

**INFORMATION REPORTS**



### **DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS – JUNE 2014**

Below is a list of Development approvals determined during the month of June 2014 for your information.

DA No.	Applicant	Construction	Address	Determination Date/Method	Value of Works	Type: DA/CC, Mod, s68, s96 etc.
DA2014/44	R Hogben	Installation of a Swimming Pool	55 Gartholme Road, Forest Reefs	2 June 2014 Delegation Approved	30,000	DA/CC
DA2014/48	T Ernst	Erection of a Dwelling	1 Fleet Street, Millthorpe	3 June 2014 Delegation Approved	258,868	DA
DA2014/34	J Harries	Change of Use to Current Facility	64 Old Errowanbang Road, Carcoar	3 June 2014 Delegation Approved	Nil	DA
DA2014/41	MR & MSC Clarke	Erection of a Garage/Workshop	2 Ramsay Street, Lyndhurst	4 June 2014 Delegation Approved	18,200	DA/CC
DA2014/38	M Silver	Erection of a Utility Building	1 Jarman Crescent, Blayney	5 June 2014 Delegation Approved	200,000	DA/CC
DA2014/53	BFB Pty Ltd	Grain Silos & Rural Industry	6772 Mid Western Highway, Lyndhurst	11 June 2014 Delegation Approved	340,000	DA
DA56/97/98/2	H Davidson	Modification – Relocation of Lots Two, Three (2,3) Stage 2	101 Plumb Street, Blayney	11 June 2014 Delegation Approved	Nil	S96
DA2014/51	P Hahn	Erection of a Storage Garage	3 Somers Place, Blayney	11 June 2014 Delegation Approved	8,600	DA/CC
DA232/2012/1	B Roll	Modification – Fully Enclose Front Verandah	19 Pilcher Street, Millthorpe	13 June 2014 Delegation Approved	Nil	S96
DA2014/52	Anthony Daintith Town Planning	Three (3) Lot Subdivision	1063 Wimbledon Road, Newbridge	16 June 2014 Delegation Approved	Nil	DA

DA2014/55	Anthony Daintith Town Planning	Two (2) Lot Subdivision	100 & 112 Marshalls Lane, Blayney	16 June 2014 Delegation Approved	Nil	DA
DA2014/56	Ranbuild Orange	Demolition of Shed & Erection of a Shed	10 Stabback Street, Millthorpe	19 June 2014 Delegation Approved	19,000	DA
DA2014/57	C & B Griffiths	Demolition of Existing Shed & Erection of a Garage/Carport	18 Naylor Street, Carcoar	24 June 2014 Delegation Approved	19,000	DA/CC
DA2014/54	Bell River Homes Pty Ltd	Erection of a Dwelling	5 Pitt Street, Millthorpe	25 June 2014 Delegation Approved	295,030	DA
DA2013/124/1	A & T Orme-Smith	Modification – Delete Condition 7 Relating to Living in the Shed. No Longer Required	152 Bentleys Lane, Millthorpe	30 June 2014 Delegation Approved	Nil	S96

**DA's Approved in June 2014: 15**

**DA's Lodged in June 2014: 5**

**Total Value of Works approved in June 2014: 1,188,698**

**DA's Approved in June 2013: 10**

**DA's Lodged in June 2013: 16**

**Total Value of Works approved in June 2013: \$ 1,640,184.00**

## **MEDIA RELEASE: NSW Public Libraries welcome infrastructure funding**

Representatives of the NSW public library associations have welcomed yesterday's Budget announcement of Public Library Infrastructure Fund amounting to \$15m over the next four years.

"This announcement recognises the significant backlog of work which has been identified by recent reviews," said Councillor Graham Smith, chairman of Public Libraries NSW. "Most libraries in NSW have had no significant renovation in the last 15 years, and some have had no work in decades. In a time of rapid technological change, it is essential that information centres such as libraries have the facilities to meet community needs."

Councillor Smith's comments were echoed by Councillor Veronique Marchandean, president of the NSW Metropolitan Public Libraries Association.

