

To: «Name»

Ordinary Meeting of Greater Hume Council

Wednesday, 20 May 2020

NOTICE is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of the Greater Hume Council will be held at Community Meeting Room, Library Complex, Library Court, Holbrook, commencing at 6.00pm.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions regarding gatherings and the need to comply with social distancing measures, all Council meetings will be held at Holbrook Library Complex until further notice.

Also due to COVID-19 restrictions, and until further notice, residents will not be able to attend the Public Forum in person. However, should residents have an issue they wish to bring before Council, they can provide a written statement which will be distributed to councillors, and read out prior to the commencement of the meeting. Any written statement should be provided to Council by 5pm on the day preceding the meeting.

Residents will not be able to attend meetings in person. Council live streams meetings so that the public may view the proceedings of the meeting in real time or later. View the recording of the meeting at https://bit.ly/35uKFxX

STEVEN PINNUCK
GENERAL MANAGER

ORDER OF BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED REFER OVERLEAF

Ordinary Meeting of Greater Hume Council

Wednesday, 20 May 2020

In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice, this Council Meeting is being recorded and will be placed on Council's webpage for public information.

All present today are reminded that by speaking you are agreeing to your view and comments being recorded and published. You are also reminded that, if or when speaking, you are to be respectful to others and use appropriate language. Greater Hume Council accepts no liability for any defamatory or offensive remarks or gestures during this Council Meeting.

BUSINESS:

- 1. OPENING THE MEETING
- 2. PRAYER
- 3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

"I would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Wiradjuri people, and pay my respect to elders both past, present and emerging".

- 4. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS
- 5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
 - Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council 15 April 2020
 - Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Council 6 May 2020
- 6. ACTION REPORT FROM THE MINUTES
- 7. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS
- 8. MAYORAL MINUTE(S)
- 9. NOTICES OF MOTIONS
- 10. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

PART A For Determination

- Environment and Planning
- Governance
- Corporate and Community Services
- Engineering

PART B To Be Received and Noted

Governance

PART C Items For Information

- Governance
- Corporate and Community Services
- Engineering
- Environment and Planning

PART D For Information

- 11. MATTERS OF URGENCY
- 12. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CONFIDENTIAL CLOSED COUNCIL REPORT
- 13. CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

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OFFICERS' REPORTS – PART A - FOR DETERMINATION ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

1. POLICY DEVELOPMENT – DRAFT GREATER HUME COUNCIL MOBILE FOOD VENDING IN PUBLIC PLACES POLICY

Report prepared by Director Environment and Planning - Colin Kane

REASON FOR REPORT

This report will provide to Council the Draft Greater Hume Council Mobile Food Vending in Public Places Policy (the Policy) which has been prepared to provide parameters to guide Council in the assessment of applications for mobile food vending activities on Council controlled land. The report will provide details as to why there is a necessity for the preparation of the Policy, it will be recommended that the policy be placed on exhibition in accordance with section 160 of the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act) and that a trial of the policy occur until 30 June 2021.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Nil

DISCUSSION

Recently there has been increasing interest from parties who wish to sell food from stationary Mobile Food Vending Vehicles located in a Council controlled public space such as a park or roadway. This interest has intensified since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic with some people likely considering new business opportunities.

In some instances, several parties commenced trading after making initial approaches to Council with enquiries concerning mobile food vending. Council's Environmental Health Officer had undertaken health inspections of some vehicles however, no approvals to trade were issued.

Section 68 of the Act contains details of various activities that can generally only be undertaken with the prior approval of Council and Section 68 Part F(7) requires approval to "Use a standing vehicle or any article for the purpose of selling any article in a public place."

Previously there has been little interest in selling food from a Mobile Food Vending Vehicle and consequently, unlike other Councils, Greater Hume had not previously issued approvals under Section 68 Part F(7) of the Act or prepared a Local Approval Policy to support decision making associated with application for approval under Section 68 Part F(7) of the Act.

As mentioned, some parties started trading without approval under Section 68 Part F(7) of the Act and as a consequence Council received complaints concerning their activities. Since receiving complaints, Council staff have approached the traders and requested they cease selling food until all the necessary approvals have been obtained. They were advised that Council staff would prepare a Local Approvals Policy, which would contain the criteria Council would consider in determining whether to give or refuse an approval.

<u>POLICY DEVELOPMENT – DRAFT GREATER HUME COUNCIL MOBILE FOOD VENDING IN PUBLIC PLACES POLICY [CONT'D]</u>

The Policy (ANNEXURE 1) has been developed after considering similar policies from other Councils and the Office of Local Government Street Vending Policies. The Policy has the intent of seeing mobile food vending activities supplementing the service provided by local fixed businesses. Consequently, the Policy incorporates the following restriction pertaining to proximity to existing comparable premises:

Proximity to Existing Comparable Premises

No operating mobile food vendor is to be positioned within 200m of an operating food service premise or kiosk. This minimum distance requirement is measured in a straight line from the closest point of the food vehicle (location) to the main entrance of a food and drink premise, or kiosk, or boundary of a licensed event area.

In addition, mobile food vendors permitted under the Policy to operate from Council owned roads must not:

Operate within 200 metres of a food and drink premise or boundary of an event licensed or approved to occur on Council land (this includes sporting group canteens).

All the reviewed policies on street food vending contained a setback requirement from comparable premises and from events. Setback distances varied, however the maximum observed setback in other policies was a 200 metre distance. Consequently, to meet the intended aim of the Policy and therefore support existing fixed businesses, it was considered that this was an appropriate setback distance for the Policy.

As an additional measure to achieve the aim of mobile food vending vehicles supplementing fixed food vending businesses, Clause 4.1 of the policy restricts the operating hours as follows:

The use of Council-owned lands for the purpose of operating a mobile food vehicle is restricted to 6.00am-10.00pm each day but only for a maximum period of 5 hours inclusive of set up and pack up times. Mobile food vehicles are not to remain in any on-road location overnight.

There is considerable scope whereby mobile food vending activities can be undertaken on private land either with or without Council's development consent. Part 2 Subdivision 27 State Environmental Planning Policy – Exempt and Complying Development Codes 2008 provides exempt provisions. The Minister for Planning and Public Spaces has recently made the Environmental Planning and Assessment (COVID-19 Development –Takeaway Food and Beverages) Order 2020. The Order allows food trucks to operate on any land at any time, with the landholder's permission.

Clause 3.2.1(d) of the policy indicates that "All approvals will be issued with an end date of the 30 June each year to enable an annual review and re-issue of approvals." If Council resolves to place the draft policy on exhibition, then under Section 160 of the Act the exhibition period must be no less than 28 days with submissions being received for not less than 42 days. This means that the earliest that Council could adopt the Policy and commence issuing approvals would be after the July 2020 Ordinary Meeting. The time period of the approval in clause 3.2.1 provides the opportunity for Council to trial the implementation of mobile food vending. The trial would effectively run from July 2020 to May 2021 wherein Council would receive a report on mobile food vending and then determine whether it will issue approvals from July 2021.

<u>POLICY DEVELOPMENT – DRAFT GREATER HUME COUNCIL MOBILE FOOD VENDING IN PUBLIC PLACES POLICY [CONT'D]</u>

The Section 68 approval fee under the Act would be an annual fee to use a standing vehicle or any article for the purpose of selling any article in a public place which is proposed to be \$350.00 per annum. This fee should be waived for charitable organisations.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Council will receive income from issuing approvals under Section 68 Part F(7) of the Act.

CONCLUSION

Council has experienced a sudden increase in parties that are interested in undertaking Mobile Food Vending within public areas of Council. It is considered that with appropriate control measures in place, there is the opportunity that these proprietors could supplement the food vending services that are provided by existing fixed food businesses. The report is advocating a trial period of 11 months wherein Council can ascertain the effects of permitting mobile food vending to occur in public areas within Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. in accordance with Section 160 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 1993 Council notify the Draft Mobile Food Vending in Public Places Policy for a period of 28 days and permit from the date of advertising a period of 42 days for submissions to be received.
- 2. Council resolve to amend the draft Greater Hume Council Fees and Charges 2020-2021 to include Section 68 Approval Fees Planning Part F(7) Use a standing vehicle or any article for the purpose of selling any article in a public place (fee waived for charitable organisations) of \$350.

GOVERNANCE

1. REVIEW OF OPERATIONS – RIVERINA JOINT ORGANISTION AND RIVERINA EASTERN REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS

Report prepared by General Manager - Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

For Council to consider the outcome of a review of operations or the Riverina Joint Organisation and Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTIONS

Nil

DISCUSSION

The concept of Regional Joint Organisations (JO's) was first canvassed with NSW local government in 2012 and became one of the key recommendations of the final report of the NSW Independent Local Government Review Panel (the Panel) released in October 2013.

The Panel believed that a fresh approach to State-local cooperation at the regional level should be pursued on the following basis:

- State government recognition of JOs as partner organisations for the purposes of joint strategic planning and project coordination, including in particular updating and implementation of the NSW 2021 State Plan and Regional Action Plans, as well as preparation and implementation of DP&l's Regional Growth Plans
- Appointment of at least one representative of each JO to the relevant Regional Leadership Group of State agencies
- Appointment of local government representatives on (Sub) Regional Planning Boards through JOs rather than individual councils.

Over the years there were several significant changes to the form of JO's; most notably that originally membership was to be mandatory whereas in the final determination by the State Government membership was voluntary. Whilst the majority of regional and rural council joined a JO there were some exceptions with Dubbo, Lithgow and some councils on the central coast declining to join a JO.

The REROC group of Council have always taken a proactive and supportive approach to the establishment of JO's even though the Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils had a track record of one of the most successful ROC's in NSW over more than two decades. This included nominating for and ultimately participating in a Joint Organisation pilot in 2015.

Council considered reports in December 2017 and February 2018 with regard to the formation of the Riverina Joint Organisation and at the February 2018 resolved the following:

In accordance with Part 7 of Chapter 12 of the Local Government Act 1993 (Act), the Greater Hume Shire Council resolves:

1. That the Council inform the Minister for Local Government (Minister) of the Council's endorsement of the Minister recommending to the Governor the establishment of a Joint Organisation (Joint Organisation) in accordance with this resolution.

<u>REVIEW OF OPERATIONS – RIVERINA JOINT ORGANISTION AND RIVERINA EASTERN</u> REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS [CONT'D]

- 2. To approve the inclusion of the Council's area in the Joint Organisation's area.
- 3. That the Joint Organisation be established to cover the Council's area and any one or more of the following council areas:
 - a) Bland Shire Council
 - b) Coolamon Shire Council
 - c) Cootamundra Gundagai Regional Council
 - d) Greater Hume Shire Council
 - e) Junee Shire Council
 - f) Lockhart Shire Council
 - g) Snowy Valleys Council
 - h) Temora Shire Council
 - i) Wagga Wagga City Council.
- 4. That, on the expiry of a period of 28 days from the making of this resolution, the General Manager provide the Minister:
 - a) with a copy of this resolution including the date on which Council made this resolution, and
 - b) inform the Minister that this resolution has not been rescinded, for the purpose of the Minister issuing a certificate under section 400P of the Act.

A copy of the February 2018 Council report is included as ANNEXURE 2 for Councillors' information.

At that time it was determined to retain REROC as an organisation and run the two organisations side by side until the success or otherwise of the JO could be measured. It should be noted that most Councils conceded that continuing with two organisation for an extended period of time was unlikely and most likely financially unsustainable. Therefore there was a commitment from member Councils to undertake a review of both after a period of twelve months of operations side by side.

In December 2019 the Boards of both organisations resolved to appoint Morrison Low to undertake an independent review. The Terms of Reference were as follows:

- 1. Identify the strengths and weaknesses of REROC and the RivJO; Measure and assess the compliance costs associated with the operation of both
- 2. Organisations:
 - a. Identify the compliance regimes that apply to each
 - b. Determine costs associated with compliance including staff time and resources
 - c. Identify benefits of the compliance regime for each organisation;
- 3. Determine the minimum operating costs for both Organisations;
- 4. Measure and assess the cost of duplication associated with running both Organisations side by- side;
- 5. Determine the most effective level of staff and resourcing for both Organisations;

<u>REVIEW OF OPERATIONS – RIVERINA JOINT ORGANISTION AND RIVERINA EASTERN</u> REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS [CONT'D]

- 6. Determine the opportunity cost of retaining both Organisations or losing one of them,
 - including the implications for the Member Councils and the communities they represent; and
 - Make recommendations on the most efficient and effective way to represent the
 constituent councils and their communities to deliver the outcomes of in the areas of
 strategic planning and advocacy, as well as operational activities that benefit the Member
 Councils and by extension their communities.
- 7. Make recommendations for future operations including structures and budgets including identifying any constraints to implementing the recommendations.

Morrison Low completed their independent review and presented to the RivJO Board meeting held on Thursday 23 April 2020. At the April RivJO Board meeting the Morrison Low Review report was carefully considered and it was determined seven votes to one vote (Wagga Wagga Council voted against) that the following way forward be adopted:

- a) Letter to each of the Member Councils advising of the resolution, requesting that the
 - 1. resolution be considered at their respective May council meetings for discussion and adoption of a resolution by the individual councils.
 - i. If the majority of councils do not support the recommendation then both Boards will need to return to the Morrison Low Report with a view to making a recommendation that does have the support of the membership.
- b) Cr Firman makes contact with local State Members of Parliament, Steph Cooke MP,
 - 2. Justin Clancy MP and Dr Joe McGirr MP to advise them of the adoption of the resolution and seek their support for the new direction.
- c) At the end of May, assuming that the majority of Members adopt the resolution, a delegation of Members approach the Minister for Local Government to seek her approval for the establishment of a Company Limited by Guarantee.
- d) Work commences on a Constitution for the new organisation.
- e) Assuming the Minister agrees to the establishment of the new organisation, we request direction as to the process by which Member Councils can resign from the JO.
- f) Both Boards meet in early June to finalise the decision.
- g) Member councils will continue to be informed as information comes to hand.

