



# **AGENDA**

## **Ordinary Council Meeting**

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

**Date: Tuesday, 16 May 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

### 5.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - CASINO COURT HOUSE - FLOOD DAMAGE ONGOING CLOSURE

**Author:** Robert Mustow

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council writes to the Minister for Communities and Justice and our Local Member for Clarence, seeking assistance to expediate the repair works required to ensure the reopening of the Casino Court House as soon as possible given the impacts it is having on our community and the local economy.

#### REPORT

The Department of Communities and Justice is responsible for Court House operations state-wide including the Casino Court House which is currently closed due to damage from the March 2022 flood. Enquiries have been made seeking information on the plan of works for refurbishment and the timeframe for re-opening the Casino Court House.

The Court House closure has meant all Court matters are now being heard at the Lismore Court House and the travel required is having the following impacts on our local community:

- Operational/resourcing impacts on Police who have to travel to/from Lismore for appearances/hearings
- Resource impact on staff who work for local solicitors having to travel for appearances/hearings.
- Economic impact on Casino due to loss of regular Court days which brings professional people and community members to town for a day.
- Lower socio-economic and indigenous members of our community who don't have their own transport. Public transport options are very limited making it very difficult to attend Court.
- Impact on community and family members who may be supporting a person who needs to attend Court.
- Concern that if the Court remains out of action for a long period a decision could be made to not re-open it.

The following message was received when making email contact with the Department:

*"Relocation of sittings due to Court Closure - Casino Local Court*

*Casino Court House is currently closed due to the impact of flooding in the Lismore area – sittings are currently being held at the Lismore Court Complex until further notice.*

*If you have any questions, please contact Casino Local Court via email or phone the Court Service Centre on 1300 679 272."*

Contact was also made with the Member for Clarence's office who committed to making enquiries.



History of the Casino Court House.



Construction fencing around the Casino Court House.

#### **ATTACHMENT(S)**

**Nil**

## 5.2 MAYORAL MINUTE - SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY COSTS

**Author:** Robert Mustow

### RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council writes to the Treasurer, the Minister for Emergency Services, the Minister for Local Government and local State Member(s):
  - a. Expressing Council's concerns with the NSW Government's decision to discontinue the subsidy on the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) which will impact on Councils service delivery in 2023/24;
  - b. Noting that as a consequence of the 73% increase in the State Emergency Service budget and an 18% increase in the Fire and Rescue NSW budget, Council's 3.7% rate increase to provide essential community services and infrastructure has been significantly eroded.
  - c. Advising that the Government's decision is likely to mean a reduction in important local services and/or the cancellation of necessary infrastructure projects;
  - d. Calling on the NSW Government to take action to:
    - i. restore the Emergency Services Levy subsidy in 2023/24;
    - ii. introduce legislation to separate the ESL from the general rating provisions to enable councils to recover the full cost via a separate item listed on the annual rate notice;
    - iii. develop a fairer, more transparent and financially sustainable method of funding critically important emergency services in consultation with local government.

### REPORT

I am calling on Councillors to support representations to the NSW Government in response to the increase in the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) imposed on all councils for the 2023/24 financial year.

The ESL is a cost imposed on councils and insurance policy holders to fund the emergency services budget in NSW. The majority is paid as part of insurance premiums, with a further 11.7 per cent funded by councils and 14.6% by the NSW Government. The ESL is an example of cost shifting, as it is imposed on councils without any mechanism for councils to recover costs.

The levy increase for the State's 128 councils in 2023/24 amounts to almost \$77 million, with the total cost imposed on the local government sector increasing from \$143 million in the current financial year to \$219 million next year.

Reporting suggests that the increase in costs this year reflects a 73% increase in the State Emergency Service budget and an 18.5% funding increase to Fire and Rescue NSW. The impact of these large increases on councils' finances will be particularly severe in 2023/24 as a result of the NSW Government deciding to scrap the subsidy for council ESL payments.



IPART-approved rate rises are intended to compensate for the impacts of inflation and increases in council costs. Instead, the rate increase will have to be largely diverted to the significantly higher ESL payments this year leaving NSW councils no option other than to make cuts to infrastructure and services expenditure as it will need to be funded from councils' general rate revenue.

Richmond Valley Council's Emergency Services Levy for the coming financial year is \$729,000 - a 7.5 percent increase on last year's levy. With the NSW Government's subsidy which has been paid for the past four years being removed, the amount payable by Council will have increased by \$233,850 or 47.2 percent. This has a direct impact on the bottom line, which reduces the services Council can provide for its community.

It is recognised that it is important to fund emergency services at increased levels, particularly following the string of natural disasters our region had recently endured, and it should also be acknowledged that government subsidies could not last forever.

Our Council considered the risk of this subsidy being discontinued and therefore factored that outcome into our draft budget, which will be considered at this meeting prior to consultation with our community.

However, continuation of the subsidy by the new NSW Government would be welcome as it will enable us to provide additional services to our community or legislative change to enable the ESL to be re-couped from ratepayers as a separate line item on the rate notice.

#### **ATTACHMENT(S)**

**Nil**

**6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES****6.1 MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING HELD 18 APRIL 2023**

**Responsible Officer:** Vaughan Macdonald

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council confirms the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18 April 2023.

**REPORT**

Refer attached Minutes.

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

1. Unconfirmed Ordinary Minutes 18 April 2023 (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 11 APRIL - 10 MAY 2023**

**Author: Robert Mustow**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives and notes the Mayoral Attendance Report for the period 11 April – 10 May 2023.

**APRIL 2023**

- 15<sup>th</sup> Local businessman retirement function
- 18<sup>th</sup> Richmond Valley Council Ordinary meeting
- 19<sup>th</sup> Rous County Council Ordinary meeting
- 25<sup>th</sup> Anzac Day commitments; Riley's Hill, Broadwater, Rappville and Casino

**MAY 2023**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Richmond Valley Council, Councillor Information Session
- 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting with Minister Paul Scully MP Murwillumbah
- 5<sup>th</sup> 100 years of the Convent of St Mary's Celebration Casino
- 6<sup>th</sup> Casino Rotary Club Coronation Day - High Tea
- 10<sup>th</sup> Coraki Golf Club meeting.

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

**Nil**

**12 DELEGATES' REPORTS****12.1 DELEGATES' REPORT MAY 2023 - ROUS COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Author:** Robert Mustow

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives and notes the Delegates' Report – Rous County Council for May 2023.

**REPORT**

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

Cr Robert Mustow and Cr Sandra Humphrys have provided the following summary of the main items of business for the Rous County Council Ordinary Meeting held on 19 April 2023.

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

- 1. Rous County Council Meeting summary**

## Rous Council Meeting 19 April 2023

### Summary of main items of business



#### **1. Quarterly Budget Review Statement quarter ending 31 March 2023**

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The results presented in the QBRS were noted and variations were authorised to the amounts from those previously estimated. The following significant adjustments were noted:

– Capital Works Program

Our capital work program continues to be impacted by delays resulting from the floods and the availability of resources. The review of capital expenditure has been holistic, in that the impact to outer years has also been reviewed and funds have not automatically been transferred to future years.

– Impact on Reserves as a Whole

The required changes this quarter will provide a substantial increase to our budgeted reserves. Reserve balances continue to be closely monitored to ensure New South Wales Treasury Corporation loan covenant requirement to hold reserves of at least 6 months of the next financial year's operating expenditure less depreciation is met.

#### **2. Public exhibition: Draft Operational plan (inc. 2023/24 Budget and 'Revenue' policy)**

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Council endorsed the draft Operational plan (incorporating the 2023/24 Budget and 'Revenue' policy) for public exhibition (*copy available for viewing/comment on our website - closing date and time for submissions is 4.30pm Thursday, 18 May 2023*).

Council noted that adjustments approved at the meeting as part of the March 2023 Quarterly Budget Review Statement report will be included in the exhibited Operational plan as appropriate.

If public submissions are made during the public exhibition period, a report will be furnished to Council's June 2023 meeting, including staff comment on how the submissions have been considered, for Council to determine a position on endorsement of the Operational plan (incorporating the 2023/24 Budget and 'Revenue' policy).

If no public submissions are made during the public exhibition period, the version of the draft Operational plan (incorporating the 2023/24 Budget and 'Revenue' policy) placed on public exhibition, is deemed to be adopted by Council.

#### **3. Update on interim arrangements for the Lismore Levee Scheme**

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At a workshop in September 2022, Council received an update and introduction to matters relating to the Lismore Levee Scheme and other flood mitigation matters.

At the December 2022 meeting, Council received a report regarding a number of activities related to strategic options and management of risk in the flood mitigation area.

Council resolved to authorise the General Manager to negotiate an interim solution to effectively manage risk associated with Rous's function and operation in urban flood mitigation with respect to the Lismore Levee Scheme.

The work was to involve engaging with Lismore City Council to confirm a position on the treatment of matters such as asset renewal and strategic planning.

The target was to have an agreed position determined no later than 31 March 2023 to inform budget processes and for a report to be provided to Council's April 2023 meeting.

The General Manager and staff are continuing discussions with Lismore City Council staff. A workshop is being planned for relevant staff and General Managers from across both organisations to discuss and resolve positions with regard to the Lismore Levee Scheme. The workshop is proposed to be held before 30 June 2023.

The workshop will also consider the recent announcement under the Federal Government's Northern Rivers Resilience Initiative of \$30M in funding to Lismore City Council for the Levee Scheme.

#### 4. Information reports

##### i) Investments – March 2023

- The RBA cash rate is 3.6%. The 90-day average bank bill swap rate (BBSW) is 3.72%.
- Total funds invested is \$40,178,098. This includes term investments and cheque account balance.
- Weighted Average Return is 3.51%. This represents an increase of 48 basis points compared to the January 2023 result (3.03%) and is 21 basis points below Council's benchmark.
- Interest earned is \$123,780. Interest earned compared to the original budget is \$294,414 above the pro-rata budget.
- Cheque account balance is \$210,018.
- 'Weel' (credit card) account balance \$67,311.
- Ethical holdings is \$4,998,155 (12.44% of current holdings)

##### ii) Water production and consumption – March 2023

The table below is the March 2023 bulk water sales to the constituent councils in kilolitres compared to the corresponding March sales for 2022 and 2021.

Council	Mar 2021 (kL)	Mar 2022 (kL)	Mar 2023 (kL)	% of Total Sales
Ballina Shire Council	300,961	287,904	304,430	37.16%
Byron Shire Council	191,107	211,050	221,458	27.03%
Lismore City Council	252,099	332,331	242,286	29.57%
Richmond Valley Council	43,128	42,978	51,173	6.25%
<b>TOTAL MONTHLY CONSUMPTION BY CONSTITUENT COUNCILS</b>	<b>787,295</b>	<b>874,263</b>	<b>819,347</b>	

##### iii) Final update: Close out of Rous Cultural Environmental and Information Centre

Council previously resolved to terminate the lease from Lismore City Council for the premises at 207 Molesworth Street, Lismore (the former Rous Cultural, Environmental and Information Centre). Lismore City Council did not object to the lease termination. Refund of the bond was agreed to on 6 February 2023.

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Rous continues to support its vision for the former Rous Cultural, Environmental and Information Centre initiative through various activities aligned with the objectives of the Reconciliation Action Plan, and Communications and Engagement Strategy.

iv) Audit Risk and Improvement Committee – meeting update

Council received and noted the minutes from the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting of 27 February 2023.

v) Supply and installation of smart meters and installation of backflow presentation devices – Contract # RCC1022-0011

Smart Metering is being implemented to facilitate improved engagement and understanding by Council's retail water customers of their water consumption behaviours through provision of more timely information. This information will be available via a mobile App and web portal showing usage and alerts or alarms related to possible leaks.

