



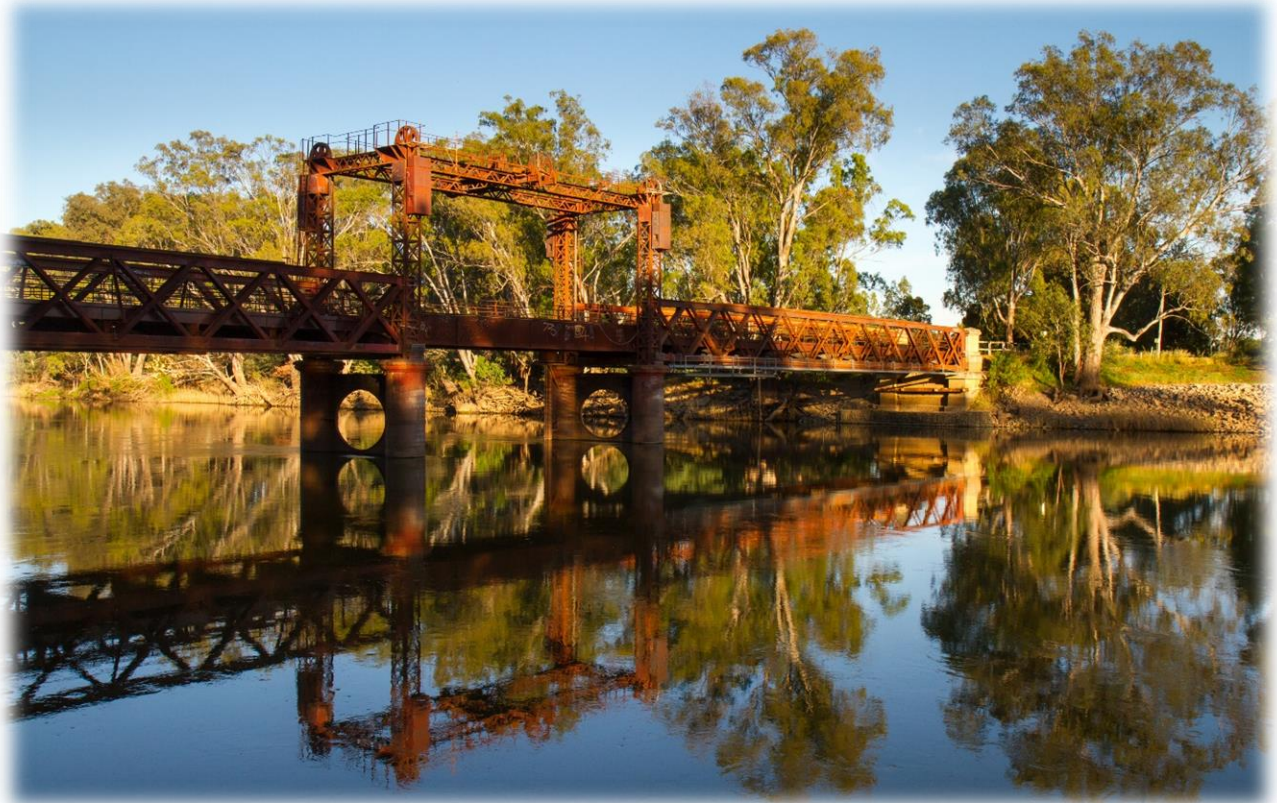
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Wednesday 18 May, 2022

at 9:15am

Council Chambers

56 Chanter Street, Berrigan



Agenda



Council Meeting

Wednesday 18 May, 2022

BUSINESS PAPER

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council of the Shire of Berrigan will be held in the **Council Chambers**, Berrigan, on **Wednesday 18 May, 2022** when the following business will be submitted:-

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

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No business, other than that on the Agenda, may be dealt with at this meeting unless admitted by the Mayor.



KARINA EWER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1. OPENING OF MEETING

In the spirit of open, accessible and transparent government, Berrigan Shire Council's are audio recorded. By speaking at a Council Meeting, members of the public agree to being recorded. Berrigan Shire Council accepts no liability for any defamatory, discriminatory or offensive remarks or gestures that are made during the course of the Council. Opinions expressed or statements made by individuals are the opinions or statements of those individuals and do not imply any form of endorsement by Berrigan Shire Council.

Confidential matters of Council will not be audio recorded.

Recordings are protected by copyright and owner by Berrigan Shire Council. No part may be copied, recorded, reproduced or transmitted without the prior written consent of the Chief Executive Officer. Any recording is not, and shall not, be taken to be an official record of Berrigan Shire Council or discussion depicted therein. Only the official minutes may be relied upon as an official record of the meeting.

An audio recording of the Council Meeting will be taken for administrative and minute preparation purposes.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

"We acknowledge the original inhabitants whose country we are gathered on, and we pay respect to the elders, past, present, and future and extend respect to all first nations people."

3. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE OR ATTENDANCE VIA AUDIO-VISUAL LINK BY COUNCILLORS

4. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Recommendation: That the Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chambers on Wednesday 20 April, 2022 be confirmed.

5. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

6. MAYORAL MINUTE(S)

6.1 Australian Local Government Association – Federal Campaign

Recommendation: that the Council support the Australian Local Government's *Don't Leave our Communities Behind* Federal election campaign.

Report:

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) has been undertaking a "Don't Leave our Communities Behind" campaign during the lead up to the Federal Election. The campaign is calling on all candidates to commit to 17 specific actions in the areas of economic recovery, transport and community infrastructure, building resilience, circular economy and intergovernmental relations. Independent economic analysis of the ALGA proposals have confirmed the kind of investment sought would equate to around \$6.46 billion a year to Australia's Gross Domestic Product whilst creating 43,444 jobs.

The full details of the campaign can be found at:

<https://alga.com.au/home/dontleavelocalcommunitiesbehind/>

Each area is summarised below.

Financial Assistance Grants

One-off injection of Financial Assistance Grants

An initial injection of Financial Assistance Grants (FAG) to local government of \$1.3 billion to support communities and jobs and resolve the current practice of bringing forward two quarterly FAG payments each year.

Restoring FAG to 1%

Restoring FAG to at least 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue via a phased approach.

Transport and Community Infrastructure

Local roads and community infrastructure

\$500 million per year for a four-year extension of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program

First and last mile funding

A strategic roads investment program of \$300 million per year for four years to address road transport first and last mile issues and congestion on local roads.

Sustainable road funding

An increase in Roads to Recovery Funding from \$500 million to \$800 million per year, and an increase in Black Spot Program funding from \$110 million to \$200 million per year, and \$20 million per year permanent supplementary road funding for South Australia.

Improving regional digital connectivity

Continuing the Stronger Regional Digital Connectivity Package at \$55 million over four years.

Affordable housing partnerships

Support for local government's efforts in addressing affordable housing and homelessness by providing funding of \$200 million over four years to assist councils to develop and implement innovative housing partnerships.

Building Resilience

Targeted disaster mitigation

In line with the Productivity Commission's recommendation from 2014, a targeted disaster mitigation program of \$200 million per annum for four years which will reduce the costs of response and recovery and strengthen community resilience.

Building back better

A commitment to ensuring betterment funding as a core element of disaster recovery funding arrangements.

Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

A commitment to include community infrastructure that is publicly accessible and owned and local government waste, water and wastewater assets under Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

Climate change

A Local Government Climate Response Partnership Fund of \$200 million over four years to enable planning and preparation to minimise the impacts of climate change in our communities, and enable councils to achieve climate neutrality as soon as practicable.

Closing the Gap

\$100 million per annum for four years provided directly to local governments to support the capabilities of Indigenous councils and the implementation of Closing the Gap local/regional voice.

Circular Economy

Unlocking the circular economy

Support to provide guidance and advice to councils on how to unlock the circular economy locally, particularly in rural, regional and remote areas.

Bin harmonisation

Support to investigate, and if feasible, implement a national bin harmonization program that will improve kerbside recycling, reduce contamination, and maximise opportunities for reuse.

Circular waste innovation

\$100 million per annum over four years to fund local government circular waste innovation projects.

National Cabinet

National Cabinet

Reinstating local government representation to the primary intergovernmental forum in Australia, the National Cabinet.

Ministerial forums

Ensuring local government's ongoing voting membership of other relevant Ministerial forums.

7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil

8. REPORTS TO COUNCIL

8.1 Council Action List Report

Report by: Chief Executive Officer, Karina Ewer

Strategic Outcome: 2. Good government

Strategic Objective: 2.1 Berrigan Shire 2027 objectives and strategic actions facilitate the effective governance by Council of Council operations and reporting

Recommendation: That the Council receive and note the Council Action List Report.

Report:

The Council Action List Report, circulated separate to this Agenda to Councillors is designed to note the motion, and actions being taken to implement that decision, including the timeframe in which it is likely to be completed.

8.2 Finance - Accounts

Report by: Finance Manager, Tahlia Fry

Strategic Outcome: 2. Good government

Strategic Objective: 2.1 Berrigan Shire 2027 objectives and strategic actions facilitate the effective governance by Council of Council operations and reporting

Recommendation: that the Council:

- a) Receive the Financial Statement, Bank Reconciliation Certificate and Petty Cash Book made up to 30 April 2022,
- b) Confirm the accounts paid as per Warrant No. 04/22 totaling \$2,474,132.78 and
- c) Note the report on investments attached as **"Appendix 8.2-A"**

Report:

- a) A Financial Statement covering all funds of the Council indicating the Bank Balances as at 30 April 2022 is certified by the Finance Manager.
- b) The Finance Manager certifies that the Cash Book of the Council was reconciled with the Bank Statements as at 30 April 2022.
- c) The Finance Manager certifies the Accounts, including the Petty Cash Book made up to 30 April 2022, totaling \$2,474,132.78 and will be submitted for confirmation of payment as per Warrant No. 04/22
- d) The Finance Manager certifies that all Investments have been placed in accordance with:
 - i. [Council's Investment Policy](#),
 - ii. [Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993 \(as amended\)](#),
 - iii. [the Minister's Amended Investment Order gazetted 11 January 2011](#),
 - iv. [clause 212 of the Local Government \(General\) Regulations 2005](#), and
 - v. Third Party Investment requirements of the Office of Local Government Circular 06-70
- e) Funds have increased in April after receiving the 2022/23 Advanced FAG Payment. Overall funds are similar compared to the same period last year and are expected to remain stable in the coming months.
- f) Further information regarding Council's investments is attached to this Agenda as **"Appendix 8.2-A"**.

Statement of Bank Balances as at 30 APRIL 2022

Bank Account Reconciliation

Cash book balance as at 1 APRIL 2022	\$10,652,689.20
Receipts for APRIL 2022	\$ 5,284,964.03
Term Deposits Credited Back	<u>\$ 2,000,000.00</u>
	<u>\$17,937,653.23</u>
<i>Less Payments Statement No 04/22</i>	
Bank Transfers	\$ -
Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) payroll	\$ 619,882.01
Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Creditors E039530-E039747	\$ 1,788,546.49
Term Deposits Invested	\$ -
Loan repayments, bank charges, etc	\$ 65,704.28
Total Payments for APRIL 2022	<u>\$ 2,474,132.78</u>
Cash Book Balance as at 30 APRIL 2022	<u>\$15,463,520.45</u>
<i>Bank Statements as at 30 APRIL 2022</i>	\$15,462,700.99
Plus Outstanding Deposits	\$ 819.46
Less Outstanding Cheques/Payments	\$ -
Reconciliation Balance as at 30 APRIL 2022	<u>\$15,463,520.45</u>

INVESTMENT REGISTER

INSTITUTION	FUND	DEPOSIT NO.	TERM (days)	RATE	MATURITY DATE	INSTITUTION TOTAL	S&P RATING
AMP	GENERAL	133/17	182	**0.85%	23/05/2022	\$ 1,000,000.00	BBB+
AMP	GENERAL	125/16	365	**0.35%	31/05/2022	\$ 2,000,000.00	BBB+
AMP	WATER	136/18	365	**0.80%	19/10/2022	\$ 2,000,000.00	BBB+
AMP	SEWER	144/19	365	**1.25%	23/03/2023	\$ 2,000,000.00	BBB+
Goulburn Murray Credit Union	GENERAL	124/16	365	0.40%	13/05/2022	\$ 2,025,954.84	UNRATED
Bendigo Bank	WATER	141/18	364	*0.30%	13/09/2022	\$ 2,017,008.19	BBB+
Bendigo Bank	WATER	142/18	365	*0.30%	26/09/2022	\$ 2,000,000.00	BBB+
Bendigo Bank	GENERAL	146/20	365	*0.30%	28/09/2022	\$ 5,039,534.40	BBB+
Central Murray Credit Union	SEWER	126/16	365	0.40%	31/08/2022	\$ 2,000,000.00	UNRATED
Defence Bank Limited	WATER	146/19	365	0.30%	31/08/2022	\$ 2,000,000.00	BBB
Defence Bank Limited	WATER	138/18	365	0.70%	10/01/2023	\$ 2,000,000.00	BBB
NAB	WATER	143/18	365	0.50%	18/11/2022	\$ 2,000,000.00	AA-
						<u>\$ 26,082,497.43</u>	