<u>REVIEW OF OPERATIONS – RIVERINA JOINT ORGANISTION AND RIVERINA EASTERN</u> REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS [CONT'D]

Major reasons for the RivJO Board resolving to move to a Company Limited by Guarantee is that JO's have not delivered the expected outcomes and whilst there have been some achievements including:

- Development of Regional Strategic Priorities
- Received a grant of \$150,000 to implement capacity building projects.
- Our interaction with other regional groupings of councils has increased through the JO Chairs'
 Forum. I think that we have probably become a bit better informed about the concerns across
 the State as a result.
- Greater support network for lobbying jointly with other JO's. It should be noted however that REROC regularly joined forces with CENTROC and RAMROC for lobbying for major projects or initiatives (e.g. Southern Lights).
- Access to Ministers through the JO Chairs' Forum.
- Possibly a stronger focus on advocacy.

A major disadvantage of the JO model is the high cost of compliance with the Local Government Act, 1993 for such a small organisation. Generally the same reporting and compliance regime applies to a JO with 1.5 employees that applied to a Council with several hundred employees, The model of establishing a company limited by Guarantee improves Governance when compared with the Incorporated Association model (which REROC currently works under) and has ASIC compliance requirements to ensure good governance but not to the onerous level contained within the Local Government Act.

It can be demonstrated that REROC has a higher level of achievement for in excess of two decades without the unnecessary duplication of compliance that is associated with an organisation created under the Local Government Act, 1993.

It was the Author's intention to recommend that Council endorse the 'Way Forward' as outlined in this report, however the recent stimulus announcement by the NSW State Government ties the stimulus package to Councils that are members of JO's, remaining in those JO's for a period of two years. It is extremely disappointing and unfair that the State Government would take this approach as not all rural Councils are members of JO's and metropolitan Councils were not able to establish JO's. These Councils are still eligible for the stimulus package.

Recently Cr Rick Firman, in his dual roles as Chairman of RivJO and REROC wrote to all member Councils advising of the outcomes of the review and the determination by both RivJO and REROC Boards. A copy of the correspondence from Cr Firman, a 'Questions and Answers' paper and the Morrison Low Review repot is also included as **ANNEXURE 2** for Councillors' information.

In the correspondence Cr Firman has asked that all Council's consider adopting the following resolution:

- Council provides 'in principle' support for the way forward determined in relation to the creation
 of a new organisation under a structure of a company limited by guarantee.
- A final decision on Council's participation in the new organisation be determined once the funding arrangements for the COVID-19 Local Government Stimulus package have been resolved.

The Author fully supports Cr Firman's request.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS – RIVERINA JOINT ORGANISTION AND RIVERINA EASTERN REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS [CONT'D]

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Prior to the establishment of the JO Council's contribution to REROC was \$22,362. It should be noted that Wagga Wagga Council were a member of REROC at this time. Following the establishment of the JO and Wagga Wagga Council withdrawing from membership of REROC, but being a member of RivJO Council's membership of both organisations in 2020/2021 will be \$47,856. However establishing a company limited by guarantee, potentially without Wagga Wagga as member, will result in Council's contribution falling to approximately \$39,750.

It is of significant concern however that the COVID-19 Local Government Stimulus package has been linked with Council's continuing membership of a JO for a further two years. As it stands if Council was to withdraw from the JO our contribution to the Emergency Services Levy would rise by \$199,988. Clearly this matter needs to be resolved before a final position on continuing membership of the Riverina Joint Organisation is made.

CONCLUSION

It is the Authors view that Greater Hume Council and all RivJO members have fully committed to the concept over the past 5 years with initially applying for and being accepted to run a pilot JO. It is clear that the model is regulatory burdensome with an extraordinary level of compliance for such a small organisation.

Unfortunately JO's have not delivered on the expectation of engendering a higher level of regional planning and cooperation between State and Local Government.

Greater Hume Council supported the overwhelming majority view of JO member Councils to seek ministerial approval to wind up the JO and move to a company limited by guarantee.

It is of significant concern however that the COVID-19 Local Government Stimulus package has been linked with Council's continuing membership of a JO for a further two years. As it stands if Council was to withdraw from the JO our contribution to the Emergency Services Levy would rise by \$199,988. Clearly this matter needs to be resolved before a final position on continuing membership of the Riverina Joint Organisation is made.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. Council provides 'in principle' support for the way forward determined in relation to the creation of a new organisation under a structure of a company limited by guarantee.
- 2. A final decision on Council's participation in the new organisation be determined once the funding arrangements for the COVID-19 Local Government Stimulus package have been resolved.

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. <u>EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY</u>

Report prepared by David Smith – Director Corporate & Community Services

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise Councillors of the increase in the Emergency Services Levy payable for Greater Hume Council for the 2020/2021 financial year.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Nil

DISCUSSION

The issue of the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) payable by NSW councils has been the topic of much debate over the past two years.

As Councillors would be aware, Councils received correspondence from Revenue NSW in May 2019, advising that Emergency Services Levy (ESL) Contributions will increase by \$19 million in 2019/20. In this correspondence, it was confirmed that Greater Hume Council's ESL for 2019/2020 was \$510,068 which represented an increase of \$97,689.70 on the 2018/2019 levy (a 23.69% increase). The correspondence also foreshadowed increases in the following year, i.e. 2020/2021. A Mayoral Minute was passed at the May 2019 Council Meeting calling on the NSW Government to fund the first 12 months of this extra cost, i.e. 2019/2020 and work with local governments to ensure the implementation of the funding mechanism is fairer into the future. Council further stated that without the commitment and support of the NSW Government, Greater Hume Council will be forced to initiate cuts to important community services and offer a reduced level of service to our rural communities. Many other councils across NSW adopted a similar position on this matter.

During the 2019/2020 year, the NSW Government agreed to assist councils meet the additional cost of the ESL and as a result the actual <u>net</u> cost to Council for ESL in 2019/2020 was \$430,405 after taking into account a one-off grant paid to all councils.

Throughout the development of the draft 2020/2024 budget, Councillors and senior staff have continued to have numerous discussions regarding the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) payable by Greater Hume Council. Unfortunately, preparations to present the draft budget and 2020/2021 Operational Plan to the Extraordinary Council Meeting convened on 6 May 2020 had been finalised prior to receiving the actual ESL invoice for the 2020/2021 year from Revenue NSW.

In developing the draft 2020/2024 budget, Council's budget estimates for the ESL were predicated on advice contained in a press release from the NSW Government dated Sunday 26 April 2020 whereby it was stated that part of the NSW Government's economic stimulus package for local government included "\$32.8 million to assist councils meet the cost of the FY 2020/21 increase in the ESL". Taking into consideration the wording in the press release and without the benefit of any further detail, Council prepared its draft budget on the assumption that the net cost to Council of the ESL would remain relatively unchanged year on year.

EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY [CONT'D]

On Friday 1 May 2020 Council received an invoice from Revenue NSW for the 2020/2021 ESL. The total invoice is \$1,008,842.20 being Rural Fire Service (RFS) contribution of \$933,705.00, State Emergency Service \$20,659.20 and NSW Fire & Rescue \$54,478.00. The RFS contribution represents the total contribution for the Hume Zone and will be apportioned \$634,919 to Greater Hume Council and \$298,786 to Albury City Council. That being the case, Greater Hume Council's total ESL for 2020/2021 will be \$710,056.

Further information regarding the support being provided to NSW councils has also been released and unfortunately, the NSW government's initial announcement that they would "assist councils meet the cost of the FY 2020/21 increase in the ESL" hasn't really materialised. The NSW Government are now advising that Councils will receive a grant to offset the amount that their ESL invoices have increased by between 2019/20 and 2020/21. As stated above, Greater Hume Council's 2019/2020 ESL invoice was \$510,068, but the net cost to Council, i.e. the amount that Council paid, was actually \$430,405 after taking into account the one-off grant received.

This effectively means that Council is not going to receive support to meet the actual <u>net</u> increase in the cost of the ESL year on year as the NSW package will only fund the increase between the ESL <u>invoices</u> year on year. Taking all that into account, the actual cost of the ESL for 2020/2021 will be \$510,068 which will mean that Council's draft budget (based on our assumptions from the original press release) will incur a negative impact of \$68,572.

The following table summarises the increases in the ESL over the past three financial years.

Financial Year	ESL Invoice Amount	Increase in ESL invoice amount	Actual Cost to Council net of One-Off Reimbursement	Increase Cost to Council Year on Year
2018/2019	\$412,379		\$412,379	
2019/2020	\$510,068	\$97,689.00 (23.7%)	\$430,405	\$18,026 (4.37%)
2020/2021	\$710,056	\$199,988 (39.2%)	\$510,068	\$79,663 (18.5%)
2021/2022 (Estimate)	\$760,056		\$760,056	\$250,000 (49.0%) Estimate

It is particularly disappointing to note that as late as Monday 4 May 2020, the Office of Local Government issued a "COVID-19 Council Update" which stated:

"ESL funding boost to local councils and communities

Local councils will be able to direct more funding into frontline COVID-19 response efforts and core community services with the NSW Government fully funding the local government increase in the emergency services levy (ESL) for 2020-21.

EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY [CONT'D]

Councillors' attention is drawn to the words "fully funding" in the above statement. Using the words "fully funding" is very misleading as this leads the reader to assume that the NSW Government will, in the words of the Office of Local Government, fully fund the local government increase in the emergency services levy (ESL) for 2020-2021. If that were the case, Greater Hume would be required to pay \$430,405 in 2020/2021, i.e. the amount Council actually paid in 2019/2020, and the NSW Government would "fully fund" a grant of \$279,651 being the difference between the ESL paid by Council in 2019/2020 and the 2020/2021 invoice amount of \$710,056.

However, this is not the case and Council will actually be required to pay an ESL contribution of \$510,068 for 2020/2021, an increase of \$79,663 or 18.5% on the amount paid for 2019/2020 ESL.

Whilst the impact on Council's 2020/2021 budget is concerning, the real worry is the issue that faces Council in the 2021/2022 year when the NSW government support is withdrawn and the ESL cost is indexed up again from the 2020/2021 total of \$710,056. The invoiced cost to Council of ESL increased \$199,988 from 2019/2020 to 2020/2021. Assuming another increase of only a quarter of that amount, the ESL payable in 2021/2022 could be \$760,000 or higher, a net increase of at least \$250,000 or 49% on the actual amount paid by Council in the 2020/2021 year. The total amount Council receives from a rate peg increase of 2.6% is approximately \$234,000 therefore, in comparative terms, Council's total rate peg increase for 2021/2022 will potentially not even cover the additional cost of the ESL, let alone contribute to the increase in the cost of materials, electricity, insurance and all of the other factors that make up Council's operating costs.

It is almost certain that Greater Hume Council, along with most other councils, will face a severe budget crisis in 2021/2022 as the sector grapples with the increasingly crippling cost of the ESL competing with the need to deliver essential services to our communities. It is incumbent on all councils to deliver a united message to the NSW Government that the increases in the ESL are unsustainable and that rural and regional communities in particular will suffer a reduction in critical services as councils are forced to fund ESL costs that are, guite frankly, out of control.

Given the critical importance of this matter, the General Manager has forwarded correspondence to the Member for Albury, Justin Clancy, detailing Council's concerns regarding the ESL as well other matters. A copy of the General Manager's correspondence is **ENCLOSED SEPARATELY** for the information of Councillors.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Based on the ESL invoiced amounts, the overall increase from the 2018/2019 to 2020/2021 financial years is \$297,677 or 72.2% in two years.

CONCLUSION

The actual cost to Council of the ESL has increased by \$18,026 in 2019/2020, \$79,663 in 2020/2021 and potentially at least \$250,000 in 2021/2022. It is incumbent on all councils to deliver a united message to the NSW Government that such increases in the ESL are unsustainable and that rural and regional communities in particular will suffer a reduction in critical services as councils are forced to fund unaffordable and unsustainable increases in ESL costs.

EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY [CONT'D]

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the General Manager's correspondence to the Member for Albury, Justin Clancy, regarding the increase in cost of the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) and that Council continue to advocate for a review of the unsustainable increases in the cost of the ESL to councils.

2. INTERIM 2019/2020 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

Report prepared by Chief Financial Officer - Dean Hart

REASON FOR REPORT

To present the Interim Budget Review as at 31 March 2020 in accordance with Section 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Nil

DISCUSSION

The Interim Budget Review as at 31 March 2020 is included as **ANNEXURE 3** for Councillors' perusal. The Budget Review, as presented, indicates that the projected 2019/20 cash deficit will be \$146,789 which represents a worsening of \$159,112 on the budget surplus of \$12,323 as at 31 December 2019.

The worsening budget position is primarily due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on a range of Council activities as well as the impact of record low interest rates on Council's investment returns.

The following table summarises these impacts:

Budget Area	Amount of Adjustment	Comment
Building & Town Planning	\$41,000	Reduction in revenue from Development Application fees, Building Inspection Fees and other associated income due to downturn in building activity.
Libraries and Community Halls	\$27,000	Loss of rental income for meeting room hire and hall hire due to closure of libraries and public halls to the community.
Tourism	\$12,000	Loss of revenue due to closure of the Submarine Museum and Visitor Information Centre.
Interest on Investments	\$85,000	Loss of revenue due to falling returns on Council's investment portfolio.
TOTAL	\$165,000	

INTERIM 2019/2020 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2020 [CONT'D]

OVERALL BUDGET REVIEW

Detailed below is a full review on a functional basis with comments. The commentary below provides an explanation of major variances (greater than \$5,000) except where offset within the same function.