"We are pleased to see these funds made available across the whole network," she said. "Recent grant programs have been targeted at specific sectors, which has reduced their impact in metropolitan Sydney. However, the associations remain concerned that the Budget has not recognised the continuing impact on recurrent funding for public libraries, and the significant burden being carried by local government as the contribution from State coffers declines under the pressure of continued population growth."

Unless something is done about the recurrent funding formula within the next few months," said Councillor Smith, "there will be cuts to disability and geographic funding which supports libraries in many suburbs, regional centres and rural areas. Especially in these areas, this funding supports the special programs which add value to the public library service, and which are most valued by residents. We will be seeking an early meeting with the new Minister for the Arts to make this point clear, as the government develops its election manifesto".

Councillor Marchandean thanked the 36 000 NSW residents who have so far added their signatures to the statewide petition on public libraries.

"This response demonstrates to the NSW Government that our communities value their public libraries, and wish to see adequate funding provided," she said.

The associations will continue to campaign on the recurrent funding issue.



Cllr Graham Smith  
Chair  
Public Libraries New South Wales



Cllr Veronique Marchandean  
President  
NSW Metropolitan Public Libraries Association

CONTACT: Councillor Graham Smith 0408 333604

1 JUL 2014

**Doc. No.****Verified:****Disp.  
GA39:****Sent.**

Our ref: R01/0028.smc Out-22560

23 June 2014

Mr Glenn Wilcox  
General Manager  
Blayney Shire Council  
PO Box 62  
BLAYNEY NSW 2799

Dear Mr Wilcox

**Australian Government Budget Cuts to Local Government**

I write to advise you of the actions taken by LGNSW in response to the damaging cuts to Local Government funding announced in the 2014-15 Federal Budget. The specific budget measures I refer to are:

- The freezing of Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) for the next three years (2014/15 to 2016/17).
- The discontinuation of the National Partnership Agreement on Certain Concessions for Pensioner Concession Card and Senior Card Holders that is likely to flow through to councils as increased costs for providing Pensioner Rate Rebates.
- Cuts to Family Day Care funding.

Immediately following the budget announcement, LGNSW put out a media release denouncing these measures. I have subsequently written directly to the Prime Minister and the Treasurer urging them to reconsider these cuts (Copy of letter to Prime Minister attached). A separate letter has been sent to all NSW Federal Members of Parliament asking them to support LGNSW in opposing these cuts.

LGNSW has joined with the NSW Government and peak pensioner bodies in opposing the discontinuation of the National Partnership Agreement on Certain Concessions for Pensioner Concession Card and Senior Card Holders, which includes the Pensioner Rate Rebate.

This matter is also being dealt with at the national level by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA). ALGA and LGNSW strongly supported the urgency motions put to the recent National General Assembly (NGA). The respective resolutions are reproduced below:

*Delegates of the 2014 National General Assembly, in recognition of the vital importance of the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) to local government for the provision of equitable levels of local government services to all Australian communities, call on the Commonwealth Government to:*

- *restore indexation of Financial Assistance Grants in line with CPI and population growth immediately,*
- *reject Recommendation 22 of the National Commission of Audit in which the Commission recommends that tied grants to local government cease, and to the extent that programmes are identified as priorities, local and state government provide them to the communities they serve.*

*Further Delegates resolve that:*

- *It is imperative that the Commonwealth consult with local government, the states and territories and local communities in the development of the White Paper on Reform of the Federation and the White Paper on Taxation; that the Government's White Papers must genuinely reflect the wishes of the Australian people; and that future Federal-state and local financial relationship arrangements must ensure long term sustainable distribution of taxation revenues between the levels of government that are commensurate with the roles and responsibilities of each level government in our modern Federation.*

The battle to restore FAGs and redress the other cuts affecting Local Government will be long and hard. It will be necessary for Local Government nationally to work together in a coordinated strategic manner. I urge all councils to get behind this vital effort.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Rhoades', written in a cursive style.

Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM  
**President**

R01/0021.smc Out-22548

13 June 2014

The Hon Tony Abbott MP  
Prime Minister  
PO Box 6022  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr Abbott

Local Government NSW (LGNSW) is the peak body for councils in NSW. LGNSW represents all the 152 NSW general-purpose councils, the special-purpose county councils and the NSW Aboriginal Land Council.

