Ordinary Meeting

BUSINESS PAPER

Tuesday, 11 August 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.

AGENDA

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL
TO BE HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
TUESDAY, 11 AUGUST 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, 11 August 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:

Scott Grant

GENERAL MANAGER

DRAFT
MINUTES

ORDINARY MEETING OF GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
TUESDAY, 28 JULY 2026 COMMENCING AT 7:07 PM

PRESENT

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

STAFF

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

MEDIA

Nil

1 COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Meeting opened with Councillor Anne Napoli reading the Opening Affirmation and the Acknowledgement of Country.

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

26/185

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Tony O’Grady that an apology be received from Councillor Laurie Testoni and a leave of absence granted.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

26/186

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Tony O'Grady that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held in Griffith City Council Chambers on 16 June 2026, having first been circulated amongst all members of Council, be confirmed.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 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
CL05 Renewal of Lease Agreement
Reason – The business that I work for and have an interest in, often drafts these leases.

Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

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

Councillor Anne Napoli
CL10 Request for Support 10th Anniversary Community Gala Dinner in Support of St. Vincent's Private Community Hospital
Reason – I am one of the organizers for this Event.

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
CL11 Summary Development Application DA 57/2026 for Electricity Generating Works Comprising a 7.1mw Solar Farm and 5mw Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at 11 Duchatel Road, Griffith
Reason – I have received phone calls and emails in regards to this DA.

Councillor Anne Napoli
Notice of Motion by Councillor Jenny Ellis
Reason – I have received phone calls in regards to this Notice of Motion.

6 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

CL01 DA 48/2026 - ELECTRICITY GENERATING WORKS – 5MW BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS)

26/187

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Tony O'Grady that:

(a) Development Application No. 48/2026 for Electricity Generating Works – 5MW Battery Energy Storage System at lot 2 DP 1126055, 37 Hanwood Avenue HANWOOD, be approved subject to draft conditions of consent.

(b) The application be delegated to the Director Sustainable Development for the issue of the Notice of Determination.

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

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

The division was declared EQUAL

The Mayor used his casting vote to vote for the motion and declared the motion CARRIED.

CL02 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM - BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY ROUND

26/188

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Christine Stead that Council approve the lodgement of the following applications for funding under the Sustainable Communities – Business and Industry Round.

(a) Business Capability and Growth Hub
Total Project Cost - $362,360
Grant - $270,300
Co-contribution - $92,060.

(b) Event Space Activation – Community Gardens

Total Project Cost - $2,129,860
Grant - $1,578,860
Co-contribution - $551,000.

(c) Council to rank the applications in the following order:
1. Community Gardens
2. Business Capability and Growth Hub.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 5 votes to 3.

CL03 REGIONAL AIRPORT PROGRAM - ROUND 5

26/189

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

(a) Council endorse Griffith City Council providing the required co-contribution for automation of security gates at Griffith Regional Airport should the application submitted under Regional Airports Program – Round 5 be successful.

(b) Council authorise the General Manager to execute any documentation required to accept the funding and deliver the project should the application be successful.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

CL04 APPLICATION TO 2026 NSWRL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT FUND

26/190

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

(a) Council endorse the lodgement of an application for funding to the 2026 NSWRL Infrastructure Investment Fund.

(b) If successful, Council support the application with 50% Co-contribution made through a budget adjustment at the quarterly review depending on elements that are funded.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

Councillor Shari Blumer left the meeting having declared a pecuniary interest, the time being 7:44 pm.

CL05 RENEWAL OF LEASE AGREEMENT - ST VINCENT'S PRIVATE HOSPITALS LTD - 41-45 ANIMOO AVENUE, GRIFFITH

26/191

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Scott Groat and Anne Napoli that:

(a) Council enters into a lease agreement with St Vincent’s Private Hospitals over Lot 1 DP 1043580, 41-45 Animoo Avenue, Griffith for a term of 5 years, commencing 1 October 2026, with a further option of 5 years.

(b) Each party is responsible to pay their own legal costs and other associated charges in relation to the preparation of the lease agreement. The lessee will be responsible to pay Council’s administration fee in accordance with Council’s adopted Revenue Policy.

(c) The annual lease fee payable by St Vincent’s Private Community Hospital (SVPCH) is a nominal rental of $1.00 per annum.

SVPCH is required to make a Sinking Fund Contribution of $65,000 plus GST per annum, plus CPI for the term of the new agreement until the balance of the Sinking Fund reaches $500,000.

(d) Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to execute the lease agreement on behalf of Council under the Common Seal.

For	Against
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran	
Councillor Christine Stead	
Councillor Jenny Ellis	
Councillor Anne Napoli	
Councillor Mark Dal Bon	
Councillor Scott Groat	
Councillor Tony O'Grady	

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

Councillor Shari Blumer returned to the meeting at 7:46 pm.

CL06 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 2026

26/192

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Scott Groat that:

(a) Two Councillors, being Councillors Shari Blumer and Jenny Ellis and the General Manager (or his delegate) attend the 2026 Local Government NSW Annual Conference to be held at WIN Sports & Entertainment Centres, Wollongong from Sunday 22 to Tuesday 24 November 2026.

(b) Expenses for attendance at the 2026 Local Government NSW Annual Conference be paid in accordance with Council policy.

(c) Council determine any motion(s) for inclusion in the Conference business paper such that they can be lodged with LGNSW by the deadline being Wednesday 30 September 2026. These draft motions are to be submitted to the General Manager by Friday 4 September 2026 to enable them to be reported to Council and endorsed.

(d) Council confirm the two voting delegates at the LGNSW Conference to be Councillors Shari Blumer and Jenny Ellis.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

CL07 REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S AGENCY INFORMATION GUIDE 2026

26/193

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Tony O'Grady that Council adopt the revised Agency Information Guide 2025 as per the requirements of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

CL08 REVIEW OF PRIVACY MANAGEMENT POLICY AND PLAN

26/194

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Jenny Ellis that:

(a) Council endorse the Privacy Management Policy and draft Privacy Management Plan and place the documents on exhibition for a period of 28 days.

(b) Should any submissions be received, a report be provided to Council.

(c) Should no submissions be received, the Privacy Management Policy and draft Privacy Management Plan be considered adopted as at the end date of the public exhibition period.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

CL09 2026 NATIONAL LOCAL ROADS, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE CONGRESS

26/195

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Mark Dal Bon and Christine Stead that no Councillors attend the 2026 National Local Roads, Transport and Infrastructure Congress in Cairns Queensland 24 to 25 August 2026.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

Councillor Anne Napoli left the meeting having declared a significant non-pecuniary interest, the time being 7:50 pm.

CL10 REQUEST FOR SUPPORT – 10TH ANNIVERSARY COMMUNITY GALA DINNER IN SUPPORT OF ST VINCENT’S PRIVATE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL GRIFFITH

26/196

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Doug Curran and Shari Blumer that:

(a) Council become a Platinum Sponsor to the value of $10,000, to support of St Vincent's Private Community Hospital Griffith 10th Anniversary Gala Dinner and;

(b) Should Council endorse Platinum Sponsorship to the value of $10,000 in support St Vincent's Private Community Hospital Griffith 10th Anniversary Gala Dinner, an amendment to the 2026/27 Budget to increase line item 92210.298 Industry, Attraction & Development – Sponsorship from $4,500 to $14,500 will need to be made via the September 2026 Quarterly Review.

For	Against
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran	Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Christine Stead	Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Jenny Ellis	
Councillor Scott Groat	
Councillor Shari Blumer	

The division was declared PASSED by 5 votes to 2.

Councillor Anne Napoli returned to the meeting at 7:56 pm.

9 INFORMATION REPORTS

CL11 SUMMARY DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION DA 57/2026 FOR ELECTRICITY GENERATING WORKS COMPRISING A 7.1MW SOLAR FARM AND 5MW BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) AT 11 DUCHATEL ROAD, GRIFFITH

MOVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Scott Groat that the report be noted by Council.

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

(a) The report be noted by Council.

(b) Council obtain independent legal advice from specialist planning counsel regarding if there are reasonable prospects of challenging the WRPP determination and report the advice back to Council.

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

The division was declared EQUAL

The Mayor used his casting vote to vote against the amendment and declared the amendment LOST.

Councillors Scott Groat and Mark Dal Bon moved the following AMENDMENT that Council put this matter forward to a Land and Environment judicial review.

For	Against
Councillor Christine Stead	Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran
Councillor Anne Napoli	Councillor Jenny Ellis

Councillor Mark Dal Bon	Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Scott Groat	Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared EQUAL

The Mayor used his casting vote to vote against the amendment and declared the amendment LOST.

26/197

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

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

The division was declared EQUAL

The Mayor used his casting vote to vote for the motion and declared the motion CARRIED.

CL12 NEW STATE PLANNING ENTITY - DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION AUTHORITY (DCA)

26/198

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

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

CL13 COUNCILLOR CONDUCT FRAMEWORK REFORM

26/199

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

For	Against
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran	
Councillor Christine Stead	
Councillor Jenny Ellis	

Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

CL14 OLG CIRCULAR - CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE

26/200

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Jenny Ellis that Council note the report.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

CL15 QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

26/201

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

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

Councillor Dal Bon asked a question regarding options for the eradication of Prickly Pear at Griffith Pioneer Park Museum. This was TAKEN ON NOTICE.

CL16 INVESTMENTS AS AT 30 APRIL 2026

26/202

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

For	Against

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

Councillor Jenny Ellis left the meeting, the time being 8:37 pm.

CL17 2026 NSW LOCAL ROADS CONGRESS

26/203

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

For	Against
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran	
Councillor Christine Stead	
Councillor Anne Napoli	
Councillor Mark Dal Bon	
Councillor Scott Groat	
Councillor Tony O'Grady	
Councillor Shari Blumer	

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

10 ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

Councillor Jenny Ellis returned to the meeting at 8:39 pm.

Councillor Shari Blumer left the meeting, the time being 8:40 pm.

Councillor Shari Blumer returned to the meeting at 8:41 pm.

Councillor Anne Napoli left the meeting, the time being 8:40 pm.

MINUTES OF THE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11 JUNE 2026

26/204

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Scott Groat and Christine Stead that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Floodplain Management Committee meeting held on 11 June 2026 be adopted.

For	Against
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran	
Councillor Christine Stead	
Councillor Jenny Ellis	
Councillor Mark Dal Bon	

Councillor Scott Groat
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared PASSED by 7 votes to 0.

Councillor Anne Napoli returned to the meeting at 8:43 pm.

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL TRAFFIC FORUM MEETING HELD ON 14 JULY 2026

26/205

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Christine Stead that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Local Traffic Forum meeting held on 14 July 2026 be adopted.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

MINUTES OF THE DISABILITY INCLUSION & ACCESS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 JUNE 2026

26/206

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Tony O'Grady that the recommendations as detailed in the Minutes of the Disability Inclusion & Access Committee meeting held on 17 June 2026 be adopted.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

11 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

12 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE – OTHER MOTIONS

NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR JENNY ELLIS

MOVED on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Tony O'Grady that Council:

(a) Prepare and present to Council a draft policy governing the use of Council-owned banner poles and banner infrastructure located within the Griffith CBD, including Banna Avenue and other principal streets.

Ensure the policy includes:

- Eligibility criteria for organisations seeking to display banners;
- A clear application, assessment and approval process;
- Assessment criteria for banner content and messaging;
- Guidelines that consider community impact and the appropriate use of Council-owned public infrastructure;
- Priority arrangements for Council events, civic occasions, significant community events and approved promotional campaigns;
- Duration and timing of banner displays;
- Responsibilities for banner design, installation, maintenance and removal;
- A transparent decision-making framework that promotes fairness, consistency and equitable access for all applicants.

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

The division was declared EQUAL

The Mayor used his casting vote to vote against the motion and declared the motion LOST.

NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR SCOTT GROAT

MOVED on the motion of Councillors Scott Groat and Mark Dal Bon that Griffith City Council has imposed a 32% mixed waste per tonne charge increase from $209 per tonne to $276 per tonne. Given the current and projected economic situation of Griffith this increase is unsustainable and needs to be reviewed back to a gradual increase of 5% per annum or align with the consumer price index.

(a) Council create a new waste category – contractor waste deliveries for mixed waste, applicable to commercial waste contractors at a fee of $200 per tonne excluding GST.

(b) Council investigate and present a detailed report back to Council on the proposed costs of Maintaining and building landfill operations and efficiency measures that can be implemented.

(c) Council investigate the revenue from billing under the mixed waste (per tonne) charge since 1/7/26 and the mechanism for a potential rebate at these costs.

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

The division was declared EQUAL

The Mayor used his casting vote to vote against the motion and declared the motion LOST.

NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR SHARI BLUMER

26/207

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Shari Blumer and Jenny Ellis that:

1) Council endorse, in principle, the inclusion of two new Australia Day Awards categories: Arts and Cultural Contribution Award; and Arts and Cultural Event of the Year.
2) The proposed two new categories and the current Awards Policy go on public exhibition for community submissions.
3) The proposed Awards inclusions and Awards Policy go to a Council workshop for discussion.
4) Council request the General Manager prepare a report and draft amendments to the Australia Day Awards Policy GOV-CP-401 for Council consideration at the next appropriate Council meeting.

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

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 2.

NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR MARK DAL BON

MOVED on the motion of Councillors Mark Dal Bon and Christine Stead:

Can council adopt a policy. On signage on billboards and posters and any other visual advertisement to the public. That are on council land. Road easement’s land. And crown land and all other land in the local LGA that focus on wat can and wat cannot be advertised. Eg political and offensive material. And size requirements.

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

The division was declared EQUAL

The Mayor used his casting vote to vote against the motion and declared the motion LOST.

13 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

26/208

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

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.

26/209

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Mark Dal Bon 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 TENDER NO. 20-25/26 - GWTP - DESIGN & SUPPLY OF POWDER ACTIVATED CARBON DOSING SYSTEM

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

Council closed its meeting at 9:29 pm. The public and media left the Chamber. Livestream was disconnected.

<u>REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL</u>

26/210

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

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

The division was declared PASSED by 8 votes to 0.

Open Council resumed at 9:32 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

<u>CC01 TENDER NO. 20-25/26 - GWTP - DESIGN & SUPPLY OF POWDER ACTIVATED CARBON DOSING SYSTEM</u>

26/211

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

(a) Council, in accordance with Section 178(1) (b) of the Local Government Regulation 2021, reject all tenders submitted for Tender No. 20-25/26: GWTP - Design & Supply of Powder Activated Carbon Dosing System due to Insufficient detail provided by the submissions received to address the Scope and Scale of the project.

(b) Council, in accordance with Section 178(4) (a) of the Local Government Regulation 2021, does not need to call fresh tenders for Tender No. 20-25/26: GWTP - Design & Supply of Powder Activated Carbon Dosing System as there are suitably qualified and experienced tenderers available to negotiate with.

(c) At the completion of negotiations, a further report to be presented to Council recommending the preferred contractor.

