



G W Y D I R
SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that a **Meeting of the Community Services and Planning Committee** will be held in the Warialda Office Council Chambers, on **Thursday 13 February 2020** (commencing at **9.30am**) to discuss the items listed in the Agenda.

Your attendance is respectfully requested.

Yours faithfully,

Max Eastcott
General Manager

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GWYDIR SHIRE COUNCIL

B U S I N E S S P A P E R

AGENDA

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND PLANNING

COMMITTEE February 13, 2020

9.30am

OFFICIAL OPENING AND WELCOME – MAYOR

APOLOGIES

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday, November 14, 2019 as circulated be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

CALL FOR THE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, GIFTS RECEIVED AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

- 1. Closed Monthly Organisation and Community Development Report for December 2019 and January 2020**

It is recommended that the Council resolve into Committee of the Whole with the press and public excluded to allow consideration of this item, as provided for under Section 10A(2) (a) of the Local Government Act, 1993, on the grounds that the report contains personnel matters concerning particular individuals.

- 2. Correspondence received - Warialda Driver Reviver**

It is recommended that the Council resolve into Committee of the Whole with the press and public excluded to allow consideration of this item, as provided for under Section 10A(2) (a) of the Local Government Act, 1993, on the grounds that the report contains personnel matters concerning particular individuals.

MAYORAL MINUTE (If any)

DEFERRED ITEMS – Nil

OFFICERS' REPORTS (As listed)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – OPEN

Councillors' Reports

Item 1 Monthly Councillor Activity Statement for December 2019 and January 2020

FILE REFERENCE

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 4. Proactive Regional and Local Leadership

OUTCOME: 4.1 WE ARE AN ENGAGED & CONNECTED COMMUNITY

STRATEGY: 4.1.2 Enable broad, rich and meaningful engagement to occur - GM - external

AUTHOR General Manager

DATE 3 February 2020

The Councillors Activity schedule for December 2019 and January 2020 is outlined below:

| December 2019/January 2020 | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Councillor | Event | Date |
| Cr J Coulton (Mayor) | Naroo Christmas Party - Warialda | 2 nd Dec. |
| | JOLT (GM's group) & Namoi Roads & Transport – T.L.C Bingara | 3 rd Dec. |
| | Namoi Unlimited Board Meeting – TLC Bingara | 3 rd Dec. |
| | Namoi Unlimited Christmas Dinner – TLC Bingara | 3 rd Dec. |
| | St Joseph's School presentation night - | 5 th Dec. |
| | BCS Kindergarten to year 2 presentation – The Roxy Theatre | 11 th Dec. |
| | Rubicon meeting - Bingara | 11 th Dec. |
| | Internal Audit Committee Meeting – Bingara | 12 th Dec. |
| | Ordinary Council Meeting - Bingara | 12 th Dec. |
| | End of Year Xmas gathering – The Roxy | 12 th Dec. |
| | Warialda Public School Presentation | 13 th Dec. |
| | Warialda High School Presentation | 17 th Dec. |
| | Warialda Fire Break Investigation & Committee Meeting – Warialda | 22 nd Jan. |
| | Meeting with Peter Taylor re quarries – Warialda | 22 nd Jan. |
| | Roads of Strategic Importance (ROSI) consultation – Tamworth | 23 rd Jan. |
| Australia Day | 26 th Jan. | |

Community Services and Planning Committee - 13 February 2020 **Gwydir Shire Council**

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Cr Catherine Egan (Deputy Mayor) | Australia Day Judging - Bingara | 22 nd Jan. |
| | Australia Day Ceremony – The Roxy Theatre | 26 th Jan |
| Cr David Coulton | Namoi Unlimited Christmas Dinner – TLC Bingara | 3 rd Dec. |
| | Meeting with Suzanne Webber - Bingara | 12 th Dec. |
| | Ordinary Council Meeting - Bingara | 12 th Dec. |
| | End of Year Xmas gathering – The Roxy | 12 th Dec. |
| | Outdoor staff Xmas BBQ – Warialda | 19 th Dec. |
| | Warialda Fire Break Investigation & Committee Meeting – Warialda | 22 nd Jan. |
| | Australia Day | 26 th Jan. |
| Cr Stuart Dick | Tingha RFS Meeting | 1 st Dec. |
| | Ordinary Council Meeting – Bingara | 12 th Dec. |
| | Warialda Fire Break Investigation & Committee Meeting – Warialda | 22 nd Jan. |
| | Australia Day | 26 th Jan. |
| Cr Dixon OAM | Ordinary Council Meeting - Bingara | 12 th Dec. |
| | End of Year Xmas gathering – The Roxy | 12 th Dec. |
| | Australia Day – The Roxy Theatre | 26 th Jan. |
| Cr T Galvin | Ordinary Council Meeting - Bingara | 12 th Dec. |
| | End of Year Xmas gathering – The Roxy | 12 th Dec. |
| | Interview applicants for CEF Gwydir funding | 13 th Jan. |
| | Interview applicants for CEF Gwydir funding | 27 th Jan |
| | Interview applicants for CEF Gwydir funding | 30 th Jan |
| Cr J Moore | Namoi Unlimited Christmas Dinner – TLC Bingara | 3 rd Dec. |
| | Warialda Tourism Christmas Party – Warialda VIC | 5 th Dec. |
| | Warialda Rail Xmas Party | 7 th Dec. |
| | Gravesend Public School Presentation night | 9 th Dec. |
| | North Star Public School Presentation | 11 th Dec. |
| | Ordinary Council Meeting - Bingara | 12 th Dec. |
| | End of Year Xmas Gathering – The Roxy | 12 th Dec. |
| | Warialda Xmas Festival | 14 th Dec. |
| | Warialda High School Presentation | 17 th Dec. |
| | Warialda Fire Break Investigation & Committee Meeting – Warialda | 22 nd Dec. |
| | Australia Day | 26 th Jan. |

| | | |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| Cr G Smith | Namoi Unlimited Christmas Dinner – TLC Bingara | 3 rd Dec. |
| | Ordinary Council Meeting – Bingara | 12 th Dec. |
| | End of Year Xmas gathering – The Roxy | 12 th Dec. |
| | Croppa Creek Public School Presentation | 17 th Dec. |
| | Warialda Fire Break Investigation & Committee Meeting – Warialda | 22 nd Jan. |
| | Australia Day | 26 th Jan. |
| Cr F Young | Namoi Unlimited Board Meeting – TLC Bingara | 3 rd Dec. |
| | Namoi Unlimited Christmas Dinner – TLC - Bingara | 3 rd Dec. |
| | Ordinary Council Meeting - Bingara | 12 th Dec. |
| | End of Year Xmas gathering – The Roxy | 12 th Dec. |

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Councillor Activity Statement for December 2019 and January 2020 be received

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Item 2 Minutes of the Country Mayors' AGM and Ordinary Meeting held 1 November 2019

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 4. Proactive Regional and Local Leadership

OUTCOME: 4.1 WE ARE AN ENGAGED & CONNECTED COMMUNITY

STRATEGY: 4.1.1 Encourage an informed community - GM - external

This report recommends the notation of the attached minutes of the Country Mayors' Association of NSW's Annual General Meeting and Ordinary Meeting held on 1 November 2019.

The next Country Mayors meeting is Friday 6 March 2020 in Sydney.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the minutes of the Country Mayors' Association of NSW meeting held 1 November 2019 be received and noted

AT- Minutes AGM held 1 November 2019

AT- Minutes Ordinary meeting held 1 November 2019



Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES

Chairperson: Cr Katrina Humphries
PO Box 420 Moree NSW 2400
02 6757 3222
ABN 92 803 490 533

AGM MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 2019, THEATRETTE, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY

The meeting opened at 9.00 a.m.

1. ATTENDANCE:

Armida Regional Council, Cr Peter Bailey
Bathurst Regional Council, Cr Bobby Burke, Mayor
Bega Valley Shire Council, Cr Kristy McBain, Mayor
Bellingen Shire Council, Cr Dominic King, Mayor
Bellingen Shire Council, Ms Liz Jeremy, General Manager
Bland Shire Council, Cr Brian Monaghan, Mayor
Blayney Shire Council, Cr Scott Ferguson, Mayor
Blayney Shire Council, Ms Rebecca Ryan, General Manager
Cabonne Shire Council, Cr Kevin Beatty, Mayor
Cabonne Shire Council, Mr Brad Burns, General Manager
Coolamon Shire Council, Cr John Seymour, Mayor
Coonamble Shire Council, Cr Allan Karanouh, Mayor
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council, Cr Abb McAlister
Dubbo Regional Council, Mr Michael McMahon, CEO
Forbes Shire Council, Cr Phyllis Miller, Mayor
Forbes Shire Council, Mr Steve Loane, General Manager
Gilgandra Shire Council, Cr Ash Walker, Deputy Mayor
Gilgandra Shire Council, Mr David Neeves, General Manager
Glen Innes Shire Council, Cr Carol Sparkes, Mayor
Griffith City Council, Mr Brett Stonestreet, General Manager
Gunnedah Shire Council, Cr Jamie Chaffey, Mayor
Gunnedah Shire Council, Mr Eric Growth, General Manager
Gwydir Shire Council, Cr John Coulton, Mayor
Gwydir Shire Council, Mr Max Eastcott, General Manager
Hilltops Council, Cr Brian Ingram, Mayor
Kempsey Shire Council, Cr Liz Campbell, Mayor
Kiama Municipal Council, Cr Mark Honey, Mayor
Kyogle Council, Cr Danielle Mulholland, Mayor
Leeton Shire Council, Cr Paul Maytom, Mayor
Leeton Shire Council, Ms Jackie Kruger, General Manager
Lithgow City Council, Cr Ray Thompson, Mayor
Lithgow City Council, Mr Graeme Faulkner, General Manager

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Lockhart Shire Council, Cr Roger Schirmer, Mayor
Lockhart Shire Council, Mr Peter Veneris, General Manager
Moree Plains Shire Council, Cr Katrina Humphries, Mayor
Moree Plains Shire Council, Ms Libby Carter, Integrated Planning and Reporting
Manager
Murray River Council, Cr Christopher Bilkey, Mayor
Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Catherine Redding, Mayor
Narrabri Shire Council, Mr Stewart Todd, General Manager
Narromine Shire Council, Cr Craig Davies, Mayor
Oberon Council, Cr Kathy Sajowitz, Mayor
Oberon Council, Mr Gary Wallace, General Manager
Parkes Shire Council, Cr Ken Keith, Mayor
Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council, Mr Tim Overall, Mayor
Shellharbour City Council, Cr Marianne Saliba, Mayor
Shoalhaven City Council, Cr Amanda Findley, Mayor
Shoalhaven City Council, Mr Stephen Dunshea, CEO
Singleton Council, Cr Sue Moore, Mayor
Snowy Monaro Regional Council, Cr Peter Beer, Mayor
Snowy Monaro Regional Council, Mr Peter Bascombe, General Manager
Temora Shire Council, Cr Rick Firman, Mayor
Temora Shire Council, Mr Steve Firth, Director Administration and Finance
Tenterfield Shire Council, Cr Peter Petty, Mayor
Upper Lachlan Shire Council, Cr John Stafford, Mayor
Uralla Shire Council, Cr Michael Pearce, Mayor
Walcha Council, Cr Eric Noakes, Mayor
Walcha Council, Ms Anne Modderno, General Manager
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Cr Denis Todd, Mayor
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Mr Roger Bailey, General Manager
Wentworth Shire Council, Cr Melisa Hendrics, Mayor
Wentworth Shire Council, Mr Ken Ross, General Manager
LGNSW, President, Cr Linda Scott
LGNSW, Chief Executive, Tara McCarthy

APOLOGIES:

As read

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 2 November 2018 be accepted as a true and accurate record (Parkes Shire Council /Shell Harbour City Council).

3. Chairman's Report

RESOLVED That the Chairman's report be received and noted (Moree Plains Shire Council /Coolamon Shire Council)

4. Secretaries Report – Financial Report

RESOLVED That the financial reports for the 2018/19 year as tabled be accepted (Forbes Shire Council/ Singleton Council)

5. **Notice of Motion** (Coolamon Shire Council, Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council, Lockhart Shire Council, Temora Shire Council)
Cr Humphries vacated the Chair for this item and both Cr Humphries and Cr Pearce (Deputy Chairman) vacated the meeting room
Cr Kathy Sajowitz Executive Member chaired the meeting
Following two speakers for and two against Forbes Shire Council moved that the motion be put
CARRIED
RESOLVED That the current Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary be allowed to nominate for executive positions of the Country Mayors Association at the 2019 Annual General Meeting, as is permissible under clause 26 of the Association's Constitution (Tenterfield shire Council/Coolamon Shire Council)
- Clr Humphries and Cr Pearce returned to the meeting room and Cr Humphries resumed chair of the meeting

6. **Returning Officer**

RESOLVED That the returning Officer for the conduct of the elections be Mr Allan Burgess (Parkes Shire Council / Coolamon Shire Council)

The Chairperson Cr Katrina Humphries Vacated the chair

7. **Election of Office Bearers**

7.1 Chairperson

The Returning Officer advised that he had received two nominations in writing for Cr Katrina Humphries, Mayor, Moree Plains Shire Council, who was nominated by Narrabri Shire Council and Temora Shire Council and for Cr Peter Petty, Mayor Tenterfield Shire Council, who was nominated by Uralla Shire Council and Moree Plains Shire Council. Cr Petty withdrew his nomination. The Returning Officer called for any further nominations for the position of Chairperson. No other nominations were received. As there was only one nomination the Returning Officer declared Cr Katrina Humphries elected Chairperson for the 2019/20 year

7.2 Vice Chairperson

The Returning Officer advised that he had received three nominations in writing. Cr Michael Pearce, Mayor, Uralla Shire Council who was nominated by Narrabri Shire Council and Temora Shire Council, Cr Kathy Sajowitz, Mayor, Oberon Council, who was nominated by Tenterfield Shire Council and Moree Plains Shire Council and Cr Amanda Findley, Mayor, Shoalhaven City Council, who was nominated by Bellingen Shire Council and Glen Innes Severn Council. Cr Sajowitz withdrew her nomination. The Returning Officer called for any further nominations for the position of Vice Chairperson. No other nominations were received. As there were two nominations an election was to be held

RESOLVED That the method of election be by open voting (Shellharbour City Council/Tenterfield Shire Council)

Following the open vote the Returning Officer declared Cr Michael Pearce elected as Deputy Chairperson for the 2019/20 year

7.3 Secretary/Public Officer

RESOLVED That Mr Lester Rodgers General Manager, Moree Plains Shire Council, be appointed Secretary/Public Officer (Tenterfield Shire Council / Forbes Shire Council)

7.4 Executive

Nominations for the six positions on the Executive were called for. Nominations were received for Cr John Seymour, Coolamon Shire Council, Cr Allan Karanouh, Coonamble Shire Council, Cr Carol Sparks, Glen Innes Severn Council, Cr Liz Campbell, Kempsey Shire Council, Cr Catherine Redding, Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Kathy Sajowitz, Oberon Council, Cr Ken Keith, Parkes Shire Council, Cr Amanda Findley, Shoalhaven City Council and Cr Peter Petty, Tenterfield Shire Council

RESOLVED That the method of election be by ordinary ballot (Bellingen Shire Council/ Shoalhaven City Council)

To allow the counting of votes the AGM was adjourned at 9.39am
The AGM was resumed at 10.35am

Following the count of the votes by the Returning Officer and Cr Linda Scott, President LGNSW the Returning Officer declared the following delegates elected to the Executive for the 2019/20 year

- Cr Ken Keith, Parkes Shire Council
- Cr Peter Petty, Tenterfield Shire Council.
- Cr Kathy Sajowitz, Oberon Council
- Cr Catherine Redding, Narrabri Shire Council
- Cr Liz Campbell, Kempsey Shire Council
- Cr John Seymour, Cooloamon Shire Council

The Chairperson Cr Katrina Humphries resumed the chair

8. SETTING OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

RESOLVED That the fees for the 2019/20 year remain at \$750 for Councils with a population of 10,000 and over, and Councils with a population of less than 10,000 paying 75% \$562.50 (Singleton Council / Parkes Shire Council)

8. Secretariat

RESOLVED That Allan Burgess trading as Alkanat Consulting be appointed the Secretariat (Forbes Shire Council / Singleton Council)

9. Meeting dates for 2020

RESOLVED that the meeting dates for 2020 be 6 March, 29 May, 7 August and 6 November (Kyogle Council / Temora Shire Council)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.40 am.

Cr Katrina Humphries
Chair – Country Mayor's Association of NSW



Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES

Chairperson: Cr Katrina Humphries
PO Box 420 Moree NSW 2400
02 6757 3222
ABN 92 803 490 533

MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 2019 THEATRETTE, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY

The meeting opened at 9.40 a.m.