Total Funds Held at 30 APRIL 2022

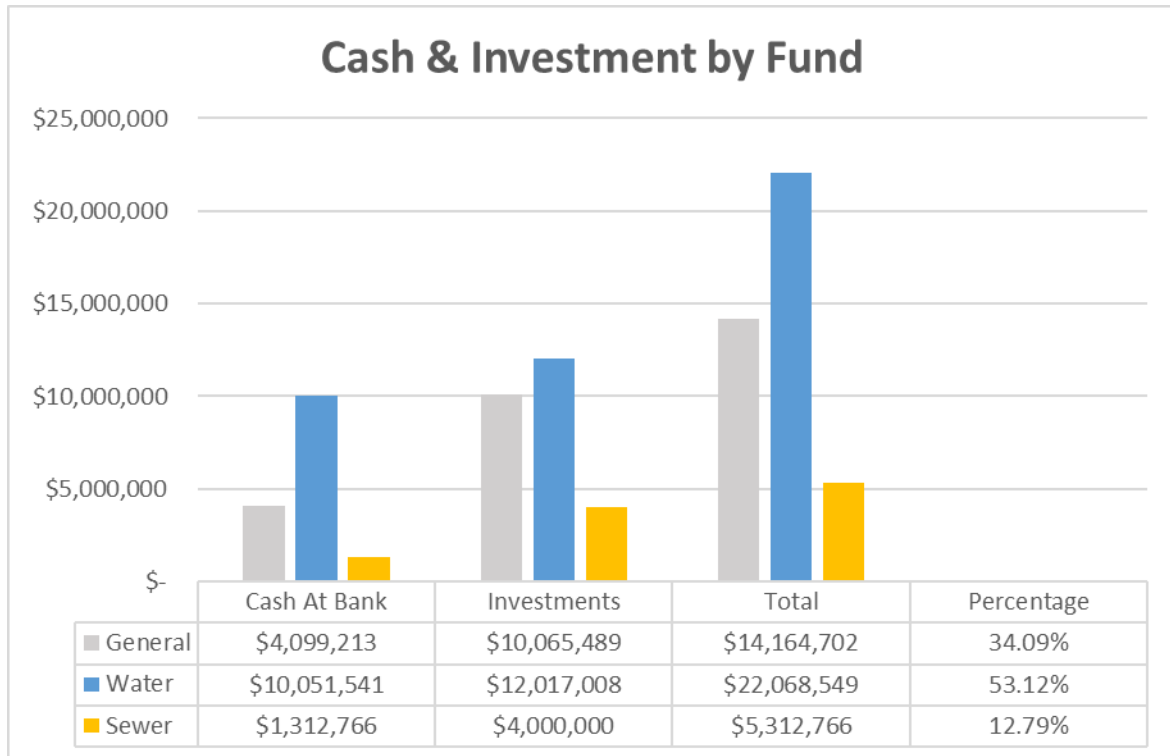
\$41,546,017.88

Tahlia Fry - Finance Manager

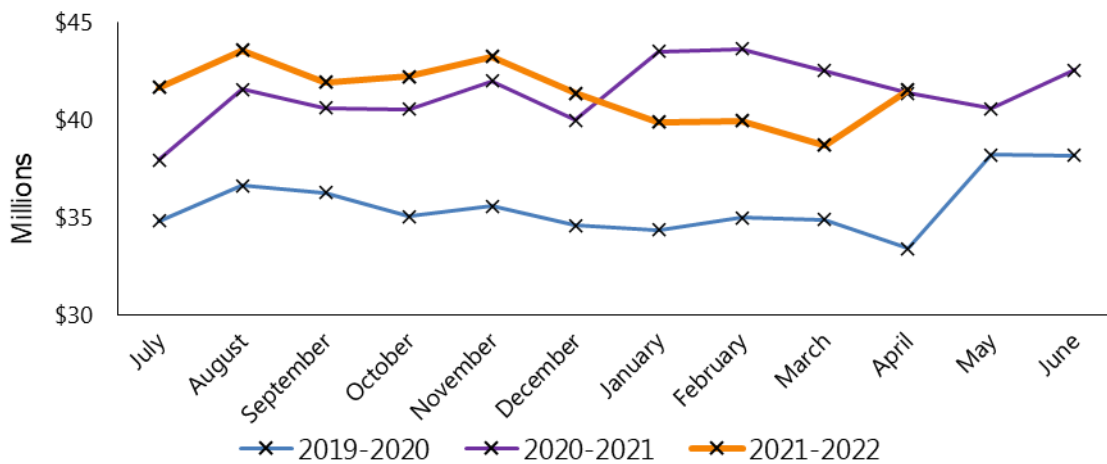
*The Council also receives an additional 0.25% commission

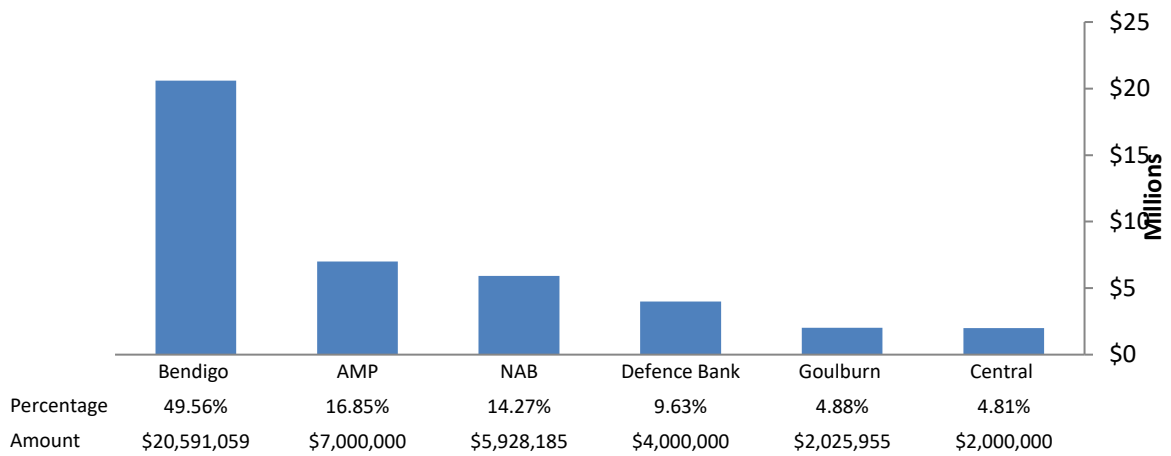
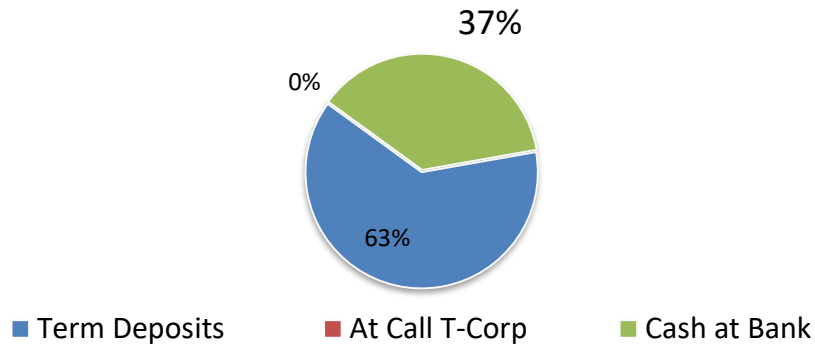
**The Council also receives an additional 0.20% commission

Total Funds held between General, Water and Sewer are as follows:



Total Cash and Investments

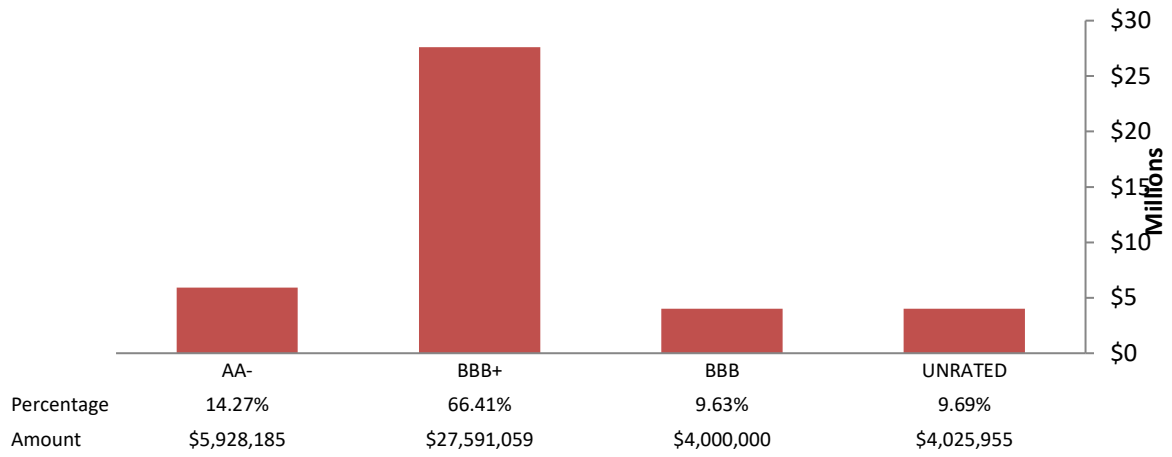




Term Deposits Credited Back				
Prior Financial Institution	Term (Days)	Amount	Interest Rate	Maturity Date
Defence Bank Limited	365	\$ 2,000,000.00	0.50%	6/04/2022

Term Deposits Invested / Reinvested				
Current Financial Institution	Term (Days)	Amount	Interest Rate	Maturity Date
NIL Changes for April 2022				

*The Council also receives an additional 0.25% commission
 **The Council also receives an additional 0.20% commission



8.3 Southern Riverina Gliding Club Inc.

Report by: Chief Executive Officer, Karina Ewer

Strategic Outcome: 3. Supported and engaged communities

Strategic Objective: 3.2 Support community engagement through life-long learning, culture and recreation

Recommendation: The direction of Council is sought.

Report:

The Southern Riverina Gliding Club Inc. is a not-for-profit incorporated association who provide gliding experiences to its members, primarily run by volunteers.

The Council has received two letters from the gliding club, one in 2021 and another on 28 April, 2022 requesting an exemption of the 2019/20 Aerodrome User Charges due to the COVID-19 pandemic impacting business. A Copy of the request is attached as **"Appendix 8.3-A"**.

I make note that the 2020/21 fees have already been paid by the gliding club.

Also attached for Councillors reference as **"Appendix 8.3-B"** is Council's newly adopted Community Assistance Policy.

Council decision on this matter is requested.

8.4 Khaki Weed Management and Control

Report by: Coordinator Biosecurity & Compliance, Matthew Wooden

Strategic Outcome: 1. Sustainable natural and built landscapes

Strategic Objective: 1.2 Retain the diversity and preserve the health of our natural landscapes and wildlife

Recommendation: That the Council receive and note report 8.4 Khaki Weed Management Control.

Report:

The Council received correspondence from the NSW Farmers Berrigan Jerilderie Branch highlighting the issue of invasive weeds on council-controlled land. The Council is party to a service agreement with the NSW Department of Primary Industries and receives grant funds for the management and control of noxious weeds.

The weeds targeted for management are only those weeds identified as Noxious Weeds in the Regional Weed Action Plan. Khaki weed is not a weed that is prioritised for management or control, yet it has been a big problem in the Berrigan Shire for a long time.

To be developed by Council Officers, in the upcoming financial year, is a local Weed Action Plan (WAP) which will allocate funds to map and control invasive weeds in addition to noxious weeds.

A local Weed Action Plan (WAP) will identify how Council control land – roadsides, parks, walking tracks, cemeteries, and landfill can be prioritised and managed within existing resources. There are, however, significant challenges with the development of a local Weed Action Plan as:

- Council's \$90,000 in-kind contribution for weed management and control along Council roadsides per the Regional Weed Action Plan is directed to Regional Weed Action Plan priorities – which does not include Khaki Weed.

A Local Weed Action Plan in addition, to the Council's Aerodrome, Council controlled land: Cemeteries, Parks, and Waste Disposal Centres would in the first instance, focus on the eradication of Khaki Weed alongside the following Council roads:

Barnes Rd	Fullers Rd	Melrose R
MR226	MR356 Oakland	MR363 Barooga
MR564 Jerilderie	Peppertree Rd	Racecourse Rd
South Coree Rd	Rocks Rd	Tuppall Rd
Woodstock Rd	Woolshed Rd	Yarrowonga Rd
Coldwells Rd	Back Barooga Rd	Lower River Rd
Logie Brae Rd	Piney Rd	Chinamans Rd

Eradication is the goal for a Local Weed Action Plan. To be effective, a Local Weed Action Plan requires from a Council a 10-year commitment to, and an investment in the management, control and ultimately eradication of this Khaki weed on lands controlled by the Council. The long-term nature and cost of such a commitment will be explored with our communities as part of the review of the Community Strategic Plan.

In the meantime, as the best time to spray Khaki weed is from Spring/Summer, spraying the above sites will be a priority. Hence spraying for Khaki weed will commence in the upcoming Spring/Summer using allocated funds from the Council's Operations budget and a further \$30,000 in funds provided by Murray Local Land Services.

8.5 March Quarter Review and Delivery Program Progress Report

Report by: Strategic & Social Planning Coordinator, Joanne Ruffin

Strategic Outcome: 2. Good government

Strategic Objective: 2.1 Berrigan Shire 2027 objectives and strategic actions facilitate the effective governance by Council of Council operations and reporting

Recommendation: That the Council note and adopt the appended December Quarter Review of the Council’s Annual Operational Plan 2021/22 and 6-monthly Delivery Program Progress Report 2022

Report:

Circulated with this Agenda as “**Appendix 8.5-A**” is the Council’s March Quarter Review of the Council’s *Annual Operational Plan 2021/22* and 6-monthly Delivery Program Progress Report.

This report provides a traffic light review with comments by Responsible Officers of the status of:

- Council actions that support and promote *Berrigan Shire 2027* outcomes (these are outcomes which match the Office of Local Government’s quadruple bottom line reporting requirements: Social, Economic, Environmental and Civic Leadership);
- *Delivery Program Objectives*;
- *Annual Operational Plan Objectives*; and
- *Annual Operational Plan Actions*.

The traffic light format provides a visual update on the status of *Council’s Annual Operational Plan* and Council’s progress toward full implementation of its *Delivery Program*. Also included in this report is a snapshot of the monitoring measures used to report the Council’s progress against its *Delivery Program* objectives.

				
Complete	On Target	Not on Target	Past Due	No Status / Deferred

Additional information in the Delivery Program Progress Report and Operational Plan Performance Review and includes:

1. A Year to Date (YTD) assessment by the responsible Council Officer of progress toward completion and or the achievement of the set target.
2. Comments from the Responsible Council Officer highlighting service achievements and or the challenges relevant to the Council operation and action being reported

and its status.

3. the challenges relevant to the Council operation and action being reported and its status.

The following tables (Table 1 and Table 2) provide a summary by strategic outcome of Council's progress and performance as a 31 March 2022. Table 1 lists the actions which were a) not updated (no status) or b) are past due or not on target. There are no new actions noted as past due or not on target.

Included in "**Appendix 8.5-A**" are clarifying comments from the responsible officer. All actions noted as not updated are noted as such in the "**Appendix 8.5-A**".