For	Against
Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran	Councillor Mark Dal Bon
Councillor Christine Stead	Councillor Scott Groat

Councillor Jenny Ellis
Councillor Anne Napoli
Councillor Tony O'Grady
Councillor Shari Blumer

The division was declared PASSED by 6 votes to 2.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 9:36 pm.

Confirmed: ....

CHAIRPERSON

CLAUSE	**CL01**
PROPOSAL	**DA 88/2026 - CAR PARK AND ASSOCIATED NEW DRIVEWAY FOR AN EXISTING DENTAL PRACTICE**
PROPERTY	Lot 9 DP 815420 - 12 Kooringal Avenue
LOCATION	GRIFFITH
ZONING	R1 – General Residential
APPLICABLE PLANNING INSTRUMENT	Griffith Local Environmental Plan, 2014
EXISTING DEVELOPMENT	Dental Practice
APPLICANT	Phillip Andreatta
OWNER	Phillip & Mary Andreatta
DIRECTORS OF COMPANY (IF APPLICABLE)	N/A
APPLICATION DATE	13 May 2026
REASON FOR REFERRAL	Submission made objecting to the proposal
FROM	**Joe Rizzo, Director Sustainable Development**
TRIM REF	**26/85470**

SUMMARY

Proposal

- An application has been made to Council to construct a concrete carpark within 12 Kooringal Avenue Griffith, with a driveway crossing onto that road reserve, and a concrete extension to the centre median on Kooringal Ave to restriction right turn movements into the site from Kooringal – the resulting vehicular movements being left in and left out movements only. See **Attachment B** for submitted application documentation.

- The application was notified directly to adjoining and adjacent landowners and via Council's media (Council Catch Up & Facebook page) from 22nd May through to 5th June 2026 inclusive.

- Two (2) submissions were originally received and when revised plans were received and the submitters were provided with an opportunity to provide a revised submission or withdraw their submission if their concerns had been addressed. One (1) additional submission was received from an original submitter (see **Attachment C** for submissions). The applicant provided a response to the submissions received on 13 June 2026 (see **Attachment D** for response to submissions).

- The principle issues raised in the submissions relate to removal of vegetation, use of the car park out of business hours by persons not associated with the dental practice, lack of boundary fencing and thus visual and acoustic privacy issues.

- The application assessment has been completed and the issues arising from the submissions can be conditioned where necessary – see **Attachment E** for the full development assessment report.

- Assessment of the application has been undertaken and the recommendation to Council is for approval – see **Attachment A** for draft conditions of consent.

Type of Development

Local Development

Main Issues

Submissions have been received objecting to the development or raising concerns with the location of the car park and driveway.

RECOMMENDATION

(a) Development Application 88/2026 for a carpark and new driveway at 12 Kooringal Avenue Griffith (Lot 9 DP 815420) and part road reserve of Kooringal Avenue, be approved subject to conditions provided in Attachment A.

(b) The application be delegated to the Director Sustainable Development to issue the Notice of Determination.

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

SITE DESCRIPTION

The subject property is located on the corner of Palla Street and Kooringal Street and is Lot 9 DP 815420 – 12 Kooringal Avenue, with an area of 1,459m^2. The property has been used as a dental practice since approximately July 2009.

The original dwelling was constructed around 1955 and it also incorporated a medical practice / professional consulting room, which continued on the land until October 2008. The surgery was then occupied as a dental clinic since approximately August 2009 under the existing professional consulting room consent.

The land at that time was Lot 1 Section 124 Town of Griffith (DP 758476 in the Parish of Jondaryan and was subsequently subdivided in 1991 creating two lots, the subject land (lot 9) and Lot 10, which share a right of carriageway.

The adjoining property which benefits from the abovementioned right of carriageway contains two units, constructed under DA 1/92 subdivided by a strata plan under SP 42970 (December 1992).

LOCATION MAP

BACKGROUND

Site History

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

BA 78/55 – Dwelling and professional rooms – 24 June 1955
BA30/65 – Additional surgery – 13 March 1965
BA 68/66 – Consulting rooms – (Nothing in the file)
BA 96/72 – Alterations (file room at Drs Surgery) – 20 June 1972
BA 182/74 – Additions to existing carport – 20 August 1974
BA 181/83 – Extensions (ensuite, walk in wardrobe)
SA 36/90 – Two lot subdivision – Approved 9 October 1990 creating Lots 9 & 10 DP 815420
B67/1999 – Inground swimming pool – Approved 6 October 1999
B115/1999 – Construction gauzed room and bathroom – Approved 17 August 2001
DA253/2009 – New advertising sign – Approved – 9 October 2009
CDC 542/2024 – Removal of the swimming pool – Approved 12 June 2024.

Timeline of Events Pertaining to the Development Application

13/05/2026	Application lodgement – fees paid
14/05/2026	Application to Development Assessment Panel for referral and allocation (Development Engineers, Parks & Gardens Manager, Property Manager, Contract Planner for assessment)
18/05/2026	Applicant requested to provide additional information relating to trees to be removed in the road reserve
20/05/2026	Additional plans received relating to turning path diagrams

22/05/2026 Notification to neighbours and via media as application included Council road reserve – on notification until 5 June 2026

28/05/2026 Additional plan received identifying the two trees to be removed

10/06/2026 Submissions (redacted names & details) provided to the applicant via the Planning Portal for review and response

15/06/2026 Applicant's response to submissions received & that response was provided to the submitters the same day to ascertain if their objections to the DA remained.

22/06/2026 Additional submission received from one of the objectors

24/07/2026 Application assessment completed for Council business paper.

PROPOSAL IN DETAIL

The development application has been made for a driveway into the site for a car park from Kooringal Avenue, providing five (5) on-site parking spaces, including an accessible space. The car park is designed with a small manoeuvring area projection into the road reserve outside of the property boundary, as illustrated on the application plan provided following:

The driveway allows simultaneous ingress and egress movements and sufficient manoeuvring is provided to allow all vehicles to exit in a forward direction.

As part of the proposal, the concrete centre median barrier in Kooringal Avenue approaching the intersection of Palla Street is to extended to prohibit right turn movements from Kooringal Ave into the site and similarly right turn movements for exiting traffic. All vehicles will be required to turn into the site or exit the site with a left turn movement only.

Two large gum trees within the road reserve are proposed to be removed to facilitate the construction works under this application.

Further, the application includes a request that:

an exemption to a requirement for a lease agreement from Griffith City Council for the portion of the manoeuvring area which encroaches the road reserve is waived. This is due to the private investment to improve the parking situation at the site, and the encroaching area to be a small part of the manoeuvring area and not the parking spaces.

While the area in question within the road reserve is not excessive, the imposition of a license agreement is to be conditioned as it will remain consistent with other approvals issued by Council which include parking and the like within the road reserve.

ASSESSMENT UNDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT 1979

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

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

Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014

The proposed development is for It is proposed to construct a new vehicle access and hard stand car parking area for ancillary use by an existing dental clinic. Technically, car parks as defined in the Griffith Local Environmental Plan, 2014 and as a standalone land use are prohibited development in the R1 General residential zone. Under the LEP, car parking is defined as:

***car park** means a building or place primarily used for the purpose of parking motor vehicles, including any manoeuvring space and access thereto, whether operated for gain or not.*

In this particular instance, the car park proposed in this application is ancillary to the existing development on the land and is not a sole land use and is therefore permissible.

The subject land is zoned R1 General Residential and under Part 2 Land Use Table of Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014 a health consulting room is development that can only permitted with the consent of Council. On this basis the proposed development is considered permissible.

The car spaces are as provided above, are ancillary and subservient to the dominant land uses on this site.

The objectives for Zone R1 General Residential set down in the Land Use Table are as follows:

- *To provide for the housing needs of the community.*
- *To provide for a variety of housing types and densities.*
- *To enable other land uses that provide facilities or services to meet the day to day needs of residents.*
- *To facilitate development of social and community infrastructure to meet the needs of future residents.*
- *To allow people to carry out a reasonable range of activities from their homes, if such activities do not adversely affect the living environment of neighbours.*

The proposal is not inconsistent with the objectives of the zone and is considered to be permissible development in this zone.

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

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

In addition to the statutory referral process identified in Part F of this report, the notification of the development included the following:

Notification Description	Required	Submission Period
Publication in Council Catchup and on Facebook	yes	22 May 2026 – 5 June 2026
Letters to Neighbours	yes	22 May 2026 – 5 June 2026 Further, submitters were given a week after advising that a response had been received to their submissions to determine whether the additional information changed their submissions or they sought to withdraw them.

External Referrals	Date Sent	Date Received
Murrumbidgee LLS		NA
Murrumbidgee Irrigation		NA
NSW Police (LAC)		NA

As a result of the public participation process, Council received two submissions in response to the notification and referral of the development application. The details of the submissions, which Council has taken into consideration in accordance with section 4.15(1)(d) are as follows:

Issue from Submission; *Applicant Response*; Council Assessment Comment
Issue 1: After Hours Public use & traffic generation *Applicant Response:* *Smile On Griffith Dentist hours of operation are 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday. Use outside of these hours by persons other than staff or patients of the clinic would be unlikely; it would also be trespassing on private property which would be a matter for police. The use of the carpark would not introduce “high frequency vehicle movements”; it would remain the same as present. The proposed new accessway would remove the need for patients to utilise the existing shared driveway, of which has an existing and long-established right of carriageway benefitting both properties at 10a, 10b & 12 Kooringal Avenue. We note that the image of the parked white vehicle provided in the objection is owned by a staff member of the dental clinic (visiting regional manager).* Council’s Assessment Comment: Council concurs that this facility is private property and the owners are able to post signage to the effect and if used unlawfully take their own action as it is not a public carpark.
Issue 2: loss of privacy and amenity *Applicant Response:*

It is unlikely that patients who drive to the dental clinic and park in the car parking area would be in that vicinity for more than a few moments while moving between their vehicle and the clinic entrance on Palla Avenue.

Council Assessment Comment: the boundary between 10 and 12 Kooringal Avenue is unfenced, however if the two property owners seek to fence the boundary adjacent to the right of carriageway they could do that at their own cost. This is not an issue for this development application as the proposal sought does not rely on the right of carriageway for access.

Issue 3: Use of existing driveway servicing the units at 10 Kooringal Ave

Applicant Response: no specific response to this matter

Council Assessment Comment: The right of carriageway which was in place prior to the construction of the dual occupancy on 10 Kooringal Avenue benefits both lots, therefore persons attending both lots have the lawful ability to utilise that driveway. This application seeks to construct a separate entry from Kooringal Ave to service the dental practice alone and it is unlikely that once constructed, future patients will utilise that right of carriageway.

Issue 4: Use of right of carriageway, privacy and numerous other matters relating to the use of the right of carriageway for access to the proposed carpark.

Applicant Response:

Submission 2, has obviously not reviewed the proposed plan, and have referred to the initial, superseded design. Due to a lack of cooperation from the new landowners of 10a & 10b Kooringal Avenue in regards to the use of the shared driveway, the initial design was redesigned to avoid using the exiting shared driveway, as clearly outlined the Statement of Environmental Effects, and to maintain a harmonious relationship with adjoining landowners. All matters raised in this submission are invalid as they are referring to the previous design.

Council's Assessment Comment: The right of carriageway is not being used for access to the proposed car park.

Issue 5: Conditions of consent to be imposed

The submitter has asked that Council impose conditions in relation to:

- Operating hours and installation of gates or physical barriers to prevent access outside of business hours
- Acoustic and visual screening – require the developer to install 1.8m high solid acoustic boundary fence
- Mature landscaping to block sight lines and filter light spill
- Lighting constraints associated with carparking

Applicant Response:

- *Physical barriers: We consider this request unnecessary and unreasonable.*
- *Acoustic and visual screening: We consider this request unnecessary and unreasonable.*
- *Mature landscaping: This request is impossible given sight constraints and existing sealed areas, and is unreasonable.*
- *Lighting constraints: This is reasonable; any lighting installed will not be directed towards neighbouring properties.*
- *The centre island length: This was indicated on the plans as it was specified as a requirement by Council.*

Council Assessment Comment: As the proposed works are separate to the right of carriageway and largely within the property or adjacent road reserve, and the building only operates during standard business hours, it is considered unreasonable to condition acoustic barriers along the common boundary of 10 and 12 Kooringal Avenue.

Because there is a right of carriageway in place which benefits both lots, and that is not impacted by this development application per se, the property owners have the ability to negotiate to have fencing put in place on the common boundary where it does not impinge on the right of carriageway.

As the dental practice does not operate at night, car park lighting is not necessary however, a condition (No. 42) has been included which states:

Any outdoor display and/or security lighting is to be so located or shielded so that no additional light is cast on adjoining land or that it will distract traffic.

Further, a landscape condition (No 14) has been imposed to achieve an enhanced streetscape and screening where possible.

SECTION 4.15 (1)(e) the public interest

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

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

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

Approval with conditions as per recommendation.

OPTION 2

Refusal subject to conditions provided by Council.

OPTION 3

Any other recommendation.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no foreseeable adverse policy implications arising from this recommendation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

There are no significantly unreasonable financial implications arising for Council through supporting this application.

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

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

An applicant has a legal right to make an appeal to the Land & Environment Court if they are unsatisfied with a notice of determination or the conditions of consent.

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

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

There are unlikely to be any detrimental or significantly adverse impacts upon the surrounding built or natural environment as a result of this proposal.

Minor Low Risk: Minimal environmental impact handled internally.

REPUTATION / COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

There are unlikely to be any significant or adverse impacts upon the community as a result of this proposal.

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

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

It is unlikely that this proposal will have an adverse impact on the delivery of Council services.

Minor Low Risk: Nil impact to service delivery.

WHS / HR IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The proposal should not have an adverse impact on WHS if conditions are adhered to during construction and works within the property and road reserve.

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

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

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

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team, Director Sustainable Development, Planning & Environment Manager, Development & Traffic Coordinator, and the community in relation to notification.

ATTACHMENTS

(a) Attachment A - DA 88/2026 - Draft Conditions of Consent (under separate cover)

(b) Attachment B - DA 88/2026 - DA Documents -12 Kooringal Avenue, Griffith (under separate cover)

(c) Attachment C - DA 88/2026 - Submissions (under separate cover)

(d) Attachment D - DA 88/2026 - Response to submissions (under separate cover)

(e) Attachment E - DA88/2026 - Development Assessment Report (under separate cover)

CLAUSE **CL02**

TITLE **Low Cost Loans Initiative - Round 5**

FROM **Matthew Hansen, Director Business, Cultural & Financial Services**

TRIM REF **26/84468**

SUMMARY

This report seeks Council endorsement to submit applications for funding under the Low Cost Loans Initiative – Round 5. The program provides an interest rate subsidy for borrowings for infrastructure that support housing availability

Accessing the LCLI program for the Boorga Road widening, Sewer Pump Stations and Tharbogang Landfill projects is estimated to improve Council's financial position by approximately $1.59 million over the 10-year loan terms, through a combination of subsidised borrowing and retained investment earnings. For Boorga Road and the Sewer Pump Stations, the benefit arises from borrowing at the LCLI-subsidised rate while retaining Council funds in investments, while for the Tharbogang Landfill expansion the benefit is a direct interest saving on debt that Council must incur regardless of the LCLI outcome.

