



21 May 2026

Dear Councillor,

Your attendance is requested at an Ordinary Council Meeting of the Blayney Shire Council to be held in the Chambers, Blayney Shire Community Centre on Tuesday, 26 May 2026 at 6.00pm for consideration of the following business -

- (1) Livestreaming Video and Audio Check
- (2) Acknowledgement of Country
- (3) Recording of Meeting Statement
- (4) Statement of Ethical Obligations
- (5) Apologies for non-attendance
- (6) Disclosures of Interest
- (7) Mayoral Minute
- (8) Confirmation of Minutes - Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28.04.26
- (9) Matters arising from Minutes
- (10) Reports of Staff
 - (a) Executive Services
 - (b) Corporate Services
 - (c) Infrastructure Services
 - (d) Planning and Environmental Services
- (11) Delegates Reports
- (12) Closed Meeting

Mark Dicker
General Manager

Meeting Calendar 2026

May

10.00am	20 May 2026	Central Tablelands Water Meeting	Blayney
6.00pm	25 May 2026	McPhillamy's CCC Meeting	Community Centre
6.00pm	26 May 2026	Council Meeting	Community Centre
10.00am	27 - 28 May 2026	Central NSW JO Board Meeting	Sydney

June

10.00am	5 June 2026	Local Transport Forum	Community Centre
6.00pm	16 June 2026	Council Meeting	Community Centre
10.00am	17 June 2026	Central Tablelands Water Meeting	Grenfell
2.00pm	19 June 2026	Central Tablelands Weeds Authority Meeting	Kelso
8.30am	24 June 2026	Orange 360 Board Meeting	Orange

July

6.00pm	28 July 2026	Council Meeting	Community Centre
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LIVE STREAMING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

In accordance with the Blayney Shire Council Code of Meeting Practice, this meeting will be recorded for the purpose of the live streaming function via our YouTube channel. The audio and visual live stream and recording, will allow members of the public to view proceedings via the Internet without the need to attend Council meetings. The objective of this service is to eliminate geographic and other access barriers for the community wishing to learn more about Council's decision making processes.

By speaking at the Council Meeting you agree to be livestreamed and recorded. Please ensure that if and when you speak at this Council Meeting that you ensure you are respectful to others and use appropriate language at all times.

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Council does not accept any responsibility for any verbal comments made during Council meetings which may be inaccurate, incorrect, defamatory, or contrary to law and does not warrant nor represent that the material or statements made during the streamed meetings are complete, reliable, accurate or free from error.

Live streaming is primarily set up to capture the proceedings of the Council meeting and members of the public attending a Council meeting need to be aware they may be recorded as part of the proceedings.

STATEMENT OF ETHICAL OBLIGATIONS

Councillors are reminded of their oath or affirmation of office made under section 233A of the Local Government Act and their obligations under the Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.

01) MAYORAL MINUTE - SIX POINT ACTION PLAN ON RURAL AND REGIONAL HEALTH

Author: Councillor Bruce Reynolds

File No: GR.LR.2

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Note the release of the LGNSW's "*Caring for our Regions*" Six Point Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health, which outlines coordinated advocacy priorities to address critical gaps in healthcare access and outcomes for rural, regional and remote communities, including Blayney Shire;
2. Recognise that people living in rural, regional and remote areas experience poorer health outcomes, reduced access to primary and specialist care, and shorter life expectancy compared to metropolitan communities, and that these inequities are unacceptable;
3. Adopt the "*Caring for our Regions*" Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health as a formal advocacy position of Council;
4. Undertake appropriate media and communications opportunities to publicly support the "*Caring for our Regions*" Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health and strengthen coordinated advocacy with other councils.
5. Write to the NSW Minister for Regional Health, Ryan Park MP through the local Member of Parliament, MP Paul Toole MP and the Commonwealth Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health, Emma McBride MP through the local Member of Parliament, Andrew Gee MP, seeking their support for the "*Caring for our Regions*" Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health and calling for coordinated State and Commonwealth action to improve rural and regional health outcomes.
6. Notify LGNSW of this notice of motion.

Summary

This Mayoral Minute seeks Council's endorsement of Local Government NSW's "*Caring for our Regions*" Six Point Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health. The motion calls on Council to formally adopt the advocacy plan and to advocate to the NSW Minister for Regional Health, Ryan Park MP, the Commonwealth Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health, Emma McBride MP, and our local Member(s) of Parliament to support the six priority advocacy asks.

The Mayoral Minute is strategic in nature, does not commit Council to additional operational service delivery, and seeks to strengthen coordinated local government advocacy to improve access to healthcare for rural, regional and remote communities.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present Council with an opportunity to collaborate with councils across New South Wales by endorsing the Six Point Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health and participating in a coordinated local government advocacy effort ahead of the NSW State election in March 2027.

Council can contribute to a unified call for State and Commonwealth action to improve access to healthcare and health outcomes for rural and regional communities, including our own.

Background

Communities in rural, regional and remote NSW face persistent and systemic challenges in accessing essential healthcare services. These challenges include chronic workforce shortages across general practice, nursing, allied health and mental health, the closure or bypass of rural maternity services, limited access to patient transport, and inadequate availability of aged care and ageing-in-place supports.

For Blayney Shire Council, insufficient State and Commonwealth investment in our local rural and regional health services means that:

- There are insufficient aged care beds in Blayney Shire for our ageing population, seeing them relocate to other centres for aged care.
- The new build hospital in Blayney has not been constructed for a growing population and for our aging community.
- There is market failure in the private sector for aged care beds and services in Blayney Shire,
- Provide accommodation for nursing staff in our community,
- Providing adequate community transport for our aging community to meet medical appointments outside our local government area.
- Council providing funds to attract GP's to our local area.

Over recent years, these issues right across NSW have been examined through multiple parliamentary inquiries into rural and regional health. Councils across NSW have actively engaged in these processes, providing submissions, evidence and case studies that highlight the real-world impacts on communities and the growing pressure on councils to intervene where other services are unavailable.

Despite the volume of inquiries and recommendations, many of the underlying challenges remain unresolved. The Six Point Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health builds on this extensive body of inquiry and advocacy work.

LGNSW's *"Caring for our Regions"* Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health identifies six priority areas requiring urgent government action:

1. Strengthening the regional health workforce;
2. Establishing a GP guarantee for rural and regional communities;
3. Reimbursing councils for filling health service gaps;
4. Funding patient transport as core health infrastructure;
5. Restoring safe, local maternity care; and

6. Investing in community-based aged care and ageing in place.

The plan is designed to support coordinated advocacy by the local government sector and to seek meaningful, sustained investment from the NSW and Commonwealth Governments. This Mayoral Minute provides a mechanism for Council to formally support the plan and advocate for improved healthcare access and outcomes for its community.

Enclosures (following report)

- | | | |
|----------|--|---------|
| 1 | LGNSW's Six Point Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health | 8 Pages |
|----------|--|---------|

Attachments (separate document)

Nil



"Caring for our regions"

A Six Point Action Plan on RURAL & REGIONAL HEALTH



PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

Communities in rural, regional and remote NSW are facing a crisis in the provision of essential healthcare services. Residents in these areas have poorer health outcomes and face significant challenges in accessing health and hospital services compared to people living in metropolitan areas.¹

Shamefully, life expectancy for people living in the bush is about 3 years less than those in the city².

It is completely unacceptable that someone's postcode will determine their access to essential healthcare services.

For too long, councils have been stepping in to fill the void for their communities.

**ONE VOICE
FOR COUNCILS**

As the peak body representing the local government sector, LGNSW is advocating for the meaningful implementation of all [44 recommendations](#) from the 2022 report of the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into rural and regional healthcare. But the time for inquiries and reports is over. Our communities need and deserve real action to address this crisis.

That is why LGNSW is fighting hard for this six point action plan and stands ready to work with the State and Federal Governments to deliver better health outcomes for our communities.

Mayor Darcy Byrne
President LGNSW

¹ NSW Ministry of Health. (2023). NSW Regional Health Strategic Plan 2022-2032

² NSW Ministry of Health. (n.d.). Regional health. HealthStats NSW. Retrieved April 30, 2026

LGNSW'S SIX POINT ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS THE RURAL AND REGIONAL HEALTHCARE CRISIS



1. Strengthen the regional health workforce

The NSW Government must establish a Regional Health Workforce Investment Package, with \$440 million over four years, to address systemic workforce shortages across general practice, specialist care, nursing, allied health and particularly mental health services in rural, regional and remote NSW.



2. A GP guarantee

In a country as wealthy as ours, it is unacceptable that in parts of rural, regional and remote NSW accessing a GP is nearly impossible. A GP guarantee is needed, requiring targeted investment in regional training pathways and recruitment and retention incentives, and long-term workforce sustainability. LGNSW calls for a \$200 million investment over four years to expand regional GP training, support recruitment in hard-to-fill locations, and ensure consistent access to primary care in under-served communities.



3. Reimburse councils for filling the health gaps

The NSW Government must establish a rural, regional and remote health reimbursement scheme to compensate councils for costs incurred in supporting access to local healthcare. LGNSW calls for a \$20 million program over four years to reimburse councils that are forced to redirect funding from core infrastructure and community services to support access to local healthcare.



4. Fund patient transport as core health infrastructure

The NSW Government must recognise patient transport as core health infrastructure. LGNSW calls for a \$150 million investment over four years to provide sustainable funding for community transport services and integrated health and transport planning to improve access to care across rural, regional and remote NSW.



5. Safe, local maternity care

The NSW Government must reverse the decline in rural birthing services and restore safe, local maternity care. This requires targeted investment of \$120 million over four years to protect and rebuild rural birthing units and expand midwife-led continuity of care and culturally safe maternity models, including for Aboriginal women and communities.



6. Invest in community-based aged care and ageing in place

The NSW Government needs to work with the Commonwealth to establish a Rural and Regional Aged Care Transition Fund, with \$250 million over four years, to:

- expand council-delivered supports for ageing in-place, including in-home care and community-based services in under-served regions;
- support transitional care models that reduce hospital discharge blockages; and
- enable faster delivery of residential aged care infrastructure in high-need communities.



#1 STRENGTHEN THE REGIONAL HEALTH WORKFORCE

PROBLEM

Access to health care in rural, regional and remote NSW is fundamentally constrained by a persistent shortage of health professionals. Workforce gaps extend across general practice, specialist care, nursing, allied health and mental health, limiting service availability and placing unsustainable pressure on existing staff.

Health worker attraction and retention is hindered by a combination of structural and lifestyle barriers. These include a shortage of affordable housing, limited access to childcare, and a lack of employment opportunities for partners.

Geographic isolation, limited transport connectivity and professional isolation further reduce the attractiveness of regional practice. At the same time, heavy workloads, reliance on locums and limited career pathways contribute to burnout and high turnover.

While targeted incentives have delivered some improvement, the need for a more sustained and systemic response is needed.

SOLUTION

The NSW Government should establish a Regional Health Workforce Investment Package with additional dedicated investment of \$440 million over four years, reflecting the scale and complexity of workforce shortages across rural and regional NSW.

Without this investment, workforce constraints will continue to limit access to care, exacerbate health inequities, and drive avoidable demand across the broader health system.

CASE STUDY



Coolamon Shire Council – health workforce crisis

In 2023, Coolamon Shire Council reported that chronic workforce shortages meant only 22 of its 33 residential aged care beds were operational, despite more than 70 people being on a waiting list for care. After seven years of unsuccessful attempts to recruit registered nurses locally, including offering HECS debt support, council was forced to seek innovative and alternative solutions to keep its aged care facility viable.

To maintain this essential service, council committed over \$1M

to sponsor 4 overseas nurses and 14 Care service employees, provide training, cover visa and legal costs and construct workforce accommodation. This financial support is continuing with an intended transition into permanent residencies for the overseas workforce and the associated ongoing costs. This case highlights both the severity of regional health workforce shortages and the unsustainable expectation that councils will fund and deliver solutions well beyond their formal responsibilities.



#2 A GP GUARANTEE

PROBLEM

People in rural, regional and remote NSW are being denied the most basic element of the health system: access to a General Practitioner close to home. Up to one in five people in some regions are unable to access a GP when they need one. A NSW parliamentary inquiry has heard that more than 40 towns could lose their only GP by the end of the decade.

It is completely unacceptable that communities face weeks-long wait times, are forced to travel hours for primary care, or are left to go without it altogether.

Councils report that GP shortages are a significant and growing challenge in their communities, alongside broader shortages in mental health, nursing and allied health workforces.

GP workforce growth is bypassing the communities that need it most. Training numbers in regional and rural NSW have increased by just 4 per cent in 2025, compared to 17 per cent nationally³, widening an already unacceptable gap in access

to care. In some communities, GPs are continuing to practice well beyond typical retirement age due to the absence of successors.

SOLUTION

A GP guarantee, backed by targeted investment in regional training pathways and incentives, would ensure doctors are trained and retained in the communities that need them most. This requires a dedicated investment of \$200 million over four years to expand regional GP training, support recruitment and retention in hard-to-fill locations, and sustain primary care services in under-served communities.

CASE STUDY



Mid-Western Regional Council – Gulgong GP Services

The community of Gulgong was without GPs for 18 months following the closure of its only practice. The return of GP services was the direct result of financial incentives and assistance being provided by the [Doctors 4 Mudgee Region](#) initiative. The initiative is backed by Mid-Western Regional Council and three local mining companies.

Without this investment, communities will continue to lose access to primary care, driving avoidable pressure onto hospitals and deepening health inequities across NSW.

³ Royal Australian College of General Practitioners. (2025, January 21). More GPs training in NSW, but rural GP shortfalls show state investment needed.



#3 REIMBURSE COUNCILS FOR FILLING THE HEALTH GAPS

PROBLEM

More than 20 percent of regional and rural councils are stepping in and funding health services where state and federal governments are neglecting their obligation. This includes subsidising running costs of medical facilities, providing health infrastructure, supporting workforce housing and delivering transport assistance.

While councils are not responsible for funding health services, they have little choice if they want to ensure their communities can access critical care. This diverts limited resources away from essential local infrastructure and services.

Often, these are the smallest and most remote councils, least able to afford these additional costs. Yet without council intervention, communities would go without basic health services. This cost-shift embeds structural inequity in both local government finances and regional access to health services.

SOLUTION

The NSW Government must establish a rural and regional health reimbursement scheme to compensate councils for this expenditure. LGNSW advocates for a \$20 million program over four years to reimburse councils that are forced to redirect funding from core infrastructure and community services to support local health access.

Without appropriate reimbursement, funds that are desperately needed for libraries, roads, playgrounds and sports fields will continue to be diverted to fund medical services that are the responsibility of State and Federal Governments.

CASE STUDY



Bogan Shire Council – Medical Centre in Nyngan

Bogan Shire Council has taken on the responsibility for establishing, operating, and funding the only Medical Centre in Nyngan for the last nine years.

Recognising market failure and with an impending crisis in local primary healthcare on the retirement of existing doctors, the accredited practice was established to avoid a critical lack of locally accessible primary, allied and specialist healthcare services.

The services offered have grown since 2017, with two building

extensions and the practice now has 3,400 active patients, with a local population of around 2,400, indicating that it services the regional community beyond Bogan Shire LGA.

The practice is well managed and operational costs are contained. However, annual expenditure increasingly outweighs income from patient fees, meaning that the practice is considerably subsidised by over \$600,000 per year from Council's other revenue including property rates. The main item of expenditure is fees associated with securing locum doctors, including housing, vehicles and travel.



Without adequate and well-funded patient transport, Councils will be forced to continue to cover these costs or patients will face expensive round trips for consultations or forego critical and necessary treatments.



#4 FUND PATIENT TRANSPORT AS CORE HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

PROBLEM

In rural, regional and remote NSW, access to health care is determined by access to transport. For many residents, particularly older people, people with disability and those on low incomes, the absence of reliable transport makes timely care effectively unreachable. This means missed appointments, delayed treatment, and avoidable pressure on hospitals, emergency departments and ambulance services.

The scale of this challenge is significant. In 2023–24, more than 99,000 travel assistance claims were approved under the Isolated Patients Travel and Accommodation Assistance Scheme (IPTAAS), an increase of 21% from the previous year⁴. While IPTAAS provides partial reimbursement for travel, it does not provide transport. For residents without access to a vehicle or driver, the scheme is effectively inaccessible. Transport barriers lead people in rural and remote areas to delay primary care and rely more heavily on hospital services, contributing to avoidable pressure on the health system.

Councils are stepping in to fill this gap, operating community transport services that are often the only way residents can attend essential medical appointments. Yet the NSW Government does not fund these services as core health infrastructure. Instead, community transport providers rely on fragmented Commonwealth and State programs that fail to meet the true cost of delivery and restrict services through inflexible eligibility rules.

SOLUTION

The NSW Government must:

- recognise and fund patient transport as core health infrastructure in rural, regional and remote NSW. This requires a dedicated investment of \$150 million over four years to provide sustainable, index-linked funding for community transport in regional and rural areas; and
- integrate transport and health planning to improve coordination and access.

CASE STUDY



Narrandera Shire Council – Community Transport service

Narrandera Shire Council provides [community transport](#) to residents of the Narrandera and Leeton Shires, funded through the Commonwealth Home Support Programmes (Department of Health and Ageing) and the Community Transport Program (Transport for NSW) and supported by both councils. This service is provided to residents aged 65 years and over (or 50 years and over who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander), or those who are transport disadvantaged to attend

medical appointments, shopping and social events, both locally and out of town. In 2024–25 the Narrandera Leeton Community Transport service provided 15,171 trips to residents and travelled over 356,455 kilometres, providing services to over 700 active clients. Many of the passengers used the service on a regular basis as their sole means of transport. The service relies heavily on the incredible generosity of 29 volunteer drivers who worked a staggering 7500 hours within the reporting period.

⁴ NSW Government. (2024, October 8). [Making it easier for regional patients who need to travel for healthcare.](#)



#5 SAFE, LOCAL MATERNITY CARE

PROBLEM

Reduced access to rural maternity services places expectant mothers and their babies at significant risk. Maternity services are not routinely available in rural hospitals, and the ongoing closure and prolonged bypass of birthing units continues to undermine local care. Nationally, Australia lost 41 per cent of its maternity units between 1992 and 2011⁵, with closures disproportionately affecting small rural and regional services.

When local birthing facilities close, rural women and their families are often forced to travel long distances or permanently relocate to other towns to start or grow their families. This not only increases financial, social and emotional strain on families, but also contributes to the long term social and economic decline of rural communities as families move to regions with better services.

SOLUTION

The NSW Government must act to reverse the decline in rural birthing units and restore access to safe, local maternity care. This requires targeted investment of at least \$120 million over four years to protect and rebuild local services, alongside the expansion of midwife-led, continuity-of-care and culturally safe maternity models, including for Aboriginal women and communities.

Without decisive action, rural families will continue to be denied the right to give birth safely, close to home.

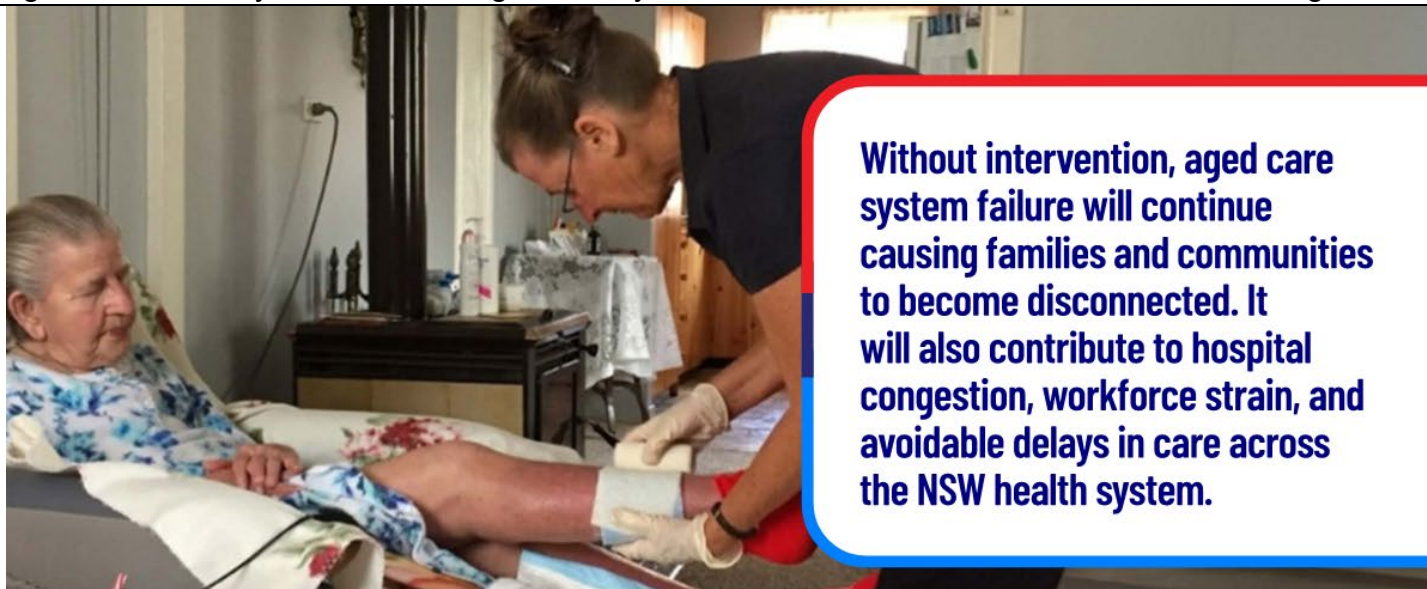
CASE STUDY



Parkes Shire Council – Local Birthing Unit

The birthing unit at Parkes hospital has been closed since 2019 as it was unable to secure staff. The town's sole obstetrician resigned in January 2025 leaving Parkes without obstetric services. Mayor Neil Westcott reports the community is constantly reassured that Parkes maternity reinstatement is high on the agenda of NSW Health, but a solution does not appear to be any closer.

