



**Greater
Hume
Council**

Ordinary Meeting of Greater Hume Council

Wednesday, 17 April 2024

NOTICE is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of the Greater Hume Council will be held at Community Meeting Room, Holbrook Library, Library Lane, Holbrook, commencing at 6.00pm. The meeting commences with a Public Forum.

Persons wishing to address Council in the forum must register by 5pm Monday, 15 April 2024. The conduct of the forum is governed by the Council's Code of Meeting Practice. A new procedure applies for persons wishing to attend the meeting which can be obtained from Council's website or any Council office.

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>

Evelyn Arnold
GENERAL MANAGER

**ORDER OF BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED
REFER OVERLEAF**

Ordinary Meeting of Greater Hume Council

Wednesday, 17 April 2024

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 – 20 March 2024

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

ITEM REFERRED TO CLOSED COUNCIL

- Nil

PART B To Be Received and Noted

- Corporate and Community Services

PART C Items For Information

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

PART D Items for Information

11. MATTERS OF URGENCY

12. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – CONFIDENTIAL CLOSED COUNCIL REPORT
Nil.

13. CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

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TO BE HELD AT
COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM, HOLBROOK LIBRARY, LIBRARY LANE, HOLBROOK
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MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

1. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil.

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OFFICERS' REPORTS – PART A - FOR DETERMINATION

ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

1. **DRAFT REFUND OF APPLICATIONS FEES AND WAIVER OF APPLICATION FEES FOR NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS, COMMUNITY GROUPS, AND OTHER CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS POLICY**

Report prepared by Director Environment & Planning - Colin Kane and Town Planner – Gayan Wickramasinghe

REASON FOR REPORT

From time to time, Council receive requests from the general public to waive or refund fees associated with the lodgement of applications for development. These include Development Applications (DAs hereafter), Complying Development Certificates (CDCs hereafter), and post-determination applications (ie Construction Certificates and Occupation Certificates) under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act hereafter), and Section 68 Approvals under the Local Government Act 1993 (LG Act hereafter). This report presents for Council consideration of a draft policy for refunding of fees associated with above mentioned applications and waiving of fees for Not-for-Profit Organisations, community groups and other charitable organisations.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN

Nil

DISCUSSION

As noted above, Council periodically receives requests from the general public to waive or refund fees associated with development applications and post-determination applications under the EP&A Act 1979 and S68 Approval under the LG Act 1993. Currently, Council staff do not have a mechanism to determine the dollar amount to be refunded in the event that the application is withdrawn before its determination. It is noted that Council staff have, in the past, sought Council's opinion to waive fees associated with applications lodged by Not-for-Profit Organisations, community groups, and other charitable organisations. It was noticed that these exemptions would not be applied to similar future applications and a Council resolution would be required for any future exemptions.

Therefore, this policy will provide a basis for Council's decision-making regarding the refunding and waiving of fees associated with the aforementioned applications. Additionally, it will also seek delegation from Council to authorise the Director of Planning and Environment or their delegate to process the refund, while waiving fees for Not-For-Profit Organisations, community groups and other charitable organisations will only be authorised by the General Manager (or their delegate).

[Section 253 and 254 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation](#) 2021 (EP&A Reg hereafter) contain provisions related to waiving and refunding of fees associated with approval under the EP&A Act 1979 whilst [Section 610E of the LG Act 1993](#) outlines the process associated with waiving or reducing of fees associated with approval under that Act. Council staff have investigated other Council's policies and procedures related to this matter.

To meet the above requirements and enhance transparency in decision-making regarding the refunding and waiving of fees associated with applications for various developments, a draft 'Refund of Application Fees and Waiver of Fees for Not-For-Profit Organisations, Community Groups, and Other Charitable Organisations Policy' has been prepared and is contained in **ANNEXURE 1**.

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BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Finalisation of the draft policy can be undertaken with Council internal staff.

CONCLUSION

The draft policy establishes the process for refunding and waiving fees associated with applications for various developments, aiming to enhance Council's decision-making process in alignment with other councils in the Riverina Murray region.

RECOMMENDATION

Council resolves:

1. That draft policy 'Refund of Application Fees and Waiver of Fees for Not-For-Profit Organisations, Community Groups, and Other Charitable Organisations' be exhibited for community input for twenty-eight (28) days, to allow for its adoption as required by [Section 160 of the Local Government Act 1993](#).
2. If any submissions are received, a supplementary report be tabled. In the event no submissions are received, the policy be adopted and published on Council's website.

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GOVERNANCE

1 LOCALS ROADS AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM ROUND 4 GENERAL PROJECTS ALLOCATIONS

Report prepared by General Manager – Evelyn Arnold

REASON FOR REPORT

The purpose of the report is to determine the priority projects for funding under Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCIP) Round 4.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

CSP Strategy N2 Our road and transport network is maintained and accessible.

Initiative N2.1.1 Implement asset management and renewal programs in accordance with adopted budgets and capital works programs.

DISCUSSION

The Federal Government in the last round of stimulus funding has allocated \$1,294,190 to Greater Hume to invest in community projects.

Following several workshops Council developed a Community Project Investment Criteria to assist in evaluating the projects. At the ordinary meeting of Council in November 2023, Council resolved to allocate funds to the following projects detailed in table 1 below.

Project	Budget Request	Recommendation to Fund
Culcairn Football Lights	\$22,000	\$22,000
Whitebox Woodlands	\$50,000	\$50,000
Wallace Street Footpath	\$85,000	\$85,000
Bowler Street Footpath	\$95,000	\$95,000
Jindera Netball Facility Toilets	\$150,000	\$150,000
Brocklesby Tennis Club	\$35,000	\$35,000
Playground Henty Show Grounds	\$50,000	\$50,000
Burrumbuttock Multipurpose Community Centre	\$230,000	\$230,000
Culcairn Shire Office and Memorial Hall	\$100,000	\$100,000
Walbundrie Recreation Ground Oval Bitumen	\$230,000	\$230,000
Total		\$1,047,000
Unallocated		\$247,190

Table 1: Allocated Projects from November

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LOCAL ROADS AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM ROUND 4 GENERAL PROJECTS ALLOCATIONS [CONT'D]

This left the amount of \$247,190 unallocated. Using the same Community Investment Criteria the following projects (Table 2) are recommended to expend the remaining funds.

