

TABLE OF CONTENTS – 20 May 2009

ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING	3
1. CHEMICAL ISSUED TO LANDHOLDERS	3
2. WOOMARGAMA LANDFILL	5
3. HOLBROOK RAILWAY PRECINCT.....	7
4. WASTE OIL COLLECTION.....	9
5. CONTAINER DEPOSIT LEGISLATION (CDL)	10
GOVERNANCE	11
1. HENTY COMBINED CHURCHES – REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO COLIN BUCHANAN CONCERT.....	11
2. 2008/2009 MANAGEMENT PLAN – REPORT AS AT 31 MARCH 2009	13
3. AUSTRALIA DAY 2010.....	14
4. CULCAIRN COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS FORUM – ROTATION OF AUSTRALIA DAY.....	15
5. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR NSW COUNCILS – APPOINTMENT OF A CONDUCT COMMITTEE.....	17
6. IMPLEMENTATION OF DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROMOTING BETTER PRACTICE PROGRAMME	19
7. DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER.....	20
8. INTEGRATED PLANNING & REPORTING FRAMEWORK.....	21
CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES	22
1. INTERIM 2008/2009 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2009.	22
2. DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2009/2010.....	31
3. FRIENDS OF THE IAN GEDDES BUSH WALK COMMITTEE.....	38
4. SIGNING OF GOODS AND SERVICES TAX CERTIFICATE.....	39
5. GEROGERY COMMUNITY CENTRE COMMITTEE (ROSE COTTAGE)	40
ENGINEERING	42
1. JINDERA FLOOD STUDY	42

TABLE OF CONTENTS – 20 May 2009
--

2.	CHALMER'S CHURCH COOKARDINIA	46
	PART B – FOR INFORMATION	47
	GOVERNANCE	47
1.	DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT CIRCULARS [G.320.3]	47
2.	LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW (LGSA) – WEEKLY CIRCULARS [G.330.1]	47
	CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES	48
1.	CUSTOMER REQUEST MODULE	48
2.	STATEMENTS OF BANK BALANCES AS AT 30 APRIL 2009. COMBINED INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS AS AT 30 APRIL 2009	48
	ENGINEERING	48
1.	APRIL REPORT OF WORKS.....	48
	ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING.....	49
1.	DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS PROCESSED FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2009	49
2.	RANGER'S REPORT – APRIL 2009	49
3.	SENIOR WEED OFFICER'S REPORT - MAY 2009	51
4.	WASTE UPDATE.....	52
5.	SCRAP METAL COLLECTION.....	56
	PART C – COMMITTEE REPORTS	57

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

1. CHEMICAL ISSUED TO LANDHOLDERS

Report prepared by Neil Hibberson, Senior Weeds Officer

REASON FOR REPORT

To permit chemical (Roundup Biactive) to be issued to landholders for control of noxious weeds on road reserves adjoining their property therefore preventing such weeds from encroaching onto private land.

DISCUSSION

During November and December in 2008 the Senior Weeds Officer received a number of requests from landholders for chemical to spray weeds (St John's Wort) on road reserves adjoining their property. In some instances it was a request for reimbursement by the landholder for the chemical they had used to control weeds on the roadside to prevent them encroaching onto their land. At times it is only a request for 1 or 2 litres to do a follow up spraying after Council has been along. At the time it was not Council policy (due to the public liability issue) to hand out chemical or to reimburse chemical to the landholder.

An email was sent to Jardine Lloyd Thompson Pty Ltd (insurance brokers) for a response as to where council stood in relation to the handing out of chemical to landholders. The reply stated that as Council is merely distributing the product to the landholders, there should not be any insurance implications. They also stated that Council needs to be aware that the landholder hold a Certified Chemical User Certificate, there is a signed agreement between the landholder and Greater Hume Shire Council and the chemical is delivered in a sealed container with all the instructions, safety and warning labels intact.

The following is an extract from email correspondence:

*Thank you for your email request relating to the distribution of roundup to landholder's for weed spraying on Council roadsides adjoining their property.
There should not be any insurance implications if Council has not tampered with the product in any way (in other words, If the bottles are sealed with all the instructions, safety and warning labels still in tact).
As Council are merely distributing the product to Certified Chemical Use Handlers, could you please ensure there is an agreement between Council and the rural landowners to protect Council's interests for the usage of the product".*

The only chemical Council would be issuing under these circumstances would be Roundup Biactive. This chemical is considered non volatile and the safest option. The maximum amount issued would be 5 litres. This would make up 1000 litres of spray mix. A data base record of all landholders that have been issued chemical would be kept as well as record of use for future reference.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

CHEMICAL ISSUED TO LANDHOLDERS [CONT'D]

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

Chemical costs are incorporated into budget whether Council uses it or the landholders use it. If the landholders are carrying out this operation at no cost to Council it will allow more roadside reserves to be sprayed within the 2 month time frame for controlling St. John's Wort.

CONCLUSION

The roadsides being sprayed by landholders will free up Council personnel and contractors to carry out work in other areas of the Shire ultimately allowing Council to control weeds on more road reserves.

RECOMMENDATION.

That Senior Weeds Officer be authorised to issue chemical (Roundup Biactive) to landholders within the shire who have requested chemical to control weeds on Council road reserves to prevent them encroaching onto their land subject to:

1. the landholder being a holder of a chemical user certificate
2. Maximum issuing being 5 litres in unopened container
3. Signing of formal agreement with landholder.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

2. WOOMARGAMA LANDFILL

Report prepared by Environmental Health & Building Surveyor - Bradley Peach

REASON FOR REPORT

Council has received a petition from residents of Mullengandra, Bowna and Wymah objecting to the introduction of waste charges at the Woomargama Landfill.

Background

A petition signed by approximately 130 residents of Mullengandra, Bowna and Wymah has been submitted to Council expressing concern with Council's decision to introduce waste charges at the Woomargama Landfill. A copy of the petition is attached as **ANNEXURE 1**.

Council has considered several reports over the previous months regarding the pending closure of the Woomargama Landfill and the construction of a Transfer Station at Mullengandra.

When the Mullengandra Landfill was closed in September 2007, Council resolved to allow free access to the residents of the Mullengandra district until a new facility was opened.

Land acquisition issues for the new site of a Transfer Station at Mullengandra required Council to review the operation of the Woomargama Landfill and an options report was presented to Council in December 2008.

At that meeting Council resolved to advertise the charging of all users of the Woomargama Landfill (in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993) with a view of a commencement date of 21 February 2009. Advertisements were placed in the Eastern Riverina Chronicle on 7 January 2009 and the Border Mail on 3 January 2009. Letters were also sent to all Woomargama residents and a further notice placed in the Border Mail on 10 January 2009 relating to the extended opening period of the Woomargama Landfill and that disposal fees would apply from 21 February 2009. Later, signs were also amended at the Landfill to reflect the proposed extension of operation and fee introduction.

The notices advising of the proposed introduction of user fees requested written submissions in relation to the introduction of the fees from interested persons by Friday 6 February 2009. Council's Landfill Attendant also advised users of the Woomargama Landfill facility of Council's intentions to commence charging and distributed information sheets outlining Council's charges at its Waste Facilities.

No submissions were received and Council at its Ordinary Meeting on 18 February 2009 resolved to introduce waste charges at the Woomargama Landfill.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

WOOMARGAMA LANDFILL [CONT'D]

At the time of writing this report, total income received at Woomargama Landfill was \$1,037.00. The facility had been open to the public on 20 occasions with 272 users accessing the landfill.

Therefore, average weekly gate receipts are \$104.00 with an average of 14 users per opening and an income of less than \$4.00 per user per visit.

Circumstances beyond the control of Council resulted in changes to the timeline for construction of a new transfer station at Mullengandra. The introduction of waste charges at the Woomargama Landfill (in accordance with other waste facilities across the Shire) from 21 February 2009 would seem reasonable given no objection or comments were received by Council from the public when consulted prior to the fee introduction.

On Wednesday, 13 May 2009 discussions with representatives of the Southern Alliance indicated the Mullengandra Transfer Station site may be available for Council by the end of June 2009.

A report will be presented to Council's June Meeting providing details of the proposal for Mullengandra and cost impacts of licence conditions at Woomargama Landfill.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Reduction in waste income of approximately \$5,000 per annum if charges are removed.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council reaffirm its decision to introduce landfill charges at Woomargama Landfill.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

3. HOLBROOK RAILWAY PRECINCT

Report prepared by Environmental Health & Building Surveyor - Bradley Peach

REASON FOR REPORT

Consider the request of the Holbrook Lions Club to develop a Community Men's Shed in the Goods Shed at the Holbrook Railway Precinct on Australian Rail Track Corporation Ltd (ARTC) land.

DISCUSSION

Background

As a result of previous reports to Council, Council resolved that any decision on the future Holbrook Railway Precinct be deferred to:

1. allow for Council to have further discussions with the Holbrook community; and
2. enable Councillors to acquaint themselves fully with the Holbrook Railway Precinct.

Correspondence has been received from the Holbrook Lions Club to develop a Community Men's Shed in the Goods Shed. The Goods Shed is located on Lot 1 DP 831081 which is under lease by Council from ARTC and the Storage Shed is on Lot 5 DP 804402 which is under licence by Council from ARTC. (These property and building descriptions vary from previous reports to Council).

Discussions with representatives from the Holbrook Lions Club confirm that the Club intend to, over time, restore and maintain, firstly, the Goods Shed and then the Storage Shed. It is also intended for a garden club/group to assist in maintaining the grounds surrounding these buildings.