⁵National Rural Health Alliance. (2025, June 23). Second edition national consensus framework for rural maternity services.



Without intervention, aged care system failure will continue causing families and communities to become disconnected. It will also contribute to hospital congestion, workforce strain, and avoidable delays in care across the NSW health system.



#6 INVEST IN COMMUNITY-BASED AGED CARE AND AGEING IN PLACE

PROBLEM

In around one third of rural and regional communities, local government is the primary or sole provider of a broad range of aged care and community-based services including domestic assistance, community transport, meals, social support programs, respite, home modifications, nursing, personal care and allied health. In some areas councils are even running residential aged care facilities.

Councils are particularly involved where there is a scarcity of service providers and workforce constraints.

Supporting older people to age in place enables older residents to stay connected to established social networks, informal supports, and local services, all of which are critical to wellbeing and independence of the individual but also to the connectedness and wellbeing of the community.

Aging in place also reduces demand on residential aged care and the acute hospital system by enabling earlier and

more appropriate support pathways. The lack of access to appropriate aged care in rural, regional and remote communities is placing pressure on the NSW public hospital system, particularly through “bed block” when patients remain in hospital after they are medically cleared for discharge because no appropriate aged care placement or in-home support is available.

SOLUTION

The NSW Government should work with the Commonwealth to establish a Rural and Regional Aged Care Transition Fund, with an investment of \$250 million over four years to:

- expand council-delivered ageing in place supports, including in-home care and community-based services in underserved regions
- support transitional care models that reduce hospital discharge blockages
- enable faster delivery of residential aged care infrastructure in high-need communities.

CASE STUDY



Uralla Shire Council – Providing Aged Care

Uralla Shire Council delivers a range of services for older people and people with disability, spanning entry level support through to more intensive care options. Through [Tablelands Community Support](#), the Council delivers government funded aged care services, including the CHSP, NDIS, and the Support at Home program, and along with Tablelands Community Transport runs a dedicated community transport service that supports many

frail aged, disabled and transport disadvantaged residents. The Council's services extend beyond domestic assistance and meals to include personal care, allied health, mobility equipment, home maintenance, in-home respite care, nursing and social support, such as a weekly Elders Aboriginal group. In addition, the council provides short term reablement and facility-based respite and offers access to higher level aged care through its McMaugh Gardens residential aged care facility.

02) MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING HELD 28 APRIL 2026

Department: Executive Services

Author: General Manager

CSP Link: 1. Prioritise transparency, financial sustainability and strong partnerships with and for our community

File No: GO.ME.3

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 April 2026, being minute numbers 2604/001 to 2604/024 be confirmed.

**MINUTES OF THE BLAYNEY SHIRE COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING
HELD IN THE CHAMBERS, BLAYNEY SHIRE COUNCIL COMMUNITY
CENTRE, ON 28 APRIL 2026, COMMENCING AT 6.18PM**

Present: Crs B Reynolds (Mayor), R Scott (Deputy Mayor), I Dorsett, C Gosewisch, K Hutchings, S Johnston and J Newstead

General Manager (Mr M Dicker), Director Corporate Services (Mr A Franze), Director Infrastructure Services (Mr J Hogan), Director Planning & Environmental Services (Mr A Muir) and Executive Assistant to the General Manager (Mrs L Ferson)

RECORDING OF MEETING STATEMENT

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil

MAYORAL MINUTE

**MAYORAL MINUTE - SUPPORT FOR CAMPAIGN TO
INCREASE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS TO LOCAL
GOVERNMENT**

2604/001

RESOLVED:

That Council:

1. Note the Country Mayors Association of NSW “Invest in Us” campaign advocating for increased Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants to local governments. The campaign seeks to restore at least 1% of total Commonwealth taxation revenue for local councils across Australia.
2. Highlights the critical role local government plays in delivering essential services and infrastructure that underpin community wellbeing, economic vitality, and national resilience.

3. Supports the campaign's core message: 'Invest in us so we can invest in them.'
4. Commit to participating in the campaign by:
 - a. Sharing campaign materials through Council communication channels
 - b. Engaging with local media and community stakeholders to raise awareness.
5. Write to the Prime Minister, Treasurer, Federal Minister for Local Government and the Shadow Minister for Local Government, through the local Member of Parliament, Andrew Gee MP expressing Council's support for the campaign and urging a commitment to the proposed funding increase.

(Reynolds/Scott)

CARRIED

**MAYORAL MINUTE - MILLTHORPE RAILWAY STATION
PLATFORM UPGRADE**

2604/002

RESOLVED:

That Council note the verbal update from the Mayor on the impending platform upgrade at the Millthorpe Railway Station.

(Reynolds/Newstead)

CARRIED

**MAYORAL MINUTE - BLAYNEY WIND FARM FUTURE
OPERATIONS UPDATE**

2604/003

RESOLVED:

That Council note the correspondence on the future operations of the Blayney Wind Farm.

(Reynolds/Gosewisch)

CARRIED

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING HELD 24
MARCH 2026**

2604/004

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 March 2026, being minute numbers 2603/001 to 2603/017 be confirmed.

(Gosewisch/Scott)

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cr Reynolds asked for clarification on the Financial Assistance Application for the Newbridge War Memorial Park. Cr Scott, as Chair of the Financial Assistance Committee, confirmed the applicant requires the full amount they requested. The other grant funding they were applying for would be to do extra parts of the project, which they have not obtained as yet.

EXECUTIVE SERVICES REPORTS

QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE AT THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING HELD 24 MARCH 2026

2604/005

RESOLVED:

That the questions taken on notice at the Ordinary Council Meeting held 24 March 2026 and subsequent response be received and noted.

(Gosewisch/Newstead)
CARRIED

QUARTERLY OUTSTANDING RESOLUTION REPORT

2604/006

RESOLVED:

That Council note the Outstanding Resolution Report to March 2026.

(Newstead/Scott)
CARRIED

LGNSW DESTINATION AND VISITOR ECONOMY CONFERENCE 2026

2604/007

RESOLVED:

That Council approve the registration and attendance of Cr Johnston as Blayney Shire Council Delegate to the 2026 LGNSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference.

(Scott/Newstead)
CARRIED

ORANGE360 FUNDING AGREEMENT

MOTION:

That Council:

1. Note the Orange 360 Key Performance Indicators Scorecard.
2. Enter into a one-year agreement with TDO Ltd trading as Orange360, with an option in the agreement for a three (3) year extension, to the value of \$81,000 (plus GST), with a CPI annual increase.
3. Authorise the General Manager to finalise updated Key Performance Indicators for Orange360 which will be reported back to Council before 30 June 2026.
4. Receive a report back to Council, before 1 June 2027 to consider the three (3) year option extension.
5. Establish a working group for Visitor Economy businesses from within Blayney Shire.

(Reynolds/Newstead)

Cr Gosewisch moved that the motion be now put.

2604/008

RESOLVED:

That the motion be put to the vote.

(Gosewisch)
CARRIED

2604/009 RESOLVED:

That Council:

1. Note the Orange 360 Key Performance Indicators Scorecard.
2. Enter into a one-year agreement with TDO Ltd trading as Orange360, with an option in the agreement for a three (3) year extension, to the value of \$81,000 (plus GST), with a CPI annual increase.
3. Authorise the General Manager to finalise updated Key Performance Indicators for Orange360 which will be reported back to Council before 30 June 2026.
4. Receive a report back to Council, before 1 June 2027 to consider the three (3) year option extension.
5. Establish a working group for Visitor Economy businesses from within Blayney Shire.

(Reyolds/Newstead)

CARRIED**ADDITIONAL DESTINATION MARKETING PARTNERSHIP PROPOSALS****2604/010 RESOLVED:**

That Council:

1. Defer a decision on the Bathurst Regional Council 'Central Tablelands' proposal to a future council meeting.
2. Decline the request to create a destination marketing and development partnership with Elevate.

(Newstead/Gosewisch)

CARRIED**CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS****REPORT OF COUNCIL INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2026****2604/011 RESOLVED:**

That Council:

1. Note the report indicating Council's investment position as of 31 March 2026.
2. Note the certification of the Responsible Accounting Officer.

(Gosewisch/Hutchings)

CARRIED**DRAFT 2026/27 - 2029/30 DELIVERY PROGRAM AND 2026/27 OPERATIONAL PLAN****2604/012 RESOLVED:**

That Council:

1. Note the certification of the Responsible Accounting Officer.
2. Endorse the draft 2026/27 – 2029/30 Delivery Program and 2026/27 Operational Plan, with the following amendments:
 - a. Increase schools awards assistance from \$100 to \$120 for each of the schools nominated in the Community Financial

Assistance Program for 2026/27.

- b. Remove the spectator fee of \$2 from Centrepoin't's fees and charges.
3. Place the draft 2026/27 - 2029/30 Delivery Program and 2026/27 Operational Plan on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
4. Note that the 2026/27 Draft Operational Plan forecasts a consolidated Net Operating Result before Capital Items of (\$189k) deficit, represented by
 - a. (\$505k) deficit for General Fund,
 - b. \$316k surplus for Sewer Fund,
5. Note that if underlying assumptions around income and expenditure forecasts in the 2026/27 Operational Plan and 2026/27 – 2029/30 Delivery Program – particularly anticipated revenue from new mine rates – do not eventuate, or if unexpected increases in costs (such as fuel prices or environmental compliance costs at the Waste Facility), Council may be required to undertake remedial action to address funding shortfalls.

(Reynolds/Newstead)

CARRIED

2604/013 **ROAD HIERARCHY, RENEWAL AND MAINTENANCE POLICY**
RESOLVED:

That Council:

1. Receive the report on Road Hierarchy, Renewal and Maintenance Policy;
2. Note the submission on the Road Hierarchy, Renewal and Maintenance Policy received during the public exhibition period;
3. Adopt the Road Hierarchy, Renewal and Maintenance Policy and it be included in Council's policy register.

(Newstead/Scott)

CARRIED

2604/014 **PATHWAY HIERARCHY, STANDARD AND MAINTENANCE**
POLICY
RESOLVED:

That Council:

1. Receive the report on Pathway Hierarchy, Standard and Maintenance Policy;
2. Note the submission on the Pathway Hierarchy, Standard and Maintenance Policy received during the public exhibition period;
3. Adopt the Pathway Hierarchy, Standard and Maintenance Policy and it be included in Council's policy register.

(Scott/Gosewisch)

CARRIED

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES REPORTS**INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES: KEY ACTIVITIES REPORT****2604/015****RESOLVED:**

That Council note the Infrastructure Services: Key Activities Report for April 2026.

(Scott/Gosewisch)

CARRIED

RICHARDS LANE AND INTERSECTION UPGRADE PROJECT**2604/016****RESOLVED:**

That Council note the project update for the Richards Lane and intersection upgrade project.

(Scott/Gosewisch)

CARRIED

MAJOR PLANT PROCUREMENT UPDATE**2604/017****RESOLVED:**

That Council note the update of fleet and plant procurement for the 2025/26 Financial year.

(Newstead/Hutchings)

CARRIED

ACTIVE MOVEMENT STRATEGY: 2026 REVIEW AND UPDATE**2604/018****RESOLVED:**

That Council:

1. Note the two (2) submissions received during the public exhibition period,
2. Adopt the Blayney Shire Active Movement Strategy 2026 as modified following consideration of the submissions received during the public exhibition period.

(Hutchings/Gosewisch)

CARRIED

PROPOSED (PART) ROAD CLOSURE - BELUBULA STREET NORTH, CARCOAR**2604/019****RESOLVED:**

That Council:

1. Endorse the closure of the portions of Belubula Street North, Carcoar as per the enclosed diagram that adjoins Lot 67, DP1111005 in accordance with s.38 Roads Act 1993.
2. Approve the sale price of the land to be \$1, plus all costs associated with the road closure including Council's road closure application fee, survey fees and legal fees.
3. Have a further report presented to a future Council meeting to consider any submissions lodged during the notification period and to make a decision on approval for the proposal.

(Newstead/Gosewisch)

CARRIED

**FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES - 1 APRIL 2026**

2604/020

RESOLVED:

That Council:

1. Note the minutes of the Flood Risk Management Committee meeting held 1 April 2026.
2. Endorse the 2026 Blayney Local Flood Study be placed on public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days.
3. Receive a further report following review of public submissions by the Flood Risk Management Committee.

(Scott/Hutchings)

CARRIED

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS

DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT REPORT

2604/021

RESOLVED:

That the Development Assessment Report be received and noted for the period 1 January 2026 to 31 March 2026.

(Scott/Gosewisch)

CARRIED

CLOSED MEETING

2604/022

RESOLVED:

That the meeting now be closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A of the Local Government Act, 1993 for consideration of the following matter:

SALE OF INDUSTRIAL LAND (EOI 2/2026)

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) (di) of the Local Government Act, as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

(Gosewisch/Hutchings)

CARRIED

CONFIDENTIAL MEETING REPORTS

SALE OF INDUSTRIAL LAND (EOI 2/2026)

2604/023

RESOLVED:

That Council:

1. Note it has received offers to purchase four (4) industrial allotments from Council under EOI 2/2026.
2. Note an independent property valuation has been obtained for each offer.
3. Decline the four offers as received to purchase the following lots:

Sale Lot Ref.	Title particulars	Address
SL2	Lot 1 / DP842577	8 Tollbar St, Blayney
SL3	Lot 202 / DP1196179	126 Marshalls Lane, Blayney
SL6	Lot 222 / DP1175708	31 Gerty St, Blayney
SL9	Lot 3 / DP1103517	33 Gerty St, Blayney

4. Endorse the sale of Lot 1 / DP842577 for \$420,000 ex GST.
5. Endorse the sale of Lot 202 / DP1196179 for \$505,000 ex GST.
6. That Council endorse execution of relevant contracts and associated documentation by the Mayor and General Manager under Council seal if required.

(Gosewisch/Scott)

CARRIED

2604/024 RESOLVED:

That as consideration of the matters referred to in the closed meeting has been concluded, the meeting now be opened to the public.

(Gosewisch/Scott)

CARRIED

AT THE RE-OPENING OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC, THE MAYOR ANNOUNCED THE OUTCOMES OF RESOLUTION NUMBER 2604/023.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 7.29pm.

The Minute Numbers 2604/001 to 2604/024 were confirmed on 26 May 2026 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting held on 28 April 2026.

Cr B Reynolds
CHAIR

03) ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS**Department:** Executive Services**Author:** General Manager**CSP Link:** 1. Prioritise transparency, financial sustainability and strong partnerships with and for our community**File No:** ED.ME.7

Recommendation:

That Council;

1. Renew membership with the Association of Mining & Energy Related Councils NSW until 30 June 2027.
2. Holds payment of the 2026/27 membership fee until the Association of Mining & Energy Related Councils NSW pays Councils outstanding invoice for \$10,925.64 ex GST.
3. Write to the Association of Mining & Energy Related Councils NSW, advising in accordance with clause 22 of the constitution, Council is providing advance notice of its intention to potentially resign its membership effective 30 June 2027.
4. Receive a further report in or before June 2027 to resolve whether to renew membership with the Association of Mining & Energy Related Councils NSW for 2027/28.
5. Write to the Association of Mining & Energy Related Councils NSW, seeking that the Association of Mining & Energy Related Councils NSW, return to a singular mining focused association.

Reason for Report:

This report is presented to Council following the resolution of 22 July 2025 (**Resolution No. 2507/019**) noting Council would receive a further report.

Report:

Blayney Shire Council has been a long-standing member of the Association of Mining & Energy Related Councils NSW (MERC), back to the mid to late 90s when Cadia commenced significant mining within the shire.

See <https://miningrelatedcouncils.asn.au/overview/> for the history of MERC, including how the association has evolved over time.

In and around 2010, MERC was heavily involved in advocating to the NSW Government to create a mechanism for mining Local Government Areas (LGAs) and their respective communities to receive a small portion of the then \$2 billion in mining royalties annually being collected by the NSW Government from mining operations (note mining royalties in 2026 now being collected is in excess of \$3.2 billion annually).

In 2012 the NSW Government announced commencement of a new Resources for Regions (RfR) grant program that would benefit approximately 26 LGAs across NSW. The RfR program provided \$560m in funding and delivered 355 projects across NSW.

Blayney Shire Council became eligible for RfR funding in 2016, and Council subsequently received \$21.4 million in grant funding (rounds 5 to 9) between 2018 and 2022.

Following the 2023 NSW State election, the new incoming government proceeded to cease the RfR program to balance their budget and deliver their election commitments.

With removal of RfR, Blayney Shire has arguably borne the greatest negative impact of the 26 Councils in regional NSW.

Removal of the RfR program has had such a significant financial impact on Council, that if the \$4m per annum program was retained, Council would not have needed the recent Special Rate Variation.

It is critical that a new funding program is established to remove the inequity that ratepayers are having to unfairly fund infrastructure maintenance and renewal of community assets which are direct result from hosting mining operations within their LGA.

Association of Mining and Energy Related Councils NSW

As mentioned earlier in this report, MERC in and around 2010 played a critical role in advocating to the NSW Government for RfR. However, it is noted this was when MERC was solely a mining focused association.

The 2017 MERC expanded membership eligibility to include renewable energy. This expansion has significantly complicated the association by seeking to marry Councils which have two vastly different industries, with vastly different impacts and issues. It simply has not worked.

Additionally in recent years other associations have formed which have a renewable energy focus, such as the Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors (CoREM), formed in 2023, banding together Councils impacted and near the impending tsunami that is Renewable Energy Zones (REZ) within NSW.

This group has achieved significant success in engaging with the NSW Government on Planning Agreements baselines, community engagement issues, other matters in relation to renewable energy and obtaining community benefit funds for LGAs in the REZ.

See [Community and Employment Benefit Program | EnergyCo](#) in which just last week a new \$60m fund was announced for the New England REZ (New England and Upper Hunter).

MERC on the other hand has failed to reach consensus within its own association on the policy position it should progress with (mining on its own or mining and renewable energy together). Noting there is no formal resolution clearly articulating a policy position from members. Progress in relation to a new grant funding program by MERC slowed considerably.

Several MERC members were concerned with the lack of progress being made by MERC, in particular that there would not be sufficient time to enable representation to be made to the NSW Government for consideration in preparing the 2026/27 NSW budget.

Additionally, it is the view of many that mining projects and renewable energy projects, are vastly different and separate industries, with significantly different impacts and as such should be separate in any policy position.

A consortium of 12 Central West and Western Councils (including Blayney), who host mining operations, proceeded to engage Akarui Advisory, a specialist consulting firm to prepare a policy and program options paper, to identify and review options for a new grant program for communities that host mining operations which could be put to the NSW Government for consideration.

The Akarui Advisory report is very thorough and detailed (64 pages in total) and has been prepared over 6 months. (General Managers of Blayney, Parkes and Mid-Western were on the steering committee). The final paper was completed in late 2025 and is provided as an attachment to this report.

Option 2 in the Akarui Advisory report is the preferred option. Option 2 proposes creation of a new dedicated *Mining Sustainability Stream under the Regional Development Trust*, which seeks:

NSW Government establish a new dedicated Mining Sustainability Stream under the Regional Development Trust;

- a) Being a minimum \$50m annual allocation for Mining Impacted Communities which Mining Impacted Councils can apply for, and*
- b) That any Council applying for funding under the Mining Sustainability Stream is required to contribute a minimum 25% towards any such grant application, and*
- c) NSW Government work with NSW Minerals Council to review current mining royalty thresholds, with any potential increase to royalty thresholds providing additional funding to the new Mining Sustainability Stream under the Regional Development Trust.*

Enclosed to this report is a two-page flier titled '*new mining sustainability stream*' providing a high-level summary of the proposed new program.

The need (not want) for such a new program is supported by solid evidence based research within the Akarui Advisory report.

In seeking to make this item a policy position leading into the March 2027 NSW State election, councils have now started to engage the NSW Government, elected members, the Hon Courtney Houssos, MLC (Minister for Finance and Minister for Natural Resources), seeking support for creation of a 'new mining sustainability stream' under the Regional Development Act.

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:

In preparing the 2026/27 Operational Plan, Council asked the General Manager what are the options / implications in relation to renewing (or not renewing) the MERC membership for 2026/27?

In reviewing the MERC constitution, clause 22 states:

22 Termination of Membership

A member may resign from membership of the Association by giving three months' notice in writing of its intention to do so, to the Executive Officer, but shall be required to pay any fees due for membership up to the end of the current financial year.

Given it is late May 2026, the MERC constitution is interpreted that if a member Council seeks to leave, 3 months' notice must be provided, and fees must be paid until the end of that financial year.

If Council resolved to leave now, unless an exemption from MERC is sought, it is interpreted that Council would still be required to pay the full MERC 2026/27 membership fee, being \$9,476.00 ex GST, however Council would not get the benefit/s of that investment.

It is recommended Council remain a member of MERC for 2026/27, particularly as MERC is currently undertaking recruitment for a new Executive Officer, in which it is anticipated a new direction for MERC will be provided.

Importantly, it is also noted the NSW State election is on 13 March 2027 and MERC could have an important role to play in advocating to the NSW Government of the need for a new mining impacted communities grant program.

