

# Business Paper

## ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GUNDAGAI**

**10:00am, MONDAY, 31<sup>st</sup> JULY 2017**

**Cootamundra Area: Ph: 02 6940 2100**

**Gundagai Area: Ph: 02 6944 0200  
[www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au)**



The Administrator  
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council  
PO Box 420  
Cootamundra NSW 2590

#### NOTICE OF MEETING

An Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be held in the Council Chambers, Gundagai on:

**Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2017 to be held at Gundagai  
at 10:00am in the Council Chambers.**

The agenda for the meeting is enclosed.

Allen Dwyer  
General Manager

# AGENDA

1. Open Forum
2. Acknowledgment of Country
3. Apologies
4. Disclosures of Interest
5. Confirmation of the Minutes of the June Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2017

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## **6.1 CORRESPONDENCE TO THE ADMINISTRATOR**

### **GUNDAGAI SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT**

A letter dated, 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2017 from the Premier of NSW, the Hon Gladys Berejiklian, MP in relation to the Gundagai Sewage Treatment Plant has been received. A copy of the letter follows this report.

### **COOTAMUNDRA VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE STORAGE FACILITIES**

A letter dated, 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2017 from Yvonne Forsyth, one of the volunteers of the Cootamundra Visitor Information Centre has been received thanking Council for reorganising the Tourist Information storage facilities at the Heritage Centre. A copy of the letter follows this report.

### **PRESENTATION TO STOP N MINGLE COMMUNITY GROUP**

A letter dated, 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2017 has been received from Glenn Richardson on behalf of the Stop N Mingle Community Group expressing appreciation to the Administrator for his presentation at recent meeting. A copy of the letter follows this report.

### **GUNDAGAI SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT**

A letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2017 from the Minister for Family and Community Services, the Hon Prue Goward in relation to correspondence from Minister for Police and Emergency Services, the Hon Troy Grant in relation to the Gundagai Sewage Treatment Plant has been received. A copy of the letter follows this report

### **STORM DAMAGE REPAIRS AND A CAPITAL WORKS REQUEST FOR COOTAMUNDRA HIGH SCHOOL**

A letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 from the Hon Katrina Hodgkinson, MP in relation to correspondence from Minister for Education, the Hon Rob Stokes in relation to representations made on behalf of Cootamundra High School regarding storm damage repairs. A copy of the letter follows this report.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**That the correspondence to the Administrator be noted.**



**Gladys Berejiklian MP**  
Premier of New South Wales

Cootamundra's Shire Council  
Received

File No: .....  
Ref. To: .....

Ref: A2131946

21 JUL 2017

Copy: .....  
To File: .....  
Action

18 JUL 2017

Mr Stephen Sykes  
Administrator  
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council  
PO BOX 420  
COOTAMUNDRA NSW 2590

Dear Mr Sykes,

Thank you for your correspondence of 23 May 2017 regarding the Gundagai Sewage Treatment Plant. I apologise for the delay in responding.

The NSW Government is committed to improving water and sewerage services for regional areas, and has recently announced \$1 billion to fund local and regional water infrastructure through the Safe and Secure Water Program. The program will provide co-funding to successful applicants for water and sewerage infrastructure.

The Safe and Secure Water Program is the responsibility of The Hon Niall Blair MLC, Minister for Regional Water and Minister for Primary Industries - Water (DPI Water). Expressions of interest for program funding will open early in July 2017 and I encourage the Council to apply for assistance.

DPI Water is aware of the issues outlined in your letter and I understand the Department is already working with you on the best path forward. DPI Water is also available to provide specialist assistance and directions to local water utilities regarding water and sewerage emergencies.

Thank you for taking the time to bring your views to my attention.

Yours faithfully,

**Gladys Berejiklian MP**  
Premier

*I appreciate the significance of this plant and will continue to keep a close eye on progress.  
Regards,  
Niall Blair*

CC: The Hon Niall Blair MLC, Minister for Regional Water and Minister for Primary Industries  
The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP, Member for Cootamundra

GPO Box 5341 Sydney NSW 2001 ■ P: (02) 8574 5000 ■ F: (02) 9339 5500 ■ W: premier.nsw.gov.au

20<sup>th</sup> July, 2017

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The Administrator,  
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council,  
Council Chambers,  
COOTAMUNDRA, NSW 2590

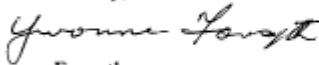
Dear Mr Sykes,

I should be glad if you would officially pass on my grateful thanks to the Council's Mr Chris Imrie, who has been so helpful with re-organising the tourist information storage facilities at the Heritage Centre.

He has been able to source and erect shelving for us, assisted with organising the storage room, and has assured us that we will be able to expand our interstate information and our existing state brochures, now that we have been able to make more room for these.

May I add my personal thanks to you for your interest in our work, and help with the signage for the Visitor Information Centre.

Yours sincerely,

  
Yvonne Forsyth  
Volunteer in charge of the Cootamundra VIC.



Cootamundra Shire Council  
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Pub. No: 10000000000000000000  
Date: 24/07/2017  
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To: 10000000000000000000  
Action:

**Stephen Sykes**  
**The Administrator**  
**Cootamundra Gundagai Regional Council**

**Re: Your Talk at the Stop N Mingle Meeting**

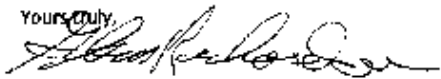
Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Stop N Mingle Community Group, we would like to express our grateful appreciation for your presentation. It was both informative and entertaining. Of particular interest was the availability of grants that may be of use to our community.

We also look forward to a possible presentation on your experiences in PNG at your convenience.

Again, thank you for your attention to our village needs.

Yours truly,



Glenn Richardson  
24/07/2017



**The Hon Troy Grant MP**


Minister for Police  
Minister for Emergency Services

20 JUL 2017

MIN17/11813  
MIN17/13471  
MIN17/001428

The Hon Pru Goward MP  
Minister for Family and Community Services  
Minister for Social Housing  
Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault  
Member for Goulburn  
PO Box 168  
GOULBURN NSW 2560

Via email to [goulburn@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:goulburn@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

  
Dear Minister

Thank you for your letter on behalf of Mr Stephen Sykes, Administrator of Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council, concerning the Gundagai Sewerage Treatment Plant. Council has written to me directly in similar terms and I trust Mr Sykes will accept this reply in response to that letter.

I note Council's request for information on whether any contingency arrangements are in place in the event of a catastrophic failure of the Plant.

The NSW Emergency Management Arrangements require Local Government Areas to establish a Local Emergency Management Committee who are responsible for the local Emergency Risk Management Plan; local Emergency Management Plan; and Consequence Management Guides. These plans ensure preparedness for potential emergencies that will, or have potential to, impact a community. This includes considerations across all possible consequences.

I am advised that the responsibility for planning for the consequences of a catastrophic failure of the Gundagai Sewerage Treatment Plant rests with the Cootamundra-Gundagai Local Emergency Management Committee, of which the General Manager or an appropriate delegate, is the Chair.

The NSW Government will provide any appropriate assistance to plan for such an emergency through that process.

In terms of funding for the replacement of the Plant, Mr Sykes may wish to refer his request in this regard to the Minister for Regional Water, the Hon Niall Blair MLC, for consideration.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

  
**TROY GRANT MP**  
Minister for Emergency Services

GPO Box 5341, SYDNEY NSW 2001  
Phone: (61 2) 8574 6500 Fax: (61 2) 9539 6536 Email: [www.nsw.gov.au/ministers/contactform/minister-grant](http://www.nsw.gov.au/ministers/contactform/minister-grant)

# The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP



Ref: 17L106a-gb  
(in reply please quote)

Mr Stephen Sykes  
Administrator  
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council  
[Stephen.Sykes@cgrc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Stephen.Sykes@cgrc.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Mr Sykes, *Stephen,*

I refer to earlier correspondence in relation to storm damage repairs and a capital works request for the Cootamundra High school.

You may recall I wrote informing you I had made representations on your behalf to the Minister for Education, The Hon Rob Stokes MP. I now have to hand a response from the Minister, a copy of which I have included for your information.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you think I may be of further assistance to you in this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Katrina Hodgkinson'.

**Hon KATRINA HODGKINSON MP**  
Member for Cootamundra

*27.6.17*

**Young Office**  
140 Boorowa Street (PO Box 350)  
Young NSW 2594  
ph 02 6382 2399 fax 02 6382 3144  
email [cootamundra@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cootamundra@parliament.nsw.gov.au) freecall 1800 00 2580  
[www.katrinahodgkinson.com](http://www.katrinahodgkinson.com)

**Junee Office**  
25 Seignior Street (PO Box 338)  
Junee NSW 2663  
ph 02 6924 2533 fax 02 6924 1537



**THE NATIONALS** for Regional NSW



**Rob Stokes**  
Minister for Education



The Hon K A Hodgkinson MP  
Member for Cootamundra  
PO Box 350  
YOUNG NSW 2594

RML17/1647

Dear Ms Hodgkinson *Katrina,*

I write in response to your representations on behalf of the Cootamundra High School community regarding storm damage repairs and a capital works request for the school.


I acknowledge your concerns about the repairs to the storm damaged Block C at Cootamundra High School, which have taken longer than anticipated. I am advised that the extent of the damage to the building's roof and interior, as well as insurance requirements, had caused delays. However, I am pleased to advise that work is progressing well, with replacement of the roof now complete and all other remaining repairs to the building expected to be finished by mid-October 2017.

With regards to your concerns about inappropriate advertising on tarpaulins at the building site, I am advised that the tarpaulins used by the Department of Education's building contractor were from a previous building site. The tarpaulins were only used on a department school site as they were the largest available at the time, which allowed the building to be made watertight following the storm. I understand that while every attempt was made to cover up the inappropriate advertising, it was not possible to mask it entirely without affecting the integrity of the tarpaulins. The department has confirmed that all tarpaulins have now been removed from the site.

