

Richmond
Valley
Council



AGENDA

Ordinary Council Meeting

I hereby give notice that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on:

Date: Tuesday, 18 May 2021

Time: 5.00pm

**Location: Council Chambers
10 Graham Place, Casino**

**Vaughan Macdonald
General Manager**

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1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor will provide an Acknowledgement of Country by reading the following statement on behalf of Council:

"Richmond Valley Council recognises the people of the Bundjalung Nations as Custodians and Traditional Owners of this land and we value and appreciate the continuing cultural connection to lands, their living culture and their unique role in the life of this region in the past, present and future."

2 PRAYER**3 PUBLIC ACCESS AND QUESTION TIME****4 APOLOGIES****5 MAYORAL MINUTES**

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 20 APRIL 2021

Author: Vaughan Macdonald, General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 20 April 2021.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1. Unconfirmed Minutes Ordinary Meeting 20 April 2021 (under separate cover)**

6.2 INTERNAL AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES 4 MAY 2021

Author: Ben Zeller, Manager Projects and Performance

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Minutes of the Internal Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 4 May 2021.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1. Minutes of the Internal Audit & Risk Committee Meeting held on 4 May 2021 (under separate cover)**

7 MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

8 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

(Councillors to specify details of item and nature of interest)

9 PETITIONS

Nil

10 NOTICE OF MOTION**10.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - CR STEPHEN MORRISSEY - CLOSURE OF ANZ BANK CASINO**

I, Councillor Stephen Morrissey, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on 18 May 2021, I intend to move the following motion:

NOTICE OF MOTION

That Council:

1. Notes the financial results for the 'big four' banks, ANZ, NAB, Westpac and Commonwealth, outlined in a Sydney Morning Herald article on 8 May 2021, which highlighted that "...the big four banks, half year profits soared by an average 62%, dividends rebounded sharply, and lenders have said they have billions in excess capital that is likely to ultimately find its way into shareholders' pockets",
2. Given the positive results for the banks despite the pandemic, approves that the General Manager writes to the Chief Executive Officer of the ANZ Banking Group, Mr Shayne Elliot, in response to advice from the ANZ District Manager Mr Glenn Schofield, expressing Council's serious concern at the closure of the Casino branch and seeking re-consideration of the decision,
3. Approves that the General Manager writes to the CEO's of the other 'big four' banks Westpac, Commonwealth and National Australia Banks and our other local financial institutions, thanking them for their continued support for the Richmond Valley business community and emphasising the importance of their branch outlets and seeking an assurance to keep their branches operational in Casino and Evans Head.
4. Approves that the General Manager writes to the Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW, the Hon. John Barilaro MP, highlighting the importance of local banking facilities to regional communities and seeking his support to influence the 'big four' banks to maintain these facilities in the Richmond Valley and similar regional NSW communities.

RATIONALE

The ANZ Banking group has recently announced that its Casino branch will close by October 2021, with the loss of local jobs. Since January 2020, more than 300 local bank branches have closed in regional areas, with the ANZ accounting for nearly half of these (146). The latest NSW closures include Forster, Cooma, Ulladulla, Salamander bay, Casino, Cowra, Cootamundra, Leeton and Kempsey.

Regional banking facilities provide vital services for the community, including local businesses and farmers. They are also an important source of employment for local families.

The ANZ group has been operating in Australia for the past 175 years and claims its decision to close local branches is because customers prefer internet banking. However, this overlooks the important role that local banking facilities play in the regional economy and the community. It also fails to acknowledge that many people in regional NSW do not have access to reliable internet services. Those who need assistance with banking, such as the elderly or those with a disability, will be further disadvantaged by the loss of their local branch.

This is the second significant employer that the Casino CBD has lost in the past 12 months, with the recent closure of the Target store resulting in the loss of local jobs. If the Richmond Valley is to achieve the NSW Government's vision of a Regional Jobs Precinct, then it will need important support services, such as access to banking, to underpin this growth. Contrary to this trend, there have been new businesses opening across the Richmond Valley as we recover from the impacts of natural disasters and the pandemic.

Communities in Regional NSW deserve the same access to services that those in larger cities enjoy and country communities need the jobs that local bank branches provide.

It should be noted that this decision by ANZ Bank has been made at the same time as a report in the Sydney Morning Herald (8 May 2021) highlights that "the big four big four banks' half year profits soared by an average 62%, dividends rebounded sharply, and lenders have said they have billions in excess capital that is likely to ultimately find its way into shareholders' pockets".

The Richmond Valley currently has representatives of the big four banks in Casino – ANZ, Commonwealth, NAB and Westpac – with only the ANZ announcing its intention to close. There are also branches of Summerland Credit Union in Casino and Evans Head and the Greater Bank in Casino which provide valuable services to the community.

I ask that councillors support me in requesting the General Manager on behalf of Council writes to:

1. The ANZ Banking Group, seeking a reversal of the decision,
2. The CEOs of the other big four banks and our other local financial institutions to thank them for their continued support and seeking an assurance that they will not close their branches in Casino and Evans Head, and
3. The Deputy Premier seeking his support for these services in regional communities.

I commend this Notice of Motion to Council.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

10.2 NOTICE OF MOTION - CR ROBERT HAYES, ARTIFICIAL REEF EVANS HEAD

I, Councillor Robert Hayes, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on 18 May 2021, I intend to move the following motion:

NOTICE OF MOTION

That Council make a submission to the Department of Primary Industries' current expression of interest, nominating Evans Head as a suitable location for an artificial reef.

RATIONALE

The NSW Department of Primary Industries has called for expressions of interest to identify suitable locations for new Artificial Offshore Reefs along the NSW coastline. There are two possible options for the Richmond Valley, with the reef located to the north, between Ballina and Evans Head, or to the south, between Evans Head and Yamba Point.

There are currently nine Artificial Offshore Reefs in NSW – Sydney, Shoalhaven, Port Macquarie, South Sydney, Merimbula, Newcastle, Wollongong, Tweed Heads and Batemans Bay.

The program uses state-of-the-art designs to create intricate habitats for fish and other marine organisms. Coral, algae and organisms accumulate over time in this stable environment, providing food for fish which in-turn enhances recreational fishing opportunities

The Department of Primary Industries monitors the program to ensure that the reefs are being colonised by a diversity of fish and other marine organisms and that the structures remain intact and in position. Monitoring has shown that in just a few short years, the new reefs come alive with a diverse fish community taking up residence.

Recreational fishing plays an important role in the Richmond Valley visitor economy, particularly in Evans Head, and the artificial reef program provides a further opportunity to improve marine habitat and enhance tourism opportunities. It is recommended that Council nominates a suitable site for an artificial reef, as part of the current expressions of interest program.

I commend this Notice of Motion to Council.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

10.3 NOTICE OF MOTION - CR ROBERT HAYES, AIRFORCE BEACH ACCESS

I, Councillor Robert Hayes, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on 18 May 2021, I intend to move the following motion:

NOTICE OF MOTION

That Council

1. Review and consider alternate arrangements for four-wheel drive access to the recently closed areas on Airforce Beach, from Boundary Creek towards the South to the black rocks, so that local "Senior" beach Fishers can gain entry to this area on a regular basis for their preferred relaxation activity
2. Following investigation, a report be presented to Council's June Ordinary meeting for consideration.
3. Receives and notes the letters of support provided from local fishers.

With the recent decision to close vehicle access to south Ballina Beaches and limit vehicle access to the northern end of Airforce Beach, local fishing enthusiasts are keen to ensure that they can continue to enjoy this recreational pastime in our region. Council has received an approach from local fishers (see attached letters) who plan to form a fishing group and seek negotiated access to the beach for organised fishing outings. Given the opportunities that may arise from the artificial reef project, Council may wish to consider how best to manage access to the beach for fishing organisations in future.

I commend this Notice of Motion to Council.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. **Letters of support - Confidential (under separate cover)**

11 MAYOR'S REPORT**11.1 MAYORAL ATTENDANCES 11 APRIL TO 9 MAY 2021**

Author: Robert Mustow, Mayor

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Mayor's attendance report from 11 April to 9 May 2021.

REPORT**April**

- 13th Seniors Week Casino RSM
- 16th Community Safety Precinct Committee Meeting
- 20th Kevin Hogan MP, Funding Announcement Razorback
- 20th Kevin Hogan MP, Funding inspection Scout Hall Evans Head
- 20th Kevin Hogan MP, Funding inspection Recreation Hall Evans Head
- 20th Richmond Valley Council Ordinary meeting
- 21st Rous County Council Ordinary meeting
- 21st Recovery Community Connect Whiporie
- 21st Evans Head Chamber of Commerce meeting
- 23rd Casino Primary School Anzac Day ceremony
- 23rd Blaze Aid event
- 25th Anzac Day Dawn Service Casino
- 25th Anzac Day Rappville Service
- 25th Anzac Day Luncheon Casino
- 27th Meeting with constituent
- 28th Minister for Health, Regional Youth and Women, Bronnie Taylor MLC function
- 29th Kevin Hogan MP Coraki amenities block opening
- 29th Kevin Hogan MP, Drill Hall funding announcement

May

- 1st Casino Poultry Club Annual Show
- 1st Stockmans challenge Casino
- 1st Old Boys Rugby League Evans Head
- 4th Sod turning Evans Head Over 50s development
- 4th Richmond Valley Council Information Session
- 7th Northern Rivers Joint Organisation meeting
- 7th General Sir Peter Cosgrove function
- 9th Woodburn Evans Head & District Orchid Society event

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

12 DELEGATES' REPORTS**12.1 DELEGATES' REPORT SUBMITTED TO MAY 2021 ORDINARY MEETING**

Author: Robert Mustow, Mayor

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Delegates' Report for the month of May 2021.

REPORT

Council delegates are required to report on meetings/forums attended on Council's behalf.

The following information has been provided regarding meetings/functions attended by Councillors.

Rous County Council

Cr Robert Mustow and Cr Sandra Humphrys have provided the following summary of the main items of business for the Rous County Council Extraordinary Meeting held on 21 April 2021.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1. Rous County Council meeting 21 April 2021**



**Summary of main items of business for
Rous County Council meeting
21 April 2021**

1. Endorsement of draft 'Rous County Council Innovate May 2021 – May 2023 Reconciliation Action Plan'

Following on from Council's original 'Reflect' Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), the 'Innovate RAP' seeks to build on foundational relationships with first nations people and develop greater understanding and awareness of RAP objectives and indigenous history generally.

The RAP Advisory Group and Council staff have continued to pursue the goals and objectives of the Plan. Despite COVID-19, progress has been made in relation to various reconciliation activities:

- celebration of, participation in and promotion of National Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week,
- Rous' Cultural Awareness Training Kit
- Investigation and consideration of 'innovative' ideas such as an Expression of Interest for cultural, environmental and education opportunities.

Council endorsed the draft '*Rous County Council Innovate May 2021 – May 2023 Reconciliation Action Plan*'. It is proposed to launch the Innovate RAP in May 2021.

2. Loan borrowing 2021/22

Council agreed to call for expressions of interest from financial institutions to borrow \$13,500,000 over 20 years at a fixed rate of interest for the St Helena upgrade. The fixed rate has been chosen due to the prevailing low interest rate environment.

Council has a very large capital works program that is currently underway in the form of the St Helena upgrade which will require external borrowings to support the works program.

Council will invite financial institutions to quote via a tender process, designed to attract a competitive interest rate.

3. Draft Delivery program | Operational plan and 2021/22 Budget

Council approved the draft Delivery program | Operational plan and 'Revenue' policy for public exhibition.

At its June 2021 meeting Council will receive for information, public submissions (if any) lodged during the public consultation process and staff comment in respect to the submissions.

4. Quarterly Budget Review Statement for quarter ended 31 March 2021

Council noted the results presented in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement as at 31 March 2021 and authorised the variations to the amounts from those previously estimated.

5. Policy: Investments (revised)

The policy includes specific local guidelines on diversification and application of credit rating risk that Council applies to its process and procedures for investment management.

It was proposed that the existing limits in the Investments policy be amended to reflect the framework required by the TCorp investment guidelines - to comply with their borrowing conditions. This means that as investments fall due reinvestment can occur in accordance with the limits set out in the policy.

The policy continues to accommodate ethical investment considerations. Currently Council has \$2.5 million invested in Commonwealth Bank green term deposits.

The draft policy was adopted without amendment.

6. Policy: Land Management

As part of the ongoing review of Council's policies and procedures for suitability and currency, seven (7) pre-amalgamation policies were identified as creating a number of inconsistencies in the area of land use (planning, management, regulation and business process), data management and legislative compliance in relation to Council's land assets. Relevant content contained in the policies for revocation has been captured within one new 'Land Management' policy.

The revised and consolidated 'Land Management' policy has been developed and will:

- (a) provide background and rationale for Council's land holdings,
- (b) ensure Council's land holdings, policy position, procedures and capital projects meet the objectives and requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* and other legislative instruments,
- (c) a point of contact for land enquiries,
- (d) establish a consistent policy position for land use and planning,
- (e) ensure consistent and accurate data for public access purposes, and
- (f) provide a structure and framework for the planning and delivery of new or existing land related projects.

A key element of the new 'Land Management' policy is ensuring a clear and documented pathway for the classification of all Council owned land as 'Operational Land'.

The draft policy was adopted without amendment.

7. Information reports

i). Investments – March 2021

- At the RBA's December 2020 meeting (the RBA do not meet in January), it was decided to leave the cash rate at 0.10%. The 90-day average bank bill swap rate (BBSW) increased to 0.03%. The low rate will continue to put pressure on interest yields in the foreseeable future.
- Total funds invested for March was \$36,830,812. This is an increase of \$5,163,387 compared to the January 2021 figure. This is primarily due to settlement of all lots associated with Perradenya Release 6.

-
- The weighted average return on funds invested for the month of March was 0.78%. This represents a decrease of 37 basis point compared to the January result (1.15%) and is 75 basis points above Council's benchmark (the 90-day average bank bill swap rate (BBSW) increased to 0.03%).
 - Interest earned compared to the adjusted budget is \$19,891 below the pro-rata budget.
 - Cheque account balance as at 31 March 2021 was \$132,587.
 - Ethical holdings represent 51.59% of the total portfolio. Council's Ethical holdings percentage will continue to decrease as investments are aligned with TCorp's more conservative investment guidelines. Current holdings in Ethical Financial instruments equals \$19,000,000.

ii). Fluoride Dosing Plant Performance Report for Q1

Council noted the Fluoride Dosing Plant Performance Report for Q1 (January-March 2021), which shows compliance with dosing targets prescribed by the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and the targets range within the NSW Health Code of Practice for Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies.

iii). Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee: meeting update

This report provided a summary of the key messages from the latest Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held in March 2021.

Key messages included:

- 2021 Risk Management Plan action
- WHS policy and WHS Management System under review
- Recommencement of WHS audits post COVID19
- Procure to Pay review 2019/20 – update
- Project Management internal audit – cancelled and will be reconsidered as part of the next Internal Audit Strategy (see below)
- Development of new Internal Audit Strategy 2022-2026
- Financial management report

8. Confidential matters

i). Appointment of Independent External Member – Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee

Andrew MacLeod was appointed as Independent External Member on the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee. The appointment of Mr MacLeod fills the vacancy arising as a result of Mr David Yarnall stepping down from the Committee. The term of appointment is 4 years.

ii). Update: St Helena finance facility – NSW TCorp

Council resolved to support the inclusion of TCorp in a loan tender process associated with the St Helena pipeline upgrade project.

iii). Chair's Minute: General Manager's application for reappointment

Council resolved to offer re-appointment to Mr. Phillip Rudd, General Manager, for a period of 5 years from 28 April 2021.

For a copy of the draft minutes for this meeting and the business paper please go to Council's website www.rous.nsw.gov.au

Council meeting summary 21 April 2021

13 MATTERS DETERMINED WITHOUT DEBATE

Each Councillor is given the opportunity to indicate which items they wish to debate or question. Item numbers identified for debate or questioning will be read to the Meeting.

Following identification of the above items a motion will be moved in regard to the balance of items being determined without debate.

13.1 MATTERS TO BE DETERMINED WITHOUT DEBATE**RECOMMENDATION**

That items identified be determined without debate.

14 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS

14.1 DRAFT REVISED DELIVERY PROGRAM 2017/2022, DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN 2021/2022 (INCLUDING DRAFT FINANCIAL ESTIMATES 2021/2025), DRAFT REVENUE POLICY 2021/2022 AND DRAFT LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2021/2031

Author: Dean Fordham, Principal Accountant

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following documents have been compiled by staff in consultation with Councillors:

1. Draft Revised Delivery Program 2017/2022,
2. Draft Operational Plan 2021/2022 (including Draft Financial Estimates for the period 2021/2025),
3. Draft Revenue Policy 2021/2022, and
4. Draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2021/2031

As detailed in the circulated documents, the draft budget projects an unrestricted cash surplus of \$300,084 in 2021/2022, along with projected surpluses for the following three years of between \$209,175 and \$373,310. Council's operating result before capital grants and contributions is a projected deficit of \$2,216,315 in 2021/2022, however on a positive note, this is projected to improve to a surplus of \$572,612 in 2024/2025.

The draft budget includes a capital works program of \$46,131,011 for 2021/2022 including a number of key projects. This is despite Council having recently faced a number of natural disasters. Council is delivering on its capital works program and continuing to rebuild the bushfire and flood affected areas of the Richmond Valley.

A copy of the Draft Revised Delivery Program 2017/2022, Draft Operational Plan 2021/2022 (including Draft Financial Estimates 2021/2025), Draft Revenue Policy 2021/2022 and Draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2021/2031 have been circulated separately to Councillors.

RECOMMENDATION

That

1. The Draft Revised Delivery Program 2017/2022, Draft Operational Plan 2021/2022 (including Draft Financial Estimates 2021/2025), Draft Revenue Policy 2021/2022 and Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2021/2031 be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days.
2. The draft documents be brought back to Council to consider any submissions received for final adoption at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 22 June 2021.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Making Council Great

CS1: Leading and Advocating for our Community

CS1.1: Improve decision making by engaging stakeholders and taking community input into account

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

As outlined in the report.

REPORT

Council is required to undertake its planning and reporting activities in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 by implementing the

Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework and to consider the Office of Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines for guidance and best practice methods for drafting the plans.

The Draft Revised Delivery Program has been prepared on the community priority areas identified in the Community Strategic Plan. The Delivery Program is set out in line with Council's 30 service areas with clear strategies and accountability for delivering on each council service. The Delivery Program is accompanied by a four-year capital works program for the period 2021/2025 and a one year Operational Plan outlining Council's budget for 2021/2022.

The Draft Operational Plan (including Draft Financial Estimates 2021/2025) delivers an unrestricted cash surplus of \$300,084, in 2021/2022, with projected surpluses across the remaining three year forward estimates as shown in the table below:

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Budget Estimates	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total Operating Revenue	65,526	67,423	69,524	71,734
Total Operating Expenditure	67,742	68,339	69,340	71,161
Operating Result before Capital Grants and Contributions	(2,216)	(916)	184	573
Add: Capital Grants and Contributions	13,851	13,726	2,473	1,232
Operating Result including Capital Grants and Contributions	11,635	12,811	2,657	1,805
Add: Non-Cash Expenses	17,743	18,325	18,249	18,675
Add: Non-Operating Funds Employed	8,570	3,102	1,301	2,409
Less: Capital Expenditure	46,131	27,967	17,987	13,421
Less: Loan Repayments	3,048	3,554	3,748	3,907
Estimated Funding Result – Surplus/(Deficit)	(11,231)	2,716	473	5,560
Restricted Funds – Increase/(Decrease)	(11,531)	2,343	116	5,351
Unrestricted Funds – Increase/(Decrease)	300	373	357	209

While the unrestricted cash result is important and should be a surplus, the focus should be on Council's operating result before capital grants and contributions. Council's projected operating result before capital grants and contributions for 2021/2022 is a deficit of \$2,216,315, which improves to a projected surplus of \$572,612 over the four year forward estimates.

The approval of Council's special rate variation has given Council the ability to focus on moving towards a break-even operating result before capital grants and contributions, which is the benchmark set by the NSW Office of Local Government. Finding ways of achieving additional income, reducing operating expenditure and refining asset valuation methodologies, to accurately reflect depreciation of Council's assets remain key areas to focus on moving forward.