The Lions Club are to be commended on their offer and it is recommended that Council accede to their request for plans to carry out improvements to the land and buildings at the Holbrook Railway Precinct.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Possible additional costs for the lease of Lot 5 DP 804402. Possible allocation of initial funding for maintenance works.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

HOLBROOK RAILWAY PRECINCT [CONT'D]

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Seek confirmation from ARTC to sub-lease Lot 1 DP 831081 and Lot 5 DP 804402 at the Holbrook Railway Precinct to the Holbrook Lions Club.
2. Subject to ARTC approval, sub-lease Lot 1 DP 831081 and Lot 5 DP 804402 at the Holbrook Railway Precinct to the Holbrook Lions Club.
3. Authorise the Mayor and General Manager to sign the Lease documentation under the Common Seal of Council.
4. Provide a one-off grant of \$2000 for building maintenance and other improvements and meet the annual lease expenses from the ARTC.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

4. WASTE OIL COLLECTION

Report prepared by Health & Building Surveyor - Bradley Peach

REASON FOR REPORT

Update Council on proposals for improvements for waste oil collection within the Shire.

DISCUSSION

Some years ago Council participated in a regional collection process of waste oil through REROC. All three former councils established Oil Recycling Facilities at some of their landfills and transfer stations funded through the Product Stewardship for Oil Transitional Assistance Grants or similar programs.

Oil Recycling Facilities are currently located at

- Burrumbuttock Transfer Station
- Culcairn Landfill
- Gerogery Transfer Station
- Holbrook Landfill
- Jindera Transfer Station.

This service via REROC has been provided by Southern Oil Refining Pty Ltd or Southern Oil. Change of ownership of this company and a renewed enthusiasm for collection of waste oils provide Council with an opportunity to improve this service to its residents and ratepayers.

Southern Oil has given Council an undertaking that in addition to servicing the 5 Council collection points, they will collect from farms or businesses subject to a 400 litre minimum. This will be a significant improvement for farms and businesses which have difficulty in transporting and disposing of the oil to one of Council's waste facilities.

With over 2000 rural properties and many businesses within the townships producing waste oils, a better organised and programmed collection service will ensure the majority of waste oil is recycled within the Shire.

The improved service can be notified through the quarterly newsletter, local newspapers and waste supervisors.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council enter in a Memorandum of Understanding with Southern Oil Refining Pty Ltd for the collection of waste oils within Greater Hume Shire Council.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

5. CONTAINER DEPOSIT LEGISLATION (CDL)

Report prepared by Environmental Health & Building Surveyor - Bradley Peach

REASON FOR REPORT

The NSW Government are meeting to review the current packaging waste programs.

DISCUSSION

On 22 May 2009 Ministers making up the Environment Protection and Heritage Council will meet to consider the effectiveness of current packaging waste programs, including the voluntary National Packaging Covenant.

The Covenant, which is based on "shared" responsibility, effectively makes Local Government responsible for the cost of collecting and processing drink containers – an expensive process, particularly in the current economic climate where the demand and price for these items has plummeted.

The Local Government and Shires Association, together with Clean Up Australia, are calling for the urgent introduction of beverage container deposits that will force industry to share the cost of recycling their products more equally. CDL has operated successfully in South Australia since the mid 1970's.

General waste statistics for GHSC for the 2007-2008 period indicate a total of approximately 905 tonnes are recycled ie about 20% of total waste. This included scrap metal, waste oil, green waste, Cleanaway kerbside collection and recycling bins at the Waste Facilities.

Kerbside collection is 445 tonnes according to data provided by Cleanaway with each tonne costing residents approximately \$400 to divert from landfill. The introduction of CDL would offset some of this expense and undoubtedly increase recycling rates across the Shire.

The introduction of CDL should be endorsed and supported by Council.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The introduction of CDL would have a positive effect on waste costs in the Shire.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council support the Local Government and Shire Association and Clean Up Australia in calling for the urgent introduction of beverage container deposits legislation.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

GOVERNANCE

1. **HENTY COMBINED CHURCHES – REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO COLIN BUCHANAN CONCERT**

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To update Council with further information regarding a request for financial contribution to assist in the hosting of a Colin Buchanan concert.

DISCUSSION

The following report was submitted to the April meeting:

*“Council has received a request from Robyn Armstrong of the Henty Presbyterian Church on behalf the combined Henty Churches for a financial contribution to a Colin Buchanan concert to be held in Henty on 25 August 2009. A copy of the correspondence is included as **ANNEXURE 1**.*

Colin Buchanan is an 8 time Golden Guitar winner with career album and DVD sales in excess of 240,000.

It is estimated that it will cost in the vicinity of \$5,000 to stage the concert and whilst it is expected that those attending will pay an admission fee it is hoped that this can be minimised in the current climate.

The Organising Committee is seeking donations from \$200 to \$1,000.

Given the stress on rural families as a result of the prolonged drought it is considered that a modest donation can be justified.”

It was suggested that there could be several Colin Buchanan concerts in the Shire and that this matter should be clarified prior to a decision being made.

The General Manager contacted Robyn Armstrong who advised that Colin Buchanan concerts were planned for Wagga Wagga, Henty, Jindera and Wangaratta. It was further advised that the Henty community had taken a lead role in bringing Colin Buchanan to the district and then other communities had sought to capitalise on the opportunity.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

A modest donation can be funded from existing donation allocations.

CONCLUSION

Given that there will only be one other Greater Hume Shire Community hosting a Colin Buchanan concert and the primary reason for providing a modest donation was as a drought relief measure, it is recommended that a contribution of \$400 be approved.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

HENTY COMBINED CHURCHES – REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO COLIN
BUCHANAN CONCERT [CONT'D]

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council approve a contribution of \$400 to the Henty Combined Churches Colin Buchanan concert to be held 25 August 2009; and
2. the contribution be funded from the 2008/2009 Donations (NEI) allocation.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

2. 2008/2009 MANAGEMENT PLAN – REPORT AS AT 31 MARCH 2009

Report prepared by General Manager - Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To ensure compliance with section 407 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

DISCUSSION

Section 407 of the Local Government Act 1993 requires the General Manager to report to Council, within two months after the end of each quarter, as to the extent to which the performance targets set by the Council's Management Plan have been achieved.

ENCLOSED SEPARATELY with the agenda, is the report to 31 March 2009, detailing key actions contained in the 2008/2009 Management Plan and achievements to date.

Whilst the achievement of some targets are behind schedule there have been an number of unexpected issues that have arisen during the quarter including:

RLCIP – Council allocated projects funding applications

RLCIP Program - Strategic Projects

- Halls Reconstruction and Revitalisation Project funding application
- REROC Joint Project – Village Green funding application

Building The Community – Community Halls Renewal Fund

- Holbrook Hall funding application
- Culcairn Hall funding application

Building the Country – Infrastructure Program

- Holbrook Common funding application

Renewable Energy Project – Development and distribution of marketing material and community expos.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONCLUSION

It is Management's view that Council has made satisfactory progress towards the achievement of Performance Targets included in the 2008/2009 Management Plan given the additional unexpected tasks that have been completed.

RECOMMENDATION

The report be received and noted.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

3. AUSTRALIA DAY 2010

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To consider requests from the Jindera and Culcairn communities to host Australia Day 2010.

DISCUSSION

The Jindera and Culcairn communities have both expressed an interest in hosting Australia Day celebrations in 2010.

To date celebrations have been held in the following centres:

- 2006 Holbrook
- 2007 Brocklesby
- 2008 Henty
- 2009 Morgan's Lookout (hosted by Walla Walla Community Development Committee)

The Jindera Swimming Pool Committee would take the lead role and believe, that following the recent success of a Community Family Fun Day, that the Jindera Pool and surrounds would make an excellent venue. The Pool Committee would aim to involve a variety of community groups in the establishment and running of activities on the day.

Similarly, a request has also been received from the Culcairn Community and Business Forum to host the day at Culcairn also drawing on the many community based organisations that exist with the township.

The Culcairn community was in contention for the 2007 Australia Day celebrations that were ultimately held at Brocklesby as part of the Hall Centenary celebrations.

Another issue for consideration by Council is that celebrations have not been held in the Southern part of the Shire and in that regard Jindera would make an ideal location.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Funding included in 2009/2010 Budget.

CONCLUSION

Attendances at recent Australia Day celebrations have been excellent and it is one event which unifies the Shire. There is no doubt that either Jindera and Culcairn would be an excellent host for the 2010 Australia Day celebrations.

RECOMMENDATION

For Council's Determination.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

4. CULCAIRN COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS FORUM – ROTATION OF AUSTRALIA DAY

Report by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise Council of correspondence from the Culcairn Community and Business Forum to rotate Australia Day around all communities in the Shire.

DISCUSSION

Correspondence has been received from the Culcairn Community and Business Forum (CCBF) seeking Council to introduce a policy to rotate Australia Day around all communities in the Shire regardless of size. A copy of the correspondence is included as **ANNEXURE 2**.

The CCBF believe that the current system of vying for the event tends to make it quite competitive and that does not necessarily appeal to all communities or organisations.

It has been suggested that all communities be allocated a year to host Australia Day celebrations that would include larger centres such as Culcairn and Holbrook and smaller communities like Morven, Wymah and Little Billabong. The CCBF also state that should a community wish to host Australia Day to coincide with another important occasion (eg: Brocklesby Hall Centenary) then an application could be made to Council who would consider such requests on its merits and make a determination.

