



AGENDA

Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday, 20 August 2024

I hereby give notice that an Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on:

Date: Tuesday, 20 August 2024

Time: 10:00 AM

**Location: Council Chambers, Estates Building Cressy
Street Deniliquin**

**Gary Arnold
Interim Chief Executive Officer**

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1. OPENING MEETING**2. ATTENDANCE****3. LIVE STREAMING STATEMENT**

Edward River Council wishes to advise members of the public that Council Meetings will be recorded and will be available after each meeting on Council's website [Councils Website](#). All care will be taken to maintain the privacy of those in attendance, however As a visitor in the public gallery, your presence may be recorded. By remaining In the public gallery, it is assumed your consent is given in the event your image is broadcast. This includes any filming by television cameras if attendance is approved by the Chief Executive Officer or Mayor.

4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Edward River Council acknowledges and embraces the Traditional Owners of the Lands within the Edward River Council area - the Wamba Wamba/Perrepa Perrepa Peoples – and pay our respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging. The Edward River Council also recognises the diversity of different cultures within our community and their contribution.

5. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

I have come here as a Councillor freely and without bias to:

- Represent the views of the community in considering the matters before us today
- To vote in a matter I consider to be in the best interest of the community
- To observe the Code of Conduct and respect the rule of the chair and views of my fellow Councillors.

6. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS**7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES****7.1. DRAFT MINUTES ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 16 JULY 2024**

Author: Executive Assistant

Authoriser: Interim Chief Executive Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the draft minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held Tuesday 16 July 2024.

BACKGROUND**ISSUE/DISCUSSION****STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS****COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

5. Accountable leadership and responsive administration

5.1 Collaborative and Engaged

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Minutes Ordinary Council Meeting held 16 July 2024.



MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday, 16 July 2024

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ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**TUESDAY, 16 JULY 2024**

1. OPENING MEETING

Meeting opened at 10am

2. ATTENDANCE

Present: Mayor Cr Peta Betts, Deputy Mayor Cr Marc Petersen, Cr Linda Fawns, Cr Shirlee Burge, Cr Shannon Sampson, Cr Tarria Moor, Cr Pat Fogarty, Interim Chief Executive Officer Gary Arnold

In attendance: Acting Director Corporate Services, Acting Director Infrastructure, Acting Chief Financial Officer, Acting Manager Governance, Safety & Risk, Executive Assistant

Gallery: 4

3. LIVE STREAMING STATEMENT

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- To vote in a matter I consider to be in the best interest of the community
- To observe the Code of Conduct and respect the rule of the chair and views of my fellow Councillors.

6. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

Moved: Cr Shannon Sampson

Seconder: Cr Tarria Moore

RESOLUTION 2024/1607/6

That the leave of absence received from Cr Harold Clapham be accepted.

CARRIED

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**7.1. DRAFT MINUTES ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 17 JUNE 2024**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Cr Marc Petersen

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ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**TUESDAY, 16 JULY 2024**

Seconded: Cr Linda Fawns

RESOLUTION 2024/1607/7.1

That Council receive and note the draft minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held Tuesday 17 June 2024.

CARRIED**7.2. DRAFT MINUTES EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 JUNE 2024**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Cr Marc Petersen

Seconded: Cr Shannon Sampson

RESOLUTION 2024/1607/7.2

That Council receive and note the draft minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held Tuesday 25 June 2024.

CARRIED**8. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS**

12.4 Mayor Cr Peta Betts declared a Non-Pecuniary - significant disclosure and will be absent during the debate and voting.

12.4 Cr Shirlee Burge declared a Non-Pecuniary - less than significant disclosure and will remain in the Chambers during the debate and voting.

15.1 Mayor Cr Peta Betts declared a Non-Pecuniary - significant disclosure and will be absent during the debate and voting.

15.2 Cr Tarria Moore declared a Non-Pecuniary - less than significant disclosure and will remain in the Chambers during the debate and voting.

9. MAYORAL MINUTE(S)

Nil

10. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Nil

11. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**11.1. GROWTH STRATEGY - PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Moved: Cr Linda Fawns

Seconded: Cr Shannon Sampson

RESOLUTION 2024/1607/11.1

That Council receive the draft minutes of the Growth Strategy Project Advisory Committee meeting held on 25 June 2024 and endorse the committee's recommendations and resolutions contained therein, specifically that:

1. Changes to the strategy in response to feedback made in the following areas:
 - a. early childhood;
 - b. First Nations;

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ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**TUESDAY, 16 JULY 2024**

- c. accommodation;
 - d. consideration of all investment and governance models;
 - e. river health and erosion;
 - f. river health and lagoon system;
 - g. use of Gazetted name of the river;
 - h. poverty and homelessness;
 - i. digital connectivity and renewable energy;
 - j. that feedback will inform project development;
 - k. animal health and livestock;
 - l. waste;
 - m. Island Sanctuary,
2. The time frame for delivery of the final strategy be amended for the purpose of targeted, relevant consultation.

CARRIED**11.2. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE CONARGO HALL COMMITTEE**

Moved: Cr Linda Fawns

Seconded: Cr Marc Petersen

RESOLUTION 2024/1607/11.2

That Council receives the minutes of the Conargo Hall Committee meeting held on Wednesday 26th June 2024, and endorses the recommendations from the Committee contained therein, specifically;

- a) The acceptance of the quotation from David Woodhead \$12,854.00, to remove asbestos from the amenities block in the Conargo Hall Precinct and replace with suitable compliant material to Australia Building Code.
- b) The acceptance of the quotation from David Woodhead \$19,146.00, to remove completely replace, refurbish the interior of the amenities block in the Conargo Hall Precinct with compliant fixtures, furnishings as per attached quote.
- c) The acceptance of the quotation from Menadue Floor just over \$5,000.00. Coverings to replace the floor in the kitchen with compliant flooring.
- d) Consider the Committee's request to have the Defib machine relocated outside of the Hall, and for it to be serviced. The location of the Defib machine outside is requested to be outside the Front doors of the Hall facing Conargo Road.

CARRIED

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, 16 JULY 2024

12. REPORTS TO COUNCIL**12.1. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION DA2024/0041**

Moved: Cr Shannon Sampson

Seconded: Cr Tarria Moore

RESOLUTION 2024/1607/12.1

That Council resolves to: -

1. APPROVE the development application 2024/0041 for Demolition of existing dwelling and Construction of new Dwelling, on Lot 52 DP1189132, Cemetery Road, Deniliquin dated 09.04.24 as shown on plan numbered AO1-7631, AO2 -7631 and described in detail accompanying the Development Application, in accordance with section 4.16 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and subject to the following reasons:
 - a. The proposal is compliant with the terms of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.
 - b. The proposal is appropriate on the site given the current use of the site.
 - c. The development will have no significant adverse impacts on the natural or built environments.
2. Impose the conditions as shown in attachment 1.

Division

For: Deputy Mayor Cr Marc Petersen, Cr Linda Fawns, Cr Shirlee Burge, Cr Shannon Sampson, Cr Tarria Moore, Cr Pat Fogarty, Mayor Cr Peta Betts

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0**12.2. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES ACTIVITY REPORT JUNE 2024**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Cr Marc Petersen

Seconded: Cr Pat Fogarty

RESOLUTION 2024/1607/12.2

That Council receive and note the June 2024 Development Services Report.

CARRIED**12.3. PETITION - NEW LIGHTING (CNR BARHAM & MCCRABB ROAD)**

Moved: Cr Pat Fogarty

Seconded: Cr Marc Petersen

RESOLUTION 2024/1607/12.3

That the Council

1. Accept the petition and seek the Manager of Transport to undertake a review of the intersection and take appropriate actions to consider and address concerns; and
2. Advise the contact person for the petition of the outcome of the review.

CARRIED

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ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**TUESDAY, 16 JULY 2024**

12.4. NAMING OF NORTH DENILQUIN REST AREA

Mayor Cr Peta Betts declared a Non-Pecuniary - Significant disclosure and left the Chambers at 10.13am

Deputy Mayor Cr Marc Petersen took the chair at 10.13am

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the name 'Flo Allen Park' for Crown Reserve 46452, currently known as the North Denilquin Tennis Club reserve, for the purpose of submitting to the Geographical Names Board of NSW for approval.

Moved: Cr Pat Fogarty

Seconded: Cr Shirlee Burge

RESOLUTION

That the report be deferred until the current policy is investigated to ensure Council is working within policy and that the report comes back to Council in August 2024.

CARRIED

The Mayor returned to the Chambers at 10.39am and resumed the Chair

12.5. INVESTMENT REPORT - JUNE 2024

Moved: Cr Linda Fawns

Seconded: Cr Shannon Sampson

RESOLUTION 2024/1607/12.5

That Council:

1. Note and receive the June 2024 report on Investments totalling \$39,792,022 inclusive of cash at bank for day-to-day operations.
2. Note that actual interest earned in the month of June 2024 was \$117,806.
3. Note that total interest earned for the year to 30 June 2024 is \$1,621,961.
4. Note the Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer and adopt the Investment Report.

CARRIED**12.6. MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE - JUNE 2024**

Moved: Cr Tarria Moore

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Cr Marc Petersen

RESOLUTION 2024/1607/12.6

That Council receive and note the Major Projects Program - Progress Report for June 2024.

CARRIED

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**TUESDAY, 16 JULY 2024**

12.7. RESOLUTIONS OF COUNCIL

Moved: Cr Pat Fogarty

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Cr Petersen

RESOLUTION 2024/1706/12.7

That Council note the information in the Resolutions of Council as at 5 July 2024

CARRIED

Cr Tarria Moore left the Chambers at 10.53am and returned at 10.56am

12.8. MAYOR, COUNCILLOR, CEO MEETINGS ATTENDED JUNE 2024

Moved: Cr Linda Fawns

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Cr Marc Petersen

RESOLUTION 2024/1607/12.8

That Council

1. Note meetings attended on behalf of Council by the Mayor, Councillors and Interim Chief Executive Officer during the month of June 2024.
2. Continue to advise the Chief Executive Officers' Executive Assistant of their meeting diaries and activities attended.

CARRIED**13. NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

Nil

14. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

15. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Moved Cr Linda Fawns

Seconded: Cr Shannon Sampson

RESOLUTION 2024/1607/15

That Council moved into Confidential items at 10.59am.

The Council is satisfied that, pursuant to Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, the information to be received, discussed, or considered in relation to this agenda item is:

- (2) The matters and information are the following
- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

CARRIED

Members of the Gallery left the Chambers at 10.59am and did not return.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**TUESDAY, 16 JULY 2024**

Mayor Cr Peta Betts left the Chambers at 11am and handed the Chair to the Deputy Mayor Cr Marc Petersen. Cr Tarria Moore, Cr Shannon Sampson and Acting Chief Financial Officer left the Chambers at 11am.

Manager Development Services entered the Chambers at 11.01am

Cr Tarria Moore and Cr Shannon Sampson returned to the Chambers at 11.02am.

15.1. SEWER CONNECTION ISSUE

Acting Chief Financial Officer returned to the Chambers at 11.04am.

Moved: Cr Shirlee Burge

Seconded Cr Shannon Sampson

RESOLUTION 2024/1607/15.1

That Council endorses the actions taken by staff to rectify an incorrectly located sewer line that affected three private properties located within Decimus Street and Liefing Court.

CARRIED

Mayor returned to the Chamber at 11.09am and returned to the Chair.

15.2. LOCAL HERITAGE GRANT PROGRAM

Moved: Cr Marc Petersen

Seconded: Cr Linda Fawns

RESOLUTION 2024/1607/15.2

That Council funds the following projects as part of the Local Heritage Fund 2024-2025:

(a) 47-49 Napier Street, Deniliquin - Restoration of external doors and windows, funding up to a value of \$7,000,

(b) 217-223 Cressy Street, Deniliquin - Construction of access ramp to building, funding up to a value of \$4,500, and

(c) 115 End Street, Deniliquin - Restoration of heritage facade, funding up to the value of \$3,500.

CARRIED**15.3. ARIC INDEPENDENT MEMBER APPOINTMENT**

Moved: Cr Linda Fawns

Seconded: Cr Tarria Moore

RESOLUTION 2024/1607/15.3

The Council accept the recommendations of the Interview panel and endorse the appointment of the following Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) Independent members subject to successful background checks and completed attestation declarations:

- Theo Canias for a period of up to four years from the date of acceptance of a formal letter of appointment; and
- Carolyn Rosetta-Walsh and Vivek Chopra for a period of up to two years from the date of acceptance of a formal letter of appointment.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, 16 JULY 2024

That Council delegate the signing of formal letters of appointment to the Interim Chief Executive Officer for ARIC appointments.

CARRIED

Against: Cr Shirlee Burge and Cr Pat Fogarty

16. CLOSE OF MEETING

Moved: Cr Tarria Moore

Seconded: Cr Shannon Sampson

That Council return to open Council at 11.31am and that the Interim Chief Executive Officer read the resolutions.

CARRIED

The meeting closed at 11.33am

8. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

9. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

9.1. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE BLIGHTY ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Author: Executive Assistant

Authoriser: Director Infrastructure

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council receives the draft minutes of the Blighty Advancement Committee meeting held Tuesday 30th July 2024 and notes the Committee's resolutions.

BACKGROUND

The Blighty Advancement Committee is a Section 355 (s355) committee of Council, responsible for the care, control and maintenance of the Blighty Recreation Reserve.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

At the meeting several maintenance and operational items were raised regarding the Blighty Recreation Reserve and what maintenance needs to be completed prior to the upcoming elimination final on Sunday 25th August 2024. Proposed meeting with Facilities & Open Spaces Manager 6th August at 6pm to discuss.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

It is important that Council continues to work with s355 committees regarding the strategic management of facilities on behalf of the community.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

1. Shaping the Future
 - 1.3 Enhanced Active and Passive Open Spaces
4. Delivering community assets and services
 - 4.1 Vibrant villages and towns

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As part of their responsibilities as a s355 committee, the Blighty Advancement Committee provides Council with information regarding their financial status. Treasures Report supplied as part of the Blighty Advancement Committee Minutes attached.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The Blighty Advancement Committee, as a s355 committee, operates in accordance with the Local Government Act and Regulations.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Minutes from Blighty Advancement Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 30th July 2024.

Attachment 1 - BAC Minutes July 2024

Blighty Advancement Committee Meeting

Tuesday 30th July 2024

Time: 6.00pm

Present: Judy Plattfuss, Al Nicholls, Geoff Ford, Andy Lostroh, Rhys Tremble, Meagan Lowry, Jane Crowhurst, Felicity Michael, Shannon Sampson

Apologies: Jodi Brown, Kelly Nicholls, Jaymie Coleman, Linda Fawns, Marylynne Bradford, Malcolm Holm, Maree Hovenden

Previous Meeting:

Moved: Andy Lostroh
Seconded: Judy Plattfuss

Financial Report: Treasurer - Judy Plattfuss

Moved: Judy Plattfuss
Seconded: Geoff Ford
Carried

Invoices to be sent: Blighty Football/ Netball Club fees

Plan: Review power bills to analyse usage

Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

- Jaymie Coleman to bring grounds representative to grounds to address issues on the list
- Light upgrade not quite finished - trenches not quite completed (need crushed rock)
- Thank you to Jane Crowhurst to be organised and sent
- Netball clubrooms septic – concerns with upcoming final
- Fryer and Bain-marie switches repaired (bills to be discussed with council)
- Sub-Committee meeting for user fees to be discussed as these must include cleaning fees as council are no longer paying these separately (these need to recognise the different usage by different groups)
- **Shannon** – Blighty pay full fee structure whereby other clubs pay partial fees, raised at council by Shannon – no clear response was provided
- Fence around the dam is fixed
- Teaspoons and clock to be purchased for hall and donated by Judy.

Business with notice:

- **Jane:** Christmas Party to be raised at next meeting – December date
- **Shannon:** thanked committee as may not be present depending on upcoming council elections
- **Shannon:** Please Cc Belinda Perrett into meeting minutes so she can include dates on council calendar Belinda.perrett@edwardriver.nsw.gov.au
- Proposed meeting with Jaymie, Tuesday 6th August at 5.00pm Blighty Recreation Reserve

- **Judy:** Mary-Lynne expressed her thanks to Jodi for supporting her during her time away from the committee. Hopefully will return next meeting. Thank you to the committee for understanding and support.
- **Judy:** purchased teaspoons and clock for hall

Next Meeting: Tuesday 1st October at 6pm

Meeting Closed: 6.51pm

Blighty Advancement Committee.

Treasurer Report:

1st May 2024

Judy Plattfuss 30th June 2024

\$ 15,466.16

Income:

Interest May	\$	0.13
Deni Child Care	\$	840.00
Interest June	\$	0.14

	\$	0.13
	\$	840.00
	\$	0.14

Total:

\$ 16,306.43

Expenses:

Party Pack Wrap	\$	186.85	Cleaning Products & Toilet Rolls	\$186.85
David Walsh Gas	\$	134.02	Gas for Hall	\$134.12
Kelly Nicholls	\$	1,320.00	Deep Clean of Hall	1,320.00

Total:

\$1,640.97

Closing Balance:

30th June 2024

\$ 14,665.46

Term Deposit Reinvested to 17th Jan 2025 at 4.75%

Interest earned

\$ 5,861.73
\$ 163.13

Money still to come in.

Money Going Out.

Blighty Advancement Committee - ACTION REGISTER – Blighty Recreational Reserve

CONCERN	LOCATION	DATE & WHO RAISED CONCERN	RESPONSIBLE	DATE COMPLETED
Dam fence not fixed; holes patched up after tree removal but not secure	Around dam behind hall	Andy Lostroh 28 th May 2024 3x previously to council		
Light in Male Toilets not working	Male Toilet – Netball Club	Shannon Sampson 28 th May 2024		
		30 th July 2024		
Male Toilets - urinal leaking, back of units leaking and two broken seats	Male Toilets – Hall	Kelly Nicholls 28 th May 2024		
		30 th July 2024 need done before finals		
Septic/Toilets	Netball Club	Jodi Brown 28 th May 2024 Continual reports made	Jaymie investigating further	
		30 th July 2024 Concerns with finals coming up		
Vanity/Bench top coming away from wall	Netball Club home rooms	Jodi Brown 28 th May 2024		
Power points	Hall & kitchen	Al Nicholls 28 th May 2024 Numerous times previously		Completed 30 th July 2024
Mould	On roof inside Netball Clubrooms	Jodi Brown 28 th May 2024 Numerous times previously		
Kitchen Drawer; front off – had been fixed but broken again	Kitchen Hall	Al Nicholls 28 th May 2024		
Football lights control switch not working properly	Control box	Al Nicholls 28 th May 2024		Completed 30 th July 2024
Trenches from lights need to be filled in – WHS	Around where lights have been put in	Al Nicholls 28 th May 2024		
		30 th July 2024 Trench needs rock added, dirt washing away, WHS concern before finals		
Grass	Around Blighty signs	Geoff Ford 28 th May 2024		
		30 th July 2024		

		Always needs to be mowed		
Heater in the Hall meeting room not working		30 th July 2024		
Roller Door in hall bar broken		Al Nicholls 30 th July 2024		
Ceiling fan in hall not working		30 th July 2024		
Smoke Alarms – not working		Shannon Sampson 30 th July 2024		
Emergency exit signs nonoperational		30 th July 2024		
RCD wont trip – electrical safety device		Felicity Michael 30 th July 2024		

9.2. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE CONARGO HALL COMMITTEE

Author: Executive Assistant

Authoriser: Director Infrastructure

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receives the minutes of the Conargo Hall Committee meeting held on Wednesday 24th July 2024, and endorses the recommendations from the Committee contained therein, specifically;

a) The acceptance of the quotation from Top Security Albury, to install the security system and sound system upgrade as per quote supplied, and to undertake an internet service with Optus business to connect the security system with internet connectivity.

b) The decision to support our local whipcracking team of young adults for the national titles with vouchers to the value of \$600.00.

c) It was resolved to order the topping for the Tennis courts and conduct a working bee, hiring the roller to get the courts into top order.

BACKGROUND

Section 355 (s355) committees of the Council play an important role in providing and managing council facilities. The Conargo Memorial Hall and Recreation Ground Committee was confirmed by council resolution in January 2022 (Resolution 220120/9.3). The Committee is responsible for the care, control and maintenance of the Conargo Hall and recreation grounds, as detailed in the adopted Instrument of Delegation and Terms of Reference.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

At its 24th July 2024 Meeting, In summary the committee considered the following matters:

- Received an update from Cr Clapham regarding the Conargo Sheep Yards. The operator of the Deniliquin Saleyards has looked at the Conargo yards and they are not suitable for use at the Deniliquin Facility. Council will need to make a decision in regard to the removal of the Conargo Sheep Yards and cleaning of the area
- The committee has concluded that developing specifications for refurbishment of the Church was confusing for all parties. Deb is to follow this up with Jaymie, Damien and Mark Dalzell, understanding that planning for next year's budget begins in September.
- The committee was updated that now the Transgrid community meeting is now being held on Monday 5th August at 5pm at the Conargo Hall.
- Water Quality of the water from the tank when hiring out the hall and options of having a filter installed or dispenser. In the interim, bottled water will be purchased and investigation carried out on the water in the tanks and its drinkability.
- Discussed community projects for Conargo.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

It is important that Council continues to work with s355 committees regarding the strategic management of facilities on behalf of the community.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

- 1. Shaping the Future
 - 1.3 Enhanced Active and Passive Open Spaces
- 4. Delivering community assets and services
 - 4.1 Vibrant villages and towns

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As part of their responsibilities as a s355 committee, the Conargo Hall Committee provides Council with information regarding their financial status. No Treasures Report supplied.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The Conargo Hall Committee, as a s355 committee, operates in accordance with the Local Government Act and Regulations.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Draft Minutes of the Conargo Hall Committee Meeting Held on Wednesday 24th July 2024.

