

Richmond
Valley
Council



AGENDA

Ordinary Council Meeting

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

Date: Tuesday, 22 June 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 18 MAY 2021

Author: Vaughan Macdonald, General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18 May 2021.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1. Unconfirmed Minutes Ordinary Meeting 18 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

Nil

11 MAYOR'S REPORT**11.1 MAYORAL ATTENDANCES 10 MAY - 13 JUNE 2021**

Author: Robert Mustow, Mayor

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Mayor's attendance report from 10 May – 13 June 2021.

REPORT**May**

- 10th Casino SES Volunteer Week Visit
- 11th Riverside Village Cancer Council Fundraiser
- 11th Casino Legacy Laurel Club – Northern Rivers
- 14th CWA 95th birthday celebration
- 18th Richmond Valley Council Ordinary meeting
- 19th Rous County Council Workshop
- 20th Chris Gulaptis MP Funding announcement Casino Railway Station upgrade
- 20th Chris Gulaptis MP funding announcement Country Lane upgrade
- 20th Primex opening
- 20th Primex networking event
- 21st Primex event
- 22nd Primex event
- 22nd Beef Week Gala Dinner
- 24th Beef Week, Mini-moke driving with Brenda
- 27th Beef Week Calcutta
- 27th Momentum Collective - Open Day
- 27th Beef Week School challenge
- 28th Breakfast with the Butchers
- 27th Meeting with Pat Farmer (Broken Hill to Byron Bay run event)
- 28th Beef Week Races
- 29th Beef Week Street Festival Activities and public interview with Federal and State member of Parliament
- 29th Orchid Show
- 30th Beef Week Car Shine and Show event

June

- 1st Beef Week Industry Event
- 1st Richmond Valley Council Information Session
- 3rd Casino Library exercise equipment for loan announcement
- 3rd Reconciliation Ball
- 4th Meeting with Bishop of Catholic Diocese
- 4th Politics and Prosecco Information evening presented by Penrith City Council Mayor Karen McKeown
- 6th Broadwater Public School – opening of capsule
- 9th Rappville Advisory Group meeting
- 13th Woodburn Pony Club event

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

12 DELEGATES' REPORTS

Nil

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: Vaughan Macdonald, General Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its Ordinary Meeting held 18 May 2021, Council resolved to place the Draft Delivery Program, Draft Operational Plan (including Financial Estimates), Draft Revenue Policy and Draft Long Term Financial Plan on public exhibition.

This report provides information regarding public submissions received by Council during the exhibition period, details minor amendments that have been made to the Draft Financial Estimates and recommends that Council adopt the documents.

RECOMMENDATION

That

1. Council adopts the Revised Delivery Program 2017/2022, Operational Plan 2021/2022 (including Financial Estimates 2021/2025), Revenue Policy 2021/2022 and Long Term Financial Plan 2021/2031 the subject of this report.
2. In respect of the general land rates contained in the 2021/2022 Draft Revenue Policy, Council in accordance with Sections 535 and 537 of the *Local Government Act 1993* makes the following General Rates for the 2021/2022 financial year:

Rating Category	Base Amount	% Yield from Base Amount	Rate in Dollar (Ad Valorem)
Residential	\$310.00	27.37%	\$0.00547
Rural Residential (sub-category)	\$290.00	28.96%	\$0.00379
Business	\$360.00	10.63%	\$0.01512
Farmland	\$360.00	19.47%	\$0.00408

3. In relation to interest on overdue rates and charges, Council makes and imposes the maximum charge for interest, as determined by the Minister for Local Government and in accordance with Section 566 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, as follows:
 - (i) for the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022; 6.0% per annum
4. In respect of annual charges and user charges for Waste Management, Water, Sewerage and Stormwater Management Service Charges, in accordance with Section 535 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council makes these charges as detailed in the 2021/2022 Draft Revenue Policy to apply to the 2021/2022 financial year.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Making Council Great

CS1: Leading and Advocating for our Community

CS1.3: Ensure transparency and accountability in council's operations

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

As outlined in the report.

REPORT

The Draft Revised Delivery Program, Draft Operational Plan (including Financial Estimates), Draft Revenue Policy and Draft Long-Term Financial Plan were placed on public exhibition following the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 18 May 2021. The exhibition period closed 4:30pm Tuesday 15 June 2021.

Council did not receive any submissions during the exhibition period.

Council's Long-Term Financial Plan 2021/2031 has been reviewed as part of the development of the Operational Plan 2021/2022 (including Financial Estimates 2021/2025).

During the public exhibition period, further information has come to hand requiring changes to be made to the 2021/2022 budget. These changes are detailed below:

Operating Income – decrease of \$50,850

- Updated supplementary land values and the number of assessments and services has resulted in a net increase in rates and annual charges of \$30,183.
- Downwards revision of throughput at the Northern Rivers Livestock Exchange (NRLX) from 130,000 to 110,000 head has decreased operating income by \$81,033.

Operating Expenditure – decrease of \$46,292

- Revised expenditure budgets for the NRLX, decreasing expenditure by \$88,038.
- Revised expenditure budgets for waste, water and sewerage, increasing expenditure by \$44,550.
- Revised budgets for Councillor and Mayoral fees, saving \$2,804 in operating expenditure based on fees determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

Capital Grants and Contributions – increase of \$417,345

- Council has been successful in obtaining grant funding of \$454,545 towards the construction of Rappville Hall.
- Decrease in the NRLX capital works levy of \$37,200 as a result of the revised throughput of 110,000 head.

Capital Expenditure – increase of \$749,545

The main changes include:

- Council has been successful in obtaining grant funding of \$454,545 towards construction of the Rappville Hall, increasing the capital works budget.
- Decrease in the NRLX capital works budget of \$74,000 due to revised priorities.
- Decrease of \$23,000 in water fund capital works due to the Casino Water Treatment Plant lunchroom extension being completed in the 2020/2021 financial year.
- Increase in sewerage fund capital works of \$422,000, with the main change being an increase of \$360,000 in the budget for desludging of the Casino Sewerage Treatment Plant tertiary ponds, now estimated to cost \$700,000.

The overall impact of these changes is an increase in the unrestricted cash surplus of \$6,404 to a revised projected surplus of \$306,488. The revised budget projections are summarised below:

Budget Estimates	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Total Operating Revenue	65,475	67,320	69,555	71,766
Total Operating Expenditure	67,696	68,292	69,296	71,112
Operating Result before Capital Grants and Contributions	(2,221)	(971)	259	654
Add: Capital Grants and Contributions	14,269	13,667	2,399	1,155
Add: Non-Cash Expenses	17,743	18,325	18,249	18,675
Add: Non-Operating Funds Employed	9,222	2,449	1,301	2,572
Less: Capital Expenditure	46,881	27,867	21,137	13,421
Less: Loan Repayments	3,048	3,554	3,748	3,907
Estimated Funding Result – Surplus/(Deficit)	(10,915)	2,048	(2,677)	5,727
Restricted Funds – Increase/(Decrease)	(11,222)	1,712	(2,994)	5,570
Unrestricted Funds – Increase/(Decrease)	306	337	317	157

Draft Revenue Policy

The Statement of Rates and Charges has been updated with the latest supplementary land values along with movements in the number of assessments and services. In addition, the total permissible income was revised upwards by \$23,000 to \$14,727,497. Annual charges for waste, water, sewerage and stormwater increased by \$7,183.

CONSULTATION

Council advertised the Draft Revised Delivery Program 2017/2022, Draft Operational Plan (including Financial Estimates 2021/2025), Draft Revenue Policy 2021/2022 and Draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2021/2031 from 19 May 2021, with public submissions closing at 4:30pm Tuesday 15 June 2021.

Advertising included coverage in the Richmond River Independent, Council's Facebook page, the June RVC Valley Views newsletter, which is delivered to all post boxes in the LGA and community radio interviews. Copies of the draft documents were also made available on Council's website.

There were no submissions received during the exhibition period.

CONCLUSION

Following the public exhibition period 19 May to 15 June 2021, some amendments have been made to the Operational Plan Financial Estimates 2021/2022 as detailed in the report. Council did not receive any public submissions during the exhibition period.

It is recommended that Council adopts the draft plans as presented with this report.

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 BOUNDARY CREEK BEACH ACCESS

Author: Vaughan Macdonald, General Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following Councillor Robert Hayes' Notice of Motion, Airforce Beach Access presented to the May Ordinary meeting, the following was resolved;

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.*

The Boundary Creek Beach access was closed in February 2021. A padlocked gate was installed, and keys were issued to emergency services, approved commercial fishers and indigenous representatives. The beach access raises safety concerns as it becomes dangerous following dry periods and is a single lane with the protentional to cause vehicle accidents. The potential for the access keys to be cut and further distributed without Council approval has been raised.

It is recommended that advice be sought from Ballina Shire Council, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and National Parks and Wildlife Services in order to seek a consistent approach to the beach access restrictions and the continual management of the restrictions between Ballina Beach access and the Boundary Creek access. A further report could be brought back to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes the history of the Ballina beach closures, the actions of other land managers to restrict access to 4WDs and Richmond Valley Council's response to the revised access arrangements.
2. Authorises the General Manager to write to Ballina Shire Council, the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (Crown Lands) and National Parks and Wildlife Services to seek written advice on their proposed arrangements for managing beach access exemptions and seeking an agreed position between the four land managers for addressing future exemption requests.
3. Reports back to Council when responses from all organisations are received, with details of the proposed management strategy.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Looking after our Environment

EH2: Promoting the Protection of the Environment

EH2.3: Develop and use regulatory instruments to protect and manage the environment

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

REPORT**Background**

On 25 June 2020, Ballina Shire Council began the process of restricting 4WD access to South Ballina Beach, unanimously resolving:

1. *That Council close the public vehicle access through Council owned community land at Patchs Beach to help mitigate the environmental and social damage currently occurring from excessive 4WD use.*
2. *That Council write to the State Government and local members asking that 4WD access to South Ballina beach be closed to the public (excluding approved users), highlighting issues with vehicle numbers, driver behaviour, public safety and environmental degradation.*

In response to this approach, the Department of Planning Industry and Environment Crown Lands issued the following public statement in March 2021:

“South Ballina Beach will be closed to vehicle access from 31 March, 2021 due to ongoing concerns about public safety and impacts to the environment and Aboriginal heritage values. The closure follows consultations between Ballina Shire Council; Richmond Valley Council; the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Crown Lands; the National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS); NSW Police; Jali Local Aboriginal Land Council; and Bandjalang Aboriginal Corporation.

Secured vehicle access points using lock and key will be maintained for emergency services, commercial fishers and Jali Local Aboriginal Land Council and Bandjalang Aboriginal Corporation at Richmond River Nature Reserve (NPWS), Patchs Beach (Ballina Shire Council) and Boundary Creek (Richmond Valley Shire Council). Pedestrian access to the beach will remain unrestricted.”

In anticipation of the NSW Government’s announcement, Richmond Valley Council resolved at its February 2021 meeting to commence closure of the Boundary Creek access point and restrict driving on Airforce and Broadwater beaches to a point south of the Coffee Rocks (approximately 100m). The move aimed to prevent vehicles entering from the Richmond Valley Council area and proceeding north into Ballina Shire once the beach was closed. Council was also concerned, following closure of the Ballina sections of the beach that there would be increased 4WD traffic on the Richmond Valley section, including poor driver behaviour and potential further damage to the coffee rocks.

Following the resolution, a locked gate was installed at the Boundary Creek access track in March 2021, effectively closing Broadwater Beach to recreational four-wheel drives.



Prior to the beach closures, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment undertook a communication strategy with key stakeholders and beach users. Richmond Valley Council provided comment on changing the 4WD access rules on 4 March and 10 March 2021 in the RVC newsletter and released a media release on 25 March 2021. On 7 April 2021 Council posted a Facebook post which reached 11,514 people with 1,589 engagements.

Following the closure, a key registration system was introduced allowing for emergency services, approved commercial fishers and indigenous representatives to be issued keys to the gate. Ballina Shire Council and National Parks and Wildlife Services have also issued keys to similar groups for accesses to the north under their respective control. Council has since been approached by a group of recreational fishers also seeking access.

In deciding how best to address the request for additional community access to the beach, Council may wish to consider the following:

- The safety of the current Boundary Creek access point and its capacity to provide all-weather access to vehicles at all times.
- The access becomes difficult and dangerous following dry periods. It is also single lane which heightens vehicle accident risk.
- The interests of the other stakeholders who have land management responsibilities for the beach and adjoining areas.
- Council's ability to effectively manage the number of keys in circulation and to control and regulate compliance with the access arrangements
- The potential for other community groups to seek access to the area once a precedent is established. For example, this could include persons or families with a member who has a disability.

- If an access arrangement is to be provided, it is recommended that there be a trial period to enable access to be withdrawn if issues arise during the trial period.
- Signage may need to be erected to the north of the coffee rocks section of the beach to keep vehicles off, consistent with the south side of the coffee rocks area.
- The deteriorated condition of Boundary Creek Road is an issue which needs consideration in Council's future road network maintenance planning.



Safety of the access point

Council staff carried out an inspection of the entry/access point on 26 May 2021. The photo below shows the current condition of the entry/exit. The track was sloping and was manageable on the day in a decent four-wheel drive. Due to severe weather this entry/exit point can have a much steeper drop onto the beach, sometimes making it impossible to gain entry off the beach and representing a potential safety risk to users. By contrast, the current Airforce Beach access points to the south offer a more reliable entry/exit point for drivers of varying abilities and a safer access for emergency services vehicles should assistance be required.



Other stakeholders

Council shares management of the beach and adjoining lands with a number of other stakeholders. The map below shows the areas managed by Council and other agencies. Although the access point is under Council’s management, it directly adjoins lands which are managed by other agencies. Council may wish to consult further with these agencies on potential impacts of increasing community access to the area.



Managing compliance

During the 26 May inspection, Council officers spoke to a commercial fisher on the beach who commented he had already been pressured to have a key cut for someone else. This confirmed a concern as to how to ensure access keys are not distributed to other users and how the access arrangements could be regulated at a reasonable cost to Council.

Possible options include:

- Using specialist keys which cannot be copied (this may require recall of the ones already issued)
- Introducing a different access system, such as a swipe card or variable access code
- Introducing a permit system along with a key to verify the person accessing the beach is the approved key-holder.

These would result in varying levels of resourcing and compliance requirements, which could be further explored and costed should Council wish to consider the options in more detail.

Managing future access requests

Although the current request before Council concerns access for a small group of senior fishers, there is potential that other community groups may also consider they deserve access to the beach for their chosen recreational pursuits once the precedent is established. Council may wish to consider how it will address requests from other community members and groups who may also seek access to the beach in future.

It is recommended that Council seek written advice from Ballina Shire Council, the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (Crown Lands) and National Parks and Wildlife Services on their proposed arrangements for managing beach access exemptions and seeking an agreed position between the four land managers for addressing future exemption requests.

CONCLUSION

Further consultation between the four land managers would assist in determining an agreed position and consistent approach to the beach access restrictions and the continual management of the restrictions between Ballina Beach access and the Boundary Creek access. Without an agreed position there are risks and resourcing requirements for Council to consider if access arrangements are to be established for this group of local fishers who are currently seeking access to beach through the Boundary Creek access point.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

14.3 MAYORAL ALLOWANCE/COUNCILLOR FEES 2021/2022**Author: Vaughan Macdonald, General Manager****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Each financial year, the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal determines the minimum and maximum remuneration payable to Mayors and Councillors for carrying out their duties. The determination by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal is pursuant to sections 239 and 241 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Council has received notification that the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has determined that the Mayoral and Councillor Fees are to increase by 2% for the 2021/2022 financial year. The only way a Council can increase the fees payable by more than this percentage is if the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal re-categorises that Council.

Richmond Valley Council is classified as a Regional Rural Council. The minimum and maximum fees set by the Tribunal for the 2021/2022 financial year for Regional Rural Councils are as follows:

	Minimum Fee	Maximum Fee
Councillor Annual Fee	\$9,370.00	\$20,690.00
Mayoral Additional Annual Fee	\$19,970.00	\$45,140.00

Council has a long held policy of setting the fees at the maximum allowance, consistent with the majority of Councils in NSW.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommended that:

1. Council sets the Mayoral Allowance for the 2021/2022 financial year effective from 1 July 2021 at \$45,140.00 per annum or \$3,761.67 per month.
2. Council sets the Councillor Fee for the 2021/2022 financial year effective from 1 July 2021 at \$20,690.00 per annum or \$1,724.17 per month.