Project	Budget Request	Recommendation to Fund
Walla Walla Netball Court Resurface	\$22,000	\$22,000
Burrumbuttock Walking Track	\$225,190	\$225,190
Total		\$247,190

Table 2: Recommended Projects

In deciding on these projects a number of factors were considered including;

1. Had the project been identified as a community priority?
2. Was the project intergenerational?
3. Did it support social, economic and tourism?
4. Could it support operational budget savings?
5. Was there any matching funding or contribution?
6. Was it going to be accessible to the community?
7. Did the project demonstrate energy efficiency?
8. Was it supported by a strategic plan?
9. Was the project shovel ready? Funding needs to be expended by June 30 2025.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

There would be no budget implications as the project allocations are capped at the LRCIP contribution.

CONCLUSION

The LRCI program presents a unique opportunity for Council to support a number of priority projects across Greater Hume Shire. Allowing for some excellent outcomes that will have a far reaching positive impact on our community.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the following projects to allocate the remaining funds for LRCIP Round 4;

Project	Budget Request	Recommendation to Fund
Walla Walla Netball Court Resurface	\$22,000	\$22,000
Burrumbuttock Walking Track	\$225,190	\$225,190
Total		\$247,190

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM, OPERATIONAL PLAN AND RESOURCING STRATEGY

Report prepared by Chief Financial Officer – Dean Hart

REASON FOR REPORT

This report seeks approval for public exhibition of the draft Delivery Program 2022-2026 incorporating draft Operational Plan 2024-2025, budget 2024-25, and draft Fees and Charges 2024-2025.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Objective Our leadership and communication cultivate confidence in our decision making

CSP Strategy L3.1 Undertake integrated, long-term planning and decision making, reflective of community needs, resources and aspirations

DISCUSSION

Council is required to undertake corporate planning and reporting activities in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, and the NSW Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines and Handbook 2021, also referred to as the IP&R framework in this report. Under this legislation, Council is required to:

- engage with the community to review and prepare a revised 10-year Community Strategic Plan every four years, and before 30 June in the year following the election of a new Council
- prepare a 10-year Resourcing Strategy, reviewed every four years
- prepare a four-year Delivery Program for the term of elected Council, and review annually
- prepare an annual Operational Plan including budget and Fees and Charges
- publicly exhibit all of these documents for at least 28 days and invite submissions.

In 2022 Council adopted the Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 “live a greater life” and associated Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Resourcing Strategy 2022-2032.

The Delivery Program 2022-2026 has been updated to include the draft Operational Plan 2024-2025 and associated budget and is included as **ANNEXURE 2**.

Delivery Program incorporating Operational Plan, budget and fees and charges

The Delivery Program and the Operational Plan have been prepared as a combined document. Both are structured around the same four focus areas of the Community Strategic Plan.

The Delivery Program is a four-year plan that covers the term of an elected council and is reviewed annually. It includes strategies based on what Council can achieve over the next four years to bring us closer to the community's objectives outlined in the Community Strategic Plan. Financial projections for the Delivery Program use a combination of detailed project and program information and assumptions.

Due to the postponement of the 2020 local government elections to December 2021, the term of the current elected Council will be two years and nine months instead of the usual four-year term. The Local Government Act 1993 still requires the new Delivery Program to cover a four-year period i.e. 2022-2026.

The Operational Plan includes a list of actions and projects Council will undertake and aligns with the strategies of the Delivery Program. It incorporates an annual budget and projections for the term of

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DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM, OPERATIONAL PLAN AND RESOURCING STRATEGY [CONT'D]

the Delivery Program. The annual budget is determined from detailed information of projects and programs that are expected to be delivered within the 2024-2025 financial year and is connected to actions in the Operational Plan.

The fees and charges for various Council services are reviewed annually. Changes to fees and charges for 2024-2025 are included in the annual budget.

Draft Budget 2024–2025

Highlights of the draft 2024–2025 budget include:

- \$50m total budget (excluding depreciation)
- Projected surplus of \$11,593 for 2024 - 2025
- \$21m capital works program
- \$7.15m for road, bridge and footpath projects
- \$6.97m for water and sewer projects
- \$4.70m for flood mitigation projects

BUDGET IMPLICATION

All costs associated with preparing the draft IP&R documents have been met from existing budget allocations.

CONCLUSION

Council is required to undertake corporate planning and reporting activities in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, and the NSW Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines and Handbook 2021.

The draft Delivery Program 2022-2026 incorporating draft Operational Plan 2024-2025, budget 2024-2025, and draft Fees & Charges 2024-2025 have been prepared and it is recommended that the documents be placed on exhibition and that Council accepts submissions until Friday 17 May 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council places the Delivery Program 2022-2026 incorporating draft Operational Plan 2024-2025, budget 2024-2025, and draft Fees and Charges 2024-2025 on public exhibition and accepts submissions until Friday 17 May 2024
2. Staff prepare a further report outlining the outcomes of the public exhibition for presentation at the June 2024 Council Meeting

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ENGINEERING

1. PROVISION OF FOOTPATH, BOWLER STREET, HOLBROOK

Report prepared by Engineering Admin Officer – Amanda Williams

REASON FOR REPORT

To inform Councillors of the response from landowners following their notification of apportioned contributions for the construction of a new concrete footpath in Bowler Street, Holbrook.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

CSP Strategy N2 Our road and transport network is maintained and accessible

Initiative N2.1.1. Implement asset management and renewal programs in accordance with adopted budgets and capital works programs.

DISCUSSION

This project is a part of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

This project was endorsed by council at the February 2024 Council meeting to receive funding, and upon confirmation of the funding landowners were notified of the amount of their contribution to the project s per Council policy.

The proposed works include the construction of a 1.5m footpath on the northern side of Bowler Street from Croft Street to Railway Street for approximately 340m.

A plan of the proposed works below:



As required by Council policy landowners are required contribute to the construction of new a footpath adjacent to their property.

Following the Council meeting landowners were notified via letter, mailed on the 1 March 2024 of the amount of their contribution to the project.

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PROVISION OF FOOTPATH, BOWLER STREET, HOLBROOK [CONT'D]

A table showing the current estimated rates used to calculate the landowners contributions is **ENCLOSED SEPARATELY 1** for Councillors information.

Two submissions were received from a landowners regarding the proposed charges. The submissions are **ANNEXURE 3**.

As per Council policy the submission is to be considered by Council prior to making a decision to proceed with the project.

Management has considered that as the Holbrook community prioritised the construction of the footpath with Council only receiving two objections then it is considered that a majority of the landowners and residents support the construction of the project.

Council had previously received a letter in November 2023, from a Mercy Health Care worker on behalf of a resident requesting a footpath in Bowler St Holbrook, to enable powered wheelchair access. See **ANNEXURE 3**.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

Project is fully funded by Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program and Landowner Contributions.