GOVERNANCE

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Elected Members Expenses Satisfactory	Nil
Governance Expenses Satisfactory. Overall positive adjustment to budget.	5,593
Risk Management Budget adjusted for implementation of Drug & Alcohol testing regime across worksites.	-7,411
TOTAL GOVERNANCE	-1,818

ADMINISTRATION

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Corporate Services Administration Revenue from room hire and rental at council offices adjusted in response to COVID-19 closures. Telephone costs adjusted to reflect contract amendments and credits owing to Council for mobile phone charges and changes to internet charges. Legal expenses from Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates process brought to account.	14,476
Information Technology Services Savings in telephone charges transferred to Internet costs	-10,840
Employment On-Costs Satisfactory	Nil
Engineering Administration Revenue from road opening permits higher than budgeted	5,779
Depot Administration and Maintenance Satisfactory	Nil
Vehicle Hire Satisfactory	Nil
Plant Operations Satisfactory	Nil
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	9,415

INTERIM 2019/2020 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2020 [CONT'D]

PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Animal Control Satisfactory	3,673
Fire Services Satisfactory. Section 44 Emergency Claim being finalised to capture costs incurred in Green Valley Fire January 2020.	Nil
Emergency Services Satisfactory	Nil
TOTAL PUBLIC ORDER & SAFETY	3,673

HEALTH SERVICES

Function and comment		Projected Budget Variance \$
Health Administration Satisfactory		2,977
TOTAL HEALTH SERVICES		2,977

ENVIRONMENT

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Waste Management Tipping fees lower than budget however recycling	
income exceeded budget.	-4,220
Noxious Animals & Insects	
Satisfactory	Nil
Noxious Plants	
Satisfactory	Nil
Street Cleaning	
Satisfactory	Nil
Stormwater Maintenance & Drainage	
Satisfactory	Nil
TOTAL ENVIRONMENT	-4,220

INTERIM 2019/2020 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2020 [CONT'D]

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND EDUCATION

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Family Day Care No adjustment made to budget however final revenue received will require review at year end taking into account impacts of COVID-19 and the introduction of the Australian Government emergency funding program for childcare providers.	Nil
Henty & Walla Walla Centre Based Care Similar to Family Day Care above, revenue outcomes for the childcare centres will require reconciliation at year end. Additional sustainability funding of \$140k has been received.	Nil
Preschools Satisfactory	-1,295
Youth Services Satisfactory	Nil
Community Housing Satisfactory	Nil
Frampton Court Rental Units Satisfactory	Nil
Kala Court Rental Units Satisfactory	Nil
Kala Court Self-Funded Units Satisfactory	Nil
Aged Care Rental Units – Culcairn Satisfactory	Nil
Aged Care Rental Units – Jindera Satisfactory	Nil
TOTAL COMMUNITY SERVICES & EDUCATION	-1,295

INTERIM 2019/2020 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2020 [CONT'D]

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Street Lighting Satisfactory	Nil
Public Cemeteries Budget for maintenance costs increased, offset by higher than budgeted income	-3,886
Town Planning Budgeted revenue from DA fees and other related charges decreased significantly due to anticipated slowdown in building activity in the last quarter. Legal costs increased due to enforcement of hording complaints and preparation of Voluntary Planning Agreements.	-34,842
Public Conveniences Satisfactory	Nil
Council Owned Housing Satisfactory	Nil
Community Development Grants Satisfactory	Nil
Other Community Amenities Satisfactory	Nil
TOTAL HOUSING & COMMUNITY AMENITIES	-38,728

INTERIM 2019/2020 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2020 [CONT'D]

RECREATION AND CULTURE

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Public Halls Budget for revenue from hall hire reduced due to closure of halls as a result of COVID-19 restrictions.	-11,414
Libraries Budget for revenue from meeting room hire reduced due to closure of halls as a result of COVID-19 restrictions	-15,811
Museums Satisfactory	Nil
Swimming Pools The 2019-2020 pool season has concluded with overall budget projections being met.	1,026
Sporting Grounds & Recreation Reserves Maintenance budget increased to cover an anticipated increase in operational costs. Offset by reduction in budget for Urban Roads Maintenance	-10,000
Parks & Gardens Maintenance budget increased to cover an anticipated increase in operational costs. Offset by reduction in budget for Urban Roads Maintenance	-40,000
Other Cultural Services	
TOTAL RECREATION & CULTURE	-76,199

MINING, MANUFACTURING & CONSTRUCTION

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Building Control Budgeted revenue from building inspection fees and related charges decreased significantly due to anticipated slowdown in building activity in the last	-6,150
quarter. Quarries & Pits	
Satisfactory	Nil
TOTAL MINING, MANUFACTURING & CONSTRUCTION	-6,150

INTERIM 2019/2020 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2020 [CONT'D]

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$	
FAG Grant – Roads Component Satisfactory	Nil	
Urban Roads Local Budget offset against increased costs in Sporting Grounds and Parks operations	50,000	
Sealed Rural Roads – Local Satisfactory	Nil	
Sealed Rural Roads - Regional Satisfactory	Nil	
Unsealed Rural Roads - Local Increased maintenance costs on unsealed roads increased. Costs offset by budget allocation transferred from bridge maintenance area.	-95,000	
Bridges Satisfactory	95,000	
Kerb & Gutter Satisfactory	15,000 -15,000	
Footpaths Increased maintenance costs offset by budget allocation transferred from kerb and gutter maintenance area.		
Aerodromes Satisfactory	Nil	
Bus Shelters Satisfactory	Nil	
Ancillary Road Works Satisfactory	Nil	
State Roads RMCC Works Satisfactory.	Nil	
Natural Disaster Recovery Satisfactory.	Nil	
Road Safety Officer Satisfactory.	Nil	
TOTAL TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATIONS	50,000	

INTERIM 2019/2020 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2020 [CONT'D]

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
Jindera Medical Centre	
Satisfactory	Nil
Caravan Parks	
Satisfactory	2,551
Tourism Operations	
Satisfactory	Nil
Visitor Information Centre	
Satisfactory	-840
Submarine Museum	
Revenue budget adjusted due to closure of	
Submarine Museum and expected limited visitation	-12,271
for the remainder of the financial year.	
Economic Development	
Satisfactory	Nil
Community Development Projects	
Satisfactory	Nil
Real Estate Development	
Rental on council property postponed as a financial	
concession during COVID-19 period. Other areas	
adjusted to actual rental received to date.	-7,710
Operating and maintenance costs at Morgan's	
Lookout increased.	
Real Estate Sales	
Satisfactory	Nil
Private Works	
Satisfactory	-112
TOTAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS	-18,382

INTERIM 2019/2020 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2020 [CONT'D]

GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUES

Function and comment	Projected Budget Variance \$
FAG Grant – General Component	
Satisfactory	Nil
Interest on Investments	
Interest rates are at record low levels which has	
impacted on the rate of return Council is receiving	
on investments. This trend is expected to continue	-85,000
in the 2020/2021 year as advised to Councillors at	
the budget workshops.	
General Rates - Residential	
Budget adjusted to actual rates levied	6,104
General Rates - Farmland	
Budget adjusted to actual rates levied	1,336
General Rates – Business	
Budget adjusted to actual rates levied	-825
Extra Charges on Overdue Rates	
Satisfactory	Nil
TOTAL GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUES	-78,385

SUMMARY OF BUDGET VARIATIONS

SUMMARY OF BUDGET VARIATIONS	-159,112

WATER AND SEWERAGE

General income and expenditure figures appear to be satisfactory.

SUMMARY

Council's overall budget position has deteriorated as at 31 March 2020 primarily due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on a range of Council activities as well as the impact of record low interest rates on Council's investment returns. As has been the case in previous years, management will continue to monitor all income and expenditure areas closely to ensure budget integrity is maintained at year end.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note and approve the Interim Budget Review Statement as at 31 March 2020.

3. <u>LICENCE – LOT 169 DP 753730, URANA ROAD, BURRUMBUTTOCK – CROWN RESERVE 41865</u>

Report prepared by Manager Corporate Services – Suzanne Klemke

REASON FOR REPORT

For Councillors to consider Expressions of Interest received for the licencing of Lot 169 DP 753730, Urana Road, Burrumbuttock which was advertised in the Border Mail on Saturday 28 March 2020 and Saturday 4 April 2020 and closing on Thursday 23 April 2020.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Nil.

DISCUSSION

Recent advertising has resulted in the following Expressions of Interest being received for the licencing of Lot 169 DP 753730, Urana Road, Burrumbuttock. The area of land is 3.95ha.

Expression Of Interest	Amount Excluding Gst
Neil Fischer	\$550.00
Amanda & Mahir Fejzic	\$681.82

It would be reasonable for council to accept the Expression of Interest from Amanda & Mahir Fejzic in the amount of \$681.82 (ex GST) per annum taking into consideration their previous management of this parcel of land.

Amanda & Mahir Fejzic have been managing the property under a Crown Licence for two years and have maintained the property in accordance with Crown land management guidelines.

It is expected that the successful applicant will commence the term from 1 June 2020 for a period of twelve months terminating 31 May 2021.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

Slight increase in annual income.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that council accept the Expression of Interest from Amanda & Mahir Fejzic in the amount of \$681.82 (ex GST) per annum taking into consideration proven compliance with Crown land management guidelines and their dedication to ensure the continuation of such management of the land.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the Expression of Interest from Amanda & Mahir Fejzic in the amount of \$681.82 (ex GST) to enter in to a licence over Lot 169 DP 753730, Urana Road, Burrumbuttock, Crown Reserve 41865 for a period of twelve months commencing 1 June 2020 and terminating 31 May 2021.

4. <u>NATIVE TITLE MANAGERS ADVICE – UPGRADE OF EXISTING TOILET FACILITIES, WIRRAMINNA</u>

Report prepared by Manager Corporate Services/Native Title Manager – Suzanne Klemke

REASON FOR REPORT

For Council to consider the advice of the Native Title Manager for the upgrade of existing toilet facilities located on Crown Land, Burrumbuttock (Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre).

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Nil.

DISCUSSION

Proposed Act or dealing	Upgrade of existing toilet facilities	
Land	Lot 7006 DP 1052657	
Reserve Number	1039272	
	Community Purposes, Environmental Protection,	
	Public Recreation	

The existing toilet facilities have a footprint of 8sqm, however, the upgrade will see this footprint extended to 20sqm.

The proposed act will affect native title, however, it complies with the applicable provisions of the Native Title Act 1993 (NT Act). The act is a valid future act under Subdivision J of the NT Act and all notification and procedural requirements have been satisfied.

Notification to NTSCorp Limited and Albury & District Local Aboriginal Land Council was undertaken on 7 April 2020 with no objections being received.

Should native title be determined to exist, at some future date, Council may be liable for compensation under the provisions of Division 5 of the Native Title Act 1993 and the Section 8.4 of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 (CLM), for the effect on native title rights and interests by the proposed act.

This advice is only in relation to the Native Title Act 1993 and does not consider whether Council complies with the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983, the Council's management obligations under the Crown Land Management Act 2016, the Local Government Act 1993 or any planning or other approvals that may be required in order to carry out the relevant act or activity.

NATIVE TITLE MANAGERS ADVICE – UPGRADE OF EXISTING TOILET FACILITIES, WIRRAMINNA [CONT'D]

Basis of Advice

1. Status of the Land

1. Otatus of the Land		
Evidence of "relevant	37191 For Travelling Stock and Camping and Public Watering	
land"	Place 443 and Town Water Supply, Gazette dated 20 February	
	1904. The land is reserved land for which Council is Crown Land	
	Manager under the CLM	Act.
Evidence of Council as	Hume Shire Council as per Gazette dated 27 August 1937	
"Crown Land Manager"	whereby the land declared as town water supply in accordance	
	with section 68(3) and 69	Pastures Protection Act 1934.
	Addition to Reserve purpose and appointment of Crown Land	
	Manager pursuant to clause 3.3 of Part 3 Crown Land	
	Management Act 2016 in the Gazette published 5 July 2019.	
Evidence of land not being	Search of Native Title • No Determinations of Native Title	
"excluded land"	Register undertaken 2	No Indigenous Land Use Agreement
	April 2020	(ILUA)
		No Native Title Determination
		Applications
	No future act protection determination	
	No Section 24FA protection	
	No compulsory acquisition of Native Title	
	No Native Title Certificates	

2. Applicable subdivision of the future act regime

Subdivision J Applies	Satisfied?	Details
	Yes	There is an earlier act – Reserve gazette on or before
Valid Act $\sqrt{}$		23 December 1996
	Yes	The earlier act was valid – A reservation under sections 101 st Section of the Crown Lands Act 1884 and 39 th section of the Crown Lands Act 1889 was notified in Gazette dated 20 February 1904. Also, as a Public Watering Place under the Public Watering Places Act of 1900 notified in the Gazette dated 15 April 1904.
	Yes	The earlier act was done by the Crown
	Yes	Reserve for a particular purpose being
		Environmental Protection, Community Purposes and
		Public Recreation
	Yes	Construction consistent with the Reserve Purpose.

NATIVE TITLE MANAGERS ADVICE – UPGRADE OF EXISTING TOILET FACILITIES, WIRRAMINNA [CONT'D]

3. Consequences of Subdivision J

This subdivision requires notification and an opportunity for comment be given where the future act is a public work – extension to existing Shedding. Completed.

The act extinguishes any native title in relation to the land or waters on which the public work is situated and upon the commencement of works. *Note: the extinguishment of Native Title relates solely to the footprint of this act and does not extend to the entirety of the relevant Crown Reserve.*Native Title holders are entitled to compensation for the act in accordance with Division 5.

Council will likely be liable to indemnify the State for the whole of any amount of compensation payable by the State under the CLMA.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

Nil.

CONCLUSION

The proposed act will affect native title, however, it complies with the applicable provisions of the Native Title Act 1993 (NT Act). The act is a valid future act under Subdivision J of the NT Act and all notification and procedural requirements have been satisfied.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the report prepared by the Native Title Manager for the upgrade of the existing toilet facilities on Crown Reserve 1039272, Burrumbuttock.

5. NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK – 18 – 24 MAY 2020

Report prepared by Manager Community Services – Lynnette O'Reilly

REASON FOR REPORT

To acknowledge the invaluable contribution of Greater Hume volunteers as part of National Volunteer Week.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Objective: We create health, inclusive and resilient communities, acknowledge our volunteers and

value our youth

Outcome 2.2: We have services to promote and deliver health and wellbeing for all ages

DISCUSSION

National Volunteer Week is the annual celebration to acknowledge the generous contribution of volunteers. The theme for National Volunteer Week 2020 is "Changing Communities Changing Lives".

This year's theme is so pertinent to Greater Hume Council due to the impacts of drought, fires on ours and neighbouring communities and the lives and livelihoods of many of our residents and families. To be followed by the current COVID-19 situation change is unprecedented and it is now more important than ever to recognise and acknowledge the generous contribution and ongoing support of our many volunteers.