Council has five towns, six villages and a number of smaller communities that could result in any rotational list being close to 20.

Obviously with a proposal of this nature there are advantages and disadvantages including:

Advantages

- Builds an inclusive Shire
- Showcases a particular community to the rest of the Shire
- Sharing the economic and social advantages to Shire
- Involves communities that might otherwise be considered remote in Shire activities.

Disadvantages

- Large number of communities will most likely result in a long rotational list

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

CULCAIRN COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS FORUM – ROTATION OF AUSTRALIA DAY [CONT'D]

- Potential logistical issues of rotating it to a new venue every year
- Some locations may be considered remote from larger population centre

BUDGET IMPLICATION

It is not likely that rotating venues would have a significant impact on costs of staging Australia Day.

CONCLUSION

There is clear evidence that rotating Australia Day to different communities has been successful; however, rotating the event to such a large number of communities raises other issues as detailed in the report. Whilst the proposal has merit the event could lose impetus with such a large community rotation.

RECOMMENDATION

Council continue to allocate Australia Day to a community on a case by case basis.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

5. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR NSW COUNCILS – APPOINTMENT OF A CONDUCT COMMITTEE

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

For Council to consider the appointment of a Conduct Review Panel in accordance with the Department of Local Government's Model Code of Conduct.

DISCUSSION

In June 2008 the Department of Local Government released a revised Model Code of Conduct for NSW Councils. One of the major changes was the composition of Conduct Review Committees.

Under the previous Code of Conduct the membership of the Conduct Review Committee was the Mayor, General Manager and an independent person with relevant expertise to undertake enquiries or to provide advice to the Committee. In the case of Greater Hume Shire Council this role was undertaken by David Skinner of DG Skinner and Associates.

The revised Code of Conduct requires Council to elect a Conduct Review Panel of appropriately qualified persons of high standing in the community who are independent of Council. Once a panel has been established then should a complaint be made and it has been determined that it should be referred for review, the General Manager or in the case of a complaint against the General Manager, the Mayor should select a Conduct Review Committee (of at least 3 or more persons) or a sole reviewer from those appointed by Council.

To meet the requirements of the Department of Local Government's Best Practice Program Council uses a panel of legal firms depending on the issue. Therefore, it is recommended that Council consider forming a Conduct Review Panel with the following membership:

- Representative of DG Skinner and Associates
- Representative of Kell Moore Solicitors
- Representative of Commins Hendriks
- Ray Stubbs, Executive Officer of RAMROC and former General Manager of Albury City Council
- Gerry Holmes of Holmes and Reynolds Pty Ltd

Gerry Holmes of Holmes and Reynolds Pty Ltd will be undertaking Council's Conflict of Interest/Code of Conduct training and is highly regarded in the local government industry.

Council has written to DG Skinner and Associates, Kell Moore and Commins Hendriks seeking their interest in participating and requesting that a person and an hourly rate be advised to Council.

Gerry Holmes on behalf of Holmes and Reynolds Pty Ltd has responded to an Expressions of Interest called by RAMROC to form part of a regional panel and would be available. Ray Stubbs has advised that he would be prepared to be on the panel as a Conduct Review Committee member, but not a sole reviewer.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
To BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR NSW COUNCIL – APPOINTMENT OF A CONDUCT COMMITTEE
[CONT'D]

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

A separate budget allocation has not been included for the conduct of Review Committees and it is likely that the cost will be minimal. Should it be necessary to refer a matter to a Conduct Review Committee or a Sole Reviewer, it can be expected that the normal hourly rate of the Solicitor will apply.

CONCLUSION

In the event that the a Code of Conduct complaint and considered by the General Manager that it should be subject to review then the above panel membership would seem appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council seek to form a Conduct Review Panel consisting of:
 - Representative of DG Skinner and Associates
 - Representative of Kell Moore Solicitors
 - Representative of Commins Hendriks
 - Ray Stubbs, Executive Officer of RAMROC and former General Manager of Albury City Council
 - Gerry Holmes of Holmes and Reynolds Pty Ltd.

2. A further report be submitted to Council when a response has been received from DG Skinner and Associates, Kell Moore Solicitors and Commins Hendricks.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

6. IMPLEMENTATION OF DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROMOTING BETTER PRACTICE PROGRAMME

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To continue to provide Council with an update on the implementation of the Department of Local Government Promoting Better Practice Programme.

DISCUSSION

It was reported to the April meeting of Council that the Department of Local Government Promoting Better Practice programme was a formal review process aimed at improving the viability and sustainability of councils by:

1. generating momentum for a culture of continuous improvement and greater compliance across local government;
2. providing an 'early intervention' option for councils experiencing operating problems;
3. promoting good governance and ethical conduct principles;
4. identifying and sharing innovation and good practice in local government; and
5. enabling the department to use review information to feed back into its work in identifying necessary legislative and policy work for the local government sector.

At the April meeting a report on Council's self assessment of the Governance function was presented and it was advised that over the next four months, similar reports will be presented on other functions.

Included as **ANNEXURE 3** is a progress report on the Asset and Financial Management function. This further reinforces the quantum of work required to be completed by Council in our efforts to meet "Best Practice" standards and comply with the requirements of soon to be introduced "Integrated Planning and Reporting".

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct budget implications associated with the Promoting Better Practice Programme, and additional resources have been included in the 2009/2010 budget to enable the preparation of the strategic documents required.

CONCLUSION

It is imperative that Councillors and Management are committed to the Promoting Better Practice program and the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

7. DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To confirm discussions at the Budget Workshop that Council has submitted an application for funding to employ an Economic Development Officer for a fixed term of 2 years.

DISCUSSION

The 2008/2011 Management Plan includes a performance target to seek funding for an Economic Development Officer/Advisor. Councillors were advised at the Budget workshop that the application for funding has been submitted on the following basis.

Funding Source	Comment	Amount
Greater Hume Shire Council	\$25,000 to be carried forward from 2008/2009 and \$25,000 pa for two years	\$75,000
Department of State and Regional Development	Funding over two years	\$75,000
Roads and Traffic Authority	Funding over two years	\$75,000
Total		\$225,000

The Roads and Traffic Authority have committed to a substantial contribution on the basis of the potential economic and social impact of the bypasses of Holbrook and Woomargama. Accordingly, the funding submission project plan includes a number of objectives in relation to Holbrook and Woomargama along with other Shire wide issues. A copy of the project plan is attached as **ANNEXURE 4**.

It is intended that the initial appointment will be for a fixed period of two years during which time an assessment of the success of the program will be evaluated.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

An initial Council allocation was included in the 2008/2009 budget and further allocations have been included in the 2009/2010 & 2010/2011 financial year, subject to funding being provided by the Department of State and Regional Development.

CONCLUSION

Council is optimistic that funding will be provided by the Department of State and Regional Development and if successful provides an opportunity to evaluate the benefit of such a position in a cost effective manner to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

8. INTEGRATED PLANNING & REPORTING FRAMEWORK

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise Council that the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework draft Bill and Regulations and draft Guidelines and Manual have been released for comment.

DISCUSSION

As reported to the March meeting the Department of Local Government has for some time now been consulting with councils in relation to the introduction of the Integrated Planning & Reporting Framework. The proposed framework will replace the existing Management Planning process and will consist of long-term Community Strategic Plan (10 years +), a four year Delivery Programme, a one year Operational Plan and an Annual Report.

Attached as **ANNEXURE 5** is Department of Local Government Circular 09-19 which advising closing dates for submissions and that information sessions are proposed.

The closing dates for submissions are:

Draft Bill and Regulations - 5.00 pm Friday 12 June 2009

Draft Guidelines and Manual - 5.00 pm Friday 3 July 2009.

Compliance with the Planning and Reporting Guidelines will be mandatory.

Councillors and Senior Staff are encouraged to attend Information Sessions when held.

Copies of the draft Bill and Regulations and the Draft Guidelines are **ENCLOSED SEPARATELY** with the Agenda.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Funding has been included in the 2009/2010 & 2010/2011 Budgets to assist in the introduction of Integrated Planning and Reporting.

CONCLUSION

The Department of Local Government is clearly committed to the implementation of the Integrated Planning & Reporting Framework and it is important that Council take a proactive approach to its introduction.

RECOMMENDATION

That the General Manager be authorised to prepare submissions on the draft Bill and Regulations and the draft Guidelines and Manual, if deemed appropriate.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. INTERIM 2008/2009 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2009

Report prepared by Director Corporate & Community Services – David Smith

REASON FOR REPORT

To present the Interim Budget Review as at 31 March 2009 in accordance with Section 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

DISCUSSION

The Interim Budget Review as at 31 March 2009 is **ENCLOSED SEPARATELY** for Councillors' perusal. The Budget Review, as presented, indicates that the projected 2008/2009 cash deficit will be \$269,490 which represents a decrement of \$271,620 on the original estimated surplus of \$2,130, and an increment of \$12,470 on the December 2008 review.

The Interim Budget Review also contains the forward estimates for the 2009/2012 period.

Detailed below is a full review on a functional basis with comments. The commentary below provides an explanation to major variances (greater than \$5,000) except where offset within the same function. Councillors should note that the variances and associated commentary quoted in this report are based on budget figures as adopted at the 31 December 2008 budget review.