CONCLUSION

The project scope has been costed and apportioned to show landowner estimated contribution costs.

There was two submissions received from landowners regarding the contribution scheme.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council adopt the scheme as detailed and arrange for construction to proceed.
2. That the landowners be notified of the intention to proceed with the scheme as previously advised.

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2. TENDER TL 02 - 2023/24 BRIDGE WIDENING WANTAGONG CREEK

Report prepared by Works Engineer – Andrew Walls

REASON FOR REPORT

To consider tenders for the civil construction of widening the existing bridge over Wantagong Creek, Wantagong.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

CSP Strategy N2 Our road and transport network is maintained and accessible

Initiative N2.1.1. Implement asset management and renewal programs in accordance with adopted budgets and capital works programs.

DISCUSSION

This project is part of the Council delivery program. The scope covers widening of the existing bridge over Wantagong Creek.

Jingellic Road provides the main access between Holbrook and Jingellic. It is a significant tourist and logging route in addition to the normal local traffic. This bridge has been structurally assessed in recent years and was found to be structurally sound. However the structure suffers from a narrow deck that does not conform to modern standards.

The deck widening proposed is designed to protect against 1 in 100 year storm events, provide safe pavement widths and provide for HML traffic into the future.

Advertisements were placed in the Border Mail and on Tenderlink.

Tenders closed on Tuesday 5th March 2024. Two tenders were received via the Tenderlink portal.

The following tenders were received and are listed in alphabetical order.

Company	Tender Price (excluding GST)
Goldex Civil P/L	\$ 1,468,533.82 excl GST
Waratah Constructions P/L	\$ 1,746,926.00 excl GST

The Bill of Quantities issued for this tender contained an error.

The tender submitted by Goldex Civil P/L made allowances for this error. However, the construction methodology proposed by Goldex Civil P/L involved closing Jingellic Road for a period of 12 days. This would involve significant traffic diversions. The tender documents called for 24 hour access to be maintained making the Goldex Civil P/L technically non-conforming.

Goldex Civil P/L were requested to submit an alternative conforming tender.

The tender submitted by Waratah Constructions P/L did not allow for the error in the Bill of Quantities and also contained mathematical errors.

Waratah Constructions were requested to submit a revised tender with the errors rectified.

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TENDER TL 02 – 2023/24 BRIDGE WIDENING WANTAGONG CREEK [CONT'D]

The revised tender prices were received and are listed in alphabetical order.

Company	Revised Price (excluding GST)
Goldex Civil P/L	\$ 1,655,377.50 excl GST
Waratah Constructions P/L	\$ 1,701,325.00 excl GST

Neither Goldex Civil P/L nor Waratah Constructions P/L have previously carried out works for Council. An assessment of both companies were undertaken by Equifax-Corporate Scorecard to provide an evaluation of their financial capacity to undertake this contract.

An extract from the respective assessment results are **ENCLOSED SEPARATELY 2** for Councillors information. Based on the assessment results, Waratah Constructions will be the recommended tenderer.

Mr Gavin Walker from Waratah Constructions P/L attended a post-tender telephone interview where it was confirmed that he was satisfied that they have the personnel and equipment to complete the project to the required standard in a safe manner.

Mr Walker indicated that fabrication of the pre-stressed concrete elements of the structure will be completed in September 2024. On-site works can commence in June/July 2024. These dates would be appropriate to this project in order to avoid environmental control restrictions and high creek flows. An expected completion date in December 2024 is the programmed completion date however given the nature of these works the progress of construction will be heavily weather dependant.

A table of the apportionment used to assess the tenders is **ENCLOSED SEPARATELY 3** for Councillors information.

A drawing of the proposed works is **ENCLOSED SEPARATELY 3** for Councillors information.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

The tender price of \$1,701,325.00 (excl GST) is consistent with the engineers' estimate and within a remaining budget of \$1,742,000.00.

CONCLUSION

Two tenders were received for the Bridge Widening Wantagong Creek project. Both tenders were considered.

The tender submitted by Waratah Constructions P/L has been assessed to be suitable for the intended purpose and there is no technical or practical reason to conclude that Waratah Constructions P/L are not capable of completing the contract to the required standard and within a reasonable timeframe.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. the tender submitted by Waratah Constructions P/L for tender TL02 2023/2024 for the Bridge Widening Wantagong Creek for \$1,701,325.00 (excl. GST) be accepted.
2. the unsuccessful tenderers be notified.
3. the General Manager and the Mayor be authorised to execute contract documentation with Waratah Constructions P/L under the Common Seal of Council.

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ITEM TO BE REFERRED TO CLOSED COUNCIL

Nil.

OFFICERS' REPORTS – PART B – TO BE RECEIVED AND NOTED

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. COMBINED INVESTMENT ACCOUNT – MONTH ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Report prepared by Accountant – Camilla Webb

REASON FOR REPORT

This report presents to Council details of all funds invested as at 31 March 2024 as required by the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

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

DISCUSSION

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, the Responsible Accountant must present to Council monthly, the status of the investments held by Council. The Responsible Accountant must detail the investments held, and their compliance with both internal policy and external regulation under the Ministerial Order of Investments.

In accordance with the recommendations made by the Office of Local Government (OLG) Investment Policy Guidelines published in June 2010, the monthly Investments Reports are attached to the Council investment report. This allows a stand-alone report to be published on Council's website for the public to view without having to peruse the Council meeting agenda for the relevant meeting.

Councillors should note that Council has engaged an external investment manager, Curve Securities, to source appropriate investment opportunities with the aim of transitioning Council's investment portfolio to meet the investment parameters as detailed in Council's revised Investment Policy. Curve Securities will work with Council to ensure that Council's overall investment portfolio is diversified across a wider spectrum of approved financial institutions thereby achieving improved security and asset protection. It should be noted that each individual investment is still held directly by Council with each financial institution.