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

The 2021/2022 draft budget has provided for the allowable 2% fee increase recommended for adoption.

REPORT

Council has received notification that the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has determined that the Mayoral and Councillor Fees are to increase by 2.0% for the majority of New South Wales Councils for the 2021/2022 financial year. The Tribunal's Report is attached. In making its determination, the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal considered the following:

- Submissions and comments made by Associations and individual Councils;
- Key Economic Indicators;
- Categorisation;
- Workload;
- Training and Development; and
- Attracting high quality candidates to nominate for election to Local Government.

Richmond Valley Council is categorised as a Regional Rural Council. Councils categorised as Regional Rural will typically have a minimum population of 20,000. Other features which distinguish them from other non-metropolitan councils include:

- A major town or towns with the largest commercial component of any location in the surrounding area.
- A significant urban population existing alongside a traditional farming sector and are surrounded by smaller towns and villages or may be located on or close to the coast with high levels of population and tourist facilities.
- Provide a full range of higher-order services including business, office and retail uses with arts, culture, recreation and entertainment centres.
- Regional services to the wider community through principal referral hospitals, tertiary education services and major regional airports.
- These councils may also attract large visitor numbers to established tourism ventures.

The remuneration band set for 2021/2022 for a Regional Rural Council by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal is as follows:

	2021/2022 Minimum Annual Fee	2021/2022 Maximum Annual Fee
Councillor Annual Fee	\$9,370.00	\$20,690.00
Mayoral Additional Annual Fee	\$19,970.00	\$45,140.00

As an example, if Council adopts the maximum remuneration for a Regional Rural Council, the remuneration for 2021/2022 will be as follows:

	2021/2022 Annual Fee	2021/2022 Monthly Fee
Councillor Annual Fee	\$20,690.00	\$1,724.17
Mayoral Additional Annual Fee	\$45,140.00	\$3,761.67

Note: Total remuneration for the Mayor is the Mayoral Allowance plus the Councillor Fee, i.e. for 2021/2022, assuming the maximum is set, the amount would be \$65,830.00 per annum or \$5,485.83 per month.

Councillors are the governing body and therefore responsible for an organisation which has a \$70 million operating budget along with a \$40 million plus capital program. They are required to invest significant time to prepare for and attend Council meetings, information/briefing sessions, meeting with community groups, and since the 2016 election an intensive consultation program across the Valley's towns and villages has been completed.

Councillors also attend community events and are available to discuss issues with the community at all times. The reports that have been provided at Council meetings since the 2016 election by the Mayor highlight the time that goes into the civic duties of a Mayor in a Council of this size. Experience is also that the majority of Councils in NSW set the Mayor/Councillor fees at the maximum level for its category.

Due to the 2020/2021 economic climate and the global pandemic, neither Councillors nor the Mayor received an increase in their fees for that financial year period.

The recommended increase from the last two years will see the Mayor receive an additional \$1,300 and each Councillor an additional \$410.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

CONCLUSION

The fees set for Councillors and Mayors by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal have been determined as indicated in this report. Council has a long held policy of setting its remuneration at the maximum allowable for the Regional Rural Council Category as set by the Tribunal.

On this basis, it is recommended that Council sets the Mayoral Allowance and Councillor Fees at the maximum level, however Council has the discretion to determine the appropriate range of remuneration for the Mayor and Councillors provided it is within the minimum/maximum range for a Regional Rural Council as set by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. **Local Government Remuneration Tribunal Annual Report and Determination (under separate cover)**

15 FINANCIAL REPORTS**15.1 FINANCIAL ANALYSIS REPORT - MAY 2021****Author: Dean Fordham, Principal 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 31 May 2021 is shown below:

Bank Accounts	Term Deposits	Floating Rate Notes	TCorp IM Funds	Total
\$27,156,849	\$20,000,000	\$3,250,390	\$12,167,426	\$62,574,666

The weighted average rate of return on Council's investments for May 2021 was 2.01% which was above the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index for May of 0.00%, which is Council's benchmark.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Financial Analysis Report detailing investment performance for the month of May 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 31 May 2021, Council had earned \$384,179 in interest and \$746,301 in fair value gains for total investment revenue of \$1,130,480 against an annual budget of \$1,003,025 (which equates to 112.71%). 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 31 May 2021 total \$3,833.

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 May meeting.

Rate of Return

The weighted average rate of return on investments in May 2021 was 2.01%, a decrease of 211 basis points from the previous month. The rate of return is 201 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 \$78,827 during May 2021, increasing the overall gain for the 2020/2021 financial year to 31 May 2021 to \$746,301.

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 still limiting amounts of deposits they will accept and others not accepting any deposits at present. In a number of cases Councils bank accounts are returning a higher rate of interest than what we are being offered for term deposits. At its May ordinary meeting, Council adopted a reviewed investment policy which has allowed further investment with NSW Treasury Corporation, into its Long-Term Growth Fund. This deposit was made in early June, therefore will show in next month's investment report.

Council's Investment Portfolio

The Investment Portfolio balance at 31 May 2021 of \$62,574,666 is made up of Council's Business Online Saver Account (\$15,605,000), Macquarie Cash Management Account (\$10,003,397), Term Deposits (\$20,000,000), Floating Rate Notes (\$3,250,390), NSW Treasury Corporation Investments (\$12,167,426) and other bank accounts (\$1,548,452).

Council's investment portfolio had maturity dates ranging from same day up to 1,742 days. Term deposits and floating rate notes of \$23,250,390 represented 37.16% of the total portfolio as at 31 May 2021.

Council made the following new investments during May 2021:

Banking Institution	Investment Type	Environmentally Sustainable Investment	Amount Invested	Investment Term
ME Bank	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	6 months
Judo Bank	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	9 months
Total			\$2,000,000	

Council had the following investment maturities during the month of May 2021:

Banking Institution	Investment Type	Environmentally Sustainable Investment	Amount Invested	Interest Earned
ME Bank	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	\$986
Bank of Sydney	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	\$997
Bank of Sydney	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	\$997
Judo Bank	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	\$3,719
Total			\$4,000,000	\$6,700

Council had \$12,167,426 in longer term investments being the Medium Term Growth Fund held with NSW Treasury Corporation as at 31 May 2021. The investment values and fair value returns are shown below:

Investment Holding	Fair Value 31 May 2021	Fair Value Gain/(Loss) May 2021	Fair Value Gain/(Loss) YTD
Cash Facility Trust	\$0	\$0	\$31,366
Medium Term Growth Fund	\$12,167,426	\$78,827	\$714,935
Total	\$12,167,426	\$78,827	\$746,301

Environmentally Sustainable Investments (ESIs)

Council's portfolio of \$62,574,666 at 31 May 2021 includes \$29,417,426 or 47.0% 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 May 2021 Council's investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

As at 31 May 2021 Council's cash and investments totalled \$62,574,666 with \$27,156,849 of this being funds held in bank accounts. The weighted average rate of return was 2.01% for the month of May and total investment revenue equals 112.71% of budgeted revenue for the year to 31 May 2021.

ATTACHMENT(S)

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

16 GENERAL BUSINESS**16.1 DRAFT RICHMOND VALLEY DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2021 - POST EXHIBITION REPORT**

Author: Angela Jones, Director Community Service Delivery

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Draft Richmond Valley Development Control Plan 2021 was publicly exhibited from 24 March 2021 to 6 May 2021 and is now being presented to Council for adoption.

During the submission period there were five (5) submissions received covering a variety of issues including:

- rural setback requirements;
- requests for guidelines on a number of matters, such as development on waterways and temporary events;
- residential development standards, primarily relating to side boundary setbacks and an objection to the removal of the Building Height Plane;
- concerns about development adjoining airports particularly the State Heritage listed Evans Head Memorial Aerodrome.

A summary of the issues raised, along with commentary, has been provided in the report along with a number of proposed amendments.

It is recommended that DCP 2021 be adopted, subject to several changes, with a commencement date of 1 August 2021. This delayed commencement will provide Council with ample time to modify internal systems, and applicants sufficient lead in time to the new DCP requirements for DAs under preparation.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. receives and notes the report,
2. adopts *Richmond Valley Development Control Plan 2021* (as published within the report) subject to:
 - (a) amending the rural side boundary setback to 5 metres; and
 - (b) changing the urban side boundary setback to -

$$\text{side boundary setback} = \frac{\text{building height} - 3.5}{4} + 0.9 \text{ m}$$

, and

3. submits a copy of the adopted DCP for publishing on the NSW Planning Portal with a commencement date of 1 August 2021.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Growing our Economy

EC1: Driving Economic Growth

EC1.7: Provide flexible and innovative planning controls

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

REPORT

Draft Richmond Valley Development Control Plan 2021 (Draft DCP) was presented to the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 16 March 2021 where a resolution was sought to public exhibit it in accordance with the Richmond Valley Community Participation Plan (CPP). It indicated the Draft DCP had been prepared as part of a review of the *Richmond Valley Development Control Plan 2015 (DCP 2015)* with an aim to ensure consistency of development standards; improved local neighbourhood amenity; and strengthened alignment with existing NSW codes and guidelines. The majority of DCP 2015 was not amended with there being a strong emphasis placed on reviewing provisions within *Part A Residential Development*.

Council resolved in Minute No 160321/9 to note the review of DCP 2015 and to authorise the public exhibition of the Draft DCP for a minimum period of 28 days. This public exhibition took place between 24 March 2021 and 6 May 2021 for a period of 39 days. This report presents the outcomes of the public exhibition, summarises submissions received, and documents consequential amendments proposed as a result of those submissions.

The report further proposes that, if adopted, the new DCP 2021 be published on the NSW Planning Portal with a commencement date of 1 August 2021. The delayed commencement will give Council time to update internal systems plus provide applicants with ample lead in time before the new DCP will apply.

CONSULTATION

The Draft DCP was publicly exhibited in accordance with Council's Community Participation Plan.

Publishing notices on:

- Council's "On Exhibition" webpage along with a digital copy of the Draft DCP & a summary of changes made to DCP 2015;
- Council's Facebook page (with a link to the Council website); and
- within each of Council's Customer Service Centres at Casino and Evans Head along with a printed copy of the Draft DCP & a summary of changes made to DCP 2015.

Written notices (letters) sent to:

- 6 property owners where the residential density zone was being added or changed; and
- the 'frequent flyer' applicants (being the top 29 applicants by volume of development applications lodged).

Submissions

Five (5) written submissions were received during the exhibition period. Copies of these submissions were circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

Issues/comments raised within the submissions are summarised below:

Building Line Setbacks in Zone RU1

Concerns were raised in two submissions regarding a perceived increase in the rural building line setback for residential development from unsealed roads. It was suggested this setback persecutes small rural lots and should be returned to 15 metres especially for those unsealed roads with low volumes of local traffic. It should be the owner's personal choice whether they are willing to accept dust nuisance or set back further from the road.

It was also pointed out that the increased standard will impact on secondary dwellings and rural dual occupancies, which are development types that Council should be encouraging.

Comments: Part A Residential Development referenced a solitary 20 metre front building line setback, but this is inconsistent with Part I-3 Setbacks and Building Heights where the setback standards are:

- 15 metres from a sealed road;
- 50 metres from an unsealed road; and
- 20 metres from a Classified Road.

The DCP provides that in the case of an inconsistency Council will determine which standard shall prevail. As Part I-3 provides greater detail, particularly towards setbacks from unsealed roads, this standard would apply.

One of the aims of the Draft DCP was to provide consistency between provisions and development standards throughout the document. As a result, the residential setback standards have been removed from Part I-3 and inserted to Part A without change.

The larger unsealed road setback aims to reduce/avoid dust nuisance. While this could be left to personal choice, retrospectively moving the dwelling away from the nuisance is near impossible and at great cost.

It is appreciated that small lots may have difficulty complying with some development standards. It is for this reason the DCP, and for that matter section 4.15(3A)(b) of the EP&A Act, permits flexibility/variations when applying DCP development standards.

One submission referenced a 2008.72m² rural allotment which has a dual road frontage, one of which is to an unsealed road. They have concerns that a 50 metre setback will make it impossible to building on the lot given it only has a maximum depth of 45 metres. Given the circumstances of the land's dimensions and size, and that the unsealed road only has light traffic, a DCP variation would most likely be supported.

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

Section 4.15 Evaluation

...

(3A) **Development control plans** If a development control plan contains provisions that relate to the development that is the subject of a development application, the consent authority—

- (b) if those provisions set standards with respect to an aspect of the development and the development application does not comply with those standards—is to be flexible in applying those provisions and allow reasonable alternative solutions that achieve the objects of those standards for dealing with that aspect of the development, ...

Side Boundary Setbacks in Zone RU1

Concern was raised regarding an increase in the side boundary setbacks for rural zones. Seeking to have this returned to 1 metre.

Comments: The rural side boundary setback within the DCP 2015 is 5 metres and has never been 1 metre. Notwithstanding, DCP 2015 notes this setback may need to be larger to accommodate bushfire protection measures such as an asset protection zone.

The Draft DCP had increased the rural zone side boundary setback from 5 metres to 10 metres aiming to reflect more typical setback situations which exist on larger lots and thus to preserve the look and feel of rural areas, help maintain a rural lifestyle, and ensure amenity is offered.

A reconsideration of the change deemed it unnecessary and it will be returned to 5 metres (however regard for bushfire considerations will still apply).

Rules should not be allowed to change

One submission suggested that when land is purchased the development standards shouldn't be locked in for the duration of ownership. This way you know what you've bought, and your development opportunity won't be eroded.

Comments: Such a request isn't supported by the EP&A legislation. The only way to preserve a development standard and avoid disappointment from future DCP/LEP/SEPP/legislative change, is to apply for a development application, receive consent for the proposal and commence the development.

Temporary Uses

There is no guidance provided in the DCP to regulate temporary uses. There are contradictions in Council's event regulation process and the temporary use clause.

Comments: The Draft DCP does not, and previous DCPs for that matter did not, contain temporary use provisions, therefore, it cannot be in contradiction with Council's events regulation process.

Development on Rivers and Waterways

There is no guidance as to Council's expectations for assessing development on river and waterways.

Comments: It is not essential for a DCP to provide assessment criteria on every aspect of all development types. The Draft DCP contains guidance on interpreting and addressing the LEP Natural Resource Management (**NRM**) overlays for terrestrial biodiversity, wetlands, waterways, steep lands and drinking water catchments.

Notwithstanding, rivers and waterways are highly regulated by statutory regulation and approval pathways of NSW Government Agencies, and it would be difficult for the DCP to reproduce this complex body of work.

Building Height Plane and Floor Space Ratio

Evans Head has a recognised "village" appearance, it's not overcrowded, nor closely built and has few tall buildings. Factors that contribute to this openness is low density housing, wider streets, open spaces in a walkable landscape, constrained numbers of two storey dwellings, and generally driveway sized spaces between buildings.

Objection to replacing the Building Height Plan (**BHP**) with a gross floor area (**GFA**) and smaller side boundary setback requirements for second storeys. The Draft DCP will allow 0.9 metre separation between residences and the property boundary which is likely to lead to a far more "closed in" appearance. This will be detrimental to the aesthetics and appeal of the Evans Head built environment. For example, houses recently built in Currajong Street provide a far more closed in appearance at street level than traditional areas of Evans Head.

An example was made of a particular development in Currajong Street which was granted an exemption to the BHP. The second storey of this development is very different from, and covers far more of the block than, buildings built under the current DCP 2015. If the combined setback provisions and removal of the BHP is allowed, there will be a considerable increase in the number of 8.5 and 9.5 metre high buildings with bulky profiles. These buildings will block sightlines, restrict solar access for neighbours, and have a negative impact on the visual amenity.

Concern was also raised with buildings being approved that cover more and more of each block of land. It appears the Draft DCP will accelerate a greater density of buildings and lead to smaller or insignificant open outdoor areas. The GFA model may lead to greater pressure to build two storey houses on smaller blocks.