Op Plan No.	Action
1.1.3.4	Implement as funds become available the WAAAF Creek Walk Master Plan
1.1.3.5	Implement the Finley Railway Park Master Plan
1.1.3.7	Investigate the development of an active transport strategy
1.2.1.3	Undertake tree assessments and establish a tree register
1.2.1.4	Develop an Urban Tree Strategy
1.2.1.6	Undertake a review of the plans of management for Crown Lands controlled by Council or Council Committees of Management
1.3.2.1	Implement the Berrigan Shire Council Waste Plan
1.3.2.2	Deliver township garbage collection and street cleaning services
2.1.2.2	Implement and further develop the Berrigan Shire Integrated Management System
2.1.3.2	Monitor and respond to change in the Financial Governance, Regulatory and Reporting Frameworks
2.1.3.4	Conduct service review and develop the Corporate Services Strategic Plan
2.1.3.5	Manage human resource and workforce development activities through the implementation of the Berrigan Shire's Workforce Development Plan 2017 - 2022
2.1.3.6	Provide Information technology and associated support for Council operations
2.1.3.7	Coordinate the delivery and management of Shire records and communications
2.1.3.8	Maintain and sustainably redevelop existing infrastructure and community assets
2.1.3.10	Coordinate the ongoing review and development of Council and Operational Policies and procedures
3.1.2.2	Provide recreation facilities which support active lifestyle and ageing in place
3.1.4.1	Develop an Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy
3.1.4.2	Ensure potable water and sewer network is safe and functional
3.1.4.4	Coordinate and facilitate local emergency management committee

Op Plan No.	Action
3.1.4.5	Implement the Berrigan Shire Adverse Events Plan
3.1.4.6	Develop and maintain local cemeteries and associated infrastructure
3.2.1.3	Financially contribute to and support South West Arts programs and activities
4.1.2.3	Upgrade Finley Saleyards

Table 1 is a summary by strategic outcome of Council's progress and performance as of 31 March 2022.

Table 1 Performance by Outcome

	Completed	On target	Not on target	Past Due	Deferred / No Status	Total
Sustainable natural and built landscapes	1	14	-	-	9	24
Good government	-	9	-	-	9	18
Supported and engaged communities	-	10	-	-	7	17
Diverse and resilient business	-	16	-	-	2	18
Total Actions	1	49			27	77

8.6 Town Beach Survey Results

Report by: Director Strategic Planning & Development, Joanne Ruffin

Strategic Outcome: 2. Good government

Strategic Objective: 2.1 Berrigan Shire 2027 objectives and strategic actions facilitate the effective governance by Council of Council operations and reporting

Recommendation: That the Council:

1. Adopt the results of this poll, including the publishing of the survey results as outlined in the report;
2. Direct Council Officers to commence a review of the Tocumwal Foreshore Plan of Management with Crown Lands and the Tocumwal Foreshore Committee of Management;
3. Direct this review investigate options for the retention of Town Beach as an affordable camp site while ensuring that approved camp sites do not encroach or limit beach access, nor negatively impact native animals and or the natural environment; and
4. Direct staff to undertake public consultation once proposed options for the site are prepared

Report:

The Council and the Tocumwal Foreshore Committee have been briefed by Council Officers about range of issues impacting the continued approval as a primitive campsite and the operation of camping at Town Beach. Change in community expectations, concerns about safety, and environmental regulation has prompted a review at this time.

Conducted over a three-week period 21 March 2022 – 13 April 2022 per the Council's endorsed Engagement Strategy – 643 respondents completed the survey online or via a hard copy survey at the Tocumwal Library.

Disappointingly there was an attempt to influence the results of this poll with 492 invalid responses identified. An invalid response is a response that is initially identified by the survey software. Council Officers reviewed and blocked the IP addresses associated with the invalid responses. Council Officers found that they needed to do so on more than one occasion.

The results indicate strong support from Tocumwal residents and business for the following option that Town Beach remains

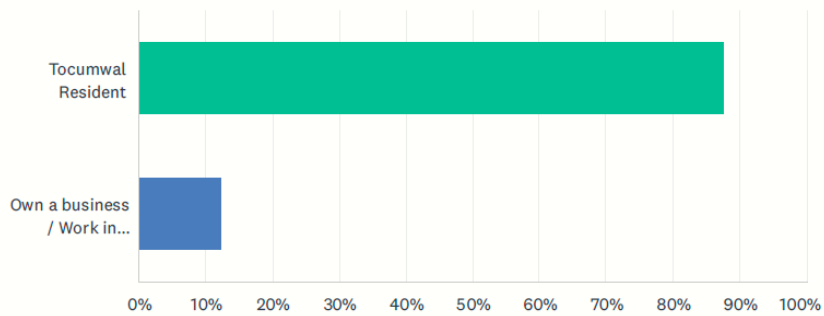
A popular, affordable, and accessible campsite on the river with campers supporting local businesses and the Committee

With 427 or 74% of respondents indicating their support for the retention of Town Beach as an affordable and accessible campsite on the river with campers supporting local business.

Tocumwal Town Beach

Q1 Please confirm if you are one of the following

Answered: 643 Skipped: 0

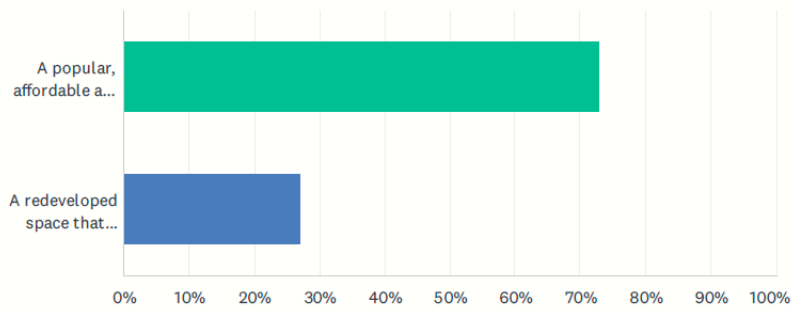


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Tocumwal Resident	87.56% 563
Own a business / Work in Tocumwal	12.44% 80
TOTAL	643

Tocumwal Town Beach

Q2 Of the options below, which do you prefer for Town Beach

Answered: 634 Skipped: 9



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
A popular, affordable and accessible campsite on the river with campers supporting local businesses and the Committee	72.87% 462
A redeveloped space that provides Tocumwal residents and non-camping visitors with convenient access to the Town Beach area	27.13% 172
TOTAL	634

The poll also gave respondents the opportunity to provide additional comments with 56% or 636 survey respondents providing additional comments. The comments provided were, with a few exceptions, thoughtful and considered and provide a valuable insight into what is important to respondents and themed or placed in categories to provide additional insight.

The results of thematic analysis of comments are as follows:

Thematic Summary of all Comments

	Number
Accessible – respondents identified access to the beach as an issue for resolution	90
Campaign – comments part of a campaign	6
Campers Day Visitors – respondents proposed a third option – dedicated area for campers and day visitor	91
Duplicate Comment – similar to campaign comment but word for word duplicated	8
Environment – respondent identified overcrowding, concern for natural environment	90
Fundraising – positive comments about the funds raised	15
Offensive – non constructive and offensive	5

Support Business – respondents highlighted economic benefits for business, town, or tourism	142
Tradition – respondents referenced historical connection to river and or indicated no change needed	79

Of the 171 respondents that indicated their support for option B

A redeveloped space that provides Tocumwal residents and non-camping visitors with convenient access to the Town Beach area

Thematic analysis of the comments of the 81 supporters of this option suggests that it is access to the beach followed by a concern for the environment which is their primary issue. Of this group of respondents there is also some support for a third option facilities for campers and day visitors.

Thematic Summary of Comments by Poll Options	Option A	Option B
No. of Respondents	274	81
Theme		
Accessible	38	52
Campaign	2	4
Campers Day Visitors	60	31
Duplicate Comment	8	0
Environment	52	38
Fundraising	14	1
Offensive	5	0
Support Business	132	10
Tradition - No Change	76	3

Importantly access to the beach and a concern for the environment, while not as important as supporting business and the investigation of a third option space for campers and day visitors, is not unimportant to the respondents who supported Option A –

A popular, affordable, and accessible campsite on the river with campers supporting local businesses and the Committee

8.7 LGNSW Annual Conference

Report by: Chief Executive Officer, Karina Ewer

Strategic Outcome: 2. Good government

Strategic Objective: 2.1 Berrigan Shire 2027 objectives and strategic actions facilitate the effective governance by Council of Council operations and reporting

Recommendation: that the Council:

1. register the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr XX and the CEO to attend the LGNSW Annual Conference from 23-25 October 2022;
2. request possible motions for the LGNSW Annual Conference be presented for consideration at the June Ordinary Council meeting

Report:

The Council, like most NSW Councils, is a member of Local Government NSW (LGNSW). LGNSW is the peak local government body in NSW and broadly represents the interest of NSW Councils to other levels of government. LGNSW also provides training and industrial services to Councils. A copy of the LGNSW Policy Platform is attached as **"Appendix 8.7-A"**.

LGNSW hold an annual conference in October or November each year which rotates between urban and regional venues.

The *Policy for the Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities for Mayors and Councillors* presently provides for attendance at the conference by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer and one other Councillor, by convention normally one that has not previously attended the conference.

This year's conference will be held at the Crown Plaza Hunter Valley from 23 to 25 October 2022. An email of official notice is attached as **"Appendix 8.7-B"**.

Registration opens on 4 July 2022 with costings to be released then. There will be "early bird" rates available. Accommodation at the conference hotel is often booked out quickly however and the Council has made reservations in advance.

The Council also has the opportunity to present motions for consideration at the conference and some discussion around this would be useful.

Members are encouraged to submit motions online by Monday 29 August 2022 to allow assessment of the motions and distribution of the Business Paper before the Conference. However, in line with the LGNSW Rules, the latest date motions can be accepted for inclusion in the Business Paper is Sunday 25 September 2022 (28 days prior to Conference).

More detailed information about submissions will come soon in a Conference Motions Submission Guide, which I will provide Council at the time of publication. General the guide will state that motions will be included in the Business Paper for the Annual Conference only where they:

1. are consistent with the objects of the Association (see Rule 4 of the Association's [rules](#));
2. relate to local government in NSW and/or across Australia;
3. concern or are likely to concern local government as a sector;
4. seek to advance the local government policy agenda of the Association and/or improve governance of the Association;
5. have a lawful purpose (a motion does not have a lawful purpose if its implementation would require or encourage non-compliance with prevailing laws);
6. are clearly worded and unambiguous in nature, and
7. do not express preference for one or several members over one or several other members.

Also in relation to motions LGNSW advises that;

“The Board will not include motions in the Business Paper which do not advance the local government policy agenda. Therefore a motion will not be included if it is operational, rather than strategic; a matter which could be actioned by LGNSW without going to Conference; not local government business; focused on a local issue only, or if the motion is consistent with longstanding actions of LGNSW and the Local Government and Shire's Association”.

Consideration of matters as outlined in our Advocacy Document may assist in formulating motions for the conference.

A copy of the updated action report from the 2020 LGNSW Conference is also attached as **“Appendix 8.7-C”** for Councillors information as are the responses from various Ministers to the motions made at the 2021 Special Conference held in February 2022.

8.8 Delegations to the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer

Report by: Chief Executive Officer, Karina Ewer

Strategic Outcome: 2. Good government

Strategic Objective: 2.2 Strengthen strategic relationships and partnerships with community, business and government

Recommendation: that the Council:

1. adopt the Delegations to the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer as set out in the Delegation Schedule provided as "**Appendix 8.8-A**";
2. confirm Delegation DEG002 is restricted to \$250,000;
3. confirm Delegation DEG011 is restricted to \$20,000;
4. confirm Delegation DEG024 is restricted to \$20,000;
5. confirm Delegation DEG025 is restricted to \$10,000;
6. confirm Delegation DEG097 is restricted to \$50; and
7. direct the CEO to review Council's current policy framework and recommend any policies required to ensure sufficient governance is provided to support the delegations provided to the CEO and sub-delegations provided to staff.

Report:

Section 377 of the *Local Government Act 1993* states:

377 General power of the council to delegate

- (1) *A council may, by resolution, delegate to the general manager or any other person or body (not including another employee of the council) any of the functions of the council under this or any other Act, other than the following—*
- (a) *the appointment of a general manager,*
 - (b) *the making of a rate,*
 - (c) *a determination under section 549 as to the levying of a rate,*
 - (d) *the making of a charge,*
 - (e) *the fixing of a fee,*
 - (f) *the borrowing of money,*
 - (g) *the voting of money for expenditure on its works, services or operations,*
 - (h) *the compulsory acquisition, purchase, sale, exchange or surrender of any land or other property (but not including the sale of items of plant or equipment),*

-
- (i) the acceptance of tenders to provide services currently provided by members of staff of the council,*
 - (j) the adoption of an operational plan under section 405,*
 - (k) the adoption of a financial statement included in an annual financial report,*
 - (l) a decision to classify or reclassify public land under Division 1 of Part 2 of Chapter 6,*
 - (m) the fixing of an amount or rate for the carrying out by the council of work on private land,*
 - (n) the decision to carry out work on private land for an amount that is less than the amount or rate fixed by the council for the carrying out of any such work,*
 - (o) the review of a determination made by the council, and not by a delegate of the council, of an application for approval or an application that may be reviewed under section 82A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979,*
 - (p) the power of the council to authorise the use of reasonable force for the purpose of gaining entry to premises under section 194,*
 - (q) a decision under section 356 to contribute money or otherwise grant financial assistance to persons,*
 - (r) decision under section 234 to grant leave of absence to the holder of a civic office,*
 - (s) the making of an application, or the giving of a notice, to the Governor or Minister,*
 - (t) this power of delegation,*
 - (u) any function under this or any other Act that is expressly required to be exercised by resolution of the council.*
- (1A) Despite subsection (1), a council may delegate its functions relating to the granting of financial assistance if—*
- (a) the financial assistance is part of a specified program, and*
 - (b) the program is included in the council's draft operational plan for the year in which the financial assistance is proposed to be given, and*
 - (c) the program's proposed budget for that year does not exceed 5 per cent of the council's proposed income from the ordinary rates levied for that year, and*
 - (d) the program applies uniformly to all persons within the council's area or to a significant proportion of all the persons within the council's area.*
-

-
- (2) *A council may, by resolution, sub-delegate to the general manager or any other person or body (not including another employee of the council) any function delegated to the council by the Departmental Chief Executive except as provided by the instrument of delegation to the council.*
- (3) *A council may delegate functions to a joint organisation only with the approval, by resolution, of the board of the joint organisation.*

Delegations empower employees and Committees with the authority to make binding decisions on behalf of Council.

Delegations are a function of administration, expressed in ordinary terms, as 'who can do what' and enable the Chief Executive Officer and staff across the organisation to better understand the legislation under which Council operates. In the context of local government, delegation is the giving of decision-making power by Council to the CEO (the CEO may then sub-delegate relevant functions to Council staff).

The reason for delegations are that:

- it is not practical for the Council and the CEO alone to exercise the many statutory powers given to Council; and
- delegation facilitates the achievement of good governance by empowering appropriate members of staff to make decisions on behalf of the Council and the CEO.

How well Council deals with its delegations is vital to its efficiency to minimise risk and maximise outcomes. From a practical management perspective, it is essential for the Council to devolve decision-making in a downwards manner from a central authority. This enable decisions to be made on the front line, by employees or Committees with the required specialised knowledge, and in a timely manner. However, decisions made without proper authority can put Council at risk, both legally and financially.