It is recommended that Council resolve to:

- Remain a member of MERC for 2026/27,
- Advise MERC formally Council may resign its membership from MERC effective 30 June 2027 and is providing advance notice in accordance with clause 22 of the constitution (subject to Council formally resolving to do so) by way of a further report in May or June 2027,
- Write to MERC seeking the association return to focus on mining as the key be Association of Mining Related Councils.

Mayor Reynolds and General Manager, Mr Mark Dicker, are the current two Blayney Shire Council Delegates for MERC.

Budget Implications:

The MERC membership fee for 2025/26 was \$9,200 ex GST.

The total cost to engage Akarui Advisory for the options report, was approximately \$30k ex GST, split between the 12 Councils. (Note* MERC resolved at the 18 March 2026 meeting to reimburse MERC members 50% of their contribution for the Akarui Advisory report which equate to \$10,925.64 ex GST).

Blayney Shire was the lead Council for the Akarui Advisory report. Provided the other 11 Councils pay their contributions and MERC pays their 50% contribution for members, the contribution by Blayney Shire Council for the Akarui Advisory report should be \$1,213.96 ex GST

MERC membership fee for 2026/27 has been set as per the constitution at \$9,476.00 ex GST.

Travel, accommodation and incidental expenses in undertaking duties, roles and responsibilities as delegates representing Council are usually organised and paid for by Council or covered by Council's Payment of Expenses and Provisions of facilities to Mayors and Councillors Policy (1A).

Enclosures (following report)

1	New Mining Sustainability Stream	2 Pages
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Attachments (separate document)

2	Program and Policy Options Report	64 Pages
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NEW MINING SUSTAINABILITY STREAM

NSW Mining



The mining sector is valued at **\$22 billion** to the NSW economy



Supports over **34,000** full-time equivalent jobs



NSW Government collected **\$3.2 billion** in mining royalties in 2024/25

Issue and Inequity

Mining Impacted Communities, between 2012 and 2023 recieved the Resources for Regions program which provided **\$560m**, delivering **355 projects** in **26 mining impacted** Local Government Areas.

Now unfairly, workers, small businesses, farmers, and residents **are having to directly fund (through their rates)** the significant infrastructure impacts from mining operations in their own communities.

Removal of R4R is directly creating the need for Councils to have to and/or consider undertaking Special Rate Variations (on all rate payers) **unfairly compounding the cost-of-living crisis** on those regional communities who host mining operations.

Opportunity

Creation of a new **\$50m Mining Sustainability Stream** under the **Regional Development Trust**

Communities that need the inequity addressed

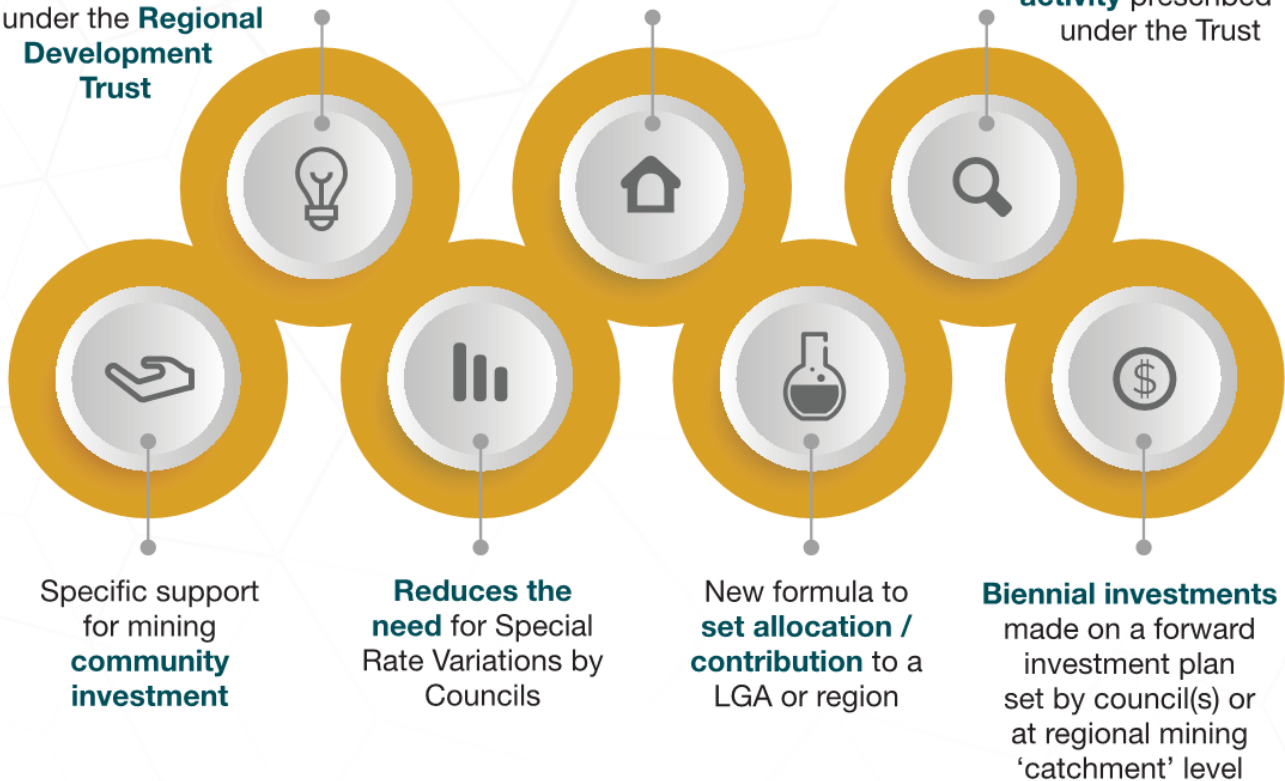
- Bland Shire Council
- Blayney Shire Council
- Bogan Shire Council
- Broken Hill City Council
- Cabonne Council
- Cessnock City Council
- Cobar Shire Council
- Gunnedah Shire Council
- Lake Macquarie City Council
- Lithgow City Council
- Maitland City Council
- Moree Plains Shire Council
- Mid-Western Regional Council
- Muswellbrook Shire Council
- Narrabri Shire Council
- Narromine Shire Council
- Newcastle City Council
- Orange City Council
- Parkes Shire Council
- Singleton Council
- Upper Hunter Shire Council
- Wentworth Shire Council
- Wollondilly Shire Council
- Wollongong City Council
- Other LGAs may become **eligible based on a regional mining catchment** level consideration.
- Other LGAs will become **eligible as new mines are approved**.

Opportunity

Creation of a new **Mining Sustainability Stream** under the **Regional Development Trust**

Leverages the **Trust Governance** and structure

Focus on mining activity as a **regional development activity** prescribed under the Trust



Funding

Initial funding stream drawn from the **existing Regional Development Trust funding** (\$400 million allocated over 5 years, approximately \$85 million committed publicly, **\$315 million** uncommitted)



Funding allocations **set at a regional level** to prevent duplication



Recommendation to **increase funding** from 2030 onwards (potential to increase royalties)



Councils to **co-contribute a minimum 25%** for all projects

04) 2026 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: 'CATCH UP WITH A COUNCILLOR'**Department:** Executive Services**Author:** General Manager**CSP Link:** 1. Prioritise transparency, financial sustainability and strong partnerships with and for our community**File No:** CR.CC.1

Recommendation:

That Council;

1. Note the recent '*catch up with a councillor 2026*' community engagement undertaken in April 2026 across the Blayney Shire.
2. Note the summary of feedback and/or suggestions captured from the community engagement.

Reason for Report:

For Council to note summary of feedback and suggestions received during recent community engagement drop-in sessions.

Report:In late April 2026, Council invited the community to attend one of seven (7) '*drop-in sessions*' held in each village across Blayney Shire.

Fifty-seven (57) people ultimately provided 67 individual pieces of feedback and/or suggestions to Councillors and the Management Executive Team which were captured during the community engagement. This summary is provided as an enclosure to this report.

This 2026 community engagement builds upon what Council heard during the 2025 engagement for the Blayney Shire Community Strategic Plan 2025-2035 and the subsequent '*Village Priorities and Ideas Register*' prepared from that engagement endorsed at the 24 March 2026 Council Meeting.**Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:**

Wider community benefit for each individual feedback and/or suggestion for each individual item would need to be considered on a merits basis, particularly if it has the ability to impact Council's financial sustainability.

Council can use this summary when considering the Delivery Program and Operational Plan each year. Additionally, community groups and Council can use the summary as evidence for community support when making grant funding opportunities (of which there are not many at the moment).

In this regard, it needs to be highlighted just because a project is listed in the summary it does not mean the project is formally endorsed by Council.

Budget Implications:

Any new or significant upgrade of Council owned assets would need to consider whole of life costs and long-term financial implications to Council.

Enclosures (following report)

- | | | |
|---|---|---------|
| 1 | Catch up with a Councillor Feedback and Suggestions | 2 Pages |
|---|---|---------|

Attachments (separate document)

Nil

Catch up with a Councillor Feedback and Suggestions

Location	Category	Feedback or Suggestion
Blayney	Footpaths	Footpath at the end of Amos Avenue
Blayney	Parks & Gardens	Heritage Park Belubula River walkway vegetation management concerns
Blayney	Administration	Disposal of chemical clean up drums.
Blayney	Roads	Condition of Davis Road, no indication of when work will be done.
Carcoar	Roads	Stoke Lane, people going down and having trouble turning around.
Blayney	Administration	Election notification - posters at IGA etc
Blayney	Footpaths	Clubhouse footpath needs improvement
Blayney	Accessibility	The accessible carpark in Adeliade Street outside Pharmacy needs a ramp.
Blayney	Footpaths	Footpath Somers Place, outside 15 to link existing.
Neville	Parks & Gardens	32 Crouch Street, Neville - tree was removed. Council said would be replaced. Hasn't been yet.
Tallwood	Roads	Tallwood Road too much money, other roads could have been prioritised.
Blayney	Roads	Grading Hills Lane
Blayney	Parks & Gardens	Belubula River walkway - grass overgrowing trees. Trees dead. Great asset for the community.
Blayney	Parks & Gardens	Tumulla Place footpath to Athol laneway not mowed. Park mown.
Carcoar	Parks & Gardens	Could RFS look at hazard reduction Carcoar.
Lyndhurst	Parks & Gardens	Thanks for mowing footpath
Blayney	Roads	Albion Street concerns about bitumen seal
Carcoar	Bridges	Please construct bridge on Coombing Street
Carcoar	Roads	Speeding in Naylor Street / Mt Macquarie Road - look at reduced speed limit
Carcoar	Bridges	Clarification about the location of the proposed Coombing Street bridge.
Carcoar	Ranger Services	Dogs off leads. People letting their dogs out on the street. Request for sign to stop dogs off lead.
Carcoar	Parks & Gardens	Grass growth in fence on side of road near Naylor bridge.
Carcoar	Bridges	Timber on bridge in Naylor Street caused a puncture. Please fix decking.
Carcoar	Parks & Gardens	Seat at War Memorial. Improve the slope to the War Memorial in Carcoar.
Carcoar	Amenities	Edges in toilet need through cleaning. Refresh could be an advantage. More toilet paper on weekends (community happy to put it out).
Carcoar	Amenities	Thank you to Council cleaner at Sports Ground does an excellent job.
Carcoar	Parks & Gardens	Mowing to river edge either side of timber bridge.
Lyndhurst	Parks & Gardens	Bollard in park between bins to stop people driving up to toilet.
Lyndhurst	Parks & Gardens	Tree concern in unformed road reserve Prescott Street, Lyndhurst
Lyndhurst	RFS	RFS building maintenance
Lyndhurst	Parks & Gardens	Bollard placed on the concrete directly outside the public toilets. People are parking in front of the toilets and then driving out through the playground.

Location	Category	Feedback or Suggestion
Mandurama	Roads	Banana Street fencing concerns, grass management. Who maintains service lane?
Mandurama	Parks & Gardens	Main street trees.
Mandurama	Sewerage	In 2013 told sewerage 10-12 years, where is it?
Mandurama	Drainage	Stormwater treatment/drainage in Mandurama
Mandurama	Footpaths	Footpath network, public transport.
Mandurama	Drainage	Gold Street/Mid Western Highway drainage priority
Mandurama	Signage	Park / toilet sign to direct persons to park
Mandurama	Parks & Gardens	Tennis court discussion
Mandurama	Community	Would like a community notice board
Mandurama	Drainage	Moisture in table drains (hasn't rained) potential sewerage
Newbridge	Parks & Gardens	Can we get goal posts (even second hand) for Showground.
Newbridge	Parks & Gardens	Mural at Showground. Memorial wall
Newbridge	Events	Newbridge Arts Show - now Association
Newbridge	Bridges	Discussed bridge timeframe.
Newbridge	Amenities	Toilet block very old. Time to replace.
Newbridge	Youth	Youth activities needed
Millthorpe	Signs	Interpretive historical sign for School of Arts Building
Millthorpe	Waste	FOGO discussion
Millthorpe	Footpaths	Good footpaths - Glenorie Road excellent
Millthorpe	Roads	Need to reduce speed limit in the village
Millthorpe	Roads	Clarification on 10T Vittoria Road signage 'local traffic exempt'.
Millthorpe	Roads	Victoria Street 30kms/hr and Pym Street put to 30kms/hr.
Millthorpe	Roads	Missing bluestone on the corner. Two potholes Blake and Victoria Streets.
Millthorpe	Parks & Gardens	Tennis practice wall higher. Look at making tennis court multipurpose court.
Millthorpe	Footpaths	Richards Lane walk. Look at making it all wall round.
Millthorpe	Community	Expressed concerns about lack of doctors.
Neville	Rates	Concerns about base rate for small rural holders. Double impact because higher land value so pay more ad valorem as well as the same base as bigger landowners.
Newbridge	Electricity	Need for larger power points for community events (around hotel and at the Showground).
Newbridge	Community	Community AED - look at funding. Possibly new one in front of the hotel.
Newbridge	Parks & Gardens	Kitchen bench in Brian Bennett Pavilion stainless steel.
Newbridge	Parks & Gardens	Concrete pad at the end one of tables at the tennis court.
Hobbys Yards	Planning	Subdivision enquiry below MLS in rural zone
Neville	Roads	Moorilda Street - seal another 30m
Neville	Roads	Move Moorilda Street sign to other side of Crouch St
Neville	Signage	2 x blue café street signs (one at Carcoar St / Crouch St and Crouch St / Moorilda St)
Blayney	Footpaths	Pram ramps need to be installed at the accessible carpark outside the Chemist in Adelaide Street
Blayney	Footpaths	Accessible parking and pram ramps to be installed at Blayney Post office. (NCUR29363)

05) VISITOR ECONOMY WORKING GROUP**Department:** Executive Services**Author:** Manager Tourism and Communication**CSP Link:** 4. A diverse, vibrant and sustainable economy**File No:** ED.ME.1

Recommendation:

That Council;

1. Endorse the Visitor Economy Working Group Charter.
2. Appoint Orange 360 Board Delegate, Councillor Gosewisch, as chair of the Visitor Economy Working Group.
3. Appoint alternate Orange 360 Board Delegate, Councillor Johnston, as alternate chair of the Visitor Economy Working Group.
4. Proceed to undertake a public Expression of Interest process seeking nominations for industry representatives interested in being appointed by Council to the Working Group.

Reason for Report:

This report is presented to Council following the resolution of 28 April 2026 feedback (**Resolution No. 2604/009**) endorsing the establishment of a Visitor Economy Working Group for Blayney Shire.

Report:

The purpose of the Working Group is to enable a formal mechanism for visitor economy businesses to provide feedback on Council's regional destination investment and related initiatives.

The Visitor Economy Working Group will help Blayney Shire Council work more closely with local tourism and visitor economy businesses. It gives Council practical advice about visitor economy priorities, destination marketing, and how to get the best value from its tourism investments.

The group will support Council's 12-month review of its partnership with Orange360 and help Council understand what is working, what can improve, and what local industry needs from regional visitor economy activity.

The group can also look at other Council initiatives that support the visitor economy such as printed collateral, events (e.g. Sculptures by the Bush and Blayney Twilight Shopping) and Tourism Development Program.

The resourcing and capacity required from both industry and Council will be monitored during this period to ensure the model is practical and effective.

The Working Group will:

- Share feedback on visitor trends, opportunities and challenges across the Shire.
- Improve understanding of the roles of Council, Orange360 and other partners.
- Help refine how Council measures and reports on its destination marketing investment.
- Suggest practical actions Council can take to support the local visitor economy

The group will aim to have representatives from different industries and from towns and villages across the Shire. Members should be active owners or operators who can share both their own experience and feedback from their sector.

It is proposed the working group will comprise 1 Councillor as Chair and will be Council's Orange360 Board representative. The Chair helps set the agenda, runs meetings and keeps the group focused on its purpose.

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:

Enclosed is the Charter to provide a framework for the working group.

There is a risk of low engagement from businesses, in particular small businesses, they will have limited capacity to attend meetings at a time that suits all industries. There will be an initial meeting with interested members, where meeting frequency and format will be decided with members. This ensures that meeting frequency and format is reflective of the capacity of members and effectiveness of engagement.

There is a risk of not getting representation across all industries and villages across the Shire. The flexibility of the approach with industry is designed to maximise engagement.

Budget Implications:

There will be no specific budget implications, however creation of a new working group will have a resource implication not currently being incurred.

Enclosures (following report)

1 Visitor Economy Working Group Charter

4 Pages

Attachments (separate document)

Nil



CHARTER

VISITOR ECONOMY WORKING GROUP

Purpose

The Visitor Economy Working Group helps Blayney Shire Council work more closely with local tourism and visitor economy businesses. It gives Council practical advice about visitor economy priorities, destination marketing, and how to get the best value from its tourism investments.

The group supports Council's 12-month review of its partnership with Orange360 and helps Council understand what is working, what can improve, and what local industry needs from regional visitor economy activity.

The group can also look at other Council initiatives that support the visitor economy such as printed collateral, events (e.g. Sculptures by the Bush and Blayney Twilight Shopping) and Tourism Development Program.

Scope and role

The Working Group is advisory only. It does not make decisions for Council, direct staff, or speak on Council's behalf. Its role is to share local industry views, highlight opportunities and issues, and help align local needs with regional visitor economy activity.

Objectives

The Working Group will:

- Share feedback on visitor trends, opportunities and challenges across the Shire.
- Improve understanding of the roles of Council, Orange360 and other partners.
- Help refine how Council measures and reports on its destination marketing investment.
- Suggest practical actions Council can take to support the local visitor economy.

Membership composition

The Working Group will comprise 1 councillor, Council's Orange360 Board representative, and include industry members to reflect the range of businesses and services that support visitors in Blayney Shire. Members should be active owners or operators who can share both their own experience and feedback from their sector. One member may represent more than one sector. Ideally members will include representatives from across the Blayney Shire from each town and village.

1. Food and dining
2. Wine and beverage
3. Retail
4. Accommodation
5. Arts, culture and heritage
6. Signature visitor economy events
7. Visitor services and information

Appointment

Industry members are seeking appointment to the Visitor Economy Working Group are to nominate by contacting the General Manager or delegate through an expression of interest process or direct invitation where needed to fill gaps in representation. Membership may be reviewed if vacancies arise, sectors are missing, or conduct issues occur.

Communication and reporting

An agenda will be circulated by post or email to all members of the Working Group at least one week prior to the meeting.

Matters to be considered must be included in the Agenda for the meeting and must be provided in writing to the Chair (or nominee) at least ten (10) days before the date of the meeting.

Formal minutes of the Working Group will be produced in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice. The mover and seconder of any recommendation are to be recorded.

The main items of business and recommendations will be reported to the ordinary meeting of Blayney Shire Council. Council may amend any recommendation or any portion thereof or may refer it back to the Working group for further investigation.

Code of conduct and Council policies

Members who are not Councillors or Council staff will receive the key Council policies that apply to the group.

- Code of Conduct for volunteers and community representatives
- Code of Meeting Practice
- Any other relevant Council policies

Deliverables, reporting and evaluation

During the first 12 months, the Working Group is expected to provide:

- Advice on how Council measures and reports on destination marketing outcomes.
- A prioritised list of visitor economy issues and opportunities.
- Practical recommendations on local actions Council can take.
- A short end-of-term summary with lessons learned and next steps.

Meetings

A minimum of 2 meetings are to be held per annum with any additional meetings on a needs basis to be determined by the working group.

A required quorum of 4 working group members shall be required at each formal meeting.

All operations of the Working group shall be in accordance with Council's adopted code of meeting practice.

Roles and responsibilities

Chair: The Chair will be Council's Orange360 Board representative. The Chair helps set the agenda, runs meetings and keeps the group focused on its purpose.

Secretariat: Council will provide administrative support, including invitations, agendas, minutes and action tracking.

Council participation

Council staff may coordinate informal meetings informing the chair of the meetings as needed to provide information and support follow-up actions.

Conflicts of interest and conduct

Pursuant to the Code of Conduct, members must declare any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest at the start of meetings or when they arise. Members are also expected to act respectfully, focus on what is best for the Shire's visitor economy, and support practical, evidence-based discussion.

Confidentiality

Members may receive information that is sensitive or commercial-in-confidence. This information must not be shared outside the group unless Council has approved it.

Term

The Working Group will operate for a period of 12 months, unless Council resolves to continue the Working Group following consideration of industry support and the group's effectiveness. Council may dissolve the Working Group at any time by resolution and may withdraw, in whole or in part, any authority conferred on the Working Group.