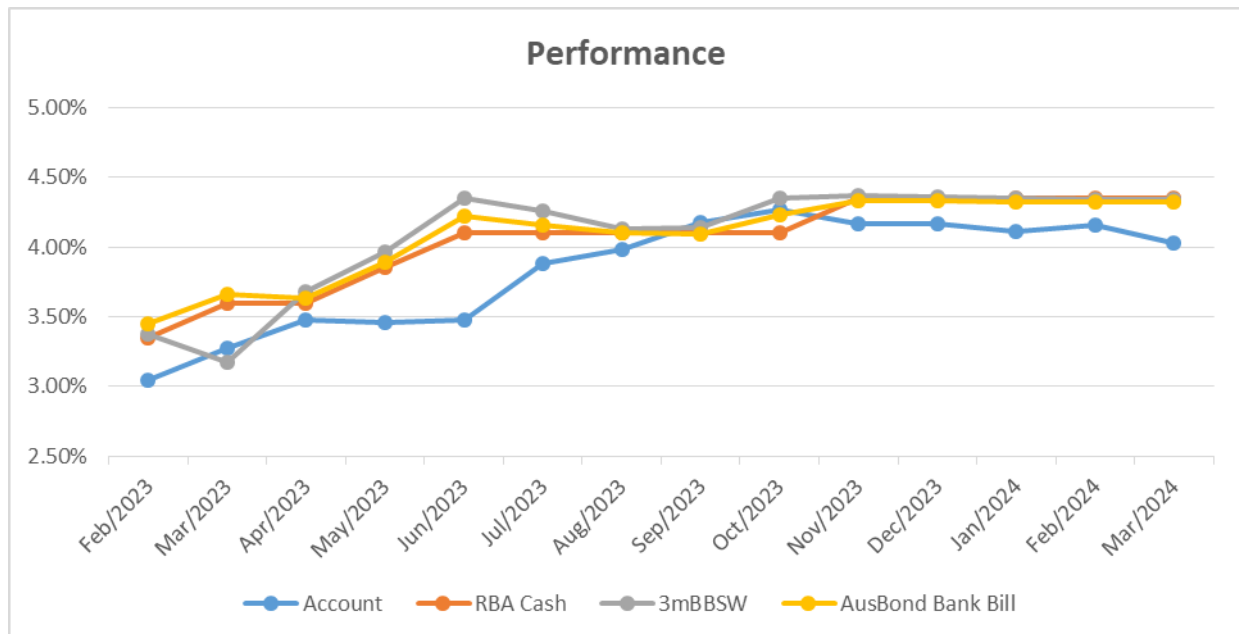
Greater Hume's overall investment portfolio

Term Deposits and Treasury Bonds		
Balance held as at 29 February 2024	30	\$24,066,546.01
Add: New Investments this month	2	\$1,071,245.02
		\$25,137,791.03
Less: Matured Investments this month	3	\$2,068,304.65
Balance held as at 31 March 2024	29	\$23,069,486.38

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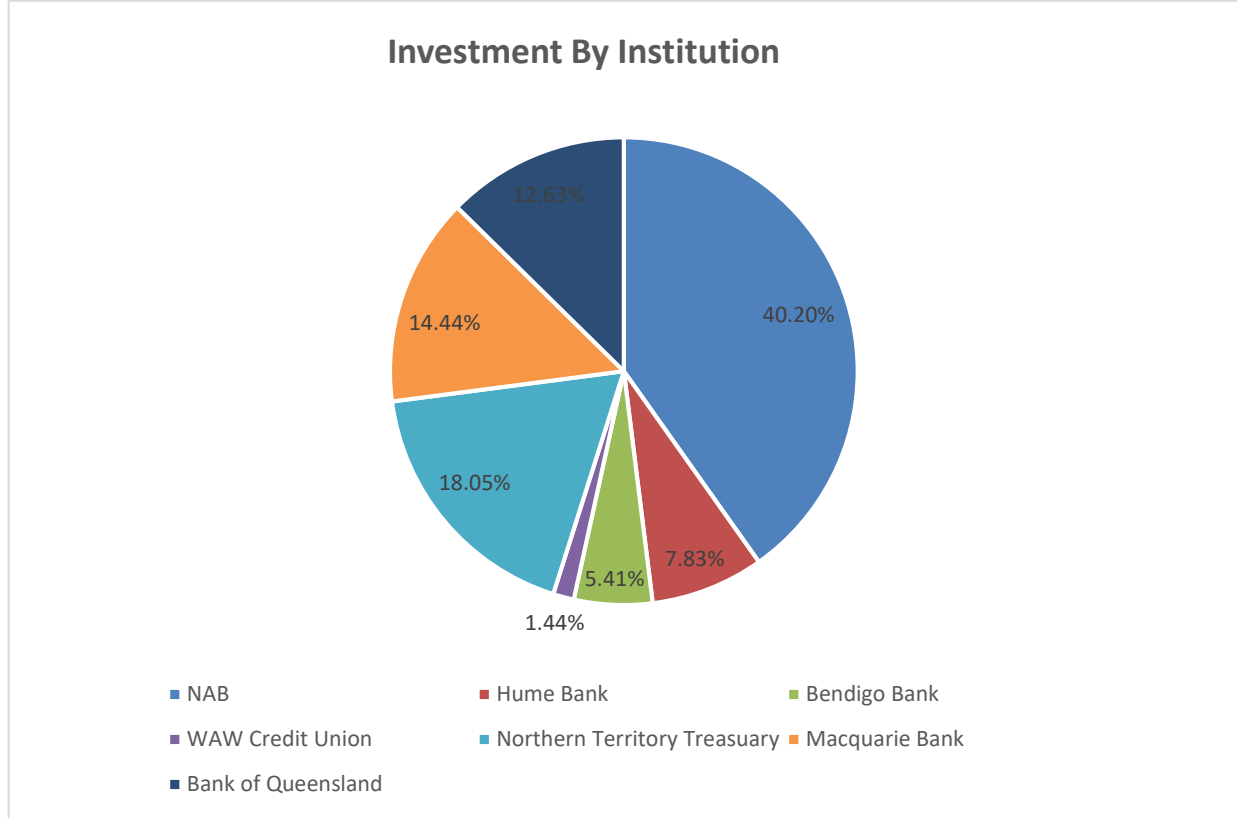
COMBINED INVESTMENT ACCOUNT – MONTH ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 [CONT'D]

At Call Account		
Account balance as at 29 February 2024		\$5,084,076.01
Add: Net movement to/from At Call account		-\$447,664.31
Account balance as at 31 March 2024		\$4,636,411.70
Total Portfolio Value as at 31 March 2024		\$27,705,898.08
Investment Yield		
Weighted Average Yield		4.03%
Reserve Bank Cash Rate (remained unchanged)		4.35%
<p>Note: The average yield on investments is currently below the Reserve Bank cash rate due to some low yield treasury bond investments in the portfolio. These investments will mature in June 2025 and June 2026. As can be seen in the table below recent investments are yielding well above the Reserve Bank cash rate.</p>		