The backflow prevention component is to protect the integrity of the water supply and the health and safety of water end-users. It involves installation of a testable backflow prevention devices at sites with 20mm, 25mm and 32mm service sizes, to reduce the risk of pathogen and/or chemical contamination to all customers from backflow, back siphonage and cross connections.

Council agreed to:

- Note the open Tender process that has been undertaken for this contract through an Expression of Interest (EOI) and then selective Tender submissions.
- Authorise the General Manager to enter negotiations with the preferred Tenderer Nucleus 3 Pty Ltd for the Supply and Installation of Smart Meters and the Installation of Backflow Prevention Devices, including software maintenance for a period of 5 years, to a maximum amount of \$2,866,239 (ex GST) for the Contract.
- Approve an additional amount of \$994,139 for the overall Smart Metering and Backflow Project budget to take the total Project budget to \$3,559,939.

vi) Report/actions pending

The report was received and noted.

## CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

### **5. Supply and installation of smart meters and installation of backflow presentation devices – Contract # RCC1022-0011**

Refer to information Item 4.v). above.

### **6. Gallans Road – Consolidation of workspaces**

Council received and noted the report and agreed that, for the purposes of ss55 (3)(i) and 55(3)(n)(i) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and Reg 170A of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, endorse the procurement approach as described in the report, including the reimbursement of sub consultants fees as part of the Development Application process.

Council's business paper and draft meeting minutes can be found via the following link:  
<https://rous.nsw.gov.au/business-papers-and-meeting-minutes>

**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 DRAFT COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY PROGRAM**

**Author:** Vaughan Macdonald

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Richmond Valley Council's new draft Community Strategic Plan – Richmond Valley 2040, and draft Delivery Program 2023-25 have been prepared following community consultation and are presented for Council's consideration.

Preparation of the documents was delayed due to the catastrophic floods in 2022 and Council has been implementing its Rebuilding the Richmond Valley Recovery Plan as an interim delivery program over the past year to support flood recovery. Community consultation for the plans resumed in October 2022, and a further six months of community surveys, consultation sessions and on-line engagement has been completed.

The new Community Strategic Plan focuses on long-term sustainable growth and building back better after the floods, while still preserving the Richmond Valley's relaxed lifestyle, unique environment and sense of community connection.

Should Council endorse the draft plans for exhibition, they will be placed on public display for at least 28 days, before being presented to Council for final consideration at its 29 June 2023 extraordinary meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Notes the March 2022 resolution to adopt a revised Integrated Planning and Reporting schedule for the 2022-23 financial year, due to the impacts of catastrophic flooding on the Richmond Valley.
2. Notes that the delayed community consultation program for the Community Strategic Plan has now been completed, and a draft Community Strategic Plan, Richmond Valley 2040, has been prepared.
3. Places the Draft Community Strategic Plan and Draft Delivery Program 2023-25 on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

**DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS**

Sustain - Objective 10: Lead and advocate for our community

10A Strengthen engagement between Council and the community

10A2 Complete the Community Strategic Plan review in consultation with the community

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

The Draft Community Strategic Plan and Draft Delivery Program identify a wide range of community projects and programs, many of which will be funded directly by Council. Other major works will require funding support from Federal and State governments and Council will be actively seeking this funding over the next two years.

## REPORT

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires all local councils in NSW to prepare a long-term Community Strategic Plan (CSP), identifying community priorities and goals for at least the next 10 years. The CSP is supported by a Delivery Program and annual Operational Plans, outlining how each council will deliver the community's goals and priorities during its term of office. Together, these documents serve as the key point of accountability between local councils and their communities.

### Planning delayed by COVID and the 2022 floods

Under normal local government planning cycles, Richmond Valley Council would have prepared a new Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program within nine months of being elected. However, this period was shortened to six months due to the COVID pandemic and postponed local government elections in December 2021. In preparation for the new plans, the previous Council commenced early consultation work from mid-2021, with a community satisfaction survey and various engagement events. Further consultation was endorsed by the incoming council in January 2022 and engagement events for Our Big Conversation commenced in early February. A few weeks later, the Richmond Valley was devastated by record flooding and all attentions turned to the immediate response and recovery needs of flood-affected communities.

Council resolved at its 15 March 2022 meeting to postpone the consultation program and delay preparation of its long-term plan for 12 months. It endorsed a revised planning schedule to address essential flood recovery works and the Rebuilding the Richmond Valley Recovery Plan was adopted as Council's interim Delivery Program in June 2022. Council is nearing completion of the first year of this plan and substantial progress has been made in flood recovery.

### Community key directions and priorities

The new Community Strategic Plan considers future growth in the Richmond Valley to 2040. It reflects the key directions of the Richmond Valley Growth Management Strategy, as well as future priorities identified by the community.

Community engagement for the CSP recommenced in October 2022 and was supported by additional consultation on Council's key strategic documents: The Richmond Valley Growth Management Strategy, Casino Place Plan, Sustainable Communities Strategy and Economic Development directions paper. These plans set ambitious targets for the Richmond Valley over the next 20 years, as the community continues to build back better after the floods and open the opportunities of the Regional Jobs Precinct initiative.

The community consultation showed strong support for well-planned, sustainable growth within the Richmond Valley, acknowledging that future greenfield housing developments would generally be confined to the Casino district due to flooding constraints in the Mid-Richmond. Measured growth that enhanced local character was the preferred approach for the four Mid-Richmond villages.

All communities acknowledged the importance of building resilience in a changing climate and improving disaster preparedness. There was also strong support for continued improvements to essential infrastructure, including the ongoing program of flood repairs for local roads, bridges and drains. Continuing to support flood-affected communities through advocacy and the Richmond Valley Recovery Plan was a high priority.

In response to community feedback, a new Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program have now been prepared and are presented for Council's consideration.

The plans are based around four key directions:

- Strengthening the Richmond Valley's role in the region – acknowledging that the 2022 floods have changed the dynamics of the Northern Rivers and the Richmond Valley has a stronger role to play in future growth and employment.
- Creating great places to live – reflecting the Richmond Valley's strong community connections and relaxed lifestyle, building community resilience in a changing climate and providing essential community infrastructure.

- Protecting our unique environment – supporting ongoing preservation of biodiversity and bushland, protection of local waterways, rivers and beaches and transition to a circular economy in future waste management practices.
- Delivering for our community – highlighting the role that Richmond Valley Council will play in delivering and advocating for Community Strategic Plan priorities, responsibly managing public resources and providing community services.

### **Milestones and targets for 2040**

The Community Strategic Plan sets ambitious growth targets for the Richmond Valley, based on the planning and projections undertaken for the Growth Management Strategy and the Regional Jobs Precinct initiative. The next 20 years will see an additional 4000 residents in the Valley, with 2000 new homes provided and 2000+ jobs created. The Regional Jobs Precinct will create at least 600 direct new jobs and further employment growth is expected through expanding support and service industries.

Major initiatives in the Plan include:

- Completing the Richmond Valley's flood recovery process
- Activating the Regional Jobs Precinct
- Securing long-term water supplies for Casino and the Mid-Richmond
- Unlocking new residential development sites
- Continuing to strengthen and diversify the local economy, with further growth in tourism and service industries
- Delivering wide-scale community greening programs, with 15,000 additional shade trees by 2040
- Replacing major infrastructure, including a new \$60m sewage treatment plant for Casino and completion of Stage 2 of the Evans Head STP
- Completing and showcasing regionally significant projects, such as the Northern Rivers Rail Trail and Casino Showground and Equine Centre.

### **Delivery Program Priorities**

Under normal circumstances, the Delivery Program would provide for four years of activity, in support of the Community Strategic Plan. However, due to the reduced council term and impact of the floods, the new Delivery Program addresses the two financial years, 2023 – 2025.

Due to the short timeframe, the Program focuses on three key areas:

- Finishing the signature projects that are currently underway
- Continuing to fix flood-damaged infrastructure and support flood recovery
- Commencing some of the major initiatives for the future.

Priorities in the Delivery Program include:

- Finalising the Regional Jobs Precinct Masterplan and supporting studies
- Completing Place Plans for the Mid-Richmond communities to guide future growth and improvements
- Completing the Casino Memorial Pool upgrade and Casino Showground upgrade
- Finalising designs for rebuilding Richmond Terrace, Coraki
- Completing the Casino-Bentley section of the Northern Rivers Rail Trail and finalising designs for the Mid-Richmond's Three Villages Cycleway
- Fixing the Naughton's Gap and Bentley Road landslips

- Continuing to upgrade the Woodburn-Casino Road
- Continued habitat restoration programs and launch of the Community Greening Program
- Commencing Stage 2 of the Evans Head Sewage Treatment Plant
- Identifying the preferred option for Casino's future water security, and
- Commencing design work for the new Casino STP.

**CONSULTATION**

Council has undertaken significant consultation to inform the Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program, including two independent community satisfaction surveys, community consultation sessions, on-line surveys and ideas boards. Further consultation will be undertaken on the draft documents for a period of at least 28 days. Council will consider submissions on the plans, and any proposed amendments to the final documents at the Extraordinary Council meeting to be held on Thursday 29 June 2023.

**CONCLUSION**

Completion of the Draft Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program marks another important milestone in the Richmond Valley's flood recovery, as these documents will set in place long-term strategies for the community to grow and prosper. The plans focus on continuing to build back better after the floods, while harnessing new opportunities to grow and diversify our economy and provide much-needed housing for our community.

Should council endorse the draft plans for exhibition, they will be exhibited for a further 28 days of community consultation.

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

**Nil**

**15 COMMUNITY SERVICE DELIVERY**

Nil

**16 PROJECTS & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

Nil

**17 ORGANISATIONAL SERVICES****17.1 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31 MARCH 2023****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 March 2023.

The proposed changes see Council's projected operating surplus from continuing operations for 2022/2023 increase to \$38,952,841, from the budget surplus of \$34,400,998 at 31 December 2022. The net operating result before capital grants and contributions has decreased slightly to a surplus of \$4,972,697.

Income from continuing operations has increased by \$8,445,829, to a projected total of \$120,115,778. This is largely due to an increase in grant funding being received as well as an increase in the interest revenue budget with higher than anticipated returns on Council's investments. Expenses from continuing operations have increased by \$3,893,986 to a projected cost of \$81,162,936.

Council has performed a thorough review of its capital works program, resulting in an overall decrease of \$1,283,006 to a projected total of \$52,800,316. 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 March the Capital Works program is 66% complete, which is a pleasing position considering the abovementioned constraints. In a normal year Council's Capital works program would total approximately \$20 to \$25 million, as at 31 March the actual spend is \$34,822,637. Council will continue to ensure its capital works program is closely monitored.

Council's unrestricted cash surplus has remained unchanged at \$287,260 as of 31 March 2023. A detailed Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the third 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 9-17.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Receives the Quarterly Budget Review Statement as at 31 March 2023; 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 third quarter of the 2022/2023 financial year has seen Council's operating result from continuing operations improve to a projected surplus of \$38,952,841. This is an increase of \$4,551,843 from the revised budget surplus of \$34,400,998 at 31 December 2022. Council's projected operating result before capital gains and contributions is a surplus of \$4,972,697.

Council's estimated budget result (unrestricted cash result) has remained unchanged from the revised budget as of 31 December 2022 of \$287,260.