REFERENCE FACT SHEET

Background

Since 2018, Blayney Shire Council has taken part in regional destination marketing through Orange360. Orange360 is funded by partner councils and industry memberships and works across the Orange Region to promote the visitor economy.

Council knows there are questions about the value of this model and how its benefits are measured. Visitor economy outcomes often build over time, so they are not always easy to see in the short term. Over the next 12 months, Council will improve engagement and reporting so local businesses and the community have clearer information.

A regional approach helps Blayney Shire reach more potential visitors than it could on its own. It also helps package experiences across the region, encourage longer stays, and increase visitor spending across local towns and villages.

Council staff will keep working with Orange360 and regional partners to improve communication, local input, and planning tools such as the regional events calendar.

Key benefits of the regional approach include stronger marketing reach, better use of resources, less duplication, and more opportunities for local businesses to connect with regional campaigns and partnerships.

Strategic alignment

The Working Group supports Council's goal of growing the visitor economy by encouraging collaboration, supporting events and experiences, and making the most of regional partnerships.

Term and review

The Working Group will operate for an initial 12 months from the effective date. At the end of that period, Council will review how well it worked and use that information to guide future destination marketing decisions.

Stakeholder participation

Orange360 may be invited to meetings for relevant agenda items, presentations, data sharing or feedback. Other stakeholders, such as neighbouring councils, state agencies, industry bodies or event partners, may also be invited when useful.

Member responsibilities

Members are expected to:

- Attend meetings and contribute constructively.
- Represent their sector, not just their own business.
- Share relevant information with their networks where appropriate.
- Declare any conflicts of interest.

Decision-making and advice pathways

The Working Group provides advice only. Recommendations will be recorded and considered by Council staff, and where needed, reported to Council through normal governance processes.

06) REPORT OF COUNCIL INVESTMENTS AS AT 30 APRIL 2026

Department: Corporate Services

Author: Chief Financial Officer

CSP Link: 1. Prioritise transparency, financial sustainability and strong partnerships with and for our community

File No: FM.AU.1

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Note the report indicating Council's investment position as of 30 April 2026.
2. Note the certification of the Responsible Accounting Officer.

Reason for Report:

For Council to endorse the Report of Council Investments as at 30 April 2026.

Report:

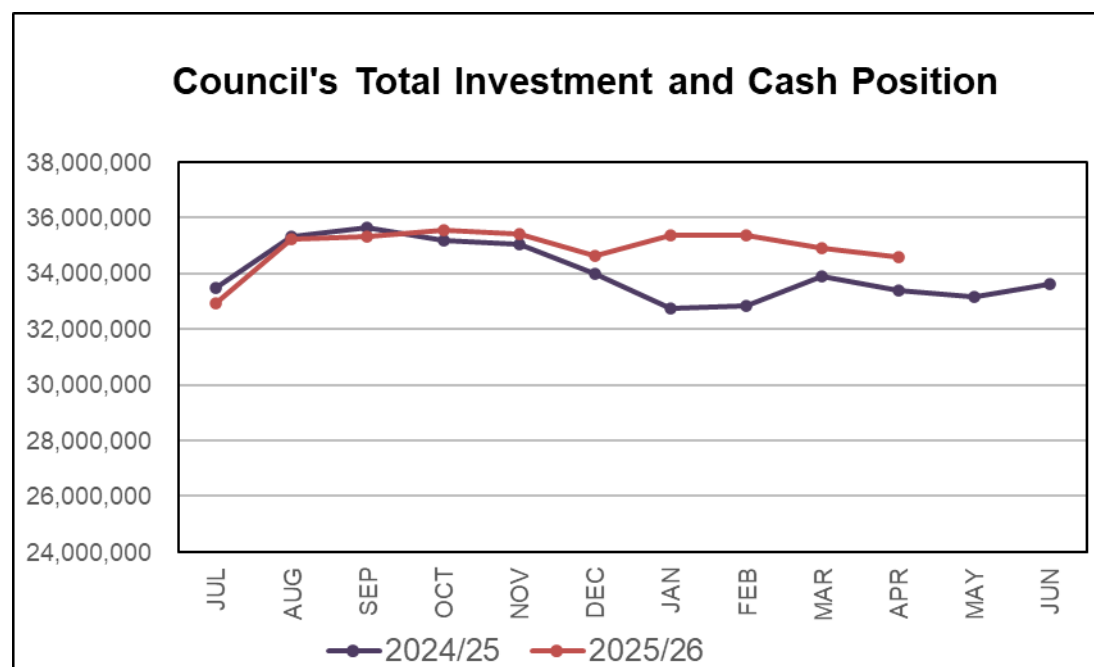
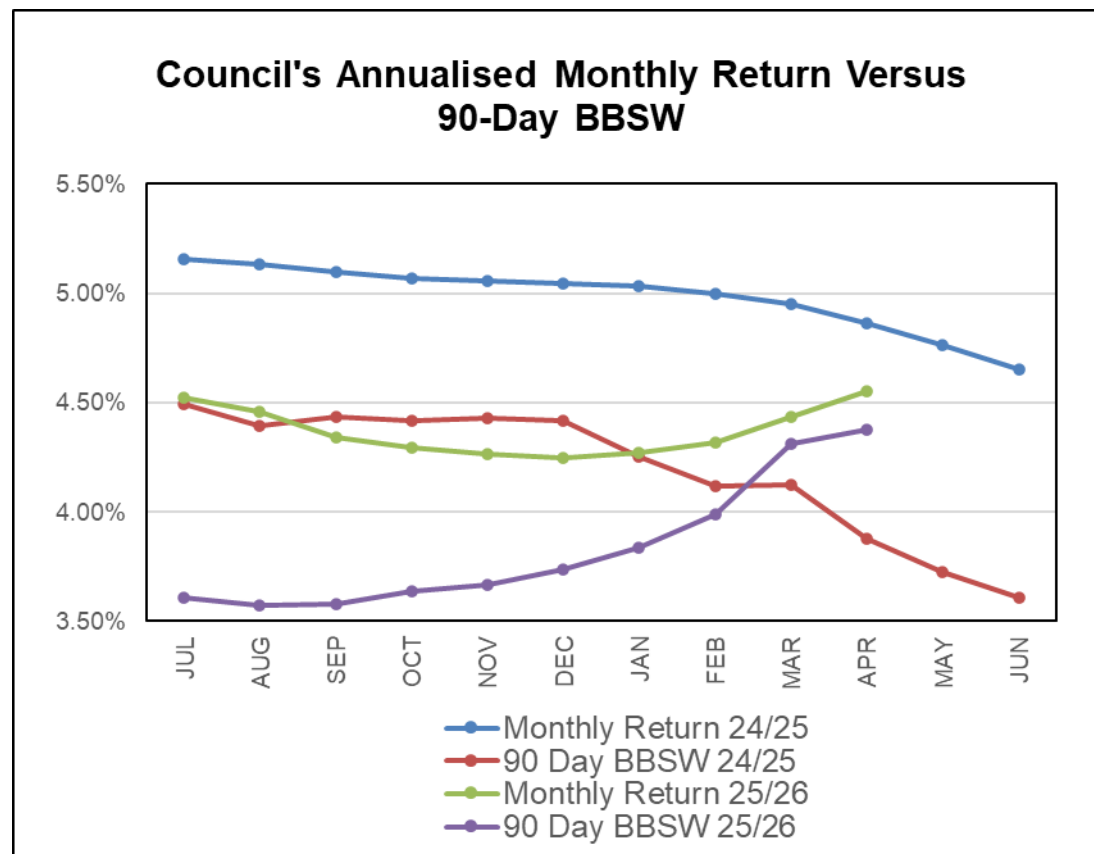
This report provides details of Council's Investment Portfolio as at 30 April 2026.

Council's total investment and cash position as of 30 April 2026 is \$34,596,002.

Interest on cash and investments accrued for the month of April was \$126,267. Year to date the total interest accrued on cash and investments is \$1,104,969.

Council's monthly net return on Term Deposits (annualised) for April was 4.55% which outperformed the 90-day Bank Bill Swap Rate of 4.37%.

There were no significant cash inflows from grant funded programs for the month of April.



Register Of Investments and Cash as of 30 April 2026					
Institution	Method	Rating	Maturity	Amount \$	Interest Rate
CBA	Direct	A1+/AA-	05/05/2026	500,000	4.020%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	12/05/2026	500,000	4.120%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	19/05/2026	500,000	4.140%
NAB	Direct	A1+/AA-	26/05/2026	500,000	4.200%
NAB	Direct	A1+/AA-	02/06/2026	500,000	4.200%
ING Bank	IAM	A1/A	09/06/2026	500,000	4.050%
CBA	Direct	A1+/AA-	16/06/2026	500,000	3.990%
Bank of Queensland	Curve	A2/A-	23/06/2026	500,000	4.300%
MyState Bank Ltd	Curve	A2/BBB+	30/06/2026	500,000	4.200%
NAB	Direct	A1+/AA-	07/07/2026	500,000	4.050%
B & A Bank	Curve	A2/A-	14/07/2026	500,000	4.400%
ING Bank	Curve	A1/A	14/07/2026	500,000	4.130%
ING Bank	Curve	A1/A	21/07/2026	500,000	4.150%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	28/07/2026	500,000	4.200%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	04/08/2026	500,000	4.120%
NAB	Direct	A1+/AA-	11/08/2026	500,000	4.250%
CBA	Direct	A1+/AA-	18/08/2026	500,000	4.160%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	25/08/2026	500,000	4.090%
Bank of Queensland	Curve	A2/A-	01/09/2026	500,000	4.450%
ING Bank	Curve	A1/A	08/09/2026	500,000	3.960%
Reliance Bank	Direct	Unrated	15/09/2026	500,000	4.200%
IMB Bank Ltd	Direct	A2/BBB+	22/09/2026	500,000	4.300%
CBA	Direct	A1+/AA-	29/09/2026	500,000	4.130%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	06/10/2026	500,000	4.230%
CBA	Direct	A1+/AA-	13/10/2026	500,000	4.130%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	20/10/2026	500,000	4.350%
NAB	Direct	A1+/AA-	27/10/2026	500,000	4.150%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	03/11/2026	500,000	4.340%
NAB	Direct	A1+/AA-	04/11/2026	500,000	4.250%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	10/11/2026	500,000	4.360%
B & A Bank	IAM	A2/A-	17/11/2026	500,000	4.550%
NAB	Direct	A1+/AA-	17/11/2026	500,000	4.250%
CBA	Direct	A1+/AA-	24/11/2026	500,000	4.510%
MyState Bank Ltd	Curve	A2/BBB+	01/12/2026	500,000	4.200%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	08/12/2026	500,000	4.830%
CBA	Direct	A1+/AA-	08/12/2026	500,000	4.520%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	15/12/2026	500,000	4.570%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	15/12/2026	500,000	4.560%
NAB	Direct	A1+/AA-	12/01/2027	500,000	4.600%
NAB	Direct	A1+/AA-	19/01/2027	500,000	4.600%
NAB	Direct	A1+/AA-	19/01/2027	500,000	4.650%
Bank of Queensland	Curve	A2/A-	27/01/2027	500,000	4.550%
CBA	Direct	A1+/AA-	02/02/2027	500,000	4.730%
NAB	Direct	A1+/AA-	02/02/2027	500,000	4.690%
NAB	Direct	A1+/AA-	09/02/2027	500,000	4.800%
CBA	Direct	A1+/AA-	09/02/2027	500,000	4.730%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	16/02/2027	500,000	4.850%

Defence Bank Ltd	Curve	A2/BBB+	02/03/2027	500,000	4.950%
Reliance Bank	Direct	Unrated	02/03/2027	500,000	4.900%
NAB	Direct	A1+/AA-	09/03/2027	500,000	5.150%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	16/03/2027	500,000	5.290%
CBA	Direct	A1+/AA-	16/03/2027	500,000	5.120%
CBA	Direct	A1+/AA-	23/03/2027	500,000	5.280%
NAB	Direct	A1+/AA-	23/03/2027	500,000	5.350%
Defence Bank Ltd	Curve	A2/BBB+	30/03/2027	500,000	5.550%
CBA	Direct	A1+/AA-	30/03/2027	500,000	5.280%
NAB	Direct	A1+/AA-	06/04/2027	500,000	5.300%
IMB Bank Ltd	Direct	A2/BBB+	13/04/2027	500,000	5.300%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	13/04/2027	500,000	5.340%
CBA	Direct	A1+/AA-	20/04/2027	500,000	5.230%
Westpac	Direct	A1+/AA-	27/04/2027	500,000	5.420%
Total Investments				31,000,000	4.550%
Commonwealth Bank - At Call Account ⁽¹⁾				616,851	4.000%
Commonwealth Bank Balance - General ⁽¹⁾				2,786,652	3.950%
Reliance Bank ⁽¹⁾				192,499	0.000%
Total Cash and Investments⁽²⁾				34,596,002	
Benchmarks:					
				BBSW 90 Day Index ⁽¹⁾	4.373%
				RBA Cash Rate ⁽¹⁾	4.100%

1. % Interest rates as at end of reporting period.

2. Total cash reported as per bank statements at the reporting date.

Summary of Investment (Cash) Movements - April 2026		
Financial Institution	Amount \$	Commentary
Defence Bank	500,000	New term deposit 02/04/2026
NAB	(516,835)	Term deposit matured 07/04/2026
NAB	500,000	Term deposit reinvested 07/04/2026
IMB Bank	(510,874)	Term deposit matured 14/04/2026
IMB Bank	500,000	Term deposit reinvested 14/04/2026
Westpac	(513,962)	Term deposit matured 14/04/2026
Westpac	500,000	Term deposit reinvested 14/04/2026
CBA	(514,084)	Term deposit matured 21/04/2026
CBA	500,000	Term deposit reinvested 21/04/2026
Westpac	(520,793)	Term deposit matured 28/04/2026
Westpac	500,000	Term deposit reinvested 28/04/2026

Long Term Credit Rating (or Moody's, Fitch, S&P or Equivalent)	Policy Maximum %	Current Holding %	Current Holding \$
TCorp IM Funds	100%	0%	-
AAA – AA Category	100%	73%	22,500,000
A- Category	40%	14%	4,500,000
BBB+ Category	25%	10%	3,000,000
BBB Category	5%	0%	-
BBB- Category and below: Local ^(a) ADI's	10%	3%	1,000,000
BBB+ / BBB / BBB- & below categories combined	25%	13%	
a. ADI's located within the Local Government Area			31,000,000

Individual Institution Limit	Rating	Policy Maximum \$	Current Holding \$
Bank of Queensland	A2/A-	3,000,000	1,500,000
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank	A2/A-	3,000,000	1,000,000
CBA	A1+/AA-	8,000,000	6,500,000
Defence Bank Ltd	A2/BBB+	1,000,000	1,000,000
IMB Bank Ltd	A2/BBB+	1,000,000	1,000,000
ING Bank	A1/A	3,000,000	2,000,000
MyState Bank Ltd	A2/BBB+	1,000,000	1,000,000
NAB	A1+/AA-	8,000,000	8,000,000
Reliance Bank	Unrated	1,000,000	1,000,000
Westpac	A1+/AA-	8,000,000	8,000,000
Total Investments			31,000,000

Summary of Restricted, Allocated and Unrestricted Cash & Investments			
	Actual ⁽²⁾ 30/06/2025 \$ 000's	Actual 30/04/2026 \$ 000's	Forecast ⁽¹⁾ 30/06/2026 \$ 000's
External Cash Restrictions	14,619	14,617	11,991
Internal Cash Allocations	16,064	13,607	6,557
Total Restricted, Allocated Cash & Investments	30,683	28,224	18,548
Unrestricted Cash	2,852	6,372	4,582
Total Restricted, Allocated and Unrestricted Cash & Investments	33,535	34,596	23,130

1. Balances forecasted are informed by the Long-Term Financial Plan and based on the best available information at time of preparation.

2. Balances are per the audited 2024/25 Financial Statements.

CERTIFICATION – RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

I, Tiffaney Irlam, certify that the investments listed in this report have been made in accordance with s.625 of the Local Government Act (1993), the Local Government (General) Regulation (2021) and Council Policy.

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:

The Responsible Accounting Officer must table a written report to Council on money invested pursuant to s.625 of the Local Government Act (1993). Investments made are in accord with the framework established within Council's Investment Policy.

Budget Implications:

A good investment strategy optimises Council's return on investments.

Enclosures (following report)

Nil

Attachments (separate document)

Nil

07) QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT - MARCH 2026**Department:** Corporate Services**Author:** Chief Financial Officer**CSP Link:** 1. Prioritise transparency, financial sustainability and strong partnerships with and for our community**File No:** FM.BU.1

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Receive the report on the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ending 31 March 2026.
2. Adopt the supplementary votes of (\$414k) nett proposed in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement, resulting in a decrease to capital expenditure of (\$1.05m), an increase to operating expenditure of \$1.87m and an increase in income of \$410k.
3. Note the certification of the Responsible Accounting Officer that the Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRs) for the quarter ended 31 March 2026, based on the current projections of income, expenditure, and both restricted and unrestricted cash levels, Council's projected financial position as at 30 June 2026 is considered satisfactory.

Reason for Report:

For Council to endorse the Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRs) for the quarter ending 31 March 2026.

Report:

The budget review statement must present, with reference to the income and expenditure estimates outlined in the Council's adopted Operational Plan, a revised estimate of income and expenditure for the financial year. It must also include a report from the Responsible Accounting Officer (RAO) indicating whether the Council's financial position is considered satisfactory, based on the original budget estimates.

Minimum reporting standards have been established to ensure transparency regarding the Council's financial position, to explain significant variations, and to recommend budget adjustments for Council's consideration and approval. The accompanying report meets these minimum disclosure requirements.

The QBRs reflects the consolidated financial position of the Council, incorporating both the General and Sewer Funds. It includes, but is not limited to, the following components:

- **Statement by the Responsible Accounting Officer** on Council's projected financial position at year-end, based on the QBRs information.
- **Summary of key financial positions** – Operational, Capital, Net, and Restricted Cash (QBRs Part 1).

- **Operational Income and Expenditure Reviews**, presented:
 - By income and expense type, by fund (including capital grants and contributions) (QBRs Part 2).
 - By function or activity to align with the Operational Plan (including capital grants and contributions) (QBRs Part 4), with additional detail excluding capital grants and contributions (QBRs Part 4A).
- **Capital Expenditure and Funding Review** (QBRs Part 3), with detailed breakdowns (QBRs Part 5).
- **Recommended Budget Adjustments and Commentary** for:
 - Operational Income and Expenditure (QBRs Part 6), and
 - Capital Items (QBRs Part 7).
- **Cash and Investment Position** (QBRs Part 8) and accompanying narrative (QBRs Part 9).
- **Key Performance Indicators** (QBRs Part 10).
- **Contracts Register**, including:
 - Contracts entered into (QBRs Part 11a),
 - Payments made (QBRs Part 11b), and
 - Supporting narrative (QBRs Part 12).
- **Consultancy and Legal Expenses Overview** (QBRs Part 13).
- **Loan Summary** (QBRs Part 14).

The Office of Local Government introduced new QBRs guidelines in August 2025 with an implementation date effective from the September 2025 quarter. The guidelines mandate a minimum standard of reporting with Council already reporting on a number of these requirements including reporting by fund. The following mandated additional requirements have been included in the attached March 2026 QBRs:

- Comparative data for prior year actuals
- A more comprehensive summary page (one page snapshot)
- Summary of Developer contributions

In addition to the introduction of new QBRs templates, the Office of Local Government (OLG) has implemented mandatory reporting requirements. These include the electronic submission of QBRs data in an approved format, similar to the financial data return process for annual financial statements. The new reporting templates are high-level and standardised, offering limited flexibility for modification to suit individual Council requirements.

The attached report presents a detailed review of Council's 2025/26 Budget for the March 2026 quarter.

The quarterly budget review serves as an indicator of Council's financial performance and overall financial position throughout the year. It also provides assurance that Council is on track to achieve the objectives, targets, and outcomes outlined in its Operational Plan.

The attached QBRS report includes a certification from the Responsible Accounting Officer confirming that, based on the current projections of income, expenditure, and both restricted and unrestricted cash levels, Council's projected financial position as at 30 June 2026 is considered satisfactory.

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:

Clause 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 requires that the Responsible Accounting Officer of a council prepare and submit to Council a budget review statement. The format as presented reports on an income and expense type, in a similar format to that included in the annual financial reports, as well as by Council activity and helps to inform Council on the anticipated Income Statement operating result for the financial year. Other information is also disclosed including budgeted capital income and expenditure, restricted cash movements and key performance indicators.

Budget Implications:

Overall, the net variation in Continuing Operations for the quarter of (\$1.46m) will increase the projected Net Operating Result before Capital Items to (\$1.63m) forecast deficit.

Table 1: Consolidated Fund (General Fund and Sewer Fund)

	2025/26 Revised Budget* \$'000	2025/26 Supp Votes** \$'000	2025/26 Proposed Variations \$'000	2025/26 Revised Budget \$'000
Operating Income	24,809	(194)	1,461	26,076
Capital Income	3,682	241	(1,051)	2,872
Operating Expenditure	25,981	(144)	1,871	27,708
Net Operating Result	2,510	191	(1,461)	1,240
Net Operating Result before Capital Income	(1,172)	(50)	(410)	(1,632)
<i>Capital Expenditure</i>	<i>19,205</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>(1,047)</i>	<i>18,458</i>

*Represents Revised Budget as at last QBRS (December 2025)

** Represents supplementary votes of expenditure since the last QBRS

For General Fund, net variations of (\$536k) will decrease the projected Net Operating Result before Capital Items to (\$1.85m) deficit. For Sewer Fund, net variations of \$126k will increase the projected Net Operating Result before Capital Items to \$213k surplus.

