

Richmond
Valley
Council



AGENDA

Ordinary Council Meeting

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

Date: Tuesday, 21 February 2023

Time: 6pm

**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****4 APOLOGIES****5 MAYORAL MINUTES**

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING HELD 20 DECEMBER 2022

RECOMMENDATION

That Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 20 December 2022.

REPORT

Refer attached Minutes.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1. Unconfirmed Minutes 20 December 2022 (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 ATTENDANCE REPORT 13 DECEMBER 2022 - 13 FEBRUARY 2023****Author: Robert Mustow****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives and notes the Mayoral Attendance Report for the period 13 December 2022 – 13 February 2023.

December 2022

- 14th Rous County Council meeting
- 15th Red Cross thank you morning tea
- 15th Rappville Christmas event
- 17th Coraki Christmas event
- 17th Woodburn Christmas event
- 19th Book Launch – in Good Company Opening, The Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW, The Hon. Paul Toole
- 19th Casino Popup Green Space Opening, The Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW, The Hon. Paul Toole
- 20th Richmond Valley Council Ordinary Meeting

January 2023

- 13th Community Safety Precinct Committee meeting
- 19th Australia Day planning discussion
- 20th Candidate meeting
- 20th meeting with constituent
- 22nd Super Sunday Family Fun Day
- 23rd Commissioning Ceremony (rescue vessel) Marine Rescue Evans Head
- 26th Australia Day Event at Woodburn

February 2023

- 2nd Meeting Assistant Minister for Climate Change and Energy the Hon Jenny McAllister
- 3rd Casino Neighbourhood Centre funding announcement with Member for Clarence Chris Gulaptis.
- 3rd Casino Showground Sod Turning with Member for Clarence Chris Gulaptis and Federal member Kevin Hogan.
- 6th Minister for Agriculture the Hon. Dugald Saunders meeting at Broadwater
- 6th Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, the Hon. Sam Faraway – Roads funding announcement
- 7th Seniors Week luncheon Casino RSM
- 7th Richmond Valley Council Information Session
- 13th LGNSW President and Chief Executive meeting and dinner

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

14.1 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR AND COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

Author: Vaughan Macdonald

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) Councillors may elect a Deputy Mayor for the mayoral term or a shorter period.

The Deputy Mayor may exercise any function of the Mayor at the request of the Mayor, or if the Mayor is prevented by illness, absence or otherwise from exercising the function, or if there is a casual vacancy in the office of Mayor.

As Richmond Valley Council has a popularly elected mayor, the mayoral term covers the entire term of the elected council (usually four years). Traditionally, Council has elected its Deputy Mayor for a one-year term and the next election is now due to be conducted. However, as there is only some 18 months remaining in the 2021-24 Council term, Council may wish to extend the term of office on this occasion.

Additionally, Council is due to elect a new representative on the Richmond Valley Council Local Traffic Committee and may also wish to extend this appointment to the end of the 2021-24 term of office.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council elects a Deputy Mayor for the remainder of the 2021-24 council term.
2. Nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor be submitted in accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Schedule 7.
3. The method of conduct for the election of Deputy Mayor be by open voting.
4. Following declaration of the election result, nomination forms be destroyed.
5. Following the appointment of a Deputy Mayor, notification be made to the Office of Local Government and Local Government NSW (LGNSW).
6. Council appoints one (1) Councillor representative to the Richmond Valley Council Local Traffic Committee for the remainder of the 2021-24 council term.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Sustain - Objective 10: Lead and advocate for our community

10D Lead with integrity

10D1 Provide representative and accountable community governance

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

No fee is specifically payable to the Deputy Mayor. Should Council determine that a fee be payable, the Mayoral allowance would need to be reduced by the same amount.

REPORT

Section 231 of The Act provides for the following in relation to the position of Deputy Mayor:

- (1) The councillors may elect a person from among their number to be the deputy mayor.*
- (2) The person may be elected for the mayoral term or a shorter term.*
- (3) The deputy mayor may exercise any function of the mayor at the request of the mayor or if the mayor is prevented by illness, absence or otherwise from exercising the function or if there is a casual vacancy in the office of mayor.*

- (4) *The councillors may elect a person from among their number to act as deputy mayor if the deputy mayor is prevented by illness, absence or otherwise from exercising a function under this section, or if no deputy mayor has been elected.”*

Traditionally, Council has elected its Deputy Mayor for a period of 12 months. However, as there is only some 18 months remaining in the 2021-24 Council term, Council may wish to extend the term of office on this occasion.

Schedule 7 of The Regulation outlines the requirements for conducting the election of Deputy Mayor. Under the Regulation, the General Manager, or a person appointed by the General Manager, acts as the Returning Officer for the election.

Nominating candidates

The Regulation provides for a councillor to be nominated without notice for the role of Deputy Mayor. Nominations must be made in writing by two or more councillors (one of whom may be the nominee). The nomination is not valid unless the nominee consents to the nomination in writing. Nominations are then delivered to the Returning Officer and he or she announces the names of the nominees at the council meeting at which the election is to be held.

If only one councillor is nominated, he or she is elected. If more than one councillor is nominated, Council then determines by resolution whether it will use open voting, ordinary ballot or preferential ballot for the election. The election must be conducted at the same meeting.

Deciding by open voting

Should Council decide to undertake the election via the open voting method, the preferred candidate is selected by show of hands.

If there are three or more candidates, the one with the lowest number of votes is excluded and the show of hands is taken repeatedly, using the same process, until there are only two candidates remaining. The person with the highest number of votes at the final poll is elected. If the final poll is a draw, the successful candidate is selected by lot.

Deciding by ordinary ballot

Should Council decide to undertake the election via ordinary ballot, the Returning Officer decides the manner in which votes are to be marked on the ballot paper. He or she then determines if all the ballot papers received are formal votes (using the guidance in cl 345 of the Regulation) and excludes any informal ballot papers. If there are only two candidates, the one with the highest number of votes is elected. If there are three or more candidates in the election, the one with the lowest number of votes is excluded after the first poll. The poll is then taken repeatedly, using the same process, until there are only two candidates remaining. The person with the highest number of votes at the final poll is elected. If the final poll is a draw, the successful candidate is selected by lot.

Deciding by preferential ballot

Generally, the preferential ballot system is only applied in larger councils, when there are more than two candidates for the role. Should council decide to use this method councillors are asked to mark their votes by placing the numbers 1, 2, 3 and so on against the various names on the ballot paper to indicate their order of preference for all the candidates. If a candidate has an absolute majority (more than half the first preference votes), that candidate is elected. If not, the candidate with the least number of first preference votes is excluded and his or her votes are transferred to those marked as the second preference on the ballot paper/s. This process continues until one of the candidates has an absolute majority. If, at the final count, there are only two candidates left, each with the same number of votes, the successful candidate is selected by lot.

Choosing by lot

To choose a candidate by lot, the names of the candidates who have equal numbers of votes are written on similar slips of paper by the Returning Officer, the slips are folded by the Returning Officer so as to prevent the names being seen. The slips are then mixed, and one is drawn at random by the Returning Officer. The candidate whose name is on the drawn slip is chosen.

Declaring the result

The Regulation requires the Returning Officer to declare the results of the election, including the name of the successful candidate, at the council meeting where the election is held. The result must also be sent to the Office of Local Government and LGNSW.

Election of representative on the Local Traffic Committee

The Richmond Valley Council Local Traffic Committee is a statutory committee which advises Council on traffic related matters, referred to it by Council Officers and/or by Council resolution. The Committee is an advisory body only with recommendations reported to Council.

Membership consists of one Councillor, Director Community Service Delivery (or nominee), one representative each from the Police Traffic Branch and Transport for NSW and the Member for Clarence (or nominee).

Following the appointment of a Councillor representative for a one-year term at the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 18 January 2022, the election of a new representative is now required.

As the current council term only has some 18 months remaining, Councillors may wish to extend the appointment on this committee to the end of the 2021-24 term of office.

CONSULTATION

Nomination forms have been provided to each Councillor.

CONCLUSION

This report provides details of the process required for the election of Deputy Mayor and a representative on the Traffic Committee. Nomination forms have been forwarded to each Councillor.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

14.2 COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2023

Author: Vaughan Macdonald

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2023 will be a landmark year for Richmond Valley Council as the community continues to rebuild, recover and grow after the catastrophic floods of 2022. Council will deliver one of its largest ever infrastructure programs, including major road reconstruction and asset repairs, while also completing more than \$20m in signature projects that were underway before the floods. This work will continue alongside Council's continued advocacy to all levels of Government for more assistance for flood-affected communities. This year will also see the long-term planning that Council has completed over the past 12 months begin to unlock new opportunities for housing, jobs and investment throughout the Valley over the next 20 years. This will help to support the Richmond Valley's long-term recovery and secure its place as an emerging leader in the regional economy.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes the ambitious works program for 2023 to support continued recovery and growth in the Richmond Valley; and
2. Continues to actively seek government funding for priority community projects in the Mid-Richmond and Casino.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Sustain - Objective 10: Lead and advocate for our community

10B Advocate to federal and state governments for community needs and priorities

10B1 Advocate for community priorities and actively seek grant funding

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Council will be managing its largest ever budget this financial year as continued disaster payments and grants bring total income to more than \$111m (Council's annual budget is usually \$70-\$75m). Record income will be offset by record expenditure on capital works (\$54m by the end of the financial year, compared to the usual \$20m) as the flood reconstruction and repair work continues. Beyond 2023, further funding will be required as major infrastructure rebuilds, such as the replacement Casino Sewage Treatment Plant, move closer to the construction phase.

REPORT

Supporting recovery

Council continues to advocate for its flood affected communities and to lead the recovery program for damaged roads, infrastructure and community facilities. The Rebuilding the Richmond Valley Recovery Plan was adopted in June last year and a report on the first six months of progress will be presented to Council's February meeting. So far Council has made good progress in completing emergency repairs to water and sewerage services, roads and drains and completing road damage assessments and funding submissions. It has also helped to deliver temporary housing for more than 300 local people, secured more than \$2m in rating relief for the community and received more than \$20m in grants, insurance payments and recovery support.

There is still a long way to go with flood recovery and many challenges to overcome. Council is still seeking funding for major works, such as the Naughton's Gap landslip repair, and continues to

share the community's concern at the lack of progress with key regional programs, such as the Resilient Homes and Resilient Lands programs. Strong advocacy to the NSW Government to move these programs forward and get answers and results for flood-affected families will be a major focus this year.

Delivering our vision for the future

2023 will also see the long-term plans that Council has been developing in partnership with the community and Regional NSW come together to open new opportunities for housing, jobs and investment in the Valley. The Richmond Valley Growth Management Strategy, currently on public exhibition, sets a pathway to grow the Valley's population to 27,650 by 2041 and provide an additional 2,500 homes for local families. Combined with the 600+ new jobs that aim to be delivered through the Regional Jobs Precinct, the Richmond Valley will be set to take its place as an emerging leader in the regional economy. The NSW Government is currently finalising the RJP masterplan and associated planning reforms for public exhibition, later this year.

Over the coming months, Council's new Community Strategic Plan will be developed and consultation on the Growth Management Strategy, Casino Place Plan, Sustainable Communities Strategy and Economic Development Strategy will be completed. Together, these plans will set the vision for sustainable growth over the next 20 years, while continuing to enhance the Valley's unique identity and lifestyle.

Building back better

Another key focus for the coming year will be to finalise Council's remaining signature projects and move forward with plans for the next round of upgrade works. This year will see completion of Stage One of the Casino Memorial Pool upgrade, the opening of the new Rappville Hall and the Casino Showground redevelopment, as well as substantial progress on the Richmond Valley section of the Northern Rivers Rail Trail. Council continues to seek funding for its other priority works, including the Woodburn CBD streetscape upgrade, repairs to the Broadwater Bridge and Richmond Terrace, and further upgrades to the Woodburn-Evans Head Road (MR153) and Woodburn-Casino Road (MR145). This year will also see further progress in delivering "once in a generation" infrastructure upgrades for sewage treatment plants at Evans Head and Casino. Council has secured support for Stage Two of the Evans Head treatment plant through the NSW Government's Safe and Secure Water program but is still actively seeking funding to progress the Casino Sewage Treatment Plant replacement project. The new Casino plant will provide the service capacity required to ultimately grow the town's population to 15,000, through release of new residential land and activation of the Richmond Valley Regional Jobs Precinct.

Maintaining essential services

Supporting Council's ambitious recovery, capital works and strategic growth programs is the large amount of work that is carried out each day by council staff to ensure that the community continues to receive the essential services it needs. Maintaining these functions and meeting community standards will be a continuing challenge this year as rising costs, lack of local housing and continued labour shortages make it difficult to attract and maintain essential workers. Council will continue to invest in growing its own skills base by offering trainee and cadetship programs to local school leavers and continuing the women's Try a Trade initiative.

CONSULTATION

Consultation on major plans for the future is currently underway and further consultation is planned in the coming months to inform the new Community Strategic Plan.

CONCLUSION

Council has an exciting program of works ahead for 2023, with the completion of a number of signature projects and the commencement of "once in a generation" infrastructure renewals. There will be two key strategic directions for the remainder of the Council term: Continuing to deliver the flood recovery and rebuilding program; and progressing with plans to provide for more jobs and housing for the future through initiatives such as the Regional Jobs Precinct. Throughout the year,

Council will continue to deliver its essential community services, support its workforce and manage emerging risks and opportunities in a changing and challenging environment. The work that is completed this year will help to support the Richmond Valley's long-term recovery and secure its place as an emerging leader in the regional economy.

ATTACHMENT(S)**Nil**

14.3 REBUILDING THE RICHMOND VALLEY DELIVERY PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT**Author: Vaughan Macdonald****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Richmond Valley Council has completed the first six months of its Rebuilding the Richmond Valley interim Delivery Program (July-December 2022) with substantial progress in all areas. Following the catastrophic floods of February-March 2022, Council resolved to delay its new Community Strategic Plan for 12 months and to concentrate on immediate flood recovery works for 2022-2023.

It was expected that the flood recovery journey would take at least three years, with activity during the first year focused on:

- Understanding the scale of the damage and how long it will take to fix
- Completing emergency repairs to essential infrastructure, such as water, sewer and roads
- Getting people back into their homes wherever possible
- Fixing essential facilities, such as halls and sports grounds, so that communities could come together again
- Supporting the long-term recovery of our environment
- Advocating for support and funding from state and federal governments to complete the recovery process.

Six months into Year One of the program, we have seen positive progress in all these areas, although continued delays with regional buy-back, relocation and house resilience programs remain a major concern for Council and the community. The next six months of the program will focus strongly on getting these issues resolved.

The following two years of the program will concentrate on major repairs and reconstruction for flood damaged roads and bridges, major infrastructure upgrades, further improving preparedness and response to natural disasters and supporting long-term economic growth and prosperity for the Valley.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the progress report for the first six months of the Rebuilding the Richmond Valley Delivery Program;
2. Acknowledges the outstanding efforts of the community in its continued journey towards recovery from the 2022 floods;
3. Continues to advocate strongly for:
 - a) accelerated progress in regional housing solutions, including the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation's Resilient Homes and Resilient Lands programs, and
 - b) Government support and funding assistance to complete major infrastructure works, including repair of the Naughtons Gap landslip and replacement of Casino Sewage Treatment Plant.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Recover - Objective 4: Restore essential infrastructure

4C Restore and maintain community facilities and assets

4C2 Continue to maintain community buildings and assets in accordance with asset plans and programs

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The Rebuilding the Richmond Valley Recovery Plan will be delivered via a number of funding sources including: Council's own resources, Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements, insurance payments and government grants and assistance programs.

REPORT

The 2022 floods changed the face of the Northern Rivers and left a trail of destruction across the Richmond Valley that will take many years to repair. After the immediate emergency response to the floods, Council set about preparing a long-term plan that would guide it through the next three years of recovery. It adopted the Rebuilding the Richmond Valley Recovery Plan in June 2022, with the first year of the plan serving as its Delivery Program for 2022-2023. This ensured that the activities in the Plan would have a greater chance of obtaining government funding and that Council would receive regular reports on progress. Under the NSW Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements, councils must report every six months regarding progress on the Principal Activities in their Delivery Program. These are the major bodies of work within the program, such as repairing roads, rebuilding community facilities etc. Over the three-year term of the Recovery Plan, Council will aim to complete all 88 Principal Activities.

In preparing the Recovery Plan, Council focused on short, medium and long-term goals. The immediate focus was on fixing essential services and helping people to recover and get back on their feet. This included advocating for government support and ensuring that the day-to-day services Council provides for the community continued to be available. The plan also concentrated on building back better, improving our preparedness for future natural disasters and ensuring that, over the longer term, the Valley would have the extra housing, jobs and investment it needed to complete its recovery and continue to move forward.

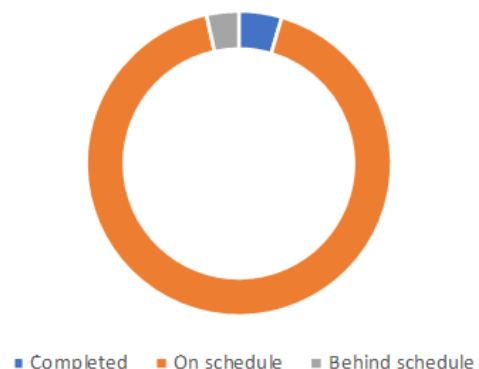
The Plan is divided into three Key Focus Areas – Recover, Prevent/Prepare and Sustain - with 11 Strategic Objectives:

Year One of the plan focuses on the most immediate needs including:

- Understanding the scale of the damage and how long it will take to fix
- Completing emergency repairs to essential infrastructure
- Getting people back into their homes wherever possible
- Fixing essential facilities, such as halls and sports grounds
- Supporting the long-term recovery of the environment, and
- Advocating for support and funding from state and federal governments to complete the recovery process.

Six months into Year One, we have made positive progress across the key focus areas and set the foundations in place for long-term recovery. The attached Rebuilding the Richmond Valley Update details progress across the Plan's three Focus Areas, 11 Strategic Objectives and 88 Principal Activities

Delivery Program Principal Activities



Of the 88 Principal Activities:

- Four have been completed
- 81 are currently on schedule, and
- Three are running behind schedule.

Helping communities to recover

The four Principal Activities successfully completed were high priorities for Council:

- Working with Resilience NSW to successfully secure and establish temporary housing sites and options
- Establishing Local Recovery Advisory Groups to ensure that Council remained connected with flood-affected communities
- Completing urgent flood damage repairs to Council's water and sewerage networks.

Temporary housing

The 2022 floods resulted in some 400 local homes being rendered uninhabitable and Council responded within days of the emergency, providing recovery agencies with details of suitable sites for temporary housing. By December 2022, two temporary sites had been established at Coraki and Evans Head, providing accommodation for up to 310 people, with a further 153 caravans provided through the Caravans at Home program for residents of the Mid-Richmond. Council continues to work with State Government agencies regarding the ongoing management of the temporary housing sites and the ultimate relocation of residents to permanent homes.

Advisory groups

Following the 2019 bushfires, Council had established Local Recovery Advisory Groups to help guide the recovery process and this successful model was re-instated following the 2022 flood. Five local groups have been established, including Broadwater, Woodburn, Coraki, Rappville and a rural group, with members from Greenridge, Whiporie, Bungawalbin and New Italy. Council also regularly liaises with community groups in Casino on recovery issues. The Advisory groups have provided valuable insights and information on the community's needs during the recovery journey, which is used to inform Federal and NSW Government MPs and agencies. They also give Council the opportunity to provide the community with up-to-date information on recovery services and grants.

Urgent water & sewer system repairs

The 2022 floods caused significant damage to council's sewerage networks in the Mid-Richmond, with most of the pressure pump systems in Broadwater requiring substantial repair or replacement. There was also major damage to electrical switchboards at pump stations and treatment plants at Coraki and Rileys Hill. Repair crews worked to quickly restore essential services to homes in Broadwater and Woodburn so that residents could return to their properties and safely begin the clean-up process. Damage to systems at the Casino raw water pump station, combined with continued high turbidity in the river, created challenges for the town's drinking water supply after the flood, however these issues are being addressed and our water continues to meet Australian Drinking Water Quality standards.

Although essential services have now been restored to homes, Council's sewerage network has suffered long-term damage from the floods and major reconstruction work will need to be completed in the future. This will include full replacement of the Casino Sewage Treatment Plant.

Re-opening community facilities

Other Recovery Plan activities that are well underway include restoration and repair of key community facilities, such as halls and sports fields. Council received strong support from its insurer CivicRisk Mutual, with an early payment of \$5 million. This ensured that funds were available to begin repairs as soon as possible. Of the public facilities damaged in the floods the

majority have been repaired and returned to service and others are nearing completion. The Leeville Hall, which was extensively damaged in the flood, was unable to be. Council will work with the Leeville community to develop other suitable options for the site.

Successfully completed projects include repairs to the Woodburn Visitor Information Centre, which suffered significant damage in the flood. This building has been recommissioned and is currently hosting mental health support services for the community. Damage to the Woodburn Pool plant room has also been repaired, along with public halls at Broadwater, Coraki, Woodburn and Colley Park, emergency services facilities at Woodburn and sports fields at Coraki and Woodburn. Council has also provided community grants to assist local sporting and community groups to replace flood damaged equipment.

Long-awaited repairs to the Casino Indoor Sports Stadium are also nearing completion. This building was impacted twice by flood events and Council has now installed more water-tolerant materials to reduce the likelihood of future damage. The facility is scheduled to reopen in March 2023, with a program of activities for local young people.