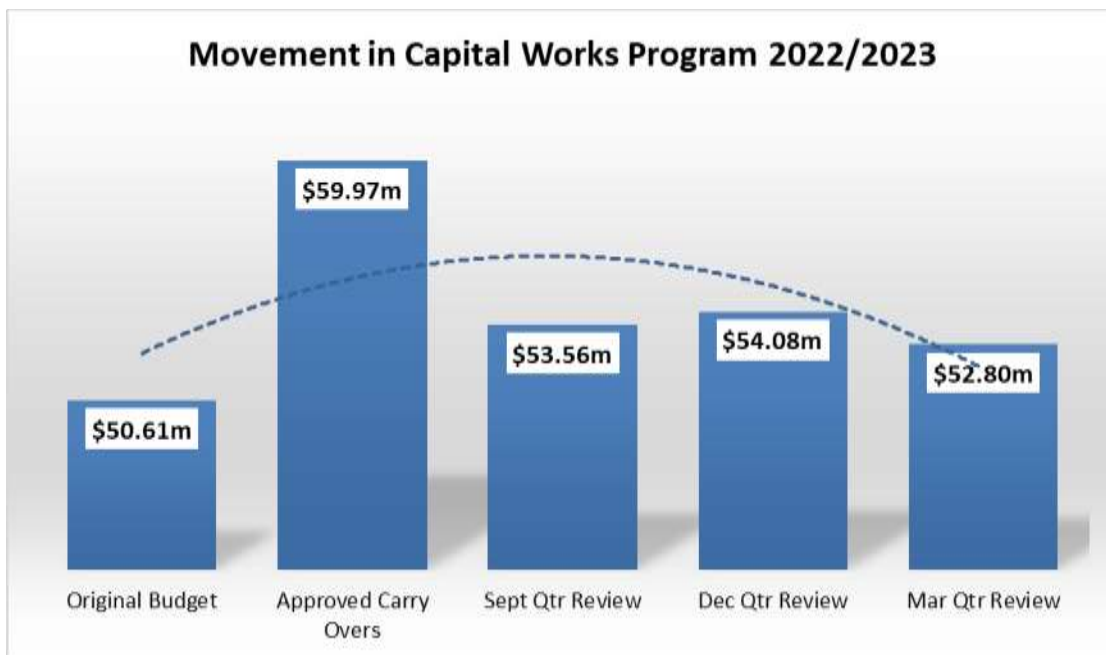
In overall cash terms, there is a decrease in the estimated funding from reserves of \$5,834,849 with an estimated total transfer to reserves of \$2,164,736 for the 2022/2023 financial year.

Income from continuing operations has increased by \$8,445,829, with total income now projected to be \$120,115,778. Largely contributing to this increase is \$1,819,280 being received under the Natural Disaster Funding Arrangements for roads and bridge flood repair works. A further \$3,750,976 in grant funding for sports grounds, parks and facilities including the stronger country communities fund and sporting priority needs program, along with an increase in the interest revenue budget of \$1,196,742. All recommended changes for Council resolution of \$8,445,829 are disclosed by Priority Area on page 4 of the Quarterly Budget Review Statement and detailed explanations are provided on pages 9-17.

Expenses from continuing operations have increased by \$3,893,986 to a projected total of \$81,162,936. This is largely attributed to flood clean up works of \$2,465,908 undertaken post the February 2022 flood event. All recommended changes for Council resolution of \$3,893,986 are disclosed by Priority Area on page 5 of the Quarterly Budget Review Statement and detailed explanations are provided on pages 9-17.

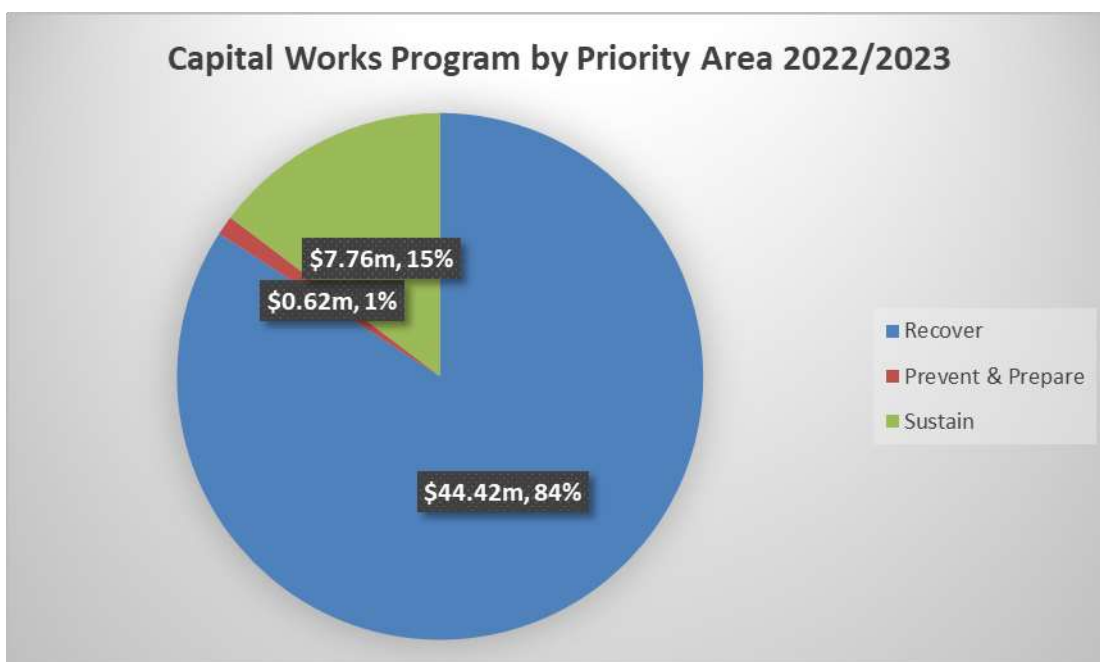
Council's capital works budget has decreased by \$1,283,006 to \$52,800,316 at 31 March 2023. The projected capital works program has been predominantly influenced by immediate reconstruction efforts on Council's road network in response to the February 2022 flood. As recovery works from the February 2022 flood event are an increasingly larger focus for the Northern Rivers, adjustments have been made with the information currently available bearing in mind supply and contractor constraints. The Northern Rivers Rail Trail project was delayed as a result of the above and as such \$1,014,003 has been transferred to 2023/2024 for this project to continue. As mentioned in the December 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. All recommended changes to the capital works program are disclosed by priority area on page 6 of Council's Quarterly Budget Review Statement and detailed explanations are provided on pages 9-17.

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



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

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



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

Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 March 2023	Revised Budget 2022/2023	Recommended Changes for Council Resolution	Projected Year End Result 2022/2023
Income from Continuing Operations	111,669,948	8,445,829	120,115,778
Expenses from Continuing Operations	77,268,950	3,893,986	81,162,936
<b>Operating Result from Continuing Operations</b>	<b>34,400,998</b>	<b>4,551,843</b>	<b>38,952,841</b>
<b>Operating Result before Capital Income</b>	<b>5,436,566</b>	<b>(463,870)</b>	<b>4,972,697</b>
Add: Non-Cash Expenses	18,233,330	0	18,233,330
Add: Non-Operating Funds Employed	1,443,899	0	1,443,899
Less: Capital Expenditure	54,083,322	(1,283,006)	52,800,316
Less: Loan Repayments	3,377,756	0	3,377,756
<b>Estimated Funding Result – Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(3,382,853)</b>	<b>5,834,849</b>	<b>2,451,997</b>
Restricted Funds – Increase/(Decrease)	(3,670,113)	5,834,849	2,164,736
<b>Unrestricted Funds – Increase/(Decrease)</b>	<b>287,260</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>287,260</b>

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

#### 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 \$2,250,731 in capital grants for building and maintaining roads due to immediate reconstruction works on the road network post the February 2022 Flood event as well as grant funding received from Transport for NSW.
- Increase in sewerage services capital grants of \$1,108,207 million largely as a result of funding from public works advisory in relation to sewer infrastructure projects post the February 2022 flood event.

#### Prevent & Prepare

- Increase of \$150,000 in capital grants and capital expenditure for the North Casino Station extensions under the NSW Rural Fire Service allocation for 2022/2023.

#### Sustain

- Increase of \$1,196,742 in Financial Services income with higher than anticipated returns on Council's investments as interest rates increase in the economy.
- Increase of \$2,465,908 in waste management operating expenditure due to funding being received from Public Works Advisory for the transportation of waste post the February 2022 flood event.
- Increase in waste management capital expenditure of \$227,230 with grant funding received towards the Nammoona Pound upgrade.

### CONCLUSION

At the end of the third quarter, Council's operating result from continuing operations is a projected surplus of \$38,952,841, with a projected surplus before capital grants and contributions of \$4,972,697. Council's capital works budget has increased to \$52,800,316 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 March 2023 (under separate cover)**



**17.2 FINANCIAL ANALYSIS REPORT - APRIL 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 30 April 2023 is shown below:

Bank Accounts	Term Deposits	Floating Rate Notes	Fixed Rate Bonds	TCorp IM Funds	Total
\$14,920,756	\$36,000,000	\$5,750,390	\$2,000,000	\$15,303,546	\$73,974,692

The weighted average rate of return on Council's cash and investments as at 30 April 2023 was 5.58% which was above the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index for April of 0.30%, which is Council's benchmark.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopts the Financial Analysis Report detailing the performance of its cash and investments for the month of April 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 30 April 2023, Council has earned \$1,341,692 in interest, \$342,479 in fair value gains from previously held collateralised debt obligations (CDOs), and \$974,451 in fair value gains from funds held in TCorp, for a total investment income of \$2,658,623. This equates to 293.19% of the annual budget for interest and investment income of \$906,782. A proposed increase in the budgeted interest for 2023/2024 has been included as a part of the Quarterly Budget Review to 31 March 2023.

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

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

The RBA maintained the cash rate at 3.60% per annum at its April meeting.

**Rate of Return**

The weighted average rate of return on cash and investments in April was 5.58%, a decrease in 196 basis points from the previous month. The rate of return is 528 basis points above the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index of 0.30% which is Council's benchmark.

Council's NSW Treasury Corporation IM Funds returned net gains of \$140,198 during the month of April.

The Medium-Term Growth Fund (MTGF) returned a gain of \$104,010 and the Long-Term Growth Fund (LTGF) returned a gain of \$36,188.

During April, financial markets were more composed following the volatility experienced in March. Most equity markets rose, and bond yields remained mostly unchanged during April. 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 5 or more years (original investment was October 2018) and the LTGF has a recommended investment timeframe of 10 or more years (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 \$73,974,692 at 30 April 2023. This was made up of Council's Business Online Saver Account (\$14,265,000), Term Deposits (\$36,000,000), Floating Rate Notes (\$5,750,390), Bonds (\$2,000,000), NSW Treasury Corporation Investments (\$15,303,546) and other bank accounts (\$655,756).

Council's investment portfolio had maturity dates ranging from same day up to 1,742 days. Term deposits, floating rate notes and bonds of \$43,750,390 represented 59.14% of the total portfolio as at 30 April 2023.

Council made the following new investment during April 2023:

Banking Institution	Investment Type	Environmentally Sustainable Investment	Amount Invested	Investment Term	Interest Rate
Auswide Bank	Term Deposit	Y	\$2,000,000	3 months	4.55%
AMP Ltd	Term Deposit	N	\$2,000,000	6 months	4.95%
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$4,000,000</b>		

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

Banking Institution	Investment Type	Environmentally Sustainable Investment	Amount Invested	Interest Earned
MyState Bank	Term Deposit	Y	\$2,000,000	\$26,301
AMP Ltd	Term Deposit	N	\$2,000,000	\$35,814
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$4,000,000</b>	<b>\$62,115</b>

Council had \$15,303,546 longer term investments being the MTGF and LTGF held with NSW Treasury Corporation as at 30 April 2023. The investment values and fair value returns are shown below:

Investment Holding	Fair Value 30 April 23	Fair Value Gain/(Loss) at 30 April 23	Fair Value Gain/(Loss) YTD	Fair Value Gain/(Loss) Life of Investment
Medium Term Growth Fund	\$12,262,103	\$104,010	\$717,756	\$1,257,073
Long Term Growth Fund	\$3,041,443	\$36,188	\$256,695	\$41,443
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,303,546</b>	<b>\$140,198</b>	<b>\$974,451</b>	<b>\$1,298,516</b>

### Environmentally Sustainable Investments (ESI's)

Council's cash and investments portfolio of \$73,974,692 at 30 April 2023 includes \$39,053,546 or 52.8% 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 month of April 2023, Council's investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

As at 30 April 2023 Council's cash and investments totalled \$73,974,692 with \$14,920,756 of this being funds held in bank accounts. The weighted average rate of return was 5.58% and total investment revenue equals 293.19% of budgeted revenue for the year to 30 April 2023.