I note your request for funding to upgrade the science labs at the school. As I am sure you will appreciate, there are many competing priorities for funding of projects in schools. The department has advised that it has nominated the project for inclusion in a future capital works program. It will continue to be assessed for funding against competing projects in schools across the State.

Thank you for your representations.

Yours sincerely

  
**Rob Stokes**  
**Minister for Education**  
*20th June, 2017.*

*I understand our office  
have been liaising in  
relation to these issues, and  
I will continue to assess the needs  
for new capital investment into your  
local schools.*

Mail: GPO Box 5341, Sydney NSW 2001  
Phone: (61 2) 8574 6707

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**The correspondence be noted.**

## **6.2 COMMUNITY USE OF FACILITIES**

REPORTING OFFICER	Allen Dwyer – General Manager
ATTACHMENTS	MOU – Department of Education and Cootamundra Gundagai Regional Council
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	Partial cost allocated from Stronger Communities Fund – Major Projects Program
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Nil
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	To be developed in accordance with MOU and lease arrangements

### Introduction

Negotiations have been taking place for some time to allow the community to utilise school facilities owned by the State Government.

### Discussion

The State Government has agreed in principle to make its facilities available for the benefit of the community.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**Council commit to the MOU and work with the NSW Department of Education to better utilise its facilities for the benefit of the community.**

## Asset Management Planning and Strategy

### Joint Use Projects – Memorandum of Understanding – Department of Education and Cootamundra Gundagai Regional Council

#### 1. Rationale

Based on its School Asset Strategic Plan, the NSW Department of Education (the department) has developed a policy for the Joint Use of Facilities and Land. This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), is non-binding and aims to form the basis for a co-operative relationship between the two parties in regard to investigating potential joint use projects and the potential for the development of binding Joint Use Project Agreements (JUPAs) where both parties agree to do so.

The parties agree that this MoU is neither intended to be, nor is a legally binding agreement.

#### 2. Outcomes of Joint Use Project Agreements

The outcome of a JUPA is to optimise social capital in ways that have mutually beneficial results for both schools and communities.

#### 3. The Goals of Joint Use Project Agreements

- Social capital within communities (either owned by schools or other parties) is optimised to the mutual benefit of the parties involved without compromising school operational and safety requirements.
- Development of new schools or the upgrade/redevelopment of existing schools, optimise community use where feasible and mutually agreed
- Asset planning (cluster planning) and the design of relevant school interventions, enables the optimal joint and shared use of facilities by the school and the community
- Facilities/grounds are upgraded and operated with shared capital and operating costs which reduces the cost burden to both parties involved

#### 4. Parties

This MoU is between the parties listed below.

##### Department Details

Region Name or Cluster References	Department of Education		
Departmental Representative Phase One	Director, Schools Planning		
Departmental Representative Phases two and Three	Director, Schools Planning		
Street Address	35 Bridge Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000		
Postal Address	GPO Box 33, Sydney, SNW, 2001		
Email Address (for correspondence)	Andrew.roach8@det.nsw.edu.au OR therese.hoy@det.nsw.edu.au		
Contact person (for correspondence)	Andrew Roach OR Therese Hoy		
Telephone	02 9561 1035	Fax	

##### Partner Details

Correct Legal Name	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council		
Street Address	81 Wallendoon Street Cootamundra, NSW, 2590		
Postal Address	PO Box 420 Cootamundra NSW 2590		
Email Address (for correspondence)	Allen.dwyer@cgrc.gov.nsw.au		
Contact person (for correspondence)	Allen Dwyer		
Telephone	02 6940 2100	Fax	
Partner's an ACN or ABN	ABN	46 211 642 339	

**5. Subject Area**

This MoU is developed in collaboration between the parties and relates to the areas/facilities as outlined below:-

**6. Purpose and Process**

The Department's Joint Use of Facilities and Land Policy and Guidelines detail a process for establishing and implementing joint use projects and should be read in conjunction with this MoU.

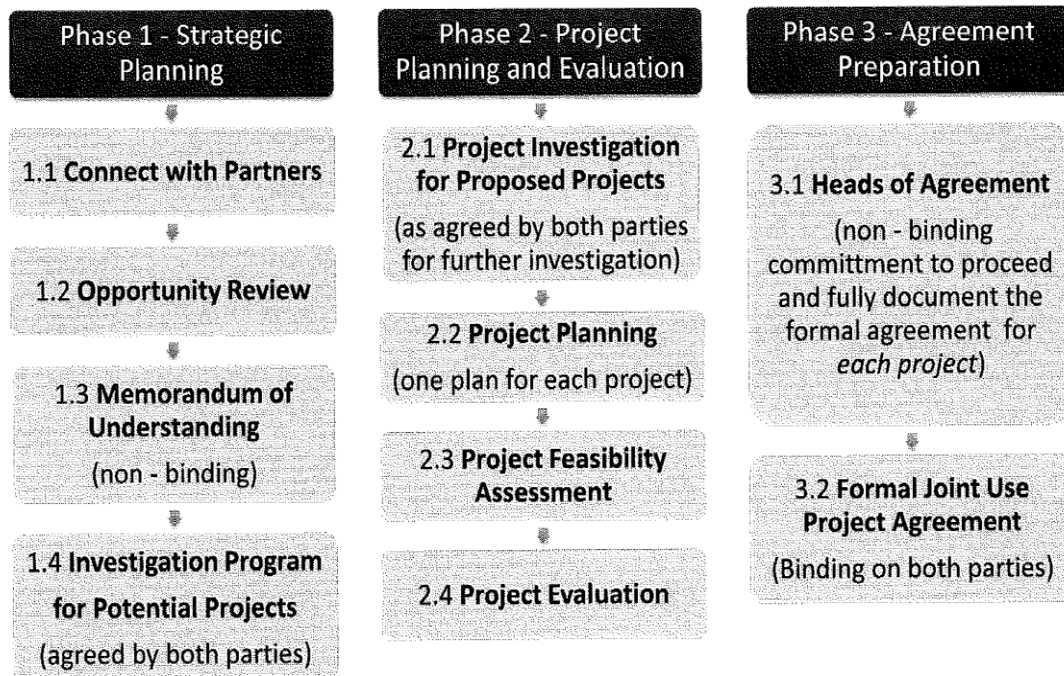
The purpose of this MoU is to:

- establish a statement of intent which identifies that the parties are willing to work collaboratively over time
- acknowledge the framework and process that both parties will follow
- agree to the establishment of a Joint Use Project Advisory Group to oversee the MoU's development and maintain progress as agreed by both parties
- identify and agree to partnership roles and responsibilities in regards to:-
  - progressing the investigation of Joint Use Projects identified as part of school cluster plans and/or progressing the investigation of Joint Use Projects to Joint Use Project Agreements as identified and agreed between parties

The purpose of the JUP Advisory Group is to:

- formalise and agree the potential joint use project opportunities and priorities; and to establish, implement and review an *Investigation Program* (stage 1.4)
- agree to methods of progressing the investigation of priority projects through 'Phase 2' of the process outlined in the *JUPA Guidelines* and to determine if they will be realised through a formal legal agreement (Phase 3).

The key steps in this process are shown in the diagram below (see guidelines for further information).



At the commencement of Phase 2, the JUPA Advisory Group will complete a *Project Investigation Proposal*. Throughout this process, individual projects will be subject to review and evaluation at each step (refer to section 11) with formal project evaluation occurring at step 2.4.

#### 7. JUPA Advisory Group Roles and Responsibilities

The parties agree to form a JUPA Advisory Group to guide the investigation of the priority joint use projects and review and update the *Investigation Program* on an ongoing basis. It is noted that the role of the JUPA Advisory Group is limited to potential JUPAs and does not extend to the planning and/or location of the department's or the other parties assets generally

The JUPA Advisory Group will consist of the following delegates (1 per party) and members (up to 2 per party) or their proxies. Parties may invite additional staff and/or consultants to meetings as required to assist with discussions and/or information sharing but must advise the other party in advance of the meeting.

- Department -
  - Delegate: Director, Schools Planning (proxy: Senior Asset Planner)
  - Members: Director Commercial Transactions and Director Asset Management Unit (proxy: Senior Property Officer)
- Other Party -
  - Delegate: General Manager (Mr Allen Dwyer) or delegate
  - Members: TBD

The roles and responsibilities of the JUPA Advisory Group include the following points:

- The JUPA Advisory Group is accountable for:
  - fostering collaboration,
  - developing solutions which may remove obstacles to the partnership's successful delivery, adoption and use,
  - maintaining at all times the focus of the partnership on the agreed scope, outcomes and benefits; and
  - monitoring and managing the factors outside the partnership's control that are critical to its success.

Both parties acknowledge that JUPAs are agreements reached with mutual benefits for both parties. Therefore the approach to their development is different to normal commercial negotiations in that, to be successful, a mutually beneficial win / win outcome is to be sought. In order to reach this outcome, both parties will commit to:-

- developing enhanced levels of trust
- keeping communication honest and open
- understanding each other's opportunities and constraints at the beginning of each process
- having an open book approach to financial information related to the agreement
- having an open book to all relevant data held by each party on the facilities or land involved
- joint problem solving
- expending funds on the evaluation of projects that may not come to fruition
- ensuring that those involved in negotiations have approval to negotiate on behalf of their organisation
- understanding each other's approval processes
- respecting each other's timing imperatives.