Attachment 1 - General Meeting Minutes July 24, 2024

Conargo Hall Committee

General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday July 24, 2024

TIME: 6.30 pm

DATE: Wednesday July 24, 2024

LOCATION: Conargo Shire Hall/Live Stream

MINUTE TAKER: Deb Stockton

ITEM NO.	AGENDA ITEM	SPEAKER	DETAILS & ATTACHMENTS
1	Welcome	Chair	Colin opened the meeting at 6.45 and welcomed everyone to the meeting. He acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the Lands within the Edward River Council area - the Wamba Wamba/Perrepa Perrepa Peoples – and paid his respects to elders, past, present, and emerging. He also recognised the diversity of different cultures within our community and their contribution.
2	Apologies	Chair	Harold Clapham, Liz McNamara, Peri Chapel. Moved: Brett Jervis Second: Scott Fullerton Carried
3	Attendees	Chair	Colin Bull, Michael Pisasale, Ian Paton, Deb Stockton, Marg Bull, Bronwyn Chappell, Alan Hardcastle, Lyn Hardcastle, Alistair McNamara, Scott Fullerton, Brett Rose, Brett Jervis, Christie Jervis, Allison Pearson. Dave Woodhead, Aileen Loader and Mick Loader via livestream.
4	Declaration of Conflict of Interest	Chair	No conflicts of interest declared.
5	Acceptance of Minutes from June 26th, 2024	Chair	Minutes of previous meeting accepted. Moved: Allison Pearson Second: Scott Fullerton Carried
6	Business Arising	Chair	To be dealt with in General Business

7	Chair Report	Colin Bull	Colin did not present a written report. He verbally expressed his concern in regard to holding money in restricted reserves with a change of council looming.
8	Secretary's Report	Deb Stockton	Nothing to report.
9	Treasurers Report	Ian Paton	Nothing to report.
10	General Business	Council (Harold Clapham)	10.1 Update on the advertising and sale of the sheep yards or repurposing of the yards was given by Jaymie Coleman from the Council. She indicated Greg White had taken a look at the yards and were unfortunately not suitable for any works at the Deniliquin yards. We now require Council to make a decision in regard to their removal and cleaning up of the area.
		Deb Stockton	10.2 Boat Ramp – Deb advised application for grant funding opens in October or November and will be advised when to lodge an application for funding the boat ramp near the Billabong bridge.
		Colin Bull	10.3 Colin gave an update on the cricket pitch. Hopefully, with warmer weather approaching the works will begin.
		Deb Stockton	10.4 Deb advised that a concept plan had been received at 5.30 pm the afternoon of the meeting making it impossible to forward to everyone in time for the meeting. She undertook to forward to all committee members via email in the coming days.
		Deb Stockton	10.6 Deb advised she had not sourced the material for resurfacing, however, Colin advised he had investigated the hire of a roller from Den Hire for approximately \$220 per day. It was resolved to order the topping for the courts and conduct a working bee, hiring the roller to get the courts into top order.
		Dave Woodhead	10.9 Dave provided a comprehensive update on the progress of the hall extension. He advised he had corresponded with Ian Keith from Riverina Drafting Services at Corey Leifting's suggestion. Dave provided a set of drawings he had prepared for Ian to produce working drawings. Ian

			<p>advised, although doing himself out of a job, the drawings Dave had provided were more than sufficient for Council and pricing the extension.</p>
		Dave Woodhead	<p>10.10 Dave has been working on the stables, installing internal bracing, replacing missing logs on the façade and reinstating the logs on the south wall. He indicated there will be savings on the original quote due to the availability of original materials found within the stables, and the non-requirement for scaffolding and timber milling required to stabilise the front wall.</p>
		Council/Hall Committee	<p>10.11 Developing specifications for refurbishment of the Church was confusing for all parties. Deb is to follow this up with Jaymie, Damien and Mark Dalzell, understanding that planning for next year’s budget begins in September,</p>
		Liz McNamara	<p>10.12 Transfer of the liquor license has been completed; Liz McNamara is now the official licensee of the Conargo Hall.</p>
		Deb Stockton /Jaymie Coleman	<p>10.13 Jaymie spoke to the defib machine issue and advised that the newly installed machines inside the hall are from a Council grant. There is a possibility that a machine will be installed in the park area as a result of remaining machines surplus to requirements. Jaymie will advise further as information is confirmed.</p>
		Deb Stockton	<p>10.14 Deb discussed the Security System as per the information sent out to all members and the quotes.</p> <p>Motion: The committee accepts the quotes from Top Security Albury to install the security system and sound system upgrade as per the attached quotes and undertakes an internet service with Optus business to connect the security system with internet connectivity.</p> <p>Moved: Brett Jervis Second: Alistair McNamara Carried</p>

		<p>Deb Stockton</p> <p>Other business</p>	<p>10.17 Deb discussed the proposed meeting with Transgrid on August 1, re the possible purchase and gifting of the Conargo General Store to the Conargo Community. There was significant discussion around the merits of the store ownership becoming community based, the requirement for an independent and professional board of trustees (Example of Friends of Toggamain was used) to ensure the fiscal process and successful running of a very important community hub. There was the suggestion of sending delegates to meet with Transgrid rather than the entire hall committee and Deb undertook to discuss with Transgrid their preference.</p> <p>Please note: Post meeting discussions with Transgrid – they would like as many people to attend, both hall and community members welcome as they wish to discuss not just the General store, but other opportunities. The date is now Monday August 5th, 2024, at 5.00 pm at the Conargo Hall.</p> <p>10.18 Brett Jervis raised the progress of the Rotunda project and requested a progress payment be made to Wes Heard given the hold up on the furniture required to complete the project. Deb is to organise with Jaymie submission of the invoice and the original quote. In addition, the playground requires a swing and Jaymie has undertaken to source a suitable swing for the area.</p> <p>10.19 Deb raised purchasing a water filter dispenser. There was discussion around the quality of the water from the tanks for drinking, the requirement to have drinking water when the hall is hired out and the viability of a filter, dispenser or bottled water.</p> <p>Motion: In the interim, bottled water will be purchased and investigation carried out on the water in the tanks and its drinkability.</p> <p>Moved: Brett Jervis Second: Brett Rose Carried</p>
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			<p>10.20 Aileen Loader raised the local Conargo Whipcrackers are competing in the National Title in Queensland in August 2024 and moved the following motion for the hall committee to support.</p> <p>Motion: Conargo Hall Committee support our local whipcracking team of young adults for the national titles with vouchers to the value of \$600.00</p> <p>Moved: Aileen Loader Second: Bronwyn Chappell Carried</p> <p>10.21 Alan Hardcastle raised if Colin would like a motion to be moved in regard to the restricted reserve funds mentioned in his chair report. There was significant discussion around the unanimous motion at the last meeting in regard to maintaining the remaining Bob White Bequest funds in a restricted reserve pending further community engagement and investigation of further opportunities to revitalise Conargo. There was no motion moved, there was resounding support for the restricted reserve to remain as per the unanimous motion of the Committee previously.</p> <p>10.21 Friday night community get together to be scheduled for Friday August 2, 2024.</p>
11	Close of meeting	Chair	<p>Meeting closed at 8.25 pm. Next Meeting date: Wednesday August 21, 2024, at 6.30 pm</p>

10. REPORTS TO COUNCIL

10.1. PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT ORDER

Author: Acting Director Corporate Services

Authoriser: Interim Chief Executive Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the attached Performance Improvement Order issued by Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Ron Hoenig MP.

BACKGROUND

On the 18 June 2024 Council received a Notice of Intention to issue a Performance Improvement Order (PIO) under Section 438A of the *Local Government Act* which Councillors subsequently acknowledged through formal resolution at an Extraordinary Meeting of 25 June 2024.

On the 22 July 2024 Council received notification from the Hon. Ron Hoenig MP that after considering Council's response the decision to issue a Performance Improvement Order had been made and a temporary advisor had been appointed.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

All reasons for the PIO have been outlined within Schedule 1 of the PIO. The PIO was issued after regard to the need to address reputational and work, health and safety risks facing Council because of the behavioural relationship issues within Council.

The period for compliance with the PIO, includes:

- Compliance report 1 - Due 27 August 2024
 - The status of Edward River Council, including observed conduct of councillors within council chambers and report on any matters referred under the Code of Conduct or Code of Meeting Practice
- Compliance report 2 - Due 24 September 2024
 - Status of Edward River Council, including observations of conduct of councillors and staff as well as preparation for councillor induction
- Compliance report 3 - Due 28 February 2025
 - Final report on the status of Edward River Council including observations of behaviours and conduct of councillors, including the observations and outcomes from councillor induction. Make recommendations as to the ongoing improvement and functions of Council.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

It is important that Council fulfills its duty and purpose on behalf of the community in a professional manner in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act*. Where the Office of Local Government determines that Council has not done so, it may take action it deems necessary to improve Council's performance, including the issue of PIO's.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

5. Accountable leadership and responsive administration

5.1 Collaborative and Engaged

5.2 Financially sustainable

5.3 Professional Workplace culture

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council is liable for all costs associated with the appointment of a temporary advisor. These costs are estimated to be to a maximum cost of \$60,000 (GST Inclusive). These costs will be included within the 2024/25 quarter 1, Quarterly Budget Review.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The PIO has been issued to Council in accordance with Section 438A of the *Local Government Act*.

ATTACHMENTS

The Hon. Ron Hoenig MP Letter advising of PIO

Performance Improvement Order

Attachment 1 - OLG PIO Letter

The Hon. Ron Hoenig MP

Leader of the House in the Legislative Assembly
Vice-President of the Executive Council
Minister for Local Government



Our Ref: A898435 / MO24-DPET24-0840

Her Worship the Mayor
Cr Peta Betts
Edward River Council
PO Box 270
DENILQUIN NSW 2710

Mr Mark Dalzell
Acting General Manager
Edward River Council
PO Box 270
DENILQUIN NSW 2710

via email: Peta.Betts@edwardriver.nsw.gov.au
Mark.Dalzell@edwardriver.nsw.gov.au

Dear Cr Betts and Mr Dalzell,

I refer to previous correspondence concerning my intention to issue a Performance Improvement Order (PIO) to Edward River Council (Council) under section 438A of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act).

I have carefully considered Council's submission, made by a resolution of Council on 25 June 2024.

Having considered all the information available to me, including Council's submission, I have decided to issue a PIO and to appoint a Temporary Adviser to assist Council to improve its performance. The reasons for my decision to issue a PIO and to appoint a Temporary Adviser are set in the body of the PIO. In deciding to issue a PIO, I have had regard to the need to address reputational and work, health and safety risks facing Council because of behavioural relationship issues within Council.

It is important that the elected body works together to comply with the terms of the PIO. I have noted Council has agreed with the intent of the proposed PIO, and has accepted the reasons for the proposed Order, the actions required to improve performance, and the proposal for the appointment of a Temporary Adviser. I am also pleased to note Council's commitment to provide all necessary assistance to the Temporary Adviser when appointed, and in the regard draw your attention to section 438H of the Act.

I expect that Council will table the PIO at an open Council meeting and place the PIO on Council's website in accordance with section 438D(2) of the Act.

At my request, Mr Grant Gleeson, Director, Legal is available on 02 4428 4136 or via grant.gleeson@olg.nsw.gov.au should you have any questions or wish to discuss the PIO.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron Hoenig".

The Hon. Ron Hoenig MP
Leader of the House in the Legislative Assembly
Vice-President of the Executive Council
Minister for Local Government

52 Martin Place Sydney NSW 2000
GPO Box 5341 Sydney NSW 2001

02 7225 6150
nsw.gov.au/ministerhoenig

Attachment 2 - OLG PIO

Local Government Act 1993

Section 438A


Performance Improvement Order

I, the Honourable Ron Hoenig MP, Minister for Local Government, do, by this order under section 438A of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), require the Edward River Council (ERC) for the reasons specified in Schedule 1 below, to undertake the actions described in Schedule 2 below within the period specified.

I hereby appoint the person specified in Schedule 3 as a Temporary Advisor to ERC to exercise the functions for the term specified in Schedule 3.

This Order takes effect upon service on ERC.

Dated this day of 2024



The Hon. Ron Hoenig, MP.
Minister for Local Government

Schedule 1

Reasons for Order – section 438A(3)(a) of the Act

1. There is evidence that ERC's meeting procedures are not complying with the Meeting Code of Practice and there is a lack of appropriate respect and formality.
2. There is evidence to suggest that ERC is not complying with its work health and safety obligations as a result of the behaviours of some councillors.
3. There is evidence of hostility and acrimony between councillors that, if unaddressed, is likely to lead to dysfunction and reputational damage.
4. There are behaviours that indicate that some councillors may not understand their obligations under the code of conduct when dealing with the staff of council.
5. There are behaviours that indicate that some councillors may not understand their obligations under the code of conduct when dealing with each other.
6. There are behaviours that indicate that some councillors may not understand their obligations under the code of meeting practice.

In my opinion, a temporary advisor with requisite skills in management and governance is also needed to provide advice and assistance in relation to ERC's implementation of this Performance Improvement Order.

Schedule 2

Action required to improve performance – section 438A(3)(b) of the Act

With the assistance of the temporary advisor, ERC is required to implement the following actions to improve its performance.

1. Improve council behaviours within ERC meetings and workshops to reflect community standards and ensure compliance of council's code of meeting practice.
2. Complete councillor training workshops as requested by the Deputy Secretary, Local Government.
3. Identify actions required to be taken to ensure compliance by the councillors with the staff interaction policy. These actions will be informed by the Temporary Advisor.
4. Identify actions that the governing body and councillors need to undertake to ensure compliance with its legislative obligations including Financial Reporting and Integrated Planning and Reporting (End of Term report).
5. Identify actions and strategies to ensure ERC is complying with its obligations under Safe Work NSW, specifically around Councillor / Councillor and Councillor / Staff interactions.
6. Identify actions and strategies to ensure councillors are correctly briefed on the effective operations of ERC and relevant activities.
7. Identify actions to deliver and evaluate councillor induction training, including how to respect the principles of political discourse within and outside council meetings.

Period for compliance with Order

Compliance report 1:

Report on the status of Edward River Council, including observed conduct of councillors within the council chambers and report on any matters referred under the Code of Conduct or Code of Meeting Practice by 27 August 2024

Compliance report 2:

Report on the status of ERC, including observations of conduct of councillors and staff as well as preparation for councillor induction by 24 September 2024

Compliance report 3:

Provide a Final Report on the status of ERC including observations of behaviours and conduct of councillors, including the observations and outcomes from councillor induction. Make recommendations as to the ongoing improvement and functions of ERC by 28 February 2025

Evidence to be provided with the compliance report:

Schedule 3

Appointment of temporary adviser

1. Pursuant to section 438G of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Mr Mark Ferguson is hereby appointed as a temporary adviser to Edward River Council to:
 - a. attend Council meetings for the purpose of providing advice and assistance to the Chair in respect of meeting procedures and dealing with acts of disorder;
 - b. attend councillor training workshops as requested by the Deputy Secretary, Local Government;
 - c. provide advice and assistance to the council for the purpose of ensuring that it complies with the performance improvement order; and
 - d. monitor the council's compliance with the performance improvement order.

This appointment will cease upon Mr Ferguson providing a report to me on Council's final compliance report including their observations of at least three consecutive Council meetings.

Pursuant to section 438G(7) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Mr Ferguson shall be paid from the Council's funds for the period of the appointment. The estimated maximum cost of the appointment will be \$60,000 (including GST).

10.2. REVIEW OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Author: Corporate Performance & Strategy Officer

Authoriser: Director Corporate Services

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. Receive the Committees Review Report for information
2. Resolve that the Manager Governance, Safety and Risk write to committees to advise them of the pending changes to labelling of committees from s355 to Primary Users (where appropriate)
3. Refer the recommendations of the Committees Review Report to the incoming Council for action and resolution.

BACKGROUND

In 2019, an independent *Strategic review of the committee framework and community facility management model* of Edward River Council was undertaken. Due to COVID-19 interruptions and other factors, the recommendations arising from that review were not fully implemented.

In its 2023/2024 Operational Plan, Council committed to ensuring that the Terms of Reference of all its committees were current. Pursuing this task helped to uncover the outstanding matters arising from the 2019 review.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

Recent work undertaken by staff to update Council's committee framework has identified that there continues to be a widely held belief that many committees are "s355" committees. In fact, there are only three currently active committees established under s355 of the Local Government Act (that is, they have been established by way of a resolution of Council *and* they have been delegated functions).

There are other committees which, while having long-standing relationships with Council (often in relation to a specific Council-owned community facility, eg a village hall) are in fact independent community groups (sometimes Incorporated Associations). The attached Committees Review Report recommends that a 'Primary User Agreement' be established that makes clear the responsibilities of those Primary User Groups and Council in relation to the Council-owned facility used by that group. The primary users of Boorooban and Wanganella Halls have helped to inform this new approach. Independent legal advice has been sought to support the development of the proposed Primary User Agreement for use going forward.

Some committees have been established by Council to provide advice around a specific project or program. And other committees have been established as part of meeting a statutory obligation. Such committees should be reviewed near the start of each Council term to confirm their purpose and membership.

The attached Council Committees Review Report provides a status update about the committees currently active in relation to Council and includes a proposed way forward for consideration by the incoming Council.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

It is important that the incoming Council confirm the committee framework that will serve it during the coming Council term. Committees confirmed and established by the new Council should clearly

fit one of the definitions included in the Committees Review Report (attached), serving to support the achievement of Community Strategic Plan or Delivery Program objectives.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

5. Accountable leadership and responsive administration

5.1 Collaborative and Engaged

5.3 Professional Workplace culture

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The recommendations (for action by the incoming Council) of the attached Committees Review Report will support Council to meet its legal and governance obligations under the *Local Government Act 1993*, as well as responding to the NSW Office of Local Government's Circular to Councils 16-24 relating to section 355 committees.

ATTACHMENTS

1. The Committees Review Report is attached for Council's Information



COMMITTEES AND COMMUNITY FACILITY USERS FRAMEWORK

DRAFT



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1. INTRODUCTION

Like most councils in NSW, Edward River Council has a relationship with a number of committees, primarily relating to Council’s service provision or Council-owned community facilities.

Most of these committees have been in place for some time including being established under the former Deniliquin Shire and Conargo Shire Councils.

Across Council, the committees and the broader Edward River community, there is some confusion and difference of opinion about the role, function, responsibilities, legal status and relationship with Council that many of these committees have.

This document reports on the review of these arrangements and seeks to identify a way forward for Edward River Council and these committees. It builds on work completed in 2019, which identified a number of related recommendations for Council’s action. However, the COVID-19 pandemic interrupted its implementation at that time.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE REVIEW

The purpose of the review of Council’s committees is to:

- Confirm the role and purpose of committees in achieving Council and community outcomes,
- Confirm which committees should continue to function with Council’s support and endorsement,
- Ensure that continuing committees have in place a contemporary Terms of Reference (or similar),
- Document Council’s committee framework, which includes consideration of committee roles and purpose, review cycle, responsibilities of Council, and the legal basis for Council’s committees,
- Develop standard agreements for community use of Council-owned facilities (including use by community committees and casual users),
- Understand how formal lease and license agreements for use of Council-owned facilities complements other user agreements established with Council.

3. WHAT IS A COMMITTEE?

A committee is a group of people who come together for a specific purpose.

At Edward River Council, there are a number of different types of committees:

Type of committee	Description
Committee established as required (or recommended) under legislation	<p>These committees are required to be established by Council in order to comply with legislative obligations.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee - Local Area Traffic Committee - Local Emergency Management Committee



Advisory committee	<p>These committees may be established from time to time to advise Council on matters related to a particular service, facility, project or program.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arts & Culture Advisory Committee - Growth Strategy Advisory Committee
Stakeholder committees	<p>These committees are established with key community stakeholders (including other levels of government) to progress agreed community objectives.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aboriginal Liaison Committee - Rural Fire Service Bushfire Management Committee
S355 committee	<p>These committees are established by a resolution of Council and are delegated specific functions (under section 355 of the Local Government Act) that are undertaken on Council's behalf.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Australia Day Committee
Community facility primary user group	<p>These are often established community groups (including Incorporated Associations) that have become the primary users of a Council-owned community facility.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Booroorban Sporting & Social Club - Blighty Advancement Committee

It is not uncommon for 'community facility primary user groups' to be referred to as (and consider themselves) a 'S355 Committee' of Council. However, in almost all such instances, the group referred to in this way is not a S355 Committee (as defined in the Local Government Act).

4. COUNCIL'S RELATIONSHIP WITH COMMUNITY FACILITY USERS

Primary User Groups

As noted above, Council has a relationship with a large number of community committees (many of which are erroneously referred to a 'S355 committees'), that are the primary users of key Council-owned community facilities. These include:

Community facility	Primary community user group
Deniliquin Band Hall	Town Band Committee (aka ERC Band Committee and ER Concert Band Committee)
Blighty Hall	Blighty Hall & Recreation Reserve Committee (aka Blighty Advancement Committee and Blighty Hall Committee)
Booroorban Hall	Booroorban Sporting & Social Club



Conargo Hall	Conargo Memorial Hall & Recreation Ground Committee (aka Conargo Hall Committee)
Mayrung Hall	Mayrung Hall Committee (currently inactive)
Memorial Park	Memorial Park Users Advisory Committee
Multi-Arts Centre	Multi-Arts Centre Committee
Pretty Pine Hall	Pretty Pine Hall Committee (currently inactive)
Rotary Park	Rotary Park Users Group
Wanganella Hall	Wanganella Hall Committee (aka Wanganella Advancement Committee)

By and large, these community groups comprise community members who come together to utilise the Council-owned community facility for community social, recreational and sporting activities. A number of these community groups have been (or currently are) Incorporated Associations (under the Associations Incorporation Act), operating their own bank accounts and electing their own committee members, and making and implementing decisions relating to their own functions (eg organising community social events).

Over time, the distinct roles and responsibilities of these community groups and Council have become blurred. Many of these committees collect and bank (into their own accounts) payments for use of the Council-owned facility by other users. They also contribute significantly to the general upkeep of the Council-owned facility, undertaking and funding some cleaning, maintenance and repairs from their own bank account.

Most of these community groups have an established reporting regime in place with Council, providing copies of meeting Minutes and financial reports on a regular basis. In fact, Council has no role in the oversight of these stand-alone community organisations' governance.

However, Council does acknowledge that these 'primary user groups' have been Council's eyes and ears on the ground in relation to these community facilities, particularly in the rural communities outside the main Deniliquin centre. It is important that Council continues to have a relationship with each of these community groups, with local input into Council's management of these community facilities.

Recommendation 1:

That Council enter into newly prepared 'Primary User Agreements' with the primary user community group for each facility.

These 'Primary User Agreements' acknowledge that these community groups have a long-standing, ongoing relationship with a specific Council-owned community facility.

These community user groups tend to have scheduled meetings (often with a councillor or Council staff member in attendance) with discussion focusing on the facility. As noted above, many of these community groups have actively contributed to maintaining, cleaning, arranging bookings for and beautifying the community facility they use. It is these activities that should be formally recognised



and agreed through a 'Primary User Agreement', which documents the roles and responsibilities of both Council and the community group in relation to the facility.

Formally documenting the agreement between Council and the facility's primary user will address issues of concern to community group members, including liability for insurance, payment of water and electricity costs, responsibility for cleaning, maintenance, taking hall bookings and so on.

It is proposed that a standard 'Primary User Agreement' be utilised for all Council-owned community facilities, that includes a menu of items that are included or excluded in consultation with the primary user community group.

Lease and licensing agreements for community facilities

Some Council committees have been established with the users of a Council-owned facility, but Council also has a legal agreement in place with individual users of that facility, by way of a lease or license.

A lease or license is granted to enable a user exclusive use of a Council-owned facility. Leases or licenses are generally entered into when the use of the Council-owned facility is not for general community benefit, but rather serves a personal or commercial purpose.

The lease or license may also describe the specific roles and responsibilities of Council and the lessee/licensee for the care and maintenance of the facility.

Facilities where individual lessees/licensees also contribute to a user advisory committee for that facility include:

Community facility	Lessee user group
Deniliquin Airport	Airport User Group (aka Airport Advisory Committee)
Deniliquin Saleyards	Saleyards Advisory Group (aka Deniliquin Saleyards User Group)

Recommendation 2:

That Council formally review and confirm the terms and duration of each lease or license agreement within 9 months of the beginning of each Council term.

Casual users of community facilities

As well as the 'primary user' groups, many Council-owned community facilities are also used from time to time by other casual users. This may include family or community social events (eg weddings, wakes), a commercial operation (eg a series of yoga classes) or use as a meeting space (eg by other levels of government when undertaking community engagement). An example of a current 'casual user' group is the Deni Quilters who use the Deniliquin Town Hall to meet.

Recommendation 3:



That Council establishes a 'Casual User Agreement' to be entered into with casual users of Council-owned community facilities.

The 'Casual User Agreement' will make clear any expectations of users of community facilities in relation to insurance, cleaning, waste disposal, building access and so on.

5. COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

In order to ensure Council's Delivery Program commitments are delivered in line with community needs and expectations, Council may from time to time establish Advisory Committees. Such committees' membership will be determined according to the project, program or service Council is seeking stakeholder advice about. This will be described and documented in that committee's Terms of Reference.

It is proposed that each incoming Council will confirm the nature of any Advisory Committees to be in place during that Council's term as part of the development of the Delivery Program. Other Advisory Committees may be established by Council during the Council term if new programs, projects or service delivery priorities are identified. However, it is proposed that all such committees automatically 'expire' at the end of the Council term and must be intentionally re-established by way of a resolution of the new Council.

Recommendation 4:

That the tenure of all Advisory Committees aligns with the relevant Council term.

6. COUNCIL STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEES

In order to contribute to the achievement of community objectives described in the Community Strategic Plan, Council may facilitate or participate in stakeholder committees. The purpose of such committees is to bring relevant stakeholders together from across the Edward River community (and sometimes beyond) to align effort and agree action for the achievement of community outcomes.

For Council, this may inform its advocacy to other levels of government, and it may assist in determining Council's allocation of resources to community activities where there is shared responsibility with other community stakeholders.

Recommendation 5:

That Council identify which stakeholder committees it will facilitate or participate in at the commencement of each Council term as part of its contribution to achieving community objectives described in the Community Strategic Plan.

7. 'S355 COMMITTEES' OF COUNCIL

Section 355 of the *Local Government Act 1993* is about how a council may exercise functions. It notes that a function of a council may be exercised by a committee of the council or by a delegate of the council.

Delegations are discussed further in sections 377 to 381 of the Act. Section 377 notes that a council may, by resolution, delegate to any other person or body (except a council employee) any of the



functions of the council under the Local Government Act or any other Act, *other than* 21 specified functions. Functions that Council *must not* delegate include things like:

- Making of a charge
- Fixing of a fee
- Borrowing of money
- Voting of money for expenditure on its works, services or operations
- Acceptance of tenders to provide services currently provided by staff of the council
- Fixing an amount or rate for the carrying out by the council of work on private land
- Decision to carry out work on private land for an amount that is less than the amount or rate fixed by the council for carrying out such work
- Decision under s356 to contribute money or otherwise grant financial assistance to persons (unless it meets the requirements of S377 (1A))

Section 380 requires that each council must review all its delegations during the first 12 months of each term of office.

Given the limits described in the legislation, there are very few Council committees that are likely to be delegated Council functions by way of a resolution to become a 's355 Committee'.

Currently, only the Australia Day Committee appears to properly meet the definition of a 's355 Committee'. Council records indicate that the Australia Day Committee has been delegated and has been exercising all functions related to the annual Australia Day event.

Recommendation 6:

That Council formally revoke any delegations made to community committees, dissolving any 's355 committees' that may still exist, with the exception of the Australia Day Committee.

8. COMMITTEES DISSOLVED OR WITH UNKNOWN STATUS

This review identified a number of Council committees that have been formally dissolved over recent years. These include:

- Health Services Advisory/Advocacy Committee
- Heritage Committee
- Open & Public Space Strategic Working Group
- Promotions Advisory Committee
- Tidy Towns Committee

However, there are several other committees referred to in Council's records which don't appear to have been active in recent years. These include:

- Access Committee
- Asset Management Steering Committee
- Cemetery Advisory Committee (and Friends of the Cemetery group)
- Community Gardens Committee
- Community Grant Assessment Panel Committee
- Community Safety & Crime Prevention Committee
- Edward River Users Group (related to boating and other activities on the river)
- Floodplain Risk Management Committee



- Edward River Liquor Accord
- Multi-Arts Centre Committee
- Recreation & Community Facilities Recommendations Committee
- Town Band Committee
- Zone Bushfire Management Committee.