Council should note, that following the delegation of these authorities to the CEO, I will then sub-delegate relevant functions to specific staff to allow them to perform their duties. Where delegations are not specific, a range of policies will be required to ensure the appropriate application of those delegations. Those policies, where relevant, will come to Council for review and comment.

Risk

	<i>Consequences</i>				
<i>Likelihood</i>	1	2	3	4	5
A	Medium	High	High	Very High	Very High
B	Medium	Medium	High	High	Very High
C	Low	Medium	High	High	High
D	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
E	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High

Delegations either not made correctly or not made at all have led Councils to court regarding matters ranging from governance and procedure through to the management of Development Approvals and financial mismanagement. Understanding the delegations is therefore vital for Council as is a robust policy system to complement the delegations and provide robust framework around the delegations provided.

8.9 Councillor Induction and Professional Development Policy

Report by: Chief Executive Officer, Karina Ewer

Strategic Outcome: 2. Good government

Strategic Objective: 2.1 Berrigan Shire 2027 objectives and strategic actions facilitate the effective governance by Council of Council operations and reporting

Recommendation: that the Council adopt the Councillor Inductions and Professional Development Policy as set out below:



Policy

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Councillor Induction and Professional Development Policy

Strategic Outcome:	Good government	
Policy type	Strategic	
Date of Adoption:	18 May 2022	Minute Number:
Date for Review:	21 May 2025	
Responsible Officer:	Chief Executive Officer	
Document Control:	New Policy	
Delivery Program Link:	2.1.2.1 Provide facilities and support including financial to elected Council	

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The Berrigan Shire Council (**Council**) is committed to developing an induction and ongoing professional development program for the Mayor and Councillors to ensure they can fulfil their statutory roles and responsibilities. As part of this program, the Mayor and each Councillor will have a professional development plan that identifies specific gaps in their capabilities (i.e. their knowledge, skills and attributes) and identify professional development activities to build these capabilities.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to demonstrate Council's commitment to ensuring the Mayor and Councillors have access to induction and ongoing professional development which will assist them to develop and maintain the skills and knowledge required to effectively perform their civic role and responsibilities under the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act).

3. SCOPE

This policy applies to all Councillor of the Berrigan Shire, including the Mayor.



Policy

4. INDUCTION PROGRAM

Council will develop an induction program for new and returning Councillors as well as a supplementary program for the Mayor to ensure they are provided all the information they need to effectively fulfil their roles in the first few months of Council's term and feel confident in their ability to do so. The induction program will cover:

- an orientation to Council facilities and the local government area;
- an overview of the key issues and tasks for the new Council including Council's Community Strategic Plan, delivery program, Operational Plan, Resourcing Strategy and Community Engagement Plan;
- the legislation, rules, principles and political context under which Council operates;
- the roles and responsibilities of Councillors and the Mayor
- Council's organisational structure, Workforce Management Strategy and the roles and responsibilities of the Chief Executive Officer and Council staff;
- what Council does and how it operates, including an overview of integrated planning and reporting, land-use planning, natural resource management, financial management and asset management by Council;
- key Council policies and procedures Councillors must comply with including the Code of Conduct;
- the role of Council meetings and how to participate effectively in them;
- the support available to the Mayor and Councillors and where they can go to get more information or assistance; and
- information on the process for taking the oath of office and electing the Mayor at the first Council meeting.

In the case of the Mayor, the program will also cover:

- how to be an effective leader of the governing body and the Council;
- the role of the Chair and how to chair Council meetings;
- the Mayor's role in integrated planning and reporting;
- the Mayor's role and responsibilities under the Code of Conduct;
- the Mayor's role and responsibilities in relation to the Chief Executive Officer's employment;
- the Mayor's role at regional and other representative bodies; and
- the Mayor's civic and ceremonial role.

The Mayor and Councillors must have a working knowledge and understanding of these areas by the end of the induction program.



Policy

The induction program will also include team building activities to help the governing body establish itself as a cohesive and collaborative team focused on a common purpose with shared values and goals. Activities will aim to ensure Mayors and Councillors:

- identify how they would like to work together as a team and identify a common vision for the governing body;
- build relationships with each other based on trust and mutual respect that facilitate collaboration;
- contribute to a positive and ethical culture within the governing body;
- work towards consensus as members of the governing body for the benefit of the community;
- develop respectful negotiation skills and manage alternative views within the governing body without damaging relationships;
- understand what supports or undermines the effective functioning of the governing body;
- respect the diversity of skills and experiences on the governing body; and
- communicate and uphold the decision of Council in a respectful way, even if their own position was not adopted.

Activities should also help the Mayor, as the leader of the governing body, to:

- act as a stabilizing influence and show leadership; and
- promote a culture of integrity and accountability within Council and when representing Council in the community and elsewhere.

The Mayor and Councillors, including those re-elected to office, must attend all induction sessions.

Council will evaluate the induction program at the end of each Council term to determine whether it has achieved this outcome and to identify and address areas for improvement.

5. ONGOING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

An individual ongoing professional development plan will be developed for the Mayor and each Councillor to address any gaps in the capabilities (i.e. the knowledge, skills and attributes) need to effectively fulfil their role.

Each professional development plan will span the Council's term, and identify professional development activities that the Mayor or Councillor will participate in. Professional development activities will be prioritised according to need and approved by the Chief Executive Officer where Council funds are required in accordance with Council's Councillor and Expenses and Facilities Policy. The Mayor and Councillors are expected to complete all the activities included in their professional development plan.



Policy

Professional development activities will, wherever possible, follow the 70/20/10 principle. The 70/20/10 principle requires:

- 70% of learning activities are provided via learning and developing from experience – for example, on-the-job training, self-directed learning, developmental roles, problem solving, exposure and practice;
- 20% of learning activities are provided via learning and training through others – for example, personal or professional networks, coaching, mentoring, feedback, memberships and professional associations; and
- 10% of learning activities are provided via learning and developing through structured programs – for example, training courses, external or in-house workshops, seminars, webinars and other e-learning and briefing sessions conducted by the Council, external training providers or industry bodies.

The timing of professional development activities for the Mayor and Councillors will be designed in such a way so as to not overload Councillors with learning activities in the early part of Council's term. The timing will reflect what knowledge and skills Councillors and the Mayor need at various points in Council's term to undertake their roles.

The Mayor and Councillors will be provided with as much notice as possible for upcoming induction and professional development activities.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES

The Mayor and each Councillor are responsible for making themselves available to attend any development activities identified in the professional development plan. The Mayor and all Councillors must make all reasonable endeavours to attend and participate in the induction sessions and professional development activities arranged for them during the term of Council.

The Deputy Chief Executive Officer is responsible for planning, scheduling and facilitating induction and professional development activities for the Mayor and Councillors in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer.

The Chief Executive Officer has overall responsibility for Council's induction and professional development program.

7. BUDGET

An annual budget allocation will be provided to support the induction and professional development activities undertaken by the Mayor and Councillors. Expenditure will be monitored and reported quarterly.



Policy

8. APPROVAL OF TRAINING AND/OR EXPENSES

Professional development activities that require Council funds are to be approved by the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with Council's Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy.

9. EVALUATION

Council will evaluate the professional development program at the end of each Council term to assess whether it was effective in assisting the Mayor and Councillors to develop the capabilities required to fulfil their civic roles.

10. REPORTING

The Chief Executive Officer will publically report each year in Council's Annual Report:

- the name of the Mayor and each individual Councillor who completed Council's induction program (where an induction program has been delivered during the relevant year);
- the name of the Mayor and each individual Councillor who participated in any ongoing professional development program during the year
- the number of training and other activities provided to the Mayor and Councillors during the year as part of a professional development program; and
- the total cost of induction and professional development activities and any other training provided to the Mayor and Councillors during the relevant year.

11. RELATED LEGISLATION, POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

11.1 Legislation and external guidelines

- [Local Government Act 1993](#)
- [Local Government \(General\) Regulation 2005](#)

11.2 Council policies and guidelines

- [Code of Conduct](#)
- [Policy for the Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities for Mayors and Councillors](#)
- [Training and Development Policy](#)



Policy

12. RECORDS MANAGEMENT

Vaccination records are health records and will be managed according to the *Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002*. Specifically, Council will not collect health information unless:

Recording of all information relating to this policy is the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.

All Records must be kept in accordance with Council's Records Management Policy (currently under development) and destroyed as per the General Retention and Disposal Authority: Local Government Records (GA39).

13. REVIEW AND EVALUATION

This policy (procedure) will be evaluated and reviewed at least once every four (4) years as per Council's Governance Policy (currently under development) or as required.

14. DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

This policy will be available for inspection at Council's principal office during ordinary business hours as per the requirements of section 18 (c) of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* and section 167 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Access to the policy in digital format is free and is available on Council's website <https://www.berriganshire.nsw.gov.au/>

Printed copies of the document are available at Council's principal office (address noted below) and are subject to Council's Fees and Charges.

*Berrigan Shire Council
56 Chanter Street
Berrigan NSW 2712*

*Ph: 03 5888 5100
Email: mail@berriganshire.nsw.gov.au*

15. VERSION CONTROL

Version Number	Date	Summary	Responsible Officer
1.0	18.05.2022	New Policy	Chief Executive Officer

Report:

Under the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* Councils must ensure induction training is delivered to Councillors who have been elected for the first time and refresher training for Councillors who are re-elected, within 6 months of their election. Councils are also required to provide supplementary training to mayors.

Circular to Council's regarding the requirement for Councillor Induction and Professional Development are included at **"Appendix 8.9-A"**.

The Councillor Induction and Professional Development Guidelines are also included at **"Appendix 8.9-B"**.

Councillors have already completed Induction Training and a number of the "Hit the Ground Running" seminars. I am keeping a record of each certificate sent through to me so I will be able to provide the required annual report.

Council is expected to ensure its ongoing professional development program is accommodated by and reflected in its Councillor expenses and facilities policy. The expenses and facilities policy should make clear and adequate provision for relevant training and professional development activities as legitimate expenses. All Councillors have already completed a Professional Development Plan with me, and should this policy be adopted, those documents will be signed after the May Ordinary Council meeting.

The final attachment (**"Appendix 8.9-C"**) to this report are the Professional Development Plans as established by each Councillor and I. These will also require Council's approval, though many of the courses are already enrolled in or have been completed. Once this policy is adopted, the Professional Development Plans will be signed by me and the relevant Councillor.

8.10 Memorandum of Understanding – Sporties Barooga

Report by: Chief Executive Officer, Karina Ewer

Strategic Outcome: 4. Diverse and resilient business

Strategic Objective: 4.1 Strengthen and diversify the local economy and invest in local job creation and innovation

Recommendation: that the Council adopt the Memorandum of Understanding between the Berrigan Shire Council and Sporties Barooga as presented, and instruct the CEO to sign and execute the document as required.

Report:

In November 2021 Sporties Barooga approached Council in regard to a number of projects they were undertaking with a view to understanding how and where Council might be of assistance and how Council and Sporties Barooga could work more closely together.

As a result of that meeting Council resolved the following:

7.9 Unsolicited Proposal – Sporties Barooga

273 Resolved Crs Taylor and Bruce in relation to the irrigation infrastructure and related earthworks, do not approve the request for the loan.

That the Council provide \$95,951 towards the shortfall for the project to upgrade the BARC pool but only when that funding grant is confirmed as approved.

That the CEO enact the previous 2019 motion (File no 08.094.1, motion 10) and develop a Memorandum of Understanding between Berrigan Shire Council and Sporties in order to develop a more strategic partnership with that group.

I have been working with Sporties for a while to establish this MOU however a number of large projects (including the PGA) have interfered with finalising the document. The Memorandum of Understanding, as proposed by Sporties and I is included at **“Appendix 8.10-A”**.

This report is intended to give Council the opportunity to comment on the document prior to presentation at the May Ordinary Council meeting where it might then be adopted.

8.11 Uluru Statement from the Heart

Report by:	Chief Executive Officer, Karina Ewer
Strategic Outcome:	3. Supported and engaged communities
Strategic Objective:	3.2 Support community engagement through life-long learning, culture and recreation

Recommendation: that the Council support the requests for reform as outlined in the Uluru Statement from the Heart attached as “**Appendix 8.11-A**”

Report:

The following is taken from the Parliament of Australia website cited as “Uluru Statement: a quick guide.”

The Uluru Statement from the Heart is included as “**Appendix 8.11-A**”.

Convened by the bipartisan-appointed Referendum Council, the First Nations National Constitution Convention met over four days from 23 to 26 May 2017 to discuss and agree on an approach to constitutional reform to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Delegates were selected from participants in regional Dialogues held around the country.

Discussions at the Convention built upon a discussions paper produced by the Council (and published in more than ten traditional languages) and reflected the diversity of views raised by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in consultative Dialogues with the Referendum Council over six months. As participation in the Dialogues and Conventions was by invitation, there has been some criticism about the representatives of the Dialogues, and, by implication, the Uluru Meeting. Amnesty International wrote a submission to the Referendum Council stating:

We understand that participants at the regional dialogue meetings were invited in what was perceived as an exclusive process. We also understand that some people who attended those meetings then have an opportunity to attend the Uluru meeting, whereas those not included do not.

The Referendum Council acknowledged participation in the Dialogues was by invitation on its website.

The Convention also drew upon work done over the past few years by the Expert Panel on Constitutional Recognition of Indigenous Australians and the Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

While the majority of delegates at the Convention backed the Uluru Statement, a small number walked out in opposition before the final consensus resolution was passed.

Uluru Statement

The Uluru Statement states two broad objectives for reform as agreed to by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders at the Convention—the establishment of a First Nations Voice and a Makarrata Commission. These objectives reflect the nature of reform desired rather than specifying the fine detail of any proposed changes to the *Australian Constitution*.

The positions in the Uluru Statement do, however, reflect some of the ideas and proposals advanced by Indigenous and political leaders, and constitutional experts over many years. In articulating two positions which have broad support, it is hoped that they can become the foundations of a renewed conversation with the whole Australian community about constitutional reform and recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the precise form that will take.

In addition to these two proposals, the Uluru Statement affirms the sovereignty, and long and continuing connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with the land. It also comments on the social difficulties faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the structural impediments to the real empowerment of First Nations Peoples.

The Uluru Statement sets up a position that strongly contrasts with that taken in the campaign for symbolic constitutional recognition advanced by the *Recognise* campaign. The Uluru Statement echoes a 2015 online survey conducted by IndigenousX which found that 58 per cent of Indigenous respondents did not support *Recognise*. The same survey found that 62 per cent did not believe Indigenous Australians would be better off recognised in the *Constitution*, but 54 per cent supported the construction of an Indigenous parliamentary body. That the Convention at Uluru was to come to a more robust conclusion was hardly a surprise given that most of the regional Dialogues had rejected a minimalist or symbolic model of Indigenous constitutional recognition in favour of more substantial reform.