### ATTACHMENT(S)

1. RVC Investment Pack - April 2023 (under separate cover)

**17.3 DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN 2023/2024 (INCLUDING DRAFT FINANCIAL ESTIMATES 2023/2027), DRAFT REVENUE POLICY 2023/2024 AND DRAFT LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2023/2033**

**Director:** Ryan Gaiter

**Responsible Officer:** Hayley Martin

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The following documents have been prepared in consultation with Councillors:

1. Draft Operational Plan 2023/2024 (including Draft Financial Estimates for the period 2023/2027),
2. Draft Revenue Policy 2023/2024, and
3. Draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2023/2033

**RECOMMENDATION**

That:

1. The Draft Operational Plan 2023/2024 (including Draft Financial Estimates 2023/2027), Draft Revenue Policy 2023/2024 and Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2023/2033 be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days.
2. The draft documents be brought back to Council to consider any submissions received for final adoption at the Extraordinary Meeting of Council on 29 June 2023.

**DELIVERY PROGRAM LINKS**

Making Council Great

CS2: Great Support

CS2.12: Ensure compliance with Accounting Standards and Local Government Legislation

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

As outlined in the report.

**REPORT**

Council is required to undertake its planning and reporting activities in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 by implementing the Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

The Draft Operational Plan (including Draft Financial Estimates 2023/2027) delivers an unrestricted cash surplus of \$212,574, in 2023/2024, with projected surpluses across the remaining three year forward estimates as shown in the table below:

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Budget Estimates	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	72,791	75,360	77,929	79,644
<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>	74,269	76,236	78,087	80,541
<b>Operating Result before Capital Grants and Contributions</b>	<b>(1,478)</b>	<b>(876)</b>	<b>(158)</b>	<b>(897)</b>
<b>Add: Capital Grants and Contributions</b>	11,774	7,165	37,385	9,192
<b>Operating Result including Capital Grants and Contributions</b>	<b>10,296</b>	<b>6,289</b>	<b>37,228</b>	<b>8,295</b>
<b>Add: Non-Cash Expenses</b>	18,649	19,074	19,510	19,958
<b>Add: Non-Operating Funds Employed</b>	4,683	7,654	6,858	25,466
<b>Less: Capital Expenditure</b>	39,104	33,414	60,153	46,132
<b>Less: Loan Repayments</b>	3,563	3,816	3,349	2,984
<b>Estimated Funding Result – Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(9,040)</b>	<b>(4,212)</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>4,603</b>
<b>Restricted Funds – Increase/(Decrease)</b>	(9,252)	(4,335)	(117)	4,388
<b>Unrestricted Funds – Increase/(Decrease)</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>215</b>

While the unrestricted cash result is important - and should be a surplus - the main focus is on Council's operating result before capital grants and contributions. Council's projected operating result before capital grants and contributions for 2023/2024 is a deficit of \$1,478,353, which improves to a projected deficit of \$897,021 over the four year forward estimates. It is pleasing to see Council is moving towards a break-even operating result before capital grants and contributions, which occurs in 2028/2029, year 6 of the 10-year long term financial plan. This was one of the key objectives of the special rate variation approved for the period 2019/2020 to 2022/2023. There is still a significant gap to close, with additional proposed borrowings to fund a new Casino Sewage Treatment Plant in year 3 and 4 pushing the break-even year out by 2 years due to additional loan repayments, but the draft budget shows an improvement in this result. Finding ways of achieving additional income, reducing operating expenditure and refining asset valuation methodologies, to accurately reflect depreciation of Council's assets remain key areas to focus on moving forward.

There have been several challenges in forming the 2023/2024 budget and maintaining an unrestricted cash surplus.

Council has been advised of its Emergency Services Levy (ESL) contribution for the 2023/2024 year. In the past, the NSW Government has provided support to ensure there has been minimal increases in the net cost of the ESL for councils, due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and natural disasters. Council has been advised of its ESL contribution amount for 2023/2024 which is a net increase in the amount payable of 47.22%, or \$233,850. This has had a significant impact on Council's budget result for 2023/2024.

A new Local Government State Award is currently under negotiation and due to come into effect on 1 July. At this stage the award increases are unknown however are assumed to be between 4.00% – 5.00%. An increase of 4.00% has been factored into the budget for 2023/2024-2025/2026, however should the award increase be higher, this will impact on the current projected cash surplus.

Council has been advised of its insurance contribution amounts from Civic Risk Mutual which is a net increase of 20% from 2022/2023, resulting in a reduction of the cash surplus by \$53,879. This is a result of our recent claims history from the 2022 Flood events, where Council received a \$5 million payout to support our infrastructure rebuild effort, along with coverage for all motor vehicle losses on top of this amount.

In addition to the above, 2022/2023 is the final year of Council's approved special rate variation, and as such the rate peg of 3.7% has been applied to 2023/2024.

### ***Major Capital Works***

The draft budget for 2023/2024 includes a sizeable capital works program of \$39.1m, however this does not include any essential public asset reconstruction works from the February 2022 flood event that are currently pending approval from Transport for NSW. It is estimated that these claims will total over \$180 million.

Despite Council having faced a number of challenges over the previous 2 years, the capital works program demonstrates Council's desire to continue to deliver for the community whilst rebuilding the flood affected areas of the Richmond Valley. This program will need to be closely monitored as the ability to procure goods, services and the contractors/labour required to deliver these projects will be a challenge and it is expected the program will exceed \$50mil with approved natural disaster works along with projects unlikely to be completed this financial year which will be addressed in the March Quarterly Budget Review.

Key projects for 2023/2024 include:

- Real Estate development projects \$2.73m
- Northern Rivers Rail Trail \$5.5m
- Colley Park Netball & Basketball Court Upgrade \$320k
- QE Park Upgrades (Multi Sports Community Facility) \$1.6m
- Casino Showground Upgrade \$3.1m
- Albert Park Stopover Upgrade \$1m
- Stan Payne Cricket Nets \$122k
- Shark Bay Revitalisation \$213k
- Woodburn Oval Irrigation \$152k
- Country Lane Rehab \$749k
- Sealed Rural Local Roads & Bridges renewals \$1.68m
- Reynolds Rd Bridge \$1.28m
- Sealed Regional Road renewals \$533k
- Willox Bridge \$733k
- Lollback Bridge \$581k
- Unsealed Rural Local Roads & Bridges renewals \$448k
- Illawong Lane Drainage \$647k
- Water Mains Renewals \$762k
- South Reservoir Booster Station Upgrade \$300k
- Casino Water Treatment Plant Process Improvements \$250k
- Sewer Relining Program \$800,000
- Casino Pump Station 8 Upgrade \$240k
- South Casino Sewage Transfer Station \$900k
- Construction of Cell 6 at Nammoona Landfill \$3.3m
- Fleet Management plant purchases \$2.5m

***Draft Revenue Policy – Fees & Charges 2023/2024***

In developing the 2023/2024 income budget, the following increases have been proposed to Rates and Annual Charges:

- General Rates – to increase by 3.7% in-line with Council's approved rate peg
- Domestic Waste Annual Charge – to increase by 5.00% to \$683
- Non-Domestic Waste Annual Charge – to increase by 5.00% to \$685
- Water Annual Charges – to increase by 5.00%
- Sewerage Annual Charges – to increase by 5.00%

A copy of the Draft Operational Plan 2023/2024 (including Draft Financial Estimates 2023/2027), Draft Revenue Policy 2023/2024 and Draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2023/2033 have been circulated separately to Councillors.

**CONSULTATION**

In accordance with the Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements the Draft Operational Plan 2023/2024 (including Draft Financial Estimates 2023/2027), Draft Revenue Policy 2023/2024 and Draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2023/2033 will be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days. During that time public submissions on the documents can be made. A further report on the documents and submissions received will be presented to the Extraordinary Meeting scheduled for Thursday 29 June 2023.

**CONCLUSION**

The Draft Operational Plan 2023/2024 (including Draft Financial Estimates 2023/2027), Draft Revenue Policy 2023/2024 and Draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2023/2033 have been prepared based on extensive consultation with the community and are presented to Council for consideration. The report recommends that these documents be placed on public exhibition.

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

Nil

**18 GENERAL BUSINESS**

Nil

## 19 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

### RECOMMENDATION

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

#### 19.1 WOODBURN RIVERSIDE STREETSCAPE DESIGN

Director: Ben Zeller

Responsible Officer: Lucy Hooton

### RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the awarding of the Woodburn Riverside Streetscape Design to Ennismorefield Landscape Architects.

### REPORT HISTORY

In 2017, Council completed a tender for the Woodburn Riverside Precinct Master Plan - Design Report. The purpose of the report was to *“prepare a blueprint for the future of the main street and foreshore areas of the Precinct, ensuring that the inevitable change emanating from the Woodburn bypass can be approached in a positive and proactive way.”*

The report identified the need to assist the town to reduce the impacts of the bypass and establish attractive and usable facilities that meet future needs of tourism, economic development, and liveability.

The Masterplan was adopted by Council at the June 2017 Ordinary Council Meeting.







*Image: Above – Concept streetscape from 2017 Masterplan. Below – 2017 Masterplan Concept*

WOODBURN RIVERSIDE PRECINCT MASTER PLAN

- DESIGN NOTES

1. SHARED PATHWAY

Confines underneath bridge along foreshore to public reserve at Rocky Mouth Creek.

2. TURF AREA

Existing turf area reallocated for foreshore picnic. Large shade tree retained. Smaller tree removed due to poor vigour and obstructing views from future community building.

3. PARK SIGN

Stone retaining wall, terraced native planting and a weathered steel sign provides an entry feature at the towns main intersection.

4. COMMUNITY BUILDING

Incorporate public toilets, visitors information, community groups and storage. FFL 1.8m above existing ground for flooding with ramp/stair access and viewing area. Terraced gardens and stone walls ground the building with the existing landscape. Large corrugated roofing (Aramark system) over timber boxes evoke the areas agricultural roots.

5. BEACH

Existing beach area formalised and widened to encourage beach activity and river access for swimming, kayaks etc. Includes improved terrace seating area and ramp for disabled access and launching kayak / rowing vessels.

6. WESTERN JETTY & PONTOON

New timber jetty with floating pontoon structure for boat access. Can be used as a stage for festivals and events.

7. PLAYGROUND AND PICNIC SHELTERS

Two large formal picnic shelters with matching roof profile to main building provide shade and furniture to park users. Playground includes a younger childrens play space and an older childrens play space with significant play elements.

8. MAIN STREET CROSSING & PARK ENTRY

Defined by new pavement, stone wall and planting Median upgraded with planting and barrier poles.

9. FORESHORE PROMENADE

New shared pathway along foreshore edge.

10. VILLAGE GREEN

Existing structures and infrastructure removed to provide an open multipurpose turf area with expansive river views. Potential to host community markets and events. Includes stone retaining wall to emphasise the topography and provide a large seating element. Existing plants predominantly retained with new understory planting.

11. EXISTING MEMORIAL

New pavement provided. Hedging retained on northern end.

12. RIVER STREET PARKING & TREES

Parallel parking spaces provided (26) along with a street tree avenue (species to be confirmed).

13. EASTERN JETTY & PONTOON

New timber jetty and floating pontoon structure. Accessible from off street car park.