There have been several challenges in forming the 2021/2022 budget and maintaining an unrestricted cash surplus.

With the ongoing economic downturn and historically low interest rates, Council's interest and investment revenue budget has been reduced by \$153,025 to \$850,000. Whilst recent fair value gains on Council's NSW Treasury Corporation Medium Term Growth Fund have been favourable, achieving the interest and investment budget relies heavily on the performance of these funds, which can be subject to volatility. It is considered prudent to be conservative and continue to monitor and adjust the interest and investment revenue budget based on impacts of any ongoing economic downturn or subsequent recovery.

Another challenge has been funding the estimated cost of \$185,000 for the Council elections, which are being held in September 2021. This has a direct impact on Council's unrestricted cash surplus.

Emergency Services Levy 2021/2022 – decrease of 25%

Council has been advised of its Emergency Services Levy (ESL) liability for the 2021/2022 financial year. These include contributions that are payable to the NSW Rural Fire Service, Fire and Rescue NSW and the NSW State Emergency Service.

Following substantial increases of 21.4% and 34.5% for the last two years, the good news is that the ESL will decrease by 25% for 2021/2022. The forward estimates had previously allowed for a further increase in the ESL of 27% without funding being provided, which has led to a saving of \$336,611. It should be noted that the NSW Rural Fire Service contribution is a shared cost between Richmond Valley, Lismore City and Kyogle councils as Richmond Valley Council administer the Northern Rivers Rural Fire Service Zone. Other contributions payable to Fire and Rescue NSW and the NSW State Emergency Service, are levied to individual councils.

The increases experienced over the last 2 years were primarily driven by NSW Parliament passing laws in November 2018 that made it easier for firefighters diagnosed with one of 12 specific work-related cancers to access workers compensation entitlements. These new laws mean firefighters who have served in the Rural Fire Service or Fire and Rescue NSW will benefit from a presumption that their cancer diagnosis is due to their firefighting duties (ie a work-related illness).

The table below shows the movements in the ESL since 2018/2019, with the table having been adjusted to show the net effect on Richmond Valley Council's budget. That is, the contributions attributed to Lismore City Council and Kyogle Council have been excluded as they are cost neutral to Richmond Valley Council:

Emergency Services Levy	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
NSW Rural Fire Service (RVC share)	276,737	348,052	496,834	362,752
Fire and Rescue NSW	99,817	110,877	123,810	114,745
NSW State Emergency Service	31,428	36,274	45,237	34,382
Effect on Unrestricted Cash Surplus	407,982	495,203	665,881	511,879
Less: ESL funding	0	(63,166)	(187,480)	0
Net Cost to Richmond Valley Council	407,982	432,037	478,401	511,879

The table shows that Council paid \$407,982 in the 2018/2019 year. The 2019/2020 year was the first year of a two-year spike in the ESL, increasing by 21.4% to \$495,203 before ESL funding of \$63,166 was received. The ESL increased a further 34.5% in 2020/2021 to \$665,881 before ESL funding of \$187,480 was received. Whilst the net cost of the ESL will increase by 7% to \$511,879 for 2021/2022, the forward estimates had previously projected an increase of 27% with no ESL funding being provided.

New Budget Initiatives

The savings in the ESL of \$336,811 has allowed several new initiatives to be funded in the draft budget. These include:

	2021/2022
New Projects and Initiatives Fully Funded	\$'000
Asset Management Plan Updates for IP&R (one-off – every 4 years)	140,000
Asset Management Aerial Photography GIS Layer update (one-off)	90,000
Roads and Drainage program – increased maintenance and renewals (ongoing)	140,000
Open Spaces – increased maintenance budgets to meet increased levels of service (ongoing)	40,000
Customer Experience resourcing increase for ePlanning (ongoing)	35,000

	2021/2022
New Projects and Initiatives Fully Funded	\$'000
Total	445,000

Details of the new budget initiatives are provided below.

Council is required to update its Asset Management Plans under the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework. A key focus of the new plans will be to provide strong direction and actions on the management of assets including priorities for maintenance and renewal programs going forward. This is estimated to cost \$140,000, with the cost shared between general, water and sewerage funds.

Parts of Council's aerial photography layers in our GIS system are outdated and of poor resolution. High resolution imagery updates are estimated to cost \$90,000 and will benefit all areas of Council including planning, compliance, rates, emergency management, asset management, operational works, water and sewerage and customer experience. Funding of \$39,000 has been provided from bushfire recovery grants.

Council's Roads and Drainage budgets have been increased by \$140,000 in line with priorities identified in the Road Services Review. The draft budget includes an increase in rural roads shoulder grading of \$50,000 to \$150,000 in total. In addition, \$40,000 has been allocated to line marking and gravel resheets have been increased by \$50,000 to \$170,000.

Open spaces maintenance budgets have been increased by \$40,000 to provide improved levels of service across a number of key community facilities or where new assets have been constructed which now require maintenance budgets going forward.

Customer experience staff resources have been increased at a cost of \$35,000 which is required due to a State Government impost with the introduction of the ePlanning portal placing additional demands on Council staff.

Despite the cost of these initiatives being \$445,000, some of these costs are offset by the reallocation of support costs or are funded from existing decisions or reserves.

Major Capital Works

Council has faced a number of challenges with natural disasters and the pandemic during the last 12 months, and in response there are a number of key projects included in the 2021/2022 budget. This demonstrates Council's desire to continue to deliver its capital works program and to continue to rebuild the bushfire and flood affected areas of the Richmond Valley and add funding stimulus to the local economy.

The draft budget includes a capital works program of \$46,131,011 for the 2021/2022 financial year. The major projects are detailed in the table below:

	2021/2022
Major Capital Works	\$'000
Casino Swimming Pool Upgrade	6,085
Casino Drill Hall Memorial Walk	885
Coronation Park Casino – upgrade works	355
Razorback Lookout Evans Head – upgrade works	400
Casino Showground & Racecourse Upgrades	5,049
Rappville Hall and Community Precinct	1,000
Urban Road Renewals	2,433
Sealed Rural Local Roads & Bridges Renewals	2,964
Sealed Regional Roads & Bridges Renewals	3,473

	2021/2022
Major Capital Works	\$'000
Unsealed Rural Local Roads & Bridges Renewals	1,411
Footpath Renewals and construction of new sections	220
Northern Rivers Rail Trail (phase 1)	459
Real Estate Development projects	3,191
Nammoona Landfill -Capping of Cells 1-4 (stage 1)	1,890
Nammoona Landfill – Cell 6 construction (stage 1)	3,000
Resource Recovery Infrastructure Projects	846
Stormwater Asset Renewals	375
Water Infrastructure Renewals	2,709
Sewerage Infrastructure Renewals	3,767
Fleet Replacement Program	3,039

Draft Revenue Policy – Fees & Charges 2021/2022

In developing the 2021/2022 income budget, the following increases have been proposed to Rates and Annual Charges:

- General Rates – to increase by 5.5% in-line with the special rate variation
- Domestic Waste Annual Charge – to increase by 4.55% to \$620
- Non-Domestic Waste Annual Charge – to increase by 5.14% to \$655
- Waste Infrastructure Charge – to increase from \$40 to \$45 – this charge was introduced to contribute funding towards the construction of a new landfill cell (essential infrastructure) at the Nammoona Landfill and to fund ongoing asset renewals of the Waste Management program
- Water Annual Charges – to increase by 6.51%
- Sewerage Annual Charges – to increase by 4.88%

A copy of the Draft Revised Delivery Program 2017/2022, Draft Operational Plan 2021/2022 (including Draft Financial Estimates 2021/2025), Draft Revenue Policy 2021/2022 and Draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2021/2031 have been circulated separately to Councillors.

CONSULTATION

There has been extensive community engagement in the development of our strategies and plans.

In accordance with the Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements the Draft Revised Delivery Program 2017/2022, Draft Operational Plan 2021/2022 (including Draft Financial Estimates 2021/2025), Draft Revenue Policy 2021/2022 and Draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2021/2031 will be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days. During that time public submissions on the documents can be made. A further report on the documents and submissions received will be presented to the Ordinary Meeting scheduled for 22 June 2021.

CONCLUSION

The Draft Revised Delivery Program 2017/2022, Draft Operational Plan 2021/2022 (including Draft Financial Estimates 2021/2025), Draft Revenue Policy 2021/2022 and Draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2021/2031 have been prepared based on extensive consultation with the community and are presented to Council for consideration. The report recommends that these documents be placed on public exhibition.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. **Draft Operational Plan 2021/2022 (including Financial Estimates 2021/2025) (under separate cover)**
2. **Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2021/2031 (under separate cover)**
3. **Draft Revenue Policy 2021/2022 (under separate cover)**
4. **Draft Revised Delivery Program 2017/2022 (under separate cover)**
5. **Draft Operational Plan 2021/2022 (under separate cover)**

14.2 PROPOSED RECLASSIFICATION OF COMMUNITY LAND

Author: Vaughan Macdonald, General Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council resolved at its 16 February 2021 meeting to commence community consultation on the option to consider reclassification of five parks in Casino from community land to operational land. The parks had been identified as having low community usage and if the statutory reclassification process was progressed and approved, it would allow the land to be sold for new homes, with the proceeds being directed to upgrading other recreational facilities in Casino.

As a first step Council invited public comment on the proposal and received 55 submissions and two petitions in response, with a range of different views being expressed. This report outlines the main issues raised by the community and considers possible next steps in the process.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes the community feedback on the proposal to consider proceeding with the statutory process to reclassify five Parks in Casino and the wide range of views expressed,
2. Acknowledges the specific community concerns regarding Sunnyside Park and determines not to proceed with the reclassification process for this park,
3. Notes that an Urban Growth Management Strategy will be undertaken by Richmond Valley Council during the second half 2021, with the study considering future housing growth needs and supporting physical and social infrastructure to support the Regional Jobs Precinct designation and will include opportunities for community input,
4. Defers further consideration of the reclassification proposal for the remaining four parks, Dan Phelan, Melaleuca, Russell and RSM, until after the Urban Growth Management Strategy is completed and adopted by Council which is expected to be early 2022.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Growing our Economy

EC1: Driving Economic Growth

EC1.8: Provide sustainable Urban Development Opportunities

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

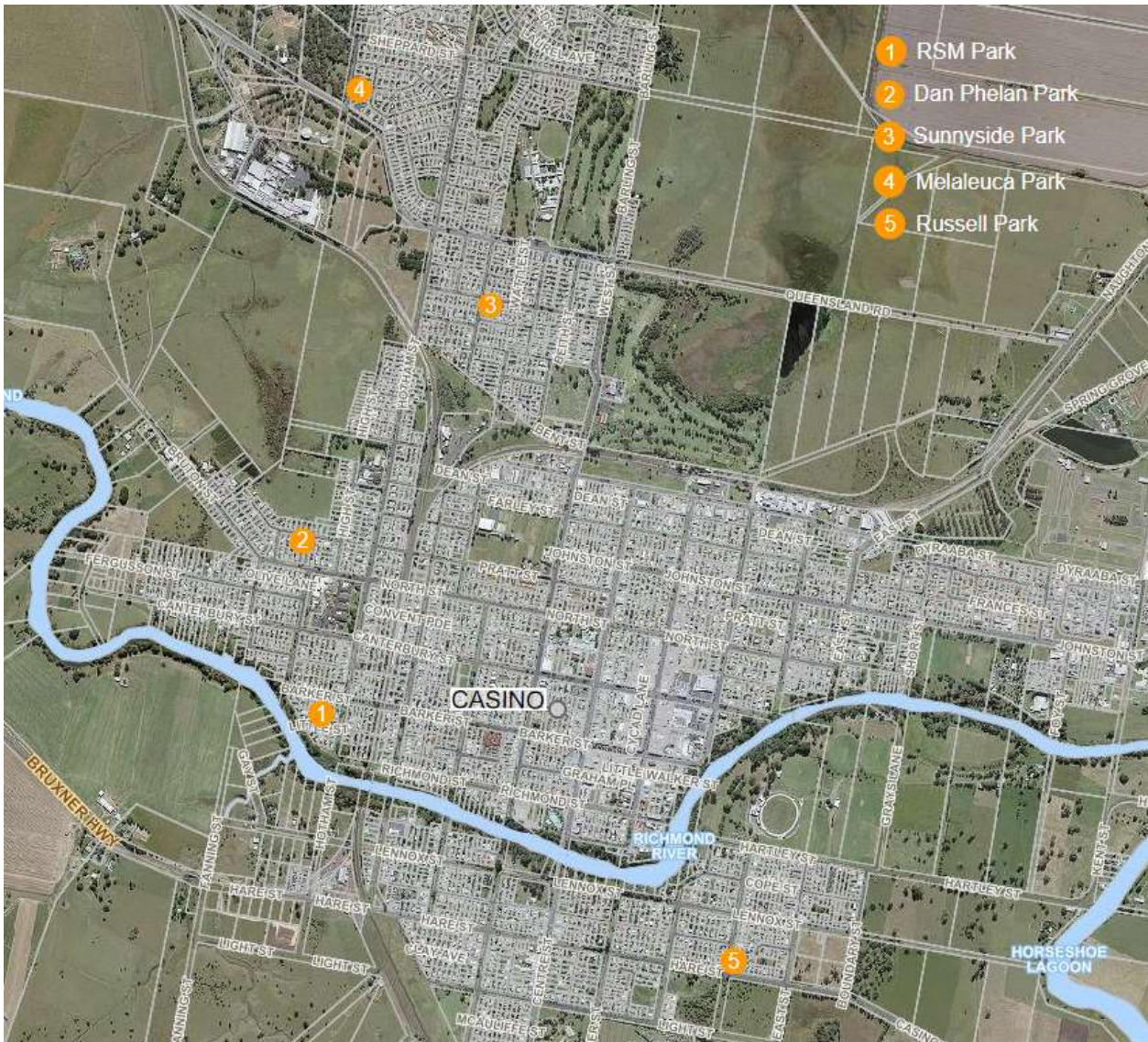
Sale of the sites could provide an estimated \$600,000 for maintenance and upgrade of other recreational facilities in Casino.

Council currently spends approximately \$11,000 per annum in mowing and maintenance costs for the parks with mowing scheduled every 3 weeks during the summer growing season and as needed during the cooler months.

REPORT

At the Ordinary Meeting of 16 February 2021, Council resolved to commence community consultation to consider the proposal to reclassify five local parks from community land to operational land.

The five parks: RSM Park; Dan Phelan Park; Sunnyside Park; Melaleuca Park, and Russell Park are shown on the map below.



The resolution to consider reclassifying the land followed a previous review of community facilities aimed at rationalising Council’s many assets, which identified these parks as having low usage. Reclassification would allow the land to be sold for residential use and the funds redirected to upgrading and developing other recreational facilities in Casino.

Community feedback

Council invited community feedback on the proposal in March and received 55 written submissions and two petitions in response. The petitions included an online petition with 76 electronic signatures and a paper petition with 240 signatures, both opposing the sale of the parks and further suggesting installation of park equipment.

The written submissions varied in their response, with some expressing general opposition to the proposal, some focusing on issues at specific parks and others offering general support for the reclassification. The following table shows a summary of the responses.

23 submissions	Opposed the general principle of selling parks
14 submissions	Specifically opposed the sale of Sunnyside Park
3 submissions	Specifically opposed the sale of Russell Park
2 submissions	Specifically opposed the sale of Melaleuca Park
1 submission	Opposed the sale of parks due to concerns that low cost housing may be established on the land
4 submissions	Neither opposed nor supported the proposal for various reasons
2 submissions	Raised related issues, with one requesting that one of the parks become a Rotary Park
6 submissions	Supported the sale of the parks

Although opinions varied on the subject, the underlying theme of those opposing the reclassification was a concern that Council may not have fully explored all the issues and options at hand.

In summary the key reasons for opposing the proposal to sell the parks included:

- Neighbourhoods need green spaces for physical, social and emotional wellbeing
- Our youth need facilities near their homes to encourage outdoor activities
- They were designated as parks and should remain so
- Council needs to put facilities into them and maintain them better
- Council should seek grant funding to re-instate the parks
- Council should encourage service clubs to get involved in upgrading and maintaining the parks
- Russell Park was saved by the community 15-20 years ago
- Sunnyside Park plays an important role in the neighbourhood, providing recreational opportunities for low-income families
- The gains from the sale of these parks will be minimal in terms of housing supply and financial return
- Casino needs shade and places for people as it is so hot
- The importance of views from homes that are enhanced by green spaces
- Concerns about drainage impacts on neighbouring properties if the land is developed

Key reasons for supporting the sale of the parks included:

- The need to make additional land available for housing
- The opportunity to use the proceeds from the sale to upgrade and maintain higher-usage recreational facilities.

Note: All submissions have been provided separately to Councillors for review.

Next steps

Having regard to the issues raised in the community feedback, Council may wish to give further consideration to the reclassification proposal.

The submissions showed that residents were concerned not only with specific sites, but with the broader concepts of local identity and creating green and vibrant communities. Council is about to consider these issues in a broader context through the Richmond Valley Urban Growth Management Strategy (UGMS).

The study, to be completed in the 2021-22 financial year, will help to identify the most appropriate locations, scale and density for future residential and employment land development in the local government area. This will help to support the work currently being undertaken in partnership with the NSW Government to activate a Regional Jobs Precinct in the Richmond Valley, and also address the broader concerns with housing and rental shortages that are being experienced by North Coast communities.

The study will consider issues around local identity and the physical and social infrastructure required to support future development in our communities, such as green space and opportunities for recreation and social interaction. Council plans to undertake community consultation in support of this work and it may be appropriate to defer consideration of the parks proposal until such time as the draft UGMS and the broader consultation process is completed.

The future of Sunnyside Park

Of the five parks under consideration for reclassification, Council received the most consistent feedback regarding Sunnyside Park. The submissions identified that this park may experience greater community usage than previously thought, and that the park is providing an important facility for the neighbourhood and families. Having regard to this feedback, Council may wish to consider removing Sunnyside Park from the reclassification proposal and maintaining it as a community facility. Given the community feedback the community may wish to remain organised and work together to seek grant funding to improve the amenity of the Park.

The future of RSM, Dan Phelan, Melaleuca and Russell Parks

The feedback on these Parks was mostly from those who live nearby which is understandable. There remains little evidence that these Parks have been used on a regular basis for leisure/recreation for some time, with some used for storing vehicles, household goods and to provide access to adjoining premises. These Parks do provide amenity value to their neighbours.

It is proposed that while Council prepares the Urban Growth Management Strategy, usage of these Parks is monitored and the local community encouraged to use them for leisure and recreation purposes if they consider them important to their neighbourhood. Encouraging people to be actively involved in their neighbourhood may bring other positive benefits, such as improved community connectedness and social outcomes.

CONSULTATION

Council sought community feedback on the Parks reclassification proposal for a period of 28 days and received a total of 55 written submissions and two petitions. Should Council wish to proceed with the reclassification process, further community consultation will be required as part of the statutory process.

CONCLUSION

Council resolved in February 2021 to consider commencing the statutory process to reclassify five local parks from community land to operational land and sought community feedback on the proposal. The feedback received has highlighted a number of community concerns with the proposal and indicates that at least one of the parks may have higher usage than originally believed. The feedback has also raised broader issues regarding future development and the need to create vibrant and liveable communities within the Richmond Valley. Council is about to prepare an Urban Growth Management Strategy for the Richmond Valley, which will consider these issues in more detail. It may be appropriate to defer consideration of the reclassification proposal until this work is completed.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

14.3 REGIONAL WASTE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Author: Vaughan Macdonald, General Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over the past year, Councils on the North Coast have been considering options to develop a regional response to their collective waste management challenges. This includes consideration of new technologies to divert residual waste from the landfill, as well as options to enhance recovery rates and develop future markets for recovered materials. This report provides an update on the progress of these discussions.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes the North Coast Region Waste Investment Report recommendations and the response from the 13 Councils involved in the project,
2. Endorses the Expression of Interest process to further consider regional alternative waste treatment options and Richmond Valley Council's role in leading the process, and
3. Notes the NSW Government's Draft Policy Statement on Energy from Waste and Council's submission to the consultation process, encouraging a whole of government approach to considering and supporting the development of these facilities where feasible.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Looking after our Environment

EH1: Managing our Waste and Water

EH1.1: Waste and resource recovery future options

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

REPORT

Over the past 12 months, Councils on the North Coast have been considering options to develop a regional response to their collective waste management challenges. This includes consideration of new technologies to divert residual waste from landfill, as well as options to enhance recovery rates and develop future markets for recovered materials.