First Nations Voice

The Uluru Statement calls for the ‘establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution’. This has been interpreted in light of past suggestions put forward for the establishment of some form of representative body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. There is no definitive statement about the form such a body would take, but proponents of the idea (such as Noel Pearson, who sits on the Referendum Council) have previously propounded that such a body would sit alongside Parliament to provide non-binding advice on legal and policy matters affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

A proposal for an Indigenous body in the *Constitution* was mooted in 2014 as part of a submission by the Cape York Institute to the Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples inquiry. An elaboration of this idea in terms of constitutional text was subsequently drafted by constitutional law expert Professor Anne Twomey. This was later supported by Noel Pearson and the Cape York Institute.

It is envisaged that such a body will provide a constitutionally entrenched institution which enables Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to be formally consulted on legislation and policy affecting their communities.

Makarrata Commission

The Uluru Statement seeks ‘a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about our history’.

Makarrata is a word from the language of the Yolngu people in Arnhem Land. As Noel Pearson has explained:

The Yolngu concept of Makarrata captures the idea of two parties coming together after a struggle, healing the divisions of the past. It is about acknowledging that something has been done wrong, and it seeks to make things right.

The word ‘Makarrata’ has often been used instead of ‘treaty’, and gained wider currency in the 1980s when the National Aboriginal Conference (NAC) adopted the word. In a letter from the National Aboriginal Conference Secretariat ‘to all Aboriginal Organisations’ Jim Hagan (the then chairman of the NAC) wrote ‘using the word Makarrata makes it clear this is intended to be an agreement within Australia, between Australians’.

The call for a treaty has existed for some time. The Barunga Statement, presented in 1988 to Prime Minister Bob Hawke, called for a treaty with the Commonwealth of Australia. In response, Bob Hawke promised to negotiate a treaty ‘between the Aboriginal people and the Government on behalf of all the people of Australia’ before the end of the current session of Parliament. Though it did not eventuate, calls for a treaty have persisted.

A Makarrata Commission would likely be tasked with seeking Makarrata agreements between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and the federal government.

Are there any constitutional implications?

First Nations Voice

The *Constitution* can only be changed by the Australian people. Any move to enshrine a ‘voice’ for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the *Constitution* would need to be passed at a referendum. Details of the changes would have to be agreed by Parliament before being presented to the people for a vote.

A change would only come into effect if the proposal receives the support of a majority of voters in a majority of States. There have been 44 referendums since 1901, of which only eight have succeeded. The most successful attempt to change the *Constitution* was the 1967 referendum in which over 90 per cent of the population voted to allow the counting of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Census, and the federal government to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Makarrata Commission

A Makarrata Commission and any agreements or statements endorsed by such a body would likely not require any constitutional change. However, creating such a commission would most likely require legislation passed by Parliament. A commission could also be established by letters patent granted with the prerogative powers of the Governor-General on the advice of the Prime Minister, though this is not likely.

It is unclear what constitutional or legal consequences would flow from any Makarrata agreement or treaty reached between governments and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. An analysis of the potential effects would be subject to the detail of any final proposals.

8.12 Murray Local Health District – Excellence Awards – Request for Sponsorship

Report by: Chief Executive Officer, Karina Ewer

Strategic Outcome: 2. Good government

Strategic Objective: 2.2 Strengthen strategic relationships and partnerships with community, business and government

Recommendation: The direction of Council is sought.

Report:

Murray Local Health District (MLHD) have commenced planning for their annual MLHD Excellence Awards. They will be holding their gala celebration on Friday 1 July 2022 in Wagga Wagga.

MLHD have approached Council to be a sponsor of this event to the amount of \$500. As an event contributor Council would receive acknowledgement in the lead up to and during the MLHD Excellence Awards including:

- verbal acknowledgement as event contributor at the Awards Presentation;
- acknowledgement in keepsake program;
- named as an event contributor in the MLHD e-newsletter (to all MLHD staff)
- named as contributor in media releases; and
- a certificate of appreciation.

Other sponsorship options are also available and are included in the Sponsor Prospectus included at "**Appendix 8.12-A**".

Categories for nomination this year include:

- Enriching Consumer Experience
 - Value Based Healthcare Award
 - Exceptional Aboriginal Healthcare
 - Patient Safety First Award
 - Innovation and Health Research Award
 - Keeping People Healthy Award
 - Our People Our Future Award
 - Recovery and Resilience Award
 - Volunteer of the Year Award
 - Collaborative Staff Member of the Year
 - Nurse or Midwife of the Year award
-



- Exceptional Rural Healthcare Award (consumer led nomination)
- Our workforce at its best (open category)

The purpose of this report is to ascertain if Council would like to contribute to the MLHD Awards as a contributor or sponsor.

8.13 Integrated Planning Reports

Report by: Director Strategic Planning & Development, Joanne Ruffin

Strategic Outcome: 2. Good government

Strategic Objective: 2.1 Berrigan Shire 2027 objectives and strategic actions facilitate the effective governance by Council of Council operations and reporting

Recommendation: that the Council:

1. note the Community Strategic Plan: Berrigan Shire 2032 that was on public exhibition for 28 days (23 March 2022–20 April 2022) and submissions sought;
2. note that no submissions were received with respect to the Council’s review of the Community Strategic Plan: Berrigan Shire 2032;
3. endorse on behalf of the community, the Community Strategic Plan: Berrigan Shire 2032 (“Appendix 8.13-A”);
4. adopt the following draft plans and strategies and policy for public exhibition:
 - The Long Term Financial Management Plan 2022-2032 (“Appendix 8.13-B”);
 - The Asset Management Strategy 2022–2032 (“Appendix 8.13-C”);
 - The Workforce Development Plan 2022–2026 (“Appendix 8.13-D”);
 - The Delivery Program 2022–2026 (“Appendix 8.13-E”);
 - The Annual Operational Plan 2022/23 (“Appendix 8.13-F”); and
 - The Revenue Policy included in the Draft Operational Plan 2022/23;
5. re-adopt the Financial Policy 2021 included in review of the Long Term Financial Plan
6. place the suite of Integrated Plans on public exhibition for 28 days closing at 5:00pm on 15 June 2022.
7. resolve to convene an Extraordinary Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday 22 June, 2022 commencing at 9:00am, to consider and order the submissions received in relation to its suite of draft Integrated Plans and to fully adopt with any amendments such Plans; and

Report:

At the Council's Extraordinary Council Meeting on the 11 January 2022, the Council endorsed its timetable to review and develop the Council's suite of integrated plans. Per this broad direction and after the Council's workshop 3 and 4 March 2022, where it reviewed the

Community Strategic Plan and identified new projects for further investigation, Council Officers sought Councillor comment at two Special Strategy and Policy Workshops.

The first Special Strategy and Policy Workshop held on 13 April 2022 presented to the Council a working draft of the Resourcing Strategy 2022–2032, a draft Delivery Program 2022–2026 and a draft of the Council's Annual Budget 2022–2027.

The second Special Strategy and Policy Workshop held on 11 May 2022 presented a draft of the Council's Annual Operational Plan 2022/23, including the Council's draft Rating and Revenue policy.

Per the NSW Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines (2021), the Council's review of the Community Strategic Plan: Berrigan Shire 2032 "**Appendix 8.13-A**" was placed on public exhibition for a minimum of 28-days and comment was invited. The Council will note that its endorsement of the Community Strategic Plan 2032 on behalf of the community is sought.

In addition to the Council's endorsement of the Community Strategic Plan: Berrigan Shire 2032 also to be adopted as a draft for public exhibition and comment by Council resolution are the following:

- the Long Term Financial Management Plan 2022-2032 ("**Appendix 8.13-B**");
- the Asset Management Strategy 2022–2032 ("**Appendix 8.13-C**");
- the Workforce Development Plan 2022–2026 ("**Appendix 8.13-D**");
- the Delivery Program 2022–2026 ("**Appendix 8.13-E**"); and
- the Annual Operational Plan 2022/23 ("**Appendix 8.13-F**")

The above strategies and plans are not materially different from those reviewed by the Council at its Special Strategy and Policy Workshops.

The appended draft Long Term Financial Plan includes:

- projected income and expenditure, balance sheet and cash flow statement;
- the planning assumptions used to develop the Plan (the "Planning Assumptions Statement");
- sensitivity analysis highlighting factors/assumptions most likely to affect the Plan;
- financial modelling for different scenarios, e.g., planned/ base case without ASRV, planned/base case with ASRV, optimistic/conservative; and
- methods of monitoring financial performance.

The appended draft Asset Management Strategy 2022–2032:

- includes the Council's adopted Asset Management Policies
- identifies those assets critical to Council operations in addition to risk management strategies for these assets; and

-
- notes the actions required to improve the Council's asset management capability, inclusive of projected resource requirements and timeframes

The appended draft Workforce Management Plan, 2022–2026, considers the workforce requirements of the Council's Delivery Program 2022–2026. Further, the actions noted in the Workforce Management Strategy must be reflected in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan. The costs associated with delivering the Workforce Management Strategy are also reflected in the Long-term Financial Plan.

The appended draft Delivery Program 2022–2026 ("**Appendix 8.13-E**") addresses the objectives and strategies of the draft Community Strategic Plan 2032 appended for Council endorsement. Per the NSW Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines, a Council must ensure the principal activities in its Delivery Program cover the full range of council functions and operations.

Also included in the draft Delivery Program 2022–2026 are recommended methods of monitoring progress to determine the activities' effectiveness in achieving Community Strategic Plan objectives. The Delivery Program also includes, per the Guidelines, budget estimates for each year of the Delivery Program.

The draft Operational Plan 2022/23 includes the actions included in Year One of the Council's draft Delivery Program. Actions discussed at the Council's Corporate Workshop and endorsed for subsequent investigation and or inclusion in the 2022/23 Operational Plan include:

- the development of the Council re-brand project;
- comprehensive review and engagement of the community via Councillor Listening Posts in the review of the Community Strategic Plan;
- implementation of the Council's Visitor Strategy 2022 – 2026;
- extension of the Council's Visitor Information Services to include the operation of a Visitor Information Centre;
- implementation of improvement actions identified in the Audit Risk & Improvement Committee Workplan;
- undertake in partnership with Crown Lands, a Review of the Tocumwal Foreshore Recreation Reserve Plan of Management;
- investigate options for a Youth Council or similar;
- investigate options for key worker housing; and
- support the development of the Finley Lake Masterplan

The Draft Operational Plan 2022/23 must include the Council's draft Rating and Revenue Policy and Fees and Charges previously presented to Council as draft documents. Also included in the draft Operational Plan 2022/23 is summary commentary on the Council's draft operating budget, draft capital works budget, forecast income and revenue, balance sheet and cashflow for the upcoming financial year.

8.14 Development Determinations for Month of April 2022

Report by: Administration Support Officer - Building & Planning, Melissa Kennedy

Strategic Outcome: 2. Good government

Strategic Objective: 2.1 Berrigan Shire 2027 objectives and strategic actions facilitate the effective governance by Council of Council operations and reporting

Recommendation: That the Council receive and note this report.

Report:

APPLICATIONS DETERMINED FOR APRIL 2022

APPLICATION	DESCRIPTION	PROPERTY LOCATION	APPLICANT	OWNER	STATUS	VALUE	DAYS TAKEN	
225/21/DA/D3	WATER TREATMENT PLANT BAROOGA	27-29 BUCHANANS ROAD, BAROOGA NSW 3644 (Lot322//DP626847)	WATER TREATMENT AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	BERRIGAN SHIRE COUNCIL	Approved 06-04-2022	\$ 300000.00	Active 0	Total 200
20/22/DA/D5	RESIDENTIAL STORAGE SHED	11 RILEY COURT, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot46//DP1054776)	ADAM PURTILL	MR AN PURTILL AND MRS ML PURTILL	Approved 20-04-2022	\$ 18330.00	Active 0	Total 165
124/22/DA/D5	RESIDENTIAL STORAGE SHED	13-15 TONGS STREET, FINLEY NSW 2713 (Lot120//DP752283)	KIM HORNBY	MR GJ MURPHY AND MS KL HORNBY	Approved 19-04-2022	\$ 19960.00	Active 24	Total 24
125/22/DA/D6	ADDITIONS TO DWELLING	508 WITHERS ROAD, BOOMANOOMANA NSW 3644 (Lot1//DP1093071)	RICHES HOMES & IMPROVEMENTS PTY LTD	MR CL WITHERS AND MRS VL WITHERS	Approved 21-04-2022	\$ 257000.00	Active 25	Total 25
127/22/DA/D1	BV DWELLING & ATTACHED GARAGE	1-3 HUGHES STREET, BAROOGA NSW 3644 (Lot3//DP1105784)	KENNEDY BUILDERS PTY LTD	MR KJ MCLEAN AND MRS JA MCLEAN	Approved 05-04-2022	\$ 378390.00	Active 0	Total 13
128/22/DA/D5	RESIDENTIAL STORAGE SHED	1 PUTTER COURT, BAROOGA NSW 3644 (Lot107//DP1133352)	O'HALLORAN PROPERTY SERVICE	MR PH ASTON AND MRS HN ASTON	Approved 12-04-2022	\$ 25990.00	Active 17	Total 17
37/22/CD/MM	NEW AMENITIES BUILDING	COBRAM ROAD, BERRIGAN NSW 2712 (Lot160//DP823017)	MS CONSTRUCTION PTY LTD	TRUSTEES OF BERRIGAN RACECOURSE	Approved 21-04-2022	\$ 139430.00	Active 14	Total 14
38/22/CD/M5	INGROUND FIBREGLASS SWIMMING POOL	26 COUNTRY COURT, BAROOGA NSW 3644 (Lot6//DP286044)	POOLSIDE COBRAM	MR SJ AND MRS SC HOURIGAN	Approved 27-04-2022	\$ 62590.00	Active 17	Total 17
137/22/DA/D1	BV DWELLING & ATTACHED GARAGE	22 HUTSONS ROAD, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot123//DP1070311)	DEBORAH ARKLAY	MR KW ARKLAY AND MRS DL ARKLAY	Approved 26-04-2022	\$ 145000.00	Active 15	Total 15
140/22/DA/D1	BV DWELLING & ATTACHED GARAGE	31 MORRIS DRIVE, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot36//DP270154)	GJ LEWIS HOMES PTY LTD	MR J MOLINARO AND MRS CA MOLINARO	Approved 28-04-2022	\$ 435080.00	Active 15	Total 15
40/22/CD/M4	PERGOLA	65 HUGHES STREET, BAROOGA NSW 3644 (Lot7//DP1257753)	RICHARD GATCUM	MR R GATCUM AND MS BK NYE	Approved 20-04-2022	\$ 7000.00	Active 7	Total 7