14. SKI CLUB BUILDING

New Ski Club Building and small public toilet.

15. LARGE VEHICLE CAR PARK

Existing bitumen area formalised as parking, potentially suitable for larger RV vehicles.

16. RIVER ST PARKING OPTION

Alternative arrangement for on-street parking at western end of River St if required.

17. ALFRESCO AREA

Streetscape along the main retail section of River St widened to encourage a vibrant eating strip with alfresco dining overlooking the park and river. Streetscape is defined by low stone wall and native planting.



Significant funding was secured from all levels of government for the upgrade and rejuvenation of the riverside park element of the Master Plan with construction completed several years ago. This upgrade has been very well received by the public and, as intended, has become an important stopover point for Pacific Motorway travellers.

Following significant damage to the CBD precinct in the 2022 floods, Council allocated funding to design the streetscape portion of the Master Plan to the value of \$120,000 which was provided through the Office of Local Government.

In November 2022, Council prepared a Request for Quotation (RFQ) for the streetscape activation. This RFQ closed in January 2023. Key elements of the project include:

- Provision of a project plan including timelines and milestones.
- Consultation with stakeholders, Council, Community and Transport NSW to compile information relating to features required in any proposed redevelopment of the streetscape.
- Draft concept of the streetscape, including “artist impressions” of the proposals to be approved by Council prior to progressing to survey and design stage.
- Survey and design of required section of River Street and adjoining intersections in Woodburn, including cost estimate of proposed construction works.
- Complete package of engineering design drawing suitable for tender and construction.

It is important that this project is advanced for the Woodburn community. Considering this though, there also needs to be awareness and consultation with the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation who are key stakeholders for any recovery type infrastructure.

## REPORT

In March 2023 Council officers evaluated the Design of Woodburn Riverside Streetscape Request for Quotation (RFQ), appraising Ennismorefield Landscape Architects as the successful contractor. The successful submission scored the highest in the evaluation matrix.

### Project Value:

Budgeted allocation - **\$120,000**

Awarded submission - **\$118,000**

Council has engaged in contract negotiations with Ennismorefield to establish a delivery schedule that aligns with proposed milestones. At the time a schedule is accepted, Ennismorefield will engage in the preparation of phase one and two of the quoted project methodologies. The timeline from engagement and the phases are as follows:

### ***Phase 1 - Project Planning (Weeks 1-2)***

- **1A** – Project inception, background research, site visit and visual documentation and review leading to a review of further detailing of Project Management Plan and Reporting.
- **1B** – Survey and Aerial Imaging
- **1C** – Service locating
- **1D** – Geotechnical Analysis

### ***Phase 2 – Stakeholder Engagement Workshops (Week 3)***

- **2A** – Workshop facilitation, programming, leading to a refined scope and reporting
- **2B** – Collation of workshop inputs and refinement of scope to be issued as report to Council
- **2C** – Review with Council staff

**Phase 3 – Preliminary Design (Weeks 4-7)**

- **3A** – Preliminary design to provide for technical and stakeholder review
- **3B** – Review design against agreed quality and value management process
- **3C** – Client review point

**Phase 4 – Preliminary Cost Estimate (Week 8)**

- **4A** – Schedules and construction cost estimates
- **4B** – Client review point

**Phase 5 – Detailed Design (Weeks 9-14)**

- **5A** – Full design suitable for construction tender

**Phase 6 – Provision of schedules, quantities, and cost estimates (Weeks 15)**

Stakeholder and Councillor participation will be an important element of the design process. The proposal states *‘Stakeholder Workshops will be used to establish a safe and respectful environment for the free exchange of information, ideas and needs. The aim is to give, seek and share information, respond to community priorities, and assist council in delivering on those priorities within the limitations of legislative, environmental, and financial constraints.’*

**CONCLUSION**

The successful respondent to the request for quotation of the Woodburn Riverside Streetscape Design has outlined a 15-week timeline for its completion. The delivery methodology is based around significant stakeholder consultation that will ideally result in an attractive upgrade for Woodburn.

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

Nil

## 19.2 OUTCOME OF THE COMMUNITY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM 2022/2023 ROUND TWO FUNDING

**Director:** Angela Jones

**Responsible Officer:** Marie Cullen

### RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the allocations under the Community Financial Assistance Program 2022/2023 Round Two.

### REPORT

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

Council has allocated \$75,000 in the 2022/2023 budget for the Community Financial Assistance Program. The policy provides for two approximately equal funding rounds, allowing for \$40,000 to be allocated in this second round. This round of funding was advertised in March 2023 and Council received 20 applications.

All applications received have been reviewed in accordance with the policy. Of the 20 applications, 18 of the applications were deemed eligible and 13 projects will be partially or fully funded in this round.

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

Councillors had an opportunity to review the proposals and provide feedback at a workshop on 2 May 2023, with the General Manager approving the allocation of funds under delegation.

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

Organisation	Requested allocation	Purpose of funding	Amount allocated
Coraki CWA Preschool	\$1,199.00	Purchase fridge to store preschool lunches; previous fridge lost in floods.	\$1,199.00
Casino Community Kitchen Inc	\$4,788.00	Purchase a 3-door fridge to help provide meals to community members in need.	\$4,788.00
Broadwater Rileys Hill Community Centre	\$241.73	Purchase a portable teaching lectern for our hall; previous lectern lost in floods.	\$241.73
Evans Head Living Museum	\$2,450.00	Purchase a defibrillator to enhance safety of volunteers and visitors.	\$2,450.00
Evans River R.S.L. Day Club	\$2,400.00	Purchase a defibrillator to enhance safety of members.	\$2,400.00
Casino RSM Junior Rugby League Football Club	\$5,000.00	Purchase lights to increase lighting on field 5b at Queen Elizabeth Park to competition standard.	\$5,000.00



Casino's Own Wireless Association Inc.	\$3,107.45	Upgrade the Production Studio including two podcast microphones and a new computer.	\$3,107.45
Fairy Hill Hall Committee	\$2,500.00	Purchase blinds, a microwave, six lightweight tables and a trolley to safely move tables.	\$2,300.00
Mid Richmond Neighbourhood Centre	\$1,000.00	Organise a Teddy Bears Picnic, to bring families together for a fun community day.	\$1,000.00
Casino Community Men's Shed Inc.	\$1,697.00	Purchase a new computer to help older members access emails, social media, etc.	\$1,697.00
Casino Bulls Rugby Union Club	\$5,000.00	Install CCTV camera security system and signage to protect sporting facilities.	\$5,000.00
Northern Rivers Flood Action Group Inc	\$5,000.00	Provide established small to medium native trees for planting in the gardens of properties in Woodburn.	\$2,500.00
Pacific Coast Railway Society Inc t/a Casino Miniature Railway & Museum	\$4,987.74	Replace timber sleepers with sleepers made from recycled material requiring less maintenance & are termite resistant.	\$4,987.74
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$36,670.92</b>

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

- Broadwater Community Gardens
- Evans Head Men's Shed
- Jumbunna Community Preschool and Early Intervention Centre
- Casino Pony Club
- Casino Rodeo and Campdraft Association Incorporated
- Casino Show Society Inc
- Northern NSW Helicopter Rescue Service Limited.

#### **ATTACHMENT(S)**

**Nil**

**19.3 EVENT SUPPORT SCHEME ALLOCATION 2023/2024****Director:** Angela Jones**Responsible Officer:** Tiarn Stenner**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives and notes the allocations under the Event Support Scheme Application 2023/2024.

**REPORT**

Under Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act) Council may by resolution contribute financial assistance to individuals, groups and organisations seeking financial assistance. At the February 2022 Council meeting, Council resolved to delegate authority to the General Manager to approve allocation of funds in accordance with Council's Policy 9.04 Event Support.

Council has allocated \$32,238 in the 2023/2024 budget for the Event Support Scheme. This funding was advertised in February 2023 and Council received ten (10) applications.

The remaining funds are allocated during the year, as we receive a significant number of requests for support from local event organisers.

All applications received have been reviewed in accordance with the policy. Nine (9) applications were deemed appropriate for support. Evaluations included a recommendation from the Manager Community Connection and Events Officer as to the appropriate cash and in-kind contribution to be provided.

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

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

Event	Requested allocation	Event description	Amount allocated
Casino Show	\$10,000 cash \$2763 in-kind	A three-day agricultural event containing entertainment, demonstrations, and competitions, showcasing the agriculture sector of the Richmond Valley and surrounding areas.	\$5000 cash \$500 in-kind
Casino Gymkhana 2023	\$1084 in-kind	A two-day pony club gymkhana hosted by Casino Pony Club for all members within Zone 15. Participants from all zones will camp at Casino over the two days and participate in the gymkhana activities.	\$500 in-kind
Woodburn Riverside Festival	\$5000 cash \$3750 in-kind	A full day of inexpensive family-oriented activities and entertainment based in Woodburn Riverside Park	\$3000 cash \$0 in-kind
Casino Campdraft	\$1870 in-kind	A two-day event of camp drafting, food, drinks and entertainment will be available in the night.	\$500 in-kind

Ellangowan Hall Centenary	\$2200 cash	An afternoon tea in the grounds of the hall with the older residents of the Ellangowan area, which will include the cutting of a cake by the oldest living resident that can attend plus local councillors that can attend. Then later in the night, live music and a BBQ dinner.	\$2200 cash
Evans Head Fishing Classic	\$5500 cash \$745 in-kind	A seven-day fishing competition held in Evans Head.	\$2500 cash \$745 in-kind
Peach Festival	\$3850 cash \$185 in-kind	A celebration of peach harvest with entertainment and long table lunches.	\$1500 cash \$185 in-kind
Evans Head Malibu Classic	\$1500 cash \$824 in-kind	A seven-day surfing competition held in Evans Head.	\$1500 cash \$824 in-kind
Evans Head Christmas Parade and Carols	\$5500 cash \$285 + staff costs in-kind	A parade through Evans Head Oak Street to Kirkland Court. A stage in the park for carol singers and PA system, food vendors and market stalls.	\$3000 cash \$285 + staff costs in-kind
Evans Head Farmers Market	\$2200 cash	Weekly commercial farmers market that supplies local people with fruit, vegetables, baked goods and health foods. Not funded as it is a commercial activity and does not meet the criteria for the scheme.	\$0
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$22,182</b>

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

Nil



**19.4 GRANT APPLICATION INFORMATION REPORT - APRIL 2023****Director:** Ryan Gaiter**Responsible Officer:** Rylee Vidler**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives and notes the Grant Application Information Report for the month of April 2023.