Comments: The 0.9 metre setback for dwelling houses and dual occupancies is not a new standard and has been in place for many decades. However, the new side boundary setback formula for dwelling houses, dual occupancies and secondary dwellings has come directly from the *NSW Low Rise Housing Diversity Design Guide for Development Applications* (July 2020), which is a tool provided to NSW councils with best practice controls and design standards for various forms of low rise diverse housing.

While it is acknowledged the new side boundary setback standard is considerably more generous compared to the BHP for the second storey of dwellings and dual occupancies, the new standard must be looked at holistically with the GFA; increased rear boundary setbacks; landscaping requirements; and considerations for solar access and privacy. Under consideration of all these factors the aim is to provide for better design outcomes than those provided in DCP 2015. Notwithstanding, further discussion of side boundary setback standards is provided under the heading Amendments.

It should also be pointed out that Draft DCP has increased the open space requirements and has established a GFA which encourages a smaller building footprint and therefore less bulk. While a reduced building footprint may encourage more two storey construction it will also lead to increased open space and landscaping which in turn will provide for better design outcomes and liveable housing.

Development Near Aerodromes

There is no reference in the Draft DCP to the State Heritage listed Evans Head Memorial Aerodrome or the Casino Airport, yet they are specifically covered in the LEP (cl 6.11 Airspace operations and cl 6.12 Development in areas subject to aircraft noise).

An objective of cl 6.11 is to “*protect the community from undue risk from that [airport] operation.*” The Australian Standard AS2021 ANEF, which is used to define how close a dwelling can be to an airstrip, is an acoustic “noise nuisance” measure and NOT a safety measure relating to risk. The two measures do not correlate. While the Commonwealth has expressed a view that there is a low risk of aircraft accident it cannot predict when an accident might occur.

Council needs to include in its DCP more detail and up-to-date information about building on or around airfields. The approved residential development on former airport land puts residents at risk. The ‘Affordable Risk Model’ on which the flawed Commonwealth view is based will not stand close scrutiny in the Courts should there be an accident in the adjacent residential areas.

If Council decides not to pursue this risk then it should at least provide a statement in the DCP and LEP that those who build in areas adjacent to an airfield are at risk of aviation accident.

Council has approved two storey dwellings on Currajong Street which interfere with the visual amenity of the airfield. This development also has ramifications for aviation and resident safety.

Comments: It is correct the DCP doesn’t include provisions specific to the two airports, albeit there is mention of statutory buffer considerations for airports in *Part 1-11 Land Conflict Risk Assessment (LUCRA)*. Notwithstanding, the LEP clauses can operate effectively without having additional considerations or guidance in the DCP.

The submission references clauses 6.11 and 6.12 from the LEP. Clause 6.11 aims to prevent tall structures penetrating/encroaching into an airport’s Obstacle Limitation Surface (**OLS**), and clause 6.12 aims to locate development away from aircraft noise. Whilst both clauses relate to airports, they operate independently having their own objectives. Quoting objectives from one clause and using them to justify an opinion regarding the other, can only lead to flawed conclusions.

Both clauses were provided by the NSW Government as Model Clauses and have been consistently used within other LEPs throughout NSW (for example see Ballina LEP 2012 clauses 7.5 & 7.6; and Lismore LEP 2012 clauses 6.5 & 6.6).

The two storey dwellings erected on Currajong Street fall substantially short or penetrating the OLS of the Evans Head Memorial Aerodrome. All developments along Currajong Street were assessed by NSW Heritage Council and granted section 60 approvals under the Heritage Act. The Heritage

Council would not have granted these approvals had it believed the developments would interfere with the heritage significance of the State Heritage Listed Evans Head Memorial Aerodrome, interfered with its visual amenity, or created a situation that might lead to reduced aviation activity at the airport.

Amendments

Rural Side Boundary Setback

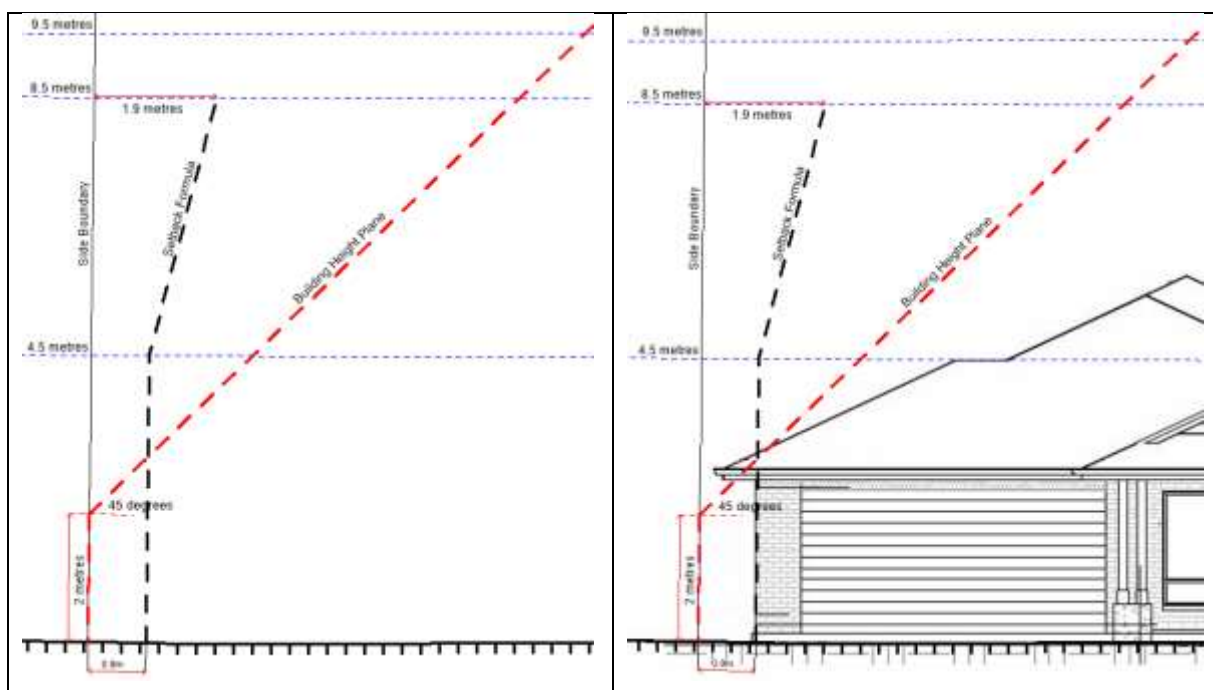
As discussed above, the proposed change to the side boundary setback in rural areas has been reconsidered and it is recommended that it be returned to 5 metres, albeit there will remain a note that a greater setback may be required to accommodate *Planning For Bushfire Protection* considerations such as Asset Protection Zones (APZ).

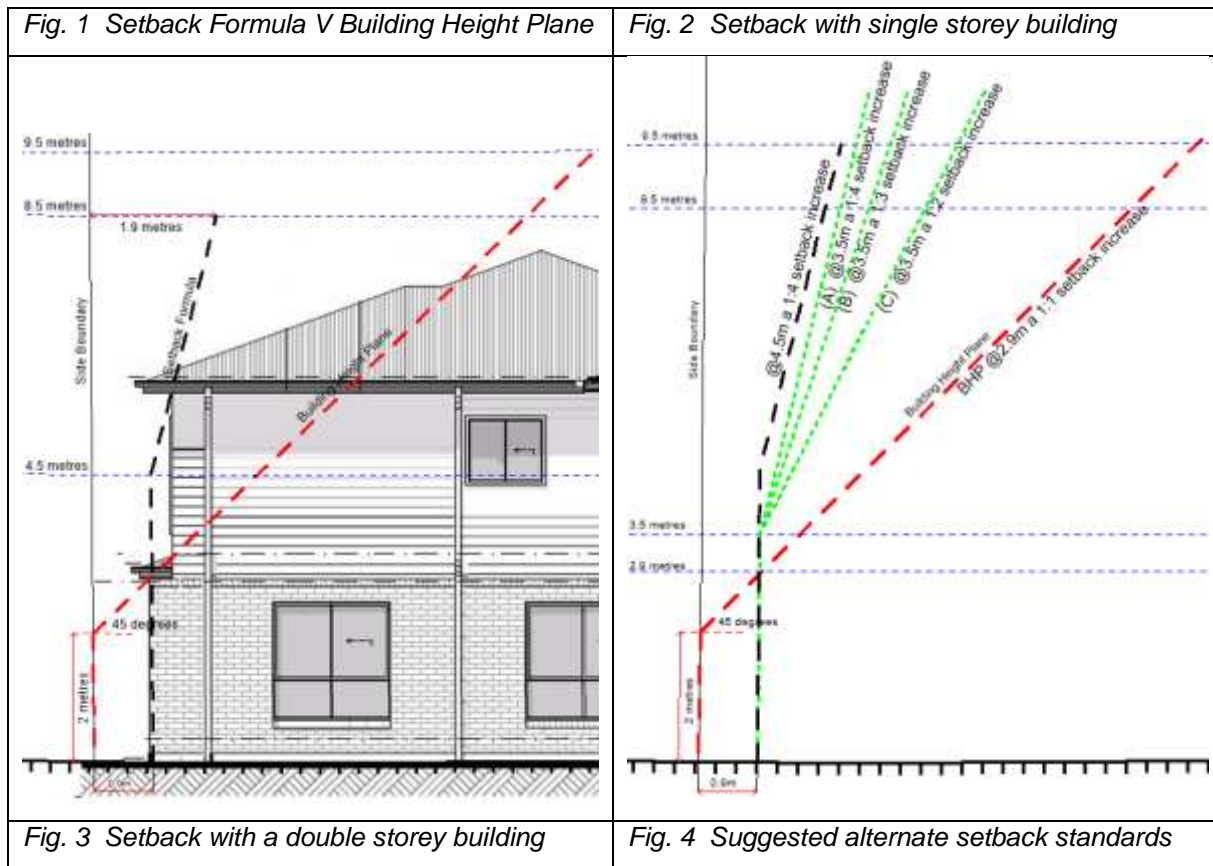
Residential Side Boundary Setbacks

As discussed above, there is no Building Height Plane (BHP) in the Draft DCP. For Dwelling Houses, Dual Occupancies and Secondary Dwellings the side boundary setback is proposed to be defined by a formula which has come from the *Low Rise Housing Diversity Design Guide*-

Building Height	Minimum required setback from the side boundary
0 metres to 4.5 metres	0.9 metres
>4.5 metres to 8.5 metres	$\frac{(Building\ Height - 4.5)}{4} + 0.9\ metres$
<p><i>Note: The formula lacks a setback for that part of the building above >8.5 metres</i></p> <p><i>The formula equates to an increase in setback of 1 metre for every 4 metres (1:4) in building height above 4.5 metres.</i></p>	

Figure 1 plots the formula and compares it to the current BHP. The significant difference between the 2 methods of defining side boundary setbacks is obvious from this figure. While it isn't of much concern for single storey buildings (see Fig. 2), it could result in a significant decrease in setback, solar access and privacy from the second storey (see Fig. 3).





Changes to the side boundary setback were discussed at the Councillor Information Session held on 1 June 2021. Concern was raised with the significant decrease in setback and an alternative was proposed: to apply the formula to that part of the wall height >3.5 metres instead of the current >4.5m. This alternative has been plotted in Figure 4 and labelled (A). Option (A) results in an increased setback of 0.25 metres from the boundary for that part of the building >3.5 metres. Thus, the second storey shown in Fig.3 would be setback 1.45m from the boundary instead of 1.2m.

Additional alternate solutions have been plotted in Fig. 4 where the steepness of the angle has been increased (and thus the setback increased) for that part of the building >3.5m in height:

- Option (B) having a 1:3 angle, therefore, increasing the setback by 0.73m; and
- Option (C) having a 1:2 angle, therefore, increasing the setback by 1.1m.

1. (increased is compared to the current setback formula)

As mentioned in the submission commentary, the side boundary setback can't be looked at in isolation from other provisions within the Draft DCP such as the GFA, rear boundary setbacks, solar access and privacy, and landscaping. In combination these standards should achieve improved design and liveability outcomes, and not result in bulky over developed developments as seen under DCP 2015.

It is recommended that option (A), as discussed at the Councillor Information Session, be applied as the minimum side boundary setback for urban dwelling houses, dual occupancies and secondary dwellings.

CONCLUSION

Draft Richmond Valley Development Control Plan 2021 was publicly exhibited for a period of 39 days with five (5) written submissions being received. Having considered the submissions it is recommended that the DCP be adopted as exhibited with proposed changes being to:

- (a) return the rural side boundary setback to 5 metres; and

(b) adjust the urban side boundary setback formula to –

$$2. \text{ side boundary setback} = \frac{\text{building height} - 3.5}{4} + 0.9 \text{ m} .$$

Once adopted the DCP 2021 must be uploaded to the NSW Planning Portal before it commences. However, it is proposed to commence the new DCP from 1 August 2021 to give ample time for internal systems to be changed, and so applicants are given sufficient lead in time to the new DCP.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1. Draft Richmond Valley Development Control Plan 2021 (under separate cover)**

16.2 COUNTRY LANE CASINO CROWN ROAD TRANSFER AND LAND ACQUISITION

Author: Matt Kinkead, Coordinator Project Development and Design

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Country Lane Casino is a Crown road reserve that is approximately 200m long, 6 metres wide and connects Foy and Kent Streets, Casino. Constructed within this road reserve is a 4m wide unsealed pavement maintained by Council. A Fixing Local Roads Grant has been awarded to Council for the upgrade and sealing the existing road. In order to facilitate this work, Council needs to have control of the road reserve transferred from Crown to Council. To allow for the required road widening, part of the adjoining property, being Lot 7016 DP 1051717 also needs to be acquired. This land is Crown land under the control of Richmond Valley Council. In order to acquire Crown land, the provisions of *the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991* need to be met. This Act provides the statutory process for empowered authorities to acquire any interest in land for a public purpose.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Applies to Department of Planning, Industry and Environment to transfer control of Country Lane Casino (between Kent Street and Foy Street) from Crown to Council's control.
2. Initiates proceedings to acquire part of Lot 7016 DP 1051717 from the Crown using the provisions of the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991*.
3. Authorises the completion of acquisition documentation under the Common Seal of Council (where required).
4. Authorises the General Manager to sign all required documentation in relation to the road transfer and land acquisition.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Growing our Economy

EC2: Building on our strengths

EC2.4: Acquisition, management and disposal of Council land to realise commercial opportunities

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

With the acceptance of the Fixing Local Roads grant, Council was required to contribute \$187,500 in addition to the \$562,500 from the grant. The total budget for this project is \$750,000.

The costs associated with this project will be funded from this budget.

REPORT

Country Lane Casino, is a Council maintained, unsealed urban road that provides access along its northern side to seven (7) properties, comprising of six (6) residential and one (1) commercial property with a residence. To the south of Country Lane is undeveloped land, known as Lot 7016 DP1051717. This land was originally identified as an area for Wharfage Purposes (circa 1880's) but has since been Gazetted as part of Reserve 76716, being land for Public Recreation (28th May 1976). Lot 7016 DP1051717 is Crown land that is managed by Council and is currently leased for grazing purposes.

Country Lane is approximately 200 metres long and is generally 6.235 metres wide and runs in an east/west direction between Foy and Kent Streets. Some local road widening (3 metres wide)

across the frontage of Lot 210 DP789978 was dedicated to Council in 1989 when DP789978 consolidated three (3) smaller lots.

A preliminary road reserve status investigation has revealed that Country Lane is a Crown controlled road reserve. Council will need to apply to Crown Lands to have control of this road reserve transferred Council.

Richmond Valley Council has been successful is receiving \$562,500 in grant funding from the Fixing Local Roads program. This grant and Council's \$187,500 contribution is for the upgrade and sealing Country Lane Casino. In order to facilitate the upgrade to Country Lane, the road reserve needs to be widened to accommodate the relocation of existing services and the new widened pavement within the road reserve.

To minimise the impact on the adjoining residences, the concept road design nominated that road widening should occur along the southern side of Country Lane. The road widening requires a land acquisition that will affect Lot 7016 DP1051717. This land is Crown land that is managed by Council and is leased for grazing purposes. This Crown land is not affected by a Native Title Claim but is affected by an undetermined Aboriginal Land Claim.