GOVERNANCE

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
GOVERNANCE Costs associated with the 2009 local government elections lower than budgeted.	+ 11,210

ADMINISTRATION

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Corporate Support Legal expenses (+\$30,000) have been offset by legal expenses recouped. Increased costs associated with use of IT contractor offset by corresponding reduction in Corporate Services casual assistance. Includes transfer from reserves for computer equipment reserve (\$4,590) and Insurance Public Risk reserve (\$10,000).	+ 7,730

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
To Be Held At The Council Chambers, Balfour Street, Culcairn
On Wednesday 20 May 2009**

INTERIM 2008/2009 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2009 [CONT'D]

<p>Engineering and Works Increased revenue for supervision of RTA RMCC Warranty (+\$100,000) has been transferred to reserve. Other costs satisfactory</p>	- 350
<p>Engineering- Road Safety Officer Road Safety Officer funding income reduced due to position not filled for part of financial year. Bike Week activity not proceeding in 2008/2009 year.</p>	- 6,560
<p>Employment Overheads Satisfactory.</p>	-
<p>Plant Operations Satisfactory</p>	-
<p>Staff Vehicles Satisfactory</p>	- 2,630
<p>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</p>	- 1,810

PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
<p>Fire Services Satisfactory</p>	-
<p>Emergency Services Satisfactory</p>	+ 60
<p>Animal Control Satisfactory</p>	+ 2,480
<p>TOTAL PUBLIC ORDER & SAFETY</p>	+ 2,540

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
To Be Held At The Council Chambers, Balfour Street, Culcairn
On Wednesday 20 May 2009**

INTERIM 2008/2009 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2009 [CONT'D]

HEALTH SERVICES

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Health Administration Satisfactory	-
Immunisations Satisfactory	-
Noxious Plants Satisfactory	-
Riverina Noxious Weeds Project Satisfactory	+ 1,200
TOTAL HEALTH SERVICES	+ 1,200

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND EDUCATION

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Family Day Care Satisfactory	-
Youth Services Satisfactory	+ 1,250
Aged and Disabled Satisfactory	- 3,200
Hostels Satisfactory	-
Education Satisfactory	+ 1,840
TOTAL COMMUNITY SERVICES & EDUCATION	- 110

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

INTERIM 2008/2009 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2009 [CONT'D]

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Housing Satisfactory	-
Town Planning Revenue estimate for Development Application Fees reduced due to decline in development activity and Council's increased application of complying developments.	- 20,330
Street Cleaning Satisfactory	-
Urban Stormwater Drainage Satisfactory	-
Public Cemeteries Satisfactory	-
Public Conveniences Satisfactory	- 100
Other Community Amenities Satisfactory.	+ 5,090
TOTAL HOUSING & COMMUNITY AMENITIES	- 15,340

RECREATION AND CULTURE

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Libraries	- 520
Community Technology Centres Additional expenditure in upgrading CTC computers and printing costs. Other costs satisfactory	- 10,770
Museums Satisfactory. Admission charges at Submarine Museum to be monitored.	-
Public Halls Satisfactory	-4,810

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
To Be Held At The Council Chambers, Balfour Street, Culcairn
On Wednesday 20 May 2009**

INTERIM 2008/2009 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2009 [CONT'D]

Other Cultural Services Satisfactory	- 110
Swimming Pools Over expenditure primarily due to increased wage costs and increased water charges. (Water use under review).	- 14,260
Sporting Grounds Satisfactory	- 1,000
Parks and Gardens Regional & Local Community Infrastructure funding brought into budget estimates. Other costs satisfactory	+ 200
TOTAL RECREATION & CULTURE	- 31,270

MINING, MANUFACTURING & CONSTRUCTION

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Building Control Satisfactory	-
Quarries & Pits Satisfactory	-
TOTAL MINING, MANUFACTURING & CONSTRUCTION	-

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
To Be Held At The Council Chambers, Balfour Street, Culcairn
On Wednesday 20 May 2009**

INTERIM 2008/2009 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2009 [CONT'D]

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
<p>Urban Roads Local Additional expenditure associated with sealing parts of Wallace & Bruce Streets, Holbrook. Refer Minute # 1825 March 2009.</p> <p>Costs of \$68,590 for sealing of Jindera Industrial Estate transferred from Real Estate Development section of budget. Costs therefore offset.</p>	- 89,350
<p>Sealed Rural Roads – Local Satisfactory</p>	-
<p>Sealed Rural Roads – Regional Satisfactory</p>	- 3,600
<p>Unsealed Rural Roads Gravel resheeting expenditure is significantly below budget due to adverse seasonal conditions. Expenditure vote to be retained and works will commence in second half of the financial year if prevailing weather conditions permit.</p>	+ 3,600
<p>Bridges Satisfactory</p>	-
<p>Footpaths Satisfactory</p>	-
<p>Kerb and Gutter Satisfactory</p>	-
<p>Ancillary Roadworks Reduced expenditure on RTA Road safety projects. Other costs satisfactory</p>	+18,750
<p>Aerodromes Satisfactory</p>	-
<p>Bus Shelters Satisfactory</p>	-
<p>RTA Works Satisfactory</p>	-

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

INTERIM 2008/2009 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2009 [CONT'D]

Street Lighting Satisfactory	-
TOTAL TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATIONS	- 70,600

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Caravan Parks Additional revenue from lease of Holbrook Caravan Park	+ 5,720
Tourism & Area Promotion Revenue from Submarine Museum lower than anticipated. Other costs satisfactory.	- 9,550
Economic Development Satisfactory	-
Real Estate Development Costs associated with resealing works at Jindera Industrial Estate transferred to Urban Roads section of budget. Costs therefore offset.	+ 80,960
Other Business Undertakings – Private Works	-
TOTAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS	+ 77,130

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

INTERIM 2008/2009 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2009 [CONT'D]

GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUES

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Rates and Charges Satisfactory. Increase rate income from supplementary rate valuations.	+ 11,670
Government Revenues Satisfactory	-
Interest on Investments The budgeted income figure for investment income has not been amended, however there has been a significant lowering in official interest rates over the past four months. This will lead to a reduction in investment income as term deposits mature and are reinvested at a lower interest rate. The budgeted income figure will continue to be monitored taking into account the above factors.	-
Net Gain/Loss on Disposable Assets Satisfactory	-
TOTAL GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUES	+ 11,670

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Waste Management Satisfactory	+ 2,910
TOTAL WASTE MANAGEMENT	+ 2,910

SUMMARY OF BUDGET VARIATIONS

SUMMARY OF BUDGET VARIATIONS	-12,470
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**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

INTERIM 2008/2009 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2009 [CONT'D]

WATER AND SEWERAGE

General income and expenditure figures appear to be satisfactory. However, costs associated with the Culcairn Water Re-Use Scheme have increased and the final impact of the re-use development will be assessed when the project is fully completed and all costs reconciled.

Other general operating expenses appear to be satisfactory.

SUMMARY

The budget estimates presented to 31 March 2009 represent a conservative outlook for the third quarter of the financial year.

As reported to Council at the November 2008 meeting, the overall budget deficit, as predicted, is primarily due to costs associated with the purchase of the Holbrook Common.

Management will continue to carefully monitor income and expenditure totals to ensure budget integrity is maintained at year end.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note and approve the Interim Budget Review Statement as at 31 March 2009.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

2. DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2009/2010

Report prepared by Director Corporate & Community Services – David Smith

OVERVIEW

The estimates of income and expenditure have been prepared on the basis of increasing general rate revenue by 3.5% being the maximum allowable under rate pegging legislation. In addition, Council is entitled to a Farmland Income Adjustment from 2008/2009 of \$11,771.00.

As was the case in the 2008/2009 year, the increase in general rate revenue has been achieved through the continuation of a revised rating structure whereby land values play a more central role in determining the rates levied on a particular property. The proposed rating structure for the 2009/2010 year is summarised as follows:

1. Rate yield from Jindera Residential and Jindera Business categories increased by 6%
2. Rate yield from Rural Residential category increased by 6%
3. Rate yield from Holbrook Residential and Holbrook Business categories constant with 2008/2009 yield
4. Rate yields from all other categories apportioned so as to ensure that total rate yield does not exceed rate pegging parameters.
5. Continuation of a common base rate across all Residential categories and only three base rates within Business categories
6. Farmland Income Adjustment from 2008/2009 of \$11,771.00

As Councillors would be aware, significant debate has been held in relation to the most appropriate rating strategy for the future sustainability of Greater Hume Shire Council. It is proposed that the current strategy outlined above be applied for the 2009/2010 rating year, and that a workshop be conducted in August 2009 to fully examine the benefits / impacts of alternative rating structures.

The budget, as presented, discloses a General Fund surplus of \$5,330. Management is of the belief that a rate increase of the nature proposed is essential to maintain minimum service levels and will provide the platform for a financially sustainable and vibrant rural Council. The proposed rate increase forms part of a suite of initiatives to achieve such a platform.

The impact of a 3.5% increase has been detailed in the Revenue Policy which also includes a list of fees and charges proposed to be levied.

It is also proposed to continue with the philosophy of Water and Sewerage Best Practice Pricing Principles (as required by the Department of Water & Energy).

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2009/2010
[CONT'D]

General Fund

The Table below outlines Council's financial position for period 2009/2010.