APPLICATIONS PENDING DETERMINATION AS AT 30/04/2022

Application No.	Date Lodged	Description	Property Location
119/20/DA/DM	21-02-2020	AMPHITHEATRE, FISHING PLATFORM & ACCESS TRACKS	DENILIQUN STREET, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot7002//DP1019579)
186/21/DA/D3	16-04-2021	MILK PROCESSING FACTORY	87-123 HAMILTON STREET, FINLEY NSW 2713 (Lot118//DP752299)
208/21/DA/D3	26-05-2021	INSTALLATION OF 68KL UNDERGROUND LP GAS TANK	94-104 DENILIQUN ROAD, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot117//DP752296)
24/22/DA/D9	03-09-2021	10 LOT SUBDIVISION	LAWSON DRIVE, BAROOGA NSW 3644 (Lot9//DP1150036)
62/22/DA/D2	05-11-2021	REPLACEMENT SIGNAGE AT EXISTING SERVICE STATION	54-56 DENILIQUN ROAD, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot11//DP1161562)
85/22/DA/DO	09-12-2021	3 x SHADE SHELTERS	895 WOOLSHED ROAD, FINLEY NSW 2713 (Lot65//DP752285)
101/22/DA/DM	18-01-2022	CHEESE PROCESSING FACILITY	26 CROSBIES ROAD, FINLEY NSW 2713 (Lot11//DP801250)
114/22/DA/DM	16-02-2022	WATER STORAGE DAM	NOLANS ROAD, BAROOGA NSW 3644 (Lot8//DP1102815)
116/22/DA/DO	17-02-2022	RURAL SHED	65 BUNNS ROAD, FINLEY NSW 2713 (Lot2//DP559971)
118/22/DA/D5	18-02-2022	RESIDENTIAL STORAGE SHED	55-57 SNELL ROAD, BAROOGA NSW 3644 (Lot2//DP1133714)
119/22/DA/D5	24-02-2022	RESIDENTIAL STORAGE SHED	136 DENILIQUN STREET, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot62//DP1028910)
122/22/DA/D1	10-03-2022	BV DWELLING & ATTACHED GARAGE	11 RILEY COURT, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot46//DP1054776)
123/22/DA/D5	14-03-2022	RESIDENTIAL STORAGE SHED	13 HAMILTON STREET, FINLEY NSW 2713 (Lot3//DP1262202)
126/22/DA/D1	17-03-2022	TRANSPORTABLE DWELLING	3 OSBORNE STREET, FINLEY NSW 2713 (Lot3//DP398039)
108/22/DA/D2	21-03-2022	HIGHWAY SERVICE CENTRE	NEWELL HIGHWAY, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot297//DP720267)
130/22/DA/D9	28-03-2022	2 LOT SUBDIVISION	24-30 BAROOGA ROAD, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot182//DP752296)
131/22/DA/D1	29-03-2022	BV DWELLING & ATTACHED GARAGE	8 WHITE STREET, FINLEY NSW 2713 (Lot2//DP225674)
132/22/DA/D6	30-03-2022	ADDITIONS TO DWELLING AND STORAGE SHED	18 BRIDGE STREET, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot3//DP584816)
133/22/DA/D9	30-03-2022	2 LOT SUBDIVISION	TUPPAL ROAD, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot2//DP868952)
134/22/DA/D9	31-03-2022	2 LOT SUBDIVISION	100 BURMA ROAD, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot7//DP1275427)
135/22/DA/D5	01-04-2022	RESIDENTIAL STORAGE SHED	74 TOCUMWAL STREET, FINLEY NSW 2713 (LotA//DP387671)
136/22/DA/D1	04-04-2022	TRANSPORTABLE DWELLING	16 LIBERATOR PLACE, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot30//DP1190777)
138/22/DA/D5	06-04-2022	RESIDENTIAL STORAGE SHED AND EXTENSION TO ALFRESCO AREA	35-37 DENISON STREET, FINLEY NSW 2713 (LotA//DP302484)

139/22/DA/D5	06-04-2022	STORAGE SHED	61 NANGUNIA STREET, BERRIGAN NSW 2712 (Lot1//DP548848)
141/22/DA/D5	08-04-2022	RESIDENTIAL STORAGE SHED	1 RUSSELL COURT, BAROOGA NSW 3644 (Lot24//DP1102913)
142/22/DA/D5	12-04-2022	RESIDENTIAL STORAGE SHED	22 NUGGET FULLER DRIVE, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot111//DP1070311)
143/22/DA/D9	12-04-2022	2 LOT SUBDIVISION	60-96 BRUCE BIRRELL DRIVE, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot22//DP815339)
144/22/DA/D1	12-04-2022	TRANSPORTABLE SECONDARY DWELLING	8 PUTTER COURT, BAROOGA NSW 3644 (Lot103//DP1133352)
145/22/DA/D9	26-04-2022	13 LOT SUBDIVISION	BRUTON STREET, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot1//DP802330)
146/22/DA/D5	26-04-2022	RESIDENTIAL STORAGE SHED	100 WOLLAMAI STREET, FINLEY NSW 2713 (Lot221//DP1056415)
147/22/DA/D5	26-04-2022	RESIDENTIAL STORAGE SHED	66 HONNIBALL DRIVE, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot3//DP1250417)
148/22/DA/D5	26-04-2022	RESIDENTIAL STORAGE SHED	30 CLAIRE DRIVE, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot13//DP844053)
149/22/DA/D1	26-04-2022	BV DWELLING & ATTACHED GARAGE	134 RACECOURSE ROAD, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot11//DP1275427)
150/22/DA/DM	28-04-2022	LICENSED RESTAURANT & FIT OUT OF PREMISES	2 DENILQUIN ROAD, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot422//DP1253984)
151/22/DA/D5	29-04-2022	EXTENSION TO ALFRESCO	22 RILEY COURT, TOCUMWAL NSW 2714 (Lot56//DP1054776)

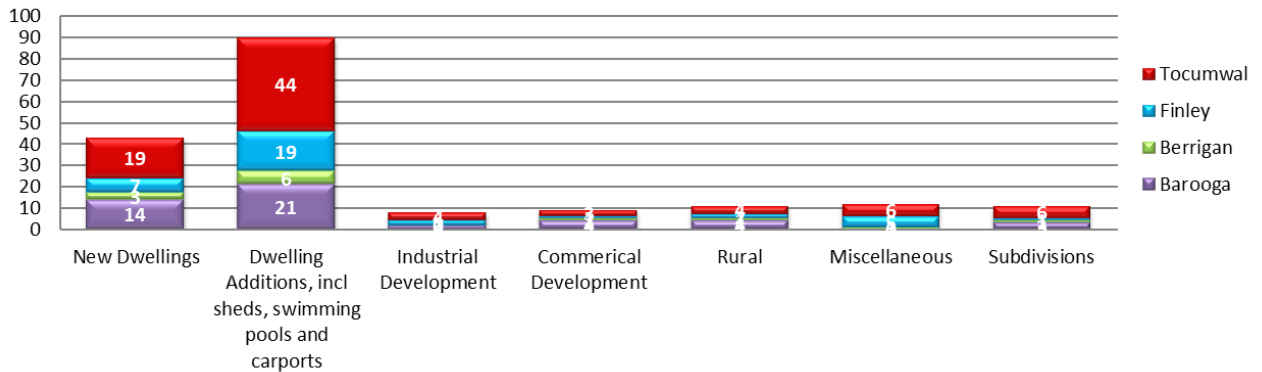
TOTAL APPLICATIONS DETERMINED / ISSUED (including modifications)

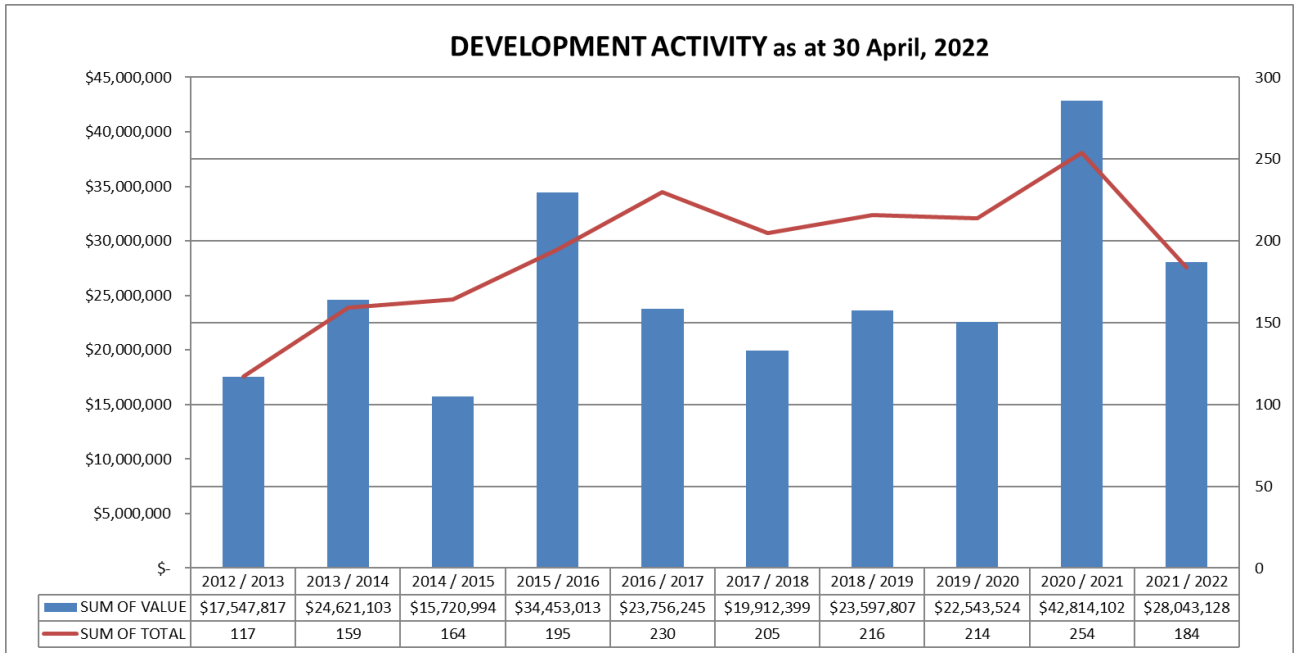
	This Month (Apr)	Year to Date	This Month's Value (Apr)	Year to Date Value
Development Applications (DA)	8	144	\$1,579,750	\$23,258,730
Construction Certificates (CC)	9	110	\$1,763,864	\$18,868,268
Complying Development Certificates (CDC)	3	40	\$209,020	\$4,784,398
Local Activity (s.68)	10	75	0	0

OTHER CERTIFICATES ISSUED FOR APRIL 2022

	s10.7(2) Planning Certificate		s10.7(5) Certificate		735A Certificate Outstanding Notices or Orders under LG Act 1993		s9.34 Certificate Outstanding Notices or Orders under EP&A Act 1979		s6.24 Building Certificate		Swimming Pool Certificate	
	APR	Year Total	APR	Year Total	APR	Year Total	APR	Year Total	APR	Year Total	APR	Year Total
BAROOGA	6	68	0	3	0	6	0	3	0	1	1	12
BERRIGAN	6	51	0	3	0	8	0	2	0	1	0	0
FINLEY	11	89	0	1	0	4	0	3	0	1	0	0
TOCUMWAL	8	119	0	3	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	6
TOTAL	31	327	0	10	0	22	0	8	0	4	1	18

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY 2021/2022 as at 30 April, 2022





8.15 Tocumwal Pre-School, Car Park Design

Report by: Director Infrastructure, Rohit Srivastava

Strategic Outcome: 3. Supported and engaged communities

Strategic Objective: 3.1 Create safe, friendly and accessible communities

Recommendation: That the Council:

1. transfer \$60,000 from the existing budget of Levee (Budget ID 1418-0510-000) towards Tocumwal pre-school car park project; and
2. fund the construction of the car park with the maximum Council contribution being \$60,000;

Report:

A report was presented to the Council at its March 2022 meeting, informing Tocumwal pre-school’s request towards:

1. design of its car park and provide cost estimates for construction; and
2. request for the car park to be entirely funded by the Council.

A report was presented to the 06 April 2022, SPW wherein the issue of fence was also discussed.

Council officers have discussed with the pre-school and the overall project scope and costs are presented below.

Items	Budget	Spent	Remarks
Professional Fees	\$ 60,000		Reallocated to build
Council DA approval	\$ 5,000		Reallocated to build
Rental of alternate facilities	\$ 75,000	\$ 42,709	\$ 12,000
Demolition & site clearance	\$ 50,000		In built costs
Project Mgmt fee	\$ 47,581		Reallocated to build
Building construction	\$ 951,625	\$ 1,019,026	\$ 56,759
Child care & equip internal	\$ 45,000	\$ 80,006	\$ 8,999
Landscape & playground	\$ 105,000		\$ 245,010
Car park	\$ 60,000		
Contingencies	\$ 30,794		
Total	\$ 1,430,000	\$ 1,141,741	\$ 322,768
	Combined Total		\$ 1,464,509

The total pre-school project was budgeted for \$1.43million, out of which \$430,000 were school’s contribution and \$1million was the grant.

Due to various costs escalation in the last two years, the cost of whole works is now about \$1.46million.

The pre-school is proposing to transfer budget originally budgeted for the “car park” and “contingencies” to the “Landscape & playground” as the costs of which have increased from the original \$105,000 to \$245,010.

If Council agrees to fund the car park, the pre-school will still be about \$30,000 less to complete the project scope but they have indicated that they are happy to raise funds and get community contribution to complete the original scope of works.

The design of the car park has been done by the Council engineers as per the March Council meeting resolution and the same has been reviewed by the pre-school.

Council has a budget of \$157,000 (Budget Id 1418-0510-000) towards maintenance of Levee.

The project is expected to be carried forward to the next financial year.

It is proposed to transfer \$60,000 to the Tocumwal pre-school car park project as Council’s contribution to the overall project from the budget ID 1418-0510-000 .