“Before and after” – The Casino Indoor Sports Stadium floor suffered significant water damage in the floods and has now been replaced with more resilient materials. The new floor is almost ready for use.

Supporting rebuilding programs

Council has also been advocating strongly for government programs to help flood affected families restore their homes, and it shares the community’s concern with ongoing delays to the Buy-Back and Resilient Homes initiatives. A key focus for the coming months will be continued advocacy to the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation to expedite these programs and provide applicants with the answers they need. Where residents have undertaken their own house raising or flood resilience works, Council has actively supported these development applications to ensure they are processed quickly. So far 12 DAs for privately-funded works on flood affected homes in Broadwater, Woodburn, Coraki and surrounding areas have been approved and a further two are in progress. Most of these works involved raising the homes to improve resilience to future flooding.

Rebuilding roads and infrastructure

Another major focus of the Recovery Plan has been to assess, repair and restore the Richmond Valley’s flood-damaged roads, bridges, culverts and other key infrastructure. Early estimates of the repair bill were up to \$150m. More detailed assessment over the past six months has confirmed that this figure is likely to be exceeded. Initial work focused on emergency repairs and ensuring residents had basic access to their properties. Thousands of pothole repairs were carried out, to keep roads trafficable as repair crews waited for pavements to dry out, so that more substantial works could be undertaken. In the first six months of the plan, substantial repair and upgrade works have been carried out on the Woodburn-Casino Road (MR145) which suffered significant damage in the floods. Council continues to advocate for more funding for this road, with an estimated \$33 million still required to complete the full upgrade program. Other roads that have received significant repair over the past six months include: Upper Cherry Tree Road;

Bungawalbin-Whiporie Rd, Avenue Rd, at West Bungawalbin; Busby Flat Rd and Hogarth Range Rd. Council has also carried out significant work on the Coraki-Ellangowan Rd and the recent \$2.1m grant from the NSW Government's Fixing Local Roads Program will help to ensure the road is returned to good condition. Work is now set to commence on the Bentley Road rock fall and the Pickupene landslip. Council continues to work with Transport for NSW to access Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements for the remaining road repairs. It is expected that the program will take at least three years to complete.

Restoring the environment

The 2022 floods also caused significant damage to the environment, including major riverbank erosion, loss of native habitat and contamination of land and waterways. Council has so-far been successful in securing some \$300,000 in habitat restoration funding for riverbank areas in Casino and partnered with Rous County Council and NSW Fisheries on habitat restoration at Coraki. Further funding requests to restore fish habitat are pending. Council has also actively supported the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) with its clean-up and remediation programs following the flood. This includes monitoring underground petroleum storage systems and reporting flood-related chemical and biological hazards. Work also continues on monitoring river water quality after the flood, in partnership with State Agencies and Rous County Council. The Richmond River continues to experience water quality issues with high nutrient loadings and turbidity. As part of its long-term planning for the Valley, Council has prepared a Draft Sustainable Communities Strategy, which includes ongoing programs to improve biodiversity and waterway health. This draft strategy is currently on public exhibition.

Building resilience

Another key focus of the Recovery Plan has been the need to build long-term resilience to natural disasters, by improving community preparedness and strengthening our long-term flood planning. Council's revised flood study (completed in early 2022) is now being updated to include the levels recorded in the February-March event. This will provide up-to-date modelling for future flood events and allow Council to complete its new Floodplain Risk Management Plans.

Improving resilience in the design and operation of community assets, such as water supply, sewerage and drainage networks is also progressing as part of the Plan. While the first six months has focussed mainly on urgent repairs, such as replacing damaged switchboards, pipes and sewage pumps, the next six months will concentrate on designing long-term improvements to town drainage systems and sewerage networks, including the first steps towards replacing the aging Casino Sewage Treatment Plant (which was damaged in the flood) and progressing stage 2 of the Evans Head Treatment Plant upgrade.

Advocating for the community

Council has been a strong advocate for community recovery since the 2022 flood, preparing a comprehensive impact statement to raise awareness in State and Federal government of the assistance required. This advocacy has helped to secure more than \$2 million in rating relief for the Richmond Valley community, as well as some \$xm in government funding for key community recovery projects and events. Council continues to raise concerns with the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation regarding the need to progress its housing and regional recovery programs.

Securing our future

While much of the last six months has been focussed on immediate flood recovery needs, Council continues to work on its long-term vision to attract more investment to the Richmond Valley and provide more jobs and housing for our community. Completion of the draft Richmond Valley Growth Management Strategy and Casino Place Plan was a major step forward in mapping out the vision for future housing and commercial development throughout the Valley. These plans are currently on public display and will help to inform the long-term vision for growth. Further place plans are scheduled for Evans Head, Woodburn, Broadwater and Coraki, to guide future development and improvements. These plans will be finalised in Year Two of the Recovery program.

Principal Activities behind schedule

Of the 88 Principal Activities within the plan, 4 have been completed, 81 are on schedule and three are currently behind schedule. These include:

- The Naughton's Gap road realignment project, where Council continues to monitor the landslip, as the site is still unstable and continues to move. To help progress the project, Council has completed the necessary investigation reports and developed solutions to help reduce the risk of future landslips. However, negotiations continue with the NSW Government to secure the estimated \$16 million required for the works. Council hopes to receive confirmation of funding within the coming months.
- Finalising the Richmond Valley Jobs Precinct Masterplan. This project is being led by Regional NSW with support from Council. The delays are due to further investigation works to finalise technical studies. The NSW Government plans to exhibit the draft Masterplan in August 2023. Meanwhile Council continues to receive positive interest in opportunities to invest in the Jobs Precinct.
- Completion of Casino Memorial Pool upgrade. The project has repeatedly been impacted by weather events, including the 2022 floods. However, work is now progressing well with the main 50-metre pool and new Learn to Swim pool structures in place, tiling completed on the main pool and testing finalised to confirm there are no leaks. Council expects to see this stage of the pool upgrade completed by August 2023.

Over the next reporting period, Council will work to bring these projects back on schedule and ensure they meet their target completion dates.

CONSULTATION

The Rebuilding the Richmond Valley Recovery Plan was placed on public exhibition for 28 days, prior to Council adopting the plan in June 2022.

CONCLUSION

The Richmond Valley community has experienced significant natural disasters and disruption since the drought and bushfires of 2019. This report highlights that Council has many challenges ahead to restore some normality to its planning and budgeting and ensure the Richmond Valley is set up better to deal with whatever challenges are thrown our way next.

Council has a positive vision for the future, one with growth, improved prosperity and opportunities for our youth to be connected to our community. These plans will not only contribute to the betterment of the Richmond Valley, but also the broader Northern Rivers region. We will continue to pursue opportunities to work with our Federal and NSW Governments, as building positive partnerships with them helps to deliver great outcomes, such as the many signature projects that have been completed in recent years, despite the challenges we have faced.

The attached detailed report provides further information on the progress that has been delivered on the principal activities in the Rebuilding the Richmond Valley Recovery Plan.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. **Rebuilding the Richmond Valley - Progress Report (under separate cover)**

15 COMMUNITY SERVICE DELIVERY

15.1 MANAGING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST FOR COUNCIL-RELATED DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Director: Angela Jones

Responsible Officer: Tony McAteer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Recent amendments to the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021, require Council to have a Conflicts of Interest Policy for Council-related Development Applications and to consider the policy in determining any such development applications (DAs). The new requirements come into force on 3 April 2023 and a draft policy has been prepared for Council's consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Places the draft Managing Conflicts of Interest for Council-related Development Policy on public exhibition for a period of 14 days
2. Notes that following exhibition, the policy will be presented to the March Ordinary Meeting for Council's consideration and determination to meet the required timeframes for adoption.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Sustain - Objective 10: Lead and advocate for our community

10D Lead with integrity

10D1 Provide representative and accountable community governance

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

REPORT

Changes to the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021, that commence on 3 April 2023, require local councils to have a Conflicts of Interest Policy for Council-related Development Applications and to consider the policy in determining any such development applications (DAs).

Council-related development applications are those made by Council, or over Council owned/controlled lands. This includes a DA lodged by a third party over Council land.

Councils undertake development for a variety of reasons. This may be as simple as building a new bus shelter or upgrading a local playground, or as complex as a major redevelopment of community infrastructure, such as a public swimming pool or showground. Councils may also, on occasion, undertake development to achieve a social outcome, such as providing more housing, or to support economic stimulus through commercial investment, such as the upgrade of the Northern Rivers Livestock Exchange.

The aim of the draft policy is to ensure that any potential conflicts of interest arising from Council being the applicant and/or landowner, as well as the Consent Authority are effectively managed. Although the regulation only requires councils to address conflicts of interest at the development application stage, Council has chosen to extend the scope of its draft policy to consider all phases

of a development – from application preparation, assessment, determination, post consent certification through to regulatory compliance. This aims to achieve transparency throughout the process.

The Draft Policy also considers:

- Managing conflicts of interests in circumstances where Council may own/control adjoining land to a proposed development or have a commercial interest associated with that development
- Incorporating conflicts of interest risk management strategies into the Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for development without consent.

In addition to the policy requirements, all Council-related development applications, irrespective of the conflicts of interest risk, must be publicly exhibited for a minimum of 28 days and have the risks and measures to be taken recorded in the Development Register.

The attached draft Managing Conflicts of Interest for Council-related Development Policy (CPOL15.22) has been prepared in accordance with the *Council-related Development Application Conflict of Interest Guidelines* produced by the Department of Planning and Environment.

CONSULTATION

It is proposed to publicly exhibit the draft policy for a period of 14 days. A further report will be presented to the March Ordinary Meeting seeking endorsement of the policy.

CONCLUSION

Councils undertake developments for a number of reasons and the scope and scale of these projects varies considerably. Recent amendments to State planning regulations emphasise the importance of managing potential conflicts of interest where Council is both the applicant and the consent authority. Council has prepared a draft Managing Conflicts of Interest for Council-related Development policy to address these issues

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. **Draft Managing Conflicts of Interest for Council-related Development Policy (under separate cover)**

15.2 REVIEW OF INCREASED RANGER PATROLS ON RICHMOND VALLEY COUNCIL BEACHES

Director: Angela Jones

Responsible Officer: Andy Edwards

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In recent years, Council has explored options to deal with anti-social behaviour, vehicle offences and dog issues that were being experienced on the region's beaches, particularly Airforce Beach. This has resulted in increased patrolling of these areas during busy holiday times and weekends.

Council rangers, supported by NSW Police and other agencies, conducted regular beach patrols over the summer holiday period, with some 109 penalty infringement notices and 33 cautions being issued. Most of the fines related to illegal camping in Evans Head and offences on Airforce Beach, including speeding. It is recommended that the practice of increased patrols should continue during 2023, to provide an ongoing deterrent to anti-social behaviour and improve public safety.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Notes the results of beach patrols and compliance activities conducted over the 2022-23 summer holiday season
2. Continues to undertake beach patrols on weekends and school holiday periods, as required, with the ongoing support of the NSW Police and Government agencies.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Sustain - Objective 11: Manage community resources and provide great service

11D Deliver quality services for the community

11D2 Deliver consistent regulatory and compliance services

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The total revenue value of the PINs issued over the summer patrol period was \$18,351.

While this revenue helps to off-set the cost of the patrols, additional resources may be required to sustain an ongoing compliance program. Council also faces increasing costs to address vandalism at beach access points, with signage and barriers repeatedly being damaged.

REPORT

Over the past three years, Council has committed significant time and resources to ensuring that anti-social behaviour, vehicle offences and dog issues are effectively managed on local beaches, with increased patrols on weekends and busy holiday periods.

Over the 2022/2023 Christmas and New Year period, Council Rangers issued some 109 penalty infringement notices (PINs) and 33 cautions, with the majority relating to illegal camping at Evans Head and vehicle offences, including speeding, on Airforce Beach.

Council received numerous complaints about illegal camping over the Christmas period and early morning patrols were undertaken, with 72 PINs issued. Of the PINs issued for illegal camping, 24 were issued on New Year's Eve, Of the 30 PINs issued for offences on Airforce Beach, 13 were for speeding. The total revenue value of the PINs issued over the period was \$18,351.

Despite the number of infringement notices issued, overall, Rangers reported an improvement in behaviour on Airforce Beach this summer period, compared to the previous year, when the easing of COVID restrictions resulted in high numbers of visitors.

While the patrols are achieving positive outcomes for the community, they also represent an ongoing cost to ratepayers, along with the expense of maintaining beach access points and repairing damage from vandalism.

Signage and padlocks have repeatedly been removed and/or damaged at beach access points and Council is working to develop more robust engineering solutions. Each act of vandalism costs the community thousands of dollars, with replacement signs, repairs and installation.

Council also funds the cost of maintaining the entry and exit tracks at Airforce Beach, which require regular remediation.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

CONCLUSION

Council's increased beach patrols and compliance activities are helping to achieve improvements in behaviour and public safety at local beaches and it is recommended that these patrols continue on weekends and school holidays, as required, with the ongoing support of NSW Police and relevant Government agencies.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

16 PROJECTS & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

16.1 ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS 2022-2032

Director: Ben Zeller

Responsible Officer: Kim Anderson

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is required under the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework, to prepare an Asset Management Policy, Asset Management Strategy and Asset Management Plans as part of the Resourcing Strategy supporting the Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program.

Under the IP&R guidelines, Council must review its Asset Policy, Strategy and Plans following a Local Government election. The Asset Management Strategy and Plans must be for a minimum timeframe of ten years.

The Asset Management Policy and Asset Management Strategy were presented to Council for consideration and adopted on 20 September 2022.

Council must prepare and adopt Asset Management Plans for each class of assets detailing how the asset portfolio will meet the service delivery needs of the community.

This report presents four (4) Asset Management Plans 2022-2032, recommended for adoption including the Roads and Transport, Stormwater, Sewer, and Water Supply Network. The Land, Buildings and Other Structures Asset Management Plan will be presented at a future Council meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council considers and adopts the following four Asset Management Plans (AMP):

- Roads and Transport AMP 2022-2032,
- Stormwater AMP 2022-2032,
- Sewer AMP 2022-2032, and
- Water Supply Network AMP 2022-2032.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Sustain - Objective 11: Manage community resources and provide great service

11A Manage resources responsibly

11A1 Undertake long-term financial and asset management planning

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The asset management plans define Council's sustainable service levels, affordable asset acquisition strategies, cost-effective maintenance regimes and corresponding funding requirements specifically for infrastructure assets. These asset management plans link directly to Councils Long-Term Financial Plan as part of the IP&R framework.

REPORT

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council to develop and adopt strategic management plans which includes asset management plans as part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting

(IP&R) framework. The Asset Management Strategy and Plans must be for a minimum timeframe of 10 years and are reviewed after each local government election cycle. These plans will allow councils to ascertain sustainable service levels, affordable asset acquisition strategies, cost-effective maintenance regimes and corresponding funding requirements.

The term “asset management” is used to describe the process by which councils manage physical assets to meet current and future levels of service related to delivery objectives.

The asset management plans encompass all assets under Council’s control identifying service standards. The Plans contain long-term projections of asset maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement, including forecasts as reflected in the Long-Term Financial Plan.

The development of asset management plans enables Council to manage asset portfolios efficiently and effectively addressing issues such as:

- Overall objectives for asset management having regard to the implications for service levels, financial, legal, and regulatory considerations.
- Management of asset information systems, addressing issues such as location, condition, performance, capacity/utilisation, risk, whole of lifecycle costs, maintenance history etc.
- Risk identification, assessment, and control in the short and long term.
- Identification of improvement opportunities for the strategic planning of infrastructure assets into the future.

Four separate asset management plans (Roads and Transport, Water Network, Sewerage Network, and Stormwater,) are presented for consideration and adoption. The Land Building & Open Space Asset Management Plan will be presented for consideration at a future meeting.

Current practices and issues as well as future opportunities for improvement have been identified within the individual plans.

CONSULTATION

The asset management plans have been developed through information gathered from various areas of Council including Finance, Operations and Maintenance, Strategic Planning, Executive and Management.

CONCLUSION

The establishment of appropriate asset management plans will enable Council to put in place operational controls and procedures to meet Council's objectives including:

- Assets are properly managed and maintained.
- Create and maintain suitable information and decision support systems to allow for the establishment of service levels and the appropriate solutions to provide for those service levels.
- Monitor the condition and performance of existing assets to meet the required service levels.
- Appropriate records of assets are created and maintained.
- The system of internal controls safeguards assets from misuse or misappropriation.
- Monitoring the achievement of plans.
- Provide regular reports on the achievement of plans; and
- Regularly review the asset management and long-term financial plans.

These asset management plans for the various classes of assets will assist Council to review its existing holdings, future service needs and make recommendations regarding maintenance needs and establish the framework for future capital works programs. The set of four (4) asset management plans is recommended for adoption and are included in the below links:

[Roads and Transport Asset Management Plan 2022-2032](#)

[Stormwater Asset Management Plan 2022-2032](#)

[Sewer Asset Management Plan 2022](#)

[Water Asset Management Plan 2022-2032](#)

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

16.2 RENAMING OF BROADWATER RILEYS HILL COMMUNITY HALL

Director: Ben Zeller

Responsible Officer: Kim Anderson

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received a request from the Broadwater Rileys Hill Community Centre Committee to rename the hall 'Broadwater Community Hall'. The committee advised that the current name causes confusion for identification and location.

This correspondence was supported by the Rileys Hill Community Hall Committee acknowledging the confusion often experienced as a result of the two separate halls having similar names.

During public consultation Council received two submissions regarding the name change. One resident supported the name change due to the created confusion. A second resident objected to the name being 'Broadwater Community Hall' but rather suggested 'Broadwater Memorial Hall' in acknowledgement of the RSL Sub-branch who donated the land.

The land upon which the hall has been constructed is known as Broadwater Memorial Park, which contains the Broadwater Memorial Tennis Club facilities, and the War Memorial Monument.

The hall was originally constructed and opened in 1996 as a shared community centre for Broadwater and Rileys Hill.

The NSW Address Policy and User Manual requires addresses to be clear, logical, and unique, to assist with communication within a community and for any essential services like Australia Post, ambulance, and other emergency services. A building name can be used as part of a property address for identification, and it is recommended that Council considers a name change for clear identification purposes.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the new name of the currently named facility 'Broadwater Rileys Hill Community Centre' to 'Broadwater Community Hall'.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Recover - Objective 1: Help communities to recover and reconnect

1A Work with the community to revitalise our towns and villages

1A2 Help community groups to recommence activities

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

It will cost approximately \$500 to replace signage at the site currently unfunded which can be allocated from the open space and parks maintenance budget.

REPORT

Council received a request from the Broadwater Rileys Hill Community Centre Committee that the hall be renamed as the Broadwater Community Hall.

Currently there are two community halls in the locality being:

- The Broadwater Rileys Hill Community Centre, 17 Little Pitt Street, Broadwater; and
- The Rileys Hill Community Hall, 305 Rileys Hill Road, Rileys Hill.

The hall name has led to confusion from an identification and location perspective when arranging bookings or visiting either site.

The Broadwater Rileys Hill Community Centre is located at 17 Little Pitt Street on Broadwater Memorial Park. This facility includes a playground and skate area, public toilets, tennis courts, basketball half court, barbeques, and the war memorial monument.

The original land was owned by Mr Graham St. Clair Ireland, Mr Finlay Stewart Bunting McMartin, and Mr Frank Coyle Everson purchased 2 May 1952. The owners were members of the Broadwater RSL Sub-Branch. Mr Frank Doyle Everson was the surviving owner of the land who transferred ownership to the Council of the Shire of Richmond River on 14 February 1980.

The hall was officially opened in 1996 and named Broadwater Rileys Hill Community Centre. This hall replaced the previous Mill Hall of the Sunshine Sugar Co-operative sugar mill, which was condemned in the early 1990s. The name as suggested was an acknowledgement of a community resource shared between two communities and providing a sense of community ownership.

The hall has also been informally known as Broadwater & District Memorial Hall, Broadwater Community Hall, and the Broadwater Community Centre.

The NSW Address Policy and User Manual requires addresses to be clear, logical, and unique, to assist with communication within a community and any essential services like Australia Post, ambulance, and other emergency services. A building name can be used as part of a property address for identification. Council is expected to pursue conformant property address numbering and enforce the principles which support the practice of standardised addressing enforced through the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The hall's purpose for construction of a 'community centre' supports the renaming as Broadwater Community Hall with the acknowledgement of the RSL Sub-Branch recognising the facility upon Broadwater Memorial Park.

It is recommended that Council considers a name change as this forms part of the address for clear identification purposes.

CONSULTATION

Council has received letters from the Broadwater Rileys Hill Community Centre Committee, and the Rileys Hill Community Hall committee requesting the name change to prevent confusion, incorrect deliveries, event location confusion and assist with the application of community grants.

Council undertook community consultation writing to residents within the township of Broadwater. Council received two (2) submissions during the consultation process. One resident supported the name change. The second submission was an objection to the name change with the suggestion of 'Broadwater Memorial Hall' as an alternative recognising the RSL Sub-branch donating the land.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council considers a name change for the Broadwater Rileys Hill Community Centre to Broadwater Community Hall, as this forms part of the address for clear identification purposes.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

16.3 COLLEY PARK MASTER PLAN

Director: Ben Zeller

Responsible Officer: Kim Anderson

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council staff have been working with stakeholders over the past 12 months to establish a draft Master Plan for future development of Colley Park. A final draft document is presented to Council for consideration, following recent workshops with each key stakeholder group and community consultation.

