creating pathways to stability. Volunteers interview and assess each request using an intake process to identify urgent needs and risks as well as more entrenched challenges. Timely food and essential support are provided to reduce immediate hardship. Engaging respectfully, upholding dignity and empowering individuals to regain control of their circumstances, volunteers identify further needs and more complex issues, such as domestic and family violence, exploitation, mental health concerns, unemployment, or risk of homelessness. Clients are then connected through warm referrals and advocacy to appropriate specialist and community services.

Funding from the Griffith City Council Community Grant will sustain volunteer capacity, food supplies, and consistent service delivery, enabling the Conference to respond to increasing demand, prevent further disadvantage, and maintain strong local collaborations to ensure coordinated support and effective outcomes that improve stability and wellbeing for vulnerable individuals and families.

Who is involved? Are there any partnerships?

St Vincent de Paul Society maintains positive relationships with many local community services to facilitate referral pathways, however, there are no official partnerships.

Where will it take place? (Location)

Griffith Conference Hub at 67 Yambil Street - assistance will be provided to community members anywhere in the Griffith LGA

When will it start?

01/06/2026

When will it finish?

01/08/2026

Community Strategic Plan 2025-2035 Visions

Which objective of the Griffith City Council Community Strategic Plan does this project address?

Liveability

Liveability

AIM 4: Griffith is a great place to live

- 4.1 Make our community healthy and safe
- 4.2 Encourage an inclusive community that celebrates social and cultural diversity
- 4.3 Provide and promote accessibility to services

Budget

Proposed income

Council Grant Amount Requested	Organisation Contribution
\$ 2,500.00	\$ 650.04
Total income	
\$ 3,150.04	



Proposed expenses

Grant fund expenditure

Row ID	Expense details	Amount	Quote/receipt
1	Basic essential food items	\$ 2,500.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pantry-Budget.pdf • April-2026-Receipt-Pantry.pdf

Total expenses

\$ 2,500.00

Funding

Will your project go ahead if you are not provided the total amount of requested funding?

Yes

Please provide any other information to support your application

Funding is based on budgeting and priorities from previous year and independent local fundraising - with increase in need and costs, the conference is challenged to keep up with the amount of basic essentials required.

The project must identify with one or more of the following

- Community capacity building - developing and strengthening the skills,abilities, processes and resources that communities need to survive, adapt and thrive
- Capacity building of disadvantaged groups and/at risk demographics
- Social Wellbeing - feel a sense of belonging and social inclusion in your community

Is the project/activity a Federal or State government funded initiative?

Yes

Is the project/activity for fundraising purposes only?

No

Does the project/activity duplicate services within the local government area?

No

Have you applied for funding through this Program previously?

No

Supporting documentation

Organisation/Auspice Current Insurance Policy

- [SVDP_Liability_CoC_25-26_20M_NSW](#)

Organisation/Auspice most recent financial and annual reports

- [annual-report-2425](#)

Supporting statements and letters of support

- [Adobe-Scan-01-May-2026](#)

Bank details

Account name

[REDACTED]

BSB

[REDACTED]

Account

[REDACTED]



Account

Declaration

I, [REDACTED], certify that to the best of my knowledge the information provided is correct and I have read and will abide by the conditions of the Community Grant Program.

Signature

[REDACTED]

Date

01/05/2026

St Vincent De Paul Assessment Matrix

Yes	No	Criteria
X		Is the applicant based in, affiliated with and/or service clients within the Griffith City Council Local Government Area?
X		Does the application align with Griffith City Council's Community Strategic Plan?
X		Is the Applicant a not for profit incorporated body registered with Fair Trade / Committee of Council / ATO Registered Charity / Auspice committee or project?
X		Has the applicant provided a copy of their most recent annual report and a current liability insurance certificate?
X		Has the applicant provided a budget?
X		Has the applicant included quotes for major expense items over \$500?
X		Does the project identify with one or more of the following? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community capacity building - developing and strengthening the skills, abilities, processes and resources that communities need to survive, adapt, and thrive. • Reconciliation and/or social inclusion. • Accessibility for people with disability. • Capacity building of disadvantaged groups and/at risk demographics. • Promotes environmental sustainability. • Promotes neighborhood/community safety. • Community development research/pilot program/new initiative. • Social Wellbeing - feel a sense of belonging and social inclusion in your community.
N/A		Have previous applications from this organisation been acquitted?
	X	Does the application duplicate existing projects/services/activities within Griffith LGA?
	X	Is the application for fundraising purposes only?
	X	Will this application be a Federally or State funded project or program?
	X	Is funding for ongoing administrative or operational costs?
	X	Will the applicant use the funding to solely award scholarships, grants, gifts or donations?
	X	Is the application for Capital Works/Capital Expenditure?