Acquisition of any Crown land within New South Wales by a public authority needs to follow the statutory process of the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991*. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has an application and process that complies with these requirements. This report is the first of many steps in the process. The *Roads Act 1993*, Section 177 Power to acquire land generally, permits a Council to acquire land for any purpose of the Act.

CONSULTATION

Council has been in contact with some of the private property owners that live and work along Country Lane. No prior contact has been made with Crown Lands, as Council will be required to make a notification to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment which requires a resolution of Council to be included in the application. As part of the application to Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Council will need to consult with the Aboriginal Land Claimant in relation to the undetermined land claim. Council will need to submit evidence of their concurrence to the proposed acquisition and withdrawal of the proposed acquisition site from their claim.

CONCLUSION

Council has been successful in obtaining Fixing Country Roads grant funding to seal and upgrade Country Lane, Casino. The design process identified the need to widen the narrow road reserve to allow the construction of the proposed upgrades to take place. Acquiring the required Crown land and having control of the road reserve transferred to Council will permit this project to be proceed.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1. Proposed Acquisition Country Lane Casino (under separate cover)**

16.3 CASINO WATER TOWER MURAL

Author: Sharon Davidson, Manager Communications, Events and Tourism

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The idea of a mural for the Casino water tower located on the corner of Walker and Hare Streets was first imagined by the community many years ago, and interest again started to grow following the popularity of the Australian Silo Art Trail.

Having been presented with a funding opportunity, Council sought to commission a creative, or team of creatives, to develop a large mural around the top section of the reservoir to create a unique statement about the evolving identity of Casino and its community. Some key objectives for the mural included:

- A cultural landmark for Casino with reference to Aboriginal and European history.
- Is colourful and is consistent with the Discover Richmond Valley brand guidelines and colour scheme.
- Respects its place as the southern gateway to Casino.
- Creates a strong feeling of identity, public pride and ownership of the mural.
- A destination artwork which people travel specifically to see.
- Setting a new benchmark for public art and design excellence.

Council invited experienced artists and/or artist teams to submit an expression of interest for the concept development, design and production of a mural for the Casino water tower.

The mural will be the largest public art project in the history of the Richmond Valley, therefore, it was critical the community became involved on what it would like to see featured on the water tower. Submitted artwork was placed on public exhibition for 28 days, closing Thursday 3 June. Submissions received favoured Queensland-based The Brightsiders.

Through careful planning and consideration to technique and materials - and noting the mural will need regular maintenance - Council anticipates the design could last as long as 15 to 20 years, with a minimum projected life span of 10 years.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes the submissions received on the four final artworks following a comprehensive community consultation process; and
2. Endorses The Brightsiders design as the Mural to be painted on the Casino Water Tower subject to feedback referred to in this report.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Connecting People and Places

PP2: Getting Around

PP2.3: Create a sense of Civic Pride in the Community

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The Water and Sewer team has allocated \$136,875 to complete associated site works and essential maintenance and safety improvements in advance of the mural works commencing.

Grant funding of \$90,000 has been secured to support delivery of this project.

REPORT

Richmond Valley Council successfully applied for a \$125,000 grant from the Regional Tourism Bushfire Recovery grants program, an Australian Government bushfire recovery initiative to support tourism projects in local government areas impacted by the "Black Summer" bushfires.

Around \$90,000 of the funding will be used for the planning, consultation, and commissioning of a mural for the iconic Casino water tower, with an additional \$35,000 invested into signage for scenic and heritage walks and promotional activities.

The mural will be the centrepiece of the scenic and heritage trail, which will include interpretive signage covering key points of interest relevant to the Richmond River and its Aboriginal and European history, as well as the historical architecture featured throughout Casino and South Casino town centres. Local Aboriginal artist Charlie Caldwell was commissioned to provide a painting to be an integrated piece of the signage.

Silo and water tower art was growing in popularity as one of Australia's must-do road trips, and plans are underway to have Casino listed on the official Australian Silo Art Trail once the mural is complete.

Combining the water tower mural with the scenic and heritage walks will help attract visitors to explore Casino and the wider Richmond Valley, as well as encouraging residents to get active and learn about the history and features of their region.

Experienced artists from right cross the country were invited to submit an expression of interest for the concept development, design and production of the mural. The EOI was promoted in local newspapers, posted to Council's Facebook page and shared to other social media sites, including the Australian Silo Art Trail, and uploaded to Council's website. Emails and private messages were sent to a small list of potential artists, and the Australian Silo Art Trail administrators also sent the project documents via email to artists on their database.

Seven submissions were received. From these seven, four were selected by Council officers to develop a concept, indicative budget and timeline, for which they were paid \$1000 (GST incl). They were required to provide a brief on their creative approach, proposed community engagement, and a few indicative sketches or renders.

The COVID pandemic and associated border closures meant some artists who tendered for the mural project were unable to attend site visits. A very wet summer also presented challenges.

The mural will be the largest public art project in the history of the Richmond Valley, therefore, to ensure the project had the full support of the wider community Council wrote to the government department responsible for administering the Regional Tourism Bushfire Recovery Grant Program - Stream 2 grant seeking an extension to the funding agreement's end date. We received confirmation our request was accepted.

Queensland-based The Brightsiders visited Casino the first week of March, and during their stay met with RVC officers, representatives from Toys Change Lives, Casino Art Group president Tony Hennessey, and author and illustrator Gwendolyn Gray, as well as local Aboriginal elders and the Jugan Dandii Weavers. They were also given a tour of the Northern Rivers Military Museum and the Casino Historical Museum.

To ensure the community became involved in the selection process, as it is the locals who have to live with the final decision, the four finalists' artwork was posted to Council's Facebook page and website on 6 May 2021, and featured in The Richmond River Independent, The Northern Rivers Times and The Northern Rivers Review.

The artwork remained on public exhibition for 28 days, closing Thursday 3 June. Residents were encouraged to send in a submission either online, via email or through the post. They were also advised Facebook comments would not be considered as submissions.

The final tally saw 34 submissions had been received – 16 in favour of The Brightsiders, nine for Apparition Media, two for Matt Adnate and two for Fintan Scott-Macgee. Five did not provide an option.

The Facebook post reached 8065 followers and received 4706 clicks, 481 likes and 572 photo views. Comments on the main post were overwhelmingly positive, with most people saying all designs captured the essence of Casino.

Council's Water and Sewer team will complete several tasks to prepare the South Casino reservoir for the painting of the mural and improving the site presentation for the scenic and heritage walk. The scope of the project includes:

1. Site clearing to minimise safety hazards and improve site presentation
2. Improving fencing of the site to minimise safety hazards
3. Concreting around the reservoir
4. Consolidation of electrical and communication cables, including installing new cable conduits
5. Stabilisation of embankment below the reservoir.

CONSULTATION

The artwork was placed on public exhibition from Thursday 6 May, closing Thursday 3 June. Residents were encouraged to send in a submission either online, via email or through the post. They were also advised Facebook comments would not be considered as submissions. The designs also featured in The Richmond River Independent, The Northern Rivers Times and The Northern Rivers Review.

More information on the artists, including images of the proposed designs, was made available via the On Exhibition page on Council's website.

CONCLUSION

The goal of the mural and scenic and heritage trail is to make Casino a destination in its own right; to give visitors another point of interest while they are here. It is also about creating a sense of community pride. It will be linked with other key attractions, such as the Northern Rivers Rail Trail.

Feedback received on the initial concepts will be passed onto the successful artist for consideration and incorporation in their final designs, which will be provided to councillors for a final review before commencement.

The successful artist will be required to enter into an agreement with Richmond Valley Council. This agreement will clearly outline the responsibilities of all parties during the installation stages of the work, including the delivery of the mural as per the specified timeline and address any copyright and intellectual property matters.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

16.4 EVENT FUNDING SUPPORT SCHEME FUNDING 2021-2022

Author: Hayley Hancock, Events and Public Art Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Richmond Valley Council provides community groups and organisations with an annual opportunity to apply for financial assistance towards the cost of funding a variety of events within the Richmond Valley area.

The Event Support Scheme has been operating for a number of years and contributes positively to the quality of life and the economy of the Richmond Valley, meeting a number of goals outlined in Council's Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program.

RECOMMENDATION

That \$17,050 cash and \$8014 in-kind support is allocated from the Event Support Scheme in accordance with the recommendations outlined in this report.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Connecting People and Places

PP1: Fresh and Vibrant Community

PP1.1: Support local Event Organisers and enhance marketing and promotion of events

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The Event Support Scheme budget is \$29,098. An allocation of \$25,064 both cash and in-kind support is recommended. Remaining in the scheme would be \$4034. Additional sponsorship requests are annually received from event organisers who did not apply for the Event Funding Support Scheme. These requests will exhaust funding by the end of the financial year.

REPORT

Applications for the 2021/2022 financial year funding scheme closed on 19 March 2021. Eight applications were received. Council's Policy 9.4 Event Support explains the objective, aims, and selection criteria for funding. All applications were reviewed and evaluated in accordance with the policy.

One application was removed due to receiving event sponsorship through the Bush Fire Recovery Fund. Seven applications were deemed appropriate for support. Evaluations included a recommendation from the Events Officer as to the appropriate cash and in-kind contribution to be provided.

In determining eligibility, consideration was given to Council's Community Strategic Plan and the deliverables in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan, as well as eligibility requirements and selection criteria.

The following table summarises the seven application requests for cash and in-kind support, the Event Officer's recommendation and councillor feedback.

Event	Cash and in-kind support requested	Events Officer Recommendation	Final Recommendation
Community Christmas Carols event	\$5000 cash \$600 in-kind	\$1000 cash \$600 in-kind	\$1000 cash \$600 in-kind Casino RSM Club has proposed to partner with the Casino Lions Club to host their annual Carols event. Funding supported contingent on Lions Club involvement.
COW FM Country Music Festival	\$25,000 cash \$2907 in-kind	\$5000 cash \$2907 in-kind	\$5000 cash \$2907 in-kind Events Officer to support organisers in sourcing additional funding opportunities and sponsorship.
Evans Head Malibu Classic	\$1500 cash \$300 in-kind	\$1500 cash \$ 300 in-kind	\$1500 cash \$ 300 in-kind
Riley's Hill Community Twilight Market	\$3500 cash \$300 in-kind	\$1750 cash \$300 in-kind	\$1750 cash \$300 in-kind
Woodburn Riverside Festival	\$2000 cash \$1000 in-kind	\$2000 cash \$1000 in-kind	\$2000 cash \$1000 in-kind
Casino Quota Club	\$800 cash	\$800 cash	\$800 cash
Casino Show Society	\$5000 cash \$2907 in-kind	\$5000 cash \$2907 in-kind	\$5000 cash \$2907 in-kind

The final recommendation totals \$17,050 cash and \$8014 in-kind support.

CONSULTATION

The opportunity to apply for the Event Support Scheme was advertised through Facebook, Richmond Valley Council website as well as emailing an extensive list of event stakeholders within the Richmond Valley.

CONCLUSION

Events contribute to the local economy, our strategic objectives and to policy. The events held in the valley are growing; in both number and diversity. We will continue to nurture new events, provide the knowledge and encouragement they need and support established events to diversify and grow.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

16.5 PROPOSED ROAD NAMING

Author: Kim Anderson, GIS and Systems Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is a Roads Authority, under Section 7 of the *Roads Act 1993*, and is responsible for formally naming public roads in accordance with the Act and Regulation.

Council publicly exhibited six proposed road name calling for public submissions during April and May 2021. Council received six objections to the proposed road names which is detailed in the Report. Three road names are proposed to undertake a further review and be presented in a future Council report.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council formally adopts the following road names: Spencer Road, Baraang Drive and Flooded Gum Drive for the North Casino Rural Residential Estate.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Connecting People and Places

PP2: Getting Around

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

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

REPORT

Council is a Roads Authority, under Section 7 of the *Roads Act 1993*, and is responsible for formally naming public roads in accordance with the Act and Regulation.

One road name was identified to avoid addressing confusion as result of a subdivision. Two road names were identified to resolve addressing issues as a result of the realignment of the Pacific Highway upgrade. Correct addressing impacts on residents' service delivery and possible delays in emergency response.

Spencer Road, North Casino (Map 1)

A recent subdivision resulted in Musgraves Road forming a 3-way intersection. The previously proposed road name 'Quain Road' was not supported by affected residents.

'Spencer Road' name was recommended, supported by affected residents and has pre-approval from NSW Geographical Names Board. The name is derived from a previous late resident whom lived on that road for 32 years.

No submissions were received during the public exhibition process.



Map 2 - Showing location of proposed road name 'Spencer Road'

Baraang Drive Broadwater (Map 2)

The Broadwater village requires a road name which is currently known as the Pacific Highway. Council has been working with the community, and the NSW Geographical Names Board to identify a suitable road name since 2018.

Council initially considered 'Mill Street' as a proposed road name which was rejected due to duplication. Mill Lane, North Lismore exists within a 30km rural area radius and is hence considered a duplicate name (*NSW Addressing Policy and User Manual October 2019*).

Council staff publicly exhibited 'Rattle Street' as an alternative name. The community groups presented a petition to Council with an objection (25 names) against the name 'Rattle Street'.

The community have presented other names being 'Old Pacific Highway', and 'River Street', which were refused from NSW Geographical Names Board.

Residents presented the name 'Paringa', with the aboriginal meaning of 'big bend in the river'. This received community support and was formally adopted by Council on 16 February 2021. This resolution was subject to endorsement from Jali Local Aboriginal Land Council. Council received a response opposing the name as it is not derived from the local Bundjalung language and would be disrespectful to use that name in Bundjalung country.

The Jali Local Aboriginal Land Council proposed the name 'Baraang' as an alternative road name.

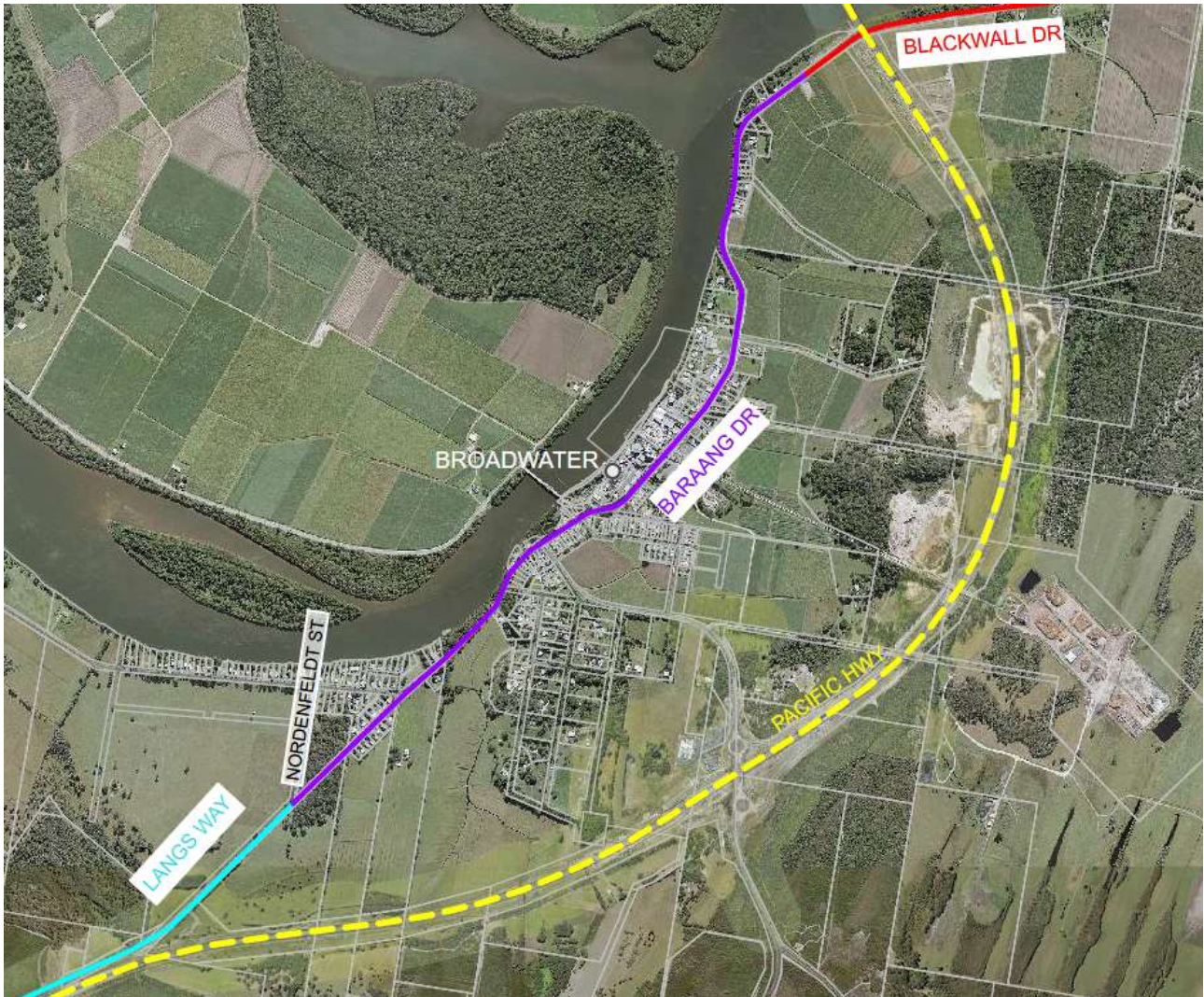
During consultation residents presented alternative aboriginal names including Bargany, Nyaringam, Gabing, Burbi and Balin. These names were not endorsed by the Jali Local Aboriginal Land Council with preference of 'Baraang', and hence these alternatives could not be considered.