The Colley Park Master Plan was prepared jointly with the draft Stan Payne Oval Master Plan. The Stan Payne Master Plan is currently undertaking additional consultation with The Bandjalang People as native title exists over part of the reserve. This report will be presented at a future Council meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the draft Colley Park Master Plan.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Recover - Objective 4: Restore essential infrastructure

4C Restore and maintain community facilities and assets

4C2 Continue to maintain community buildings and assets in accordance with asset plans and programs

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Council has committed \$1,889,508 towards the enhancement of the facility at Colley Park, Casino which is to include:

- Construction of a multi-purpose soccer complex,
- Basketball court upgrade,
- Resurfacing of netball courts 8 and 9,
- Main soccer field lights to be upgraded to LED's,
- Drainage improvements,
- Irrigation to the main soccer training field, and
- Field topsoiling.

These projects are funded through State Government grants such as Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Grant, Sports Priority Needs Program and OLG Funding. Council still requires funding for various aspects that are noted in the Master Plan.

Council officers will continue to work with clubs to explore and pursue grant funding opportunities which may contribute to the additional works described in the Master Plan.

REPORT

Following extensive consultation with the stakeholders at Colley Park, a final draft Master Plan has been prepared with the assistance of Integrated Site Design (Consultants) and is now presented to Council for consideration.

The Master Plan identifies the current user precincts within Colley Park, the associated infrastructure, and clubroom facilities. Discussion and feedback sessions with the stakeholders

compiled information relative to existing use. Feedback was then sought regarding the aspirational ideals of the stakeholders, which forms the scope for the future development of the park.

The Master Plan is a concept plan to enhance the future of the facility. This plan has been developed in consultation with the site users. It assists Council and facility stakeholders in grant funding applications and assists Council in forward planning.

Key elements of the Master Plan identified for future opportunities include:

- Investigations and works to improve drainage to the facility which is also a formalised retention basin.
- Resurfacing and upgrading all nine netball courts. The upgrade of the netball courts will allow for regional competition and carnivals, while promoting local participation at a high standard.
- Relocation and construction of a new netball clubhouse incorporating toilets, a canteen and storage rooms with administration functions above. The relocation of the netball clubhouse will allow the Netball Committee to view all nine courts without the difficulties of looking around the Casino Indoor Sports Stadium.
- Construction of a new soccer clubhouse incorporating toilets, change rooms, canteen, and storage rooms.
- Formalised carparking to improve accessibility to the facility.
- The relocation and upgrade of the playground to a centralised location with shade sails, a picnic shelter and BBQ to create a multi-use/family friendly space.
- Revitalisation of the outdoor basketball court.
- Upgrades to both the Playground Hall and Scout Hall.

This plan will form the basis of the future redevelopment of Colley Park as funding allows.

CONSULTATION

Consultation for the initial drafting of the Master Plan was through feedback and engagement with the following sporting groups:

- Casino Indoor Sports Stadium,
- Casino Netball Association,
- Casino Cobras Football Club,
- 2nd Casino Scout Group,
- Phoenix Friends, and
- Northern Rivers Children Services.

Council completed community exhibition and consultation for a period of 28 days. Council received one submission from an adjoining property owner who had concerns regarding the stormwater runoff and the original intent of the land.

The original purpose of the land has been identified as a water retention basin to assist in stormwater management. Council will engage drainage experts to investigate the drainage onsite and to determine impacts and improvements. Council will focus on complementing the facility use with stormwater management to alleviate any risk.

CONCLUSION

The draft Master Plan identifies and documents the various conceptual design elements across the site. These concepts may change in detail as the technical drawings are developed, allowing for flexibility within the adopted plan, whilst ensuring the overall goal remains consistent. However, it is the ultimate intention of the proposed site improvements to promote and support the growth of

the Colley Park stakeholders' collective, while developing the entire facility for other community events which will provide a social and economic boost to the Richmond Valley region.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. **Colley Park - Draft Masterplan (under separate cover)**
2. **Concept Master Plan Report for Colley Park Casino (under separate cover)**

17 ORGANISATIONAL SERVICES

17.1 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Director: Ryan Gaiter

Responsible Officer: Zakari Witt

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the proposed adjustments for the 2022/2023 budget for the quarter ended 31 December 2022.

The proposed changes see Council's projected operating surplus from continuing operations for 2022/2023 increase to \$34,400,998, from the budget surplus of \$25,041,838 at 30 September 2022. The net operating result before capital grants and contributions has increased to a surplus of \$5,436,566.

Income from continuing operations has increased by \$12,466,686, to a projected total of \$111,669,948. This is largely due to ongoing natural disaster recovery funding arrangements for reconstruction efforts post the February 2022 flood event AGRN1012. Expenses from continuing operations have increased by \$3,107,526 to a projected cost of \$77,268,951.

Council has performed a thorough review of its capital works program, resulting in an overall increase of \$519,574 to a projected total of \$54,083,322. The delivery and budgeting of Council's capital works program has been strongly impacted by supply constraints and contractor availability along with continuing with recovery and reconstruction projects which are taking priority. It is expected that these impacts will be felt throughout the current financial year and likely into the 2023/2024 financial year as the community and economy recovers. As at the end of December the Capital Works program is 41.26% complete, which is a pleasing position considering the abovementioned constraints. In a normal year Councils Capital works program would total approximately \$20 to \$25 million, as at 31 December the actual spend is \$22,312,354. Council will continue to ensure its capital works program is closely monitored, with any adjustments required to be included in future quarterly budget reviews or monthly budget adjustment reports to Council.

Council's unrestricted cash surplus has remained unchanged at \$287,260 as of 31 December 2022.

A detailed Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the second quarter of the 2022/2023 financial year has been circulated separately to each Councillor. These changes are disclosed by priority areas on pages 4-8 of the Quarterly Budget Review Statement and detailed explanations are provided on pages 9-18.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receives the Quarterly Budget Review Statement as at 31 December 2022; and
2. Approves the recommended budget variations.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Sustain - Objective 11: Manage community resources and provide great service

11A Manage resources responsibly

11A1 Undertake long-term financial and asset management planning

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

As detailed in the report.

REPORT

The budget review for the second quarter of the 2022/2023 financial year has seen Council's operating result from continuing operations improve to a projected surplus of \$34,400,998. This is an increase of \$9,359,160 from the revised budget surplus of \$25,041,838 at 30 September 2022. Council's projected operating result before capital gains and contributions is a surplus of \$5,436,566.

Council's estimated budget result (unrestricted cash result) has remained unchanged from the revised budget as of 30 September 2022 of \$287,260.

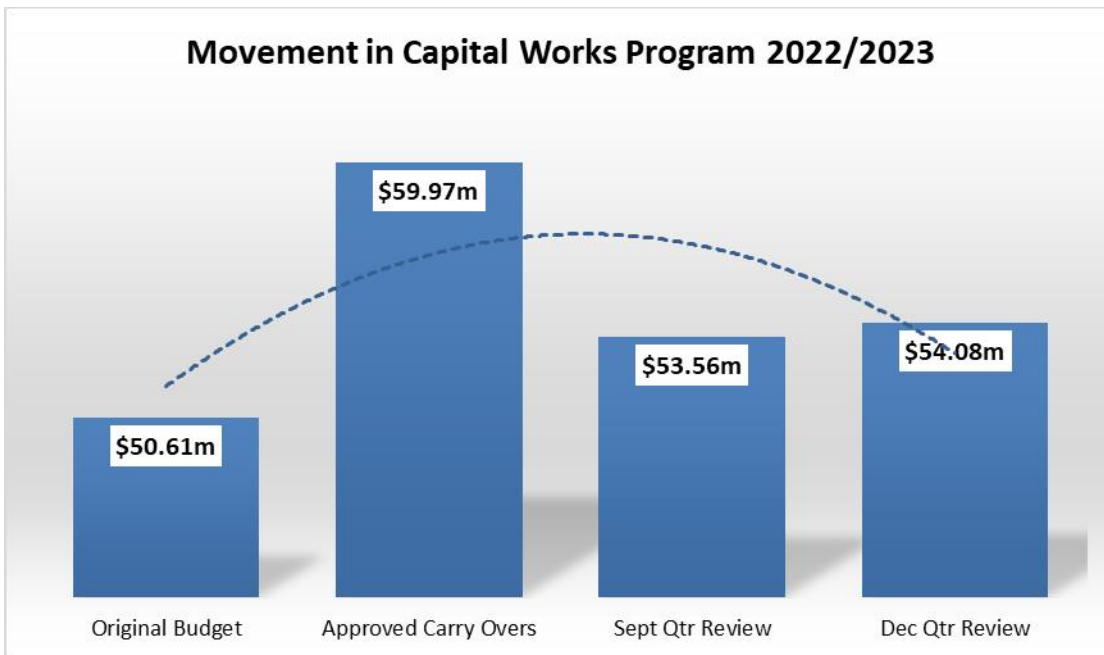
In overall cash terms, there is a decrease in the estimated funding from reserves of \$5,826,227 with an estimated total transfer from reserves of \$3,670,113 for the 2022/2023 financial year.

Income from continuing operations has increased by \$12,466,686, with total income now projected to be \$111,669,948. Largely contributing to this increase is \$6,691,409 being received under the Natural Disaster Funding Arrangements for roads and stormwater flood repair works. A further \$5,103,856 of funding has been received from Public Works Advisory in relation to waste clean-up efforts post the February 2022 flood. All recommended changes for Council resolution of \$12,466,686 are disclosed by Priority Area on page 4 of the Quarterly Budget Review Statement and detailed explanations are provided on pages 9-18.

Expenses from continuing operations have increased by \$3,107,526 to a projected total of \$77,268,951. This is largely attributed to emergency restoration works of \$2,841,300 undertaken on Council's road network damaged during the February 2022 flood event. All recommended changes for Council resolution of \$3,107,526 are disclosed by Priority Area on page 5 of the Quarterly Budget Review Statement and detailed explanations are provided on pages 9-18.

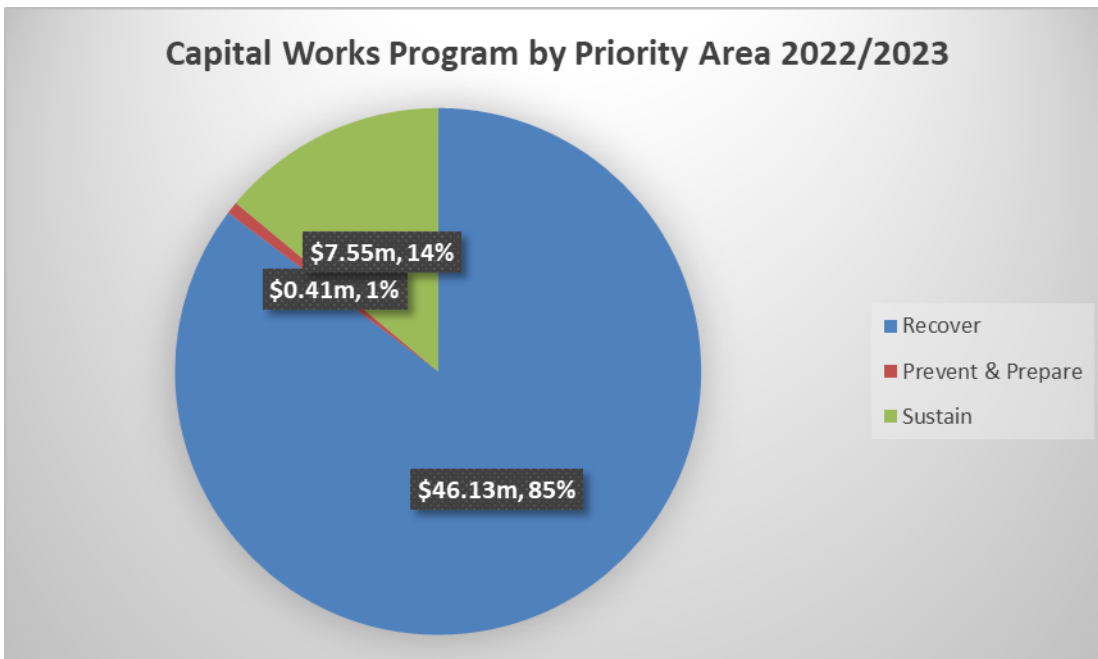
Council's capital works budget has increased by \$519,574 to \$54,083,322 at 31 December 2022. The projected capital works program has been predominantly influenced by immediate reconstruction efforts on Council's road network in response to the February 2022 flood. As recovery works from the February 2022 flood event are an increasingly larger focus for the Northern Rivers, adjustments have been made with the information currently available and it is likely that there will be further adjustments to the capital works program as the reality of contractor and material availability becomes apparent. As mentioned in the September 2022 budget review, Council is expecting this to be an ongoing issue for the remainder of 2022/2023 and is monitoring the Capital Works Program closely. In addition, a detailed review of the real estate program has seen \$1.78 million in industrial land purchases be transferred to 2023/2024 as they are unlikely to settle in this financial year. All recommended changes to the capital works program are disclosed by priority area on page 6 of Council's Quarterly Budget Review Statement and detailed explanations are provided on pages 9-18.

The following graph tracks the movement in the capital works program for 2022/2023 from the original budget, after the adoption of approved carry over works and other approved monthly adjustments up to the December Quarterly Budget Review.



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

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



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

| Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 December 2022 | Revised Budget 2022/2023 | Recommended Changes for Council Resolution | Projected Year End Result 2022/2023 |
|---|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Income from Continuing Operations | 99,203,262 | 12,466,686 | 111,669,948 |
| Expenses from Continuing Operations | 74,161,425 | 3,107,526 | 77,268,951 |
| Operating Result from Continuing Operations | 25,041,838 | 9,359,160 | 34,400,998 |
| Operating Result before Capital Income | 471,467 | 4,965,099 | 5,436,566 |
| Add: Non-Cash Expenses | 18,233,330 | 0 | 18,233,330 |
| Add: Non-Operating Funds Employed | 4,496,899 | (3,053,000) | 1,443,899 |
| Less: Capital Expenditure | 53,563,748 | 519,574 | 54,083,322 |
| Less: Loan Repayments | 3,417,398 | (39,642) | 3,377,756 |
| Estimated Funding Result – Surplus/(Deficit) | (9,209,080) | 5,826,227 | (3,382,853) |
| Restricted Funds – Increase/(Decrease) | (9,496,340) | 5,826,227 | (3,670,113) |
| Unrestricted Funds – Increase/(Decrease) | 287,260 | 0 | 287,260 |

Pages 9 to 18 of the attached Quarterly Budget Review Statement contain the detailed budget variation explanations. A summary of the main contributing factors within each Priority Area is as follows:

Recover

- Decrease in Tourism capital grants and capital expenditure of \$1 million for the Northern Rivers Rail Trail which will continue into 2023/2024.
- An increase of \$2,841,300 in operating income and expenditure for building and maintaining roads due to emergency flood repair works under the disaster recovery funding arrangements.
- An increase of \$3,567,776 in capital grants and capital expenditure for building and maintaining roads because of immediate reconstruction works on the road network post the February 2022 Flood event.
- Decrease in sports grounds, parks and facilities capital grants and capital expenditure of \$1 million for the Showground upgrade which will continue into 2023/2024 in line with the current plan of works.

Prevent & Prepare

- Increase of \$282,333 in capital grants and expenditure for stormwater in line with natural disaster funding received as a response of the February 2022 floods for the immediate reconstruction of impacted stormwater infrastructure.
- Decrease in the stormwater capital works program by \$322,342 as construction for the Illawong Lane drainage improvement project is postponed until 2023/2024.

Sustain

- Decrease in the real estate development capital expenditure budget of \$1.7 million with the proposed purchase of industrial land now expected to occur in 2023/2024.
- Increase of \$5,103,856 in waste management operating income due to funding being received from Public Works Advisory for the transportation of waste post the February 2022 flood event.
- Decrease in waste management capital expenditure of \$500,000 as the scope of the Nammoona FOGO Compost Facility is being reviewed.

CONCLUSION

At the end of the second quarter, Council's operating result from continuing operations is a projected surplus of 34,400,998, with a projected surplus before capital grants and contributions of \$5,436,566. Council's capital works budget has increased to \$54,083,322 and this will be closely monitored to ensure all projects can be delivered. Council's estimated budget result (unrestricted

cash result) has remained unchanged at \$287,260 and overall, Council's projected financial position at year end remains satisfactory.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1. Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 December 2022 (under separate cover)**

17.2 SECTION 7.11, 7.12 AND SECTION 64 DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURE UPDATE 2021/2022 AND 2022/2023 TO 31 DECEMBER 2022

Director: Ryan Gaiter

Responsible Officer: Hayley Martin

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council receives contributions, raises levies and enters into planning agreements on development works that are subject to a development consent issued by Council. This report provides an update on developer contributions income and expenditure for the previous 2021/2022 financial year and the current 2022/2023 financial year to 31 December 2022.

Council collected a total of \$1,518,852 in developer contributions in the last financial year 2021/2022 and expended \$756,387. Unexpended developer contributions held in cash reserves totalled \$10,724,161 as at 30 June 2022.

During the current financial year 2022/2023 to 31 December 2022, Council has collected a total of \$1,918,524 in developer contributions and expended \$24,298.

Details of the different types of contributions are provided in the report.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the update on Section 7.11, Section 7.12 and Section 64 developer contributions for the 2021/2022 financial year and 2022/2023 financial year to 31 December 2022.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Recover - Objective 4: Restore essential infrastructure

4C Restore and maintain community facilities and assets

4C2 Continue to maintain community buildings and assets in accordance with asset plans and programs

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

These funds are managed within Council's financial reserves.

REPORT

Developer contributions are charged by councils when new development occurs. These contributions enable local councils or other consent authorities to provide public amenities and services required as a consequence of increased demand caused by development. They are used to provide infrastructure such as open space, parks, community facilities, local roads and footpaths and water and sewerage infrastructure. Developer contributions are essential in maintaining access to the facilities and services that support community wellbeing and quality of life.

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

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

Council has a specialised s7.11 Heavy Haulage levy that is applied where the anticipated development will, or is likely to, generate additional heavy haulage vehicle movements e.g.

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

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

Section 64 Contributions

S64 contributions are levied under the *Local Government Act 1993* towards water and sewerage infrastructure and in accordance with Council's Developer Servicing Plan. Contributions are generally levied where the anticipated development will or is likely to increase the demand for water or sewerage supply services. Funds are generally held for future utilisation when additional capacity is required to accommodate the increased demand, for example, future upgrades of Council's water and sewerage treatment plants. These works are factored into Council's Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) and require significant levels of funding, which is why these reserve balances have built up over time to provide for these works.

Developer Contributions 2021/2022 Financial Year

The following table shows the total amounts received by Council in s7.11, s7.12 and s64 contributions in the 2021/2022 financial year.

| Reserve | Income 2021/2022 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| S7.11 Heavy Haulage | \$332,182 |
| S7.12 Development Contributions | \$369,199 |
| S64 Sewerage Contributions | \$557,808 |
| S64 Water Contributions | \$259,663 |
| Total | \$1,518,852 |

The following table shows expenditure of s7.11 and s7.12 contributions last financial year. There was no expenditure of s64 funds last financial year.

| Reserve | Expenditure 2021/2022 |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| S7.11 Pooled Contributions* | \$117,944 |
| S7.11 Heavy Haulage | \$513,684 |
| S7.12 Development Contributions | \$124,721 |
| S64 Sewerage Contributions | \$0 |
| S64 Water Contributions | \$0 |
| Total | \$756,349 |

* Pooled contributions include the former s7.11 plans of Infrastructure, Community Services, Recreation and Civil Facilities and Road Network. In May 2020, the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces issued a direction under s7.17 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act*

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

The major works that were funded from pooled s7.11 contributions included funding of \$93,501 towards the Evans Head foreshore lighting and part funding of \$24,443 towards Casino Tennis Club Re-roof. Major works funded from s7.11 Heavy Haulage included various maintenance and renewal works on Regional Roads of \$513,684 and funding from s7.12 contributions included various footpath capital works of \$124,721.

As at 30 June 2022, Council held \$2,556,515 in s7.11 reserves, \$960,213 in s7.12 reserves and \$7,207,433 in s64 reserves, or \$10,724,161 in total. These balances were audited and included in Note G3 of the adopted 2021/2022 Financial Statements.

Developer Contributions 2022/2023 Financial Year to 31 December 2022

The following table shows the annual budget (as at 30 September 2022, pending proposed adjustments for the 31 December Quarterly Review) and actual amounts received in s7.11, s7.12 and s64 contributions in the 2022/2023 financial year to 31 December 2022.

| Reserve | Budgeted Income 2022/2023 | Actual Income 2022/2023 31-Dec-22 |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| S7.11 Quarry Road Contributions | \$17,911 | \$0 |
| S7.11 Heavy Haulage | \$100,000 | \$103,494 |
| S7.12 Development Contributions | \$500,000 | \$581,114 |
| S64 Sewerage Contributions | \$100,000 | \$700,009 |
| S64 Water Contributions | \$150,000 | \$533,907 |
| Total | \$867,911 | \$1,918,524 |

The following table shows expenditure of s7.11 and s7.12 contributions in the 2022/2023 financial year to 31 December 2022. There has been no expenditure of s64 funds so far this financial year.

| Reserve | Budgeted Expenditure 2022/2023 | Actual Expenditure 2022/2023 31-Dec-22 |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| S7.11 Pooled Contributions | \$94,641 | \$0 |
| S7.11 Quarry Road Contributions | \$11,700 | \$0 |
| S7.11 Heavy Haulage | \$30,000 | \$0 |
| S7.12 Development Contributions | \$66,830 | \$24,298 |
| S64 Sewerage Contributions | \$0 | \$0 |
| S64 Water Contributions | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total | \$203,171 | \$24,298 |

The works funded from s7.12 contributions include various footpath renewals in Casino and Evans Head.