Recommendation-Office Use:

Is the application eligible, as per the Community Grant Program Public Policy?	Yes
What is the funding amount being applied for?	\$2500
Addition Information:	

Budget				
Qty for 4-5wks	Item	Price	Qty for 8-10 wks	Cost
10	Mince	15.2	20	304
10	Sausages	13.3	20	266
60	Margarine (250g)	2.8	120	336
6	Sugar (1kg)	1.71	12	20.52
48	Weetbix (375g)	3.99	96	383.04
24	Tuna (185g)	1.71	48	82.08
12	Veg & Steak (425g)	5.03	24	120.72
6	Baked Bean 4pk	6.46	12	77.52
12	Cup a Soup Beef 4pk	3	24	72
10	Chicken Noodle Soup 2pk	2.39	20	47.8
24	Veg Can	3.04	48	145.92
20	Can Peas	1.8	40	72
36	Can Tomato	1.79	72	128.88
60	Long Life Milk 1L	1.61	120	193.2
6	Rice (2kg)	3.42	12	41.04
24	Pasta 500g	0.85	48	40.8
12	2 minute noodles 5pk	1.9	24	45.6
12	2 minute noodles 5pk	1.9	24	45.6
36	Cream Cheese 245g	3.13	72	225.36
24	Vegemite (150g)	4.27	48	204.96
3	Tea 100pc	7	6	42
3	Coffee (500g)	15.5	6	93
TOTAL COST				2988.04

This budget has been compiled using pricing for items sourced from Griffith Foodworks using previous invoices and receipts for the same items in recent previous purchases (see following pages).

30 April
Date, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Support Letter for St Vincent de Paul Society, Griffith, Care & Support Program application for Griffith City Council Community Grant
GRIFFITH COMMUNITY CENTRE INC.

→ strongly supports the application of St Vincent de Paul Society, Griffith, for the Griffith City Council Community Grant 2026. ← has a well-established working relationship with St Vincent de Paul Society and acknowledge them as worth recipients who provide a valuable service to our community, in particular for those who are experiencing disadvantage and who need support linking in with local services.

St Vincent de Paul Society, Griffith provides a range of social support services to those in need, including food, clothing, and other essentials, as well as crisis support and referrals. This grant will enable St. Vincent de Paul Society Griffith to cover some of the costs for being able to provide those services and resources to our local community.

St Vincent de Paul Society, Griffith are important in addressing immediate assistance to those in crisis and are a valuable starting point for service pathways and referral when community members are in need of additional support.

Griffith's St Vincent de Paul Society members and volunteers are deeply involved in the local community, offering support and advocacy to those who need it most, understanding that people seeking support often find it challenging and overwhelming and going out of their way to ensure they feel heard and respected.

By providing support and resources to those in need, St Vincent de Paul Society strengthens the overall resilience of the Griffith community.

Kind regards,

Name Wayne Davis
Position Manager
Organisation Griffith Community Centre Inc.



CLAUSE	CL09
TITLE	Treasury Policy on Council Loan Borrowings
FROM	Matthew Hansen, Director Business, Cultural & Financial Services
TRIM REF	26/42549

SUMMARY

This report seeks Council's adoption of a revised Treasury Policy on Council Loan Borrowings, which replaces the existing policy (FS-CP-704).

The revised policy modernises Council's borrowing governance framework by adopting a principles-based approach and clearly separating high-level policy intent from operational and technical detail contained within a supporting Borrowing Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) Council endorse the draft Treasury Policy on Council Loan Borrowings.**
- (b) The draft Treasury Policy on Council Loan Borrowings be placed on public exhibition for 28 days.**
- (c) If any submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.**
- (d) If no submissions are received, the draft Treasury Policy on Council Loan Borrowings be considered as adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.**

REPORT

Background

Council's current Treasury Policy on Council Loan Borrowings has evolved incrementally since its original adoption in 2010. While effective in managing debt levels, the existing policy is highly prescriptive and rules-based, embedding detailed borrowing limits, ratios and fund-specific settings directly within the policy document.

As part of a broader review of Council's treasury and financial governance arrangements, Finance has developed a revised policy aimed at:

- Improving clarity and governance
- Aligning borrowing decisions more closely with long-term financial planning
- Enhancing flexibility while maintaining strong financial discipline
- Reflecting contemporary best practice in local government financial management

Key Changes from the Current Policy

The proposed policy represents a complete replacement of the existing borrowing policy (FS-CP-704), rather than an incremental amendment.

Key changes include:

Aspect	Current Policy (FS-CP-704)	Proposed New Policy
Overall approach	Rules-based and prescriptive, with detailed limits and ratios embedded directly in the policy	Principles-based and high-level, establishing intent and boundaries rather than detailed operational rules
Policy structure	Single document combining policy intent and operational controls	Clear separation between Policy (principles and governance) and Borrowing Strategy (operational detail)
Policy length and complexity	Short but highly technical and numerical	Short, clearer, and conceptually focused
Borrowing limits	Fixed borrowing caps set out in the policy, including aggregate and fund-specific limits	Borrowing limits removed from the policy and set out in the Borrowing Strategy, aligned to the LTFP
Debt Service Cover Ratio (DSCR)	Specific DSCR thresholds mandated in the policy for total Council and individual funds	DSCR requirements referenced in principle only; specific targets and benchmarks are contained in the Borrowing Strategy
Fund-level borrowing rules	Detailed rules by fund (General, Waste, Sewer, Water), including prohibition on Water Fund borrowing	No hardcoded fund rules in the policy; fund-level constraints managed through the Borrowing Strategy
Use of borrowings	Not explicitly articulated beyond general debt limits	Clearly defined permitted uses (capital projects, enabling infrastructure, intergenerational equity, revenue-generating assets) and prohibited uses (operational expenditure, maintenance, short-lived assets)
Capital vs operational expenditure	Not expressly stated	Explicit prohibition on use of borrowings for operational expenditure and maintenance
Strategic alignment	Limited explicit linkage to long-term planning instruments	Strong and explicit alignment with the Long-Term Financial Plan, Business Cases and Capital Expenditure Reviews
Governance and decision-making	Implied through financial thresholds rather than formal process requirements	Clear governance conditions for borrowing, including LTFP inclusion, business case assessment and risk analysis
Flexibility over time	Low – changes to ratios or limits require formal policy amendment	High – policy remains stable while the Borrowing Strategy can be reviewed and adjusted annually
Risk management	Implicit via borrowing limits	Explicit requirement for risk assessment consistent with Council's risk management framework
Borrowing mechanisms	Not clearly articulated	Clearly defines internal borrowings, TCorp as preferred provider, and use of private lenders where appropriate
Loan structure guidance	Not addressed	Establishes standard loan structure principles (fixed term, fixed interest, AUD, onshore) with justification required for exceptions

Aspect	Current Policy (FS-CP-704)	Proposed New Policy
Monitoring and reporting	Not specified beyond compliance with limits	Clear monitoring and reporting expectations through the Borrowing Strategy, including SMT and statutory reporting
Relationship to other documents	Largely standalone	Explicit integration with the Borrowing Strategy, long-Term Financial Plan and Operational Plan
Adaptability to change	Limited ability to respond to changing financial conditions	Designed to adapt to changing economic, service and risk conditions without repeated policy changes
Contemporary best practice	Reflects historical governance expectations	Aligned with contemporary local government treasury governance and financial management practice

Overview of the New Policy – Principles and Objectives

Policy Objective

The objective of the revised policy is to establish clear, consistent and transparent principles governing Council's use of loan borrowings as a legitimate financial tool to support long-term community infrastructure, while ensuring affordability, sustainability and intergenerational equity.

Core Policy Principles

The new policy is underpinned by the following high-level principles:

- **Borrowings are not income**
Borrowings must be repaid and are not a substitute for sustainable operating revenue.
- **Borrowing is one funding tool among many**
Debt must be considered alongside grants, reserves, asset recycling and other funding sources.
- **Affordability and sustainability**
All borrowing decisions must be manageable within Council's current and future financial capacity and aligned with Council's risk appetite.
- **Alignment with long-term planning**
Borrowings must support the Long-Term Financial Plan and enable responsible intergenerational funding of assets.

Conditions for Borrowing

The policy establishes minimum conditions that must be satisfied before borrowing can occur, including:

- Inclusion in the Long-Term Financial Plan
- Support through a Business Case or Capital Expenditure Review
- Demonstrated compliance with debt sustainability indicators
- Completion of appropriate financial and risk assessment

Interplay Between the Borrowing Policy and Borrowing Strategy

The revised framework introduces a deliberate and structured relationship between the Borrowing Policy and the Borrowing Strategy.

Borrowing Policy (Council-Adopted)

The policy:

- Establishes Council's intent, permissions and constraints regarding borrowing
- Defines what borrowing may and may not be used for
- Sets governance expectations and accountability
- Anchors borrowing decisions to long-term sustainability and strategic planning

Borrowing Strategy (Operational Document)

The strategy:

- Operationalises the policy principles
- Specifies:
 - Borrowing limits (overall and by fund)
 - Debt Service Cover Ratio targets
 - Financial indicators and benchmarks
 - Loan structures and refinancing principles
 - Monitoring and reporting requirements
- Is aligned with, and updated through, the Long-Term Financial Plan and Operational Plan

Governance Relationship

- The Borrowing Strategy is a subsidiary document to the Policy.
- If any inconsistency arises, the Policy prevails.
- This structure ensures Council retains strong control through policy while enabling adaptability through strategy.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

As per the recommendation.

OPTION 2

Any other resolution of Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The policy is one part of an overall suite of Treasury-related policies under review. It ties in and is linked with future reviews into policies

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The adoption of the revised policy has **no immediate financial impact**. It strengthens Council's financial governance

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

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The revised policy assists Council comply with its obligations under legislation and Ministerial and OLG guidance.

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

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Not relevant

Minor Low Risk: Minimal environmental impact handled internally.

REPUTATION / COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Borrowings can pose reputational risk if decisions are not clearly governed or communicated. The revised policy addresses this risk by establishing strong, transparent principles for when and how Council borrows, enabling informed, consistent decisions that can be confidently explained to the community.

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

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Borrowing decisions can directly impact Council's ability to sustainably deliver services over time. The revised policy addresses service delivery risk by ensuring borrowings are only undertaken where they are affordable, aligned with the Long-Term Financial Plan, and supported by robust business case and capital expenditure review processes.

