

Richmond
Valley
Council



AGENDA

Ordinary Council Meeting

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

Date: Tuesday, 20 July 2021

Time: 5.00pm

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

**Vaughan Macdonald
General Manager**

**THIS PAGE IS
INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY	5
2	PRAYER	5
3	PUBLIC ACCESS AND QUESTION TIME	5
4	APOLOGIES	5
5	MAYORAL MINUTES	5
	Nil	
6	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	6
	6.1 Minutes Ordinary Meeting held on 22 June 2021	6
7	MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES	7
8	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS	7
9	PETITIONS	7
	Nil	
10	NOTICE OF MOTION	7
	Nil	
11	MAYOR'S REPORT	8
	11.1 Mayoral Attendances 14 June - 12 July 2021	8
12	DELEGATES' REPORTS	9
	12.1 Delegates' Report Submitted to July 2021 Ordinary Meeting.....	9
13	MATTERS DETERMINED WITHOUT DEBATE	12
	13.1 Matters to be Determined Without Debate.....	12
14	GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS	13
	14.1 Grant Funding Performance and Outcomes	13
	14.2 Appointment of Native Title Manager	20
15	FINANCIAL REPORTS	22
	15.1 Financial Analysis Report - June 2021	22
16	GENERAL BUSINESS	25
	16.1 Regional Road Reclassification Update	25
17	MATTERS FOR INFORMATION	30
	17.1 Customer Experience Report 1 April 2021 - 30 June 2021	30
	17.2 Grant Application Information Report - June 2021	38
	17.3 Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 June 2021 to 30 June 2021	46
	17.4 Rock Fishing Safety Update	53
	17.5 Correspondence - Prime Minister The Hon Scott Morrison MP - Recovery Assistance.....	55
18	QUESTIONS ON NOTICE	59
	Nil	
19	QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING (IN WRITING)	59

20	MATTERS REFERRED TO CLOSED COUNCIL	60
20.1	Casino Industries Activation Negotiation Update	60
20.2	Tender VP217057 - Installation and Monitoring of Council's Security System	60
20.3	Tender VP244401- Cemetery Maintenance and Operational Assistance	60
20.4	Tender VP240268 - Construction of Rappville Hall.....	60
20.5	Tender VP245985 - Reynolds Road Industrial Estate Electrical Reticulation	60
20.6	Outcome of Negotiations, Northern Rivers Livestock Exchange Feeding Contract (Tender VP204658)	60
21	RESOLUTIONS OF CLOSED COUNCIL	61

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 22 JUNE 2021

Author: Vaughan Macdonald, General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 22 June 2021.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1. Unconfirmed Minutes Ordinary Meeting 22 June 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 14 JUNE - 12 JULY 2021**

Author: Robert Mustow, Mayor

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Mayor's attendance report from 14 June – 12 July 2021.

REPORT**June**

- 16th Rous County Council Meeting
- 16th Coraki Business Chamber Launch
- 18th Northern Rivers Joint Organisation Workshop
- 22nd Citizenship Ceremony
- 22nd Richmond Valley Council Ordinary Meeting
- 23rd Rous County Council Councillor Workshop FWP2060
- 23rd Richmond Valley Council Election Candidate Information Session Casino
- 24th NAIDOC Celebrations St Mary's Primary School
- 24th The Wholesome Collective Cooking Event Ellangowan
- 25th NRLX White Face Bull and Cow Sale
- 25th Evans Head Fishing Classic Opening
- 26th Queen Elizabeth Parkrun 2nd birthday celebration
- 26th Vintage Rail Journey visit

July

- 3rd Rotary Changeover Dinner
- 4th Lions Changeover Luncheon
- 8th Reconciliation tree planting ceremony

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

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

Author: Robert Mustow, Mayor

RECOMMENDATION

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

REPORT

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

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

Rous County Council

Cr Robert Mustow and Cr Sandra Humphrys have provided the following summary of the main items of business for the Rous County Council Ordinary Meeting held on 16 June 2021.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1. Rous County Council meeting summary 16 June 2021**



**Summary of main items of business for
Rous County Council meeting
16 June 2021**

1. Rous, Cultural, Environmental and Information Centre

An opportunity has arisen for Council to establish a cultural, environmental and information facility at the Lismore City Council (LCC) owned Lismore Visitor Information Centre (LVIC). The initiative will enable targeted engagement activities (particularly for major initiatives) and provide Council further opportunity to deepen partnerships with local Indigenous people and organisations as part of Council's Reconciliation Action Plan.

Council endorsed the approach to lease the LVIC and agreed that negotiations continue with LCC to provide tourism services full-time from Monday-Friday.

It was also agreed that the history of the community and service club involvement with the LVIC be included in the development of cultural and community displays at the Centre.

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

Council noted that no public submissions were lodged during the consultation process and agreed to adopt the final draft of Delivery Program | Operational Plan (inc. the 2021/22 Budget estimates, Revenue policy and Fees and Charges) together with changes arising from staff-initiated submissions.

3. Retail water customer account assistance

In accordance with section 356 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and its 'Retail water customer account assistance' policy, Council approved financial assistance in the amount of \$3,514.17.

4. Information reports

i). Investments May 2021

- At the RBA's May 2021 meeting, it was decided to leave the cash rate at 0.10%. The 90-day average bank bill swap rate (BBSW) increased to 0.04%. The low rate will continue to put pressure on interest yields in the foreseeable future.
- Total funds invested for May was \$36,372,599. This is a decrease of \$458,213 compared to the March 2021 figure. This is primarily due to 3 semi-annual loan repayments.
- The weighted average return on funds invested for the month of May was 0.65%. This represents a decrease of 12 basis point compared to the March result (0.77%) and is 61 basis points above Council's benchmark (the 90-day average bank bill swap rate (BBSW) increased to 0.04%).
- Interest earned for May was \$16,971. Interest earned compared to the adjusted budget is \$22,474 below the pro-rata budget.
- Cheque account balance as of 31 May 2021 was \$123,252.

-
- Ethical holdings represent 48.11% of the total portfolio. Council's Ethical holdings percentage will continue to decrease as investments are aligned with TCorp's more conservative investment guidelines. Current holdings in Ethical Financial instruments equals \$17,500,000.

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

The report provided a summary of the key messages from the latest Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held in May 2021. Key messages included:

- 2021 Risk Management Plan action
- WHS policy and WHS Management System under review
- Recommencement of WHS audits post COVID19
- Governance policy review update
- Procure to Pay review 2019/20 – update.
- Financial Management Report Audit – March 2021
- Organisation structure and resourcing review update
- New Risk Management and Internal Audit Framework – NSW Office of Local Government

5. Confidential matters

i). Deferral of Rocky Creek Dam (RCD) Master Plan project

Council noted the RCD Master Plan project progress including results of the Value of Tourism and Recreational Services for Rocky Creek Dam study undertaken by Southern Cross University. Council voted to approve the deferral of the RCD Master Plan project until the proposed trial (up to 3 years) of the Lismore Visitor Information Centre is concluded and evaluated, and the future site of a combined Council Administration Centre and Depot is resolved. Council requested that the Value of Tourism and Recreational Services study be made public.

ii). Proposed sale: 56-60 Carrington Street and 31-33 Conway Street Lismore

Council resolved to enter direct negotiations for the sale of the above property and accept a price for the property no less than the minimum selling price set out in the report to Council or subsequent valuation, whichever is the higher, having regard to no agent involvement.

iii). Consolidation of workplace locations

Council authorised the General Manager to negotiate the purchase of the property as described in the body of the report, subject to favourable reports being obtained as identified in the risk mitigation section of the report.

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

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 GRANT FUNDING PERFORMANCE AND OUTCOMES

Author: Vaughan Macdonald, General Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over the past five years, Richmond Valley Council has secured government funding commitments of more than \$100 million for vital community projects and programs. So far \$86.4m has been received, with more funding to come as projects such as the Casino Showground, Industry Activation precincts and the Northern Rivers Rail Trail move towards completion.

Council's success in obtaining these grants has been due to its work in preparing long-term plans and 'shovel ready' projects and building a reputation with funding providers as an organisation that delivers projects on time and within budget.

Council has invested in developing its in-house capabilities to ensure that it has the best chance of competing for funding opportunities and is well prepared to manage disaster recovery claims for community infrastructure. This has resulted in 123 successful applications for community projects over the past five years, and commitments of more than \$19 million in natural disaster funding to repair assets damaged in bushfires and floods.

Of the funding received so far, \$46.9m was in operating grants and \$39.5m in capital grants. In some instances Council received the money as part of a government-led allocation process, in others it competed successfully with other local government areas for funding. Of the competitive grants, council's success rate is currently 57.7% (123 projects out of 213 applications). Some of these works are yet to be completed and will ultimately deliver projects to the value of \$88.9 million, with \$75.9m being provided through government funds.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes Richmond Valley Council's success in securing commitments of more than \$100 million in government grants over the past five years
2. Continues to seek funding for community projects and programs identified in Council's strategic plans
3. Writes to the Member for Clarence and the Member for Page, thanking them for their ongoing assistance in securing funding for the Richmond Valley community.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Making Council Great

CS1: Leading and Advocating for our Community

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

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

As detailed in the report.

REPORT

Council relies heavily on the provision of operating and capital grants from both the Commonwealth Government and New South Wales State Government. These funds are used to complete a wide range of projects to achieve the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan.

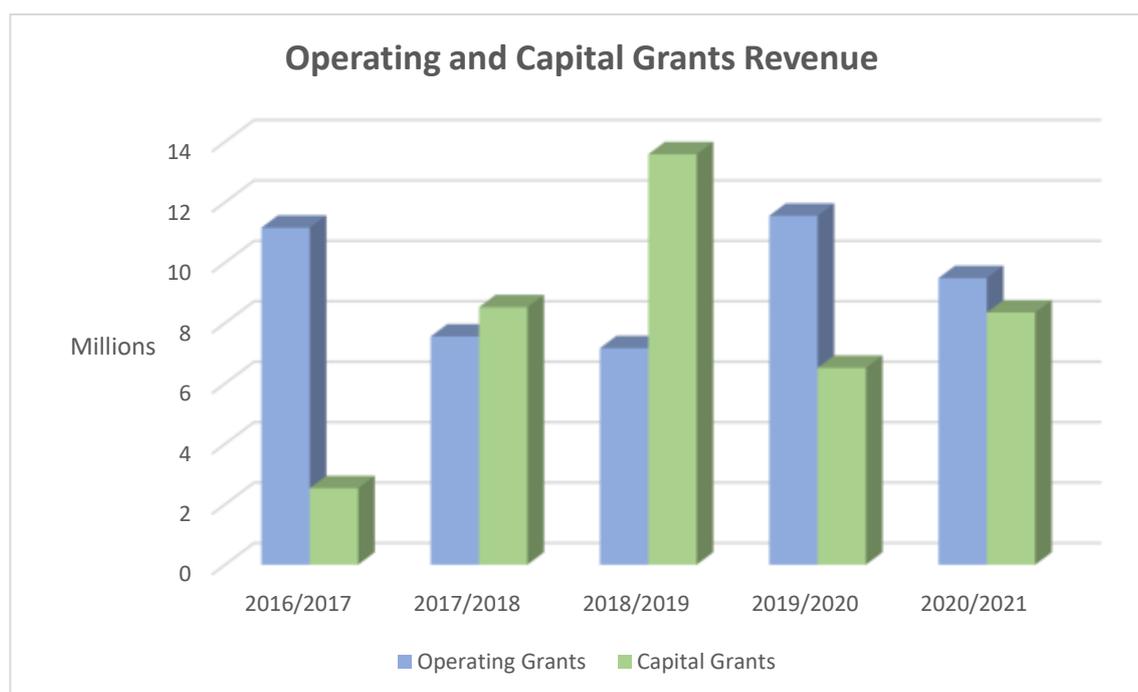
Revenue from grants represented some 24.2% to 29.6% of Income from Continuing Operations during the four financial years from 2016/2017 to 2019/2020. This is a large portion of Council revenue and an important aspect of Council's business undertakings.

There has been significant Government investment in Regional NSW in recent years, as a result of the economic downturn caused by drought, bushfires, floods and COVID-19. Council has made the most of this increased opportunity by investing in master planning, grant research and writing and developing its project delivery capability to ensure success.

Total grants received

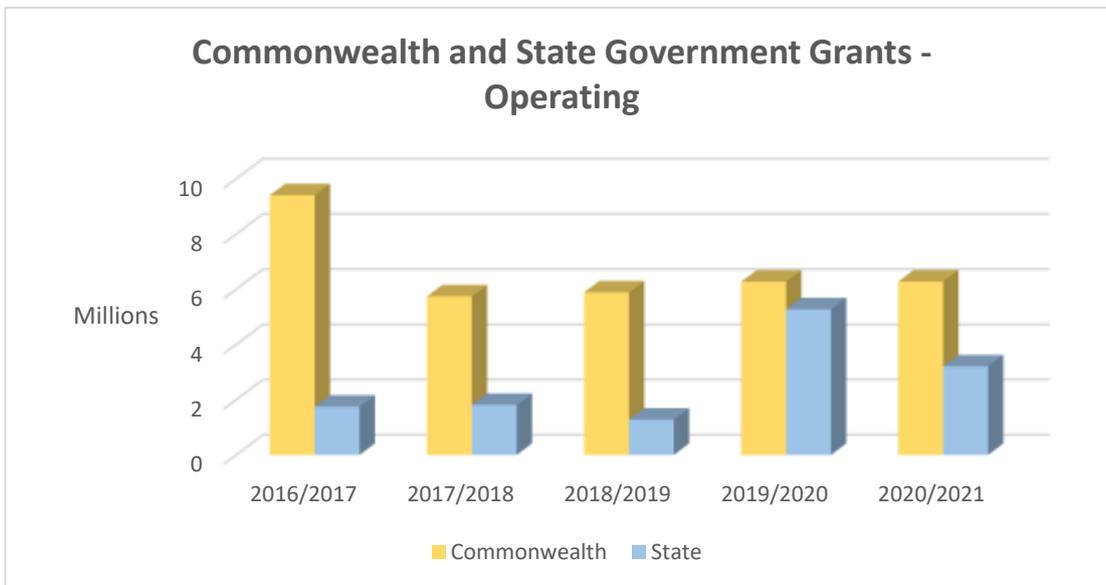
In total \$86.4m in operating and capital grants was received during the previous five financial years from 2016/2017 to 2020/2021.