Operating Revenue	\$22,373,000
Capital Revenue	\$ 5,948,090
Loan Funds Raised	\$ 800,000
Sub total	\$29,121,090
<i>Less:</i>	
Operating Expenditure	\$23,714,040
Capital Expenditure (inc loan repayments)	\$11,558,090
Non Cash Depreciation contra	-\$ 5,598,400
Sub Total	\$29,673,730
Transfer To / From Reserves	\$ 557,970
Surplus / (Deficit)	\$ 5,330

Budget Highlights

Some of the more significant aspects of the 2009/2010 Draft Budget include:

- ❖ An increase in general rate revenue by 3.5% being the maximum allowable under rate pegging legislation.
- ❖ Continuation of Water and Sewerage Best Practice Pricing Principles as required by the Department of Water & Energy.
- ❖ Domestic Waste and Garbage charges to remain unchanged from 2008/2009 charges.
- ❖ Shire Roads and Ancillary Services construction programmes totalling \$3,355,300.
- ❖ Regional Roads capital works totalling \$4,790,470.
- ❖ Continued provision for Town Services funding of \$62,000 for works within the villages.
- ❖ Continuation of a \$50,000 Community Development Grants.
- ❖ Continuation of Tidy Town funding of \$20,000 p.a. has been included as per Council's previous determination.
- ❖ Plant Replacement Programmes \$824,630 (net of trade-ins)
- ❖ Parks and Gardens expenditure \$212,200.
- ❖ Continued operations of the Holbrook Submarine Museum and Visitor Information Centre.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2009/2010
[CONT'D]

- ❖ Programmed expenditure on Noxious Weed Control totalling \$378,940. Other significant items include estimated expenditure of \$3,500 for the control of Elm Leaf Beetle and the allocation of \$15,000 to reserve for St John's Wart control.
- ❖ Continued implementation of a Waste Management Strategy for Greater Hume Shire Council, culminating in Waste Management operating expenditure of \$878,520.
- ❖ An annual allocation of \$25,000 has been included in the 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 estimates for the engagement of an Economic Development Advisor as recommended in Council's Draft Community & Economic Development strategy.
- ❖ Additional expenses associated with community consultation process to be undertaken as part of the adoption of the Integrated Planning & Reporting Framework \$25,000 in 2009/2010 and \$25,000 in 2010/2011
- ❖ An allocation of \$50,000 for the maintenance and replacement of street trees in urban centres across the shire.
- ❖ An allocation of \$150,000p.a has been included to provide for an annual bridge refurbishment programme to be established.
- ❖ Water and Sewer Capital expenditure of \$726,000
- ❖ Streetscape upgrades over 2 years in all major centres

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2009/2010
[CONT'D]

Rural Fire Service

NSW Rural Fire Service capital works programs and equipment issues for the Greater Hume district is detailed below.

	Zone Office	Brigade Stations	Tankers	Total
2009/2010				
Burrumbuttock			\$114,000	
Culcairn			\$88,200	
Gerogery			\$119,500	
Mullengandra			\$114,000	
Albury	\$60,000			
Garryowen		\$20,000		
Ralvona		\$17,000		
Bowna		\$25,000		
Total	\$60,000	\$62,000	\$435,700	\$562,700
2010/2011				
Walbundrie			\$88,200	
Goombargana			\$126,000	
Walla Walla			\$72,500	
Albury	\$80,000			
Back Creek		\$35,000		
Cookardinia		\$35,000		
Garryowen		\$30,000		
Total	\$80,000	\$100,000	\$286,700	\$466,700
2011/2012				
Walbundrie			\$114,000	
Billabong West			\$126,000	
Albury	\$215,000			
Back Creek		\$30,000		
Cookardinia		\$30,000		
Garryowen		\$30,000		
Total	\$215,000	\$100,000	\$240,000	\$555,000

Financial Assistance Grant

Financial Assistance Grant funding has been increased by 2% which is in line with previous annual adjustments.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
To BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2009/2010
[CONT'D]

Water and Sewerage Funds

All Councils in NSW are required to comply with the "Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines" issued by the Department of Water & Energy. Council implemented Best Practice Pricing for the first time in the 2006/07 Financial Year, and it is also proposed to continue with the philosophy of Water and Sewerage Best Practice Pricing Principles in 2009/2010.

It is proposed that the following Water Access and Consumption charges apply for 2009/2010.

1. Villages Water Scheme Residential Access Charge increase from \$130 to \$150 p.a.
2. Villages Water Scheme Non-Residential Access Charges increase by \$20 across all meter sizes.
3. Village Water Scheme Usage Charge increase from \$1.00 per kl for first 200kl, and \$1.40 per kl thereafter to \$1.10 per kl for first 200kl, and \$1.50 per kl thereafter.
4. Culcairn Water Scheme Residential Access Charge increase from \$80 to \$90 p.a.
5. Culcairn Water Scheme Non-Residential Access Charges increase by \$10 across all meter sizes.
6. Culcairn Water Scheme Usage Charges increase from \$0.70 per kl for first 200kl, and \$0.90 per kl thereafter to \$0.80 per kl for first 200kl, and \$0.95 per kl thereafter.

It is proposed that the following Sewer Access and Consumption charges apply for 2009/2010.

1. Burrumbuttock Sewer Access Charge increased by \$10 for Residential and Non-residential connections.
2. Jindera Sewer Access Charge increased by \$10 for Residential and Non-residential connections.
3. Holbrook Sewer Access Charge increased by \$10 for Residential and Non-residential connections.
4. Henty Sewer Access Charge increased by \$10 for Residential and Non-residential connections.
5. Culcairn Sewer Access Charge increased by \$15 for Residential and Non-residential connections.
6. Walla Walla Sewer Access Charge increased by \$20 for Residential and Non-residential connections.
7. All Non-residential usage charges remain unchanged.

Full details of Water and Sewerage charges are detailed in the Revenue Policy.

Waste Management

In accordance with Council's adopted Waste Management Strategy, it is proposed that the Waste Management Charge will remain unchanged \$170.00 per annum. Full details of other waste management charges are detailed in the Revenue Policy.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2009/2010
[CONT'D]

Budget projections for the Waste Management function for 2009/2010 are consistent with current operating costs and are within the original 2009/2010 projection.

Major expenditure items include:

- \$150,000 from reserve for Mullengandra Transfer Station purchase and construction.

- \$8,000 from reserve for relocation of scrap metal storage and fencing at Brocklesby Landfill.

Charges on Overdue Rates

It is proposed that Council adopt the interest rate of 9% per annum on overdue rates and charges as permitted by the Local Government Act.

Fees and Charges – Schedule included in Management Plan

Council can charge and recover an approved fee for any service that it provides other than a service provided on an annual basis for which it may make an annual charge.

Fees and charges for services provided are determined by three methods:

- Statutory Fees – where the amount of the charge is legislated.
- User pays cost recovery – where the fee as far as possible is set to recover the cost of the good or service provided and
- Community Service Obligations – where the cost of the good or service provided may be discounted by the Council's determination that it has a community service obligation in respect of the provision of a particular good or service.

Private Works

Private works are carried out on a commercial basis and prices charged reflect the investment of labour and plant utilised. A charge for supervision and administration is also charged.

Debt Recovery

Efficient and effective debt recovery procedures will be pursued in order to minimise the impact of outstanding debts on Council's financial position. Debtors will be advised of the likelihood of additional legal costs prior to the commencement of any legal action.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2009/2010
[CONT'D]

Loan Borrowings

The following external loan borrowings are proposed in the 2009/2010 – 2011/2012 Draft Management Plan:

1. \$500,000 in 2009/2010 and \$500,000 in 2010/2011 to fund the development of streetscape improvements in a number of towns within Greater Hume Shire.
2. \$300,000 in 2009/2010 to fund the construction of a Multi Service Outlet building in Jindera that will be the administrative centre of a number of community support functions servicing the Greater Hume area.

CONCLUSION

The modest 2009/2010 Budget surplus reflects the significant organisational changes that continue to be undertaken. A number of one-off but necessary projects have been included in the budget, as have a number of project assessments that will provide Council with plans and designs for a number of major infrastructure projects that will be of great benefit to the residents of Greater Hume Shire.

Council has until 31 July 2009 to formally make its rates and charges for 2009/2010 by resolution. However, prior to making the rates, Council must first place on public exhibition its Draft Management Plan and Revenue Policy for a period of 28 days with a view to subsequent adoption before 30 June 2009.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. the 2009/2010 Draft Management Plan incorporating Estimates of Income and Expenditure for Council's General, Sewerage and Water Supply be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days commencing Monday 25 May 2009.
2. a Council Workshop be held on Wednesday 26 August 2009 to examine the benefits / impacts of alternative rating structures for Greater Hume Shire Council.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

3. FRIENDS OF THE IAN GEDDES BUSH WALK COMMITTEE

Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager - Suzanne Klemke

Reason for Report

Council is in receipt of correspondence from the Friends of the Ian Geddes Bush Walk Committee requesting Council give consideration to the status of the committee. A copy of the correspondence is attached at **ANNEXURE 6**.

Discussion

The Friends of the Ian Geddes Bush Walk Committee was established as a Committee of Council under Section 355 of the Local Government Act (1993) and was delegated functions as detailed in the Committee's "Terms of Reference".

The Friends of the Ian Geddes Bush Walk Committee has advised it no longer functions within the guidelines of the Terms of Reference. The committee no longer meet on a regular basis, does not elect Office Bearers and is not a formalised group. The Committee has advised that they are simply a group of individuals who volunteer at the facility when Council is undertaking maintenance of the walking track.