1. ATTENDANCE:

Armidale Regional Council, Cr Peter Bailey
Bathurst Regional Council, Cr Bobby Burke, Mayor
Bega Valley Shire Council, Cr Kristy McBain, Mayor
Bellingen Shire Council, Cr Dominic King, Mayor
Bellingen Shire Council, Ms Liz Jeremy, General Manager
Bland Shire Council, Cr Brian Monaghan, Mayor
Blayney Shire Council, Cr Scott Ferguson, Mayor
Blayney Shire Council, Ms Rebecca Ryan, General Manager
Cabonne Shire Council, Cr Kevin Beatty, Mayor
Cabonne Shire Council, Mr Brad Burns, General Manager
Coolamon Shire Council, Cr John Seymour, Mayor
Coonamble Shire Council, Cr Allan Karanouh, Mayor
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council, Cr Abb McAlister
Dubbo Regional Council, Mr Michael McMahon, CEO
Forbes Shire Council, Cr Phyllis Miller, Mayor
Forbes Shire Council, Mr Steve Loane, General Manager
Gilgandra Shire Council, Cr Ash Walker, Deputy Mayor
Gilgandra Shire Council, Mr David Neeves, General Manager
Glen Innes Shire Council, Cr Carol Sparkes, Mayor
Griffith City Council, Mr Brett Stonestreet, General Manager
Gunnedah Shire Council, Cr Jamie Chaffey, Mayor
Gunnedah Shire Council, Mr Eric Growth, General Manager
Gwydir Shire Council, Cr John Coulton, Mayor
Gwydir Shire Council, Mr Max Eastcott, General Manager
Hilltops Council, Cr Brian Ingram, Mayor
Kempsey Shire Council, Cr Liz Campbell, Mayor
Kiama Municipal Council, Cr Mark Honey, Mayor
Kyogle Council, Cr Danielle Mulholland, Mayor
Leeton Shire Council, Cr Paul Maytom, Mayor

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Leeton Shire Council, Ms Jackie Kruger, General Manager
Lithgow City Council, Cr Ray Thompson, Mayor
Lithgow City Council, Mr Graeme Faulkner, General Manager
Lockhart Shire Council, Cr Roger Schirmer, Mayor
Lockhart Shire Council, Mr Peter Veneris, General Manager
Moree Plains Shire Council, Cr Katrina Humphries, Mayor
Moree Plains Shire Council, Ms Libby Carter, Integrated Planning and Reporting
Manager
Murray River Council, Cr Christopher Bilkey, Mayor
Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Catherine Redding, Mayor
Narrabri Shire Council, Mr Stewart Todd, General Manager
Narromine Shire Council, Cr Craig Davies, Mayor
Oberon Council, Cr Kathy Sajowitz, Mayor
Oberon Council, Mr Gary Wallace, General Manager
Parkes Shire Council, Cr Ken Keith, Mayor
Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council, Mr Tim Overall, Mayor
Shellharbour City Council, Cr Marianne Saliba, Mayor
Shoalhaven City Council, Cr Amanda Findley, Mayor
Shoalhaven City Council, Mr Stephen Dunshea, CEO
Singleton Council, Cr Sue Moore, Mayor
Snowy Monaro Regional Council, Cr Peter Beer, Mayor
Snowy Monaro Regional Council, Mr Peter Bascombe, General Manager
Temora Shire Council, Cr Rick Firman, Mayor
Temora Shire Council, Mr Steve Firth, Director Administration and Finance
Tenterfield Shire Council, Cr Peter Petty, Mayor
Upper Lachlan Shire Council, Cr John Stafford, Mayor
Uralla Shire Council, Cr Michael Pearce, Mayor
Walcha Council, Cr Eric Noakes, Mayor
Walcha Council, Ms Anne Modderno, General Manager
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Cr Denis Todd, Mayor
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Mr Roger Bailey, General Manager
Wentworth Shire Council, Cr Melisa Hendrics, Mayor
Wentworth Shire Council, Mr Ken Ross, General Manager
LGNSW, President, Cr Linda Scott
LGNSW, Chief Executive, Tara McCarthy

APOLOGIES:

As submitted

SPECIAL GUESTS:

Mr Rob Rogers AFSM, Deputy Commissioner, NSW Rural Fire Service, and Mr Cory Shackleton, Director Community Resilience, NSW Rural Fire Service
Mr Matt Fuller, Acting Deputy Secretary, Regional and Outer Metropolitan, Transport for NSW and Peter Ryan, Senior Manager, Major Property Development and Corporate Real Estate, Corporate Services, Transport for NSW
Mr Gary White, Chief Planner, Planning, Industry and Environment

2. Mr Rob Rogers AFSM, Deputy Commissioner, NSW Rural Fire Service and Mr Cory Shackleton, Director Community Resilience, NSW Rural Fire Service

So far this season there has been 5,350 bush and grass fires across the state since 1 July with 494,028 hectares burnt with 23 fires reaching Emergency Warning level and 33 fires reaching Watch and Act level. There have been 801 aircraft taskings across the state and 2.373 million litres of retardant dropped. 6,003 out of area personnel have been deployed and 594 interstate personnel deployed. 420 houses, buildings or facilities have been destroyed and 216 damaged. Lack of water is affecting some aerial fire fighting operations particularly helicopter bucketing. To assist landholders a Special Fire Permit will be available this season to assist with the disposal of livestock. Legislative changes since 2002 have resulted in greater emphasis on bush fire protection in the development approval process and bushfire land maps guidelines released. A bush fire prone area is designated under legislation. There are three categories of Bush Fire Prone Land in NSW with buffer zones ranging from 30 metres to 100 metres. If a bush fire risk management plan applies to a council area, council must request the NSW RFS Commissioner to designate land considered to be bush fire prone. A revised 2019 PBP will be published shortly and adopted by legislation in early 2020. Grassland deeming provisions introduced through PBP 2019 are
59m APZ – No bushfire protection measures
20m APZ – BAL 12.5 – Apply other BPM's
Less than 20m APZ – Full site assessment – Determine BAL – Apply other BPM's

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the General Meeting held on 2 August 2019 be accepted as a true and accurate record (Kyogle Council / Uralla Shire Council).

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Waste Levy Taskforce

That it be noted that the Waste Levy Taskforce supports motion 3 LGNSW conference Waste and Recycling

Prioritisation of Electricity Grid Connections

RESOLVED That Minister Kean be asked for clarification and answers on how prioritisation of electricity grid connections are to be achieved (Bellingen Shire Council/ Glen Innes Severn Council)

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Outward

- (a) Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW, thanking him for his presentation to the 2 August meeting
- (b) Hon Mark Coulton MP, Minister for Regional Services, Decentralisation and Local Government, Assistant Trade and Investment Minister, thanking him for his presentation to the 2 August meeting

- (c) Geoff McKechnie APM, Assistant Commissioner, Commander, Western Region NSW Police Force, thanking him for his presentation to the 2 August meeting
- (d) Mr Richard Colbran, Chief Executive Officer, NSW Rural Doctors Network, thanking him for his presentation to the 2 August meeting
- (e) The Hon Shelley Hancock MP, Minister for Local Government, regarding the \$50 limit on gifts under the Model Code of Conduct
- (f) Cr Linda Scott, President, Local Government NSW, advising that Country Mayors supports the removal of the minimum per capita amount grant under the Local Govt Financial Assistance Act 1995
- (g) Executive Officer, Local Government Grants Commission, advising that Country Mayors supports the removal of the minimum per capita amount grant under the Local Govt Financial Assistance Act 1995
- (h) Mr John Cleland, Chief Executive Officer, Essential Energy, expressing opposition to the announced 182 job cuts in regional NSW
- (i) The Hon Shelley Hancock MP, Minister for Local Government, forwarding copies of letters sent to the Premier and the Minister for Police and Emergency Services opposing RFS increased contributions
- (j) Cr Linda Scott, President, local Government NSW, forwarding copies of letters sent to the Premier and the Minister for Police and Emergency Services opposing RFS increased contributions
- (k) The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP, Premier, requesting a reply to our letter opposing the RFS increases to take affect from the 2019-2020 year
- (l) The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP, Premier, requesting that Benefit Cost Ratio analysis be removed for funding programs
- (m) Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal, advising that the Association does not support the funding hierarchy recommended by IPART's review of Local Government Costs

Inward

- (a) Hon Shelley Hancock MP, Minister for Local Government, regarding a Waste Levy Taskforce
- (b) Bruce Miller, Chair of Board, Local Government Super, regarding the Defined Benefits Scheme
- (c) Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP, Premier, regarding the Emergency Services Levy
- (d) Andrew Lewis, Executive Director, Energy Strategy, Planning, Industry and Environment regarding prioritization of electricity grid connections at substations
- (e) Hon Shelley Hancock MP, Minister for Local Government, regarding acceptance of gifts and benefits under the Model Code of Conduct
- (f) Hon Minister Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional NSW, Minister for Industry and Trade regarding royalties for regions
- (g) Essential Energy regarding workforce reshaping
- (h) Melanie Gibbons, MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Families, Disability, and Emergency Services, regarding the Emergency Services Levy for 2019-20
- (i) Essential Energy regarding proposed workforce reductions

NOTED

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

RESOLVED That the financial reports for the last quarter were tabled and accepted (Bathurst Regional Council / Parkes Shire Council)

7. Mr Matt Fuller, Acting Deputy Secretary, Regional and Outer Metropolitan, Transport for NSW and Peter Ryan, Senior Manager, Major property Development and Corporate Real Estate, Corporate Services, Transport for NSW

There is a 10 year blueprint and long term vision "Future Transport 2056". The vision comprises Core Values, Strategic Priorities, Those We Create Value For, and Primary Outcomes. Strategic priorities include Working in Partnership, Data Driven Decision Making, Technology and Innovation, Financial Sustainability, Place Based Integrated Service Design, Enabling the Mobility Ecosystem and Evolution at Work. They are looking at connecting regions in different ways. The Transport Department has been reorganized with a regional focus with divisions of Customer Strategy and Technology, Greater Sydney and Regional and Outer Metropolitan under the Secretary Transport for NSW. Regional and Outer metropolitan Division has 4,100 employees and a budget of \$10.9 billion. Regional NSW is a test bed for NSW for new and innovative transport options including new intercity and regional rail fleets and working towards zero with road safety.

8. Mr Gary White, Chief Planner, Planning, Industry and Environment

Planning for the future must start with an understanding of the context for which we are planning. We are consuming more than twice what we can sustain. Government policy will play an important role in developing new ways. As populations grow wealthier demand will rise for services and experiences. To maximise the opportunities to take Australia forward towards 2060 the CSIRO have identified Industry, Urban, Energy, Land and Culture. The NSW Government is committed to improving the planning systems through reforms to the EPA Act and a comprehensive regional planning framework. The planning system in NSW is becoming more strategic focused and outcomes orientated. Strategic planning is future orientated and presents a narrative or set of circumstances for the future. Rules for developing ought to be rational, they ought to be simple, they should be prohibitive and prescriptive and they should be stable. The rules should be calibrated at the most appropriate assessment level from strategic planning, planning delivery platforms, infrastructure delivery and projects and DA's. An overarching local strategic plan will include Land Use Vision, a Succinct Planning Context, Planning Priorities, and a Monitoring and Reporting Program. A competent planning system relies on political will, competent professionals, good data and monitoring, appropriate capacity and resources, shared responsibilities across government and evidence based policy and good legislative framework

9. IPART Review of Reporting and Compliance

Deferred to next meeting

10. Additional Land for National Parks

Cr Sajowitz, Oberon Council brought to members attention the letter all councils would have received from Minister Matt Kean dated 2 October, regarding increasing the size of the National Park system by 200,000 hectares, and seeking councils advice on land acquisition proposals, and suggesting that all concerned councils should respond to the letter

11. Crown Land Review

RESOLVED That the Country Mayors Association write to the Minister for Lands requesting information on the progress of the Crown Lands Review and the next steps to be taken and requesting that Councils that are impacted by the review be notified immediately and the Minister be invited to the next meeting of Country Mayors to be held in March 2020 (Orange City Council/Hilltops Council)

12. Murray Darling Basin Plan

The Country Mayors association to organize a meeting on the afternoon of 6 March 2020 following the Country Mayors meeting with invitations being extended to Minister for Water, Water NSW, and Commonwealth Water Environmental Holder and others

13. Disaster Hardship Provisions

RESOLVED That Country Mayors write to the Minister for Environment, the Honourable Matt Kean, and the CEO of Essential Energy, asking them to review the hardship provisions in terms of bushfire and other disaster affected properties, to ensure continuity of service to rural communities and easing the related infrastructure-replacement financial burden on residents affected by disaster. and a copy of the letter be forwarded to members and the Insurance Council (Kyogle Council/Tenterfield Shire Council)

14. FAG Grants Guest Speaker

Chair of NSW Grants Commission, and Tim Hurst Office of Local Government be invited to a future meeting to discuss Minister Coultons remarks regarding FAG grants

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.50pm.

Cr Katrina Humphries
Chair – Country Mayor's Association of NSW

Item 3 National General Assembly - call for Notices of Motion

FILE REFERENCE

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 4. Proactive Regional and Local Leadership

OUTCOME: 4.1 WE ARE AN ENGAGED & CONNECTED COMMUNITY

STRATEGY: 4.2.2 Work in partnership to plan for the future - GM - external

AUTHOR General Manager

DATE 20 January 2020

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly (NGA) is being held in Canberra between 14 and 17 June 2020.

This report recommends the attendance of the Mayor, General Manager and any other Councillor who wishes to attend the Assembly.

The theme for the 2020 NGA is 'Working Together for our Communities'. A discussion paper is attached. The program has not been released to date however should be available to be tabled at the February meeting.

Councillors have been requested to consider any specific Notices of Motion for the Assembly that conform to the attached criteria for Council to discuss at this meeting.

Submissions close 27 March 2020.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received

FURTHER that the attendance of the Mayor, General Manager and any other Councillor who wishes to attend the ALGA National General Assembly is authorised.

ATTACHMENTS

AT- NGA Discussion Paper and Criteria



4 December 2019

Gwydir Shire Council
Locked Bag 5
BINGARA NSW 2404

RECEIVED
10 DEC 2019

Gwydir Shire Council

Dear Mayor, Councillors and CEO (please distribute accordingly)

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is now calling for Notices of Motions for National General Assembly 2020 (NGA).

The NGA provides a platform for Local Government to address national issues and advocate to the federal government on critical issues facing our sector.

The theme for the 2020 NGA is 'Working Together for our Communities'. This theme acknowledges the need to come together and with other partners, including the Federal Government, to deliver for our communities.

ALGA received significant feedback on the motions process and topics from the 2018 and 2019 NGA. In response to the feedback received, ALGA has prepared a discussion paper that explores data that identifies critical areas local government needs to consider now and into the future.

To inform the submission of motions, please read the discussion paper (included with this letter) and ensure motions meet the identified criteria.

To be eligible for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers, and subsequent debate on the floor of the NGA, motions must meet the following criteria:

1. be relevant to the work of local government nationally;
2. be consistent with the themes of the NGA;
3. complement or build on the policy objectives of your state and territory local government association;
4. be from a council which is a financial member of their state or territory local government association;
5. propose a clear action and outcome; and
6. not be advanced on behalf of external third parties that may seek to use the NGA to apply pressure to Board members or to gain national political exposure for positions that are not directly relevant to the work of, or in the national interests of, local government.

All motions require, among other things, a contact officer, a clear national objective, a summary of the key arguments in support of the motion, and endorsement of your council. Motions should be lodged online at alga.asn.au no later than 11:59pm on Friday 27 March 2020.

Any administrative inquiries can be directed to ALGA by calling 02 6122 9400.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adrian Beresford-Wylie".

Adrian Beresford-Wylie
ALGA CEO

**WORKING
TOGETHER
FOR
OUR
COMMUNITIES
NGA20**

Call for Motions
Discussion Paper 2020

14-17 June 2020
National Convention Centre Caberra

nga20.com.au



KEY DATES

18 November 2019

Opening of Call for Motions

27 March 2020

Acceptance of motions close

14 - 17 June 2020

National General Assembly

To submit your motion go to:

alga.asn.au/nga20-motions/

SUBMITTING MOTIONS

The National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA) is an important opportunity for you and your council to influence the national policy agenda.

To assist you to identify motions that address the theme of the 2020 NGA – Working Together for Our Communities, the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Secretariat has prepared this short discussion paper. You are encouraged to read all the sections of the paper but are not expected to respond to every question. Your motion/s can address one or more of the issues identified in the discussion paper.

Remember that the focus of the NGA is on partnerships and working together so your questions could focus on how Local Governments can work in partnership with the Australian Government to address the challenges our communities face, or the opportunities that are arising as we approach the crossroads before us.

Criteria for motions

To be eligible for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers, and subsequent debate on the floor of the NGA, motions must meet the following criteria:

1. be relevant to the work of local government nationally
2. not be focussed on a specific location or region – unless the project has national implications. You will be asked to justify why your motion has strategic importance and should be discussed at a national conference
3. be consistent with the themes of the NGA
4. complement or build on the policy objectives of your state and territory local government association
5. be submitted by a council which is a financial member of their state or territory local government association
6. propose a clear action and outcome i.e. call on the Australian Government to do something
7. not be advanced on behalf of external third parties that may seek to use the NGA to apply pressure to Board members, or to gain national political exposure for positions that are not directly relevant to the work of, or in the national interests of, local government.

OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER

Motions should generally be in a form that seeks the NGA's support for a particular action or policy change at the Federal level which will assist local governments to meet local community needs. Motions should commence as follows - This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to

e.g. This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to restore funding for local government Financial Assistance Grants to a level equal to at least 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue.

In order to ensure efficient and effective debate where there are numerous motions on a similar issue, the ALGA Board NGA Subcommittee will group the motions together under an overarching strategic motion. The strategic motions have either been drafted by ALGA or are based on a motion submitted by a council which best summarises the subject matter. Debate will focus on the strategic motions. Associated sub-motions will be debated by exception only.

Motions should be lodged electronically using the online form available on the NGA website at: www.alga.asn.au. All motions require, among other things, a contact officer, a clear national objective, a summary of the key arguments in support of the motion, and endorsement of your council. **Motions should be received no later than 11:59pm AEST on Friday 27 March 2020.**

Please note that for every motion it is important to complete the background section on the form. Submitters of motions should not assume knowledge. The background section helps all delegates, including those with no previous knowledge of the issue, in their consideration of the motion.

All motions submitted will be reviewed by the ALGA Board's NGA Sub-Committee, as well as by state and territory local government associations to determine their eligibility for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers. When reviewing motions, the Sub-Committee considers the importance and relevance of the issue to local government.

Please note that motions should not be prescriptive in directing how the matter should be pursued. With the agreement of the relevant council, motions may be edited before inclusion in the NGA Business Papers to ensure consistency. If there are any questions about the substance or intent of a motion, ALGA will raise these with the nominated contact officer.

Any motion deemed to be primarily concerned with local or state issues will be referred to the relevant state or territory local government association and will not be included in the NGA Business Papers.

There is an expectation that any Council that submits a motion will be present at the National General Assembly to move and speak to the motion.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this discussion paper is to provide guidance to councils developing Motions for Debate at the 2020 National General Assembly (NGA). This NGA will focus on working together for our communities and how local governments can achieve success through partnerships. It will consider how strategic partnerships can assist councils to address the challenges and opportunities we are facing today and tomorrow.

Some of the challenges and opportunities facing Australia were outlined in the CSIRO's Australian National Outlook 2019. Many of the challenges have direct implications for local governments and the communities they represent and provide services for. These challenges can also be opportunities that, if seized and managed appropriately, can ensure that our councils and communities thrive. This will require long-term planning, significant effort, and a cultural shift that will rebuild trust in institutions and all tiers of government, encourage healthy risk taking, and incorporate environmental and social outcomes in decision-making.

Collaboration and partnerships across sectors and with a diverse range of organisations will be vital to develop and implement solutions to the challenges ahead and to seizing the opportunities that emerge.

The National Outlook

The Australia National Outlook 2019 released by the CSIRO¹ revealed that Australia is at a crossroads. The research highlighted that we need to think and act differently if we are to ensure a bright future where GDP per capita could be as much as 36% higher in 2060 and growth is environmentally sustainable and inclusive. Failure to adequately address the significant economic, environmental and social challenges identified would result in a slow decline.

The CSIRO identified six important challenges that are already taking hold or on the horizon:

- **The rise of Asia** – The development boom in China that fuelled strong demand for Australian commodities (particularly resource and energy exports) is tapering off as China transitions to a new phase of growth fuelled by domestic consumption and services. However, growth in Asia could also create significant opportunities for Australia. By 2030, the Asia-Pacific region is set to consume more than half of the world's food, 40% of its energy, and be home to an estimated 65% of the world's middle class, resulting in increased demand for Australia's quality produce and service exports including tourism, education, health and aged care services, entertainment and financial and professional services.

How can local government position its communities to reap the benefits of the rise of the Asian middle class and manage any impacts? What partnerships are important?

- **Technological change** – New disruptive technologies are transforming industries and the way people live, work, and interact with each other. They are also changing the skills that will be needed in the workforce of the future. In the face of declining academic results Australia faces difficulties in ensuring that the workforce is prepared for the jobs of the future. With adaptation strategies in place embracing technology can have a net positive outlook for jobs.

What are the pre-requisites for commitments to take advantage of technological change?

What adaptation strategies are required at a local level to ensure councils and local communities are ready for the jobs of the future? What partnerships may be required?

- **Climate change and environment** – a broad range of impacts will be experienced in Australia as a result of global climate change, the severity of which will depend on the effectiveness of global emission reductions and local adaptation. The impacts include more extremely high temperatures and few extremely low temperatures, less rainfall and more droughts in southern Australia, less snow, more intense rainfall and fire weather, and fewer but stronger cyclones, and sea level rise. These changes will increase stress on Australia's ecosystems that are already threatened, and significantly affect agriculture, forestry, fisheries, transport, health, tourism, finance and disaster risk management. It is possible to strive towards zero emissions through a range of actions that target key sectors including energy, land use, urban infrastructure and industrial systems.

How do we work together to ensure that there is local adaptation to climate change and climate extremes? What partnerships are available to achieve zero emissions?

- **Demographics** – Australia's population is estimated to reach 41 million by 2060. This increase will be accompanied by an ageing of the population resulting in a reduction in the proportion of working age people from 66% in 2018 to an estimated 60% in 2060. This will impact economic output and infrastructure requirements and place pressure on government budgets. The impacts of population growth are likely to be felt most strongly in urban environments, with Sydney and Melbourne projected to be home to 8-9 million people and Brisbane and Perth increasing to 4-5 million people. If density does not increase, more and more people will be distanced from jobs, higher education, health services and transport.

What partnerships and forward planning are required to manage the impact of population growth in urban areas? How do regional and rural areas work in partnership to realise the benefit of population growth?

- **Trust** – Trust in institutions including governments, businesses, non-government organisations and the media has declined significantly since 1993 when 42% trusted government compared with just 26% in 2016. The loss of trust threatens the social licence to operate for Australia's institutions, restricting their ability to enact long term strategies.

How can local governments utilise partnerships to strengthen our social licence to operate?

- **Social cohesion** – like trust, social cohesion has declined falling from a baseline of 100 in 2007 to 88.5 in 2017, according to the Scanlon Foundation Index. This index considers survey respondents' sense of belonging and worth, social justice and equity, political participation and attitudes towards minorities and newcomers. The drivers of social cohesion are not fully understood but the following factors may all play a role: issues related to trust; financial stress, slow wage growth; poor housing affordability and its disproportionate affect on low income earners; and the rise of inequity.

How can local governments work in partnership with their communities and others to build and maintain social cohesion?

If Australia tackles these six challenges head on using a collaborative approach, we can achieve a bright future as a nation. However, there are five major shifts or changes that must occur. Each of these shifts have several “levers” that support their attainment. Local government has a role in some of the levers.

- An industry shift to enable a productive, inclusive and resilient economy with new strengths in both the domestic and export sectors
 - Increase the adoption of technology to boost productivity in existing industries that have historically supported Australia’s growth, as well as new industries.
 - Invest in skills to ensure a globally competitive workforce that is prepared for technology-enabled jobs of the future.
 - Develop export-facing growth industries that draw on Australia’s strengths and build competitive advantage in global markets and value chains.

What can be achieved through partnerships that can address the gap between regions that are struggling and those that are well-off?

- An urban shift to enable well-connected, affordable cities that offer more equal access to quality jobs, lifestyle amenities, education and other services.
 - Plan for higher-density, multicentre and well-connected capital cities to reduce urban sprawl and congestion.
 - Create mixed land use zones with diverse high-quality housing options to bring people closer to jobs, services and amenities.
 - Invest in transportation infrastructure, including mass-transit, autonomous vehicles and active transit, such as walking and cycling.

Rural communities are essential to Australia’s wellbeing. What is required to ensure equitable access to quality jobs, lifestyle amenities, education and other services? What role do partnerships have to play in this?

Local governments are vital partners in achieving the urban shift? What needs to be brought to the partnerships by other parties? What policies need to be developed or changed?

- An ENERGY shift to manage Australia’s transition to a reliable, affordable, low-emissions energy economy that builds on Australia’s existing sources of comparative advantage.
 - Manage the transition to renewable sources of electricity, which will be driven by declining technology costs for generation, storage and grid support.
 - Improve energy productivity using available technologies to reduce household and industrial energy use.
 - Develop new low-emissions energy exports, such as hydrogen and high-voltage direct current power.



What role do local governments play in the energy shift? How will local governments and communities benefit?

- A LAND shift to create a profitable and sustainable mosaic of food, fibre and fuel production, carbon sequestration and biodiversity.
 - Invest in food and fibre productivity by harnessing digital and genomic technology, as well as using natural assets more efficiently.
 - Participate in new agricultural and environmental markets, such as carbon forestry, to capitalise on Australia's unique opportunities in global carbon markets.
 - Maintain, restore and invest in biodiversity and ecosystem health, which will be necessary to achieve increased productivity.

How can rural and regional communities' benefit from the land shift? What partnerships are required to achieve this shift?

- A CULTURE shift to encourage more engagement, curiosity, collaboration and solutions, and should be supported by inclusive civic and political institutions.
 - Rebuild trust and respect in Australia's political, business and social institutions.
 - Encourage a healthy culture of risk taking, curiosity and an acceptance of fear of failure to support entrepreneurship and innovation.
 - Recognise and include social and environmental outcomes in decision-making processes.

How can local governments build partnerships with their local communities that also benefit the nation as a whole?

How can local governments work in partnership with the Australian Government and other key stakeholders to achieve these shifts and other significant policy challenges?

Can a partnership approach address the current infrastructure backlog and ensure that infrastructure (including transport infrastructure) is available and fit for the future?

Trust

To effectively implement the scale of change and reform that will be required for the growing Australian population, government needs to focus on rebuilding trust. According to the *Edelman Trust Barometer*², trust in government around the world fell to record lows in 2018. While modest increases were reported in the 2019 study including in Australia, citizens around the world are struggling to trust that their governments are working in their best interest.

The 2018 report *Trust and Democracy in Australia: Democratic decline and renewal*³ revealed that Members of the Australian Parliament (MPs) in general are distrusted by nearly half the population (48 per cent) with only one in five (21 per cent) are willing to express that they trust them "a little bit". For State MPs and local councillors, the figure is slightly better with 31 % and 29 % respectively indicating they "trust them a little bit". Table 1 details the level of trust in different generations.

| | Generation Z (1995-present) | Millennials (1980-94) | Generation X (1965-79) | Baby Boomers (1946-64) | Builders (1925-45) |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| State/Territory Government | 38.5% | 40.0% | 26.7% | 35.7% | 44.1% |
| Federal Government | 39.5% | 31.5% | 21.5% | 30.8% | 39.2% |
| Political parties | 26.9% | 15.6% | 12.2% | 16.7% | 15.7% |
| Local Government | 66.5% | 47.1% | 33.6% | 47.5% | 54.9% |
| Government ministers | 27.5% | 24.5% | 15.7% | 24.3% | 31.1% |
| MPs in general | 26.9% | 23.2% | 16.1% | 20.2% | 22.3% |
| Local Councillors | 33.8% | 31.7% | 24.7% | 27.2% | 33.3% |
| Public Servants | 45.4% | 40.4% | 34.4% | 39.4% | 35.9% |
| Your local MP | 29.2% | 30.5% | 27.5% | 31.2% | 39.8% |

Table 1: Levels of political trust in different generations (source: Stoker et al 2018)

The report revealed that one thing that appears to unite most Australians is complaining about their politicians with the three biggest grievances being:

- politicians are not accountable for broken promises;
- that they don't deal with the issues that really matter; and
- that big business/trade unions have too much power.

Professor Ken Smith, the Dean and CEO of the Australia and New Zealand School of Government (ANZSOG), is intent on understanding the factors that drive distrust in government and developing innovative ways to counter some of these trends. He has highlighted⁴ that people look at central government and see bureaucrats far removed from their own local circumstances. In Australia, where people live in very varied conditions, it is crucial for policymaking to be based in local realities. Yet locally-based solutions have not been the method of choice so far in Australian politics. The answer, according to Professor Smith, is devolved government, or subsidiarity where “policies are driven by and tailored to the needs of the local community – to avoid the problem of service provision that completely misses the mark”.

Some commentary suggests that declining trust and confidence is driven by a perceived failure of our institutions to uphold promises and deliver outcomes. Research undertaken for *Trust and Democracy in Australia: Democratic decline and renewal*⁵ revealed a significant appetite for reform including the co-design of policies with ordinary Australians, citizen juries, to solve complex problems that parliament can't fix, and reforms aimed at creating a stronger community or local focus to decision-making.

The Review into the Australian Public Service (APS) had a focus on delivering local solutions⁶ not only in terms of place-based policy making but also by paying attention to communities (often specific communities determined by interest or identity). The review found that there is currently no guiding set of administrative principles or coordinated holistic architecture either within the APS or across the APS and other levels of government to fully support and enable local delivery solutions.

The report⁷ went on “evidence suggest the need for increasing localised solutions in genuine partnership with communities to achieve best social, economic and environmental outcomes. Top down policy making is no longer sufficient alone to deal with community expectations or the complexity of challenges faced in community settings. Communities themselves need to be part of the solutions, right from problem conception to design, implementation and evaluation”. “There are opportunities for the APS to get closer to the communities it services directly and indirectly (through effective partnerships with other levels of government and civil society”.

How can local governments address the trust deficit with their local communities and assist the Australian Government to do the same?

How can the Australian Government and local governments maximise the strengths and abilities of the public service (including council staff) and deliver in partnership for our communities?

How can we draw on the strengths and resourcefulness of local governments and local communities to work in partnership with the Australian Government to tackle issues of national significance and lift key economic and social indicators?

What do local governments bring to the table to tackle issues of national significance?

REFERENCES

PAGE 4

1. CSIRO (2019) Australian National Outlook 2019 Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation

PAGE 7

2. Edelman (2019) 2019 Edelman Trust Barometer Global Report
<https://www.edelman.com.au/research/trust-barometer-2019>

3. Stoker, G; Evans, M and Halupka, M (2018) Trust and Democracy in Australia: Democratic decline and renewal. Report No.1 Democracy 2025 Canberra

PAGE 8

4. Centre for Public Impact (2019) Subsidiarity, leadership and an empowered public service: keys to rebuilding trust in government. <https://www.themandarin.com.au/98763-subsidiarity-leadership-and-an-empowered-public-service-keys-to-rebuilding-trust-in-government/>

5. Stoker, G; Evans, M and Halupka, M (2018) Trust and Democracy in Australia: Democratic Decline and Renewal. Report No.1 Democracy 2025 Canberra

6. Althaus, C and McGregor C (2019) Ensuring a world-class Australian Public Service: delivering local solutions. An ANZSOG research paper for the Australian Public Service Review Panel Australian & New Zealand School of Government ANZSOG.EDU.AU

7. Ibid.



Item 4 Correspondence - Warialda District Chamber - Submission - Council's Financial Statements as at 30 June 2019

FILE REFERENCE

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 4. Proactive Regional and Local Leadership

OUTCOME: 4.1 WE ARE AN ENGAGED & CONNECTED COMMUNITY

STRATEGY: 4.1.2 Enable broad, rich and meaningful engagement to occur - GM - external

AUTHOR General Manager

DATE 20 January 2020

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

The attached submission to the Council's 2018/19 Financial Statements was received after the Council Meeting that considered the Auditor's report and is now tabled for the information of Councillors.

Council's Financial Manager provided the following comments:

While Council did not meet its budgets' operating result, please bear in mind these budgets are compiled in May of the prior year and when expected funding has been promised but not yet received it can distort budgets greatly when there is a definitive cut-off time for transactions to be included. It should be noted that in the areas where Council has some discretion as to how much revenue it can generate – User Charges and Fees, Interest and Investment Income and Other Revenues, these have all exceeded the projected budget for the 2019 Financial Year.

The same is true on the expenditure side where Council can have an impact on the values. Employee expenses, materials and contracts, and other expenses were all less than expected budgets which I believe shows that Council is continuously trying to improve its position. It is also worth noting that from a Cash position, Council was \$200k above what was budgeted for at year end.

With the large amounts of funding being made available to Council, it will be extremely difficult to meet a positive Net Operating Result not including grants and contributions. I believe it would be remiss of Council not to utilise these grants and contributions for the purpose of meeting a criteria when our communities are benefiting greatly from the projects that are being completed solely due to the grant funding received.

When comparing Council's end of year results and budgets against other councils it is like comparing apples to oranges. Taking the first example of Inverell Shire Council exceeding their budgeted results - this is almost solely

due to the council receiving unexpected grant funding. Their expenditure was actually \$2 million over budget.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received

ATTACHMENTS

AT- Warialda District Chamber Submission

COMMENTARY ON GWYDIR SHIRE COUNCIL'S 2018/2019 FINANCIAL RESULTS

Page 1 of 4

A Submission prepared by Ted Stubbins President Warialda District Chamber Inc.

In 2017 Gwydir Shire Council experienced an existential crisis which it was lucky to survive.

Budgetary issues contributing to that crisis have not been adequately resolved and low population density remains a major impairment.

The long term survival of the Shire is still at risk. The consequences of losing the Shire would be very damaging to all of the constituent communities, including in ways that can't now be foreseen. These dangers include the diminished role that communities would retain to chart their own destiny.