Recommendation 7:

That the inactive status of all of the committees identified above be confirmed, and those committees confirmed to be inactive be formally dissolved by way of a Council resolution.

9. CONSIDERATIONS FOR COUNCIL**Financial transactions**

The erroneous notion that a number of community committees are 's355 committees' has largely come about because many of these committees have been undertaking activities in relation to the Council-owned facility that might otherwise be considered the responsibility of Council. For example, many of the community committees/groups associated with village halls routinely take bookings for those facilities, clean the facilities, and undertake general maintenance including lawn mowing etc.

Some of these community committees operate their own bank accounts, and some of the income and expenditure transacted through those accounts is related to the Council-owned facility.

Recommendation 8:

That Council puts in place systems to ensure that all financial transactions directly related to a Council-owned facility (collection and receipt of booking fees, purchase of cleaning equipment and consumables etc) are managed through Council's existing systems.

This does not prevent community committees/groups operating their own bank accounts for the purpose of their committee's/group's activities. Fundraising monies generated by the committee/group should be banked by them and expended on activities determined by the group. This may include hosting community dances or other events (eg for catering or hire of musicians) or purchasing equipment for that committee's/group's use (eg sporting equipment).

Primary user groups should not raise money expressly for the purpose of investing into the Council-owned community facility without the express agreement of Council.

Recommendation 9:

That any such agreed fundraising should be banked into Council's account, and quarantined for the purpose for which the funds were raised and agreed with Council.

Councillor representation

As many 'primary user groups' related to Council-owned facilities in villages across the Edward River region have until now been considered 'Council committees' (and often thought of as 's355 Committees'), it has been usual for a councillor to be nominated as the Council representative to each of these committees.



As most of these committees are in fact independent of Council, a councillor's participation on that committee would be more appropriately in an ex-officio capacity, providing a means for that local community to liaise with Council.

"Ex-officio" means '*by virtue of office or position*'. An ex-officio committee member is there because they hold a particular position (eg councillor), and once they cease to hold that position, they are no longer a member of that committee. Usually, ex-officio members have no voting rights in relation to the business of that committee.

It is appropriate that at the commencement of each Council term, councillors nominate to be the Council representative for specific Council-owned community facilities. The relevant councillor would then be the appropriate Council representative to hold an ex-officio place on the community committee (being the 'primary user group' for that facility).

Recommendation 10:

That Council liaises with each of the 'primary user groups' to offer a councillor representative to participate in an ex-officio capacity on their community committee.

Committees' communication with Council

Unless a committee is established by way of resolution of Council, with a Terms of Reference, it has no obligation to report to Council on its activities or finances.

However, for 'primary user groups' it will be important to agree on the most appropriate mechanism for communicating to Council any matters related to the Council-owned community facility being used by that group.

It is proposed that Council's Manager Facilities and Open Space (or their staff delegate) and a nominated councillor seek to participate at each of the 'primary user group' committee meetings to enable effective communication between the community committee and Council, particularly in relation to alerting Council to any issues or concerns about that community facility.

Where routine maintenance or other operational matters are raised, the delegated Council staff member will raise these through the CRM channel for recording, action and resolution. They will be able to report to the following meeting of the community committee the outcome of the matter that was raised.

If the community committee wishes to raise more complex matters relating to the community facility, for example, a significant infrastructure investment proposal, the delegated Council staff member can prepare a report for the Council's consideration, and the councillor representative can speak to the matter to inform Council's deliberations. The councillor representative will report to the next meeting of the community committee the outcomes of Council's decision on the matter.

Setting and collecting fees for use of community facilities

The fee amount for community use of Council-owned community facilities is determined annually through the adoption of Council's Schedule of Fees & Charges. This has not always been well understood by those 'primary user group' community committees/groups who have self-identified as 's355 committees' of Council. There have been examples of community committees setting a fee or charge for other users' use of a Council-owned community facility, and for those fees to be collected



and banked into the community group's bank account. This is contrary to the legislation and governance requirements of Council.

There has also historically been some inconsistency about the amount charged for similar use of different Council-owned community facilities. Community users (whether they are not-for-profit, community, family or commercial users) should expect to receive similar facilities and services for a similar fee or charge, regardless of where they access that service within the local government area.

A number of Council-owned community facilities have multiple rooms/spaces which a casual user may wish to hire. This may or may not include use of the kitchen facilities (and associated consumables such as tea, coffee, sugar), other indoor spaces and outdoor facilities associated with the venue. Casual users of Council-owned community facilities should be able to make clear in their booking how much (or how little) of the available facilities they are seeking to use (and therefore pay for).

All payments made by users for Council-owned facilities should be made to Council. Council's internal accounting should track the income received per facility, and that revenue should be used to offset Council's expenses related to the upkeep of that facility.

Currently, Council relies heavily on the 'primary user groups' of each of its community facilities to receive and make bookings, including enabling access to the facility by the casual user. It will be important for Council to remove the facility booking and receipt of booking payments from 'primary user groups'.

Recommendation 11:

That Council prioritises a budget allocation for investment into the creation of a customer self-service online booking system for its community facilities, which includes provision for online payment of booking fees or charges.

10. NEXT STEPS

Council's Executive Team has recommended that this Report and its recommendations be provided to the incoming Council for review and decision. At that time, Council will receive a report requesting decisions on:

1. Confirming the Terms of Reference and membership of those Council committees required under legislation;
2. Establishing a Primary User Agreement for community groups who are the primary users of Council-owned community facilities (in particular, village halls and grounds);
3. Establishing a Casual User Agreement for other users of Council-owned community facilities;
4. Confirming the lease or licensing agreement for relevant Council-owned facilities;
5. Confirming which advisory committees should be in place over the Council's term to support its achievement of its Delivery Program commitments, and adopting their Terms of Reference;
6. Confirming which stakeholder committees Council will facilitate or participate in to support the achievement of Community Strategic Plan objectives;
7. Dissolution of inactive committees.

11. SUMMARY OF REPORT'S RECOMMENDATIONS



The table below captures all of the recommendations made throughout this Report:

No.	Recommendation
1	That Council enter into newly prepared 'Primary User Agreements' with the primary user community group for each Council-owned community facility
2	That Council formally review and confirm the terms and duration of each lease or license agreement within 9 months of the beginning of each Council term.
3	That Council establishes a 'Casual User Agreement' to be entered into with casual users of Council-owned community facilities.
4	That the tenure of all Advisory Committees aligns with the relevant Council term.
5	That Council identify which stakeholder committees it will facilitate or participate in at the commencement of each Council term as part of its contribution to achieving community objectives described in the Community Strategic Plan.
6	That Council formally revoke any delegations made to community committees, dissolving any 's355 committees' that may still exist, with the exception of the Australia Day Committee.
7	That the inactive status of all identified committees be confirmed, and those committees confirmed to be inactive be formally dissolved by way of a Council resolution.
8	That Council puts in place systems to ensure that all financial transactions directly related to a Council-owned facility (collection and receipt of booking fees, purchase of cleaning equipment and consumables etc) are managed through Council's existing systems.
9	That any fundraising related to a Council facility agreed with Council should be banked into Council's account, and quarantined for the purpose for which the funds were raised and agreed with Council.
10	That Council liaises with each of the 'primary user groups' to offer a councillor representative to participate in an ex-officio capacity on their community committee.
11	That Council prioritises a budget allocation for investment into the creation of a customer self-service online booking system for its community facilities, which includes provision for online payment of booking fees or charges.



VERSION CONTROL

Title	Committees & community facility users – Review Report 2024		
ECM Doc ID			
Date Approved by EMT			
Responsible Officer	Manager Governance, Safety & Risk		
Version Number	Modified By	Modifications Made	Date modified
V1		Report drafted	July 2024

10.3. DELIVERY PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT - JANUARY TO JUNE 2024

Author: Acting Director Corporate Services

Authoriser: Interim Chief Executive Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the six-monthly Delivery Program progress report for the period January to June 2024.

BACKGROUND

Council's Delivery Program and annual Operational Plans are prepared under the five themes established in the Community Strategic Plan:

1. Shaping the future
2. An open and connected community
3. Encouraging growth through partnerships
4. Delivering community assets and services
5. Accountable leadership and responsive administration

The attached report provides Council with an update on the progress made to the 2023/24 Operational Plan commitments.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

The purpose of the six-monthly review is to provide Council with an opportunity to monitor the progress of achieving Delivery Program commitments.

The attached Progress Report shows the scheduled annual actions towards achieving the Delivery Program, outcomes at the end of June were:

- 62% of actions were complete
- 17% of actions were progressing and on track
- 15% of actions were progressing but behind schedule
- 2% of actions were unable to commence
- 4% of actions were not progressing.

Commentary is provided in the attached Progress Report to explain why some actions have not progressed as originally planned.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

It is through the delivery of each annual Operational Plan that Council meets its Delivery Program commitments to the community and contributes to the achievement of strategic objectives described in the Community Strategic Plan.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

This report contributes to Council's commitment to the following Community Strategic Plan objective:

5. Accountable leadership and responsive administration.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

This report meets Council's obligations under the Integrated Planning & Reporting framework of the NSW *Local Government Act 1993*.

ATTACHMENTS

Delivery Program Progress Report - January to June 2024.

Attachment 1 - Delivery Program Progress Report - Jan to June

Delivery Program Progress Report – January to June 2024

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
1.1.1	Manage noxious weeds and invasive species on Council-controlled land	1	Continue to implement the Edward River Weed Action Plan	At least 90% if scheduled actions completed	100%		Facilities & Open Spaces
1.1.2	Support and advocate for healthy lagoons and rivers	1	Deliver the annual golden perch and Murray cod fish restocking program at Billabong Creek	Annual restocking completed by March 2024	100%		Facilities & Open Spaces
1.1.3	Responsibly address Council's carbon footprint and support renewable energy initiatives	1	Investigate options for implementing the recommendations of the 100% Renewables report (2021)	Scoping paper table for Council consideration by March 2024	Completed	Tabled at March Council Briefing.	Waste, Water & Sewer
1.2.1	Implement sound strategic planning policies to oversee the growth and development of our town and villages	1	Deliver a consolidated Edward River Local Environmental Plan (LEP)	LEP gazetted by December 2023	Delayed	Approved by Council October 2023. DPPI to complete formal drafting and digital mapping. DPPI have advised delays. Completion date Dec 24.	Development Services
		2	Finalise the Edward River Disability Inclusion Action Plan and commence its delivery	DIAP adopted by December 2023	100%	DIAP adopted February 2024 Council meeting. Phasing activity to take place between Manager and Coordinator for handover to Community Development and Events Officer in first quarter of next financial year.	Community & Economic Development
		3	Engage local communities in refreshing Village Plans to inform future Council	6 village forums held; Revised Village Plans endorsed by March 2024	50%	Meetings with Blighty, Conargo and Mayrung have been held.	Strategic Assets

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
			planning and investment				
1.2.2	Manage the built environment in line with the LEP and relevant legislation	1	Prepare an Edward River Council Development Control Plan (DCP)	DCP adopted by June 2024	Delayed	DCP cannot be finalised until LEP is finalised. The review of the DCP is underway and further content for the DCP will be informed by the growth strategy.	Development Services
		2	Assess and determine: - Complying development applications - Construction certificate applications - Local activity applications	More than 80% of assessments determined within statutory or Council timeframes	Completed		Development Services
		3	Assess and determine Development Applications	More than 80% of assessments determined within statutory or Council timeframes	Completed		Development Services
		4	Provide Planning Certificates (10.7) and sewerage and drainage certificates for property sales	90% of certificates issued within 5 days of request	Completed		Development Services
		5	Undertake backyard swimming pool inspections	At least 35 inspections completed	Completed		Development Services
		6	Undertake inspections of food and skin penetration premises	100% of premises inspected	Completed		Development Services

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
		7	Undertake water sampling in line with Council's Memorandum of Understanding with NSW Health	100% of required sampling completed	Completed		Development Services
		8	Undertake arbovirus monitoring program	100% of scheduled program completed	Completed		Development Services
		9	Deliver a Road Safety program for the Edward River community, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On the road 65+ - Helping learner drivers become safe drivers. - Drink driving campaigns at the Deniliquin Ute Muster and Southern 80 Ski Race 	At least 4 initiatives delivered. At least 250 participants	Completed	1 65+ at Deni Hospital has been conducted so far, with 17 participants. 3 more 65+ planned for March and April. Drink Driving campaign was delivered during 2023 Deni Ute Muster and the 2024 Southern 80 events in partnership with event organiser.	Transport
		10	Administer the Local Heritage Grants Program to support the maintenance of heritage in the community	At least 6 applications received. 100% of grant funded	Completed		Development Services
1.2.3	Maintain and develop adaptive housing options for whole-of-life living	1	Finalise arrangement for Edward River Village management and governance, and scope an exit strategy	At least 6 ERV Committee meetings held	100%	7 meetings held. First resident in.	Office of the CEO

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
		2	Commence construction of dwellings – Stage 1 of Edward River Village	6 dwellings completed	100%	Stage 1 completed. Official opening to be arranged.	Office of the CEO
		3	Continue to implement and leverage the marketing strategy for Edward River Village	6 contracts signed at target entry price	17%	1 signed contract. Open days arranged.	Office of the CEO
1.3.1	Provide parks and reserves by proactively managing open and public space	1	Inspect, repair, maintain and renew playgrounds, parks and gardens, public amenities and passive recreation areas	100% of scheduled playground inspections completed	75%	Resource shortages contributed to low completion. Inspection process review and staff training have commenced.	Facilities & Open Spaces
		2	Construct a new Skate Park in Deniliquin (grant-funded project)	Skate Park construction completed by June 2024	100%	Completed July 2024.	Facilities & Open Spaces
		3	Complete upgrade to Memorial Park (grant-funded project)	Upgrade completed by June 2024	96%	Includes Amenities 100% Complete. Carpark and Access Roads 100% Complete. Clubrooms 90%.	Facilities & Open Spaces
1.3.2	Improve road safety including street lighting and cycling-friendly infrastructure	No activities planned for this financial year					
1.4.1	Minimise waste to landfill and improve recycling	1	Prepare for new waste management contract for commencement in	100% of contractor on-boarding completed.	Completed		Waste, Water & Sewer

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
			July 2024, including delivering customer and community engagement program to communicate waste management changes	100% of communications initiatives completed			
1.4.2	Provide sustainable waste services and infrastructure	1	Provide a weekly kerbside collection of residential, commercial and public space domestic waste bins	Less than 10 bins missed per weekly collection	Completed	<5 per week.	Waste, Water & Sewer
		2	Operate landfills in Deniliquin, Blighty, Wanganella and Booroorban, and transfer stations in Conargo and Pretty Pine	100% compliance with EPA licence conditions	Completed	License conditions met.	Waste, Water & Sewer
1.4.3	Work with local groups and regional organisations regarding partnering opportunities for re-use and recycling	1	Participate in the RAMJO FOGO (food organics, garden organics) and Recycling tender	Contract tabled at Council meeting by August 2023	Completed	Reported previously.	Waste, Water & Sewer
1.4.4	Plan and implement the extension of the existing Deniliquin landfill	1	Complete the design and planning phase for a new cell at the Deniliquin Landfill	Design and planning completed by June 2024	Not continuing this financial year	Reported previously.	Waste, Water & Sewer

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
2.1.1	Promote the Council region as an important hub for logistics and freight in the Riverina	1	Include consideration of a logistics hub in the development of the Growth Strategy and related grant applications	Growth Strategy adopted by 31 December 2023	100%	Logistics hub / rail spur is included in draft Edward River Growth Strategy 2050.	Community & Economic Development
2.1.2	Develop Deniliquin Regional Airport as an important hub for aviation in the Riverina	1	Deliver airport runway upgrade	100% of upgrade works completed	Complete	Project was successfully completed within budget, to the required quality and within the anticipated timeframes. Official opening completed.	Project Management Office
2.2.1	Advocate to improve existing mobile and internet options	1	Continue to participate in the Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation (RAMJO) Telecommunications Working Group	2 meetings attended	100%	2 meetings attended. Participation ongoing.	Office of the CEO
2.2.2	Investigate Smart Cities technology to inform decision-making and improve operational efficiencies	1	Develop an Edward River Council Information & Communication Technology (ICT) Strategy which includes actions for improving operational efficiencies	Strategy completed by March 2024	In Progress- 90%	Work with IT Professionals is now 90% completed with a final feedback sessions and road map to be delivered in July then taken to the next council for endorsement.	Customer Experience
		2	Implement priority Technology One modules to enhance the integration of business processes and improve efficiencies, including:	Modules implemented by March 2024	In Progress- 95%	The Priority projects have been mostly completed in our test environment and are ready for transfer to production once acceptance testing has been completed.	Customer Experience

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
			- Full deployment of the Human Resource Planning module - A mobile field app for outdoor staff				
2.2.3	Connect stakeholders, data, technology, and community interests to innovatively solve local challenges	1	As part of the development of the ICT Strategy, consider how data can support corporate and community planning and reporting	Strategy completed by March 2024	In Progress- 90%	This will be an outcome of the ICT strategy.	Customer Experience
2.3.1	Recognise and promote harmony between our Indigenous and rural heritage	1	Facilitate the Aboriginal Liaison Committee	4 meetings held	100%	4 meetings held. Completed.	Office of the CEO
2.3.2	Identify new and facilitate existing community groups in expanding services and opportunities	1	Deliver a Library service to the Edward River community which continues to provide opportunities for the community to come together	50 Baby Bounce activities. 40 Storytime sessions. 50 Genealogy Society meetings hosted	Completed	We have seen major increases in the utilisation of the library and attendance of our events. From lows of 5-15 users per day we are now averaging 130-150 residence through the facility, and this is increasing with our focus on community outreach.	Customer Experience
3.1.1	Seek additional State, Federal and private sector investment in education facilities and resources	1	Submit a funding application for the Murray Cluster Country University Centre	Funding application submitted in collaboration with other councils by June 2024	100%	Berrigan submitted the final business case. Funding was unsuccessful in round one.	Office of the CEO

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
3.1.2	Develop partnerships with Universities, State Government agencies, networks and sector organisations and businesses	1	Generate awareness, support and participation for the Country University Centre	2 community meetings held. 6 letters of support received from local industry. 3 CUC Development Meetings held	80%	Meeting held with Berrigan and Murray River Councils. CUC Development meetings were held. Letters of support were received from local industry. There were no community meetings held.	Office of the CEO
3.2.1	Develop and implement a (technology aware) economic development and growth strategy for the Edward River region	1	Finalise the development of the Edward River Growth Strategy	Strategy adopted by 31 December 2023	85%	Revised timeframe recommended by Committee and adopted by Council in July 2024, bringing final Strategy to Council for consideration of adoption in November 2024. Revised timeframe allows for incorporation of extensive feedback collected during 21 day exhibition period, and further targeted engagement of Deni High School youth leadership students.	Community & Economic Development
3.2.2	Collaborate with stakeholders and entrepreneurs to drive diverse, innovative and competitiveness in new markets	No activities planned for this financial year					
3.2.3	Partner with neighbouring councils and service providers to implement the	1	Reconvene the Agribusiness Masterplan working group to review and investigate ways in which the Plan can	At least 3 industry stakeholders participating in the working group	10%	Thorough review of Masterplan undertaken, gaps and next steps identified. Research and conversations underway to understand the status of activities that have or are already	Community & Economic Development

Delivery Program 2022-2025	OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
Agri Business Masterplan		be delivered by industry stakeholders			being delivered by other parties. Former working group identified. This work has been deprioritised by other unprogrammed incoming requests including development of Advocacy Plan, establishment of Country Change, requests for Strong and Resilient Communities and Creative Arts grant development and application and renewables/Voluntary Planning Agreement work. Agribusiness has been cross-referenced in the Growth Strategy to ensure connection. Working group meeting to be scheduled for first quarter of next financial year.	
3.3.1 Support the development and delivery of events that contribute to economic prosperity, liveability and social cohesion	1	Provide support to the Play on the Plains and Ute Muster events, and commence negotiations for future sponsorship arrangements	\$35,000 value of financial support provided. \$75,000 value of in-kind support provided	100%	Support provided and new enhanced 3 year Sponsorship Agreement established.	Community & Economic Development
	2	In partnership with community organisations, deliver the Lights on the Lagoon event (funded through the CED program)	At least 2 partners engaged in the event. Event delivered by October 2023	100%	Lights on the Lagoon successfully delivered on 17 October 2023 in partnership w Deni Mental Health Awareness Group and South West Music, with active participation by Deni High, Kurrajong and Yarkuwa.	Community & Economic Development
	3	Provide sponsorship to the annual Art Show and formalise	\$3,000 amount of sponsorship (including	100%	Cash and in-kind sponsorship for 2023/24 has been delivered.	Community & Economic Development

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
			an ongoing sponsorship arrangement	purchase of the Acquisitive Prize)		In discussion with Rotary regarding 2024-25 sponsorship.	
3.3.2	Support a collaborative creative economy where Arts and Culture are a transformational sector of the community	1	Undertake funded works at Peppin Heritage Centre, including: - signage - accessibility improvements - upgrade to exhibition infrastructure	At least 90% of scheduled actions completed	100%	Project Control Group established. Project manager appointed. Heritage consultant and gallery specialist consultation undertaken in October 2023 and report received to inform development of tender documentation. Floorworks completed. Theming and archiving completed. New project timeline established. EOI for curator in train." Note that Project Management Office have carriage of this project. Community & Economy participate as a member of the Project Control Group and subject matter expert/s.	Community & Economic Development
		2	Operate the Deniliquin Town Hall as a community cultural space, facilitate external events and seek grant funding to deliver cultural events, with the view to collecting and evaluating demand and usage data to inform future	At least 8 events held	100%	All activities undertaken, reporting established, usage evidenced far in excess of targets, cultural program developed, and Creative Arts NSW funding application made (unsuccessful), recommendation to Council made to continue previously adopted 2 year funding model. No Council funding secured for next financial year. Cultural Development service and associated Town	Community & Economic Development

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
			investment and operations			Hall activities to cease at end of financial year. Cultural Development Service is not funded in the next financial year. Town Hall will return under the umbrella of Facilities & Open Space.	
		3	Establish and support an Arts & Culture Advisory Committee	First meeting held by September 2023. At least 4 meetings held	100%	Arts and Culture Advisory Committee established, Work Plan agreed, 4 meetings conducted. Final Arts and Culture Advisory Committee meeting of Council term scheduled for August 2024.	Community & Economic Development
		4	Optimise the utilisation of Council's cultural venues including the Multi-Arts Centre, Sunday School, Peppin Heritage Centre and amphitheatre, and Waring Gardens by promoting and supporting community-run events	At least 10 community-run events held	100%	Events held far in excess of targets: 2 events Multi Arts Centre 2 events Sunday School 9+ events at Peppin Heritage Centre (100 Capes, Choir, Bald Archy Prize 2023, Sandwich Bag Workshop, Sculpture Muster Exhibition, Barely Wearable, Kurrajong exhibition, In Conversation Modern Quilting exhibition, Anthony Breslin - current) 0 events Amphitheatre 5+ events Waring Gardens (Lanterns on the Lagoon, Christmas Party, Celebrate Create Connect – Mental Health Awareness Group, Disability Awareness morning, Collectors Club Car display, Reconciliation Week barbeque)	Community & Economic Development

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
						Cultural Development Service is not funded in the next financial year. Facilities will return under the umbrella of Facilities & Open Space.	
		5	Implement grant-funded projects to support operation of the Town Hall, including signage, carpentry in the function room, lobby and dressing rooms, curation of an exhibition, additional lighting and volunteer recruitment and training	100% of project milestones met	100%	Variation to funding successfully applied. Project Management Officer now have carriage of delivery.	Community & Economic Development
3.3.3	Build on the success of the Visit Deni campaign to grow our visitor economy	1	Deliver scheduled actions of the Visit Deni Tourism Development Plan	At least 80% of scheduled actions completed	100%	Visitor Servicing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visit Deni Activation Stand at PGA Golf Tournament - Visit Deni Activation Stand at Deni Ute Muster - Ongoing visitor services 7 days per week at VIC - Ongoing maintenance updates to the Visit Deni website within parameters of set up. Copy updates made where needed i.e.: venue locations. - Visit Deni FB and Insta social media recontracted to Sharp Instincts - First Visit Deni seasonal newsletter sent - Updated Official Visitors Guide finalised 	Community & Economic Development