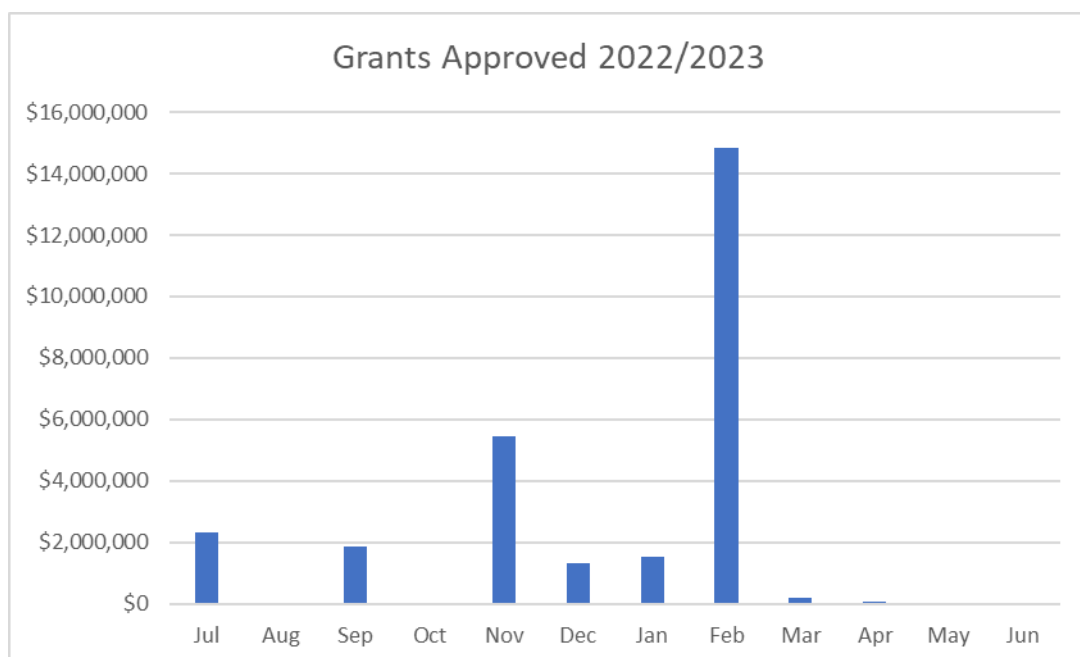
**REPORT**

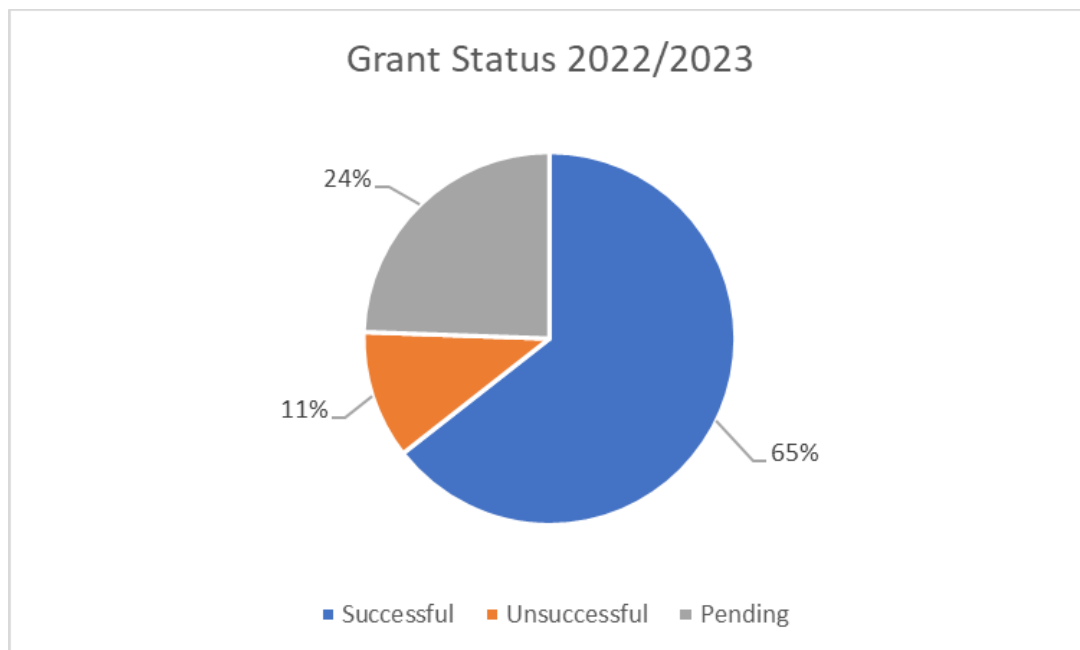
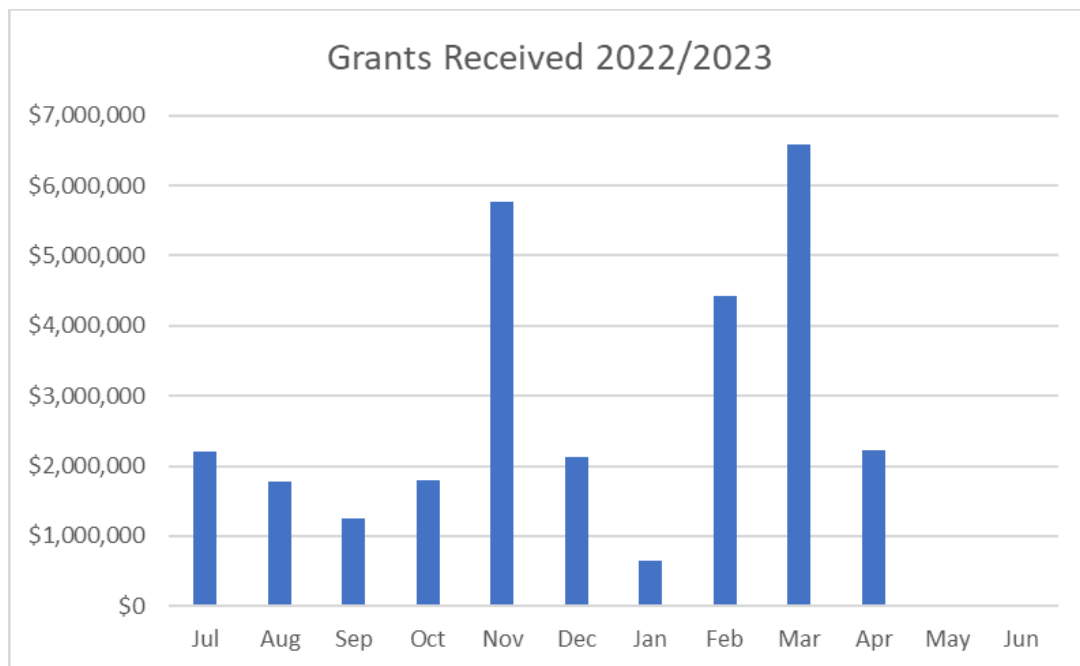
This report provides information on grant applications that have been approved, grants that have been received, grant applications that were unsuccessful and grant applications that were submitted for the month of April 2023.

During the reporting period, one grant was approved totalling \$80,000. This project does not require any Council contribution.

Council received funding for six grants totalling \$2,230,643. Council was not notified of any unsuccessful grant applications and three grant applications were submitted during April.

A summary of grants approved and received as well as the status of applications for the current financial year to 30 April 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
Planning Portal Application Programming Interface (API)	Department of Planning and Environment (State)	NSW Planning Portal API Grant Program	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	\$ -	17 April 2023	19 April 2023
Comment: This funding will allow Council to integrate Tech One with the NSW Planning Portal.							

### Grants that have been received

Project Name	Funding Body	Funding Name	Project Value	Grant Funding	Council Funding	Application Submitted	Date Received	Total Received
RVC s10.7 Review	Civic Risk Mutual (Other)	Rick Enhancing Funding	\$ 8,118	\$ 8,118	\$ -	20 January 2023	\$ 8,118 26 April 2023	\$ 8,118
Comment: Council received this funding after having the Section 10.7 Planning Certificate reviewed externally, as per the internal audit item.								
MR153 2.56-3.06km West of Currajong St	Transport for NSW (State)	2022/2023 Regional Roads REPAIR Program	\$ 326,430	\$ 163,215	\$ 163,215	29 September 2022	\$ 153,041 26 April 2023	\$ 153,041
Comment: Funds received for works completed on MR153.								
MR145 Woodburn-Coraki Road Major Upgrade	Transport for NSW (Federal)	N/A - Election Promise	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$ -	N/A	\$ 787,421 26 April 2023	\$ 6,648,806
Comment: Progress payment for works completed								
NSW Storms and Floods 15 January 2021 onwards AGRN898 – Essential Public Asset Reconstruction Works (rolled to AGRN960)	Transport for NSW (State)	Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)	\$ 1,761,000	\$ 1,761,000	\$ -	N/A	\$ 86,131 26 April 2023	\$ 146,636
Comment: Funding received for Gores Road Embankment works								
Coraki Ellangowan Road, Rehabilitations maintenance	Transport for NSW (State)	Fixing Local Roads Round 4	\$ 2,751,001	\$ 2,100,001	\$ 651,000	8 September 2022	\$ 420,000 26 April 2023	\$ 420,000
Comment: First milestone payment								

Project Name	Funding Body	Funding Name	Project Value	Grant Funding	Council Funding	Application Submitted	Date Received	Total Received
Willox Bridge MR145 Redhill Section	Transport for NSW (State)	Fixing Country Bridges Round One 2020	\$ 1,382,751	\$ 1,050,151	\$ 332,600	2 October 2020	\$ 775,933 26 April 2023	\$ 920,829
Comment: Milestone payment for Gate 3								

### Grant Applications Submitted

Project Name	Funding Body	Funding Name	Project Value	Grant Funding	Council Funding	Application Submitted
Richmond Valley Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan	Department of Planning and Environment (State)	Floodplain Management Program 2023-24	\$ 249,000	\$ 160,083	\$ 88,917	17 April 2023
Comment: If successful, this funding will allow Council to engage a consultant to prepare a Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.						
Planning Portal Application Programming Interface (API)	Department of Planning and Environment (State)	NSW Planning Portal API Grant Program	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	\$ -	17 April 2023
Comment: If successful, this funding will allow Council to link Tech One to the NSW Planning Portal.						
Science Week Event	Inspiring Australia (Federal)	2023 National Science Week Grants	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	20 April 2023
Comment: If successful, this funding will allow Council to hold four wildlife presentations at the library branches during National Science Week (12-20 August 2023)						

## 19.5 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2023 - 30 APRIL 2023

**Director:** Angela Jones

**Responsible Officer:** Andy Edwards

### RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Development Application report for the period 1 April 2023 – 30 April 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 April 2023 to 30 April 2023 was 17, with a total value of \$1,897,332.00.

In April, we had two applications withdrawn being DA2023/0099 – 4 Lancaster Street, Casino and DA2022/0008 – 7 Winjeel Road, Evans Head.

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

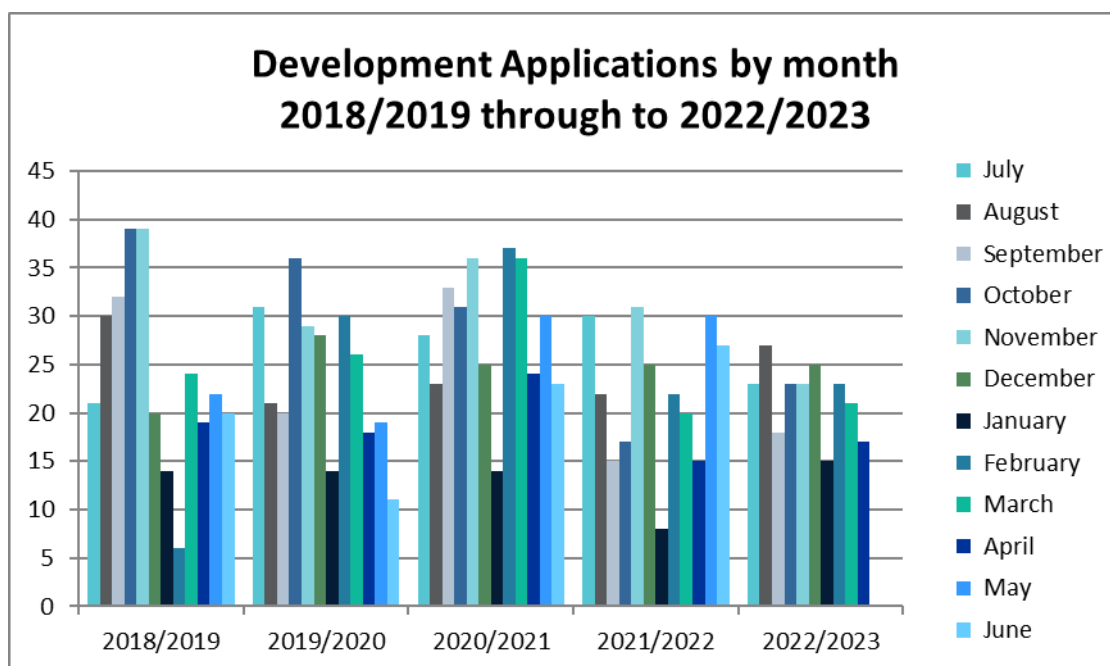


Figure 1: Monthly number of development applications processed by Council over five financial years

Figure 2 graph provides the annual value of Development Consents issued by Council over five financial years and Figure 3 provides a detailed review of the value for the reporting month of April 2023.