As at 30 June 2023, it is projected that Council will hold \$2,634,525 in s7.11 reserves, \$1,604,883 in s7.12 reserves and \$8,537,433 in s64 reserves, or \$12,776,841 in total.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

CONCLUSION

Council collected \$1,518,852 in developer contributions in the last financial year 2021/2022 and expended \$756,387. Council held unexpended developer contribution cash reserves of \$10,724,161 as at 30 June 2022.

Council has collected \$1,918,524 in developer contributions in the current 2022/2023 financial year to 31 December 2022 and expended \$24,298. It is projected that Council will hold unexpended developer contribution cash reserves of \$12,776,841 as at 30 June 2023.

Council will have the opportunity to determine the allocation of developer contribution funding during the draft budget process for the 2023/2024 financial year, whilst also taking into consideration commitments in Council's Long Term Financial Plan.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

17.3 FINANCIAL ANALYSIS REPORT - DECEMBER 2022 AND JANUARY 2023**Director:** Ryan Gaiter**Responsible Officer:** Rylee Vidler**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the status and performance of its cash and investment portfolio in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* s.625, Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 cl.212, Australian Accounting Standard (AASB 9) and Council's Investment Policy.

The value of Council's cash and investments at 31 December 2022 and 31 January 2023 is shown below:

| Month | Bank Accounts | Term Deposits | Floating Rate Notes | Fixed Rate Bonds | TCorp IM Funds | Total |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| December 2022 | \$16,157,908 | \$41,000,000 | \$4,750,390 | \$2,000,000 | \$14,663,377 | \$78,571,675 |
| January 2023 | \$14,910,163 | \$39,000,000 | \$4,750,390 | \$2,000,000 | \$15,073,449 | \$75,734,003 |

The weighted average rate of return on Council's cash and investments as at 31 December 2022 was negative (0.72%) which was below the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index for December is 0.25%, which is Council's benchmark.

The weighted average rate of return on Council's cash and investments for January 2023 was 10.30% which was above the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index for January of 0.27%.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Financial Analysis Report detailing the performance of its cash and investments for the months of December 2022 and January 2023.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Sustain - Objective 11: Manage community resources and provide great service

11A Manage resources responsibly

11A1 Undertake long-term financial and asset management planning

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

As at 31 December 2022, Council has earned \$626,309 in interest and \$676,763 in fair value gains for total interest and investment income of \$1,303,072. This equates to 143.70% of the annual budget for interest and investment income of \$906,782. Council currently receives a net return of 3.20% on its Macquarie CMA Account after Council's financial advisors receive their commission of 0.05%. Commissions for the 2022/2023 financial year to 31 December 2022 total \$2,279.

As at 31 January 2023, Council has earned \$702,237 in interest and \$744,355 in fair value gains for total interest and investment income of \$1,789,072. This equates to 197.30% of the annual budget for interest and investment income of \$906,782. Council currently receives a net return of 3.20% on its Macquarie CMA Account after Council's financial advisors receive their commission of 0.05%. Commissions for the 2022/2023 financial year to 31 January 2023 total \$2,653.

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 raised the cash rate to 3.10% per annum at its December meeting. The RBA did not hold a January meeting.

Rate of Return

The weighted average rate of return on cash and investments in December was negative (0.72%) a decrease in 823 basis points from the previous month. The rate of return is 97 basis points below the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index of 0.25% which is Council's benchmark.

Council's NSW Treasury Corporation IM Funds returned net losses of \$290,395 during the month of December.

The Medium-Term Growth Fund (MTGF) returned a loss of \$199,468 and the Long-Term Growth Fund (LTGF) returned a loss of \$90,927.

During December 2022, Council received \$342,479 for an equalising dividend for unsecured creditors of Lehman Brothers Australia Limited (in Liquidation). Council held Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDOs) with Lehman Brothers when they filed for bankruptcy in September 2008. Council was owed \$463,177 and has recovered \$346,313 (75%) in total, with \$3,834 recovered through insurance and \$342,479 from the dividend paid. The \$342,479 has been included in the fair value gains calculation for December 2022. Amicus Advisory have advised Council that a final dividend is expected to be paid sometime in the future to finalise the estate however the timing and amount of the dividend is unknown.

The weighted average rate of return on cash and investments in January was 10.30% an increase in 1102 basis points from the previous month. The rate of return is 1004 basis points above the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index of 0.27% which is Council's benchmark.

Council's NSW Treasury Corporation IM Funds returned net gains \$410,072 during the month of January.

The Medium-Term Growth Fund (MTGF) returned a gain of \$302,723 and the Long-Term Growth Fund (LTGF) returned a gain of \$107,349.

During December, most equity markets fell, retracting some of November's strong gains. The RBA Board noted at the December meeting that it expects to continue to increase interest rates further, however, had considered leaving the cash rate unchanged, suggesting that they may be getting close to pausing the interest rate hikes. The financial markets had a very strong month in January, with investors more optimistic that global inflation will come down more quickly than originally thought. The global equity markets rallied, and bond yields declined, to widely reverse the weakness experienced in December. These results are reflective of the types of ups and downs that occur with long term investments, which are subject to market volatility, particularly in times of economic uncertainty.

The MTGF has a recommended investment timeframe of 3-7 years (original investment was October 2018) and the LTGF has a recommended investment timeframe of 7 years or greater (original investment was June 2021) during which time it is expected that there will be ups and downs in fair value gains. However, it should be noted that, despite the variation in returns, there has been no impact on the principal sum originally invested by Council.

Term deposits and floating rate notes continue to offer increasing rates of return, which is positive, however, some banking institutions are still limiting the number of deposits they will accept and others are not accepting any deposits at present.

Council's Cash and Investments Portfolio

Council held cash and investments of \$78,571,675 at 31 December 2022. This was made up of Council's Business Online Saver Account (\$4,605,000), Macquarie Cash Management Account (\$10,026,096), Term Deposits (\$41,000,000), Floating Rate Notes (\$4,750,390), Bonds

(\$2,000,000), NSW Treasury Corporation Investments (\$14,663,377) and other bank accounts (\$1,526,812).

Council's investment portfolio had maturity dates ranging from same day up to 1,742 days. Term deposits, floating rate notes and bonds of \$47,750,390 represented 60.77% of the total portfolio as at 31 December 2022.

Council made the following new investment during December 2022:

| Banking Institution | Investment Type | Environmentally Sustainable Investment | Amount Invested | Investment Term | Interest Rate |
|---------------------|-----------------|--|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| MyState Bank | Term Deposit | Y | \$1,000,000 | 3 months | 3.85% |
| MyState Bank | Term Deposit | Y | \$2,000,000 | 4 months | 4.00% |
| Gateway Bank | Term Deposit | Y | \$1,000,000 | 3 months | 3.85% |
| Auswide Bank | Term Deposit | Y | \$2,000,000 | 6 months | 4.40% |
| Total | | | \$6,000,000 | | |

Council had the following investment maturities during the month of December 2022:

| Banking Institution | Investment Type | Environmentally Sustainable Investment | Amount Invested | Interest Earned |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| ME Bank | Term Deposit | Y | \$1,000,000 | \$12,149 |
| MyState Bank | Term Deposit | Y | \$1,000,000 | \$7,479 |
| Gateway Bank | Term Deposit | Y | \$1,000,000 | \$8,384 |
| Macquarie Bank | Term Deposit | N | \$1,000,000 | \$8,552 |
| Macquarie Bank | Term Deposit | N | \$1,000,000 | \$8,458 |
| Southern Cross Credit Union | Term Deposit | Y | \$1,000,000 | \$8,726 |
| Total | | | \$6,000,000 | \$53,747 |

Council had \$14,663,377 in longer term investments being the MTGF and LTGF held with NSW Treasury Corporation as at 31 December 2022. The investment values and fair value returns are shown below:

| Investment Holding | Fair Value 31 December 22 | Fair Value Gain/(Loss) at 31 December 22 | Fair Value Gain/(Loss) YTD | Fair Value Gain/(Loss) Life of Investment |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--|----------------------------|---|
| Medium Term Growth Fund | \$11,782,928 | (\$199,468) | \$238,581 | \$777,898 |
| Long Term Growth Fund | \$2,880,450 | (\$90,927) | \$95,702 | (\$119,550) |
| Total | \$14,663,377 | (\$290,395) | \$334,283 | \$658,348 |

Council held cash and investments of \$75,734,003 at 31 January 2023. This was made up of Council's Business Online Saver Account (\$6,200,000), Macquarie Cash Management Account (\$8,026,407), Term Deposits (\$39,000,000), Floating Rate Notes (\$4,750,390), Bonds (\$2,000,000), NSW Treasury Corporation Investments (\$15,073,449) and other bank accounts (\$683,756).

Council's investment portfolio had maturity dates ranging from same day up to 1,742 days. Term deposits, floating rate notes and bonds of \$45,750,390 represented 60.41% of the total portfolio as at 31 January 2023.

Council did not make any new investments during January 2023.

Council had the following investment maturities during the month of January 2023:

| Banking Institution | Investment Type | Environmentally Sustainable Investment | Amount Invested | Interest Earned |
|---------------------|-----------------|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| ME Bank | Term Deposit | Y | \$2,000,000 | \$35,704 |
| Total | | | \$2,000,000 | \$35,704 |

Council had \$15,073,449 in longer term investments being the MTGF and LTGF held with NSW Treasury Corporation as at 31 January 2023. The investment values and fair value returns are shown below:

| Investment Holding | Fair Value 31 January 2023 | Fair Value Gain/(Loss) at 31 January 23 | Fair Value Gain/(Loss) YTD | Fair Value Gain/(Loss) Life of Investment |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|
| Medium Term Growth Fund | \$12,085,651 | \$302,723 | \$541,304 | \$1,080,621 |
| Long Term Growth Fund | \$2,987,799 | \$107,349 | \$203,051 | (\$12,201) |
| Total | \$15,073,449 | \$410,072 | \$744,355 | \$1,068,420 |

The performance of the NSW Treasury Corporation Investments for January is very pleasing; however, it does follow a loss during December, highlighting again how much these investments can move on a month to month basis when the market is subject to volatility.

Environmentally Sustainable Investments (ESI's)

Council's cash and investments portfolio of \$78,571,675 at 31 December 2022 includes \$49,413,377 or 62.90% with no direct investment in the fossil fuel industry.

Council's cash and investments portfolio of \$75,734,003 at 31 January 2023 includes \$47,823,449 or 63.10% with no direct investment in the fossil fuel industry.

These percentages include Council's investments with NSW Treasury Corporation and Northern Territory 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. The stewardship policy states NSW Treasury Corporation believes incorporating these principles into investment decisions results in better risk-adjusted financial outcomes. Even though NSW Treasury Corporation takes this stewardship approach, its monthly reporting only highlights the different asset classes, not individual investments, and the level of investment in the fossil fuel industry.

Northern Territory Treasury Corporation utilises funds to assist with its infrastructure requirements such as housing, transport, health, and education services. While no statement has been provided on its investment strategy, it has been assumed that providing funding towards its own infrastructure will not involve direct investment in the fossil fuel industry.

CONCLUSION

During the months of December 2022 and January 2023, Council's investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

As at 31 December 2022 Council's cash and investments totalled \$78,571,675 with \$16,157,908 of this being funds held in bank accounts. The weighted average rate of return was negative (0.72%) for the month of December 2022 and total investment revenue equals 143.70% of budgeted revenue for the year to 31 December 2022.

As at 31 January 2023 Council's cash and investments totalled \$75,734,003 with \$14,910,163 of this being funds held in bank accounts. The weighted average rate of return was 10.30% for the month of January 2023 and total investment revenue equals 197.30% of budgeted revenue for the year to 31 January 2023.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. RVC Investment Pack - December 2022 (under separate cover)
2. RVC Investment Pack - January 2023 (under separate cover)

17.4 REVIEW OF GIFTS AND BENEFITS POLICY

Director: Ryan Gaiter

Responsible Officer: Kate Allder-Conn

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following a review of the existing Gifts and Benefits Policy, a clause has been added to ensure that all offers of gifts and benefits are required to be reported to the General Manager, whether they are accepted or declined. The change was recommended during a Governance Health Check, procured by Council in recent years to ensure compliance with industry best practice.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the revised Gifts and Benefits Policy.

DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS

Sustain - Objective 10: Lead and advocate for our community

10D Lead with integrity

10D1 Provide representative and accountable community governance

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

REPORT

In line with Council's adopted Code of Conduct, a Gifts and Benefits Policy is maintained to provide guidance to staff and councillors on the required process to manage offers of gifts and benefits.

Personal benefit clauses are outlined at Part 6 of the Code of Conduct, with a gift or benefit being defined as "something offered to or received by a council official or someone personally associated with them for their personal use and enjoyment".

It is the responsibility of all councillors and staff to avoid situations that could give rise to the appearance that a person or body is attempting to secure favourable treatment from the public official or from the council, through the provision of gifts, benefits or hospitality.

The policy was last adopted in September 2020 and has since been reviewed to incorporate a recommendation made by consulting firm, InConsult, in the course of a Governance Health Check undertaken to ensure best practice and compliance.

A clause was added to the policy advising that all offers of gifts and benefits are to be reported to Council's General Manager, via the form attached to the policy, regardless of whether the gift or benefit was accepted or declined.

To accompany the additional clause, a minor change was made to the form, to enable the notification of declined gifts and benefits to be recorded more effectively.

Following adoption of the revised policy, notification of the change will be made to all staff.

CONSULTATION

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council adopt the revised Gifts and Benefits Policy, which now includes a requirement that all offers of gifts and benefits, whether accepted or not, are reported to the General Manager.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. **Draft Gifts and Benefits Policy (under separate cover)**

18 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

19 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**RECOMMENDATION**

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

19.1 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST - APPOINTMENT OF DESIGNATED PERSON

Director: Ryan Gaiter

Responsible Officer: Kate Allder-Conn

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the newly appointed designated person position.

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 2021.

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

- Manager People and Culture.

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.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

19.2 GRANT APPLICATION INFORMATION REPORT - DECEMBER 2022 AND JANUARY 2023

Director: Ryan Gaiter

Responsible Officer: Rylee Vidler

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Grant Application Information Report for the months of December 2022 and January 2023.

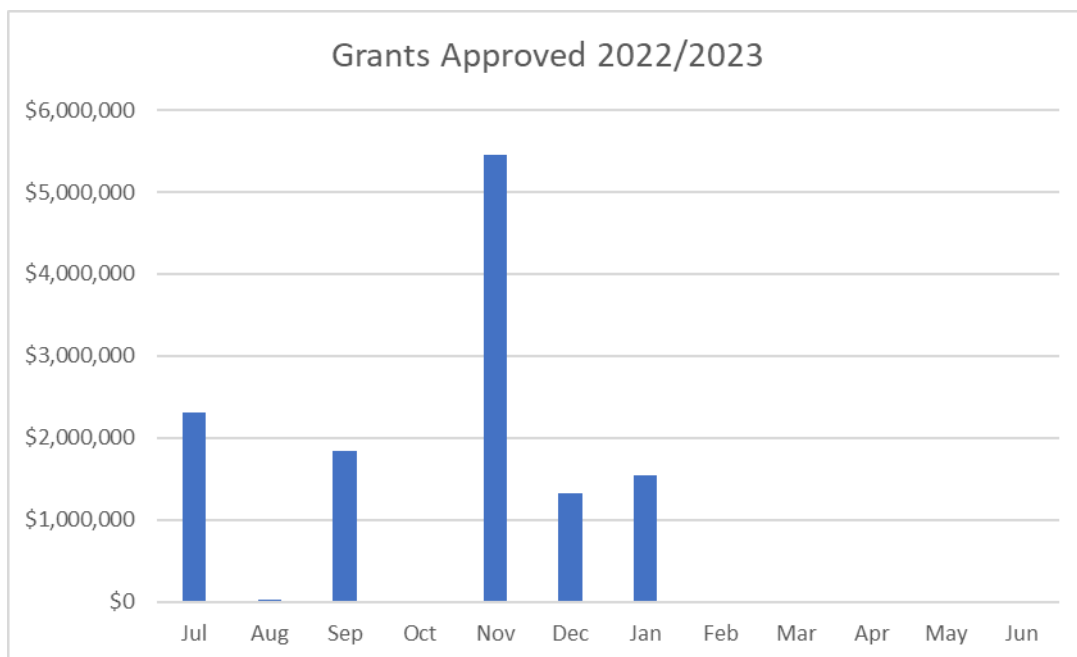
REPORT

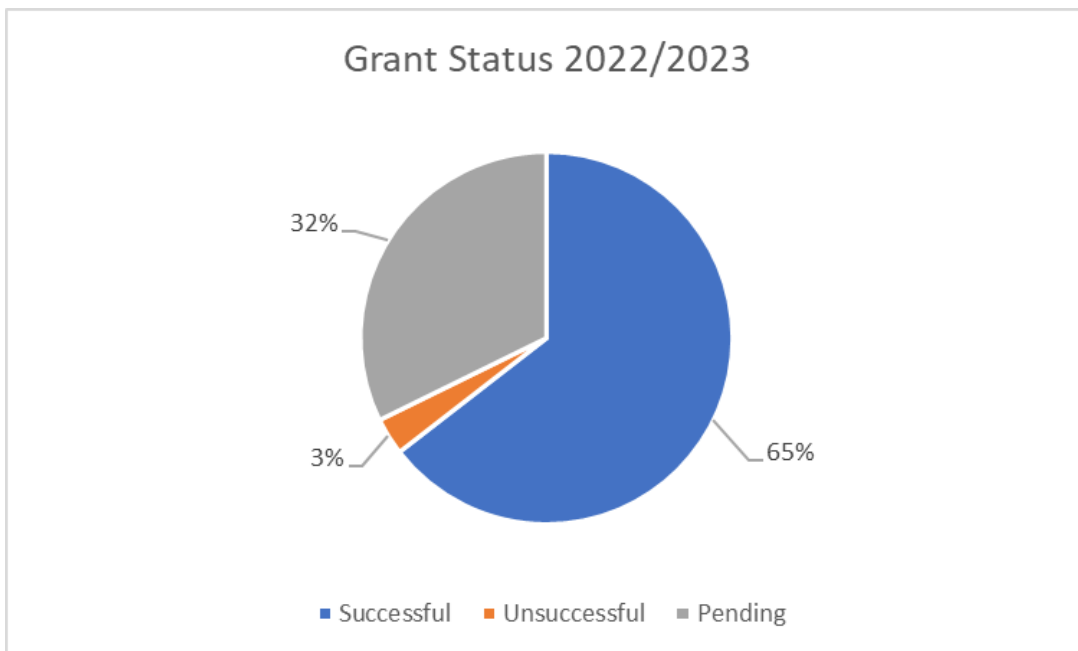
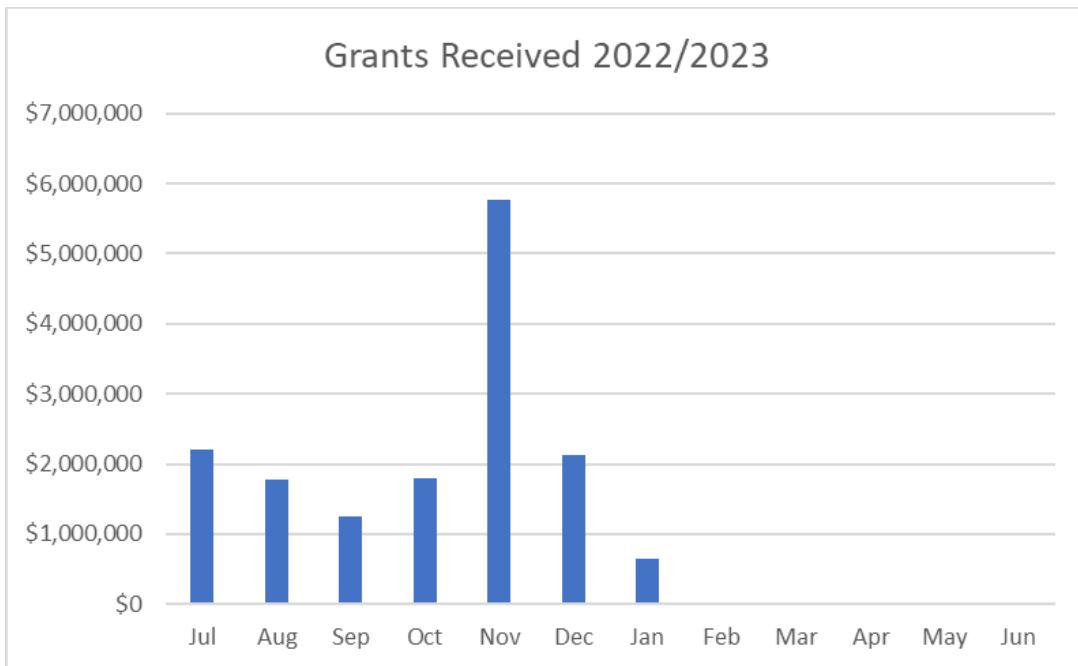
This report provides information on grant applications that have been approved, grants that have been received, grant applications that were unsuccessful and grant applications that were submitted for the months of December 2022 and January 2023.

During the reporting period, nine grants were approved (three in December and six in January), totalling \$2,868,859. These projects will require Council contributions of \$3,692, bringing the total value for the projects approved to \$2,872,551.

Council received funding for nine grants totalling \$2,765,689, with four in December (\$2,126,047) and five in January (\$639,642). Council was notified of two unsuccessful grant applications (two in December) and nine grant applications were submitted (six in December and three in January).