It is my view that the Gwydir Shire Council has a duty to strengthen the Shire's defences.

In order to survive, Shires with small populations will have to meet expectations of whichever government is in power in NSW.

Whilst a state-wide programme to enforce Council amalgamations seems to be off the political agenda, this will not prevent governments acting against individual LGAs which are not meeting expectations of sustainability.

Gwydir Shire's Recent History

In 2016, Council was granted a 30% average special rate increase but a caveat to the approval pointed to financial difficulties emerging again.

In 2017 Gwydir was declared Unfit for the Future with no merger partner available.

In 2018/2019 Council has achieved a positive Net Operating Result. However, it has not reached its budgeted outcome.

Council's Net Operating Result not including grants and contributions for capital purposes was negative and again did not achieve budgeted outcome.

It appears that Gwydir Shire Council may be chronically dependent on availability of additional special grant funding in order to maintain activity and meet expenditure.

Also, because the index for Own Source Funding fell below benchmark, it may be that Council's results will come under closer scrutiny going forward.

Comparison of results from nearby Local Government Areas sheds further light.

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| <u>Inverell Shire</u> - \$'000 | Population - 16,185 |
| Net operating result Budget-\$3712 | Actual - \$8301 |
| Net operating result before grants and contributions for capital purposes | |
| Budget \$1827 | Actual - \$6340 |

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05 DEC 2019
Gwydir Shire Council

Page 2 of 4

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| <u>Moree Plains</u> - \$'000 | Population – 13,451 |
| Net operating result Budget - \$18642 | Actual - \$10770 |
| Net operating result before grants and contributions for capital purposes | |
| Budget - \$612 | Actual - \$1225 |
| <u>Gunnedah</u> - \$'000 | Population – 12,529 |
| Net operating result Budget - \$6872 | Actual - \$12,940 |
| Net operating result before grants and contributions for capital purposes | |
| Budget - \$1189 | Actual - \$7,743 |
| <u>Tamworth Regional</u> - \$'000 | Population- 61,571 |
| Net operating result Budget - \$24,319 | Actual - \$39,122 |
| Net operating result before grants and contributions for capital purposes | |
| Budget - \$2,723 | Actual - \$3,164 |
| <u>Walcha</u> - \$'000 | Population- 3,144 |
| Net operating result Budget- \$2827 | Actual - \$1323 |
| Net operating result before grants and contributions for capital purposes | |
| Budget - \$1077 | Actual - [\$1133] |
| <u>Gwydir</u> – \$'000 | Population- 5,314 |
| Net operating result Budget - \$5284 | Actual - \$3881 |
| Net operating result before grants and contributions for capital purposes | |
| Budget - \$739 | Actual – [\$1283] |

The most significant difference between Budgeted and Actual outcomes seem to be in Shires with small populations in the category of “ Net operating results before grants and contributions for capital purposes.”

Threats to Continuing Availability of Special Grant Funding

Based on publicity from Parliamentary sources which accompany allocation of grant funding, NSW communities seem to have received very significant extra allocations in recent times.

However, these times may be coming to a close.

The information below was taken from an article by Aaron Patrick on Page 20 of The Australian Financial Review 26-27 October 2019.

Page 3 of 4

The NSW Treasurer the Hon Dominic Perrottet initiated a discussion paper prepared by former Telstra CEO, David Thorley, entitled: NSW Review of Federal Financial Relations.

Mr Perrottet is concerned that long range forecasts by the NSW Treasury predict that the NSW budget is on the precipice of a permanent deficit, that will leave future generations paying for today's spending.

This financial year the NSW government will swing from \$9 Billion in savings to \$12 Billion debt, a figure that is likely to triple in three years. The gap between revenue and expenditure is expected to continue to widen.

Several major sources of revenue including payroll tax, land, motor vehicles and Goods and Services tax [which is allocated by the Australian Government and passed to states] are not keeping up with increases in expenditure. Revenue from the GST is in long term decline. From 2012 to 2017 the GST component of average family spending fell from 61% to about 56%.

People familiar with Mr Perrottet's thinking believe he would like to replace stamp duty on property sales with a land tax. The move could be made as part of a deal between the states and Federal Government that might extend the GST to fresh food, health and even private schools.

This has been ruled out by Federal Treasurer The Hon Josh Frydenberg who has said,

"This is not a mandate we have nor plan to seek."

Conclusions

1. Budgeting

The above information points to the development of much stricter regimes being applied to grants from NSW and reinforces the need for strict budgetary control by Councils of activity, priorities, depreciation and discretionary expenditure.

2. Population

Programmes aimed at attracting permanent residents to Gwydir Shire should be encouraged and supported by Council. The current drought is not an ideal time to implement programmes but continuing to develop them would be a positive step.

Costs associated in implementing such a programme may be able to be achieved from grant funds. Applications would benefit from Council's endorsement.

On November 21st 2019, I delivered a short speech at the Annual Gwydir Business Awards and Vocational Educational Awards which described an approach which the Warialda District Chamber would like to implement and the advantages that would flow from it. An extract from that speech follows and forms an integral part of this commentary.

Page 4 of 4

"With more permanent residents there will be stronger markets for local business, which will balance the impacts of adverse seasons and downturns in the agricultural economy.

New businesses will emerge, serving both this area and the far horizons as our established businesses have demonstrated. Some will be commenced by newcomers who will come with resources and wanting to make their own contributions.

There will be more scope for local people, including young people, to start their own businesses, servicing demand from an expanding local population.

Professional people will be easier to attract to a town confident in its future and yet retaining the positive features of earlier times.

To achieve all this, we need a state of the art on line presence, telling it like it is here, so that we spark interest from people elsewhere, who will at least come and visit. Over time, a reallocation of public money may be needed to offer attractive packages for medical practitioners, who are ready to settle down and maintain superb service. If we encourage them to stay for a period, some of them will choose to remain.

Warialda's egalitarian character is one of its greatest assets, enabling residents to live socially secure, satisfying lives. Another asset is the contrast with pressures of modern life elsewhere. We are not congested, we have space, privacy if we want it, access to nature and beautiful outlooks.

The Munsie family have demonstrated the pulling power of these features. We also have great variety of people, topography, geology, soils, vegetation, enterprises, sporting, cultural and recreational activities.

We have an enviable water supply which should endure if we don't abuse it.

Our services are readily accessible in compact, well-presented settings.

It is heartening that some new arrivals have discovered our advantages and are already contributing to this historic town and district.

New technologies allow people to maintain close links with elsewhere and to derive income from a wide catchment. There is a successful business in Hope Street with customers across Australia and beyond.

Do not under estimate the potential of this well situated, socially cohesive centre to grow and prosper in ways that are compatible with what is already here.

The question is are we prepared to try?"



Ted Stubbins 4/12/2019

P.O Box 204

Warialda NSW 2402

**Item 5 Monthly Investment and Rates Collection Report -
December 2019**

FILE REFERENCE

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 5. Organisational Management

OUTCOME: 5.1 CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

STRATEGY: 5.1.1 Financial management and accountability systems -
CFO - internal

AUTHOR Manager, Finance

DATE 3 February 2020

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:

At each monthly Ordinary Meeting, the Council is presented with the schedule relating to Investments, as at the end of the previous month.

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with Clause 19(3) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 1993, the following information provides details of Council's funds invested as at 31 December 2019.

Direct Investments

| Broker | ID | Investment Name | Rating | Type | Next Rollover | Yield | Current Value |
|--------------------|---------|-----------------|--------|------|---------------|-------|-----------------------|
| NAB | 2020.04 | NAB | AA | TD | 13-01-20 | 1.61% | \$1,000,000.00 |
| NAB | 2020.05 | NAB | AA | TD | 1-01-20 | 1.63% | \$1,000,000.00 |
| NAB | 2020.06 | NAB | AA | TD | 1-01-20 | 1.63% | \$1,000,000.00 |
| Grand Total | | | | | | | \$3,000,000.00 |

Managed Funds

| Fund | Investment Horizon | Type | 3 Mth Avg Yield | Current Value |
|-------------------------|--------------------|------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Regional Australia Bank | At Call | Cash | See report | \$311,802.18 |
| Tcorp Cash Fund | At Call | Cash | See report | \$6,358,817.00 |
| Tcorp Medium Term Fund | At Call | Cash | See report | \$1,075,334.00 |
| Grand Total | | | | \$7,745,953.18 |

Total Investments

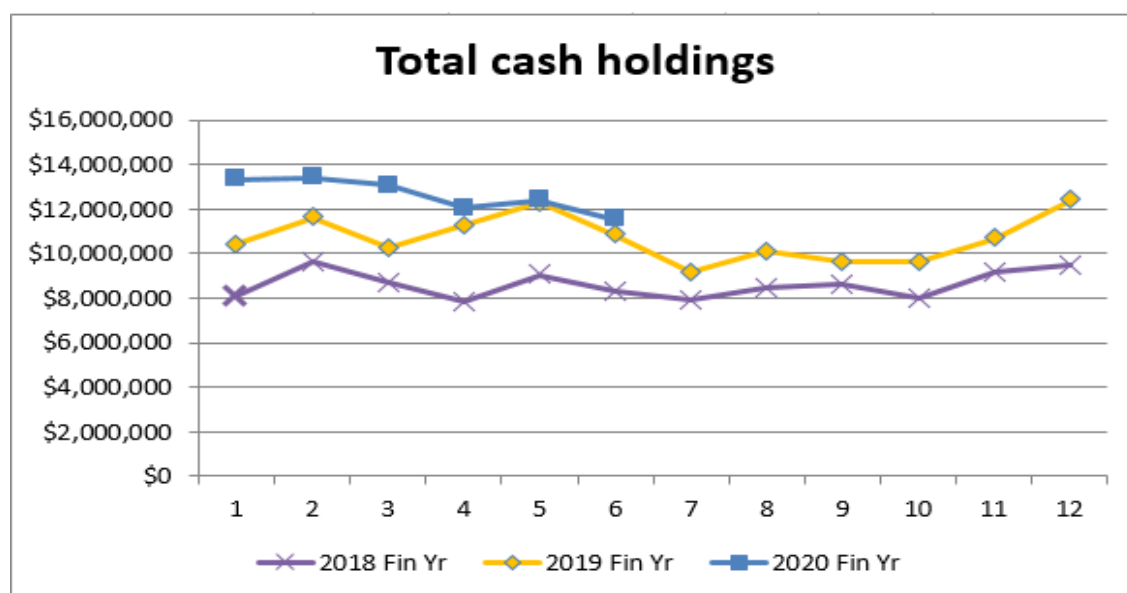
| | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Direct Investments | \$3,000,000.00 |
| Managed Funds | \$7,745,953.18 |
| Grand Total | \$10,745,953.18 |

Cash and Investments

| Total Investments | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Direct Investments | \$3,000,000.00 |
| Managed Funds | \$7,989,185.61 |
| Grand Total Investments | \$10,989,185.61 |

| Total Cash and Investments | |
|---|------------------------|
| Investments | \$10,989,185.61 |
| Cash at bank | \$ 502,983.80 |
| Grand Total Cash and Investments | \$11,492,169.41 |

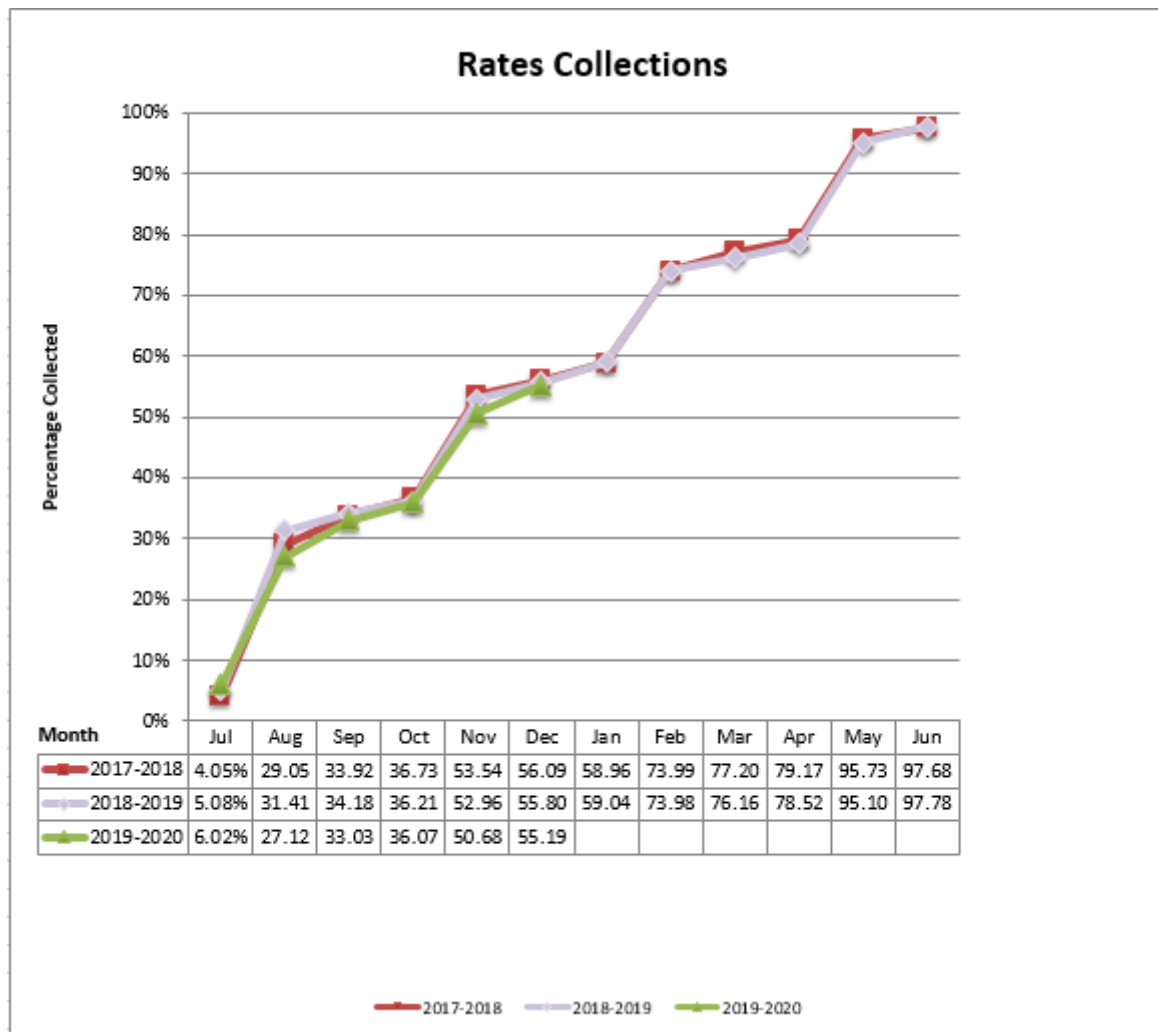
| General Fund Cash | |
|---|------------------------|
| Total cash and investments | \$11,492,169.41 |
| LESS: | |
| Water fund* | -\$758,321.22 |
| Sewer fund* | -\$3,450,448.92 |
| Waste fund* | -\$3,208,422.76 |
| Other restrictions: | |
| Employee leave entitlements* | -\$850,000.00 |
| Carry over works in progress* | -\$800,000.00 |
| Asset replacement* | -\$500,000.00 |
| Bonds and deposits | -\$290,000.00 |
| Unexpended grants* | -\$850,000.00 |
| Developer contributions | -\$256,000.00 |
| *These figures may change with end of year processing | |
| Discretionary General Fund Cash | \$528,976.51 |



I, Helen Thomas, Finance Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer for Gwydir Shire Council, certify that the Council’s investments have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council’s Investment Policy (F.01.03), as amended.

RATES COLLECTIONS

The graph below represents a comparative of the percentage collections for the current year against the two previous rating years. The current years collections are up to 31 December 2019.



OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the monthly Investment and Rates Collection Report for December 2019 be received

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Item 6 Monthly Executive Report for December 2019 and January 2020

FILE REFERENCE

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: **5. Organisational Management**

OUTCOME: **5.1 CORPORATE MANAGEMENT**

STRATEGY: **5.1.3 Administrative functions - GM - internal**

AUTHOR General Manager

DATE 3 February 2020

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

The monthly Executive report details the activities carried out by the Department during the months of December 2019 and January 2020.

BACKGROUND

The monthly Executive report forms part of a regular reporting regime. The purpose of the report is to inform Council of the activities carried out within the Department.