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COMBINED INVESTMENT ACCOUNT – MONTH ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 [CONT'D]



Investment Register

Contract Number	ADI/Security Name	Amount	Settlement Date	Maturity Date	Term in Days	Yield	Monthly Accrued Interest
65984	NAB	\$500,000	6/07/2023	2/04/2024	271	5.35%	\$2,271.92
66105	Bank Of Queensland	\$1,000,000	17/07/2023	12/04/2024	270	5.47%	\$4,645.75
66898	Macquarie Bank	\$500,000	30/08/2023	26/04/2024	240	4.75%	\$2,017.12
69674	Hume Bank	\$1,000,000	2/01/2024	1/05/2024	120	4.85%	\$4,119.18
64568	Hume Bank	\$46,751.06	2/05/2023	1/05/2024	365	4.25%	\$168.75
70465	WAW Credit Union	\$400,000	6/02/2024	6/05/2024	90	4.75%	\$1,613.70
70358	Hume Bank	\$1,000,000	7/02/2024	10/05/2024	93	4.80%	\$4,076.71
66766	Macquarie Bank	\$1,000,000	18/08/2023	14/05/2024	270	4.83%	\$4,102.19
65005	Bendigo And Adelaide Bank	\$500,000	22/05/2023	21/05/2024	365	4.85%	\$2,059.59
66897	NAB	\$500,000	30/08/2023	27/05/2024	271	5.10%	\$2,165.75

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COMBINED INVESTMENT ACCOUNT – MONTH ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 [CONT'D]

69042	Macquarie Bank	\$1,000,000	11/12/2023	11/06/2024	183	4.91%	\$4,170.14
69092	NAB	\$500,000	12/12/2023	12/06/2024	183	5.10%	\$2,165.75
66785	Macquarie Bank	\$500,000	22/08/2023	17/06/2024	300	4.90%	\$2,080.82
65921	Hume Bank	\$51,490.30	30/06/2023	29/06/2024	365	5.55%	\$242.71
69353	Bank Of Queensland	\$1,000,000	3/01/2024	3/07/2024	182	4.95%	\$4,204.11
69352	Bendigo And Adelaide Bank	\$1,000,000	3/01/2024	3/07/2024	182	4.95%	\$4,204.11
69351	Bank Of Queensland	\$500,000	3/01/2024	3/07/2024	182	4.95%	\$2,102.05
68771	NAB	\$500,000	27/11/2023	24/07/2024	240	5.15%	\$2,186.99
66578	Macquarie Bank	\$1,000,000	8/08/2023	7/08/2024	365	4.92%	\$4,178.63
65217	Bank Of Queensland	\$500,000	5/06/2023	26/08/2024	448	5.15%	\$2,186.99
69111	Bank Of Queensland	\$500,000	13/12/2023	9/09/2024	271	5.25%	\$2,229.45
67183	NAB	\$2,000,000	13/09/2023	12/09/2024	365	5.15%	\$8,747.95
67414	NAB	\$500,000	20/09/2023	19/09/2024	365	5.20%	\$2,208.22
70501	NAB	\$1,000,000	4/03/2024	1/10/2024	211	5.05%	\$3,873.97
69094	NAB	\$1,000,000	12/12/2023	11/12/2024	365	5.20%	\$4,416.44
70654	Hume Bank	\$71,245.02	1/03/2024	1/03/2025	365	5.10%	\$308.60
56079	Northern Territory Treasury Corp	\$1,000,000	14/01/2022	15/06/2025	1,248	1.40%	\$1,189.04
52490	Northern Territory Treasury Corp	\$1,500,000	27/05/2021	16/06/2025	1,481	1.10%	\$1,401.37
51782	Northern Territory Treasury Corp	\$2,500,000	15/04/2021	15/06/2026	1,887	1.30%	\$2,760.27
49570	NAB	\$4,636,411.70	31/03/2024	1/04/2024	1	4.40%	\$330.26
Total		\$27,705,898.08					\$82,428.53

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COMBINED INVESTMENT ACCOUNT – MONTH ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 [CONT'D]

Declaration

I, Dean Hart, as the Responsible Accounting Officer of Greater Hume Shire Council, hereby certify the investments listed in the attached reports have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 and Council's Investment Policy.

All investments have been appropriately recorded in Council's financial records and reconciled monthly.

CONCLUSION

As at 31 March, 2024 total Investments held were \$27,705,898.08. The year to date accrued investment earnings for 2023/2024 was \$1,000,209.71 representing a weighted average yield of 4.03%.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Investment Balances Report for the month of March 2024.

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PART C - ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

GOVERNANCE

1. TOURISM AND PROMOTIONS REPORT – MARCH 2024

Prepared by: Emily Jones, Tourism and Communications Coordinator

Greater Hume Council Websites

Outcome 4.2 - Our communication is open, effective and purposeful to connect and educate our community. Continued implementation of the GHC Communication Plan. Maintain and manage the Greater Hume Council suite of websites which are compliant with accessibility standards. Seamless CMS(OpenCities now Granicus) is the provider of Council's websites – Greater Hume Council, Visit Greater Hume, Greater Hume Children Services and Town and Village websites.

Comments

		greaterhume.nsw.gov.au		ghchildren.com.au		visitgreaterhume.com.au	
March 2024		Previous	Current	Previous	Current	Previous	Current
Website Traffic	New	5400	5191	523	440	1055	1300
	Returning	4900	4700	502	423	818	1277
Traffic Source	Organic	3566	5722	432	286	726	800
	Direct	936	1115	186	131	208	166
	Referral	81	123	3	2	399	297
	Social	283	119	3	4	22	14
Device Paths	Desktop	2292	2136	240	182	420	528
	Mobile	3028	2918	281	256	627	729
	Tablet	106	138	2	2	27	43

www.greaterhume.nsw.gov.au - top pages:

1. Living in Greater Hume – Waste Facilities Opening Times Charges and Accepted Waste
2. Your Greater Hume Council – Careers With Us
3. Contact Us
4. Events Calendar
5. Your Greater Hume Council – Council Meetings

www.ghchildren.com.au – top pages:

1. Family Day Care
2. News - Higher Child Care Subsidy and Removal of Annual Cap
3. Enrol Your Child/Children
4. Contact Us
5. Holbrook Centre

www.visitgreaterhume.com.au – top pages:

1. Natural Wonders - Wymah Ferry
2. Culcairn - Explore Eat Stay/ Culcairn Caravan Park
3. Natural Wonders- Morgan's Lookout
4. Accommodation
5. Natural Wonders – Table Top Reserve