8.16 Finley School of Arts – Request for Assistance

Report by: Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Matthew Hansen

Strategic Outcome: 2. Good government

Strategic Objective: 2.1 Berrigan Shire 2027 objectives and strategic actions facilitate the effective governance by Council of Council operations and reporting

Recommendation: That, as per the Council’s Community Assistance Policy, the Council provide the Finley School of Arts Committee of Management with financial assistance for the repair of the Finley School of Arts floor as set out below:

- A grant of \$3,500, and
- A loan of \$3,500 to be repaid over three years

Report:

The Finley School of Arts Committee of Management has written to the Council to request assistance for the repair and refurbishment of the Finley School of Arts floor through a “one-third” loan and grant scheme as per the Council’s Community Assistance Policy

A copy of this request and a quote for the works is attached as “**Appendix 8.16-A**” and “**Appendix 8.16-B**”.

One-third scheme

The “one-third” loan and grant scheme works as follows:

Funding assistance to these committees will be provided on the following basis:

- The funds are used for capital improvement of a Council facility
- The relevant volunteer committee of management will retain control of the funds and liability for any loans
- The maximum project value is \$50,000. Projects over this value will be considered independently on their merits as to whether any contribution will be made and if so, upon what terms and conditions
- The Council will maintain an aggregate cap of \$100,000 on loan contributions and commitments under this scheme at any time.

All funding provided under this scheme will be made either through inclusion in the Council’s Operational Plan or via a formal resolution of the Council. If approved by the Council, funding assistance will be provided in the following form:

A grant of no more than one third of the total project value, plus; or

- A loan, at a subsidised interest rate, of no more than one-third of the total project value.
- This is subject to confirmation of the committee's willingness and ability to fund the remaining cost of the project.
- Any loan under this scheme will be provided on the following terms:
- The term of the loan to be:
 - no longer than three years for amounts under \$5,000; or
 - five years for larger amounts
- Loan repayments to be no less than semi-annually
- The interest rate charged will be 50% of the interest rate earned by the Council on its most recent term deposit.

In this instance, the Committee are seeking:

- A grant of \$3,500, and
- A loan of \$3,500 to be repaid over three years

Background

While this is a relatively small request it should be seen in the context of earlier works at the facility and equity across other Council facilities.

After a long period of neglect, the Council has invested a significant amount into the facility since 2016, including new toilets, kitchen, accessible entry and other refurbishment works. Other public halls at Tocumwal and Berrigan and the Finley War Memorial Hall also require significant refurbishment.

The Council has set aside funds for the refurbishment of Finley War Memorial, including the floor, through the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Scheme. There may be an opportunity to have both floors refurbished at the same time with a potential cost saving.

8.17 HR Environmental Scan

Report by: Chief Executive Officer, Karina Ewer

Strategic Outcome: 2. Good government

Strategic Objective: 2.1 Berrigan Shire 2027 objectives and strategic actions facilitate the effective governance by Council of Council operations and reporting

Recommendation: That the Council receive and note this report.

Report:

As at 10 May 2022, the Berrigan Shire Council workforce consists of:

Total FTEs		84.3
Male Employees	62	69%
Female Employees	26	31%
Total Actual Employees		88
Full Time Employees	80	92%
Part Time Employees	6	7%
Casual Employees	1	1%

Council is not meeting government diversity expectations at this time.

Council does not currently collect other diversity indicators other than binary sex models. A broader range of Equal Opportunity Employment statistics should be included in future such as ethnicity, disability etc. to ensure those measures are also being considered in recruitment, in a considered and consistent way.

Staff Changes between January and May 2022

Resignations

There were 10 staff resignations between January and May 2022.

Appointments

There were 11 staff appointments between January and May 2022.

Recruitment

Current positions being advertised include:

Accounts Officer

Project Officer (12 months)

Plant and Machinery Operator

Labourers (On Going)

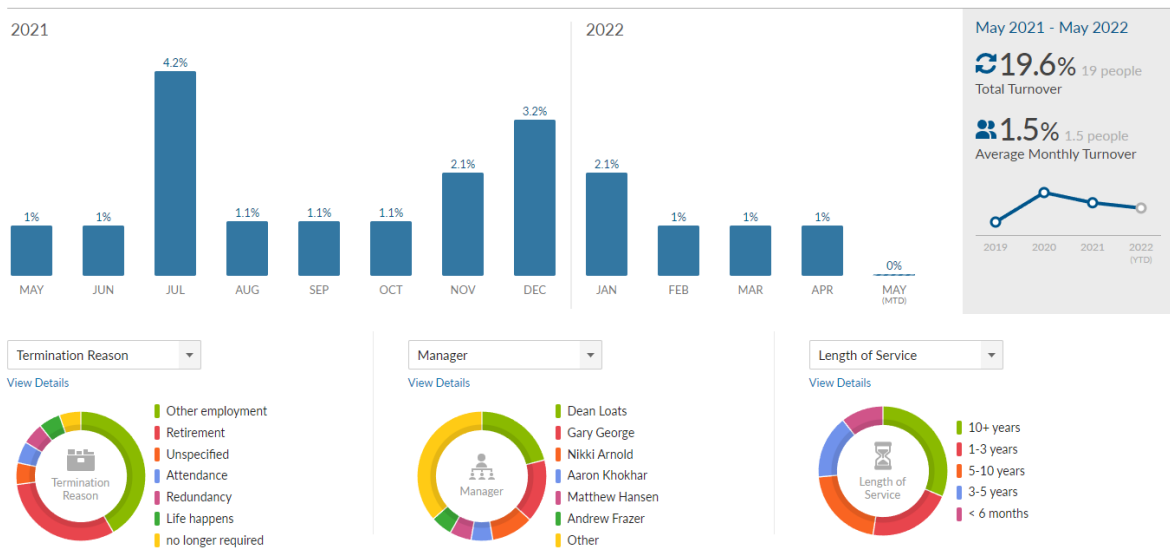
Workshop Co-ordinator

Gardner Leading Hand

Current Staff Turn Over Rate

The Turn Over rate is expressed as percentage. It is worked out by dividing the total number of leavers in a year by the average number of employees in a year, then multiplied by 100.

At a strategic level, employee retention rates of 90% or higher are considered good and what we will be aiming for. At this time, we are not achieving this goal (currently turn over is sitting at 19.6% - hence an 80.4% retention rate). A number of retirements experienced throughout the previous year (7) have inflated these numbers and a general downward trend is expected in the future.



Reasons for leaving Council’s employ include the following:

Total Leavers		20
Other Employment	8	40%
Retirement	7	35%
Termination	2	10%
Short Term Contract Ended	1	5%
Not Stated	2	10%

Current Leave Balances (all Staff)

Type	Total Hours Jan 22	Total Hours Apr 22	Percentage Change
Annual Leave	21,956.03	8,859.16	60% ↓
Long Service Leave	29,862.45	7,935.25	73% ↓

Excess Leave

17 employees currently hold excess leave with all employees having completed plans to reduce those leave balances. Excess leave currently sits at 43% of the total leave balance with 7 of those employees holding over 1,000 hours each in leave entitlements.

Absenteeism










Staff absenteeism is worked out by assessing the sick leave taken (including any leave without pay where applicable) against the hours available. The calculation indicates year to date.

A healthy absenteeism rate is 1.5%. Absence in the workplace is an occasion or period of being away from work due to physical illness, stress-related illness, mental health days or the occasional sickie (false sick day), or absence due to other reasons that are not planned leave related (such as carer's leave). High absenteeism is an indicator of negative job behaviour and should be monitored, certainly reasons for high absenteeism should be investigated.

Council's absenteeism rate is currently sitting at 1.1% which would indicate a largely satisfied employee group (though there will always be issues that need addressing to ensure corporate culture remains positive).

Indicators

At the February Strategy and Policy Workshop, the Council considered a set of Human Resource indicators shown in the table below.

Measure	Definition	April 2022	December 2021	Trend
Full Time Equivalent (FTE) employed	As written. FTE based on standard 70-hour fortnight indoor and 76-hour fortnight outdoor	88	97	
Men		69%	66%	
Women		31%	34%	
Average salary	Average <u>annualised</u> salary, excluding overtime and allowances			
Men		\$68,290	\$68,716	
Women		\$74,858	\$74,142	
Outstanding leave balance (\$000)	Balance of leave outstanding			
Annual		\$952,418	\$949,361	
Long Service Leave		\$1,218,164	\$1,213,546	
Absenteeism (hours)	Absence from work (sick, carer, compassionate etc.) over past 12 months as a percentage of total hours paid	4,876.30	5,316.75	
Overtime rate	Overtime hours worked in the previous 12 months	7,132	7,324	
Percentage of cost of the workforce	Payroll as a percentage of overall expenditure	N/A	N/A	
Turnover rate	Turnover of staff over previous 12 months	19.6%	18.7%	
Average tenure	Average length of employment for current staff	8.9 years	9.2 years	
Employee satisfaction	As measured by regular staff surveys on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest	3.7	N/A	
Time to fill vacancies	Time between creation of a vacancy and commencement of a replacement (workdays)	N/A	N/A	

8.18 CEO Leave Request

Report by: Chief Executive Officer, Karina Ewer

Strategic Outcome: 2. Good government

Strategic Objective: 2.1 Berrigan Shire 2027 objectives and strategic actions facilitate the effective governance by Council of Council operations and reporting

Recommendation: that the Council:

1. approve the CEO's Annual Leave with confirmation of dates being provided to Mayor, Matthew Hannan prior to them being taken; and
 2. approve Mathew Hansen as Acting CEO whilst Karina is on Bereavement and Annual Leave.
-

Report:

The Council is aware of my daughter-in-law's condition. At the time of writing I have been expecting a call notifying of her passing. I expect the funeral will be week commencing 16 May 2022 but towards the end of that week. This will be covered by Bereavement Leave.

My parents are also keen to travel to see us as my father is getting sick quite quickly and they are concerned travel will become increasingly difficult in the months to come. To that end I am hoping I will be able to meet them in Brisbane after my daughter-in-law's funeral and travel from Brisbane to Albury with them and then host them here for a week. That would mean the week of 23 May 2022 I would also like to be on Annual Leave.

None of these dates are set at the time of writing. I am asking Council to allow for the leave to be taken and I will confirm exact dates with Mayor Hannan once known.

I am also requesting that Matthew Hansen act in the role of CEO whilst I am on leave. Given he recently acted without higher duties for four days, I think it appropriate that he is paid for the time he is in the higher position on this occasion, particularly given the number of matters being attended to at this time.

I will be available on mobile and access my emails for emergencies should that be required.

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for my intended leave.

8.19 Berrigan Shire Strategy for the Visitor Economy 2022–2026

Report by: Manager Economic Development & Tourism, Merran Socha

Strategic Outcome: 4. Diverse and resilient business

Strategic Objective: 4.2 Diversify and promote local tourism

Recommendation: That the Council adopt the draft Strategy for the Visitor Economy 2022–2026 attached as “**Appendix 8.19-A**”.

Report:

In October 2021, in light of the business disruption that crippled the local industry during the lockdowns and border closures, the Council directed that a review of the 2019 – 2023 Tourism Strategy be undertaken.

The strategy has been renamed, in line with current terminology, The Strategy for the Visitor Economy 2022 – 2026, now in draft format, has been circulated to those who attended the engagement sessions for comment. Industry feedback has been positive and an omission was corrected so that a tourism signage audit has been added to the action plan beyond it’s noting in the local priorities section.

The document has been created using the Destination NSW Framework for local Destination Management Plans. It follows the designated headers and subject matter in sequence and should be easily recognizable as a plan created within the State Government’s recommended structure.

The Vision Statement; *Sought by a broad audience, the visitor experience reflects the big landscape, unique history, unrivaled sporting opportunities, and diverse culture of the region,* was created from a word cloud that was developed from all the “sticky notes” that came from the Visitor Economy session at the Corporate Workshop.

As decided at the Corporate Workshop, aviation tourism is mentioned specifically throughout the document as a point of difference for the LGA and an area where opportunity should be further explored.

The identification of our local priorities is also informed by the industry consultation and the Council Workshop.

8.20 Financial Review – January – March 2022

Report by: Finance Manager, Tahlia Fry

Strategic Outcome: 2. Good government

Strategic Objective: 2.1 Berrigan Shire 2027 objectives and strategic actions facilitate the effective governance by Council of Council operations and reporting

Recommendation: That the Council:

1. Note the third quarterly review of the 2021/22 budget and vote the funds contained therein as shown in **“Appendix 8.20-A”**
 2. Note the December Quarterly Budget Review Statement attached also as **“Appendix 8.20-B”**
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Report:

Circulated with the Agenda as **“Appendix 8.20-C”** is the Quarterly Financial Review for the period 1 January 2022 to 31 March 2022. This report takes into account all known factors and work variations until 31 March 2021 and later where possible, including budget allocations for the 2021/22 financial year.

The report shows distribution of funds allocated to capital works in the original 2021/22 budget allocated to the specific jobs identified in the capital works program.

It also shows any brought-forward amounts as approved in the final review of the 2021/22 budget. The variations showed in the far-right column of the report shows changes to line budgets after the effect of any brought-forward amount has been considered.

The revised budget Surplus is \$642,000.

The revised budget is attributable to a number of factors including but not limited to the deferral of capital works into the 2022/23 budget.

This is due to an increase in grant funding projects with completion deadlines putting Council capital works planned behind schedule.

The Council’s development of Lewis Crescent, Finley is now finalised with sales revenue now included in this budget, this has proven favourable for Council with the land sales predicted to be approximately \$80,000 to \$95,000 each.

Significant variations are detailed below. Variances which are unfavourable to the Council’s result are shown with a (U) next to them and variances which are favourable are denoted with a (F).