As the Committee has indicated, they are limited in the functions they are able to provide as a Section 355 Committee of Council and in accordance with Section 377 of the Local Government Act 1993 it was determined that the most appropriate course of action is for the control and management of the facility to be handed back to Council.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council terminate the delegations to the Friends of the Ian Geddes Bush Walk Committee and formally hand back the care, control and management of the bush walk to Greater Hume Shire Council.

RECOMMENDATION

The delegations vested to the Friends of the Ian Geddes Bush Walk Committee be revoked and that the Friends of the Ian Geddes Bush Walk Committee under section 355 of the Local Government Act 1993 be removed from Council's register of committees appointed under Section 355 of the Local Government Act 1993.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

4. SIGNING OF GOODS AND SERVICES TAX CERTIFICATE

Report prepared by Director Corporate & Community Services – David Smith

REASON FOR REPORT

To seek a resolution from Council that the annual Goods and Services Tax Certificate be signed under the common seal of Council.

DISCUSSION

As has previously been reported to Council, taxation legislation dictates that Council sign an annual Goods and Services Tax Certificate in relation to the payment of GST for the period 1 May 2008 to 30 April 2009. A copy of the 2008/2009 Certificate is attached as **ANNEXURE 7**.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct budget implications associated with this matter.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council authorise the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and the Responsible Accounting Officer to execute the goods and services tax certificate to confirm compliance with section 114 of the Commonwealth Constitution.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

5. GEROGERY COMMUNITY CENTRE COMMITTEE (ROSE COTTAGE)

Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager - Suzanne Klemke

REASON FOR REPORT

Council is in receipt of correspondence from the Gerogery Community Centre Committee (Rose Cottage) advising Council the Committee has resolved to relinquish their delegations and responsibilities as a Management Committee of Council in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993.

DISCUSSION

Greater Hume Shire currently has a lease over the Assistant Station Masters Residence building at Gerogery from Australian Rail Track Corporation until 2020. The current annual rental of the building is \$490.94.

A report was presented to Council's Ordinary Meeting held on 17 August 2005 in relation to the care and control of the building whereby it was resolved to delegate care, control and management of the "Rose Cottage" to the Gerogery Community Centre Committee under Section 355 of the Local Government Act.

Council is now in receipt of correspondence from the Committee advising that they are unable to continue raising funds to maintain the building in a reasonable condition and to provide funds for the cost of utilities. The Committee has also advised that the existing committee was unable to continue in its current capacity and it had proven difficult to recruit new members from the community.

In response to this recent correspondence, a meeting was held with the Gerogery Community Centre Committee (Rose Cottage) and Council's Corporate Services Manager to discuss the future management of the facility. As a result of the discussions that took place, it was determined that the control and management of the facility should be handed back to Council.

Given that Council has a lease over the building (Assistant Station Masters Residence) from Australian Rail Track Corporation until 2020 it is considered prudent that Council commence negotiations with Australian Rail Track Corporation regarding the future management of Rose Cottage.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

Additional maintenance costs likely unless Council can negotiate the termination of the lease.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council support the request of the Gerogery Community Centre Committee (Rose Cottage) and care and control of the facility revert to Greater Hume Shire Council.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

GEROGERY COMMUNITY CENTRE COMMITTEE (ROSE COTTAGE) [CONT'D]

RECOMMENDATION

1. The delegations vested to the Gerogery Community Centre Committee (Rose Cottage) under the Section 355 of the Local Government Act 1993 be revoked and that the Gerogery Community Centre Committee (Rose Cottage) be removed from Council's register of committees appointed under Section 355 of the Local Government Act 1993.
2. That Council commence negotiations with Australian Rail Track Authority regarding the future management of Rose Cottage – Assistant Station Masters Residence.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

ENGINEERING

1. JINDERA FLOOD STUDY

Report prepared by Director Engineering – Greg Blackie

REASON FOR REPORT

To report on findings of the Jindera Flood Study completed by GHD Pty Ltd.

DISCUSSION

Following localised flooding events at Jindera in September 2005 and February 2008, Council engaged consultants to investigate the issues relating to the flooding that occurred, as well as investigate broader drainage / mitigation issues on the southern side of Jindera.

The study encompassed the following tasks:

- *Identification of the design flows for all the major flood flow paths at Jindera;*
- *Identification through detailed hydraulic analysis of the discharge capacity of the Watson Street Drain to Bowna Creek and the Pioneer Drive Drain to Molkentin Road;*
- *Recommendations as to the future implementation of retarding basins in the catchments south of Jindera based on a detailed assessment of their flood mitigation benefits;*
- *An assessment of other structural flood mitigation options in place of or in addition to the retardation basin strategy; and*
- *Identification of potential water quality improvements measures.*

The summary / recommendations from the completed report are attached at **ANNEXURE 8**.

In general the report indicated that the storm event that took place at Jindera on 3 February 2008 was a severe but very localised event.

As reported to Council in February 2008 there were:

- Reports of 100mm of rainfall in a single one hour period.
- That property damage was incurred in the south eastern and south western parts of Jindera.
- The severity of flooding was greatest within the drainage lines collecting runoff from the catchment areas south of Jindera (i.e. Watson Street Drain and Pioneer Drive Drain) - see **ANNEXURE 8**.

From the study it was determined the 100 year average recurrence interval (ARI), 1 hour duration design storm rainfall at Jindera, is 51mm. The equivalent severity of 100mm within a one hour period is well in excess of 100 years ARI. However it was probable small localised areas may have been subject to rainfall of this severity, but the broader catchment experienced far less severe rainfall.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

JINDERA FLOOD STUDY [CONT'D]

Pioneer Drive

Most concerns from the February 2008 event were centered on Pioneer Drive. The study details the following

"Flooding Problems in the February 2008 event would appear to have been largely caused by the uncontrolled discharge of flows from a depression draining to Pioneer Drive 100 metres west of Jindera Street down both Jindera Street and eastwards down Pioneer Drive. This was caused by the absence of drainage infrastructure to convey flows to the Watson Street Drain."

As stated the extra flow from this depression along with flows from within the "Pioneer Drain Catchment" itself, was the major factor that caused the flooding that occurred along Pioneer Drive

The study also identified a farm dam immediately upstream of Pioneer Drive (in the Watson Street Drain Catchment) which overflowed on its north eastern corner contributing to flooding in Pioneer Drive Catchment and subsequently Pioneer Drive east of Jindera St, due to insufficient spillway capacity.

Recommended measures to alleviate the flooding problems detailed in the study include the installation of a culvert under Pioneer Drive to ensure flows are directed from the depression to the Watson St Drain. It is to be noted Council has constructed a temporary levee at the intersection of Jindera St and Pioneer Drive to partially accommodate this problem.

Also that modifications are carried out to the farm dam to ensure overflows are contained within its primary spillway thereby ensuring flows from the dam are contained to the Watson Street Drain Catchment.

These works are considered a high priority.

Molkentin Rd / Urana Rd

The report has indicated that there is insufficient capacity in the road side drain on the northern side of Molkentin Rd to take flows from the Pioneer Drive Drain (Drain flowing under Urana St/ Molkentin intersection) to the downstream creek outlet (near Dight St Road Reserve). This is due to the insufficient width of the road reserve and small diameter driveway culverts on the northern side of Molkentin Road.

The report recommends "Upgrade the existing Pioneer Drain in the vicinity of the Urana Street / Molkentin Road intersection and continue the drain through to the downstream creek outlet via the adopted route". Route options are shown on figure 6 contained in **ANNEXURE 8**.

It is clear any upgrading of the drain in this area will require works associated with private land. Considerable planning is needed to ensure the most appropriate solution is implemented.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

JINDERA FLOOD STUDY [CONT'D]

Planning of this work is considered a high priority.

Jindera St

Definition of the drainage path from the existing drainage culvert west of Pioneer Drive to the floodway entrance at the discontinued section of Jindera Street is considered a high priority. Completion of works in the near future is not considered essential due to minimal impact at this time on properties, however, planning of the drainage path is considered essential to any future development in this area.

Watson St Drain

The report has confirmed the capacity of the Watson St Drain to be sufficient in most areas. Some minor upgrade works are proposed at the Adam St road crossing in the report but are not considered a priority over other works recommended.

Retarding Basins

The report states:

The following recommendations are made in relation to the use of retarding basins south of Jindera to mitigate flooding impacts within the town:

- *A retarding basin constructed on the main creek route 800metres downstream of the Bungowannah Road is not recommended as any flood reduction benefits achieved are considered to be outweighed by the cost of the basin;*
- *Drainage easements on the main creek route either side of Bungowannah Road should be retained to allow for the siting of retarding basins, if needed, to negate the impact of possible future development within the upstream catchment; and*
- *A retarding basin at a five hectare site located south of Hueske Road will effectively negate the impact on downstream flows of a potential 260 hectare rezoning and associated development whilst also having the potential to further reduce existing condition flows. The basin should be designed to ensure outflows continue to be directed into the Molkentin Middle catchment thereby bypassing the Jindera township.*

It is clear from the study the construction of large scale retention basins south of Jindera are not cost effective unless they are associated with higher density developments such as the development proposed on Hueske Road.