Operational income variations of \$410k include the following significant variations:

- Increase projected interest and investment revenue by \$400k to reflect higher than forecast interest rates and cash holdings due to delays in construction of capital projects including funding that was partially received in advance.

- Reallocation \$1m of forecast capital grants to operating grants to reflect the proportion of Richards Lane project to be undertaken on a State Road that will not form part of Council's asset base.

Operational expenditure variations of \$1.87m include the following significant variations:

- Additional \$1m to reflect the portion of the contracted works on the Richards Lane project that relates to the intersection which is located on a State Road and will not form part of Council's asset base.
- Unforeseen loss on disposal of \$682k on transport related infrastructure following recent additions capitalised for works undertaken during the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years.
- Minor reallocation of service contract expenditure between Domestic & Other Waste Management sub programs.
- Additional \$18k to fund stormwater design works in Gerty Street already partially funded from the NSW Flood Recovery Grant and the balance funded from the Property Account Internal Allocation.

Other minor budget variations to operational income and expenditure are detailed in Part 6 of the attached QBRS.

Capital expenditure variations of (\$1.05m) include the following significant variations:

- Reallocation of (\$51k) from projects funded under the Flood Recovery Grant from capital to operational projects:
 - Newbridge Road culvert (\$34k).
 - Coombing Street crossing design works (\$17k).
- Reallocation of \$1m in project expenditure for the Richards Lane project towards the intersection component which forms part of the State Road network managed by TfNSW.
- Minor allocations between individual items of plant scheduled for replacement following the quotation process and confirmation of pricing with any remaining budget allocated towards replacement of the patching truck.

Other budget variations to capital expenditure are detailed Part 7 of the attached QBRS.

Enclosures (following report)

Nil

Attachments (separate document)

1 March 2026 Quarterly Budget Review Statement 27 Pages

08) INVESTMENT POLICY**Department:** Corporate Services**Author:** Chief Financial Officer**CSP Link:** 1. Prioritise transparency, financial sustainability and strong partnerships with and for our community**File No:** GO.PO.1

Recommendation:

That Council;

1. Receive the report on the Investment Policy,
2. Note the submission on the Investment Policy received during the public exhibition period,
3. Adopt the Investment Policy for inclusion into Council's policy register.

Reason for Report:

For Council to consider the submission received during the period of public exhibition and adopt the Investment Policy.

Report:

Council at its meeting held 24 February 2026 resolved to endorse the Investment Policy and place it on public exhibition.

The objectives of this Policy are:

- a. To undertake investment of surplus funds in a way that, firstly ensures the security of Council Funds and secondly maximises earnings from authorised investment.
- b. To ensure there is sufficient liquidity to meet all reasonably anticipated cash flow requirements, as and when they fall due, without incurring significant costs due to the unanticipated sale of an investment.

The closing date for submissions was 25 March 2026 and at the conclusion of this period 1 councillor submission had been received.

The submission recommends:

1. *Policy be amended to an upper limit of \$10m for any AA rated financial institution.*

Comment:

Increasing the Counterparty Limit for AAA – AA Category Institutions will enable more funds to be invested with such institutions. However, it does present risks that Council should consider:

- a. Concentration risk: Risk of too many eggs in one basket. By allowing more funds to be placed with a single or small group of counterparties there is reduced diversification. Council will become more exposed if one of them experiences financial distress.

- b. Credit ratings are not infallible: AAA–AA ratings suggest strong creditworthiness; however, ratings are not guarantees and can change quickly
- c. Liquidity and market risk: If a large portion of funds is tied up with a few institutions, Council may face challenges accessing funds quickly if needed, especially during market stress when even strong institutions tighten liquidity
- d. Policy and governance risk: Changing the investment policy to allow higher limits may be viewed as loosening risk controls, prioritising convenience over prudence.

The proposed amendment to increase counterparty limits for AAA–AA institutions to \$10 million, as outlined in the submission, is not considered necessary nor supported. However, the elected Council retains the authority to amend the policy if it determines that such a change is necessary.

2. *Council should also consider if the TCorp at call product may also be an option, if it is found to provide a better return for At call cash*

Comment:

No policy amendment is required, as TCorp is an approved investment provider for Council and investment of funds is an operational matter. Council will continue to review products offered by TCorp and compare their returns with alternative options. All investment decisions are made in accordance with the Investment Policy, prioritising optimal returns while maintaining a low level of risk, as outlined in the Investment policy.

It is worth noting that Council has previously invested in a TCorp product that offered higher returns but also involved capital risk, which ultimately resulted in a loss of Council funds. As a result, this type of product was not considered suitable for Council's investment portfolio.

A copy of the Investment Policy is provided as an attachment.

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:

The Local Government Act s.625 and Ministerial Investment Order serves to outline the types of investments that Council is permitted to invest in. Council may however establish guidelines on investment practice providing it does not erode legislative requirements.

Budget Implications:

Should Council propose amendment to the policy it will have minimal impact on Council's returns on investment.

Enclosures (following report)

1 Investment Policy

7 Pages

Attachments (separate document)

Nil



Investment Policy

Policy	4B
Officer Responsible	Chief Financial Officer
Last Review Date	xx/xx/2026

Strategic Policy

1.1 Objectives

- (a) To undertake investment of surplus funds in a way that, firstly ensures the security of Council Funds and secondly maximises earnings from authorised investments.
- (b) To ensure there is sufficient liquidity to meet all reasonably anticipated cash flow requirements, as and when they fall due, without incurring significant costs due to the unanticipated sale of an investment.

1.2 Definitions

Authorised Deposit taking institutions - financial institutions in Australia supervised by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) and authorised under the Banking Act 1959 (Cth) to accept deposits from the public.

Ausbond Bank Bill Index - formerly the UBS Bank Bill Index. The UBS Australia index family was acquired by Bloomberg from Q3 2014, and while branding changed the benchmark construction is unaltered. It represents the performance of a notional rolling parcel of bills averaging 45 days and is the widely used benchmark for local councils and other institutional cash investors.

Bank Bill Swap Rate - a short-term interest rate used as a benchmark for the pricing of Australian dollar derivatives and securities, most notably floating rate bonds.

Bills of Exchange - A bill of exchange is an unconditional order in writing, addressed by one person to another, signed by the person giving it, requiring the person to whom it is addressed to pay on demand, or at a fixed or determinable future time, a sum certain in money to or to the order of a specified person, or to bearer.

Debentures - a type of debt instrument that is backed only by the general creditworthiness and reputation of the issuer rather than being secured by physical assets or collateral.

Ministerial Investment Order - schedule of authorised investments approved for access by NSW Councils pursuant to Local Government Act 1993 section 625 by the Order of the Minister and published in the Government Gazette.

Responsible Accounting Officer - a member of the staff of the council designated by the General Manager, or if no such member has been designated, the General Manager. (LGGR, clause 196)

TCorp – New South Wales Treasury Corporation including the TCorp Investment Management arm which manages the TCorpIM funds (formerly Hour-glass).

Term Deposits (Deposits) - Funds invested with a financial institution at a predetermined rate that applies for the duration of the deposit. The

principal is held on deposit for a fixed term with interest payable at set periods during the term and/or on maturity. Increasingly banking regulation requires term deposits to be issued on “unbreakable” terms or at a minimum funds cannot be withdrawn for a minimum period of 31 days.

1.3 Legislative Requirements

All investments are to be made in accordance with:

- (a) Local Government Act 1993;
- (b) Local Government Act 1993 – Order (of the Minister) dated 12 January 2011
- (c) Trustee Act 1925;
- (d) Local Government (General) Regulation 2021;
- (e) Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting;
- (f) Australian Accounting Standards; and
- (g) Office of Local Government Circulars.

1.4 Delegation of Authority

Authorised Officer	Roles & Responsibilities
General Manager	Authority to invest surplus funds and authority to delegate this function in accordance with the Council's adopted Investment Policy.
Director Corporate Services	Per Delegation
Chief Financial Officer (Responsible Accounting Officer)	Per Delegation
Accountant	Per Delegation

All delegated officers shall confirm in writing that they have received a copy of Council's current investment policy and that they understand the contents and their obligations as a delegated officer.

1.5 Authorised Investments

Investments are limited to those allowed by the most current Ministerial Investment Order that has been issued by the NSW Minister for Local Government.

Council shall only invest money (on the basis that all investments must be denominated in Australian Dollars) in the following forms of investment:

- (a) any public funds or securities issued by or guaranteed by, the Commonwealth, any State of the Commonwealth or a Territory;
- (b) any debentures or securities issued by a council (within the meaning of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW));

- (c) interest bearing deposits with, or any debentures or bonds issued by, an authorised deposit-taking institution (as defined in the Banking Act 1959 (Cwth)), but excluding subordinated debt obligations;
- (d) any bill of exchange which has a maturity date of not more than 200 days; and if purchased for value confers on the holder in due course a right of recourse against a bank which has been designated as an authorised deposit-taking institution by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority;
- (e) a deposit with the New South Wales Treasury Corporation or investments in an TCorpIM Investment Fund of the New South Wales Treasury Corporation.

All investment instruments (excluding short term discount instruments) referred to above include principal and investment income (interest).

Council's preference will be not to invest in products subject to a fluctuating face value that upon redemption may result in the risk of loss of capital value of an investment.

1.6 Prudent Person Standard

The investments shall be managed with care, diligence and skill that a prudent person would exercise. As trustees of public monies, officers are to manage Council's investment portfolios to safeguard the portfolio in accordance with the spirit of this Investment Policy, and not for speculative purposes.

1.7 Ethics and Conflicts of Interest

Officers shall refrain from personal activities that would conflict with the proper execution and management of Council's investment portfolio. This policy requires officers to disclose any conflict of interest to the General Manager.

If engaged, independent advisors shall also be required to declare that they have no actual or perceived conflicts of interest.

1.8 Prohibited Investments

This Investment Policy prohibits any investment carried out for speculative purposes including:

- (a) Derivative based instruments;
- (b) Principal only investments or securities that provide potentially nil or negative cash flow;
- (c) Stand alone securities issued that have underlying futures, options, forward contracts and swaps of any kind; and
- (d) Any investment acquired using leveraging to fund the purchase (borrowing to invest);
- (e) Any ADI disclosed in the below table as declared to be prohibited by resolution of Council:

<u>Prohibited ADI</u>	<u>Minute No.</u>	<u>Council meeting date</u>

1.9 Risk Management Guidelines

Investments are to comply with the following criteria:

- (a) Preservation of Capital - all reasonable measures are to be taken to prevent losses in portfolio value (considering the time value of money);
- (b) Institutional Diversification:
 - i. Not less than three (3) quotations shall be obtained from authorised institutions when an investment is proposed.
 - ii. Direct investments shall not exceed counterparty limits with any one institution at any one time as detailed below.
 - iii. All term deposit investments are to be made with authorised deposit taking institutions authorised under the Banking Act, 1959 and with an investment grade credit rating, excepting ADI's located within the local government area.
 - iv. The maximum holding limit in each rating category and the target credit quality weighting for Council's total portfolio shall comply with the table below. (Holding limit assessments shall exclude "at call" account balances.)

Long Term Credit Rating (or Moody's, Fitch, S&P or Equivalent)	Total Portfolio Limits	Counterparty Limits
	Maximum	
TCorp IM Funds	100%	100%
AAA – A Category	100%	Lesser of \$8m or 40%
A – Category	40%	Lesser of \$3m or 20%
BBB+ Category**	25%	Lesser of \$1m or 10%
BBB Category**	5%	Lesser of \$500k or 5%
BBB – Category and below: Local ADI's - Reliance Bank*	10%	Lesser of \$1m or 10%
BBB – Category and below: Others	0%	-

*ADI's located within the Local Government Area

** BBB+ / BBB categories are not to exceed 25% collectively

- (c) Maturity Risk - the investment portfolio is to be invested within the following maturity constraints:

Long Term Credit Rating (or Moody's, Fitch, S&P or Equivalent)	Overall Portfolio Return to Maturity
	Maximum
TCorp IM Funds	Not applicable
AAA to BBB+ Category	3 Years
BBB Category	12 months

- (d) Market/Credit Risk - consideration shall be given to the risk that the fair value or the future cash flows of an investment will fluctuate due to changes in market prices, or the risk of failure to repay principal or pay interest on an investment;

(e) Liquidity Risk -

- i. Matching investments with cash flow requirements.
- ii. Ensure access is available within seven (7) days to at least \$ 1,500,000 or 10% of value of total investments, whichever is lesser. Such an assessment shall also include operational and "at call" account balances.

1.10 Performance Benchmarks

The performance of the investment portfolio shall be against the industry standard 11am Cash Rate for cash investments, BBSW 90 Day Swap Rate for direct investments and the Ausbond Composite 2 – 5 year index for investments exceeding 2 years.

1.11 Safe Custody

Safe custodial arrangements shall be as follows:

- (a) Council must retain beneficial ownership at all times;
- (b) Council must be in receipt of documentation existence of investment;
- (c) The custodian must be the custodian nominated by TCorp for investment in TCorpIM Funds, or Austraclear, or an investment grade institution so rated by Standard and Poor's or Fitch.

1.12 Reporting and Responsibilities of Council Officers

- (a) The Responsible Accounting Officer shall be responsible for reconciling the investment register on a monthly basis and ensuring sufficient records are maintained, including:
 - a. the source and amount of money invested;
 - b. particulars of the security or form of investment in which the money was invested;
 - c. the term of the investment, and
 - d. if appropriate, the rate of interest to be paid, and the amount of money earned, in respect of money invested.
- (b) A monthly report shall be provided to Council, detailing the investment portfolio in terms of performance, investment institution and amount of each investment.
- (c) The report should also detail each average return percentage against the performance benchmark rates.
- (d) For audit purposes, certificates must be obtained from financial institution confirming the amounts of investment held on the Council's behalf at 30 June each year.
- (e) The documentary evidence must provide Council legal title to the investment.

1.13 Investment Advisor

Should Council engage an investment advisor, the advisor must be approved by Council and licensed by the Australian Securities and Investment Commission. The advisor must be an independent person who has no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to investment products being recommended and is free to choose the most appropriate product within the terms and conditions of the investment policy.

The independent advisor is required to provide written confirmation that they do not have any actual or potential conflicts of interest in relation to the investments they are recommending or reviewing, including that they are not receiving any commissions or other benefits in relation to the investments being recommended or reviewed.

1.14 Grandfathering provisions

This Policy shall only apply to investments made from the date of Council adoption onwards.

1.15 Review of Investment Policy

This policy shall be reviewed annually by the Chief Financial Officer and any amendments, if necessary, shall be reviewed against investment requirements in the conditions of borrowing of TCorp, if applicable, and approved by resolution of Council.

End of Policy

Adopted:	14/10/2003	123
Last Reviewed:	11/10/2005	280
	14/05/2007	07/094
	09/08/2010	1008/04
	14/03/2011	1103/010
	08/08/2011	1108/004
	14/11/2011	1111/011
	12/11/2012	1211/014
	10/11/2014	1411/007
	17/09/2018	1809/010
	21/10/2019	1910/007
	15/02/2021	2102/017
	21/03/2022	2203/008
	13/12/2023	2312/004
	xx/xx/2026	
Next Review:	20/02/2030	

09) 2026/27 COUNCILLOR AND MAYORAL REMUNERATION**Department:** Corporate Services**Author:** Director Corporate Services**CSP Link:** 1. Prioritise transparency, financial sustainability and strong partnerships with and for our community**File No:** CM.CI.1**Recommendation:**

That Council:

1. Note the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal 2026 Annual Determination.
2. In accordance with the maximum level for the Rural Council category in the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal 2026 Annual Determination, set and fix the Councillor and Mayoral remuneration (excluding superannuation) for 2026/27 year as;
 - a) \$14,450 for Councillors, and
 - b) \$31,510 additional fee for the Mayor

Reason for Report:

For Council to determine Councillor and Mayoral Remuneration for the 2026/27 year following receipt of the determination from the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

Report:

Council is in receipt of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal 2026 Annual Determination and is now in a position to determine 2026/27 fees.

The Tribunal's report and determination provides details of a wide range of matters and submissions from stakeholders considered in its determination. The Tribunal has determined that an increase of 3.7% in fees for councillors and mayors was appropriate.

Blayney Shire Council classification remains unchanged within the Rural Council category (population less than 10,000) and is amongst 37 councils determined under s.239 of the Local Government Act for the purposes of the annual fees.

A comparison of 2026/27 fees to the relevant 2025/26 scale of fees for this category is shown below:

	2026/27		2025/26 Fees \$
	Minimum \$	Maximum \$	
Councillor	10,920	14,450	13,930
Mayor (payable in addition to Councillor fee)	11,620	31,510	30,390

Councillors are also entitled to receive a superannuation contribution of 12% in 2026/27.

A copy of the Determination can be found on the Remuneration Tribunal website: <https://www.remtribunals.nsw.gov.au/local-government/current-lgrt-determinations>

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:

Under s.248 of the Local Government Act Council may fix an annual fee, and in doing so must fix it in accordance with the appropriate determination of the Remuneration Tribunal. Council is unable to fix fees greater than the maximum determined by the Tribunal.

Maintaining councillor fees at the maximum level approved recognises the increasing complexity, accountability, and workload associated with the role, supports the attraction and retention of capable elected representatives, and aligns remuneration with contemporary governance expectations and comparable councils.

Budget Implications:

An indexation of 3.5% to Mayoral and Councillor fees was allowed for in the Draft 2026/27 Operational Plan. The additional 0.2% has been adjusted in the final 2026/27 Operational Plan, included in this Council meeting agenda, and equates to an additional \$286.

Enclosures (following report)

Nil

Attachments (separate document)

Nil

10) CABONNE AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM**Department:** Corporate Services**Author:** Director Corporate Services**CSP Link:** 1. Prioritise transparency, financial sustainability and strong partnerships with and for our community**File No:** CS.AG.1

Recommendation:

That Council;

1. Receive the report on the Cabonne After School Care Program,
2. Note the sub reserve balance for the After School Care Program in Blayney as at 30 June 2025,
3. Provide within Council's Long Term Financial Plan, continued contribution towards the program (indexed annually).

Reason for Report:

For Council to receive an update on quarantined reserve funds associated with the After School Care Program in Blayney operated by Cabonne Council.

Report:

Council at its meeting held 27 May 2025 resolved the following:

Resolution 2505/006*That Council;*

- 1. Receive the report on the Cabonne After School Care program;*
- 2. Approve an additional contribution of \$3,500 in 2025/26 for the Blayney OOSH.*
- 3. Note that Cabonne Council will also provide an update by the end of the financial year regarding the quarantine of reserve funds, specifically for Blayney OOSH.*
- 4. Receive a report once the quarantine reserve funds are provided to Council before a decision is made on ongoing future funding*

Council was notified that as at 30 June 2025 the cumulative amount held for the After School Care Program in Blayney in sub reserve was \$4,586.90.

The financial performance of the After School Care Program in Blayney for the 2024/25 financial year is outlined below:

Detail	2024/25
Surplus	\$147,268.00
Income	
Grant	\$150,000.00
Fees	\$161,745.00
Contribution - Blayney Shire Council	\$ 5,000.00
TOTAL	\$316,745.00
Blayney % of total income	2%
% of surplus to quarantine for Blayney	\$ 2,945.36

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:

The Cabonne After School Care program was established in 2013 and is considered an important service to families in need of the service.

Budget Implications:

Council included an allocation approved by Council of \$8,500 in the 2025/26 Operational Plan and has included an allocation in the 2026/27 Operational Plan to an amount of \$8,800.

Enclosures (following report)

Nil

Attachments (separate document)

Nil

11) BAD DEBT - JLGL PTY LTD (JACK LIVINGSTONE): COUNTRY TREE SERVICES**Department:** Corporate Services**Author:** Director Corporate Services**CSP Link:** 1. Prioritise transparency, financial sustainability and strong partnerships with and for our community**File No:** FM.DB.2**Recommendation:**

That Council;

1. Receive the report on Bad debt – JLGL Pty Ltd (Jack Livingstone): Country Tree Services;
2. Approve the write-off of bad debt for the following debtor:

Debtor	Name	Amount
D.88769	JLGL Pty Ltd (Jack Livingstone) T/A Country Tree Services	\$5,482.79

Reason for Report:

To seek Council approval to write-off bad debt of \$5,482.78 in the name of JLGL Pty Ltd (Jack Livingstone) trading as Country Tree Services.

Report:

Council is committed to pursuing all appropriate recovery action necessary before considering a debt for write off.

Annually, Council issues over \$1 million in sundry debtor invoices for the fees and services it provides. Outstanding invoices are pursued by Council's Finance staff and where necessary, referred to Council's debt collection agency.

Council on 16 June 2023 originally issued an invoice for \$10,965.57 (which was subsequently reduced on 9 February 2024 to \$5,482.78), to recover costs associated with damage caused by the contractor, following an incident in the week ending 11 March 2022 in which power lines were damaged during tree removal works undertaken by the contractor.

A delay between the incident to undertaking of repair work was encountered to enable the debtor to seek quotations for rectification works. After a period of around 8 months Council engaged its own electrical contractor to complete works.