Richmond Valley Council has been leading these discussions, using funding secured from Regional NSW to commission a North Coast Region Waste Investment Report. The report, prepared by consultancy firm Arcadis, included an infrastructure and waste stocktake for 13 councils on the North Coast, identifying the specific issues and needs of each community.

Councils on the North Coast have traditionally been proactive in managing their waste, recording higher than State average recovery rates. They were also among the first to introduce food and garden organics services (FOGO) and adopt alternative waste treatments for residual waste. However, Coastal councils face increasing challenges in the future, with higher population growth and an anticipated 10% increase in municipal solid waste volumes over the next 20 years.

The report found that there would be sufficient volumes of residual waste, recyclables and organics to support future shared waste management solutions amongst North Coast councils. However, further analysis was required to identify suitable options.

The report was released in July 2020 and published on the Regional NSW website: <https://www.investregional.nsw.gov.au/news/nsw-north-coast-waste-investment-review/>.

Since then, the 13 councils have been considering the findings of the report and discussing possible next steps in the process. Richmond Valley Council wrote to the other members of the group in late 2020, canvassing their interest in further pursuing regional waste solutions. As a result, nine of the 13 councils indicated their support for progressing with an EOI process for commercial entities who would be interesting in establishing a regional alternative waste treatment facility.

It is now proposed to engage a suitable consultant to manage the EOI process. The EOI will take a broad-based approach, to allow consideration of a range of alternative technologies. This may include Energy from Waste facilities, or other innovative solutions. RVC will continue to lead the discussions and support the EOI process, which should be finalised by late 2021.

NSW Government draft policy statement on Energy from Waste

The NSW Government is also considering future solutions for waste management and recently released a draft policy statement on Energy from Waste. The policy statement, developed by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) recognises that the recovery of energy and resources from the thermal processing of waste has the potential, as part of an integrated waste management strategy, to deliver positive outcomes for the community and the environment.

The draft policy proposes strict guidelines for plant design, process control and emissions monitoring from Energy from Waste facilities, to ensure that they meet current international best practice standards. The policy aims to ensure that materials which can be usefully recovered from municipal waste, such as recyclables and food and garden waste are separated from the waste stream before the residual is transferred to an EfW facility. This means that councils, such as Richmond Valley, who currently provide a three-bin service for their communities are well placed to consider the use of this technology in future.

Council has responded to the public consultation on the draft policy statement, supporting the policy's aim for best practice emissions control and monitoring and encouraging a whole of government approach to developing and enabling energy from waste solutions in the future.

A copy of the response is attached for information.

CONCLUSION

Richmond Valley Council is continuing to work in collaboration with other councils on the North Coast to identify future waste management solutions for our region. An EOI process will shortly be undertaken to identify commercial entities who would be interesting in establishing a regional alternative waste treatment facility

This may include technologies such as Energy from Waste. The NSW Government has recently released a draft policy statement on EfW facilities, with Council providing a response to the public consultation. While the draft policy is a positive step towards responsibly enabling these facilities, council believes the NSW Government needs to take a stronger leadership role in fostering the long-term viability of Energy from Waste if we are to achieve the community benefits envisaged by these technologies.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

15 FINANCIAL REPORTS**15.1 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Author: Hayley Martin, Business Development Accountant

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the proposed adjustments for the 2020/2021 budget for the quarter ended 31 March 2021. These adjustments exclude all previously adopted Monthly Budget Adjustments.

The proposed changes see Council's projected operating surplus from continuing operations for 2020/2021 increase to \$10,060,813, from the 31 December 2020 revised budget surplus of \$8,308,646. The operating result before capital grants and contributions has also improved slightly to a projected loss of \$4,218,319.

Income from continuing operations has increased by \$1,966,930, to a projected total of \$79,903,553. This is largely due to grant funding being received for the Casino Showground and Racecourse Upgrade totalling \$1,418,814, along with a number of smaller grants for various projects. Expenses from continuing operations have increased by \$214,763, to a projected total of \$69,842,740.

Council has performed a thorough review of its capital works program, resulting in a decrease of \$6,871,974, to a projected total of \$27,552,453. This is largely due to several projects being carried over into 2021/2022 having been delayed by wet weather or other issues as well as some being transferred back to reserves as they are not required. The major reductions are in the areas of Waste Management (\$1,167,585), Fleet Management (\$993,571) and Sewerage Services (\$753,871).

Council's unrestricted cash surplus has also improved by \$41,308, to \$370,177 as at 31 March 2021.

A detailed Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the third quarter of the 2020/2021 year has been circulated separately to each Councillor. These changes are disclosed by Priority Areas on pages 2-8 of the Quarterly Budget Review Statement and detailed explanations are provided on pages 9-17.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Quarterly Budget Review Statement as at 31 March 2021 and approves the recommended variations.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Making Council Great

CS1: Leading and Advocating for our Community

CS1.4: Provide high level financial and business analysis advice to monitor performance

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

As detailed in the report.

REPORT

The budget review for the third quarter of the 2020/2021 financial year has seen Council's operating result from continuing operations improve to a projected surplus of \$10,060,813. This is an increase of \$1,752,167 from the revised surplus as at 31 December 2020 of \$8,308,646. Council's projected operating result before capital grants and contributions is a loss of \$4,218,319.

Council’s estimated budget result (unrestricted cash result) has improved slightly from \$328,869 as at 31 December 2020 to \$370,177 at 31 March 2021.

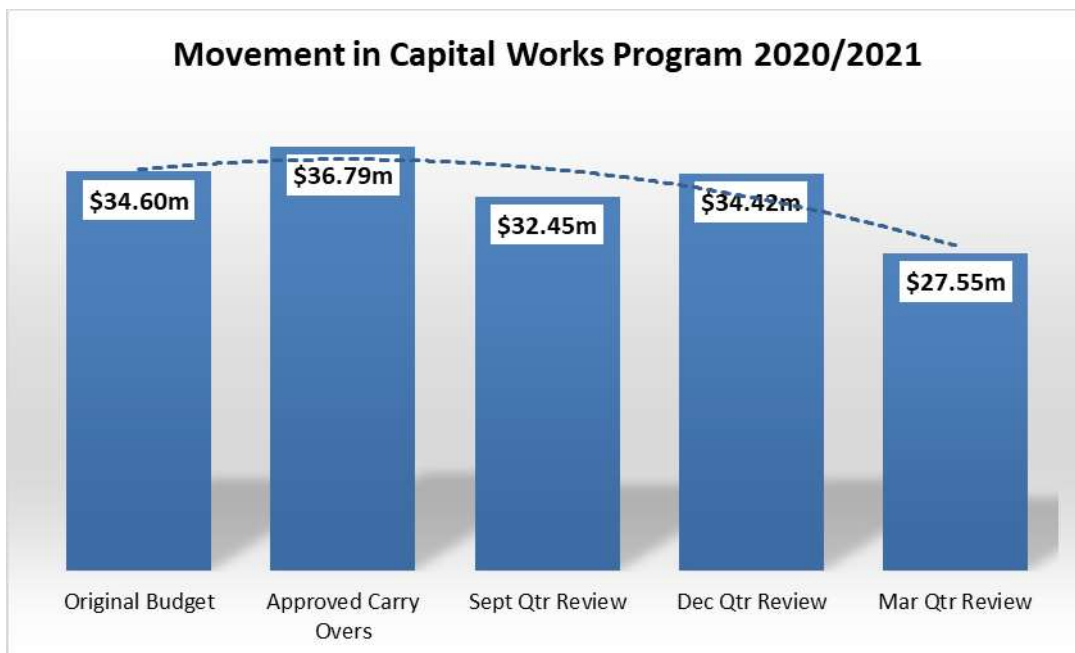
In overall cash terms, there is a decrease in the estimated funding from reserves of \$8,582,833, with an estimated total transfer to reserves of \$37,528 for the 2020/2021 financial year. This is mainly due to the reduction in capital works of \$6,871,974.

Income from continuing operations has increased by \$1,966,930, with total income now projected to be \$79,903,553. Largely contributing to this increase is \$1,418,814 in grant funding for the Casino Showground and Racecourse Upgrade, with \$918,814 from the Crown Lands Showground Stimulus Funding Program, along with \$500,000 of the \$8 million awarded under the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund. Budgeted income for private works has also been increased a further \$371,284 in line with works being performed this financial year, along with an additional \$307,000 expected in quarry revenues. All recommended changes for Council resolution of \$1,966,930 are disclosed by Priority Area on page 4 of the Quarterly Budget Review Statement and detailed explanations are provided on pages 9-17.

Expenses from continuing operations have increased by \$214,763 to a projected total of \$69,842,740. This is largely due to an increase in budgeted expenditure for private works in line with works being performed this financial year of \$329,976, along with a decrease in environmental management grant funded projects of \$155,000 for the restoration of burnt riparian areas which are proposed to be transferred to the 2021/2022 year. The sites of the restoration project at Rappville and Wyan have been inaccessible due to recent wet weather so works were unable to occur. All recommended changes for Council resolution of \$214,763 are disclosed by Priority Area on page 5 of the Quarterly Budget Review Statement and detailed explanations are provided on pages 9-17.

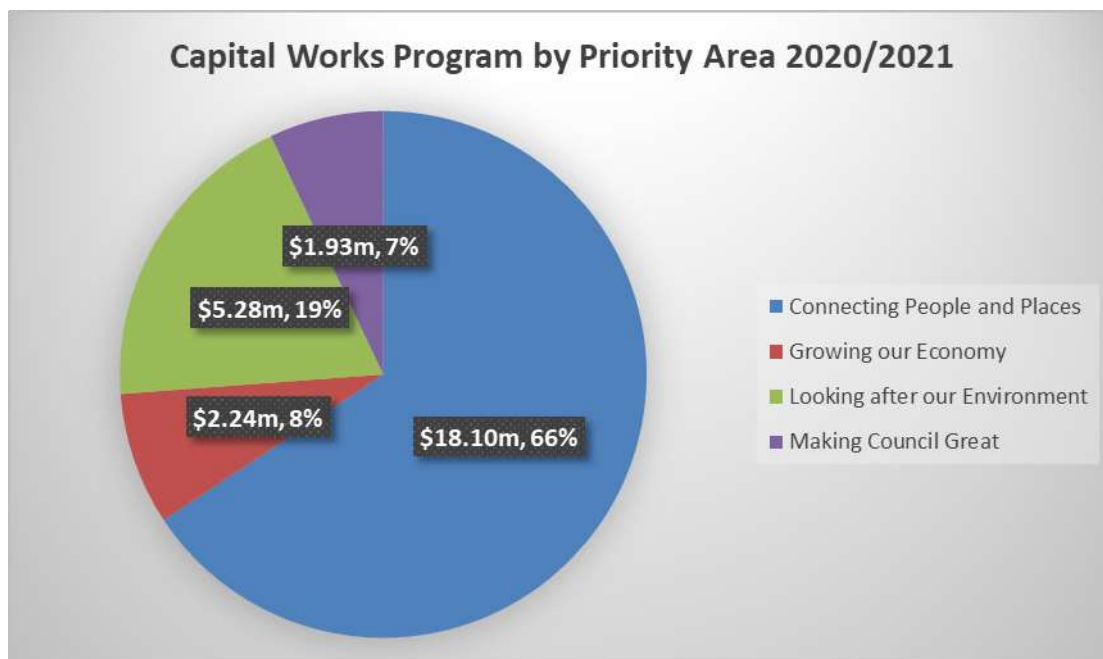
Council’s capital works budget has decreased by \$6,871,974. The projected capital works program now totals \$27,552,453, with decreases being predominantly the result of projects carrying over into the 2021/2022 year as well as works that are no longer required. Works that will be carried forward to 2021/2022 include \$1.16 million in waste projects, comprised mainly of \$1 million for cell capping at Nammoona, along with \$790,688 for industrial land activation works as well as \$753,871 in adjustments for sewerage capital works. In addition, the plant purchases budget has been reduced by \$993,571 due to delays being experienced in delivery timeframes. All recommended changes to the Capital Works Program are disclosed by Priority Area on page 6 of Council’s Quarterly Budget Review Statement and detailed explanations are provided on pages 9-17.

The following graph tracks the movement in the capital works program for 2020/2021 from the original budget, after the adoption of approved carry over works and other approved monthly adjustments up to the March Quarterly Budget Review.



Council's capital works program will need to be closely monitored and further reviewed throughout the remainder of the year to ensure all projects are able to be delivered.

The following graph provides a summary of the capital works program by Priority Area:



Council's projected budget position and recommended changes for Council resolution are summarised in the table below:

Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 March 2021	Revised Budget 31-Dec-20	Recommended Changes for Council Resolution	Projected Year End Result 2020/2021
Income from Continuing Operations	77,936,623	1,966,930	79,903,553
Expenses from Continuing Operations	69,627,977	214,763	69,842,740
Operating Result from Continuing Operations	8,308,646	1,752,167	10,060,813
Operating Result before Capital Income	(4,892,028)	673,709	(4,218,319)
Add: Non-Cash Expenses	18,173,276	0	18,173,276
Add: Non-Operating Funds Employed	2,326,136	0	2,326,136
Less: Capital Expenditure	34,424,427	(6,871,974)	27,552,453
Less: Loan Repayments	2,600,067	0	2,600,067
Estimated Funding Result – Surplus/(Deficit)	(8,216,436)	8,624,141	407,705
Restricted Funds – Increase/(Decrease)	(8,545,305)	8,582,833	37,528
Unrestricted Funds – Increase/(Decrease)	328,869	41,308	370,177

Pages 9 to 17 of the attached Quarterly Budget Review Statement contain the detailed budget variation explanations. A summary of the main contributing factors within each Priority Area is as follows:

Connecting People & Places

- Increase in capital grants and contributions for sports grounds, parks and facilities with \$1,418,814 being received for the Casino Showground and Racecourse Upgrade.
- Decrease in capital expenditure for sports grounds, parks and facilities of \$475,340, with \$605,000 being transferred to the 2021/2022 year for Coronation Park and Razorback Lookout upgrades. This is offset by the addition of \$255,000 in funding from old s7.11 reserves for Crawford Square upgrades.
- Decrease in capital expenditure for swimming pools with \$550,000 being transferred to 2021/2022 for Stage 1 of the Casino Memorial Pool Upgrade.

Growing our Economy

- Decrease in capital grants and contributions and capital expenditure for tourism, with the Northern Rivers Rail Trail project being transferred into the 2021/2022 year.
- Increase in operating income and expenditure for private works to bring the budget in line with actual works being completed this year.
- Increase in budgeted quarry revenues to bring the budget in line with expected revenues this year based on year-to-date extraction rates.

Looking after our Environment

- A reduction in capital works for waste management of \$1,167,585 with \$1 million being for cell capping at Nammoona.
- Decrease in sewerage services capital works of \$753,871 following a review of the capital works program identifying a number of projects that are no longer a priority or will continue into next financial year.
- Decrease in Water Supplies capital works of \$566,130 following a review of the capital works program identifying a number of projects that are no longer a priority or will continue into next financial year.

Making Council Great

- Decrease in capital expenditure for Fleet Management due to the deferral of \$1,009,071 in plant purchases with significant delays being experienced with delivery timeframes of plant.

CONCLUSION

As at the end of the third quarter, Council's operating result from continuing operations is a projected surplus of \$10,060,813, with a projected loss before capital grants and contributions of \$4,218,319. Council's capital works budget has decreased to \$27,552,453 and this will be closely monitored to ensure all projects can be delivered. Council's estimated budget result (unrestricted cash result) has improved to a projected surplus of \$370,177 and overall, Council's projected financial position at year end remains satisfactory.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. **Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 March 2021 (under separate cover)**

15.2 REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S INVESTMENT POLICY

Author: Jono Patino, Financial Accountant

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council reviews its Investment Policy on an annual basis. The latest review has been undertaken with assistance from Council's investment advisors, Laminar Capital, resulting in some refinements being recommended. The changes and additions to the policy are detailed within this report.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council adopts the revised Investment Policy.
2. That Council continue to utilise Laminar Capital as its financial advisory service provider and the Treasury Direct online investment platform for another 12 months.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Making Council Great

CS1: Leading and Advocating for our Community

CS1.4: Provide high level financial and business analysis advice to monitor performance

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Interest rate yields on cash accounts, term deposits and floating rate notes have decreased significantly during the 2020/2021 financial year. NSW Treasury Corporation Funds have experienced periods of volatility but year to date have performed well despite the global recession caused by the impacts of COVID-19. During the 2020/2021 financial year financial year to date, \$1,041,631 has been received in interest and investment revenue on a cash basis (this result is 103.85% of the budget of \$1,003,025).

The draft interest revenue budget for the 2021/2022 financial year has been reduced to \$850,000 due to the reduced returns on offer. The average return on Council's term deposits and floating rate notes held as at 30 June 2020 was 1.68%. By comparison the average return on Council's term deposits and floating rate notes held as at 30 April 2021 is 0.84%. As a result of this Council's interest and investment revenue is heavily reliant on its NSW Treasury Corporation Funds performing well. For Council's strong actual returns to continue some changes have been made to Council's Investment Policy.

REPORT

Council has taken a conservative approach to its investments since the Global Financial Crisis (GFC) of 2007/2008, which is consistent with the industry wide response to the impact of the GFC and the tightening of the Ministerial Investment Order. Challenging market conditions continue due to the low returns being offered by banking institutions. In November 2020, the official cash rate was decreased to 0.10% while the economic impacts of COVID-19 led to the Australian Government providing banking institutions to significant funding at a rate of 0.25%. These factors have reduced demand for investment funds and as such have significantly lowered the returns offered to investors. As such, other investment options are required including alternative bank accounts, floating rate notes (FRN's), fixed rate bonds and other NSW Treasury Corporation Funds.

Investment Options

Local councils are required under the *Local Government Act 1993* to limit investments to those outlined in the Ministerial Order on investments. The types of investments allowed are:

- any public funds or securities issued by or guaranteed by, the Commonwealth, any State of the Commonwealth or a Territory
- any debentures or securities issued by a council
- interest bearing deposits with, or any debentures or bonds issued by, an authorised deposit-taking institution (excluding subordinated debt obligations)
- any bill of exchange with a maturity date of less than 200 days; and if purchased for value confers on the holder in due course a right of recourse against a bank which has been designated as an authorised deposit-taking institution by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA)
- a deposit with the New South Wales Treasury Corporation or investments in an Hour-Glass Investment facility of the New South Wales Treasury Corporation.

Council maintains a diversified investment portfolio to achieve the best possible rates of return while maintaining capital. Council's investments in NSW Treasury Corporation Funds have led to increased volatility in the market and ultimately resulted in Council withdrawing its entire investment in the NSW Treasury Corporation IM Cash Fund based on advice from Laminar Direct Council's financial advisors and NSW Treasury Corporation themselves. During the 2020/2021 financial year to date losses were recorded in four months totalling (\$138,820). Despite these losses an overall capital gain of \$667,474 has been achieved for the 2020/2021 financial year to date. Council's investment performance has been strong given the economic circumstances, although total investment revenue has decreased from the previous financial year.

Investment Performance

Council's investment performance for the last four years is shown in the table below.

Year	Average Portfolio	Interest Revenue	Variance from Previous Year
2017-18	\$38,920,181.24	\$764,175.63 (includes TCorp fair value gains)	(\$23,857.83)
2018-19	\$44,013,376.28	\$1,393,479.10 (includes TCorp fair value gains)	\$629,303.47
2019-20	\$48,624,071.13	\$896,599.23 (includes TCorp fair value gains)	(\$469,879.87)
2020-21 Year to Date	\$56,407,497.49	\$1,041,631.05 (includes TCorp fair value gains)	\$145,031.82

TCorp Hour-Glass Investments

Council continues to invest with NSW Treasury Corporation via its Medium Term Growth Fund however, Council withdrew its investment in the Cash Fund in February 2021. The objective of these investments is to attain higher yields than those offered by cash balances, term deposits and floating rate notes in the long term.