Grant Funding Provider	2016/17 \$m	2017/18 \$m	2018/19 \$m	2019/20 \$m	2020/21 \$m	Total \$m
Commonwealth Government	\$10.24	\$8.87	\$8.04	\$6.48	\$9.46	\$43.09
NSW State Government	\$3.44	\$7.21	\$12.71	\$11.58	\$8.37	\$43.31
Total	\$13.68	\$16.08	\$20.75	\$18.06	\$17.83	\$86.40



Total operating grants

Council receives significant operating grant revenue from the Commonwealth Government in the form of the Financial Assistance Grant Scheme and Roads to Recovery funding. Assistance is also received from the State Government through various programs. In total, Council received \$46.9m in operating grants over the past five years, as shown in the graph below. This revenue represented some 10.2% to 19.8% of Income from Continuing Operations during the financial years from 2016/2017 to 2019/2020. Results for the 2020/2021 year are still being finalised.

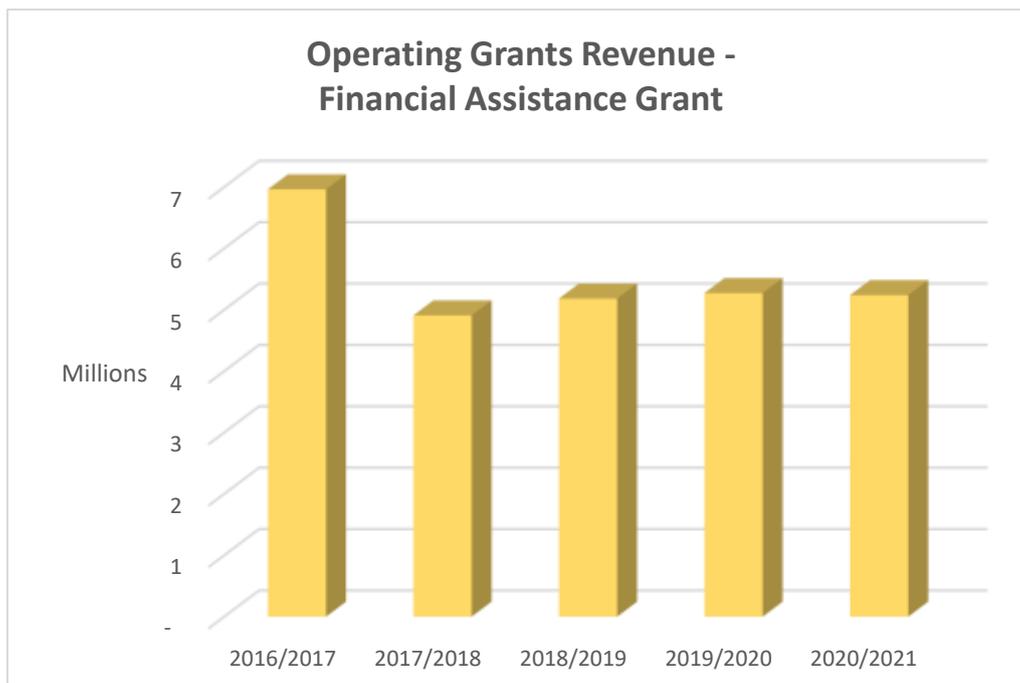


Financial Assistance Grants

A major aspect of Council’s operating grants revenue is the Financial Assistance Grant Scheme which the Australian Government provides through the state governments to local councils throughout Australia. Almost \$60 billion has been provided under the Financial Assistance Grants scheme since the scheme began in the 1974/1975 financial year. In NSW, the NSW Local Government Grants Commission is responsible for the distribution of this funding which consists of two components:

- General Purpose Component - distributed according to population on a per capita basis; and
- Local Roads Component - distributed between the states and territories according to fixed historical allotments.

The funding provided to Council through the Financial Assistance Grant Scheme is shown in the graph below:



Council has received \$27.5m in Financial Assistance Grants over the previous five financial years from 2016/2017 to 2020/2021.

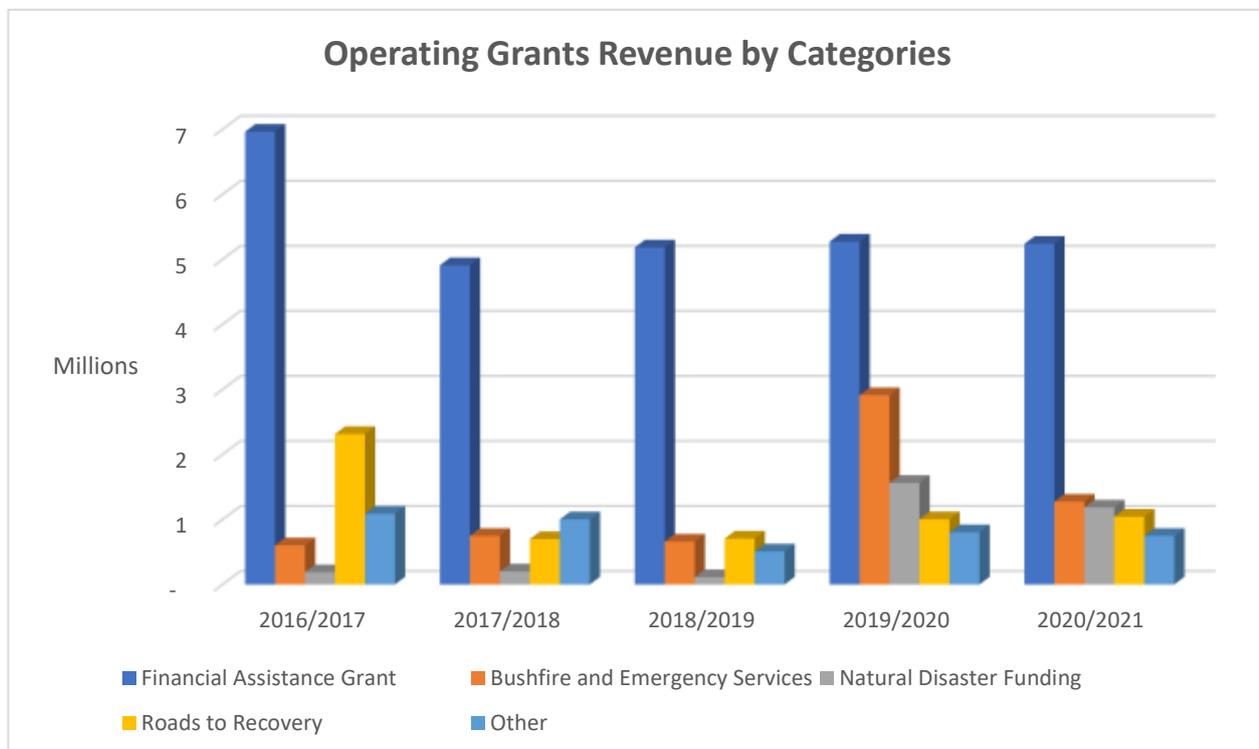
This has represented some 45.6% to 72.3% of operating grant revenues during the financial years from 2016/2017 to 2020/2021. Advance funding of \$2,368,476 was provided in the 2016/2017 financial year from the 2017/2018 financial year allocation; hence the larger amount shown in the graph. Advance payments have continued since 2016/2017 and in June 2021 were provided in advance for the 2021/2022 financial year.

Other major operating grant revenues during this period have been for Bushfires and Emergency Services, Natural Disaster Funding and Roads to Recovery Funding.

Other operating grants

- Other operating grants received over the past five years include:
- Bushfire Recovery Funding of \$1.4m was provided in the 2019/2020 financial year to assist communities affected by bushfires. Council allocated this money to a variety of projects including a contribution to the Rappville Hall project, upgrades to the Rappville sports ground, improvements to the New Italy Museum and construction of bike tracks and upgrades to various community halls.
- Natural Disaster funding of \$1.5m for fire control subsidies and road maintenance works was provided in the 2019/2020 financial year.
- Roads to Recovery funding of \$5.76m has been provided for the five financial years from 2016/2017 to 2020/2021. This funding is allocated by the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development and is distributed to local councils according to a formula based on population and road length. As with the Financial Assistance Grant Scheme, this funding is determined by the Local Government Grants Commission. Projects completed with this funding include: Rambaldinis Road Bridge - \$442,000; Rappville Road, \$291,000, Cope St, Casino, \$205,000 and Fogwells Road, a total of \$700,000 for two projects.

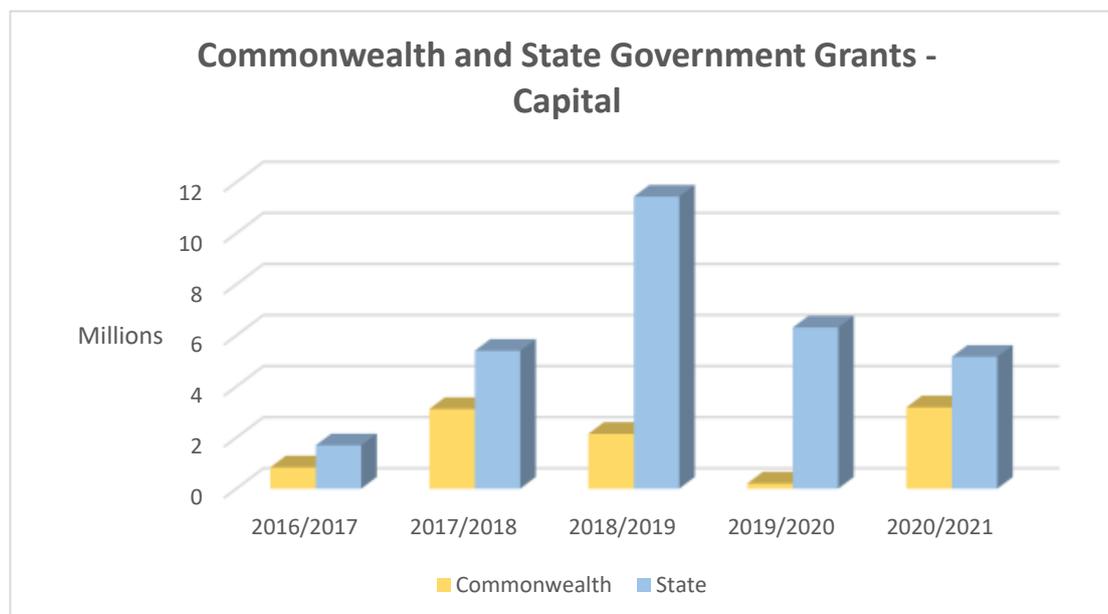
The operating grants revenue by major categories is shown in the graph below:



Total Capital Grants

Capital grants also play a significant role in delivering Council's priority projects throughout the Richmond Valley, with the larger proportion of these grants being allocated by the NSW Government.

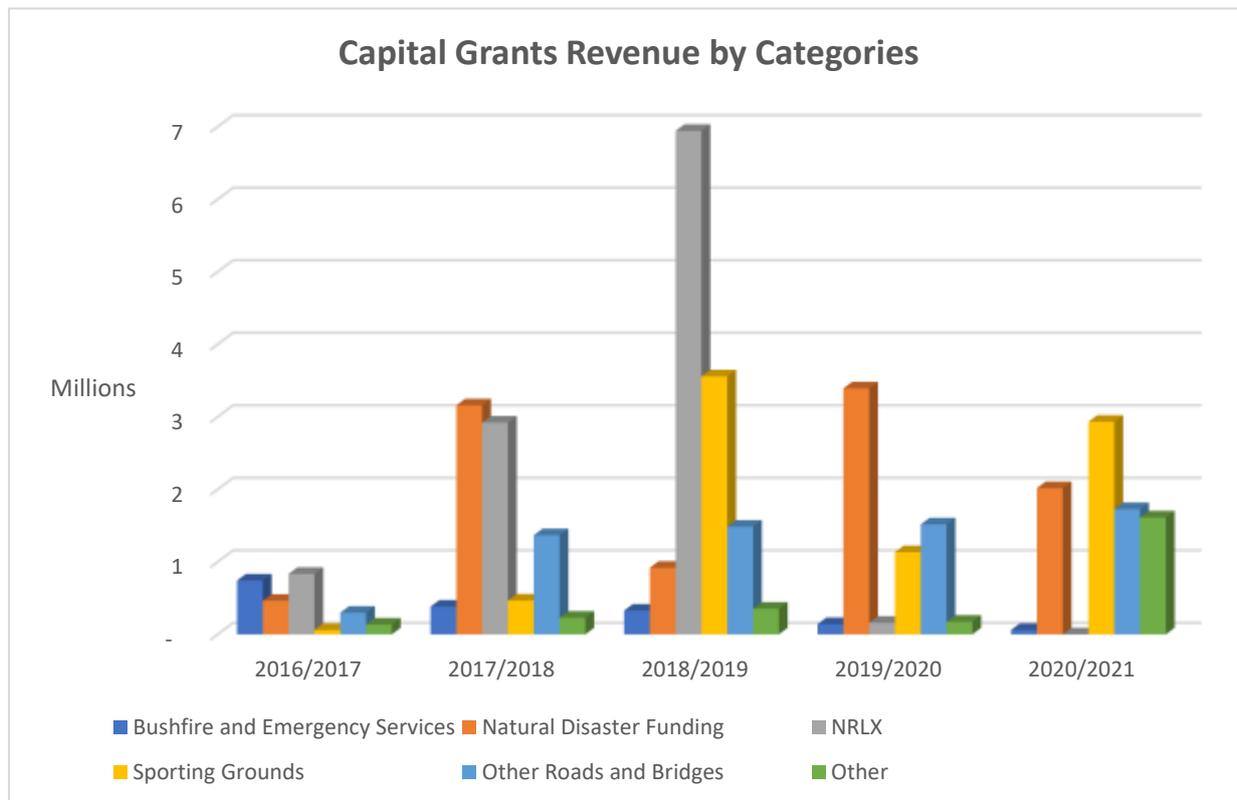
In total, Council received \$39.5m in capital grants over the past five years, as shown in the graph below. Capital grant revenues represented 4.5% of Income from Continuing Operations during the 2016/2017 financial year. This grant revenue increased to 14.2% during the 2017/2018 financial year, 19.4% during the 2018/2019 financial year and 9.4% during the 2019/2020 financial year. Most of these funds have been provided for Bushfire and Emergency Services, Natural Disaster Funding, the Northern Rivers Regional Livestock Exchange (NRLX) upgrade, sporting ground upgrades and other roads and bridges projects.