The debtor has sought to deny liability / avoid responsibility by:

- Advising that the matter would be referred to their insurer, but subsequently failing to progress the claim;

- Alleging that the charges were excessive, while being unable to substantiate this claim with an alternative quotation;
- Claiming that a Council officer had advised that recovery of damages would not be pursued;
- Agreeing to a reduced negotiated settlement amount but failing to make payment;
- Declaring that the business was in financial difficulty and were in the throes of liquidation. (Council has not been able to verify this fact despite numerous attempts).

The matter was further complicated with delays in the electrical contractor issuing an invoice, and additionally the final works involved an upgrade to an underground power installation rather than a like-for-like overhead line reinstatement (noting this upgrade component Council subsequently reduced the invoice to \$5,482.78).

Despite Council's best efforts to negotiate a mutually beneficial resolution, all reasonable avenues for recovery of the debt have now been exhausted. Furthermore, as the debt is unsecured, pursuing recovery may require Council to incur significant legal costs with little to no likelihood of a successful outcome.

The write-off of unrecoverable debts is a standard accounting practice and forms part of sound financial management. Council's debt recovery process includes the issue of reminder notices, warnings, and legal action, in accordance with the Rates and Debtors Recovery Procedure.

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:

Section 377(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, pursuant to Clauses 131(1) and 131(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulation, allows Council to set a limit upon which the General Manager may exercise their discretion writing off monies owing to Council.

Under Delegation 1E Council has delegated to the General Manager the authority to write off monies due to Council up to a limit of \$2,000 per debtor.

There are no further implications associated with the debt and all debt recovery operations will cease.

Where the Council is presented with changes in circumstances or information which provides options for successful recovery, Council can still collect this debt in the future, providing they are under the statute of limitation for NSW as per the Limitations Act, and the debtor is not classified insolvent as per the Bankruptcy Act.

Budget Implications:

The bad debt provision is reviewed annually and amounts identified for write off are contained within the bad debt provision.

Enclosures (following report)

1 ASIC Extract

9 Pages

Attachments (separate document)

Nil

ASIC EXTRACT SNAPSHOT		CURRENT ORGANISATION DETAILS	
Date Extracted	13/02/2026	Start Date	18/11/2019
Extract Order Date	13/02/2026	Name	JLGL PTY LTD
ACN	637 524 111	Name Start Date	18/11/2019
ABN	25 637 524 111	Status	Registered
Current Name	JLGL PTY LTD	Type	Australian Proprietary Company
Registered In	New South Wales	Class	Limited By Shares
Registration Date	18/11/2019	Sub Class	Proprietary Company
Review Date	18/11/2026	Disclosing Entity	No
Company Type	ACN (Australian Company Number)		
Current Directors	JACK LIVINGSTONE		
Current Secretaries	JACK LIVINGSTONE		

Share Structure
(Displaying Top 4 Only)

Go to full ASIC Results

Class	Class Type	Shares Issued	Amount Paid
ORD	ORD	12	



DOW JONES - PEPs, Sanctions & Adverse media

No search results from authority for this organisation.

ASIC EXTRACT SNAPSHOT		CURRENT ORGANISATION DETAILS	
Date Extracted	13/02/2026	Start Date	18/11/2019
Extract Order Date	13/02/2026	Name	JLGL PTY LTD
ACN	637 524 111	Name Start Date	18/11/2019
ABN	25 637 524 111	Status	Registered
Current Name	JLGL PTY LTD	Type	Australian Proprietary Company
Registered In	New South Wales	Class	Limited By Shares
Registration Date	18/11/2019	Sub Class	Proprietary Company
Review Date	18/11/2026	Disclosing Entity	No
Company Type	ACN (Australian Company Number)		
Current Directors	JACK LIVINGSTONE		
Current Secretaries	JACK LIVINGSTONE		

Share Structure (Displaying Top 4 Only)				Go to full ASIC Results
Class	Class Type	Shares Issued	Amount Paid	
ORD	ORD	12	\$12.00	
 DOW JONES - PEPs, Sanctions & Adverse media				

No search results from authority for this organisation.

InfoTrack
1800 738 524

ASIC
Current & Historical Organisation Extract



ASIC Data Extracted 13/02/2026 at 15:54

This extract contains information derived from the Australian Securities and Investment Commission's (ASIC) database under section 1274A of the Corporations Act 2001. Please advise ASIC of any error or omission which you may identify.

- 637 524 111 JLGL PTY LTD -

ACN (Australian Company Number):	637 524 111	Document No.
ABN:	25 637 524 111	
Current Name:	JLGL PTY LTD	
Registered in:	New South Wales	
Registration Date:	18/11/2019	
Review Date:	18/11/2026	
Company Bounded By:		

- Current Organisation Details -

Name:	JLGL PTY LTD
Name Start Date:	18/11/2019
Status:	Registered
Type:	Australian Proprietary Company
Class:	Limited By Shares
Sub Class:	Proprietary Company

- Company Addresses -

<u>- Registered Office</u>		6EKDK1419
Address:	THRIVE ADVICE 5 NEW STREET ORANGE NSW 2800	
Start Date:	17/09/2025	
<u>- Previous Registered Office</u>		6EIZA5946
Address:	C/- THRIVE ADVICE 8 MCNAMARA STREET ORANGE NSW 2800	
Start Date:	26/03/2025	
Cease Date:	16/09/2025	
<u>- Previous Registered Office</u>		6EIOP1444
Address:	931 POCKNELL ROAD MOLONG NSW 2866	
Start Date:	14/01/2025	
Cease Date:	25/03/2025	
<u>- Previous Registered Office</u>		3EWC18101
Address:	UNIT 16 212 ANSON STREET ORANGE NSW 2800	
Start Date:	16/03/2023	
Cease Date:	13/01/2025	

- Previous Registered Office

2EQY71727

Address: '1' 204 LORDS PLACE ORANGE NSW 2800
Start Date: 23/11/2021
Cease Date: 15/03/2023

- Previous Registered Office

1ENE55070

Address: MADDEN PARTNERS '16' 212 ANSON STREET ORANGE NSW 2800
Start Date: 21/07/2020
Cease Date: 22/11/2021

- Previous Registered Office

1EFT11389

Address: MADDEN PARTNERS '16' 212 ANSON STREET ORANGE NSW 2800
Start Date: 31/03/2020
Cease Date: 20/07/2020

- Previous Registered Office

0EYA37096

Address: MADDEN PARTNERS '3' 24 SALE STREET ORANGE NSW 2800
Start Date: 18/11/2019
Cease Date: 30/03/2020

- Principal Place of Business

3EUZ17712

Address: 931 POCKNELL ROAD MOLONG NSW 2866
Start Date: 22/02/2023

- Previous Principal Place of Business

1ENE55070

Address: MADDEN PARTNERS '16' 212 ANSON STREET ORANGE NSW 2800
Start Date: 14/07/2020
Cease Date: 21/02/2023

- Previous Principal Place of Business

0EYA37096

Address: '3' 24 SALE STREET ORANGE NSW 2800
Start Date: 18/11/2019
Cease Date: 13/07/2020

- Company Officers -

Note:

A date or address shown as UNKNOWN has not been updated since ASIC took over the records in 1991. For details, order the appropriate historical state or territory documents, available in microfiche or paper format.

* Check documents listed under ASIC Documents Received for recent changes.

Director

Name: JACK LIVINGSTONE
Address: 59 TORULOSA WAY ORANGE NSW 2800
Birth Details: [REDACTED]
Appointment Date: 18/11/2019
Cease Date:

2EPH97272

Previous Director

Name: GARRY JOHN LIVINGSTONE 2EPJ54889
Address: 931 POCKNELL ROAD MOLONG NSW 2866
Birth Details: [REDACTED]
Appointment Date: 18/11/2019
Cease Date: 15/07/2024

Secretary

Name: JACK LIVINGSTONE 2EPH97272
Address: 59 TORULOSA WAY ORANGE NSW 2800
Birth Details: [REDACTED]
Appointment Date: 18/11/2019
Cease Date:

- Share Structure -

Current

Class: ORD 0EYA37096
Number of Shares Issued: 12
Total Amount Paid / Taken to be Paid: \$12.00
Total Amount Due and Payable: \$0.00

Note:

For each class of shares issued by a company, ASIC records the details of the twenty members of the class (based on shareholdings). The details of any other members holding the same number of shares as the twentieth ranked member will also be recorded by ASIC on the database. Where available, historical records show that a member has ceased to be ranked amongst the twenty members. This may, but does not necessarily mean, that they have ceased to be a member of the company.

- Share/Interest Holding -

Current

- Holding -

Class: ORD **Number Held:** 6 2EPH97272
Beneficially Owned: Yes **Fully Paid:** Yes

- Members -

Name: JACK LIVINGSTONE
Address: 59 TORULOSA WAY ORANGE NSW 2800

Joint Holding: No

- Holding -

Class:	ORD	Number Held:	6	2EPJ54889
Beneficially Owned:	Yes	Fully Paid:	Yes	

- Members -

Name: GARRY JOHN LIVINGSTONE
Address: 931 POCKNELL ROAD MOLONG NSW 2866
Joint Holding: No

- External Administration Documents -

[There are no external administration documents held for this organisation.](#)

- Charges -

[There are no charges held for this organisation.](#)

Notes:

On 30 January 2012, the Personal Property Securities Register (PPS Register) commenced. At that time ASIC transferred all details of current charges to the PPS Registrar. ASIC can only provide details of satisfied charges prior to that date. Details of current charges, or charge satisfied since 30 January 2012 can be found on the PPS Register, www.ppsr.gov.au. InfoTrack may cap documents for on-file searches to 250.

- Document List -

Notes:

- * Documents already listed under Registered Charges are not repeated here.
- * Data from Documents with no Date Processed are not included in this Extract.
- * Documents with '0' pages have not yet been imaged and are not available via DOCIMAGE. Imaging takes approximately 2 weeks from date of lodgement.
- * The document list for a current/historical extract will be limited unless you requested ALL documents for this extract.
- * In certain circumstances documents may be capped at 250.

Form Type	Date Received	Date Processed	No. Pages	Effective Date	Document No.
484	10/09/2025	10/09/2025	2	10/09/2025	6EKDK1419
484B	Change to Company Details Change of Registered Address				
484	19/03/2025	19/03/2025	2	19/03/2025	6EIZA5946
484B	Change to Company Details Change of Registered Address				
484	07/01/2025	08/01/2025	2	07/01/2025	6EIOP1444
484B	Change to Company Details Change of Registered Address				
484	06/08/2024	06/08/2024	2	05/08/2024	6EELZ2584
484E	Change to Company Details Appointment or Cessation of A				

Company Officeholder

- Company Contact Addresses -

- Contact Address for ASIC use only

Address: PO BOX 952 ORANGE NSW 2800

Start Date: 19/03/2025

- Previous Contact Address for ASIC use only

Address: SUITE 4 24 SALE STREET ORANGE NSW 2800

Start Date: 29/03/2022

Cease Date: 07/01/2025

- Previous Contact Address for ASIC use only

Address: PO BOX 1414 ORANGE NSW 2800

Start Date: 18/10/2021

Cease Date: 28/03/2022

- Previous Contact Address for ASIC use only

Address: SUITE 4 24 SALE STREET ORANGE NSW 2800

Start Date: 24/03/2020

Cease Date: 18/10/2021

*** End of Document ***

SEARCH RESULT SUMMARY REPORT

Report created: Friday, 13 February 2026 3:54 pm
Matter reference: MC-Revenue



Search Result Summary

Search criteria

Organisation Name	JLGL PTY LTD
Search precision	Precise
Monitoring	No

Content sets

Watchlist

PEP	Include ADSR	Special Interest Categories	Sanction Lists	Other Official Lists	Other Exclusion Lists
All	Yes	All	All	All	All

Adverse Media

Adverse Media	ID Type
Include	All

Search result

No search results found for this organisation.

SEARCH PRECISION DEFINITION

Precision Type	Definition
Precise	It looks for exact and very close matches to the search criteria. It does not look for linguistic matches and does not tolerate typos/transposed characters.
Near	It looks for exact and close matches to the search criteria. It looks for linguistic matches such as phonetic and transcription variations, matches long and short forms of names and tolerates some typos.
Broad	It looks for the same as in Precise and Near matches, plus less common linguistic variations, typos in shorter name elements and transposed characters.

Disclaimer: The information in this report is curated exclusively from publicly available sources and is provided to assist with decision-making processes. Dow Jones does not warrant that the Risk & Compliance services include a complete or accurate archive of every individual or company mentioned or all news events. This is not an exhaustive source of information, and the database may not reflect all developments in a particular matter. Dow Jones does not imply any negative inferences about individuals or entities included in the database.

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12) 2022-2026 DISABILITY INCLUSION ACTION PLAN STATUS REPORT

Department: Corporate Services

Author: Director Corporate Services

CSP Link: 1. Prioritise transparency, financial sustainability and strong partnerships with and for our community

File No: CS.PO.1

Recommendation:

That the Disability Inclusion Working Group note the Blayney Shire 2022 – 2026 Disability Inclusion Action Plan Status Report for period ending 31 December 2025.

Reason for Report:

For the Disability Inclusion Working Group to note the Blayney Shire Disability Inclusion Action Plan Annual Report for period ending 31 December 2025.

Report:

Council adopted the 2022 – 2026 Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) in March 2023. The DIAP underpins Council's commitment to providing quality facilities and services that enable people with disability to fully participate in our communities. This plan was developed through a community consultation and research process which included review of Council documents and relevant Government policies.

The 2022 – 2026 Disability Inclusion Action Plan sets out what Council will do over four years to enable people with a disability to have greater access to Council information, services and facilities. The six-monthly status report provides an update on how Council has delivered on the Plan.

It outlines specific actions Council will take to facilitate access to community services and facilities for people with disability and link more actions to assessment and monitoring.

The implementation of the DIAP continues by working in collaboration with a wide range of Council staff incorporating actions from the plan into Council works, projects and activities.

This status report is presented in a format which summarise the activities across the organisation sourced from managers and directors.

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:

The development of a Disability Inclusion Action Plan and ongoing reporting to Council and the community every 6 months is required under the Disability Inclusion Act 2014.

Budget Implications:

Implementation of the plan is incorporated into project planning and budgeted into operational and capital works programs.

Enclosures (following report)

- | | | |
|---|--|---------|
| 1 | Disability Inclusion Action Plan Status Report as at 31
December 2025 | 5 Pages |
|---|--|---------|

Attachments (separate document)

Nil

DISABILITY INCLUSION ACTION PLAN 2022 - 2026: ANNUAL REPORT AS AT 31/12/2025

Community Attitudes and behaviours					
Strategy	Actions	CSP Ref.	Outcome	Timeframe	Status
Improve community attitudes and awareness of access issues and disability inclusion.	Promote access awareness and deliver community education around disability inclusion.	4.1	A minimum of two promotional items are to be circulated annually.	Annually	Promotions included; - Art Exhibition in Millthorpe POV: Art Disability - International Day of People with Disability - Job Access Program - Support at Home Program - Destination NSW Accessible and Inclusive Webinar series advertised.
	Include features in Council's communications to the community about accessibility in and around the Shire.	4.1	Include accessibility in at least one community newsletter/Council notices page annually.	Annually	Council Connect E-Newsletter: - Upgrades to Millthorpe CBD to increase accessibility promoted in May - Support at Home Program promoted in November
	Funds are allocated for Council's Access Incentive Scheme to improve access to local businesses and community organisation premises.	3.4	Annual funds made available in Council's annual Operational Plan.	Annually	\$4,000 been allocated in the 2025/2026 budget. No requests have been made in the current financial year to expend any of the funds.
	Promotion and administration of Council's Access Incentive Scheme to improve access to local businesses and community organisation premises with Main Street hospitality outlets prioritised.	3.4	Minimum of 2 external advertisements / promotion of program. Minimum of 2 businesses and / or community facilities upgraded each year subject to receipt of applications that satisfy guidelines.	Annually Annually	Information is provided on Council's website. No approaches have been made.
	Raise the profile of the DIWG across the Blayney Shire to provide community another avenue to report back	4.1	A minimum of 2 articles promoting disability inclusion per annum in GM Conversation and Council Newsletter.	Annually	GM conversation has gone from a weekly article to a Council fortnightly feature. Council seeks to promote inclusion in communications where possible.
	Review, update and promote the Missed Business Brochure to local businesses.	4.1	Missed Business Brochure updated and promoted to businesses in the Blayney Shire.	Annually	Working Group agreed that alternate solutions to distribution of a hardcopy brochure and promotion on website. Promotion and awareness being undertaken through use of social media platforms.

Community Attitudes and behaviours					
Strategy	Actions	CSP Ref.	Outcome	Timeframe	Status
Ensure consultation, support and assistance to local groups and organisations that support and / or advocate on behalf people with a disability.	Work with the Disability Inclusion Working Group to advocate for improved access and inclusion for people living with a disability or lived experience of disability.	4.1	The Disability Inclusion Working Group meet at least 2 times per annum. Minutes of Working Group reported to Council meeting.	Ongoing Ongoing	Meeting held in August 2025. Minutes of DIWG meeting tabled to following Council meeting.
	Review of DIAP where legislation around disability inclusion changes	4.1	Document is updated to reflect any legislative change.	Annually	No changes to legislation. No action required
	Council supports engagement of service providers and advocates through the Blayney Interagency.	4.1	Council provides access to a meeting facility and a Council officer in attendance.	Annually	Community Centre facility made available however Blayney Interagency is not active.
Building Liveable Communities					
Strategy	Actions	CSP Ref.	Outcome	Timeframe	Status
Plan for connected and accessible pedestrian networks in each township.	Implementation of Active Movement Strategy that leads to the provision of suitable pathways.	4.1	Active Movement Strategy reviewed and implementation commenced.	Annually	AMS currently being reviewed by staff to make recommendations to Council with a focus on new pram ramps or pram ramp renewals where they are currently inadequate.
Increase number of continuous accessible paths of travel in town and village centres and to key destinations per Active Movement Strategy.	Implement projects, that include footpaths, road crossings and kerb ramps, identified in the Active Movement Strategy and apply for Grant funding for any other priority accessibility projects.	4.1	Delivery of scheduled priorities identified in the Active Movement Strategy.	Annually	2025/26 Allocation to new AMS was diverted to footpath renewal works to remove hazards, defects and renew failing footpath assets.
Plan and deliver amenities to enable access for all.	Implement a program to improve our accessible public toilets.	4.1	Public toilets meet Access to Premises Standards.	Ongoing	All villages and towns have accessible public toilets

Building Liveable Communities					
Strategy	Actions	CSP Ref.	Outcome	Timeframe	Status
Plan for infrastructure that is accessible for all.	Encourage universal design in planning of new housing, infrastructure and buildings.	3.4	Facilities and infrastructure meet Access to Premises Standards.	Ongoing	Staff obliged to consider Access to Premises Standards in the assessment process.
	Undertake improvement of accessible parking within Blayney Shire.	1.1	2018 Blayney Shire audit of accessible car parking updated and improvement plan developed. Accessible options investigated including costings for car parks created in or near Gold Street Park Mandurama and within Carcoar.	2023 2025	Renewal of accessible car spaces as per audit report being prepared for delivery this financial year.
Increase access and inclusion to Council services and facilities.	A range of online and hard copy resources are provided at the Blayney Library to meet the diversity of needs in community.	4.4	Inclusive resources including large print books and audio books available for issue.	Ongoing	Resources available through CWL include large print books, audio books and online resources. Online resources also available to members.
	Community Centre is available for accessible activities and events.	4.4	Concessional access provided subject to compliant application with Community Financial Assistance policy.	Ongoing	Community Financial Assistance Program promoted to users seeking concessional access and is utilised by a number of community groups.
	CentrePoint provides access for all.	4.1	Concessional entry NSW Companion Card holders.	Ongoing	Operational Plan adopted with Concessional entry to NSW Companion Card holders in CentrePoint fee structure.
	Consider the particular needs of children living with disability in the design, layout and security of parks and playgrounds.	4.2	Playgrounds are safe and inclusive.	Annually	No significant upgrades have been undertaken to parks & playgrounds. Blayney Lookout designed to provide wheelchair access from allocated disability parking to memorial. Stage 1 completed, looking to complete stage 2 in 2026/27.
Building Liveable Communities					
Strategy	Actions	CSP Ref.	Outcome	Timeframe	Status
Increase participation of people living with a disabilities in events, festivals and activities.	Promote inclusion for events held in the Blayney Shire.	4.2	Include and review information about making events accessible in responses to Event Management Applications.	Annually	Accessibility of events promoted to event organisers with responses to Event Management Applications.
	Investigate potential solutions for feedback and review of events to assist event organisers to make events more accessible.	4.2	Solution for feedback and review of events identified and subject to cost, implemented.	Annually	Undertaken on an as needs basis with event committees.

Creating Meaningful Employment Opportunities					
Strategy	Actions	CSP Ref.	Outcome	Timeframe	Status
Improve Council employment conditions and opportunities for people living with a disability.	Establish flexible work practices to encourage an inclusive working environment.	2.1	Flexible work practices implemented.	Ongoing	Flexible work practices established and promotion of Council as a flexible workplace undertaken as needed and identified.
	Provide disability awareness training to staff and Councillors.	2.4	Staff and Councillors and have completed training.	Each Council term	A disability awareness course has been sourced and will be available to be completed at each participant's own pace and convenience. The course is free of charge and takes approximately 60 to 90 minutes to complete. Scheduled for completion over the next 12 months.
Ensure Council recruitment process is accessible for people living with a disability.	Review and update the recruitment process to ensure it is accessible for people living with a disability.	2.1	Review undertaken and improvements made to promote inclusion.	Annually	Completed, given small FTE, is undertaken on a case by case basis.
	Promotion of Council as an Equal Employment Opportunity employer with all vacancies.	2.1	Council positions vacant promote Council as an Equal Employment Opportunity employer.	Ongoing	Completed.
Identify opportunities to procure goods and services from businesses in the region who employ people living with a disability.	Review procurement procedure to identify options to procure goods and services from identified businesses.	2.1	Procedure reviewed and list developed and used within Council.	2023	Completed. Procurement Policy amended in 2023 to include reference to investigation and procurement of goods / services from Australian Disability Enterprises where suitable and practicable.