By requiring consideration of debt sustainability, cash flow capacity and long-term financial impacts, the policy helps ensure that debt obligations do not compromise Council's capacity to fund core services or respond to future service demands.

Minor Low Risk: Nil impact to service delivery.

WHS / HR IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Not relevant

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

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

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



CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

Finance Manager

Audit Risk and Improvement Committee

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) DRAFT - Treasury Policy on Council Loan Borrowings - June 2026 (under separate cover) 
- (b) CURRENT - (FS-CP-704) Treasury Policy on Council Loan Borrowings - Public Policy - (under separate cover) 

CLAUSE	CL10
TITLE	Treasury Policy for Investments
FROM	Matthew Hansen, Director Business, Cultural & Financial Services
TRIM REF	26/63673

SUMMARY

This report seeks Council's endorsement to publicly exhibit a revised Treasury Policy for Investments, which modernises the current policy framework and aligns it with contemporary governance, risk management and financial management practices.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) Council endorse the draft Treasury Policy for Investments.**
- (b) The draft Treasury Policy for Investments be placed for public exhibition for 28 days.**
- (c) If any submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.**
- (d) If no submissions are received, the draft Treasury Policy for Investments be considered as adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.**

REPORT

Background

Council currently operates under the Investment of Surplus Funds Policy (FS-CP-303), which provides both policy direction and detailed operational guidance for the investment of Council funds.

While effective historically, the existing policy combines:

- high-level principles;
- detailed investment limits; and
- operational procedures

into a single document.

The draft Policy introduces a revised governance structure consistent with modern policy design by separating:

- Policy (strategic direction and governance); and
- Investment Strategy (operational implementation and controls)

Aims of the New Policy

The draft Policy establishes a clear, contemporary framework for treasury management, with the following key aims:

1. Separation of Policy Direction from Operational Matters

The new framework clearly distinguishes between:

- **Policy:** sets principles, risk appetite and governance expectations; and
- **Investment Strategy:** contains detailed limits, benchmarks, maturity profiles and operational controls.

This separation:

- improves clarity in decision-making;
- enables operational flexibility without requiring frequent policy amendments; and
- aligns Council practice with better-practice governance frameworks.

2. Strengthened Governance and Strategic Alignment

The Policy establishes high-level principles to guide investment decisions, including:

- preservation of capital
- liquidity management
- risk-appropriate returns
- diversification and prudence

It also explicitly links investment decisions to:

- the Long-Term Financial Plan;
- Delivery Program; and
- Resourcing Strategy

ensuring that treasury management supports Council's broader financial sustainability.

3. Clear Risk Management Framework

The draft Policy embeds investment activities within Council's Risk Management Framework by requiring:

- identification and monitoring of investment risks;
- reporting of medium or higher risks to Council; and
- regular review of the investment risk profile.

4. Improved Accountability of Management to Council

The Policy strengthens accountability mechanisms by:

Delegation Framework:

- Delegates authority to the General Manager and Director, but strictly within the limits of the Policy and Strategy.

Council Oversight:

- Council retains responsibility for:
 - approving the Policy;
 - noting the Investment Strategy;
 - ongoing oversight through reporting.

Mandatory Reporting:

- Monthly reporting to Council on:

- performance against benchmarks
- compliance with limits
- portfolio allocation and maturity
- investment income versus budget

Documented Decision-Making:

- All investment decisions must be supported by documented assessments demonstrating:
 - compliance with legislation and policy
 - alignment to fund purpose
 - risk and return considerations

These measures ensure that management is clearly accountable for implementing Council's policy direction and transparent in reporting outcomes.

Key Changes from Current to Draft Policy

The table below summarises the principal changes:

Area	Current Policy	Draft Policy	Change / Improvement
Policy Structure	Single document combining policy and operational detail	Two-tier framework: Policy + Investment Strategy	Clear separation of governance and operations
Focus	Prescriptive rules and limits within policy	High-level principles in policy; detailed controls in strategy	Greater flexibility and clarity
Objectives	Focus on security, liquidity and return	Broader principles including prudence, diversification, risk appetite and financial sustainability	Modernised and expanded objectives
Legislative Alignment	References key legislation and Ministerial Order	Stronger, explicit compliance framework linked to legislation and OLG guidelines	Enhanced compliance clarity
Risk Management	Limited explicit risk framework	Integrated with Council Risk Management Framework and Risk Register	Formalised and contemporary risk governance
Delegations	Delegated authority with limited governance context	Delegations linked to strict compliance with Policy and Strategy, with Council oversight retained	Stronger accountability controls
Reporting	Monthly reporting focused on performance and income	Expanded reporting including compliance, risk, benchmarks and portfolio structure	Improved transparency and oversight
Investment Limits	Embedded detailed limits in policy (credit ratings, exposures, maturities)	Limits moved to Investment Strategy	Enables easier updates without policy amendment
Decision Documentation	Not explicitly required	Mandatory documented investment assessments and rationale	Improved auditability and governance

Area	Current Policy	Draft Policy	Change / Improvement
Prohibited Investments	Not clearly articulated	Explicit prohibition of high-risk and non-compliant instruments	Strengthened risk controls
Strategic Alignment	Limited linkage to corporate planning	Explicit link to LTFFP, Delivery Program and Resourcing Strategy	Stronger integration with financial planning

Discussion

The draft Policy reflects a shift toward principles-based governance, supported by a detailed and adaptable Investment Strategy.