Significant capital project funding commitments during the five financial years from 2016/2017 to 2020/2021 include:

- Bushfire Recovery and Natural Disaster Funding totalling \$19.08m (with \$11.85m received so far)
- Northern Rivers Livestock Exchange - \$10.5m in funding toward the \$14m project.
- MR145 Woodburn-Coraki Road Major Upgrade - \$10m in funding (\$749k received to 30 June 2021).
- Casino Showgrounds and Racecourse Upgrade - \$8.2m in funding (\$500k received to 30 June 2021).
- Regional Roads Block Grant Funding of \$4.49m.
- Casino Memorial Pool Redevelopment - \$3.2m in funding towards the \$5.15m project (\$1m received to 30 June 2021).
- Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Grant Projects - \$2.2m in funding (\$1.1m received to 30 June 2021)
- Northern Rivers Rail Trail Phase 1 - \$1m in funding (\$700k received to 30 June 2021).
- Woodburn-Coraki Road Reconstruction Works - \$1m in funding toward the \$2m project.
- Casino Drill Hall - \$1.09m in funding towards the \$1.67m (\$1.05m received to 30 June 2021).
- Woodburn Riverside Precinct Upgrade - \$700k in funding towards the \$1.51m project
- Broadwater Shared Pathway - \$1m in funding.
- Bruxner Highway (Johnston Street) Shared Pathway - \$1.02m in funding.
- Casino Showgrounds (Construct New Toilet Block, Refurbish Existing Toilet Facilities, Install New Lighting, Further Electrical Upgrades and Extend Cutting Yard) - \$918k in funding
- Woodburn Riverside Park Development – Playground and Central Hub Area - \$551k in funding toward the \$574k project.
- Casino Amphitheatre - \$500k in funding towards the \$532k project
- Coraki Caravan Park Amenity Building Project - \$550k in funding towards the \$563k project
- NRLX Truck Wash Upgrade - \$358k in funding toward the \$418k project.

The capital grants revenue by major categories is shown in the graph below:



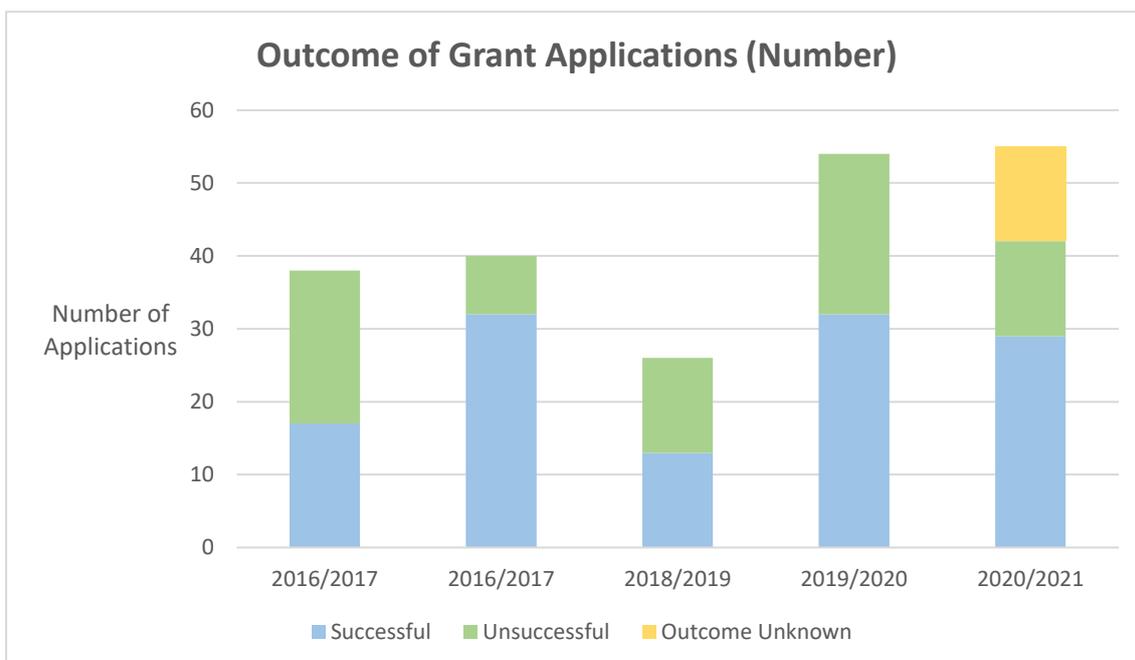
Grant Funding Applications

Council has allocated significant resources to applying for competitive grant funding over the past five years. This has contributed to its overall success rate of 57.7% (or 123 projects from 213 applications).

The outcomes of these funding applications are shown in the table and graph below:

Outcome of Grant Applications (Number)

Outcome of Grant Applications	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	Total
Successful	17	32	13	32	29	123
Unsuccessful	21	8	13	22	13	77
Outcome Unknown	0	0	0	0	13	13
Total	38	40	26	54	55	213
% Successful	44.7%	80.0%	50.0%	59.3%	52.7%	57.7%



Competitive grants have provided a total of \$75.9m, to deliver projects with a total value of \$88.9m. Results are shown in the table below:

Outcome of Grant Applications	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	Total
Successful - Grant Funding	\$6,196,684	\$18,456,364	\$668,305	\$9,171,933	\$41,396,760	\$75,890,045
Successful - Total Project Cost	\$11,614,256	\$19,466,888	\$828,165	\$11,863,370	\$45,098,074	\$88,870,753
Unsuccessful	\$2,465,401	\$14,404,194	\$14,840,785	\$5,363,158	\$18,670,784	\$55,744,322
Outcome Unknown	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,412,867	\$1,412,867
Total potential Grant Funding	\$8,662,085	\$32,860,558	\$15,509,090	\$14,535,091	\$61,480,411	\$133,047,234
% Successful	71.5%	56.2%	4.3%	63.1%	67.3%	57.0%

CONCLUSION

Over the past five years, Council has been increasingly successful with obtaining government funding to support vital community projects. Funding commitments so far have totalled more than \$100m, with \$86.4m already received. Council will continue to build its grants capabilities in the coming term, to ensure that it makes the most of all future funding opportunities to help deliver the Community Strategic Plan objectives.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

14.2 APPOINTMENT OF NATIVE TITLE MANAGER

Author: Kate Alder-Conn, Governance Coordinator

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is required to give notice each year to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment of the name and contact details of any person the council has engaged as a Native Title Manager. Council's Manager Asset Planning has attended the one-day training required for qualifying as a Native Title Manager. This staff member has been a Native Title Manager since November 2018 and it is proposed to continue this appointment.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council gives notice to the relevant Minister, in accordance with the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* requirements (s.8.8), that Council's Manager Asset Planning, Mr Andrew Leach, has been retained as Council's Native Title Manager.
2. A copy of the resolution be provided to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

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

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

REPORT

The *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (CLM Act) provides a regime for the management of Crown land. The CLM Act abolished reserve trusts, with the land previously managed by reserve trusts now being managed by Crown Land managers.

The CLM Act continues to permit the Minister to vest Crown land in local councils, however the significant difference is that the CLM Act expressly provides that the vesting of the ownership of land in local councils will be subject to any native title rights and interests existing in the land prior to the vesting, as well as any stated reservations and exceptions.

Under the CLM Act Council is responsible for compliance with native title legislation in relation to vested land. To ensure that Council meets its responsibilities, it is required to employ or engage at least one Native Title Manager.

Council's Manager Asset Planning attended a one-day training session jointly provided by the Crown Solicitor's Office and the (then) Department of Industry (Crown Lands Office) and attained the native title manager qualification.

Section 8.8 of the CLM Act requires each Council to give notice to the Minister of the name and contact details of any person the Council has engaged or employed as a Native Title Manager. The notice must be given as soon as practicable after 30 June (but not later than 31 October) of each year. Section 377 of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires that the giving of a notice to the Governor or Minister is a non-delegable function which requires a resolution of council. Notification will be provided to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment with a copy of the resolution.

CONSULTATION

Nil

CONCLUSION

Council is required under the CLM Act to appoint a suitably qualified Native Title Manager and to give notice of that appointment to the Minister each year. Council's Manager Asset Planning currently performs the role of Native Title Manager, having acquired the necessary qualification and it is proposed to continue this appointment.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

15 FINANCIAL REPORTS

15.1 FINANCIAL ANALYSIS REPORT - JUNE 2021

Author: Jono Patino, Financial Accountant

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

The value of Council's Investment Portfolio as at 30 June 2021 is shown below:

Bank Accounts	Term Deposits	Floating Rate Notes	TCorp IM Funds	Total
\$20,747,100	\$21,000,000	\$4,750,390	\$15,356,889	\$61,854,379

The weighted average rate of return on Council's investments for June 2021 was 4.13% which was above the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index for June of 0.00%, which is Council's benchmark.

RECOMMENDATION

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

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Making Council Great

CS1: Leading and Advocating for our Community

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

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

As at 30 June 2021, Council had earned \$412,573 in interest and \$935,764 in fair value gains for total investment revenue of \$1,348,337 against an annual budget of \$1,003,025 (which equates to 134.43%). Council currently receives a return of 0.35% on its Macquarie CMA Account and Council's financial advisors receive a commission of 0.05%. Commissions for the 2020/2021 financial year to 30 June 2021 total \$4,244.

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 June meeting.

Rate of Return

The weighted average rate of return on investments in June 2021 was 4.13%, an increase of 212 basis points from the previous month. The rate of return is 413 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 \$189,463 during June 2021, increasing the overall gain for the 2020/2021 financial year to 30 June 2021 to \$935,764.

Council is still holding larger than normal cash balances however Council did invest \$3,000,000 of new funds in the NSW Treasury Corporation IM Long Term Growth Fund in June 2021. This investment option was made available with the adoption of a revised investment policy at the May 2021 Ordinary Council Meeting. Term deposits and floating rate notes continue to offer low rates of returns with some banking institutions still limiting the amount of deposits they will accept and others not accepting any deposits at present. In many cases Council's bank accounts are returning a higher rate of interest than what is being offered for term deposits and floating rate notes.

Council's Investment Portfolio

The Investment Portfolio balance at 30 June 2021 of \$61,854,379 is made up of Council's Business Online Saver Account (\$9,835,000), Macquarie Cash Management Account (\$10,003,288), Term Deposits (\$21,000,000), Floating Rate Notes (\$4,750,390), NSW Treasury Corporation Investments (\$15,356,889) and other bank accounts (\$908,812).

Council's investment portfolio had maturity dates ranging from same day up to 1,742 days. Term deposits and floating rate notes of \$25,750,390 represented 41.63% of the total portfolio as at 30 June 2021.

Council made the following new investments during June 2021:

Banking Institution	Investment Type	Environmentally Sustainable Investment	Amount Invested	Investment Term
ME Bank	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	5 months
Judo Bank	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	9 months
Judo Bank	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	9 months
MyState Bank	Floating Rate Note	Y	\$1,500,000	4 years
ME Bank	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	7 months
ME Bank	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	7 months
Total			\$6,500,000	

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

Banking Institution	Investment Type	Environmentally Sustainable Investment	Amount Invested	Interest Earned
Judo Bank	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	\$3,989
Judo Bank	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	\$4,089
Bank of Sydney	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	\$3,590
Bank of Sydney	Term Deposit	Y	\$1,000,000	\$3,590
Total			\$4,000,000	\$15,258

Council had \$15,356,889 in longer term investments being the Medium Term Growth Fund and Long Term Growth Fund held with NSW Treasury Corporation as at 30 June 2021. The investment values and fair value returns are shown below:

Investment Holding	Fair Value 30 June 2021	Fair Value Gain/(Loss) June 2021	Fair Value Gain/(Loss) YTD
Cash Facility Trust	\$0	\$0	\$31,366
Medium Term Growth Fund	\$12,337,305	\$169,878	\$884,813

Long Term Growth Fund	\$3,019,585	\$19,585	\$19,585
Total	\$15,356,889	\$189,463	\$935,764

Environmentally Sustainable Investments (ESIs)

Council's portfolio of \$61,854,379 at 30 June 2021 includes \$35,106,889 or 56.8% 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 June 2021 Council's investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

As at 30 June 2021 Council's cash and investments totalled \$61,854,379 with \$20,747,100 of this being funds held in bank accounts. The weighted average rate of return was 4.13% for the month of June and total investment revenue equals 134.43% of budgeted revenue for the year to 30 June 2021.

ATTACHMENT(S)

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

16 GENERAL BUSINESS

16.1 REGIONAL ROAD RECLASSIFICATION UPDATE

Author: Andrew Leach, Manager Asset Planning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Richmond Valley Council is currently liaising with Transport for NSW (TfNSW) regarding two State Road Reclassification processes:

1. Council's submission to the State Road network review, proposing transfer or reclassification of four roads within the local government area
2. The future handover of infrastructure assets to Council following the construction of the Pacific Highway bypass of Woodburn and Broadwater.
3. Work to progress the planning of improvements to the Woodburn CBD streetscape so it's ready when funding opportunities arise.

This report provides an update of the status of these two processes.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Regional Road Reclassification Project update;
2. Notes that negotiations are continuing with Transport for NSW regarding RVC's road reclassification proposals and road assets handover to deliver the best possible outcome for the Richmond Valley community; and
3. Notes that Council Officers are continuing to work with TfNSW on options to improve the Woodburn CBD as outlined in this report.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Connecting People and Places

PP2: Getting Around

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

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The extent of the road reclassification and the handover of assets will have a significant effect on Council's maintenance and depreciation budgets. It is important that Council remains engaged as a contractor to undertake the maintenance of these roads following reclassification, as it relies on these works to support its current level of investment in road maintenance crews, plant and equipment.

REPORT

State Road Review

In February 2019, the NSW Government announced a review of the State Road network, with the intention to return 15,000 kms of council owned or managed roads to the State to help local councils better maintain and manage their road networks. The process allowed the suggested transfer of TfNSW roads, as well as the reclassification of Council Local Roads. In mid-2020, Council reviewed and submitted the following proposals for consideration:

- Transferring MR145 (Casino to Woodburn) back to the State.
- Maintaining what will be the Old Pacific Highway from Boundary Creek Road to South Woodburn Interchange as a State asset.

- Reclassifying Broadwater to Evans Head Road from Local to Regional Road, remaining under Council control.
- Reclassifying Naughtons Gap Rd (via East Street) from Bruxner Highway in Casino to Lismore Kyogle Road from Local to Regional Road, remaining under Council control.