A summary of grants approved and received as well as the status of applications for the current financial year to 31 January 2023 is shown below:





Grants that have been approved

| Project Name | Funding Body | Funding Name | Project Value | Grant Funding | Council Funding | Application Submitted | Date Approved |
|--|--|---|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Local Government Heritage Grant | Department of Planning and Environment (State) | 2023-2025 Local Government Heritage Grant | \$ 25,000 | \$ 25,000 | \$ - | 2 November 2002 | 20 December 2022 |
| Comment: This funding will allow Council to run a small heritage grants program and provide a heritage advisor service to the area. The funding is for two years with \$12,500 to be received in each financial year. | | | | | | | |
| Casino Sewage Treatment Plant Business Case | Regional NSW (State) | Business Case and Development Fund | \$ 88,217 | \$ 88,217 | \$ - | 23 August 2022 | 20 December 2022 |
| Comment: This funding will allow Council to develop a business case to replace the Casino Sewage Treatment Plant. | | | | | | | |
| Upgrading Albert Park Tourist Stopover Casino and Shark Bay Evans Head | Department of Regional NSW (State) | Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 5 | \$ 1,213,000 | \$ 1,213,000 | \$ - | 23 September 2022 | 22 December 2022 |
| Comment: This funding will allow Council to upgrade the landscaping, parking area, shelters, BBQs and picnic furniture at Albert Park Casino and, install new turf, retaining walls, concrete stairs and picnic furniture at Shark Bay Evans Head. | | | | | | | |
| Get Active Casino - Multi-Sport Come and Try Day | Office of Sport (State) | Active Fest Event | \$ 7,000 | \$ 7,000 | \$ - | 7 December 2022 | 10 January 2023 |
| Comment: This funding will allow Council to hold a community sports day to encourage youth and the general community to re-engage with sports and become more active. | | | | | | | |
| NSW Youth Week | Department of Communities and Justice (State) | Youth Week 2023 | \$ 7,384 | \$ 3,692 | \$ 3,692 | 13 January 2023 | 16 January 2023 |
| Comment: This funding will allow Council to deliver programs and activities for young people in celebration of NSW Youth Week. | | | | | | | |
| RVC s10.7 Review | Civic Risk Mutual (State) | Risk Enhance Funding | \$ 4,900 | \$ 4,900 | \$ - | 20 January 2023 | 23 January 2023 |
| Comment: This funding will allow the Council to have the Section 10.7 Planning Certificate reviewed externally as per the internal audit action item. | | | | | | | |
| Halsteads Drive - Geotech and Design Restoration | Crown Land NSW (State) | Flood Recovery Fund - AGRN1012 | \$ 112,000 | \$ 112,000 | \$ - | 1 October 2022 | 23 January 2023 |
| Comment: This funding will allow Council to commence geotech investigations and design the new Halsteads Drive. | | | | | | | |
| Halsteads Drive - Flood Damage Rehabilitation | Crown Land NSW (State) | Flood Recovery Fund - AGRN1012 | \$ 402,550 | \$ 402,550 | \$ - | 1 October 2022 | 23 January 2023 |
| Comment: This funding will allow Council to rehabilitate the site in preparation for the rebuild. | | | | | | | |

| Project Name | Funding Body | Funding Name | Project Value | Grant Funding | Council Funding | Application Submitted | Date Approved |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Halsteads Drive - Access Restoration | Crown Land NSW (State) | Flood Recovery Fund - AGRN1012 | \$ 1,012,500 | \$ 1,012,500 | \$ - | 1 October 2022 | 23 January 2023 |
| Comment: This funding will allow Council to reconstruct a suitable accessway to the riverside. | | | | | | | |

Grants that have been received

| Project Name | Funding Body | Funding Name | Project Value | Grant Funding | Council Funding | Application Submitted | Date Received | Total Received |
|---|---|---|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| EPA Bushfire-Generated Green Waste | Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (State) | Green Waste Clean-Up and Processing Program | \$ 998,551 | \$ 968,945 | \$ 29,606 | 1 July 2021 | \$ 96,895 12 December 2022 | \$ 968,945 |
| Comment: Final payment for completion of project per funding agreement. | | | | | | | | |
| NSW Severe Weather and Flooding 22 Feb 22 - AGRN1012 | Transport for NSW (State) | Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) | \$11,691,409 | \$11,691,409 | \$ - | N/A | \$ 1,634,788 21 December 2022 | \$11,691,409 |
| Comments: This is a progress payment for emergency and immediate reconstruction work carried out since the February Flood event. Note: The project value is the value of works submitted to Transport for NSW for reimbursement and will increase as more work is completed and submitted. | | | | | | | | |
| MR145 Woodburn-Coraki Road Major Upgrade | Transport for NSW (Federal) | N/A - Election Promise | \$10,000,000 | \$10,000,000 | \$ - | N/A | \$ 227,365 21 December 2022 | \$ 4,284,494 |
| Comment: Progress payment for works completed on Woodburn to Coraki Road. | | | | | | | | |
| Bringing Back Barker Street | Department of Planning and Environment (State) | Streets as Shared Spaces | \$ 334,000 | \$ 334,000 | \$ - | 11 February 2022 | \$ 167,000 22 December 2022 | \$ 334,000 |
| Comment: Final payment for Streets as Shared Spaces project. | | | | | | | | |
| Casino Scenic and Heritage Walk | Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade) | Tourism Bushfire Recovery (RTBR) Grants Program | \$ 125,230 | \$ 125,230 | \$ - | 19 March 2020 | \$ 62,615 10 January 2023 | \$ 125,230 |
| Comment: Funding received to after acquittal of grant. The funding was used to erect informational signage along the scenic walk and new promotional imagery for the water tower and walk. | | | | | | | | |

| Project Name | Funding Body | Funding Name | Project Value | Grant Funding | Council Funding | Application Submitted | Date Received | Total Received |
|--|--|---|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Get Active Casino- Multi-Sport Come and Try Day | Office of Sport (State) | Active Fest Event | \$ 7,000 | \$ 7,000 | \$ - | 7 December 2022 | \$ 7,000 18 January 2023 | \$ 7,000 |
| Comment: Funding received to hold a community sports day to encourage youth and the general community to re-engage with sports and become more active. | | | | | | | | |
| Richmond Valley Try A Trade (Connecting Women to Trades Grant) | Department of Education (State) | Trade Pathways Program Connecting Women to Trades Grant Round 2021/2022 | \$ 12,750 | \$ 12,750 | \$ - | 7 December 2021 | \$ 2,550 20 January 2023 | \$ 12,750 |
| Comment: Final payment received after acquittal of grant. The funding was used to host Try A Trade week. | | | | | | | | |
| Evans Head Sewage Treatment Plant | Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (State) | Strategic Options Study | \$ 84,954 | \$ 42,477 | \$ 42,477 | N/A | \$ 42,477 23 January 2023 | \$ 42,477 |
| Comment: Funding received after completion of a Strategic Planning and Options Study Report for Evans Head Sewage Treatment Plant. | | | | | | | | |
| Regional Roads Block Grant 2022/2023 | Transport for NSW (State) | Regional Roads Block Grant | \$ 1,050,000 | \$ 1,050,000 | \$ - | N/A - Annual Allocation | \$ 525,000 25 January 2023 | \$ 1,050,000 |
| Comment: Final payment received for allocation. | | | | | | | | |

Grant Applications Submitted

| Project Name | Funding Body | Funding Name | Project Value | Grant Funding | Council Funding | Application Submitted |
|--|---|---|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Betterment of Naughtons Gap Road | Transport for NSW (State) | Regional Roads and Transport Recovery Package | \$ 3,012,840 | \$3,012,840 | \$ - | 1 December 2022 |
| Comment: If successful, this funding will allow Council to design solutions and construction of catch fencing, removal of debris and improving drainage on the upside (northern area) of Naughtons Gap Road slip zone. | | | | | | |
| Betterment of Richmond Terrace | Transport for NSW (State) | Regional Roads and Transport Recovery Package | \$ 9,653,400 | \$9,653,400 | \$ - | 1 December 2022 |
| Comment: If successful, this funding will allow Council to design and construct a viable solution to failures adjacent to the Richmond River at Coraki, that are affecting the road and surrounding infrastructure including emergency services, commercial and residential premises along Richmond Terrace. | | | | | | |
| Betterment of MR145 Woodburn Coraki Road 'The Dip' | Transport for NSW (State) | Regional Roads and Transport Recovery Package | \$ 1,978,200 | \$1,978,200 | \$ - | 1 December 2022 |
| Comment: If successful, the funding will allow Council to design and construct the Installation of culverts on Woodburn Coraki Road Section 7 Chainage 700-860 | | | | | | |
| Richmond Valley Women - Mind Body & Soul | Women NSW (State) | 2023 NSW Women's Week Grants Program | \$ 10,000 | \$ 5,000 | \$ 5,000 | 1 December 2022 |
| Comment: If successful, this funding will allow Council to hold yoga and meditation sessions in Casino and Mid Richmond area to promote mental health and building female networks. | | | | | | |
| Get Active Casino - Multi-Sport Come and Try Day | Office of Sport (State) | Active Fest Event | \$ 7,000 | \$ 7,000 | \$ - | 7 December 2022 |
| Comment: If successful, this funding will allow Council to host a community day to encourage youth to re-engage with sports and become more active. | | | | | | |
| Betterment of NRLX Effluent Management | Regional NSW (State) | Infrastructure Betterment Fund | \$ 5,750,000 | \$5,750,000 | \$ - | 15 December 2022 |
| Comment: If successful, the funding will allow Council to increase effluent pond wall heights, increase perimeter wall heights including increases in perimeter flow channel sizes, stabilisation and improvements of effluent pond walls, lining of effluent pond to prevent leaching. | | | | | | |
| NSW Youth Week | Department of Communities and Justice (State) | Youth Week 2023 | \$ 7,384 | \$ 3,692 | \$ 3,692 | 13 January 2023 |
| Comment: If successful, this funding will allow Council to deliver programs and activities for young people in celebration of NSW Youth Week. | | | | | | |

| Project Name | Funding Body | Funding Name | Project Value | Grant Funding | Council Funding | Application Submitted |
|---|---------------------------|---|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Road Repair Application | Transport for NSW (State) | Fixing Local Roads - Regional and Local Roads Repair Fund | \$ 1,939,620 | \$1,939,620 | \$ - | 19 January 2023 |
| Comment: If successful, this funding will allow Council to undertake urgent repairs to the road network, which have been significantly impacted by severe flooding, storm damage and persistent wet weather events during 2022. | | | | | | |
| RVC s10.7 Review | Civic Risk Mutual (Other) | Risk Enhance Funding | \$ 4,900 | \$ 4,900 | \$ - | 20 January 2023 |
| Comment: If successful, this funding will allow Council to have the Section 10.7 Planning Certificate reviewed externally as per the internal audit action item. | | | | | | |

Unsuccessful Grant Applications

| Project Name | Funding Body | Funding Name | Project Value | Grant Funding | Council Funding | Application Submitted | Advised Unsuccessful |
|--|--|---|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Upgrade internal access road and drainage improvements at Casino Showgrounds | NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (State) | Crown Reserves Improvement Fund Program | \$ 249,755 | \$ 249,755 | \$ - | 3 June 2022 | 12 December 2022 |
| Comments: Funding was oversubscribed and although our application was eligible was not deemed a priority this year by the committee. This funding had an application success rate of 25% | | | | | | | |
| Upgrade overnight campground area | NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (State) | Crown Reserves Improvement Fund Program | \$ 138,339 | \$ 138,339 | \$ - | 3 June 2022 | 12 December 2022 |
| Comments: Funding was oversubscribed and although our application was eligible was not deemed a priority this year by the committee. This funding had an application success rate of 25% | | | | | | | |

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

19.3 RICHMOND VALLEY REVITALISATION PLAN 2020 - UPDATE**Author: Vaughan Macdonald****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives and notes the Richmond Valley Revitalisation Plan 2020 update.

REPORT

Richmond Valley Council adopted the Richmond Valley Community Revitalisation Plan in 2019, to support the recovery of local communities following the October 2019 bushfire event.

The attached table provides an update on the projects identified in the Plan and details the progress that has been made towards meeting these actions.

The Plan lists 24 actions, of these, 16 actions have been completed and 7 have had substantial progress made. Of the actions noted in the Plan, only one (the REgener8 project) was not pursued due to insufficient funding. However, Council provided letters of support, together with advice for the project and will continue to support it as suitable funding opportunities arise.

The Rappville community hall precinct is nearing completion, with an opening scheduled for late February 2023. Further highlights under the Plan include the completion of the New Italy Mountain Bike Trail reinstatement, the Super Sunday Family Fun Day held in Casino in January 2023 and the construction of a new Rural Fire Service shed in Rappville, which opened in November 2021.

Actions that are ongoing or not yet complete have been incorporated into Council's Adverse Event Plan. Progress against the Adverse Event Plan is included in the *Rebuilding the Richmond Valley Recovery Plan* Progress Report, tabled at the February 2023 Ordinary Meeting.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1. Richmond Valley Revitalisation Plan 2020 - Update (under separate cover)**

19.4 CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE REPORT 1 OCTOBER – 31 DECEMBER 2022**Director: Angela Jones****Responsible Officer: Sharon Banning****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives and notes the Customer Experience Report for the period 1 October – 31 December 2022.

Council is committed to providing a high level of customer service to the community. The Customer Service Charter and Standards were adopted by Council at the 25 June 2019 Ordinary Meeting and reviewed at the 19 April 2022 Ordinary Meeting. As a result, quarterly reporting on Council's performance against the Customer Service standards is prepared and tabled for Council. 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.

As front-line representatives of Council, Customer Experience Team members have experienced a challenging twelve months supporting community members who have been severely impacted by the floods. Their efforts were acknowledged by Red Cross, who hosted a morning tea with speakers from various mental health support agencies. Speakers provided insight into dealing with mental health within the community but also to recognise the need for self-care of those caring for and serving the community.

During the reporting period, OneRoad was launched. OneRoad is a NSW Government initiative, replacing MyRoadInfo and providing a platform for the reporting of road related activity and closures by councils, for publishing on the LiveTraffic app. A snapshot of our LGAs scheduled and unscheduled road activity will be a regular inclusion in this report.

REPORT**Customer Service Contact Centre Data - Key Statistics****Call Statistics**

A total of 11,671 calls were received during the reporting period which is a 3.59% decrease from the same period the previous year, and a 4.06% decrease on the previous quarter's volumes. The Contact Centre has exceeded all service targets for the reporting period, including 82.5% of calls answered within 20 seconds, average time each caller spends in the queue is 20.0 seconds and the percentage rate for calls abandoned is less than 0.7%.

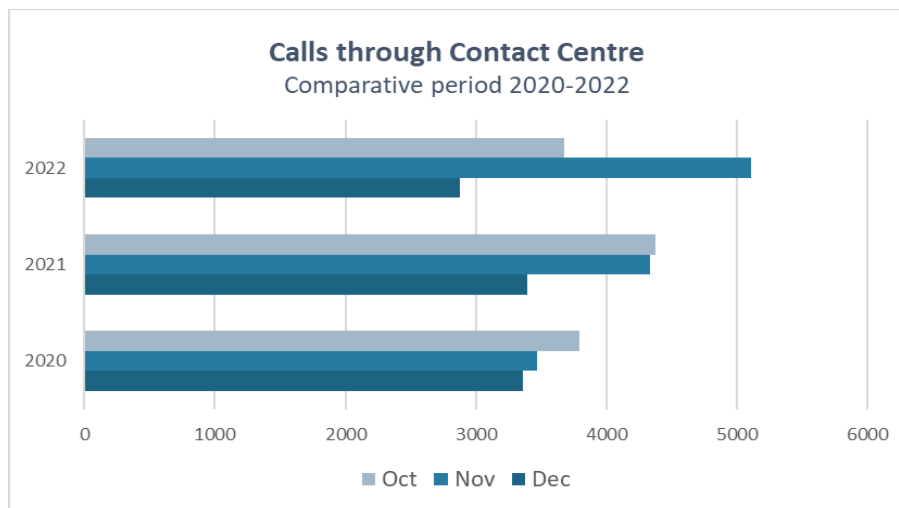


Figure 1: Calls received through the call centre, comparison year on year

Receipt and Administration Statistics

A total of 2790 receipts were processed for the reporting period, a 2.85% decrease for the same period of the previous year of 2872 receipts. The month of November did see an increase in number of receipts processed, which can be attributed to the rates instalment period. A decrease in counter issued receipts indicates customers are taking advantage of alternate payment options, including BPAY and direct debit arrangements.

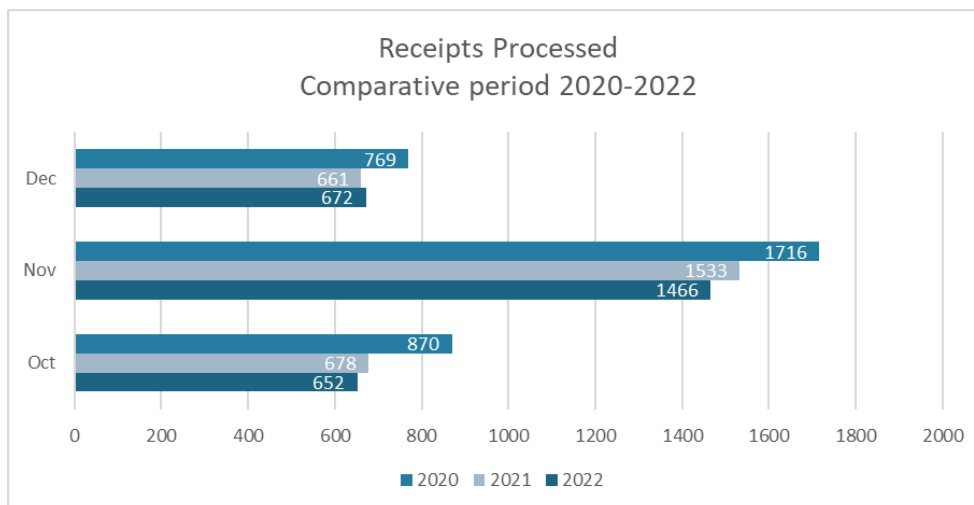


Figure 2: Total number of receipts

Certificates and Customer Requests

99.5% of Section 735A, 10.7 and 603 certificates were completed within set timeframes in accordance with Council’s service standards. Of the 370 certificate applications received, 68% were 10.7 certificates, a 13% decrease in buyer enquiry from the previous quarter, which correlates to increased economic pressures and slowing of the real estate market.

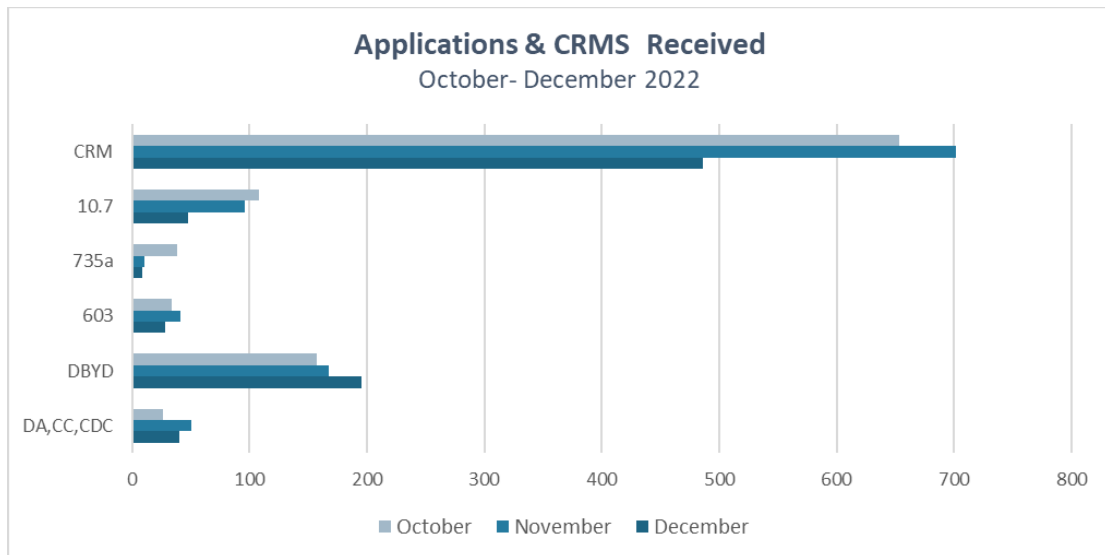


Figure 3. Applications and requests received

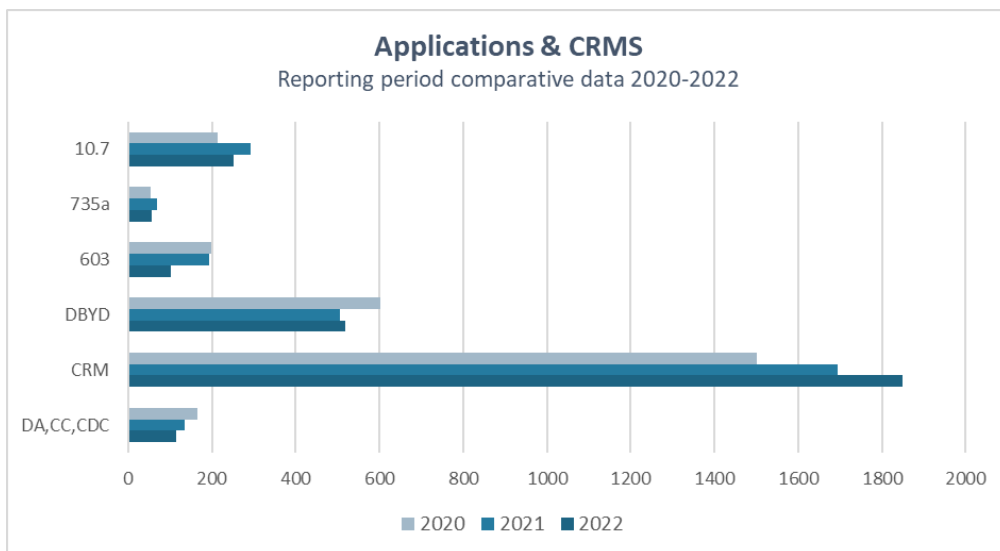


Figure 4. Applications and requests comparison

Customer Request Management System - Key Statistics

During the reporting period, a total of 1841 new requests were logged, an increase of 11.9% compared to the previous quarter and an 8.5% increase on the same reporting period of the previous year.