Many people contribute enormously to our communities and the 2016 Census results showed that people contribute through unpaid and volunteer work including 29.8% providing care for children and 13.6% assisting family members or others due to a disability, long term illness or problems related to old age. In the year before the Census, 33.4% of people did voluntary work through an organisation or a group. (Bureau of Statistics, 2019)

It is estimated that there are approximately 400 clubs, community groups, committees, events and service groups in Greater Hume. In order to highlight the significance of volunteering in our local communities, seven of groups have been identified below. Combined, these organisations have provided 239 years of service with 244 members volunteering their time and skills. Of particular note, Culcairn Red Cross is set to celebrate 85 years of service this year.

Given the current restrictions, an event is not able to be held to acknowledge the work of our volunteers, however we can provide formal acknowledgement and recognise the work of our many volunteers and the huge number of groups that have played an important part in their communities.

Volunteering is changing and post COVID-19 communities and lifestyle will be changed as there has been a large uptake of digital technology to provide information, stay contacted and provide services. This will impact on our community groups, clubs and not for profits as they continue to support our regional communities. Volunteering will continue to provide opportunities for people to be involved in many aspects of community life, building inclusion and community spirit.

The following groups were selected through our community services teams in each of our towns to reflect diversity and the great contribution volunteers have made in what has been a very challenging year.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK - 18 - 24 MAY 2020 [CONT'D]

The groups kindly provided information. In addition to these groups and their wonderful volunteers, it is important that Council recognise the contribution of all of our groups, clubs, organisations and individuals who play a critical role in volunteering and contribute to the liveability and lifestyle that is Greater Hume.

The following information has been kindly provided by each organisation.



The NSW SES has two units within the Greater Hume Shire area being the Culcairn and Holbrook units, both formed in 1980. Each unit perform the role of primary General Land Rescue responders within their areas providing Road Crash Rescue, Industrial and Domestic Rescue and Land Search and Rescue services as well as the general SES tasks of storm and flood response. The units also provide support assistance to other services as required such as staging and logistics support for the RFS during the recent bushfire events and scene lighting for the NSW Police at road crash and crime scenes.

Culcairn and Holbrook operate with approximately 10 qualified members each and are always on the lookout for potential new recruits to join the ranks and become a qualified GLR operator. During Australia Day 2020 at the Culcairn Recreational Reserve members from both Culcairn and Holbrook were awarded with long service awards ranging from 5 years, to 40 years with a combined service length of 195 years by 11 members recognised.



It's not only clients whose lives are enhanced by Meals on Wheels. People who give time to Meals on Wheels say volunteering has added a new dimension to their lives. The satisfaction of doing something practical yet personal is reward in itself.

Although delivery of prepared meals is the basis of the service, Meals on Wheels is so much more. It is more than just a meal. It is also about ensuring people who may not be able to get out and about, enjoy regular social interaction and the comfort of knowing someone will drop by regularly to say hello and see how they are going. Volunteers are crucial to the operation of our Meals on Wheels organisation. Right across the Greater Hume Council area our 70 volunteers drive their cars and deliver the meals and other food services to clients. Holbrook Meals on Wheels also provides a Social Support service and volunteers can assist this service through shopping and transport assistance, outings, social visits and social phone calls. Volunteers run Holbrook Meals on Wheels Service by serving on the management committee. The committee receives government funding for the running of the organisation at the local level and is responsible for its governance.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK - 18 - 24 MAY 2020 [CONT'D]

Volunteers are provided with support and training, they are reimbursed any out of pocket expenses and we hold appreciation morning teas and lunches. Our volunteers need to be prepared to undertake a National Criminal History Record Check – which we will organise and pay for and they need to have a good driving record.



Culcairn Red Cross

Culcairn Red Cross has had a busy year in 2019; they donated \$1000 to Warren Public School for book packs for drought affected pupils. The \$1000 enabled 17 book packs to be given to pupils in years 7/8 and 9/10. The money for this project was raised by catering for Council's workshops.

The Red Cross gave the Lions Club \$100 to go towards supplies for the fire victims that were staying in Culcairn during the fires. Another donation of \$100 was given to the Culcairn Men's Shed for their help at the Craft Shop, money was also donated to Red Cross Calling and this was raised through the March Street Stalls.

Their main project this year was a Plant Drive to be given to fire victims in the Batlow and Corryong area. It has been postponed however, until May/June next year due to the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions and also that many fire victims have as yet not started to rebuild. They will be celebrating 85 years of continuous Red Cross in Culcairn this June.

Henty Men's Shed - Support in many ways

The nearly 40 members of the Henty Men's Shed are missing out on face to face socialisation because of COVID-19, but have found other ways to keep in touch. The members of the management committee are taking it in turns to speak by phone with members to ensure that they are coping with the isolation. There is also a daily check on the shed and particularly its garden. This means the usual requirement of watering, weeding and harvesting goes ahead but only with a few people in order to maintain social separation.

Under more normal circumstances, the shed members have tackled most things that come their way, whether it is making nesting boxes for Landcare, painting bedside tables for the Hospital Auxiliary or restoring occasional pieces of well-worn furniture brought to the shed.

The members also assist with some maintenance issues at the pre-school or schools where the tasks aren't undertaken by qualified trade's persons or retained staff. Not all members are able to take part in these activities but they all use the shed as a catch-up central. Normally the kettle churns out endless cuppas as the fellows discuss current events, earlier times or the challenges of today. Encouragement from the Australian Men's Shed Association, from state and regional bodies, also help the shedders, bringing news on health issues and services for older persons and letting us know what is happening elsewhere, particular in other sheds.

The Shed is a focus that helps members, their partners, and families by maintain good mental and physical health. Coming into winter, the shedders are already missing the circle of chairs around the fire.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK - 18 - 24 MAY 2020 [CONT'D]

Culcairn Uniting Church First Tuesday Club

On the first Tuesday of every month (except January) a Luncheon is held at the Culcairn Uniting Church Hall at 12noon for folk who are lonely and shut-in.

The Luncheon began when a meeting of all Churches in Culcairn was called and all unanimously agreed that it would be a wonderful way to stay connected with the vulnerable residents of our community, who could come together and enjoy a free hearty home cooked meal, cuppa and a time of fellowship and memories. The Uniting Hall was agreed to be the most convenient place to accommodate the event with members of all the Churches assisting and helping make the Luncheon very special.

A grant was obtained to help fund the Luncheon and donations of homemade sweets, biscuits, and monetary help to enable this very special community function to keep going. An average of 30-40 people attend and there is transport available if needed. A very talented musician, new to Culcairn, plays music in the background as people chat and eat, which makes for a very homely and intimate atmosphere.

On special occasions such as Christmas Day, Melbourne Cup Day and Footy Finals, the hall and tables are decorated accordingly and a fun time is had by all. There are sing songs, requests played and birthdays acknowledged.

It is a very rewarding and humbling experience for everyone involved, whether it be cooking, setting up the hall and tables, serving meals, chatting etc. when you see the happy smiling faces, enjoying catching up, sharing stories, relishing a home cooked meal and a cuppa.



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK - 18 - 24 MAY 2020 [CONT'D]

Jindera Pioneer Museum

The Jindera Pioneer Museum and Historical Society is dedicated to the preservation of our local history. This encapsulates the stories, items and development associated with the area when it was first taken up by white settlers and the settlement of Jindera as a township. It is respectfully aware of the indigenous community that occupied the area previously and we also try to record anything associated with this time in the area's history.

The museum has been operational for 52 years with the land and some buildings purchased by a group of citizens in the 1960's and developed as a museum to open in 1968. It has received national acclaim as a small museum and has several parts of its collection that are unique and recognised as historically significant. The museum occupies a site of two acres with the original Wagners Store, three residences, two large gallery spaces and a vast undercover machinery space.

The museum is fortunate to have a sound membership base from families that came to the area in the late 1800's as well as new and historically interested members of the present community of Jindera and it's surrounds. Around 60 volunteers participate in events and assist the museum in some way with repairs and maintenance, door duty, catering activities, working bees, promotions, archiving, gardening, cleaning, washing/ironing, music and committee positions. The museum is open 7 days a week, closing only for Good Friday and Christmas Day. It is run totally by volunteers.

Our function program adds the highlights to our general visitation and the last of these, pre COVID-19, was our authentic Jazz Dinner held at the end of February. The evening featured a menu adapted from a Waldorf Astoria Menu from the 1920's and a small jazz band headed up by local Stephen O'Connell delighted the group. This was a fabulous night with many of the guests dressing to suit the era. It was held in the vestibule of the museum residence with all of the attention to detail associated with the era. These events are run completely by volunteers as fund raising activities for the museum.

The other highlight of this first half of 2020 has been the opportunity for the museum to build a new shed following a bequest from Tim Fischer. This will be our working machines shed and we are hoping to have the machines operational on a Sunday afternoon for members of the general public to experience these grand old motors. Several of the old pieces of machinery in the collection are already lined up for restoration. We hope to officially open the shed on the long weekend in October (Sunday 4th) which is the weekend of the museum birthday. We hope to hold a Lost Trades day to coincide with the opening when activities and trades from a previous time can be displayed and the public can participate. All of the work associated with the working machines and restoration of other machines is done by a band of volunteers who are very excited about having a local shed in which to carry out this work.

Jindera Rural Fire Brigade

We appreciate the chance to make this contribution for Jindera but all our Brigades work closely together so what follows is relevant in large part to Brigades across the Shire and indeed the state.

We all do a lot of training throughout the year because fire grounds can be very dangerous places. Jindera runs specialist qualification courses for Brigades throughout Southern Command in Bush, House and Vehicle firefighting. We also run Chainsaw courses and heavy vehicle license training among others and receive specialist training at other centres - for example First Aid courses run at Lavington.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK - 18 - 24 MAY 2020 [CONT'D]

So, what we do is serious and we take it seriously but being part of a team is very satisfying and we work hard at making it fun. Young members - male and female - learn life and leadership skills and older mentors get great satisfaction from watching them grow as leaders and future leaders.

Unfortunately, as with all voluntary bodies, regeneration is becoming a high priority. The rapid growth and change in demographic in Jindera provides particular challenges as our population becomes more diversified with many of the new residents having little traditional association with voluntary firefighting. Last year's fires have given us a profile for the moment but it remains very important for us to bring more of these new types of residents into the fold.



The Lions Club of Henty

The Lions Club of Henty has, for over 40 years, been conducting fortnightly meetings that allow us to develop our strong focus on community service. For senior high school students, the Lions Youth of The Year competition is conducted annually, as is the Outdoor Adventure Camp at Licola Wilderness Centre for primary age students. For local schools we also facilitate a Spelling Bee and conduct a Junior Public Speaking competition. From time to time, Year 11 or Year 12 high school students have benefitted from the Lions International Exchange Program. Within our local community, Lions provides assistance to individuals and groups in a variety of ways.

Looking to the broader Australian community, the Lions Club of Henty has provided ongoing support to the Albury-Wodonga Hilltop Cancer Accommodation Centre and also to Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Research. A recent program we called 'Feed My Mate' was organised to support drought stricken farmers in our state. As the Lions Club is an international organisation, we have recently organised for books and materials to be packaged up and sent to African schools. The club also supports specific Lions international projects as they arise. The Lions Club of Henty has raised funds through catering and recycling projects and for some time organised a card night at the local hotel. Our club now organizes the Town Garage Sale held in October each year.

The nine members of the Lions Club of Henty form an active group and are always looking for and welcoming of new members.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The hundreds of volunteers across all Greater Hume communities contribute countless hours to community activities and maintaining community facilities. This commitment, whilst not having a direct budget impact on Council's operations, is a real benefit to Council and its value is incalculable.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK - 18 - 24 MAY 2020 [CONT'D]

CONCLUSION

Volunteers are a vital part of the important community work that is carried out across Greater Hume Council. National Volunteer week is a great opportunity to acknowledge the work of all of our volunteers and to highlight the special work of our volunteers, groups, clubs and organisations.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council formally acknowledges the generous contribution of all of the Volunteers of Greater Hume as part of National Volunteer Week 2020 "Changing Communities, Changing Lives".

ENGINEERING

1. PURCHASE OF SECOND HAND ROAD STABILISER

Report prepared by Director Engineering - Greg Blackie

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise Council of the opportunity to purchase a second hand road stabiliser for use by Council operational staff on the construction and maintenance of Councils Road Network, and to seek approval for the standard tendering provisions to be set aside under Section 55(3)(i) of the Local Government Act due to the extenuating circumstances relating to availability of purchasing a suitable machine.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Objective Our development and maintenance is sustainable, environmentally responsible, accessible and enjoyed by our community

Outcome 4.1 Infrastructure and facilities meets the needs of our communities.

DISCUSSION

A road stabiliser is a machine that pulverisers the top layer of a road and mixes it with the underlying base to "stabilise" the road. The machine also has the ability to add water and other binding agents during the initial pulverization process or doing a separate mix pass.

Council currently hires a road stabiliser from RMS when required, however the machine currently hired is small and not capable of undertaking large construction jobs. Council mainly hires this machine when heavy patching work is undertaken on State and Regional Roads.

Council staff has been investigating the opportunity to purchase a larger second hand road stabilizer for the last few years. \$300,000 was allocated in 2018/19 budget for the purchase of a suitable machine, and has since been carried forward in future plant budgets whilst the availability of a suitable machine was investigated.

Council staff have now located a suitable machine at a price of \$350,000 Ex GST (See attached quote). Initially this machine was advertised for sale through Pickles Auction at Dubbo at which time staff attended the auction. Following an inspection of the machine staff where keen to acquire, however were unsuccessful, as the price at auction exceeded the tendering limit (\$250,000) of Section 55 of the Local Government Act 1993.

The successful purchaser of the machine has now made contact following Council's interest, and has allowed Council to hire the machine for use with an option to buy. Council has taken up the opportunity to hire the machine and trial for possible purchase.

Following the hiring of the machine, management has now determined the opportunity to buy is a good option due to the limited availability of these machines in Australia, and the expensive cost to hire (between \$2,500 and \$4,000 a day).