Note: This report does **not** seek approval to borrow. Any borrowing would be the subject of a later report.

RECOMMENDATION

Council approve the lodgement of the following applications for funding under the Sustainable Communities – Business and Industry Round.

(a) Boorga Road widening - $1.39m loan, $223,863 subsidy.

(b) Tharbogang Landfill expansion - $3.2m loan, $166,267 subsidy.

(c) Sewer Pump Stations – Lake Wyangan and Collina - $1m loan, $532,055 subsidy.

REPORT

Background

The NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure has opened Round 5 of the Low Cost Loans Initiative (LCLI), offering $12 million to eligible regional councils and county councils. Griffith City Council is a listed eligible council.

The program reimburses up to 50% of interest costs on new loans (minimum $1 million, fixed rate, maximum 20-year term) taken out to fund critical local infrastructure that enables new housing supply — e.g., roads, water/sewer works, drainage, land acquisition, or community facilities such as parks and libraries.

Loans must be new (not refinanced), fund capital works only, and relate to projects not yet under construction. Council must meet Office of Local Government financial reporting requirements and demonstrate the infrastructure directly enables housing (via Contributions Plan inclusion or a servicing strategy/business case).

Council may lodge separate applications for separate, unrelated infrastructure projects (each requiring its own loan). Projects with a co-contribution from Section 7.11/7.12 (formerly s94) or Section 64 developer contributions, and those enabling housing delivery by 30 June 2029, will be prioritised.

Applications open 28 May 2026, close 31 August 2026 (via SmartyGrants), with outcomes expected by end of December 2026.

Council has several LCLI loans in place at present, including:

- Collina
- Griffin Green

Given Griffith's prior success and multiple eligible infrastructure needs, staff recommend Council commit to preparing more than one application ahead of the closing date.

Applications

Boorga Road widening

Loan:	**$1.39m**
Term:	**10 years**
Total interest payable:	**$445,726**
Subsidy sought:	**$223,000**

Rationale: This loan is proposed to fund Council's committed co-contribution to the Boorga Road widening project in its successful Sustainable Communities Round 2 application.

Council's existing plan is to fund this co-contribution from its existing capital works budget. A successful application would allow Council to fund this co-contribution via a subsidised loan. Repayments will be funded from Council's capital budget for road construction.

Note: This application is already under development, to fit in with staff availability to prepare the application.

Tharbogang Landfill - expansion

Loan:	**$3.2m**
Term:	**10 years**
Total interest payable:	**$1,604,110**
Subsidy sought:	**$532,055**

Rationale: This loan is proposed to fund development of the new Tharbogang Landfill.

Council's existing plan is to fund this via a loan, which has been included in the 2026/27 Operational Plan and Budget. A successful application will allow Council to access a subsidised loan. Council will need to link the project to enabling new housing. The loan is funded from increased revenue from landfill operations to capture the whole-of-life costs of the facility.

Note: This application is not yet under preparation.

Sewer Pump Stations – Lake Wyangan and Collina

Loan:	**$1m**
Term:	**10 years**
Total interest payable:	**$332,534**

Subsidy sought: **$166,267**

Rationale: This loan is proposed to fund construction of new sewer pump stations to support new development in.

Council’s existing plan is to fund these works from its sewer contributions reserve. A successful application will allow Council to access a subsidised loan. Repayments would be funded by developers as a contribution to forward-funded infrastructure.

Note: This application is not yet under preparation.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

The recommendation as written – submit applications for all three projects.

OPTION 2

Submit applications for one or two of the projects.

OPTION 3

Do not submit any applications.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The proposed applications comply with Council Policy FS-CP-605 Incoming Grants and Sponsorship.

Any later decision to borrow should be informed by Council Policy FS-CP-704 Treasury Policy on Loan Borrowings.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Accessing the LCLI program for these works has significant financial advantages for Council.

Council's quoted borrowing rate from TCorp is approximately 5.81% per annum. This is Council's standard cost of debt and is not specific to the LCLI program. Under the LCLI program, Council can access a grant subsidy covering 50% of the interest cost on eligible loans, reducing Council's effective (net) cost of borrowing on these projects to approximately 2.9% per annum.

Council currently earns approximately 4.8% per annum on funds held in fixed-interest investments. Where Council would otherwise fund a project from its own cash reserves or existing budget allocations, borrowing under the LCLI program instead allows those funds to remain invested, earning a return that exceeds the discounted cost of the loan.

The financial benefit to Council therefore arises from the spread between the subsidised borrowing rate (≈2.9%) and Council's investment return (≈4.8%) for every dollar borrowed under the subsidy rather than drawn from reserves or existing budgets, Council earns more on the retained funds than it pays in net interest on the loan. This benefit accrues over the full term of each loan.

This logic applies consistently across all three projects, regardless of the funding source used to service loan repayments (general income, developer contributions, or user revenue), the repayment source affects who services the debt, not the underlying investment-versus-borrowing cost differential that generates the benefit.

For Boorga Road and the Sewer Pump Stations, Council has a genuine choice between funding the project from its own reserves/existing budget or borrowing under LCLI. For these two projects, the benefit is an arbitrage gain: the difference between the subsidised borrowing rate (≈2.9%) and the return foregone by not keeping those funds invested (≈4.8%).

The Tharbogang Landfill expansion is different: Council does not have the funds available and must borrow for this project regardless of whether the LCLI application succeeds. There is no reserve sitting idle to compare against, so the benefit is not an arbitrage gain. Instead, it is a direct interest saving — the difference between borrowing at Council's standard TCorp rate (5.81%) and borrowing the same amount at the LCLI-subsidised rate (≈2.9%). This benefit equals the value of the 50% interest subsidy itself and is arguably a more certain benefit, as it does not rely on an assumption about investment returns Council would otherwise have earned.

Project	**Loan**	**Term (yrs)**	**Interest payable**	**Subsidy sought (50%)**	**Net financing cost**	**Estimated 10-year financial benefit**
Boorga Road widening	$1,390,000	10	$445,726	$222,863	$222,863	≈ $612,500
Sewer Pump Stations – Lake Wyangan and Collina	$1,000,000	10	$332,534	$166,267	$166,267	≈ $440,600
Tharbogang Landfill expansion[1]	$3,200,000	10	$1,064,110	$532,055	$532,055	$532,055
Total	**$5,590,000**		**$1,842,370**	**$921,185**	**$921,185**	**≈ $1,585,155**

1. No arbitrage benefit as there are no Waste reserve funds available to invest

Accessing subsidised loan funding for all three projects is estimated to leave Council approximately $1.59 million better off over the respective 10-year loan terms. Of this, approximately $1.05 million (Boorga Road and the Sewer Pump Stations) arises from the arbitrage between the subsidised borrowing rate and Council's investment returns, where Council would otherwise have funded the works from reserves or existing budget. The remaining approximately $532,000 (Tharbogang Landfill) represents a direct interest saving on debt Council must raise regardless of the LCLI outcome, and is not contingent on foregone investment returns.

It should be noted that the figures above are estimates based on Council's current TCorp borrowing rate and investment return, and are subject to confirmation at the time each application is finalised. Applications for the Tharbogang Landfill and Sewer Pump Stations projects are not yet under preparation, and their figures should be treated as preliminary pending further development of those business cases.

Note: Council will need to ensure it is in a position to make repayments throughout the life of the loans, even if developer contributions etc. are not received in sufficient quantities.

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

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Applying for and accepting the grant doesn't exempt Council from having to seek approval for new borrowings.

Council will need to make a separate resolution to borrow when the funds are required.

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

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Not applicable

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

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

CLAUSE **CL03**

TITLE **Endorsement of Australia Day Policy for Public Exhibition**

FROM **Shireen Donaldson, Director Economic & Organisational Development**

TRIM REF **26/86955**

SUMMARY

A Notice of Motion was submitted by Cr Shari Blumer at the 28 July Meeting of Council requesting a review of the Australia Day policy.

Draft amendments have been made to the existing Policy to include the proposal that two new categories are added to the Awards granted by Council in the Australia Day awards program. Other amendments have also been included for endorsement.

It is proposed the draft policy be endorsed and made available for public exhibition, allowing community members the opportunity to provide feedback through formal submissions.

RECOMMENDATION

(a) Council endorse the draft Australia Day Policy, as attached to the report, for public exhibition for 28 days.

(b) If submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.

(c) If no submissions are received, the draft Australia Day Policy be considered as adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.

REPORT

Nil

OPTIONS

As per the Recommendation.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report proposes new additions and amendments to Council's existing Australia Day Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A small budget is allocated annually for Australia Day celebrations. Council also applies for specific Australia Day grant funding to supplement this budget.

LEGAL/STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

The community may provide submissions during the public exhibition period.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

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

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

(a)	Draft (GOV-CP-401) Australia Day Awards Policy - Public Policy - Economic and Organisational Development ⇩	42

Australia Day Awards GOV-CP-401

(PUBLIC POLICY)

1 Policy History

Revision No.	Council Meeting Date	Minute No.	Adoption Date
1	26/03/2008	347	26/03/2008
2	11/05/2010	0142	11/05/2010
3	08/03/2011	0063	08/03/2011
4	11/11/2014	0390	11/11/2014
5	08/09/2015	15/276	22/09/2015
6	11/09/2018	18/284	12/10/2018
7	11/10/2022	22/257	11/10/2022

2 Policy Objectives

To manage and administer Griffith City Council's annual Australia Day Awards and Griffith City Sports Council Awards program.

To establish the nomination process, eligibility and selection criteria, and assessment process for Council's Australia Day Awards and Griffith City Sports Council Awards.

To establish the composition of the Australia Day Awards Community Selection Panel & Griffith City Sports Council Sports Awards.

3 Policy Statement

Griffith City Council holds an annual Australia Day Awards ceremony to honour individuals and groups who have made an outstanding contribution to the Griffith community.

The Australia Day Awards program includes a Citizenship Ceremony, Mayor's Local Hero Award, Australia Day Awards and Griffith City Sports Council Sports Awards.

Australia Day Awards can include any or all of the following categories:
Citizen of the Year;
Young Citizen of the Year;
Junior Citizen of the Year;
Environmental Citizen of the Year;
Young Environmental Citizen of the Year; and
Community Project of the Year.
Arts and Cultural Contribution Award
Arts and Cultural Event of the Year.

Griffith City Sports Council Sports Awards can include any or all of the following categories:
Sportsperson of the Year;

Young Sportsperson of the Year;
Sports Team of the Year;
Club Person of the Year; and
Overall Sportsperson of the Year.

Nominations for all Australia Day and Sports Awards are accepted via the Griffith City Council website online nomination portal.

The Australia Day Awards Community Selection Panel will select the winner of each category in the Australia Day Awards.

The Griffith City Sports Council will select the winner of each sporting category.

The Mayor presiding at the Australia Day Awards Ceremony will select the Mayor's Local Hero Award.

Council staff are responsible for the operational planning, administration and delivery of the Australia Day ceremony and related events.

4 Selection & Eligibility Criteria

Australia Day Awards - The criteria used to assess nominations is documented below:

Award	Selection Criteria	Eligibility Criteria
Citizen of the Year	▪ The Award must be for outstanding, high calibre achievement in relation to community activities undertaken by the individual. ▪ Supporting evidence and statements must be included for consideration. ▪ Can be a previous unsuccessful Nominee.	▪ Nominee must be an Australian Citizen. ▪ Nominee must be a resident of the Griffith Local Government Area. ▪ Nominee must not have received this Award previously for the same achievement/s. ▪ Nominee must not be a current employee of Griffith City Council nominated for duties performed during paid employment. ▪ Nominee must not be a current Councillor, or Federal or State politician. ▪ Nominee must not be a current member of the

		Australia Day Awards Community Selection Panel or Griffith Sports Council. ▪ Posthumous nominations will not be accepted.
Young Citizen of the Year	▪ The Award must be for outstanding high calibre achievement in relation to community activities undertaken by the individual. ▪ Consideration will be given to school activities undertaken with community involvement. ▪ Supporting evidence and statements must be included for consideration. ▪ Can be a previous unsuccessful Nominee.	▪ Nominee must be an Australian Citizen. ▪ Nominee must be a resident of the Griffith Local Government Area. ▪ Nominee must be between the ages of 18 and 25 years and as at 26 January in the year the Award is presented if the Award is run in conjunction with the Junior Citizen of the Year. ▪ If the Award is the only "Young" Award presented, the nominee must under 25 years as at 26 January in the year the Award is presented. ▪ Nominee must not have received this Award previously for the same achievement/s. ▪ Nominee must not be a current employee of Griffith City Council nominated for duties performed during paid employment. ▪ Nominee must not be a current Councillor, or Federal or State politician. ▪ Nominee must not be a current member of the Australia Day Awards Community Selection Panel or Griffith Sports Council. ▪ Posthumous nominations will not be accepted.

Junior Citizen of the Year	▪ The Award must be for outstanding high calibre achievement in relation to community activities undertaken by the individual. ▪ Nominee must be at or under the age of 17 as at 26 January in the year the Award is presented if the Award is run in conjunction with the Young Citizen of the Year. ▪ Consideration will be given to school activities undertaken with community involvement. ▪ Supporting evidence and statements must be included for consideration. ▪ Can be a previous unsuccessful Nominee.	▪ Nominee must be an Australian Citizen. ▪ Nominee must be a resident of the Griffith Local Government Area. ▪ Nominees must be under 17 years as at 26 January in the year the Award is presented. ▪ Nominee must not have received this Award previously. ▪ Nominee must not have received this Award previously for the same achievement/s. ▪ Nominee must not be a current employee of Griffith City Council nominated for duties performed during paid employment. ▪ Nominee must not be a current Councillor, or Federal or State politician. ▪ Nominee must not be a current member of the Australia Day Awards Community Selection Panel or Griffith Sports Council. ▪ Posthumous nominations will not be accepted.
Community Project of the Year	▪ The Award must be for a community project organised by four (4) or more volunteers. The Project may provide a service to the community by: - raising funds for a community charity, event or project; - conducting a successful project, event or activity; or	▪ Nominated Projects must be conducted within the Griffith Local Government Area. ▪ Nominated Projects must not have received this Award previously. ▪ Nominated Projects must not be a current project of Griffith City Council nominated for projects performed during paid employment.

