

Late Report

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GUNDAGAI

6:00PM, TUESDAY 27TH MARCH 2018

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LATE REPORTS

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 27TH March, 2018

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7.2.2.5 COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

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GOVERNANCE AND BUSINESS SYSTEMS

7.2.2.5 COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

REPORTING OFFICER	Susan Pardy, Manager Governance and Business Systems
ATTACHMENTS	"Our place, Our future" 2018-28 Community Strategic Plan v1.3 and copies of submissions received
RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	Recommended adoption of Community Strategic Plan 2018-28
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	There are no financial implications associated with this report.
LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS	Section 402 Local Government Act, 1993
POLICY IMPLICATIONS	There are no policy implications associated with this report.

RECOMMENDATION

The draft "Our place, Our future" Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council Community Strategic Plan 2018-28 be adopted.

Introduction

Following the draft "Our place, Our future" Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council Community Strategic Plan 2018-28 being placed on public exhibition for the period 28 February 2018 – 27 March, 2018, the draft Plan may now be adopted.

Discussion

Since the Agenda was initially authored, five additional submissions have been received, bringing the total number of submissions to seven.

Full copies of the submissions have been included with this report.

Four of the recent submissions made reference to similar themes, summarised below:

1. Submission received from a resident of Cootamundra. The submission comments:

- a. Agricultural industries, the Cootamundra airport and a possible freight distribution hub, being the Gateway to the Riverina and the arts as a key economic driver, and women's sporting infrastructure are absent from the CSP.
 - b. The plan needs to include a cost benefit analysis of projects, and an understanding of asset management.
 - c. The plan should include the employment of specific roles within Council's organisation structure.
 - d. Eastern Riverina Arts should be mentioned as a key partner.
 - e. The document is complicated, lacks inspiration and vision, and uses too many words.
2. Submission received from Cootamundra Creative Arts and Cultural Centre noting the following has been overlooked:
- a. The value of the arts and cultural activities.
 - b. The integration of the CSP with other plans.
 - c. The statistical representation of people living with a disability in our Shire.
 - d. The role of The Arts Centre in skills development, the renewal of the arts centre precinct, and in bringing the two communities together.
 - e. Eastern Riverina Arts should be mentioned as a key partner.
 - f. Inequity in cultural/arts facilities and services compared to other recreational activities.
3. Submission received from a couple residing in Cootamundra, stating that arts and cultural matters have not been adequately covered, and supporting the submission received from Cootamundra Creative Arts and Cultural Centre.
4. Submission received from a resident of Cootamundra, stating the plan does not adequately cover how cultural development will be supported in the future. Also raises the need for ongoing future discussions.

Council's response to the four submissions summarised above:

Under Section 402 of the Local Government Act 1993, a Community Strategic Plan is a plan that identifies the main priorities and aspirations for the future of the local government area, while addressing civic leadership, social, environmental and economic issues in an integrated manner. The Community Strategic Plan is intended to be a high-level document, with specific actions to be completed over a 4-year period included in the Delivery Program, and operational activities to be completed in the coming 1-year included in the Operational Plan.

For this reason, it would be counter to the Integrated Planning and Reporting guidelines to include a cost-benefit analysis of projects, improvements to specific sporting facilities or the

appointment of specific staff in the Council's organisation structure within a Community Strategic Plan.

Strategies 2.1b (Develop and implement land-use strategies and management practices which protect our agricultural sector), 2.1c (Ensure transportation networks link our region with other regional centres and cities and support economic, environmental and community needs), 1.1b (Cultural and arts facilities and services are promoted and supported), 2.1a (Develop and deliver strategies which support the economic sustainability of the Cootamundra-Gundagai region) and 2.3a (Develop and implement strategies which provide opportunities for increased tourism) address issues identified as absent.

Eastern Riverina Arts has been added as a key partner for strategy 1.1b (Cultural and arts facilities and services are promoted and supported).

The Arts Centre Cootamundra is not listed as a specific partner, however "arts and cultural centres" as a more general descriptor is (strategy 1.1b).

Statistical data sourced from the Australia Bureau of Statistics in relation to people living with a disability has been added.

The Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework diagram on page 4 includes those plans mandatory under the Local Government Act 1993. Other plans created will be integrated, and will seek to meet the collective outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan.

5. The fifth submission received is from a resident of Cootamundra, and former Cootamundra Shire Council Councillor. The submission states that the CSP is a good start, but is not specific and should be planned to 20+ years with additional community forums required to identify the community's strengths and weaknesses. The submission also refers to demography, risk culture, agriculture and extension of cultural venues.

Council's response:

In addition to the response above, Council notes the inclusion of strategies in the draft CSP for ongoing community discussions (for example Strategy 4.2a Ensure opportunities for genuine and robust community consultation and engagement are provided to all members of our community; and Strategy 4.2b Provide opportunities to review the objectives and delivery of the Community Strategic Plan to ensure it continues to meet the changing needs of the community.