PURCHASE OF SECOND HAND ROAD STABILISER [CONT'D]

As Council is currently hiring the machine we have had the opportunity to thoroughly inspect the machine as well as testing its capability in a local working environment (Council is now using the machine on the Alma Park Road Construction Project - see photos in **ANNEXURE 4**). Operational staff using the machine are very pleased with its performance and capability.

The advantage of owning such a machine is its ability to undertake many functions of road maintenance/ rehabilitation and construction. Similar machines in the US range in price from \$280,000 (4200 Hours) to \$574,000 (2691 Hours). The stabiliser currently used has only 1786 Hours. The machine is also capable of being moved using Council equipment, so is an ideal size for Councils workforce.

The capability of the machine allows it to be used in construction, resheeting of unsealed roads and the undertaking of major patching on local, regional and state roads. If purchased, Council will also have the option to hire the machine to other Councils to generate additional income if so desired.

The machine has capability to mix a road to a depth of 400mm, with the added capacity of adding moisture whilst mixing. Normally Council would need to use a grader to rip the surface a number of times to mix the material. The stabiliser can mix up to 5000m2 per day and allow time for staff to compact and grade to a safe trafficable condition. Using a grader would take for the same area at least three days.

It is proposed that Council will use the stabiliser to incorporate additives, such as lime, and polymer products into roads, as a pavement stabilisation treatment that will improve the integrity of the road pavement and increase the life of Council road network.

Currently the high hire rates of stabilisers of this size prevent wide-scale use on Council roads, but with ownership allows it to be much more cost effective

BUDGET IMPLICATION

As advised Council currently has \$300,000 carried forward in its plant budget to fund the road stabiliser. Although we have acquired a small road stabiliser for \$85,000 as a temporary measure to undertake heavy patching works, the plan is for now to resell it if we buy the larger machine, and recoup a majority of its purchase price. Any loss will be recouped from savings made from other plant purchases in the current year. Additional savings have also been made in the plant budget from the recent purchase of a small excavator and trailer that was budgeted for a \$120,000 but has been purchased for \$70,000 (a \$50,000 saving) following a reinvestigation into the size of the machine required.

If the following changes are approved there will no impact on Council Plant budget by the purchase of the Stabiliser.

PURCHASE OF SECOND HAND ROAD STABILISER [CONT'D]

CONCLUSION

Council has a unique opportunity to purchase a road stabiliser that has been trialled and tested by Council staff, which will improve the construction and maintenance of Council's sealed and unsealed road network.

Section 55(3) (i) of the Local Government Act, states that tendering requirements do not apply to

(i) a contract where, because of extenuating circumstances, remoteness of locality or the unavailability of competitive or reliable tenderers, a council decides by resolution (which states the reasons for the decision) that a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders.

It is considered reasonable for Council to decide that the procurement of such a scarce specialised second hand machine that Council staff has had the opportunity to inspect, test and trial, is an extenuating circumstance.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. In accordance with Section 55(3)(i) of the Local Government Act, the purchase of a second hand road stabiliser is considered to be an extenuating circumstance wherein Council resolves not to enter into a tendering process due to the scarcity of the availability of suitable machines that have been trailed and tested by staff.
- 2. Council resolve to purchase from Nationwide Machinery Sales & Hire a CAT RM300 Road Stabiliser for a price of \$350,000.00 Ex GST

2. <u>TL 08-2019/20 RAIL LEVEL CROSSING RELOCATION WORKS GRUBBEN ROAD HENTY SIGNAL CONSTRUCTION</u>

Report prepared by Director Engineering – Greg Blackie

REASON FOR REPORT

To consider tenders for the construction of rail signalling and associated work, that is part of the Henty Rail Level Crossing Relocation Project.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Objective Our development and maintenance is sustainable, environmentally responsible, accessible and enjoyed by our community

Outcome 4.1 Infrastructure and facilities meets the needs of our communities.

DISCUSSION

As Councillors are aware Council are undertaking a project to provide a new active rail crossing along with associated roadworks on Grubben Road including the realignment of approximately one km of the Olympic Highway north of Henty. The new crossing is required to be designed and constructed to enable the future movement of B-triple vehicles (when such vehicles are approved) into Grubben Road from the Olympic Highway. The new crossing is at mileage 578.2km and is replacing the existing "Williams Crossing" between Grubben Road and Olympic Highway approximately 850m south of the new site.

This tender is for the construction of the **rail signalling component of the project**. As the project involves the construction of rail infrastructure the project requires the services of an approved Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) rail signalling contractor.

The tender was advertised in the Sydney Morning Herald and placed on Tenderlink on 7 April. Tenders closed on Tuesday, 28 April 2020. At closing one tender was received via the Tenderlink portal.

The tender received was from Aldridge Signal Infrastructure Pty Ltd for an amount of \$1,003,657 exclusive of GST.

GHD Pty Ltd who is undertaking the project management of the rail crossing project on behalf of Council, undertook an assessment of the tender received which is **ENCLOSED SEPARATELY** for Councillors' information.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

The total budget for the whole rail crossing project (including contingencies) is \$7,206,561.

The initial estimate for the rail crossing civil and signalization work was \$1,450,000 with contingences of \$261,000, giving a total budget of \$1,711,000 for the rail crossing works.

TL 08-2019/20 RAIL LEVEL CROSSING RELOCATION WORKS GRUBBEN ROAD HENTY SIGNAL CONSTRUCTION [CONT'D]

As advised in a further report to Council the amount of the tender received for the civil and track works for the crossing is \$668,682 thereby the combined value of the proposed work in both tenders are within budget estimates if contingencies are included.

TL 08-2019/20 Signalling	\$1,003,657
TL 09-2019/20 Track and Civil	\$668,682
Total	\$1,672,339
Budget Estimate (including Contingencies)	\$1,711,000

CONCLUSION

Following the assessment undertaken by GHD of the tender received from Aldridge Signal Infrastructure Pty Ltd for \$1,003,657 for the rail signalling and associated work, it is now considered that the tender be accepted.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- the tender submitted by Aldridge Signal Infrastructure Pty Ltd of \$1,003,657 (Ex GST) for the construction of the rail signalling and associated work at the Henty Rail Crossing Project be accepted
- 2. the General Manager and Mayor be authorised to sign the contract with Aldridge Signal Infrastructure Pty Ltd

3. <u>TL 09-2019/20 RAIL LEVEL CROSSING RELOCATION WORKS GRUBBEN ROAD HENTY</u> TRACK AND CIVIL CONSTRUCTION

Report prepared by Director Engineering – Greg Blackie

REASON FOR REPORT

To consider tenders for the construction of rail track and civil construction work, that is part of the Henty Rail Level Crossing Relocation Project.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Objective Our development and maintenance is sustainable, environmentally responsible, accessible and enjoyed by our community

Outcome 4.1 Infrastructure and facilities meets the needs of our communities.

DISCUSSION

As Councillors are aware Council are undertaking a project to provide a new active rail crossing along with associated roadworks on Grubben Road including the realignment of approximately one km of the Olympic Highway north of Henty. The new crossing is required to be designed and constructed to enable the future movement of B-triple vehicles (when such vehicles are approved) into Grubben Road from the Olympic Highway. The new crossing is at mileage 578.2km and is replacing the existing "Williams Crossing" between Grubben Road and Olympic Highway approximately 850m south of the new site.

This tender is for the construction of the **track and civil construction component of the project**. As the project involves the construction of rail infrastructure the project requires the services of an approved Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) track and civil contractor.

The tender was advertised in the Sydney Morning Herald and placed on Tenderlink on 7 April. Tenders closed on Tuesday, 28 April 2020. At closing one tender was received via the Tenderlink portal.

The tender received was from Civilex Pty Ltd for an amount of \$668,682 exclusive of GST.

GHD Pty Ltd who is undertaking the project management of the rail crossing project on behalf of Council, undertook an assessment of the tender received which is **ENCLOSED SEPARATELY** for Councillors' information.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

The total budget for the whole rail crossing project (including contingencies) is \$7,206,561.

The initial estimate for the rail crossing civil and signalization work was \$1,450,000 with contingences of \$261,000, giving a total budget of \$1,711,000 for the rail crossing works.

TL 09-2019/20 RAIL LEVEL CROSSING RELOCATION WORKS GRUBBEN ROAD HENTY TRACK AND CIVIL CONSTRUCTION [CONT'D]

As advised in a previous report to Council the amount of the tender received for the signal construction works for the crossing is \$1,003,657 thereby the combined value of the proposed work in both tenders are within budget estimates if contingencies are included.

TL 08-2019/20 Signalling	\$1,003,657
TL 09-2019/20 Track and Civil	\$668,682
Total	\$1,672,339
Budget Estimate (including Contingencies)	\$1,711,000

CONCLUSION

Following the assessment undertaken by GHD of the tender received from Civilex Pty Ltd for \$668,682 for the track and signal construction, it is now considered that the tender be accepted.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. the tender submitted by Civilex Pty Ltd of \$668,682 (Ex GST) for the construction of the track and civil construction work at the Henty Rail Crossing Project be accepted
- 2. the General Manager and Mayor be authorised to sign the contract with Civilex Pty Ltd.

4. WOOMARGAMA HALL LANDSCAPING, CARPARK AND DRAINAGE WORKS

Report prepared by Director Engineering – Greg Blackie

REASON FOR REPORT

To seek Councils approval to reallocate funds to upgrade the carpark in front of the Woomargama Hall including landscaping and drainage works following a request from the Woomargama Hall Committee.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Objective Our development and maintenance is sustainable, environmentally responsible, accessible and enjoyed by our community

Outcome 4.1 Infrastructure and facilities meets the needs of our communities.

DISCUSSION

The Woomargama Hall Committee has requested Council undertake landscaping works in front of the Woomargama Hall following the installation of a new Riverina Water filling Station (refer photos in **ANNEXURE 5**).

In discussions with Riverina Water by the Hall Committee Members and Council staff, Riverina Water have agreed to fund the upgrade of the normal caged arrangement around the filling station with a more suitable gabion wall treatment to better blend the site in with the surrounds. Following those discussions, the Hall Committee also expressed an interest to have the remaining area around the site of the filling station landscaped as well as completing landscaping around the hit up wall and basketball ring located close by that is eroding. The installation of additional trees around was also discussed to enhance the overall appeal of the site. Council currently has funds within the Woomargama Urban Design Project that provides an opportunity to undertake these works.

Following an inspection onsite it was determined by the Author that before completing the landscaping in front of the hall it would be appropriate to undertake work on the hall carpark. This work has previously been discussed with the community including the installation of underground drainage, and lowering of the carpark surface. This work is needed to be done first so that any landscaping that is installed is not needed to altered or removed when the carpark works proceed at some point.

The lowering of the level of the carpark is needed so that the hall does not flood, as currently the hall floor is lower than the surrounding area. The lowering of the carpark will provide a relief drainage path during significant rain events. Installation of a bitumen seal will also prevent the gravel being brought in on footwear from the carpark into the hall damaging the hall floor which is currently occurring.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

Following finalisation of the Woomargama Way sealing works it is proposed the remaining funds of \$106,424 be reallocated to undertake the lowering of the carpark including installation of underground drainage and bitumen seal.

WOOMARGAMA HALL LANDSCAPING, CARPARK AND DRAINAGE WORKS [CONT'D]

Also the Woomargama Urban Design Fund has a balance of \$43,981. With the landscaping expected, it is recommended that remaining funds less \$5,000 to complete fencing at the site of the new recreation ground be allocated to the landscaping and beatification around the hall, and hit up wall.

As the proposed works are being funded from existing reserves there will be no impact on the current budget.

CONCLUSION

The reallocation of funds will allow the requested carpark works and beautification to occur in the main public area of Woomargama, enhancing the site to the benefit of both residents and visitors.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve:

- 1. the reallocation of the remaining funds of \$106,424 from the Woomargama Way project to the construction and sealing of the carpark (including the installation of underground drainage) in front of the Woomargama Hall, and
- 2. The reallocation of the remaining funds of \$43,981 in the Woomargama Urban Design Project Fund (less \$5,000 to complete fencing at the proposed recreation reserve) to undertake the landscaping and beautification in front of the hall and surrounding area.

ITEM TO BE REFERRED TO CLOSED COUNCIL

1. OFFER TO PURCHASE LAND - HOLBROOK INDUSTRIAL PARK

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

For Council to consider an offer for an area of land approximately 7,300 sqm. in size at the Holbrook Industrial Park.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTIONS

Objective We are revitalising our communities, welcoming visitors, growing our economy and

promoting the lifestyle, culture and heritage offered in our communities.

Outcome 3.1 We have diverse local businesses and a growing economy.

DISCUSSION

Council has received an offer to purchase approximately 7,300 sqm at the Holbrook Industrial Park adjacent to the Council Depot. Should the sale proceed it is proposed a large workshop/factory will be constructed on the land. The offer is less than the advertised list price of \$17.60 sqm plus GST.

Whilst the proposal will require a small subdivision it will also facilitate the development of a further three allotments (Lots 2, 3 and 4).

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

This sale will improve Council's cash flow for the development of a further three lots.

CONCLUSION

As the negotiation of the sale of approximately 7,300 sqm.at the Holbrook Industrial Park is outside the parameters determined by Council and is of a confidential nature, it is recommended that the matter be referred to Closed Council in accordance with section 10 A (2) (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer an advantage on a person whom Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

RECOMMENDATION

That consideration of the offer to purchase approximately 7,300 sqm.at the Holbrook Industrial Park be referred to Closed Council in accordance with section 10 A (2) (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer an advantage on a person whom Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

REASON

On balance the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of the offer to purchase approximately 7,300 sqm.at the Holbrook Industrial Park outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in Council decision making because the disclosure of this information could compromise the commercial position of Council in any future sales.

OFFICER'S REPORTS – PART B – TO BE RECEIVED AND NOTED GOVERNANCE

1. <u>2017/2021 DELIVERY PLAN AND 2019-2020 OPERATIONAL PLAN – REPORT AS AT 31 MARCH 2020</u>

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

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

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTIONS

Statutory matter.

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, regarding the extent to which the performance targets set by the Council's Delivery Plan have been achieved.

ENCLOSED SEPARATELY with the agenda is the report to 31 March 2020, detailing key actions contained in the 2019/2020 Delivery Plan and achievements to 31 March.