Council also supported Kyogle and Lismore Councils in their proposal to have the Lismore Kyogle Road, as well as Lismore Coraki Road, and Whyralla Road returned to the State.

In response to the submission, Council was asked to provide detailed feedback on its two priority roads, being MR145 (Casino Woodburn Road), and the Broadwater Evans Head Road. This more detailed response was lodged with TfNSW in December 2020 and Council expects to be advised of whether it was successful within the coming months (see attached letter from the Minister for Regional Roads, the Hon Paul Toole MP).

As part of the submission, Council stipulated that while the responsibility of managing this road should be with TfNSW, the physical maintenance works should remain with Council. State funding for future works on these roads will provide value for money, while utilising Council's local knowledge, experience and historic treatment records, ensuring quality results. Council also relies on the works associated with State and Regional roads to support a percentage of its operational workforce, along with road maintenance plant and equipment.

Post bypass handovers

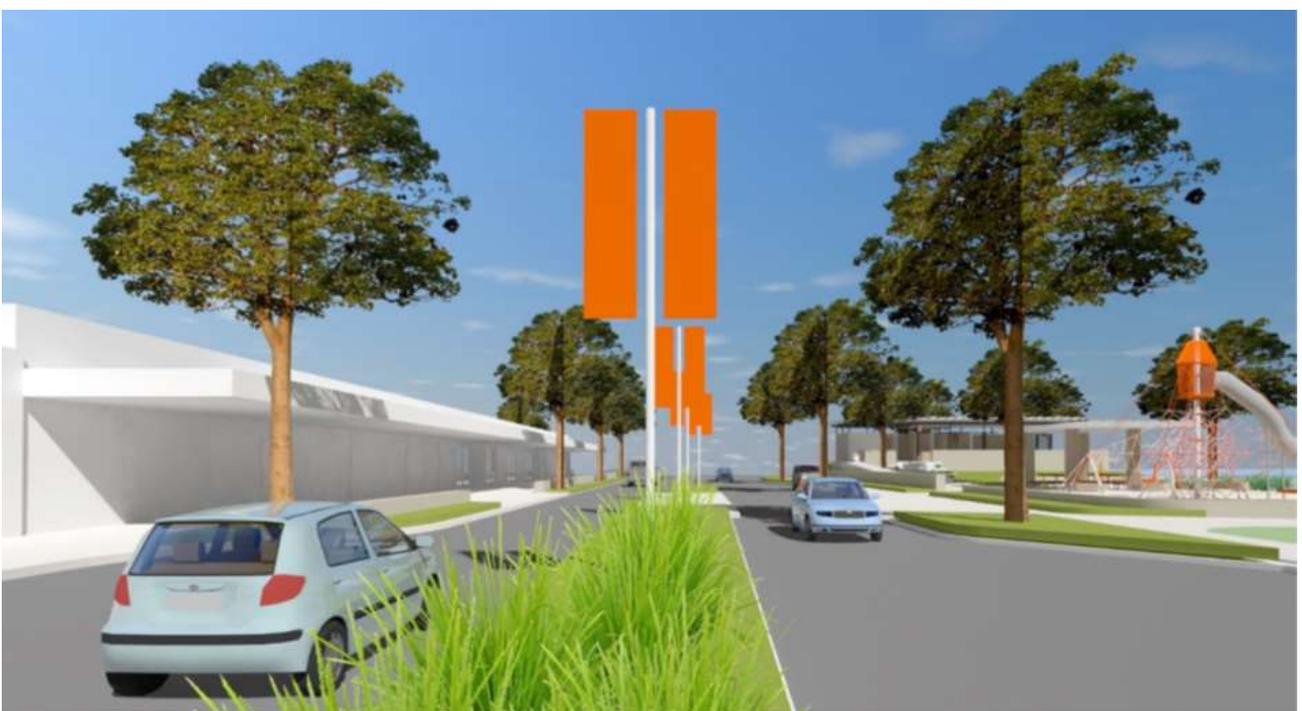
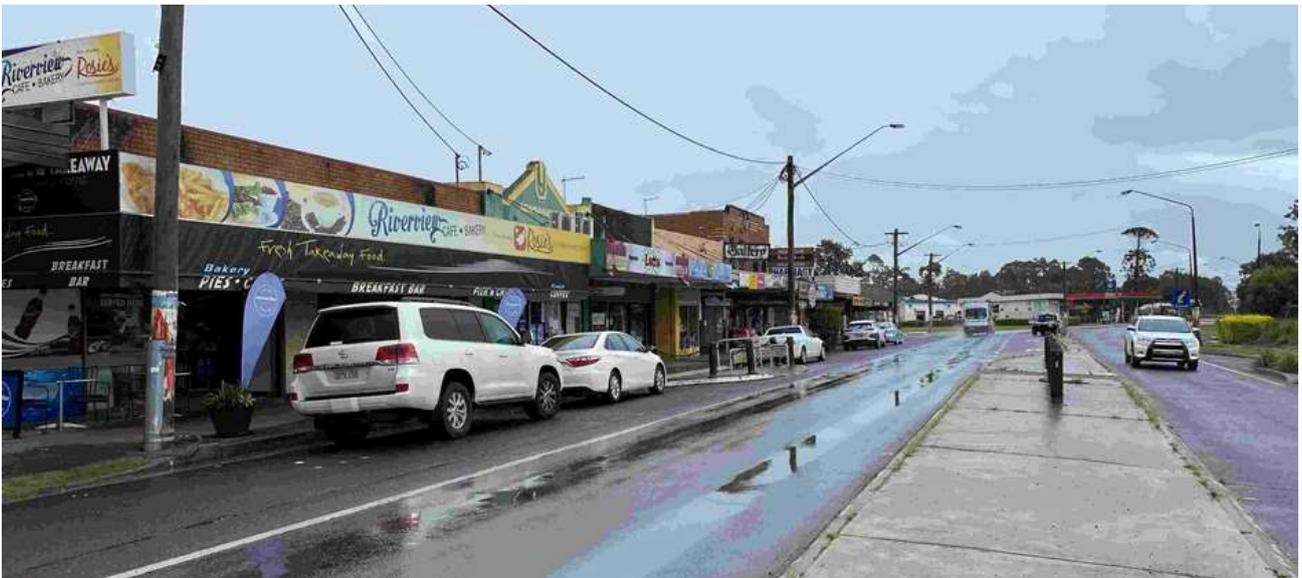
Council has also been negotiating with TfNSW regarding future responsibilities for the former Pacific Highway through Woodburn.

The future ownership of, and responsibility for, the road will determine how it is classified, and the way that it is developed to complement the shopping strip and riverside park. The Minister's letter expresses a willingness to work with Council to explore NSW Government funding opportunities for streetscaping, but does not indicate that any funding has been committed at this stage.

To help attract the required funding commitment for this project, Council staff will undertake the following actions:

- Compile usage information relating to traffic movements, retail demand and habits, pedestrian movements and type of through traffic
- Revisit the original concept design which formed part of the masterplan and consult with the community and business stakeholders to gain feedback
- Consult with the community and business stakeholders on the effect of the bypass and explore future streetscape proposals
- Update the original masterplan, with a focus on the redevelopment of a concept design for the Woodburn streetscape works and obtain an accurate costing of these works
- Use the updated masterplan and costed concept design to explore appropriate grant funding opportunities.

Key to any proposed works will remain the reclassification of the road. If the road remains under State control as a regional road, any elements of the concept streetscape design will need to cater for B-Double freight traffic.



Woodburn – post bypass (top), and concepts from the draft masterplan (middle, bottom)

Council will continue to work with TfNSW to explore options for traffic treatments and streetscape works. At this stage the only works that have been undertaken are scoping sketches (see above) which formed part of the Woodburn Riverside Park Masterplan redevelopment.

Future responsibility for other infrastructure associated with the highway, such as access roads, drainage, exit roundabouts and landscaping, is the subject of ongoing negotiations between, Pacific Complete, CPB Contractors, TfNSW and Council. Council is mindful of not accepting responsibility for infrastructure that may represent an ongoing financial burden for Richmond Valley ratepayers.

CONCLUSION

Council Officers continue to work with TfNSW on the State Road Review process and post-bypass asset handover in Woodburn, to ensure the best possible outcome for the community. Council will also explore future streetscaping funding opportunities for Woodburn, however these will be difficult to finalise while the road's future classification has not been determined.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. Minister's response



The Hon Paul Toole MP
Minister for Regional Transport and Roads

Our Ref: 01263594
Your Ref: 8865

Mr Christopher Gulaptis MP
Member for Clarence
11 Prince Street
GRAFTON NSW 2460

Dear Mr Gulaptis

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of Cr Robert Mustow, Mayor Richmond Valley Council, about the revitalisation of Woodburn and the reclassification of the old Pacific Highway through Woodburn.

I am advised that Transport for NSW would be pleased to work with Council to identify opportunities for potential improvements through Woodburn to support local businesses. Council is encouraged to look for NSW Government funding opportunities for streetscaping plans on the old Pacific Highway.

As Cr Mustow may be aware, in February 2019, the NSW Government announced that up to 15,000 kilometres of Council-owned roads would be returned to State management as part of a broader package of support for local Councils to better manage and maintain the rural road network.

An Independent Panel has been established to make recommendations for consideration by the NSW Government. The Panel recently provided an interim report to the Minister, which includes a list of recommended priority road transfers. At this time, no announcements have been made regarding the transfer of Regional Roads in NSW to State management. An announcement on the interim round will be made in the coming months.

All NSW Councils are eligible to submit roads for reclassification under the full round of the Road Classification Review. Opening dates for the full round have not been yet announced. Further information about the Regional Road Transfer is available at yoursay.transport.nsw.gov.au/regional-road-transfer-and-road-classification-review.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely

02/07/2021

THE HON PAUL TOOLE MP

GPO Box 5341, Sydney NSW 2001

17 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**RECOMMENDATION**

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

17.1 CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE REPORT 1 APRIL 2021 - 30 JUNE 2021

Author: Sharon Banning, Acting Manager Customer Experience

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Customer Experience Report for the period 1 April – 30 June 2021.

REPORT

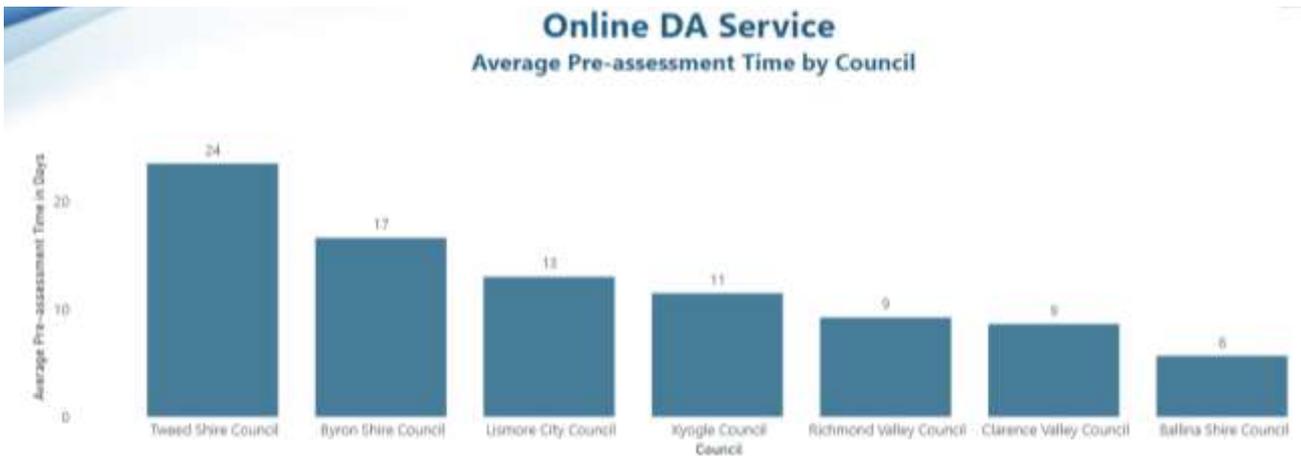
Council is committed to providing a high level of customer service to the community. The Customer Service Framework was adopted by Council at the 19 July 2016 Ordinary Meeting and reviewed at the 25 June 2019 Ordinary Meeting. As a result, quarterly reporting on Council's performance against the standards in the framework has been introduced. This report also contains details on the resolution of customer requests made through the Contact Centre. Analysis is undertaken to determine what strategies or areas of improvement may be required.

The report includes three parts:

- Customer Service Contact Centre data,
- Customer Request Management System (CRM) data, and
- Development Concierge Statistics

In preparation for the compulsory move to online lodgement of development related applications from July 1 2021, the Customer Experience team, in conjunction with Development Assessment Support officers, hosted information sessions for the community to provide an overview of E-Planning and the steps involved in preparing an application for lodgement via the portal. The workshops were well received by builders, planning consultants and first-time developers, who found the sessions informative. Workshop participants were appreciative of Council's proactive engagement with the community and the opportunity to learn about the regulatory changes.

The "First Responders" team, continues to work closely with customers assisting them to prepare quality applications acceptable for lodgement. Expectations and standards have been set and are in line with those applied at other councils, so customers know what is required for successful lodgement. RVC's pre-assessment times are well placed when compared to other LGAs.



Customer Service Contact Centre Data - Key Statistics

Call Statistics

A total of 7,757 calls were received during the report period which is a 6.5% decrease from the same period last year, and a 4.5 % decrease on the previous quarter’s volumes. The Contact Centre has exceeded all service targets for the report period including 85.56% of calls answered within 20 seconds, average time each caller spends in the queue is 18.0 seconds and the percentage rate for calls abandoned is less than 1%.