PLANNING REPORT – December / January

The following Development (D/A)/Complying Development (CDC) and Development Modification (s96) applications have been approved for the month of December 2019 and January 2020.

| No. | Property Description | Development/ Work | \$ | D/A | S96 | CDC |
|---------|---|-------------------------|-----------|-----|-----|-----|
| 36/2019 | Loch Lomond P/L and Stahmann Properties P/L 1723 River Road Gravesend 1661 River Road Pallamallawa Lot 18 DP 751138 Lot 71 DP 751138 Lot 21 DP 1112160 | 2 Lot Rural Subdivision | \$1,000 | ✓ | - | - |
| 37/2019 | J J Forest and L Abra 16 Bassett Street Bingara Lot 1 DP 867937 | Erect a 6m x 7m Garage | \$14,000 | ✓ | - | - |
| 38/2019 | R M Lyons 5 Brigalow Street Bingara Lot 2 DP 1252406 | Dwelling | \$390,000 | ✓ | - | - |

The following Development (D/A)/Complying Development (CDC) and Development Modification (s96) applications remain outstanding at the end of January 2020.

| No | Property Description and Description of Work | Reason | D/A | S96 | CDC |
|---------|--|---|-----|-----|-----|
| 35/2015 | Copeton Dam State Park 3533 Copeton Dam Road Copeton - Continued use of existing caravan & camping facilities | Development being assessed as an existing use | ✓ | - | - |
| 35/2016 | C B Collette 4 Lanagans Lane Bingara - Modification of Granny Flat | Being Assessed | - | ✓ | - |
| 49/2016 | Ceres Ag 'Gunyaerwarildi' 1470 North Star Road Warialda - Continued occupation/use of rural worker accommodation being the installation of a number of premanufactured cabins | Approved in principal awaiting compliance certification or engineering certification for the cabins | ✓ | - | - |
| 2/2018 | G & L Hosegood 'Barrak' 163 Upper Whitlow Road Whitlow - 20,000m3 quarry for Council use | Awaiting Environmental Impact Statement as the quarry is considered designated development | ✓ | - | - |
| 30/2018 | M A Spencer 'Log Cabin' 2213 Gulf Creek Road Gulf Creek - 15,000m3 quarry for Council use | Request for additional information regarding compliance with Biodiversity Conservation Act 2017 for the removal of vegetation | ✓ | - | - |
| 35/2018 | B Hutchins 63 Bingara Street Warialda - Mixed residential and commercial development including the opening of 'Gully Pub' with a small bar licence and retail antiques business | Request for additional information regarding whether the existing building meets or can meet current fire safety requirements under the National Construction Code for mixed commercial and residential use | ✓ | - | - |
| 12/2019 | Gwydir Shire Council 396 Taroona Road Warialda - Quarry | Request for addition information by the assessing Planning Consultant independent of Council | ✓ | - | - |
| 29/2019 | Groundworks Plus and AT Pearlman 1375 Croppa Creek Road North Star - 490,000 tonne Quarry | Assessment Report for Regional Planning Panel being prepared | ✓ | - | - |
| 39/2019 | DJ Bull Fairford Road Warialda - 2 Lot Large Lot Subdivision | Being Assessed | ✓ | - | - |
| 40/2019 | Global Ag Properties Australia Pty Ltd 22184 Bruxner Highway Boogabilla - 2 Lot Rural Subdivision | Being Assessed | ✓ | - | - |
| 1/2020 | Warialda Jockey Club 128 Racecourse Road Warialda - Additions and Alterations to Female Amenities | At exhibition and notification stage | ✓ | - | - |
| 2/2020 | W J McDonald 16 Old Keera Road Bingara - 2 Lot Urban Subdivision | At exhibition and notification stage | ✓ | - | - |
| 3/2020 | R J Swain 1550 Adams Scrub Road Delungra - 10,000m3 Gravel Quarry | At exhibition and notification stage | ✓ | - | - |

There were no Development (D/A)/Complying Development (CDC) or Development Modification (s96) applications approved and not previously reported to Council for the months of December 2019 or January 2020.

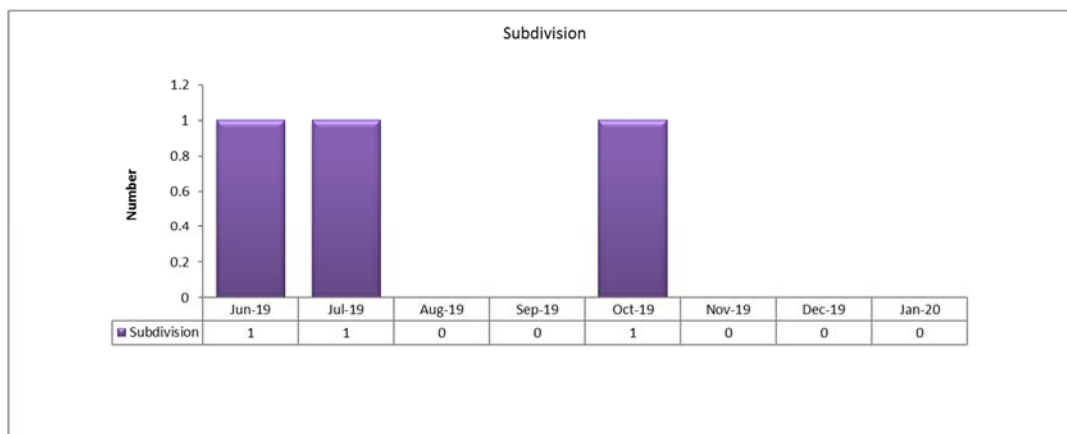
There were no Development (D/A)/Complying Development (CDC) and Development Modification (s96) applications refused(R)/ withdrawn (W)/ Cancelled (C) for the months of December 2019 or January 2020.

The following Complying Development (CDC) and/or Construction Certificates (CC) application/s were approved by Private Certifiers and lodged with Council for the months of December 2019 and January 2020.

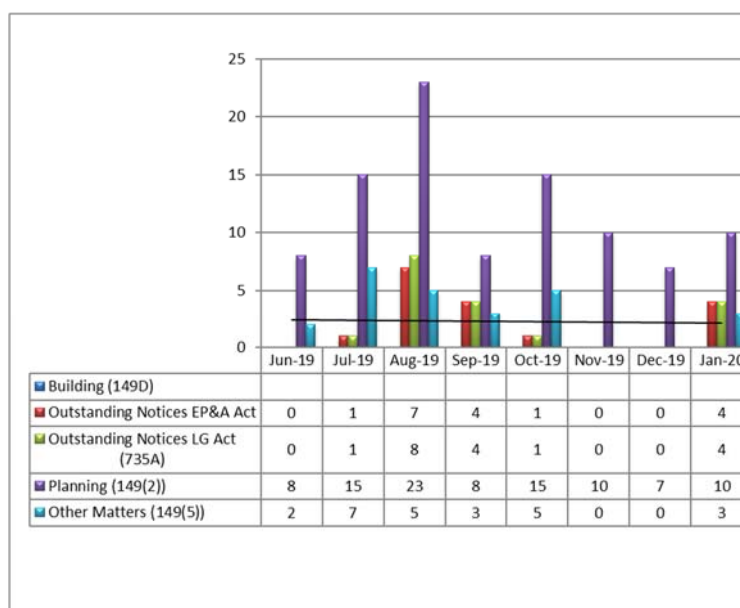
| No. | Property Description | Development/ Work | \$ | C/C | CDC |
|---------|--|-------------------|----------|-----|-----|
| 01/2020 | O M & K J Johnson 20 Gwydir Terrace Bingara Lot 2 Section 19 DP 758111 | Swimming Pool | \$15,512 | - | ✓ |

There were no Development (D/A) and Complying Development (CDC) applications determined where there has been a variation in standards under SEPP 1 or clause 4.6 of the Gwydir Local Environmental Plan 2013 for the months of December 2019 or January 2020.

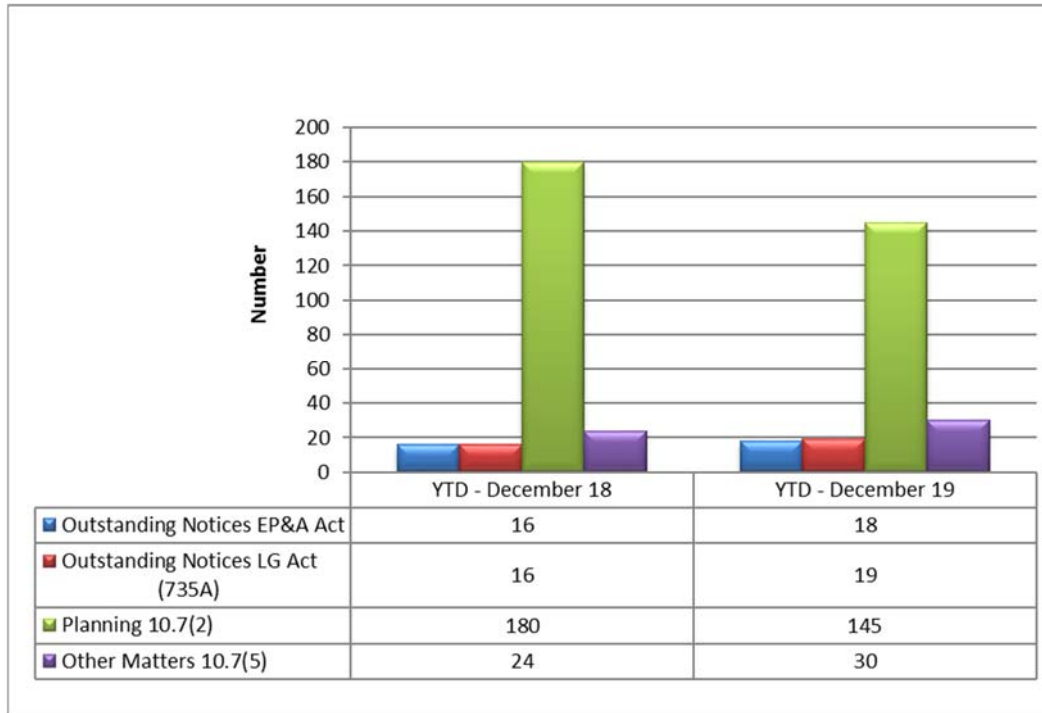
The following Subdivision Certificates were issued for the months of December 2019 and January 2020 and in the previous six (6) months.



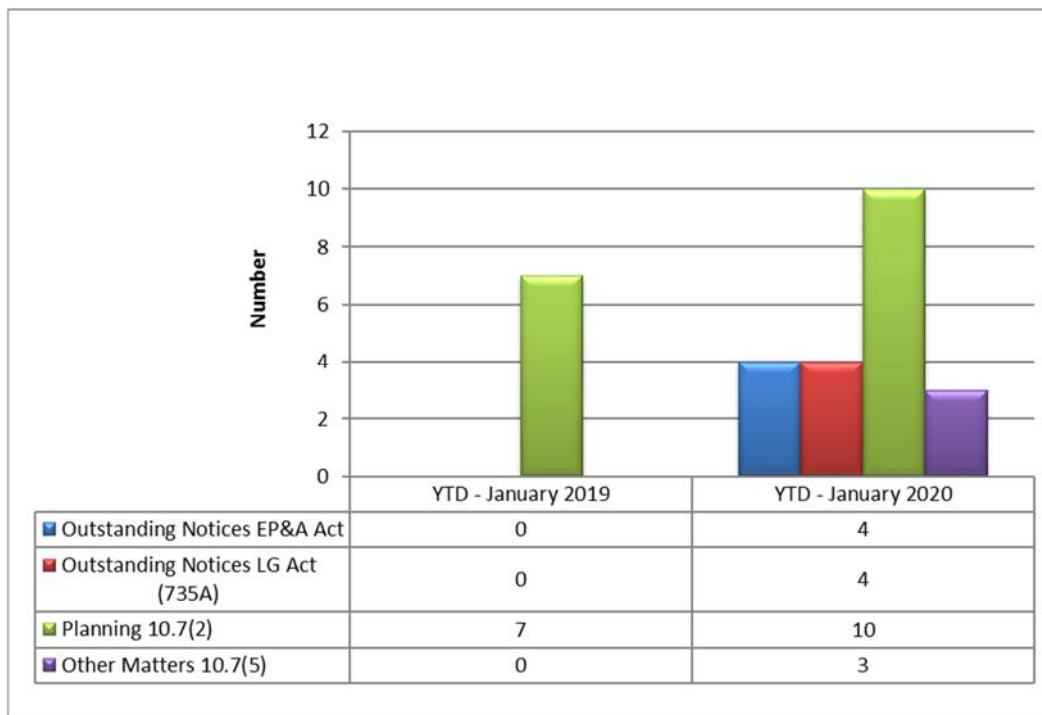
The following graph shows Conveyancing Certificates issued for December 2019 and January 2020 compared with the previous six (6) months.



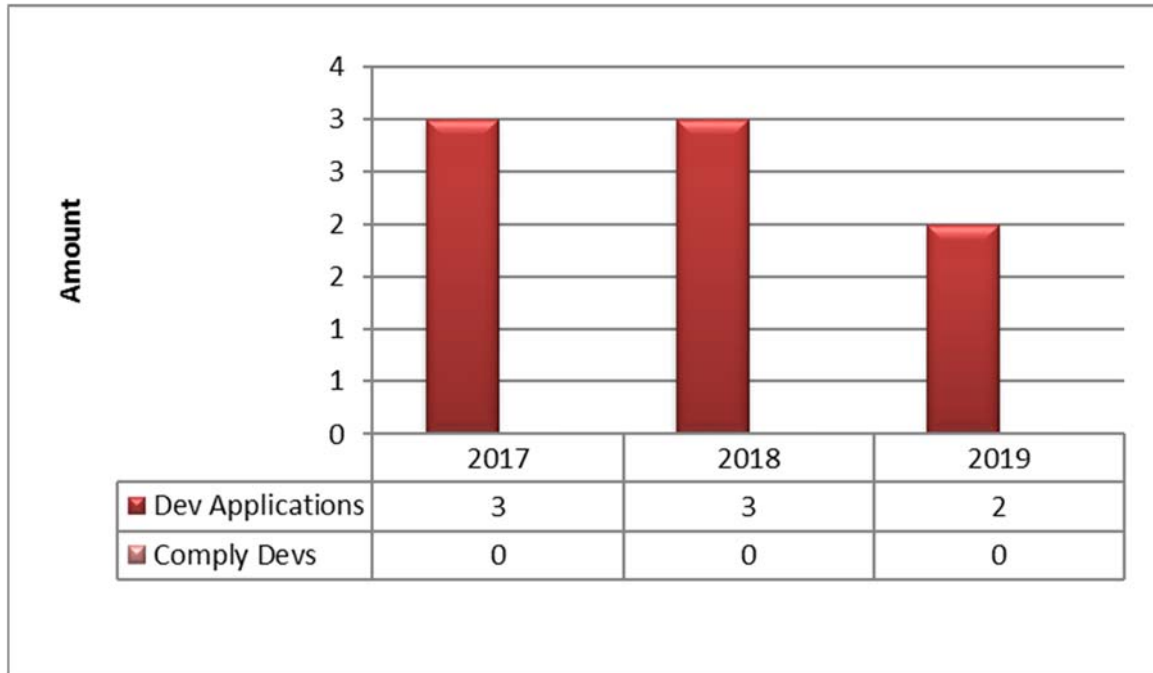
The following graph shows the number of Conveyancing Certificates issued up to and including the month of December 2019 compared with the same period in 2018.



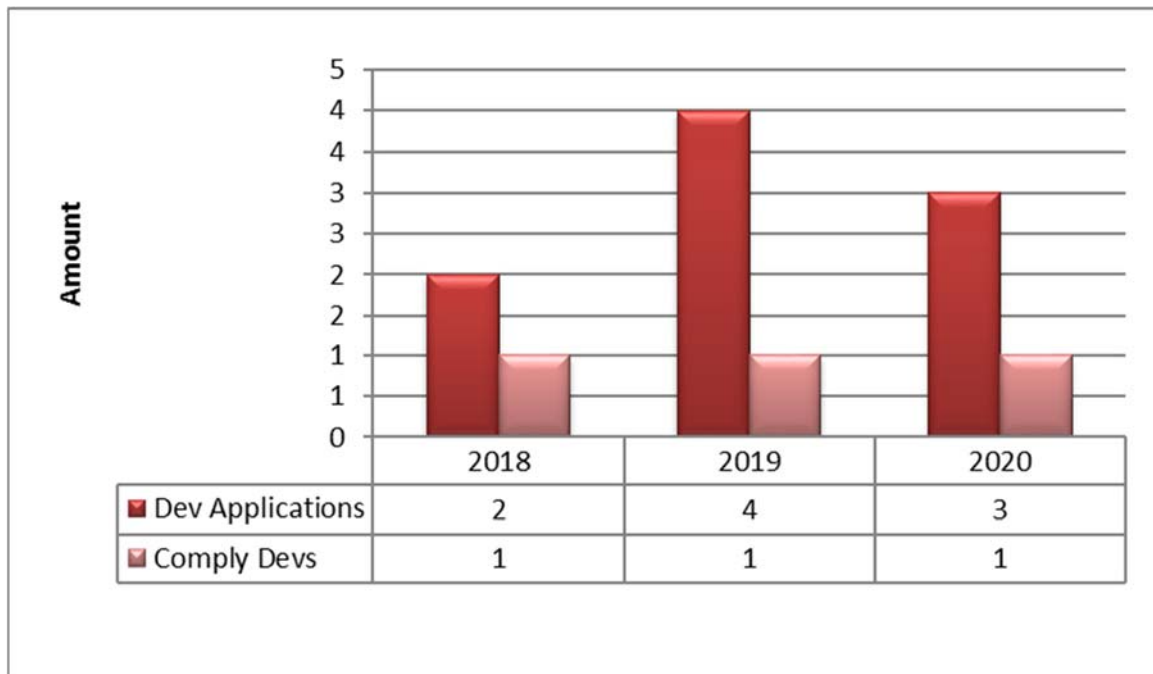
The following graph shows the number of Conveyancing Certificates issued up to and including the month of January 2020 compared with the same period in 2019.