Key benefits include:

- clearer roles between Council (policy setter) and management (policy implementer);
- improved transparency and reporting;
- stronger alignment with contemporary risk and financial management practices; and
- increased flexibility to respond to changing financial markets without frequent policy amendments.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

The recommendation as written.

OPTION 2

Endorse the draft policy with amendments for public exhibition.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The policy is one part of an overall suite of Treasury-related policies under review. It ties in and is linked with future reviews into policies

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The Policy is not expected to have direct financial impacts. However, improved governance and investment practices are expected to:

- enhance risk management; and
- support improved long-term investment outcomes.

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

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The revised policy assists Council comply with its obligations under legislation and Ministerial and OLG guidance

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

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Not relevant

Minor Low Risk: Minimal environmental impact handled internally.

REPUTATION / COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Investments can pose reputational risk if decisions are not clearly governed or communicated. The revised policy addresses this risk by establishing strong, transparent principles for when and how Council invests, enabling informed, consistent decisions that can be confidently explained to the community.

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

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The adoption of the revised Policy is expected to have a positive impact on service delivery by strengthening financial governance, improving investment performance oversight, and ensuring funds are available to support operational and capital commitments when required.

Minor Low Risk: Nil impact to service delivery.

WHS / HR IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Not relevant

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

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

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



CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

Finance Manager

Audit Risk and Improvement Committee

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) DRAFT Treasury Policy for Investments - June 2026 (under separate cover) 
- (b) CURRENT (FS-CP-303) Investment of Surplus Funds - Public Policy (under separate cover) 

CLAUSE	CL11
TITLE	Financial Assistance Grant Paid in Advance - Budget Impact
FROM	Matthew Hansen, Director Business, Cultural & Financial Services
TRIM REF	26/58007

SUMMARY

This report informs Council of the financial and accounting impacts arising from the Australian Government's decision to bring forward a significant portion of the 2026/27 Financial Assistance Grant (FAG), including the effect on Council's reported operating results and financial position.

In affect Council has been paid 80% of its 2026/27 financial assistance grant. This needs to be recognised as income as 2025/26, but will be spent in 2026/27. This creates a misleading comparison between years, with 2025/26 appearing stronger and 2026/27 appearing weaker than underlying performance would suggest.

RECOMMENDATION

Council note this report.

REPORT

Background

The Australian Government has advised that in 2026/27, over \$3.6 billion in Financial Assistance Grants will be distributed to local governments. Of this, \$2.9 billion (approximately 80%) will be paid prior to 30 June 2026, with the balance to be paid in four quarterly instalments during 2026/27.

While the exact amount to be paid to Griffith City Council is not yet known, Council has budgeted to receive \$7.9m in FAG in 2026/27. This decision will see Council receive 80% of this allocation (\$6.3m) in June 2026, with only the balance (\$1.6m) treated as income in the 2026/27 financial year.

Accounting Treatment (AASB Requirements)

Under Australian Accounting Standards (specifically AASB 1058 – *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*), untied grants such as FAG must be recognised as income when Council obtains control of the funds, which is when the cash is received.

This means:

- The \$6.3 million received in June 2026 must be recognised as income in 2025/26, regardless of the fact it relates to the 2026/27 period.
- The same amount cannot be recognised as income again in 2026/27.

Financial Impact

General Fund Operating Result

The timing distortion creates a significant one-off impact on reported operating results:

Financial Year	Impact
2025/26	Operating surplus is artificially inflated by \$6.3 million
2026/27	Operating result is reduced by \$6.3 million (as funding has already been recognised)

This creates a misleading comparison between years, with 2025/26 appearing stronger and 2026/27 appearing weaker than underlying performance would suggest.

Cash Position

Importantly:

- There is no net impact on Council's overall cash position over the two-year period.
- The issue is purely timing of cash receipts and accounting recognition, not additional funding.

Budget Integrity and Policy Compliance

Council's existing budget policy settings remain critical in managing this distortion:

- Council does not budget for FAG revenue in advance of receipt.
- Any FAG received in advance is internally restricted, ensuring:
 - Unrestricted cash is not artificially inflated, and
 - Funds are preserved for their intended purpose in the following financial year.

This approach ensures financial sustainability measures and key ratios are not misrepresented.

Key Considerations

- The advance payment does not represent additional funding.
- The \$6.3 million is required to fund 2026/27 budgeted operations.
- Failure to appropriately interpret this timing difference may:
 - Mislead stakeholders regarding Council's operating performance
 - Distort financial ratios and benchmark comparisons

The Federal Government's decision to prepay 80% of the 2026/27 Financial Assistance Grant will result in:

- A \$6.3 million increase in 2025/26 reported income
- A corresponding reduction in 2026/27 income
- No change to Council's real financial capacity, only reporting timing differences

Council's policy settings appropriately mitigate the risk of misinterpretation by:

- Avoiding recognition of FAG in advance for budgeting purposes
- Internally restricting funds to reflect their intended use

It is essential that Council continues to emphasise underlying (normalised) financial performance when considering financial sustainability and decision-making.