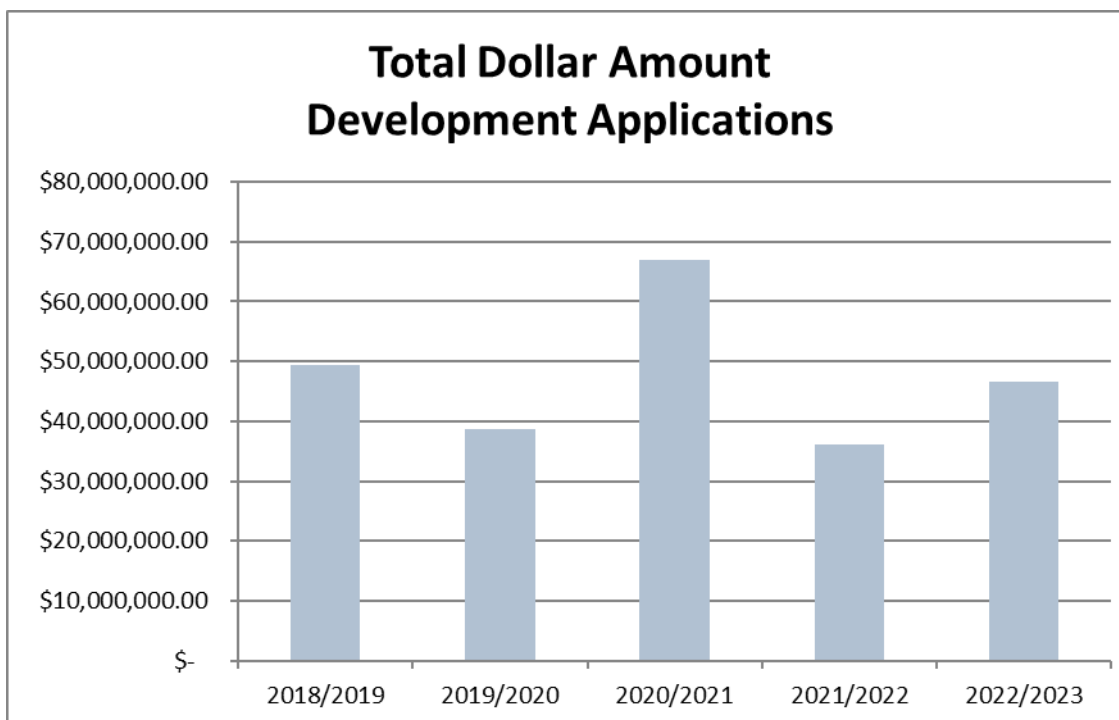


Figure 2: Annual value of development

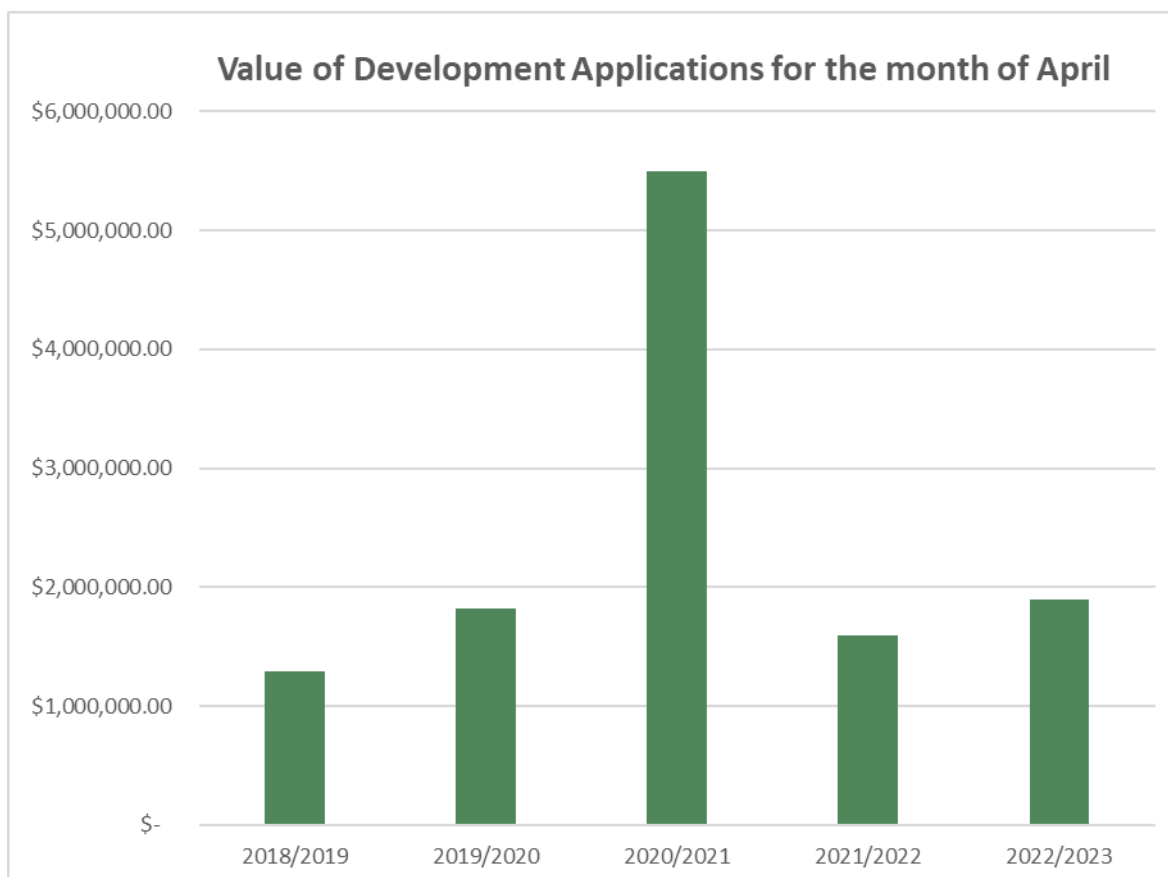
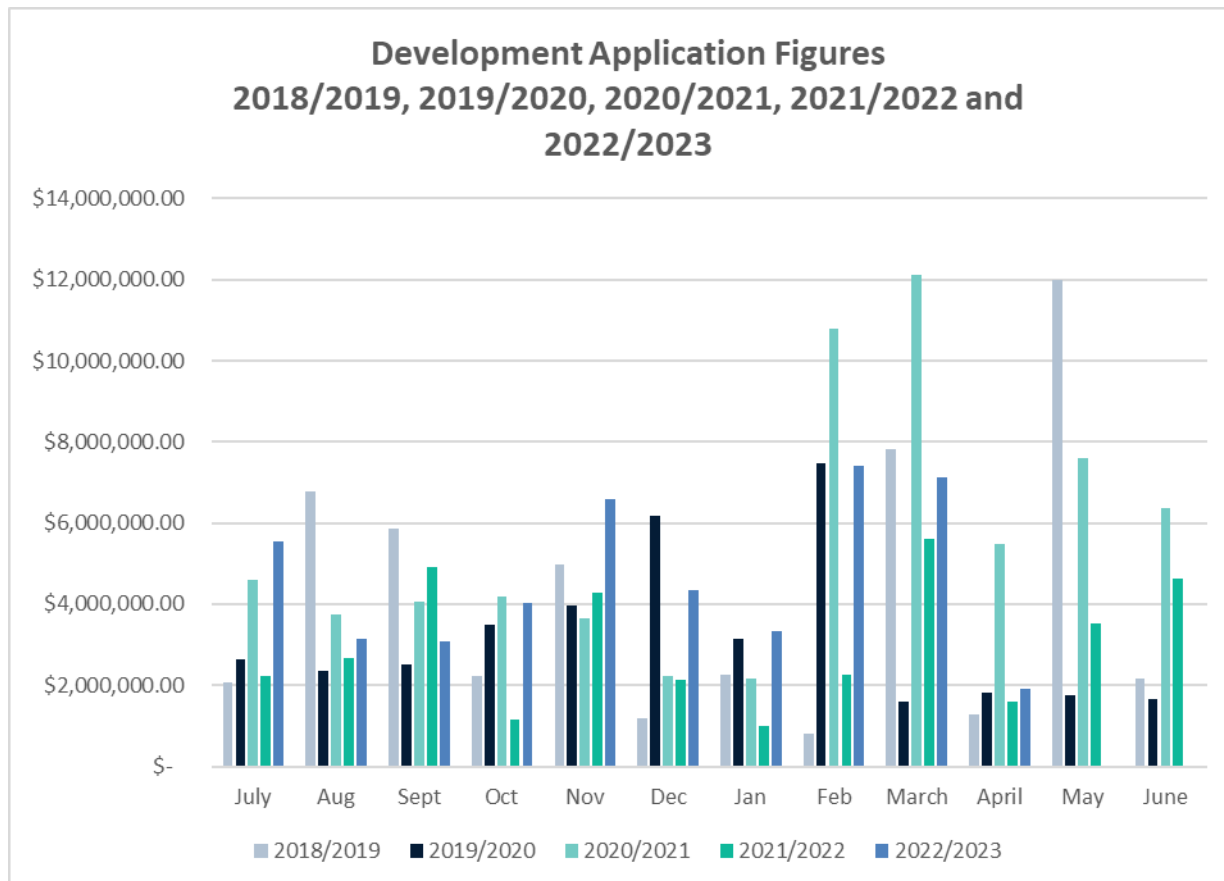