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TOURISM AND PROMOTIONS REPORT – MARCH 2024 [CONT'D]

Social Media

Outcome 4.2 - Our communication is open, effective and purposeful to connect and educate our community. Continued implementation of the GHC Communication Plan. Expand the information available to the community online and encourage online collaboration and self-serve service platforms

Comments

Instagram, #visitgreaterhume – 1131 followers

Individual facebook pages:

- Greater Hume Council – 3877 followers
- Visit Greater Hume – 801 followers
- Holbrook Submarine Museum – 1303 followers
- Greater Hume Children’s Services – 1000 followers
- Greater Hume Youth Advisory Committee – 489 followers
- Buy Local in Greater Hume – 676 followers

Greater Hume Council Newsletters

Outcome 4.2 - Our communication is open, effective and purposeful to connect and educate our community. Develop quarterly Council newsletters and a rates notice insert whilst ensuring effective and targeted content

Comments

Autumn edition of Greater Hume Council Newsletter was emailed out in first week of March. Some of the articles covered were Australia Day Celebrations at Wymah, Out and About, Halve Waste, Community Project Updates, and Library Information. Work is beginning on Winter Edition of the Community Newsletter.

Grants and Funding

Outcome 1.2 - Our infrastructure and services are aligned to the health, wellbeing and safety needs of the community

Comments

Greater Hume has now partnered with GrantGuru to provide is the most comprehensive grants database in Australia that includes grants and assistance across all levels of government and the private sector (philanthropic grants), each summarised into a one-page template for easy comparison. This grant portal is available to Council staff, local businesses, community and sporting groups throughout Greater Hume. Grant applications managed by writer are:

Name	About	Current
Maritime Museum	Submarine Museum Holbrook – Restoration and Framing of WWII Jolly Roger Flag \$1350.00	Successful - Work in Progress

Greater Hume Tourism and Promotions

Outcome 2.3 - Our region’s highlights are celebrated, maintained and promoted to enhance our visitor experience

Comments

- Monthly newsletters are sent to all Greater Hume Tourism Operators, providing latest information on tourism opportunities, marketing, social media and promotional campaigns as well as relevant contacts and statistics.
- Managing over 180 Greater Hume ATDW Listings. The Australian Tourism Data Warehouse (ATDW) is Australia’s national platform for digital tourism marketing in Australia. ATDW distributes information to over 60 partners’ websites to support local tourism businesses in expanding their on line exposure, bookings and marketing.
- Submitted visitor and What’s On advertising in Eat Play Summer 2023 Edition in Border Mail. The print run is 24,000, 14,000 are inserted into The Border Mail and the additional 10,000 distributed.

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TOURISM AND PROMOTIONS REPORT – FEBRUARY 2023 [CONT'D]

Distribution is to all Visitor Information Centres through NE Victoria and South West NSW/Riverina plus Canberra and Melbourne. Other business (inc motels) and advertisers. The Autumn Edition of Eat Play is currently being compiled.

- Emailed (over 600) 'What's On in April' to Visitor Information Centres in NSW and VIC, coach/bus/tour companies, tourism operators within shire and regional, media, visitor information points and to interested residents in shire.
- COVID Recovery Funding - A Greater Hume promotional campaign in partnership with Murray Regional Tourism and Destination NSW has been developed and will now be rolled out from Summer 2023/2024. The first section of this campaign a 'social influencer trip' has been completed. The second stage photoshoot has now been completed and photos are beginning to be released by Greater Hume and Visit the Murray.

Visitor Information Centre and Submarine Museum

Outcome 2.3 - Our region's highlights are celebrated, maintained and promoted to enhance our visitor experience.

Offering visitors to Greater Hume information and advice on accommodation, places to eat, attractions, maps, tours, road conditions, events and other general information. Reception and admission to Submarine Museum.

Comments

Visitor Information Centre Statistics:

Mar 24 - Walk In – 1757, Phone Calls - 36, Emails – 0.

Mar 23 - Walk In – 1213, Phone Calls - 44, Emails – 0.

Submarine Museum Statistics:

Mar 24 - Adult - 218, Child - 44, Concession - 279, Family - 59, Group - 26, Total - 626.

Mar 23 - Adult - 116, Child - 12, Concession - 202, Family - 48, Group - 0, Total - 378.

Events

Outcome 2.3 - Our region's highlights are celebrated, maintained and promoted to enhance our visitor experience

To assist with the promotion of Greater Hume's many and varied events. Encourage more residents to be involved in Greater Hume and events.

Comments

During this period we have supported over 20 events across Greater Hume from Australia Day, including Henty Ag Show, Festival by the Sub, Holbrook Triathlon and Holbrook Agricultural Show, Morgan Country Car Club Show and Shine and the Lights Show at Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre. We are currently supporting events such as G-Rodge Fest, various Jindera Pioneer Museum events, Holbrook Easter Fly-In and Anzac Day Ceremonies.

Australia Day

Outcome 1.1 - Our communities are welcoming and inclusive to support diversity and social connectedness

Comments

Preparation for the expressions of Interest to hold Australia Day next year have begun.

Signage

Outcome 2.3 - Our region's highlights are celebrated, maintained and promoted to enhance our visitor experience

Comments

Signage has been completed for Yambla View 'Wambariga' Lookout in Woomargama National Park.

Murray Regional Tourism (MRT)

Outcome 2.3 - Our region's highlights are celebrated, maintained and promoted to enhance our visitor experience

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TOURISM AND PROMOTIONS REPORT – MARCH 2024 [CONT'D]

MRT is a joint venture between Albury, Balranald, Berrigan, Campaspe, Corowa, Deniliquin, Gannawarra, Greater Hume, Mildura, Moira, Murray, Swan Hill, Wakool, Wodonga, as well as Tourism Vic and Destination NSW.)

Comments

- Currently attending monthly zoom meetings with MRT and the VIC network group.
- COVID Recovery Funding - A Greater Hume promotional campaign in partnership with Murray Regional Tourism and Destination NSW has been developed and has now been extended to Summer 2023/2024. The first section of this campaign is being release during the first weekend in February as a 'Social Influencer' campaign.
- Staff are undergoing Social Media Training beginning in February, led by Murray Regional Tourism. This training includes one on one mentoring sessions.
- A photo shoot across Greater Hume has been organized for March 2024.

Museums and Heritage

Outcome 1.3 - Our connection to the local culture and environment fosters positive relationships and learning for sustained health benefits.