ACCOUNT & DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	F/U	BUDGET CHANGE REASONING
0015-0226 MR226 NANGUNIA ST & HUGHES ST	(33,771)	U	RMS Road Repair Project
0015-0356 MR356 BERRIGAN - OAKLANDS RD	(10,090)	U	RMS Road Repair Project
0015-0363 MR363 BERRIGAN - BAROOGA RD	(112,612)	U	RMS Road Repair Project
0015-0550 MR550 TOCUMWAL - MULWALA RD	(239,623)	U	RMS Road Repair Project
0015-0564 MR564 BERRIGAN - JERILDERIE RD	(10,157)	U	RMS Road Repair Project
1001-0346 ADMIN AUDIT FEES	(44,059)	U	2020/21 & 2021/22 Fees included
1010-0120 ADMIN STAFF TRAINING	(24,204)	U	Mental Health training and TDDA
1010-0121 CORP SERVICES - CONSULTANCY	(35,000)	U	Blackadder Recruitment
1010-0200 ADMIN LEGAL EXPENSES INCL. GST	(25,000)	U	Tocumwal Foreshore Building & Lewis Crescent
1010-0270 ASSET REVALUATION EXPENSE	(30,000)	U	APV Valuers
1010-0501 CORP SERV ADMINISTRATION SOFTWARE UPGRADE	(25,000)	U	Cloud based Software Upgrades
1011-0135 TECH SERVICES STAFF TRAINING	(25,000)	U	Additional training for new staff members
1011-0145 TECH SERVICES OFFICE EXPENSES	(15,000)	U	Map Info Subscription
1011-0146 TECH SERVICES - CONSULTANCY	(50,000)	U	Partnear
1050-0180 WAGES ACCIDENT PAY TO EMPLOYEE	(44,000)	U	Additional Workcover Claims
1214-0300 Reduce Impact Invasive Species	(60,000)	U	Bring budget into line with agreed works program
1412-0155 TIP OPERATIONS EXPENSES - BGN	(72,000)	U	Change in Collection Expenses Allocation

ACCOUNT & DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	F/U	BUDGET CHANGE REASONING
1412-0162 RECYCLABLES COLLECTION EXPENSE	86,095	F	Change in Collection Expenses Allocation
1417-0861 JERILDERIE ST NTH - BRUTON ST	10,000	F	Change of priority in works program
1417-0920 EMILY ST - LANE 960 TO FALKINER	12,000	F	Change of priority in works program
1419-0515 CEMETERY PLINTHS	(10,000)	U	Create allowance for plinths
1420-0000 PUBLIC CONVENIENCE CLEANING	(90,000)	U	Toilets reopened after partial closure - COVID
1500-7400 ANNUAL & LS LEAVE	100,000	U	Long Term retiring & resigning staff payments
1510-0601 BGN AIR SEPERATOR CONNECTION	10,000	F	Moved to 2022/23
1510-0602 FIN AIR SEPERATOR CONNECTION	10,000	F	Moved to 2022/23
1510-0605 TOC BACKWASH BYPASS LINE	30,000	F	Moved to 2022/23
1510-0669 METER CYBAL REPLACEMENT	(30,000)	U	Additional costs to finalise the remaining meter installs
1511-0232 PUMPING STATIONS OP EXP FIN	(15,000)	U	Additional pump replacements / repairs
1610-0500 SEWER RTU UPGRADES	104,000	F	Moved to 2022/23
1610-0743 UPGRADE SEWER TELEMTRY	350,000	F	Moved to 2022/23
1610-0901 NEW DRYING BED	50,000	F	Moved to 2022/23
1610-0933 TOC SEWER MAIN RELINING	300,000	F	Moved to 2022/23
1714-0511 FINLEY WAR MEMORIAL REFURB LRCIP3	(195,000)	U	New Grant Funded Project
1717-0545 FIN NETBALL COURTS LRCIP2	(34,864)	U	Reallocation of Grant Funds
1717-0555 TOC CRICKET NETS REDEVELOPMENT SCCF4	(103,023)	U	New Grant Funded Project

ACCOUNT & DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	F/U	BUDGET CHANGE REASONING
1717-0560 BGA REC RESERVE REDEVELOPMENT LRCIP3	(600,000)	U	New Grant Funded Project
1717-0565 TOC PONY CLUB FENCING SCCF4	(180,000)	U	New Grant Funded Project
1718-0500 TOC FORESHORE STAGED DEVELOP	(45,000)	U	Bifold Doors & Air Curtains
1718-0501 TOC FORESHORE AMPHITHEATRE LRCIP3	(614,000)	U	New Grant Funded Project
1905-0110 BURKINSHAW ST BGA TOWNSCAPING LRCIP3	(180,000)	U	New Grant Funded Project
1905-0500 UNGROUPED TOWN ENTRY WORKS	50,000	F	Moved to 2022/23
1910-0912 RESEAL BRUTON ST TOC	(10,406)	U	Change of priority in works program
1911-0009 RESEAL COLDWELLS RD - HILL/BAR	26,000	F	Change of priority in works program
1911-0021 RESEAL STOCK ROUTE RD	(45,501)	U	Change of priority in works program
1912-0121 FIRE BREAKS - RURAL UNSEALED R	(15,600)	U	Change of priority in works program
1912-0222 RESHEET SMITHERS ROAD LRCIP3	(200,000)	U	New Grant Funded Project
1913-0915 COBRAM ST TOCUMWAL RECONSTRUCT	31,000	F	Change of priority in works program
1913-0920 EMILY ST - LANE 960 / FALKINER	23,000	F	Change of priority in works program
1913-0931 JERILDERIE ST NTH - BRUTON ST	10,000	F	Change of priority in works program
1914-0009 COLDWELLS RD 4965 TO 5395	113,000	F	Change of priority in works program
1914-0077 BUSHFILEDS RD 00-5KM	(168,161)	U	Change of priority in works program
1914-0093 MELROSE RD 0000 TO 4948	124,000	F	Change of priority in works program
1914-0094 MELROSE RD 9637/10653	44,000	F	Change of priority in works program
1914-0109 WOOLSHED ROAD 17.0 - 18.0 FLR3	(270,000)	U	New Grant Funded Project

ACCOUNT & DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	F/U	BUDGET CHANGE REASONING
1914-0134 MCCULLOUGHES RD CULVERTS	(12,320)	U	Change of priority in works program
1916-0500 KERB & GUTTER UPLIFT LRCIP2	20,782	F	Reallocation of Grant Funds
1916-0853 HANNAH ST - CALAWAY TO EXISTIN	22,000	F	Change of priority in works program
1916-0920 EMILY ST - LANE 960 / FALKINER	59,000	F	Change of priority in works program
1917-0685 JERILDERIE STREET NORTH	60,000	F	Change of priority in works program
1917-0924 HANNAH ST - BRUTON TO HENNESSY	45,000	F	Change of priority in works program
1920-0170 TOC AERODROME OPERATING EXPENS	(35,000)	U	Change of priority in works program
1920-0502 TOC AERODROME RUNWAYS RAPII	(71,040)	U	Change of priority in works program
1924-0510 LAND ACQUISITIONS TOCUMWAL	(330,700)	U	Purchase of Land for Tocumwal Car Park
1956-1000 RTA REGIONAL ROAD REPAIR BUDGET	596,072	F	RMS Road Repair Project
1956-1018 MR363 REHAB 24.813-25.529	(130,195)	U	RMS Road Repair Project
1956-1025 MR363 REHAB PINEY	(56,150)	U	RMS Road Repair Project
2010-0000 S/DR NOXIOUS WEEDS	(12,073)	U	Recoverable Private Works
2015-0189 COBRAM & DIS FOODBANK DONATION	(10,000)	U	As per council resolution
2015-0529 FIN SUBDIVISION - LEWIS CR	(38,252)	U	Street Light Supply & Install
3550-1826 GENERAL - RENT ON COUNCIL HOUSES	27,000	F	Additional council properties
3600-1816 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION FEES - APPLI	20,000	F	Additional Applications
4110-1502 WATER CONNECTION FEES - GST FREE	10,968	F	Additional Applications
4110-1840 INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS	(94,000)	U	Lower interest rates than originally budgeted.

ACCOUNT & DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	F/U	BUDGET CHANGE REASONING
5110-1840 INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS	(214,000)	U	Lower interest rates than originally budgeted.
6200-1958 FINLEY WAR MEMORIAL REFURB LRCIP3	195,000	F	New Grant Funded Project
6500-1976 BGA REC RES REDEVELOPMENT LRCIP3	566,054	F	New Grant Funded Project
6500-1977 TOC PONY CLUB FENCE SCCF4	180,000	F	New Grant Funded Project
6500-1978 TOC CRICKET NETS REDEVELOPMENT SCCF4	103,023	F	New Grant Funded Project
6600-1970 TOC FORESHORE AMPHITHEATRE LRCIP3	614,000	F	New Grant Funded Project
7060-1952 BURKINSHAW ST BGA TOWNSCAPING LRCIP3	180,000	F	New Grant Funded Project
7100-1950 RURAL LOCAL ROADS GRANT (RLR) (FAG)	293,604	F	Increase in % of advanced payment
7100-1959 FIXING LOCAL ROADS GRANT	81,000	F	Additional Grant Funding - Project Specific
7200-1955 RESHEET SMITHERS ROAD LRCIP3	200,000	F	New Grant Funded Project
7300-1683 K&G Emily St - Lane 960 / Hennessy	(10,000)	U	Not completing this Financial Year
7500-1868 Footpath Jerilderie Street North TOC	(25,000)	U	Not completing this Financial Year
7500-1871 Footpath Hannah St - Bruton to Henne	(22,000)	U	Not completing this Financial Year
7900-1700 INTERNAL LOAN LED PROCEEDS	(550,000)	U	Moved to 2022/23
8710-1200 REAL ESTATE - GAIN ON DISPOSAL	(170,000)	U	Re-Allocated to 2022/23 & 2023/24
8850-1330 BENDIGO BANK AGENCY COMMISSIONS	12,000	F	Increase in banking totals through the agency
9200-1950 FINANCAL ASSISTANCE GRANT (FAG)	738,000	F	Increase in % of advanced payment
9400-1842 INTEREST - TERM DEPOSITS	(121,500)	U	Lower interest rates offered than originally budgeted.

ACCOUNT & DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	F/U	BUDGET CHANGE REASONING
FOOTPATHSCAPEXP FOOTPATHS CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	29,000	F	Allocated to Project Costing
LEVEECAPEXP LEVEE BANK CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	128,000	F	Allocated to Project Costing
LEVEECAPINC LEVEE BANK CAPITAL INCOME	(105,000)	U	Allocated to Project Costing
PARKSCAPEXP PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	14,000	F	Allocated to Project Costing
RURALCONSCAPEXP RURAL SEALED CONSTRUCTION CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	17,000	F	Allocated to Project Costing
URBANCONSCAPEXP URBAN ROADS CONSTRUCTION CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	95,000	F	Allocated to Project Costing
WSCAPEXP WATER SUPPLIES CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	20,000	F	Allocated to Project Costing

Quarterly Budget Review Statement

The March Quarterly Budget Review Statement is attached as “Appendix 8.20-B”.

The QBRS is designed to:

- Facilitate progress reporting against the original and revised budgets at the end of the quarter
- Provide explanations for major variations
- Enable the Responsible Accounting Officer (RAO) to indicate if the Council will be in a satisfactory financial position at the end of the financial year.

This QBRS does not make any additional changes to the Council budget over and above the changes identified in the “line-item” report above. The QBRS simply shows the budget changes in another format to arrive at the same result.

The line-item budget report, while prepared on an accrual basis, delivers a “cash” report to the Council – i.e. what is the net cash position of the Council given the budget it has adopted. It gives the Council some comfort that has sufficient cash to undertake the program of works adopted in the budget.

The line-item budget also provides the Council with a complete list of all Council job cost accounts thus ensuring transparency regarding changes to Council programs and /or cost overruns. It is possible however to lose track of the important changes in the large report.

The QBRS, on the other hand, is prepared strictly on an accrual basis and in a format that is consistent with the Annual Financial Statements. While some of the basic transparency of the line-item budget has been lost, it does allow for tracking of the Council's operating result from quarter to quarter to the end of the financial year.

Statements

The QBRS consists of six statements:

1. **Responsible Accounting Officer's statement** – This is a statement from the RAO advising the Council of her opinion regarding the Council's financial position.

If the RAO advises the Council that its financial position is not satisfactory, the RAO must provide the reasons for her concern and advice on what is required to remedy the situation.

2. **Income and Expenditure Budget Review Statement** – This is the budget equivalent of the Income Statement in the Annual Financial Statements. This report shows an updated projected operating result for the year and the effect of the proposed budget changes to the operating result.

- The first column shows the Council's original budget as reflected in the Management Plan adopted by the Council in June.
- The next five columns show budget changes previously approved by the Council. In this case, this reflects Council's works brought forward from 2020/21 and other internal adjustments.
- The Revised Budget column shows the Council's budgeted result prior the changes adopted by the Council in the December quarter review.
- The highlighted Variations this Quarter column shows the effect of the changes adopted by the Council at the review; and
- The Projected Year End Result shows the Council's current position.
- Finally, the actual YTD figures show what the Council's actual result for the quarter. As the Council raises much of its rate revenue at the start of the financial year, this will be significantly more than the projected result for the year.

The March QBRS shows the Council is estimating to return an operating **loss** before capital items for the 2021/22 year of \$407,000; a decrease from the Original estimate of a \$681,000 operating surplus.

3. **Capital Budget Review Statement** – This statement presents the Council’s budgeted capital works program.

The first half of the table shows how much the Council is proposing to spend on capital projects while the second half demonstrates how the Council is preparing to pay for them. The statement also splits Council’s expenditure into sub-categories of New Assets, Renewal Assets and Loan Repayments.

As per the Income and Expenditure Budget Review Statement, the Capital Budget Review Statement works from left to right from the original budget through the previously adopted changes through to the proposed changes and followed by the revised budget.

4. **Cash & Investments Budget Review Statement** – This statement attempts to show the movements in the Council’s cash position and cash reserves as well as duplicating some of the investment and bank reconciliation detail provided in the monthly warrant report to the Council.

Again the columns in this statement track the changes made as the year progress in the same manner as the previous two columns.

This report is in my opinion a very useful one for the Council as it allows the Council to track changes in its commitments and unrestricted cash.

5. **Key Performance Indicators Budget Review Statement** – This statement is designed to provide some simple financial indicators to give the Council a snapshot of how it is performing financially.

Unlike the earlier reports there is some freedom here for the Council to choose what indicators it would like to see included in the report. The finance team has chosen three that seem reasonably useful for the Council to track.

- Debt Service Ratio – an indicator of how much of the Council’s income is used to service its debt
- Rates & Annual Charges Coverage Ratio – an indicator of how reliant the Council is on its rates revenue
- Building and Infrastructure Renewal Ratio – an indicator of the Council’s effort in renewing its assets as they deteriorate.

The Debt Service Ratio is higher than previous years, reflecting the Council's borrowings for recent capital projects including Tocumwal Foreshore and upgrades of Water Treatment Plants.

The Rates and Annual Charges Coverage ratio is on par with last financial year, reflecting the increased grant revenue received by the Council over the past two years.

The third indicator shows that the Council's projected asset renewal ratio is 454%. This is well above the Fit for the Future benchmark of 100% for this ratio.

6. **Contracts and Other Expenses Budget Review Statement** – This statement is an attempt to provide the Council with some detail about the Council's new contractual arrangement and expenditure on consultancies and legal expenses

9. NOTICES OF MOTION / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

10. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil

11. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE / QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

12. COUNCILLOR REPORTS

12.1 Mayors Report

Recommendation: That the Mayor's Report be received.

12.2 Verbal Reports from Delegates

Recommendation: That the Council note the reports from delegates.

13. CONCLUSION OF MEETING