The performance of these investments over the 2020/2021 financial year to 30 April 2021 has varied from the previous year with the funds achieving the following returns:

- TCorpIM Cash Fund – 0.29% (decreased from 1.14%)

- TCorpIM Medium Term Growth Fund – 6.5% (increased from 0.39%)

The Medium-Term Growth Fund has performed well over a longer term (as indicated below) funds despite being subject to fluctuations in value. These investments should continue to produce attractive returns in future years:

- TCorpIM Medium Term Growth Fund – 3-year return of 4.65% p.a. / 5-year return of 4.89% p.a.

These returns make continuing to invest in these funds a viable option for Council.

Financial Advisors

Council continues to use the investment platform and financial advisory services of Laminar Capital which began in July 2020. This platform has proven to be efficient and the other benefits obtained by Council staff regarding market insights, economic commentary and Council specific advice have proven valuable. The annual cost to Council has remained at \$7,800 per annum (excl GST).

Investment Holdings

Following further advice from Council's investment advisors' changes have been made to the Credit Rating, Portfolio and Counterparty Limits section of the Investment Policy. The NSW Treasury Corporation Long Term Growth Fund has been added and the maximum holdings for the other NSW Treasury Corporation investments has been updated. These changes are based on advice from Council's financial advisors Laminar Capital to reflect the associated risk and recommended term to maturity of each investment. These changes are reflected in the table below:

Investment Class	Minimum Holding	Current Maximum Holding	Revised Maximum Holding	Counterparty Limit
AAA Rated	0%	100%	100%	40%
AA+ to AA- Rated (including the 4 major banks)	0%	100%	100%	40%
A+ to A- Rated	0%	70%	70%	30%
BBB+ to BBB- Rated	0%	50%	50%	20%
Unrated	0%	20%	20%	10%
TCorpIM Cash Facility	0%	40%	100%	100%
TCorpIM Short Term Income Fund	0%	40%	40%	100%
TCorpIM Medium Term Growth Facility	0%	40%	25%	100%
TCorpIM Long Term Growth Facility	0%	N/A	10%	100%

Standard & Poor's (or equivalent Moody's or Fitch) ratings attributed to each individual institution continue to be used to determine maximum holdings. In the event of a disagreement between two agencies as the rating band ("split ratings") Council will use the lower of the ratings. Where more than two ratings exist, Council will discard the lowest rating and then use the lower of the higher two ratings when assessing new purchases. This is an industry standard methodology that is widely used.

It is recommended that these changes to the investment class holdings be approved.

Potential Investment Structures, Loans and Returns

NSW Treasury Corporation’s credit committee has maintained its lending criteria which requires a Council to commit to a recommended balanced investment framework as a condition for future loan funding. Councils are not required to have the required portfolio limits at the time of borrowing but must commit to a transition period once loan funding has been agreed to. The focus of this framework is to limit investments with a rating of BBB and more significantly unrated investments.

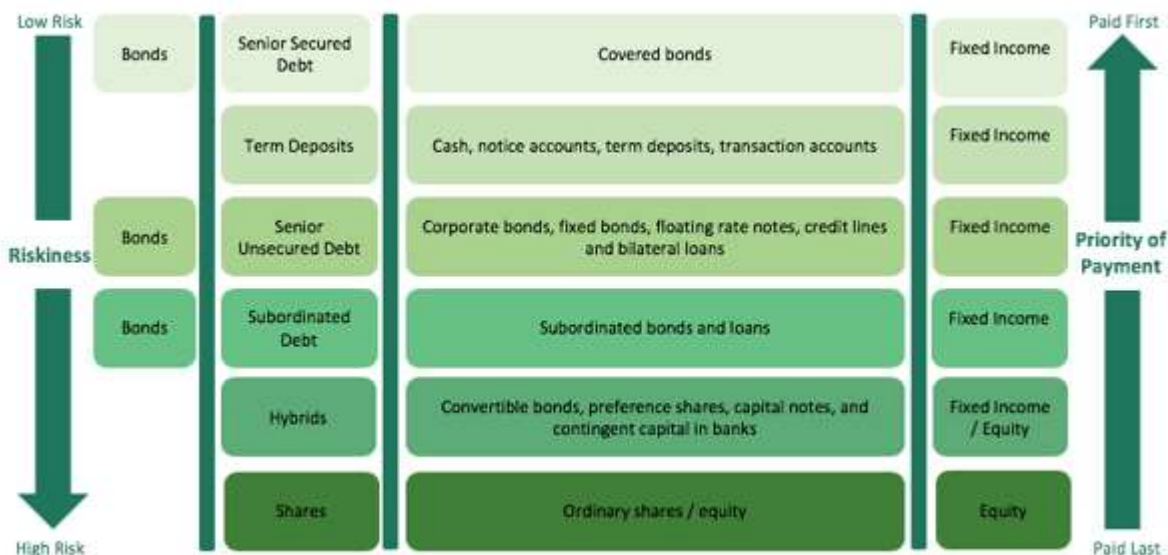
The proposed structure is displayed in the table below:

TCorp		Portfolio Limit	Counterparty Limit	Max Tenor
Core TCorpM Funds***	Unrated	100%	100%	N/A
S&P Long Term**	S&P Short Term**	Portfolio Limit	Counterparty Limit	Max Tenor
AAA	A-1+	100%	100%	N/A
AA+ to AA-	A-1+	100%	100%	5 years
A+ to A	A-1	100%	30%	3 years
A-	A-2	40%	20%	3 years
BBB+	A-2	30%*	10%	3 years
BBB	A-3		5%	12 months
BBB- & below - local ADIs	A-3 & below - local ADIs	5%	5%	12 months
BBB- & below - other	A-3 & below - other		\$250k	12 months

* Sub-limit of 10% applies to ADIs rated BBB
 ** Where a counterparty has two or more ratings, it is the S&P equivalent of the lower of those ratings that shall apply for the purposes of the Investment Framework
 *** Core TCorpM Funds means: TCorpM Cash Fund, TCorpM Short Term Income Fund, TCorpM Medium Term Growth Fund, TCorpM Long Term Growth Fund

BBB rated and unrated investments typically offer higher rates of return and the implementation of this structure would result in significant decreases to investment returns. While investments with a lower rating or no rating are considered riskier than their rated counterparts, the chances of Council suffering any investment losses is considered low due to the required capital structure of a banking institution. In the event of a bank going into administration the priority of debt payments means that term deposits are one of the first categories of investment that is returned to investors (see graph below).

CAPITAL STRUCTURE



In addition to this the first \$250,000 of any investment made is covered by the Federal Government’s deposit guarantee.

Council's NSW Treasury Corporation funds are invested in several areas as per below:

Investment Category	TCorpIM	
	Medium Term Growth Fund	Long Term Growth Fund
Cash and Cash Equivalents	✓	✓
Australian Inflation Linked Bonds	✓	x
Australian Bonds	✓	✓
High Yield	✓	✓
Emerging Market Debt	✓	✓
Bank Loans	✓	✓
Global Credit	✓	x
Alternatives	✓	✓
Listed Property	✓	✓
International Shares (Unhedged)	✓	✓
Australian Shares	✓	✓
Emerging Market Shares	x	✓

NSW Treasury Corporation's investment funds have riskier profiles than those investments that are restricted by their lending criteria. In September 2020 Council's financial advisors were tasked with conducting independent research and comparing the likely effects of investing using NSW Treasury Corporation's required structure versus adopting a different approach. The recommendation was not to adopt the structure proposed by NSW Treasury Corporation as this would be detrimental to Council financially. Council staff intend to review this recommendation and task its financial advisors with an update to this advice in the near future.

RVC's neighbouring councils have a varied approach to utilising NSW Treasury Corporation investments as shown below: -

Council	NSW Treasury Corporation Investments Held	NSW Treasury Corporation Investment Structure Adopted
Ballina Shire Council	No	No
Byron Shire Council	Yes	No
Clarence Valley Council	Yes	No
Kyogle Council	No	No, but satisfies criteria
Lismore City Council	No	Yes

Policy updates

The following changes to the Investment Policy are proposed:

- Changes to investment class table as discussed above including:
 - minor changes to NSW Treasury Corporation Fund names.
 - added the NSW Treasury Corporation IM Long Term Growth Fund including minimum holdings, maximum holding and counterparty limit.
 - updated the maximum holding for the NSW Treasury Corporation IM Cash Fund and Medium-Term Growth Fund.

CONCLUSION

A review of Council's Investment Policy has been undertaken as required annually. Some minor refinements have been made to the policy, but the overall purpose has remained the same. A copy of the revised Investment Policy is included as an attachment to this report.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. Draft Investment Policy (under separate cover)

15.3 FINANCIAL ANALYSIS REPORT - APRIL 2021**Author: Jono Patino, Financial Accountant****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the status and performance of its investment portfolio in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* s.625, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 cl.212, Australian Accounting Standard (AASB 9) and Council's Investment Policy.

The value of Council's Investment Portfolio as at 30 April 2021 is shown below;

Bank Accounts	Term Deposits	Floating Rate Notes	TCorp IM Funds	Total
\$24,220,982	\$22,000,000	\$3,250,390	\$12,088,599	\$61,559,971

The weighted average rate of return on Council's investments for April 2021 was 4.12% which was above the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index for April of 0.00%, which is Council's benchmark.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Financial Analysis Report detailing investment performance for the month of April 2021.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Making Council Great

CS1: Leading and Advocating for our Community

CS1.4: Provide high level financial and business analysis advice to monitor performance

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

As at 30 April 2021, Council had earned \$374,157 in interest and \$667,474 in fair value gains for total investment revenue of \$1,041,631 against an annual budget of \$1,003,025 (which equates to 103.85%). Council currently receives a return of 0.35% on its Macquarie CMA Account and Council's financial advisors receive a commission of 0.05%. Commissions for the 2020/2021 financial year to 30 April 2021 total \$3,408.

Future fair value gains or losses will continue to be monitored and reported to Council.

REPORT**Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) Cash Rate Update**

The RBA maintained the cash rate at 0.10% per annum at its April meeting.

Rate of Return

The weighted average rate of return on investments in April 2021 was 4.12%, an increase of 53 basis points from the previous month. The rate of return is 412 basis points above the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index of 0.00% which is Council's benchmark. Council's Financial Management team continually looks for investments, within the adopted investment policy, that will give Council the most advantageous return.

Council's NSW Treasury Corporation IM Funds returned net gains of \$182,577 during April 2021, increasing the overall gain for the 2020/2021 financial year to 30 April 2021 to \$667,474.

Council is still holding larger than normal cash balances. This is predominantly due to the reduced rates of return on offer for term deposits and floating rate notes - with some banking institutions not accepting deposits at present.

Council's Investment Portfolio

The Investment Portfolio balance at 30 April 2021 of \$61,559,971 is made up of Council's Business Online Saver Account (\$13,380,000), Macquarie Cash Management Account (\$10,003,288), Term Deposits (\$22,000,000), Floating Rate Notes (\$3,250,390), NSW Treasury Corporation Investments (\$12,088,599) and other bank accounts (\$837,694).

Council's investment portfolio had maturity dates ranging from same day up to 1,742 days. Term deposits and floating rate notes of \$25,250,390 represented 41.02% of the total portfolio as at 30 April 2021.

Council made the following new investments during April 2021.

Banking Institution	Investment Type	Environmentally Sustainable Investment	Amount Invested	Investment Term
Judo Bank	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	12 months
Total			\$1,000,000	

Council had the following investment maturities during the month of April 2021.

Banking Institution	Investment Type	Environmentally Sustainable Investment	Amount Invested	Interest Earned
Judo Bank	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	\$4,932
Total			\$1,000,000	\$4,932

Council had \$12,088,599 in longer term investments being the Medium-Term Growth Fund held with NSW Treasury Corporation as at 30 April 2021. The investment values and fair value returns are shown below.

Investment Holding	Fair Value 30-Apr-2021	Fair Value Gain/(Loss) Apr 2021	Fair Value Gain/(Loss) YTD
Cash Facility Trust	\$0	\$0	\$31,366
Medium Term Growth Fund	\$12,088,599	\$182,577	\$636,108
Total	\$12,088,599	\$182,577	\$676,474

Environmentally Sustainable Investments (ESIs)

Council's portfolio of \$61,559,971 at 30 April 2021 includes \$31,338,599 or 50.9% with no direct investment in the fossil fuel industry.

These include Council's investments with NSW Treasury Corporation.

NSW Treasury Corporation has a stewardship approach to ESIs which focuses on managing environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks and opportunities, particularly climate change which is expected to impact portfolios over the long term.

CONCLUSION

During the month of April 2021 Council's investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

As at 30 April 2021 Council's investments totalled \$61,559,971 with \$24,220,982 of this being funds held in bank accounts. The weighted average rate of return was 4.12% for the month of April and total investment revenue equals 103.85% of budgeted revenue for the year to 30 April 2021.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. Investment Report Pack - April 2021 (under separate cover)

16 GENERAL BUSINESS**16.1 SECONDARY DWELLINGS - PROPOSED LEP AMENDMENT VIA THE NEW HOUSING SEPP**

Author: Tony McAteer, Strategic Land Use Planner

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Earlier this year the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) made changes to LEP provisions relating to secondary dwellings. This was an attempt to provide councils will an ability to define different development standards for rural and non-rural zones.

As a result of these changes the *Richmond Valley Local Environmental Plan 2012* (RVLEP12) was amended so the maximum floor area requirements of subclause 5.4(9) no longer apply to secondary dwellings in rural zones. For rural zones a new “optional” clause 5.5 was created, however, adoption of this new provision into RVLEP12 will require an LEP Amendment.

Currently, the RVLEP12 only permits secondary dwellings in what ordinarily would be considered urban zones. Therefore, the need to adopt clause 5.5 is considered unnecessary. However, the term “rural zone” is not specifically defined in the LEP and there are several *State Environmental Planning Policies* (SEPPs) that use terms which might define Zone RU5 Village and/or Zone R5 Large Lot Residential as rural zones.

To put this matter beyond reasonable doubt, and to ensure there are consistency development standards for secondary dwellings in rural and urban zones, it is recommended that clause 5.5 be adopted into the RVLEP12.

To facilitate adoption of clause 5.5, the DPIE is offering councils an opportunity to complete the LEP Amendment via a new Housing SEPP which is scheduled to be completed in late 2021. Councils wishing to take up this offer must do so by Council Resolution prior to 31 May 2021.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accepts the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment’s offer to amend *Richmond Valley Local Environmental Plan 2012*, via the new Housing SEPP, to adopt SILEP “optional” clause 5.5 with the following development standards:

- (a) the total floor area of the dwelling, excluding any area used for parking, must not exceed whichever of the following is the greater—
 - (i) 60 square metres,
 - (ii) 25% of the total floor area of the principal dwelling,and
- (b) the distance between the secondary dwelling and the principal dwelling must not exceed 100 metres

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Growing our Economy

EC1: Driving Economic Growth

EC1.7: Provide flexible and innovative planning controls

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

REPORT

On 1 February 2021 the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) made changes to the secondary dwelling provisions within the *Standard Instrument Local Environmental Plan* (SILEP). According to the DPIE these changes were in response to concerns raised by some councils that the existing secondary dwelling provisions did not work well when applying the same controls across rural zones and urban zones, and that many councils wanted to be able to set a separate maximum floor area and separation distance in rural zones.

The changes to the SILEP resulted in amending subclause 5.4(9) of the *Richmond Valley Local Environmental Plan 2012* (RVLEP12) so its maximum floor area standard for secondary dwellings does not apply to rural zones.

The changes also created a new “optional” clause 5.5 in the SILEP to enable a maximum floor area and/or maximum separation distance to be set for secondary dwellings in rural zones. While the change to subclause 5.4(9) automatically flowed through as an amendment to the RVLEP12, the adoption of “optional” clause 5.5 can only occur by doing an LEP Amendment. In this regard, the DPIE has offered councils an option to do this LEP Amendment via the new Housing SEPP which should commence in late 2021. Councils wanting to take up this option it must do so by Council Resolution prior to 31 May 2021, otherwise they will be required to prepare their own Planning Proposals and go through the Gateway Planning process.

Subclause 5.4(9) changes

Subclause 5.4(9) of the RVLEP12 sets the maximum floor area of a secondary dwelling at 60m², or 25% of the total floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is the greater. Changes to this subclause, see the table below, removed its application from rural zones.

Richmond Valley LEP 2012	
Clause 5.4	
Before	After
5.4 Controls relating to miscellaneous permissible uses ... (9) Secondary dwellings If development for the purposes of a secondary dwelling is permitted under this Plan, the total floor area of the dwelling (excluding any area used for parking) must not exceed whichever of the following is the greater— (a) 60 square metres, (b) 25% of the total floor area of the principal dwelling. ...	5.4 Controls relating to miscellaneous permissible uses ... (9) Secondary dwellings on land other than land in a rural zone If development for the purposes of a secondary dwelling is permitted under this Plan on land other than land in a rural zone, the total floor area of the dwelling, excluding any area used for parking, must not exceed whichever of the following is the greater— (a) 60 square metres, (b) 25% of the total floor area of the principal dwelling. ...

“Optional” Clause 5.5

Clause 5.5 was inserted into the SILEP as an “optional” provision to enable councils discretion to set a maximum floor area for secondary dwellings, and/or set the maximum separation distance between a secondary dwelling and its principal dwelling, in rural zones.

“Optional” Clause 5.5—
5.5 Controls relating to secondary dwellings on land in a rural zone [optional] If development for the purposes of a secondary dwelling is permitted under this Plan on land in a rural zone— (a) the total floor area of the dwelling, excluding any area used for parking, must not exceed whichever of the following is the greater—

(i) *[insert number]* square metres,

(ii) *[insert number]*% of the total floor area of the principal dwelling,

and

(b) the distance between the secondary dwelling and the principal dwelling must not exceed *[insert number]* metres.

Direction— This clause may also be adopted without paragraph (a) or without paragraph (b).

Secondary Dwellings within RVLEP12

Secondary Dwellings (or granny flats) are small self-contained dwellings associated with a principal dwelling on the same land. They can't be subdivided from the principal dwelling and are restricted to a maximum floor area of 60m², as set by the Affordable Housing SEPP, or such larger area as provided in an LEP for the area. In the case of the RVLEP12, subclause 5.4(9) sets the maximum floor area at 60m², or 25% of the total floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is the greater.

Currently, the RVLEP12 only permits secondary dwellings in what ordinarily would be considered urban zones:

- R1 General Residential;
- R5 Large Lot Residential; and
- RU5 Village.

Therefore, the need to adopt clause 5.5 is considered unnecessary. However, the term “rural zone” is new to the LEP and not specifically defined. To further confuse matters there are several *State Environmental Planning Policies* (SEPPs) that include terms which might define Zone RU5 Village and/or Zone R5 Large Lot Residential as rural zones. In addition, the Affordable Housing SEPP did not include the RU5 Village zone as a permissible zone for secondary dwellings, so it was specifically added to the RVLEP12 Zone RU5 by Council.

Need to Adopt Clause 5.5

To remove any reasonable doubt about what constitutes a rural zone, and to ensure there is consistency between the urban and rural development standards, it is recommended that “optional” clause 5.5 of the SILEP should be adopted into the RVLEP12. It is further recommended that the applicable development standards should be consistent with development standards set elsewhere within the LEP, they being:

- subclause 5.4(9)—relating to the maximum floor area of a secondary dwelling in a non-rural zone—propose setting the maximum floor area at 60m², or 25% of the total floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is the greater; and
- clause 4.2B(4)—relating to the maximum separation between dwellings in a rural dual occupancy—propose setting the maximum separation distance for a secondary dwelling and its principal dwelling at 100 metres.