The membership of the JUPA Advisory Group will commit to:

- champion the partnership within and outside of work areas
- share all communications and information across all group members
- make timely decisions and take action so as to not hold up the project
- notifying members of the group, as soon as practical, if any matter arises which may be deemed to affect the development of the partnership
- attendance at all meetings and if necessary nominate a proxy
- providing complete, accurate and meaningful information in a timely manner
- provide reasonable time to make key decisions
- alert to potential risks and issues that could impact on the project, as they arise
- Monitor and verify the overall status and 'health' of the partnership



#### 8. Meetings

The following points relate to the conduct of JUPA Advisory Group meetings:

- meetings will be chaired by the department's delegate (or as otherwise agreed)
- notice of a meeting can be given by either party's delegate, but must be accepted by the other party's delegate to constitute a JUPA Advisory Group meeting,
- a meeting quorum will be one JUPA Advisory Group delegate or their nominated proxy from each MoU partner,
- decisions will be made by mutual agreement (i.e. both delegates agree),
- meeting agendas and minutes will be provided by the chair in partnership with the other party, who will:
  - prepare agendas and supporting papers,
  - prepare meeting notes and information,
- meetings will be held as required, but not less than twice annually; and
- subgroup meetings (if required) will be arranged outside of these times at a time convenient to subgroup members. Outcomes of these meetings will be reported to JUPA Advisory Group delegates and shared as required at JUPA Advisory Group meetings.

#### 9. Resources and Information

The JUPA Advisory Group will discuss and nominate specific actions required to complete each step of the investigation process for each project. The responsibility of undertaking actions and the associated resources and costs will be agreed by the parties through the JUPA Advisory Group and documented in a *Project Investigation Proposal*.

Subject to confidentiality issues, the parties will share all relevant project information with each other. Unless otherwise agreed, all information that is shared is to be treated in confidence and not to be shared outside of the partner organisations without permission. Distribution of shared information within the organisations should be kept to a minimum (i.e. generally within the JUPA Advisory Group and executive of each partner).

#### 10. Communication

Both parties agree that any communication with the public or media will be jointly agreed by the parties involved before being released.

#### 11. Dispute Resolution

Where a dispute between the parties cannot be resolved by the JUPA Advisory Group, it should be referred to the Executive Officers of each party for resolution.

In the event that the Executive Officers cannot resolve the dispute, the view of the land owner shall prevail with the subject project(s) and the *Investigation Program* to be reviewed and updated by the JUPA Advisory Group to reflect the outcome.

#### 12. Term

This Memorandum shall commence on the date of execution by both parties and expire on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 unless extended by written consent of both parties or terminated earlier in writing by either partner.

### 13. Review and Evaluation

The MoU partners and the JUPA Advisory Group will review the viability of projects as they pass through each step of the 'Phase 2' and 'Phase 3' investigation processes and evaluate whether they should proceed to the next step of the process. However, a formal evaluation process has been established at stage 2.4.

Should a project not progress through one of the stages, it will be:

- reviewed to consider scope changes and resubmitted, or
- issued with a lower priority for future investigation, or
- removed from the strategic project program.

The JUPA Advisory Group will review and update (at least twice annually) the Investigation Program including:

- addition and/or removal of projects;
- changes/amendments to projects;
- revision of priorities; and
- status of each current project.

The updated program is to be circulated to relevant executive officers of each partner organisation.

### 14. Checklist

PARTIES TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING CHECKLIST	
i. Map(s)/lists attached indicating the locations and areas subject to the MoU.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
ii. Membership for the JUPA Advisory Group established.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
iii. Expiry date established.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

**Execution**

<b>SIGNATORIES TO THIS MEMORANDUM</b>	
<p>We understand that the purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to form the basis for a co-operative relationship between the two parties to investigate potential joint use projects and if agreed by both parties establish a Joint Use Project Agreement. This MoU is neither intended to be nor is a legally binding agreement.</p> <p>Each party will strive to reach the objectives stated in the MoU and adhere to the undertakings outlined in each section to the best of their ability.</p>	
NSW Department of Education	Cootamundra – Gundagai Regional Council
Signature of Department Representative	Signature of Partner Representative
Name and Position of Department Representative	Name and Position of Partner Representative
Date: _____	Date: _____
<b>For Department Use Only</b>	
Agreement Type (complexity)	
Responsible Project Officer	
Other Comments	

Cooperative Relationship between Department of Education (DEC) and the CGRC (Council) to Realise Shared and Joint Use of School Facilities:

Investigation Program – June 2017

Action	Schools	Suburb	Description
Increase community access to sports fields	Consider sporting fields and indoor facilities	Gundagai <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; margin-top: 5px;">Rectangular Snip</div>	<p><i>Existing and future community needs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet the long term wellness needs of the CGRC by accessing school facilities</li> </ul> <p><i>The opportunity:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review existing use of the indoor multipurpose facility at Gundagai Council with a view to a long term lease (10 + 10 yr) to CGRC and a licence to the Gundagai High School for defined school hours use and agreed shoulders</li> <li>• Determine possible joint venture on undercover area linked to multipurpose hall</li> <li>• Determine possible joint venture on an all purpose all weather outdoor sports field with lights for night time training and competition</li> </ul> <p><i>The expected outcome:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access the existing multipurpose hall and contribute to the facility to best meet the needs of the community and define options for an all purpose outdoor field</li> <li>• This work will require consideration of:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Any upgrades or embellishments needed to make the sports fields and any assisted infrastructure or amenities available</li> <li>○ Maintenance, cleaning responsibilities and requirements, and</li> <li>○ Booking arrangements.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Legal, financial, property, and risk factors will be critical to feasibility and decision making, and will be determined in detail on a site by site basis.</li> </ul>

## Asset Management Planning and Strategy

### MEETING DETAILS

<b>Purpose</b>	Schools Community Planning Update/Opportunities for Gundagai High School	
<b>Date</b>	Tuesday, 18 July 2017	midday
<b>Location</b>	Gundagai High School	
<b>Attendees</b>	Andrew Roach (Assets Planning & Delivery, NSW Department of Education) - AR Stephen Sykes (Administrator, Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council) - SS Adelia Fuller (Principal, Gundagai High School) - AF	

### MINUTES

- AF welcomed attendees to school and provided background on the current school, enrolments, trends and the like
- AR and SS gave update on their background and respective roles.
- AR provided overview of Schools Asset Strategy Plan, current changes to schools planning (including schools community group planning approach, joint use strategy etc)
- General discussion on schools planning and asset delivery across the state, with particular reference to regional schools. AF provided insight into the role of schools like Gundagai High School and their role in the community. This view was endorsed by SS.
- Potential opportunities for joint working with Council were discussed. Specifically in relation to potential for upgrading and joint use of indoor sports/gym facility and potential embellishment of associated facilities (nearby outdoor netball/play courts). Wider potential longer term for improvements to other sporting facilities in conjunction with Council.
- SS indicated that the Council would be interested in joint use of indoor sports facility/gym - including upgrades, potential maintenance and management by Council with a licensing agreement for school access to meet education/school requirements.
- AF noted that there had been previous plans/approaches to AMU in relation to provision over outdoor covered play space on courts adjacent to gym/indoor facility. Potential for a consolidated approach to both. AF to forward previous plans/quotations on cost.
- AF noted that recent community research project undertaken by Dept of Education may provide insight into community perceptions of school and expectations of community (recently undertaken but report not yet available).
- Meeting concluded with a tour of the site and inspection of existing facilities.

#### Actions:

- Council and Dept of Education to enter into (non-binding) MoU to allow more formal discussions to take place. AR to draft MoU and forward to Council for review/agreement
- Upgrade and use of gym/hall space as key opportunity, with potential for addition of outdoor covered play area to supplement the project. AF to forward details of previous investigations regarding outdoor covered learning/play area.
- SS to consider Council contribution of funds towards project.
- AR to investigate opportunity for contribution of matching Dept of Education funding towards project.

## MINUTES

- AR to chase up outcomes of recent community engagement research undertaken by Department of Education.
- Potential extension to project scope to include other projects (AR and SS to investigate other opportunities)

Next Meeting:

TBA

### **6.3 MOU BETWEEN THE COALITION OF COUNCILS AND CONSOLIDATION LAND AND RAIL AQUISITION**

REPORTING OFFICER	Allen Dwyer – General Manager
ATTACHMENTS	MOU – CLARA
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	Nil
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Nil
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	Nil

#### Introduction

The MOU requires an in principle agreement to support the construction of a high speed rail to service SMART cities, with the proposed route to pass close by Gundagai.

#### Discussion

The proposal requires enormous financial support from external investors and will likely take some time for the project to develop.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**Council provide in principle support for the draft proposal and agree to be a party to the MOU.**

## 7 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

### 7.1 DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

#### 7.1.1 DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING

##### **7.1.1.1 MINOR AMENDMENT TO GUNDAGAI LEP 2011 UNDER SECTION 73A**

REPORTING OFFICER	Grace Foulds- Town Planner
ATTACHMENTS	N/A
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	N/A
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Provisions of the Gundagai LEP 2011 may not be adhered to due to errors.
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	Council must complete 149 Certificates for former Gundagai Shire manually.

##### Introduction

It has been identified that of the twenty-two items under Schedule 5 of the Gundagai LEP 2011, nine items are either incorrectly mapped and/or described wrong. Such misdescription can be amended under Section 73A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

##### Discussion

Following an inquiry of a known heritage item in the former Gundagai Shire, an error relating to this item was identified in the Schedule 5 of the Gundagai LEP 2011. Such an error, being a misdescription can be amended without exhibition under Section 73A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

Upon further investigation it has been identified that nine items out of the twenty-two items listed in Schedule 5 are either incorrectly mapped, attributed to the wrong lot and deposited plan or incorrectly attributed as an item of State heritage when it is a Local Heritage item or vice versa.

This proposed 73A amendment seeks only to correct misdiscriptions under Schedule 5 of the Gundagai LEP 2011, however based on the high percentage of incorrect data in Schedule 5 alone, there is basis for concern that the accuracy of automatically generated 149 Certificates of the former Gundagai Shire area may contain errors.



## **RECOMMENDATION**

- **That Council approves the proposed 73A Amendment to the Gundagai LEP 2011 to correct misdescriptions under Schedule 5 only.**
- **That 149 Certificates for the former Gundagai Shire area be manually generated and only signed off by the General Manager.**

**7.1.1.2 PROPOSAL TO REPEAL THE COOTAMUNDRA SECTION 94 DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS PLAN 2014**

REPORTING OFFICER	Grace Foulds- Town Planner
ATTACHMENTS	N/A
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	That certain road works be funded from future Section 94A Plan.
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	All actions in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000.
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	That the Cootamundra Section 94 Development Contributions Plan be repealed.