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
						<p>Business Attraction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tourism Operator Newsletter established and scheduled monthly Business Growth, Expansion & Diversification - Tourism Operator FB Page regularly updated to include Grant Funding opportunities. TO Newsletter will serve this purpose as well ongoing. <p>Event Acquisition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PGA Golf Tournament Sept/Oct for 3 years - Option to reach out to Skating tournament organisers once new Skate Park complete <p>All scheduled work complete.</p>	
		2	Deliver the scheduled funded actions of the Murray River Tourism Local Area Action Plan	At least 90% of scheduled actions completed	100%	<p>Capacity Building & Networking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two Breakfast in partnership with Business Chamber completed - Official Visitor Guide updated, printed and circulated <p>Brand Marketing - Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New strategy for Visit Deni Social Media (FB & Insta) is created November 2023. Monthly reporting ongoing. - Ongoing engagement with MRT and DRM as key advocates for destination marketing and collaborative opportunities. 	Community & Economic Development

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
						- New merchandise collab established and launch proposed for mid July 2024.	
		3	Review and benchmark data capture mechanism to inform investment and improve the visitor experience	Review completed by February 2024	100%	Initial work to establish day to day operations manual for Peppin Heritage Centre underway 'How to Peppin' Research underway on data capture best practice. Review and benchmarking estimated to be completed end of financial year. Australian Visitor Information Centre review successfully completed and reaccreditation is achieved. Australian Visitor Information Centre recommendations for minor efficiencies received. Australian Visitor Information Centre confirm that current protocols for the service at current funding levels are best practice.	Community & Economic Development
		4	Update the Visitor Guide and explore options for a digital version	Visitor Guide prepared by end of December 2023	100%	Official Visitor Guide updated, printed and circulated. Uplift to interactive online format included. Activity complete.	Community & Economic Development
		5	Initiate discussions with the Deniliquin Business Chamber to re-establish the Tourism Industry Group (TIG) and consider providing funding to support aligned initiatives to	TIG re-established by December 2023	75%	Discussions commenced with operators and Chamber at Tourism Operator breakfast jointly hosted by Council and Business Chamber in October 2023. Interest from 3 operators established. Recommendation to re-establish Tourism Advisory/Industry Group	Community & Economic Development

Delivery Program 2022-2025	OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
		develop tourism in Edward River			contained within draft Growth Strategy. Awaiting adoption of Growth Strategy for further action.	
3.4.1 Seek appropriate State, Federal and private sector investment in medical facilities and public health resources	1	Support Local Health Advisory Committee funding submissions for additional health service development	At least 1 letter of support provided	Advisory committee disbanded.	Advisory committee disbanded.	Office of the CEO
	2	Facilitate the Health Services Advisory Committee	At least 4 meetings held	Advisory committee disbanded.	Advisory committee disbanded.	Office of the CEO
3.4.2 Fund and provide Council assistance as per the Doctors and Nurses Attraction Policy and provide social support to practitioners	1	Support local doctors and nurses with assistance to move to the region	At least 2 health professionals supported, up to a total of \$10,000	100%	Two Ochre Health Medical Practitioners supported with \$4,000 each for relocation costs.	Office of the CEO
3.4.3 Collaborate with the Murrumbidgee Local Health District in providing local opportunities for professional development	1	Contribute to the Rural Doctors' Network Bush Bursary program to place medical students in Deniliquin	2 students supported	100%	Another successful program completed.	Office of the CEO
4.1.1 Prepare Asset Management Strategies and Plans for the	1	Undertake the asset revaluation program	At least 90% of scheduled program completed	Completed	Assets revealed by APV Valuers.	Strategic Asset Management

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
	sustainable renewal and improvement of assets	2	Deliver the scheduled activities of the Asset Management Strategy Improvement Plan	At least 90% of scheduled activities completed	40%		Strategic Asset Management
		3	Update Asset Management Plans in line with the Asset Management Strategy	6 AM plans updated	1 Draft Completed 5 - 65% completed	Draft Water Asset Management Plan completed, the remaining 5 are yet to be completed.	Strategic Asset Management
4.1.2	Prepare Service Level plans to support the efficient delivery of maintenance and operation of facilities	1	Review and update user agreements for Council facilities, including consideration of financial and in-kind support	90% of user agreements updated	40%	Ongoing considerations with masterplans existing and to be reviewed.	Facilities & Open Spaces
4.1.3	Continue to invest in the maintenance and improvement of community facilities	1	Review the Deniliquin Lawn Cemetery's layout plan and input revised layout into the GIS system	Review completed by January 2024. GIS input completed by June 2024	100% January 24	The action was confirmed by former Transport and Facilities Manager as completed in Quarter 2. Quarterly.	Facilities & Open Spaces
		2	Construct new plinths at Deniliquin Lawn Cemetery	Plinth construction completed by June 2024	100%		Facilities & Open Spaces
		3	Deliver funded portion of lighting upgrade for sporting fields	At least 90% of upgrade delivered	100%		Facilities & Open Spaces
		4	Deliver funded capital works projects. (including Airport residence, Multi-Arts Centre and building	At least 90% of scheduled works completed. 100% of grant acquittal requirements met	75% complete	Significant delays to program have been experienced due to supplier availability in the financial year. Scope creep has also affected some projects.	Project Management Office

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
			security review and upgrade)				
		5	Inspect and maintain local boat ramps and associated parking areas in preparation for the summer season	100% of scheduled inspections and maintenance program completed	100% - on schedule against the FY2023/24 budgeted programme.	Additional minor works completed.	Transport
		6	Deliver the Crispe Street tree upgrade	Upgrade completed by November 2023	25%	Delayed due to a lack of initial scope definition and availability of suitable contract resources. Completion of works is anticipated early August 2024.	Facilities & Open Spaces
		7	Complete the Deniliquin Saleyards refurbishment activities arising from the safety report	100% of scheduled refurbishment completed	35%	Procurement for loading ramps ready to award, electrical reticulation and lighting complete, including scope change to accommodate Tag Readers Auctioneers walkways will commence is complete. The ramp and walkways installation are delayed due to procurement limitations.	Project Management Office
4.1.4	Provide sufficient infrastructure for the growth of our towns and villages	1	Deliver rehabilitation projects, including reconstruction of essential public assets	At least 90% of scheduled projects delivered	95%	Of the reconstruction works for essential public assets related to the 2022 flood event 7 tranches or work have been completed of 8 tranches. Related external contracts have been completed and finalised. One tranche of work has been affected by the insolvency of the contractor prior to work being conducted. The work will be completed in 24/25 works. Additional works have been scoped to repair flood damage due to the November 23 flash	Project Management Office

Delivery Program 2022-2025	OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
					flooding. 100% of emergency works are complete and all submissions for other remediation works are with Traffic for NSW for approval.	
	2	Deliver drainage works associated with local roads reconstruction program	At least 90% of scheduled program completed	100% - on schedule against the FY2023/24 budgeted programme.	Excluding Hardinge Street which was rescheduled to FY2024/25	Transport
	3	Deliver Town Levee refurbishment program	At least 90% of scheduled program completed	Completed	100% - on schedule against the FY2023/24 budgeted programme.	Transport
	4	Deliver the footpath renewal program	At least 90% of scheduled program completed	90% complete in FY2023/24	The awarded contractor didn't achieve scope of the contract in FY2023/24, with one parcel of works being rescheduled to FY2024/25.	Transport
	5	Undertake a Service Review for the Roads & Transport service area	Review completed by March 2024	Not actioned yet	Contractor to be appointed to assist.	Strategic Asset Management
	6	Deliver scheduled actions of the Pedestrian Access Management Plan's (PAMP) replacement program	At least 90% of scheduled actions completed	90% completed in FY2023/24	He awarded contractor didn't achieve scope of the contract in FY2023/24, with one parcel of works being rescheduled to FY2024/25.	Transport
	7	Deliver regional road program, including reconstruction and resealing of identified roads, including widening of Pretty Pine Road	At least 90% of scheduled program completed	100% - on schedule against the FY2023/24 budgeted programme.	Widening Project on Pretty Pine Road is a multiyear project planned for completion in August 2024.	Transport

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
		8	Deliver local road program, including reconstruction, resealing, and gravel re-sheeting, including rural roads	At least 90% of scheduled program completed	100% - on schedule against the FY2023/24 budgeted programme.	Excluding Hardinge Street which was rescheduled to FY2024/25.	Transport
		9	Deliver local bridge refurbishment program	At least 90% of scheduled program completed	Completed	100% - on schedule against the FY2023/24 budgeted programme.	Transport
		10	Deliver kerb and gutter renewal program, including as part of Hardinge Street renewal project	At least 90% of scheduled program completed	100% - on schedule against the FY2023/24 budgeted programme.	Excluding Hardinge Street which was rescheduled to FY2024/25.	Transport
		11	Deliver water infrastructure projects, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water main replacement program - Water treatment plant refurbishment - Ice pigging preparation. - Wanganella Creek pump upgrade - Water Treatment Plant clear water tank baffles - North Deniliquin back-up supply options study - Upgrade telemetry (SCADA) system. - Scope and design the High Lift Pump 	At least 90% of scheduled projects completed	50%	Water main replacement program - Hardinge St moved to 2025 Water treatment plant refurbishment - completed. Ice pigging preparation - completed. Wanganella Creek pump upgrade - completed. Water Treatment Plant clear water tank baffles - cancelled - replaced with HOW Diving project due to water quality issues. - completed North Deniliquin back-up supply options study - completed, further detailed report recommended. Upgrade telemetry (SCADA) system - Carried forward. Scope and design the High Lift Pump replacement at the Water	Waste, Water & Sewer

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
			replacement at the Water Treatment Plant			Treatment Plant - Running over - due August 2024 as previously reported.	
		12	Deliver sewer infrastructure projects, including: - sewer relining program - sewer pump station refurbishment - Trunk Main replacement at Dick Street pump station - Sewage Treatment Plant options study - Upgrade telemetry (SCADA) system	At least 90% of scheduled projects completed		Sewer relining program - Completed. Sewer pump station refurbishment - Completed Trunk Main replacement at Dick Street pump station - Completed. Sewage treatment plant options study - completed. Upgrade telemetry (SCADA) system – Carried.	Waste, Water & Sewer
		13	Complete refurbishment of the Deniliquin Saleyards	Refurbishment completed by June 2024	Appears to be a repeat of Item 4.1.3.7		Project Management Office
4.2.1	Implement the outcomes of the NSW Government's Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines	1	Meet EPA license conditions at the Sewage Treatment Plant	100% compliance with license conditions	Completed		Waste, Water & Sewer
		2	Finalise the Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan	IWCM adopted by December 2023	Options study completed	Final Strategy still being drafted. Department Environment Climate Change and Water.	Waste, Water & Sewer
		3	Implement the Liquid Trade Waste Management Policy	100% compliance with LTWM guidelines	Completed		Waste, Water & Sewer
4.2.2	Comply with National	1	Undertake daily water sampling in	100% compliance rate	Completed		Waste, Water & Sewer

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
	Drinking Water Guidelines and work with NSW Health regarding health outcomes		compliance with the regulations				
4.3.1	Provide professional and effective customer service which is embedded throughout the organisation	1	Deliver identified customer service improvements, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - development of a Customer Service Strategy - Update of the Customer Service Charter - Frontline staff training in customer service experience 	Strategy & Charter approved by June 2024. 100% of frontline staff trained	Completed	Charter is completed and we will be taking it to Council after the election for endorsement and front line training has been identified and training plans developed.	Customer Experience
4.3.2	A customer-centric culture that continuously improves its tools and innovates	1	Develop a Customer Service Improvement Plan and implement initial improvements, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - after-hours telephony - investigation of expansion of online customer self-service options 	Plan developed by May 2024	Completed	Plans has been created and reviewed and we are working with our suppliers to improve the service.	Customer Experience
5.1.1	Provide governance frameworks that support Council in operating transparently for	1	Deliver Council's annual Operational Plan and Annual Report	100% of statutory obligations met	100%	2022-23 Annual Report published in November 2023 (2023-24 Annual Report will be published in next financial year). 2024-25 Operational Plan & Budget was adopted at the June.	Corporate Strategy

Delivery Program 2022-2025	OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
and with the community					2024 Council meeting and is now published on Council's website.	
	2	Implement records management activities, including developing an Information Management Framework	Framework completed by December 2023	Completed	Draft Framework has been reviewed and will go to the new Council for endorsement.	Customer Experience
	3	Finalise Plans of Management for all Council-controlled Crown Land	100% of PoM completed	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 27 complete and adopted by Council 11 with Crown land being reviewed 13 in initial of stages of draft 	Facilities & Open Space
	4	Undertake a review of delegations and implement an updated Delegations Register and instruments	Updated delegations system in place by September 2023	Completed	Completed - Updated CEO Delegations (Part 2) register, updated to website.	Governance, Safety & Risk
	5	Develop a corporate governance framework	Framework adopted by December 2023	Deferred	Draft Framework is currently under way and will be presented post 2024 Council Elections.	Governance, Safety & Risk
	6	Develop and implement a fraud prevention framework	Framework adopted by March 2024. Implementation commenced by June 2024	Deferred	This needs to be developed in consultation with the business and should incorporate a flow on training program to staff.	Governance, Safety & Risk
	7	Provide procurement-related business support and advice, including in relation to:	At least 43% of POs comply with Procurement Policy	57% of POs complied with councils Procurement Policy.	The inaugural compliance report in June 2024 indicated. 43% of orders raised were non-compliant. While low, it is purely reflective of staff's record	Finance

Delivery Program 2022-2025	OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
		- purchase orders - tenders - RFQs			management and current purchasing knowledge.	
	8	Prepare and facilitate the annual professional development program for each councillor	100% councillor participation in program	Development program completed.	Additional opportunities provided to all Councillors during the quarter.	Office of the CEO
	9	Review and update the Councillor Facilities & Expenses Policy to reflect increased requirement for councillor professional development	Revised policy adopted by September 2023	Completed	Revised Policy adopted on 21 May 2024 Ordinary Meeting of Council.	Governance, Safety & Risk
	10	Facilitate and participate in interagency meetings, including: - Local Emergency Management Committee - Rural Fire Service Bushfire Management Committee	At least 3 LEMC meetings attended. At least 2 RFS BMC meetings attended	Scheduled LEMC meetings attended in October 2023, December 2023, and June 2024. Scheduled RFS BFMC meeting attended in September 2023 and March 2024. 100%	The total number of meetings for the committees is 5 (3 Local Emergency Management Committee and 2 Rural Fire Service), not 5 each. - The target measure inclusive of the corrective meeting numbers noted in the above comments is 100%.	Emergency Management
	11	Finalise the Draft Library Strategy and review and benchmark Library policies and procedures	Strategy completed by 30 September 2023. Policy review by end of June 2024	Completed	Draft Framework has been reviewed and will go to the new council for endorsement.	Customer Experience

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
5.1.2	Continue to build trust amongst our community through collaboration and communication	1	Audit and update Council's website content	Audit completed by December 2023	90%	Audit and update undertaken as part of website upgrade project which is currently underway and planned for launch in Q1 of new financial year.	Communications & Engagement
		2	Implement scheduled actions of the Communications and Engagement Strategies	Number of activities delivered, and number of participants	40%	Communications and Community Engagement Strategy adopted October 2023. 3 key projects identified for delivering in 2023-24: 1. Updated communications tracker - completed 2. Reporting established - Not yet started. To be undertaken in the next financial year. 3. Yearly Communications Plan in place - Skeleton of activities has been established. For further development in the next financial year	Communications & Engagement
		3	Represent Council and the Edward River community at: - Country Mayors' Association - ALGA Annual Conference - LGNSW Annual Conference	100% participation rate	100%	Edward River Council was represented in person at two meetings held in Sydney and two online presentations. The Australian Local Government Association Annual Conference was attended by four (4) Councillors. The LGNSW Annual Conference was attended by three (3) Councillors and the Chief Executive Officer.	Office of the CEO
5.1.3	Implement new community committee structures for community facilities	1	Complete implementation of recommendations arising from the Council Committees review	100% of committees with a current ToR	70% of active Council committee have a current ToR, as at June 2024	A report is expected to go to the final meeting of the current Council with recommendations for dissolving inactive committees and agreeing arrangements with primary user groups of community halls.	Governance, Safety & Risk

Delivery Program 2022-2025	OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
5.2.1 Develop and implement financial plans that ensure Council is financially sustainable, innovative and efficient	1	Maintain and renew Council's plant and fleet in accordance with the maintenance schedule and adopted Plant Replacement Program	100% of scheduled maintenance and renewal actions completed	10%	Replacement program paused Q2 October 2023 for Plant & Fleet Review. Maintenance completed as scheduled. Adopted Plant Replacement Program to be updated and continued until establishment of new program.	Facilities & Open Spaces
	2	Implement the scheduled improvement actions arising from the Plant & Fleet Service Review	100% of scheduled actions completed	10%	Draft Terms of Reference still to be endorsed.	Facilities & Open Spaces
	3	Prepare the annual budget and implement the scheduled activities of the Long-Term Financial Plan, including a review of fees and charges	Budget prepared by June 2024. 100% of scheduled activities completed	100% completed by 30 June 2024	The 2024-25 budget, Long-Term Financial Plan, fees and charges, Making of the Rates and Revenue Policy were all adopted by Council in June 2024.	Finance
	4	Implement the recommended actions of the Financial Sustainability Review	100% of scheduled activities completed	60% - On track	Several recommendations have been implemented and the plan updated.	Finance
	5	Identify savings and further efficiencies to reduce expenditure, and commence appropriate modelling and community consultation regarding options for	Reduce the budgeted 2023-24 deficit to achieve a balanced year-end result	Unlikely to be achieved.	The March Quarterly Budget Review Statement forecast the likely outcome of the 2023-24 operational result to be a \$1.151m deficit. Council has decided not to proceed with a Special Rate Variation.	Finance

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
			increasing revenue, to inform any future decisions regarding the requirement for a Special Rate Variation				
		6	Finalise the development of, and commence implementation of the Project Management Framework and identify and develop the integration points with asset management and long-term financial planning, and train staff in the Framework's application	100% of projects delivered using the PMF; 100% of identified staff trained in PMF	90%	Project Management Framework documentation is now being utilised to implement 24/25 projects and will be progressively implemented & utilised to manage projects.	Project Management Office
		7	Establish a project development initiation program to support the development of feasibility studies, grant applications, design work and other pipeline preparation to enable Council to maximise funding opportunities for identified projects when they arise	50% of priority projects ready for grant funding	Commenced	The Project Management Office is assisting library services in cooperation with Facilities and Open Spaces to assess feasibility scoping for grant related projects. Affected by delays in recruitment of a Grants Officer.	Project Management Office
		8	Undertake a review of Council's	Review completed by March 2024.	33%	Review completed. Policy is to be developed. The Framework	Office of the CEO

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
			donations, grants and sponsorship program and policy	Policy adopted by May 2024. Revised program commenced by end of June 2024		and categorisation of grants/sponsorship is being developed.	
5.2.2	Continue to foster a culture and support frameworks to enhance risk-based decision-making	1	Implement actions arising from the Procurement Audit	100% of actions addressing high and extreme risk completed	85%	9 of the 11 actions have been implement and one almost complete. Category management has been deferred until 2024-25.	Finance
		2	Continue to review and update Council's policies in line with legislative compliance and organisational priorities	Less than 20% of ERC policies are out of date	Deferred	Policy register is still being compiled - a little difficult to ensure compliance of Policy review when we do not have list and status of all Council Policies.	Governance, Safety & Risk
		3	Prepare, distribute, and publish Council and Committee Meeting Agendas and Minutes	100% of Agendas and Minutes published within statutory timeframes	100%	Target met.	Office of the CEO
5.2.3	Facilitate the role of the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee	1	Facilitate the activities of the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee and Internal Audit function, including: - Development of a strategic workplan - Implementation of the Risk Management & Internal Audit Framework - Review of the Enterprise Risk	At least 4 ARIC meetings held. 100% of scheduled internal audits completed. At least 1 service review completed	Completed	Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee - 4 meetings held. 2 Internal Audits Completed - Records audit has had all management responses accepted by Audit Risk and Improvement Committee and Contract Management draft management responses will be issued at July meeting. Service review of Fleet completed.	Governance, Safety & Risk

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
			Management Framework				
5.3.1	Maintain a culture of safety first	1	Implement the actions arising from the Safety Culture & Systems audit	At least 90% of scheduled actions completed	Partially	Work, Health & Safety action plan - initiative actions completed and significant work towards WHS culture and awareness completed with remaining items captured on action register to track progress moving forward.	Governance, Safety & Risk
		2	Facilitate councillor training on strategic organisational safety and governing body responsibilities	Training delivered by June 2024. 100% of councillors trained	100%	Councillor Training program was developed and delivered with further training opportunities made available.	Office of the CEO
		3	Implement a Work Health & Safety contractor management system	100% of high-risk contractors of Council using the system by 30 June 2024	Deferred	To be delivered in 2024/25.	Governance, Safety & Risk
5.3.2	A workforce culture supports the needs of the community with a safe, skilled and motivated Council workforce	1	Implement the scheduled activities of the Workforce Management Plan, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - enhancing induction and onboarding processes - staff attraction and retention program - review of the salary system - recruitment to additional priority positions - development of a leadership program 	At least 90% of scheduled activities completed	Partial	<p>A comprehensive review, conducted in collaboration with Winton Consulting, has been completed on the induction and onboarding process. As a result, a new salary system, along with updated policies and procedures, has been implemented.</p> <p>Priority positions identified for this financial year have been or are currently being recruited.</p> <p>Additionally, the leadership program has been developed and is now underway.</p>	People & Culture

Delivery Program 2022-2025		OP Ref	Operational Plan 2023-24 Action	Annual target performance measure/s	Progress status	Comment at 30 June 2024	Responsible service area
5.3.3	Develop strong sector partnerships through shared projects, resources and learning to assist the Edward River community	1	Participate in the Regional Recovery Program to support the local community's flood recovery	Flood Recovery Program commenced by end of October 2023	Completed	All Office of Local Government funded flood recovery works have been completed and acquitted.	Project Management Office
5.3.4	Actively support the growth and development of staff	1	Facilitate annual staff appraisals	At least 90% of staff have been appraised	Completed	94% Completed.	People & Culture
		2	Facilitate mandatory training for Council staff, including: - EEO training - bullying and harassment training	100% of staff have received relevant mandatory training	Partial	90% of Mandatory training achieved. Some staff unable to attend a number of courses that were running due to illness. Bullying and harassment training has been booked in for July due to facilitator availability and distance travelled.	People & Culture

10.4. EDWARD RIVER COUNCIL DOCTOR INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

Author: Executive Assistant

Authoriser: Interim Chief Executive Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note that assistance has been given to three new medical practitioners through the Doctors and Registered Nurses Attraction Policy.

BACKGROUND

Edward River Council established a Doctors and Registered Nurses Attraction Policy in March 2021 to support the attraction and retention of Doctors, Registered Nurses and Midwives to the Edward River Council area.

The support is designed to assist with housing and relocation expenses.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

Letters of support and requests for assistance were received from the Deniliquin Medical Centre and Shiloh Medical Practice.

The Deniliquin Medical Centre has employed two full time General Practitioners who also provide on call for the local Deniliquin Hospital. These two Doctors are both planning to make Deniliquin their home. Whilst Shiloh Medical Practice is welcoming a new Registrar who is relocating with his wife and two children from overseas and has committed to remain at the practice for several years.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

3. Encouraging growth through partnerships

3.4 Health

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Doctors and Registered Nurses Attraction Policy is contained within the current budget.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Nil as Edward River Council has a current policy in place.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

10.5. INVESTMENT REPORT - JULY 2024

Author: Financial Accountant

Authoriser: Acting Chief Financial Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Note and receive the July 2024 report on Investments totalling \$40,326,247 inclusive of cash at bank for day-to-day operations.
2. Note that actual interest earned in the month of July 2024 was \$129,490.
3. Note that total interest earned for the year to 31 July 2024 is \$161,139.
4. Note the Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer and adopt the Investment Report.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the investment of surplus funds and performance of Council's investment portfolio for the month to 31 July 2024 as required by Regulation No 264 (Part 19) of the Local Government Act 1993.

As at 31 July 2024, Council had a total of \$40,326,247 in invested funds. Interest earned from investments during the month of July 2024 was \$129,490.