GHC currently has 11 public or private museums and three historical societies. Museum Advisor (Vanessa Keenan) – In partnership with Albury City Council and Museums and Galleries NSW.

Comment

A full training/workshop program has been developed for 2024 by the Museum Adviser with museum volunteers, staff of Albury and Greater Hume at the new Digitisation Hub.

Greater Hume Community Museums now have an extensive library of objects on eHive, with over 250 objects now listed, (eHive is a web-based collection cataloguing system used worldwide by hundreds of museums, societies and private collectors to catalogue objects, store images, manage acquisition information and publish their collections online.) for those looking to learn more about some of the region's most significant objects/artefact's.

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CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. GREATER HUME LIBRARY SERVICES

Report prepared by Customer Relations Coordinator– Susan Kane

REASON FOR REPORT

To inform Council on library membership and participation in Greater Hume Council Libraries.
To inform Council on Youth Services programs and events held in Greater Hume Council
To inform Council on grant funding being applied and success in Libraries and Youth Services

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTIONS

Theme Health Communities.
Outcome We are revitalising our communities, welcoming visitors, growing our economy and promoting the lifestyle, culture and heritage offered in our communities.

DISCUSSION

The Greater Hume Council Libraries and Youth Services continue to organise and facilitate programs and services that meet the needs and wants of the community.

Library Programs- March 24

Library Programs	Location	Event
Seniors Week Festival – Expo	All Libraries and Walla Walla	This program included guest speakers on health and wellness, music fun, trivia, painting bird houses, and candle rolling. All participants were provided with a free morning tea and lunch. This event was made possible due to a successful NSW Government grant. 92 participants
Seniors Week Festival – Movie	Culcairn and Holbrook	Movies were enjoyed at Culcairn and Holbrook Libraries. Also funded from a successful NSW Government grant. 15 participants
Knitting -Wrap for Love Organisation	Culcairn Library	A fortnightly group who meets to knit, chat, and enjoy morning tea – 20 participants
Billabong High School library visit	Culcairn Library	A weekly event where 20 Billabong High School students visit the library to enjoy programs present by staff – trivia, jigsaw puzzles, learning about the library, and enjoying the recently purchased VR. In total 80 participants for the month

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GREATER HUME LIBRARY SERVICES [CONT'D]

Jigsaw Puzzles	Culcairn Library	Community members are working together to complete jigsaw puzzles. To date over twelve puzzles have been completed
Technology Equipment	Culcairn & Henty Libraries	Using Local Priority Funding two VR Headset have been purchased for young people. The VR technology is proving to be extremely successful with an increase in young people visiting the libraries each afternoon. On average 10 participants per afternoon
Storytime	Culcairn, Henty, and Holbrook Libraries	Storytime continues at the libraries

Upcoming Youth Programs – March 2024

Youth Programs	Location	Event
Youth Week	Billabong High School - Culcairn St Paul's College - Walla Walla	Youth Week was held at Billabong High School and Walla Walla St Pauls College. A presentation was made by SQUAD on Job Readiness and how students can prepare for entering the workforce, employer expectations and how to prepare for a job interview. Gift and lunch provided. The program was funded by NSW Government in partnership with Greater Hume Council. 60 students participated

Upcoming Library Programs & Services – April 24

Library Programs	Location	Event
Tech Savvy Senior	All Libraries	Bridging the technological gap – providing one on one classes for community members on embracing technology. This program is funded by NSW State Library

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GREATER HUME LIBRARY SERVICES [CONT'D]

Henty Meet N Greet	Henty	A partnership between Henty Community Development Committee and Henty Library. An opportunity for new residents to learn about organisations in Henty including the Henty Library. Fully funded by Henty Community Bank
Storytime	All Libraries	Storytime will commence in February 24 at all libraries with preschool and early primary school aged children

Upcoming Youth Programs

Youth Programs	Location	Event
Autumn Holiday Break	All Libraries	An opportunity to create clay earrings and keyholders for the youth of the community

Funding Applied For

Grant	Amount	Description
Regional Youth – Spring/Summer	\$11,791.64	Spring -Young people will travel to Albury for Rock Wall Climbing and Laser Tag Summer – Young people will participate in health and fitness activities at all local gyms

Library Statistics: March 24

Library Statistics – November 23	Henty	Culcairn	Holbrook	Jindera
Issues	290	251	408	95
Online Resources	174	58	163	26
Door Count	994	1513	1831	1260

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GREATER HUME LIBRARY SERVICES [CONT'D]

Mobile Library Statistics: March 24

Mobile Library Statistics	Brocklesby	Burrumbutt ock	Gerogery	Jindera	Walla Walla	Walbundrie	Woomarga ma
Issues	7	13	28	43	95	36	4
Online Resources	0	0	20	14	8	0	0

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil. Works are funded from budget allocations.

CONCLUSION

Seniors Week Festival 24 was an extremely successful program with ninety-two participants across Greater Hume Council attending the events. Youth Week programs were held this year at both Billabong High and St Paul's College with Jon from SQUAD Employment Agency providing a comprehensive presentation on how to prepare for a job. Students also enjoyed the lucky door prizes which include fuel vouchers, and also the gift of rocket books. Both programs were funded by the NSW Government through successful grant applications.

2. **GREATER HUME CUSTOMER REQUEST MODULE – SUMMARY OF MONTHLY REQUESTS**

For Councillors information, the Customer Request Module reports are **ENCLOSED SEPARATELY 4.**

3. **STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS AT 31 MARCH 2024**

The statement of bank balances as at 31 MARCH 2024 is attached at **ANNEXURE 4.**

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ENGINEERING

1. MARCH REPORT OF WORKS

Grants Program

State Roads Maintenance (RMCC)

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

Regional Roads

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

Culvert installation and road reconstruction are continuing on Jingellic Road (MR331) as part of the 3.2km rehabilitation project between Yarara Gap and Coppabella Road. The second kilometre of rehabilitation will be sealed in April.

Culvert replacement upgrade is continuing at Serpentine Creek on Jingellic Road (MR331).

Urana Road reseal between Jindera Gap and Jindera will be completed mid April.

Local Roads

Sealed

General maintenance on local roads is continuing.

Brocklesby Balldale Road (Stage 1) – Road construction is continuing with the second kilometre section of the rehabilitation to be sealed mid April.

Culvert installation is continuing as part of the 3.25km road reconstruction on Brocklesby Balldale Road (Stage 2).

Council's bitumen resealing program for 2023-2024 financial year is almost complete. Council carparks and to be completed early April.

Vegetation clean up from natural disaster AGRN1034 is continuing.