*Note. Two SEPPs defines the term **rural zone** and another defines **non-rural area**-*

*Codes SEPP @cl 1.5 defines a **rural zone** as meaning zones:*

- RU1 Primary Production
- RU3 Forestry
- RU5 Village

*Infrastructure SEPP @cl. 33 defines a **prescribed rural zone** means zones:*

- RU1 Primary Production
- RU3 Forestry

*Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas SEPP @cl. 5 defines land to which the Policy applies (which is termed **non-rural area** under cl. 4):*

- *RU5 Village*
- *R1 General Residential*
- *Zone R5 Large Lot Residential*
- *Zone B1 Neighbourhood Centre*
- *Zone B2 Local Centre*
- *Zone B3 Commercial Core*
- *Zone IN1 General Industrial*
- *Zone SP1 Special Activities*
- *Zone SP2 Infrastructure*
- *Zone RE1 Public Recreation*
- *Zone RE2 Private Recreation*
- *Zone E2 Environmental Conservation*
- *Zone E3 Environmental Management*

Note. Only zones relevant to the RVLEP12 have been shown. See the relevant SEPPs for all zones.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

CONCLUSION

Changes were made to the *Standard Instrument Local Environmental Plan (SILEP)* in an attempt to enable councils to have different development standards in their LEPs for rural and urban secondary dwellings.

This change resulted in removing the secondary dwellings maximum floor area development standard from rural zones in the *Richmond Valley Local Environmental Plan 2012 (RVLEP12)*. However, a new “optional” clause 5.5 is available for Council to adopt a rural development standard for maximum floor area and/or a maximum separation distance for secondary dwellings in rural zones.

In the main the RVLEP12 only permits secondary dwellings in what would ordinarily be considered urban (or residential) zones, therefore, clause 5.5 is not required. However, there is concern that “rural zone” is not defined and that Zone RU5 Village and/or Zone R5 Large Lot Residential could be interpreted by others as “rural zones”. It is therefore recommended that Richmond Valley Council accept an offer from DPIE to include an amendment of RVLEP12 via the new Housing SEPP. Furthermore, the applicable development standards for clause 5.5 should be set as follows:

- (a) the total floor area of the dwelling, excluding any area used for parking, must not exceed whichever of the following is the greater—
 - (i) **60** square metres,
 - (ii) **25%** of the total floor area of the principal dwelling,and
- (b) the distance between the secondary dwelling and the principal dwelling must not exceed **100** metres.

By adopting clause 5.5 it will ensure secondary dwelling development standards for the rural zones, be they the RU5 Village and/or R5 Large Lot Residential zones, are consistent with existing provisions within the RVLEP12.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

16.2 PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE AND SALE OF JABIRU LANE CASINO

Author: Kim Anderson, GIS and Systems Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Casino RSM has approached Council for the closure and sale of Council public roads contained within and adjoining land owned by the RSM.

Council has obtained a land valuation for the closed roads which is attached to this report for Councillors' consideration.

Council has undertaken the relevant consultation in accordance with Section 38B of the *Roads Act 1993* and did not received any objections to close the public road for disposal.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. In accordance with Section 38B of the *Roads Act 1993* Council supports the application to close part Jabiru Lane, unnamed lane and part Convent Parade road widening as shown on the Map 1 (below).
2. Upon closure, Council offers the land for sale to the applicant.
3. The General Manager be delegated authority to negotiate the conditions of sale, execute restrictions on the land for the protection of infrastructure utilities, including signing of documents and affixing the Council Seal as necessary.
4. The applicant be required to consolidate the subject land with adjoining land upon transfer and meet the costs associated with the road closure and sale.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Connecting People and Places

PP2: Getting Around

PP2.1: Improve Road Management practices at Richmond Valley Council

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

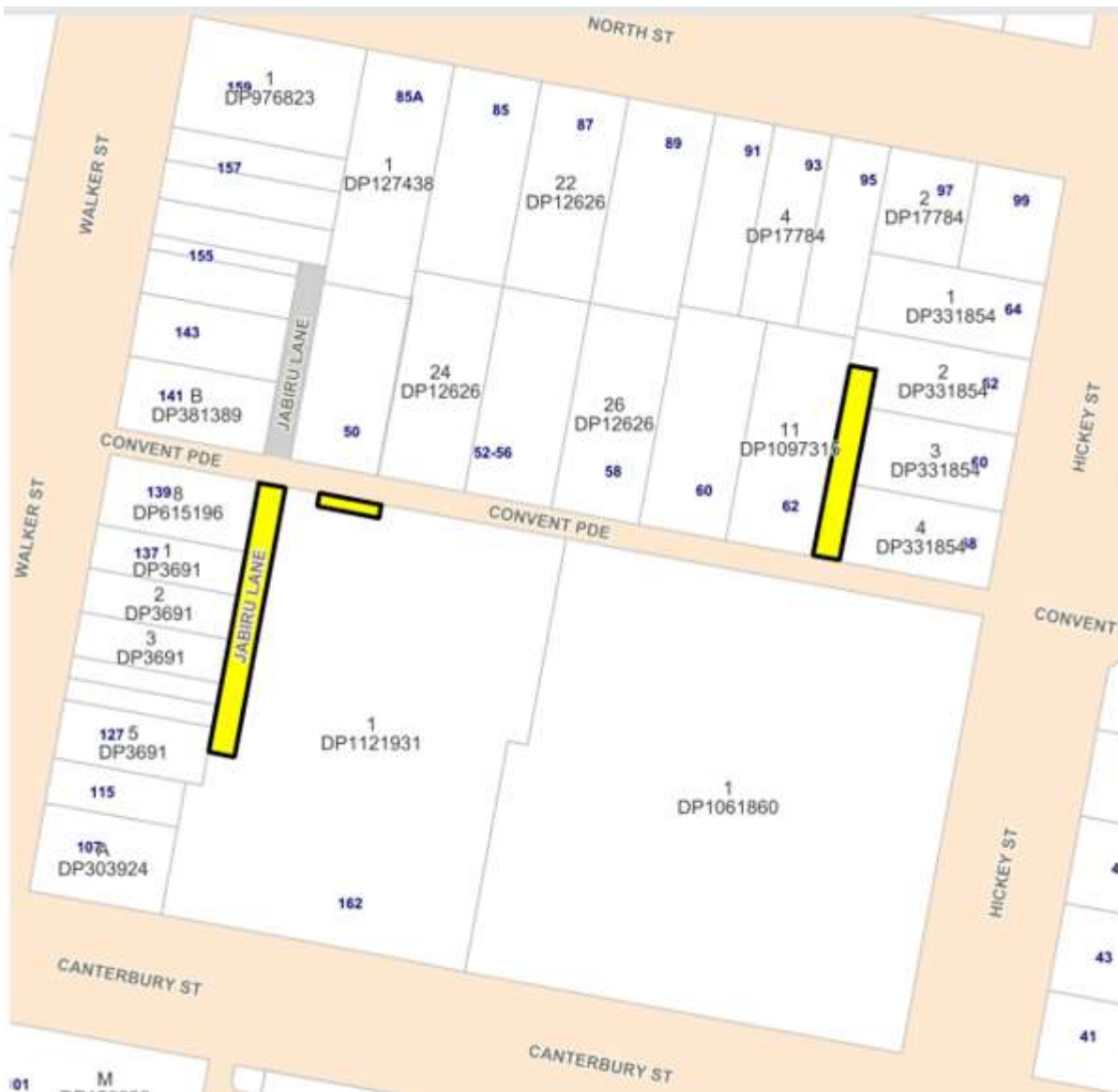
Council has a budget allocation 2020/2021 of \$45,000 to complete works to re-seal and repair Jabiru laneway.

A valuation was completed by Valuers Australia (Attachment 1) on 28 February 2021 reporting the combined current valuation of the proposed closed roadway land valued at \$75,000.

REPORT

Council has been requested from Casino RSM for the road closure and sale of the following roads within Casino being:

- Part Jabiru Lane,
- A section of lane widening along Convent Parade adjoining Lot 1 DP 1121931, and
- An unformed unnamed land adjoining Lot 11 DP1097315 within Casino.



Map 1 – Showing location of proposed road closure for sale.

Jabiru Lane is a bitumen sealed constructed laneway servicing the rear of commercial properties along Walker Street. The last bitumen seal was completed in 1996 and currently is in poor condition which requires renewal. The laneway contains substantial potholes and uneven surfaces having deteriorated to an extent which may present a hazard to pedestrian and vehicle traffic. The current budget 2020/2021 has an allocation of \$45,000 to complete works to re-seal and repair the laneway.

The section of lane widening along Convent Parade adjoining Lot 1 DP1121931 is currently used as the driveway entrance to the rear of the RSM Club into the Carpark. This road widening was dedicated as road to Council as part of a subdivision in 1960. This was done as part of planning requirements to widen trafficable laneways within Casino.

The unnamed, and unformed laneway adjoining Lot 11 DP1097315 adjoins all properties owned by the Casino RSM.

Council has sewerage infrastructure within the two laneways.

Jabiru Lane sewerage infrastructure services properties on the intersection of Walker/Canterbury Street which are under different ownership. Essential Energy infrastructure is also contained within this road reserve.

The unnamed and informed laneway sewerage infrastructure services properties owned by the RSM.

Initial investigations identify that infrastructure services would need to be protected by an easement for this road closure to proceed for the benefit of Council and Essential Energy.



Map 3 – Showing location of service within proposed road closures.

A valuation was completed by Valuers Australia (Attachment 1) reporting the current valuation of the land as at 28 February 2021:

Road Closure 371.4m2 Jabiru Lane	\$41,000
Road Closure 277m2 Unnamed Lane	\$31,000
Road Closure 42.5m2 Convent Parade	\$ 3,000

A report was presented at the March council meeting which resolved to undertake consultation in accordance with Section 38B of the *Roads Act 1993*, with a request for a further report to be presented to Council at the completion of the consultation.

CONSULTATION

Statutory advertising on the proposal has been completed inviting public submissions. This included advertising on Council’s website, and in the local newspapers *Richmond River Independent* on 22 March 2021. Council did not receive any submissions.

Adjoining landholders were notified. No submissions were received.

Relevant authorities were notified. No public authorities objected to the proposed road closure.

NSW Department of Industry – Crown Lands assessed the proposal and provided written advice of no objection to Council’s proposal to close the public road, vesting in Council for disposal to the adjoining landholder.

CONCLUSION

Council would receive financial benefit from removing the maintenance and costs associated with maintaining the laneway including the current budget allocation of \$45,000.

There is no known public use or need for the proposed closed road identified in the report. A restriction on the land in a form of an easement would be created for the protection of infrastructure services contained on the land.

All costs associated with the road closure and sale are to be met by the applicant. Upon Closure and sale, the road will be consolidated with the applicant’s adjoining property.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1. Land Valuation for Proposed Road Closures - Confidential (under separate cover)**

17 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

RECOMMENDATION

Recommended that the following reports submitted for information be received and noted.

17.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2021 TO 30 APRIL 2021

Author: Andy Edwards, Manager Development & Certification

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Development Application report for the period 1 April 2021 to 30 April 2021.

REPORT

This report provides a summary of development activity on a monthly basis. All Development Applications determined in the month are outlined in this report, including Section 4.55 approvals, applications which were refused and withdrawn, and applications with no development value, such as subdivisions.

Council receives a fortnightly summary of the status of applications (including all received) and notifications of all determinations of Development Applications are included in the Community Newsletter on a monthly basis.

The total number of Development Applications and Complying Development Applications determined within the Local Government area for the period 1 April 2021 to 30 April 2021 was 22 with 1 application for a bushfire affected property, totalling a value of \$5,493,949.50.

The graph below shows the number of development applications processed by Council over five financial years.

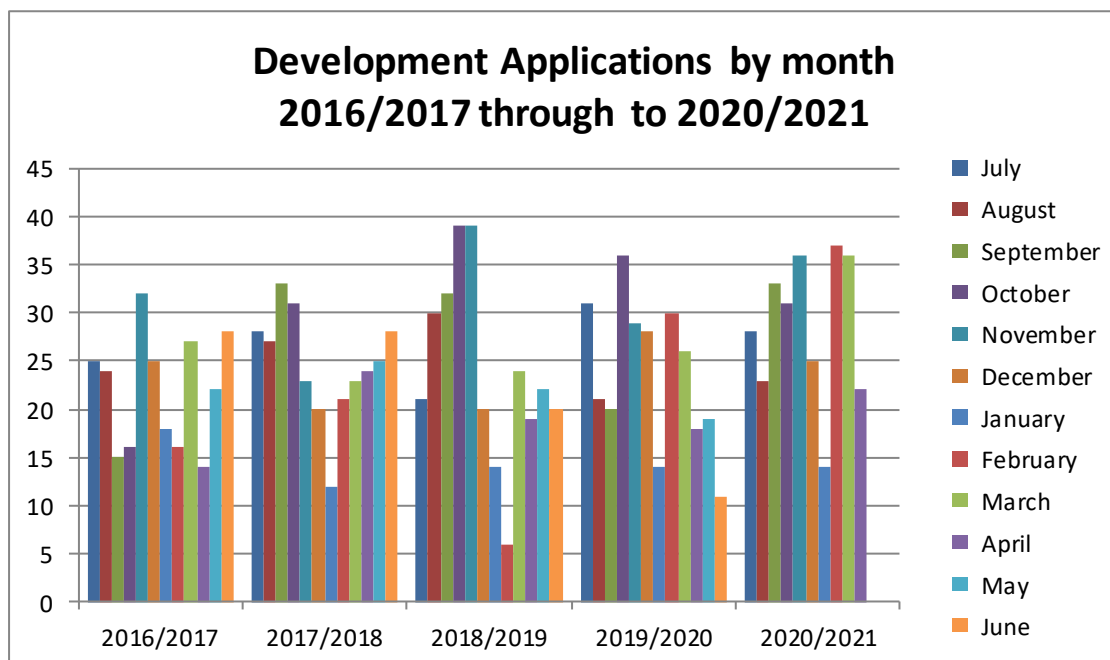


Figure 1: Monthly number of development applications processed by Council over five financial years.

Figure 2 graph provides the annual value of Development Consents issued by Council over five financial years and Figure 3 provides a detailed review of the value for the reporting month of April 2021.

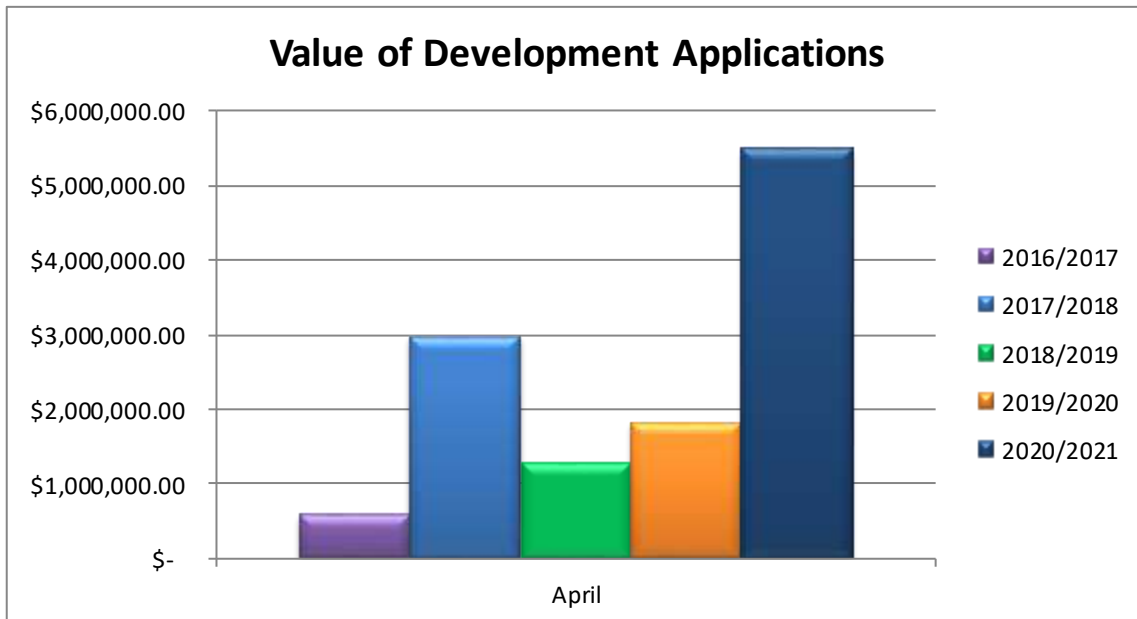


Figure 2: Value of development for the month of April.

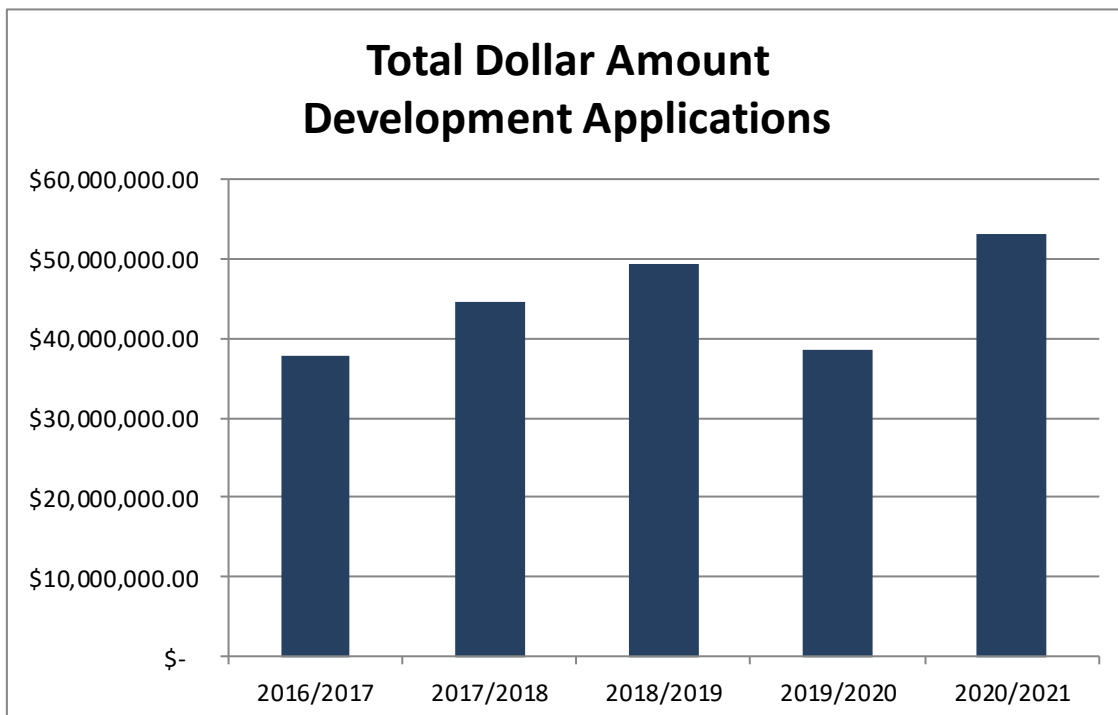


Figure 3: Annual value of development.

Number of Development Applications

The number of applications received by Council does not necessarily reflect the value of developments as single large developments can be equivalent in value to a large number of more standard type developments such as sheds, dwellings and small commercial developments.

Figures 4 and 5 detail the number of applications determined by Council over the past five years.