	- bringing recognition and credit to the community through a cultural, environmental or sporting event. ▪ Supporting evidence and statements must be included for consideration.	▪ Nominated Projects must not be affiliated with a current Councillor, or Federal or State politician. ▪ Nominated projects must not be affiliated with a current member of the Australia Day Awards Community Selection Panel or Griffith Sports Council.
Environmental Citizen of the Year	▪ The Award must be for outstanding high calibre achievement in relation to environmentally related community activities undertaken by the individual.	▪ Nominee must be an Australian Citizen. ▪ Nominee must be a resident of the Griffith Local Government Area. ▪ Nominee must not have received this Award previously for the same achievement/s.
Young Environmental Citizen of the Year	▪ The Award must be for outstanding high calibre achievement in relation to environmentally related community activities undertaken by the individual.	▪ Nominee must be an Australian Citizen. ▪ Nominee must be a resident of the Griffith Local Government Area. ▪ Nominee must be under 25 years as at 26 January in the year the Award is presented. ▪ Nominee must not have received this Award previously for the same achievement/s.
Arts and Cultural Contribution Award	▪ To recognise an individual, community group or organisation that has made a significant contribution to the artistic, cultural or creative life of the Griffith Local Government Area. Nominations may be assessed by considering contribution to arts, culture, creativity or heritage; community participation,	▪ Nominees may include individuals, community groups, not-for-profit organisations, cultural organisations or other organisations that have made a demonstrable contribution within the Griffith Local Government Area. Nominees must not be current employees of Griffith City Council nominated for duties

	inclusion and engagement; promotion of cultural understanding; positive impact on community wellbeing, identity or pride; leadership, commitment, innovation or inspiration; and opportunities created for others to participate in arts, culture or creative activities.	performed during paid employment. Nominees must not be current Councillors, Federal or State politicians, or current members of the Australia Day Awards Community Selection Panel or Griffith Sports Council. Supporting evidence and statements must be included for consideration.
Arts and Cultural Event of the Year	▪ To recognise an event, exhibition, performance, festival or initiative that has enriched the artistic, cultural or creative life of the Griffith Local Government Area. Nominations may be assessed by considering contribution to arts, culture, heritage, creativity or cultural diversity; community participation, accessibility and inclusiveness; positive social, cultural or community impact; innovation, collaboration or community partnerships; and enhancement of community connection, pride and community spirit.	▪ Nominated events must have been held within the Griffith Local Government Area or have delivered a clear and direct benefit for the Griffith community. Events may be community-led, not-for-profit, commercial or partnership-based where the nomination demonstrates a primary public benefit and meaningful community access or participation. Council-run events and events delivered by Council staff as part of paid employment should not be eligible unless Council resolves otherwise. Supporting evidence and statements must be included for consideration.
Sports Awards		
Junior Sportsperson of the Year Sportsperson of the Year Club Person of the Year Team of the Year	▪ The Award must be for outstanding high calibre achievement in relation to sporting achievement undertaken by the individual or team.	▪ Nominees must be an Australian Citizen. ▪ Nominees must be a resident of the Griffith Local Government Area. ▪ Winners of Award categories in previous years are eligible for re-nomination in the same category.

Overall Sportsperson of the Year		

5 Award Winner Selection Panels

Composition of the Australia Day Awards Community Selection Panel

An Australia Day Awards Community Selection Panel will be established to assess nominations received for the Australia Day Awards. Each representative will vote on each Award. The role of any selection panel or appointed representative is limited to judging, recommendations and/or ceremonial duties as determined by Council.
The composition of the Selection Panel will be:

a) The Mayor.

b) The Deputy Mayor.

c) One additional Councillor as resolved by Councillors.

d) One past Australia Day Awards winner (immediate past Citizen of the Year preferred).

~~e) One representative from the local multicultural community.~~

f) Three community representatives with relevant multicultural, Aboriginal community, youth, disability access, volunteering, local arts, culture, heritage, or community sector experience. Council may invite input from relevant Aboriginal community organisations or representatives where appropriate, including in relation to culturally significant nominations or events.

~~g) One representative from the local Wiradjuri community.~~

h) Where nominations include specialist arts, cultural, heritage or event matters, Council may appoint or invite one additional non-voting adviser or voting panel member with relevant expertise.

Community Selection Panel Practices

All members of the Selection Panel are required to anonymously vote in each Award category utilising Council's Voting Form template (Council Reference CM: 15/47093).

The Selection Panel is responsible for assessment and recommendation of award recipients only.
A conflict of interest with one entrant in a particular category shall eliminate that member of the selection panel from voting on that whole category.

The nominee achieving the highest calculated score shall be the winner of the Award category. In the event of a tie, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor will determine the winner.

Composition of Griffith City Sports Council Awards Selection Panel

Selection Panel members for all Sports Awards will be determined by the Executive of the Griffith City Sports Council.

Confidentiality

Winners from each Award category (including of Sporting Awards) must be kept confidential until the Award is presented at the ceremony. All persons must adhere to Council's Code of Conduct regarding confidentiality.

6 Submission of Nominations

Submission of Nominations

Nominations are typically called for in mid-October with a closing date to be nominated.
All nominations for all Awards (Australia Day and Sports Awards) must be lodged via the Griffith City Council online nomination portal by the advertised closing date. Advertising of the online nomination portal is to be made known in The Area News and on Council's website.

All sections of the nomination form are to be completed for the nomination to be eligible. Information detailing the achievements and work of the nominee must be submitted with the nomination form.

No late nominations will be accepted.

A list of all eligible nominees will be published on the Council's website and social media channels in January.

Name and contact details of nominators will be kept confidential.

Ineligible Nominations

Nominations that are not ~~do not meet the eligibility and selection criteria~~ received via the online nomination portal with appropriate supporting information will not be considered.

7 Breaches of the Policy

All breaches of this policy should be reported to the General Manager in writing. Breaches of this policy will be investigated and dealt with by the General Manager and may involve referral to Council's Code of Conduct.

8 Related Documents

Policy: GOV-CP-404 – Code of Conduct

Policy: COMM-CP-401 – Statements to the Media

15/47093 - Voting Matrix
- Awards Administration Checklist
- Voting Guidelines
- Voting Form

9 Directorate

Economic and Organisational Development

CLAUSE CL04

TITLE Endorsement of Financial Assistance Policy for Public Exhibition & Adoption of Community Grant and Event Sponsorship Guidelines

FROM Shireen Donaldson, Director Economic & Organisational Development

TRIM REF 26/86956

SUMMARY

A Notice of Motion was submitted by Councillor Mark Dal Bon requesting a review of the existing Community Grant Program Policy. This has prompted a review of all Policies that deal with Council granting funds to the community, businesses and individuals.

A new draft Policy has been created that references all community, business, individual and sponsorship funding streams. Corresponding Guidelines for each funding stream have also been created.

It is proposed the draft policy be endorsed and made available for public exhibition, allowing community members the opportunity to provide feedback through formal submissions.

RECOMMENDATION

(a) Council endorse the draft Financial Assistance Policy, as attached to the report, for public exhibition for 28 days.

(b) If submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.

(c) If no submissions are received, the draft Financial Assistance Policy be considered as adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.

(d) Council endorse the associated Guidelines for Community Assistance, Sponsorship of Events and Business Assistance.

REPORT

Nil.

OPTIONS

As per the Recommendation.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report proposes a new Financial Assistance Policy to administer and oversee all Council grant funding streams

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Every year, Council adopts a budget tied to community funding, business assistance funding and sponsorship of events funding. This Policy and associated Guidelines provide delegation to the General Manager to arbitrate and finalise requests that meet the relevant eligibility criteria as adopted by Council

LEGAL/STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

A per Section 356 – Provision of Financial Assistance of the *Local Government Act 1993*

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS

The community may provide submissions during the public exhibition period.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

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

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

(a) Draft Financial Assistance Policy (under separate cover)

(b) Draft Guidelines - Community Grants Program (under separate cover)

(c) Draft Guidelines - Event Sponsorship & Promotion (under separate cover)

(d) Draft Guidelines - Small Business Financial Assistance Program (under separate cover)

(e) Draft Guidelines - Community Organisation Rate Subsidy Guidelines (under separate cover)

Griffith City Council REPORT

CLAUSE **CL05**

TITLE **Endorsement of GRALC - Patron Conduct and Access Policy for Public Exhibition**

FROM **Matthew Hansen, Director Business, Cultural & Financial Services**

TRIM REF **26/88543**

SUMMARY

This report proposes a revised Pools – Authority of Management Policy for endorsement by Council for public exhibition. The revision includes a new title (GRALC - Patron Conduct and Access Policy) to better reflect the content and intent of the policy.

This policy provides a framework for management to control access to and from the Griffith Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre (GRALC).

RECOMMENDATION

(a) Council endorse the draft GRALC – Patron Conduct and Access Policy (previously titled Pools – Authority of Management Policy), as attached to the report, for public exhibition for 28 days.

(b) If submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.

(c) If no submissions are received, the draft GRALC – Patron Conduct and Access Policy be considered as adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.

REPORT

The current Pools – Authority of Management Policy has been subject to a comprehensive review to improve clarity, consistency with contemporary governance practice, and alignment with Council's strategic policies on child safety and disability inclusion.

The revised policy introduces the following improvements:

1. Policy title and focus

The policy is renamed GRALC – Patron Conduct and Access' to more clearly reflect its content and intent. The original title 'Authority of Management' described the internal mechanism of authority rather than the patron-facing subject matter. The new title uses plain language and signals the policy's focus on the standards expected of patrons and the circumstances under which entry can be refused or a patron banned from a facility.

2. Restructured policy statement

The policy statement is reorganised into three clear, logical sections:

a) Principles (the core rules and standards for patron conduct and facility access),

b) Delegated authority (the legal basis of the GRALC Manager's powers under the *Local Government Act 1993*), and

c) Record keeping (requirements for documentation and personal information handling).

3. Delegated authority framework

The revised policy explicitly links the GRALC Manager's authority to Council's delegation made under the *Local Government Act 1993* recorded in Council's register of delegations, improving transparency and governance compliance.

4. Record keeping and privacy

New requirements for recording all decisions to refuse entry, remove, or ban a patron, with specifications for record content and storage. Includes obligations under the *State Records Act 1998* and *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*, ensuring decisions are documented and justifiable.

5. Terminology update

The title 'Leisure Services Manager' is replaced throughout with 'GRALC Manager' to reflect current operational titles and clarity.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

The recommendation as written.

OPTION 2

Any other recommendation of Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The revised policy is simpler to read and better aligns with Council’s policy aims.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Nil

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

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The revised policy makes existing compliance requirements explicit.

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

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Not applicable

Minor Low Risk: Minimal environmental impact handled internally.

REPUTATION / COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The revised policy framework and strengthened compliance framework should assist with managing reputational risk.

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

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Not applicable.

Minor Low Risk: Nil impact to service delivery.

WHS / HR IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The revised policy shouldn't impact the management of threats to staff safety related to patron conduct.

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

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

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

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

GRALC management

ATTACHMENTS

(a)	LS-CP-101 Pools - Authority of Management - Public Policy (Current) ⇩	56
(b)	LS-CP-101 Pools - Patron Conduct and Access - Public Policy (redraft) ⇩	58

Pools – Authority of Management
LS-CP-101

(PUBLIC POLICY)

1 Policy History

Revision No.	Council Meeting Date	Minute No.	Adoption Date
1	Before 24/04/1990	-	Before 24/04/1990
2	14/01/2003	25	14/01/2003
3	14/03/2006	92	14/03/2006
4	11/05/2010	0142	11/05/2010
5	27/01/2015	15/005	27/01/2015
6	13/02/2018	18/046	16/03/2018
7	14/06/2022	22/151	15/07/2022

2 Policy Objective

To grant the Leisure Services Manager sufficient authority to deal with patrons who are causing a public nuisance.

3 Policy Statement

3.1 The Leisure Services Manager shall have the authority to ban admittance to Council pools of persons guilty of misbehaviour or those not adhering to the established Pool rules.

3.2 Council support decisions made by the Leisure Services Manager by endorsing appropriate banning times depending on the individual situation.

3.3 Refund of admission or entry fees will be refused to persons asked to leave the facility by Leisure services staff.

3.4 Patrons are asked to comply with the Centre rules and the direction of staff at all times.

3.5 That all children under ten years must be accompanied and supervised by a responsible person or guardian who is at least sixteen years of age.

4 Definitions

None

5 Exceptions

None

6 Legislation

None

7 Related Documents

None

8 Directorate

Business Cultural and Financial Services

GRALC - Patron Conduct and Access

LS-CP-101

(PUBLIC POLICY)

1 Policy History

Revision No.	Council Meeting Date	Minute No.	Adoption Date
1	Before 24/04/1990	-	Before 24/04/1990
2	14/01/2003	25	14/01/2003
3	14/03/2006	92	14/03/2006
4	11/05/2010	0142	11/05/2010
5	27/01/2015	15/005	27/01/2015
6	13/02/2018	18/046	16/03/2018
7	14/06/2022	22/151	15/07/2022
8	11/08/2026	xx/xxxx	dd/mm/yyyy

2 Policy Objective

This policy provides a framework for management to control access to and from the Griffith Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre (GRALC)

The policy confirms the authority of the GRALC Manager, acting under delegation from the General Manager, to manage patron conduct at Council's aquatic facility – including giving directions, refusing entry, and banning patrons – so that the facility remains safe, orderly and welcoming for all patrons and staff, and to ensure that decisions made under this authority are properly recorded.

3 Policy Statement

3.1 Principles

1. Council's aquatic facility is to be safe, orderly and welcoming for all patrons and staff. Patrons must comply with the facility rules and the reasonable directions of staff at all times.
2. The GRALC Manager is authorised to refuse admittance to, remove from, or ban from the facility any person who behaves inappropriately, engages in misconduct, or does not comply with the facility rules or the directions of staff.
3. Council supports and endorses decisions made by the GRALC Manager under this policy, including the setting of banning periods appropriate to the circumstances of each case.
4. A refund of admission or entry fees will not be given to a person who is asked to leave, is removed from, or is refused further entry to the facility for a breach of the facility rules or the directions of staff.

5. Children under ten (10) years of age must be accompanied and supervised at all times by a responsible person or guardian who is at least sixteen (16) years of age.

3.2 Delegated authority

1. The authority exercised by the GRALC Manager under this policy is conferred through Council's delegations of authority, made by the General Manager under section 378 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and recorded in Council's register of delegations.
2. The GRALC Manager may authorise other GRALC staff to give directions, refuse entry, and remove patrons on their behalf, consistent with Council's delegations framework.
3. Directions, refusals and bans must be exercised reasonably, proportionately, and without unlawful discrimination.

3.3 Record keeping

1. Every decision to refuse entry to, remove, or ban a patron must be recorded. The record is to include (where known) the patron's name and contact details, the date and time, the reason for the decision, the staff member who made or authorised it, and the length of any ban imposed.
2. These records are to be created and retained in Council's records management system in accordance with Council's records management policy.
3. Personal information collected under this policy must be handled in accordance with Council's privacy obligations under the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*.

4 Definitions

Ban	a decision to refuse a patron entry to a facility for a specified period.
Delegation	an authority conferred by the General Manager under section 378 of the *Local Government Act 1993*
Facility rules	the conditions of entry and rules of conduct that are displayed at, or that otherwise apply to, a facility.
GRALC	Griffith Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre
Patron	any person who enters a facility.

5 Exceptions

Any exception to this policy requires the approval of the General Manager or their delegate.

6 Legislation

- *Local Government Act 1993* – including section 378 (delegation by the General Manager).
- •*Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* (NSW).