Included in this report are the following items:

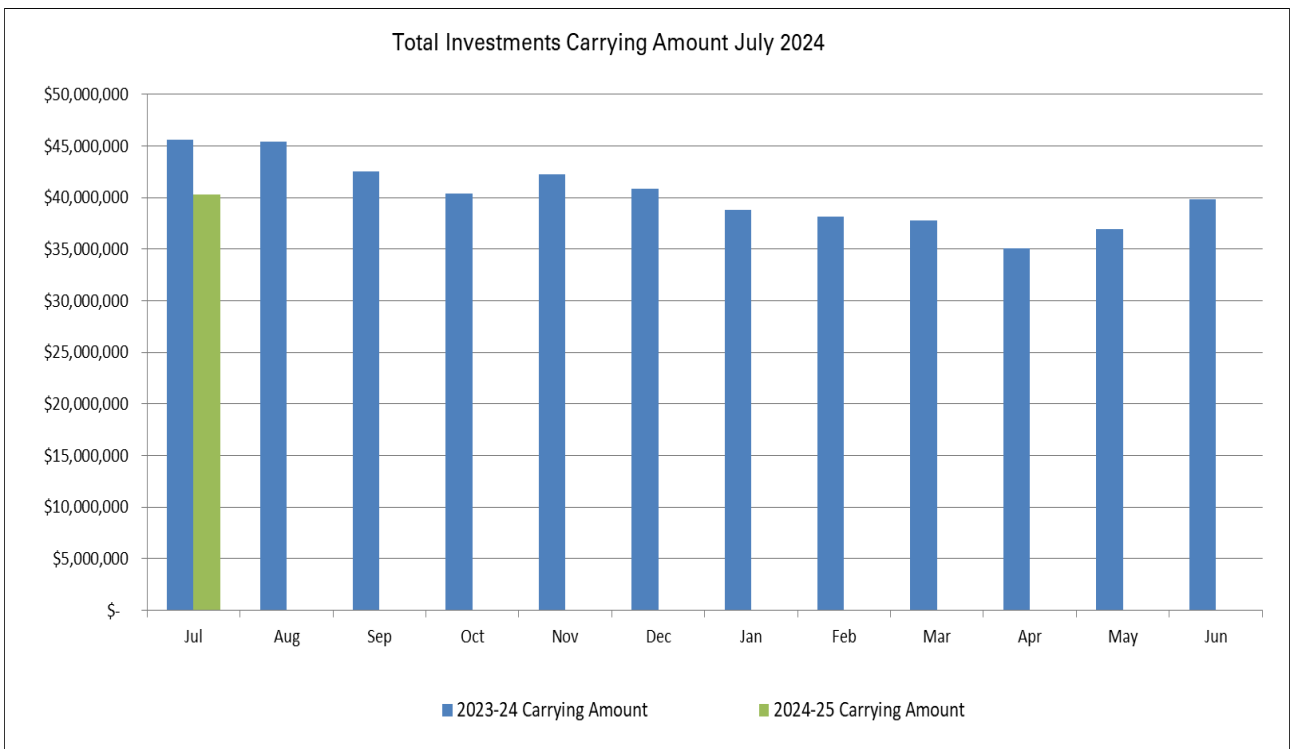
- Council's Investments as at 31 July 2024
- Restrictions Applying to Investment Funds
- Investment Portfolio Performance
- Investment Commentary
- Monthly Report from Imperium Markets
- Certification by the Responsible Accounting Officer

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

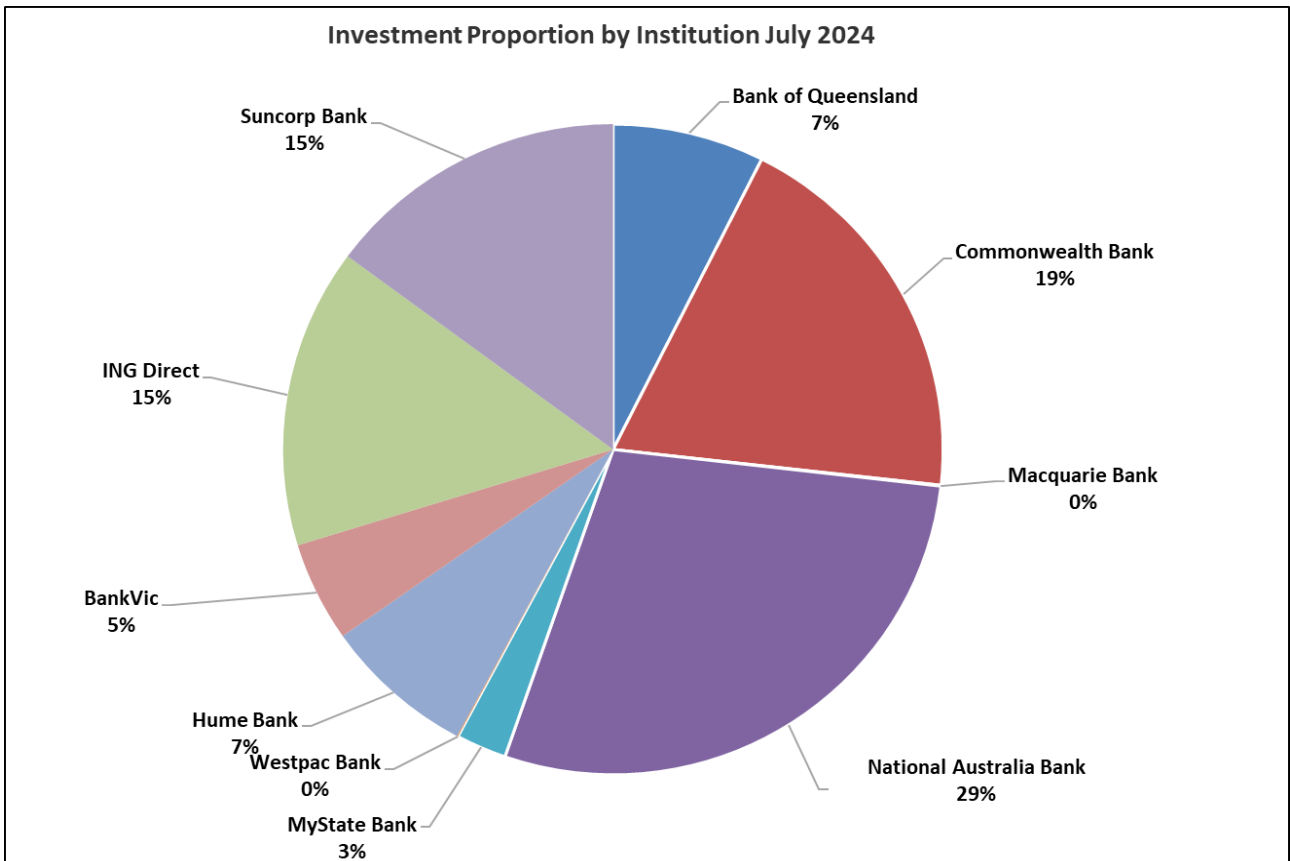
Council's Investments as at 31 July 2024

As at 31 July 2024, Council had a total of \$40,326,247 in term deposits and cash at bank exclusive of unrepresented receipts or cheques.

The total investments balance has reduced by \$5m since July 2023 as Council has been successfully completing capital projects. This also includes seasonal fluctuations from month to month in line with Council's cashflow requirements.



Council's funds were invested with A1+, A1 and A2 rated Authorised Deposit Institutions (ADI's).



\$3.5m in term deposits matured during the month of July.

Jul-24						
Bank of Queensland	29-Jun-23	16-Jul-24	5.56%	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$	116,683.84
National Australia Bank	26-Jul-23	30-Jul-24	5.50%	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$	83,630.14
					\$	-
				\$ 3,500,000.00	\$	200,313.97

Summary of cash at bank from day-to-day operations

Cash Summary		Comment
Opening cash book balance	\$ 9,180,116	
Plus receipts	\$ 19,054,980	Grants, Investments, charges and rates debtors receipts
Less payments	\$ 22,390,370	Capex and Opex payments
Ledger balance as at 31 July 2024	\$ 5,844,726	
less Unmatched receipts on the Bank Statement	\$ 9,771	Receipts not yet presented in ledger
plus Unmatched payments on the Bank Statement	\$ -	Payments not yet presented in ledger
Cash book balance as at 31 July 2024	\$ 5,854,498	
Statement Summary		
Opening statement balance	\$ 9,178,331	
Plus receipts	\$ 9,231,063	Grants, Investments, charges and rates debtors receipts
Less payments	\$ 12,198,959	Capex and Opex payments
Bank statement balance as at 31 July 2024	\$ 6,210,435	
plus Unpresented receipts	\$ 27,496	Receipts not yet presented at bank
less Unpresented payments	\$ 383,433	payments not yet presented at bank
Reconciliation balance as at 31 July 2024	\$ 5,854,498	

Restrictions applying to Investment Funds

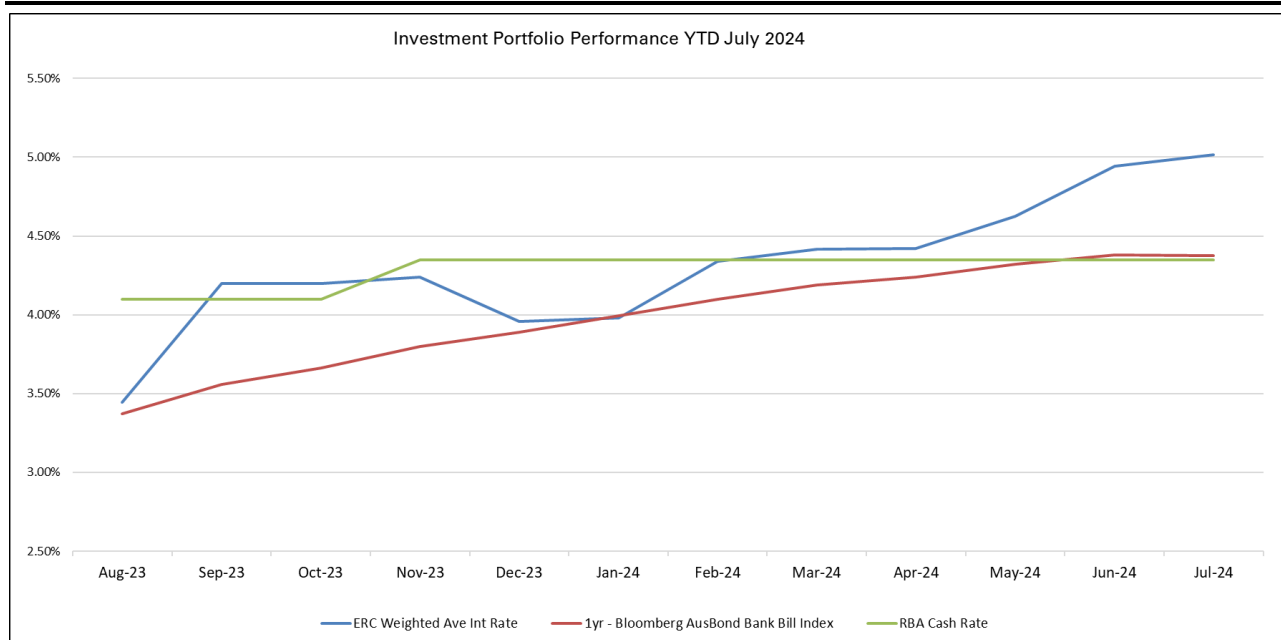
Internal Restrictions		
Infrastructure replacement	\$	1,779,826
Plant replacement reserve	\$	1,798,670
Recreation reserves/villages	\$	1,113,000
Other internal reserves	\$	759,027
Employee entitlements	\$	692,727
Land Development Fund	\$	385,000
Airport Development	\$	20,000
Deposits, retentions and bonds	\$	258,428
Total Internal Restrictions	\$	6,806,679
External Restrictions		
Water supplies fund	\$	6,778,962
Sewerage services fund	\$	8,211,575
Domestic Waste Management	\$	4,258,048
Other unexpended grant funds	\$	2,635,495
Other external reserves	\$	140,260
Total External Restrictions	\$	22,024,340
Unrestricted Funds	\$	11,495,227
Total Funds	\$	40,326,247

The following restrictions applied to the cash and investments balance:

Fund Name	Bank and Investments Percentage	
General	\$ 25,764,126	63.89%
Water	\$ 6,606,623	16.38%
Sewer	\$ 7,955,498	19.73%
Total Funds	\$ 40,326,247	100.00%

Investment Portfolio Performance

Total interest earned from investments during the month of July 2024 was \$129,490, compared to the original monthly budget of \$134,073.



As at 31 July 2024, Council’s weighted average interest rate was 5.02%, which was 0.64% above the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index implied one-year return of 4.37%. Total interest earned for the year to 31 July 2024 was \$161,139 compared to the budget of \$129,748 and previous year total of \$140,324.

Council engaged Imperium Markets Pty Ltd to provide ongoing investment advisory services from May 2021 as per recommendation from Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (resolution ARIC/2021/7). As part of this service, Imperium provides, among other services, a monthly investment review report for Council which council uses to inform investment decisions. A copy of the report is attached in this report as **Attachment 2 - Investment Review July 2024 - Arlo Advisory**. Council continues to obtain financial benefits through accessing better rates through the Imperium Investment platform as well as efficiency savings in the investment process.

Investment Commentary

As at 31 July 2024, all investments were within the defined Investment Policy limits. Council’s investment portfolio consisted of term deposits (83%) and cash at bank/ on call (17%). The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) has not changed the official cash rate since November 2023 with the cash rate still at 4.35%. The deposit market has factored in the rate movements in recent months. The higher rates provide opportunities for Council to obtain progressively higher rates on investments as the current ones mature. To mitigate the re-investment risk of current decreasing interest rate forecasts, Council is following on the advice from Arlo Advisory, to invest in term deposits with maturities 1 year to 2 years and a potential longer-term strategy of 2 - 5 years, taking into consideration council’s cashflow needs. This will allow council to take advantage of the relatively higher returns currently on the market for these investments as compared to short term ones.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Investments have been made in accordance with Council’s investment policy which was adopted on 19 April 2022.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

5. Accountable leadership and responsive administration

5.2 Financially sustainable

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Under Council’s Investment policy, investments are made with a range of ADI’s, with Council funds invested with a single institution not going above a percentage of the total portfolio as follows:

40%	A1+ rated institutions
25%	A1 rated institutions
15%	A2 rated institutions
\$250,000	A3 and unrated authorized deposit taking institutions
100%	Commonwealth/State/Tcorp/M Funds
100%	A1+ rated institutions
60%	A1 rated institutions
35%	A2 rated institutions
5%	A3 and Unrated authorized deposit taking institutions

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

<p>Local Government Act 1993</p>	<p>625 How may councils invest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A council may invest money that is not, for the time being, required by the council for any other purpose. • Money may be invested only in a form of investment notified by order of the Minister published in the Gazette. <p>Editorial note—</p> <p>See Gazettes No 152 of 24.11.2000, p 12041; No 94 of 29.7.2005, p 3977; No 97 of 15.8.2008, p 7638 and No 160 of 24.12.2008, p 13140.</p> <p>(3)An order of the Minister notifying a form of investment for the purposes of this section must</p> <p>not be made without the approval of the Treasurer.</p> <p>(4)The acquisition, in accordance with section 358, of a controlling interest in a corporation or an entity within the meaning of that section is not an investment for the purposes of this section.</p>
<p>Local Government (General) Regulation 2005</p>	<p>212 Reports on council investments</p> <p>(1) The responsible accounting officer of a council—</p> <p>(a) must provide the council with a written report (setting out details of all money that the</p>

<p>Local Government Act 1993</p>	<p>625 How may councils invest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A council may invest money that is not, for the time being, required by the council for any other purpose. • Money may be invested only in a form of investment notified by order of the Minister published in the Gazette. <p>Editorial note—</p> <p>See Gazettes No 152 of 24.11.2000, p 12041; No 94 of 29.7.2005, p 3977; No 97 of 15.8.2008, p 7638 and No 160 of 24.12.2008, p 13140.</p> <p>(3)An order of the Minister notifying a form of investment for the purposes of this section must</p> <p>not be made without the approval of the Treasurer.</p> <p>(4)The acquisition, in accordance with section 358, of a controlling interest in a corporation or an entity within the meaning of that section is not an investment for the purposes of this section.</p>
	<p>council has invested under section 625 of the Act) to be presented—</p> <p>i) if only one ordinary meeting of the council is held in a month, at that meeting, or</p> <p>(ii) if more than one such meeting is held in a month, at whichever of those meetings the council by resolution determines, and</p> <p>(b) must include in the report a certificate as to whether or not the investment has been made in accordance with the Act, the regulations and the council’s investment policies.</p> <p>(2) The report must be made up to the last day of the month immediately preceding the meeting.</p> <p>Note—</p> <p>Section 625 of the Act specifies the way in which a council may invest its surplus funds.</p>

Certification – Responsible Accounting Officer

I hereby certify that the investments listed in the Investment Report Attachment have been made in

accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council's Investment Policy.

Alistair Cochrane

Responsible Accounting Officer

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Schedule of Investments - July 2024

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Schedule of Investments									
This Report is at date					31-July-2024				
Description	Type	Rating at EOM (S&P)	Date Invested	Maturity Date	Days	Rate	Face Value Amount	% of Portfolio	Estimated Interest
Westpac Business Cheque Plus Account	Oncall/ CMT	A1+	N/a	N/a	365	0.00%	16,555	0.04%	Monthly
Westpac 31 Day Notice Account	Oncall/ CMT	A1+	N/a	N/a	365	4.70%	1,693	0.00%	Monthly
Commonwealth Bank General Fund	Oncall/ CMT	A1+	N/a	N/a	365	4.15%	6,174,001	15.31%	Monthly
Commonwealth Bank Business On Line Saver	Oncall/ CMT	A1+	N/a	N/a	365	4.20%	614,119	1.52%	Monthly
Macquarie Bank - Rates	Oncall/ CMT	A1	N/a	N/a	365	0.00%	17,668	0.04%	Monthly
Macquarie Bank - Water	Oncall/ CMT	A1	N/a	N/a	365	0.00%	2210	0.01%	Monthly
Total Oncall/ CMT Accounts							6,826,247	16.93%	
Term Deposits									
National Australia Bank	TD	A1+	30-Jul-24	30-Jul-25	365	5.30%	1,000,000	2.48%	53,000.00
National Australia Bank	TD	A1+	30-Jul-24	06-Aug-25	372	5.30%	1,000,000	2.48%	54,016.44
National Australia Bank	TD	A1+	30-Jul-24	13-Aug-25	379	5.30%	1,000,000	2.48%	55,032.88
National Australia Bank	TD	A1+	02-Jul-24	02-Jul-25	365	5.45%	1,000,000	2.48%	54,500.00
National Australia Bank	TD	A1+	16-Jul-24	16-Jul-25	365	5.35%	1,000,000	2.48%	53,500.00
National Australia Bank	TD	A1+	16-Jul-24	19-Aug-25	399	5.31%	1,000,000	2.48%	58,046.30
National Australia Bank	TD	A1+	05-Sep-23	05-Sep-24	366	5.20%	1,500,000	3.72%	78,213.70
National Australia Bank	TD	A1+	12-Sep-23	16-Sep-25	735	4.90%	2,000,000	4.96%	197,342.47
National Australia Bank	TD	A1+	14-Sep-23	17-Oct-24	399	5.21%	2,000,000	4.96%	113,906.30
Commonwealth Bank	TD	A1+	12-Sep-23	17-Sep-24	371	5.00%	1,000,000	2.48%	50,821.92
Suncorp Bank	TD	A1+	30-May-24	30-May-25	365	5.27%	1,000,000	2.48%	52,700.00
Suncorp Bank	TD	A1+	28-Nov-23	14-Aug-24	260	5.41%	1,000,000	2.48%	38,536.99
Suncorp Bank	TD	A1+	14-Nov-23	15-Jan-25	428	5.40%	1,000,000	2.48%	63,320.55
Suncorp Bank	TD	A1+	04-Jun-24	03-Apr-25	303	5.21%	2,000,000	4.96%	86,500.27
Suncorp Bank	TD	A1+	13-Jun-24	13-Mar-25	273	5.25%	1,000,000	2.48%	39,267.12
ING Direct	TD	A1	22-Feb-24	24-Feb-25	368	5.18%	1,000,000	2.48%	52,225.75
ING Direct	TD	A1	22-Mar-23	25-Mar-25	734	4.50%	1,000,000	2.48%	90,493.15
ING Direct	TD	A1	29-Jun-23	30-Jun-25	732	5.55%	2,000,000	4.96%	222,608.22
ING Direct	TD	A1	20-Mar-24	20-Mar-29	1826	5.06%	1,000,000	2.48%	253,138.63
ING Direct	TD	A1	02-Jul-24	02-Jul-26	730	5.35%	1,000,000	2.48%	107,000.00
Total A1+ Deposits	TD						24,500,000	60.75%	
Bank of Queensland	TD	A2	26-Mar-24	28-Mar-28	1463	4.95%	1,000,000	2.48%	198,406.85
Bank of Queensland	TD	A2	10-Nov-22	11-Nov-24	732	4.70%	1,000,000	2.48%	94,257.53
Bank of Queensland	TD	A2	30-Nov-23	27-Nov-25	728	5.35%	1,000,000	2.48%	106,706.85
BankVic	TD	A2	13-Jun-24	12-Jun-25	364	5.29%	2,000,000	4.96%	105,510.14
Hume Bank	TD	A2	20-Mar-24	10-Dec-24	265	5.08%	2,000,000	4.96%	73,764.38
Hume Bank	TD	A3	13-Jun-24	15-Jun-26	732	5.14%	1,000,000	2.48%	103,081.64
MyState Bank	TD	A2	13-Jun-24	12-Dec-24	182	5.20%	1,000,000	2.48%	25,928.77
Total A2 Deposits							9,000,000	22.32%	
Weighted Average Interest Rate						5.02%	40,326,247	100.00%	



Monthly Investment Review



Edward
River
COUNCIL

July 2024

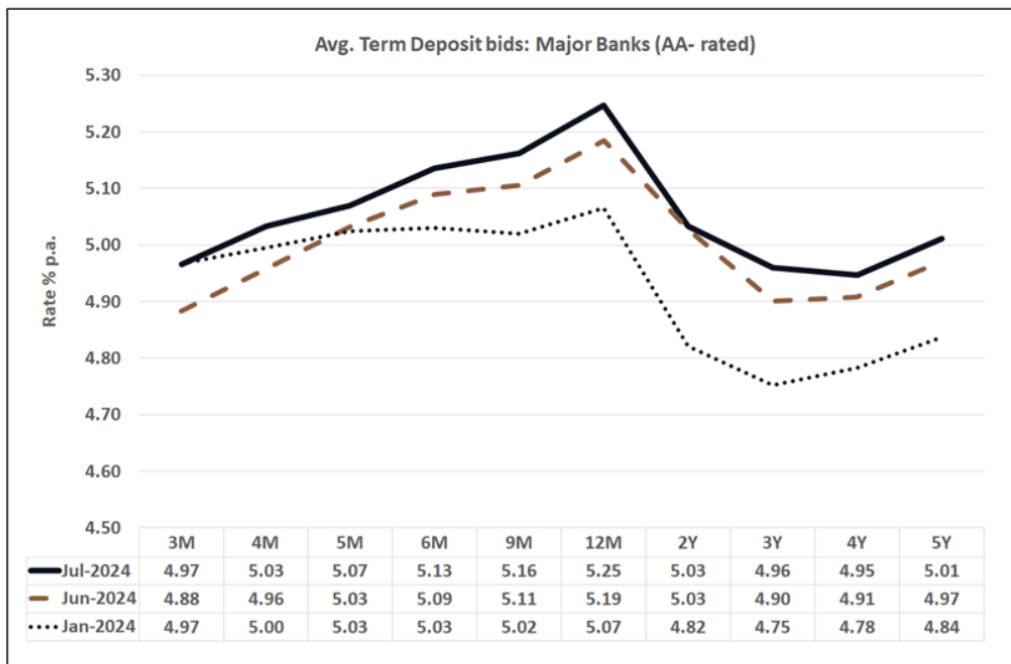
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Market Update Summary

In July, risk markets provided modest returns again, boosted by softening inflation and expectations of interest rate cuts in the short to medium term.

In the deposit market, over July, the average deposit rates offered by the major banks increased across most tenors as the market priced the potential of another rate hike prior to the lower than expected inflation print on the last day of July. Notably, the average deposit rates offered by the major banks rose in the 6–12 months tenors by around 5bp, compared to where they were in June. The deposit curve remains inverse with rates peaking at the 12 month tenor and then dipping/flattening across the 2–5 year terms (with the lowest rates offered in the 4 year tenor), with the market still factoring in multiple rate cuts starting next year.



Source: Imperium Markets

With a global economic downturn and interest rate cuts still being priced over the next 18–24 months, investors should consider diversifying and taking an ‘insurance policy’ against a potentially lower rate environment by investing across 2–5 year fixed deposits, targeting rates above 5% p.a. (small allocation only).



Edward River Council’s Portfolio & Compliance

Asset Allocation

The portfolio is mainly directed to fixed term deposits (~83%), with the remainder of the portfolio (~17%) being held in various overnight cash accounts.

Senior FRNs remain relatively attractive as spreads have generally widened over the past 2-3 years. New issuances may be considered again on a case by case scenario. In the interim, staggering a mix of fixed deposits between 9-12 months to 3 years remains a more optimal strategy to maximise returns over a longer-term cycle.

With interest rate cuts and a global economic downturn being priced in coming years, investors can choose to allocate a small proportion of longer-term funds and undertake an insurance policy against any potential future rate cuts by investing across 2-5 year fixed deposits, locking in and targeting yields above 5% p.a.



Term to Maturity

The portfolio remains highly liquid with around 75% maturing within 12 months. Where liquidity permits, we recommend investing surplus funds in the 1-2 year horizons to optimise the portfolio’s returns in the long-run. Where there is (counterparty) capacity to invest in attractive medium-longer term investments, we recommend this be allocated to medium-term fixed deposits (refer to respective sections below).