**Introduction**

At the Council Meeting 26 June 2017, Council resolved the intention to repeal the Cootamundra Section 94 Development Contributions Plan (the Plan).

**Discussion**

Following the Council Meeting of 26 June 2017, Council's intention to repeal the Plan was advertised in both the Cootamundra Herald and Gundagai Independent for a period of no less than 14 days in accordance with Clause 33 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulations 2000*.

Council received no submissions or inquiries during this period.

To finalise the repeal of the Plan, Council is required to place a further public notification that the Plan is to be repealed as of the day of notification.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Council resolve to publically notify that the Cootamundra Section 94 Development Contributions Plan be repealed as of the date of notification.**

### **7.1.1.3 PLANNING PROPOSAL - ADDITIONAL PERMITTED USE UNDER SCHEDULE 1 OF THE COOTAMUNDRA LOCAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN 2013**

REPORTING OFFICER	Grace Foulds- Town Planner
ATTACHMENTS	N/A
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	N/A
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	All actions in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000.
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	That the Cootamundra LEP 2013 be amended to include the additional permitted use under Schedule 1.

#### Introduction

Following Gateway Determination of an application for the inclusion of 'service station and liquid fuel depot' in a proposed Schedule 1 – Additional Permitted Uses amendment to the site identified in the SP2 – Infrastructure Zone, the matter is put to Council for consideration to exhibit the proposal.

#### Discussion

Application was made to Council for the inclusion of 'service station and liquid fuel depot' in a proposed Schedule 1 – Additional Permitted Uses amendment to the site identified in the SP2 – Infrastructure Zone at the April 2017 meeting of Council. Following resolution by Council to support recommendation of the planning proposal for Gateway Determination by the Department of Planning and Environment (the Department), Council submitted the planning proposal for consideration by the Department.

Council received correspondence dated 19 May 2017 from the Department which gave conditional Gateway approval to the proposal. The Department noted concerns about lack of analysis undertaken in relation to the Heritage Impact Statement and Traffic Impact Assessment. Based on this, the applicant has engaged additional consultants to produce such documents. These documents will be available in addition to the original planning proposal for public comment.

It should be noted that Council is unable to exhibit the planning proposal until endorsement by Office of Environment and Heritage of the Historical Impact Statement is given in accordance with the Gateway Determination by the Department.

Feedback on the submitted Traffic Impact Statement by Roads and Maritime Services is that the need for a right turn lane from the northbound lane of Hovell Street into the proposed development may result in a loss of car parking along Hovell Street to safely allow for vehicle movements around any queuing vehicles.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**Council place the planning proposal for the inclusion of ‘service station and liquid fuel depot’ in a proposed Schedule 1 – Additional Permitted Uses amendment to the site identified in the SP2 – Infrastructure Zone, on public exhibition for a period of no less than 28 days, once endorsement of the Heritage Impact Statement is given by the Office of Environment and Heritage.**

#### **7.1.1.4 MUTTAMA CREEK FLOOD STUDY AND MITIGATION**

REPORTING OFFICER	Allen Dwyer – General Manager
ATTACHMENTS	Letter and email
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	Flood study and some mitigation works to be undertaken from Stronger Communities fund allocation
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Support required from several State Government agencies
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	Will be impacted by results of the flood study

#### **Introduction**

A group of residents met with the General Manager and Director Development & Community on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2017 to discuss concerns regarding the clearing of Muttama Creek and additional development in the catchment.

#### **Discussion**

The local residents expressed their concern regarding the build up of vegetation in Muttama Creek and the likely flood damage to properties if additional development is permitted in the catchment.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**The concerns of the residents be taken into account with regard to the creek cleaning and proposed new development. Further, that the proposed flood study be prepared in conjunction with local advice.**

2 Poole Street,  
COOTAMUNDRA NSW 2590

28 July 2017

The Hon. Niall Blair MLC  
Minister for Primary Industries, Regional Water & Trade, and Industry,  
GPO Box 5341  
Sydney NSW 2001

cc The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson  
cootamundra@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir,

Re Muttama Creek Cootamundra

I live in Cootamundra NSW (Cootamundra Electorate of Hon. Katrina Hodgkinson), on the banks of the Muttama Creek. The Muttama Creek is a small creek eventually running into the Murrumbidgee River. Meanwhile it is a series of stagnant pools, with a very small trickle of water due to being blocked by cumbungi. We experienced a huge flood on 21 September 2016.

While my house in on the flood plain several things exacerbate the flood and storm water risk to my property.

The Muttama Creek is so choked up with cumbungi that water cannot flow easily down the creek. The creek is the storm water drain for the whole of Cootamundra.

I presented a petition to the Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council with 350 signatures from those directly affected by flood and storm water.

I am informed the local fire brigade is happy to conduct an exercise in control burning of the dried cumbungi.

But I am informed bureaucrats are blocking permission being granted.

1. Do they understand the danger people are in as a result of this cumbungi?
2. Do they care?
3. What precious creatures are they protecting – foxes, snakes, rats, carp?

Residents of this town are put at great risk when the creek floods as it did on 21 September 2016.

Hurley chose to settle in what is now Cootamundra over a century ago on the banks of a water course.

Do we have to continually suffer as a result of some city dweller who has no idea or understanding or care for our problems?

I would be very grateful if you as Minister could hasten permission for our local fire brigade to at least conduct a control burn of dried cumbungi before the next regrowth in spring.

I look forward to your reply.

Thank you very much.

Yours faithfully,  
*Belinda Scott*

**Marianne McInerney**

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**From:** Marianne McInerney  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 27, 2017 3:34 PM  
**To:** Allen Dwyer  
**Subject:** FW: Muttama Creek meeting Tuesday 25th July

As requested.

---Original Message---

**From:** Lin Chaplin [mailto:emlin3@live.com.au]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2017 9:38 AM  
**To:** Mail <mail@cgrc.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Muttama Creek meeting Tuesday 25th July

Attn: Marianne,

There will be 12 residents attending the above meeting with Stephen Sykes and Allen Dwyer at 1.30pm.

They are as follows: Susanne and Tim Boutsis, Genine and Fred Clark, Lyn Smith, Barbara Fraser, Peter and Helen Smith, Manel Perera, Belinda Scott, Linley and Malcolm Chaplin.

Apologies have been requested to be recorded by Alison and Robert Patterson, Steven and Louise Mills, Colin and Robyn Harris. These people are unable to attend the meeting, however wish to be informed of the outcome.

Thank you.

Regards, Linley Chaplin

Sent from my iPhone

## 7.2 CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION

### 7.2.1 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

#### **7.2.1.1 PROPOSAL TO COMBINE THE WATER AND SEWER FUNDS FOR THE REGIONAL COUNCIL**

REPORTING OFFICER	Allen Dwyer – General Manager
ATTACHMENTS	Nil
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	Overall improvement in Financial Capacity
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Nil
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	To be determined in conjunction with the implementation of the next Operational Delivery Plan.

#### Introduction

The combining of the water and sewer funds for the urban and village areas of the Council will give the area greater capacity to operate in an efficient manner.

#### Discussion

The merging of the water and sewer funds of the Regional Council will provide many benefits, some of which are:

- Flexibility and interaction of staff previously allocated to one position becoming multi skilled and more valuable to the organisation;
- A greater ability to undertake major works with a flexible workforce and plant utilisation;
- Tangible evidence that the merger has taken place and the new Council will go forward as a viable unit;
- Greater capacity to obtain funds for projects required to meet the service demands of the community.



An obvious non benefit to some ratepayers will be the loss of hypothecation of their sewer and water charges, however, the allocation of \$2M for the replacement of the Cootamundra water mains from the Stronger Communities Fund should mitigate this issue.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**The 2018-2019 Operational Plan be compiled on the basis of the water and sewer funds for the Cootamundra Gundagai Regional Council being a single entity.**

### **7.2.1.2 SPECIAL VARIATION TO RATES FROM 2008-09**

REPORTING OFFICER	Kate Monaghan – Director Corporate Services
ATTACHMENTS	Gundagai Shire Council: Special Variation Determination 2008/09
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	The value of the income that would otherwise be lost to Council is \$263,530 per annum, from 1 July 2018.
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	The <i>Local Government Amendment (Rates-Merged Council Areas) Bill 2017</i> requires newly merged councils to maintain pre-merger rate paths 4 rating years.
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	The special rate variation previously approved for the former Gundagai Shire Council would continue to apply to the ratepayers within the former Gundagai Shire area.

#### Introduction

The former Gundagai Shire Council was granted a special rate variation of 12.89% for a period of ten years from 2008-09. 2017-18 is the final year for the application of the special variation, and the value of the annual income to be deducted from the Council's general income will be \$263,530.

Councils that currently have a temporary (ie fixed term) special variation approaching its expiry may:

- a) accept that the required income adjustment on expiry of the variation, usually reflecting that the council no longer needs the additional funds, or
- b) apply for a new special variation to partially or fully continue the funding from the expiring variation, and, in effect, avoid the income adjustment that would otherwise occur.

#### Discussion

The former Gundagai Shire Council had been relying on the continuation of the special variation as a permanent adjustment to its rates income, and this was reflected in the ten year planning period of its long term financial plan. Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council will also need to apply for the continuation of the otherwise expiring variation to avoid the income adjustment that will otherwise occur.

Council's long term financial plan projects net operating losses over the longer term. Council is intent on maintaining all current levels of service for 2017-18 and beyond, and in order to achieve this, it is likely that Council will need to consider increasing its revenue to match the increasing costs of expenditure.