Enhancing Systems and Processes to Improve Access					
Strategy	Actions	CSP Ref.	Outcome	Timeframe	Status
Ensure Council communication and customer service is accessible to all.	Apply access and inclusion principles to Council's communication channels.	2.1	Council communication is accessible.	Ongoing	This occurs on an ongoing basis with relevant projects.
	Information is provided in an easy to read and accessible format.	2.1	Promotional material presented in an accessible format.	Ongoing	This occurs on an ongoing basis with relevant projects.
	Promote Council's implementation of access and inclusion principles and recognise the rights and contribution of people living with a disability in the community.	4.1	Promotion of Disability Inclusion Action Plan is undertaken.	Ongoing	Disability Inclusion Action Plan Survey promoted in period
	Ensure website conforms to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines conformance level AA.	4.1	Website to conform to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines.	Ongoing	The system is established and working as intended.
	Council meetings are livestreamed to provide an alternative for attendance at meetings in person.	2.4	Council meetings are livestreamed.	Ongoing	Council meetings streamed monthly and accessible from Council's website. Council has implemented a 2nd camera for livestreaming meeting minutes.
Ensure a coordinated approach to disability and inclusion is adopted and maintained across all departments of Council.	Staff to be familiar with the Disability Inclusion Action Plan ensuring a coordinated approach to disability inclusion is maintained across the organisation.	2.1	Disability Inclusion Action Plan is promoted on Council Intranet. Disability Inclusion Action Plan is circularised for reinforcement and status updates / outcomes.	Semi-annual	DIAP discussed and promoted amongst MANEX and meetings of Directors / Managers. DIAP promoted on Council Intranet Plan circulated amongst responsible officers to update status and outcomes.
Ensure recognition of the Disability Inclusion Plan in Council's IP&R documentation.	Council's Disability Inclusion Plan is acknowledged in Council's Delivery Program and Annual Operational Plan.	2.1	Council's Delivery Program and Annual Operational Plan includes acknowledgement of Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan.	Annually	Reference to DIAP included in 2025/26 Operational Plan and 2025/26 - 2028/29 Delivery Program, adopted by Council at the June 2025 meeting.

Acronyms

CS – Corporate Services

CWL – Central West Libraries

ES – Executive Services

IS – Infrastructure Services

PES – Planning and Environmental Services

13) INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES: KEY ACTIVITIES REPORT**Department:** Infrastructure Services**Author:** Director Infrastructure Services**CSP Link:** 3. Infrastructure is resilient, fit for purpose and maintained to support our community**File No:** GO.ME.1

Recommendation:

That Council note the Infrastructure Services: Key Activities Report for May 2026.

Reason for Report:

This report presents an update to Council on current projects, construction and maintenance activities within the Blayney Shire being managed or undertaken by Council's Infrastructure Services Department.

The report outlines work that has been carried out over the past month as well as status of major projects.

Report:Heavy Patching

Stabilcorp have completed heavy patching works on Browns Creek Road, Newbridge Road, and Forest Reefs Road. Works were completed on the 6th of May. Council are monitoring for defects given the inclement weather occurring around the works. Two of the patches were only primer-sealed, Browns Creek Road and Newbridge Road lot 1 (immediately after Liscombes Creek), due to insufficient pavement temperatures for double sealing. The other two patches were fortunately double-sealed, however the primer-sealed patches will require resealing next year using remaining funds, as the heavy patching works were delivered within budget allocation.

Maintenance works

Some patching has recommenced, with works being conducted on Glenorie Road and Hobbys Yards Road.

Maintenance grading works have been undertaken on Caloola Road, Sunset Hills Road, Old Lachlan Road, Fardells Lane, Hills Lane, Prices Lane, Adelaide Lane, Corks Lane, Lucks Lane, Plumb Street, Marshalls Lane, Rosedale Road, Davis Road, Mallowgrove Road.

Utilising some of the recently crushed gravel in Council's Whites Quarry, some soft spots on Bentleys Lane and Lindsays Lane have been repaired, and some gravel has been applied to Marshalls Lane.

Since the previous report, roadside mowing has been undertaken on Errowanbang Road, Burnt Yards Road, Newry Downs Road, Belubula Way, and Junction Reefs Road.

Open Spaces and Facilities

Regular maintenance continues across the shire including tree works. Despite reduced irrigation, Napier Oval has become soft underfoot with the addition of rain. Temporary closures have been enacted at Napier Oval to prevent deterioration.

KGO irrigation is off following another main failure, however all materials are now delivered and main renewal works will commence shortly around the schedules of hirers.

Routine playground inspections and repairs are also being undertaken throughout the shire. This has included soft-fall (woodchip) replenishment and maintenance repairs to any failed fittings.

The floating pontoon at Carcoar Dam has also been closed briefly for repairs.

Sewer Treatment Plant (STP)

Effluent quality at the Sewer Treatment Plant has been improved and includes the seasonal die-off of algae in the ponds. This has allowed the Recycled Water Treatment Plant to flow continuously without blocking. Replacement of sensors is underway to verify the quality of water being treated ahead of actual production. These issues demonstrate the importance of running the plant periodically, even if not required for irrigation. Treated flow can divert back to ponds.

Preparations are being made for maximised sludge pond drainage in the coming weeks. Sludge will be pumped into geotextile drying bags located in each of the drying beds, representing approximately 130% of the maximum theoretical drying capacity.

Major Projects

Note: costs/budgets are reported for the current financial year only.

Richards Lane – R4R9

Please refer to the separate report on this project.

Hobbys Yards Road					
Due Date	Revised Budget YTD \$	Expenditure this Month \$	Total Expenditure YTD \$	Committed Expenditure YTD \$	Estimated Total Project Costs \$
June 2026	1,009,755	0	845,603	14,219	859,822
Commentary					
Enacon will undertake the works on the pole replacement on the 25th of May 2026.					
Forecast (1-3 months)					
No other works after pole replacement.					

Garland Road – RERRF					
Due Date	Revised Budget YTD \$	Expenditure this Month \$	Total Expenditure YTD \$	Committed Expenditure YTD \$	Estimated Total Project Costs \$
June 2026	761,197	341,383	489,159	68,632	558,791
Commentary					
All works are now completed.					
Forecast (1-3 months)					
- Finalisation of outstanding invoices. - Remaining funds will be transferred to Tallwood Road once the project is completed.					

Tallwood Road – RERRF ^[1]					
Due Date	Revised Budget YTD \$	Expenditure this Month \$	Total Expenditure YTD \$	Committed Expenditure YTD \$	Estimated Total Project Costs \$
June 2026	1,574,097	405,955	782,763	259,017	1,571,467 ^[2]
Commentary					
- RERRF funding accounts for \$761,197 of the total budget, the remaining budget is funded from Council's general revenue. - Culvert installations are completed excluding headwall/wingwall construction. The road is fully open to traffic now, with the road closure saving approximately \$20k in traffic control and efficiency of works. Headwalls will be poured around inclement weather. - All boxing out works and widening is complete. - Subbase pavement construction has been fully completed. - Batter trimming and dressing with topsoil will commence week ending 24/05/2026 pending inclement weather. - Base construction is fully completed up to the culvert extensions. Once the headwalls are complete, the roadworks can be finished and the road can be sealed.					
Forecast (1-3 months)					
^[2] Remaining funds from Garland Road RERRF project are yet to be transferred to Tallwood Road, which will supplement the funds to cover any over-expenditure. - Completion of headwalls May. - Completion of base course May. - Projected sealing into May will likely be a primerseal, requiring a reseal in 26/27 financial year. May be funded from RERRF pending final costs.					

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:

Council's infrastructure activities are undertaken in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and other relevant regulatory frameworks.

Delivery is guided by Council's adopted policies, including procurement and risk management. This report provides ongoing updates on key projects and associated risks such as cost variations and delivery timeframes.

Budget Implications:

Budget commentary is included in the project reporting above.

Enclosures (following report)

Nil

Attachments (separate document)

Nil

14) COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LOT 7305 DP 1143307, HENRY ST BLAYNEY**Department:** Infrastructure Services**Author:** Director Infrastructure Services**CSP Link:** 5. Protecting our assets for future generations**File No:** RD.AD.1

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Resolve to compulsorily acquire the land of Lot 7305 DP 1143307, described as Henry Street, Blayney, pursuant to s186-187 of the Local Government Act 1993 and for the purposes of the Roads Act 1993.
2. Approve the making of an application to the Minister for Local Government and Governor seeking approval for the compulsory acquisition of land.
3. Delegate authority to the Mayor and General Manager to execute signature and fixing of the Council Seal on all required documentation to facilitate the acquisition.
4. Give public notice for a period of 28 days of Council's intention to classify the land as Operational Land.
5. Approve the publication of a notice in the NSW Government Gazette to dedicate the land as a public road pursuant to s10 Roads Act 1993.
6. Approve a supplementary vote of \$35,000 funded from the Property Account to fund the acquisition.

Reason for Report:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement to commence compulsory acquisition of land currently owned by the Crown and occupied by Council under licence arrangements.

Report:

Lot 7305, DP1143307, known as Henry Street, Blayney, is Crown land for which Council currently holds and pays an annual licence fee. The land functions as public road infrastructure and is maintained accordingly by Council.

Council currently incurs ongoing annual licence costs associated with the occupation and use of the land. The licence was granted in 2019 following construction works associated with the commencement of the Belubula River Walk and associated riverbank stabilisation works.

The current annual licence fee for the 2025/26 financial year is approximately \$670, indexed annually. Based on current estimates, approximately \$9,000 in licence fees would be payable over the next 10 years, assuming standard indexation.

Based on an assumed average annual indexation rate the estimated break-even point for the acquisition would occur within approximately 25 years time.

The methodology used to determine annual licence indexation is unclear and outside of Council's control. This creates an ongoing financial risk to Council, particularly should substantial increases occur in future years, as has been experienced previously with the 7.3% increase applied during the 2023/24 period.

Accordingly, acquisition of the land would provide greater long-term financial certainty by removing Council's exposure to unpredictable licence fee increases and ongoing administration relating to Crown licensing arrangements.

The land is already utilised and maintained as public road infrastructure. The compulsory acquisition process would provide Council with long-term certainty regarding ownership and management of the land and eliminate the requirement for perpetual licence payments to the Crown.

Following acquisition, the land would be dedicated as public road under the Roads Act 1993, formalising its existing function and ensuring consistency between land tenure and operational use.

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:

The compulsory acquisition process would be undertaken pursuant to sections 186 & 187 of the Local Government Act 1993 and in accordance with the requirements of the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 and the Roads Act 1993.

Primary risks associated with the proposal relate to acquisition costs exceeding estimates or delays in the acquisition process. A contingency allowance has been included within the estimated project cost to assist in managing these risks.

Budget Implications:

Council officers have determined an estimate of likely acquisition costs, summarised below:

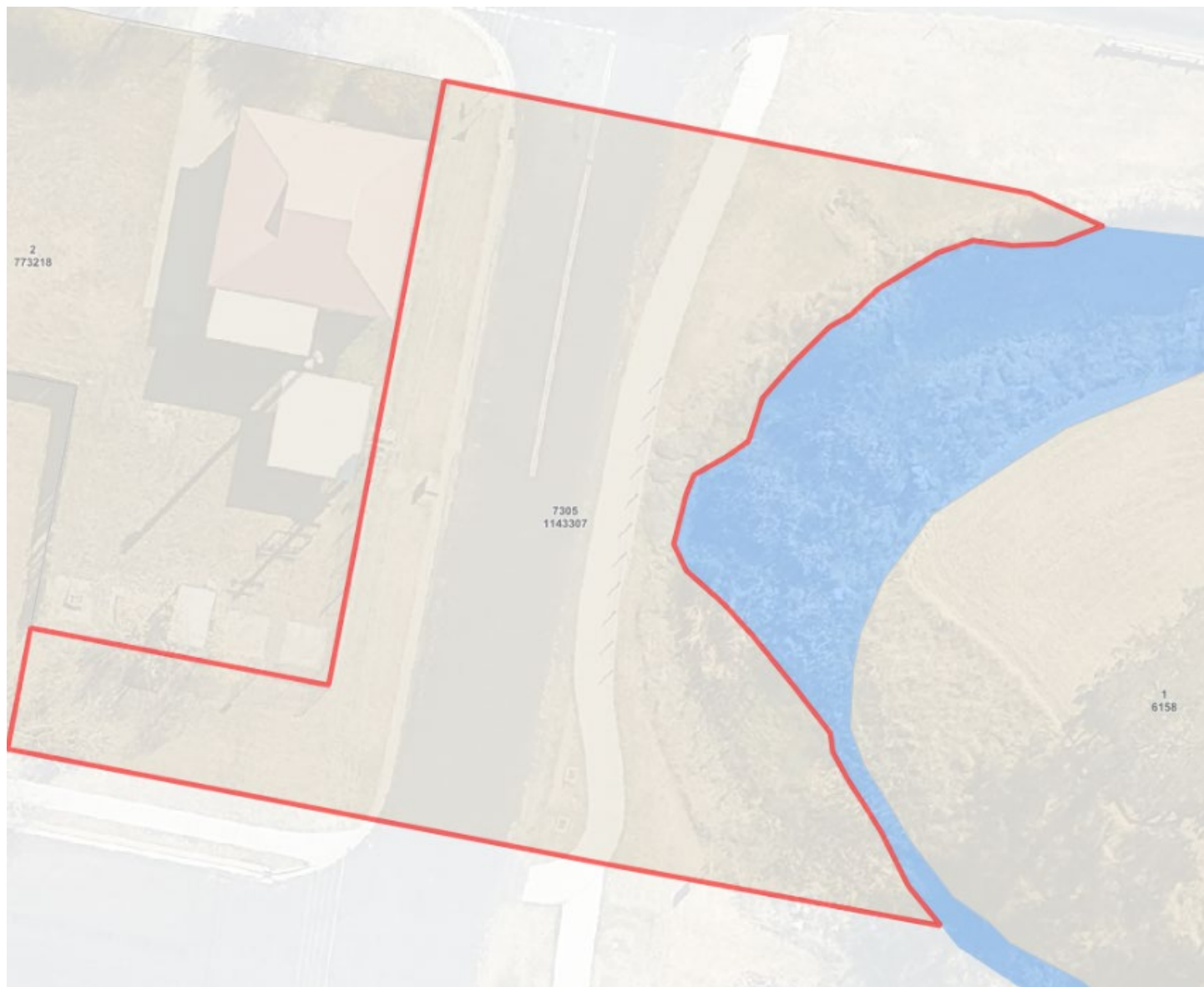
Item	Estimated Cost
Legal Costs	\$ 7,300
Survey Costs	\$ 8,900
Market Value compensation offer to Crown	\$ 9,000
Native Title compensation offer	Unconfirmed
Valuation costs	\$ 4,000
Contingency	\$ 4,000
Total Estimated Cost	\$ 33,200

Enclosures (following report)

- 1 Proposed Acquisition Area

Attachments (separate document)

Nil



15) RICHARDS LANE AND INTERSECTION UPGRADE PROJECT**Department:** Infrastructure Services**Author:** Director Infrastructure Services**CSP Link:** 3. Infrastructure is resilient, fit for purpose and maintained to support our community**File No:** RD.AD.1**Recommendation:**

That Council note the project update for the Richards Lane and intersection upgrade project.

Reason for Report:

Given the significance of the Richards Lane project, including community interest and heightened level of risk the project poses to Council, this project has been removed from the Infrastructure Services: Key Activities Report and will be reported separately each month until project completion.

This report serves to update and inform Council on the current status of the project including progression of works and Council's financial position for the project.

Report:**Project Summary**

The current project financial summary is shown in Table 1 below.

Richards Lane – R4R9					
Completion Date	Revised Budget YTD \$	Expenditure this Month \$	Total Expenditure YTD \$	Committed Expenditure YTD \$	Estimated Total Project Costs \$
30 May 2026	3,070,673	537,417	1,097,535	1,689,898	2,734,429

Table 1

Components of this project involve 4 Local Road sections and the intersection upgrade with Millthorpe Road. The extent of these sections is depicted in Figure 1.

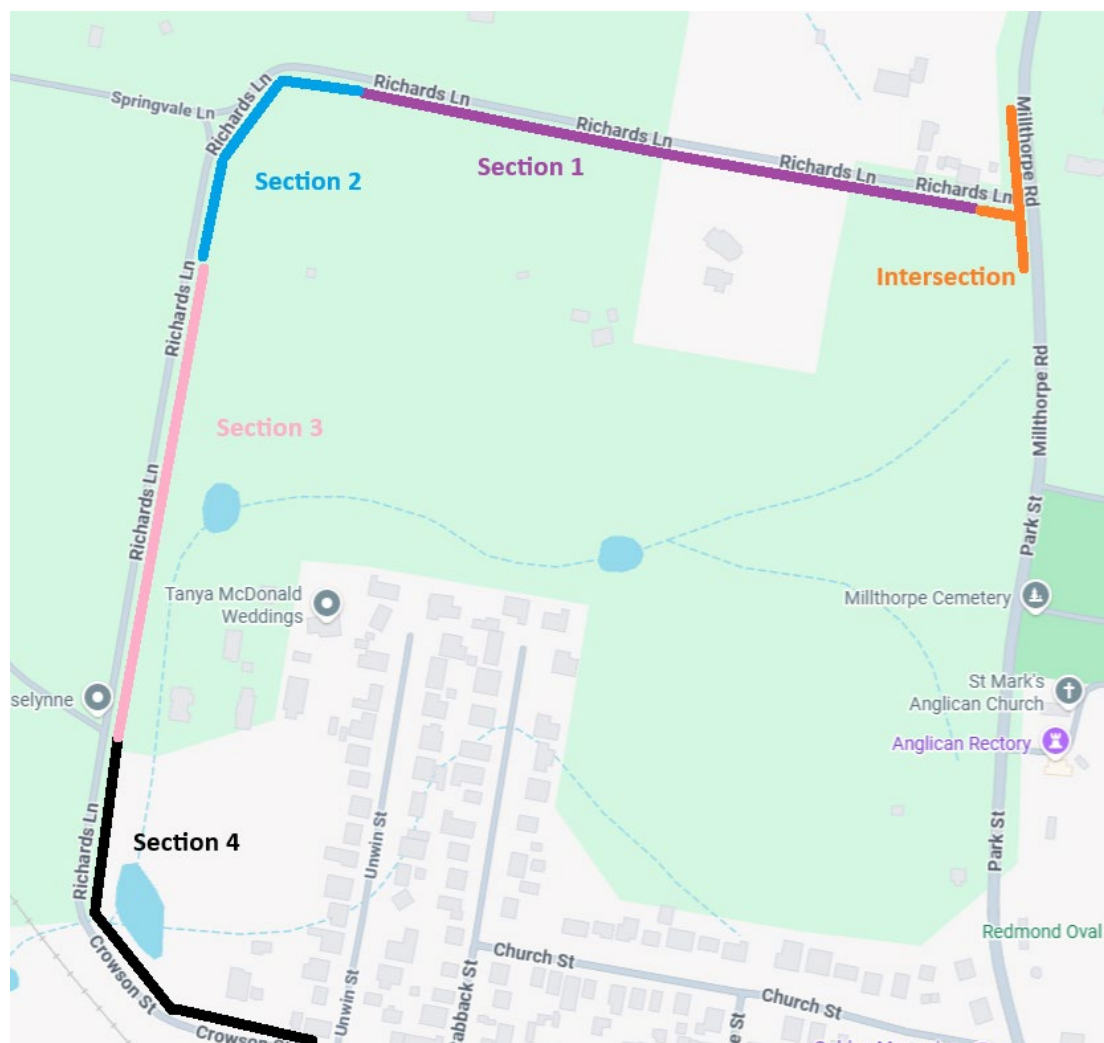


Figure 1

Local Road Portion of Works:

Residential access is still being maintained via Crowson Street.

Section 2 works are completed up to the base course and will be trimmed to final level alongside Section 1 & 3 (once all sections are complete). Section 3 works are steadily underway, with most rectification items now complete.

Drainage works are mostly completed as well, with just rock armouring remaining around culverts and along some table drains. Subgrade earthworks are almost complete, after which subbase then base pavement layers will be constructed on the final stage. Once pavement construction is completed, the Section 4 seal will be ripped and re-worked, and the entirety of the local road will be sealed.

A primer seal proposal has been received is currently under review.

Intersection Portion of Works

All preconstruction documentation has been submitted and approved by TfNSW, marking completion of the pre-construction requirements of the WAD.

On Monday 9th of March 2026, TfNSW issued the official letter confirming the Approval to Commence Construction had been granted.

Despite the preliminary subgrade testing undertaken on 12 March 2026 indicating a low risk of subgrade strengthening works being required, subsequent excavation and proof rolling identified more extensive subgrade issues than anticipated. Only 383m², representing approximately 32% of the site area, achieved a satisfactory proof roll.