Compliant	Horizon	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Min. Limit (%)	Max. Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	0 – 90 days	\$12,326,246	30.57%	15%	100%	\$28,000,000
✓	91 – 365 days	\$18,000,000	44.64%	0%	100%	\$22,326,246
✓	1 – 2 years	\$8,000,000	19.84%	0%	70%	\$20,228,372
✓	2 – 5 years	\$2,000,000	4.96%	0%	50%	\$18,163,123
		\$40,326,246	100.00%			



Counterparty

Overall, the portfolio is lightly diversified across the investment grade credit spectrum, with no exposure to the unrated ADIs.

As at the end of the July, Council is within Policy limits to each individual ADI. We continue to encourage Council to diversify its investments with other ADIs as this will not only reduce concentration risk, but in all likelihood, this will increase the overall returns of the portfolio.

Compliant	Issuer	Rating [^]	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Max. Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	ANZ	AA-	\$6,000,000	14.88%	40.00%	\$10,130,498
✓	CBA	AA-	\$7,788,121	19.31%	40.00%	\$8,342,378
✓	NAB	AA-	\$11,500,000	28.52%	40.00%	\$4,630,498
✓	Westpac	AA-	\$18,247	0.05%	40.00%	\$16,112,251
✓	Macquarie Bank	A+	\$19,878	0.05%	25.00%	\$10,061,684
✓	ING	A	\$6,000,000	14.88%	25.00%	\$4,081,562
✓	BoQ	A-	\$3,000,000	7.44%	25.00%	\$7,081,562
✓	BankVic	BBB+	\$2,000,000	4.96%	15.00%	\$4,048,937
✓	Hume Bank	BBB+	\$3,000,000	7.44%	15.00%	\$3,048,937
✓	MyState Bank	BBB	\$1,000,000	2.48%	15.00%	\$5,048,937
			\$40,326,246	100.00%		

[^]Applying long-term ratings only.

On 31st July 2024, ANZ's takeover of Suncorp Bank was formalised, and ratings agency S&P upgraded Suncorp's long-term credit rating to that of its parent company immediately (now rated AA-). Investor's exposure to Suncorp is now reflected under the parent company being ANZ.

Credit Quality

The portfolio remains diversified from a credit ratings perspective. The entire long term portfolio is spread amongst the investment grade spectrum. All aggregate ratings categories were within the Policy limits at month-end:

Compliant	Credit Rating [^]	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Max. Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	AA Category	\$25,306,368	63%	100%	\$15,019,878
✓	A Category	\$9,019,878	22%	60%	\$15,175,870
✓	BBB Category	\$6,000,000	15%	35%	\$8,114,186
✓	Unrated Category	\$0	0%	5%	\$2,016,312
		\$40,326,246	100.00%		

[^] Applying long-term ratings only.



Performance

Council's performance (excluding cash holdings) for the month ending July 2024 is summarised as follows:

Performance (Actual)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	0.36%	1.08%	2.15%	0.36%	4.30%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	0.37%	1.10%	2.18%	0.37%	4.37%
Council's T/D Portfolio [^]	0.45%	1.23%	2.32%	0.45%	4.40%
Outperformance	0.07%	0.13%	0.13%	0.07%	0.03%

[^]Total portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings.

Performance (Annualised)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	4.35%	4.35%	4.35%	4.35%	4.30%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	4.49%	4.45%	4.42%	4.49%	4.37%
Council's T/D Portfolio [^]	5.38%	4.97%	4.70%	5.38%	4.40%
Outperformance	0.89%	0.53%	0.28%	0.89%	0.03%

[^]Total portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings.

For the month of July, the portfolio (excluding cash) provided a return of +0.45% (actual) or +5.38% p.a. (annualised), outperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.37% (actual) or +4.49% p.a. (annualised).

The relative 'underperformance' over the past year has been due to the unexpected aggressive rate hikes undertaken by the RBA over the past two years. Whilst this 'underperformance' over the 12 month period may continue in the short-term, we do anticipate this to be temporary given the high level of turnover and hopes that the RBA is approaching the end of its rate hike cycle.



Recommendations for Council

Term Deposits

Going forward, Council's interest income can be increased by undertaking a slightly longer duration position (12-24 months), with rates on offer along this part of the curve likely to be offered up to ¼-½% p.a. higher compared to shorter tenors in a normal market environment. There is growing belief that interest rate cuts and a global economic downturn is forthcoming and so locking in rates above 5% p.a. across 1-5 year tenors may provide some income protection against a lower rate environment.

As at the end of July 2024, Council's deposit portfolio was yielding 5.20% p.a. (unchanged from the previous month), with a weighted average duration of around 347 days (~11½ months). **We recommend Council maintains this average duration over the longer-term.**

Please refer to the section below for further details on the Term Deposit market.

Securities

Primary (new) Senior **FRNs** (with maturities between 3-5 years) continue to be appealing (particularly for those investors with portfolios skewed towards fixed assets) and should be considered on a case by case scenario.

Please refer to the section below for further details on the FRN market.



Term Deposit Market Review

Current Term Deposits Rates

As at the end of July, we see value in the following:

ADI	LT Credit Rating	Term	Rate % p.a.
ING	A	5 years	5.15%
BoQ	A-	5 years	5.00%
ING	A	4 years	5.07%
BoQ	A-	4 years	5.00%
ING	A	3 years	5.03%
BoQ	A-	3 years	4.90%
ING	A	2 years	5.11%
Bank of Us	BBB+	2 years	5.10%
NAB	AA-	2 years	4.95%
Westpac	AA-	2 years	4.90%
BoQ	A-	2 years	4.90%

The above deposits are suitable for investors looking to maintain diversification and lock-in a slight premium compared to purely investing short-term.

For terms under 12 months, we believe the strongest value is currently being offered by the following ADIs (*we stress that rates are indicative, dependent on daily funding requirements and different for industry segments*):



ADI	LT Credit Rating	Term	Rate % p.a.
NAB	AA-	12 months	5.30%
ING	A	12 months	5.29%
BankVIC	BBB+	12 months	5.25%
ICBC	A	12 months	5.21%
Bank of Us	BBB+	12 months	5.13%
NAB	AA-	9 months	5.30%
Bendigo-Adelaide	A-	9 months	5.17%
Bank of Sydney	Unrated	9 months	5.15%
ING	A	9 months	5.12%
NAB	AA-	6 months	5.30%
Bendigo-Adelaide	A-	6 months	5.21%
Bank of Sydney	Unrated	6 months	5.15%
NAB	AA-	3 months	5.10%
Bank of Sydney	Unrated	3 months	5.05%

If Council does not require high levels of liquidity and can stagger a proportion of its investments across the longer term horizons (1–5 years), it will be rewarded over a longer–term cycle. Investing a spread of 12 months to 3 year horizons is likely to yield, on average, up to ¼–½% p.a. higher compared to those investors that entirely invest in short–dated deposits (under 6–9 months).

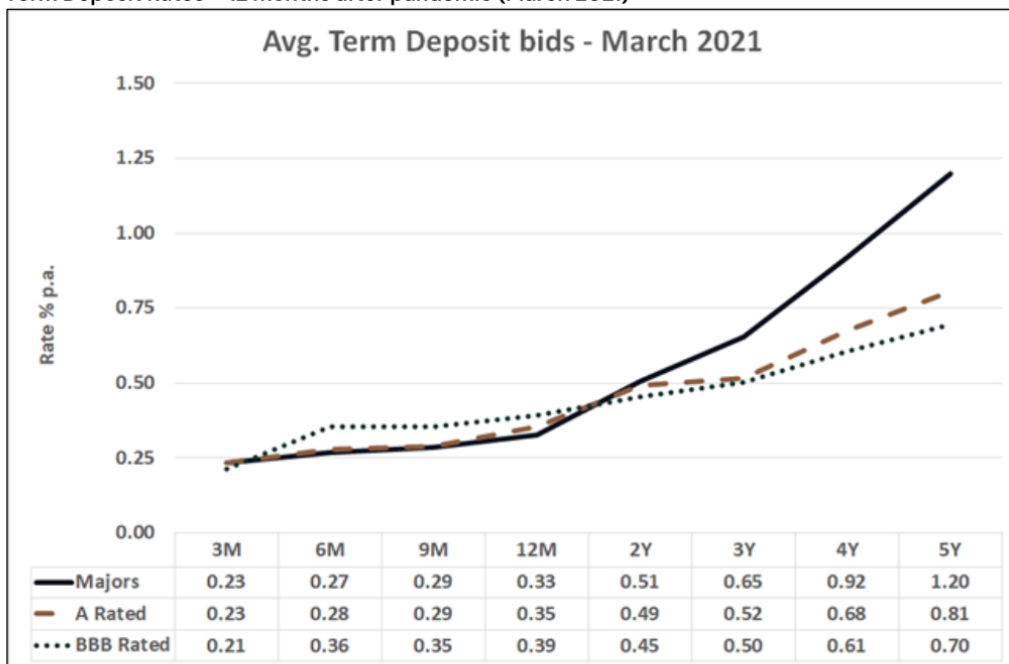
With a global economic slowdown and interest rate cuts being priced over the next few years, investors should strongly consider diversifying by allocating some longer term surplus funds and undertake an insurance policy by investing across 2–5 year fixed deposits and locking in rates above 5% p.a. This will provide some income protection with central banks now potentially looking to cut rates in 2025.



Term Deposits Analysis

Pre-pandemic (March 2020), a 'normal' marketplace meant the lower rated ADIs (i.e. BBB category) were offering higher rates on term deposits compared to the higher rated ADIs (i.e. A or AA rated). But due to the cheap funding available provided by the RBA via their Term Funding Facility (TFF) during mid-2020, allowing the ADIs to borrow as low as 0.10% p.a. fixed for 3 years, those lower rated ADIs (BBB rated) did not require deposit funding from the wholesale deposit. Given the higher rated banks had more capacity to lend (as they have a greater pool of mortgage borrowers), they subsequently were offering higher deposit rates. In fact, some of the lower rated banks were not even offering deposit rates at all. As a result, most investors placed a higher proportion of their deposit investments with the higher rated (A or AA) ADIs over the past three years.

Term Deposit Rates – 12 months after pandemic (March 2021)



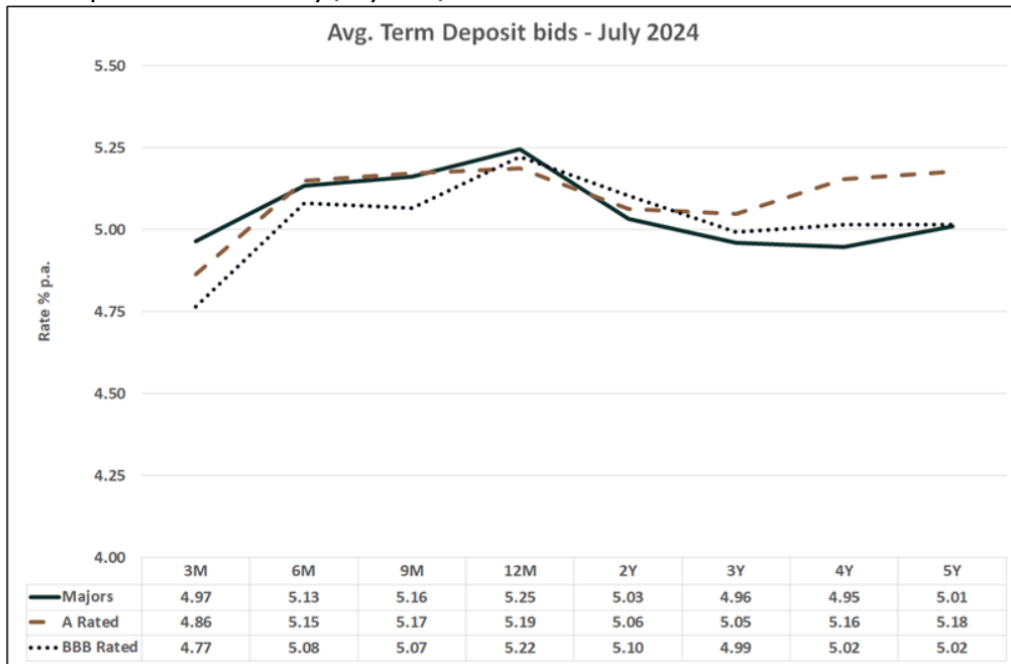
Source: Imperium Markets

The abnormal marketplace experienced during the pandemic is starting to reverse as the competition for deposits slowly increases, partially driven by the RBA's term funding facility coming to an end. In recent months, we have started to periodically see some of the lower rated ADIs ("A" and "BBB" rated) offering slightly higher rates compared to the domestic major banks ("AA" rated) on different parts of the curve (i.e. pre-pandemic environment). Some of this has been attributed to lags in adjusting their deposit rates as some banks (mainly the lower rated ADIs) simply set their rates for the week.



Going forward, Council should have a larger opportunity to invest a higher proportion of its funds with the lower rated institutions (up to Policy limits), from which the majority are not lending to the Fossil Fuel industry or considered 'ethical'. We are slowly seeing this trend emerge (as was the case this month at the longer-end of the curve), although the major banks always seem to react more quickly than the rest of the market during periods of volatility:

Term Deposit Rates – Currently (July 2024)



Source: Imperium Markets

Regional & Unrated ADI Sector

Ratings agency S&P has commented that "mergers remain compelling for mutuals lenders" in providing smaller lenders greater economies of scale and assisting them in being able to price competitively and will see "the banking landscape will settle with a small number of larger mutual players". S&P expects that consolidation to continue over the next two years.

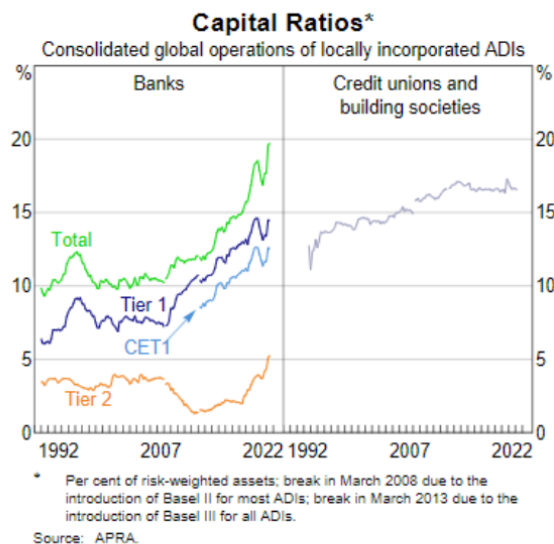
We remain supportive of the regional and unrated ADI sector (and have been even throughout the post-GFC period). They continue to remain solid, incorporate strong balance sheets, while exhibiting high levels of capital – typically, much higher compared to the higher rated ADIs. Some unrated ADIs have up to 25-40% more capital than the domestic major banks, and well above the Basel III requirements.



Overall, the lower rated ADIs (BBB and unrated) are generally now in a better financial position than they have been historically (see the Capital Ratio figure below). The financial regulator, APRA has noted that the Common Equity Tier 1 capital of Australian banks now exceeds a quarter of a trillion dollars. It has increased by \$110 billion, or more than 70%, over the past decade. Over the same time, banks' assets have grown by 44%. Some of the extra capital is supporting growth in the banking system itself but clearly, there has been a strengthening in overall resilience and leverage in the system is lower.

We believe that deposit investments with the lower rated ADIs should be considered going forward, particularly when they offer 'above market' specials. Not only would it diversify the investment portfolio and reduce credit risk, it would also improve the portfolio's overall returns. The lower rated entities are generally deemed to be the more 'ethical' ADIs compared to the higher rated ADIs.

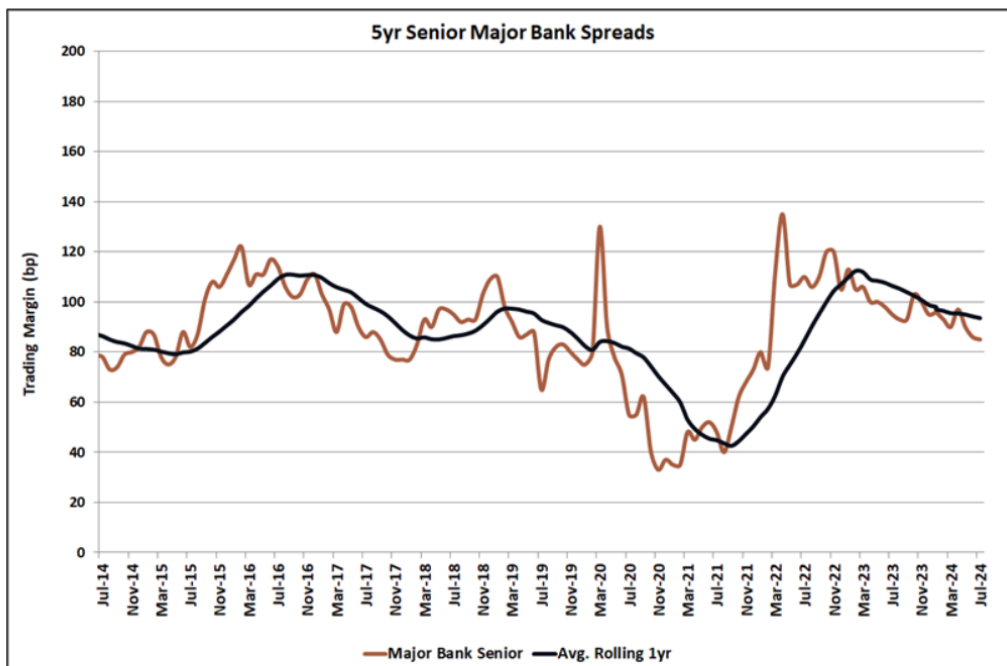
In the current environment of high regulation and scrutiny, all domestic (and international) ADIs continue to carry high levels of capital. There is minimal (if any) probability of any ADI defaulting on their deposits going forward – this was stress tested during the GFC and the pandemic period. APRA's mandate is to "protect depositors" and provide "financial stability".





Senior FRNs Market Review

Over July, amongst the senior major bank FRNs, physical credit securities remained flat at the 5 year part of the curve but tightened around 6bp in the 3 year part of the curve. During the month, ANZ (AA-) issued a dual 3 & 5 year senior deal at +70bp and +86bp respectively. Major bank senior securities remain at fair value on a historical basis although looking fairly expensive if the 5yr margin tightens to +80bp in the near future.



Source: IBS Capital

There was minimal issuance again during the month apart from:

- Rabobank (A+) 5 year senior FRN at +91bp
- Agricultural Bank of China (A) 3 year senior FRN at +80bp

Amongst the “A” and “BBB” rated sector, the securities remained flat at the longer-end of the curve. Overall, credit securities are looking more attractive given the widening of spreads over the past 2–3 years. FRNs will continue to play a role in investors’ portfolios mainly on the basis of their liquidity and the ability to roll down the curve and gross up returns over ensuing years (in a relatively stable credit environment), whilst also providing some diversification to those investors skewed towards fixed assets.



Senior FRNs (ADIs)	31/07/2024	28/06/2024
"AA" rated – 5yrs	+85bp	+86bp
"AA" rated – 3yrs	+65bp	+71bp
"A" rated – 5yrs	+100bp	+105bp
"A" rated – 3yrs	+80bp	+82bp
"BBB" rated – 3yrs	+130bp	+130bp

Source: IBS Capital

We now generally recommend switches ('benchmark' issues only) into new primary issues, out of the following senior FRNs that are maturing:

- On or before mid-2026 for the "AA" rated ADIs (domestic major banks);
- On or before mid-2025 for the "A" rated ADIs; and
- Within 6–9 months for the "BBB" rated ADIs (consider case by case).

Investors holding onto the above senior FRNs ('benchmark' issues only) in their last few years are now generally holding sub optimal investments and are not maximising returns by foregoing realised capital gains. In the current challenging economic environment, any boost in overall returns should be locked in when it is advantageous to do so, particularly as switch opportunities become available.



Senior Fixed Bonds – ADIs (Secondary Market)

With global inflation still high by historical standards, this has seen a significant lift in longer-term bond yields over the past 2-3 years (valuations have fallen) as markets have reacted sharply.

This has resulted in some opportunities in the secondary market. We currently see value in the following fixed bond lines, with the majority now being marked at a significant discount to par (please note supply in the secondary market may be limited on any day):

ISIN	Issuer	Rating	Capital Structure	Maturity Date	~Remain. Term (yrs)	Fixed Coupon	Indicative Yield
AU3CB0278174	UBS	A+	Senior	26/02/2026	1.58	1.1000%	4.98%
AU3CB0280030	BoQ	A-	Senior	06/05/2026	1.77	1.4000%	5.20%
AU3CB0299337	Bendigo	A-	Senior	15/05/2026	1.79	4.7000%	5.08%
AU3CB0296168	BoQ	A-	Senior	27/01/2027	2.50	4.7000%	5.14%
AU3CB0308955	BoQ	A-	Senior	30/04/2029	4.76	5.3580%	5.19%



Economic Commentary

International Market

In July, risk markets provided modest returns again, boosted by softening inflation and expectations of interest rate cuts in the short to medium term.

Across equity markets, the S&P 500 Index rose +1.13% over the month, whilst the NASDAQ lost -0.75% as tech companies were sold off. Europe's main indices rose across the board, led by UK's FTSE (+2.50%), Germany's DAX (+1.50%) and France's CAC (+0.70%).

The US Fed's preferred PCE measure of inflation was benign. Headline PPI was +0.2% m/m vs. +0.1% expected and core PPI was +0.4% m/m and +0.2% expected. The rise in the core measure was the lowest increase since Jan 2021.

The US unemployment rate rose by 0.1% to 4.1% versus 4.0% expected. Unemployment at 4.1% is a touch above the end 2024 FOMC dot of 4.0%, but broadly near where the FOMC's long-run natural rate of unemployment is which is pegged at 4.2%.

The average of the two core (mean and median) measures of Canada's CPI fell by -0.1% to +2.75%, as expected. The headline rate fell to +2.7% from +2.9%, 0.1% more than expected. The Bank of Canada delivered a widely expected 25bp cut and signalled more, noting that "*downside risks are taking on increased weight*".

UK CPI was 0.1% higher than expectations. Headline inflation held steady at a +2.0% annual rate compared with expectations of a dip to +1.9%, whilst core inflation was also 0.1% above consensus at +3.5%.

Eurozone inflation was as expected in June, rising +0.2% m/m and +2.5% y/y. Eurozone unemployment rate was unchanged over the month at 6.4% in May, and was slightly down from 6.5% recorded previously.

China's CPI came in at +0.2% y/y, a little below the +0.4% expected, doing nothing to suggest any sign of domestic inflation pressures.

The RBNZ kept the Official Cash Rate steady at 5.50%, with the accompanying statement suggesting a moderation in the Bank's hawkish stance. New Zealand's Q2 headline annual CPI declined to +3.3% from +4.0% in Q1, 0.1% below consensus and better than the RBNZ's May forecast of +3.6%.

The MSCI World ex-Aus Index rose +1.70% for the month of July:

Index	1m	3m	1yr	3yr	5yr	10yr
S&P 500 Index	+1.13%	+9.66%	+20.34%	+7.91%	+13.13%	+11.08%
MSCI World ex-AUS	+1.70%	+8.08%	+16.75%	+5.29%	+10.48%	+7.82%
S&P ASX 200 Accum. Index	+4.19%	+6.21%	+13.53%	+7.44%	+7.52%	+8.03%

Source: S&P, MSCI



Domestic Market

The minutes from the RBA's June meeting provided no surprises, but highlighted the central bank's hawkish stance with the implication that it may increase the cash rate if it believes inflation would not return to the mid-point of its target band by mid-2026.

The consumer price index (CPI) rose +1.0% in the June quarter, in line with expectations, and +3.8% annually (up from +3.6% in the March quarter). The trimmed mean rose +0.8% for the quarter, taking the annual rate to +3.9% (from +4.0% the previous quarter).

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.1% to 4.1% in June, in line with consensus. Employment rose by around 50,000 people and the number of unemployed grew by 10,000 people. The participation rate rose to 66.9% from 66.8%.

Pressure in the labour market continues to ease, with forward indicators continuing to soften. That said, job vacancies remain elevated pointing to ongoing resilience in the near-term.

Retail sales for the month of June rose +0.5% m/m vs. +0.2% consensus, and continued the strong growth seen in May of +0.6% m/m.

APRA finalised the targeted reforms to banks' liquidity and capital requirements with the reforms prompted by the US and European banking problems seen last year. APRA confirmed that, as previously proposed, it would require those smaller banks subject to the Minimum Liquidity Holdings (MLH) regulatory regime to adjust the value of their liquid assets regularly to reflect movements in market prices.

Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd (ANZ) completed its acquisition of Australia-based bank Suncorp-Metway Ltd on 31st July 2024. Suncorp-Metway was upgraded by S&P to AA- effective that day.

The Australian dollar fell -2.01%, finishing the month at US64.91 cents (from US66.24 cents the previous month).