There is little doubt that the January to March quarter has been very challenging for Council; firstly with the Green Valley/Avoca Bushfire and then with the onset of the global pandemic COVID-19. This has required Council to withdraw some services and facilities, however largely Council has continued to deliver on the actions continued with the 2019/2020 Operational Plan.

Highlights of the quarter have been the commencement of operation of Greater Hume Children Service at Holbrook along with the submission of funding applications under the Australian Government's Drought Communities Program (awaiting approval) and the State Government's Bushfire Community Resilience and Economic Recovery Project.

Highlights of the period include:

Governance and Corporate and Community

- Completion of construction, commencement of operations and official opening of the Walla Walla Early Childhood Hub with increasing enrolments.
- 23 new/revised policies adopted covering centre based day care operations at Henty and Walla Walla
- 21 updated policies presented to Council for adoption or rescission
- End of year budget review presented to August meeting
- Long Term Financial Plan updated to align with 2019/2020 budget
- 2018/2019 financial statements completed within statutory timeframe and unqualified audit report received
- Henty Machinery Field Days, exhibition and support

2017/2021 DELIVERY PLAN AND 2019-2020 OPERATIONAL PLAN – REPORT AS AT 31 MARCH 2020 [CONT'D]

- Stronger County Communities Round 3 Grant Applications 15 submitted from Greater Hume Council region, including 3 from Greater Hume Council. Provided advice and letters of support for community organisations.
- Consequences: Exploring the Aftermath of the 1st World War finalising exhibition with the six community museums of Greater Hume (Jindera Pioneer, Holbrook Woolpack Inn and Submarine, Henty Headlie Taylor Header, Culcairn Station House and Wymah Museums).
 Developing exhibition and planning launch with Albury City and Murray Arts, funded by NSW Government through Create NSW.
- Layout and design of the Local Strategic Planning Statement
- Jindera Industrial Estate Tennant Signage Strategy, on site visits, DA, and follow up
- Door and Monument Signage Review for library services
- Buy Local in Greater Hume Gift Card initiative
- 2 citizenship ceremonies in the quarter 3 recipients
- · Business After Hours Event planning
- The Red Bow Project strategy, write grant
- Enrolments at Walla Early Childhood Hub increasing with 15-20 children per day in attendance
- Agreed to take control of operations at Holbrook Early Leaning Centre following decision of voluntary association to withdraw as a service provider
- Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates auction held 15 November 2019
- Crown Land reservation issues at Wirraminna and surrounds successfully resolved after 20+ years of lobbying
- Participated in REROC joint tender project for electricity supply from 1 January 2020
- The Customer Service/Library and Youth Development Trainee successfully transitioned into the Greater Hume Council Youth Officer on 4 November 2019. The Youth Officer was also successful in obtaining ATEL Trainee of the month for November, placing the Youth Officer in the running for ATEL Trainee of the Year and now shortlisted
- Transfer of Holbrook Early Learning Centre to Greater Hume Children Services completed. \$149,435 in sustainability funding achieved.
- 2019/2020 Community Grants program completed
- Holbrook successful in its application to be a Healthy Towns Challenger for 2020
- Festival of Seniors Week 2020 held at GHSC libraries during February
- Pool movie nights held at Jindera and Walla Walla during February
- Two grant applications submitted:
 - ✓ Australian Government Drought Communities Program
 - ✓ NSW State Government Bushfire Community Resilience and Economic Recovery Project.
- Assisting the community during the bushfire crisis and commencement of COVID-19.
- Webpage developed providing up to date on information, such as community events, media releases from Rural Fire Service, links to various assistance agencies, relief centres and general information.
- Social Media posts which complimented the information on the webpage were uploaded along with the sharing of relevant posts.
- Australia Day 2020 in Greater Hume was held at the Culcairn Recreation Ground, Culcairn, over 500 attending.

2017/2021 DELIVERY PLAN AND 2019-2020 OPERATIONAL PLAN – REPORT AS AT 31 MARCH 2020 [CONT'D]

- Developing a new Greater Hume Visitors Guide in conjunction with a new Visit Greater Hume website. Secured over 36 advertisers for the Visitors Guide and commenced working with designer.
- On 29 January the Today Show Breakfast broadcast was filmed at Albury and Holbrook (inc Submarine, bakery, caravan park, art gallery and gift shop and pub) was featured as a 40 sec film after the 8am news to promote a business is open for the region. Murray Regional Tourism managed the liaison with local government areas to create a positive coverage following the impact of the 2020 bushfires and the filming was funded by Visit Victoria.
- Three newsletters to tourism operators providing relevant information promotion, marketing, statistics, latest opportunities and government information relevant to Greater Hume.
- Assisted events to promote cancellations and postponements due to COVID-19.
- Risk Management Excellence Awards Submissions:
 - ✓ Strategic /Enterprise Risk Initiative : RWHS Management System Commendation Received
 - ✓ Operational Risk Initiative: Facility Users/355 Roadshows (with S Klemke) -High Commendation Received
 - ✓ SpotGen for Ranges & Working Alone -Technological Innovation (with Aaron Dixon) Commendation Received
- New Signs as Remote Supervision assessments and installations for all Holbrook Parks & Gardens
- Speaker at International Day of People With a Disability event 2019
- All Staff Event in August 2019 The Resilience project
- Development & implementation of AOD policy, procedure and supporting documentation
- Training of ALL staff in Alcohol & Other Drugs Education & Awareness & Reasonable Cause Training for all supervisors
- Complete review of GHC Drinking Water Management System documentation
- Complete review and resubmission of RMCC documentation
- Implementation and wider usage of SpotGen devices across GHC (lone/isolated workers)
- Development & Implementation of new WHS Policy
- Implementation of the SafetyHub Online Learning System
- Audiometric Testing of all operational Staff
- Completion of 2019/20 CIP & RMAP and submission of 20/21 documentation for approval
- Defibrillators at Offices & Depots (ordered)

<u>2017/2021 DELIVERY PLAN AND 2019-2020 OPERATIONAL PLAN – REPORT AS AT 31 MARCH 2020 [CONT'D]</u>

Engineering

Construction/Maintenance/Operations

- Hume Street (Wilson to Albury) Holbrook Reconstruction Complete
- Market Street Walla Walla Reconstruction (R2R Project) Complete
- Hueske Road Reconstruction and Widening Complete
- Kywong Howlong Road Reconstruction 4km over 2 years Commenced
- North Henty Rail Crossing Project Commenced
- Coach Road Reconstruction Commenced
- Alma Park Road Reconstruction Commenced
- Kywong Howlong Road 2km Final Seal Complete
- Olympic Highway (MR78) Various Segments Heavy Patching Complete
- Tumbarumba Road (MR284) Various Segments Heavy Patching Complete
- Olympic Highway Reseals Segments 240, 490, 500 & 510 Complete
- Tumbarumba Road Reseals Segments 030, 190, 200 & 210 Complete
- Linemarking Regional and Local Roads Various Locations Complete
- Bitumen Resealing Program Regional Roads 95% Complete
- Bitumen Resealing Program Local final Seal Program Complete
- Bitumen Resealing Program Urban 95% Complete
- Gravel Resheeting Program Complete
- Additional Gravel Resheeting Works Commenced
- Jindera Recreation Ground Rec Ground Upgrades Complete
- Pioneer Park Jindera Replace Playground Equipment Complete

Water & Waste Water

- Sewer main relining Holbrook WIP
- Water main extension Stock Route, Culcairn Complete
- Water meter connections, various locations WIP
- Water meter replacements, various locations WIP
- GPS rural trunk water mains WIP
- IWCM data collection 70% Complete
- BizeAsset updates rural trunk mains WIP
- IWCM asset onsite inspections 80% Complete
- IWCM other WIP
- EPA risk review and updating all licences WIP
- DWMS risk review workshop and documents Complete

<u>2017/2021 DELIVERY PLAN AND 2019-2020 OPERATIONAL PLAN – REPORT AS AT 31 MARCH 2020 [CONT'D]</u>

Environment and Planning

- Undertook numerous projects at Council Halls and Swimming Pools to progress Stronger Country Community Grants
- Undertook Solar Panel Installation at the Jindera Swimming Pool
- Modified the private swimming pool inspection policy
- Adoption of the Greater Hume Waste Management Strategy 2019-2023
- Completed hall improvements at Gerogery Hall
- Completed hall improvements at Walla Walla Hall
- Exhibited the Greater Hume Local Strategic Planning Statement
- Exhibited and Adopted the Greater Hume Community Participation Plan
- Assessed Jindera Solar Farm Environmental Impact Statement and prepared a response for the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment
- Assessed Walla Walla Solar Farm Environmental Impact Statement and prepared a response for the Department of Planning
- Obtained a Council resolution to pursue legal action in relation to a property at Jindera.
- Assessed Culcairn Solar Farm Environmental Impact Statement and prepared a response for the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment
- Assessed Jindera Solar Farm and prepared a response for the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment
- Assessed Walla Walla Solar Farm Response to Submission Report and prepared a response for the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment
- Solar Power installation Culcairn pool
- Solar Power installation -Holbrook Pool
- New Plinths to enable small monuments in lawn sections Walla cemetery and Jindera Cemetery
- Install watering system Holbrook Cemetery
- Provide EFTPOS to all Landfills

Given the challenging circumstances satisfactory progress has been made in all themes during the first quarter of the 2019/2020 Financial Year.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONCLUSION

It is Management's view that overall, satisfactory progress towards the achievement of Performance Targets included in the 2017/2021 Delivery Plan and 2019/2020 Operational Plan has been achieved during the first quarter.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the 2017/2021 Delivery Plan and 2019/2020 Operational Plan review report to 31 March 2020.

2. GREATER HUME COUNCIL RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise Councillors of actions taken to implement COVID-19 relief measures since the April meeting.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTIONS

Nil

DISCUSSION

At the April meeting Council resolved the following:

- 1. That Council:
- waive interest on outstanding rates and charges for the period 1 April 2020 to 30 June 2020.
- from 1 April to 30 June 2020 rent on commercial premises impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic be reduced by 50% where the business continues to trade in a limited capacity and 100% where the business temporarily ceases to trade.
- refer to the Budget Workshop the freezing of water, sewerage and waste collection charges.
- amend the Local Purchase Preference Policy to provide a minimum 10% weighting for local businesses to 31 December 2020.
- 2. Further, that reports on the impact of -19 be submitted to each monthly meeting of Council.

To date the following has been implemented:

Initiative	Estimated Cost \$	Comment
Waiving of interest on outstanding rates and charges	\$15,000	This effectively defers the payment of 4 th rate installment to 30 June 2020 for all ratepayers.
Reduction in rent of Council owned premises where the business has been impacted by the pandemic. • 50% reduction where the business continues to trade in a limited capacity • 100% where business ceases to trade	\$9,300	Two businesses have temporarily closed and are not being charged any rent.
Freeze water, sewerage and domestic waste charges at 2019/2020 levels	\$178,000 (Full year)	Included in draft Budget 2020/2021 now on public exhibition.
Local purchase preferencing tolerance raised to 10%.	Unknown at this stage but can be quantified.	Staff involved in procurement have been advised in the temporary change in policy.

GREATER HUME COUNCIL RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) [CONT'D]

Prior to the June Council meeting, Management will endeavor to identify opportunities to develop relief measures targeted at residents most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Council has established cost centres to capture costs of implementing COVID-19 expenses and relief measures which will be disclosed with future budget reviews.

CONCLUSION

Management is acutely aware of the impacts that the coronavirus (COVID-19) is having on the wider economy. Greater Hume Council is not immune from these impacts; both with the loss of direct employment and downturn in business activity, particularly hospitality related businesses.

Actions have already been undertaken to reduce the immediate impact on residents and ratepayers and other are proposed to be considered at future meetings.

Over the next few months further initiatives will be presented to Council for consideration that is more targeted than initial measures.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

3. CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE – IMPACT ON COUNCIL SERVICES

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise Councillors of interruptions to Council services as a result of COVID-19 pandemic.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTIONS

Nil

DISCUSSION

As the COVID-19 pandemic has unfolded a number of Council services have been impacted either as a result of directions from the Australian or NSW State Government and/or to ensure the protection of Council staff.

The following Council services remain closed:

- Visitor Information Centre at Holbrook.
- Customer Services Centres. Customer Service facilities remain operational either; by phone, email or electronically.
- Council libraries (including click and collect).
- Caravan parks and camping ground (in accordance with the NSW Public Health Order)
- Playgrounds, skate parks and the Submarine (planned to reopen on Friday 15 May 2020).
- All public halls.
- Selected public toilets. Note: Cleaning frequency of remaining public toilets has been increased.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The implication on current and future budgets is being monitored and will be reported to Council on a monthly basis.

CONCUSION

As the COVID-19 pandemic has unfolded a number of Council services have been impacted either as a result of directions from the Australian or NSW State Government and/or to ensure the protection of Council staff.

The restriction will remain in place until advice to the contrary is received from either the Australian or NSW State Government.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

4. <u>LAND HELD FOR RESALE AND FUTURE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT CULCAIRN AND HENTY</u>

Report prepared by General Manager - Steven Pinnuck

REASON FOR REPORT

To address a question from Cr Meyer at the Budget Workshop held on 22 April 2020 regarding the size of Council's land bank.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTIONS

Objective We are revitalising our communities, welcoming visitors, growing our economy and

promoting the lifestyle, culture and heritage offered in our communities.

Outcome 3.1 We have diverse local businesses and a growing economy. . .

DISCUSSION

At the Budget Workshop held on Wednesday 22 April Cr Meyer enquired in relation to the amount of industrial and residential land held for resale.

Currently the Land Development Reserve has a balance of \$389,810.

The total land held for resale based on the existing list prices is \$1,394,723.

The following tables outline land held for resale across the Council area.

Table 1 - Walla Walla Residential Land

Jacob Wenke Dr Walla Walla Residential Estate						
Lot number	Area (sqm.)	Value (ex.GST)		Comments	
77		1166	\$	63,182		
78		1157	\$	63,182		
79		1044	\$	57,045		
80	Sold				Contracts exchanged	
81		962	\$	52,500		
82	Sold				Settled 27 April	
83		941	\$	51,364		
Total			\$	287,273		

It is intended to develop a marketing strategy that will be implemented post COVID-19 possibly commencing in Spring 2020.