7 Related Documents

- Council's Instrument and Register of Delegations.
- GRALC facility rules / conditions of entry.

8 Directorate

Business, Cultural and Financial Services.

Griffith City Council REPORT

CLAUSE **CL06**

TITLE **Endorsement of GRALC - Pool Admission Fees Policy for Public Exhibition**

FROM **Matthew Hansen, Director Business, Cultural & Financial Services**

TRIM REF **26/88553**

SUMMARY

This report proposes a revised Pools – Admission Fees Policy for endorsement by Council for public exhibition. The title of the policy has changed to GRALC – Pool Admission Fees Policy in the interests of clarity and consistency.

The content and intent of the policy is unchanged.

RECOMMENDATION

(a) Council endorse the draft GRALC – Pool Admission Fees Policy (previously titled Pools – Admission Fees Policy), as attached to the report, for public exhibition for 28 days.

(b) If submissions are received, a further report be prepared for Council.

(c) If no submissions are received, the draft GRALC – Pool Admission Fees Policy be considered as adopted by Council as at the date of the conclusion of the advertised exhibition period.

REPORT

The current Pools – Admission Fees Policy has been subject to a high-level review to improve clarity.

The content and intent of the policy has not changed however the layout has changed from a series of dot points to two clear sections – Principles and Exceptions. The title has also been changed in the interests of clarity and consistency.

The revised policy is intended to be simpler to read and interpret.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

The recommendation as written.

OPTION 2

Any other recommendation.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The revised policy is simpler to read and better aligns with Council's policy aims.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Nil

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

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

No change

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

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Not applicable

Minor Low Risk: Minimal environmental impact handled internally.

REPUTATION / COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Improved clarity should see fewer misunderstandings with the public.

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

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Not applicable

Minor Low Risk: Nil impact to service delivery.

WHS / HR IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Not applicable

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

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

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

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

GRALC management

ATTACHMENTS

(a)	LS-CP-301 Pool - Admission Fees - Public Policy (Current) ⇩	63
(b)	LS-CP-301 Pool - Admission Fees - Public Policy (Redraft) ⇩	65

Pools – Admission Fees LS-CP-301
(PUBLIC POLICY)

1 Policy History

Revision No.	Council Meeting Date	Minute No.	Adoption Date
1	Before 24/04/1990	-	Before 24/04/1990
2	14/01/2003	25	14/01/2003
3	14/03/2006	92	14/03/2006
4	11/05/2010	0142	11/05/2010
5	27/01/2015	15/005	27/01/2015
6	13/02/2018	18/046	16/03/2018
7	14/06/2022	22/151	15/07/2022

2 Policy Objective

To establish that all patrons of Council's pools although not necessarily intending to swim, are required to pay an entrance fee.

3 Policy Statement

3.1 Spectators who wish to stay for a period of time at the Aquatic Leisure Centre irrespective of whether intending to swim or not, are required to pay an established admission fee.

3.2 Carers of people with disabilities, special needs or those rehabilitating are allowed free access to the facility to assist and safeguard those in their care.

3.3 Parents or guardians of children in the swim school are admitted free of charge to supervise those in their direct care.

3.4 Parents or guardians of those involved in swim squads are admitted free to watch, assist with time trials and supervise those in their care.

3.5 Teachers assisting with school functions within the facility are not required to pay entry fee.

3.6 Tours, visitors to the area wishing to look at the facility are not required to pay entry fee.

3.7 Parents or guardians wishing to pick up their children from classes, birthdays or lessons are not required to pay admission fees.

3.8 Deliveries, contractors and service providers are not required to pay admission fees.

3.9 Parents or guardians supervising children under the age of five years must pay the appropriate entry fee to utilise the facility.

4 Definitions

None

5 Exceptions

None

6 Legislation

None

7 Related Documents

None

8 Directorate

Business Cultural and Financial Services

GRALC – Pool Admission Fees LS-CP-301
(PUBLIC POLICY)

1 Policy History

Revision No.	Council Meeting Date	Minute No.	Adoption Date
1	Before 24/04/1990	-	Before 24/04/1990
2	14/01/2003	25	14/01/2003
3	14/03/2006	92	14/03/2006
4	11/05/2010	0142	11/05/2010
5	27/01/2015	15/005	27/01/2015
6	13/02/2018	18/046	16/03/2018
7	14/06/2022	22/151	15/07/2022
8	11/08/2026	xx/xxxx	dd/mm/yyyy

2 Policy Objective

This policy confirm that Griffith City Council operates the Griffith Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre (GRALC) on a user pays basis, under which all patrons who enter a facility are required to pay the applicable admission fee whether or not they intend to swim, while providing a clear and consistent set of exemptions for people whose presence is necessary to support the safety, supervision, inclusion or operation of the facility.

3 Policy Statement

3.1 Principles

a) Council provides and maintains its aquatic facilities on a user pays basis. The cost of operating the facilities is recovered, in part, through admission fees paid by those who use and benefit from them.

b) All patrons who enter a facility are required to pay the admission fee set in Council's adopted Revenue Policy, whether or not they intend to swim. This includes spectators who wish to remain at the facility for a period of time.

c) A parent or guardian who enters a facility to supervise a child under five years of age using the facility is required to pay the applicable admission fee.

d) Admission fees are set by Council each year through its adopted Revenue Policy and are applied consistently to all patrons, except those expressly exempted under clause 3.2.

e) Exemptions from admission fees are limited to the circumstances listed in clause 3.2, which are those where a person's presence is required to support the safety, supervision, inclusion or operation of the facility. This reflects Council's commitment to accessible and inclusive services under its Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP), and to the safety and wellbeing of children under its Child Safe Policy and the Child Safe Standards.

3.2 Exemptions

The following persons are not required to pay an admission fee:

a) Carers – a person accompanying a patron with disability, special needs, or a patron undergoing rehabilitation, where the carer's presence is required to assist and safeguard the person in their care. This exemption supports equitable access consistent with Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP).
b) Supervising parents or guardians of swim school participants – a parent or guardian admitted to directly supervise a child enrolled in the swim school.
c) Supervising parents or guardians of swim squad participants – a parent or guardian attending to watch, assist with time trials, or supervise a child participating in a swim squad.
d) Teachers and school supervisors – teachers and other school staff supervising or assisting with a school activity conducted within the facility.
e) Persons dropping off or collecting children – a parent or guardian who enters only to drop off or collect a child from a class, lesson, squad, or birthday function, and who does not otherwise use the facility.
f) Visitors and tour groups – persons viewing or touring the facility who do not use its services.
g) Deliveries, contractors and service providers – persons entering solely to make a delivery or to provide a contracted or maintenance service to the facility.

The exemptions in clauses 3.2(b), (c) and (e) recognise the important role of parents and guardians in supervising and safeguarding children, consistent with Council's Child Safe Policy and the Child Safe Standards. These exemptions are not intended to reduce the level of supervision required of parents, guardians or carers while at the facility.

4 Definitions

Admission fee	the entry fee for a facility as set out in Council's adopted Revenue Policy.
Aquatic facility (facility)	a swimming pool or aquatic leisure centre owned or operated by Council, including GRALC.
Carer	a person who provides care, support or assistance to a patron with disability, special needs, or a patron undergoing rehabilitation.
DIAP	Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan, prepared under the *Disability Inclusion Act 2014*
GRALC	Griffith Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre

Patron	any person who enters a facility.
User pays	the principle that the cost of a service is met, in whole or in part, by those who use and benefit from it.

5 Exceptions

Any exception to this policy, beyond the exemptions listed in clause 3.2, requires the approval of the General Manager or their delegate.

6 Legislation

- *Local Government Act 1993* – including the provisions enabling Council to charge fees for services.
- *Disability Inclusion Act 2014*
- *Children's Guardian Act 2019*– Child Safe Standards.

7 Related Documents

- Griffith City Council Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP).
- Griffith City Council Child Safe Policy.
- Council's adopted Revenue Policy.

8 Directorate

Business, Cultural and Financial Services.

CLAUSE CL07

TITLE Policies for Revocation

FROM Matthew Hansen, Director Business, Cultural & Financial Services

TRIM REF 26/87734

SUMMARY

This report proposes the Council revoke a range of policies managed by the Business Cultural and Financial Services directorate. These policies are either outdated, superseded, not in practical use or relate to operational matters.

This forms part of a comprehensive assessment of all policies within the Business, Cultural and Financial Services directorate. As a matter of better practice, public policies should be reviewed at least once during each Council term. The appointment of a new Director is an opportunity to undertake a detailed examination of all directorate policies to ensure they remain relevant, effective and aligned with Council's objectives.

RECOMMENDATION

Council revoke the following policies:

1. **FS-CP-301 Cheques Not to be Post Dated**
2. **FS-CP-501 Council Services – All Users to be Charged**
3. **FS-CP-602 Government Subsidies**
4. **FS-CP-605 Incoming Grants and Sponsorship**
5. **CS-CP-602 Completion and Processing of Petty Cash Reimbursements**
6. **FS-CP-307 Fuel Card Policy – Correct Usage of Council Fuel Cards**
7. **FS-CP-702 Loans for Community Organisations & Sporting Bodies**

REPORT

The following policies are proposed for revocation:

1. FS-CP-301 Cheques Not to be Post Dated
2. FS-CP-501 Council Services – All Users to be Charged
3. FS-CP-602 Government Subsidies
4. FS-CP-605 Incoming Grants and Sponsorship
5. CS-CP-602 Completion and Processing of Petty Cash Reimbursements
6. FS-CP-307 Fuel Card Policy – Correct Usage of Council Fuel Cards
7. FS-CP-702 Loans for Community Organisations & Sporting Bodies

FS-CP-301 Cheques Not to be Post Dated

While Council continues to accept cheques as payment, the number of cheques received continues to decline. This has brought a corresponding decline in attempts to pay with post-dated cheques.

This matter is better handled as an operational procedure rather than a formal Council policy.

FS-CP-501 Council Services – All Users to be Charged

Despite its name, this policy largely relates to situations where Council wishes to exempt or provide a discount to specific users. The policy has not been referred to by staff or the council in any recent decisions relating to waived fees.

The policy itself is inconsistent with Council's other policies on community assistance and its provisions are best handled as part of an overall community assistance framework.

FS-CP-602 Government Subsidies

This policy sets a sound principle – that Council should not take on a delegated function without full and continuing funding – but expresses it as a broad statement rather than a workable decision rule. In addition, it does not reflect the practical relations of intergovernmental relations.

The principle is important however and should be captured as part of Council's intergovernmental relations framework

FS-CP-605 Incoming Grants and Sponsorship

While comparatively detailed, this policy is high-level in its statements and does not provide clear, actionable direction for use by Council when managing incoming grants and sponsorship. It has not been referred to by management or the elected Council in recent decision making on this topic.

Council should have a clear policy position on both incoming grants and on sponsorship of Council activities. Replacement policies should be developed.

CS-CP-602 Completion and Processing of Petty Cash Reimbursements

This policy is procedural in nature and is more appropriately maintained as an internal operating procedure. Revocation will not change day-to-day controls governing petty cash reimbursements, which will continue to be applied through this procedure.

FS-CP-307 Fuel Card Policy – Correct Use of Council Fuel Cards

This policy is procedural in nature and is more appropriately maintained as an internal operating procedure. Revocation will not change day-to-day controls governing petty cash reimbursements, which will continue to be applied through this procedure.

Loans for Community Organisations & Sporting Bodies FS-CP-702

This policy establishes a loan scheme with generous terms (interest-free advances up to 75% of project cost over ten years) that is difficult to enforce and monitor. The policy has not been invoked in recent years, and no dedicated reserve or loan pool is available to support the scheme. The determination framework is sufficiently flexible, permitting case-by-case merit assessment, determination of security, and application of alternative commercial rates, to accommodate ad-hoc community and sporting facility requests without a standing policy.

Council should address such requests through individual business cases where genuine merit and capacity are demonstrated, rather than through a formalised but dormant lending program.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

Council revokes the listed policies as per the written recommendation.

OPTION 2

Council revokes some of the listed policies as per the written recommendation and retains the others, with or without guidance to management on potential redrafting.

OPTION 3

Council retains and re-confirms all policies listed in this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report directly relates to the specific Council policies listed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The revocation of these policies will not change Council's current procedures or expose Council to material financial risk.

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

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Council is somewhat exposed to risk at present through the existence of policies that are not uniformly followed or clearly articulated.

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

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

NIL

Minor Low Risk: Minimal environmental impact handled internally.

REPUTATION / COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

The existence of policies that are not referred to in Council's decisions on relevant topics has the potential to embarrass Council.

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

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Nil

Minor Low Risk: Nil impact to service delivery.

WHS / HR IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Nil

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) (FS-CP-301) Cheques Not To Be Post Dated - Public Policy - BCF Directorate (under separate cover)

(b) (FS-CP-501) Council Services - All Users to be Charged - Public Policy - BCF Directorate (under separate cover)

(c) (FS-CP-602) Government Subsidies - Public Policy - BCF Directorate (under separate cover)

(d) (FS-CP-605) Incoming Grants & Sponsorship - Public Policy - BCF Directorate (under separate cover)

(e) (CS-CP-602) Completion and Processing of Petty Cash Reimbursements (Facilities) - Public Policy - Business Cultural and Financial Services (under separate cover)

(f) (FS-CP-307) Fuel Card Policy - Correct Usage of Council Fuel Cards - Public Policy - BCF Directorate (under separate cover)

(g) (FS-CP-702) Loans for Community Organisations & Sporting Bodies - Public Policy - BCF Directorate (under separate cover)

CLAUSE CL08

TITLE Suspension of Alcohol Free Zone - Griffith Spring Fest Street Party 2026

FROM Shireen Donaldson, Director Economic & Organisational Development

TRIM REF 26/91446

SUMMARY

It is requested that the Alcohol-Free Zone within the Griffith Tourism Hub Car Park be suspended on Friday, 16 October 2026, to enable the Griffith City Council Tourism Team to conduct the annual Griffith Spring Fest Street Party. The event will be held from 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm, with the temporary suspension applying for the duration of the event to facilitate the licensed sale and consumption of alcohol within the approved event area.

RECOMMENDATION

Council suspend the Alcohol-Free Zone within the Griffith Tourism Hub Car Park on Friday, 16 October 2026, from 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm, to permit the sale and consumption of locally produced wine, beer, and spirits as part of the Griffith Spring Fest Street Party.

REPORT

The Griffith City Council Tourism Team will host the annual Griffith Spring Fest Street Party on Friday, 16 October 2026, in the Griffith Tourism Hub Car Park from 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

The event will transform the car park into a vibrant community space for approximately 3,000 attendees, featuring live music, market stalls, children's entertainment, and a variety of food and beverage vendors. The Street Party is a key feature of Griffith City Council's flagship annual event, Griffith Spring Fest, and contributes significantly to the festival atmosphere and visitor experience.

The event will be conducted within a fully fenced event site. Public access will commence at 5:00 pm, with the event concluding at 8:30 pm.