Credit Market

The global credit indices tightened across the board in July. They remain at their levels in early 2022 (prior to the rate hike cycle from most central banks):

Index	July 2024	June 2024
CDX North American 5yr CDS	52bp	54bp
iTraxx Europe 5yr CDS	55bp	62bp
iTraxx Australia 5yr CDS	65bp	71bp

Source: Markit



Fixed Interest Review

Benchmark Index Returns

Index	July 2024	June 2024
Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index (0+YR)	+0.37%	+0.35%
Bloomberg AusBond Composite Bond Index (0+YR)	+1.48%	+0.77%
Bloomberg AusBond Credit FRN Index (0+YR)	+0.52%	+0.41%
Bloomberg AusBond Credit Index (0+YR)	+1.56%	+0.44%
Bloomberg AusBond Treasury Index (0+YR)	+1.48%	+0.69%
Bloomberg AusBond Inflation Gov't Index (0+YR)	+1.74%	+0.55%

Source: Bloomberg

Other Key Rates

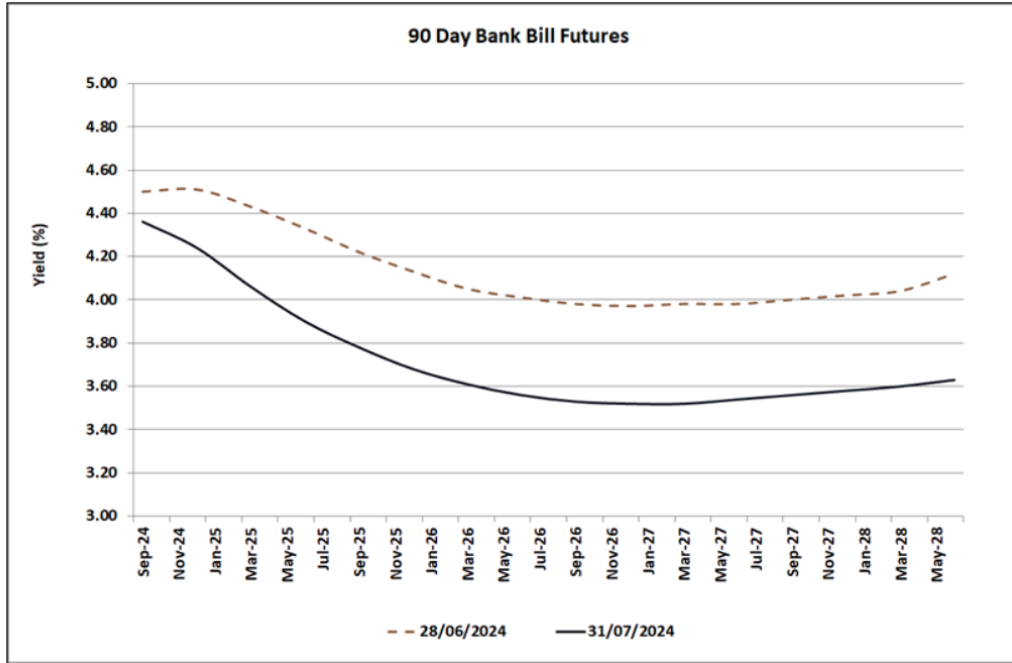
Index	July 2024	June 2024
RBA Official Cash Rate	4.35%	4.35%
90 Day (3 month) BBSW Rate	4.49%	4.45%
3yr Australian Government Bonds	3.76%	4.07%
10yr Australian Government Bonds	4.11%	4.31%
US Fed Funds Rate	5.25%-5.50%	5.25%-5.50%
2yr US Treasury Bonds	4.29%	4.71%
10yr US Treasury Bonds	4.09%	4.36%

Source: RBA, ASX, US Department of Treasury



90 Day Bill Futures

Bill futures fell across the board this month, following the movement in the global bond market.



Source: ASX

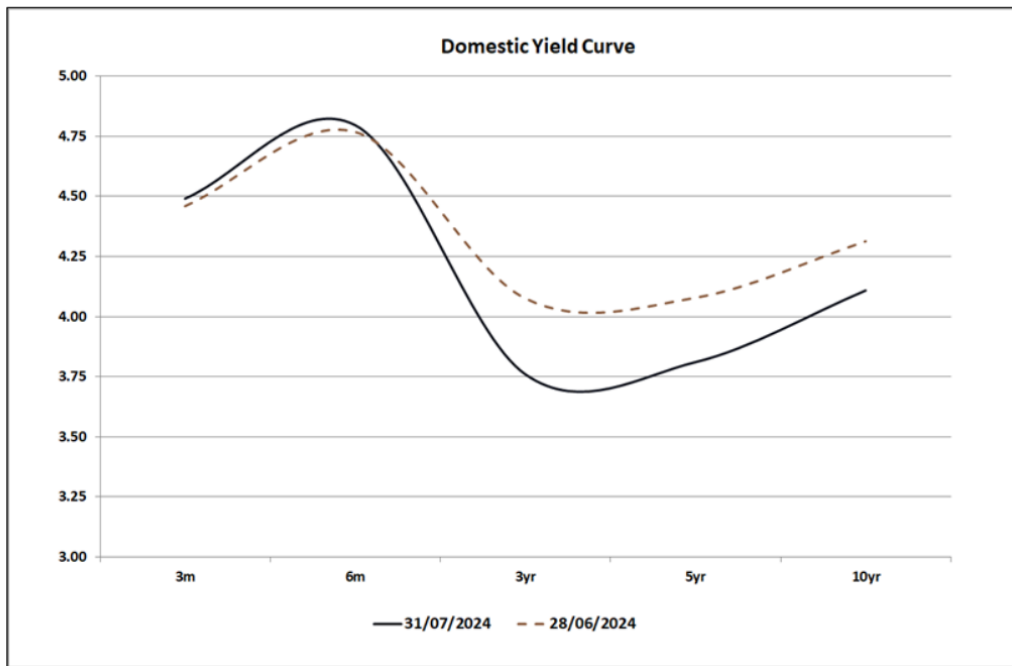


Fixed Interest Outlook

US Fed Chair Powell commented that policy “seems restrictive” but not severely so and believes the neutral rate has “probably risen” from the intercrisis era. He also commented that the Fed is becoming more convinced that inflation is headed back to its 2% target and that the Fed would cut rates before the pace of price increases actually reached that point. The futures market expects the policy rate would be cut 2–3 times this year, down from at least 3–5 reductions earlier this year. The longer-run median US Fed dot plot is currently around 2.80%.

Domestically, as is the case with most central banks at the moment, the RBA is waiting for current economic data to show a clear trend before taking any decisive action. After a softer than expected inflation print on 31st July, the RBA will continue to be able to forecast inflation around the midpoint of the target by 2026 and is likely to temper some of the discussion of upside risk to the inflation outlook evident in June. Despite Q2 inflation coming in better than feared, inflation still remains too high, and has shown less progress than the RBA had been expecting. The conditions for a cut remain a long way off, partially due to a tight labour market, whilst gradually cooling, remains resilient.

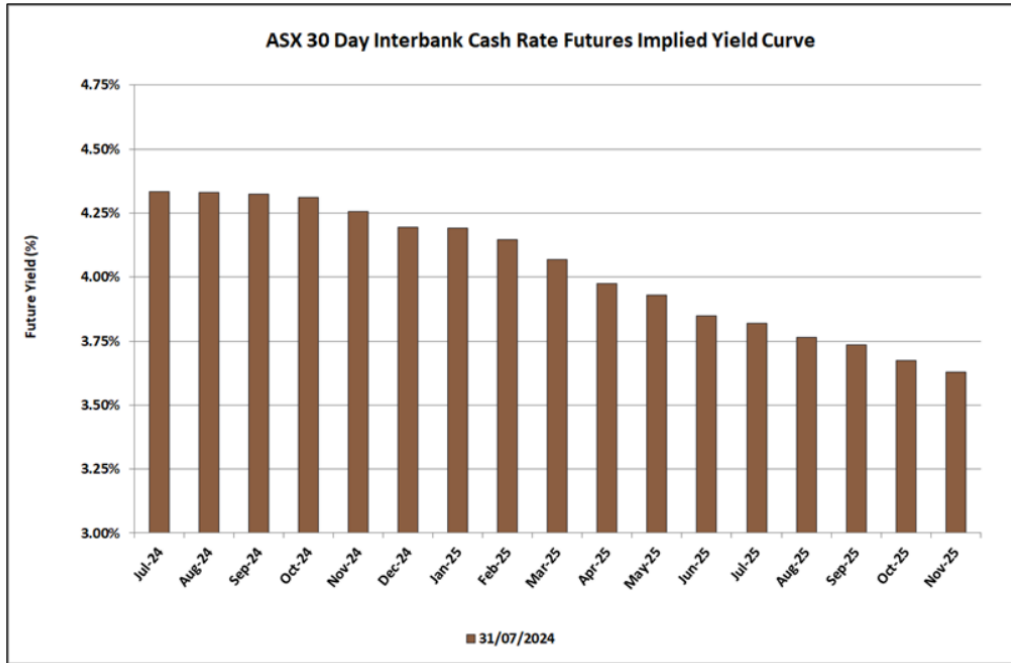
Over the month, longer-term yields fell up to 30bp at the very long end of the curve (remains an inverse yield curve):



Source: ASX, RBA



The market is now factoring no further rate hikes for the remainder of the calendar year. Financial markets have moved up their expectations of rate cuts, with the first cut pencilled in by the end of Q1 2025.



Source: ASX

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10.6. COMMUNITY & ECONOMY ACTIVITY REPORT 2023-24

Author: Manager Community & Economy

Authoriser: Acting Director Corporate Services

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the 2023/24 Community & Economy Activity Report.

BACKGROUND

Community & Economy provide ongoing, detailed report of their activities in the quarterly reporting on the Operational Plan.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

The Community & Economy business unit undertook the following activities in the 2023-24 financial year:

Communications & Engagement

1. Full build out of Communications & Engagement Service including establishing clear objectives aligned to the Communications & Community Engagement Strategy, negotiating agreed service levels with elected body and Executive, establishing contemporary communications channels, and developing effective procedure and workflows
2. Recruitment of a technical expert into the Communications & Engagement Officer role
3. Development and delivery of content for all Council communications channels including Facebook, LinkedIn, Community News, media releases, key messaging, classifieds, CEO Update, Mayor's Radio Talking Points, Mayor's speeches and website
4. Development and delivery of the Mayor's Christmas Newsletter letterbox drop
5. Facilitating Edward River Council website upgrade for launch in September 2024
6. Facilitating development of Edward River Council online Community Engagement Hub for launch in September 2024
7. Undertaking an audit of Council Social Media accounts and rationalising for best practice and increased effectiveness in accordance with Council's adopted Communications & Community Engagement Strategy

Community Development & Event Support

1. Developing to adoption Council's legislated Disability Inclusion Access Plan
2. Significantly uplifted delivery of the Lights on the Lagoon community event with increased community partnerships (South West Music, Yarkuwa, Kurrajong, Deni High School, Deniliquin Mental Health Awareness Group and Intereach) and attendance
3. Support for the Rotary Easter Art Show through funding, provision of Multi Arts Facility and marketing
4. Establishing a whole of Council donations, grants and sponsorships tracker to accurately reflect Council's cash and inkind support to the community
5. Facilitating the 2023-24 Edward River Council Community Grants program
6. Seeking grant funding and significantly uplifted delivery of Youth Week activities to include youth engagement, partnership with Deni High School and Tafe NSW and delivery of skill building events

7. Successfully sought grant funding and partnering with U3A on a week of Seniors Week activities
8. Delivery of a sold out International Womens Day event at Pretty Pine
9. Delivery of a whole of community Christmas Party
10. Significant uplift of Council's Australia Day event including enhanced marketing resulting in a doubling of nominations, delivery of additional event (meet and greet) and community and user engagement to inform future activities
11. Facilitating and delivering the Bush Bursary program on behalf of the Office of the CEO
12. Facilitating Council's Doctors Incentive program
13. Developing an EOI for a Rural Womens Network Gathering
14. Project management and marketing support to Deni Social Link new residents program

Cultural Development

1. Facilitating Council's cultural venue hire (Town Hall, Multi Arts Centre, Sunday School and Amphitheatre)
2. Developing an annual cultural program for delivery out of the Town Hall suitable for grant funding
3. Developing and rolling out user feedback and evaluation forms for cultural venues
4. Establishment and facilitation of Council's Arts & Culture Advisory Committee
5. Researching and successfully seeking variation to Council's SCCF R5 funding informed by practical use of the Town Hall facility and ease of use for community
6. Developing Town Hall marketing material including technical specifications, brochures and website content
7. Establishing a Town Hall volunteer group including training program
8. Establishing and running a Town Hall monthly tour program
9. Undertaking an EOI process for grand piano
10. Establishing and running a summer holidays movie program at the Town Hall

Economic Development & Business Support

1. Facilitation of establishment of laydown yard through receiving enquiry, making appropriate introductions, identifying land, hosting Clough on site and supporting Ray White's successful negotiations for the Caruso lot
2. Project management of the Edward River Growth Strategy 2050 including support to Advisory Committee and facilitating broad community engagement activities throughout engagement period and public exhibition
3. Recruitment of a technical expert into the Coordinator Economic Development role
4. Developing to adoption Council's Advocacy Plan
5. Developing relationships with industry, business and Government funding bodies
6. Developing and making application for grant funding through SARC (youth officer - still in progress) and Creative Arts (Town Hall cultural program - unsuccessful)
7. Joining and establishing Council with the Country Change program

8. Development of Council's approach to renewables (South West Renewable Energy Zone) including introduction to projects, development of Letter of Intent, process and accountability
9. Reviewing and associated research of Council's Agribusiness Masterplan, developing an implementation plan for reestablished of working group
10. Establishment of organisational project list for grant funding opportunities and process for assessment
11. Undertaking engagement activities and working with partner Council's on business case for a Country Universities Centre

Tourism Development & Promotion

1. Establishing in partnership with the Deniliquin Golf Club a PGA Golf ProAm
2. Delivering Visit Deni activations at Deni Ute Muster, Play on the Plains, PGA and Moomba
3. Participation as both sponsor and subject matter expert in the SCCF R5 - Peppin Heritage Centre project
4. Establishing Council's online What's On event calendar and associated marketing of the calendar
5. Establishing and delivering monthly educational and informational Tourism Operator newsletters to 350 contacts
6. Establishing and delivering seasonal Visit Deni tourism newsletter to over 3,000 contacts
7. Undertaking an update of Council's Visit Deni website
8. Developing and hosting 2 Tourism Operator networking breakfasts
9. Engaging through RFQ Social Media experts and running Council's Visit Deni social media platforms
10. Build and facilitation of a new, enhanced 3 year strategic partnership with Deni Play on the Plains Festival Ltd
11. Research, reporting and re-signing of partnership with Murray Regional Tourism
12. Monthly attendance at online Murray Regional Tourism - Manager Forums to discuss updates with 13 LGAs
13. Ongoing 1:1 liaison with regional marketing representative Destination Riverina Murray to cover all local and regional tourism updates

Visitor Information Centre, Shop, Gallery & Museum

1. Significant uplift of Peppin Heritage Centre gallery service including strategic targeting marketing resulting in increased community and visitor attendance to back-to-back exhibitions, artist talks and workshops for 100 Capes, Bald Archy Prize, Sculpture Muster, Barely Wearable, Art Dreams Revisited, In Conversation Modern Quilting and Anthony Breslin
2. Inception and curation of the Sculpture Muster exhibition to coincide with Deni Ute Muster, successfully delivering on strategic focus of bringing visitors to the Ute Muster into town
3. Upskilling through appropriate training Council's Peppin Heritage Centre volunteers
4. Review of Peppin Heritage Centre data capture methods and implementing best practice upgrade

5. Enhanced volunteer famil program including strategic programming of itineraries to ensure best value to visitors
6. Full content and design update to print and delivery of Council's Official Visitors Guide
7. Delivery of Council's Easter ArtOut market and associated activities
8. Facilitation of the DeniFest marketing campaign in consultation with community

The Community & Economy team have developed this year's work plans based on their Service Statements, the 2024-25 Operational Plan and Budget, the Communications & Community Engagement Strategy, Disability Inclusion Access Plan, Tourism Development and Marketing Plans (outdated), Murray Regional Tourism Local Area Action Plan and Destination Riverina Murray Destination Management Plan. Those activities include:

Communications & Engagement

1. Social Media Audit review to establish effectiveness and identify improvements
2. Communications & engagement procedure review to establish effectiveness and identify improvements
3. International Association of Public Participation (**IAP2**) engagement training
4. Establishing reporting framework for communications activities
5. Finalising and launching upgraded website including staff training
6. Finalising, developing communications and launching Community Engagement Hub
7. Establishing an ERC Corporate Calendar to inform and plan communications activities
8. Identifying and facilitating speaking engagements for CEO, Mayor and Councillors
9. Developing a community engagement toolkit
10. Disability Inclusion Access Plan implementation of 2024-25 activities
11. Website launch and 6 monthly review
12. Stakeholder register

Community Development & Event Support

1. Support of community led events
2. Maintenance and update of Council's donations, grants and sponsorship register
3. Historical window display to help activate CBD through art and local history
4. What's On online events calendar review
5. ERC Community Grants Program
6. Disability Inclusion Access Plan implementation and reporting
7. Christmas big screen promotional campaign
8. Town Christmas decorations
9. Town Christmas tree activation event
10. Community Christmas party
11. Australia Day
12. Easter Art Show support

13. Easter ArtOut market coordination and delivery
14. Seniors Week partnership with U3A
15. Youth Week grant application and event delivery
16. International Women's Day
17. Bush Bursary program
18. Doctor's Incentive program

Cultural Development

1. Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee facilitation

Economic Development & Business Support

1. Business liaison and support
2. Deniliquin Business Chamber liaison and partnership opportunities
3. Country Universities Centre support to community steering committee
4. Growth Strategy project management
5. Participation in renewables engagement
6. Country Change platform facilitation
7. Advocacy Plan update for new Council
8. Agribusiness Masterplan working group reestablishment
9. Grants Officer recruitment
10. Business Community skills development program
11. Invest Deni website platform
12. Investment prospectuses for Council-owned assets

Grants Management

1. Grants Management Framework development, implementation and education
2. Quick Response grants program
3. GrantsGuru implementation, communication and engagement activities including education campaign
4. Proactive grants seeking for organisational projects to offset operational expenses

Tourism Development & Promotion

1. Visit Deni activations at Deni Ute Muster, Play on the Plains, PGA and Moomba
 2. Tourism Operator monthly newsletter
 3. Visit Deni seasonal newsletter
 4. Tourism Operator breakfasts
 5. Visit Deni Social Media
 6. Visit Deni website project management
 7. Journalist famil
 8. Tourism Industry Group establishment in partnership with Business Chamber
-

9. Delivery of signature event

Visitor Information Centre, Shop, Gallery & Museum

1. Peppin Heritage Centre Gallery exhibition program
2. Strong Country Communities Fund R5 Peppin Heritage Centre Project participation
3. Customer Service uplift program
4. Peppin Heritage Centre shop uplift program
5. Famil program

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific implications within the report.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

1. Shaping the Future
 - 1.3 Enhanced Active and Passive Open Spaces
 - 1.4 Sustainable Waste Management
2. An open and connected community
 - 2.3 Cultural and personal links
3. Encouraging growth through partnerships
 - 3.2 Economic development
 - 3.3 The Edward River Experience

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no matters in the report that have specific financial implications.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

There are no matters in the report that have legislative implications.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

10.7. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES ACTIVITY REPORT JULY 2024

Author: Manager Development Services

Authoriser: Director Infrastructure

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the July 2024 Development Services Report.

BACKGROUND

The Development Services Reports for July 2024 is included in Attachment 1.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

There are no items noted for discussion within the report.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific implications within the report.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Shaping the Future

1.2 Quality built environment

1.3 Enhanced Active and Passive Open Spaces

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no matters in this report that have specific financial implications.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The activities and applications detailed in the report are governed by Legislative requirements.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Monthly Reports

Attachment 1 - 7 Environment Report July 2024



Development Activity					
Applications received – July 2024					
Application	Property Description	Proposal	Date Received	Date Approved	Status
DA2024/0047	Lot 45 DP 243660, 2 Davies Court, Deniliquin	Demolition of Fire Damaged Dwelling	2/7/24	10/7/24	Approved
DA2024/0048	Lot 24 DP 252070, 277 Hetherington Street, Deniliquin	Studio and Laundry Shelter	5/7/24	-	Under assessment
DA2024/0049 CC2024/0028	Lot B DP 375509, 362 Herriott Street, Deniliquin	New Dwelling	10/7/24	-	Under assessment
DA2024/0050	Lot 3 DP 253741, 140-148 Blackett Street, Deniliquin	Residential Shed	19/7/24	-	Under assessment
DA2024/0051 CC2024/0029	Lot 32 DP 257592, 305 Jameson Street, Deniliquin	New Dwelling	22/7/24	-	Under assessment
DA2024/0052	Lot 50 DP 756570, 5275 Pretty Pine Road, Moulamein	Install a Manufactured Home	23/7/24	-	Under assessment
DA2024/0053 CC2024/0030	Lot 11 DP 285499, Mulumbah Estate, Deniliquin	New Dwelling	23/7/24	-	Under assessment
DA2024/0054 CC2024/0031	Lot 12 DP 700361, 482 George Street, Deniliquin	Residential Shed	30/7/24	-	Under assessment



Complying Development Certificates					
PC CDC2024/0007	Lot 32 DP 44536, 211 Victoria Street, Deniliquin	Inground Swimming Pool	5/7/24	3/7/24	Approved - Private Certifier
CDC2024/0008	Lot 891 DP 1194141, 284 Lindifferon Road, Deniliquin	Inground Swimming Pool	19/7/24	-	Under assessment
CDC2024/0009	Lot 5 DP 1272156, 5 Robert Walter Place, Deniliquin	Inground Swimming Pool	23/8/24	-	Under assessment
S68 Applications					
LG2024/0025	Lot 121 DP 756353, Riverina Highway, Pine Lodge	Install a Wood heater	8/7/24	17/7/24	Approved
LG2024/0026	Lot B DP 375509, 361 Herriott Street, Deniliquin	Water supply and sewerage work & stormwater drainage work & connect a private drain	10/7/24	-	Under assessment
LG2024/0027	Lot 1 DP 1020898, 415-417 George Street, Deniliquin	Water supply work, sewerage work and stormwater drainage work	10/7/24	15/7/24	Approved
LG2024/0028	Lot 32 DP257592, 305 Jameson Street, Deniliquin	Water supply work, sewerage work and stormwater drainage work	22/7/24	-	Under assessment
LG2024/0029	Lot 50 DP 756570, 5825 Pretty Pine Road, Moulamein	Install a Manufactured Home	23/7/24	-	Under assessment
LG2024/0030	Lot 50 DP 756570, 5825 Pretty Pine Road, Moulamein	Water supply work, sewerage work and stormwater drainage work	23/7/24	-	Under assessment
LG2024/0031	Lot 50 DP 756570, 5825 Pretty Pine Road, Moulamein	Install an AWTS	23/7/24	-	Under assessment



LG2024/0032	Lot 11 DP 285499, Mulumbah Estate, Deniliquin	Water supply work, sewerage work and stormwater drainage work	23/7/24	-	Under assessment
LG2024/0033	Lot 11 DP 285499, Mulumbah Estate, Deniliquin	Install an AWTS	23/7/24	-	Under assessment

Development Applications by Type for July 2024						
Development Type	New Dwellings	Dwelling Alts/Additions/sheds	Commercial/Industrial	Other	Subdivision	No of lots resulting
Number	4	5	1	1	0	0
Totals 2024	20	23	6	13	4	25

Processing Times for July 2024		
Application Type	* Mean Gross Days	** Mean Net Days
DA	31	28
Mod (S4.55) of DA & DA/CC	0	0
CDC	Private Certifier	-
CC	1	1
S68 Applications	7	7

* Mean gross days = Total days from lodgment to determination ** Mean Net Days = Total days less Stop the Clock days



Value and Number of Applications Determined 2023 and 2024										
Month	DA 2023	DA 2024	CDC 2023	CDC 2024	CC 2023	CC 2024	LG 2023	LG 2024	Value DA 2023	Value DA 2024
January	4	5	0	0	3	3	4	3	\$148,890	\$172,000.00
February	8	12	1	2	5	4	7	3	\$1,631,720	\$4,079,530.00
March	6	8	1	1	5	4	7	2	\$4,340,700	\$4,032,720.00
April	4	5	0	2	3	3	0	8	\$194,595	\$1,877,535.00
May	3	10	2	0	2	6	5	4	\$2,248,880	\$1,837,680.00
June	14	15	0	1	9	5	7	7	\$4,043,451	\$2,118,742.00
July	7	5	0	1	3	3	3	2	\$1,743,731	\$1,408,390.00
August	12		0		8		7		\$4,318,485	
September	5		2		4		4		\$243,621	
October	8		1		3		8		\$1,987,350	
November	5		0		4		3		\$663,074	
December	8				4		5		\$4,437,044	
TOTALS	84	60	7	7	51	28	60	29	\$26,001,541.00	\$15,526,597.00

Note: numbers of application determined does not include modifications and applications determined by private certifiers. Value of application determined does not include the value of work for Construction Certificates and s68 applications.