Of the total requests received during the reporting period, 26.8% related to water/sewer and 20.3% were directed to roads and drainage for assistance.

The noticeable increase in water related requests is due to meter readers identifying lower than normal water consumption at properties and requesting investigation of the meter’s precision. Service life span of a water meter is approximately ten years before replacement is required.

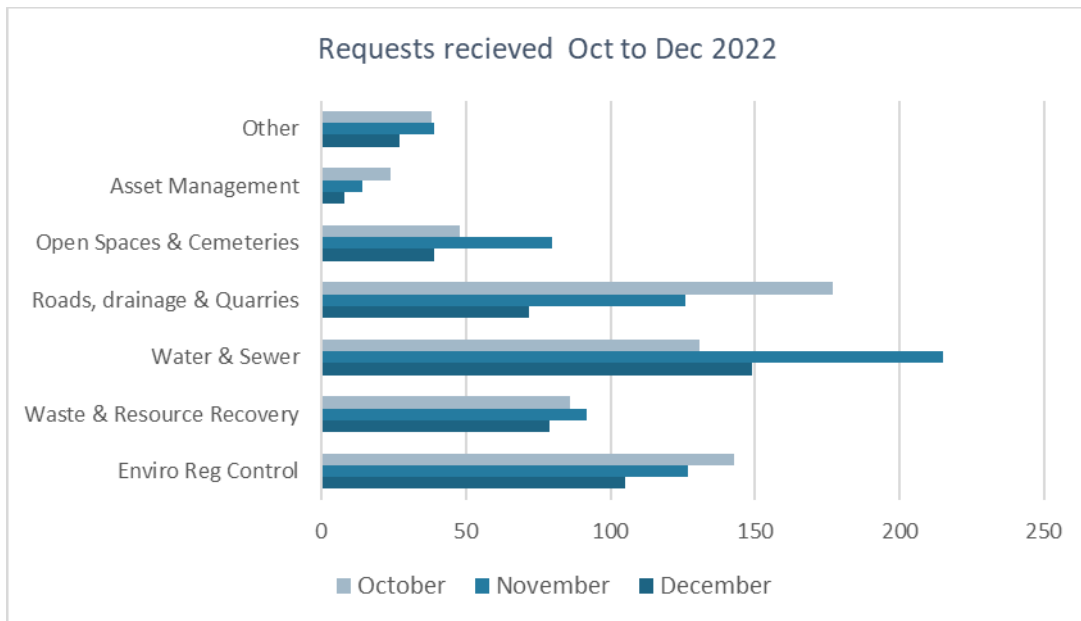


Figure 5: Number of requests

Development Concierge

In October an initiative of the Concierge saw a Developer Forum held with attendance from eight local building teams and three consultants. The aim of the forums is to keep development stakeholders abreast of changes to NSW planning policy and to reinforce relationships with Council.

The main topic of discussion related to the rebuilding of flood affected properties. Certifiers outlined Councils application requirements relating to house raising and highlighted the opportunity to utilise Exempt Development SEPP when rebuilding flood affected properties.

The forum provided an opportunity to refresh attendees on the idiosyncrasies of the NSW Planning Portal and promote Council’s e-planning lodgement service and offered training options to applicants.

The response to the forum was very positive, receiving eleven survey responses commending the forum initiative by Council and requesting they are held regularly.

e-Planning Portal – Key Statistics

Richmond Valley’s average pre-assessment time for applications received via the planning portal remains extremely competitive, being the most efficient of all neighboring LGAs. First Responders strive to complete a preliminary assessment within twenty-four hours of receipt of an application.

The First Responders field all planning portal lodgment enquiries, with the majority of applicants able to navigate the portal after an initial walk through over the phone. There is a portion of customers who prefer more individual assistance throughout the entire submission process. The implementation of an e-Planning portal assistance fee has been readily taken up by customers, happy for the individual case management. Applicants receive dedicated one on one support from a First Responder to assist creating a portal account, loading applications and supporting documents into the NSW planning portal, with the process taking up to an hour per application. Customers are confident their application is lodged correctly and will progress for assessment in a timely manner.

Volumes of applications rose close to Christmas as consultancy firms and builders closed out their books for the year.

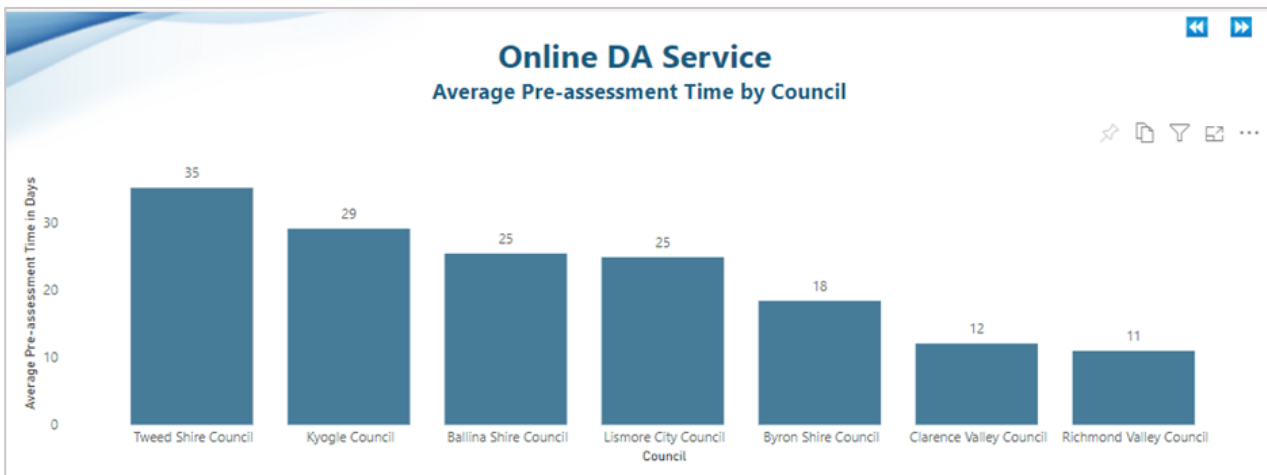


Figure 6: Average pre-assessment time by Council

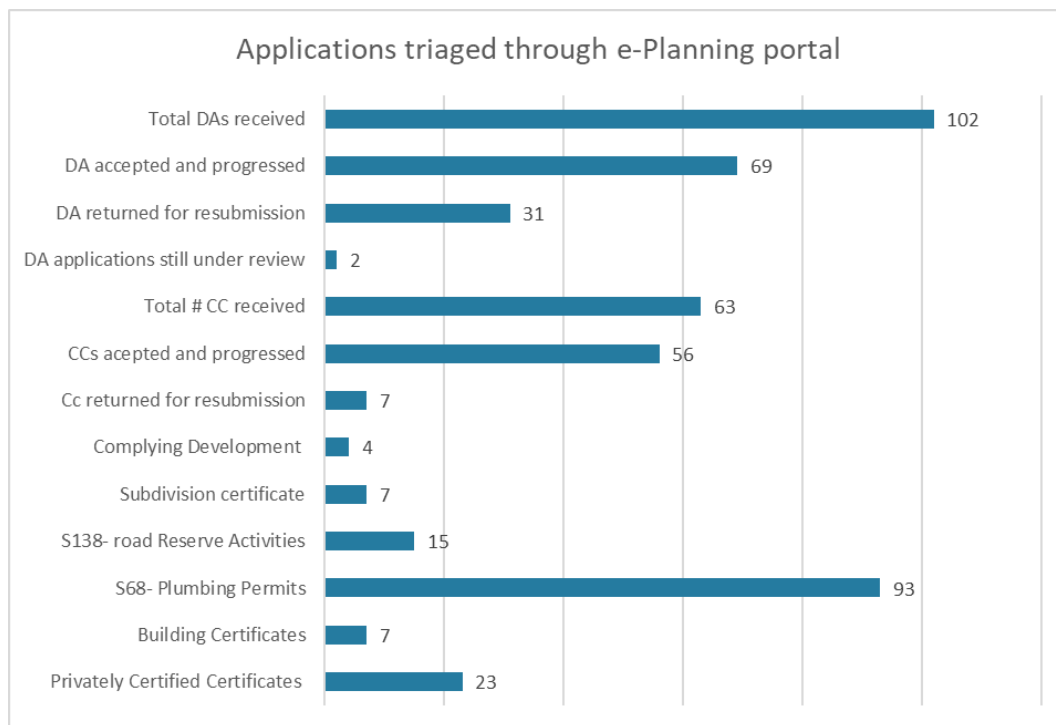


Figure 7: Applications received via the NSW Planning Portal

OneRoad – Key Statistics

Members of the CE Team collaborate with Roads & Drainage, Events and Assets teams, as well as Emergency Services to ensure all scheduled and unplanned road incidents are entered through the One Road portal in a timely manner to ensure road users are kept informed of road conditions and closures via the Live Traffic app.

Our Roads and Drainage teams supported by multiple contractor road maintenance crews focused on restoring our road network to better than pre-flood standards. Updating scheduled road maintenance via the One Road platform informs residents of expected delays and provides alternate routes to minimise disruptions.



Figure 8: Total planned and unplanned road incidents recorded



Figure 9: Number of road incidents by street

Opportunities 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 customers lodging applications via the e-planning portal to ensure submission to lodgement 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 of 80%.

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

19.5 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT FOR THE PERIOD 1 DECEMBER 2022 TO 31 JANUARY 2023

Director: Angela Jones

Responsible Officer: Denise Catlin

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Development Application report for the period 1 December 2022 to 31 January 2023.

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 December 2022 to 31 December 2022 was 25, with a total value of \$4,351,597.10.

The total number of Development Applications and Complying Development Applications determined within the Local Government area for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 January 2023 was 15, with a total value of \$3,342,086.00.

In December DA2022/0107 – 1465 Bentley Road, Bentley, the proposed Designated Development and Integrated Development for an extractive industry with an intended capacity of up to 300,000 tonnes per annum was determined by the Northern Regional Planning Panel by granting of Deferred Commencement consent subject to conditions.

In January, we had one application determined that was flood affected being DA2023/0059 – 4 Minto Street, Coraki.

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

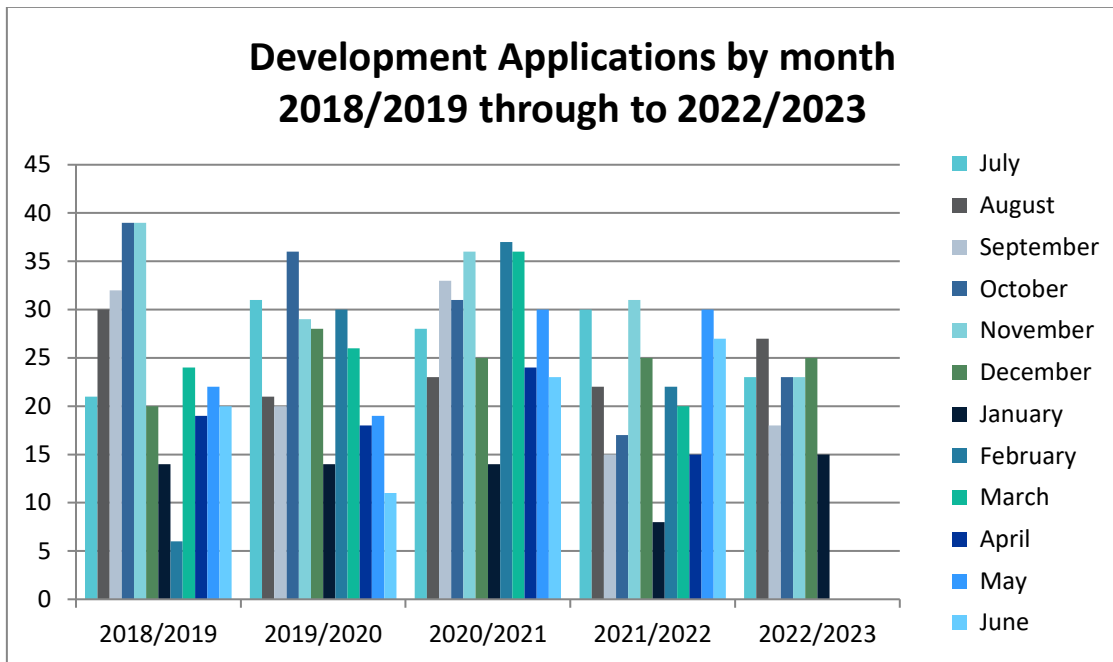


Figure 1: Monthly number of development applications processed by Council over five financial years.

Figure 2 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 months of December 2022 and January 2023.

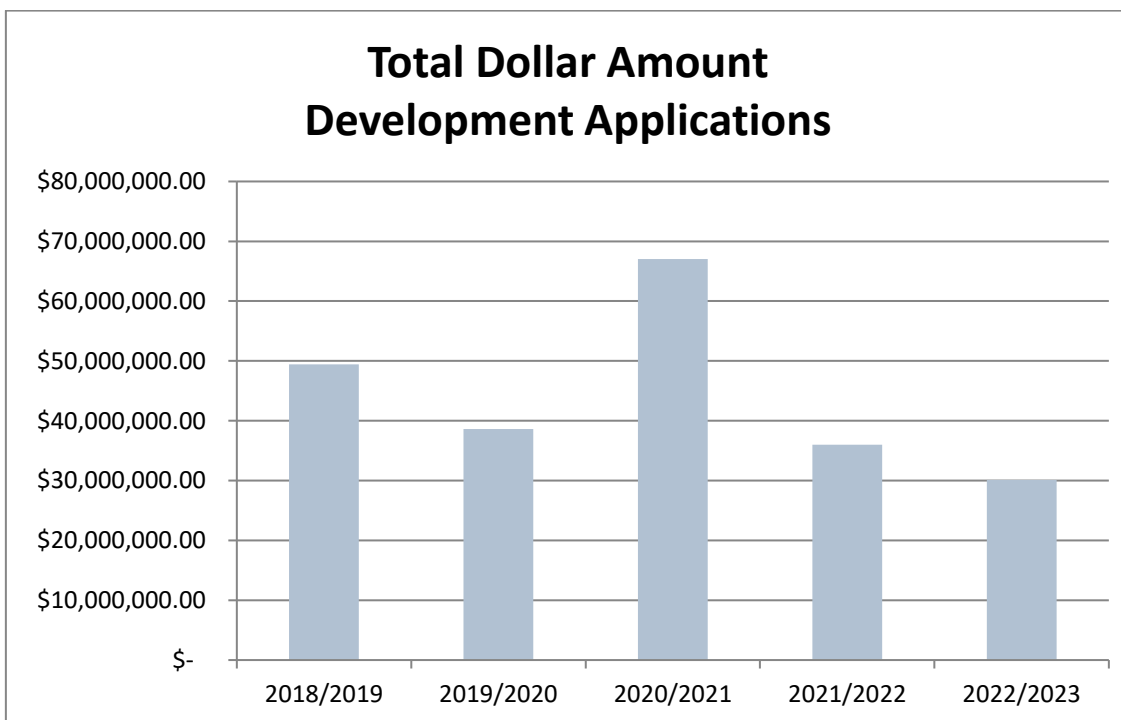


Figure 2: Annual value of development.

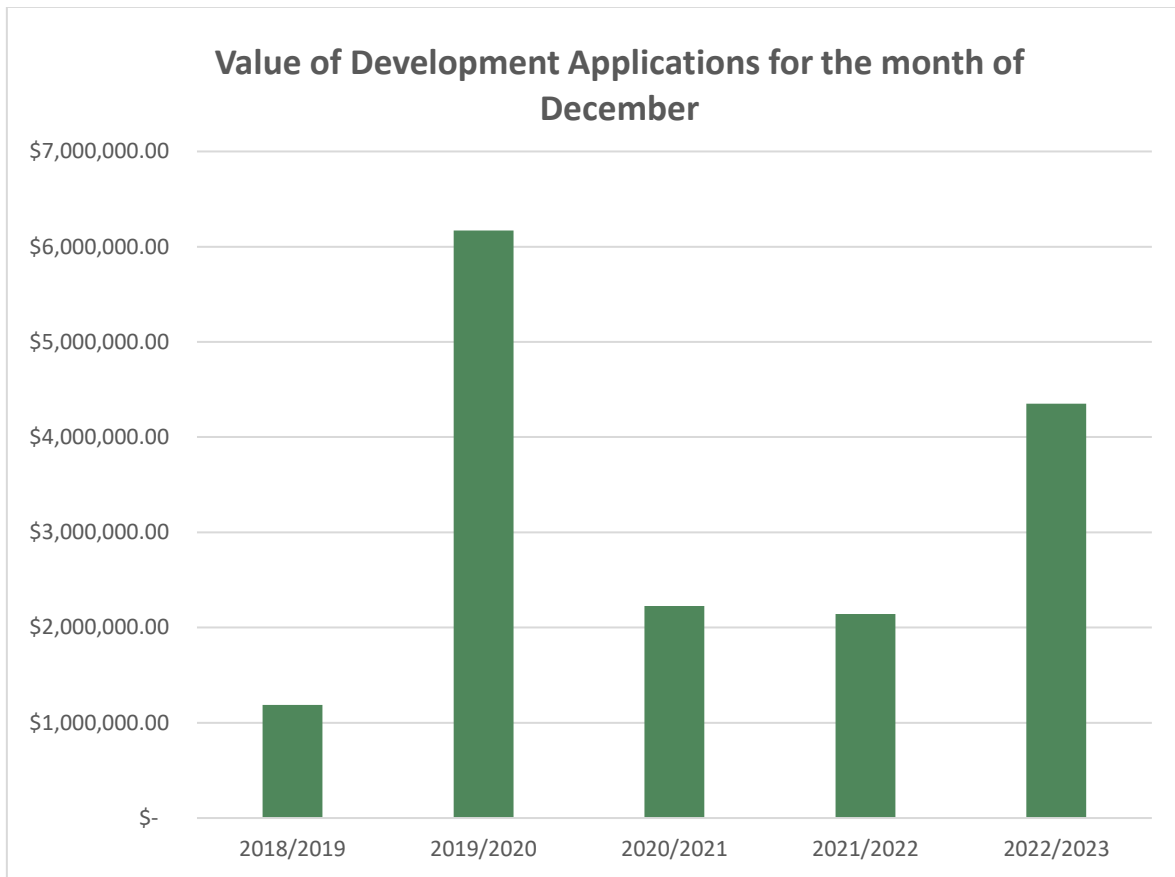


Figure 3: Value of development for the month of December 2022

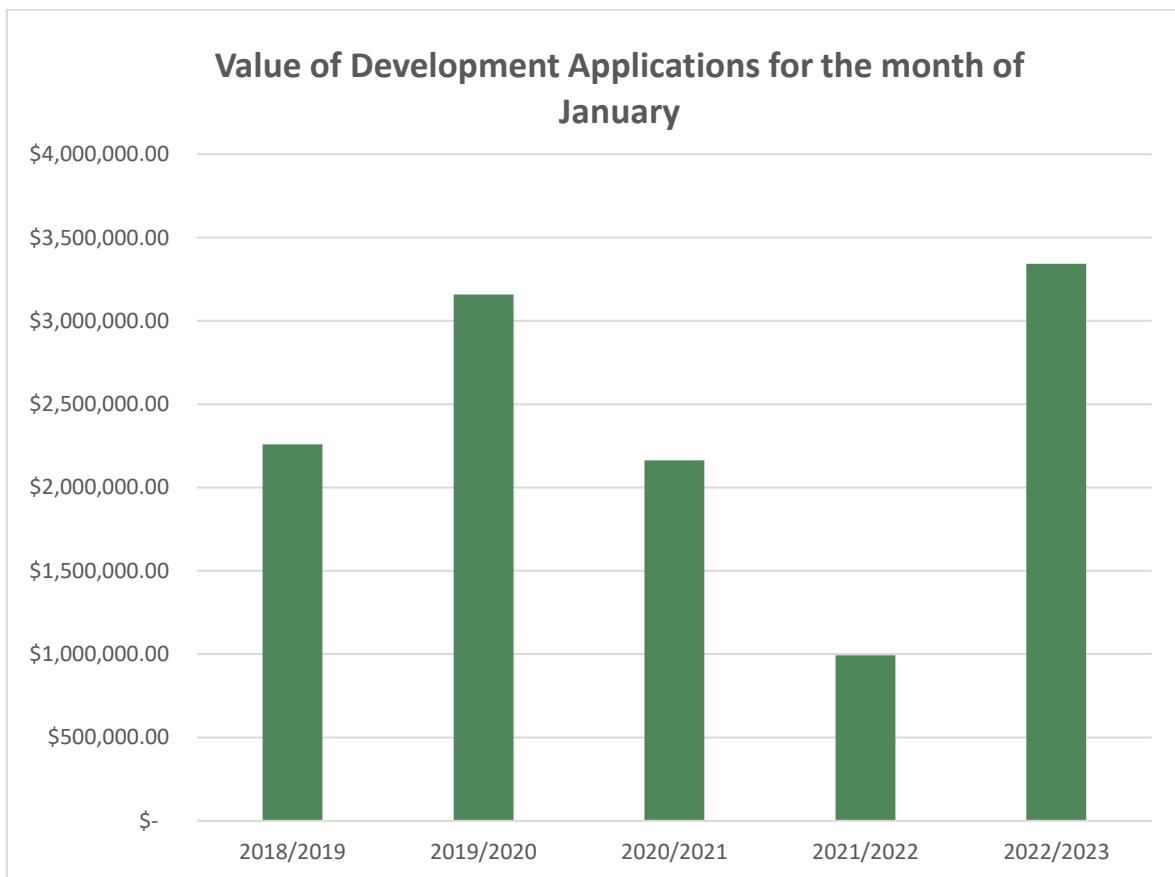


Figure 4: Value of development for the month of January 2023

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 5 and 6 detail the number of applications determined by Council over the past five years.