Current marketing includes information on Council's website.

LAND HELD FOR RESALE AND FUTURE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT CULCAIRN AND HENTY [CONT'D]

Table 2 – Jindera Industrial Park

Jindera Industrial Estate							
Lot number	Area (sq.m.)		lue GST)	Comments			
100	Sold						
				Agreement to sell, placed on hold until			
101	15000	\$	285,000	after COVID-19			
102	3251	\$	97,530				
103	3655	\$	109,650				
104	3732	\$	111,960				
105	3357	\$	100,710				
106	Sold						
107	3088	\$	92,640				
108	Sold						
109	Sold						
110	3732	\$	111,960				
111	Sold						
112	Sold						
Total		\$	909,450				

The initial subdivision created 13 lots of which 6 have sold and a further lot is likely to complete post COVID-19.

To date marketing/promotion of the subdivision has been limited to corflute signs placed on each lot with the General Manager's phone number and information about the estate on Council's website and more recently refreshed signage installed at the estate.





LAND HELD FOR RESALE AND FUTURE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT CULCAIRN AND HENTY [CONT'D]

Given the success of the Jindera Industrial Estate, Management will be bring a report to Council during the course of 2020 to back zone the residual land from R5 – Large Lot Residential to Village.

With high probability that the Jindera Industrial Park will be extended to the south, Council has commenced work on a small subdivision of Part Lot 113 to create the road access and five smaller allotments. A map of the proposed subdivision and the existing lot plan is detailed below

Proposed Draft Plan of subdivision



Existing Subdivision



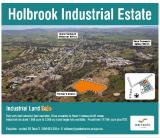
LAND HELD FOR RESALE AND FUTURE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT CULCAIRN AND HENTY [CONT'D]

<u>Table 3 – Holbrook Industrial Estate</u>

Holbrook Industrial Estate					
Lot number	Area (sq.m.)	Value (ex.GST)		Comments	
1	Sold				
				Held for Holbrook	
2	1500	\$	20,000	Men's Shed	
3	2200	\$	44,000		
7	1938	\$	36,000		
8	Sold				
The sale9	20000	\$	40,000		
10	Sold				
11	Sold				
12	3300	\$	58,000		
13	Sold				
Total		\$	198,000		

To date marketing/promotion of the subdivision has been limited to information about the estate on Council's website and refreshed signage installed at the estate and signage near the freeway off-ramp.

Signage



1 of x 2400mm x 2000mm Alucabond Sign complete with Aluminium Ribbing

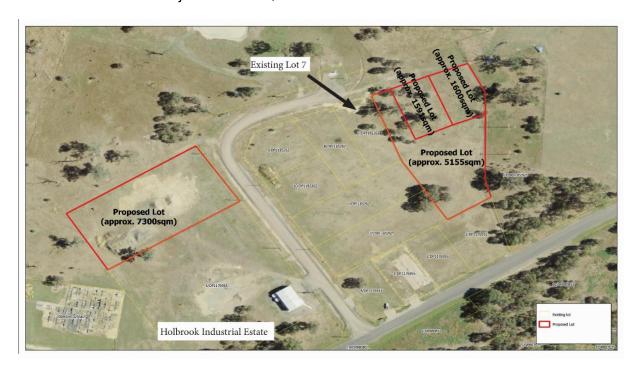
1 of x 5000mm x 1500mm Alucabond Sign complete with Aluminium Ribbing



LAND HELD FOR RESALE AND FUTURE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT CULCAIRN AND HENTY [CONT'D]



In addition to the above Council is negotiating the sale of approximately 7,300 sqm. adjacent to the Holbrook Works Depot and if this sale was to proceed, it would create the opportunity for a further three lots adjacent to Lot 7, as shown below.



LAND HELD FOR RESALE AND FUTURE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT CULCAIRN AND HENTY [CONT'D]

<u>Update on proposed residential estate at Culcairn</u>

At the October 2019 Council meeting the following was resolved:

That Council authorise the Mayor and General Manager to execute the 'Deed of Call' Option for the acquisition of approximately 15ha of land at Culcairn under the Common Seal of Council.

Agreement has now been reached in relation to the 'Deed of Call' Option and Council is awaiting the final document for execution by the Mayor and General Manager

On Thursday 23 April Council also received advice that the NSW Government had released Round 3 of the Low Cost Loans Initiative (LCLI).

The objectives of the LCLI are to:

- enable forward funding of local infrastructure by local government for the accelerated delivery of housing
- provide councils with safe, cheaper finance subsidised by the NSW Government
- facilitate the quick delivery of infrastructure in new housing areas.

Under the Low Cost Loans Initiate the NSW Government provides a subsidy of 50% of the loan interest over a 10 year period with a minimum loan amount of \$1,000,000. Applications for the subsidized loans close on 14 August 2020. It is anticipated that \$1,000,000 will fund the acquisition of the land and a small subdivision of between 7 and 10 lots.

Once the 'Deed of Call' option has been executed by both parties then Management will prepare a detailed Business Case including a market analysis for the proposed residential development prior to any final decision to formally acquire the land. It is intended that a report outlining the business case will be submitted to the July meeting of Council.

This project has been included within the 2020/2021 Budget including a proposed loan borrowing of \$1,000,000 as it is very important strategically for the future development of Culcairn to secure the land.

Management is of the view that if this project is to proceed then there would be sufficient land held for resale so that the loan repayments could be met from future property sales.

<u>Update of proposed residential estate at Rosler Parade at Henty</u>

It has been proposed for some time to undertake a small three to four lot subdivision at Rosler Parade, Henty. The development of this has stalled as interest was shown in the land by a developer that is quite active in the Council area.

Mr O'Brien is aiming to facilitate a meeting with the developer and Council in the near future.

LAND HELD FOR RESALE AND FUTURE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT CULCAIRN AND HENTY [CONT'D]

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct cost implications at this point however as each Lot is created and sold it broadens the rate base of Council.

CONCLUSION

Greater Hume Council has been developing residential and industrial land throughout the Shire for the past decade with reasonable success in achieving sales.

In the absence of a private developer it is particularly important that Council acts as a developer of both residential and industrial land in all areas of the Shire excluding Jindera. At Jindera where sufficient supplies of residential land is provided by market forces Council can concentrate on the development of industrial land only.

Management is of the view that the orderly development of land can be marketed so that future property sales can meet future the loan repayments.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

5. AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT – ADDITIONAL BUSHFIRE RECOVERY FUNDING

Report prepared by General Manager – Steven Pinnuck

REAON FOR REPORT

To advise Councillors of additional bushfire recovery funding announced by the Australian Government.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTIONS

Nil

DISCUSSION

On Monday 11 May 2020 the Australian Government announced a new \$650 million support package for bushfire impacted communities.

The package includes:

- Forestry Transport Assistance (\$15 million): To assist the forestry industry with the
 increased costs of transporting burned salvaged logs over longer distances to
 surviving timber mills or storage sites in bushfire affected areas in Victoria and New
 South Wales.
- Community Wellbeing and Participation (\$13.5 million) backing Primary Health Networks with additional funding to provide critical, localised emotional and mental health support for bushfire affected individuals.
- Bushfire Recovery for Species and Landscapes (\$149.7 million) supporting efforts
 that go beyond the immediate devastation on species and natural assets through
 habitat regeneration, waterway and catchment restoration including erosion control,
 weed and pest management.
- Telecommunications Emergency Resilience (\$27.1 million as well as \$10 million from the mobile blackspots program) - strengthening telecommunications capabilities prior to future natural disasters, including the deployment of approximately 2000 satellite dishes to provide a link if other connections are damaged, plus batteries and solar panels, to rural fire depots and evacuation centres.

A copy of the media release is included as **ANNEXURE** 6 for Councillors' information.

Further detail on how the additional funding will be allocated will be provided when available.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

It is expected that any funding programs available to Council will be cost neutral.

CONCLUSION

On Monday 11 May 2020 the Australian Government announced a new \$650 million support package for bushfire impacted communities.

Further detail on how the additional funding will be allocated will be provided when available.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

PART C - ITEMS FOR INFORMATION GOVERNANCE

1. WORKSHOP/BRIEFING SESSION SCHEDULE 2020/2021

REASON FOR REPORT

To inform Council and the community of upcoming workshop/briefing sessions which Councillors and senior staff attend and, where appropriate, stakeholders also attend. Workshops/briefing sessions are held in the absence of the public.

DISCUSSION

The current session dates are outlined in the table below.

Workshop/Briefing Session date	Topic
24 February 2020 (MONDAY)	Preliminary Roads Workshop
7 March 2020 (SATURDAY)	Shire Works and Roads Tour
11 March 2020	Preliminary Budget Workshop and consideration of
	Bush Fire Community Resilience & Economic
	Recovery Fund projects
1 April 2020	Final Roads Workshop
22 April 2020	Final Budget Workshop
6 May 2020	Extraordinary Council Meeting
13 May 2020	NSW Bushfire Inquiry
3 June 2020	TBA
1 July 2019	
5 August 2020	
2 September 2020	
7 October 2020	
4 November 2020	

The allocation of workshop/briefing sessions dates across the year is to ensure sufficient advance notice is provided to Councillors and staff.

Meeting locations and dates are available on the website or by contacting any Council office.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONCLUSION For Councillors' information.

2. OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT CIRCULARS

REASON FOR REPORT

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

DISCUSSION

Recent circulars issued are listed below. Circulars can be downloaded at https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/councils/essential-information-and-publications/circulars-for-council

- 20-15 Council Engagement Team
- 20-14 Updated Guidance On Attendance By Councillors And Others At Council And Committee Meetings During The COVID-19 Pandemic
- 20-13 Managing Fraud and Corruption Risks During The COVID-19 Pandemic
- 20-12 Modification of Statutory Requirements In Response To The COVID-19 Pandemic

3. LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW SOUTH WALES (LGNSW) – WEEKLY CIRCULARS

REASON FOR REPORT

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

DISCUSSION

A listing of topics of interest from recent circulars issued during June is provided on the LGNSW website. Distribution of the LGNSW newsletters has now moved to an electronic format.

Councillors or interested community members can directly access the full weekly publications via https://www.lgnsw.org.au/news/local-government-weekly

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONCLUSION

For Councillors' information.

4. TOURISM AND PROMOTIONS OFFICER'S REPORT

Report by Tourism and Promotions Officer – Kerrie Wise

REASON FOR REPORT

To update councillors regarding working projects undertaken by the Tourism and Promotions Officer.

DISCUSSION

The report on projects being undertaken by the Tourism and Promotions Officer is attached at **ANNEXURE 7**.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

CONCLUSION

For Councillors' information.

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. GREATER HUME CUSTOMER REQUEST MODULE – SUMMARY OF MONTHLY REQUESTS

For councillors' information, the Customer Request Module reports are **ENCLOSED SEPARATELY**.

2. STATEMENTS OF BANK BALANCES AND INVESTMENTS AS AT 30 APRIL 2020

The statement of bank balance and investment report as at 30 April 2020 is attached at **ANNEXURE 8**.

3. PEOPLE & CULTURE (HR) REPORT FOR APRIL 2020

REASON FOR REPORT

To advise councillors on human resources activities such as new staff, resignations and staff development programmes

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Objective We lead a vibrant, connected and inclusive community

Outcome 1.1 Leadership and advocacy is demonstrated and encouraged in our communities

LEGISLATION / POLICIES / PROCEDURES

- Working from Home Policy draft for consultation
- Performance and Misconduct Policy currently under review, alongside a draft accompanying Performance and Misconduct Procedure

PEOPLE & CULTURE (HR) REPORT FOR APRIL 2020 [CONT'D]

PLANNING

- People & Culture Management System and Plan developed to guide future activities through a process of development, implementation, review and improvement
- Ongoing succession planning Work Instructions being developed and documented for key activities performed by People & Culture
- REROC Workforce Development meeting next meeting; 25 June 2020

RECRUITMENT

- Recruitment in progress:
 - o Internal Road Maintenance Council Contract (RMCC) Coordinator Culcairn
 - Greater Hume Children Services Unsolicited Childcare Educator and Early Childhood Educator Applications – Interviewing via Zoom
- New employees commencing with Council:
 - David Bye Casual Project Manager Culcairn
- Position/role changes with existing Council employees:
 - Scott Piltz Water Wastewater Backfill Various Locations
- Employees ceasing duties with Council:
 - o Tess Mckenzie Childcare Educator Holbrook
- Positions advertised:
 - Internal Expression of Interest Water Wastewater Operator Backfill Various Locations – applications closed 8 April, appointed 1
 - o Internal Water Truck Driver Jindera Construction Interviewing 12 May

WORKPLACE RELATIONS

- Participate with Outdoor Staff quarterly meetings meeting held on 12 March; next Outdoor meeting 11 June 2020
- Coordinate and administer Consultative Committee meeting held on 12 March; next meeting 11 June 2020
- Participate with Risk WHS Committee meeting held 12 March; next meeting 11 June 2020
- Council

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & LEARNING

• Human Resources and Industrial Relations Mentoring – Conducted via Zoom

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

- Review of alternative Performance Appraisal processes used by other Councils and organisations with the intent to update/improve Council's existing process
 - Design and input of data in Performance Appraisal system, 'PULSE' is currently being undertaken. A timeline has been created to ensure desired implementation date of April/May 2020 is achieved. All required information has been submitted and All Staff training is being conducted on 13 May via Zoom. Annual Performance Appraisals can commence from 18 May.

HEALTH & WELLBEING

 Coordination of Phase 3 of Align Work Health Early Intervention Onsite Health and Wellbeing program. Program consists of a Physiotherapist and Health and Wellness Consultant. Currently, Health and Wellness Consultations take place electronically, via videoconferencing, on a weekly basis for 2 hours from 2 April

PEOPLE & CULTURE (HR) REPORT FOR APRIL 2020 [CONT'D]

 Council's Internal Work-Related Injury Management - Return at Work documents have been amended to align with updated regulatory requirements

REVIEW & CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

- Daily reviews with Director Corporate & Community Services
- Monthly reviews with MANEX
- Networking with LGNSW HR Group & REROC Workforce Development Group

4. GREATER HUME CHILDREN SERVICES – REPORT FOR APRIL 2020

Report prepared by Team Leader, Greater Hume Children Services – Fiona Pattinson

REASON FOR REPORT

To provide an update on statistics and activities of Greater Hume Children Services (GHCS).