Council's adopted Operational Plan has incorporated an assumption that Council will successfully apply to make the special rates variation permanent. In addition, the Operational Plan includes modelling for a second scenario, showing the declining operating position of Council if this is not achieved.

It is important for Council to clearly communicate the impact of the expiring variation when consulting with the community on a special variation proposal. This applies even if the new special variation is to continue essentially the same level of funding for the same projects. If Council resolves to proceed with an application to apply for the continuation of the special variation, it is also recommended that information about the application be published and advertised over the next several months.

Given the Government decision that newly merged Councils are not eligible for special rate variations, Council is currently seeking advice from the Office of Local Government about how to proceed with an application to make the special rates variation permanent. The Office of Local Government recognise the seriousness of the issue and are currently considering a response.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**Approval be sought to make application for the 2008-09 special rate variation of the former Gundagai Shire Council to be made permanent.**

### **7.2.1.3 INVESTMENT REPORT**

REPORTING OFFICER	Kate Monaghan – Director Corporate Services
ATTACHMENTS	Investment Report for the month ended 30 June 2017
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	Nil implications for this report. Council's investment income, and reconciled reserve balances will be presented as a separate report once the end of year reconciliations have been completed ready for audit.
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Council investments comply with section 625 of the Local Government Act (NSW) 1993 and Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 paragraph 212.
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	The Investment Policy is under review and will be presented to a future Council meeting for adoption.

#### Introduction

This is a monthly report detailing all Council investments, provided in accordance with Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

#### Discussion

A list of Council's investments as at 30 June 2017 is detailed in the attached report.



**INVESTMENT REPORT 30 June, 2017**

The Responsible Accounting Officer, Kate Monaghan reports :-  
 Details of Investments held by Council as at

30-Jun-17 are set out below

Date Invested	Interest Rate	Term Days	Investment Amount	Anticipated Interest	Date Matures	Held With	Investment Number
5 Oct 2017	2.75	273	\$250,000.00	\$5,142.12	5 Jul 2018	NAB	84-496-1186
11 Jan 2017	2.80	181	\$1,500,000.00	\$20,827.40	11 Jul 2017	NewPer	17
12 Jan 2017	2.80	182	\$250,000.00	\$3,490.41	13 Jul 2017	BOQ	436800
16 Jan 2017	2.80	183	\$7,103,533.77	\$99,721.94	18 Jul 2017	NewPer	23
22 Jul 2016	2.60	365	\$250,000.00	\$6,500.00	22 Jul 2017	Bendigo	149949661
25 Jan 2017	2.80	181	\$7,103,532.00	\$98,632.06	25 Jul 2017	ING	16
27 Jul 2016	2.82	365	\$250,000.00	\$7,050.00	27 Jul 2017	Railways CU	2720843-7872542
30 Mar 2017	2.55	123	\$400,000.00	\$3,437.26	31 Jul 2017	NAB	98-981-2405
10 Oct 2016	2.80	304	\$500,000.00	\$11,660.27	10 Aug 2017	NAB	24-826-9038
13 Mar 2017	2.59	154	\$700,000.00	\$7,649.37	14 Aug 2017	NAB	92-886-9942
30 Nov 2016	2.78	272	\$3,000,000.00	\$62,150.15	29 Aug 2017	NAB	2
9 Dec 2016	2.71	273	\$1,000,000.00	\$20,269.32	8 Sep 2017	NAB	36-224-0837
14 Mar 2017	2.75	182	\$1,046,862.28	\$14,354.92	12 Sep 2017	AMP	8
28 Mar 2017	2.75	182	\$508,728.77	\$6,975.86	26 Sep 2017	AMP	12
21 Mar 2017	2.75	210	\$2,034,753.42	\$32,193.70	17 Oct 2017	AMP	9
26 Apr 2017	2.61	181	\$1,000,000.00	\$12,942.74	24 Oct 2017	ING	4
26 Apr 2017	2.58	209	\$1,076,451.37	\$15,902.58	21 Nov 2017	NAB	11
22 Nov 2016	2.80	364	\$911,962.14	\$25,464.99	21 Nov 2017	NAB	7
23 May 2017	2.70	182	\$2,000,000.00	\$26,926.03	21 Nov 2017	ING	5
3 Jan 2017	2.75	329	\$1,045,790.13	\$25,922.70	28 Nov 2017	NAB	22
26 Apr 2017	2.75	272	\$600,000.00	\$12,295.89	23 Jan 2018	AMP	15
16 Feb 2017	2.65	364	\$250,000.00	\$6,606.85	15 Feb 2018	Bananacoast	6905045-10596700
7 Mar 2017	2.71	364	\$1,500,000.00	\$40,538.63	6 Mar 2018	CBA	3
2 Jun 2009	0.70	BOS	\$2,817,431.43		At Call	CBA	1
		Max	\$4,405,849.58		At Call	NAB	86-767-2563
25 Nov 2010	0.70	BOS	\$24,899.94		At Call	CBA	19 - Stock School
7 Mar 2011	0.70	BOS	\$23,898.52		At Call	CBA	20 - HCMS
			<b>\$41,553,693.35</b>	<b>\$566,655.18</b>			
<b>Internal Loans</b>				<b>Annual Interest</b>			
31 Dec 2009	3.69	365	\$73,752.04	\$1,360.73	30 Jun 2024	C.S.C	Aerodrome Refueller
1 Jul 2010	5.64	365	\$54,385.07	\$3,067.32	29 Jun 2022	C.S.C	Swimming Pool Design
			<b>\$128,137.11</b>	<b>\$4,428.05</b>			
<b>Deferred debtors</b>							
1 Sep 2011	Average Int	10 yrs	\$3,436.24		31 Aug 2021	C.S.C	Loan to C.C.A.C.C.
			<b>\$41,685,266.70</b>	<b>\$571,083.23</b>			

Interest on above investments to be received at maturity \$566,655.18

Financial Institution Summary	Amount Held	of Total
NAB	\$13,290,053.22	31.88%
CBA	\$4,366,229.89	10.47%
Newcastle Perm	\$8,603,533.77	20.64%
AMP Bank	\$4,190,344.47	10.05%
Bank of Qld	\$250,000.00	0.60%
ING	\$10,103,532.00	24.24%
Railways CU	\$250,000.00	0.60%
Bendigo	\$250,000.00	0.60%
Bananacoast CU	\$250,000.00	0.60%
ME Bank	\$0.00	0.00%
Cootamundra Shire Council	\$128,137.11	0.31%
Deferred Debtors	\$3,436.24	0.01%
	<b>\$41,685,266.70</b>	<b>100%</b>

This report is produced in accordance with section 625 of the local Government Act 1993 and all Investments have been made in accordance with the Act & the Regulations.

Signed

Responsible Accounting Officer

Kate Monaghan

Average interest 2.72

Check 2.72

<b>BENCHMARK</b> (for term investments)
BBSW ave. 90-day rate for June 1.7207 + 1% 2.72%

## 7.2.2 GOVERNANCE AND BUSINESS SYSTEMS

### 7.2.2.1 COMMUNICATIONS

REPORTING OFFICER	Allen Dwyer – General Manager
ATTACHMENTS	Nil
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	Net cost approximately \$15,000.00 per annum
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Council's Charter includes a requirement to effectively communicate with the community.
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	Newsletter will provide an unbiased factual account of Council matters and Council related matters to all residents and non-residential ratepayers on a fortnightly basis

#### Introduction

Successful communication is a difficult role for Council to achieve. A fortnightly in house production delivered by Australia Post should go a long way to alleviating inadequate and sometimes misleading information

#### RECOMMENDATION

**Council produce and distribute a newsletter on a fortnightly basis commencing 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2017**

### 7.2.2.2 MULTI PURPOSE SHED AT THE COOTAMUNDRA SHOWGROUND

REPORTING OFFICER	Kate Monaghan – Director Corporate Services
ATTACHMENTS	NA
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	Nil implications for this report. Council has previously approved a loan of up to \$15,000 and a financial contribution of \$17,335 for the replacement of the multi-purpose shed.
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Nil
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	Nil

#### Introduction

Council has received a request from Cootamundra APH&I Association to support a funding application under the 2017 Community Building Partnership Fund for the addition of livestock panels to the multi-purpose shed at the Cootamundra Showground.

#### Discussion

The Cootamundra APH&I Association were partially successful in receiving grant funding of \$82,665 through the Public Reserves Management Fund, for the demolition and replacement of an unsafe multi-purpose venue at the Cootamundra Showground. The total project budget was \$126,000. Council has since resolved to make a financial contribution of \$17,335, in addition to a loan amount of up to \$15,000, increasing the available funding for the project to \$115,000.

The Cootamundra APH&I have now completed the first stage of the project, with the erection of shed and attached water tanks, and now seek to apply for additional funding of \$28,000 through the 2017 Community Building Partnership Fund for the installation of stock loading ramps.

In addition to this current application, the group are also looking at additional funding options for future improvements, including stock panelling that will improve eventing options for a variety of future events.

The proactive support and involvement of community volunteers and showground users that have worked to secure funding and project manage the shed build has been essential to help to secure the future viability of the showground facility.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That a letter of support be written for the APH&I application for \$28,000 funding through the 2017 Community Building Partnership Fund for the completion of the Multi-Purpose shed at the Cootamundra Showground.**

### **7.2.2.3 DONATION REQUESTS**

REPORTING OFFICER	Kate Monaghan – Director Corporate Services
ATTACHMENTS	1. Correspondence from Carol Harris for Boomerang Bags 2. Correspondence from Southern Sports Academy
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	Nil implications for this report. Council has \$66,547 budget for community donations and events. \$10,000 of the total budget remains unallocated, and can be used for the recommended donation.
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	The Local Government Act section 356 allows Council to provide financial assistance for the purpose of exercising its functions.
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	Nil

#### Introduction

Council has received funding requests for two community projects.

Carol Harris has written to Council requesting a donation for the *Boomerang Bags* project, aiming to reduce plastic bag waste by providing reusable shopping bags to the Gundagai community.