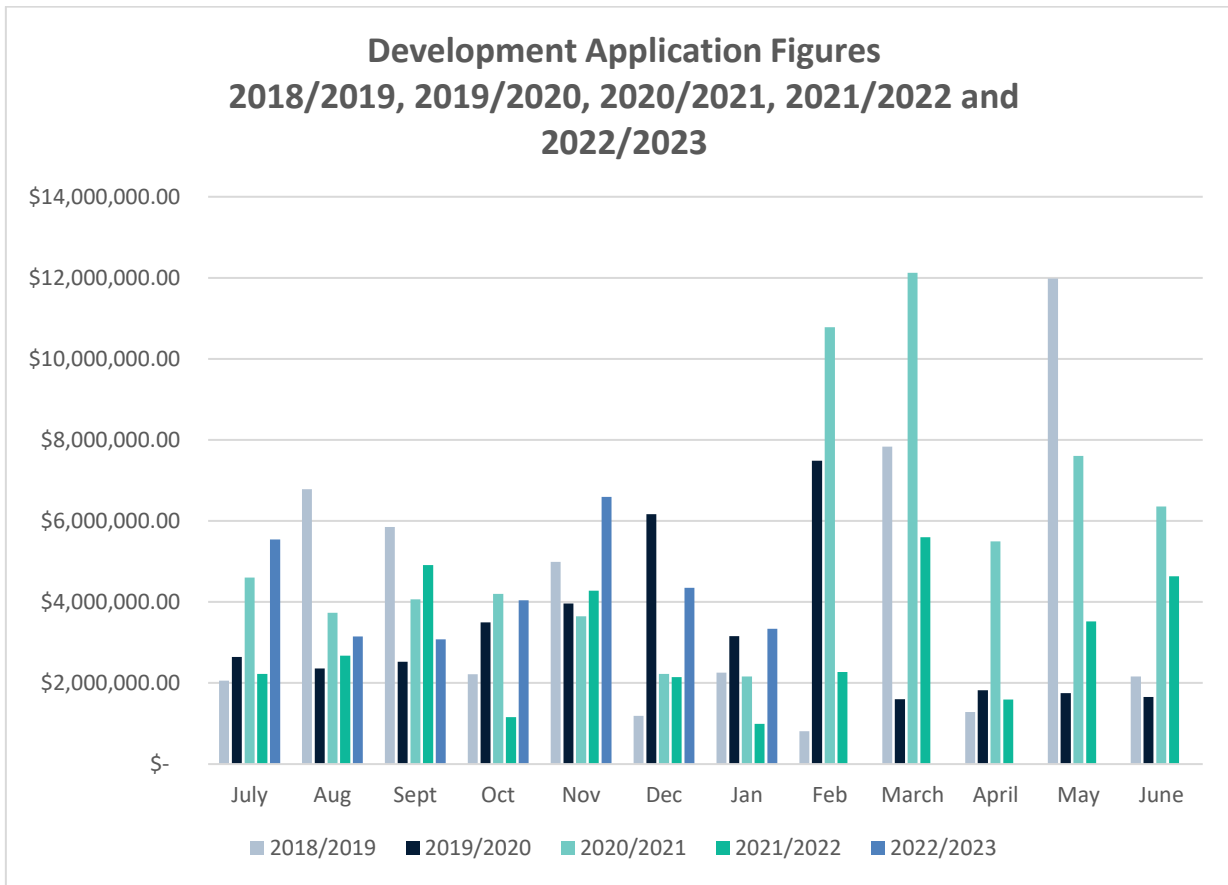


Figure 5: Value of development applications per month over five financial years.

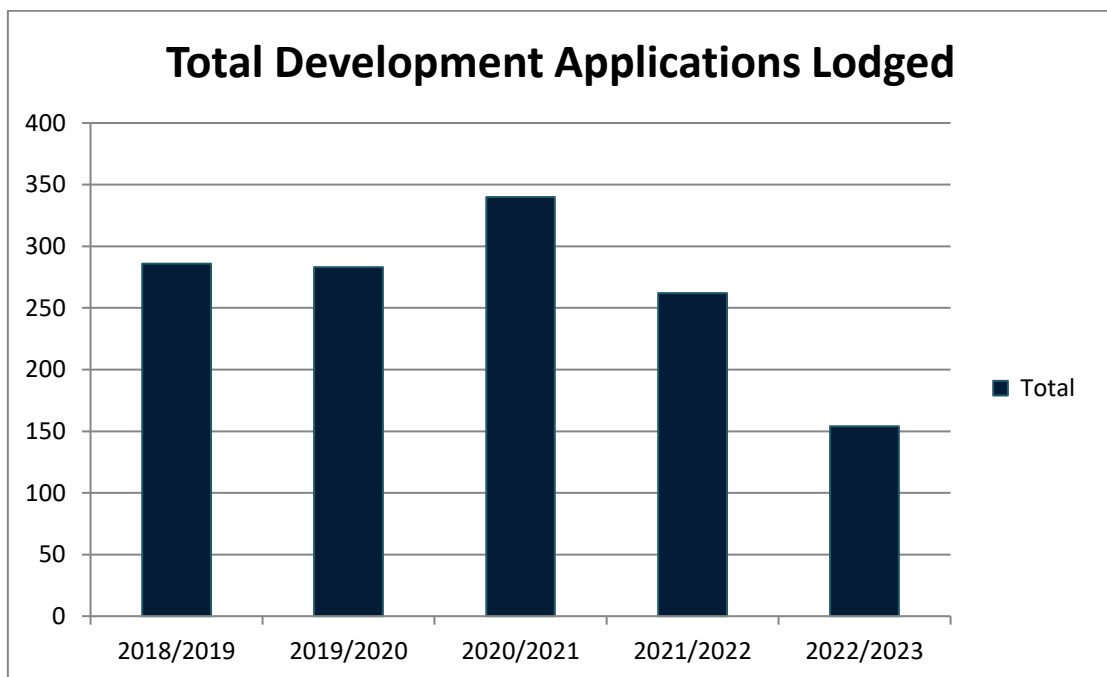


Figure 6: Number of Development Applications per annum over five financial years.

Activity for the months of December 2022 & January 2023

| | |
|---|------------|
| General Approvals (excluding Subdivisions, Section 4.55) | 30 |
| Section 4.55 amendments to original consent | 7 |
| Subdivision | 1 |
| Refused | 0 |
| Rejected | 0 |
| Withdrawn | 0 |
| Complying Development (Council Approved) | 2 |
| Complying Development (Private Certifier Approved) | 2 |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS DETERMINED | 42 |
| Average assessment days for applications determined in December 2022 | 33 |
| Average assessment days for applications determined in January 2023 | 52 |
| No. of Integrated development applications determined in December 2022 | 1 |
| No. of Integrated development applications determined in January 2023 | 0 |
| No. of Designated development applications determined in December 2022 | 1 |
| No. of Designated development applications determined in January 2023 | 0 |
| No. of building/ compliance inspections undertaken in December 2022. | 131 |
| No. of building/ compliance inspections undertaken in January 2023 | 79 |

| Summary of Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 December 2022 to 31 December 2022 | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Application ID | Applicant | Owners | Location | Development | Date Lodged | Determination Date | Estimated Cost |
| DA2022/0107 | B Luffman | R G McKenzie & S L McKenzie | 1465 Bentley Road, Bentley | Proposed Designated Development and Integrated Development for an extractive industry with an intended capacity of up to 300,000 tonnes per annum | 19/11/2021 | 16/12/2022 | \$988,582.10 |
| DA2022/0217 | Newton Denny Chapelle | P J Fuhrmann, J A Fuhrmann, H M Smethurst | 23 Beech Street, Evans Head | Demolition of existing structures, construction of an attached three (3) storey dual occupancy development, in-ground swimming pool & associated works | 17/05/2022 | 7/12/2022 | \$1,540,000.00 |
| DA2023/0021 | J M Rizzo | J M Rizzo | 2A Fletcher Street, Broadwater | Two storey dwelling and a detached storage shed with a variation request to the DCP for the shed with a front building line setback from 6m to 3.5m | 27/07/2022 | 20/12/2022 | \$411,700.00 |
| DA2020/0051.01 | I J Rann | I J Rann & M M Rann | 5 Tomki Drive, Casino | S4.55 (1A) Modification - Remove conditions 14 & 15 from approved consent | 5/09/2022 | 2/12/2022 | \$0.00 |
| DA2023/0063 | ASKC Sheds Lismore Pty Ltd | G A Bevitt | 42 Richmond Street, Casino | Construction of a colorbond shed for storage | 5/10/2022 | 9/12/2022 | \$21,789.00 |
| DA2023/0064 | C J Cleak | A L Armstrong & N L Armstrong | 32 Verulam View, Spring Grove | As built - 15m x 9m gable portal frame machinery shed | 5/10/2022 | 2/12/2022 | \$64,265.00 |
| DA2023/0068 | Hayes Building Consultancy | A M Duncan & C Duncan | 965 Woodburn Coraki Road, Bungawalbin | Flood mound for livestock | 12/10/2022 | 9/12/2022 | \$70,000.00 |
| DA2023/0072 | W Inwood | J A J Nelson & J E McFarlane | 545 Swan Bay New Italy Road, Swan Bay | Farm shed with request to vary the front boundary setback | 21/10/2022 | 14/12/2022 | \$63,150.00 |
| DA2023/0074 | AGS Commercial Pty Ltd | B T Olive & N J Olive | 40 Lakeside Drive, Casino | Carport | 1/11/2022 | 1/12/2022 | \$10,946.00 |

| Summary of Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 December 2022 to 31 December 2022 | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|-------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Application ID | Applicant | Owners | Location | Development | Date Lodged | Determination Date | Estimated Cost |
| DA2023/0075 | AGS Commercial Pty Ltd | M A Eller & W J Eller | 18 Grevillea Place, Swan Bay | Shed | 1/11/2022 | 2/12/2022 | \$53,811.00 |
| DA2023/0077 | Hayes Building Consultancy | K E L Thomson & B J Thomson | 305 Woodburn Evans Head Road, Woodburn | As built farm shed with bathroom on earth pad | 2/11/2022 | 9/12/2022 | \$90,000.00 |
| DA2023/0078 | ASKC Sheds Lismore Pty Ltd | J L Dawson & P W Dawson | 198 Walker Street, Casino | Removal of existing shed and erect a 9m x 7m colorbond shed for storage | 3/11/2022 | 6/12/2022 | \$31,070.00 |
| DA2023/0079 | Newton Denny Chapelle | Ampol Australia Petroleum Pty Ltd | 32 Dyraaba Street, Casino | Proposed demolition of existing top load gantry at existing fuel storage depot | 3/11/2022 | 1/12/2022 | \$20,000.00 |
| DA2022/0243.01 | J L Lotz | B C Lotz & J L Lotz | 55 Barker Street, Casino | S4.55 (1A) Modification to include sink, shower and toilet in approved shed with attached carport | 4/11/2022 | 20/12/2022 | \$35,000.00 |
| DA2023/0081 | N A K M Belford | A M C Belford & N A K M Belford | 11 Anson Avenue, Evans Head | Replacement of old existing front deck with new front deck and adding approximately 1.5sq mtrs to deck with roof over extension | 7/11/2022 | 19/12/2022 | \$23,650.00 |
| DA2023/0082 | N D Greber | Mr N D Greber & Mrs E J Greber | 35 Simpson Parade CASINO NSW 2470 | Installation of a new fibreglass swimming pool and associated fencing | 8/11/2022 | 13/12/2022 | \$9,800.00 |
| DA2023/0083 | Senica Consultancy Group | N L Stewart & J R Stewart | 4 Ferrier Court, Casino | Construction of two (2) single storey dwellings with attached garages to form a detached dual occupancy development, ancillary site works and associated strata subdivision | 9/11/2022 | 21/12/2022 | \$723,979.00 |

| Summary of Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 December 2022 to 31 December 2022 | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Application ID | Applicant | Owners | Location | Development | Date Lodged | Determination Date | Estimated Cost |
| DA2023/0086 | K L Collis | J S Collis & K L Collis | 480 Rappville Road, Rappville | Alterations & additions to existing dwelling including office, bedrooms, en-suite and verandah | 14/11/2022 | 20/12/2022 | \$98,000.00 |
| DA2023/0102 | Newton Denny Chapelle | R M Mazzocato & S M Mazzocato | 1/8 Elm Street, Evans Head | Strata Title subdivision of two (2) approved units on Strata Lot 1 within an existing multi-dwelling housing development | 1/12/2022 | 21/12/2022 | \$0.00 |
| DA2023/0104 | Newton Denny Chapelle | Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Lismore | 116 Centre Street, Casino | Demolition of an existing maintenance and storage building and establishment of a new play area at St Mary's Primary School. | 5/12/2022 | 15/12/2022 | \$24,100.00 |
| DA2017/0236.01 | Perry Homes (Aust) Pty Ltd | P J Ford | 17 Ivory Circuit, Casino | S4.55(1A) Modification - minor changes to size, location, sill height and operability of windows and glazed doors, removal of porch to Northern elevation and change to roof pitch | 5/12/2022 | 19/12/2022 | \$0.00 |
| DA2020/0165.01 | S P Eveston | P G Willis | 18 Convent Parade, Casino | S4.55(2) Modification - Barn style shed 9.5 x 10.5 metres | 6/12/2022 | 20/12/2022 | \$0.00 |
| DA2022/0253.01 | Newton Denny Chapelle | J M Cruickshank, M A Cruickshank, G J Cruickshank | 460 Old Dyraba Road, Woodview | Section 4.55 (1) Minor Clerical Modification to approved Subdivision to create three lots being Lot 1 (40ha), Lot 2 (185.18ha) and Lot 3 (40ha) | 15/12/2022 | 15/12/2022 | \$0.00 |
| DA2023/0068.01 | Hayes Building Consultancy | A M Duncan & C Duncan | 965 Woodburn Coraki Road, Bungawalbin | S4.55(1) - Modification to correct clerical error - flood mound | 19/12/2022 | 23/12/2022 | \$0.00 |

| Summary of Bushfire Affected Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 December 2022 to 31 December 2022 | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|-------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Application ID | Applicant | Owners | Location | Development | Date Lodged | Determination Date | Estimated Cost |
| Nil | | | | | | | |
| Summary of Flood Affected Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 December 2022 to 31 December 2022 | | | | | | | |
| Application ID | Applicant | Owners | Location | Development | Date Lodged | Determination Date | Estimated Cost |
| Nil | | | | | | | |
| Summary of CDC Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 December 2022 to 31 December 2022 | | | | | | | |
| Application ID | Applicant | Owners | Location | Development | Date Lodged | Determination Date | Estimated Cost |
| CDC2023/0007 | Northern Rivers Pools | S E Lambeth-Mackney & T J Felsch | 54 Shannonbrook Road, Shannon Brook | Installation of an in ground fibreglass swimming pool, it's associated equipment & fencing. | 15/11/2022 | 1/12/2022 | \$71,755.00 |
| Summary of Development Applications Refused under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 December 2022 to 31 December 2022 | | | | | | | |
| Application ID | Applicant | Owners | Location | Development | Date Lodged | Determination Date | Estimated Cost |
| Nil | | | | | | | |
| Summary of Development Applications Withdrawn under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 December 2022 to 31 December 2022 | | | | | | | |
| Application ID | Applicant | Owners | Location | Development | Date Lodged | Determination Date | Estimated Cost |
| Nil | | | | | | | |

| Summary of Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 January 2023 | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Application ID | Applicant | Owners | Location | Development | Date Lodged | Determination Date | Estimated Cost |
| DA2022/0075 | McKinlay Enterprises Pty Ltd | McKinlay Properties Pty Ltd | 60 Hare Street, Casino | Replacement of awning, business identification signage and 7m price board | 12/10/2021 | 17/01/2023 | \$60,000.00 |
| DA2023/0060 | Metricon Homes QLD Pty Ltd | Widosea Pty Ltd & Triasa Pty Ltd | 108 West Street, Casino | Construction of two (2) single storey dwellings with attached single garages to form a detached dual occupancy development and associated works | 26/09/2022 | 10/01/2023 | \$558,686.00 |
| DA2023/0084 | Crestwood Drafting Services | DJT Superannuation Pty Ltd | 128-132 Barker Street, Casino | Change of use as health consulting rooms comprising alterations and additions to an existing building including installation of an accessible sanitary facility, new signage and associated works | 9/11/2022 | 10/01/2023 | \$134,750.00 |
| DA2023/0088 | Hayes Building Consultancy | M T Stokes & K P W Stokes | 2 Wallum Drive, Doonbah | Conversion of an existing donga building to be used as an art studio and the permit installation of two (2) shipping containers | 15/11/2022 | 16/01/2023 | \$4,500.00 |
| DA2023/0090 | Scott Davis & Associates | S J Marquet & J P Marquet | 84 Johnston Street, Casino | Demolition of existing outbuildings, alterations & additions to existing dwelling, construction of an attached second dwelling to create a dual occupancy and strata subdivision | 16/11/2022 | 12/01/2023 | \$940,500.00 |
| DA2023/0091 | AGS Commercial Pty Ltd | J Turner | 36 Barker Street, Casino | Storage shed | 22/11/2022 | 5/01/2023 | \$33,709.00 |
| DA2023/0096 | The Shed Company | R S Falconer & A I Falconer | 86 Johnston Street, Casino | Shed and lean to | 29/11/2022 | 9/01/2023 | \$27,837.00 |

| Summary of Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 January 2023 | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------|---|--|-------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Application ID | Applicant | Owners | Location | Development | Date Lodged | Determination Date | Estimated Cost |
| DA2023/0097 | Perry Homes (Aust) Pty Ltd | N S Mitchell & K M Mitchell | 505 Backmede Road, Backmede | Dwelling | 30/11/2022 | 20/01/2023 | \$575,328.00 |
| DA2023/0098 | Coral Homes Pty Ltd | C P B Matthews & T N Pillar | 46 Pennefather Close, Yorklea | Dwelling | 1/12/2022 | 19/01/2023 | \$385,961.00 |
| DA2023/0109 | Shipmans Construction & Plant Pty Ltd | B A Wong & I J Wong | 99 Casuarina Drive, Swan Bay | Inground Fibreglass Swimming Pool & associated fencing | 12/12/2022 | 16/01/2023 | \$45,160.00 |
| DA2023/0110 | B & T Garages & Sheds Pty Ltd | R J Miller & S M Miller | 85 Johnston Street, Casino | Erection of a colorbond shed | 12/12/2022 | 11/01/2023 | \$25,005.00 |
| DA2023/0111 | E J Lohman | S A Lane | 81 Hogarth Range Road, Mongogarrie | Single storey dwelling with attached decks | 13/12/2022 | 20/01/2023 | \$450,000.00 |
| DA2023/0077.01 | Hayes Building Consultancy | K E L Thomson & B J Thomson | 305 Woodburn Evans Head Road, Woodburn | S4.55 (1) - Modification to correct clerical error - as built farm shed with bathroom on earth pad | 19/12/2022 | 11/01/2023 | \$0.00 |
| Summary of Bushfire Affected Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 January 2023 | | | | | | | |
| Application ID | Applicant | Owners | Location | Development | Date Lodged | Determination Date | Estimated Cost |
| Nil | | | | | | | |
| Summary of Flood Affected Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 January 2023 | | | | | | | |
| Application ID | Applicant | Owners | Location | Development | Date Lodged | Determination Date | Estimated Cost |
| DA2023/0059 | J Audino | J Audino | 4 Minto Street, Coraki | ***FLOOD AFFECTED*** - Raising of an existing dwelling above flood level | 20/09/2022 | 20/01/2023 | \$55,000.00 |

| Summary of CDC Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 January 2023 | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Application ID | Applicant | Owners | Location | Development | Date Lodged | Determination Date | Estimated Cost |
| CDC2023/0009 | Hayes Building Consultancy | D J McGeary & T L McGeary | 51 Heath Street, Evans Head | Demolition of the existing two storey dwelling | 12/12/2022 | 10/01/2023 | \$45,650.00 |
| Summary of Development Applications Refused under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 January 2023 | | | | | | | |
| Application ID | Applicant | Owners | Location | Development | Date Lodged | Determination Date | Estimated Cost |
| Nil | | | | | | | |
| Summary of Development Applications Withdrawn under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 January 2023 | | | | | | | |
| Application ID | Applicant | Owners | Location | Development | Date Lodged | Determination Date | Estimated Cost |
| Nil | | | | | | | |

ATTACHMENT(S)**Nil**

19.6 NORTHERN RIVERS LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE STATISTICS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

Director: Ben Zeller
Responsible Officer: Bradley Willis

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the financial year to date Northern Rivers Livestock Exchange Statistics as of 31 December 2022.