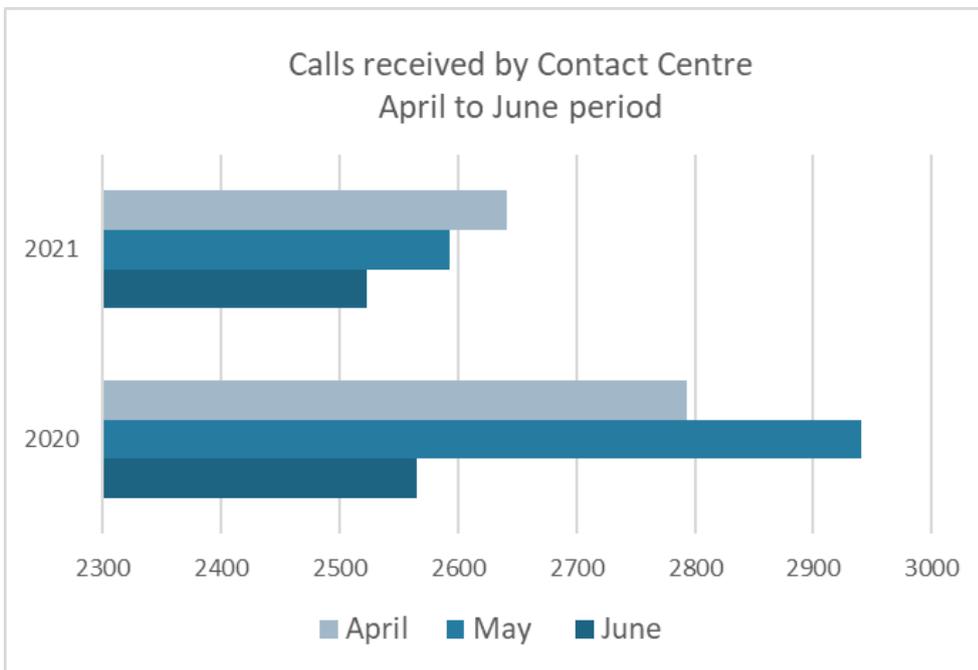


Figure 1: Calls received through the call centre

Receipt and Administration Statistics

A total of 3123 receipts were processed for the report period which is an increase of 17.58% for the same period of the previous year of 2656 receipts. The month of May did see a marked increase in number of receipts processed, which can be attributed to the fourth quarter rates instalment.

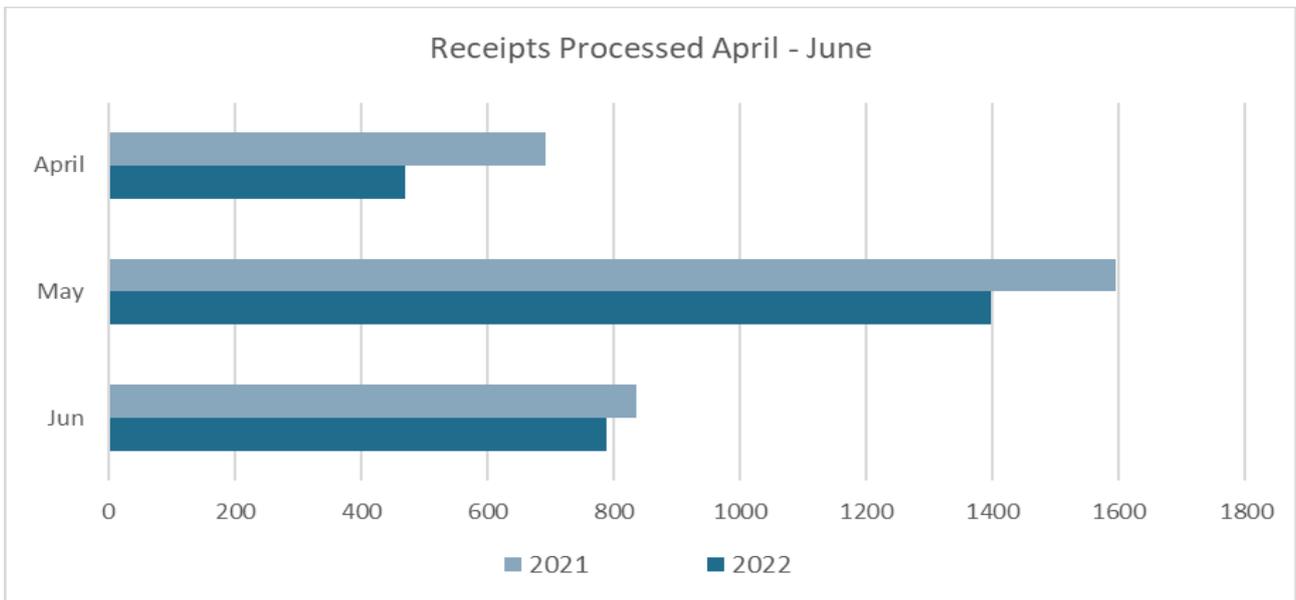


Figure2: Total Number of Receipts

Certificates and Customer requests

98.9% of Section 735A, 10.7, 603 certificates were completed within set timeframes in accordance with Council’s service standards.

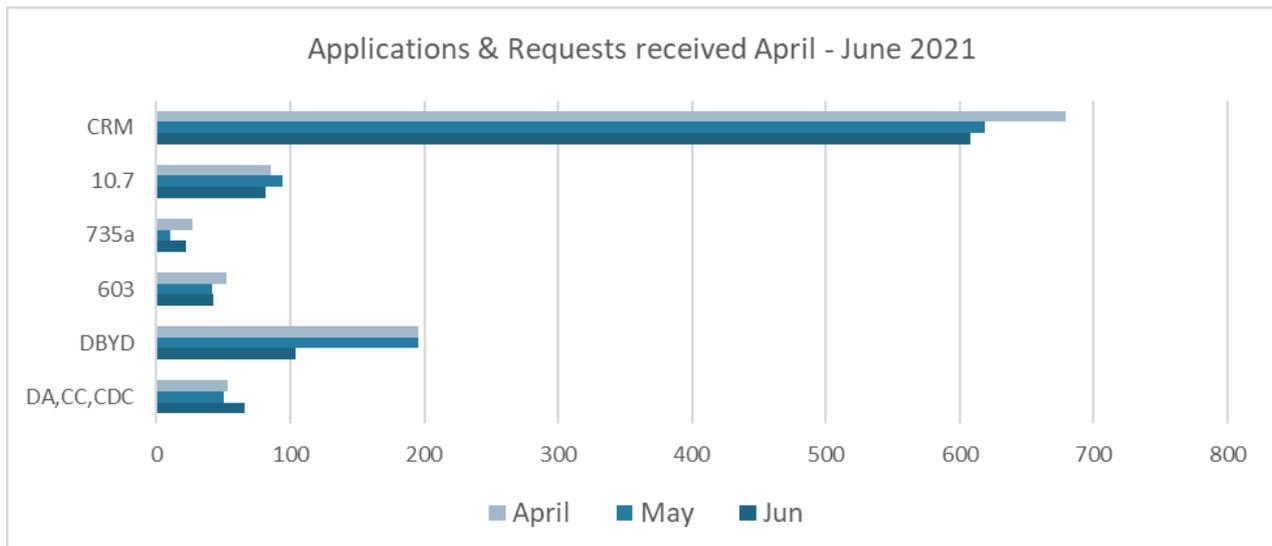


Figure 3. Administration Statistics

Volumes of applications increased markedly with s.603 up by 48.9%, s.735A up by 84.3% and s.10.7 up 61.1%, which coincides with the surge in real estate activity across our LGA. Customer requests (CRMs) rose by 37.8%, compared to the same period last year, which equates to 524 additional requests.

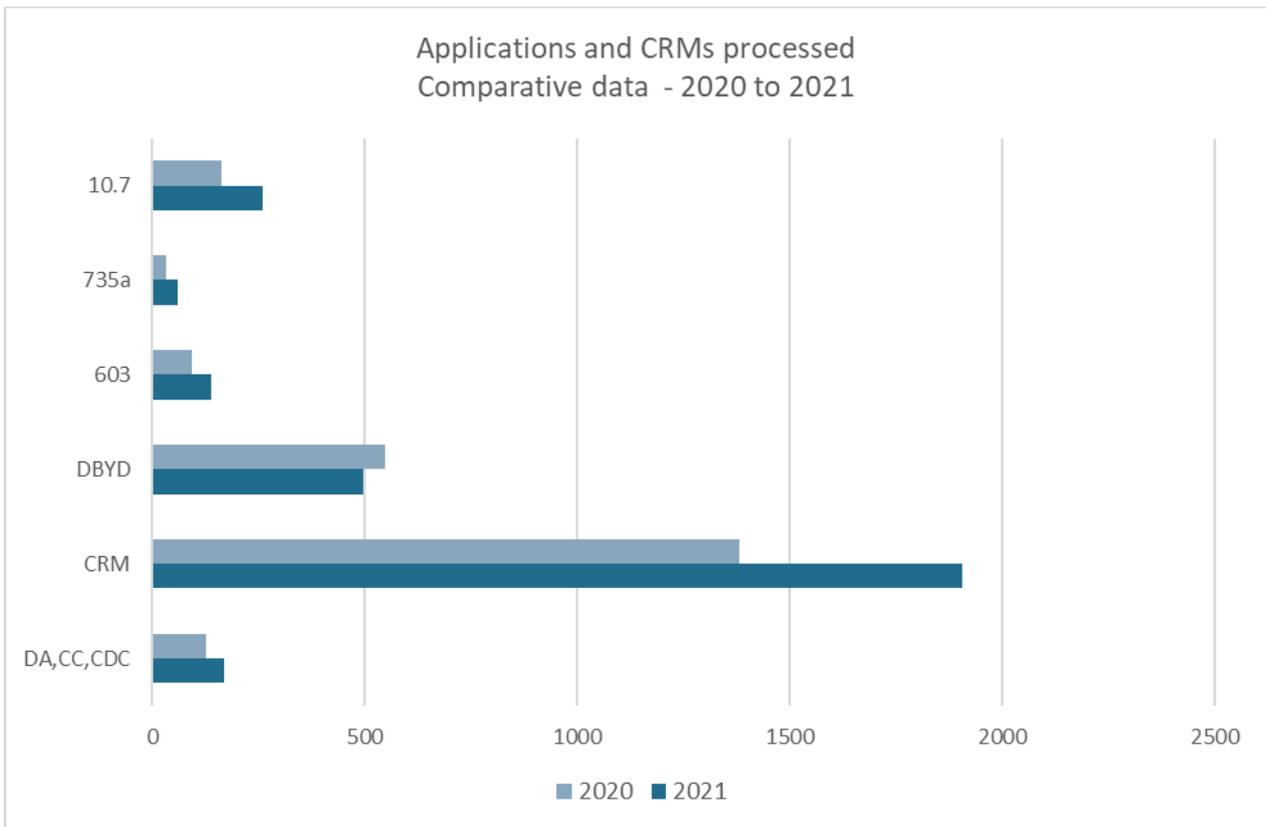


Figure 4. Applications comparison

Customer Request Management System - Key Statistics

During the reporting period, a total of 1907 requests were logged, an increase of 37.8% compared to the corresponding period in the previous year. Council’s Environmental Health / Rangers received most CRMs, predominately relating to companion animal issues. CRMs referred to Roads were concerns around rural road conditions. This can be attributed to prolong periods of wet weather resulting in rural grading crews being unable to complete scheduled maintenance.



Figure 5: Number of Requests

Development Concierge – Key Statistics

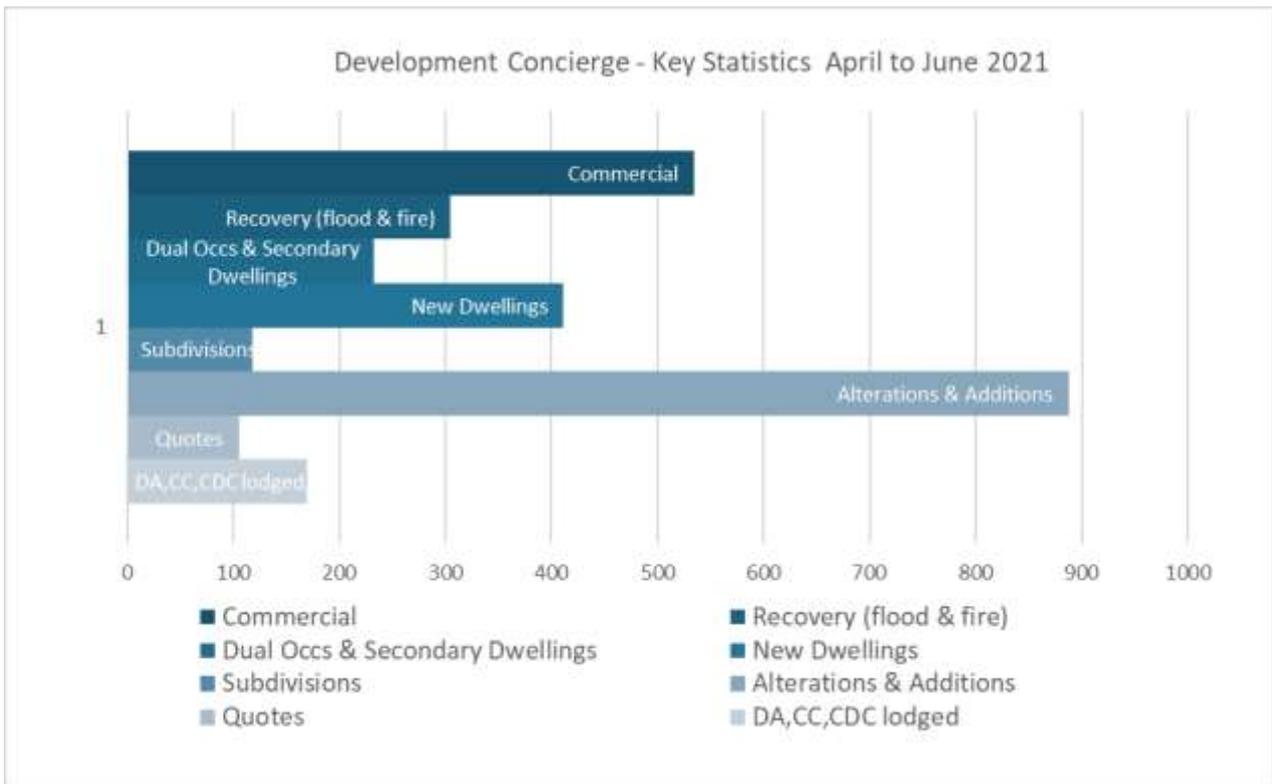


Figure 6: Development Concierge assisted enquiries

Development related enquiries have increased markedly during the reporting period, this can be attributed to a combination of real estate market positivity, COVID lockdowns prompting a surge in home renovations and new staff within the customer experience team seeking guidance from the Development Concierge to assist with customers enquiries.