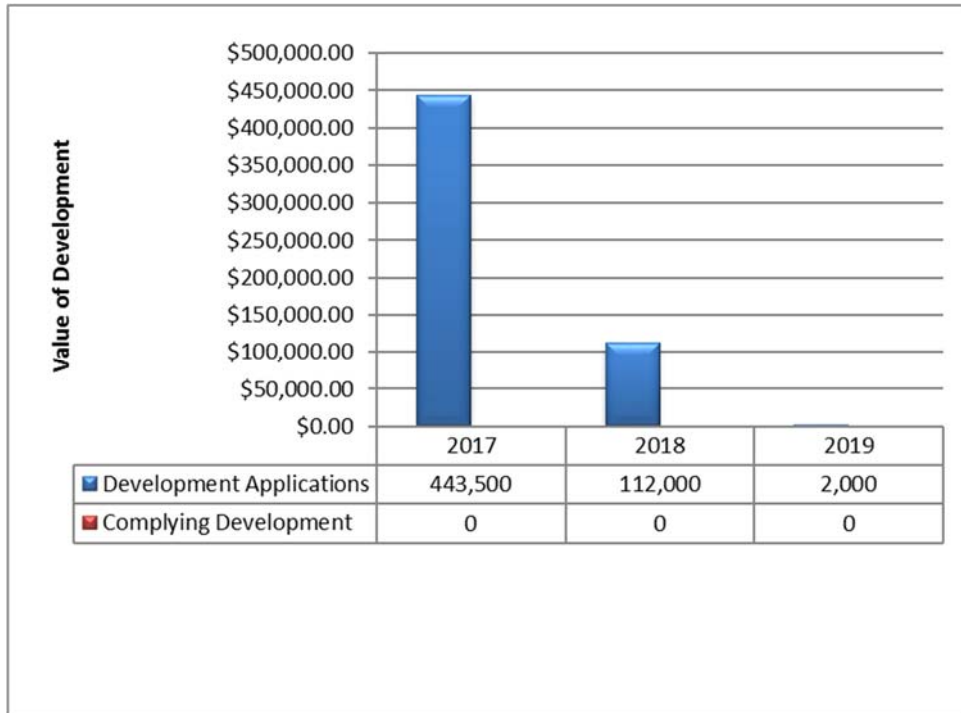
The table below shows a comparison between total applications lodged for the month of December 2019 compared to the previous two years (excluding private certifier lodged applications).



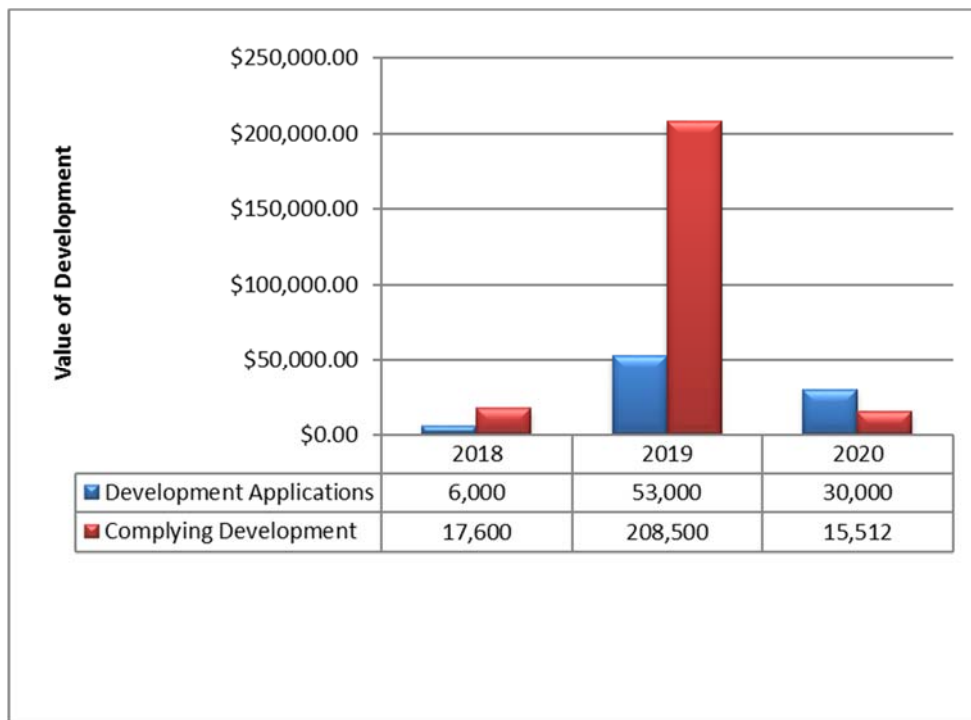
The table below shows a comparison between total applications lodged for the month of January 2020 compared to the previous two years (excluding private certifier lodged applications).



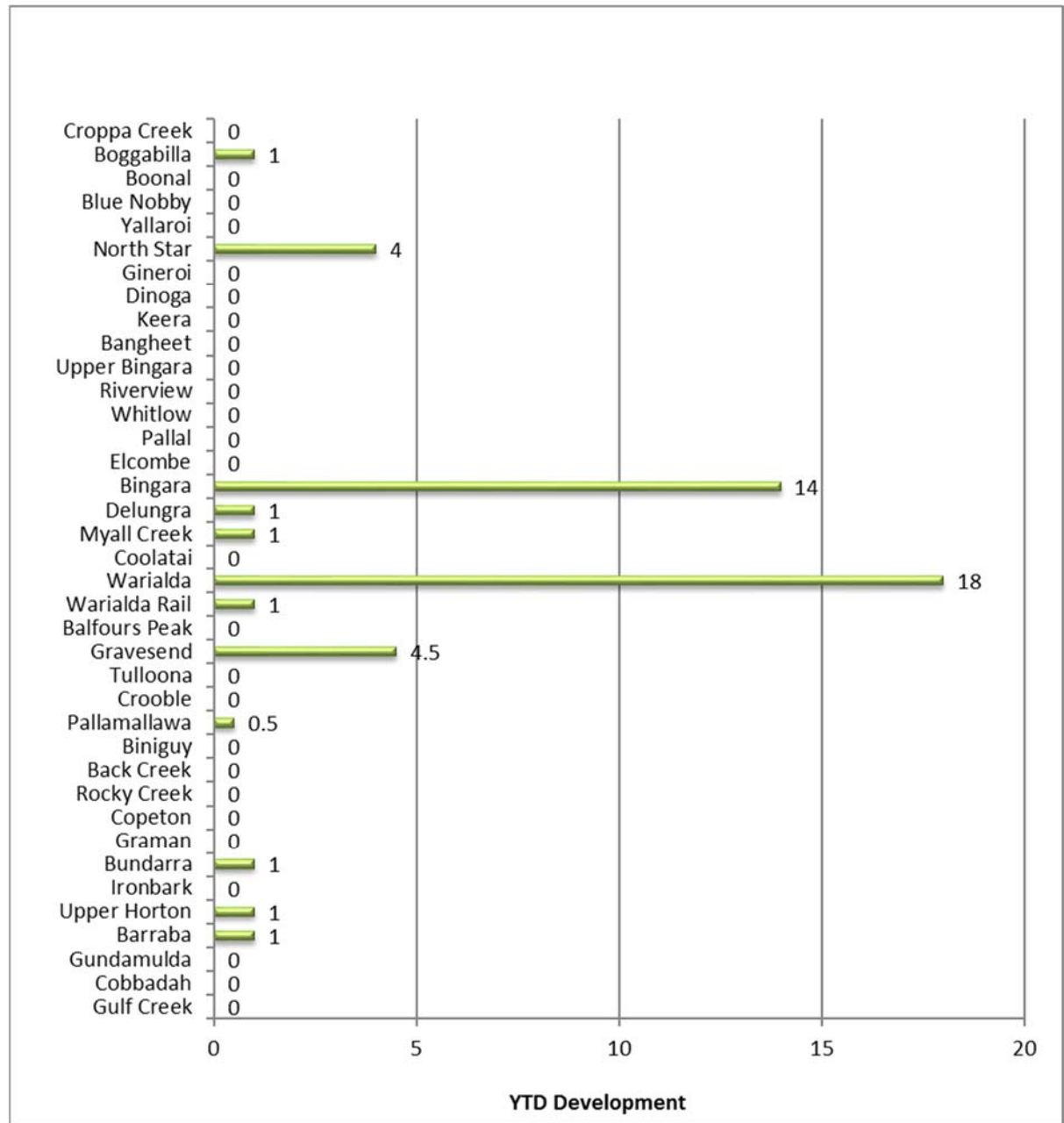
The table below shows a comparison between total applications lodged for the month of December 2019 compared to the previous two years (excluding private certifier lodged applications).



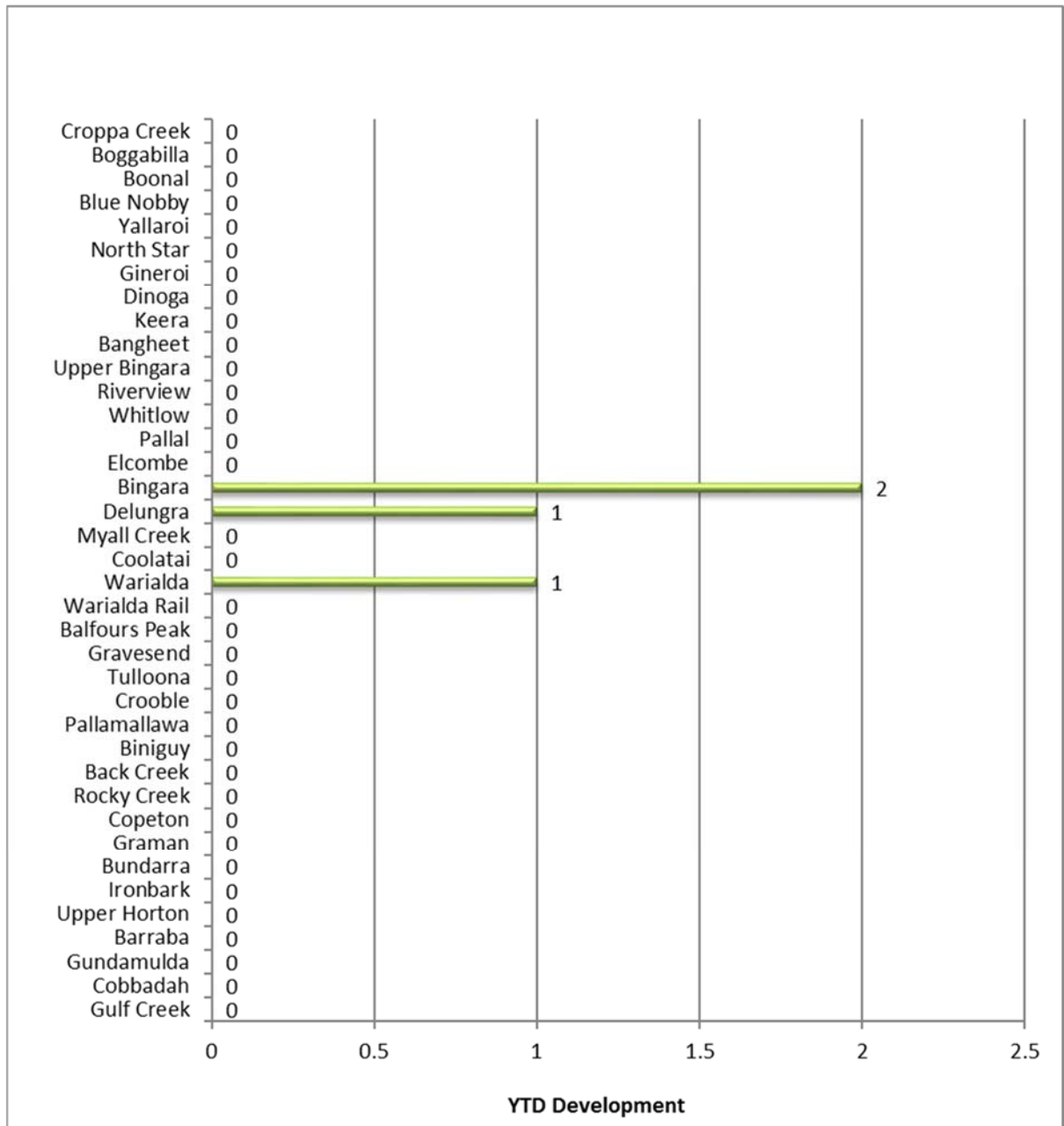
The table below shows a comparison between total applications lodged for the month of January 2020 compared to the previous two years (excluding private certifier lodged applications).



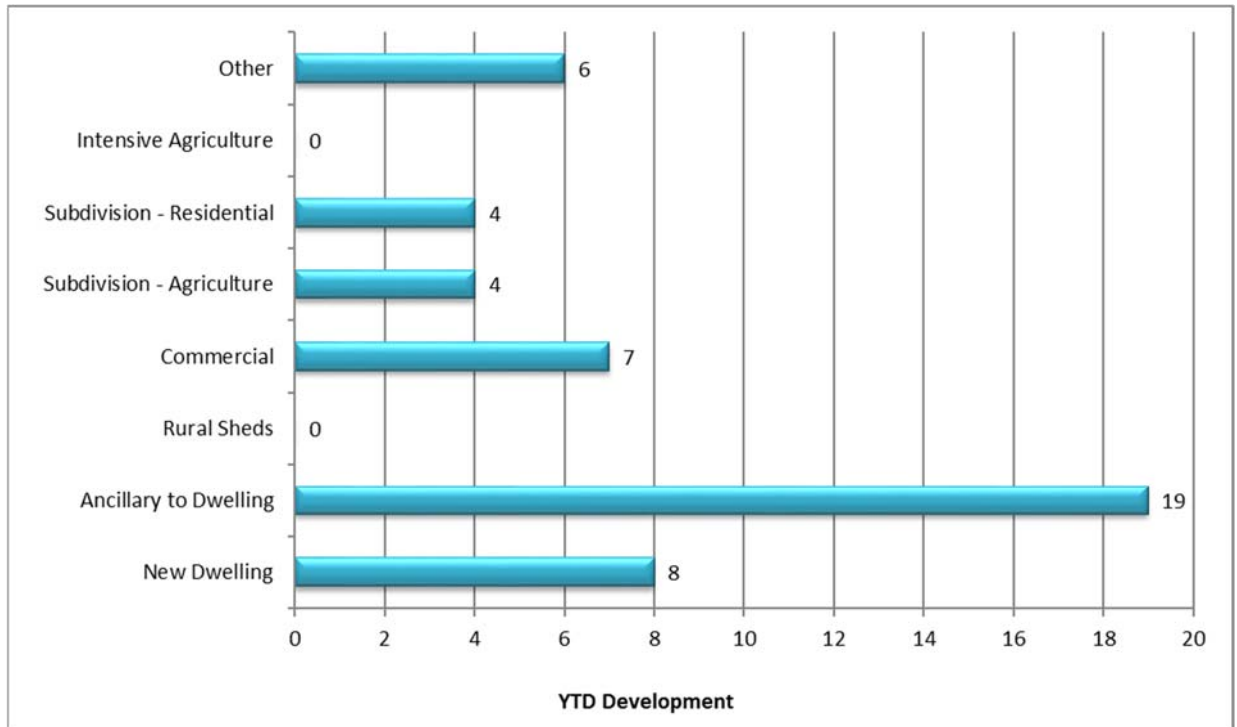
Development Applications Received for the year by locality – YTD December 2019 (includes private certifier lodged applications)