Other Recommendations

The study also recommends that:

- Water quality improvements through the incorporation of a wetland with the proposed construction of a retarding basin at Hueske Rd and also the construction of a wetland in the woodland area west of Jindera St. Both of these proposals will be considered as development takes place.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

JINDERA FLOOD STUDY [CONT'D]

- Establishment of a streamflow / rainfall recording station for Bowna Creek at Jindera was also suggested
- The requirement of minimum floor levels for new dwellings and provision of overland flow paths was also considered a priority for implementation.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

As stated in the study, certain works are considered a high priority and are recommended to be implemented in the near future to ensure effects of future rain events as experienced in 2005 and 2008 are mitigated. Other works will require significant planning as they involve works on privately owned land, and require considerable levels of funding. The remainder will require integration as further development of the catchment areas takes place.

The immediate high priority works involving the installation of an additional culvert under Pioneer Drive west of Jindera St including associated roadworks is recommended to be included as an additional item in 09/10 management Plan. Works are estimated to cost \$50-\$60,000.

CONCLUSION

The Jindera Flood Study is a comprehensive document that has analysed the impact of significant rainfall events on the Jindera township. It has provided a list of recommendations that will help mitigate the effect of flooding from catchments south of Jindera, and prioritised their implementation subject to their importance, and impact on Jindera.

Council can now utilise the information contained with the report to plan further works, and manage the drainage impacts of future development within the southern catchments of Jindera

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the Jindera Flood Study as submitted, and include an additional item in the 09/10 Management Plan of \$60,000 for the installation of an additional culvert under Pioneer Drive west of Jindera Street as recommended and further implement other recommendations as resources permit.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

2. CHALMER'S CHURCH COOKARDINIA

Report prepared by Director Engineering – Greg Blackie

REASON FOR REPORT

The Chalmers Church Restoration Committee has written to Council requesting approval from Council to install gates across the public roadway near Chalmer's Church, Cookardinia. A copy of the correspondence is attached as **ANNEXURE 9**.

DISCUSSION

The installation of gates on public roads are generally not approved as they represent a large public liability risk to Council, by their existence on the road corridor. It is to be noted Public roads must be accessible at all times to the general public as described in provisions of the Roads Act.

The installation of gates normally implies that they will be closed at certain times. In this specific case the Committee is only expecting to close them 2% of the time when crash grazing the surrounds of the Church, and will not be locked.

The Committee has requested the installation of the gates to reduce ongoing maintenance by not having to maintain a fence surrounding the Church, as well as improving the outlook of the church by removing the existing dilapidated fence.

It is noted that this road is a dead end road which allows access only to the Church, cemetery, and one landholder. It is advised in the letter from the committee that the Landholder Mr Colin Black has no objection to the installation of the gates.

Normally refusal of installation of gates on public roads would generally apply; however, due to the low volumes of traffic expected on this road and the limited time the gates would be closed, approval of the installation is considered appropriate.

It is suggested that approval should include the requirements that the gates are never locked and that additional reflective signage is installed on the gate to ensure it is visible to drivers.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil, as all the costs are to be met by the committee.

CONCLUSION

As this is a unique request, and has mitigating issues in relation to the installation of the gates, it is considered appropriate to approve the installation of the gates with the condition that additional reflective signage is installed on the gates and that the gates are never to be locked.

RECOMMENDATION

That approval be given to the Chalmers Church Restoration Committee to install gates on the public road accessing Chalmers Church, Cookardinia as detailed in correspondence with the additional conditions that additional reflective signage be installed on the gates and that the gates are never to be locked.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

PART B – FOR INFORMATION

GOVERNANCE

1. DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT CIRCULARS [G.320.3]

REASON FOR REPORT

To ensure Councillors are updated with changes to legislation or the strategic direction of Local Government in NSW.

DISCUSSION

ENCLOSED SEPARATELY with the agenda is a listing of DLG Circulars No 15 to 18/2009. Copies of DLG Circulars are available from the website www.dlg.nsw.gov.au or alternatively by contacting Council.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONCLUSION

For Councillors' Information.

2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW (LGSA) – WEEKLY CIRCULARS [G.330.1]

REASON FOR REPORT

To ensure Councillors are updated with changes to legislation or the strategic direction of Local Government in NSW.

DISCUSSION

ENCLOSED SEPARATELY is a listing of Table of Contents of LGSA Weekly Circulars Issues 14 to 18. Copies of LGSA Weekly Circulars are available from the website www.lgsa.org.au or alternatively by contacting Council.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONCLUSION

For Councillors' Information.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. CUSTOMER REQUEST MODULE

A composite Customer Request Module report for February and March is **ENCLOSED SEPARATELY**.

2. STATEMENTS OF BANK BALANCES AS AT 30 APRIL 2009. COMBINED INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS AS AT 30 APRIL 2009

Attached, at **ANNEXURE 10**, are statements of bank balances as at 30 April 2009 and the summary of investments as at 30 April 2009.

ENGINEERING

1. APRIL REPORT OF WORKS

Grants Program

State Roads Maintenance:

Vegetation control has been completed on MR78 (Olympic Highway) and MR 284 (Tumbarumba Road).

Culvert inspection under RTA Works Order is continuing.

Regional Roads Block Grant:

Work has been completed on the widening and rehabilitation the pavement of MR331 (Walbundrie Road) between Brittas Reserve Road and Walbundrie.

Construction of a large culvert in conjunction with the reconstruction of pavement 26 kilometres east of Holbrook is continuing.

Local Roads

Sealed:

General patching has taken place on various roads throughout the Shire.

Culvert widening on Tunnel Road as well as road construction is taking place.

Gravel:

Due to the unavailability of water for road maintenance, very little grader work has taken place over the last month.

Kendalls Road , Shippards Road , Bahrs Road and Trebleys Road where graded were storm damaged occurred only.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

APRIL REPORT OF WORKS [CONT'D]

Gravel resheeting has taken place on Morven Gerogery (Coach Road)

General cleaning of drains has taken place.

Urban Streets

No reseals have been carried out in the month of April.

General

General maintenance of parks, gardens and public toilets has continued throughout the Shire.

ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

1. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS PROCESSED FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2009

Attached, at **ANNEXURE 11** is the schedule of development applications processed for the month of April 2009.

2. RANGER'S REPORT – APRIL 2009

Companion Animals

No. of Complaints Received		33 including 7 barking dog, 14 roaming dogs, 1 Attacking dog against sheep.	
No. of Dog attacks:	1	Location: Walla	1 dogs involved in incident with sheep. Sheep been bitten on legs and around neck. Unknown Brown dog. Investigation ongoing.
Comments:			
		Dogs	Cats
In Council's Facility at beginning of month			1
Captured & Returned to Owners		11	
Captured & Impounded		1	2
Released from Pound to Owners			
Surrendered by Owners			
Rehomed			1
Euthanized			1
Remaining in Council's Facility at end of month		1	1

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

RANGER'S REPORT [CONT'D]

Feral Cats

No. of Complaints:	4
No. Feral Cats caught:	10

Livestock

	Cattle	Sheep	Horses	Goats	Other
No. of Reports of Stock on Roads	11	7	1		
Instances - Returned to owners	11	7	1		
Impounded					
Vehicle accidents involving stock					

Other Livestock, wildlife complaints

3 Kangaroos hit by motor vehicles throughout the council area.
All euthanized and taken to the landfill.

Abandoned Vehicles

2 abandoned vehicles remain impounded.
2 vehicles moved by owners within Holbrook and Culcairn townships.

Other Vehicle Incidents

Pollution and Environmental Incidents: 1 Fire incident Culcairn. 1 Bag of rubbish on roadway.	
Inspection conducted: Dumped Rubbish	Investigation of owner of rubbish, no owner identified, rubbish removed by Council employee
Pollution: Fire	Investigated burning of rubbish causing large amounts of pollution. NSWFB attended twice for same incident in same day. Have issued verbal warning. Will continue to monitor property.

Overgrown Vegetation

A number of complaints regarding town blocks having overgrown vegetation, all blocks have now been cut.

Training/Seminar

Ranger attended Chemcert training for recertification in the handling and use of chemicals and the Regional Rangers seminar held in Deniliquin with over 25 other rangers attending. Speakers from the RTA, RSPCA, DPI and a professional dog trainer, topics included dangerous dogs, attacks, new standards and codes for pound and pet shop operators.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

3. SENIOR WEED OFFICER'S REPORT - MAY 2009

1. Noxious weed coordination grant for 2009/2010 has been completed and sent to Department of Primary Industries in Orange. A grant of \$70,000 on a dollar for dollar basis was applied for. This is the maximum allowable grant for Greater Hume Shire based on the 1.96 FTE (full time equivalent inspectors) as decided by DPI.
2. A summary and outline of planned weed control activities to be carried out by Council for the 2009/2010 period was sent at the same time.
3. The Senior Weeds Officer inspected the Holbrook Airpark for the purpose of carrying out rabbit control in and around the residences and hangars. A joint control effort will be conducted by Council and the Hume Animal and Pest Authority in the coming weeks. Harbour in the form of tyres and cement has been cleared from Council land and the warrens will be poisoned and filled in. A Pindone poisoning program will be conducted at the same time. All residents of the Airpark will receive a letter outlining when the control will take place and what actions they need to take.
4. The Senior Weeds Officer attended the Riverina Alligator Weed Task Force meeting held recently in Griffith. The main outcome from this meeting was that DPI is conducting trials on another chemical which will hopefully translocate from the leaves all the way to the smallest root hairs. The state aquatic weed coordinator also outlined the problems with Alligator Weed control in the north of the state with all the recent flooding.
5. Alligator Weed at Woomargama is still being inspected on a monthly basis. An area which had been free of the Alligator Weed this year has suddenly produced 12-15 plants which have since been pegged mapped, and poisoned. This area was free of Alligator Weed for around 15 months after the last spraying proving that inspections for Alligator Weed will be an ongoing program.
6. Due to the lack of rainfall and only 1 weed personnel present, only a minimal of control work has been carried out. Work completed was for Alligator Weed control, Khaki Weed along a number of roadsides and near the rail station in Culcairn.
7. During the month of April 2009, 30 property inspections have been completed. These were for Alligator Weed, Coolatai Grass, Prairie Ground Cherry, African Boxthorn, and Silverleaf Nightshade, Blackberry Sweet Briar and Black Willow. Landholders are reminded of their obligations to control Noxious Weeds even during the dry periods.
8. The National DrumMuster centre in Canberra has been advised of changes that are required on the website for Greater Hume Shire Council area.