Baraang has the meaning of 'returning boomerang' as the section of road resembles the shape of a Boomerang and that the water flows in and out being tidal.

During the public exhibition, Council wrote to 80 affected residents including notification to relevant authorities of the proposed road name. A total of three submissions of objections were received.

The submissions included preference to using, 'Old Pacific Highway' or 'Mill Road' which have previously been considered and refused. Two of the submissions had concerns regarding the spelling of the name and this causing possible confusion.

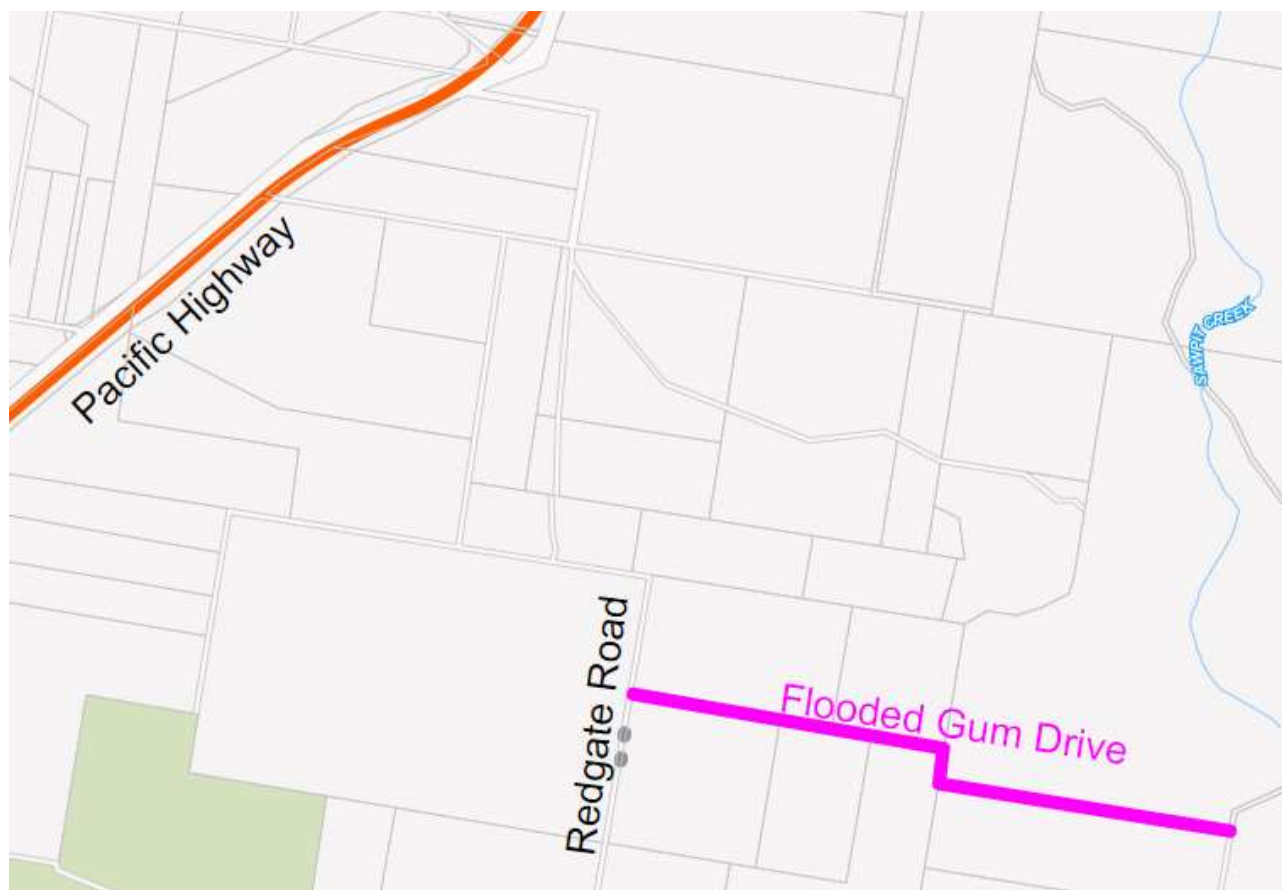
The *NSW Addressing Policy and User Manual October 2019, p94* states that 'road names shall be easy to pronounce, spell and write, and preferably not exceed three words (including the road type) or 25 characters. An exception to this is in the use of Aboriginal names when it is accepted that a traditional name may at first appear to be complex but will, over time, become more familiar and accepted by the community'.



Map 2 – Showing location of proposed road name 'Baraang Drive'

Flooded Gum Drive, New Italy (Map 3)

This currently unnamed road commences at Redgate Road travelling east and terminating at the north eastern boundary of Lot 82 DP755614. Council received a signed petition containing seven signatures of affected residents in support of the name 'Flooded Gum Drive' as an alternative to 'Nicolia Road' as previously advertised. Flooded Gum Drive has pre-approval from NSW Geographical Names Board. During the public exhibition process, no submissions were received.



Map 3 – Showing location of proposed road name 'Flooded Gum Drive'

Additional Review

The following road names require additional review with a future report to be presented to Council after public exhibition for alternative suggested names:

'Plantation Rise, New Italy' received objections during the public exhibition. An alternative name of 'She Oak Rise', has been presented by affected residents which is named after the native trees in the area that the black cockatoos feed on. This proposed name is under review and would be consistent with the theme of the nearby road 'Flooded Gum Drive', proposed within this report.

'Serrata Lane, Broadwater' received an objection that the name should reference the historic origin with the proposed name 'Travellers Arm Lane'. This laneway was utilised to service the Travellers Arm Hotel located at the end of the lane.

'McCaw Lane, Yorklea' received information from an affected resident with reference to this road being previously known as 'Aberfoyle Road', with preference to keep this historic road name.

CONSULTATION

In accordance with Clause 7 of the Roads Regulation 2018 and NSW Road Naming Policy, each proposed road name has undertaken the following advertising and consultation.

- Publishing notice on Councils website.
- Serving notice of the proposal on the prescribed authorities listed in Clause 7.1
- Written notification to affected residents

During the public consultation period a total of six road names were proposed. Three road names are currently under review and will be subject to a future council report.

'Spencer Road' and 'Flooded Gum Drive' did not receive any submissions during the public exhibition period.

Council received three submissions of objection against 'Baraang Drive' including issues around the spelling of the word. The NSW Geographical Names Board are of the position that traditional names may at first appear to be complex but will, over time, become more familiar and accepted by the community. This section of road has undertaken extensive public consultation over the past three years to identify a suitable and approved name.

CONCLUSION

It is proposed that Council, as the road naming authority follow the recommendations outlined in this report to formally adopt the proposed road names.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

16.6 RICHMOND PARK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

Author: Kim Anderson, GIS and Systems Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A plan of management is a statutory instrument that provides strategic planning and governance for the management and use of community land. Council has developed a draft Plan of Management for Richmond Park to meet statutory obligations of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* which sets out the objectives, performance targets and provides the framework for the management use, and tenures over the land.

Richmond Park includes Casino Golf Course, Greyhound slipping track, Casino Mini Rail and Museum, Jabiru Geneebeinga Wetlands and Richmond Park Wildlife Refuge.

The draft Plan of Management provides recommendations including the development of a Master Plan for the reserve which will require an increase in funding to implement the deliverables.

The draft Plan of Management is required to be referred to the relevant Minister prior to public exhibition in accordance with Section 39 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. Council can place the draft Plan of Management on exhibition upon receiving approval from the Minister.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Submits the draft Plan of Management for Richmond Park to the Minister for Water, Property, and Housing in accordance with Section 39 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.
2. Subject to approval, places the draft Plan of Management on public exhibition for 28 days and provide a minimum of 42 days for submissions.
3. A future report will be presented to Council subject to ministerial approval and submissions received after the public exhibition period.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Connecting People and Places

PP1: Fresh and Vibrant Community

PP1.3: Provide clean, safe and accessible open spaces and recreational services to the community and visitors

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The draft Plan of Management has been prepared within existing staff resources. The development of a Master Plan as recommended in the draft Plan of Management being at a cost estimate of \$10,000 to \$15,000, which is currently unfunded.

REPORT

The draft Plan of Management for Richmond Park identifies the values, use, management practices and intent for the broader public purpose for which the land has been reserved or dedicated. It applies the principles of the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act), identifying the land as if it were "Community" land and providing an appropriate category that meets community needs.

Richmond Park is owned by the Crown and managed by Richmond Valley Council as Crown Land Manager under the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (CLM Act). The CLM Act authorises local councils appointed to manage dedicated or reserved Crown land as if it was public land under the LG Act. Therefore, all Crown land reserves managed by Council as "Community" land are required to have a plan of management under the LG Act.

Part of the reserve is leased and maintained by the Casino Golf Club. Council maintains the remaining parts of this reserve through an open spaces annual budget of \$13,080 which incorporates mowing, vegetation management and cleaning the toilet facilities in the Wildlife Refuge area. Council has conducted general repairs as required to maintain the operational function of its assets. The draft Plan of Management details the condition of existing assets identifying where assets may need replacement or renewals.

The Jabiru Geneebeinga Wetlands has been identified as a facilitated signature project within the 10-year Community Strategic Plan – Richmond Valley Made 2030. The wetlands are identified as needing renewal with the opportunity to become an important regional tourist destination within the local government area. The draft Plan of Management contains directions for the development and provision of infrastructure, provides pathways for future developments, and specifies how broader legal and policy requirements are to be applied to the reserve. The draft Plan of Management incorporates the Management Plan for the Jabiru Geneebeinga Wetlands, which forms part of the Richmond Park Wildlife Refuge to ensure the environment is appropriately managed.

The draft Plan of Management recommends a master plan to be developed for the reserve which provides a dynamic long-term community plan that identifies, prioritises, and set goals and targets through analysis, recommendations, and proposals based upon the facility land use and core objectives. When funds are available, a master plan will incorporate the legislative requirements, and core objectives of the community land as outlined in the draft Plan of Management.

The benefits of a master plan are to:

- provide a dynamic long term planning conceptual vision and representational blueprint for future growth and development of the reserve.
- bring together the ambitions and concerns of different interest groups, to develop a clear and solid set of recommendations, implementation strategy, and set targets for deliverables.
- identify opportunities for biodiversity improvements and consider ongoing maintenance and protection of the Wildlife Refuge to meet the core objectives of the reserve
- Identify facility improvements through maintenance repairs or replacement.
- Improve stormwater management, water storage, flow capacity, possible expansion of wetlands area.
- Identify and support funding opportunities thorough partnerships with other government authorities and grant applications to fund the deliverables in the Master Plan and funding considerations for ongoing maintenance in line with the Plan of Management when approved.

Note: The draft Plan of Management has been distributed separately to Councillors.

CONSULTATION

Council staff have presented and requested feedback into the development of the draft Plan of Management to stakeholders at the reserve including Casino Golf Club, Casino Greyhound Racing Club, Pacific Coast Railway Society, Casino Boolangle Local Aboriginal Land Council and the NSW Biodiversity Trust.

The draft plan requires approval from the Minister for Water, Property, and Housing as the reserve is owned by the Crown. Once approval is granted, the plan will be placed on public exhibition seeking feedback from the community prior to being presented to Council seeking resolution to adopt the plan.

CONCLUSION

The draft Plan of Management provides the statutory framework for planning, and governance for the management and use of Richmond Park. The draft plan will facilitate the day-to-day management and provides the broader legal and policy requirements for future upgrades and development.

17 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**RECOMMENDATION**

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

17.1 GRANT APPLICATION INFORMATION REPORT - MAY 2021

Author: Dean Fordham, Principal Accountant

RECOMMENDATION

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

During the reporting period five grants were approved and funding was received for eleven grants totalling \$1,498,280. Council was notified as being unsuccessful with three grant applications and three grants were applied for.

Grants that have been approved

Casino Library Community Courtyard	
Project ID	10393
Funding Body	State Library NSW
Funding Name	Public Library Infrastructure Grants 2020/2021
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$204,857
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$192,830
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 12,027 (in-kind funding)
Date Application Submitted	5 November 2020
Date Approved	4 May 2021
Comment (if required)	This project is for an extended library floor space utilising the external courtyard complete with educational gardens, seating and access to the existing free WiFi.

Mobile Library Solar Panels (application made on behalf of Kyogle Council)	
Project ID	10394
Funding Body	State Library NSW
Funding Name	Public Library Infrastructure Grants 2020/2021
Government Level	State

Project Value (excl GST)	\$73,809
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$46,509
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$27,300 (in-kind funding)
Date Application Submitted	4 November 2020
Date Approved	4 May 2021
Comment (if required)	This project will provide solar panels on the mobile library to provide the energy requirements for day to day operations.

Broadwater Community Hall Solar Panels

Project ID	10415
Funding Body	Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources
Funding Name	Stronger Communities Programme Round 6
Government Level	Federal
Project Value (excl GST)	\$5,636
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$2,818
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$2,818
Date Application Submitted	17 March 2021
Date Approved	17 May 2021
Comment (if required)	This project will provide funding towards the installation of solar panels at the Broadwater Community Hall.

Rappville Community Hall Project

Project ID	10430
Funding Body	Business Council of Australia
Funding Name	Biz Rebuild – Rebuilding for a Stronger Australia
Government Level	Other
Project Value (excl GST)	\$1,454,545
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$ 454,545
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$1,000,000
Date Application Submitted	13 November 2020
Date Approved	11 May 2021
Comment (if required)	This project will provide funding towards the design, contract documentation, procurement and construction of the Rappville Community Hall.

Vegetation removal at Woodburn Public School

Project ID	N/A
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Safer Roads Program
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$9,350
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$9,350
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Approved	May 2021
Comment (if required)	This funding will improve safety around the school by removing vegetation around the perimeter of the school footpaths.