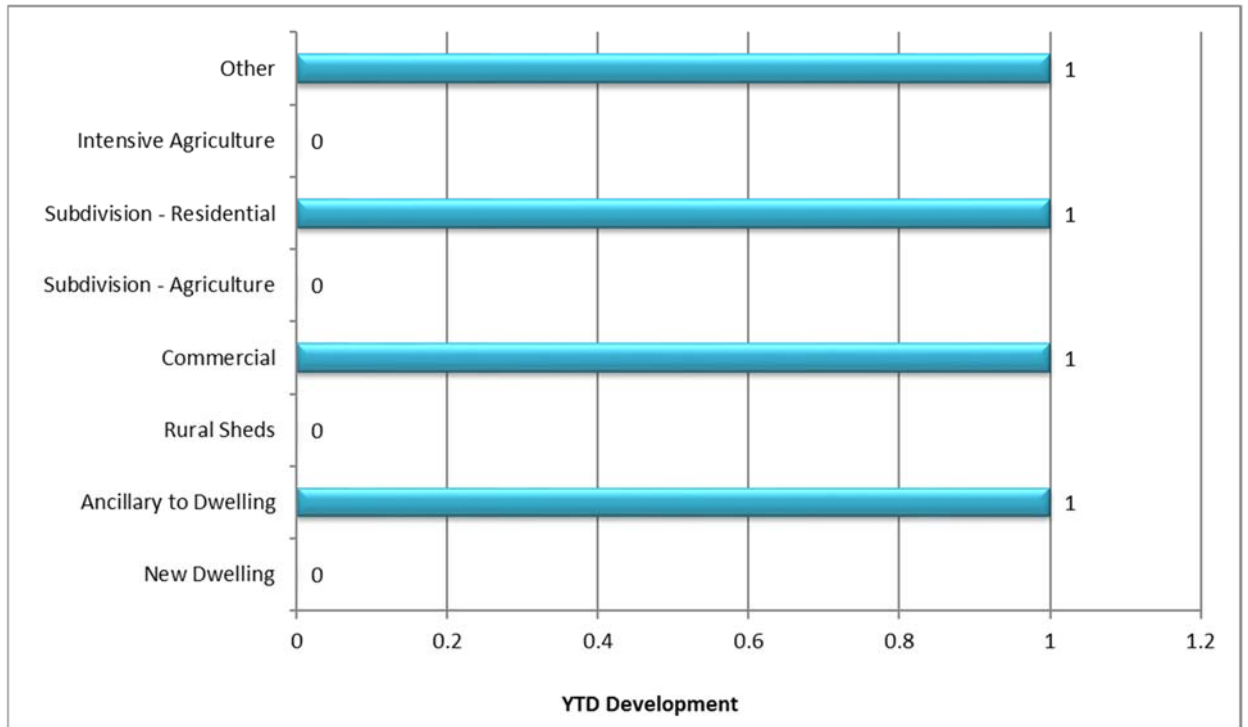
**Development Applications Received for the year by locality – YTD
January 2020 (includes private certifier lodged applications)**



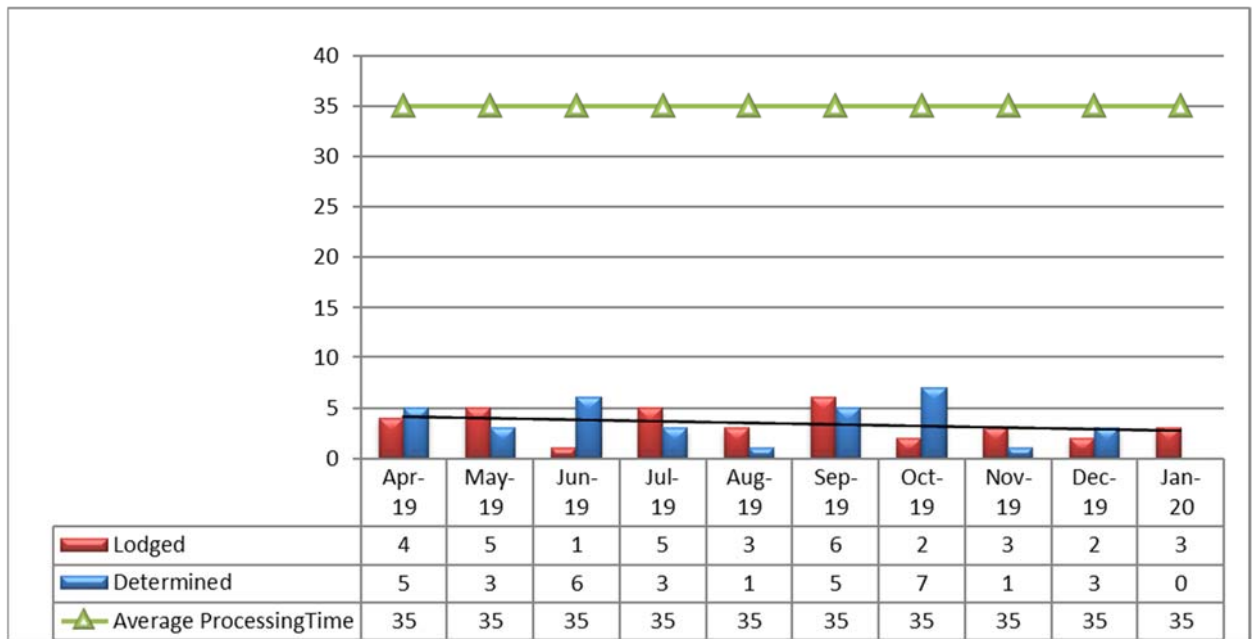
Development Applications received for the year by type – YTD December 2019



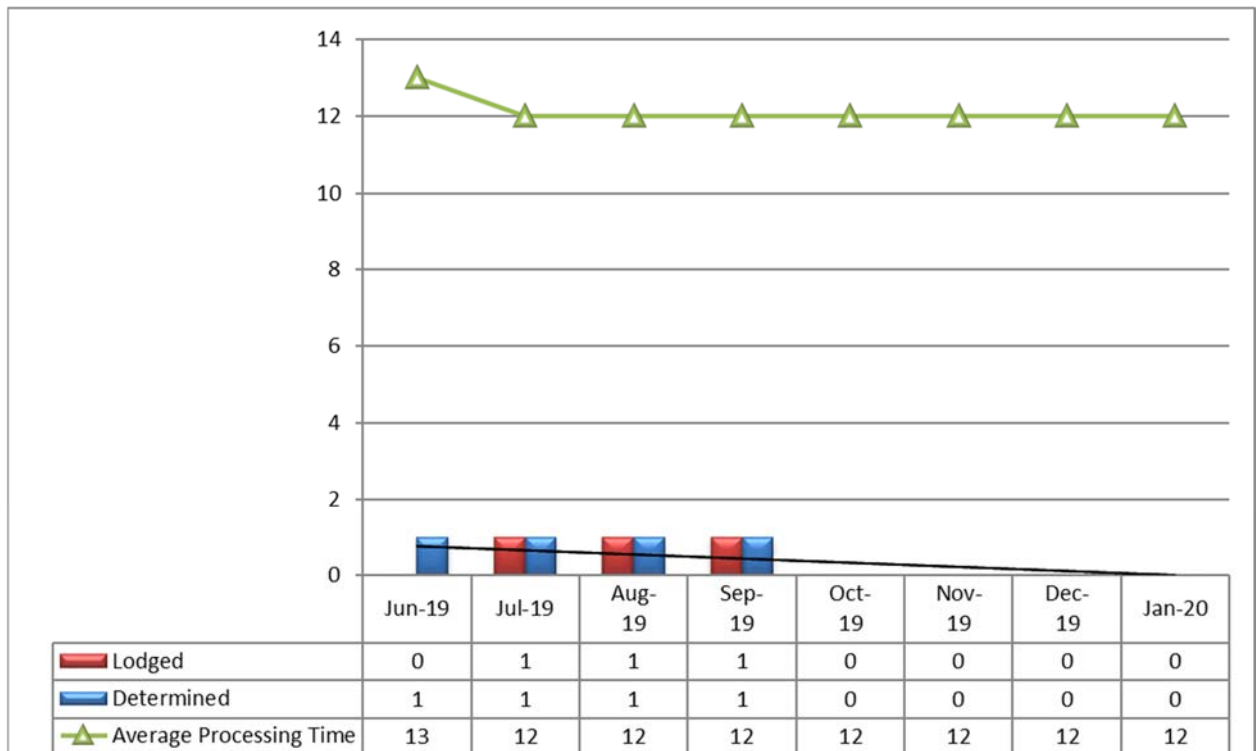
Development Applications received for the year by type – YTD January 2020 (includes private certifier lodged applications)



Development Application Analysis – for the nine (9) months up to the end of January 2020 (excludes private certifier lodged and approved applications)



Complying Development Application Analysis – for the nine (9) months up to the end of January 2020 (excludes private certifier lodged and approved applications)



GWYDIR LEARNING REGION (GLR)

GLR Automotive Trade Training Centre, Warialda (ATTC)

Heavy Vehicle Training

Four Final Competency Assessments (FCA's) were completed during the month of December 2019 and five in January 2020. These included one Heavy Combination (HC) truck and eight Heavy Rigid (HR) vehicles. In addition, one private client received full training and assessment during December 2019 for a HR licence. During January 2020 a council employee received full training and assessment to gain their HC licence.

Learner car

Twenty bookings were made for December. Sixteen of these were completed through ACE Community College at Inverell. Another three private lessons were conducted separately at Inverell and one at Warialda.

TAFE - Automotive Vocational Preparation Certificate II

Automotive classes were completed at the end of December and will recommence early February 2020.

Warialda High School – will resume to use the ATTC for engineering classes in February.

Community College

Negotiations are in place with the Gwydir Learning Region (GLR) CEO for the Automotive Trade Training Centre facilities to be used by Community College to run welding and construction classes in Warialda.

Smart and Skilled

In an earlier report the prospect of receiving funding for training was discussed. Gwydir Shire Council has now been approved to run specific short courses under the Smart and Skilled program. The main focus group will be farmers and others affected by drought but it is not limited to this area. The funding will allow free or low cost training for individuals and increased demand for training. There are five modules currently provided these are the truck licensing units being run by council that will be offered. Additional courses under this program may be applied for and added to the scope of training conducted by council at a later date.

Use of The Living Classroom (TLC) during December and January (number of attendees in brackets)

- Namoi JOC conducted a meeting and Christmas dinner at TLC (40).
- Mark Everett commenced work as a Horticultural Assistant at TLC. His main work will focus on the propagation of plants.
- Elizabeth Kakoschke, local WIRES representative, visited TLC to consider the introduction of koalas to be rehabilitated there.
- The Health and Aged Care community members had their Christmas Party at TLC (20).

- Bingara Central School conducted an Indigenous Culture workshop at TLC (80).



Bingara Central School students attending Indigenous Culture Workshop at TLC

- North West Local Land Services conducted a workshop at TLC in December. (12)
- Members of Gwydir Ark undertook some additional and remedial tree planting and watering in the Koala Tree woodland area at TLC.
- 'Sid Vicious' the Koala was released at TLC. (25) *(He disappeared after 3 days but in Late January has now reappeared in the trees near the end of Argoon Street).*



'Sid Vicious' the Koala being released

- A 'Drought Relief' Work Crew has worked on the perimeter fencing at TLC and has completed the central laneway providing access to the adjoining property south of Argoon Street (3).
- Northern Inland Risk Management Group conducted a meeting (12).
- GSC conducted 'Working Near Power Lines' training for staff (25).
- The Gwydir Ark Group has supplied an animal waterer for TLC. It has been installed in the SW corner of the site. *Pic below with Gwydir Ark member Paul Moulton.*



Gwydir Ark member with the animal waterer

- The Australia Day Ambassador, Peter Ford visited the site at TLC. He was very complimentary and made some excellent suggestions for future projects.
- TLC was invited to make an EoI to the Narrabri I.A Watson Grains Research Centre to partner with them and with Moree TAFE in an application for funds to conduct a trial of native grasses and associated bush foods for research and potential commercial development.
- The 'Pulse of the Earth' Festival held at TLC last September was awarded the Community Event of the Year Award at the 2020 Australia Day Ceremony in Bingara.

Other GLR Matters:

- Staff, Kingsley Grills, Scott McLachlan and Rick Hutton have all been successful in up-grading the Cert IV Training and Assessment qualification.
- GLR Training has been successful in gaining access to Smart and Skilled funding for special purpose students in Heavy Vehicle Driver training.

- Bingara Community College has requested the use of the Warialda Automotive Trade Training Centre for some of their courses this term.

GOVERNANCE

CARAVAN PARKS

The solar hot water service at the Bingara Caravan Park was repaired (under warranty).

The cabins at the Bingara Caravan Park remain on the market for sale with some interest shown but none sold.

Casual staff worked at the Bingara Caravan Park for a month over the reporting period while the caretakers were on extended leave.

Both Caravan Parks' laundry and bathroom amenities remain available free of charge to those affected by drought conditions.

SECTION 355 COMMITTEES

Bingara Anglers' Club

As reported in the September 2019 Report, the Club submitted an Expression of Interest for funding under the Federal Government's Communities Environment Program. This submission was successful for the sum of \$20,000. The funding will be used for an upgrade of the hatchery, including improvements to the existing breeding ponds, the construction of a tank, installation of a pump and filtration system and appropriate fencing and protective cover.

Congratulations to the Bingara Anglers' Club committee who were the successful recipients of the recent Australia Day Awards in Bingara winning the inaugural Environmental Citizen of the Year Award. This thoroughly deserved award highlights the outstanding commitment of the Anglers' Club members to the health and preservation of the fish population of the local river systems. The Anglers' Club teamed up with specialist state government staff to conduct a fish rescue in the Horton River, Rocky Creek and Myall Creek.

SWIMMING POOLS

During the 2018/2019 swimming season, Council introduced a Heat and Dry Initiative which gave free entry to Bingara and Warialda Swimming Pools. Free entry was determined when the predicted temperature was 37 degrees and above, as issued by the Bureau of Meteorology, Moree.

This initiative continued into the current season and has proven to be successful with increased patronage at both pools and expanded Learn to Swim programs.

Council's initiative however, also created an anomaly with regard to *Pool Season Tickets* and the benefits attached to them. This has occurred over both the 2018/19 and 2019/20 swimming seasons.

Council is currently arranging for season ticket holders to be reimbursed with Gwydir Dollars in the form of a gift card. This reimbursement will occur at the

end of this season when the exact number of free entry days is known and a pro rata amount can be calculated for both seasons.

The Gwydir Dollars gift card will only be able to be spent at local businesses within the Gwydir Shire. These gift cards will also form the basis of a 'Buy Local' campaign and will be available from April 2020.

Learn to Swim schools have been conducted at both pools during January and proved to be very popular.

Tenders for the design and construction of a new Splash Program Pool and 25 metre pool at Bingara closed on 28 January 2020 with one response being received for each tender.

Defibrillators have been purchased and installed at both public pools. Royal Lifesaving will conduct refresher training in the use of the defibrillators for members from the swimming clubs and stakeholders, to take place in February.

Bingara Swimming Pool commenced early morning swimming three days a week in January 2020.

Warialda Swimming Pool held a special "Australia Day Pool Party" which was organised by the Warialda Christmas Party Committee.

CRANKY ROCK

Cranky Rock Reserve was closed to the public from 18 to 27 December 2019 due to the extreme weather conditions.

A defibrillator has been purchased and installed at Cranky Rock Reserve.

MYALL CREEK

A Welcome to Country smoking ceremony was conducted at the Myall Creek Memorial site on 15 January 2020. This was to mark the commencement of the works project which will see the construction of an amenities block, shelter and cultural performance space. These works are funded under a Create NSW funding program of which the Friends of Myall Creek Memorial Committee are the recipients. The Committee also provided morning tea for elders, corrective services participants, Council staff, and contractors to mark the special occasion.



Members of the Friends of Myall Creek Memorial committee (including Council's Property and Liaison Manager, Carmen Southwell) attended the traditional smoking ceremony at the commencement of works at the Myall Creek Memorial site along with Council's Works Manager, Jamie Wilson.

The traditional smoking ceremony was performed by Keith Munro, from Friends of Myall Creek Memorial committee, and included contractors, Council staff, committee members and elders.



COUNCIL'S CLEANING CONTRACT

During the reporting period, in addition to the scheduled regular program, cleaning was completed at:

The Living Classroom and Bunkhouse – various meetings/courses, Christmas parties, Bingara Central School information day

Nicholson Oval – cricket match

Warialda Recreation Ground – Warialda Christmas Carnival

Warialda Memorial Hall – PCYC Disco, Vacation Care

New Bingara Library – post construction clean

Warialda All Abilities Park, Roxy Café toilets and Warialda Library have been added to the regular cleaning schedule.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Council Offices and Buildings

During the Christmas holiday period, extensive carpet cleaning was undertaken and offices were given a “spring” clean. Cockroach extermination programs were also completed.

Whitfeld Place

Unit 4, Whitfeld Place was vacated on 7 December 2019. Building Services staff are currently renovating the unit and will replace the carpet and paint internally.

Council Residence for Sale

123 High Street, Warialda, is listed for sale through Ray White Rural, Bingara, and JA McGregor's, Warialda.

GOVERNANCE

NSW Electoral Commission half-yearly disclosures were completed and submitted in a timely manner.

Declarations of Interest

| Declarations of Interest | Pecuniary - significant | Pecuniary – less than significant | Non-Pecuniary - significant | Non-Pecuniary – less than significant |
|---------------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|--|
| December – Ordinary | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| January | There were no Council meetings during January | | | |

Customer Service Requests

| Customer Service Requests | Building Services | Technical Services | Town Utilities | Environmental & Sustainability Services | OCD | Total Received | Total Pending as at 31.01.2020 |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--|------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| July Received | 14 | 45 | 19 | 13 | 0 | 91 | |
| July Pending | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| August Received | 15 | 84 | 25 | 24 | 0 | 148 | |
| August Pending | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | | 2 |
| September Received | 15 | 131 | 14 | 19 | 0 | 179 | |
| September Pending | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | | 5 |
| October Received | 17 | 98 | 10 | 13 | 0 | 138 | |
| October Pending | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | | 4 |
| November Received | 3 | 121 | 18 | 1 | 0 | 143 | |
| November Pending | 2 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 0 | | 13 |
| December received | 19 | 135 | 11 | 6 | 4 | 175 | |
| December pending | 3 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 0 | | 11 |
| January received | 16 | 90 | 23 | 22 | 0 | 151 | |
| January pending | 3 | 12 | 14 | 12 | 0 | | 41 |
| Total Requests | | | | | | 1025 | |
| Total Pending | | | | | | | 76 |

Public Interest Disclosure Training

Unfortunately, due to bushfires in the area, the scheduled Public Interest Disclosure information sessions in December had to be postponed to a date to be advised.