All other required approvals, including DA172/2018, have been obtained. It is therefore requested that Council temporarily suspend the Alcohol-Free Zone within the Griffith Tourism Hub Car Park for the duration of the event to permit the sale and consumption of alcohol within the approved licensed event area.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

As per the Recommendation.

OPTION 2

Any other option as determined by Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Not Applicable

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

s645 Local Government Act 1993 Suspension or cancellation of an alcohol-free zone

(1) The council may, at the request of any person or body or of its own motion, suspend the operation of an alcohol-free zone by publishing notice of the suspension in a manner that the council is satisfied is likely to bring the notice to the attention of members of the public in the area as a whole or in a part of the area that includes the zone concerned.

(2) During the period indicated in such a notice as the period of suspension, the zone does not operate as an alcohol-free zone.

(3) In like manner the council may at any time cancel the operation of an alcohol-free zone.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

There will be noise generated by the event but will not impact on surrounding buildings as all shop owners and businesses will be participating in this event and it is for a short period of time.

DA172/2018 Approved.

REPUTATION / COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

This event is a locally delivered community event designed to cater for families and groups of all ages. The Street Party forms part of the annual Griffith Spring Fest Program, which is developed and coordinated by the Griffith City Council Tourism Team.

The Griffith City Council Tourism Team works collaboratively with a range of local organisations and businesses to deliver this event, including local food and wine operators, performers, and market stallholders. The event provides an opportunity to showcase local talent, businesses, and produce while enhancing the overall Griffith Spring Fest experience for residents and visitors.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 4.2 Encourage an inclusive community that celebrates social and cultural diversity. 5.6 Promote Griffith as a desirable visitor destination.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

Griffith Tourism Team

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

CLAUSE **CL09**

TITLE **Question Taken on Notice**

FROM **Matthew Hansen, Director Business, Cultural & Financial Services**

TRIM REF **26/93098**

SUMMARY

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 28 July 2026, the following was TAKEN on NOTICE.

Councillor Dal Bon asked a question regarding options for the eradication of Prickly Pear at Griffith Pioneer Park Museum. This was TAKEN ON NOTICE.

RECOMMENDATION

The report be noted by Council.

REPORT

Following consultation with Council's Biosecurity Officer, Peter McGrath, Griffith Pioneer Park Museum has commenced a staged program to control prickly pear throughout the Museum grounds.

Control measures

The current control program uses a two-method chemical treatment approach:

1. Stem injection for larger, established prickly pear plants that have developed trunks.
2. Foliar spot spraying for multi-stem plants, smaller plants and detached cladodes lying on the ground.

Mechanical methods such as digging, cutting, trimming or burning are not currently being undertaken. Advice received from the Biosecurity Officer was that disturbing the plants may break or disperse the cladodes, potentially encouraging further spread and regrowth.

Chemicals and concentrations

Each 100-litre foliar spray batch contains:

- Apparent Woody Extra: 500 mL
- Australis Metsulfuron 600: 500 mL
- Uptake spraying oil: 500 mL
- Water to make a total batch of 100 litres.

This mixture is used only for foliar treatment of the prickly pear plants and detached cladodes.

For larger prickly pear plants with established trunks, Nufarm Glyphosate 450 is applied undiluted through the stem-injection method. Glyphosate is not included in the 100-litre foliar spray mixture.

All chemical mixing and application is undertaken in accordance with the spray rates, Work Instructions and operational advice provided by the Biosecurity Officer.

Application methods

The foliar mixture is applied using hand-operated spot-spraying equipment. It is directed onto the cladodes and stems of smaller and multi-stem plants, as well as detached cladodes lying on the ground. The aim is to achieve appropriate coverage of the target plants while minimising spray contact with surrounding vegetation.

Undiluted Nufarm Glyphosate 450 is applied directly into the trunks of larger plants using the injection spear supplied by the Biosecurity Officer.

Frequency and amount applied

Two treatment rounds have been completed to date, with one 100-litre foliar spray batch applied during each round. Approximately 200 litres of foliar spray mixture have therefore been applied to date.

The treatment is expected to require repeated applications rather than a single treatment. Treated areas will continue to be inspected for surviving plants, regrowth and newly emerging cladodes, with further treatment undertaken as required.

Advice received from the Biosecurity Officer indicates that the overall control and eradication process may take approximately two years.

Personnel undertaking treatment

Treatment is being undertaken internally by GPPM staff and volunteers who hold the appropriate chemical-handling certification.

Before treatment commenced, participating staff and volunteers received:

- site-specific induction and training;
- instructions on chemical preparation and application;
- spray rates and Work Instructions;
- instruction in the use of the injection spear;
- information regarding personal protective equipment and chemical safety requirements; and
- guidance from the Biosecurity Officer on identifying and treating the different plant forms.

A minimum two-person team is used when undertaking the work.

Effectiveness and kill-rate data

There is currently insufficient information to provide a reliable percentage kill rate. Only two treatment rounds have been completed, and the full effects of the treatments may take time to become evident. Some plants and cladodes are also expected to require repeated treatment.

Current position

The Museum has progressed from investigation and planning to active treatment. The required chemicals and equipment have been obtained, participating staff and volunteers have been trained and inducted, and two 100-litre foliar treatment rounds have been completed.

The site will continue to be monitored and treated over the estimated two-year control period, in accordance with the Biosecurity Officer's advice, approved Work Instructions, product labels and chemical-handling requirements.

OPTIONS

As per the Recommendation.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

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

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

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

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Minimal environmental impact handled internally.

REPUTATION / COMMUNITY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

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

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

Minor Low Risk: Nil impact to service delivery.

WHS / HR IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

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

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This report has no relevance to the Council's Strategic Plan.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

CLAUSE CL10

TITLE Investments as at 31 May 2026

FROM Matthew Hansen, Director Business, Cultural & Financial Services

TRIM REF 26/92403

SUMMARY

This report details Council's investments performance at the month of May 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

The report be noted by Council.

REPORT

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

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

Note - Of the cash and investments shown in this report:

- 84.26% is externally restricted, i.e., there are binding legal restrictions about how and where Council can use these funds.
- 8.05% is internally restricted, i.e., Council has made a decision to put these funds aside for a specific purpose.
- 7.69% is unrestricted, i.e., Council can use this money for discretionary projects or activities.

OPTIONS

OPTION 1

As per the Recommendation.

OPTION 2

Any other Resolution of Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

As at 31 May 2026, Council had received a total of **$3,406,676** in interest coupon payments.

The overall net interest income recognised (when combining both interest received and mark-to-market entries) at 31 May 2026 was **$4,042,610** The revised annual budget for 2025/26 is **$3,173,000.**

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

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

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

COMPLIANCE / LEGAL / STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS AND RISK

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

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 1.1 Provide clear, accessible, relevant information.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team

ATTACHMENTS

(a) Statement of Funds at 31 May, 2026

GRIFFITH CITY COUNCIL

Statement of Funds Invested under Section 625 of the Local Government Act, 1993

31 May, 2026

INVESTMENTS

Annual Return	Type	Valuation Balance as at 31 May, 2026	Interest Recognised May, 2026	Revaluation Movements Recognised May, 2026	Fund as a Percentage of Total Investments
	Cash/Managed Funds				
5.020%	Pendal Institutional Cash Fund	9,334.05		38.89	0.01%
25.680%	Perpetual Credit Income Fund	1,193,973.69		25,024.90	1.57%
11.22%*	NSW Treasury Corp -Long Term Growth Fund	2,145,557.48		63,076.10	2.83%
6.86%*	NSW Treasury Corp -Medium Term Growth Fund	6,587,393.85		121,008.73	8.68%
4.17%*	NSW Treasury Corp - Short Term Income Fund	4,274,230.48	17,421.74	303.75	5.63%
2.600%	UBS Cash Management Trust Account	78,370.53	329.78		0.10%
3.500%	ANZ Premium Business Saver Account	8,118.66	23.00		0.01%
	Term Deposits				
4.000%	AMP 365 Day Term Deposit Maturity 5/6/26	2,000,000.00	6,666.66		2.64%
4.000%	BOQ 1 Year Term Deposit Maturity 10/6/2026	1,099,763.48	3,665.88		1.45%
4.480%	Westpac Bank 2 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 9/9/2026	3,000,000.00	11,200.00		3.95%
4.150%	NAB 1 Year Term Deposit Maturity 9/9/2026	2,000,000.00	6,916.67		2.64%
4.000%	BOQ 1 Year Term Deposit Maturity 10/6/26	2,000,000.00	6,666.67		2.64%
5.430%	Westpac Bank 18 Month Term Deposit Maturity 30/09/2027	3,000,000.00	13,575.00		3.95%
4.550%	Westpac Bank Notice Saver 60 Day	2,878,274.15	10,641.66		3.79%
4.500%	Westpac Bank Notice Saver 31 Day	6,085,643.44	22,260.09		8.02%
5.000%	NAB 3 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 9/10/2026	3,500,000.00	14,583.33		4.61%
4.400%	Rabo Bank 5 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 26/6/2029	2,500,000.00	9,166.67		3.29%
4.430%	Rabo 4 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 2/7/2029	2,000,000.00	7,383.33		2.64%
4.580%	Rabo Bank 5 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 1/7/2030	2,000,000.00	7,633.33		2.64%
5.250%	Rabo Bank 4 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 25/07/2029	2,000,000.00	8,750.00		2.64%
5.190%	NAB 2 Year Term Deposit Maturity 29/6/2026	2,000,000.00	8,650.00		2.64%
5.300%	Rabo Bank 4 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 26/6/2028	2,500,000.00	11,041.66		3.29%
5.090%	Rabo Bank 5 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 14/1/2030	2,000,000.00	8,483.33		2.64%
4.840%	Rabo Bank 3 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 12/01/2029	4,000,000.00	16,133.34		5.27%
5.250%	BankVic 1 Yr Term Deposit Maturity 12/03/2027	2,000,000.00	8,750.00		2.64%
4.250%	Bendigo Adelaide Bank 2 Month Term Deposit Maturity 5/6/2026	2,000,000.00	6,869.85		2.64%
	Bank Bonds/Floating Rate Notes #				
1.250%	NSW Treasury Corp Bond ($2M Face Value) Maturity 20/11/30	1,717,700.00	12,500.00	26,180.00	2.26%
2.000%	NSW Treasury Corp Bond ($2M Face Value) Maturity 8/3/33	1,650,920.00		29,800.00	2.18%
1.750%	Government of the ACT Bond ($600k Face Value) Maturity 17/5/30	532,914.00	5,250.00	7,158.00	0.70%
5.444%	Bendigo Adelaide Bank FRN ($800k Face Value) Maturity 08/05/2027	803,752.00	9,452.63	(56.00)	1.06%
5.130%	NAB FRN ($1.7M Face Value) Maturity 10/05/2027	1,705,389.00	19,461.60	204.00	2.25%
4.450%	NAB FRN ($1.6M Face Value) Maturity 18/10/2027	1,588,320.00		4,448.00	2.09%
5.089%	NAB FRN ($1.6M Face Value) Maturity 18/03/2030	1,610,512.00		1,200.00	2.12%
5.182%	WBC Floating Bond ($1.5M Face Value) Maturity 21/01/2030	1,510,365.00		1,350.00	1.99%
5.940%	Maitland Mutual Limited FRN ($500k Face Value) Maturity 15/05/2028	496,965.00	6,503.79	585.00	0.65%
5.480%	Newcastle Greater Mutual Ltd FRN ($1.4M Face Value) Maturity 23/01/2	1,395,114.00		616.00	1.84%
	Total	**75,872,610.81**	**259,980.01**	**280,937.37**	**100%**

*YTD Fund Return

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

Balance of Griffith City Council Trading Bank Account	29,414,993.83
GHFL/HHF Bank Account Balances	24,268.96
Total Cash & Investments at 31/05/2026	**105,311,873.60**

RETURN ON INVESTMENTS

Return on Investments Analysis	Actual
Accumulated Return on Investments Brought Forward	3,398,181.75
Interest received on Griffith Health Facilities Limited Bank Accounts YTD May 2026	47.15
Return on Investments for the month of May 2026	540,917.38
Trading Bank Account Interest Received for the month of May 2026	85,464.15
Total Return of Investments YTD May 2026	**4,024,610.43**

Fund	Original Budget Annual Total	Revised Budget Annual Total	Revised Budget YTD	Actual YTD
Ordinary Fund	1,150,000.00	1,400,000.00	1,283,333.00	1,380,765.54
Water Fund	1,020,000.00	1,020,000.00	935,000.00	1,467,885.99
Sewerage Fund	500,000.00	500,000.00	462,000.00	871,445.90
Waste Fund	250,000.00	250,000.00	229,163.00	298,714.68
Western Riverina Library	3,000.00	3,000.00	2,750.00	5,798.32
Total	**2,923,000.00**	**3,173,000.00**	**2,912,246.00**	**4,024,610.43**
		Percentage of Year at Report Date		**91.67%**

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

RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

(b) Investments Returns Analysis - 12 month Annualised Yields

INVESTMENT RETURNS ANALYSIS - 12 MONTH ANNUALISED YIELDS			
Month	**Average Funds Invested for the month**	**Return on Investment/ Revaluation Adjustments**	**Yield %**
Jun-25	$78,756,807	$417,921	0.53%
Jul-25	$78,909,976	$296,953	0.38%
Aug-25	$79,101,138	$366,819	0.46%
Sep-25	$79,313,036	$381,594	0.48%
Oct-25	$79,488,097	$364,284	0.46%
Nov-25	$77,560,632	$165,065	0.21%
Dec-25	$74,300,071	$218,076	0.29%
Jan-26	$75,842,864	$283,302	0.37%
Feb-26	$78,691,421	$337,994	0.43%
Mar-26	$79,617,434	-$84,511	-0.11%
Apr-26	$78,007,086	$491,160	0.63%
May-26	$75,706,804	$540,917	0.71%
12 Month Annualised Performance			**4.86%**
Current Year Performance Jul 25 - Jun 26			**4.33%**
(Cash basis only, net of fees)			

May 2026
Published: 1 June 2026

Monthly economic report

The global economy

Headlines about the Iran war continued to drive financial markets in May. Negative sentiment in the first half of the month weighed on risk assets, with investors focussing on the inflationary impact of higher oil prices. Sentiment then turned positive in the second half of May, as news headlines suggested that the US and Iran were close to reaching a deal to end the war. The deal would see the Strait of Hormuz reopen, toll free, and set out a path for talks about Iran's nuclear program and its frozen offshore assets.

It is becoming increasingly urgent that a deal to re-open the Strait of Hormuz is finalised soon as global inventories of oil and oil products are falling sharply as demand is expected to rise during the Northen Hemisphere summer. CEOs of large global energy companies have warned that inventories have been significantly depleted and will hit all-time lows in coming weeks. If the Strait of Hormuz remains closed, this will put upward pressure on prices, with CEOs and commodity analysts indicating that oil prices could eventually spike to US$140-$160 per barrel.