I write to you to protest the serious cuts proposed in the 2014-15 Federal Budget that will adversely affect the ability of Local Government to maintain basic infrastructure and services to the community. Specifically:

- The freezing of Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) for the next three years (2014/15 to 2016/17).
- The discontinuation of the *National Partnership Agreement on Certain Concessions for Pensioner Concession Card and Senior Card Holders* is likely to flow through to councils.
- Cuts to Family Day Care funding.

#### **Local Government Financial Assistance Grants**

Under the budget as it now stands, FAGs will not be increased in line with CPI and population increases for three financial years. FAGs will be frozen at \$2.287 billion per annum nationally until 2017/18. A total of \$925 million will be lost to Local Governments nationally over the period of the forward estimates.

However, the impact will continue beyond the forward estimates as the base level of FAGs will be permanently reduced by more than 12%. In recent years the value of FAGs has slipped to 0.7% of total Australian Government taxation revenue (excluding GST). With the indexation freeze, this figure is to fall to 0.53% by 2017/18. This is the lowest level since the introduction of FAGs.

As a result of the financial imbalance between urban and regional areas, the freeze will have the greatest impact on rural and regional councils that are more heavily dependent on FAGs as a proportion of their revenue.

In NSW the FAGs indexation freeze will result in losses from forgone increase of approximately \$287.7 million over the forward estimates to 2017-18.



## **Pensioner Concessions**

In addition to these cuts, NSW councils are also expecting to face higher costs for the provision of Pensioner Rate Rebates in future. With the discontinuation of Australian Government support for the wide range of pensioner concessions, the 5% Commonwealth contribution towards Pensioner Rate rebates is to be lost.

LGNSW has joined with the NSW Government and peak pensioner bodies in opposing the discontinuation of the *National Partnership Agreement on Certain Concessions for Pensioner Concession Card and Senior Card Holders*, which includes the Pensioner Rate Rebate. LGNSW also commends the NSW Government in promising to cover the shortfall in funding for the 2014/15 financial year. However, there is no certainty beyond this.

Local Government in NSW is concerned that the council share of the cost will increase from 45% to 50% from 2015/16, at a cost in excess of \$7 million per annum. This will steadily increase with an ageing population.

## **Family Day Care**

The Australian Government Budget funding reforms will dramatically affect NSW Family Day Care (FDC) operators, especially those managed by Local Government and could cause families to miss out on affordable, accessible child care from the middle of 2015.

From Wednesday 1 July 2015, all Family Day Care services wishing to access funding from the Community Support Programme (CSP) will be assessed under similar eligibility criteria to those which apply to other care types long day care and outside school hours care. Family Day Care services will only be eligible for CSP funding if they are the sole provider of Family Day Care in the surrounding area, and if they provide care in regional, remote or disadvantaged areas where there is unmet demand for child care or market failure. This is a very difficult test.

These changes could result in a significant loss of revenue for 42 NSW councils if CSP funding is no longer available, as well as potentially reduce the availability of places for families who rely on the service.

Approved services will also have their Operational Support Funding capped at \$250,000 a year.

The Australian Government has effectively undermined the foundations that support the whole Family Day Care system, which is a low blow to current operators, families and the children who will all be affected. It undermines a model deeply respected for over 30 years in many communities. Councils have worked assiduously to remain involved as a public provider of Family Day Care as it offers an affordable, flexible early childhood education and care option for local families.

The combined effect of the cuts to NSW Local Government will result in councils having to;

- finding savings through severe cuts to infrastructure maintenance and service expenditure;
- increase rates fees and charges to offset the cuts; and
- increase child care fees and/or close Family Day Care services.



It is conceivable that these draconian measures will also force some rural and regional councils to the wall. The massive existing infrastructure renewal backlogs and the severe stress on Local Government revenue in NSW are well documented. These budget measures will only exacerbate these problems.

There can be no doubt that these cuts will hurt NSW communities, particularly those already subject to the most hardship. I urge you to reconsider these measures.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Rhoades', written in a cursive style.

Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM  
**President**