The Southern Sport Academy have written to Council requesting a donation of \$1,200 to support the sporting development program they are providing to six elite young athletes from the Council area.

#### Discussion

Council has an unallocated community donations budget totalling \$10,000, available for community projects that support Council's objectives and functions over the current financial year. Council has a role in supporting community projects that foster and celebrate community spirit, improve our local environment and that promote our local region.

The Boomerang Bags project is an initiative of local volunteers who use donated, second hand materials to make fabric shopping bags. These bags are distributed to local Gundagai businesses and community members to be used instead of single-use plastic bags, reducing our community plastic waste, and promoting recycling. The request from Carol Harris is for a contribution toward the cost of the Boomerang Bags silkscreen, silkscreen inks and advertising. Carol has already spent \$100 on this project.



The Southern Sports Academy supports elite young athletes to reach their potential, allowing them to compete in State, National and International events, representing and promoting our region. The request from the Southern Sports Academy is for \$200 for each athlete from the Cootamundra-Gundagai area currently enrolled in the Academy's sports program.

Both of these projects are supported by local volunteers who are representing the interests of the community.



'Springvale'  
Coolac 2727  
7/6/2017

General Manager  
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council,

Dear Mr Dwyer,

**BOOMERANG BAGS** are coming to GUNDAGAI.

What are Boomerang Bags you ask???

Boomerang Bags is an initiative aimed at reducing the use of plastic bags by engaging communities in making reusable 'Boomerang Bags' as a fun sustainable alternative.

Each Boomerang Bag is handmade by volunteers from the local community using donated, second hand materials (eg, sheets, doona covers, curtains, pillow slips, excess dressmaking material) keeping the initiative local and sustainable. Once made, Boomerang Bags can be distributed to local businesses and markets, to friends and family or anyone to use instead of a plastic bag,

Boomerang Bags started in 2013 by two ladies having a discussion about plastic waste. Four years down the track, there are now hundreds of Boomerang Bag communities in Australia, New Zealand, America, Canada and more.

The reason I am writing to you today is to ask you for some financial support to help get our community up and running. We have a very willing group of people (and with some advertising I'm sure we will have some more) to make these bags up.

At this stage I have purchased our silkscreen with logos on it (these are printed onto a pocket on the front of the bag) costing me \$100. Further to this we need to purchase the ink to create the prints and also we plan to do some advertising.

If you could possibly help us financially with this it would be most appreciated and our community would be contributing to the use of less plastic bags to landfill.

I am also enclosing some pictures to give you an idea of what the bags look like.

Thanking you in anticipation and I would be happy to speak or meet with you if you require further information.

Yours faithfully  
*Carol Harris*  
Carol Harris

0417275327

## Southern Sports Academy

PO Box 8548, Koorringal NSW 2850  
p: 02 6931 8111 | f: 02 6931 8011 | w: [www.ssa-nsw.org.au](http://www.ssa-nsw.org.au)  
ABN 15 193 274 996



Wednesday, 7 June 2017

Mr Ken Trethewey  
General Manager  
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council  
81 Wallendoon St  
Cootamundra 2590

Cootamundra-Gundagai Council  
Received  
File No. ....  
Ref. To .....  
14 JUN 2017  
Copy .....  
To File .....  
Action

Dear Ken,

The Southern Sports Academy continues to provide elite young athletes from Southern NSW with cutting edge development programs designed to assist them in their pursuit of higher level sporting achievements. The Academy has built on its focus of ensuring that athletes that graduate from the Academy do so as more rounded individuals possessing the necessary sporting and life skills to excel in the next phase of their lives.

We have continued to produce athletes of the highest calibre, evidenced by the numbers of athletes who have gone on to represent their sport at State, National and International competition. In doing so, these athletes remain great ambassadors for the regions in which they emanate.

Since the inception of the Academy in 1992, the collective contributions of LGA's from around the region have been vital not only to the success of the Academy, but also to its survival. Historically The Academy has invited you to contribute to the development of athletes from your Local Government Area by contributing \$200 per athlete to the Southern Sports Academy. We have found that there have been an increased number of councils that have declined to provide assistance, sadly putting at risk the sustainability of the Academy on a broader scale, as such we are extremely appreciative of your continued support.

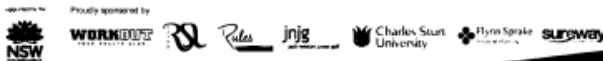
Your area is currently represented in the Academy by:

Given	Surname	Town	Sport	LGA
Amelia	Chambers	Cootamundra 2590	Basketball	Cootamundra-Gundagai
Lachlan	Deep	Cootamundra 2590	Golf	Cootamundra-Gundagai
Mitchell	Deep	Cootamundra 2590	Golf	Cootamundra-Gundagai
Samantha	Graham	Cootamundra 2590	Basketball	Cootamundra-Gundagai
Jane	Lemon	Nangus 2722	Netball	Cootamundra-Gundagai
Alexandria	Oliver	Cootamundra 2590	Basketball	Cootamundra-Gundagai

On behalf of athletes from your region, we look forward to your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Terrey Kiss  
Chairman



Reach Your Goals!

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council donate \$100 to contribute to the Boomerang Bags project, for the cost of silkscreens.
2. That Council donate \$1,200 to contribute to the development of athletes from the Local Government Area.

## 7.2.3 HUMAN RESOURCES

### 7.2.3.1 AMENDMENT TO ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

REPORTING OFFICER	Allen Dwyer –General Manager
ATTACHMENTS	Nil
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	Nil
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Nil
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	Nil

#### Introduction

A slight amendment to the adopted organisation structure is required to expedite the workflow and reduce workload in some areas.

#### Discussion

It is necessary to establish a small work related group of employees to liaise closely with the General Manager in order to maintain a satisfactory workflow. It is proposed to have a small team of Executive Assistants, Media, and Human Resources including Payroll and Workplace Health and Safety officers report directly to the position of General Manager rather than through the existing respective Directors.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**The Proposed changes be implemented**

## 7.3 OPERATIONS DIVISION

### 7.3.1 OPERATIONS

#### 7.3.1.1 Rathmells Lane, Cootamundra – Petition for Sealing

REPORTING OFFICER	Ray Graham, Director Operations
ATTACHMENTS	Copy of Petition
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	Estimated Cost of \$200,000 - Currently Not included in Operational Plan. Will need to consider in future OP Plans
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Part 4 Assessment EP&A Act 1979 – due to tree clearing
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	<b>NIL</b>

#### Introduction

Council has received a petition (attached) with 23 signatories requesting Council seal the length of Rathmells Lane from Temora Street to the end. The signatories cite dust concerns which reduce visibility.

#### Discussion

Rathmells Lane is currently an unsealed laneway with 3 short sealed sections in front of several houses that currently services 12 residential dwellings directly. When inspected on 20 July 2017, the road itself was in good condition, with the surface being smooth and well formed with approximately 6 metres formation width. There are no formed table drains on the western side of the road. The first 400metres is a narrow formation with large trees very close to the formation. There are 5 drainage structures along the road being pipe culverts of various sizing.

If the road was to be sealed, it would be preferable that it was widened to a minimum 9 metre formation with adequate table drains being formed and adequate pavement layer depth being added. This would require some tree removal to attain adequate width and would also require widening of the drainage structures.

Temora Street itself is a Regional Road and is the main road access from Cootamundra to Temora with the intersection being in the 100kph speed zone. Last traffic count numbers for Temora St in this vicinity were undertaken in 2012 and were 857.9 vehicles per day with 16.6% Heavy Vehicles.

As part of the sealing it would be recommended that the intersection of Temora St be upgraded to include a widening on the Northern Side to provide a safe right turn into Rathmells Lane. Also a deceleration lane for vehicles entering and turning left would be ideal given the posted speed limit.

It is estimated that to undertake the works is as follows (noting this would need to be confirmed by a full survey and design process):

Survey, Design and REF	- \$10,000
Intersection Improvements	- \$15,000
Clearing	- \$15,000
Drainage	-\$10,000
Roadworks	-\$150,000
Total	-\$200,000

Council has made allowance in the stronger communities fund to undertake these works.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council advise the signatories to the petition that the sealing of Rathmells lane will be undertaken as part of the stronger communities funding program**

5 June 2017

To the Engineers of The Cootamundra – Gundagai Regional Council

Subject – Rathmells Lane, Cootamundra

We the undersigned request Rathmells Lane be sealed as a matter of safety. This has been a long running issue, we have trouble getting it graded each year after the wet season.

The distance of the lane is appropriate 900 meters long.

Some years ago the last 200 meters of the lane was sealed because of dust problems.

The rest of the lane needs to be up to the same standard, as when the wind blows from the southwest the dust blows along the lane and reduces visibility. This makes it hard to see the school children getting off the bus at the mail box junction. It also makes it hard see where other cars are on the lane and the dust blows to the main road making it difficult to enter the main road.

Our rates have doubled over the years, and we have not received any better services from the council over this period.

We are sorry to bring this to council in this manner but we regard this as as top priority for the safety of the rate payers of Rathmells Lane.

### **7.3.1.2 Request to Amend Fees Structure Cootamundra Saleyards**

REPORTING OFFICER	Ray Graham, Director Operations
ATTACHMENTS	Copy of Letter
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	Modification of Adopted Fees and Charges.
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	NIL
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	<b>NIL</b>

#### Introduction

Council has received a late submission regarding the adopted Fees and Charges relating to the Cootamundra Saleyards from the Cootamundra Associated Agents.

#### Discussion

In the current adopted fee structure for the Cootamundra Saleyards, the Associated Agents receives an annual fee to use the facility. The current adopted fee is \$9,363.64 (ex GST) (\$10,300 Inc GST). Council has received a letter from the Cootamundra Associated Agents requesting that this annual fee be replaced with a per head of sheep sold fee of \$0.91 (ex GST) per head (\$0.10 per head inc GST).