Shoulder repairs on various local roads from natural disaster AGRN1034 are continuing.

Unsealed:

Vegetation clean up from natural disaster AGRN1034 is continuing.

Heavy grading is continuing on various local roads from natural disaster AGRN1034.

Culvert replacement and associated road works on Yenschs Road, Lankeys Creek is complete, with the exception of guardrail installation and line marking.

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MARCH REPORT OF WORKS [CONT'D]

Maintenance grading has been carried out on the following roads during March. See Map **ANNEXURE 5**.

Road Name	Location	Length Graded (km)
ROAD NAME	LOCATION	APPROX. LENGTH
Bloomfield Road	Whole length	6.7
Brigadoon Lane	Whole length	1.8
Funk Road	Whole length	1.6
Greenvale Road	Whole length	2.6
Hickory Hill Road	From Stolls Rd end	2
Holwong Balldale Road	Shoulders only	2.5
Howlong Burrumbuttock Road	Shoulders only	2.7
Lockhart Road	Shoulders only	8
Morgans Road	Whole length	3
River Road	From Tunnel Road, eastwards	10.7
Roblins Road	Whole length	3.3
Schnaars Road	Shoulders only	1.3
Shady Grove Road	Whole length	2.5
South Street, Woomargama	Whole length	0.3
Trigg Road	North end (added gravel)	0.1
Total		49.10 km

Urban Streets:

General maintenance of urban streets including signage replacement is continuing.

Footpath construction on Urana Street, Jindera from Creek Street to Pioneer Park is complete.

General:

General maintenance of public toilets and parks is continuing.

Earthworks and water and wastewater infrastructure installation is continuing on the new Culcairn residential subdivision by contractors.

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MARCH REPORT OF WORKS [CONT'D]

Monthly Works Maintenance Expenditure:

Local Roads Program	Current Budget	Monthly Budget to Date	YTD Expenditure	Monthly Budget Variance to Actual	Natural Disaster & Pothole Expenditure to Date	Comments
Urban Roads Maintenance	\$240,450	\$180,338	\$172,489	\$7,848	\$87,031	
Urban Roads Town Maintenance	\$281,000	\$210,750	\$363,644	-\$152,894	\$0	Overexpenditure is off set by the under spend on Rural Roads Maintenance
Rural Roads Sealed	\$883,366	\$662,525	\$738,519	-\$75,994	\$3,053,247	Overexpenditure is off set by the under spend on Rural Roads Maintenance
Rural Roads Unsealed	\$1,381,265	\$1,035,949	\$781,028	\$254,920	\$1,334,961	
Street Tree Maintenance	\$256,000	\$192,000	\$185,223	\$6,777	\$0	

NOTE: Application for Natural Disaster submitted and declared for significant weather events December/January. Awaiting acceptance of funding for completed emergency works and pending works estimated value \$1.5m.

Regional Roads Program	Current Budget	Monthly Budget to Date	YTD Expenditure	Monthly Budget Variance to Actual	Natural Disaster & Pothole Expenditure to Date	Comments
Regional Roads Maintenance	2,755,948	2,066,961	1,394,126	672,835	2,022,643	

Sportsgrounds, Parks & Public Toilets	Current Budget	Monthly Budget to Date	YTD Expenditure	Monthly Budget Variance to Actual	Natural Disaster & Pothole Expenditure to Date	Comments
Sportsground Maintenance	\$346,418	\$259,814	\$330,101	-\$70,287	\$0	Seasonal preparation for football season and additional budgets will be reassessed at the March budget review
Parks & Gardens Maintenance	\$278,752	\$209,064	\$219,733	-\$10,669	\$0	Continue to monitor future expenditure, Overexpenditure is tracking downward from previous month.
Public Toilets Maintenance	\$218,060	\$163,545	\$186,388	-\$22,843	\$0	Additional staffing and requirement to clean more often. Budgets will be reviewed at the March review.

NB : Sportsground Maintenance excludes annual GHC contribution payment

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MARCH REPORT OF WORKS [CONT'D]

Major Projects Expenditure:

Project	Budget	YTD	Committed	Total	% Budget Expended	% Work Completed	Comments
2023-2024 Resealing Program	\$2,561,417.00	\$1,776,041.99	\$473,503.51	\$2,249,545.50	69.34%	80.00%	Sealing program is progressing.
2023-2024 Gravel Resheeting Program - Including LRCIP and Carry Forwards	\$2,645,465.06	\$2,395,022.99	\$0.00	\$2,395,022.99	90.53%	100.00%	All roads have been completed
Brocklesby Balldale Road Rehab - Stage 1 & 2	\$4,671,578.50	\$1,408,060.18	\$342,496.73	\$1,225,763.07	30.14%	35.00%	Preparation for sealing 2nd kilometre under construction
Regional and Local Road Repair Program - State Government Rounds 1 & 2	\$9,130,569.00	\$5,677,972.65	\$200,000.00	\$5,877,972.65	62.19%	62.00%	Additional works are being scoped for this funding and where required will be put to VP for pricing.
Coppabella Bridge Replacement	\$1,566,500.00	\$1,533,099.74	\$6,769.73	\$1,539,869.47	97.87%	100.00%	Completed
Balfour Street Culcairn - Upgrade Project	\$1,883,055.00	\$1,847,996.65	\$10,000.00	\$1,857,996.65	98.14%	98.00%	Street trees are still to be planted at the correct time of year.

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MARCH REPORT OF WORKS [CONT'D]

Jingellic Road - Hulm to Coppabella Recon	\$3,600,000.00	\$1,488,134.99	\$560,627.66	\$2,048,762.65	41.34%	44.00%	Preparation for sealing 2nd kilometre under construction
Jingellic Road - 5 Bridges/culverts	\$4,520,000.00	\$523,958.11	\$615,400.97	\$1,139,359.08	11.59%	13.00%	Serpentine Creek has commenced
Culcairn Residential Subdivision	\$3,217,391.00	\$1,207,114.74	\$13,900.00	\$1,221,014.74	37.52%	43%	Stormwater, sewer and bulk earthworks completed

Capital Works Program 2023-2024 spreadsheet is attached as **ANNEXURE 6**.

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ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

1. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS PROCESSED FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2024

The schedule of development applications processed for the month of March 2024 is attached at **ANNEXURE 7**.

PART D

COMMUNITY MEETING- MINUTES

Attached in **ANNEXURE 8**, are minutes of the following items:

1. WALLA WALLA COMMUNITY HALL MEETING 4 MARCH 2024, 5.30PM