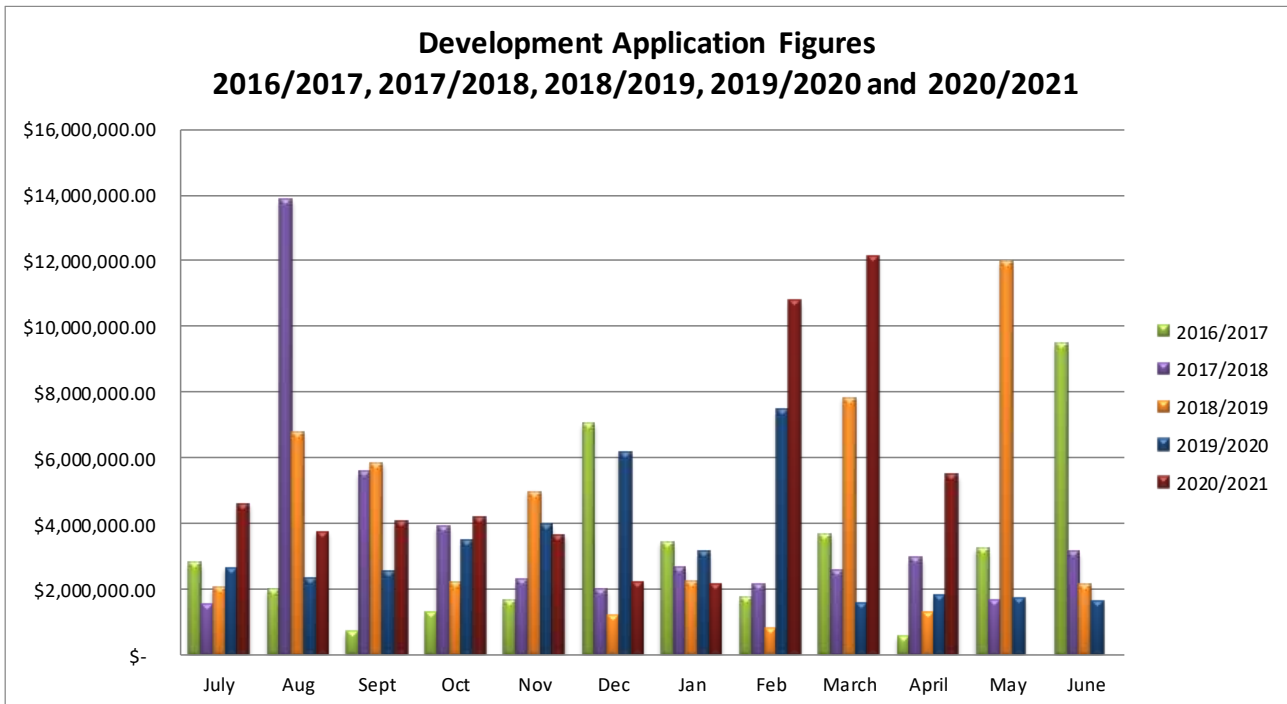


Figure 4: Value of development applications per month over five financial years.

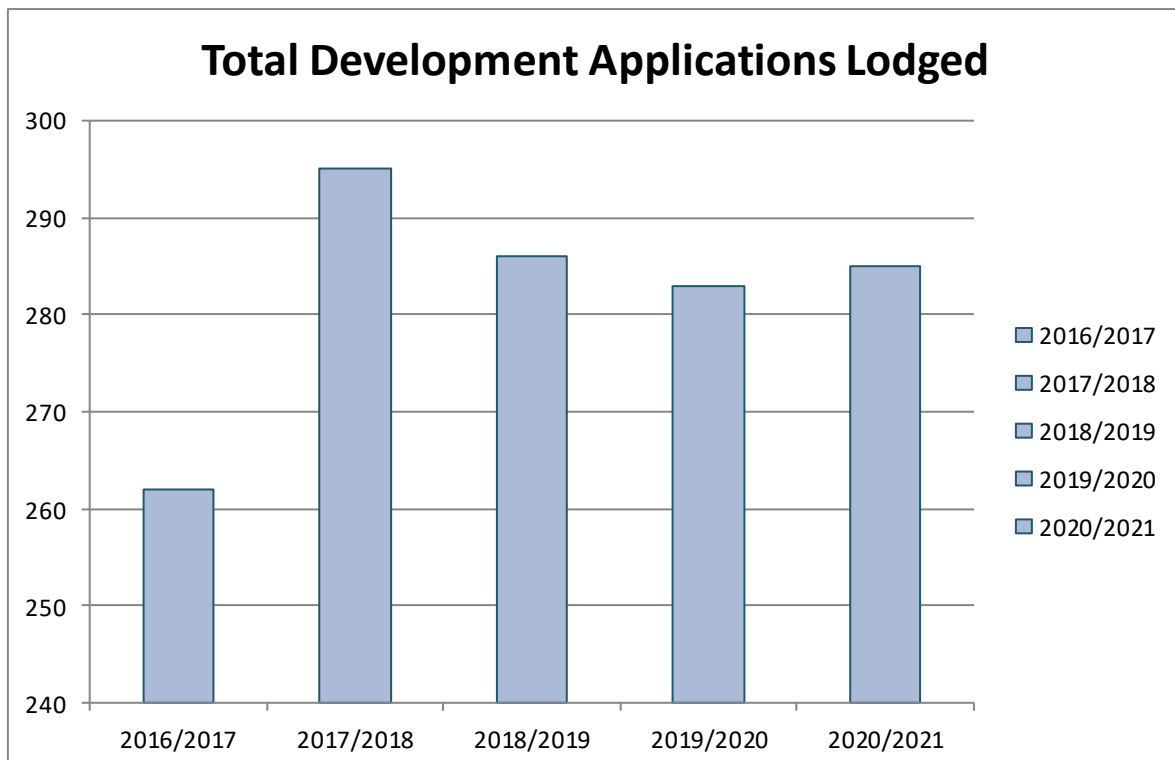


Figure 5: Number of Development Applications per annum over five financial years.

Activity for the month of April 2021

General Approvals (excluding Subdivisions, Section 96s)	20
Section 4.55 amendments to original consent	
Subdivision	
Refused	
Withdrawn	
Complying Development (Private Certifier Approved)	2
TOTAL	22

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Growing our Economy

EC1: Driving Economic Growth

EC1.6: Improved customer satisfaction with the DA process

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONSULTATION

Nil

Summary of Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 April 2021 to 30 April 2021							
Application ID	Applicant	Owners	Location	Development	Date Lodged	Determination Date	Estimated Cost
DA2021/0124	AGS Commercial Pty Ltd	New World Foods International Pty Ltd Property Ownership Division	6 Foy Street, Casino	As built carport, cool room and office	28/10/2020	26/04/2021	\$ 150,000.00
DA2021/0167	BA Harley	TR Lamont	44 Currajong Street, Evans Head	Construction of two (2) storey attached dual occupancy development with single garages, in-ground swimming pools and associated works	21/12/2020	14/04/2021	\$ 950,000.00
DA2021/0191	Profile Pools and Landscaping	JL & ME Sauer	64 Currajong Street, Evans Head	Installation of fibreglass inground swimming pool with associated pool fencing	25/01/2021	14/04/2021	\$ 29,000.00
DA2021/0201	Northern Co-Operative Meat Co Ltd	Northern Co-Operative Meat Co Ltd	10615 Summerland Way, Casino	Construction of a new car parking area for the existing livestock processing facility and associated works	5/02/2021	8/04/2021	\$ 200,000.00
DA2021/0226	Newton Denny Chapelle	North Coast Community Housing	7 Callistemon Street, Casino	Construction of a multi-dwelling housing development as affordable housing comprising 9 x 2 bedroom single storey dwellings, and associated works including earthworks, infrastructure, servicing, car parking and landscaping	4/03/2021	27/04/2021	\$ 1,885,427.00
DA2021/0229	Steve Ryan Builder Pty Ltd	AL Maslen & MD Gardiner	4 Country Lane, Casino	Dwelling with 11m x 7m colorbond shed	11/03/2021	6/04/2021	\$ 496,000.00
DA2021/0230	D Johns	D Johns & AK Butcher	4 Adams Street, Coraki	Demolish existing shed, erect new shed and install swimming pool with associated fencing	11/03/2021	6/04/2021	\$ 50,000.00
CDC2021/0020	GMA Certification Group Pty Ltd	KA & JC Bailey	16 Rodeo Drive, North Casino	Single storey dwelling and attached garage	17/03/2021	1/03/2021	\$ 336,842.00
DA2021/0233	PD & CL Kerle	P D & CL Kerle	1765 Bentley Road, Bentley	Installation of a fibreglass inground swimming pool & associated fencing	17/03/2021	7/04/2021	\$ 37,100.00
DA2021/0234	AGS Commercial Pty Ltd	AK & CM McKenna	11805 Summerland Way, Fairy Hill	Shed	18/03/2021	7/04/2021	\$ 115,058.50
DA2021/0235	Chris Burley Constructions	LM & SH Clark	425 Shannonbrook Road, Shannon Brook	Alterations and additions to dwelling being a new ensuite, extending lounge room, kitchen & dining area, additional covered side and rear patio areas	18/03/2021	8/04/2021	\$ 288,428.00
DA2021/0241	SD Byrne	SD Byrne	56 Richmond Street, Casino	As built shed	23/03/2021	14/04/2021	\$ 10,000.00
DA2021/0243	AGS Commercial Pty Ltd	EK Martin & BJ Leece	6 Clay Avenue, Casino	Shed	24/03/2021	29/04/2021	\$ 21,195.00

Summary of Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 April 2021 to 30 April 2021							
Application ID	Applicant	Owners	Location	Development	Date Lodged	Determination Date	Estimated Cost
DA2021/0244	William John Townend/as WJ Townend - Town Planning Pty Ltd	JC Rucker	49 Walker Street, Casino	Change of use to tattoo and piercing parlor including ancillary construction and fit out of premise	24/03/2021	27/04/2021	\$ 5,000.00
DA2021/0245	Newton Denny Chapelle	GJ & NM Reynolds	25 Ryans Road, Leeville	As built cabin to form a detached dual occupancy and building works in the form of a laundry and covered deck	25/03/2021	27/04/2021	\$ 70,000.00
DA2021/0246	Hayes Building Consultancy	AHG & C Coward	109 Ocean Drive, Evans Head	Renovations and open deck additions to an existing two level brick veneer dwelling including a new roof structure	26/03/2021	21/04/2021	\$ 275,000.00
CDC2021/0021	GMA Certification Group Pty Ltd	JAW Nixon	Casuarina Drive, Swan Bay	Dwelling, attached garage, attached porch & attached alfresco	29/03/2021	17/03/2021	\$ 334,899.00
DA2021/0252	CB Dwyer	CB Dwyer & LC Adams	19 Riverview Street, Evans Head	Dwelling alterations & additions	7/04/2021	29/04/2021	\$ 90,000.00
DA2021/0253	GEO-AM Consulting	CE Cox	303 Rappville Road, Rappville	Change of use of as built shed to dwelling	7/04/2021	16/04/2021	\$ 150,000.00
DA2021/0262	SA Wiley	SA Wiley	6A Fea Place, Casino	Shed	14/04/2021	29/04/2021	\$ 33,400.00
DA2021/0265	Byron Bay Planning & Property Consultants	BM Holt	65 Woodburn Street, Evans Head	Addition of verandah to principal dwelling	20/04/2021	30/04/2021	\$ 19,900.00
Summary of Development Applications for Bushfire Affected Properties determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 April 2021 to 30 April 2021							
Application ID	Applicant	Owners	Location	Development	Date Lodged	Withdrawn Date	Estimated Cost
DA2021/0257	DR Shields	DR & MW Shields	95 Avenue Road, Myrtle Creek	Dwelling	8/04/2021	15/04/2021	\$ 618,115.85

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

17.2 GRANT APPLICATION INFORMATION REPORT - APRIL 2021**Author: Jono Patino, Financial Accountant****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives and notes the Grant Application Information Report for the month of April 2021.

REPORT

This report provides information on grant applications that have been approved, grants that have been received, grant applications that were unsuccessful and grant applications submitted for the month of April 2021.

During the reporting period two grants were approved and funding was received for fourteen grants totalling \$2,392,807. Council was notified as being unsuccessful with five grant applications and three grants were applied for.

Grants that have been approved

Connecting Country Lane - Seal Existing Unsealed Road	
Project ID	10401
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Fixing Local Roads Program Round 2
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$750,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$562,500
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$187,500
Date Application Submitted	9 December 2020
Date Approved	22 April 2021
Comment (if required)	This project is for the reconstruction and sealing of 250m of unsealed road from the intersection at Foy Street.

Increase Richmond Valley Youth Activities during April School Holidays (April Holiday Break)	
Project ID	10418
Funding Body	Office for Regional Youth
Funding Name	April Holiday Break Program
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$5,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$5,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	29 March 2021
Date Approved	13 April 2021

Comment (if required)	This grant funding was approved in the last week of the school holidays due to a departmental error.
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Grants that have been received**Broadwater Outdoor Youth Space and Park Upgrade**

Project ID	10269
Funding Body	Department of Premier and Cabinet's Office of Regional Development
Funding Name	Stronger Country Communities Fund
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$221,785
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$131,785
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 90,000
Date Application Submitted	12 September 2017
Date Received	\$21,463 received 16 April 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$107,315
Comment (if required)	N/A

Richmond Valley Destination Management Plan

Project ID	10343
Funding Body	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development
Funding Name	Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) Round 4 - Community Investments Stream
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$47,217
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$20,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$27,217
Date Application Submitted	18 December 2019
Date Received	\$20,000 received 9 April 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$20,000 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	N/A

Bruxner Highway - Colches St to Centre St Shared Pathway

Project ID	10349
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Active Transport Program - 2020/21 Walking and Cycling Program

Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$487,993
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$487,993
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	21 February 2021
Date Received	\$16,300 received 29 April 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$16,300
Comment (if required)	N/A

Coraki Caravan Park Amenity Building Project

Project ID	10352
Funding Body	Department of Infrastructure, Cities and Regional Development
Funding Name	Community Developments Grant Program
Government Level	Federal
Project Value (excl GST)	\$562,578
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$550,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 12,578
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$400,000 received 28 April 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$550,000 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	N/A

Yorklea Community Centre Upgrade (was applied for under the name Yorklea Fire Control Centre Upgrade)

Project ID	10378
Funding Body	NSW Department of Industry – Lands and Water
Funding Name	Crown Reserves Improvement Fund Program
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$52,760
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$52,760
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$52,760 received 8 April 2021
Total Funds Received to Date	\$52,760 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	N/A

MR145 Woodburn-Coraki Road Major Upgrade	
Project ID	10382
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	N/A
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$10,000,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$10,000,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$21,967 received 29 April 2021
Total Funds Received to Date	\$300,177
Comment (if required)	N/A

NSW Bushfires 31 August 2019 Onwards - Emergency Works and Immediate Reconstruction Works	
Project ID	10390
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$1,562,873
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$1,480,545
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 82,328
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$80,927 received 29 April 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$1,480,545 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	\$1,097,468 allocated for Local Roads Emergency Works and \$302,150 allocated for Local Roads Immediate Reconstruction Works. These funds were spent on works at Rappville and Bora Ridge. An additional \$80,927 was approved for works undertaken on Minyumai Road culverts (Crown Road).

Casino Showgrounds and Racecourse Upgrade	
Project ID	10397
Funding Body	Regional NSW
Funding Name	Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund
Government Level	State

Project Value (excl GST)	\$8,200,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$8,200,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$500,000 received 7 April 2021
Total Funds Received to Date	\$500,000
Comment (if required)	N/A

Casino Showgrounds - Construct New Toilet Block, Refurbish Existing Toilet Facilities, Install New Lighting, Further Electrical Upgrades and Extend Cutting Yard

Project ID	10417
Funding Body	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)
Funding Name	Crown Lands Showgrounds Stimulus Funding Program (Phase Two)
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$918,814
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$918,814
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$918,814 received 12 April 2021
Total Funds Received to Date	\$918,814 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	N/A

NSW Storms and Floods 15 January 2020 Onwards Immediate Reconstruction Works

Project ID	10420
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$4,902,710
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$4,902,710
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$31,059 received 29 April 2021
Total Funds Received to Date	\$4,902,710 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	N/A

NSW Storms and Floods 10 December 2020 Onwards - Emergency Works and Immediate Reconstruction Works	
Project ID	10422
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$262,296
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$170,893
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 91,403
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$170,793 received 29 April 2021
Total Funds Received to Date	\$170,793
Comment (if required)	N/A

Digitising Planning Grant	
Project ID	10423
Funding Body	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)
Funding Name	Regional NSW Planning Portal Grant Funding
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$50,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$50,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	12 April 2021
Date Received	\$50,000 received 23 April 2021
Total Funds Received to Date	\$50,000 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	This funding will be used to assist with the ePlanning portal that is mandatory for all NSW Council's from 1 July 2021. The funding will be used to purchase IT systems, equipment, provide staff training and communicate information to stakeholders.

Elsa Dixon Funding	
Project ID	10426
Funding Body	NSW Government Department of Industry
Funding Name	Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Program 2020/21

Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$50,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$50,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$50,000 received 8 April 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$50,000 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	N/A

MR145 Regional Roads REPAIR Program 2020/21 – 14.3km to 15.2km east of Casino	
Project ID	N/A
Funding Body	Roads and Maritime Services
Funding Name	MR145 Regional Roads REPAIR Program 2020/21
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$326,428
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$163,214
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$163,214
Date Application Submitted	N/A – Annual allocation
Date Received	\$58,724 received 29 April 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$66,900
Comment (if required)	Council share funded from Regional Roads Block Grant.

Unsuccessful Grant Applications

Benn's Road Activation - Pavement Rehabilitation, Shoulder Widening and Seal Extensions	
Project ID	10400
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Fixing Local Roads Program Round 2
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$3,465,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$2,598,750
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 866,250
Date Application Submitted	9 December 2020
Date Advised Unsuccessful	14 April 2021
Comment (if required)	This project was intended to improve a 5km section of this road from the Bruxner Highway

	intersection.
Coraki Ellangowan Road Rehabilitation - Pavement Rehabilitation and Widening	
Project ID	10402
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Fixing Local Roads Program Round 2
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$2,100,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$1,575,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 525,000
Date Application Submitted	9 December 2020
Date Advised Unsuccessful	14 April 2021
Comment (if required)	This project was intended for 2.7km of works from the intersection at Ellangowan Road, finishing at Emu Park Road, Ellangowan.

Carwong Road Industry Resilience - Seal Existing Unsealed Road	
Project ID	10403
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Fixing Local Roads Program Round 2
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$700,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$525,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$175,000
Date Application Submitted	9 December 2020
Date Advised Unsuccessful	14 April 2021
Comment (if required)	This project was intended to rehabilitate and seal 1km of unsealed road starting after the bend on Nandebah Street.

Fogwells Road Rehabilitation - Pavement Rehabilitation and Widening	
Project ID	10404
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Fixing Local Roads Program Round 2
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$1,470,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$1,102,500
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 367,500

Date Application Submitted	9 December 2020
Date Advised Unsuccessful	14 April 2021
Comment (if required)	This project was intended for 2.1km of works commencing from intersection at Tatham Ellangowan Road.

Ryans Road Enhancement - Seal Existing Unsealed Road	
Project ID	10405
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Fixing Local Roads Program Round 2
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$3,500,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$2,625,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 875,000
Date Application Submitted	9 December 2020
Date Advised Unsuccessful	14 April 2021
Comment (if required)	This project is for 4.5km of works from the intersection of Ryans Road and Summerland Way, and finishing at the Ellangowan Road intersection.

Grant Applications Submitted

Digitising Planning Grant	
Project ID	10423
Funding Body	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)
Funding Name	Regional NSW Planning Portal Grant Funding
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$50,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$50,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	12 April 2021
Comment (if required)	This funding will be used to assist with the ePlanning portal that is mandatory for all NSW Council's from 1 July 2021. The funding will be used to purchase IT systems, equipment, provide staff training and communicate information to stakeholders.

Renew Rileys Hill Hall Toilet Amenities	
Project ID	10424
Funding Body	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)
Funding Name	Crown Land Manager Recovery Support Program
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$26,850
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$26,850
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	30 April 2021
Comment (if required)	If successful, this funding will be used to upgrade the toilet facilities at the hall.

Renew Woodburn Memorial Hall Toilet Amenities	
Project ID	10425
Funding Body	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)
Funding Name	Crown Land Manager Recovery Support Program
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$27,150
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$27,150
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	29 April 2021
Comment (if required)	If successful, this funding will be used to upgrade both the male and female toilet facilities at the hall.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

17.3 REVIEW OF ASBESTOS POLICY

Author: Caroline Redwood, Manager People and Culture

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As part of Council's ongoing policy review process, a review has been undertaken of the Asbestos Policy, previously adopted in August 2014.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and adopts the updated Asbestos Policy.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Making Council Great

CS1: Leading and Advocating for our Community

CS1.2: Facilitate Council's compliance with legal and governance requirements, including risk and insurance

REPORT

Council has undertaken a review of its Asbestos Policy, adopted in August 2014. In May 2021, an Asbestos Management Plan was finalised and implemented at a procedural level. The finalisation of the Plan has prompted a review of the Asbestos Policy.