Grants that have been received

CPTIGS Bus Shelters Project	
Project ID	10266
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	2017/19 Country Passenger Transport Infrastructure Grants Scheme
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$20,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$20,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	31 August 2017
Date Received	\$13,120 received 31 May 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$20,000 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	N/A

Casino Civic Hall Revitalisation	
Project ID	10299
Funding Body	Create NSW – Arts, Screen and Culture
Funding Name	Regional Cultural Fund Round Two
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$228,044
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$208,172
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 19,872
Date Application Submitted	20 September 2018
Date Received	\$82,441 received 12 May 2021 + \$30,000

	received 21 May 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$208,172 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	N/A

Whiporie Bus Shelter	
Project ID	10322
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Country Passenger Transport Infrastructure Grants Scheme 2019/21
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$44,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$44,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	24 September 2019
Date Received	\$13,200 received 6 May 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$13,200
Comment (if required)	N/A

Colley Park Premier Soccer Field Enhancement	
Project ID	10325
Funding Body	Office of Regional Development
Funding Name	Stronger Country Communities Fund
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$205,166
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$205,166
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	27 September 2019
Date Received	\$41,033 received 7 May 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$205,166 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	N/A

Woodburn Riverside Park Jetty Upgrade	
Project ID	10338
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	NSW Boating Now Program Round 3
Government Level	State

Project Value (excl GST)	\$127,370
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$127,370
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	5 December 2019
Date Received	\$7,961 received 19 May 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$31,843
Comment (if required)	N/A

Coraki Riverside Pontoon Extension

Project ID	10339
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	NSW Boating Now Program Round 3
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$58,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$58,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	5 December 2019
Date Received	\$3,625 received 20 May 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$14,500
Comment (if required)	N/A

Casino Library Community Courtyard

Project ID	10393
Funding Body	State Library NSW
Funding Name	Public Library Infrastructure Grants 2020/2021
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$204,857
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$192,830
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 12,027 (in-kind funding)
Date Application Submitted	5 November 2020
Date Received	\$192,830 received 26 May 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$192,830 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	N/A

MR145 Woodburn-Coraki Road Major Upgrade

Project ID	10382
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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	\$102,406 received 27 May 2021
Total Funds Received to Date	\$402,583
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	\$37,453 received 27 May 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$104,353
Comment (if required)	Council share funded from Regional Roads Block Grant.

Roads to Recovery Program 2019/2020 - 2023/2024	
Project ID	N/A
Funding Body	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications
Funding Name	Roads to Recovery Program
Government Level	Federal
Project Value (excl GST)	\$5,011,072
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$5,011,072
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A – annual allocation of \$1,002,214
Date Received	\$341,915 received 28 May 2021

Total Funds Received To Date	\$2,004,429
Comment (if required)	N/A

Financial Assistance Grant 2020/2021	
Project ID	N/A
Funding Body	NSW Local Government Grants Commission
Funding Name	Financial Assistance Grant
Government Level	Federal
Project Value (excl GST)	\$5,241,584
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$5,241,584
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$632,296 received 18 May 2021 (General Purpose Component \$433,843, Local Roads Component \$198,453)
Total Funds Received to Date	\$5,241,584
Comment (if required)	N/A

Unsuccessful Grant Applications

Connecting our Local Seniors through Devices and Data	
Project ID	10419
Funding Body	NSW Department of Communities and Justice
Funding Name	Reducing Social Isolation for Seniors Grant Program
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$32,317
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$16,039
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$16,278
Date Application Submitted	29 March 2021
Date Advised Unsuccessful	26 May 2021
Comment (if required)	N/A

Renew Rileys Hill Hall Toilet Amenities	
Project ID	10424
Funding Body	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)
Funding Name	COVID-19 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
Date Advised Unsuccessful	28 May 2021
Comment (if required)	N/A
Renew Woodburn Memorial Hall Toilet Amenities	
Project ID	10425
Funding Body	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)
Funding Name	COVID-19 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
Date Advised Unsuccessful	28 May 2021
Comment (if required)	N/A

Grant Applications Submitted

Upgrade Toilet Amenities at Coraki Youth Hall	
Project ID	10427
Funding Body	NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet
Funding Name	Community Building Partnership 2021
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$48,182
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$22,727
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$25,455
Date Application Submitted	11 May 2021
Comment (if required)	If successful, this funding will assist with upgrading the male and female toilets with a modern fitout and improve hygiene and amenities for the community.

Meet me at Rileys: Shared Outdoor Community Space	
Project ID	10428
Funding Body	NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet
Funding Name	Community Building Partnership 2021

Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$25,942
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$12,727
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$13,215
Date Application Submitted	12 May 2021
Comment (if required)	If successful, this funding will be used to build a new outdoor park shelter including BBQ and picnic setting at Rileys Hill to support recreational and social opportunities for the community.

Enhanced Connected Playspace for Findlay Park Casino	
Project ID	10429
Funding Body	NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet
Funding Name	Community Building Partnership 2021
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$70,355
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$18,182
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$52,173
Date Application Submitted	12 May 2021
Comment (if required)	If successful, this funding will be used to enhance the playspace with a new swing set, play equipment and softfall as well as an access path to improve community connectivity and recreational opportunities.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

17.2 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST - APPOINTMENT OF DESIGNATED PERSONS

Author: Kate Allder-Conn, Governance Coordinator

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the newly appointed designated person positions tabled for the information of Council.

REPORT

Section 449(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (LGA) provides that a councillor or designated person must complete and lodge with the General Manager, within three months after becoming a councillor or designated person, a return in the form prescribed by the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

Appointment has been made to the following designated person positions of Council:

- Leader Strategy
- Manager Environment, Health & Sustainability

The disclosure for the designated person has been received. The disclosure is tabled for the information of Council and will be made available on request to any member of the public at Council's Casino Administration Office.

This report provides information to Council regarding the appointment of designated persons and fulfils Council's obligations under Section 449 of the LGA.

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 and

CS1.3: Ensure transparency and accountability in council's operations.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

CONSULTATION

Not applicable

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

17.3 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT FOR THE PERIOD 1 MAY 2021 TO 31 MAY 2021

Author: Andy Edwards, Manager Development & Certification

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Development Application report for the period 1 May 2021 to 31 May 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 May 2021 to 31 May 2021 was 30 with 1 application for a bushfire affected property, totalling a value of \$7,601,467.00.

Two additional applications were determined in April 2021. Both applications were Crown Development and therefore agreement to consent conditions was required prior to the finalisation of the development consent. These applications were not reported last month and appear in this report. The total number of development applications determined in April was 24 with a total value of \$5,548,949.50.

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

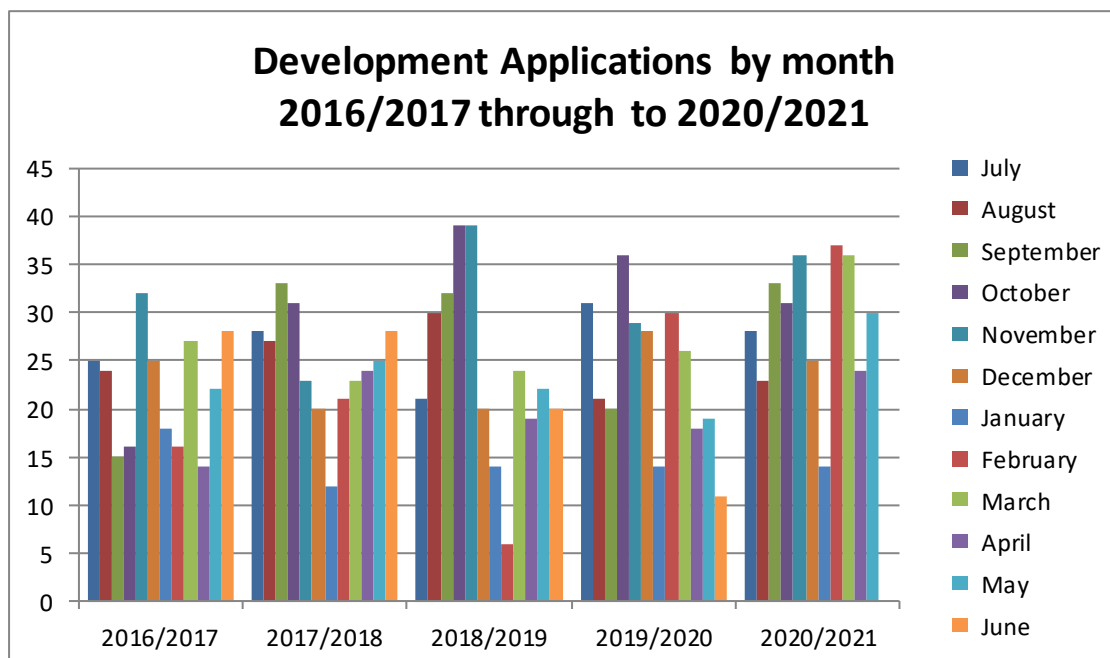


Figure 1: Monthly number of development applications processed by Council over five financial years.

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 May 2021.

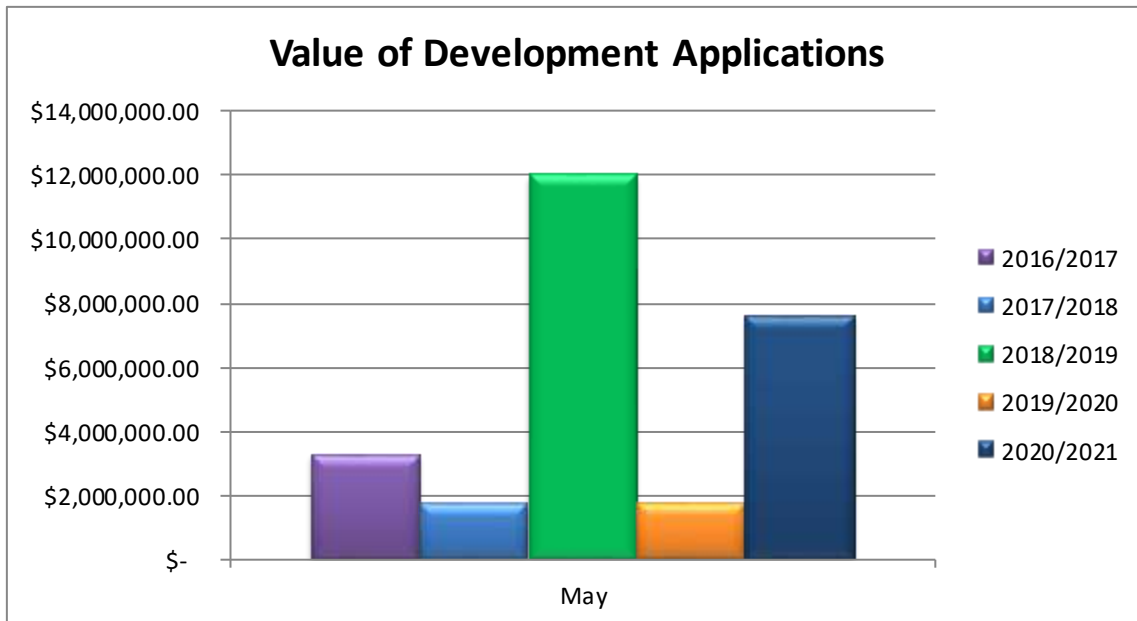


Figure 2: Value of development for the month of May.

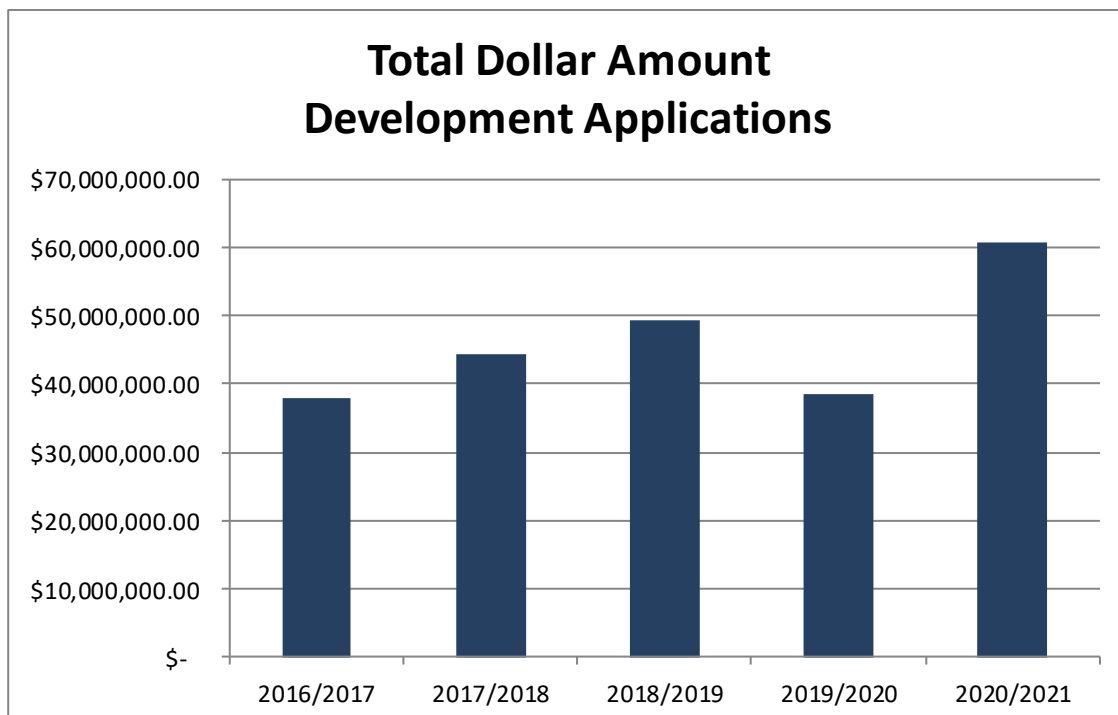


Figure 3: Annual value of development.

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.

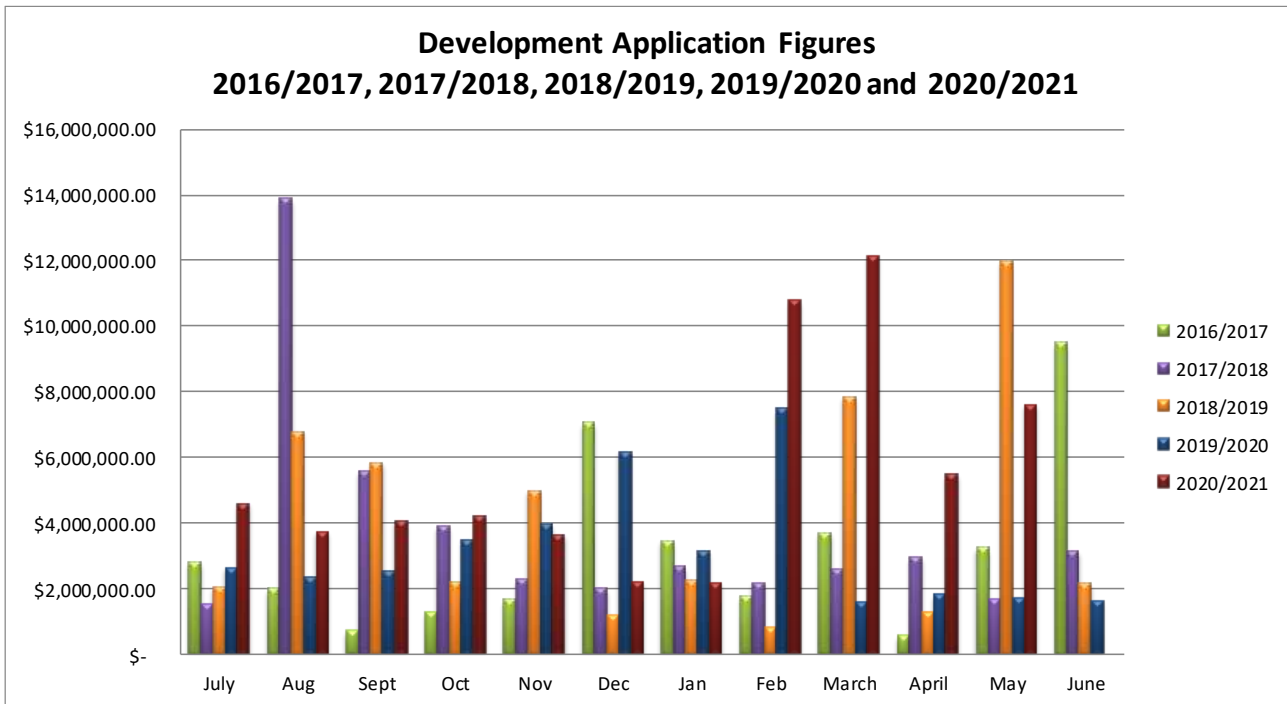


Figure 4: Value of development applications per month over five financial years.