Even if a deal is reached soon, it will take a significant amount of time for global supply chains to normalise. It will take at least a few months to restore trade flows to 80% of pre-war levels and around one year to get to 100%. At the same time, demand for oil and oil products is likely to remain elevated as countries seek to rebuild their inventory buffers. This combination means that oil prices are not expected to return to pre-war levels for at least another few years.

The prospect of higher oil prices for longer has seen central bankers around the world become more worried about lingering high inflation. Minutes from the US Federal Reserve's May meeting were interpreted as hawkish and investors are now expecting a rate hike in late 2026 or early 2027. Some members of the European Central Bank have said that rates need to rise as central banks can no longer 'look through' this shock. Similarly, the New Zealand central bank said it is likely to raise rates soon. Investors expect rate rises in Europe and New Zealand in June and July, respectively.

The Australian economy

The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) raised interest rates by 25bps, to 4.35%, as was widely expected. The decision was an 8-1 split, compared to the 5-4 vote in March. The RBA is concerned about upside risks to inflation and inflation expectations, both due to domestically driven price pressures and those caused by the Iran war.

The RBA Governor suggested that the Board may now pause its hiking cycle to see how the conflict develops and wait for other key data. Investors expect the RBA to hold rates steady at its June meeting but think one more rate hike is likely towards the end of this year.

Since the RBA's decision, economic data has been on the weaker side. Labour market data for April was weaker than expected, with the unemployment rate rising to 4.5%, from 4.3%, and employment falling. Looking through monthly volatility, the trend unemployment rate was steady, and trend employment rose. This suggests that there could be some noise in the data, though the fact that consumer and business confidence remains weak suggests that there are downside risks to the labour market.

The housing market has also weakened noticeably over the past few months as confidence in the outlook has been dented by the Iran war, higher inflation, and rising interest rates. House prices have declined in Sydney and Melbourne in recent months, and auction clearance rates have fallen sharply. The housing tax changes announced in the 2026/27 Federal Budget have heightened uncertainty around the outlook for the housing market.

Strong investment in data centres has supported business investment and construction activity, particularly in NSW and Victoria. Renewable energy projects have also supported activity. However, outside of these sectors, business investment has remained weak.

Financial market commentary

Shifting sentiment about the outlook for the Iran war drove volatility in markets, but it was a positive month overall for equity investors in most markets.

Equity markets (performance in local currency, excluding dividends)

Most equity markets rose in May on hopes that the Iran war could soon end and continued strength in AI-related sectors. The MSCI All Countries excluding Australia rose by 4.4% and the MSCI Emerging Markets index gained 9.5%, with the latter supported by strong gains in Taiwan and South Korea's stock markets because of AI related demand. The US S&P500 rose 5.1% in May, with the tech sector outperforming and the Nasdaq index rising over 8%.

Japan's equity market also rose strongly in May (+12%), supported by strength in AI demand, a weaker yen and lower oil prices (as Japan is a major energy importer). This has seen Japan's equity market rise by over 30% since the start of this year, with an additional boost from the expected fiscal easing.

The ASX200 rose 0.8% in May, supported by continued strong gains in resources companies. Banking stocks weighed on the market, however, with concerns that the Federal Government's proposed changes to capital gains tax and negative gearing will weigh on an already-softening housing market (as around two-thirds of lending by Australia's 4 major banks is for housing).

Bond yields

Bond yields fell in Europe, the UK and Australia alongside the decline in oil prices. Australian 3-year and 10-year bond yields fell by 29bps and 23bps, respectively, with weaker domestic economic data causing investors to pare back expectations for further RBA rate hikes.

In contrast, US 10-year bond yields rose by 6bps, as US economic data continues to point to a resilient economy and elevated inflation.

The spread between 10-year TCorp bonds and Australian Commonwealth Government bonds was little changed in May, at 59bps.

Currency and commodity markets

Optimism about an imminent deal between the US and Iran saw the Brent crude oil price fall by 19% in May, to US$92 per barrel – its lowest level since mid-April. The spread between prices of refined fuels and oil (e.g. diesel, jet fuel) narrowed in May, though remains elevated.

Moves in currency markets were small in May. The Australian dollar depreciated by 0.2% against the US dollar and has traded in a narrow range over the past month. The Japanese Yen rose by 1.7% against the US dollar, with Japanese authorities suspected to have intervened in the market to support the Yen during the month.

Financial market performance

Currency markets May 2026	Previous month close	Month high	Month low	Month close	Month change
AUD/USD	0.720	0.726	0.711	**0.719**	-0.2% ▼
AUD/EUR	0.614	0.620	0.612	**0.616**	0.4% ▲
AUD/JPY	112.76	114.57	112.69	**114.44**	1.5% ▲
AUD/GBP	0.529	0.539	0.530	**0.534**	0.9% ▲
AUD/BRL	3.568	3.638	3.527	**3.618**	1.4% ▲
AUD/INR	68.35	69.47	67.94	**68.26**	-0.1% ▼
AUD/CNY	4.917	4.930	4.841	**4.862**	-1.1% ▼

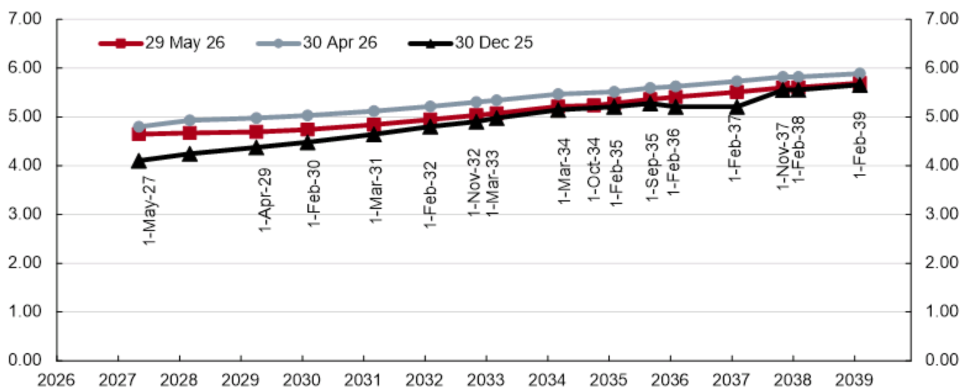
Equity markets* May 2026	Previous month close	Month high	Month low	Month close	Month change
MSCI World ex Australia	4795	5007	4780	**5007**	4.4% ▲
MSCI Emerging Markets	1600	1752	1601	**1752**	9.5% ▲
S&P/ASX200	8666	8878	8497	**8732**	0.8% ▲
S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries	3434	3523	3314	**3502**	2.0% ▲
S&P500 (US)	7209	7580	7201	**7580**	5.1% ▲
FTSE 100 (UK)	10379	10505	10195	**10409**	0.3% ▲
Stoxx600 (Europe)	611	632	606	**626**	2.4% ▲
DAX (Germany)	24292	25389	23951	**25105**	3.3% ▲
CAC 40 (France)	8115	8299	7953	**8183**	0.8% ▲
Nikkei 225 (Japan)	59285	66330	59513	**66330**	11.9% ▲
Hang Seng (HK)	25777	26626	25006	**25182**	-2.3% ▼
Shanghai Composite (China)	4112	4243	4069	**4069**	-1.1% ▼
Bovespa (Brazil)	187318	187691	173787	**173787**	-7.2% ▼
IPC (Mexico)	67858	70246	67284	**68588**	1.1% ▲
S&P/BSE Sensex (India)	76914	77959	74559	**74776**	-2.8% ▼

*Returns are in local currency, and exclude dividend payments

Bond markets (%) May 2026	Previous month close	Month high	Month low	Month close	Month change
RBA Official Cash Rate	4.10	4.35	4.10	**4.35**	0.25 ▲
90 Day Bank Bill	4.37	4.46	4.37	**4.46**	0.08 ▲
180 Day Bank Bill	4.77	4.82	4.73	**4.82**	0.04 ▲
New institutional term deposits	4.00	4.20	4.00	**4.20**	0.20 ▲
3 Year CGS Bond	4.76	4.74	4.48	**4.48**	-0.29 ▼
10 Year CGS Bond	5.06	5.11	4.83	**4.83**	-0.23 ▼
10 Year US Bond	4.37	4.67	4.35	**4.44**	0.06 ▲
10 Year German Bond	3.04	3.19	2.94	**2.94**	-0.10 ▼
10 Year Japanese Bond	2.53	2.79	2.48	**2.67**	0.14 ▲

TCorp bonds (%) May 2026	Previous month close	Month high	Month low	Month close	Month change
20-May-27	4.80	4.80	4.65	**4.65**	-0.15 ▼
20-Mar-28	4.93	4.90	4.67	**4.67**	-0.26 ▼
20-Apr-29	4.98	4.94	4.69	**4.69**	-0.29 ▼
20-Feb-30	5.03	4.99	4.74	**4.74**	-0.29 ▼
20-Mar-31	5.12	5.10	4.84	**4.84**	-0.28 ▼
20-Feb-32	5.22	5.21	4.95	**4.95**	-0.27 ▼
22-Nov-32	5.30	5.31	5.04	**5.04**	-0.27 ▼
08-Mar-33	5.34	5.34	5.08	**5.08**	-0.26 ▼
20-Mar-34	5.47	5.48	5.21	**5.21**	-0.25 ▼
17-Oct-34	5.48	5.51	5.24	**5.24**	-0.24 ▼
20-Feb-35	5.52	5.55	5.28	**5.28**	-0.24 ▼
20-Sep-35	5.60	5.63	5.36	**5.36**	-0.23 ▼
20-Feb-36	5.63	5.66	5.41	**5.41**	-0.22 ▼
20-Feb-37	5.73	5.76	5.51	**5.51**	-0.22 ▼
20-Nov-37	5.82	5.86	5.60	**5.60**	-0.22 ▼
24-Feb-38	5.82	5.86	5.60	**5.60**	-0.22 ▼
22-Feb-39	5.89	5.94	5.69	**5.69**	-0.20 ▼
CIB 2.50% 20 Nov 35	3.04	3.09	2.80	**2.82**	-0.22 ▼

TCorp Yield Curve



Source: TCorp

Commodity markets (US$) May 2026	Previous month close	Month high	Month low	Month close	Month change
Brent Oil (per barrel)	114.0	114.4	92.1	**92.1**	-19.3% ▼
Iron Ore (per tonne)	108.3	111.9	108.3	**108.8**	0.4% ▲

TCorp forecasts	Jun-26	Dec-26	Jun-27	Dec-27
RBA Official Cash Rate	4.35	4.35	3.85	3.35
90 Day Bank Bill	4.50	4.25	3.75	3.25
10 Year CGS Bond	4.75	4.50	4.00	4.00

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About New South Wales Treasury Corporation (TCorp)

TCorp provides best-in-class investment management, financial management, solutions, and advice to the New South Wales (NSW) public sector. TCorp is NSW's sovereign investment manager, responsible for A$119 billion of assets under management, and acts as the central borrowing authority of the state, with a balance sheet of A$196 billion. It is rated Aaa (Stable) by Moody's, AAA (Stable) by Fitch, and AA+ (Negative) by S&P.

Disclaimer

The opinions, forecasts and data contained in this report is based on the research of TCorp as at the date of publication and is subject to change without notice. TCorp is not responsible for the accuracy, adequacy, currency, or completeness of any information in the report provided by third parties. This report is provided for general information purposes only and should not be relied upon for investment or trading purposes. This Report is not intended to forecast or predict future events.

DRAFT
MINUTES

ROADS, PARKS & PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON THURSDAY, 23 JULY 2026 COMMENCING AT 4:00 PM

Agenda of Roads, Parks & Pathways Enhancement Committee - Thursday, 23 July 2026

PRESENT

Councillor Shari Blumer (Chair), Councillor Mark Dal Bon, Councillor Jenny Ellis, Amy Renouf (Community Representative), Brian Savage (Community Representative), Carmel La Rocca (Community Representative), Will Mead (Community Representative), Ema Munro (Community Representative), Jenna Thomas (Community Representative), Simone Murphy (Community Representative), Stephen Parker (Community Representative), Doreen Wood (Community Representative), Patricia Clarke (Alternate Member for Soroptimist), Libby Trembath (Alternate Member for Soroptimist).

Quorum = 3

STAFF

Director Infrastructure & Operations, Phil King, Works Manager - Construction, Shree Shrestha, Parks & Gardens Manager, Peter Craig, Urban Strategic Design & Major Projects Manager, Peter Badenhorst and Minute Secretary, Antoinette Galluzzo

1 APOLOGIES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Mark Dal Bon and Will Mead that apologies be received from Pirkko Makarainen (Community Representative), Works Manager - Maintenance, Manjit Chugha and Operations Assistant, Cheryl Tucker.

Absent: Anthony Kidman (Community Representative).

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Jenna Thomas and Will Mead that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 5 May 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 ROTARY CLUB OF GRIFFITH AVANTI - MEMORIAL PARK GRIFFITH - PEACE POLE PROJECT

Mr King informed the Committee that a request was received from the Rotary Club of Griffith Avanti, regarding the installation of a Peace Pole in Memorial Park.

Mr King highlighted the Peace Pole will have 6 languages on it and Mrs La Rocca requested that the languages be reconsidered to include Hindi in replacement of Punjabi. Mr King will provide this feedback to the organisers.

Stephen Parker entered the meeting at 4:13pm.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Will Mead and Jenna Thomas that the Committee support the installation of a Rotary Peace Pole in Memorial Park located on the lawn at the western end of the park.

CL02 NATIONAL TREE DAY UPDATE

Mr King provided an update on the National Tree Day 2026, highlighting it will be held on Sunday 2 August 2026, 8:30am along Citrus Road.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Shari Blumer and Ema Munro that the Committee note the information in the report and following this year's Tree Planting Day, the Committee will review the event and discuss plans for next year.

CL03 PUBLIC EXHIBITION - DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT – GRIFFITH CBD PRECINCT

Mr King encouraged everyone to make a submission to the Draft Plan of Management for the Griffith CBD Precinct as it is currently on exhibition.

CL04 GRIFFITH CBD ENHANCEMENT PROJECT UPDATE - PRESENTATION

Mr Badenhorst presented an update to the Committee in relation to the Griffith CBD Enhancement Project. (Please find attached presentation).

An important update was that the Shared Pathway between Blumer Avenue and Jondaryan Avenue has relocated from the northern side of Banna Avenue to the Southern side.

Mr Parker suggested if Council needs to stage this project community consultation be conducted, to ask the community their preference and priority in relation to the Median strips.

Councillor Blumer requested that the suppliers providing the shade sails at Memorial Gardens join one of our meetings in the future to discuss. Mr Badenhorst indicated they will provide diagrams and they will be presented to the Committee.

Will Mead left the meeting at 5:21pm.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Carmel La Rocca and Doreen Wood that the Committee:

(a) Note the construction works at Lake Wyangan.
(b) Note the finalisation of the preferred shared pathway design.
(c) Place on public exhibition the Roundabouts and Median Strips proposed design for a final community consultation, feedback and to indicate priority areas.
(d) Endorse the revised scope of works for the Memorial Park shade structure.
(e) Note that Council is commencing public tender processes for applicable projects in accordance with Council's procurement and requirements.