Figure 3: Value of development for the month of April 2023

### 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 4 and 5 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*

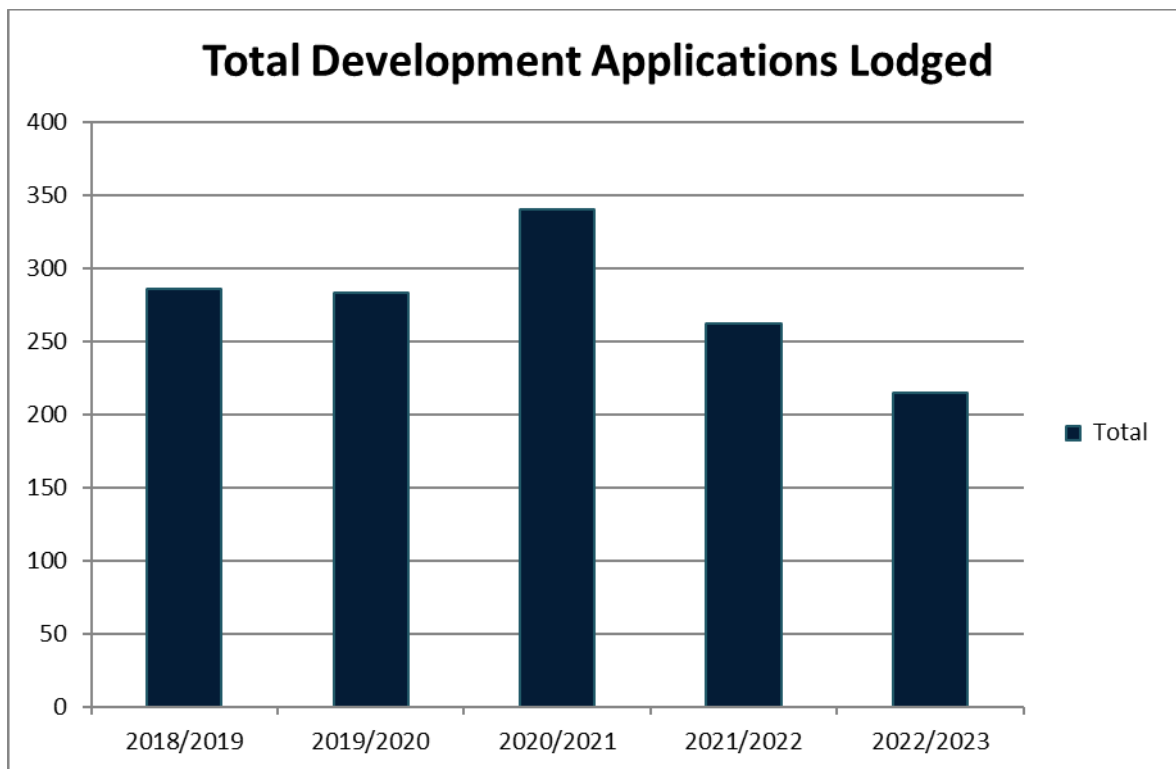


Figure 6: Number of Development Applications per annum over five financial years

#### Activity for the month of April 2023

General Approvals (excluding Subdivisions, Section 4.55)	11
Section 4.55 amendments to original consent	1
Subdivision	3
Refused	0
Rejected	0
Withdrawn	2
Complying Development (Council Approved)	2
Complying Development (Private Certifier Approved)	0
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS DETERMINED (excluding withdrawn applications)</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Average assessment days for applications determined in April 2023</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>No. of Integrated development applications determined in April 2023</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>No. of Designated development applications determined in April 2023</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>No. of building/ compliance inspections undertaken in April 2023</b>	<b>100</b>

#### ATTACHMENT(S)

Nil



Summary of Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 April 2023							
Application ID	Applicant	Owners	Location	Development	Date Lodged	Determination Date	Estimated Cost
DA2023/0092	ASKC Sheds Lismore Pty Ltd	K E Hamilton	25 Dean Street, Casino	Colorbond shed for storage with a variation to front boundary setback	28/11/2022	26/04/2023	\$30,930.00
DA2023/0107	Ardill Payne & Partners	K M McGeary & C K McGeary	92-94 Richmond Street, Woodburn	Retention of existing dwelling and outbuilding, Torrens Title subdivision into two (2) lots and associated works	6/12/2022	20/04/2023	\$9,350.00
DA2023/0114	C L Connolly	A G Brown & C L Connolly	3 Currajong Street, Evans Head	Retention of the existing dwelling, construction of two (2) storey dwelling form a detached dual occupancy development, associated site works and Torrens Title subdivision	15/12/2022	27/04/2023	\$650,000.00
DA2023/0117	Newton Denny Chapelle	K M Aleckson & T G Aleckson	810 Coraki Ellangowan Road, West Coraki	Integrated Development being Torrens title subdivision to create two lots	16/12/2022	27/04/2023	\$0.00
DA2023/0129	AGS Commercial Pty Ltd	J J M Burston	12 Rayner Street, Casino	Retention of existing dwelling at the front, construction of a single storey dwelling at the rear to form a detached dual occupancy development and associated works	23/01/2023	6/04/2023	\$150,000.00
DA2023/0135	S D Schrader	S D Schrader	480 Old Dyraaba Road, Woodview	Farm shed with wash facilities and a variation to front boundary setback from 50m to 40m	10/02/2023	18/04/2023	\$60,000.00
DA2023/0141	A J Knight	N R W Knight & A J Knight	753 Woodburn Evans Head Road, Evans Head	Retention of an existing dwelling and the construction of a single storey dwelling to create a detached dual occupancy, and associated works	20/02/2023	20/04/2023	\$400,000.00

Summary of Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 April 2023							
Application ID	Applicant	Owners	Location	Development	Date Lodged	Determination Date	Estimated Cost
DA2023/0143	D R B Patton	D R B Patton	27 Division Street, Casino	Erection of a 16m x 4m x 2.7m shed/carport	28/02/2023	26/04/2023	\$22,000.00
DA2023/0144	Hayes Building Consultancy	J W J Haynes & A R Maslen-Haynes	30 Backmede Road, Backmede	Alterations and additions to existing 3 bedroom house	2/03/2023	26/04/2023	\$244,970.00
DA2023/0146	ASKC Sheds Lismore Pty Ltd	J A Carter & P R Carter	20 Clark Street, Casino	Erecting a colorbond shed for storage purposes	7/03/2023	6/04/2023	\$25,725.00
DA2023/0147	Crestwood Drafting Services	NLI Management Pty Ltd	4/82-94 Barker Street, Casino	Proposed change of use to a hair salon with new business identification signage	9/03/2023	13/04/2023	\$7,150.00
DA2023/0148	North Coast Sheds & Garages Pty Ltd	J M Hammond	88 Dean Street, Casino	14m x 5.5m shed with awning with a variation request to be 700m from the north western side boundary	10/03/2023	19/04/2023	\$39,624.00
DA2023/0149	North Coast Sheds & Garages Pty Ltd	M A Hammond & M A Hammond	16 Forest Grove, Fairy Hill	14m x 16m shed	10/03/2023	17/04/2023	\$91,883.00
DA2023/0150	B & T Garages & Sheds Pty Ltd	R E Tate & M G Bown	46 Farley Street, Casino	Erection of a colorbond shed - 12.5m x 8m	10/03/2023	27/04/2023	\$43,140.00
DA2022/0149.01	Town Planning Strategies	Richmond Valley Council	Casino Aerodrome 1 East Street, Casino	Section 4.55 1(A) - Modification of approved installation of 5,200 litre fuel tank to remove requirements for Construction Certificate and Occupation Certificate	20/03/2023	6/04/2023	\$0.00

Summary of Council Complying Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 April 2023							
Application ID	Applicant	Owners	Location	Development	Date Lodged	Determination Date	Estimated Cost
CDC2023/0011	Northern Rivers Pools	S J McInnes	2230 Coraki Ellangowan Road, Ellangowan	Installation of an inground fibreglass swimming pool, associated equipment and fencing	20/03/2023	26/04/2023	\$55,175.00
CDC2023/0014	Northern Rivers Pools	M L Smith & D J Smith	55 Sullivans Road, Stratheden	Installation of an inground fibreglass swimming pool, its associated equipment & fencing	17/04/2023	28/04/2023	\$67,385.00
Summary of Flood Affected Development Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 April 2023							
Application ID	Applicant	Owners	Location	Development	Date Lodged	Determination Date	Estimated Cost
Nil							
Summary of Privately Certified Applications determined under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 April 2023							
Application ID	Applicant	Owners	Location	Development	Date Lodged	Determination Date	Estimated Cost
Nil							

Summary of Development Applications Refused under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 April 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 April 2023 to 30 April 2023							
Application ID	Applicant	Owners	Location	Development	Date Lodged	Completion Date	Estimated Cost
DA2023/0099	M K Watts	M K Watts	4 Lancaster Street, Casino	Conversion of existing outbuilding to secondary dwelling	1/12/2022	19/04/2023	\$24,500.00
DA2022/0008	Newton Denny Chapelle	J Davey & T L Davey	7 Winjeel Road, Evans Head	Change of use of the building to general industry (industrial activity) and associated internal fit-out	9/07/2021	19/04/2023	\$100,000.00

**19.6 INFRASTRUCTURE RECONSTRUCTION UPDATE****Director:** Angela Jones**Responsible Officer:** Nolan Lekay**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives and notes the information provided in the Infrastructure Reconstruction Update.

**REPORT**

Council has been making good progress in repairing flood damaged roads and drainage infrastructure. The below points highlight the key areas of interest. Reports will be provided on a quarterly basis, summarising the work taking place and the key statistics.

## 1. The RVC road network (1175km) consists of:

- 553km sealed roads
- 622km unsealed roads
- Approximately 75% of sealed and unsealed roads were impacted by the 2022 flood events
- To date, approximately 80% of all unsealed roads have been repaired and work has commenced on repairing sealed roads e.g. Woodburn – Coraki Road (partial) and Manifold Road (ongoing).

## 2. Funds spent to date (as at 30 April 2023) on the reconstruction effort are as follows:

Emergency Works (EW)	Immediate Reconstruction Works (IRW)	Essential Public Asset Restoration (EPAR)	TOTAL
\$6.30m	\$9.05m	\$1.95m	\$17.30m

- EPAR's currently submitted for approval \$128.4m
- EPAR's to be submitted for approval current Strategic Cost Estimate is \$180m

## 3. Projects of Note:

Project	Details	Timeframe
Manifold Road and Spring Grove Road	These roads were damaged primarily due to their service as a major detour route when other regional roads were closed. Repair works have commenced to alleviate the potential safety concerns that have been identified.	Works are expected to be completed by the end of June 2023, weather permitting.

Bentley Road	In March 2023, the road was repaired and the verge upgraded to allow for two lane traffic. The scope of works, design and planning for the repairs to the major rock slip/fall are underway.	Works are expected to commence by the end of June 2023 and be completed by the end of October 2023, weather permitting.
Naughtons Gap Road	<p>Council has received the final report of the geotechnical investigation to guide solutions for the reconstruction of Naughtons Gap Road. This report provides a path forward for Council in partnership with the NSW State Government to procure a suitably qualified contractor to undertake the design and reconstruction of Naughtons Gap Road.</p> <p>The pathway forward sees Transport for NSW reviewing the Geotechnical Assessment and Recommended Remediation Report and providing comment to Council. Once this is completed, final approval for the funding will occur and Council will tender the works. The project program has Council issuing the tender in June 2023 with a tender report tabled at the August 2023 Council meeting. Construction can commence immediately following the appointment of the successful contractor. The project will be funded from the Transport for NSW Regional Roads and Transport Recovery Program and Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements funds.</p>	Reconstruction is expected to take nine months to complete, with the aim of having the road open to the public by August 2024.
Richmond Terrace (Coraki)	Council recently undertook emergency pavement reconstruction works on Richmond Terrace, Coraki. These emergency works allow the public a safer passage through Coraki while Council continues geotechnical investigations to aid in designing a permanent solution to the land slip along Richmond Terrace. Regional Geotechnics have been engaged to complete the investigation and have commenced work.	Timeframe for this project to be confirmed once the Geotechnical reports have been received and reviewed.
Busby Flat Road Pikapene slip	Works have commenced on this slip and the road will be open to the public by the end of May 2023, weather permitting.	It is expected to have the road open to the public by the end of May 2023.

Evans Head Footpath minor landslip	Phase 1, repairing the landslip has been completed, with the footpath currently open in a temporary state (gravel). Phase 2 will commence in the next 3 to 4 weeks including concreting the footpath, kerb & gutter and fixing the road.	Works will commence at the end of May 2023 and be completed by the end of June 2023, weather permitting.
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*Images: Richmond Terrace, Coraki.*



*Images : Busbys Flat Road Pikapene Landslip***4. Contractor Information:**

- Council and Northern Rivers based contractor crews are currently assisting with the recovery effort.
- The crews are performing grading, drainage/culvert repairs, minor slip repairs and bitumen sealing.

The reconstruction team is working on compiling applications for projects so that they can be submitted to Transport for New South Wales for assessment and approval. These approvals are critical to the overall reconstruction effort to ensure that there is sufficient time for project planning and design and to ensure that there is a pipeline of works for contractors to proceed with. Despite all the challenges that are present with resourcing, Council is committed to the task ahead and is doing everything possible to repair damaged essential public assets.

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

Nil

**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 Write Off Bad Debt**

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.

**22.2 Tender VP351528 Illawong Lane, Drainage Construction**

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).

**23 RESOLUTIONS OF CLOSED COUNCIL**