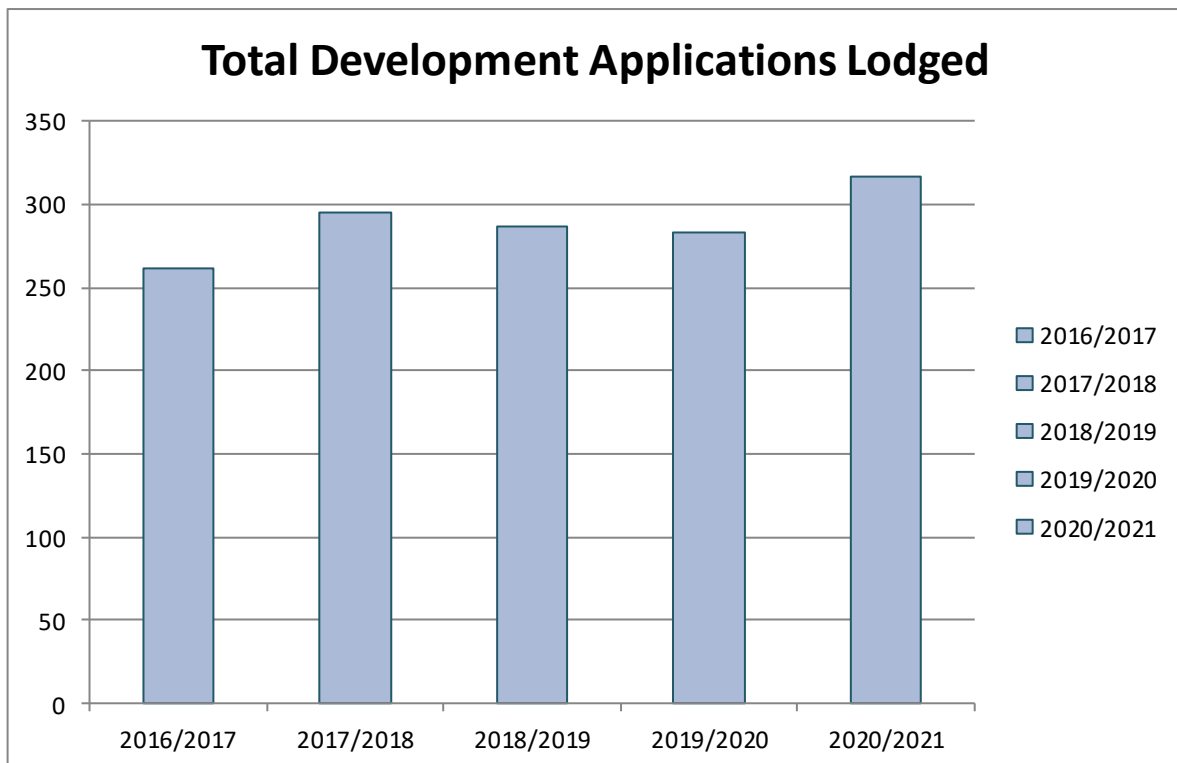


Figure 5: Number of Development Applications per annum over five financial years.

Activity for the month of April 2021

General Approvals (excluding Subdivisions, Section 96s)	27
Section 4.55 amendments to original consent	2
Subdivision	
Refused	
Withdrawn	
Complying Development (Private Certifier Approved)	1
TOTAL	30

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 May 2021 to 31 May 2021							
Application ID	Applicant	Owners	Location	Development	Date Lodged	Determination Date	Estimated Cost
DA2021/0062	Ardill Payne & Partners	DMJ Willis	44A Ocean Drive, Evans Head	New masonry entry columns	3/09/2020	18/05/2021	\$ 5,000.00
DA2021/0121	Hayes Building Consultancy	Deanowen Pty Ltd	6 Canberra Road, Evans Head	Construction of 5 Self storage units and associated works. Strata subdivision to create five lots being (Lot 1 64m2, Lot 2 74m2, Lot 3 74m2, Lot 4 74m2, and Lot 5 75m2).	27/10/2020	4/05/2021	\$ 450,000.00
DA2021/0134	Planit Consulting	JA & CC Uebergang	760 Woodburn Evans Head Road, Evans Head	Staged construction of storage premises comprising 88 storage spaces in a combination of enclosed, roofed and open areas and associated site works	5/11/2020	11/05/2021	\$ 160,000.00
DA2021/0207	Verte Design & Drafting Pty Ltd	LA Watson	68 Barker Street, Casino	Detached dual occupancy (2 x 3-bedroom), outdoor amenities and associated works, and Subdivision to create two lots being Lot 1 (350m2) and Lot 2 (820m2) (Clause 4.1C RVLEP)	11/02/2021	4/05/2021	\$ 585,817.00
DA2021/0227	Creative Planning Solutions	Aboriginal Housing Office	132 - 134 Johnston Street & 29 Frances Street, Casino	Demolition of existing dwelling and associated structures, construction of a multi-dwelling housing development comprising eight (8) dwellings, each with an attached single garage, two (2) visitors parking spaces, consolidation of four (4) existing lots into one (1) lot and associated works	5/03/2021	10/05/2021	\$ 2,442,790.00
DA2021/0240	Evoke Pools	SJ & BJ Hauser	799 Spring Grove Road, Spring Grove	Inground fibreglass swimming pool & associated fencing	22/03/2021	6/05/2021	\$ 45,325.00
DA2017/0219.01	GM Project Development & Management	GD Russell Super Pty Ltd	10 Sir Valston Hancock Drive, Evans Head	Section 4.55 (1A) modification to approved construction of 68 Self Storage Sheds and Car/Truck Wash (Reduction to 49 Sheds and changes to shed sizes).	29/03/2021	4/05/2021	\$ 550,000.00
DA2021/0247	JP Sutton	JP & JA Sutton	1334 Spring Grove Road, Spring Grove	Dwelling & shed	29/03/2021	14/05/2021	\$ 540,000.00
DA2021/0248	PJ Wilson	PJ & DM Wilson	130 Bend Road, Casino	Dwelling	29/03/2021	6/05/2021	\$ 375,000.00
DA2021/0249	Newton Denny Chapelle	S & RJ Franey	7 Clarence Street, Casino	Construction of a carport, verandah and ramp associated with the dwelling fronting Clarence Street and Strata title subdivision of an existing detached dual occupancy development into (2) lots	31/03/2021	13/05/2021	\$ 15,000.00
DA2021/0251	PJ Richardson	PJ Richardson & ZM McMahon	26-30 Cook Street, Broadwater	As built - 2 x shipping containers and 1 x colorbond shed	7/04/2021	5/05/2021	\$ 60,000.00
DA2021/0254	JL Duffy	JL & AN Duffy	105 North Street, Casino	As built shed & lower overall shed height to 2.9m	7/04/2021	5/05/2021	\$ 15,000.00

Summary of Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 May 2021 to 31 May 2021							
Application ID	Applicant	Owners	Location	Development	Date Lodged	Determination Date	Estimated Cost
DA2021/0256	Northern Rivers Sheds	TM & DS Lumsden	199 Pacific Highway, Broadwater	Shed with bathroom for personal pottery studio	8/04/2021	11/05/2021	\$ 19,650.00
DA2021/0258	Evoke Pools	KD Toovey & ND Weston	55 Verulam View, Spring Grove	Installation of inground fibreglass swimming pool & associated fencing	9/04/2021	14/05/2021	\$ 40,450.00
DA2021/0259	Perry Homes (Aust) Pty Ltd	HP & J Knox	1 Kimberley Place, Casino	Dwelling	9/04/2021	27/05/2021	\$ 303,176.00
DA2021/0176.01	Metricon Homes QLD Pty Ltd	MT & KPW Stokes	2 Wallum Drive, Doonbah	Modification to proposed dwelling siting and setbacks	13/04/2021	5/05/2021	
DA2021/0260	Evoke Pools	MA Brymer & PJ Huet	16 Thomas Crescent, Coraki	Installation of an inground fibreglass swimming pool & associated fencing	13/04/2021	11/05/2021	\$ 36,300.00
DA2021/0261	Evoke Pools	HM & RE Bryant	124 Woodburn Street, Evans Head	Installation of an inground fibreglass swimming pool & associated fencing	13/04/2021	5/05/2021	\$ 39,775.00
DA2021/0263	Narellan Pools Northern Rivers	MS Andrews & SM Parkes	10 Hereford Drive, North Casino	Installation of an inground fibreglass swimming pool & associated fencing	16/04/2021	6/05/2021	\$ 42,250.00
DA2021/0264	Narellan Pools Northern Rivers	MJ & SJ Martin	28 Cherry Street, Evans Head	Installation of an inground fibreglass swimming pool and associated fencing	16/04/2021	5/05/2021	\$ 37,750.00
DA2021/0267	Professional Planning Group - PPlan	CY & GE Duncan	2 Cedar Street, Evans Head	Two storey dwelling	20/04/2021	12/05/2021	\$ 900,205.00
DA2021/0269	AR Firth	AR Firth	343 Rappville Road, Rappville	Resited dwelling	21/04/2021	13/05/2021	\$ 130,000.00
DA2021/0270	Profile Pools and Landscaping	JG & MM Daley	48 Bottlebrush Crescent, Evans Head	Installation of inground concrete swimming pool & associated fencing	22/04/2021	12/05/2021	\$ 32,800.00
DA2021/0272	DH & WGR Read	DH & WGR Read	90 Knoetzechs Road, North Casino	Shed & pergola	22/04/2021	25/05/2021	\$ 19,972.00
DA2021/0274	MA Cresswell	MA Cresswell	96A Johnston Street, Casino	Installation of bathroom in shed	28/04/2021	19/05/2021	\$ 9,000.00
DA2021/0276	Professional Planning Group - PPlan	BW & MJ Smith	4A Wills Place, Casino	Single story dwelling with attached double garage	4/05/2021	27/05/2021	\$ 300,807.00
DA2021/0280	KG McDermott	KG McDermott	38A Cumberland Street, Casino	Shed	6/05/2021	27/05/2021	\$ 10,720.00
CDC2021/0024	Techton Building Services	LA Haselsberger & CW Bruggy	15 Piora Lane, Piora	Fibreglass swimming pool and associated fencing	13/05/2021	6/05/2021	\$ 34,680.00
CDC2021/0025	Riverina (Australia) Pty Ltd	Riverina (Australia) Pty Ltd	175 Reynolds Road, Casino	Diesel fuel storage tank	19/05/2021	26/05/2021	\$ 100,000.00

Summary of Development Applications for Bushfire Affected Properties determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 May 2021 to 31 May 2021							
Application ID	Applicant	Owners	Location	Development	Date Lodged	Determination Date	Estimated Cost
DA2021/0277	MJ Parkin	MJ Parkin	12 Murray Street, Rappville	Dwelling	5/05/2021	11/05/2021	\$ 300,000.00
Additional 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
DA2021/0237	The University of Sydney	The University of Sydney	18 Beith Street & 37A Sandilands Street, Casino	Change of use to Boarding House (student accommodation) and internal alterations	22/03/2021	23/04/2021	\$ 35,000.00
DA2021/0238	The University of Sydney	The University of Sydney	27A Beith Street, Casino	Change of use to Boarding House (student accommodation) and internal alterations	22/03/2021	23/04/2021	\$ 20,000.000

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

17.4 CORAKI RIVERSIDE CARAVAN PARK VISITATION NUMBERS

Author: Sharon Davidson, Manager Communications, Events and Tourism

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council notes the information contained in this report.

REPORT

The Coraki Riverside Caravan Park and Camping Grounds, located on Richmond Terrace is a mainstay of Coraki's tourism industry.

Situated on the banks of the Richmond and Wilson rivers, it allows visitors to take in and enjoy the natural beauty of the region. It is pet friendly, within walking distance to shops, café and hotel, close to the town swimming pool (seasonal) and children's play area, welcoming of caravan clubs, grey nomads, families, couples and singles. Park facilities include town water, powered and unpowered sites, amenities block, laundry, communal BBQ, and dump point.

For boating enthusiasts, a boat ramp, river beach and wharf are all within walking distance of the park.

Management of the Coraki Riverside Caravan Park and Camping Grounds changed hands on 1 October 2020, following an extensive EOI process. The contract was awarded to Tuckurimba residents Peter and Maureen Baker due to their strong track record in motel and caravan park management. The term of this agreement is for a period of two years, expiring on 30 September 2022 with an option to extend for a further two-year period, being 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2024. As per previous agreements, the new managers receive a percentage of the gross site fees collected.

Under the Bakers' management, sites have increased from 17 powered to 21, and from three unpowered to 12. This was achieved by marking out a safe area along the riverfront to accommodate vans, taking advantage of the removal of a diseased tree to create three extra sites in the main area, and adding four powered sites in front of the amenities block.

The caravan park has had a challenging year, with a NSW Public Health-enforced shutdown in the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, and two flood events in December saw visitors evacuated and the park shut for a few weeks to prevent damage to the grounds and to allow a comprehensive clean up (images below). Travel restrictions and border closures also had an impact as the majority of park visitors are southern retirees on their annual trek north.

However, proving it still remains a destination of choice, income for the financial year is currently around \$50,000.

Around 40 percent of visitors over the past year extended their stay, indicating this may have been their first visit and were unaware of what was on offer. Many have said they didn't know the park existed and it was a "hidden gem".

More and more caravan groups are using the park for their annual get togethers, with one such group booking 12 sites in April and May, and an adventure group is coming in August, having reserved 18 sites for four days. A caravan club has booked 20 sites for three nights in September, and the local chapter of the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia, the Northern Rivers Robins, will again make the park its home for a week in December (see images from past event).

The booming demand from visitors follows significant investment by Council in the park and its surrounds, helping to attract visitors as well as providing great amenities for the local community. Projects included: landscaping the grounds; upgrading the power supply; fixing drainage issues; sealing the internal road; and riverfront enhancements, including a new pathway, seven new table and chair settings, a new BBQ, a retaining wall, the installation of a new pontoon and jetty, as well as an upgrade of the beach area and boat ramp.

Thanks also to a grant from the Federal Government, Council was able to invest \$585,000 into a new amenities building for the park, which was a top priority to help rejuvenate the area. The new building offers modern showers, toilets, laundry, a camp kitchen, and a scenic deck overlooking the Richmond River (images below of new amenities block).

The Coraki Riverside Caravan Park and Camping Grounds is an important facility within the Richmond Valley local government area, with the ability to cater for the needs of all visitors coming to the Northern Rivers.

As Australia Day 2021 showed, the surrounding Memorial Park and Coraki Riverside Caravan Park and Camping Grounds complemented each other by offering the community and visitors the opportunity to come together and celebrate our wonderful way of life (images below).

The park receives good reviews via the WikiCamps App, its Google My Business page and the Kui Parks website.

The caravan park and its adjoining facilities on the foreshore of the Richmond River are key features in Council's pursuit of the development of tourism opportunities within the local area.

The park's management continues to work with the Discover Richmond Valley team and local businesses to maximise the returns to the community from visitors staying and visiting Coraki. Google insights provide us with some evidence our campaigns are working (see below).

December 2020 flood events



The local chapter of the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia, the Northern Rivers Robins, set up home in the Coraki Riverside Caravan Park and Camping Grounds for a week in December 2020. The group will be returning this year.