In the previous financial year the sheep and lamb throughput at the Cootamundra Saleyards was 123, 741, which under the proposed fee structure would equate to a total Agents contribution of \$11,249.18 (ex GST) (\$12,374.10 Inc GST).

The basis for this fee change is to make the internal accounting for the Associated Agents for the fee distribution easier and equitable amongst the Agents. Currently after each sale, Council send an account to each of the Agents with a per head fee for the stock sold, under this proposed structure, this fee would increase by \$0.10.

For information the historical sheep throughput figures is shown in the below table

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total for year</b>
16/17	123,741
15/16	229,232
14/15	211,777
13/14	191,533
12/13	196,570
11/12	182,767
10/11	190,691
09/10	197,632
08/09	116,883
07/08	94,870

06/07	100,386
05/06	159,203
04/05	98,363
03/04	60,593
02/03	188,239
01/02	190,497

While there have been several years since 2001 where the livestock numbers have fallen below 103,000 (being level to maintain current Agents Contribution) the current long term average is over 158,000.

Preliminary Financials for the operations of the Cootamundra Saleyards to 30 June 2017 are as follows:

Income:           \$143,089  
 Expenditure:   \$175,740  
 Result:           \$(32,651) Loss

The sheep throughput numbers through the Cootamundra Saleyards are the lowest since 2008/09 financial year and well below the budgeted throughput. The impact of this loss means that funds will need to be drawn from the saleyards reserve to cover the loss. The reduction in this reserve has a twofold effect, first being a reduction in ability to undertake any major repair works into the future, and if it continues to drop reduces Council's ability to cover any losses in income in future years creating a reliance on the community to prop up the business through reductions in services in other areas.

It should also be noted that the Cootamundra saleyards facilities are an ageing facility with old facilities that will eventually need some major replacements. These old structures and assets will cost Council more and more each year to maintain as their condition deteriorates.

If Council were to agree to this request, the process forward is as follows.

- Council would need to resolve to advertise for 28 days the amended fees structure seeking public comment
- At the next Council meeting following the closure of the public comment period adopt or reject the proposed resolved changes to the Current Fees and Charges.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council advertise the proposed amendment of the Saleyards Agents fees being to remove the annual fee of \$10,300 (inc GST) and replace with a per head of sheep fee of \$0.10 (inc GST) for 28 days for public comment.**



## COOTAMUNDRA ASSOCIATED AGENTS

**COOTAMUNDRA**  
THE  
STOCK-SELLING  
CENTRE  
OF THE  
SOUTH

Cootamundra Shire Council  
Received

File No: .....

Ref To: .....

- 6 JUL 2017

Copy: .....

To File: .....

Action

**Regular Weekly Markets  
Of Fat Lambs & Sheep  
Fortnightly Cattle Markets  
Regular Store Cattle Markets**

Saleyards : Phone 02 6942 2784  
Secretary: Phone 02 6942 0300  
PO Box 483, Cootamundra 2590

04 July 2017

Cootamundra – Gundagai Regional Council  
PO Box 420  
COOTAMUNDRA NSW 2590

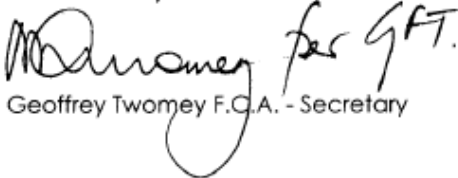
Dear Sir/Madam,

We wish to advise that we have paid a part payment of \$1,500 in relation to our 2<sup>nd</sup> Instalment of annual yard fees. We have the intention to pay the balance owing of \$3,500 when we receive the detailed report of our annual yarding's.

At a recent meeting on the Cootamundra Associated Agents it was agreed that we would rather not be billed at a lump sum. They would like to increase charges per head of sheep of 10c to an agreed figure in July at the sale yards meeting.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact our office on 02 6942 0300.

Yours faithfully,

  
Geoffrey Twomey F.C.A. - Secretary

### **7.3.1.3 Fixing Country Roads Proposal - Adjungbilly Road**

REPORTING OFFICER	Ray Graham, Director Operations
ATTACHMENTS	Nil
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	Currently unfunded, However will require a contribution from Roads to Recovery.
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Nil
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	Nil

#### Introduction

The NSW State Government through Transport for NSW has announced round 3 of the Fixing Country Roads Program. Council needs to consider whether it has a suitable project to support and submit an application for this funding.

#### Discussion

The fixing country roads program is aimed specifically at improving road transport freight efficiency through better connectivity of local roads to the main road network. In round 2 the previous Gundagai Shire Council submitted an application for the Adjungbilly Road, in particular a 2.5km section where the horizontal alignment and narrow width restricted High Productivity vehicle access, in particular B-Doubles over 19m in length.

The proposal included widening and curve realignment which would affectively allow long vehicles to safely travel the section and remove the blockage for these vehicles from Adjungbilly to the Hume Highway.

The differences in travel distance at moment

Heading to Wagga or Melbourne

- Route currently available – Adjungbilly – Threeways – Wee Jasper Road to Tumut – Snowy Valley Highway to Hume Highway – 95km
- Proposed Route – Adjungbilly to Hume Via Gobarralong Road to Snowy Valley Highway – 75km (saving 20km)

Heading to Sydney

- Route currently available – Adjungbilly – Threeways – Wee Jasper Road to Tumut – Gocup Rd to Gundagai to Hume Highway Intersection Gobarralong Rd – 95km
- Proposed Route – Adjungbilly to Hume Via Gobarralong Road – 33km (saving 62km)

The 2015 AADT is 140 vehicles with 33% (46) Heavy Vehicles. Included in the observation was 1 - B – Double over the period of 7 days during pre-harvest period. Anecdotal evidence from locals puts this figure at much higher levels during harvest operations and peak fat lamb and cattle sales.

**Table 1 Output commodities potentially benefitting from project (per annum)**

Commodity	Quantity	Estimated Value
Cattle	25,000 head	\$2,500,000
Sheep	160,000 head	\$16,000,000
Wool	4,000 bales	\$400,000
Grain output	2,500 tonnes	\$625,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$19,525,000</b>

**Table 2 Input commodities utilising route**

Commodity	Quantity
Bulk fertiliser	4,000 tonnes
Fodder, hay and grain inputs	5,000 tonnes

An estimate based on the basic design comes in at \$2,000,000 for the project which is beyond Council's current means, meaning this project would need external funding for Council to be able to commit.

As part of the Fixing Country Roads program, there is no requirement for matching funding however co-contributions from council, industry and Australian Government programmes are strongly encouraged. For this project, Councils Roads to Recovery allocation makes the most sense for Council's contribution funding source.

In the 2017/18 Financial Year Councils Roads to Recovery Allocation is \$1,384,201 with the following projects already committed:

- Sheridan St as part of Main ST Upgrade - \$465,000
- Three-Ways Bridge repairs - \$120,000
- Temora St Stage 2 reconstruction - \$250,000
- Cowcumbra St / Gundagai Rd Intersection - \$250,000

Leaving an allocation of \$299,201 unallocated

In 2018/19 Council's Roads to Recovery Allocation is \$986,493 with Nil allocations being committed at this stage.

Applications for the program close on 1 September 2017 with announcements expected late in 2017. Unlike previous programs round 3 will run as a single full application process without an initial Expression of Interest phase.

Council may consider that \$500,000 is an appropriate contributions level if it decides to adopt the Adjungbilly Hill Project for Fixing Country Roads to the Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council area for Round 3. As the project would most likely be undertaken over 2 financial years due to the complexity, \$100,000 could be allocated from the 2017/18 Roads to recovery with \$200,000 coming from the 2018/19 allocation, and \$200,000 from the Stronger Communities Fund.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That an application be submitted under Fixing Country Roads Round 3 for Adjungbilly Road to a value of \$1,500,000 with Council providing a contribution of \$100,000 from the roads to recovery allocation from the 2017/18 financial year and \$200,000 from the roads to recovery allocation for 2018/19 financial year with \$200,000 from the Stronger Communities fund.**

#### **7.3.1.4 Mount St – Gocup Road Intersection Gundagai**

REPORTING OFFICER	Ray Graham, Director Operations
ATTACHMENTS	Nil
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	Currently unfunded, will require State Government funding
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Nil
Nil	Nil

#### **Introduction**

Tegra Australia have approached both Council and the Local Member Katrina Hodgkinson MP regarding the restriction at the intersection of Mount St and Gocup Road which means restricted access to High Productivity Vehicles to their site in South Gundagai

#### **Discussion**

The current intersection of Gocup Road and Mount Street in South Gundagai is an awkward arrangement due to the close proximity of a cross intersection and the curve arrangement on Gocup Road. This has led to a restricted intersection design. The current design makes it awkward for longer vehicle access especially into the Tegra Concrete batching plant site.

Tegra have requested that changes be made to this intersection so that High Productivity Vehicle access can be achieved to allow for more efficient transport deliveries.

At the request of the Local Member, Council design staff are currently working up options to present to RMS for their comment and concurrence.

Noting that as Gocup Road is a State Road, the final intersection layout will need to be approved by RMS.

When the final design has been approved, the Local Member will then source funding to undertake the works allowing High Productivity Access to the Tegra Site.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the information be received and noted**

## 7.4 ASSET MANAGEMENT DIVISION

### 7.4.1 ASSET MANAGEMENT

#### 7.4.1.1 Maloney Asset Management System

REPORTING OFFICER	Phil McMurray, Deputy General Manager, Interim Director Asset Management
ATTACHMENTS	Report Following the Survey of Road Assets for Cootamundra Gundagai RC June 2017
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	To be determined
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Nil
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	Nil

#### Introduction

Council is undertaking asset management planning and development activities to ensure that it has the appropriate systems and mechanisms to effectively manage its asset base, and ensure the financial sustainability of the Council over the long term.

Council is using the Maloney Asset Management System to manage its Transport Assets.