REPORT

This report provides a financial year to date update on the key statistics and financial performance of the Northern Rivers Livestock Exchange on 31 December 2022.

KEY STATISTICS**To 31 December 2022 (LY to 31 December 2021)**

Throughput **48,042** Across 42 Sales (LY 43,433 42 sales)

Gross sales revenue **\$69,204,858** (LY \$71,293,463)

Council revenue share **\$837,714 (1.21%)** (LY \$733,610 (1.03%))

Estimated Agents revenue share at 5% commission **\$3,460,242** (LY \$3,564,673)

NRLX Operating Result (**-\$205,361.00**) (LY -\$264,737)

NRLX Program deficit (**-\$318,164**) (LY -\$419,110)

NRLX INCOME AND EXPENDITURE to 31 December 2022

With continued increases in throughput numbers the NRLX has received an increase of \$100,000 in revenue compared to the same period in 2021. Total revenue to 31 December is \$837,713 which accounts for 43% of yearly budget. The operating deficit of \$205,361 (LY -\$264,737) is an improvement for the YTD compared to the previous year. Depreciation is factored into this result which when added back shows a cash surplus result to 31 December of \$10,603 (LY -\$8,684).

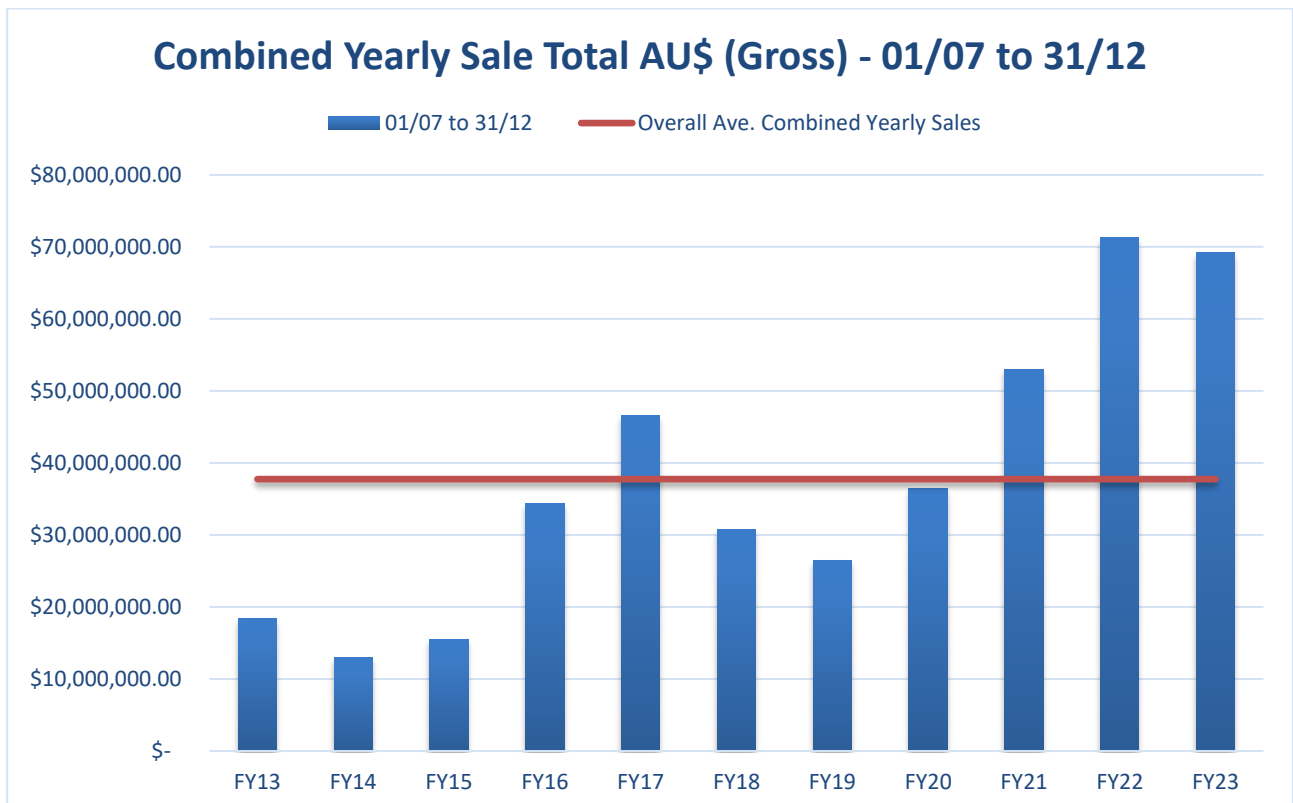
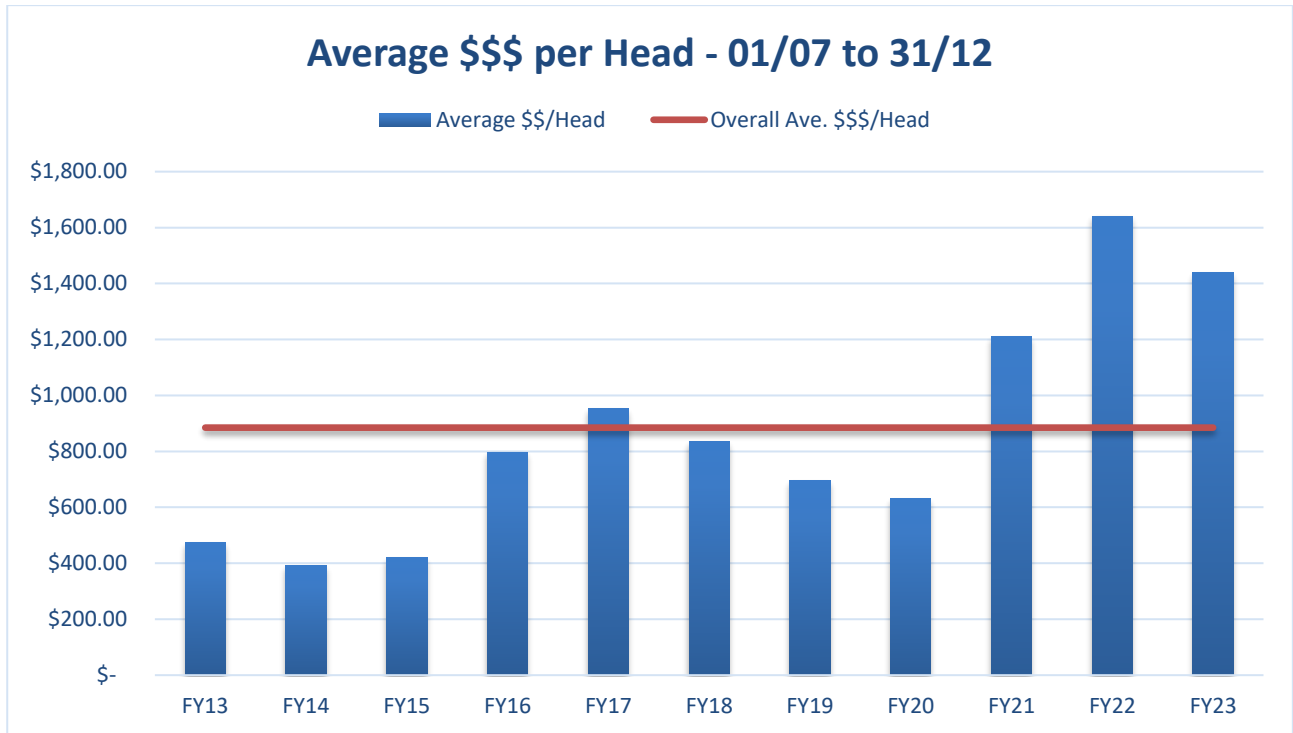
Operating expenses excluding depreciation are \$827,111 (LY \$742,293) with an added depreciation figure of \$215,964 YTD bringing total operating expenses to \$1,043,075. Other significant expenses in the financials of \$56,257 in legal expenses which includes an historical WHS matter and current legal expenses for the revised Agent Licence Agreements.

Fees and rent revenue of \$813,915 is currently 46.65% of budget (\$1,744,609) with the traditional increased sales activity to occur in the coming months.

Processing of Bio-solids has commenced due to some consistency in the weather and there is a significant backlog of material for processing. New permits are currently being sourced from NSW DPI for the export of material from site with three new local locations submitted for approval. These local locations should enable an improvement in profitability due to shorter transport and see a significant injection of income in the last half of the year.

YTD sale numbers are up 4,609 or 10.5% on last year and this can be partly attributed to the inclusion of Lismore saleyards numbers as the current closure of the facility is ongoing. Lismore based agency Ian Weir & Son have contributed 7,903 head to the facility compared to 1,488 head in the same intervening period in 2021. This demonstrates the need for NRLX to continue

increasing its regional presence and access further livestock from neighbouring smaller competing saleyards to continue to increase throughput numbers.



MLA National Saleyard Survey

The 2022 Saleyard Survey results are in and NRLX has again improved our performance at the state and national level. NRLX moved into second place in NSW only 1150 head behind the privately operated Tamworth. Nationally NRLX slipped into 6th after being 9th in FY2021 and 14th in FY2020 for throughput of cattle in the financial year. Most notably the NRLX average throughput has continued to increase up from 109,000 head to 119,780 head per year on a rolling three-year average, positioning NRLX at number 8 in Australia.

New South Wales

Cattle

| Town | Saleyard | State | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | % of State | % Change |
|--------------|---|------------|----------------|------------------|------------|--------------|
| Tamworth | Tamworth Regional Livestock Exchange** | NSW | 101,215 | 124,863 | 10.9% | 23.4% |
| Casino | Northern Rivers Livestock Exchange** | NSW | 103,700 | 123,713 | 10.8% | 19.3% |
| Dubbo | Dubbo Regional Livestock Market** | NSW | 115,836 | 122,289 | 10.6% | 5.6% |
| Wagga Wagga | Wagga Wagga Livestock Marketing Centre** | NSW | 113,401 | 107,274 | 9.3% | -5.4% |
| Carcoar | Central Tablelands Livestock Exchange** | NSW | 63,885 | 102,770 | 8.9% | 60.9% |
| Gunnedah | Gunnedah Regional Saleyard** | NSW | 56,105 | 65,532 | 5.7% | 16.8% |
| Inverell | Inverell Regional Livestock Exchange** | NSW | 46,000 | 61,949 | 5.4% | 34.7% |
| Yass | South Eastern Livestock Exchange** | NSW | 36,323 | 45,029 | 3.9% | 24.0% |
| Grafton | Grafton Regional Livestock Selling Centre | NSW | 34,490 | 40,385 | 3.5% | 17.1% |
| Forbes | Central West Livestock Exchange** | NSW | 32,973 | 40,087 | 3.5% | 21.6% |
| Maitland | Maitland Saleyards | NSW | 41,338 | 38,005 | 3.3% | -8.1% |
| Kempsey | Kempsey Regional Saleyards | NSW | 32,963 | 35,941 | 3.1% | 9.0% |
| Scone | Scone Regional Livestock Selling Centre** | NSW | 29,071 | 30,920 | 2.7% | 6.4% |
| Singleton | Singleton Regional Livestock Markets** | NSW | 27,390 | 28,684 | 2.5% | 4.7% |
| Moss Vale | Southern Regional Livestock Exchange** | NSW | 33,367 | 25,318 | 2.2% | -24.1% |
| Armidale | New England Livestock Selling Facility** | NSW | 15,744 | 24,409 | 2.1% | 55.0% |
| Dunedoo | Dunedoo Saleyards | NSW | 25,223 | 23,206 | 2.0% | -8.0% |
| Bega Valley | Bega Valley Saleyard / Pambula | NSW | 20,261 | 18,792 | 1.6% | -7.3% |
| Mudgee | Midwestern Regional Council Saleyards | NSW | 18,802 | 18,221 | 1.6% | -3.1% |
| Gloucester | Gloucester Saleyards | NSW | | 17,671 | 1.5% | |
| Macksville | Macksville Saleyards | NSW | 12,640 | 12,814 | 1.1% | 1.4% |
| Tenterfield | Tenterfield Livestock Selling Centre | NSW | 8,963 | 10,693 | 0.9% | 19.3% |
| Braidwood | Braidwood Saleyards | NSW | 6,217 | 9,764 | 0.8% | 57.1% |
| Glen Innes | Glen Innes Severn Regional Saleyards | NSW | 9,419 | 9,674 | 0.8% | 2.7% |
| Finley | Finley Livestock Exchange | NSW | 11,209 | 8,988 | 0.8% | -19.8% |
| Gundagai | Gundagai Livestock Exchange | NSW | 2,867 | 2,225 | 0.2% | -22.4% |
| Total | | NSW | 999,402 | 1,149,216 | | 15.0% |

Three Year Average Throughput - Current

| Ranking | Saleyard | 2021/22 | 2020/21 | 2019/20 | Total | Average Throughput | Agents | Avg Head Per Agency |
|----------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|----------|---------------------|
| 1 | Roma | 220,567 | 239,224 | 275,258 | 735,049 | 245,016 | 8 | 30,627 |
| 2 | Dalby | 161,792 | 167,047 | 236,249 | 565,088 | 188,363 | 8 | 23,545 |
| 3 | Leongatha | 160,202 | 142,634 | 143,441 | 446,277 | 148,759 | 5 | 29,752 |
| 4 | Gracemere | 136,045 | 166,198 | 140,769 | 443,012 | 147,671 | 7 | 21,096 |
| 5 | Wodonga | 111,688 | 121,752 | 183,574 | 417,014 | 139,005 | 8 | 17,376 |
| 6 | Wagga Wagga | 107,274 | 113,401 | 190,150 | 410,825 | 136,942 | 9 | 15,216 |
| 7 | Dubbo | 112,289 | 115,836 | 155,770 | 383,895 | 127,965 | 13 | 9,843 |
| 8 | Casino | 123,713 | 103,700 | 131,926 | 359,339 | 119,780 | 5 | 23,956 |
| 9 | Tamworth | 124,863 | 101,215 | 111,834 | 337,912 | 112,637 | 10 | 11,264 |
| 10 | Pakenham | 109,048 | 103,074 | 122,141 | 334,263 | 111,421 | 5 | 22,284 |
| 11 | Carcoar | 102,770 | 63,885 | 144,904 | 311,559 | 103,853 | 13 | 7,989 |
| 12 | Blackall | 91,498 | 104,087 | 99,135 | 294,720 | 98,240 | 5 | 19,648 |
| 13 | Muchea | 94,178 | 96,554 | 96,616 | 287,348 | 95,783 | 5 | 19,157 |
| 14 | Mortlake | 111,490 | 90,828 | 64,827 | 267,145 | 89,048 | 8 | 11,131 |
| 15 | Boyanup | 82,256 | 80,570 | 86,343 | 249,169 | 83,056 | 2 | 41,528 |
| 16 | Emerald | 80,008 | 70,741 | 95,062 | 245,811 | 81,937 | 7 | 11,705 |
| 17 | Shepparton | 68,867 | 73,000 | 97,444 | 239,311 | 79,770 | 6 | 13,295 |
| 18 | Mount Gambier | 64,977 | 70,587 | 77,576 | 213,140 | 71,047 | 5 | 14,209 |
| 19 | Mount Barker | 62,236 | 71,817 | 75,943 | 209,996 | 69,999 | 3 | 23,333 |
| 20 | Biggenden | 51,603 | 64,122 | 64,691 | 180,416 | 60,139 | 1 | 60,139 |

| NRLX Income and Expenditure (excludes committed orders) | Actual 31-Dec-22 (\$) | Current Budget (\$) | Percentage % | Actual 31-Dec-21 (\$) |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Operating Income | | | | |
| Fees & Rent | 813,915 | 1,744,609 | 46.65% | 713,266 |
| Biosolids Project | 17,344 | 160,000 | 10.84% | 20,343 |
| LIRS Subsidy | 0 | 28,435 | 0.00% | 0 |
| Other Contributions | 6,456 | 0 | 0.00% | 0 |
| Total Operating Income | 837,714 | 1,933,044 | 43.34% | 733,610 |
| Operating Expenses | | | | |
| Salaries and On costs | 309,752 | 650,923 | 47.59% | 292,776 |
| Materials and Contracts | 217,955 | 370,084 | 58.89% | 139,323 |
| Interest on Loans | 25,317 | 47,524 | 53.27% | 9,246 |
| Depreciation | 215,964 | 515,616 | 41.88% | 256,054 |
| Electricity Charges | 39,484 | 37,044 | 106.59% | 31,992 |
| Telephone Charges | 2,634 | 6,493 | 40.57% | 2,561 |
| Insurance Charges | 24,898 | 20,000 | 124.49% | 15,605 |
| Advertising Costs | 6,193 | 15,375 | 40.28% | 11,190 |
| Software Licences | 17,059 | 62,150 | 27.45% | 22,222 |
| Other General Expenses | 4,086 | 17,524 | 23.32% | 2,908 |
| Biosolids Project | 7,360 | 75,000 | 9.81% | 60,804 |
| Internal Charges | 103,816 | 289,102 | 35.91% | 145,289 |
| Legal Costs | 56,257 | 0 | 0.00% | 0 |
| Staff Training | 4,458 | 0 | 0.00% | 2,190 |
| Printing and Stationery | 3,994 | 8,000 | 49.92% | 3,652 |
| Security Charges | 3,849 | 5,125 | 75.10% | 2,536 |
| Total Operating Expenses | 1,043,075 | 2,119,960 | 49.20% | 998,347 |
| Operating Result - Surplus/(Deficit) | (205,361) | (186,916) | 109.87% | (264,737) |
| Operating Cash Result - Surplus/(Deficit) | 10,603 | 328,700 | 3.23% | (8,684) |
| Capital Income | | | | |
| Capital Grants & Contributions/Loan Funding | | | | |
| Capital Works Levy | 89,818 | 214,318 | 41.91% | 76,626 |
| Total Capital Income | 89,818 | 214,318 | 41.91% | 76,626 |
| Capital Expenditure | | | | |
| Plant Purchases | 15,496 | 9,276 | 167.06% | 42,134 |
| Shed | 0 | 0 | 0.00% | 8,683 |
| Loan Principal Repayments | 187,126 | 377,364 | 49.59% | 180,182 |
| Total Capital Expenditure | 202,622 | 386,640 | 52.41% | 230,999 |
| Program Result - Surplus/(Deficit) | (318,164) | (359,238) | 88.57% | (419,110) |
| Program Cash Result - Surplus/(Deficit) | (102,201) | 156,378 | -65.35% | (163,056) |

ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil

19.7 BLAZE AID THANK YOU

Director: Vaughan Macdonald

Responsible Officer: Julie Clark

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the correspondence provided to BlazeAid thanking the group for their significant contribution to the Richmond Valley Community.

SUMMARY OF CORRESPONDENCE

BlazeAid has given significant support to the Richmond Valley Community from October 2019 - January 2023 by providing assistance with clearing and fencing for many landowners following the 2019 bushfires and 2022 floods.

Council hosted the group at the Casino Showground and Rappville Sportsground during this period.

At Council's Ordinary meeting held 20 December 2022, it was resolved;

That Council:

- 1. Acknowledges the significant contribution BlazeAid has made to support so many landowners across the Richmond Valley to recovery from damage to their properties and fences following the 2019 bushfire season and more recently the 2022 floods;*
- 2. Writes to the founder of BlazeAid, Kevin Butler, to thank him and his many volunteers for their support of the Richmond Valley community over the past three years.*

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1. BlazeAid thank you letter**



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

7 February 2023

Mr Kevin Butler
BlazeAid Inc.
PO Box 73
Kilmore VIC 3763

Via email: admin@blazeaid.com.au

Dear Kevin

On behalf of Richmond Valley Council, I would like to thank BlazeAid for the significant contribution your organisation has made to our community over the past few years.

BlazeAid has provided support with clearing and fencing for many landowners across the Richmond Valley to help them recover from damage to their properties following the 2019 bushfire season and more recently the 2022 floods. This support was greatly appreciated, at a time when our community was experiencing some of its darkest days. BlazeAid has helped our community on the road to recovery and we will always appreciate the support we have received from your volunteer teams.

Council was pleased to host BlazeAid at the Casino Showground since late 2019 and then again when the camp was relocated to the Rappville Sportsground in late 2022 due to the commencement of the Casino showground upgrade project. The camp at Rappville concluded on 20 January 2023, to enable the Rappville community to re-start events at the facility and continue its bushfire recovery. After three years of much valued support, the Richmond Valley community is well on the way to recovery, due to the efforts of your valued volunteers.

We would like to wish BlazeAid well and look forward to hearing about its support for other regional communities impacted by natural disasters.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaughan Macdonald". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Vaughan Macdonald
General Manager

Love where we live and work



19.8 INTERNAL AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES 15 FEBRUARY 2023

Author: Hayley Martin, Management Accountant

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Minutes of the Internal Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 15 February 2023.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 1. Unconfirmed Minutes Internal Audit & Risk Committee (under separate cover)**

20 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

21 QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING (IN WRITING)

22 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:

22.1 Tender VP339938 - Mobile Amenities

This matter relates to a (d)(i) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (a) 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 personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

22.2 Write-off of Monies Under Delegation

This matter relates to a (b) discussion in relation to the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer.

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.

23 RESOLUTIONS OF CLOSED COUNCIL