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Objective We create healthy, inclusive and resilient communities, acknowledge our volunteers and value our youth

Outcome 2.2 We have services to promote and deliver health and wellbeing for all ages

DISCUSSION

Service statistics as of April 2020

Greater Hume Children Services Family Day	Mon – Fri	
Care (FDC)		
Educators	NSW - 40	Vic - 17
Educators working in the shire	7 (1 on maternity leave	e)
New Families in Greater Hume	8	
Families registered	592	
GHS families registered	102	
New families since Jan	75	
Children registered for care	898	
Average EFT	210	

Henty	Mon - Fri 7.30am - 5.30pm
Staff numbers	2 FT , 1 PT
Families registered	25
GHS families registered	25
Children registered	30
Average EFT (children per day)	9.2

GREATER HUME CHILDREN SERVICES - REPORT FOR APRIL 2020 [CONT'D]

Walla Walla	Mon - Fri : 7.30am - 5.30pm
Staff numbers	1 FT, 3 PT
Families registered	33
GHS families registered	33
Children registered	47
Average EFT(children per day)	14

Holbrook	Mon – Fri 6.45am -5.45pm
Staff numbers	5FT,1PT
Families registered	72
GHS families registered	72
Children registered	100
Average EFT(children per day)	21.4

Greater Hume Children Services Holbrook, Henty and Walla Walla have remained open during the COVDI-19 crisis with the number of children attending over the past weeks has been lower than normal. However, attendances are slowly increasing as restrictions ease.

Thorough hygiene practices have been put in place at each centre, following guidelines from the NSW Department of Education, NSW and Murrumbidgee Health. During the month of April, although staff and children couldn't get out and about in the community, the children and educators celebrated Easter and Anzac Day with beautiful paintings, and gifts which the educators then distributed out for the elderly and the war heroes, in their local communities.

Greater Hume Children Services Family Day Care educators have had a very uncertain time, during the COVID-19 pandemic, with many challenges related to their income and livelihood. Educators have been very flexible in the care they have provided, and have had to give priority to essential workers, vulnerable children and then children who already were enrolled, with the uncertainty of getting their normal income.

Family Day Care Australia (FDCA) have during this crisis been strongly advocating for the FDC sector with the State and Territory governments, Departments of Education and ATO. FDCA have established a COVID-19 Advisory Committee, of which Council's Fiona Pattinson is a member. The committee has representatives from all States in Australia who meet regularly to discuss and offer guidance, recommendations, and support and first-hand experience about the FDC sector. This has assisted in ensuring our service has been well informed and has been able to work through the many changes as effectively as possible.

Greater Hume Children Services Staff have been putting in place the social distancing and hygiene practices, and participating in more online professional development. It has also been a time where we have reviewed policies, procedures and documents. Support Coordinators, refrained from educator visits during this time, and have kept in contact weekly through phone and face time visits, making sure that FDC educators felt supported and had someone to discuss things with.

GREATER HUME CHILDREN SERVICES - REPORT FOR APRIL 2020 [CONT'D]

Moving forward due to the lift in State and Territory restrictions, visits to centres and FDC educators will start to slowly be implemented in line with each State's requirements.

Greater Hume Children Services would like to take this opportunity thank the families for their patience in these uncertain times and thank them for continuing to support our services and educators.

ENGINEERING

1. APRIL REPORT OF WORKS

Grants Program

State Roads Maintenance (RMCC):

Maintenance works, inspections and sign replacement on State Roads, Olympic Highway (MR78) and Tumbarumba Road (MR284) is continuing under the RMCC with Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW).

Site preparation is continuing on MR78 north of Henty as part of the Henty Rail Crossing Project. Project has been delayed by ARTC/NBN/ Telstra issues.

Regional Roads Block Grant:

General maintenance including guide post replacement is continuing on all Regional Roads.

Resealing on sections of Jingellic Road and Culcairn Holbrook Road (MR 331) have been completed.

Local Roads

Sealed:

General maintenance on local roads is continuing.

Alma Park Road Rehabilitation has commenced on the final 1.1km. Works include road widening, tree trimming, culvert widening and sealing.

Coach Road Rehabilitation is continuing. Works include culvert replacement, tree removal and tree trimming, shoulder widening, sealing and guardrail installation.

Unsealed:

Maintenance grading has been carried out on the following roads during April.

- Benambra Road
- Bloomfield Road
- Drums Road
- Greenvale Road
- Gum Swamp Road
- Kendalls Road

- Reynella Road
- River Road
- Schneiders Road
- Trigg Road
- Verdon Road
- Willis Road

REPORT OF WORKS [CONT'D]

Urban Streets:

General maintenance of urban streets including mowing is continuing.

General:

General maintenance of public toilets and parks is continuing. A number of public toilets and all parks remain closed during COVID19.

General maintenance and replacement of signs on rural roads and urban streets is continuing.

Monthly Works Maintenance Expenditure:

Local Roads Program	Original Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Expenditure	YTD Variance	Comments
Urban Local Roads Maintenance	\$510,000.00	\$425,000.00	\$368,579.66	\$56,420.34	
Rural Roads Sealed	\$750,000.00	\$625,000.00	\$601,497.29	\$23,502.71	
Rural Roads Unsealed	\$1,109,467.00	\$924,555.83	\$1,052,647.55	-\$128,091.72	Extensive damage from wet weather that has required immediate response. Also dealing with unseasonal quantity of CRM's due to the drought first, then followed by the rain. A review of costings will be undertaken with a view of remedying the situation, as part of the March Budget Review.
Street Tree Maintenance	\$242,536.00	\$202,113.33	\$203,466.46	-\$1,353.13	Monitoring

Regional Roads Program	Original Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Expenditure	YTD Variance	Comments
Regional Roads Maintenance	\$1,072,580.00	\$893,816.67	\$675,910.29	\$217,906.38	
Regional Roads Capital	\$1,734,000.00	\$1,445,000.00	\$635,925.60	\$809,074.40	

REPORT OF WORKS [CONT'D]

Sportsgrounds, Parks & Public Toilets	Original Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Expenditure	YTD Variance	Comments
Sportsground Maintenance	\$127,957.00	\$106,630.83	\$117,337.72	-\$10,706.89	Monitoring
Parks & Gardens Maintenance	\$284,251.00	\$236,875.83	\$278,011.21	-\$41,135.38	Additional maintenance requirements over the summer period due to drought conditions and then higher rainfall. Reviewing the overall budget for savings as part of the March Budget Review.
Public Toilets Maintenance	\$157,664.00	\$131,386.67	\$126,843.76	\$4,542.91	

NB : Sportsground Maintenance excludes annual GHC contribution payment

2. WATER & SEWER REPORT – APRIL 2020

Capital Works Program:

- Holbrook sewer main relining WIP
- Water main extension Stock Route, Culcairn Completed

Operation & Maintenance:

- New water service connection Krause Crt, Jindera
- New water service connection 15 Cade Crt, Jindera
- New water service connection 32 Anvil Rd, Jindera
- Water main repair 56 Urana Rd, Burrumbuttock
- IWCM WIP
- DWMS Risk Review Completed

Drinking Water Monitoring Program:

 8 x Water samples for Microbial Water Analysis submitted in the month of April 2020 for Villages and Culcairn Water Supply have all complied with the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.

Water Quality Complaints

Date	Location	Problem	Action Taken
30/04/2020	1833 Walla Walla – Jindera Rd, Jindera	Taste & dirty water	Private Internal water lines flushed – Chlorine sample 0.72mg/l (within the ADWG guidelines)

WATER & SEWER REPORT – APRIL 2020 [CONT'D]

Water Supply Sourced and Used

1 July 2019 – 30 April 2020	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
Culcairn Water Supply (ML)	131.1	155.2	144.0
Village Water Supply (ML)	367.33	426.11	430.43
Totals (ML)	498.43	581.31	575.43

Drought Relief Assistance

No new applications received – March 2020

Filling Stations Transactions

- Filling station sites 15 transactions during the July 2019 period
- Filling station sites 39 transactions during the August 2019 period
- Filling station sites -120 transactions during the September 2019 period
- Filling station sites 299 transactions during the October 2019 period
- Filling station sites 411 transactions during the November 2019 period
- Filling station sites 596 transactions during the December 2019 period
- Filling station sites 496 transactions during the January 2020 period
- Filling station sites 299 transactions during the February 2020 period
- Filling station sites 184 transactions during the March 2020 period
- Filling station sites 107 transactions during the April 2020 period

Filling Stations Usage

Station	July 2019	Aug 2019	Sept 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	April 2020
Culcairn	45.8	181.4	81.8	648.5	342.8	703.1	357.7	527.5	367.8	239.3
Jindera	37.6	72.9	214.8	1421.2	1471.7	1538.2	1300.4	795.8	551.4	117.2
Brocklesby	0.0	14.7	60.7	114.4	180.7	103.6	71.8	45.8	2.4	246.5
Burrumbuttock	1.3	0	41	69.4	80.1	328	445.9	28.1	20.8	14.6
Gerogery	0	0	18	1.6	9.4	47	49.3	3.5	0	0
Totals (KL)	84.7	269.0	416.3	2255.1	2084.7	2719.9	2225.1	1400.7	942.4	617.6

WATER & SEWER REPORT – APRIL 2020 [CONT'D]

Filling Station Customer Usage

Customer	July 2019	Aug 2019	Sept 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	April 2020
Council – Road										
Construction,										
Maintenance &										
Tree Watering	46.0	185.6	76.7	605.6	245.9	561.3	79.3	281.6	361.2	246.9
Contractors –										
Water Carters,										
Households &										
Roadworks	37.4	75.7	249.3	1371.2	1601.0	1474.6	1200.3	767.2	524.9	344.1
Residents	1.3	3.6	80.5	269.5	211.5	666.1	914.3	342.3	54.8	13.3
Fire Brigade										
(RFS)	0.0	4.1	9.8	8.8	26.3	17.9	31.2	9.6	1.5	13.3
Totals (KL)	84.7	269.0	416.3	2255.1	2084.7	2719.9	2225.1	1400.7	942.4	617.6

ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

1. <u>DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS PROCESSED FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2020</u>

The schedule of development applications processed for the month of April 2020 is attached at **ANNEXURE 9**.

2. RANGER'S REPORT – APRIL 2020

COMPANION ANIMALS

COMPANION ANIMALS							
No. of Complaints R 15	eceived	Including: 3 barking dogs, 6 roaming dogs, dealing with an aggressive dog, 2 nuisance dogs, 2 menacing and dangerous dog compliance checks					
No. of dog attacks:	2	Location: Gerogery Henty	Dog attacke requiring me Infringemen Order issue Dog roamin person show	Dog attacked a person in the street requiring medical treatment. Infringements and Dangerous Dog Order issued. Dog roaming the street rushed at a person showing unreasonable aggression. Menacing Dog Order issued.			
Comments:	4 dogs mi	crochipped	- 1				
				Dogs	Cats		
In Council's Facility	at Beginni	ng of Month		1			
Captured & Returne	d to Owner	S		3			
Captured & Impound				1	·		
Released from Pound to Owners				1	·		
Surrendered by Own							
Rehomed	_	·					
Euthanased	1						
Remaining in Counc							

FERAL CATS

No. of Complaints:	2
No. Feral Cats caught:	6

LIVESTOCK

	Cattle	Sheep	Horse	Goats	Other Alpacas
No. of Reports of Stock on Roads	3	2			
Instances - Returned to owners	3	2			
Impounded					
Vehicle accidents involving stock					

OTHER LIVESTOCK, WILDLIFE COMPLAINTS

- 1 kangaroo euthanased Bungowannah.
- 1 wombat euthanased Woomargama.
- 1 kangaroo Culcairn Road.

RANGER'S REPORT CONT'D

ABANDONED VEHICLES

Morven, Henty and Culcairn – removed by owner.

Walla Walla - vehicle crashed. Impounded.

1 vehicle claimed from pound.

10 vehicles currently impounded.

POLLUTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS

Inspection conducted: Overgrown Vegetation Unsafe Land	Inspections being conducted.				
Pollution: Noise	Holbrook – barking dogs monitoring.				
Pollution: Waste	Culcairn – green waste in laneway. Waste removed by Council.				

ON-SITE SEWERAGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Inspection Type	Total	Pass	Fail
OSMS Compliance Inspections	43	42	1
Pre-Purchase Inspections	3	2	1
OSMS Orders issued	1		
OSMS Orders Compliance Inspections	5	5	
Plumbers Site Inspections	2		1
OSMS Upgrade Applications Received	1	1	
OSMS Approvals To Do Works Issued	2		
OSMS Approvals To Operate Issued	47		
AWTS Service Contract Renewal Letters			
Local Government Application Approvals			
Local Government Approval Inspections	2	2	
Local Government Approval Soil Report Assessments			
OSMS Rate charge enquires			
Septic Enquiry	1		
Solicitors letter	1		

OTHER WORKS CONDUCTED

- RID online (Report Illegal Dumping online) updating with data entry.
- Property inspections unsightly and excessive cars.
- Holbrook and Culcairn Landfill site works, asbestos inspections and refuelling conducted.
- Landfill cameras checks and relief landfill attendants work at several sites.
- Assist RSPCA with companion animal and stock welfare issue.
- Clear campers from primitive camp grounds.
- Impound illegal signs Woomargama.
- Remove illegal fence from side of the road Woomargama.
- Parking complaint in Jindera.

PART D - COMMITTEE AND DELEGATE REPORTS

Attached, in **ANNEXURE 10** are minutes of the following meetings:

- Minutes of the Greater Hume Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on 5 May 2020
- Minutes of Walla Walla Refugee Resettlement Committee Meeting held on 19 March 2020
- Minutes of Henty Showground Management Committee meeting held on 17 March 2020

DELEGATE REPORTS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Part D of the Agenda be received and noted.