6 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

Ms Thomas requested an update on the Prendergast Traffic Island. Mr King informed the Committee that staff are revising the plans. He will continue to liaise with the Prendergast family.

Ms Thomas left the meeting at 5:32 pm.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Bins in Banna Avenue

Mrs La Rocca asked about the changes to the bins along Banna Avenue. In response, Mr King advised that Council has undertaken a bin replacement process and have improved the strategic placement of bins throughout the area. They have been replaced with new stainless steel bins, which are more durable and easier to clean and maintain.

8 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Roads, Parks & Pathways Enhancement Committee is to be held on Thursday, 29 October 2026 at 4:00 pm.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 5:35 pm.

9 ATTACHMENTS

(a) CBD Enhancement Project Update

DRAFT
MINUTES

SALEYARDS COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE MURRAY ROOM ON
TUESDAY, 28 JULY 2026 COMMENCING AT 8:30 AM

Agenda of Saleyards Committee - Tuesday, 28 July 2026

PRESENT

Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran, Councillor Scott Groat (Chair), Donald Barbaro (Community Representative), Grant Elwin (Community Representative), Rodney Evans (Community Representative)

Quorum = 3

STAFF

Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, Saleyards Coordinator, Les Warren and Minute Secretary, Jessica Bertacco

Absent: Christine Stead

1 APOLOGIES

Mr Barbaro moved a motion to remove Jim Binks' membership following his resignation with Nutrien.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Rodney Evans and Donald Barbaro that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 April 2026, having first been circulated amongst all members, be confirmed.

3 BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Outcross Upgrade

Mr Warren advised that the EID system is now fully up to date following the completion of software upgrades. A small number of tablets requiring updates will be identified and followed up, with manual action required where necessary. It was also noted that some previously identified upgrades were only relevant to agent functions and not Saleyard operations.

3.2 Water Troughs

Mr Warren advised that 20 of the 25 new water troughs have been installed and are fully operational. The remaining five troughs, requested by the agents for installation along the front of the drafting sheds, have been purchased and will be installed as soon as practicable.

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 ESSENTIAL ENERGY RESPONSE - SOLAR PANELS

Mr Gordon outlined Essential Energy's advice that solar energy cannot currently be transferred between sites. The Committee noted the new roof will be designed to accommodate future solar panel installation if feasible and that concept designs, structural planning, and tender documentation for the new roof will be progressed in line with funding and procurement requirements.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Rodney Evans and Councillor Doug Curran that the information be received.

CL02 ITEMS RAISED BY COUNCILLOR SCOTT GROAT

The Committee discussed improving road train access and manoeuvrability within the saleyards, with several options considered, including changes to parking arrangements, access points, and the future use of the cattle yards. It was agreed that these matters should form part of a broader Saleyards master plan, with the roof project remaining the immediate priority.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Grant Elwin and Donald Barbaro that the information be received.

6 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

The Committee updated the action report.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 New Speaker System

The Committee noted that the new public address system is operating well, with minor adjustments to announcement length to be made, and that manual sale announcements can be broadcast when required. Additional operational improvements, including installing additional power outlets and formalising procedures for managing injured livestock after hours, will also be investigated.

7.2 Additional Power in Saleyards

Mr Evans requested additional power outlets in the first drafting area to allow iPads to be charged without relying on double adapters, improving safety and functionality.

7.3 Process for Injured Livestock

The Committee discussed arrangements for the humane euthanasia of injured livestock after hours. The Committee also discussed the purchase, storage, and management of the equipment, with Council to explore suitable arrangements.

8 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Saleyards Committee is to be held on Tuesday, 27 October 2026 at 8:30 am.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 9:17 am.

TITLE **Notice of Motion - Councillor Jenny Ellis**

FROM **Jenny Ellis, Councillor**

TRIM REF **26/95137**

SUMMARY

A Notice of Motion has been received from Councillor Jenny Ellis on 3 August 2026. Please find attached.

RECOMMENDATION

To be noted by Council.

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM COMMENT

Nil.

ATTACHMENTS

Notice of Motion

Notice of Motion

Councillor's Name*	Cr Jenny Ellis
Date*	03-Aug-26
Time*	01:46:05 PM

Scott Grant
General Manager
Griffith City Council
GRIFFITH NSW 2680

Dear Mr Grant, I hereby give notice of the following Notice of Motion for the Council Meeting to be held as indicated below:*	Report from the LGNSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference. To be noted by Council.
Additional Information	
Attachments	LGNSW Destinations and Visitor Economy Conference Report 2026.pdf — 575.81KB
Council Meeting Date:*	11-Aug-26
Signature*	[redacted]

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

Giving notice of business to be considered at Council Meetings

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

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

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

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

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

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

Questions with notice

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

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

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

In relation to Section 3.13 - Please identify the source of funding for expenditure if applicable: * N.a.

Privacy Protection Notice

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

Report to Council

LGNSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference

Maitland, NSW | 27–29 May 2026

By Councillor Jenny Ellis

Purpose

I attended the Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Destination and Visitor Economy Conference in Maitland from 27–29 May 2026. The conference brought together councils, tourism organisations, state agencies and industry leaders to explore emerging trends, funding opportunities and innovative approaches to growing regional visitor economies. The official program included keynote presentations, concurrent workshops, site visits and practical case studies from councils across NSW.

Maitland itself provided an excellent example of a regional city using arts, culture and events to transform its visitor economy. With a population of approximately 100,000, growing by around six residents per day, the city now attracts approximately 900,000 visitors annually through a combination of events, public art, sporting tourism and innovative place activation.

Conference Highlights

Aboriginal Cultural Tourism

One of the most valuable workshops focused on partnering with Aboriginal communities to develop authentic cultural tourism experiences.

The NSW Government outlined its **Closing the Gap** reforms and encouraged councils to move beyond consultation towards genuine shared decision-making and long-term partnerships with Aboriginal organisations.

Several key messages stood out:

- Aboriginal businesses are the fastest-growing business sector in NSW.
- Aboriginal women are driving significant growth in self-employment.
- Every $1 generated by Aboriginal businesses creates an estimated $3.66 in social and economic value.
- Councils were encouraged to partner not only with Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs) but also with Aboriginal Medical Services (AMS), recognising their strong community connections.

This reinforces opportunities already being explored in Griffith through our partnerships with Griffith Local Aboriginal Land Council and highlights additional opportunities to strengthen relationships with Aboriginal organisations in developing tourism experiences.

Destination NSW

Karen Jones, CEO of Destination NSW, presented current tourism trends.

Key statistics included:

- 127.4 million visitors to NSW
- $60.4 billion visitor expenditure
- Record domestic tourism performance

The strongest tourism growth areas identified were:

- Nature-based tourism
- Aboriginal cultural tourism
- Culinary tourism
- Wellness tourism
- Agritourism

Importantly, Destination NSW emphasised that **events remain the largest driver of regional visitation**, with major regional events generating tens of millions of dollars for local economies.

Destination NSW also identified funding opportunities for regional events and infrastructure, including upgrades to visitor rest areas, which may present opportunities for Griffith.

Tourism Australia

Tourism Australia discussed changing international visitor expectations.

Rather than simply promoting destinations, successful regions now provide multiple experiences that encourage visitors to stay longer.

Interesting insights included:

- Visitors now seek 14–16 activities during a holiday.
- Indian visitors often seek even more experiences.
- Following COVID, self-drive holidays continue to grow strongly.
- Griffith's strengths were identified as:
  - food and wine
  - agritourism
  - birdwatching

- Aboriginal tourism

This reinforces the importance of packaging experiences together rather than promoting individual attractions.

Marketing That Converts

A case study from Reflections Holidays demonstrated how changing from promoting accommodation to promoting lifestyle dramatically increased visitation.

Rather than selling places to stay, campaigns focused on:

- time away
- wellness
- nature
- pets
- food experiences
- work-from-anywhere lifestyles

This aligns closely with broader trends discussed throughout the conference showing travellers increasingly value experiences over destinations.

Short-Term Accommodation

Tamworth Regional Council presented its innovative "Host an Artist" program developed during the Tamworth Country Music Festival.

Rather than Council directly providing accommodation, partnerships were established with:

- Airbnb
- local real estate agencies
- community members

This increased accommodation availability by approximately 15% while building community involvement.

The presentation highlighted that short-term accommodation should complement—not replace—long-term housing, particularly during peak tourism events.

Arts-led Place Activation

The Maitland site visit showcased how arts investment has revitalised public spaces.

Examples included:

- interactive public art
- illuminated winter events
- laneway soundscapes
- painted streets
- QR-code activated digital experiences
- adaptive reuse of heritage buildings

One particularly interesting example was an AI-enhanced digital experience allowing visitors to explore historical aspects of the city through QR codes.

This concept could have applications for Scenic Hill, Hermit's Cave or Griffith's Cultural Precinct by providing visitors with immersive storytelling experiences linked to our local history and Aboriginal heritage.

Creative NSW

Creative NSW outlined changing funding priorities.

Rather than prioritising new infrastructure, there is increasing emphasis on:

- adaptive reuse of existing buildings
- creative activation
- experience-based tourism
- supporting local creative industries

This aligns well with Griffith's existing focus on activating existing community assets rather than creating entirely new infrastructure.

Outdoor Recreation Tourism

One of the strongest sessions explored the growing outdoor recreation economy.

Key statistics included:

- Adventure tourism growing by approximately 17% annually.
- Health and wellbeing tourism increasing by 47%.
- Trail bike visitors spend approximately 76% more than the average regional visitor.

The key message was that councils should begin viewing existing public assets—including reserves, walking tracks, showgrounds, access roads and natural landscapes—as visitor economy assets rather than simply recreational infrastructure.

For Griffith this presents opportunities to further investigate:

- Scenic Hill
- walking trails
- cycling
- trail bike opportunities
- paddling experiences
- nature-based tourism

Rather than focusing solely on restricting activities, councils were encouraged to identify appropriate locations where recreation can safely coexist with environmental protection while generating tourism benefits.

Creating Successful Events

The closing keynote explored the "transformative power of events."

Five elements were identified as essential:

- Purpose
- Place
- People
- Play
- Pride

The presentation emphasised that successful events are those which:

- reflect local identity
- involve the community
- encourage participation
- create memorable experiences
- build civic pride

Economic benefit alone is no longer enough—successful events create emotional connections with both visitors and residents.

Opportunities for Griffith

The conference reinforced many initiatives already being pursued by Griffith City Council while highlighting additional opportunities.

Potential areas for future investigation include:

- expanding Aboriginal cultural tourism partnerships beyond existing relationships
- packaging multiple visitor experiences into themed itineraries
- investigating Destination NSW funding opportunities

- exploring digital interpretation and storytelling at Scenic Hill and other attractions
- developing greater activation of existing public spaces through arts and culture
- considering outdoor recreation as a tourism product, particularly around Scenic Hill
- continuing to strengthen event development that reflects Griffith's unique identity and multicultural heritage
- investigating wellness tourism opportunities, recognising this as one of the fastest-growing visitor sectors.

Conclusion

The LGNSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference demonstrated that successful regional tourism is increasingly driven by authentic experiences rather than individual attractions. Across every presentation there was a consistent message: communities that leverage their existing strengths, celebrate their unique identity, foster genuine partnerships and create memorable visitor experiences are those best positioned to grow their local economies.

Many of the themes discussed—including cultural tourism, arts activation, wellness tourism and experience-based visitation—align strongly with current strategic directions already being explored within Griffith City Council. The conference provided practical ideas, case studies and funding pathways that may assist Council in continuing to grow Griffith's visitor economy while enhancing liveability for our own community.

TITLE **Outstanding Action Report**

TRIM REF **25/150116**

RECOMMENDATION

The report be noted.

ATTACHMENTS

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

Council Meeting Date	MEETING ITEM	Action Officer	CRM No.	Minute No.	Council Resolution	Additional Information
26 May 2026	**CL09 LICENCE AGREEMENT - ROAD RESERVE - ARGYLE COMMUNITY HOUSING LTD - 2-4 CROSSING STREET, GRIFFITH**	CPO	174301	26/142	**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Doug Curran and Mark Dal Bon that the matter be deferred pending further information.	**9/06/2026:** Meeting arranged with Argyle reps and Council staff week commencing 15 June 2026 to discuss Licence Agreement terms. **15/07/2026:** Waiting on a response from Argyle.
14 April 2026	**CCMM01 SALE OF LAND FOR UNPAID RATES**	DBCF	172744	26/102	**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Shari Blumer that: (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. (b) Outstanding Collections (Aust) Pty Ltd (OSC) be appointed to administer the sale on Council's behalf. (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). (d) Council delegates authority to the General Manager to take the following actions pertaining to the properties specified in	**28/04/2026:** General Manager certificates signed. Real Estate Agent commissioned to sell properties. Notification process underway. **1/06/2026:** The auction is scheduled for 13 August 2026. **3/08/2026:** Three of five properties have been removed from the auction.

OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

					the report as listed in the report.	
27 January 2026	**NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR TONY O'GRADY**	DSD	169647	26/016	**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.	**17/02/2026**: Sustainable Development currently drafting policy. **19/05/2026:** Policy will be reported to Council in July 2026. **20/07/2026:** Policy will be workshopped in August 2026.
8 April 2025	**NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR JENNY ELLIS**	DBCF FM MA	158565	25/095	**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Jenny Ellis and Tony O'Grady that Council allocate sufficient funds from the cash reserves set aside for the Regional Art Gallery project (currently at $109K) based on quotes received for the following items and report back to Council: (a) Signage for the front of the Gallery - to be designed, manufactured, and installed.(Approximately $5K) (b) New hanging track system - to enhance the display and functionality of exhibition spaces. (Approximately $10K) (c) Repainting of the walls and ceiling of the whole gallery - To refreshen and cover water damaged ceilings (National average: $60-$100/ sqm; Gallery is 422sqm therefore up to $42K).	**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. **20/07/2026:** Refer to Question on Notice Report.

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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	**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Christine Stead and Shari Blumer that: (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. (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.	**1/09/2025:** Report to Council 9 September 2025. **12/09/2025:** GM to report to Council after the finalisation of the ASIC proceedings. **7/04/2026:** Other creditors are pursuing recovery however unlikely due to limited assets.
24 February 2026	**CL01 GRIFFITH URBAN CROWN LAND AFFORDABLE HOUSING ACTIVATION - MASTERPLAN AND BUSINESS CASE**	DBCF/ GM	170792	26/040	**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillors Tony O'Grady and Shari Blumer that: (a) Council endorse the Griffith Urban Crown Land Affordable Housing Activation - Masterplan and Business Case. (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.	**11/03/2026:** The General Manager has reached out to the Minister for Housing The Hon Rose Jackson MP. The Minister's office advises that we should contact the Aboriginal Housing Authority (AHO) in the first instance. Contact has been made, as yet no commitment to meet.

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OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

COMPLETION BY OTHER AGENCIES PENDING

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