#### Discussion

This attached report provides a summary of the major findings following the road asset condition surveys, undertaken in June-2016 for Cootamundra District and March 2015 for Gundagai district by Moloney Asset Management Systems MAMS.

This is just one part of a suite of information coming to hand to assist Council in its future decision making around Assets and Finance. It is suggested that this report be adopted as a reference document only until further work is developed across the Council.

**TABLED DOCUMENT 1, July, 2017 (Pages 1-47).**

#### RECOMMENDATION

**Council adopt the Maloney Asset Management System report “Report Following the Survey of Road Assets for Cootamundra Gundagai RC June 2017” as a reference document only for planning expenditure on transport assets.**

## 7.4.2 WATER AND SEWER

### 7.4.2.1.1 DEVELOPMENT OF A CONCEPT AND DETAILED DESIGN FOR THE GUNDAGAI STP

REPORTING OFFICER	Phil McMurray, Deputy General Manager, Interim Director Asset Management
ATTACHMENTS	Proposal from Mr Glen Fernandes of the NSW Public Works Department. Draft Contractual Agreement for the engagement.
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	Construction of a new treatment plant is the only realistic solution to the current problems at this plant but the delivery of that treatment plant will require Council attain funding assistance if it is to deliver the works. However most of that funding assistance first requires a “shovel ready” project and thus there is a need to complete the concept and detailed designs as soon as possible so that Council can actively pursue that funding assistance.
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Whilst the cost here will significantly impact Council reserves these cost can be taken from Council’s available sewer reserves, with no impact on the general fund.
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	There is provision for the direct engagement of the NSW Department of Public Works under the NSDW Local Government At in Section 55 Part (3) (b) where it is demonstrated that there is a direct benefit to Council in taking this action.

#### **Introduction**

It is proposed to directly engage the NSW Public Works Department to:

- Develop initial concept designs for a new Gundagai STP
- Evolve those concept design to final ready for construction drawings
- Prepare estimates for the new works at each stage of the project.
- Work closely with Council to achieve regulatory sign off on the new designs

#### **Discussion**

Reasons supporting this direct engagement rather than pursuing open tendering include:

- Should Council’s current application for Federal funding assistance is successful this is the only means by which Council will be able to achieve the tight timelines required under that project.

- Direct engagement is the quickest means by which Council can deliver a “shovel ready” project so that it can pursue other funding sources.
- Generally funding bodies for such works have a level of comfort over the involvement of the Department given its obvious expertise in this area.
- The Department has not just extensive experience in this area but has designed a number of plants of similar size that it should be able to adopt as a template for Gundagai and hence reduce both costs and the time taken.
- The Department has already engaged the Department to undertake the preparation of its IWCM and there is considerable overlap here that should lead to some savings in the investigative phases of the design.
- The regulators involved in getting these designs signed off and eventually the mandatory Section 60 Approvals have great respect for the technical abilities of the Department and given the close need to work with those bodies, having the Departments expertise on the project team is expected to assist in streamlining that negotiation phase.

The maximum or upper limit fee of \$700,000 quoted by the Department is at the upper limit for the design works. However this upper limit figure was prepared by the Department to give Council a figure to work with before it enters its caretaker mode, and to ensure that no time is wasted given the critical state of the STP and immediate likelihood of funding announcements. Council officers have provided a draft of a proposed contractual agreement to the Department to attain this estimate but it is intended to finalise this cost negotiation with the Department and endeavour to secure a lower cost to undertake these works before signing the Contractual agreement.

NSW State Agencies have indicated some possibility of getting state funding but need a design on the table as not just a precursor to such funding but also as a demonstration of Councils commitment to the project and as evidence of the risk Council believes the existing works pose. If such funding is achieved possibly some of these design costs may be recovered.

**TABLED DOCUMENT 1, July, 2017 (Pages 48-74, 75-167 ).**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**The General Manager be delegated authority to finalise contract negotiations generally in accordance with the draft Contractual Agreement as presented**

**The General Manager be delegated authority to enter into direct engagement of the NSW Department of Public Works to undertake the works required to expedite the construction of the Gundagai Sewer Treatment Plant and associated pump stations. The General Manager be delegated authority to accept any grant funding offered by the State or Federal Government for proposed Sewer Treatment Plant and associated works.**

**The General Manager be delegated authority to take any action necessary to expedite the progress of the proposed works.**



### 7.4.3 SPECIAL PROJECTS

#### 7.4.3.1.1 Stronger Communities Fund Major Projects Program

REPORTING OFFICER	Phil McMurray, Deputy General Manager, Interim Director Asset Management
ATTACHMENTS	Spreadsheet titled: Assessment Panel Determination of Projects to be funded under the Stronger Communities Fund Major Projects Program
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Not yet developed.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council (CGRC) was provided \$10 million from the State Government to initiate the delivery of priority infrastructure and services for the local community, following the merger of the former Council's in 2016.
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Consequential to the Proclamation the DPC requires Administrators of merged Councils to endorse Projects under this funding program once determined by the Assessment Panel.
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	The General Manager will be required to ensure that appropriate resources are allocated to ensure these projects are effectively and efficiently delivered.

#### Introduction

##### **Stronger Communities Fund**

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council (CGRC) was provided \$10 million from the State Government to initiate the delivery of priority infrastructure and services for the local community, following the merger of the former Council's in 2016.

This Stronger Communities Fund (SCF) consists of two programs:

1. Community Grant Program, allocating up to \$1 million in grants of up to \$50,000 to incorporated not-for-profit community groups, for projects that build more vibrant, sustainable and inclusive local communities;
2. Major Projects Program, allocating \$9 million funding to larger scale priority infrastructure and services projects that deliver long term economic and social benefits to communities.

##### **Community Grants Program**

46 community groups from across our region are reaping the rewards of successfully securing over \$1 million in funding through the SCF grants program.

CGRC were able to fund 46 out of the 89 applications received, totalling \$506,219 for Gundagai and surrounding communities and \$602,972 for Cootamundra and surrounding communities.

### **Major Projects Program**

The balance of the Stronger Community Fund, \$8.9 million, is for CGRC investment in larger scale projects to deliver long-term economic and social benefits, in accordance with the guidelines produced by the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet.

CGRC have been proactive to ensure that the community and local stakeholders are adequately consulted and provided with the opportunity to put forward ideas on infrastructure funding.

### **Program Details**

To ensure open and transparent allocation of Stronger Communities Fund, the NSW Government required CGRC to appointment a local assessment panel that includes an independent probity adviser.

The panel consisted of:

- Administrator, Stephen Sykes;
- Local Member, The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP;
- Representative Department of Premier and Cabinet, Derek McCarthy.

The Administrator also appointed Mrs Margot Gill, a solicitor operating in both Cootamundra and Gundagai, as Probity Advisor.

The Administrator also conducted two workshops with the combined Implementation Advisory Group and Local Representative Committees to assist with project selection.

The Projects identified, considered, and subsequently assessed, all meet with some fiscally responsible criteria to ensure that the CGRC is sustainable into the future. These considerations included:

- Leveraging funds against other funding sources;
- Sustainable Projects, with minimal long term maintenance burdens;
- Addressing a long term community need;
- Balanced economic drivers;
- Improving CGRC's bottom line.

### **Project Selection and Community Consultation**

CGRC officers developed a program of priority projects following consideration of current asset management data across the CGRC area, community strategic plans of the two former councils and projects contained in existing Asset Management Plans.

CGRC have recently hosted a number of public listening sessions and villages' consultation, for the purpose of preparing the next Community Strategic Plan and Villages Strategy, at which valuable feedback has been sought for potential investment decisions including priority major infrastructure which has also been considered in developing priority projects.

The project list did not include the Gundagai sewerage treatment works as the NSW State government's budget which had been announced, has a specific program designed to deliver State funding for qualifying projects, and Council still awaits the outcome of the Building Better Regions application with the Federal Government.

Information about the shortlisted projects under consideration was placed on exhibition on the CGRC website and within CGRC libraries and administration offices. CGRC accepted community feedback through to 4pm on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

Further CGRC invited its Digital Community Panel and the community to participate in a “Top Ten” ranking exercise of the projects.

### **Community Feedback and Ranking**

The community feedback was used by the Assessment Panel in the assessment process. Overall the feedback from the forums was positive, and constructive feedback about future investment in infrastructure was received.

### **Discussion**

#### **Project Priorities**

Following receipt of the Community Feedback, the Administrator met with the IAG and LRC Committees on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017 to assist in, framing a refined priority position to meet the budget allocation of \$8.9M, and advancing considered advice for the Assessment Panel.

Also the recently announced Stronger Country Communities Program, and other planned programs under the State Government Regional Growth Fund, were considered for their appropriateness as an alternate funding source for specific projects.

The Assessment Panel met on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2017 to determine the outcome of the Stronger Communities Fund Major Project Program Expenditure. Following deliberations, the Assessment Panel unanimously voted to adopt the list of Projects to be funded as Attachment XX.

Further the Panel considered and recommended Projects for making an application under the Stronger Country Communities Fund. The Application is targeted around a healthy lifestyles and fitness program with:

- \$300,000 - Large Scale Adventure Playground and fitness centre at Gundagai;
- \$500,000 - Cootamundra Large Scale Teen Playground;
- \$350,000 - Village playgrounds/fitness infrastructure as identified in Villages Strategy Consultation;
- \$400,000 - Community wellness fitness and Sporting Infrastructure across the LGA.

**TABLED DOCUMENT 1, July, 2017 (Page168 ).**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- **The Assessment Panel determination of projects for funding under the Stronger Communities Fund Major Projects Program as attached to this report be endorsed.**
- **The General Manager be authorised to allocate appropriate resources to ensure that the Stronger Communities Fund Project Funding is spent or committed by 30 June 2019, with all funding acquitted before 31 December 2019.**
- **The General Manager be authorised to make application for Stronger Country Communities funding before closing on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2017 in accordance with the recommended projects outlined in this report.**