Operating result before Capital Grants and Contributions

Financial Year	Underlying Result (\$000)	FAG Advance Impact (\$000)	Reported Result (\$000)
2025/26	-\$2,633	\$6,285	\$3,652
2026/27	\$116	-\$6,285	-\$6,169

OPTIONS

Not applicable.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

At present, Council does not have an overall policy on cash reserves.

Council's specific management policy on Financial Assistance Grants paid in advance is to place these funds into reserve and draw them down in the year for which they have been allocated.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

There is a risk that if the nature of these funds is not appropriately recognised, Council may treat these funds as additional income to be spent.

Moderate Low Risk: Minor financial loss > \$10,000 to \$1 million.

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Council must recognise grant income in line with Australian Accounting Standards and the OLG Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

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

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

N/A

Minor Low Risk: Minimal environmental impact handled internally.

REPUTATION / COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Without clear communication on the cause and impact of the major changes to Council's operating position, there is a risk of community and media concern regarding Council's overall financial position.

Moderate Low Risk: Minor adverse public/staff reaction and/or negative publicity. Resolved with Manager or Director Comment. No impact on staff morale.

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Funds received in advance will be held in reserve until required to fund Council services in 2026/27.

Minor Low Risk: Nil impact to service delivery.

WHS / HR IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

N/A

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

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

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

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

**GRIFFITH PIONEER PARK MUSEUM COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY 2026 COMMENCING AT 4:00 PM**

[Agenda of Griffith Pioneer Park Museum Committee - Wednesday, 20 May 2026](#)

PRESENT

Councillor Shari Blumer (Chair), Councillor Laurie Testoni, Denis Couch (Community Representative), Jenna Thomas (Community Representative) (via zoom), Michael Rohan (Community Representative), Robyn Turner (Community Representative) (via zoom), Virginia Tropeano (Community Representative)

Quorum = 3

STAFF

Director Business, Cultural & Financial Services, Matthew Hansen, Griffith Pioneer Park Museum Manager, Jenny O'Donnell, Curator, Fox Darcy, Administration Officer, Tabbitha Williams and Minute Secretary, Antoinette Galluzzo

Absent: Desma Newman (Community Representative), Neil Dal Nevo (Community Representative), Peter Taylor (Community Representative)

1 APOLOGIES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Laurie Testoni and Virginia Tropeano that apologies be received from Councillor Jenny Ellis, Dolf Murwood (Community Representative), John Nikolic (Community Representative).

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Denis Couch and Councillor Laurie Testoni that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 February 2026, having first been circulated amongst all members, be confirmed.

3 BUSINESS ARISING

Nil.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary Interests

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

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members 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.

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

Less Than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

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

There were no less than significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

5 ITEMS OF BUSINESS

CL01 GRIFFITH PIONEER PARK MUSEUM ACTION DAY - 3 APRIL 2026

The Committee noted that Action Day 2026 was a successful event and continues to have a positive reputation within the community.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Virginia Tropeano and Jenna Thomas that the Griffith Pioneer Park Museum Committee thank the volunteers and staff for their ongoing contribution to Action Day, and a letter of thanks be prepared.

CL02 QTR 1 REVIEW - FREE LOCAL ENTRY TRIAL

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Laurie Testoni and Robyn Turner that the Committee note the report.

CL03 QUARTER 3, VISITATION STATISTICS JAN - MAR 2026 (EXCLUDING CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY USE)

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Laurie Testoni and Robyn Turner that the Committee note the report.

CL04 QUARTER 3, COMMUNITY AND CULTURE STATISTICS - JAN - MAR 2026

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Laurie Testoni and Robyn Turner that the Committee note the report.

CL05 COMMITTEE MEMBER AGENDA ITEM - DENIS COUCH

Mr Couch raised concerns regarding the advertising of the “locals free entry” initiative at Pioneer Park and many local residents are still unaware they can access the park for free. Ms Turner suggested that staff could attend Council Cafe to engage with local residents to help raise awareness. Staff responded that they are planning to attend future Council Cafes to support community engagement and promotion of the initiative.

Councillor Blumer highlighted within previous reports, it has indicated a slow but positive growth. Councillor Testoni also mentioned he has put in a Councillor Budget Bid for Pioneer Park advertisement.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Denis Couch and Virginia Tropeano that the discussion be noted.

CL06 OPERATIONAL UPDATE - PRICKLY PEAR AND KANGAROO MANAGEMENT

Ms O'Donnell provided an update to the Committee regarding the Prickly Pear issue highlighting they have received guidance on chemical treatment and best-practice management techniques. The prickly pear treatment program is expected to commence within the coming months and will be an ongoing process over approximately 12 months.

An update was provided on kangaroo management at the Museum site. It was acknowledged that kangaroo management will remain an ongoing challenge.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Laurie Testoni and Jenna Thomas that the information be received.