These changes include the updating of the address and phone details and information on the Greater Hume Shire Council collection sites to be placed on both the REROC and Murray region map sites as the Shire covers parts of both regions. DrumMuster officers in Canberra agreed with this and will upgrade the Web site.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
To BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

SENIOR WEEDS OFFICER'S REPORT [CONT'D]

9. The upcoming DrumMuster will be carried out on Thursday 28 and Friday 29 May 2009.
10. The Senior Weeds Officer recently completed a funding application with the Murray Catchment Management Authority to control Horehound and Wild Olives in the Walbundrie area. This application was successful for both and will commence in July 2009. The Wild olives is a 1 year follow up program for work completed 18 months previously on the Walbundrie – Balldale Road (\$ 2,525.00).
11. The Horehound control work is a 3 year program to be carried out on the Walbundrie – Rand Road, Back Walbundrie Road and the Walbundrie – Corowa Road. (Year 1 - \$9,395.00, Year 2 - \$ 6,265.00 and Year 3 -\$3,334.00). All proposed work will be on roadsides with a medium to high conservation value.

4. WASTE UPDATE

REASON FOR REPORT

To update Council on waste activities within the shire.

DISCUSSION

(a) Albury Regional Waste Minimisation Strategy

As previously reported to Council, Albury City have resolved to develop the Albury Regional Waste Minimisation Strategy to prolong the life of the Albury Waste Management Centre through the implementation of a series of initiatives that include a public education program focussing on reducing waste generation at the source.

The Albury Regional Waste Minimisation Working Group has engaged Melbourne-based consultancy Kenmore-DMP to develop the *Waste Avoidance Vision for Environmental Sustainability in the Upper Murray Region (WAVES)*.

Kenmore-DMP is currently developing a survey to gauge community attitudes towards waste across the six councils using the Albury Waste Management Centre, and stakeholder interviews are also under way.

As advised previously, Murray Waste Management Group is contributing \$50,000 from its DECC grant funding to assist the development of the media-based public education campaign, which will then be available for roll-out across member councils from mid-2009.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

WASTE UPDATE [CONT'D]

An equitable funding formula for participating councils will need to be determined for those councils outside the working group. Greater Hume Shire Council's contribution is the \$2.50 per tonne going to the Albury Landfill (currently approximately 900 tonne per annum or \$2,250.00).

(b) National Waste Policy

The Federal Government, with the support of the Environment Protection and Heritage Council, has released a national waste policy consultation paper.

The draft policy has been described as an "aspirational document" that aimed to work across all public and private sectors to develop a policy framework to foster synergies between good environmental outcomes, innovation, job creation and Australia's long-term economic growth.

It also sought to identify best practice in waste management and resource recovery to ensure Australia has the right mix of incentives and regulation to achieve environmental, economic and community benefits from these activities.

Council should note that although a national policy, it held implications for local government because ultimately it would filter down to councils, who had responsibility for waste and land fill management.

The policy process is being managed by the National Waste Policy Taskforce in the Australian Government Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts.

Waste policy has not been considered in the national context since 1992.

The consultation paper is available at <http://www.environment.gov.au/wastepolicy> and submissions close on Wednesday 13 May 2009. REROC and RAMROC Waste Officers are preparing a submission.

(c) Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) and National Greenhouse Emissions Reporting Scheme (NGERS)

The CPRS and NGERS both have potential implications for waste management in local government.

Some of the major issues identified here:

- Councils captured by the scheme will be required to purchase permits for their carbon liability.
- Councils will need to determine/prove whether they are under or over the threshold for reporting.
- Under the CPRS, the trigger for a landfill is 25,000 tonnes of carbon equivalent emitted per annum (approximately one tonne of waste equals one tonne of carbon).

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
To BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

WASTE UPDATE [CONT'D]

- The trigger will be reduced to 10,000 tonnes if there is an active landfill within 41 km (this is the distance that has been discussed, the actual distance is yet to be determined) that is over the 10,000 tonne threshold then both landfills will be required to report under the scheme.
- Legacy emissions will be included in the scheme. Emissions from landfills that closed prior to 30 June 2008 will not be included.

It is unsure whether or not GHSC will be captured by the scheme, given that its landfills are below the identified thresholds. The main concern is the "proximity" provisions, ie the distance from Wagga Wagga and Albury landfills that exceed the thresholds.

Council should also note that changes have already been made to the proposed scheme and include:

- The commencement date, initially 1 July 2010, has been pushed back 12 months to 1 July 2011.
- The price per permit, initially capped at \$40.00, has been reduced to \$10.00.
- There is no limit on the number of permits that can be purchased.
- Permits purchased in the first year can only be used in the first year.

(d) Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection

REROC Waste Group is again providing a Household Hazardous Waste Collection for its member Councils (see Table below):

REROC COLLECTION SUMMARY - 2009									
1 st Week Campaign by Chemsal Sydney					1 st Week Campaign by Chemsal Melbourne				
Day	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Date	15 June	16 June	17 June	18 June	15 June	16 June	17 June	18 June	19 June
Event Locations	West Wyalong	Temora	Cootamundra	Gundagai	Corowa	Urana	Holbrook	Tumut	Tumbarumba
2 nd Week Campaign by Chemsal Sydney									
Day	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat					
Date	24 June	25 June	26 June	27 June					
Event Locations	June	Lockhart	Coolumon	Wagga Wagga					

GHSC's collection will be at the Holbrook Depot, Young Street Holbrook between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

WASTE UPDATE [CONT'D]

This collection allows residents to safely and legally dispose of unwanted chemicals like:

- Paints and varnishes
- Paint thinners and strippers
- Out of date medicines
- Arsenic and mercury
- Garden pesticides, fungicides and herbicides
- Household and pool cleaning chemicals and poisons.

As per previous years, Council will be responsible for advertising and promoting the collection with resource materials supplied by REROC.

(e) Jindera Transfer Station – Work Trial

Council, in partnership with Advanced Personnel Management (APM) and WorkCover NSW, is participating in a Work Trial Program at the Jindera Transfer Station.

A Work Trial is a short period of work experience as part of an occupational rehabilitation program. It is a WorkCover NSW initiative aimed at helping injured workers or “trainees” to maintain or regain full employment. An injured worker receives no payment from the host employer (ie Greater Hume Shire Council) during the work trial.

The maximum period of time for a Work Trial is twelve (12) weeks.

Benefits for Injured Workers

Injured workers will benefit from Work Trials by:

- Gaining practical work experience and training in a new job. This will often be complemented by formal training.
- Having an opportunity to upgrade their physical fitness through selected work activities.
- Demonstrating to a potential employer their ability to do the job.

Benefits for Host Employers

As a host employer Council will benefit from Work Trials by:

- Being able to train a potential employee without financial outlay.
- Contributing to the retraining and placement of an injured worker and so to the containment of workers compensation costs in NSW.
- Helping to build a positive perception of Council.
- Some employers, especially small employers will benefit from entering into co-operative arrangements with other employers to share suitable duties and rehabilitation arrangements.

It is hoped that the Work Trial will be helpful in the trainee re-entering the workforce in the near future.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

WASTE UPDATE [CONT'D]

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONCLUSION

For Council's information.

5. SCRAP METAL COLLECTION

REASON FOR REPORT

To update Council on collection and disposal of metal waste at its landfills and transfer stations.

DISCUSSION

Background

In 2007 Council participated in the Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) Resource Sharing Project for the Collection and Disposal of Metal Waste. The Tender was awarded to WKJ Metal Brokers of Corowa with a price of \$180.00 per tonne plus GST.

This contract expired in March 2009 and REROC have not sought a similar contract from scrap steel merchants given the very low price offered for scrap metal at that time.

Due to the build up of scrap metal at some of Council's landfill sites and transfer stations a one-off collection is necessary. Two quotes were obtained for removal of the scrap metal. Removal has been arranged with Metals Trading (formerly WKJ Metal Brokers) at a reduced price of \$100.00 per tonne. Scrap metal collection at all waste facilities should be completed by the end of May.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Given the lower price per tonne for scrap metal the predicted budget amount may not be reached.

CONCLUSION

For Council's information.

RECOMMENDATION

That Part B of the Agenda be received and noted.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR STREET, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2009**

PART C – COMMITTEE REPORTS

Attached, as **ANNEXURE 12**, are minutes/notes of the following Committee Meeting:

- Minutes of Culcairn Community & Business Forum Meeting held on 20 April 2009
- Minutes of Henty Community Development Committee Meetings held on 7 April 2009 and 5 May 2009
- Minutes of the Walla Walla Community Development Committee Meeting held on 2 March 2009.

RECOMMENDATION

That Part C of the Agenda be received and noted.