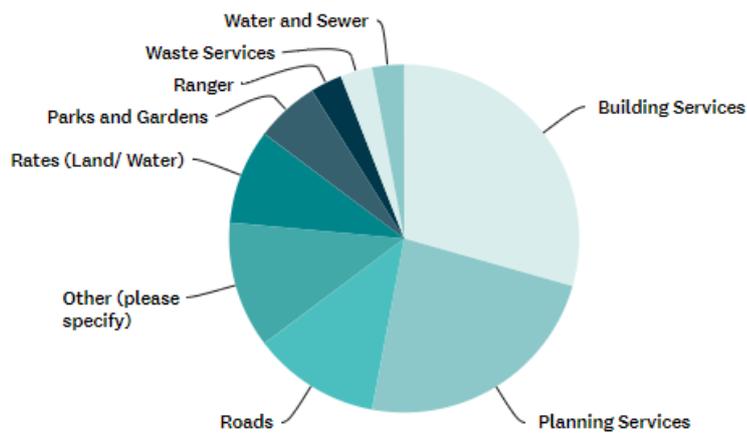
Customer Service Feedback Survey

The six-monthly, customer service feedback survey was conducted in June with over 80% of respondents being very satisfied or satisfied with the Customer Service received when dealing with Richmond Valley Council.

Over half of the respondents contacted Council for assistance with Development or Planning enquiries and their main area of concern related to the lag time of a follow up response to their initial enquiry.

Which area of Council was your contact in relation to?

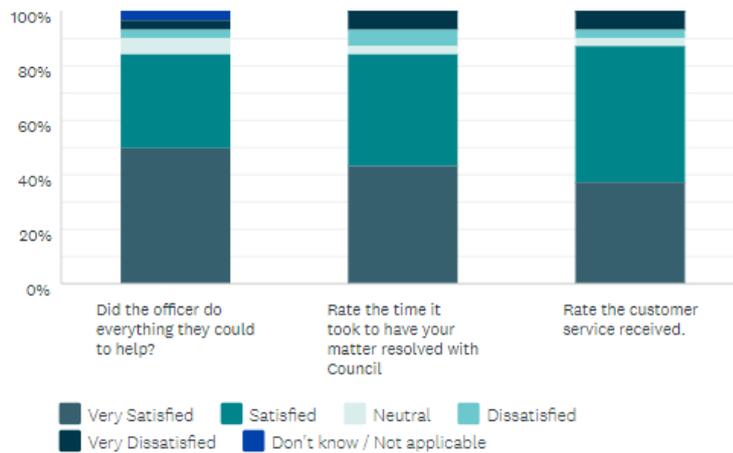
Answered: 34 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Building Services	29.41%	10
▼ Planning Services	23.53%	8
▼ Roads	11.76%	4
▼ Other (please specify)	11.76%	4
▼ Rates (Land/ Water)	8.82%	3
▼ Parks and Gardens	5.88%	2
▼ Ranger	2.94%	1
▼ Waste Services	2.94%	1
▼ Water and Sewer	2.94%	1
▼ Community Programs and Grants	0.00%	0
▼ Economic Development	0.00%	0
▼ Environmental Health	0.00%	0
▼ Tourism	0.00%	0
TOTAL		34

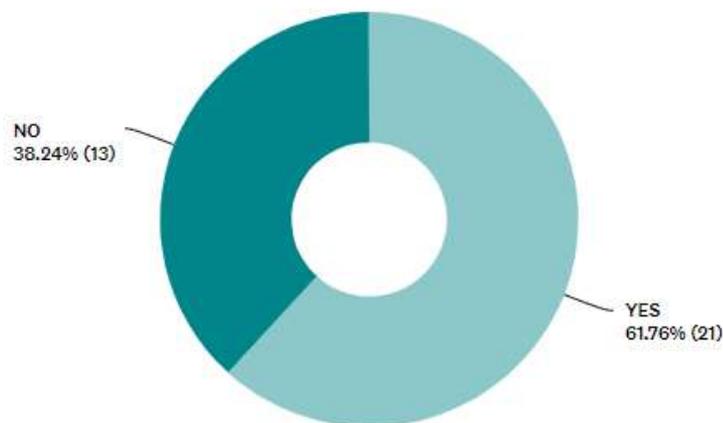
How would you rate our customer service on the following aspects?

Answered: 32 Skipped: 2



Was the first person you spoke to able to answer your enquiry?

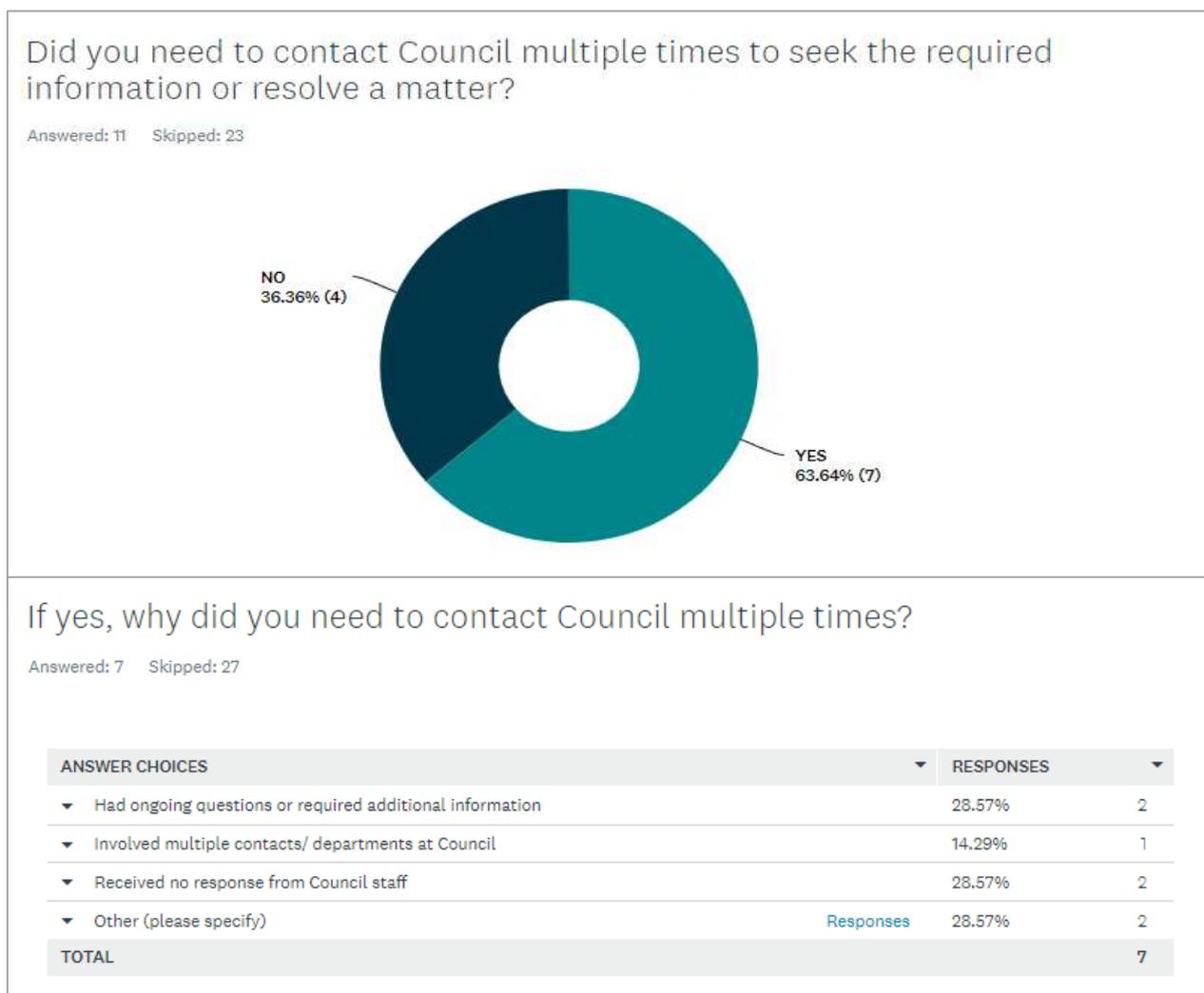
Answered: 34 Skipped: 0



If no, what happened next?

Answered: 13 Skipped: 21

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Referred to Development Concierge	15.38%	2
Call transferred to another Council officer	46.15%	6
Contact details noted and advised another Council officer would return call	38.46%	5
TOTAL		13



Opportunity for Improvement

Following a review of the report results, an opportunity for improvement has been identified. These areas as highlighted below will be the focus of the customer experience team in the coming months.

- Continue to work closely with applicants lodging applications via the e-planning portal to ensure submission to lodgements timeframes are maintained to our standard.
- Continue to provide training and upskilling of our newer inexperienced staff to increase their ability to achieve first contact resolution, particularly in relation to simple development assessment enquires.
- Concerted effort by all staff to respond to customer enquiries within our agreed service level commitment of 24 hours.

CONCLUSION

The information contained in this report demonstrates the significant volume of tasks and actions which are required to be completed by Council’s frontline Customer Experience staff. The Customer Service standards are generally met and more often than not exceeded.

Analysis of Customer Service Contact Centre data, Customer Request Management System (CRM) and the Development Concierge statistics enables identification of opportunities to improve Council’s customer service and ensure processes are efficient and effective.

In accordance with Council’s Customer Service Framework, staff continue to strive for high standards of customer service to the community, to monitor performance and implement efficiencies and improvements to process.

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

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

During the reporting period no grants were approved, while funding was received for fourteen grants totalling \$3,682,396. Council was notified as being unsuccessful with two grant applications and three grants were applied for.

Grants that have been received

Coraki Landfill Capping	
Project ID	10193
Funding Body	NSW Environmental Protection Agency
Funding Name	Waste Less, Recycle More Initiative - Landfill Consolidation and Environmental Improvements - Funding Round 2 Stream 1 - Landfill Consolidation
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$572,300
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$200,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$372,300
Date Application Submitted	18 August 2021
Date Received	\$20,000 received 17 June 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$200,000 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	N/A

Bruxner Highway - Colches St to Centre St Shared Pathway	
Project ID	10349
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Active Transport Program - 2020/21 Walking and Cycling Program
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$487,993
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$487,993

Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	21 February 2021
Date Received	\$61,060 received 29 June 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$77,360
Comment (if required)	N/A

Elliots Road Timber Bridge Replacement

Project ID	10385
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Fixing Country Bridges Round One 2020
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$315,942
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$315,942
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	2 October 2020
Date Received	\$47,391 received 29 June 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$47,391
Comment (if required)	N/A

MR145 Woodburn-Coraki Road Major Upgrade

Project ID	10382
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	N/A
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$10,000,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$10,000,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$346,754 received 29 June 2021
Total Funds Received to Date	\$749,337
Comment (if required)	N/A

Connecting Country Lane - Seal Existing Unsealed Road

Project ID	10401
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Fixing Local Roads Program Round 2
Government Level	State

Project Value (excl GST)	\$750,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$562,500
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$187,500
Date Application Submitted	9 December 2020
Date Received	\$393,750 received 29 June 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$393,750
Comment (if required)	N/A

Broadwater Community Hall Solar Panels

Project ID	10415
Funding Body	Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (Australian Government)
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 Received	\$2,818 received 4 June 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$2,818 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	N/A

Increase Richmond Valley Youth Activities during April School Holidays (April Holiday Break)

Project ID	10418
Funding Body	Office for Regional Youth
Funding Name	April Holiday Break Program
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$5,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$5,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	29 March 2021
Date Received	\$5,000 received 16 June 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$5,000 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	This grant funding was approved in the last week of the school holidays due to a departmental oversight

Financial Assistance Grant 2021/2022	
Project ID	N/A
Funding Body	NSW Local Government Grants Commission
Funding Name	Financial Assistance Grant
Government Level	Federal
Project Value (excl GST)	\$5,416,992
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$5,416,992
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	Advance payment of \$2,708,496 received 8 June 2021 (General Purpose Component \$1,856,288, Local Roads Component \$852,208)
Total Funds Received To Date	\$2,708,496
Comment (if required)	This payment was in advance for 2021/22. The total allocation is not yet known, and the current funding figures are estimates only.

Grant to Fund Increase in Emergency Services Levy	
Project ID	N/A
Funding Body	Office of Local Government
Funding Name	OLG Emergency Services Levy Payment 2021/2022
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$44,437
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$44,437
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$44,437 received 16 June 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$44,437
Comment (if required)	This funding was announced as a contribution towards the increase in the Emergency Services Levy for 2021/2022 (the statutory contributions towards the NSW Rural Fire Service, NSW State Emergency Service and Fire and Rescue NSW).

Evans Head Visitor Information Signage	
Project ID	N/A
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Signage Upgrade - Community
Government Level	State

Project Value (excl GST)	\$3,345
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$3,345
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$1,409 received 29 June 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$3,345 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	Signage on main roads and local roads directing traffic to the Evans Head Visitor Information Centre.

RVC Naughtons Gap Road, Casino

Project ID	N/A
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Signage Upgrade - Community
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$1,933
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$1,933
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$896 received 29 June 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$1,933 (total funding received)
Comment (if required)	Speed limit signage on Naughtons Gap Road.

Speed Zone – Community – Casuarina Drive Subdivision, Swan Bay

Project ID	N/A
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Speed Zone – Community
Government Level	State
Project Value (exc GST)	\$2,912
Grant Funding (exc GST)	\$2,912
Council Funding (exc GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$837 received 29 June 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$2,200
Comment (if required)	Speed zone signage at Casuarina Drive Subdivision, Swan Bay.

Speed Zone – Community – Stones Rd, Naughtons Gap Road	
Project ID	N/A
Funding Body	Transport for NSW
Funding Name	Speed Zone – Community
Government Level	State
Project Value (exc GST)	\$1,728
Grant Funding (exc GST)	\$1,728
Council Funding (exc GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	N/A
Date Received	\$323 received 29 June 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$1,405
Comment (if required)	Speed zone signage at Stones Road, Naughtons Gap.

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	\$49,225 received 29 June 2021
Total Funds Received To Date	\$153,578
Comment (if required)	Council share funded from Regional Roads Block Grant.

Unsuccessful Grant Applications

Casino Aquatic Activation	
Project ID	10409
Funding Body	Resilience NSW
Funding Name	Bushfire Local Economic Recovery (BLER) Fund
Government Level	Joint Federal and State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$13,416,880
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$ 8,741,880

Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 4,675,000
Date Application Submitted	27 January 2021
Date Advised Unsuccessful	30 June 2021
Comment (if required)	This funding was intended for the construction of both stages of the Casino Memorial Pool Masterplan.