CL07 PRESENTATION - REVIEW OF GRIFFITH PIONEER PARK STRATEGIC PLAN

Ms O'Donnell presented to the Committee, outlining each component of the Griffith Pioneer Park Strategic Master Plan and providing an update on the progress achieved across each area (please find attached presentation for more information).

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Virginia Tropeano and Jenna Thomas that Council consider the needs of disabled patrons, visitors, volunteers and staff at Griffith Pioneer Park Museum as part of the Disability, Inclusion and Access Plan.

SMT Comment

Accessibility to Pioneer Park has been considered in the newest version of the DIAP (due to be adopted 16 June 2026).

Councillor Blumer and Mr Hansen informed the Committee that a grant application has been submitted for machinery shelters at the Pioneer Park Museum.

Ms Tropeano suggested while Italian migrant histories are relatively well documented, British, Irish, German, and other migrant experiences have not been captured as thoroughly. The Committee discussed how modern technology makes it easier to record and store interviews and information digitally so they can later be used in exhibitions or community projects.

Action: At the next Committee meeting staff present a report highlighting how they will

further engage and give opportunities to other members of the community as part of the oral history project.

6 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

The report was noted.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil.

8 ATTACHMENTS

(a) Griffith Pioneer Park - Strategic Master Plan Update

9 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Griffith Pioneer Park Museum Committee is to be held on Wednesday, 19 August 2026 at 4:00 pm.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 5:30 pm.

TITLE Outstanding Action Report

TRIM REF 25/150107

RECOMMENDATION

The report be noted.

ATTACHMENTS

(a) Outstanding Action Report - Council Meeting [!\[\]\(7fd65f65fc0b6791cf7fbd42ae8069a8_img.jpg\) !\[\]\(a5b4d8903b3b363df7b26fa4c68bed60_img.jpg\)](#)

94

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

Council Meeting Date	MEETING ITEM	Action Officer	CRM No.	Minute No.	Council Resolution	Additional Information
12 May 2026	CL08 SMALL BUSINESS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE POLICY	SGO EDC	173748	26/129	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Jenny Ellis that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Council adopt the draft Small Business Financial Assistance Policy and place on public exhibition for 28 days. (b) Should no submissions be received, the draft Small Business Financial Assistance Policy is adopted. (c) Should submissions be received, the draft Small Business Financial Assistance Policy is to be reported back to Council including a report detailing any submissions received. 	14/05/2026: Policy on public exhibition until 11 June 2026.
12 May 2026	CL04 LICENCE AGREEMENT - ROAD RESERVE - WESTERN RIVERINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE (COMMUNITY SCHOOL) - 68 KOOKORA STREET, GRIFFITH	CPO	173743	26/125	<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 Western Riverina Community College (WRCC) for the occupation of Council's Road reserve, adjoining Lot 1 Sec 127 DP758476, 68 Kookora Street, Griffith for a term of five years, with an option to renew of 5 years. (b) Council advertises its intention to enter into a licence agreement with WRCC for 7 	1/06/2026: On public notification.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<p>car spaces adjoining 68 Kookora Street, Griffith 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 proceed to enter into a licence agreement with WRCC for 7 car spaces located on the road reserve, adjoining 68 Kookora Street, Griffith for a term of 5 years, commencement date to be determined following notification period.</p> <p>(d) Western Riverina Community College (WRCC) are responsible to pay all applicable costs and charges associated with the preparation of the licence agreement together with Council's Administration Fee, in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy.</p> <p>(e) The annual licence fee will be charged in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy, currently \$67.60 per car space together with rates and charges as applicable.</p> <p>(f) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to execute the licence agreement under the Common Seal, if required.</p>	
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