New amenities block



Australia Day 2021



Google insights



Coraki Riverside Caravan Park and Camping Grounds

18,005 PEOPLE FOUND YOU ON GOOGLE


Here are the top search queries used to find you:

<p>caravan park used by 140 people</p>	<p>camping used by 106 people</p>	<p>riverside caravan park used by 79 people</p>
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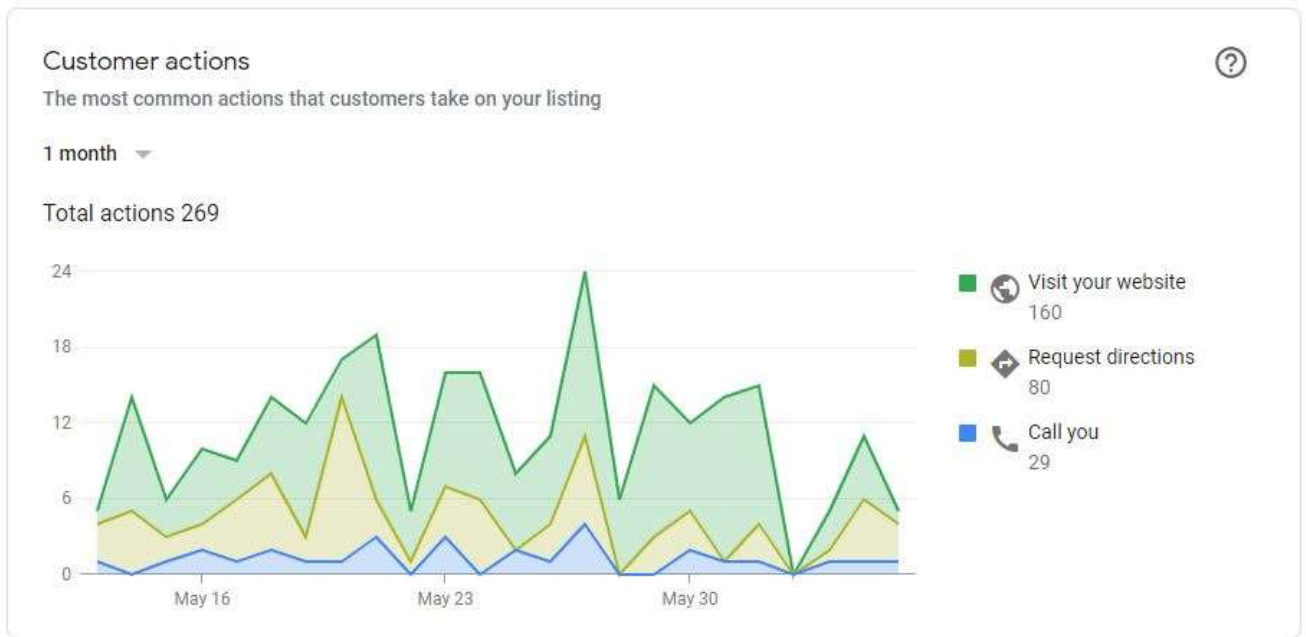
129
asked for directions
+ 5.7% FROM MARCH 2021

180
visited your website
+ -16% FROM MARCH 2021

45
called you
+ -29% FROM MARCH 2021

 See all of the keywords used to find your business.

[SEE FULL REPORT](#) 



ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

17.5 LETTERS TO MINISTER CONSTANCE, ROUS COUNTY COUNCIL & ANZ BANK RESPONSE**Author: Vaughan Macdonald, General Manager****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives and notes the following correspondence: -

1. Letter to Minister Constance raising concerns in relation to the ongoing maintenance of the Evans Head Breakwall; and
2. Submission to Rous County Council relating to the Rous Future Water Project 2060.
3. Response from ANZ Bank in relation to closing the Casino branch.

SUMMARY OF CORRESPONDENCE

A copy of the correspondence provided to the Minister for Transport and Roads, Rous County Council, together with a response received from ANZ Bank follows;

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. **Letter to Minister Constance - Evans Head Breakwall**
2. **RVC Submission to Rous Future Water Project 2060**
3. **ANZ Bank response**



10 Graham Place Casino NSW 2470
Postal: Locked Bag 10 Casino NSW 2470
t: 02 6660 0300 f: 02 6660 1300

council@richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au
www.richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au

ABN 54 145 907 009

Telephone Enquiries to:
Vaughan Macdonald – 0415 155 257

3 June 2021

The Hon. Andrew Constance MP
Minister for Transport and Roads
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Minister

I write on behalf of Richmond Valley Council to seek your assistance in clarifying responsibilities for ongoing maintenance of the northern and southern break walls at Evans Head. Council is of the understanding that Transport for NSW is responsible for this work, however, to date, we have been unable to resolve this matter and the condition of the break walls continues to deteriorate.

The Evans Head break walls were extended to their current length in the 1950's to provide important coastal protection and safe access to and from the Evans River. They were constructed on Crown Land and are currently under the management of Transport for NSW

In the past, Richmond Valley Council has maintained both the southern and northern break walls under a contractual arrangement with the former Roads and Maritime Services NSW (RMS). Unfortunately the contract and funding for maintenance of these assets did not transition over to Transport for NSW, Maritime Infrastructure when the departments merged in 2019, and Council has been unable to satisfactorily resolve this issue, despite numerous requests to TfNSW.

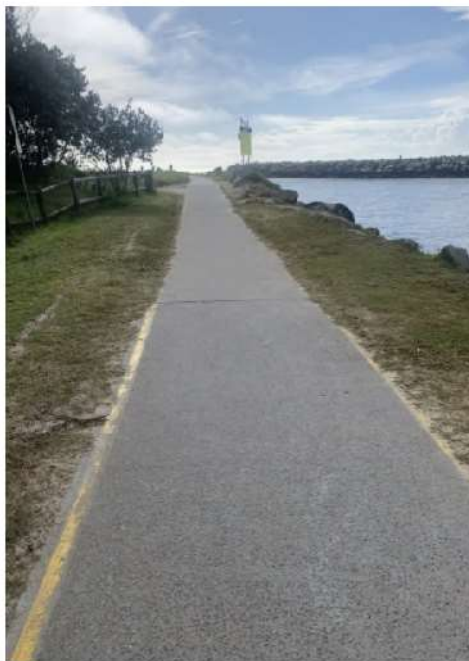
Of particular concern to Council is the current condition of the pedestrian pathway along the southern break wall. The pathways on both break walls attract heavy usage from visitors and residents and Council has received numerous complaints regarding the safety of the southern break wall pathway. As the photos below indicate, the southern pathway was bitumen sealed and has been subject to the impacts of tidal erosion. The northern break wall concrete pathway offers a far more durable surface that requires limited maintenance.

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Southern break wall, damaged bitumen pavement



Northern break wall concrete pathway

In the absence of support from TfNSW, Council has had no alternative but to undertake urgent safety repairs to the southern pathway at its own expense. However, the pathway

2

has now deteriorated to the point where complete resurfacing is required and Council is unable to carry out this work without appropriate funding and approvals from the NSW Government, as asset manager.

As you would be aware, our local government area has experienced significant challenges over the past two years, with the devastating bushfires of 2019, three major flood events and the economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on our tourist industry. Our community is working hard to recover from these events and rebuild our economy with the support of the Federal and NSW Government which is appreciated.

Council is seeking your support, as Minister for Transport and Roads, to rectify the unwillingness of TfNSW to accept maintenance responsibilities for the Evans Head break walls and to adequately fund the resurfacing of the southern break wall pathway to the required safety standards.

Richmond Valley Council has recently invested in upgrading the facilities at Sharks Bay near the southern break wall and resurfacing of the pathway would complement these works, while significantly improving safety and reducing long-term maintenance costs.

Council looks forward to your support and assistance in this matter. Should you require any further information you or your staff can contact me directly on 0415 155 257.

Yours sincerely



Vaughan Macdonald
General Manager

Cc Mr Chris Gulaptis, Member for Clarence



Telephone Enquiries to:
Vaughan Macdonald

10 Graham Place Casino NSW 2470
Postal: Locked Bag 10 Casino NSW 2470
t: 02 6660 0300 f: 02 6660 1300

council@richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au
www.richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au

ABN 54 145 907 009

26 May 2021

Mr Phillip Rudd
General Manager
Rous County Council
PO Box 230
LISMORE NSW 2480

By email: council@rous.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Rudd

Future Water Project 2060: Submission

At the Council Meeting of 20 April 2021, Richmond Valley Council resolved to make a submission to Rous County Council's revised *Future Water Project 2060* public consultation process.

Council responded to the original exhibition of the Future Water Project in August 2020, expressing its support for further investigation of the full range of options identified in the study. When the Dunoon Dam proposal was subsequently removed from the options to be investigated, Council wrote to Rous County Council in February 2021 expressing its concern at the decision and re-iterating its support for all options to be fully investigated and considered.

Despite these representations, Council notes that the Dunoon Dam proposal continues to be excluded from the list of options in the current Future Water Project consultation. Our Council is deeply concerned by this decision.

Water sustainability is an issue of utmost importance for communities in the Northern Rivers and Council recognises the role that Rous County Council plays in supplying sustainable and safe drinking water to more than 110,000 people in our region.

In the Richmond Valley, Rous supplies bulk water to the Mid-Richmond towns and villages of Broadwater, Rileys Hill, Evans Head, Coraki and Woodburn. Our Council relies on this supply to support continued growth in this region and we rely of Rous to take the lead in regional water planning.

Responsible and realistic long-term planning for regional water security is critical to the Northern Rivers councils. It will help to future-proof drinking water supplies, support increased growth and prosperity and strengthen resilience in the face of changing climate conditions. In a region that has recently experienced the challenges of sustained drought and bushfire, a secure and reliable water supply is vital. That is why our Council finds it hard to fathom why potentially viable options for water security have been excluded from the strategy, while other less viable and sustainable options remain.

Although Richmond Valley Council is yet to form its position on the Dunoon Dam proposal, it believes the decision to cease investigation into the dam and sell the land before all other alternative options have been fully explored, costed and assessed, is not in the best interests of our regional community. There is no guarantee that Rous can deliver on its proposals for

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further development of groundwater, nor gain the necessary community support for large scale desalination or direct potable reuse options.

Richmond Valley Council is currently undertaking its own investigations to improve water security for the Casino water supply, in the face of a changing climate. This study will consider a number of options, including additional off-stream storage at Casino, raising Jabour Weir, exploring groundwater sources, or connecting to the Rous County Council regional supply.

Given the limited groundwater resources in our district, and the water quality challenges of the Richmond River catchment, Council expects that connection to RCC will emerge as a strong option in the study. In this regard, the Dunoon Dam proposal would be a significant benefit to our community and Council supports continued investigation into this option.

Council is also concerned with the proposal to transfer the Mid-Richmond communities from a reliable safe water supply from Rocky Creek Dam to a potentially less reliable groundwater source by 2025.

The Mid-Richmond communities have previously only used this supply in emergencies and two of the bores previously used have now been compromised by the Pacific Motorway construction. New bores will be required. There is no guarantee that this water source is sustainable over long-term usage and, as yet, there has been no comprehensive assessment of potential impacts on groundwater dependent ecosystems nor any indication as to how much this change will cost our community in increased water pricing.

It will be at least two years, according to the proposed schedule in the IWCM, before the Mid-Richmond community may have a clearer answer to these questions, following further investigations. In the meantime RCC may have already disposed of the Dunoon Dam site, leaving our communities without a secure solution. This is of great concern to our Council.

While the IWCM concludes the anticipated production from the Woodburn borefield will be sufficient for future needs, it should be noted that these demand forecasts have been based on pre-Covid population projections and development patterns. The past six months has shown how rapidly these projections can be surpassed and how quickly the way that people choose to live and work can change. It will be imperative to revisit and test the yield analysis and demand forecasts in the early stages of this project.

Council also has concerns regarding the potential cost of the borefield project, both in the pre-construction and construction phases, as well as the ongoing operational costs of the scheme. We note that to achieve anticipated production, the borefield pumps would need to operate 22 hours per day, and that providing adequate drinking water quality may require some 10 water treatment processes.

Council is concerned that, of the five groundwater options presented, the Woodburn borefield project represents the highest cost per ML of water supplied over the life of the asset. More than \$36 million will need to be invested before a single drop of water is supplied, with operating costs exceeding \$52 million over the life of the asset. This high level of investment will result in a yield benefit of just 698 ML of water per annum and Council is concerned that Richmond Valley customers will carry the cost.

At present, Richmond Valley Council applies the same water access and usage charge to all of its customers, regardless of whether their water supply is sourced from RVC or Rous. Council is concerned that the level of capital investment envisaged by Rous to activate its groundwater projects will inevitably result in an increase in the cost of bulk water for constituent councils and place pressure on our capacity to maintain consistent and affordable water pricing for our communities.

While Richmond Valley Council acknowledges that Rous is proposing a range of water security options in its Future Water Project, it is concerned that many of the benefits envisaged in the strategy may ultimately not be achieved because they are outside of RCC's immediate control.

Achieving effective demand management relies on equal and active support from all of RCC's constituent councils. Similarly, supplementing the supply through alternative sources such as groundwater, desalination and potable reuse relies on local communities directly affected by the proposed borefields and desalination plants being willing to accept these projects in their midst.

For these reasons our Council believes it is premature to abandon the Dunoon Dam option without first completing the required investigation and assessment processes. Richmond Valley Council would once again urge Rous County Council to ensure that all water security options for our region remain on the table and are rigorously and objectively assessed upon their merits.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vaughan Macdonald". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'V'.

Vaughan Macdonald
General Manager



Ref: COM-1028936

4 June 2021

Mr Vaughan MacDonald
council@richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr MacDonald

Your enquiry about our ANZ Casino branch closing

Thank you for your recent correspondence addressed to Shayne Elliott, ANZ Chief Executive Officer. Mr Elliott has asked me to review your concerns and respond to you on his behalf.

Thanks for taking the time to write to us on behalf of the Richmond Valley Council about ANZ's decision to close our Casino Branch. You want ANZ to reconsider its decision to close the branch.

We understand this may affect the way you currently do your banking and want to support you with this change. We hope this letter addresses your concerns.

Why we're closing this branch

Every day more of our customers are choosing the convenience of doing their banking when and where it suits them.

As online, telephone and mobile banking have grown in popularity, the number of people visiting our Casino branch has dropped significantly.

To support our customers' changing preferences, we're making some changes to our North Sydney branch network and as a result, our Casino branch will close on 30 September 2021.

Complaint Resolution Centre, Locked Bag 4050, South Melbourne VIC 3205 Australia
| P: 1800 805 154 | E: yourfeedback@anz.com |
[Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited \(ANZ\) ABN 11 005 357 522.](#)
[Australian Credit Licence Number 234527.](#)

Document Set ID: 1691262
Version: 1 Version Date: 07/06/2021

Other ways to do your banking

While we've decided to close the branch you prefer to use, we can offer other branch locations and there are many other ways for you to bank with us, including online, telephone and mobile banking.

If there is something specific that you usually use your branch for and you would like to discuss your options, please contact our Customer Service team on 13 13 14. They are available 7 days a week between 7am and 10pm, your local time.

Your closest branch

After the Casino Branch closes, your nearest ANZ branch is at ANZ Lismore situated at 82 Woodlark Street NSW 2480.

Your closest ATM

Your closest ATM is at ANZ Lismore, 82 Woodlark Street NSW 2480. This is one of our Smart ATMs, which may be able to assist you with some of your banking needs.

Some other financial institutions may also offer fee-free ATM withdrawals when using your ANZ card at their ATMs.

Unfortunately, our decision to close this branch at this stage remains. We have passed on your concerns and feedback to our senior internal stakeholders for their review.

If you're not satisfied with our response

If you're not happy with this response and wish to pursue your complaint, you can contact the Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA).

Information about AFCA, including their contact details, are at the end of this letter.

If you have any other queries

If you have a question or concern, please call us at the Complaint Resolution Centre on 1800 805 154 or you can email us at yourfeedback@anz.com.

We're available Monday to Friday, excluding national public holidays, 8am to 7pm AEST/AEDT.

Regards

Krishnapriya Kumar

Complaint Resolution Centre

Australian Financial Complaints Authority

If you're not satisfied with our response you can lodge a complaint with the Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA). AFCA offers free, fair, independent and accessible dispute resolution to customers who are unable to resolve their complaint directly with their financial services provider.

Phone 1800 931 678 Free call
 Weekdays 9am-5pm AEST
Email info@afca.org.au
Website www.afca.org.au
Address Australian Financial Complaints Authority
 GPO Box 3
 MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Time limits may apply to complain to AFCA. Please act promptly and consult the AFCA website to find out if or when the time limit relevant to your circumstance expires.

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 Tender VP242344 - Detailed Design of Casino Showground Precinct

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 Tender VP243179 - Upgrade of the Casino Racing Club Sand and Grass Tracks

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.

20.3 Tender VP232433 - Design and Construct Bridge - JTR Smalls, Old Tenterfield Road

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.

20.4 Tender VP240912 - Reynolds Road Industrial Subdivision - Sewer Pump Station and Rising Main

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.

20.5 Tender VP242338 - Sewer Pump Station 604 Renewal Works

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.

20.6 Concealed Water Leak

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (b) 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 discussion in relation to the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer.

21 RESOLUTIONS OF CLOSED COUNCIL