The aim of the Asbestos Policy is to provide information and guidance to Council staff and the wider community regarding best practice methods for safely managing asbestos and asbestos containing materials, including lawful disposal requirements. The policy aligns with the Office of Local Government's Model Asbestos Policy for NSW Councils and the requirements of the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017.

In accordance with current work, health and safety regulations, responsibility for management of asbestos within the workplace and public facilities sits with the General Manager and Directors.

Levels of responsibility flow through the organisation, with Managers responsible for implementation of the Asbestos Management Plan, and workers and contractors responsible for following guidelines and supervisory direction.

Changes to the policy are minimal, with the major update being the inclusion of the levels of responsibility.

CONCLUSION

In order to comply with Council's ongoing policy review process, the Asbestos Policy has been reviewed and updated to maintain currency of the document. The policy aligns with the Office of Local Government's Model Asbestos Policy for NSW Councils and the requirements of the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017.

ATTACHMENT(S)**1. Draft Asbestos Policy**

Council Policy



Policy Title:	Asbestos
Policy Number:	5.03
Focus Area:	CS2 Great Support
Responsibility:	People & Culture
Meeting Adopted:	Date of Council Meeting – Resolution Number

OBJECTIVE

The aim of the Asbestos Policy is to provide important information and guidance to Council workers and Richmond Valley Council's community on how to safely manage asbestos and asbestos containing materials, including the lawful disposal requirements. The document defines Council and Council staff responsibilities and guidance, including asbestos in the workplace and handling asbestos in accordance with current Work Health and Safety legislation.

POLICY

Richmond Valley Council is committed to the management of risk as an integral part of its governance, planning and operational processes. Asbestos is identified as a significant risk to the health and safety of the general public, workers and volunteers exposed to asbestos when in a friable form.

Richmond Valley Council aligns with the 'Office of Local Government's Model Asbestos Policy for NSW Councils' and has developed an Asbestos Management Plan outlining:

- Council's asbestos management processes and controls;
- General requirements for renovating buildings and structures that may contain asbestos;
- Council's development approval process for developments that may involve asbestos and conditions of consent;
- Waste management and regulation procedures for asbestos waste in the local government area; and
- Maintenance of asbestos registers and record keeping.

Responsibilities

The General Manager and Directors are responsible for the management of asbestos within the workplace and public facilities. This is in accordance with the Work Health and Safety Regulations 2017 (NSW) Chapter 8. Managers at all levels are responsible for the implementation of the Council Asbestos Management Plan and associated risk management processes within their area of responsibility.

Workers and contractors are responsible for following council guidelines and supervisory direction in accordance with the asbestos risk management controls within the Council management plan and applicable safe work method statements.

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed by Council at the time of any relevant legislative changes, compliance requirements or at least every four years.

Version Number	Date	Reason / Comments
1	19 August 2014	New policy – Resolution Number 190814/14
2	Date	Policy review

DRAFT

17.4 COMMUNITY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM 2020/2021 ROUND TWO**Author: Vaughan Macdonald, General Manager****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives and notes the allocations under the Community Financial Assistance Program 2020/2021 Round Two.

REPORT

Under Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (The Act) Council may by resolution contribute financial assistance to individuals, groups and organisations seeking financial assistance. At the November 2016 Ordinary Meeting Council resolved to delegate authority to the General Manager to approve the allocation of funds in accordance with Council's Policy 1.2 Community Financial Assistance Program.

Council has allocated \$75,000 in the 2020/2021 budget for the Community Financial Assistance Program. The policy provides for two approximately equal funding rounds, allowing for \$40,429.00 to be allocated in this second round. This round of funding was advertised in March 2021 and Council received 30 applications.

All applications received have been reviewed in accordance with the policy. Of the 30 applications, 29 of the applications were deemed eligible and 20 projects have been partially or fully funded in this round.

In determining the allocation of funds, consideration was given to Council's Community Strategic Plan and the deliverables in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan, as well as Program eligibility requirements, prior funding, past acquittal performance and selection criteria.

Councillors had an opportunity to review the proposals and provide feedback at a workshop on 4 May 2021, with the General Manager approving the allocation of funds under delegation.

The following table summarises eligible projects that will be partially or fully funded.

Organisation	Requested allocation	Proposed use	Amount allocated
Casino Community Men's Shed	\$1,099.00	Purchase a new compound mitre saw which is quieter and safer to use.	\$1,099.00
Casino Forest Garden	\$1,868.35	Further develop the community garden with new beds, prepare soil, plant fruit trees and install water saving irrigation.	\$400.00
Casino Lions AFL Club	\$5,000.00	Install goal posts and one-off line marking to help re-establish the Club.	\$2,500.00
Casino Pony Club Inc	\$5,000.00	Purchase a trailer to store heavy equipment and move it safely around the Showground.	\$1,000.00
Casino RSM Junior Rugby League Football Club	\$3,135.00	Fabricate and erect goal posts on junior rugby league field.	\$1,000.00
Casino RSM Youth Club	\$2,951.93	Purchase fridge, water cooler, first aid kit, replacement gear plus extra boxing bags to accommodate more participants.	\$2,951.93

Casino Rugby Union Club	\$4,675.00	Purchase a scrum machine to assist in safe training of our women's, seniors and junior teams.	\$2,500.00
Casino Vision Impaired Persons Support Group	\$1,300.00	Subsidised transport and bus hire to allow blind and vision impaired people to participate in organised social outings and community activities.	\$1,300.00
Ellangowan Public Hall	\$4,064.50	Create a concrete area suitable for an outdoor BBQ.	\$4,064.50
Evans Head and District Senior Citizen Hall	\$2,442.00	Update electrical box so that is safe and will allow for future electrical upgrades to the Senior Citizens Hall.	\$2,442.00
Evans River & Coastal Landcare Inc	\$3,500.00	Purchase some small tool kits.	\$500.00
Greenridge Memorial Hall & Social Activities Club Inc	\$1,985.90	Install new ceiling fans to improve hall amenity.	\$1,985.00
Mid-Richmond Historical Society Coraki Museum	\$1,420.00	Replace signage on front of building and paint shed in neutral colour.	\$1,420.00
Northern Rivers Drag Racing Inc	\$4,470.00	Purchase two sun shades to protect event volunteers.	\$4,470.00
Northern Rivers Military Museum	\$1,235.00	Purchase a new fridge to be used by volunteers and for catering.	\$1,235.00
Pacific Coast Railway Society Inc trading as Casino Miniature Railway & Museum	\$1,768.00	Purchase a BBQ to encourage and support group events.	\$800.00
Rileys Hill Community Hall	\$1,400.00	Purchase a new fridge/freezer for use by hirers and to support community events at the hall.	\$1,400.00
Scouts Australia NSW Branch 2nd Casino Scout Group	\$3,953.00	Purchase and install a 900mm electric oven and cooktop to complete kitchen, and new rear door to secure Scout Hall.	\$3,953.00
The Evans Head Living Museum and Community Technology Centre Incorporated	\$5,000.00	Purchase a multi-purpose printer essential to the functioning of the Museum.	\$2,900.00
Woodburn Amateur Boxing Club	\$4,960.00	Install larger hot water system and purchase new boxing equipment to benefit members.	\$2,500.00
		TOTAL	\$40,420.43

Round Two of the funding was heavily over-subscribed, and as such, the following applications have not been allocated funding in this round. Applicants will be advised of the outcome and offered feedback on their application and assistance to secure future funding, or alternative solutions to address their needs.

Organisation	Requested allocation	Proposed Use
Bentley Community Preschool Inc.	\$5,000.00	Repair and upgrade the concrete area outside Bentley Community Hall for benefit of preschool and hall hirers.
Casino Art Group	\$3,249.00	Purchase computer, printer and point of sale equipment for use at Cassino Art Gallery.
Casino Netball Association Inc	\$2,175.00	Purchase and install a water cooler to be located on the Clubhouse verandah.
Casino Show Society Inc	\$4,974.62	Purchase two computer packages and a mobile phone to assist volunteers with running events.
Casino Sport and Recreation Association Inc	\$5,000.00	Purchase 80 headsets and transmitters to be used for silent blue light discos.
Evans Head District Cricket Club	\$2,500.00	Purchase soil to fix up our turf wicket and whatever other items needed to make this happen, which may include hiring some machinery.
Evans River Rugby Union Club	\$5,000.00	Purchase training equipment, first aid kits and an iPad and payWave to support fundraising initiatives.
SSAA (NSW) NRB Sporting Shooters Association of Australia Northern Rivers Branch	\$5,000.00	Construct an access pathway and ramp between the amenities block and rifle shed
The New Italy Museum	\$5,000.00	Landscaping alongside two car parks as well as seating in the parkland adjacent to bocce court.
Woodburn/ Evans Head & District Orchid & Foliage Society Inc	\$1,000.00	Funding to support Woodburn/Evans Head & District Orchid & Foliage Society's Spring Show

ATTACHMENT(S)**Nil**

17.5 SECTION 7.11, 7.12 AND S64 DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE UPDATE 2020/2021

Author: Dean Fordham, Principal Accountant

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Section 7.11, Section 7.12 and Section 64 Development Contributions and Expenditure Update for the 2020/2021 financial year.

REPORT

Council recovers contributions, raises levies and enters planning agreements on development works that are subject to a development consent issued by Council.

All contributions received must be spent/utilised for the specific purpose for which they were levied and any interest earned on these funds must be added to the remaining funds to be spent on the same. These funds cannot be used for ongoing operational and maintenance costs.

These contributions enable local councils or other consent authorities to provide public amenities and services required as a consequence of increased demand caused by development. Developer contributions are essential in maintaining access to the facilities and services that support the high quality of life that residents of the Richmond Valley enjoy.

Section 7.11 (formerly S94) and Section 7.12 (formerly S94A) Contributions

S7.11 and 7.12 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* allow Council to collect monetary contributions from development to help meet the additional demand for roads and traffic, community, cultural, open space and recreational facilities generated by development associated with population growth and employment generation. Council's adopted contribution plans were prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

Council's Section s7.12 levy is triggered by all development over \$100,000 at the percentage set by the legislation. There are legislated exemptions that developments triggering the levy are assessed against. The levy is collected across the entire Council area and is spent on the list of projects detailed in the Council adopted s7.12 Contributions Plan.

Council has a specialised s7.11 Heavy Haulage levy that is applied where the anticipated development will, or is likely to, generate additional heavy haulage vehicle movements e.g. quarries. As a consequence of anticipated development, there is likely to be an accelerated decline in life of the road network due to increased heavy haulage, a cost which would otherwise be borne by the wider community. The rate is typically based on the tonnages and the distance covered on local roads to reach the classified road network. The levy is spent on roads that are impacted by the development itself, typically any road back to a main road. Council's road engineers do an annual condition assessment of Council's road network and if roads that are covered by an s7.11 heavy haulage levy are considered to be in a state where funding is required to be spent, s7.11 contributions are used to fund the repairs.

Section 64 Contributions

S64 of the *Local Government Act 1993* allows Council to collect monetary contributions from development in order to help meet the additional demand for water mains, reservoirs, treatment plants, sewer reticulation, sewage pumping stations and treatment plants. These contributions require a Development Servicing Plan (current plan prepared in accordance with the DPIE Water Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines 2007). There are new 2016 Guidelines, therefore any future Development Servicing Plans will need to be prepared in accordance with the new guidelines.

S64 contributions are based on an Equivalent Tenement basis (1ET = typical water and sewer demand of an average residential development i.e. a 3 bedroom house). The NSW Water

Directorate has developed guidelines for a wide range of residential, commercial, health related and industrial development. For example, for sewer a motel is rated at 0.45ET per room, a hospital at 1.43ET per bed, and a hotel at 0.05ET per m² of floor area.

Council's strategic water and sewer engineers identify the projects that require s64 contributions to be spent on them in each year's budgeting process.

There are three attachments to this briefing as detailed below.

2020/2021 Income and Expenditure to 21 April 2021

In the current financial year to 21 April 2021. Council has received \$823,348 in total contributions and expended \$621,224. Income received includes \$195,263 in s7.11 Heavy Haulage contributions, \$330,648 in s7.12 contributions, \$201,120 in s64 Sewerage and \$96,317 in s64 Water. The most significant expenditure has been \$488,105 from s7.11 Heavy Haulage contributions, which has mainly funded MR145 renewal works and \$118,899 from s7.12 contributions, which has funded footpath capital works. This is summarised in the table below:

Reserve	Income as at 21/04/21	Expenditure as at 21/04/21
S7.11 Community Services	\$0	\$6,655
S7.11 Road Network	\$0	\$7,565
S7.11 Heavy Haulage	\$195,263	\$488,105
S7.12 Development Contributions	\$330,648	\$118,899
S64 Sewerage Contributions	\$201,120	\$0
S64 Water Contributions	\$96,317	\$0
Total	\$823,348	\$621,224

Developer Contributions Income and Expenditure – 2015/2016 to 2019/2020

The second attachment shows income and expenditure received for the last five years, which includes the 2015/2016 to 2019/2020 financial years. During this period, Council received \$6,508,413 in developer contributions. This included \$95,042 in s7.11 Quarry Road contributions, \$4,463,197 in s7.11 Heavy Haulage, \$1,016,643 in s7.12 contributions, \$621,775 in s64 Sewerage and \$311,756 in s64 Water. Income during this period is summarised in the table below:

Reserve	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
S7.11 Quarry Roads	\$7,552	\$82,605	\$4,884	\$0	\$0
S7.11 Heavy Haulage	\$111,527	\$74,555	\$1,171,341	\$1,641,850	\$1,460,923
S7.12 Development Contributions	\$258,295	\$105,988	\$181,467	\$269,423	\$201,471
S64 Sewerage Contributions	\$22,000	(\$12,000)	\$104,000	\$302,162	\$205,613
S64 Water Contributions	\$16,349	\$51,274	\$73,282	\$93,024	\$77,828
Total	\$415,723	\$302,422	\$1,534,974	\$2,306,459	\$1,945,835

Expenditure of developer contributions during the period 2015/2016 to 2019/2020 totalled \$2,413,976. This included \$32,235 in s7.11 Quarry Roads, \$1,779,667 in s7.11 Heavy Haulage and \$602,074 in s7.12 contributions. These are summarised in the table below:

Reserve	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
S7.11 Quarry Roads	\$12,352	\$10,604	\$9,279	\$0	\$0
S7.11 Heavy Haulage	\$35,455	\$76,063	\$0	\$1,200,630	\$467,518
S7.12 Development Contributions	\$217,663	\$77,991	\$149,038	\$98,120	\$59,262

S64 Sewerage Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
S64 Water Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$265,470	\$164,658	\$158,317	\$1,298,750	\$526,780

Developer Contributions – Reserve Balances 2015/2016 to 2019/2020

The third attachment shows Council's reserve balances at year end for the period 2015/2016 to 2019/2020. As at 30 June 2020, Council held \$9,517,925 in developer contributions. The most significant cash reserves include \$2,866,427 in s7.11 Heavy Haulage, \$3,873,838 in s64 Sewerage contributions and \$1,950,114 in s64 Water contributions.

Ministerial Direction – Pooling of Developer Contributions

In May 2020, the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces issued a direction under s7.17 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* to allow councils to pool monetary contributions imposed under s7.11 and s7.12 of the Act. This allows funds to be pooled both within and between contribution plans, despite any restrictions in a contributions plan. This direction was made as part of the State Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic to stimulate expenditure and assist with economic recovery and delivery of necessary local jobs and infrastructure for communities.

As at 30 June 2020, Council's s7.11 and s7.12 developer contributions totalled \$3,693,974. Of these, s7.11 Heavy Haulage contributions were \$2,866,427, s7.11 Quarry Roads were \$71,392 and s7.12 were \$465,198. However, it would be prudent not to include these in the contributions available to be pooled, given the important funding source they provide towards roads and footpath renewals. If these plans are excluded, the amount available for pooling totals \$290,957, which represents contributions collected before 2015/2016.

During the current financial year (including works that are proposed in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 March 2021) funds totalling \$244,615 are proposed to be utilised, which would leave \$46,342 remaining. These works include \$25,534 towards a new roof for the Coraki Youth Hall, \$30,000 towards the Crawford Square entrance, \$146,516 towards Crawford Square playground, \$35,000 towards the Woodburn Pool shade structure and \$7,565 towards the Coraki Caravan Park Amenities upgrade. Funding utilised year to date includes \$6,655 in s7.11 Community Services contributions to fund part of the Woodburn Pool shade structure and \$7,565 in s7.11 Road Network contributions to fund part of the Coraki Caravan Park Amenities upgrade. Use of these funds is in accordance with the Ministerial direction.

CONCLUSION

The report details income and expenditure for s7.11, s7.12 and s64 contributions over the past five years, including the current financial year to date. The report also gives a high level explanation on what the contributions are for and how the contributions are calculated, along with an explanation of a Ministerial direction regarding pooling of developer contributions.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. **Developer Contributions 2020/2021 to 21 April 2021**
2. **Developer Contributions Income and Expenditure 2015/2016 to 2019/2020**
3. **Developer Contributions Reserve Balances 2015/2016 to 2019/2020**

Richmond Valley Council
Developer Contributions - Income and Expenditure 2020/2021

Transfers to Reserves (Income)

Reserve	Transfer to Reserve	2020/2021
Section 7.11 - Heavy Haulage	Capital Contributions	195,262.65
Section 7.12 - Development Contributions Plan	Capital Contributions	330,647.86
Section 64 - Sewerage	Capital Contributions	201,120.00
Section 64 - Water	Capital Contributions	96,317.60
Total Transfers to Reserves (Income)		823,348.11

Transfers from Reserves (Expenditure)

Reserve	Transfer from Reserve	2020/2021
Section 7.11 - Community Services	Woodburn Pool Shade (part funding) (828504)	6,654.80
Total		6,654.80
Section 7.11 - Road Network	Coraki Amenities Verandah (part funding) (830317)	7,565.00
Total		7,565.00
Section 7.11 - Heavy Haulage	MR145 East (Cki-Wdburn) Mtce (410050)	96,132.63
	MR153 Woodburn Evans Head Rd (part funding) (841065)	113,749.52
	MR145 Heavy Patching (part funding) (841605)	200,000.00
	MR145 East Heavy Patching (841606)	33,676.82
	MR145 West Heavy Patching (841607)	30,000.00
	Spring Grove Rd CH 12500 to 13000 (839138)	14,546.53
Total		488,105.50
Section 7.12 - Development Contributions Plan	Urban Roads Additional Maintenance (370900)	5,398.14
	Footpaths Casino - CBD Paving (845146)	105,005.69
	Footpaths Casino - Walker St - Canterbury to Convent Pde (845148)	15,163.34
	Footpaths Casino - Renewals to be allocated (845199)	2,242.62
	Footpaths Woodburn - Wagner St/Cedar St Linkage (845854)	10,257.59
	Footpaths Evans Head - Renewals to be allocated (part) (845499)	872.91
	Evans Head - Cypress Street- Cashmore to Elm (eastern) (845408)	49,958.52
	less: funding from TfNSW Reserve	-70,000.00
Total		118,898.81
Section 64 - Sewerage		0.00
Section 64 - Water		0.00
Total Transfers from Reserves (Expenditure)		621,224.11

Richmond Valley Council
Developer Contributions - Income and Expenditure 2015/2016 to 2019/2020

Transfers to Reserves (Income)

Reserve	Type of Transfer	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	Total
Section 7.11 - Quarry Roads	Quarry Road Contributions	7,552.45	82,605.36	4,883.91	0.00	0.00	95,041.72
Section 7.11 - Heavy Haulage	Capital Contributions	111,527.49	74,555.45	1,171,341.31	1,641,849.91	1,463,922.98	4,463,197.14
Section 7.12 - Development Contributions Plan	Capital Contributions	258,294.74	105,987.47	181,466.55	269,423.17	201,470.60	1,016,642.53
Section 64 - Sewerage	Capital Contributions	22,000.00	124,000.00	104,000.00	302,161.87	205,612.96	757,774.83
	Adjustment for Debtor	0.00	-136,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-136,000.00
Section 64 - Water	Capital Contributions	16,348.60	51,273.95	73,281.90	93,024.21	77,828.02	311,756.68
Total		415,723.28	302,422.23	1,534,973.67	2,306,459.16	1,948,834.56	6,508,412.90