28 April 2026	CL02 ENDORSEMENT OF THE DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM 2025/26 TO 2028/29 INCORPORATION THE DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN (BUDGET) 2026/27, ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2026/27	DBCS&F		26/107	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Tony O'Grady that:</p> <p>(a) Council endorse the public exhibition, for a minimum period of 28 days, of the following draft documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Delivery Program 2025/26 - 2028/29 incorporating the Draft Operational Plan 2026/27 • Draft Ten Year Long Term Financial Plan 2026/27 Annual Review <p>(b) Council hold a Community Opinion Group (COG meeting) during the public exhibition period.</p> <p>(c) Following the public exhibition period, the draft documents, together with any submissions received, be reported back to Council for consideration and adoption prior to 30 June 2026.</p>	<p>29/04/2026: On public exhibition till 4pm, 31 May 2026.</p> <p>1/06/2026: Report to Council on 16 June 2026</p>
14 April 2026	CCMM01 SALE OF LAND FOR UNPAID RATES	DBCF	172744	26/102	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Shari Blumer that:</p> <p>(a) Council, pursuant to Section 713 and other relevant sections of the Local Government Act 1993, authorises sale proceedings to sell the properties listed in this report at a public auction at a time and place to be determined.</p> <p>(b) Outstanding Collections (Aust) Pty Ltd (OSC) be appointed to administer the sale on Council's behalf.</p>	<p>28/04/2026: General Manager certificates signed. Real Estate Agent commissioned to sell properties. Notification process underway.</p> <p>1/06/2026: The auction is scheduled for 13 August 2026.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					<p>(c) Council authorises Council staff and OSC to proceed with the necessary arrangements, pertaining to the sale of the properties listed in this report, as set out in the Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (General) Regulation 2021).</p> <p>(d) Council delegates authority to the General Manager to take the following actions pertaining to the properties specified in the report as listed in the report.</p>	
24 March 2026	NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR SCOTT GROAT	DSD	172021	26/074	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Scott Groat and Anne Napoli that Council requests the General Manager to prepare a report to investigate all options to accelerate housing in Griffith.</p> <p>Including staging of developments.</p> <p>An assessment of the current sequencing of current approved developments, including the Hanwood Growth Masterplan, where there are mechanisms available to alter the sequences of these developments.</p> <p>Benchmark approaches used by other regional councils to facilitate planning mechanisms to improve housing supply outcomes.</p> <p>Consideration of any infrastructure, regulatory, or procedural barriers</p>	07/04/2026: Information for report being compiled, including discussions with other regional Council's. Report back to Council 16 June 2026.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					that may be impacting timely delivery of housing approvals. Report back to Council within a reasonable time frame to allow Council to implement these findings.	
24 March 2026	NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR MARK DAL BON	DE&OD	172020	26/073	RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Mark Dal Bon and Christine Stead: (a) Council to review the policy on quick turn around grants to enable non for profit and other organisations that donate money to charities to be able to access these grants from Council that benefit the community. (b) The relevant policies be brought to a Council Workshop for Councillor input.	08/04/2026: The matter is scheduled for the May Workshop for discussion. 28/05/2026: Policies to be presented to Council for public exhibition in August 2026.
24 March 2026	CL04 REVIEW OF LAKE WYANGAN FLOOD STUDY	DU	172018	26/067	RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Laurie Testoni that: (a) Council endorse the Lake Wyangan Flood Study to go on public exhibition for a period of 42 days. (b) Should no submissions be received, the Lake Wyangan Flood Study be considered adopted as at the completion of the exhibition period. (c) If submissions are received, a further report is to be provided to Council.	08/04/2026: On exhibition until 8 May 2026. 18/05/2026: Several submissions have been received and a report will be provided to the next Floodplain Management Committee.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

<p>27 January 2026</p>	<p>NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR TONY O'GRADY</p>	<p>DSD</p>	<p>169647</p>	<p>26/016</p>	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Shari Blumer that Council develops a policy to allow pop up businesses including food vans to be able to trade on council land.</p>	<p>17/02/2026: Sustainable Development currently drafting policy. 19/05/2026: Policy will be reported to Council in July 2026.</p>
<p>8 April 2025</p>	<p>NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR JENNY ELLIS</p>	<p>DBCF FM MA</p>	<p>158565</p>	<p>25/095</p>	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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 average: \$60-\$100/ sqm; Gallery is 422sqm therefore up to \$42K). 	<p>2/03/2026: Gyprock repairs and painting complete – October 2025. New hanging system installed – February 2026. New sign is being designed and costed. Will require development consent. Scheduled for installation in mid-2026.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT
COMPLETION BY OTHER AGENCIES PENDING

Council Meeting Date	MEETING ITEM	Action Officer	CRM No.	Minute No.	Council Resolution	Additional Information
12 Aug 2025	NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE STEAD	GM	163429	25/236	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Shari Blumer that:</p> <p>(a) Council request the General Manager prepare a report detailing outstanding debts owed to local contractors for the Hanwood Amenities Block. The report is to include options on how Council can assist resolving these debts after the Greenwich Voluntary Administration process.</p> <p>(b) Council staff review procurement processes and policies to prevent a recurrence of situations where local contractors remain unpaid for work undertaken due to a contractor's insolvency.</p>	<p>1/09/2025: Report to Council 9 September 2025.</p> <p>12/09/2025: GM to report to Council after the finalisation of the ASIC proceedings.</p> <p>7/04/2026: Other creditors are pursuing recovery however unlikely due to limited assets.</p>
24 February 2026	CL01 GRIFFITH URBAN CROWN LAND AFFORDABLE HOUSING ACTIVATION - MASTERPLAN AND BUSINESS CASE	DBC/ GM	170792	26/040	<p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Shari Blumer that:</p> <p>(a) Council endorse the Griffith Urban Crown Land Affordable Housing Activation - Masterplan and Business Case.</p> <p>(b) The General Manager and Mayor be authorised to approach State and Federal bodies and other relevant stakeholders and government agencies to progress this process further.</p>	<p>11/03/2026: The General Manager has reached out to the Minister for Housing The Hon Rose Jackson MP.</p> <p>The Minister's office advises that we should contact the Aboriginal Housing Authority (AHO) in the first instance.</p> <p>Contact has been made, as yet no commitment to meet.</p>

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT
COMPLETION BY OTHER AGENCIES PENDING

					(c) A report be brought back to Council providing updates in due course.	
--	--	--	--	--	--	--