Section 10.7 Certificates/Sewerage Drainage Diagrams	
Planning certificates	28
Sewerage drainage diagrams	17
Average processing time	1 day
Maximum time for processing	5 days



Inspections for July														
Site	Footing / Pier	Slab	Frame	Hot & Cold	Sewer / Septic	Storm Water	Final	Wet Area	Public Health	Food / Van	Trade Waste Site Visit	Meetings	Murrumbidgee Council	Total
24	8	6	7	3	6	7	12	1	0	1	0	33	3	111

Swimming Pool Inspection Program				TOTAL 2024
Month	1 st Inspection	2 nd Inspection	3 rd Inspection	
July	2	-	-	11

Animal Control /Ranger Activities												
Ranger’s Report – July 2024												
Companion Animals												
Seized / Surrendered / Dumped	Released to Owner prior to impounded	In Pound	Released to Owner after impounded	Re-Homed	Euthanised		Stolen or escaped	Still In Pound	Declared Dangerous Menacing	Micro Chipped	Registered	Fines Issued
					Cats	Dogs						
13	0	13	3	5	0	0	0	5	0	0	7	0

Note: The figures contained in this report relate to animal control activities carried out in the current month being reported on. Rehoming/Return to owner etc may occur in a subsequent month and are therefore not captured in this reporting period.

Clean Up			Parking		Impoundment		
Notices Sent	Illegal Dumping	Fines	Patrols	Fines	Vehicles	Live stock	Euthanised (other)
0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1 x Kangaroo



Dog Attacks		
Date	Details	Outcome
July	n/a	

Public Health Activities	
Details	
Food Premises Inspections	Food activity report submitted to NSW Food Authority following completion of the Food Premises Inspections, in line with the memorandum of Understanding with the NSW Food Authority. .
Water Sampling	Weekly Water sampling undertaken in line with memorandum of understanding NSW Public Health

10.8. MAJOR PROJECTS REPORT - JULY 2024

Author: Projects Coordinator

Authoriser: Director Infrastructure

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Major Projects Program - Progress Report for July 2024.

BACKGROUND

A breakdown of current funding and active projects is as follows:

Government Funding Body (does not include Council contribution)	Project	Funding Received (excl)	Funding Remaining (excl)
NSW Showground Stimulus Funding	Demolition & Construction of amenities Extension of Clubrooms - DNA Roadway & Carparking Eastern Side Sealed Access Roads, Carpark and Kerb and Gutter	\$1,500,703	\$127,297
Stronger Country Communities Fund - R5	Peppin Heritage Centre - Masterplan Implementation Town Hall Revitalisation	\$939,885	\$930,170
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure - R3	Saleyards Refurbishment	\$426,340	\$286,989
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure - R4	Part A - Lighting Deniliquin and Blighty Rec Reserves Part A - Under review Part B - Hardinge Street K&G	\$1,518,748	\$918,748
Department of Planning & Environment	Edward River Skate Park Development	\$500,000	\$0.00

Government Funding Body (does not include Council contribution)	Project	Funding Received (excl)	Funding Remaining (excl)
Fixing Country Roads	Pretty Pine Road Widening	\$1,736,972	\$57,877
Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund	Road Network Repair Pretty Pine Road Widening	\$7,001,855	\$4,601,702
Essential Public Asset Reconstruction (DFRA - TfNSW Administer)	Road Network Repair	\$11,535,909	\$4,979,888
DPI	EID Scanners - Deniliquin Saleyards	\$230,000	\$222,605

Total project budget, actuals, and balance is attached.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

Project Updates

DNA Clubrooms

Project Description	Extension of DNA Clubrooms (managed by the DNA and Cricket Club committees)
Funding	SCCF R4 (Deniliquin Cricket Club) and NSW Showground Stimulus
Timing	Anticipated completion July 2024
% Complete	90%
Update	Fit out inside is well underway and completion expected mid-August 24

Edward River Skate Park

Project Description	Development of new Skate Park
Funding	Department of Planning and Environment
Timing	Due for completion June 2024
% Complete	100%
Update	Project is complete and planning official opening has commenced.

Saleyards Refurbishment

Project Description	Saleyards Refurbishment
Funding	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure R3
Timing	Due for completion June 2024
% Complete	35%
Update	Repairs and maintenance complete on existing loading ramps and evaluation for new loading ramps in progress. Prototype Auctioneers walkway approved and installed. LED lighting installed, mains cabinet upgrade and internal power supply to draft races areas complete. RFQ for remaining scope is out for quotation. Extension of time for completion is being sought due to proposed EID Installation.

Road Network Repair - Flood Recovery

Project Description	Damage repairs throughout the road network due to Flooding
Funding	Regional & Local Road Repair Program and Regional Emergency Road Repair Funds (RLRRP, RERRF)
Timing	Due for Completion Oct 2027
% Complete	42%
Update	Works are ongoing.

Project Description	Damage repairs throughout the road network due to flooding
Funding	Essential Public Asset Reconstruction (EPAR)
Timing	Due for Completion June 2024
%Complete	82%
Update	Council crews are currently working on Carrathool Rd. A contractor is working on the Pretty Pine Road Widening project, targeting completion for Oct 2024.

Peppin Heritage Centre - Masterplan Implementation

Project Description	To activate the masterplan implementation for the Peppin Heritage Centre - Museum Upgrade
Funding	Strong Country Communities - R5
Timing	Due for completion January 2026
% Complete	2%
Update	Council received 1 quote for Museum Curator - assessment is underway.

Town Hall Revitalisation

Project Description	Creating a Regional Theatre and Performance Space
Funding	Strong Country Communities - R5
Timing	Due for completion January 2026
%Complete	2%
Update	Staff applied to the funding body for a major variation which has now been approved. PMO staff are currently applying for necessary planning approvals for construction of a storage facility.

Pretty Pine Road Widening

Project Description	Pretty Road widening from 6.1m seal to an 11m formation with an 8m seal. CH58.75 to CH66.55km
Funding	Fixing Country Roads R6, BLOCK and RERRF
Timing	Multi Year
% Complete	50%
Update	Works during July were affected by inclement weather conditions. Eastern Segment (CH58.76 – CH61.36) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed Two coat spray seal on eastern segment • Completed Line marking & signage works • Completed Full depth stabilisation • Completed excavation of existing shoulder/clay/organic material for widened

<p>Project Description</p>	<p>Pretty Road widening from 6.1m seal to an 11m formation with an 8m seal.</p> <p>CH58.75 to CH66.55km</p>
	<p>pavement areas to 100mm below design surface level.</p> <p>Stockpile surplus spoil material for use in table drain reformation (approx. 2,115m³ cut / 570m³ fill).</p> <p>Middle Segment Completed (CH61.36 – CH63.93)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works completed <p>Western Segment (CH63.93 – CH66.57)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works to begin

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

- 4. Delivering community assets and services
 - 4.1 Vibrant villages and towns
 - 4.2 Reliable Water and Sewerage
 - 4.3 Friendly and Supportive Customer service

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Projects funded through these programs include costs for the design, documentation, and supervision costs for each project.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Council must ensure that these projects are completed within the timeframes set out within the funding agreements.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Report - July 24



Current/Active Funded Projects

Funding Source	Project Title	Total Budget	Actual Expenses	Balance Remaining	Percentage Complete
NSW Showground Stimulus Funding - P2					
	Demolition & Construction of amenities	\$ 141,894	\$ 141,894		100%
	Extension of Clubrooms - DNA	\$ 347,067	\$ 219,770		80%
	Roadway & Carparking Eastern Side	\$ 232,716	\$ 232,716		100%
	Sealed Access Roads, Carpark, K&G	\$ 630,145	\$ 630,145		100%
	PM		\$ 148,881		
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure R4		\$ 1,518,748	\$ 600,000	\$ 918,748	
	Part A - Lighting Deni and Blighty Reserves	\$ 600,000	\$ 600,000		100%
	Part A -Under Review	\$ 363,170	\$ -		0%
	Part 2 - Hardinge St K&G	\$ 555,578	\$ -		0%
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure - R3		\$ 426,340	\$ 139,351	\$ 286,989	
	Refurbishment of the Saleyards		\$ 139,351		35%
Stronger Country Communities R5		\$ 939,885	\$ 9,715	\$ 930,170	
	Peppin Heritage Centre - Masterplan				
	Implementation	\$ 714,000	\$ 9,715	\$ 704,285	1%
	Town Hall Revitalisation Project - Regional	\$ 225,885	\$ -	\$ 225,885	0%
Regional & Local Road Repair Program - TfNSW (now combined with RERRF below)		\$ 2,914,961	\$ -	\$ -	
	Flood Recovery - Road network				
Regional Emergency Road Repair Funding - TfNSW (combined with RLRRP to form RERRF)		\$ 7,001,855	\$ 2,400,153	\$ 4,601,702	
	Flood Recovery - Road network	\$ 4,086,894	\$ 2,400,153		34%
Department of Planning and Environment		\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -	
	Edward River Skate Park Development		\$ 500,000		100%
Fixing Country Roads		\$ 1,736,972	\$ 1,679,095	\$ 57,877	
	Pretty Pine Road - Widening		\$ 1,679,095		97%
Essential Public Asset Reconstruction DFRA - TfNSW Administer		\$ 11,535,909	\$ 6,556,021	\$ 4,979,888	
	Road Network Repair		\$ 6,556,021		57%
Department of Primary Industry		\$ 230,000	\$ 7,395	\$ 222,605	
	EID Scanners - Saleyards		\$ 7,395		3%

10.9. RESOLUTIONS OF COUNCIL

Author: Executive Assistant

Authoriser: Interim Chief Executive Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the information in the Resolutions of Council as at 7 August 2024.

BACKGROUND

The attached report details the status of open Resolutions of Council.

Total Resolutions of Council for the 2022/2023 Financial Year currently open - 2

Total Resolutions of Council for the 2023/2024 Financial Year - 227

Total Closed Resolutions of Council for the 2023/2024 Financial Year - 222

Total Resolutions of Council for the 2024/2025 Financial Year - 16

Total Closed Resolutions of Council for the 2024/2025 Financial Year - 12

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

Monthly report to update Councillors and community members on the progress of Council Resolutions.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

As outlined in the status updates.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

5. Accountable leadership and responsive administration

5.1 Collaborative and Engaged

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

1. Council meeting resolutions as at 7 August 2024

Attachment 1 - Council meeting resolutions at 7 August 2024

Council Meeting Resolutions as at 7 August 2024

16 July 2024	Ordinary Council Meeting	Responsibility	Status	Expected Date of Completion
2024/1607/11.	<p>Growth Strategy – Project Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes That Council receive the draft minutes of the Growth Strategy Project Advisory Committee meeting held on 25 June 2024 and endorse the committee's recommendations and resolutions contained therein, specifically that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Changes to the strategy in response to feedback made in the following areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. early childhood; b. First Nations; c. accommodation; d. consideration of all investment and governance models; e. river health and erosion; f. river health and lagoon system; g. use of Gazetted name of the river; h. poverty and homelessness; i. digital connectivity and renewable energy; j. that feedback will inform project development; k. animal health and livestock; l. waste; m. Island Sanctuary, 2. The time frame for delivery of the final strategy be amended for the purpose of targeted, relevant consultation. 	Manager Community & Economy	<p>1. Agreed inclusions and amendments have been communicated to AEC.</p> <p>2. Time frame for delivery now November 2024</p>	November 2024
2024/1607/12.3	<p>Petition – New Lighting (Cnr Barham & McCrabb Road) That the Council</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accept the petition and seek the Manager of Transport to undertake a review of the intersection and take appropriate actions to consider and address concerns; and 2. Advise the contact person for the petition of the outcome of the review. 	Manager Transport	Review completed. Advice to be provided to contact person.	30 August 2024

Council Meeting Resolutions as at 7 August 2024

2024/1607/12.4	Naming of North Deniliquin Rest Area That the report be deferred until the current policy is investigated to ensure Council is working within policy and that the report comes back to Council in August 2024.	Director Infrastructure	Report to be tabled at August meeting.	August 2024
2024/1607/15.1	Sewer Connection Issue That Council endorses the actions taken by staff to rectify an incorrectly located sewer line that affected three private properties located within Decimus Street and Liefing Court.	Director Infrastructure		Closed
2024/1607/15.2	Local Heritage Grant Program That Council funds the following projects as part of the Local Heritage Fund 2024-2025: (a) 47-49 Napier Street, Deniliquin - Restoration of external doors and windows, funding up to a value of \$7,000, (b) 217-223 Cressy Street, Deniliquin - Construction of access ramp to building, funding up to a value of \$4,500, and (c) 115 End Street, Deniliquin - Restoration of heritage facade, funding up to the value of \$3,500.	Manager Development Services	Applicants advised and grant acceptance documentation sent.	1 August 2024
2024/1607/15.3	ARIC Independent Member Appointment The Council accept the recommendations of the Interview panel and endorse the appointment of the following Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) Independent members subject to successful background checks and completed attestation declarations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theo Canias for a period of up to four years from the date of acceptance of a formal letter of appointment; and Carolyn Rosetta-Walsh and Vivek Chopra for a period of up to two years from the date of acceptance of a formal letter of appointment. That Council delegate the signing of formal letters of appointment to the Interim Chief Executive Officer for ARIC appointments.	Director Corporate Services	Appointment letters have been signed and distributed.	Closed
25 June 2024	Extraordinary Council Meeting	Responsibility	Status	Expected Date of Completion

Council Meeting Resolutions as at 7 August 2024

2024/2506/8.1	<p>Notice of Intention from the Minister for Local Government to Issue Council a Performance Improvement Order That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acknowledges the Minister for Local Government's correspondence, dated 17 June 2024, notifying Council of the Minister's intention to issue a Performance Improvement Order on Council under Section 438A of the Local Government Act 1993, 2. Advises the Minister that it accepts the '<i>Reasons for the Order</i>' as detailed in Schedule 1, accepts the '<i>Action required to improve performance</i>' in Schedule 2, and accepts the proposal for '<i>Appointment of temporary advisers</i>' in Schedule 3, as proposed in the draft Order, 3. Provides all necessary assistance to the proposed '<i>temporary advisor</i>' when appointed, including access to relevant documents and video files, and electronic correspondence, 4. Makes a submission to the Minister for Local Government regarding the Notice of Intention to issue Council with a Performance Improvement Order, noting that it accepts all items detailed in Schedules 1, 2 and 3 of the draft Order. 	Acting Chief Executive Officer	<p>Acknowledgement and submission sent. Awaiting further information from the Minister for Local Government.</p> <p>Performance Improvement Order Received.</p>	Closed
17 June 2024	Ordinary Council Meeting	Responsibility	Status	Expected Date of Completion
2024/1706/11.3	<p>Draft Minutes of Conargo Hall Committee That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receives the minutes of the Conargo Hall Committee meeting held on 14 May 2024, and endorses the recommendations from the Committee contained therein, specifically; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The acceptance of the quotation from Thomson Hay Landscape Architect to develop concept plans for various projects in the Conargo area, b) The acceptance of the quotation from Terry Maher for the supply and installation of a generator and associated electrical works, 	Manager Facilities & Open Spaces	Committee advised as per resolution.	Closed

Council Meeting Resolutions as at 7 August 2024

	<p>c) The acceptance of the quotation from Dave Woodhead for repairs to the drop log stables, and d) Consider the Committee's request to partner with Council on the 50/50 basis for the refurbishment of the Conargo Church with the approximate cost of \$127,000.</p> <p>2. Receives the draft minutes of the Conargo Hall Committee meeting held 27th May 2024 and endorse the recommendations contained therein, specifically; a) The acceptance of the request to pause any decisions about the further dispersal of the Bob White Bequest, and to investigate further opportunities to revitalise Conargo.</p>								
2024/1706/12.1	<p>Deniliquin Landfill Gate Fees That Council approve and adopt the Waste Fees as per the draft fees exhibited for 2024/25, as per Option 4</p> <p>1. That Council approves and adopts the waste fees as per option 4 in the table</p> <p>2. That Council and CWS negotiate a formal agreement to increase the waste fees and charges over a 5 to 10 year period to come in line with the cost to council, thus providing a way forward for both parties, without the sudden "bill shock", with communication and updates to the Councillor Group.</p>						Manager Utilities	In Progress	August 2024
	Option	Description	Proposed 2025 C&I Disposal Charge	Anticipated Disposal Volume from CWS	Estimated Revenue from CWS	Anticipated Disposal Volume for all C&I sources.	Estimated Revenue Overall		
	4	Normal use charge as per budget	\$83/m2 \$45/m2	1,500 cu.m		Other sources 3000m2	\$316,500		

Council Meeting Resolutions as at 7 August 2024

		Large users >1000m2			\$67,500	\$249,000	\$57,000 reduction from Option 1			
		Local large commercial & Industrial Users over 1,000m2 at a 25% increase over a 5 to 10 year period			(\$57,000 reduction from Option 1)					
2024/1706/13.1	Notice of Motion – Multi Arts Centre & Sunday School Building That Council: 1. Resolve to enter into a peppercorn lease with Edward River Art Society (ERAS) for the occupancy of the Multi Arts Centre and shared occupancy of the Sunday School building for a period of up to one year; and 2. Authorises the Interim CEO to enter into negotiations with ERAS for the permanent use of the Multi Arts Centre and Sunday School building and to bring a report back to Council for consideration.							Interim Chief Executive Officer	Initial discussions underway. The NSW Electoral Commission have secured both buildings until 18 October 2024.	Open
2024/1706/13.2	Notice of Motion – Former CWA Building That Council resolves to call for Expressions of Interest to lease the former CWA Building.							Interim Chief Executive Officer	Repairs required to building prior to Expressions of Interest. Funding will be required.	Open
21 May 2024	Ordinary Council Meeting							Responsibility	Status	Expected Date of Completion

Council Meeting Resolutions as at 7 August 2024

2024/2105/12.1	Draft Edward River Growth Strategy 2050 for Public Exhibition That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Resolve to place the draft Edward River Growth Strategy 2050 for a 28-day public exhibition period 2. Endorse the proposed activities to support a robust and inclusive community engagement on the draft Edward River Growth Strategy 2050 3. Acknowledge the efforts of the Growth Strategy Advisory Committee in their work in guiding the development of the draft strategy to this point, and their commitment to support the community engagement program. 	Manager Community & Economy		Closed
2024/2105/12.3	Voluntary Planning Agreement for Yanco Delta Windfarm Development. That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Place the draft Voluntary Planning Agreement for the Yanco Delta Windfarm Development on public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days and invite submissions from the community regarding the agreement, 2. If no submissions are received, authorise the Interim Chief Executive Officer to sign the draft Voluntary Planning Agreement for the Yanco Delta Windfarm Development on behalf of Council. 	Director Infrastructure	Draft Voluntary Planning Agreement Signed.	Closed
16 April 2024	Ordinary Council Meeting	Responsibility	Status	Expected Date of Completion
2024/1604/12.2	Southern Riverina Regional Drought Resilience Plan That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endorses the draft Southern Riverina Regional Drought Resilience Plan, 2. Places the draft Southern Riverina Regional Drought Resilience Plan on public exhibition for a period of 28 days, and 3. Receives a further report regarding the draft Southern Riverina Regional Drought Resilience Plan at the June 2024 Council meeting. 	Director Infrastructure	Will be tabled at the August 2024 Council Meeting	August 2024

Council Meeting Resolutions as at 7 August 2024

2024/1604/12.4	Power Purchase Agreement – RAMJO That Council delegate the authority to execute the contracts for the supply of electricity for large market sites and streetlighting to the Chief Executive Officer, subject to a successful tendering process by the Hunter Joint Organisation.	Director Infrastructure		Closed
19 March 2024	Ordinary Council Meeting	Responsibility	Status	Expected Date of Completion
2024/1903/11.4	Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Draft Minutes That Council: 1. Receives the draft Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 15 February 2024, and endorse the resolutions and recommendations of that meeting, specifically: a) Adoption of the updated Terms of Reference, noting the membership composition of four independent members and, b) Adoption of the Annual Internal Audit Plan for 2024-25, being cyber security risk and taxation compliance (including fuel tax credits) 2. Notes the annual self-assessment undertaken by the Committee and the accompanying letter from the Audit, Risk and Improvement Chair. 3. That a copy of the letter from the Chair of Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee be brought to the attention of Staff and that a report be brought back to Council.	Director Corporate Services	Parts 1, 2 & 3 are completed.	Closed
19 September 2023	Ordinary Council Meeting	Responsibility	Status	Expected Date of Completion
2023/0919/12.7	Unrecoverable Rates That Council: 1. Notes the unrecoverable rates for 47 unclaimed properties in the Edward River Council LGA and approves the write-off of \$291,582.40 under reg 131(4)(d) of <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i> as per attachment one.	Acting Chief Financial Officer	Awaiting on advice from the Office of Local Government	September 2024

Council Meeting Resolutions as at 7 August 2024

	<p>2. Notes that the rates or charges written off under that regulation does not prevent council from taking legal proceedings to recover the amounts owed.</p> <p>3. Agrees to write to the Minister of Local Government and the Treasurer, requesting that the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> section 556 (1) be amended to include unclaimed properties as land that is exempt from rates</p> <p>4. Investigates potential solutions to this issue.</p>			
20 December 2022	Ordinary Council Meeting	Responsibility	Status	Expected Date of Completion
2022/1220/13.2	<p>Notice of Motion – Flood Plans and Mitigation Works That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agree to hold a community meeting prior to end of March 2023, providing an overview of Council's flood plans and mitigation works that are currently in place, and discussing potential options for North Deniliquin, following the November 2022 floods. 2. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to invite an appropriate panel of expert staff to answer questions and provide information to the community on what could potentially be developed into the future. 3. Provides a further report to a Councillor briefing, prior to June 2023, outlining a potential project for flood mitigation to be advocated to the state government for funding. 	Director Infrastructure	Following up WMA Water for final report. WMA followed up by phone and email awaiting confirmation of final completion date.	Open
18 October 2022		Responsibility	Status	Expected Date of Completion
2022/1018/12.5	Town Hall Land That Council:	Manager Development	Notification received in February 2024 that this will still be a lengthy process.	Open

Council Meeting Resolutions as at 7 August 2024

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Commence the process to consolidate Lot 1 in DP1173376, Lots X and Y in DP410447, Lot 9 in DP662508, Lot 6 in DP667946 and Lot 6 in DP668426, and2. Apply to Crown Lands to undertake a boundary adjustment for Lot 7 Sec 21 DP758913, being the Town Hall land parcel, to allow for the new foyer entrance to the Town Hall.			
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10.10. MAYOR, COUNCILLOR, CEO MEETINGS ATTENDED JULY 2024

Author: Executive Assistant

Authoriser: Interim Chief Executive Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. Note meetings attended on behalf of Council by the Mayor, Councillors and Interim Chief Executive Officer during the month of July 2024.
2. Continue to advise the Chief Executive Officers' Executive Assistant of their meeting diaries and activities attended.

BACKGROUND

The report details meetings undertaken on behalf of Council by the Mayor, Councillors and the Interim Chief Executive Officer during July 2024.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

Date	Participants	Meeting
1 July 2024	Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr Linda Fawns, Cr Shannon Sampson	2024 National General Assembly Canberra
2 July 2024	Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr Linda Fawns, Cr Shannon Sampson	2024 National General Assembly Canberra
3 July 2024	Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr Linda Fawns, Cr Shannon Sampson	2024 National General Assembly Canberra
4 July 2024	Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr Linda Fawns, Cr Shannon Sampson	2024 National General Assembly Canberra
5 July 2024	Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr Linda Fawns, Cr Shannon Sampson	2024 National General Assembly Canberra
8 July 2024	Mayor, Acting Chief Executive Officer	Signing of the Play on the Plains three year sponsorship
10 July 2024	Cr Shirlee Burge	Rotary Park User Group Meeting
11 July 2024	Cr Shirlee Burge, Observers: Mayor, Cr Linda Fawns	Saleyards Advisory Committee Meeting
12 July 2024	Mayor, Interim Chief Executive Officer	Citizenship Ceremony
15 July 2024	Mayor, Interim Chief Executive Officer	Country Universities Centres Update
19 July 2024	Interim Chief Executive Officer	RAMJO meeting

Date	Participants	Meeting
24 July 2024	Mayor	Conargo Hall Committee Meeting
27 July 2024	Deputy Mayor	Waring Gardens Community Market
30 July 2024	Cr Shannon Sampson	Blighty Advancement Committee Meeting

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

N/A

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

5. Accountable leadership and responsive administration

5.1 Collaborative and Engaged

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

11. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

11.1. CONFIDENTIAL - DELEGATION TO NEGOTIATE

Author: Acting Director Corporate Services

Authoriser: Interim Chief Executive Officer

Confidential Matters

The Council is satisfied that, pursuant to Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, the information to be received, discussed, or considered in relation to this agenda item is:

- (2) The matters and information are the following
 - (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors),
 - (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law,
 - (f) matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property,
 - (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege,

12. CLOSE OF MEETING