Transfers from Reserves (Expenditure)

Reserve	Type of Transfer	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	Total
Section 7.11 - Quarry Roads	Quarry Road Maintenance (390010)	12,352.34	10,604.00	9,278.72	0.00	0.00	32,235.06
Total		12,352.34	10,604.00	9,278.72	0.00	0.00	32,235.06
Section 7.11 - Heavy Haulage	MR145 East (Cki-Wdburn) Mtce (410050)	0.00	0.00	0.00	192,842.77	144,780.61	337,623.38
	Old Tenterfield Rd - Shoulders (839106)	12,865.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,865.12
	Old Tenterfield Rd - Shoulders (839115)	22,589.61	36,879.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	59,469.08
	MR145 East Heavy Patching (841606)	0.00	0.00	0.00	68,678.90	151,898.49	220,577.39
	Reg Rds - MR145 Woodburn-Coraki Rd Federal Grant Works (841052)	0.00	0.00	0.00	939,108.81	0.00	939,108.81
	MR145 Codrington Curve	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	170,839.27	170,839.27
	Upper Mongogarie Road (843025)	0.00	39,183.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	39,183.54
Total		35,454.73	76,063.01	0.00	1,200,630.48	467,518.37	1,779,666.59
Section 7.12 - Development Contributions Plan	Urban Roads Additional Maintenance (370900)	0.00	8,801.80	0.00	6,138.94	9,041.00	23,981.74
	Colley Park - Relocate Casino ISC (part) (829116)	102,770.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	102,770.00
	Evans Stan Payne - Shade for Playground	0.00	0.00	30,837.00	0.00	0.00	30,837.00
	Coast Guard Park - Boat Ramp 2 Shelter & Table (829421)	0.00	18,806.98	503.32	0.00	0.00	19,310.30
	Parks - Casino Riverfront Amphitheatre Footpath RSV 14/15 (830140)	72,634.16	50,382.00	6,984.00	0.00	0.00	130,000.16
	Evans Rds - Park St/Oak Ln Carpark Design (837404)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Footpaths Casino - Richmond St - Walker to Centre St (845126)	42,259.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	42,259.23
	Footpaths Casino - Graham Place - Walker St to Library Carp	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17,351.16	17,351.16
	Footpaths Casino - Halsteads Drive	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,858.32	5,858.32
	Footpaths Casino - Canterbury St (Commonwe Pub)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,974.99	10,974.99
	Footpaths Casino - West to River behind Swimming Pool	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	31,487.92	31,487.92
	Footpaths Evans Head - Woodburn St Vinnies to Oak Ln to RSL McDonald Pl	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,623.60	8,623.60
	Footpaths Evans Head - Renewals to be allocated (part)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,863.33	8,863.33
	Footpaths Evans Head - Booyong Street - Park St to Beech St (Sth)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	37,061.88	37,061.88
	Footpaths Casino - Hotham St - North to Canterbury (west) (845129)	0.00	0.00	0.00	40,883.97	0.00	40,883.97
	Footpaths Casino - Frederick St QLD Rd to Sandilands (west) (845130)	0.00	0.00	0.00	44,635.83	0.00	44,635.83
	Footpaths Casino - Frederick St Sandilands to McDougal (west) (845131)	0.00	0.00	0.00	36,738.89	0.00	36,738.89
	Coraki - Martin Street - Allwood to Minto (845303)	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,242.10	0.00	6,242.10
	Footpaths Evans Head - Booyong Street - Park St to Stan Payne Oval (845405)	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,596.27	0.00	23,596.27
	Evans Head - Beech St Speed Cushion (837412)	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,493.91	0.00	5,493.91
	Evans Head - Evans Rd Speed Cushion (837413)	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,390.03	0.00	4,390.03
	Footpaths Coraki - Martin St Adams St to Grenfell St	0.00	0.00	32,960.37	0.00	0.00	32,960.37
	Footpaths Coraki - Martin St Grenfell St to Allwood St	0.00	0.00	56,421.98	0.00	0.00	56,421.98
	Footpaths Coraki - Allwood St to Minto St	0.00	0.00	115.60	0.00	0.00	115.60
	Footpaths Evans Head - Ash St Beech St to Stan Payne 200m (south)	0.00	0.00	49,713.26	0.00	0.00	49,713.26
	Footpaths Woodburn - Cedar St Redwood Ln to Wagner St	0.00	0.00	41,502.36	0.00	0.00	41,502.36
	Footpaths Evans Head - Booyong St Cypress to Woodburn St	0.00	30,734.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	30,734.16
	Footpaths Evans Head - Woodburn St Wattle to Booyong St	0.00	34,714.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	34,714.47
	Less: TFSW Reserve Funding	0.00	-65,448.63	-70,000.00	-70,000.00	-70,000.00	-275,448.63
Total		217,663.39	77,990.78	149,037.89	98,119.94	59,262.20	602,074.20
Section 64 - Sewerage		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Section 64 - Water		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		265,470.46	164,657.79	158,316.61	1,298,750.42	526,780.57	2,413,975.85

Richmond Valley Council
Developer Contributions - Reserves Balances 2015/2016 to 2019/2020

Reserve	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
<i>General Fund</i>					
Section 7.11 - Infrastructure	2,258.47	2,325.32	2,387.00	2,456.02	2,494.08
Section 7.11 - Community Services	49,697.82	51,168.86	52,526.00	54,044.88	63,321.67
Section 7.11 - Recreation & Civil Facilities	951.05	979.20	1,005.17	1,034.24	1,050.65
Section 7.11 - Road Network (new)	110,767.33	114,046.02	117,070.83	120,456.12	122,367.17
Section 7.11 - Quarry Road Contributions	2,670.49	74,671.85	70,277.04	70,277.04	71,391.99
Section 7.11 - Ex Copmanhurst Roads	79,140.00	81,482.52	83,643.66	86,062.36	87,427.74
Section 7.11 - Ex Copmanhurst Community Facilities	4,478.10	4,610.65	4,732.94	4,869.80	4,947.06
Section 7.11 - Ex Copmanhurst Bushfire	8,461.57	8,712.03	8,943.10	9,201.70	9,347.69
Section 7.11 - Heavy Haulage	152,517.86	155,502.49	1,346,501.71	1,833,036.78	2,866,426.76
Section 7.12 - Development Contributions Plan	136,731.74	169,190.01	206,536.09	386,288.42	465,198.12
Total General Fund	547,674.43	662,688.95	1,893,623.53	2,567,727.35	3,693,972.93
<i>Sewer Fund</i>					
Section 64 Contributions	2,959,716.52	3,025,399.26	3,206,898.43	3,606,161.87	3,873,838.23
Total Sewer Fund	2,959,716.52	3,025,399.26	3,206,898.43	3,606,161.87	3,873,838.23
<i>Water Fund</i>					
Section 64 Contributions	1,492,111.74	1,583,302.48	1,697,379.96	1,840,831.72	1,950,114.15
Total Water Fund	1,492,111.74	1,583,302.48	1,697,379.96	1,840,831.72	1,950,114.15
TOTAL	4,999,502.69	5,271,390.69	6,797,901.92	8,014,720.94	9,517,925.31

17.6 NAUGHTONS GAP ROAD UPDATE

Author: Andrew Leach, Manager Asset Planning

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Naughtons Gap Road Update report.

REPORT

Following recent heavy rainfall events, a severe land slump has developed on the Naughtons Gap Road reserve which has drastically affected the road structure, making it dangerous and un-trafficable. Pictures within this report illustrate the extent of the road failure.

The ground remains “fluid” and continues to move slowly. The site is being monitored to record and measure the extent of the land movement, so that an appropriate engineering solution can be developed.





Council has engaged Con Civil from Ballina as engineering consultants for this project. They have installed a clinometer which is being used to measure the angle of the movement in the slope. They have also taken core samples from 10+ meters into the ground. Associated with this is another bore hole that is being used to measure the extent of ground water. Con Civil are attending to the site twice a week taking readings / measurements and drone footage to measure the movement.

This an active slip site and it continues to move. As the survey/investigation develops, it is revealing that the affected area is much larger than first assumed, extending some 90m up the hill and potentially 150m along the hill. There are cracks and fissures traversing the slope both above and below the road.



To be able to fully assess the extent of the slump, Con Civil have asked Council to clear all the surrounding vegetation from the upper and lower slopes to enable them to carry out a more detailed survey of the affected area. Council is currently sourcing quotes for this necessary work, which is estimated to be \$50,000.

The initial instruction from the geologist was that they need to monitor the movement for at least three months. The ongoing Geotech investigation is essential to developing a solution that will remain in place for the future. From this information, Con Civil will provide a top end estimate for the remedial works however, we will need to go to tender on an appropriate design to get an accurate costing. This natural disaster works has already been reported to TfNSW and confirmed these works will be submitted as an Essential Public Asset Reconstruction Scheme (EPAR) claim.

Due to the nature and locality of the landslip, Council and contractors will need to explore several repair options including potentially relocation of the road. Council officers are in constant contact with the adjoining landholders, who are understanding of the issues.

Council needs to develop and submit design and cost estimates to TfNSW for a claim under natural disaster and under the EPAR. Council has two years to complete the works.

While the land continues to, or has the potential to shift further, timelines on repairs will need to be flexible. This site will require time to settle, design, tender, contract suitable contractors and undertake works. Council officers will continue to communicate progress to stakeholders and the community as the process progresses.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

17.7 NORTHERN RIVERS LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE STATISTICS AS AT 31 MARCH 2021**Author: Bradley Willis, NRLX Operations Manager****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives and notes the Northern Rivers Livestock Exchange Statistics as at 31 March 2021.

REPORT

This report provides an update on the Northern Rivers Livestock Exchange (NRLX) financial performance as at 31 March 2021, as well as monthly throughput information from 2015/2016 to 2020/2021 YTD. The forecast throughput for 20/21 was budgeted at 125,000 head however this target will not be achieved.

NRLX throughput at 31 March was 76,439 head, 61% of projected throughput which is above the nine year rolling average of 74,566 head. The throughput is 20,936 head below last financial year for the same period which was at the highest levels seen in 21 years due to significant drought and fire. The total value of throughput to 31 March was \$104,372,709 almost double the average of \$58,077,771 million for the past nine years and exceeding the previous record dollar value by \$24.2 million for YTD

Income from user charges and fees at 31 March was \$1,125,741 and 69% of the projected yearly budget while throughput was at 61%. The inclusion of \$215,752 in revenue from the Bio-solids project increases revenue to \$1,366,103. Due to the current strong market the new vendor fee structure that is sale price indexed has continued to generate additional income as the average per head value is \$1365. Income from user charges and fees at 31 March compared to the 19/20 FYTD is a reduction of only \$51,315 albeit there has been a reduction of 20,936 head for the same period. Income from new resources such as increased rentals and new fee structure have supported turnover through lower sale numbers.

Operating expenditure is \$1,054,717 exclusive of depreciation and the Bio Solids project showing a cash profit of \$95,635. Inclusion of \$208,552 in expenses for the Bio-solids project and the offset of income increases the cash result to \$102,834 exclusive of depreciation. The depreciation YTD is \$354,284 which delivers an Operating loss of \$251,450 as at 31 March 2021.

NRLX sales figures continued to break records in the third quarter, including the highest dollar value sale on record at \$5.8 million. The highest dollar value week on record across three sales totalled \$10.4 million and the highest dollar value month on record at \$23.08 million surpassed last year's \$22.4 million. The flow-on effects for the Richmond Valley economy are significant.

The Bio-solids project has continued and expenses were incurred during the March quarter, however delays were encountered due to the significant rainfall in the quarter. On a number of occasions work was recommenced however further rainfall prohibited access and materials from being moved offsite and subsequently reduced sales and increased costs for the quarter.

Environmental charges have resulted in significant cost, due to a number of events including an EPA Pollution Reduction Program imposed on the EPL requiring an Effluent Irrigation Management Plan review. This was completed in the March quarter and delivered prior to the EPA deadline with a total cost exceeding \$21,000. Due to the significant rainfall events during the quarter a large number of sampling events were triggered and this has resulted in additional sampling and reporting expenses in excess of \$13,000.

Set out below are recorded figures for total livestock sold at the NRLX.

MONTH	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Average
July	10,819	11,169	8,168	7,824	9,979	9,537	9,181
August	8,744	10,097	4,789	6,965	8,952	6,632	7,071
September	8,134	6,176	5,271	5,636	8,800	7,187	6,709
October	4,889	6,916	3,821	5,198	9,099	6,445	6,103
November	6,760	10,104	9,485	8,004	17,005	9,620	8,732
December	3,790	4,547	5,305	4,477	4,050	4,428	4,193
January	6,469	6,584	5,867	8,047	6,518	5,829	6,672
February	10,469	10,346	9,433	9,516	10,710	11,831	9,952
March	13,562	17,290	17,119	11,711	20,389	14,930	15,952
April	8,580	11,578	7,335	8,674	11,916		9,619
May	8,379	13,649	8,166	13,024	11,908		10,266
June	12,725	11,007	7,849	10,043	12,212		10,263
	103,320	119,463	92,608	99,119	131,538	76,439	104,713

Monthly throughput dollar value

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Average
July	\$ 8,101,470.47	\$ 10,642,411.29	\$ 6,977,242.66	\$ 5,795,434.62	\$ 6,664,327.92	\$ 10,936,864.01	\$ 6,656,623.92
August	\$ 6,640,966.21	\$ 9,196,675.48	\$ 3,616,011.37	\$ 3,883,430.74	\$ 5,798,487.83	\$ 7,534,475.39	\$ 4,871,711.99
September	\$ 6,496,790.42	\$ 5,812,186.83	\$ 3,760,967.97	\$ 3,890,886.51	\$ 5,503,979.64	\$ 8,349,471.59	\$ 4,680,405.22
October	\$ 3,787,727.56	\$ 6,724,112.28	\$ 2,960,182.74	\$ 3,662,640.64	\$ 5,882,485.83	\$ 7,897,165.01	\$ 4,313,570.06
November	\$ 6,132,370.95	\$ 9,807,217.89	\$ 8,547,596.34	\$ 5,852,566.22	\$ 10,564,797.20	\$ 12,685,784.68	\$ 6,810,760.74
December	\$ 3,245,828.52	\$ 4,468,183.06	\$ 4,943,159.82	\$ 3,407,654.38	\$ 2,051,678.17	\$ 5,627,057.54	\$ 3,205,803.28
January	\$ 5,740,708.52	\$ 6,430,003.65	\$ 4,736,358.00	\$ 4,877,892.34	\$ 5,011,828.02	\$ 8,652,704.48	\$ 5,169,594.09
February	\$ 9,844,324.58	\$ 10,265,040.60	\$ 8,773,989.23	\$ 5,358,020.35	\$ 11,340,663.22	\$ 19,665,086.92	\$ 8,949,575.87
March	\$ 12,297,982.34	\$ 16,831,681.23	\$ 15,531,518.26	\$ 6,382,257.33	\$ 22,420,167.02	\$ 23,024,099.85	\$ 13,419,726.53
April	\$ 7,394,426.15	\$ 11,127,695.15	\$ 5,844,719.38	\$ 5,391,493.31	\$ 11,992,802.81	\$ -	\$ 6,189,915.03
May	\$ 6,946,953.29	\$ 12,174,786.77	\$ 5,461,183.07	\$ 8,169,308.47	\$ 12,441,703.68		\$ 7,185,228.66
June	\$ 11,320,575.94	\$ 10,136,796.96	\$ 5,327,036.34	\$ 5,561,564.58	\$ 13,748,705.72		\$ 7,414,092.64
	\$ 87,950,124.95	\$ 113,616,791.19	\$ 76,479,965.18	\$ 62,233,149.49	\$ 113,421,627.06	\$ 104,372,709.47	\$ 78,867,008.02

Quarterly Throughput value



**NRLX in the Media:**

Records tumble as the NRLX breaks \$10 Million barrier

Following the press releases from Richmond Valley Council several articles were published and interviews conducted including;

- Northern Rivers Times and Northern Rivers Review
- Australian Rural & Regional News
- The Land
- Radio interviews were also conducted with ABC and ZZZ FM.
- Two feature news articles with NBN News in March

NRLX Income and Expenditure (excludes committed orders)	Actual 31-Mar-21 (\$)	Current Budget (\$)	Proposed Budget (\$)	Proposed Budget %	Actual 31-Mar-20 (\$)
Operating Income					
Fees & Rent	1,125,741	1,634,243	1,634,243	68.88%	1,177,056
LIRS Subsidy	24,610	47,213	47,213	52.13%	55,950
Biosolids Project	215,752	260,000	260,000	82.98%	0
Other Contributions	0	0	0	0.00%	19,091
Total Operating Income	1,366,103	1,941,456	1,941,456	70.36%	1,252,096
Operating Expenses					
Salaries and On costs	466,220	680,286	680,286	68.53%	435,899
Materials and Contracts	214,053	243,078	263,078	81.36%	181,101
Interest on Loans	47,227	75,225	75,225	62.78%	55,790
Depreciation	354,284	472,023	472,023	75.06%	345,858
Electricity Charges	32,009	33,600	33,600	95.26%	41,379
Telephone Charges	3,378	6,754	6,754	50.01%	4,687
Insurance Charges	10,683	10,304	10,304	103.67%	8,296
Advertising Costs	7,536	15,000	15,000	50.24%	3,483
Printing and Stationery	6,066	2,800	2,800	216.63%	4,971
Licence Fees	0	8,645	8,645	0.00%	0
Subscriptions	718	3,700	3,700	19.41%	3,374
Security Charges	3,064	3,844	3,844	79.70%	2,185
Staff Training	3,370	0	0	0.00%	2,872
Software Licences	35,794	7,000	7,000	511.34%	6,085
Other General Expenses	4,330	2,555	2,555	169.47%	5,591
Biosolids Project	208,552	220,000	220,000	94.80%	39,640
Internal Charges	220,271	315,392	315,392	69.84%	239,209
Total Operating Expenses	1,617,553	2,100,206	2,120,206	76.29%	1,380,421
Operating Result - Surplus/(Deficit)	(251,450)	(158,750)	(178,750)	140.67%	(128,325)
Operating Cash Result - Surplus/(Deficit)	102,834	313,273	293,273	35.06%	217,533
Capital Income					
Capital Grants & Contributions/Loan Funding					
Capital Works Levy	141,614	238,750	232,955	60.79%	158,573
NRLX Upgrade Federal Grant	0	0	0	0.00%	160,386
Total Capital Income	141,614	238,750	232,955	60.79%	318,959
Capital Expenditure					
Plant Purchases	36,832	40,000	42,391	86.89%	41,636
Technology Upgrades	6,051	6,370	6,370	94.99%	35,770
NRLX Upgrade - Stage 2	0	0	0	0.00%	442,089
Administration Building & Agents Office Upgrades	0	0	0	0.00%	60,439
Transit Yards	3,264	90,000	90,000	3.63%	0
Shed	8,926	20,000	8,926	100.00%	0
Furniture Purchases	5,689	3,630	3,630	156.72%	14,001
Office Equipment Purchases	4,434	5,000	5,000	88.68%	0
Loan Principal Repayments	326,578	349,664	349,664	93.40%	336,742
Total Capital Expenditure	391,774	514,664	505,981	77.43%	930,677
Program Result - Surplus/(Deficit)	(501,610)	(434,664)	(451,776)	111.03%	(740,043)
Program Cash Result - Surplus/(Deficit)	(147,326)	37,359	20,247	-727.64%	(394,185)

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

18 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

19 QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING (IN WRITING)

20 MATTERS REFERRED TO CLOSED COUNCIL**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993:

20.1 VP233805 Casino Drill Hall Memorial Walk, Coronation Park and Viewing Platform

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (d)(i) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

20.2 Construction of Casino Memorial Pool Upgrade - Stage 1

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (d)(i) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

21 RESOLUTIONS OF CLOSED COUNCIL