Colley Park Casino: Building Resilience through Recreation	
Project ID	10410
Funding Body	Resilience NSW
Funding Name	Bushfire Local Economic Recovery (BLER) Fund
Government Level	Joint Federal and State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$996,581
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$976,581
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 20,000
Date Application Submitted	27 January 2021
Date Advised Unsuccessful	30 June 2021
Comment (if required)	This funding was intended to revitalise the outdoor basketball court, install an inclusive children's play space and construct a new clubhouse.

Grant Applications Submitted

Revitalisation of Community Playspace at Crawford Square Regional Park	
Project ID	10431
Funding Body	Department of Regional NSW
Funding Name	Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 4
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$398,963
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$248,963
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$150,000
Date Application Submitted	24 June 2021
Comment (if required)	If successful, this funding will enable an inclusive farm themed playspace to be installed at the park which will include play activities for children of all ages and abilities.

Upgrade of Richmond Valley's Town Entry Signs: Traditional Custodian Acknowledgment	
Project ID	10432
Funding Body	Department of Regional NSW
Funding Name	Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 4
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$55,000
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$55,000
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	24 June 2021
Comment (if required)	If successful, this funding will be used to upgrade the town entry signs at Broadwater, Casino, Coraki, Evans Head, and Woodburn to pay respect to and acknowledge the traditional landowners.

Creation of Water Playspace at Coraki Swimming Pool	
Project ID	10433
Funding Body	Department of Regional NSW
Funding Name	Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 4
Government Level	State
Project Value (excl GST)	\$212,500
Grant Funding (excl GST)	\$212,500
Council Funding (excl GST)	\$ 0
Date Application Submitted	24 June 2021
Comment (if required)	If successful, this funding will enable the creation of a safe and inclusive water playspace to enhance the facilities at Coraki Pool.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

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

Author: Andy Edwards, Manager Development & Certification

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Development Application report for the period 1 June 2021 to 30 June 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 June 2021 to 30 June 2021 was 23, with a total value of \$6,360,774.00.

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

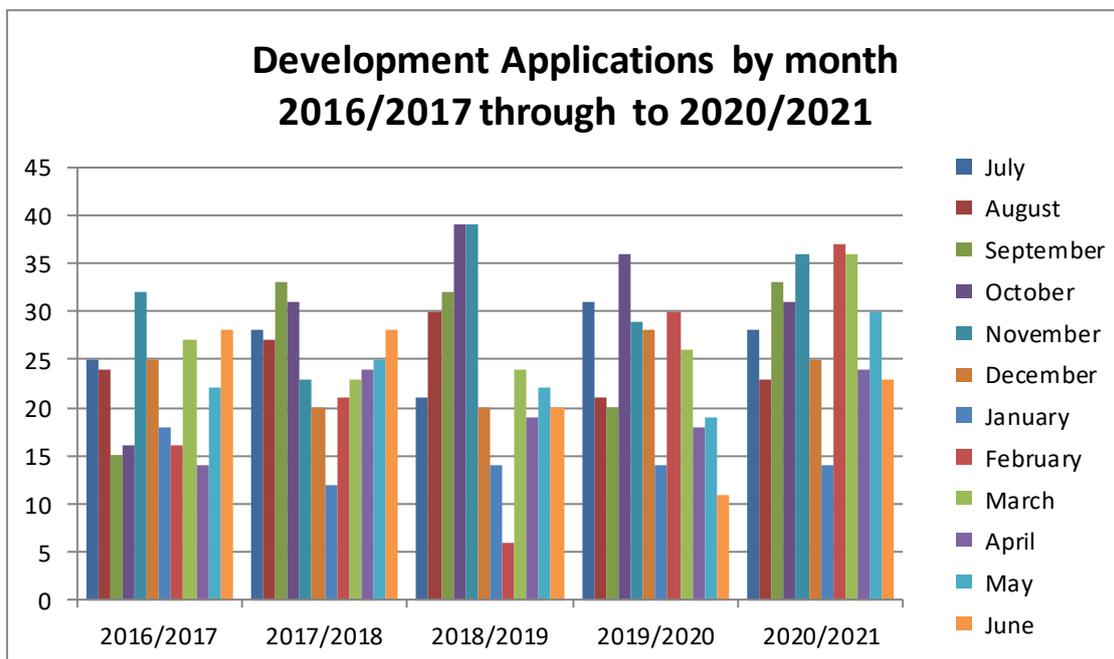


Figure 1: Monthly number of development applications processed by Council over five financial years.

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 June 2021.

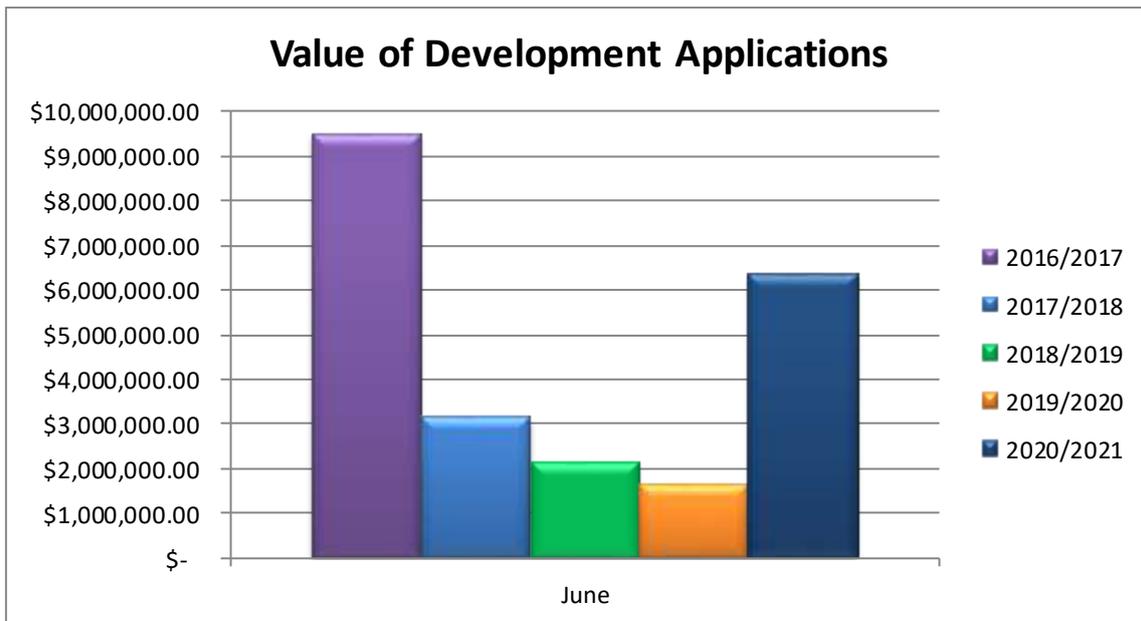


Figure 2: Value of development for the month of June.

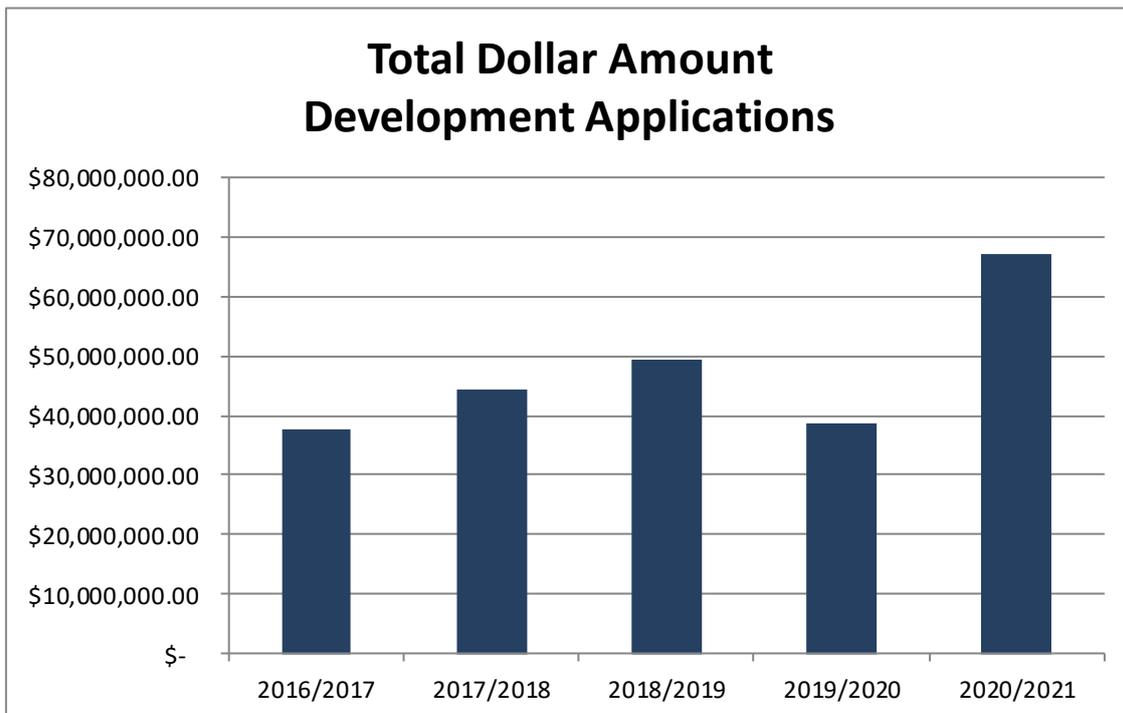


Figure 3: Annual value of development.

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.

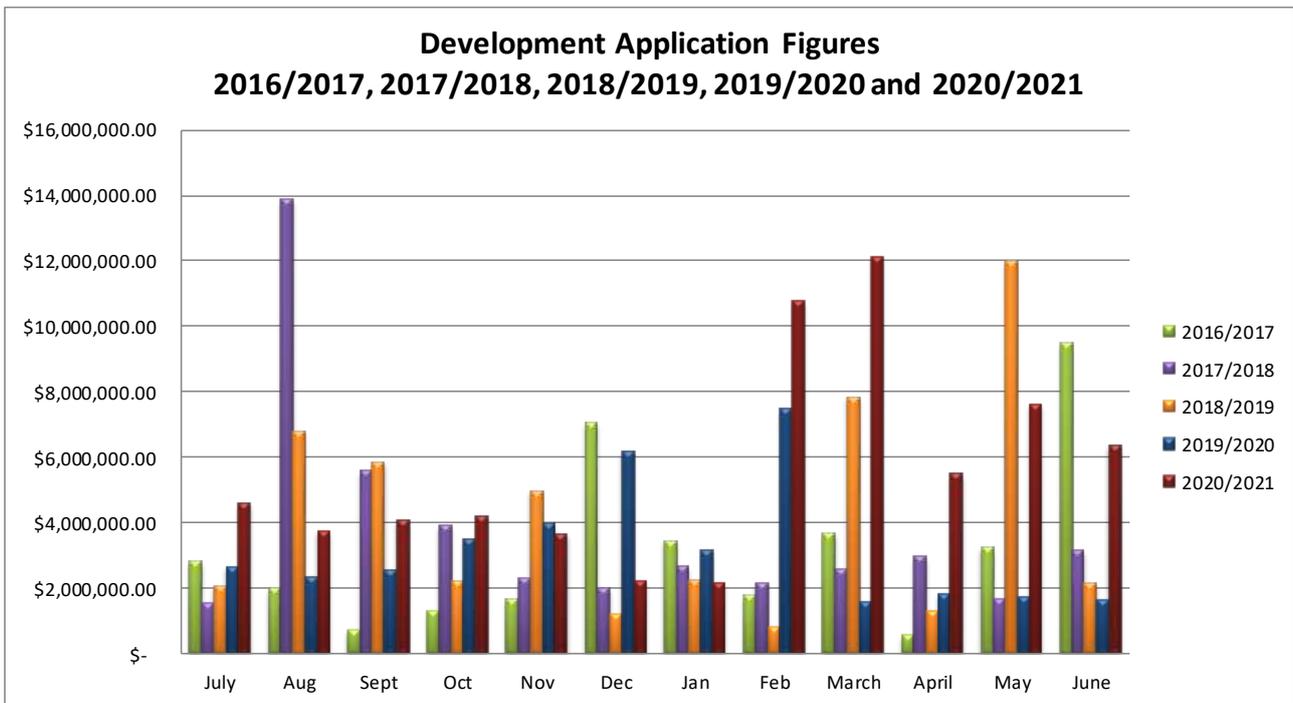


Figure 4: Value of development applications per month over five financial years.

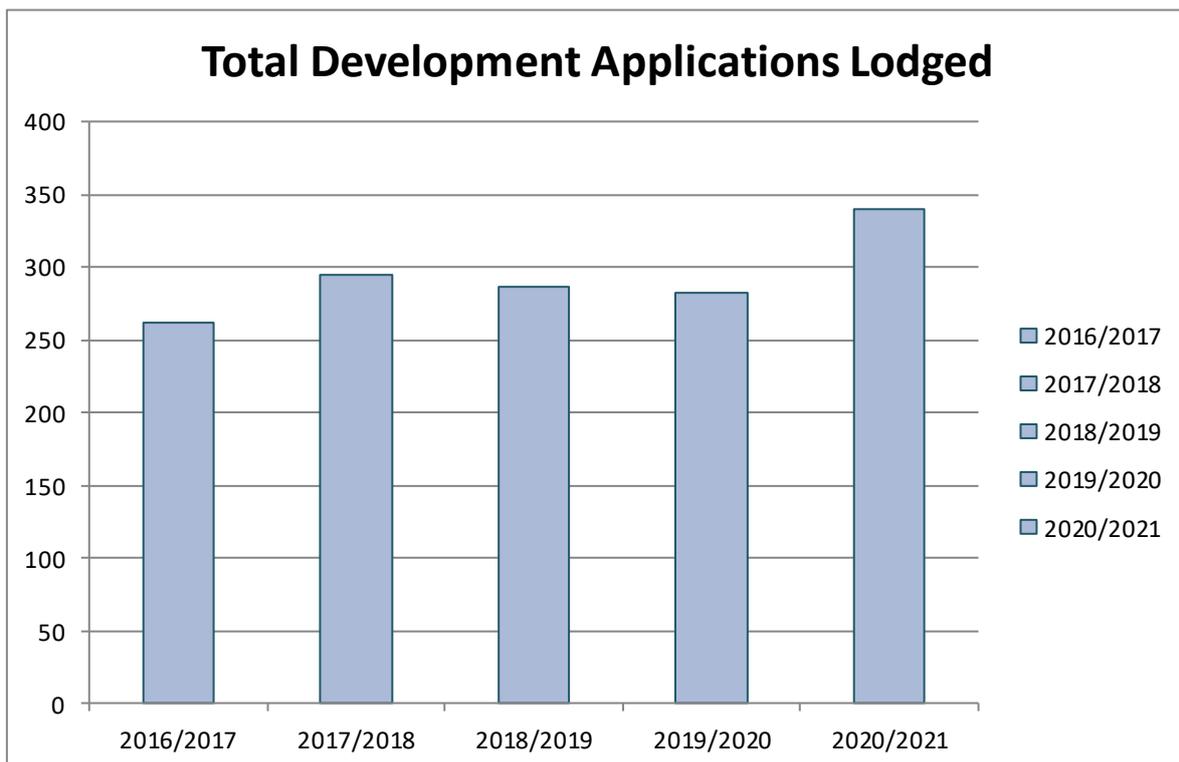


Figure 5: Number of Development Applications per annum over five financial years.