As a result, subgrade treatment proposals were developed and submitted to Transport for NSW for approval, addressing isolated soft spots and elevated in-situ moisture content encountered across the site.

The table below summarises the subgrade sub-lots, including the proposed treatment, current status, and estimated project cost impacts associated with the required remediation works.

Section	Area	Proposed Treatment	Status	Estimated cost impact
Sublot 3A	383m ²	Nil	Proof roll passing 01/05/2026	\$ Nil
Sublot 3B	337m ²	Insitu Stabilisation with hydrated lime	Stabilisation works completed 06/05/2026	\$38,000
Sublot 3C	98m ²	Concrete capping over services	Approval granted 01/05/2026 To commence post works in sublot 3D	\$20,000
Sublot 3D	370m ²	300mm thick rock drainage blanket, wrapped with geotextile	Approval granted 19/05/2026 Works to commence 25/05/26	\$50,000

Subgrade rectification works, coupled with multiple rain events has significantly delayed the project with the majority of works now forecast for completion in June 2026.

Contractor Performance to date:

The contractor is satisfactorily meeting its administrative and reporting obligations. However, their productivity is slow due mostly to their allocation of resources.

The contractor responded to addressing minor non-conformances raised by TfNSW in a timely manner and is working well by maintaining good communication channels with both Council officers and the Project Verifier.

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:

The current program shows the majority of works completed by the end of June 2026.

Council officers are working diligently towards ensuring Council's funding obligations are met as timely as possible and will work with the funding body to seek either further funding extension or scope reduction (i.e. the scope tied to the grant funding, within the deed) in order to meet their administrative obligations.

Budget Implications:

Based on the current projected cost to complete (shown in table 1), at this stage it is anticipated the project will be completed within the current budget allocation which includes ~\$330k as contingency funds yet to be drawn upon.

Enclosures (following report)

Nil

Attachments (separate document)

Nil

16) MINUTES OF THE BLAYNEY SHOWGROUND USER GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 11 MAY 2026

Department: Infrastructure Services

Author: Manager Waste Water and Urban Services

CSP Link: 3. Infrastructure is resilient, fit for purpose and maintained to support our community

File No: PR.ME.3

Recommendation:

That Council receive the minutes of the Blayney Showground User Group Committee meeting held 11 May 2026.

Reason for Report:

For Council to approve the minutes of the Blayney Showground User Group Committee meeting held 11 May 2026.

MINUTES OF THE BLAYNEY SHOWGROUND USER GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN CHAMBERS, BLAYNEY SHIRE COUNCIL COMMUNITY CENTRE, ON 11 MAY 2026

PRESENT: Cr Craig Gosewisch (BSC – Chair 4:30pm – 5:05pm), Mayor Bruce Reynolds (BSC – Chair 5:05pm), Kim Cheney (Blayney Shire Horse Sports), Geoff Redmond (Blayney Shire Horse Sport), Paul Little (Blayney Shire Horse Sports), Annabel Kingham (Blayney A&P), Rosemary Reid (Blayney A&P), Peter Davis (Blayney Harness Racing), Beth Maclean (Central Western Dressage Group), Susan Lowe (Central Western Dressage Group), Megan Joerg (Central Tablelands Working Equitation & Coaching), Peter Day (Carcoar & District Pony Club).

Liam Golding (BSC), Nikki Smith (BSC), Lilly Simons (BSC).

APOLOGIES

Annie Pumpa (National All Breeds Junior Heifer Show)

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1011/01 **RECOMMENDATION:** That the minutes of the previous Blayney Showground User Group Committee Meeting held on Monday 10 November 2025, be confirmed to be a true and accurate record of that meeting.

(Mover: Bruce Reynolds /Seconder: Peter Davis)

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil.

ACTION REGISTER

Council gave a verbal update to the user groups. Discussion, user groups would like Council to add identifiers to Council equipment. User groups had questions regarding after hour contact for council.

ACTION: Council to tag new equipment with an identifier.

OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Overhead Watering Plan

Discussion, User groups advised they were unhappy with the grounds.

ACTION: Council to move watering day to Friday. Council to investigate systems and costs.

Inbuilt Announcement System

Discussion, User groups expressed their desire for an announcement system.

ACTION: Council to investigate costs and split system need. User group looking into grants.

Versatility of the Showground

General discussion, Council informing user groups of some different event applications and different groups that could possibly utilise the showground. User groups expressed frustration regarding the difficulty of getting works approved.

ACTION: No objections overall.

STRATEGIC MATTERS

Proposed Bike Shed

General discussion on user groups adding a small 5 x 4 shed on the western side.

ACTION: User groups to submit information to council. No objections, generally supported.

Timber Benches

Discussion. Groups advised they are investigating replacing the timber park benches and the timber benches near the bar area.

ACTION: User group investigating costs and grants. No objections generally supported.

Air Conditioning

Discussion, user groups recommended reverse cycle air conditioning for the showground. User groups also voiced their appreciation for the wall mounted fan in the judging box area.

ACTION: Council to investigate costs, budgets and ventilation options

Replacement Harrows

Discussion, User groups are having issues with the comb. User group has purchased harrows to smooth out the furrows.

ACTION: Council to repair comb. If not viable, review and implement.

Pipes around the arena

General discussion on user groups considering adding pipes to an area behind the CWELC.

ACTION: User groups to submit insurance, credentials and request for maintenance to Council before approval and works commence. No objections generally supported.

Race and Loading Ramp

General discussion on user group preparing a proposal for race and loading ramps.

ACTION: User groups to submit proposal to immediately so it can go to Council for consideration at June meeting.

PROJECT UPDATES**Shelter over yards update**

Question from user groups asking why did Council reject this project.

Council advised it is supportive of the project and provided an email advising this and requesting further information on design and other criteria. Council advised that this project will require a Development Application (DA). Group noted costs for submission are hard to cover unless works are approved. Discussion be whether funding pathway to cover DA costs could be shared between user groups. Consider including costing in any grant applications, or specific council grants.

ACTION: User Groups to organise a pre planning DA meeting with Council's Planning Department for the shelter over the yards project to source out criteria requirements and costings for a DA.

ACTION: Central Tablelands Working Equitation & Coaching to follow up

Arena Enhancement – Outdoor Dressage Arenas

Central Western Dressage Group provided update on the outdoor arenas. Advising to be compliant with EA they had to raise the height of the arena sides. CWDG have organised and will pay for contractors Hydro Plumbing to these works. CWDG will do a site visit after this meeting to see where the project is up to. Works estimated to be completed by end of November 2025. **ACTION:** CWDG to do a site visit 10.11.2025 to look at the contractor's progress on this project. **ACTION:** Completed

Portable Stables

CWDG are organising project to install 10 portable stables at Blayney Showground. CWDG provided the Committee with a plan of the location of the stables being behind the Pony Club yards and further along the fence. Due to a tree, there will be 3 stables together and 7 stables together. Estimated quote for the project is in the vicinity of \$92000 which includes tank, tank stand, downpipes, roof gutter, timber for stables to sit on, 10 stables, installation and labour. Please note all groups are in favour of the location of the stables as presented in the diagram.

Council advised that this project will require a DA.

Question can both the portable stable and shelter over yards projects be submitted on the one DA application in a staged process. Pre-DA meeting to be organised.

CWDG are currently in the process of applying for a DA. They have recently had a surveyor and received some quotes.

CWDG request further information to clarify some things.

ACTION: User Groups to organise a pre planning DA meeting with Council's Planning Department for the shelter over the yards and portable stables project to source out criteria requirements and costings for a DA.

ACTION: Council to forward to all the groups the Community Initiated Infrastructure Policy.

ACTION: CWDG continue to progress application for DA

Pavilion Painting

Update to be provided at next meeting.

Discussion, Council confirmed scope of painting works. The hanging boards on the craft wall will be painted light grey.

Camping SW Corner - Power

Council and Blayney A&P are still awaiting quote from TWS. Discussion on other whether to source a different electrical company, issue is that TWS have done the majority of the electrical works at the showground and know the system and locations of electrical sources at the ground.

ACTION: Council and Blayney A&P to continue to follow up TWS for quote.

ACTION: Council to continue follow up for quote. Blayney A&P have given up.

Fencing – Trotting Track

Stage 1 of the fencing project has been completed.

Stage 2 – Council advised that instead of the orange para webbing another extension of the fence product has been found. Council to look at future grant allocations for this project.

Harness Racing NSW will not contribute to this project.

Grant has been applied for currently still awaiting outcome.

ACTION: Council to continue to work on future grant allocation for extension of height of fence around the trotting track.

General Business**Memorial Tree**

Carcoar & District Pony Club enquired if a memorial tree could be planted for John Kinghorn OAM who passed away in July 2025. John for over 50 years instructed, coached, judged and mentored riders across Pony Clubs and equestrian groups in the Central West. Council advised procedure/policy for this type of request is 12 months after the date of death. Carcoar & District Pony Club have decided to change memorial tree to a plaque.

ACTION: Carcoar & District Pony Club will write a formal letter to Council with a request for consideration of a memorial tree and plaque to honour John Kinghorne OAM.

ACTION: Carcoar & District Pony Club to write to Council regarding the change.

Power at Showground

Mayor Reynolds enquired if the overloading of power is still an issue or was it repaired.

Council advised overloading of circuits can still occur, however the electrical plan was mapped out in conjunction with the Masterplan which included an indicative price for various upgrades.

ACTION: Council to circulate the Masterplan, electrical plan and pricing to the Committee.

ACTION: Council to continue investigation of the scope of works and the power tripping. Council to follow up for quote.

FUTURE MEETING DATES - 2026

9 November 2026

Meeting finished at 5:49pm.

Enclosures (following report)

Nil

Attachments (separate document)

Nil

17) BLAYNEY SHIRE DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2026**Department:** Planning and Environmental Services**Author:** Director Planning and Environmental Services**CSP Link:** 3. Infrastructure is resilient, fit for purpose and maintained to support our community**File No:** DB.PO.2

Recommendation:

That Council;

1. Approves the Blayney Shire Development Control Plan 2026 attached to this report, as amended and altered following the public exhibition.
2. Provide public notice that Blayney Shire Development Control Plan 2026 will commence on 9 June 2026.
3. Repeal Blayney Shire Development Control Plan 2018.
4. Provides a copy of the Blayney Shire Development Control Plan 2026 to the Secretary of the Department of Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
5. Note that track changes will be removed from the final version of the DCP and authorise the General Manager to approve any minor formatting amendments to correct minor clerical errors or issues which do not change or alter the content or intent of the document.

Reason for Report:

For Council to endorse Blayney Shire Development Control Plan 2026 following completion of the public exhibition of the draft (noting minor changes have been made to the exhibited draft version).

Report:

At its Ordinary Meeting of 18 November 2025 Council resolved to place Draft Blayney Shire Development Control Plan (DCP) 2026 on public exhibition.

The draft DCP was placed on exhibition from 18 December 2025 to 30 January 2026. Key stakeholders involved in development were also notified by email and provided additional time to comment beyond 30 January 2026. In all, 23 stakeholders previously involved the development process were notified. No submissions were received on the draft DCP.

Following the exhibition period, the opportunity was taken to further refine and improve the exhibited draft with notable changes outlined below (shown as track changes in the final version attached).

Part B – Residential

B3.6 – Shipping Containers - has been altered to provide clarification that containers are for storage purposes; can only be considered in heritage conservation zones or on properties where a heritage item is situated (if in conjunction with conservation or renovation works) for a maximum period of 12 months and provision of a written undertaking that the container be removed at the end of this period.

Part D - Subdivision

D2.1 – Site Planning – provision that new assets or open space which will be dedicated to Council are to be designed to limit ongoing operational impacts and financial costs to Council.

D 4.1 – Access and Road Design for Large Lot Residential and Rural Subdivision – additional inclusions to prevent road duplication and also ensure adequate manoeuvring for heavy vehicles on lots with access handles.

Part F – Environmental Management & Hazards

F4 Flooding - has been refined to reflect changes to statewide flood planning documents. Note* this section may require further review upon completion of the Flood Study Update currently being undertaken by Lyall and Associates.

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:

Development Control Plans must be prepared in accordance with Part 2 Division 2 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021. The draft DCP must be published on Council's website for exhibition and receipt of submissions.

Draft Development Control Plans must be exhibited for a minimum of 28 days under Council's Community Participation Plan. The exhibition process was extended in this instance to recognise the impact of the Christmas/New Year period.

Following the exhibition period and consideration of any submissions, Council may:

- (a) approve the plan in the form in which it was publicly exhibited, or
- (b) approve the plan with any alterations the council considers appropriate, or
- (c) decide not to proceed with the plan.

The council must publish notice of its decision on its website within 28 days after the decision is made. The Plan comes into effect on the day on which the notice of the council's decision to approve the plan is published on its website, or a later day specified in the notice. The existing 2018 DCP is repealed by the subsequent Plan.

Within 28 days of making a development control plan, Council must give a copy of the plan to the Planning Secretary.

Budget Implications:

Council engaged an external planning consultant to assist staff with the development of the Draft Development Control Plan 2026.

External funding was also provided through the NSW Local Government Flood Recovery Grant program to include a flooding section of the DCP.

Enclosures (following report)

Nil

Attachments (separate document)

1 Development Control Plan

238 Pages

18) RURAL AND REGIONAL SUMMIT 2026 DELEGATE REPORT

Department: Executive Services

Author: Councillor Bruce Reynolds

CSP Link: 1. Prioritise transparency, financial sustainability and strong partnerships with and for our community

File No: GO.CF.1

Recommendation:

That Council note the Delegates Report on the 2026 Rural and Regional Summit held on Thursday 7 May 2026 in Sydney.

Reason for Report:

To provide Councillors with a summary of the 2026 Rural and Regional Summit.

Report:

The NSW 2026 Rural and Regional Summit was conducted in Sydney on Thursday 7 May 2026. There were a number of speakers on various subjects impacting on local government and our community. The day was broken into six sessions which are outlined below.

Local Government Session

The first speaker was President of Local Government NSW Darcy Byrne. He launched a six-point Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health. This plan was outlined in the Mayoral Minute.

The Deputy Secretary for the Office of Local Government, Brett Whitworth, then addressed the summit on matters currently impacting on Councils. These included:

- The current Fuel Crisis, which was discussed in depth.
- How waste and sewerage would be prioritised if a fuel shortage developed.
- Fair work order on transport charges and ramifications for local government, with concerns the order is not clear or straight forward.
- They are seeing a reduction in fuel demand across the state.
- Acknowledged an increase in the cost of delivering services to our communities, with the rise in inflation.
- He acknowledged financial sustainability is not easily benchmarked between Councils so developing benchmarking figures will be difficult to achieve.
- Each Council is also different from a sustainability point of view.
- He also stated the state needed the right rating approach for solar and wind. A committee is currently reviewing this.
- The distribution of Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants is also in the process of reviewing the methodology. There will be updates which

Councils can attend in person or online on the review process in July and August.

Special Rate Variation Session

Carmel Donnelly PSM, Chair, Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal NSW address the conference on Special Rate Variations:

Her key Points were:

- If Councillors pass resolution, Councils can apply to IPART:
- For a Special Variation to increase general income by more than the rate peg.
- To increase minimum rates above the statutory limit.
- IPART assesses council applications using criteria developed by the Office of Local Government.
- Case by case on merits.
- Including publication of application and public consultation.
- Resources on IPART website.
- Get in touch with IPART Secretariat.

With regards to the current years she outlined the following:

- 10 special variation and 2 minimum rate increase applications 5 applications from rural or regional councils:
- Ballina Shire Council, Cessnock City Council, Glen Innes Severn Council, Muswellbrook Shire Council and Uralla Shire Council
- There were over 2,200 submissions and over 6,000 survey responses. Decisions by June 2026 for July 2026 implementation

Ms Donnelly acknowledged the different challenges for rural and regional councils.

IPART review of rate peg fixed some but not all problems

- Can tailor rate peg to each council
- Can be more forward looking
- Can't catch-up for previous pop growth
- Can't catch up gap from historical low rates

She stated a review into financial model recommended by IPART

Ms Donnelly also touched on Parliamentary Inquiry and what it recommended:

- That the NSW Government seek to improve the special variation process, should the rate peg be retained in its current form, to:
- make it less resource and time-intensive for local councils
- streamline the process for the assessment of special variation applications consider alternatives to special variations that allow councils to raise additional rates to maintain existing service levels.
- Government response supported recommendation and she stated the current approach may change.

There were two case studies provided by the Mayors of Gunnedah and Tamworth Regional Council on their experiences with SRV's. Their main messages were:

- Discuss the level of service your community expects moving forward and then frame your SRV around this service level.
- Understanding the cost for the level of service the community relieve on.
- Focus on maintaining existing services and not expanding services with an SRV.
- Show the community the financial truths.
- Explain the difference between if you do and don't do an SRV.
- Tell the community what will happen if we don't do an SRV.
- Must importantly, you must build trust with your community if progressing with an SRV.

Rural Health Session

Susanne Tegen, CEO National Rural Health Alliance did a scene setting on Rural and Regional Health by presenting a video.

Dr Joe McGirr, MP Member for Wagga Wagga presented on the NSW Legislative Assembly Select Committee on Remote, Rural and Regional Health

Some key findings:

- Consultation between Local Health Districts and communities remains limited
- Rural and remote primary care a significant challenge
- Maternity services reduced
- Accountability – progress at odds with reports
- High use of locums remains

Select Committee – Key findings in relation to Local Government

Supporting the role of Local Government

Recommendation 12

That NSW Health work with local councils and health services to develop incentives specifically targeted at retaining health and medical students in the regional health system after they have completed their study and training

Finding 11

That local governments in remote, rural and regional areas often play a significant role in supporting the local health system, and council-led community ownership models have had some success in regional NSW.

Recommendation 19

That the NSW Government work with the Australian Government to improve support to local councils, including ensuring more funding is available for local governments that provide services that fall within Australian Government responsibilities, such as aged care and primary care support.

Areas for Improvement in Rural Health

NSW LA Select Committee on Remote, Rural and Regional Health – Key priorities and next steps:

Changes to governance

- Establishment of a NSW Remote, Rural and Regional Health Commissioner
- Funding and implementation of the health precinct model
- Genuine partnerships with Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations
- Shared governance arrangements between Local Health Districts and Primary Health Networks in service agreements, to support effective collaboration, information sharing and joint planning at the local level
- Greater involvement of community and local voices

Specific Focus Areas

- Development of a statewide, publicly accessible rural obstetric plan for maintaining and re-establishing hospital birthing services.
- Implementation of a mandatory, face-to-face leadership training program to address persistent workplace culture issues within NSW Health.
- Funding to pilot innovative and multidisciplinary models of primary care service delivery.
- Addressing fly in fly out workforce and locums.

Dr Michael Holland MP Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Health outlined the NSW Governments funding commitments for Rural and Regional Health. He discussed the use of technology to improve outcomes. He said the NSW Government supported Councils in their partnership on health. Mr Holland did recognise the aged care tsunami now approaching rural and regional areas.

Sarah Mitchell MP Shadow Minister for Health, Regional Health and Mental Health. discussed working with Dr Joe McGirr to achieve his plans. Highlighted the need to improve infrastructure. She said there was a need to be positive with health outcomes but acknowledged the challenges with health moving forward.

Climate and Drought Session

Hugh McDowell, Senior Climatologist, Bureau of Meteorology outlined the possible development of an El Nino in coming months. He said it was likely that there will be drier conditions than average. That will lead to drier soil conditions and less pasture and plant growth. There could be a higher-than-normal fire risk. Expect warmer than average day time temperatures in Winter, Spring and Summer.

There were two local government case studies presented by Snowy Valleys Council Mayor, Julia Ham and Greater Hume Council Mayor, Lea Parker. They highlighted they have had three years of well below average rainfall. Their primary producers have been hand feeding for 30 of the past 36 months.

They held a drought summit on 4 August 2025. There was a call for government assistance. They stated their producers can't take on any more debt and need direct financial support. Loans are not an option. Concerned that current funding only focuses on resilience and not supporting producers during a drought.

Local Government Minister and Shadow Minister Session

The NSW Minister for Local Government, Hon Ron Hoenig and Shadow Minister for Local Government Tim James MP each gave a presentation. They both acknowledged the challenges facing local government, in particular financial. The Minister said his aim was to improve the image of local government. Mr Hoenig wants to take away the constraints for local government. He wants greater transparency of local government and finance. Mr Hoenig is also keen to get the state out of the planning process. He also discussed conflicts of interest, but no time frame on a code of conduct policy review. He also wanted to create a better career pathway for local government employees.

Water Security and Resilience Session

There was a session on water security. Ashraf El-Sherbini, the Executive Director of Operations and Resilience (Water Group) within the New South Wales Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment, and Water represented the Hon Rose Jackson, Minister for Water. He outlined the current government focus on water security and resilience.

Steph Cook MP, shadow minister for Water addressed the gathering. She highlighted housing depends on infrastructure, particularly water and sewerage infrastructure and there needs to be a partnership between the State and Local Government to upgrade and maintain this infrastructure.

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:

Nil

Budget Implications:

Nil

Enclosures (following report)

Nil

Attachments (separate document)

Nil

Matters to be dealt with in closed committee

In accordance with the Local Government Act (1993) and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in Section 10(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

19) EOI 1/2026 - FURTHER DEVELOPMENT, IMPROVEMENT OR USE OF WHITES QUARRY

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) (c) (e) of the Local Government Act, as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; AND information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law.