Activity for the month of June 2021

General Approvals (excluding Subdivisions, Section 96s)	19
Section 4.55 amendments to original consent	1
Subdivision	2
Refused	
Withdrawn	
Complying Development (Private Certifier Approved)	1
TOTAL	23

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 June 2021 to 30 June 2021**

Application ID	Applicant	Owners	Location	Development	Date Lodged	Determination Date	Estimated Cost
DA2021/0209	GM Project Development & Management	KWK Holdings Pty Ltd	770 Myrtle Creek Road, Myrtle Creek	Sawmill including mobile sawmill facilities and associated works	12/02/2021	3/06/2021	\$ 30,000.00
DA2021/0236	Newton Denny Chapelle	AE & MJ Moss	133 Woodburn Street, Evans Head	Strata title subdivision to create two lots Lot 1 (343.1m2) and Lot 2 (392.3m2)	22/03/2021	3/06/2021	\$ -
DA2021/0239	Newton Denny Chapelle	DJ Endres & M & M Hammond	12 & 14 Forest Grove, Fairy Hill	Torrens Title Subdivision from two lots to create 3 lots being Lot 1 (1.449ha) Lot 2 (1ha) and Lot 3 (1ha)	22/03/2021	3/06/2021	\$ -
DA2021/0266	IJ Conte	C J & IJ Conte	62 Currajong Street, Evans Head	Construction of an outbuilding along the western side of an existing dwelling	20/04/2021	24/06/2021	\$ 15,900.00
DA2021/0275	SW Lancaster	SW Lancaster & RL Stanford	21 Forest Street, Coraki	Inground fibreglass swimming pool & cabana with associated pool fencing	29/04/2021	1/06/2021	\$ 45,000.00
DA2021/0147.01	Northern Co-Operative Meat Co Ltd	Northern Co-Operative Meat Co Ltd	10615 Summerland Way, Casino	Section 4.55(1A) Modification to approved building to prepare retail ready products seeking internal and external changes including extension of mezzanine level, new service platform, awnings and window	4/05/2021	15/06/2021	\$ 4,960,224.00
DA2021/0279	TM Baker	T M Baker	56 Diary Street, Casino	Shed	6/05/2021	16/06/2021	\$ 19,970.00
DA2021/0281	North Coast Sheds & Garages Pty Ltd	HE Subasing Gamachchige	639 Lagoon Road, West Coraki	Shed	11/05/2021	11/06/2021	\$ 24,700.00
DA2021/0282	Metricon Homes QLD Pty Ltd	MJ & R Opryszko	6 Collins Road, Fairy Hill	Dwelling	12/05/2021	1/06/2021	\$ 306,843.00
DA2021/0283	DC Jeffree & MC Smith	DC Jeffree & MC Smith	76 Lennox Street, Casino	Colorbond gable carport with one gable infill and curtain wall	12/05/2021	1/06/2021	\$ 10,105.00
DA2021/0284	AGS Commercial Pty Ltd	JP Wall	45 North Street, Casino	Shed	13/05/2021	9/06/2021	\$ 18,166.00
DA2021/0285	AGS Commercial Pty Ltd	PJ Richardson & ZM McMahon	26-30 Cook Street, Broadwater	Shed	13/05/2021	7/06/2021	\$ 19,749.00
DA2021/0287	RLE Bryant	RLE Bryant	130 Brazels Road, Bentley	Farm shed	14/05/2021	1/06/2021	\$ 148,530.00

**Summary of Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act
for the period 1 June 2021 to 30 June 2021**

Application ID	Applicant	Owners	Location	Development	Date Lodged	Determination Date	Estimated Cost
DA2021/0288	BJ Northam	BJ & A Northam	75 Bruton Street, Casino	Pergola extension to existing shed	18/05/2021	3/06/2021	\$ 10,000.00
DA2021/0290	PB & SJ Cosgrove	PB & SJ Cosgrove	Woodburn Coraki Road, Swan Bay	Shed with bathroom	19/05/2021	23/06/2021	\$ 35,000.00
DA2021/0291	RM Harding	RM Harding	34 Ironbark Place, Naughtons Gap	Farm shed	19/05/2021	16/06/2021	\$ 16,660.00
DA2021/0292	KL & S McClure	KL & S McClure	114 Woodburn Street, Evans Head	Installation of fibreglass composite inground swimming pool & associated fencing	20/05/2021	1/06/2021	\$ 42,600.00
DA2021/0293	LS & KL Clapham	LS & KL Clapham	10 Camille Court, Spring Grove	Colorbond steel shed	20/05/2021	9/06/2021	\$ 41,454.00
DA2021/0294	BA Harley	AJ Cohen	450 Manifold Road, North Casino	Construction of new dwelling to create a detached dual occupancy	21/05/2021	22/06/2021	\$ 244,500.00
CDC2021/0026	T & D Building Consultants	NSW Land and Housing Corporation	12 William Street, Casino	Demolition of fire damaged dwelling	27/05/2021	7/06/2021	\$ 20,000.00
DA2021/0297	Metricon Homes QLD Pty Ltd	GR & GB B Esteban	63 Canning Drive, Casino	New Single Dwelling	28/05/2021	29/06/2021	\$ 272,593.00
DA2021/0299	TJ Lockhart	TJ & AL Lockhart	95 Imesons Road, Yorklea	Dwelling extension of a free standing sun room	2/06/2021	29/06/2021	\$ 45,000.00
DA2021/0300	Atlas Awnings	SJ & LE Murray	46 Canning Drive, Casino	Insulated Flyover Patio	2/06/2021	24/06/2021	\$ 33,780.00

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

17.4 ROCK FISHING SAFETY UPDATE

Author: Latoya Cooper, Coordinator Mid-Richmond

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council resolved to opt-in to the *Rock Fishing Safety Act 2016* from 26 January 2019, legislating compulsory wearing of lifejackets whilst rock fishing in identified high risk locations. A six-month educational period was extended an additional twelve months until 26 July 2020. Council has now been operating under the *Rock Fishing Safety Act 2016* for a period of 12 months, this report provides an update.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the information contained within the Rock Fishing Safety Update report.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Connecting People and Places

PP3: Working Together

PP3.3: Ensure that Council is reaching all target groups for relevant community issues

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The regulatory responsibilities of the Act are shared between the NSW Police Force and Council Rangers. Council Rangers will undertake enforcement functions pursuant to the *Act* as part of their existing patrols.

REPORT

Council resolved to opt-in to the *Rock Fishing Safety Act 2016* from 26 January 2019. The phase-in education period of 6 months commenced on 26 January 2019 and was further extended to 26 July 2020, to allow the community and visitors time to adjust to the new legislation.

There have been no enforcement actions taken by Council Rangers within the legislated high-risk areas since the introduction of the Act, and other enforcement agencies have also reported full compliance from observations on their patrols.

In the last twelve months there have been three deaths along the coastline of Southern NSW from Rock Fishing, all three were not wearing a life jacket and were fishing in areas not legislated under the *Act*.

CONSULTATION

Council has consulted widely since 26 January 2019 by hosting workshops, conducting community surveys and issuing media releases via both traditional and social media platforms. Merchandise promoting Richmond Valley as being an area under the *Rock Fishing Safety Act 2016* is available at Council's Visitor Information Centres. Educational material such as brochures promoting 'Fish Safe off the Rocks' are available in the Casino and Evans Head administration offices.

Council planned to hold an additional educational workshop, however with the COVID19 restrictions this did not occur and instead an advertising partnership was completed with fishing enthusiast Laura Gallagher. The three short videos with Laura Gallagher promoting fishing safety in Evans Head appeared on all of Council's Social Media platforms from April 2021, reaching over 42,000 views and over 32,000 engagements.

CONCLUSION

Council will continue to promote and regulate the *Rock Fishing Safety Act 2016* with the main aim being to educate the public in safe fishing practices. A report will be provided to Council every twelve months detailing any regulatory action taken within that period and providing a general update on the Act.

There are still only eight Local Government Areas in NSW declared under the *Rock Fishing Safety Act 2016*, including Richmond Valley Council and Ballina Shire Council.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

17.5 CORRESPONDENCE - PRIME MINISTER THE HON SCOTT MORRISON MP - RECOVERY ASSISTANCE

Author: Vaughan Macdonald, General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the correspondence provided from the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP's office, following Council's letter of thanks for disaster recovery funding.

SUMMARY OF CORRESPONDENCE

Council at its Ordinary meeting held 20 April 2021, resolved;

That Council:

- 1. Notes the information contained in this report on the impacts of the natural disasters being experienced by the Richmond Valley community, and*
- 2. Writes to the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Premier, Deputy Premier, local Federal and State members of Parliament to acknowledge ongoing Government support for the Richmond Valley community's recovery from the five Natural Disasters since October 2019.*

A copy of the letters provided and received is attached.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1. Letter of thanks to Prime Minister**
- 2. Prime Minister's office 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

10 May 2021

The Hon Scott Morrison MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister

Disaster recovery funding and support

Richmond Valley Council resolved at a recent meeting to write to you and thank you for your continued support for our community as it recovers from the impacts of bushfires, storms and floods. Without the generous funding provided through programs such as the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements and the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund, our community would be devastated by these events.

In the past 18 months, the Richmond Valley has experienced five natural disasters, including the Rappville and Myall Creek fires which resulted in some 49% of our local government area being burnt and 350 homes, outbuildings and facilities destroyed or damaged. This was followed by three significant floods and a major storm event which severely impacted our Casino and Mid-Richmond communities. The funding provided through these programs has helped us to replace and repair critical infrastructure such as roads and bridges, to reconnect communities and rebuild our local economy. It has given us hope and a clear way forward in some of the most challenging times our community has experienced.

The success of these programs has largely been due to the proactive partnership between the Australian and NSW Governments, the support of our local Members of Parliament and the commitment of government agencies, such as Transport for NSW, in administering the funding. Our council gratefully acknowledges this support. To date we have received some \$13.9 million in Disaster Recovery Funding for the events in 2019-20. This funding has helped us to 'build back better', replacing three timber bridges destroyed by fire with more robust and durable concrete structures. It has also assisted with repairs to major land slips and roads and culverts damaged by fire and flood.

Sadly, our community is now facing in excess of \$12 million additional damage from the most recent major floods as we begin the recovery process again.

The generous support we have received from both the Australian and NSW Governments has greatly assisted us in rebuilding and revitalising our community over the past 18 months and we look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you again as we face our latest challenge.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R Mustow".

Robert Mustow
Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vaughan Macdonald".

Vaughan Macdonald
General Manager

Love where we live and work



23 JUN 2021



SCANNED

23 JUN 2021

Doc. No.

THE HON BEN MORTON MP
ASSISTANT MINISTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET
ASSISTANT MINISTER TO THE MINISTER FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE
ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR ELECTORAL MATTERS

Reference: MC21-050054

Mayor Robert Mustow and Mr Vaughan Macdonald
Mayor and General Manager
Richmond Valley Council
Locked Bag 10
CASINO NSW 2470

Dear Mayor and Mr Macdonald,

Thank you for your letter dated 10 May 2021 to the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP, regarding recovery assistance following the 2021 NSW Storms and Floods. The Prime Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf.

I am encouraged to hear that the Richmond Valley has benefitted from the funding initiatives made available by the Australian and New South Wales governments. As you may be aware, a range of support measures have been made available to support communities affected by the 2021 NSW Storms and Floods, including:

- The Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP), which provides a lump sum payment (\$1000 per adult, \$400 for each child younger than 16) to help community members significantly affected by the storms and floods. This payment is administered by Services Australia and further information is available on their website www.servicesaustralia.gov.au.
- The Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA), which provides income support payments for employees, primary producers and sole traders who have experienced a loss of income as a direct result of the storms and floods. This payment is also administered by Services Australia and further information is available on their website. Special Disaster Grants of up to \$75,000 for eligible primary producers in the Richmond Valley, and up to \$50,000 for eligible small business or not-for-profit organisations. This payment is administered by NSW Rural Assistance Authority and information is available at www.raa.nsw.gov.au/disaster-assistance/special-disaster-grants-floods.

Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Document Set ID: 1694808
Version: 1 Version Date: 23/06/2021

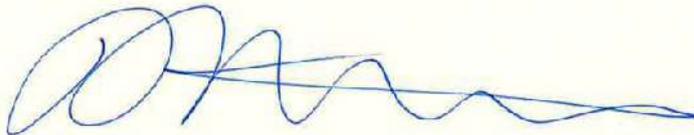
The Richmond Valley Council has also been activated for assistance under the joint Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA). The DRFA provides a range of financial assistance to the natural disaster-declared areas in each state or territory and may assist with:

- personal hardship and distress assistance
- counter disaster operations
- restoration of damaged essential public assets
- concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations
- freight subsidies for primary producers, and
- grants for non-profit organisations.

Further recovery support may become available over time, so I encourage you, and the residents of Richmond Valley Council, to monitor the Recovery Connect website at <https://recovery.serviceconnect.gov.au> and the National Recovery and Resilience Agency website at <https://recovery.gov.au>.

I have copied this letter to the Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management, the Hon David Littleproud MP, who has portfolio responsibility for these matters.

Yours sincerely



BEN MORTON

19/6 /2021

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 Casino Industries Activation Negotiation Update

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (c) 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 information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

20.2 Tender VP217057 - Installation and Monitoring of Council's Security System

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 VP244401- Cemetery Maintenance and Operational Assistance

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 VP240268 - Construction of Rappville Hall

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 VP245985 - Reynolds Road Industrial Estate Electrical Reticulation

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 Outcome of Negotiations, Northern Rivers Livestock Exchange Feeding Contract (Tender VP204658)

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

21 RESOLUTIONS OF CLOSED COUNCIL