Planning is currently underway to host the training in March 2020.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the monthly Executive Report for December 2019 and January 2020 be received

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Item 7 Monthly Organisation and Community Development Report for December 2019 and January 2020

FILE REFERENCE

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 5. Organisational Management

OUTCOME: 5.1 CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

STRATEGY: 5.1.3 Administrative functions - GM - internal

AUTHOR Organisation Development Director

DATE 3 February 2020

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

The monthly Organisation and Community Development report details the activities carried out by the Department during December 2019 and January 2020.

BACKGROUND

The monthly Organisation and Community Development report forms part of a regular reporting regime. The purpose of the report is to inform Council of the activities carried out within the Department.

WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

As part of the organisation's journey towards safety excellence, the WHS monthly report format has been updated and will continually evolve. The new format now includes lead and lag indicators. By measuring both the input (*lead*) and output (*lag*) of our safety strategy, we have the ability to manage the performance more effectively. Currently the Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR) and Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR) are significantly high and through strict injury management and stronger focus in Work Health and Safety, these numbers will reduce.



Several new safety initiatives are under development, such as Hazard and Near Miss Reporting and data will be available in the coming months. Throughout December and January, there were 11 incidents reported and a notable increase in wildlife strikes, all five (5) requiring vehicle repairs.

| Organisational Lead and Lag Indicator Snapshot | | |
|---|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Lead Indicators | Current Month | Total (from 1 July 2019) |
| Number of Hazards Reported | 0 | 0 |
| Number of Near Misses Reported | 0 | 1 |
| Number of Workplace Verifications | 4 | 40 |
| Number of Tool Box / Safety Meetings / Training | 12 | 12 |
| Total | 16 | 41 |
| Lag Indicators | Current Month | Total (from 1 July 2019) |
| Number of Incidents | 11 | 38 |
| Number of First Aid Treatments (FAT) | 0 | 2 |
| Number of Medical Treatment Injuries (MTI) | 1 | 4 |
| Number of Lost Time Injuries (LTI) | 1 | 8 |
| Working Days Lost Due to Injuries | 9 | 317 |
| Working Days Restricted Duties | 2 | 68 |
| Number of Employees | 398 | - |
| Total Hours Worked | 47,355 | - |
| Total Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR) | 21,117 | - |
| Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR) | 42,234 | - |

WHS Performance Summary – Attachment 1

AGED CARE SERVICES

Naroo Aged Care Facility, Warialda

Occupancy: 34/36 – Occupancy has fluctuated over the last two months. Currently there are two vacancies due to one resident wishing to return home and see if he can manage and another resident transferred to another facility to be closer to family. Naroo currently has one person on the waiting list and Naroo Manager has scheduled a meeting with family.

Meetings: General staff meeting held in January 2020. A new online education system is to be implemented at Naroo.

Recruitment: Three new staff members were welcomed to Naroo under the drought initiative – one in Administration, one in Maintenance and one in the Kitchen. One casual Care Service Employee has commenced at Naroo. Recruitment in place for a permanent part time Kitchen Hand following a resignation and also Casual Kitchen hands required.

Staffing issues: Overtime has been kept to a minimum. Shift times have been reviewed and reduced due to vacant beds.

Building Works: Plans for kitchen extension have been completed. Tender process completed awaiting commencement.

Activities: Christmas activities and leave took up most of the time in December/ January. Christmas celebrations at Naroo were a great success with staff working over and above to provide the residents with beautiful food and entertainment.

Quality Indicators: Quality Indicators information has been entered onto My Aged Care Portal.

WH&S: Monthly environmental audits completed. Risk management in Aged Care to be a priority in Council in alignment with the new Aged Care Standards.

Seniors week – an event has been organised at the Warialda Town Hall to celebrate senior’s week with a day of fun and Bingo. Invites have been sent to all surrounding Aged Care facilities and services.

Gwydir Shire Commonwealth Home Support Program – Summary for Delungra and Warialda for December and January – Bingara data not available.

| | BINGARA | | DELUNGRA | | WARIALDA | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|-----|----------|-----|----------|-------|
| | Dec | Jan | Dec | Jan | Dec | Jan |
| DAY CENTRE | | | | | | |
| Total active clients | n/a | n/a | 23 | 23 | 91 | 91 |
| Clients receiving service | n/a | n/a | 11 | 10 | 40 | 41 |
| Total meals | n/a | n/a | 39 | 15 | 218 | 70 |
| Hrs clients receive in Centre | n/a | n/a | 70 | 45 | 304 | 143 |
| SOCIAL SUPPORT | | | | | | |
| No of clients | n/a | n/a | 12 | 10 | 44 | 39 |
| Individual hrs | n/a | n/a | 1 | 0 | 47 | 34 |
| Group hrs | n/a | n/a | 69 | 45 | 257 | 109 |
| Total hours received | n/a | n/a | 70 | 45 | 304 | 143 |
| FOOD SERVICE (Meals on Wheels) | | | | | | |
| Clients | n/a | n/a | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Meals | n/a | n/a | 0 | 0 | 68 | 56 |
| TRANSPORT | | | | | | |
| Number of clients | n/a | n/a | 2 | 6 | 11 | 14 |
| Number of trips | n/a | n/a | 8 | 10 | 44 | 32 |
| TRANSPORT - YOUTH | | | | | | |
| Number of clients | n/a | n/a | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Number of trips | n/a | n/a | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| ACCESS BUS - INVERELL | | | | | | |
| Number of clients | n/a | n/a | 1 | 1 | 6 | 6 |
| Number of trips (per month) | n/a | n/a | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| VOLUNTEERS | | | | | | |
| No of volunteers for the month | n/a | n/a | 4 | 4 | 36 | 35 |
| Monthly volunteer hours | n/a | n/a | 149 | 6 | 197 | 175 |
| ACCOMMODATION UNITS FOR AGED | | | | | | |
| Occupancy | n/a | n/a | 0 | 0 | 13/13 | 13/13 |

BINGARA CHSP

December and January were both very busy months with transport with 265 trips recorded. The Bingara local transport has increased significantly since returning after Christmas.

During December and January, 62 meals on wheels were delivered in Bingara and 91 meals were served in the centre which includes the weekly morning tea and Christmas function and luncheons.

Bingara CHSP recorded 269 hours of group social support and 141 hours of individual social support during the two months.

The Centre's Christmas lunch was held at The Living Classroom and was very well supported and enjoyed by the clients.

An Australia day morning tea was held on 28 January with party pies, lamingtons, scones and of course the old favourite, Minties.

The Centre's access bus is still running fortnightly and is always full. A couple of much needed new volunteers have been welcomed.

WARIALDA / DELUNGRA

Transport was not as busy as usual during December for Warialda.

Christmas parties were organised with Delungra clients on 11 December, Friday Card group held their Christmas party on 13 December and Warialda clients enjoyed their Christmas party on 16 December.

January saw a slow start with clients being away and transport requirements less.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Warialda Christmas Carnival

Gwydir Shire Council in partnership with the Warialda Christmas Carnival committee presented a family friendly Christmas carnival with market stalls, food vans, novelty games and races and live entertainment by the Morning Papers. Around 400 participants attended the event held on Saturday 14 December.



Bingara Christmas Carnival

For over 18 months, a steady convoy of hay, grain, hampers and gifts have made their way from the small town of Bangalow in the Northern Rivers to

Bingara, providing vital supplies for farmers facing the worst drought on record.

In 2019, Bangalow supported the children of Bingara Central School by subsidising the annual school camp and distributing Christmas hampers to every child attending the school in the hopes of making their festive season a little brighter.

In their latest show of support, Bangalow joined forces with Gwydir Shire Council to coordinate the annual Christmas Carnival held on Saturday 30 November. This time instead of hampers, the convoy comprised sound technicians, musicians, singers and performers, all ready to put on a show.

Bangalow woman Lisa Laing, was one of the women behind these incredible acts of kindness. Lisa wanted to bring some joy to the town after two terrible years of drought conditions.

Lisa called in favours from friends and family across Australia to put together a show of talented performers, which included Clayton Crosby, Dan Murphy, Susie Jay and Joe Ace, Jayne Henry, Bingara Central School and the Bingara Preschool.

An estimated crowd of 700 people gathered on Gwydir Oval for the event.



Australia Day

This year's Bingara Australia Day celebrations again took place at the Roxy Theatre, a change of venue from previous years with the event normally held at the Bingara Historical Museum. The relocation was due to a number of factors with the main reason being the extreme heat felt in the past and the health and safety risk it posed for many of the elderly attendees.

Although numbers were slightly down on previous years patrons were supportive of the venue change.

Australian CEO Peter Shann Ford was Bingara's Australia Day Ambassador for the day. Peter is a bionics software developer, author and former journalist and news anchor. Peter is also the founder of [Control Bionics](#), a neural systems technology company, and the inventor of [NeuroSwitch™](#), an EMG (electromyograph) based communications and control system for people with profound disabilities including [Locked in Syndrome](#).

Australia Day award recipients were Peter O'Brien for Bingara adult citizen of the year, Lachlan Starr was awarded the junior citizen of the year, and the event of the year was awarded to Vision 2020 for the Pulse of the Earth Festival. A new category for 2020, the Environmental Project of the year was awarded to the Bingara Anglers Club for their fish rescue project. Over 200 people attended the event.



Love Local this Christmas

Gwydir Shire Council in partnership with Bingara businesses were urging Gwydir residents to shop local for the 2019 festive season with a campaign called 'Love Local this Christmas'.

Bingara boutique owner Mrs Lenore Kennedy from Dewberry Lane was the brainchild of this initiative, and with the assistance of Gwydir Shire Council, aimed to encourage people to spend up big in local stores.

As an incentive, customers went into the draw to win some fantastic prizes including gift vouchers, food hampers, services and dining vouchers. The major prize was two 2 minute supermarket 'dash and grabs' courtesy of the Bingara IGA and Hardware. Winners of this prize had two minutes to do a lap of the IGA filling their trolley with as many grocery items as possible.

Twenty-three main street businesses participated in the campaign, offering a total prize pool of close to \$2,000. To participate customers simply needed to write their name and phone number on the back of their receipt, and place in the barrel at a participating store.

The prizes were drawn following a live music performance on Saturday 21 December at 12.30 in Fays Park.

This initiative was a great example of local business and Council working together to achieve positive outcomes.



Gwydir News

The current editor of the Gwydir News will be leaving Council in the second week in February to study medicine at the University of Western Sydney. The editor role has been advertised widely across print and social media and has attracted a number of promising applications. It is hoped that an announcement of the new editor will be made by early February.

position vacant
GWYDIR NEWS - EDITOR

The Gwydir News is currently seeking expressions of interest from motivated, creative and outgoing individuals for the role of Gwydir News Editor.

In this role, you will be responsible for the production of this weekly rural publication and will be required to source and create compelling content, secure ad sales, prepare layout, maintain the Gwydir News social media presence and perform general day to day administrative duties.

If you thrive by working collaboratively and and are passionate about local issues we would love to hear from you.

contact us today

To download a copy of the position description visit www.gwydirshire.com

For more information contact Georgia Standerwick on 0409 901 540

VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRES

Warialda Visitor Information Centre

| Nov 2019 | Combined Dec 2019 – Jan 2020 |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Opening hrs = 150 | Opening hrs = 300 |
| Volunteer hrs = 36 | Volunteer hrs = 76.5 |

Bingara Visitor Information Centre

| Nov 2019 | Dec 2019 | Jan 2020 |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Opening hrs = 166 | Opening hrs = 118 | Opening hrs = 136.5 |
| Volunteer hrs = 36 | Volunteer hrs = 36 | Volunteer hrs = 28 |

| Income – Warialda VIC | \$ Nov | \$ Dec - Jan |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Caravan Park | 162.00 | 503.00 |
| Centre hire | 60.00 | 0 |
| Merchandise sales | 2,061.30 | 3,207.50 |
| Goods on consignment sales | 0 | 0 |
| Gwydir Business Awards | 60.00 | 0 |
| Subtotal | \$2,343.30 | \$3,710.50 |
| Less Caravan Park money banked | 162.00 | 503.00 |
| Total Monthly Income | \$1,968.30 | \$3,207.50 |

| Income – Bingara VIC | \$ Nov | \$ Dec | \$ Jan |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Products on consignment | 28.00 | 8.00 | 3.00 |
| Merchandise | 915.50 | 615.00 | 750.00 |
| Subtotal | \$943.50 | \$623.00 | \$753.00 |
| Less payments to consignees | 19.60 | 5.60 | 2.10 |
| Total Merchandise sales/income | \$923.90 | \$617.40 | \$750.90 |
| Commission received on event bookings | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Monthly Income Bingara VIC | \$923.90 | \$617.40 | \$750.90 |
| Roxy Tour Income | 140.00 | 35.00 | 70.00 |
| Total Monthly Income Bingara VIC | \$1,063.90 | \$652.00 | \$820.90 |

| Cranky Rock Sites | Nov | Dec - Jan |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Powered sites | 26 | 11 |
| Unpowered sites | 14 | 8 |
| Total | 40 | 19 |

| Visitors at Warialda VIC | Nov | Dec Jan |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Visitors | 378 | 458 |
| RMS clients | 190 | 320 |
| Cafe | 467 | 633 |
| Total Warialda VIC | 1,100 | 1,411 |

| Visitors at Bingara VIC | Nov | Dec | Jan |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| | 345 | 300 | 282 |

SOCIAL SERVICES – December 2019 – January 2020

Bingara Neighbourhood Centre

Funding body – Family and Community Services

The Neighbourhood Centre assisted over 30 families with drought applications in the December/January period. The new funding available from the Federal Government through the Salvation Army saw glitches in the system, meaning that some applications were not registered and will need to be resubmitted with the assistance of the Federal Government.

Be Connected (Broadband for Seniors)

| Month | Number of participants |
|----------|------------------------|
| November | 9 |
| December | 0 |
| January | 0 |

There were no sessions held over the December January period. The new administrator of the program will commence lessons on the 3 February 2020.

Youth Service

Funding body – Family and Community Services

Youth Council

On Thursday 5 December, Gwydir Youth Council held a movie night at the Warialda Town Hall. The Youth Council planned this event as a fundraiser for upcoming events next year. The Youth Council planned this as a community event to target the whole community, not just the youth.

The night was well attended with 131 people present. Meal deals were available for purchase on the night. Warialda IGA donated many prize packs for the night and lucky winners were drawn out at the start of the movie and at the end.

It was a fantastic night and the Youth Council are very proud of what they accomplished. They did a fantastic job preparing and running the event.

The next Youth Council meeting is planned for 20 February 2020.

Youth Mentoring Program

| Month | Number of participants |
|----------|------------------------|
| December | 3 |
| January | 2 |

The Youth mentoring program has been assisting young people with Centrelink, Medicare, travel bookings, behaviour management, resume writing and rental applications.

Vacation Care

| | |
|---|---|
| Total Points of contact 13 January – 24 January | 87 |
| Number of children & families enrolled for Holiday Activities | 22 families 28 children 17 girls 11 boys |

Vacation Care was held in the Warialda Town Hall over two weeks during January 2020. Children were busy planning performances on the stage, cooking, making their own holiday books, key hunting, group challenges, hula hoop, paper scissors rock, crocodile crocodile and Pie Face.

The stage was set up as a mini cinema with a small screen and projector so the children could watch a movie. Children brought pillows and blankets and made popcorn. The movie session and Pie Face were the two highlights over vacation care.

Bingara Toy Library

*Funding body – Early Childhood Education and Care Directorate
NSW Department of Education and Communities*

| Particulars | November | December | January |
|---|---|---|---|
| Toy Library Members- children utilising the service | 44 children 76 KSK Program | 24 children 43 KSK Program | 31 children 3 KSK Program |
| Toy Library Members - Parents/Adults Attending | 28 adults | 20 adults | 17 adults |
| Total memberships at Bingara Toy Library | 12 borrowers 24 non borrowers 1 birth | 12 borrowers 24 non borrowers 2 birth | 11 borrowers 18 non borrowers 2 birth |
| Toys returned | 8 | 10 | 7 |
| Toys borrowed | 11 | 9 | 5 |

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Children/ Group using toys (members) | 6+drs | 4+ drs | 4 |
| Craft/songs/stories/Free play | 29 children 17 adults | 13 children 14 adults | 31 children 16 adults |

3 December – Bubz Biz Christmas party. Seven children accompanied by seven adults attended the last Bubz Biz session for 2019. Each family brought along a small plate of food to share. The service provided fruit punch, a gift for each child attending and a small token to thank each adult for supporting the service during 2019. Child and Family Health Nurse was in attendance to support families also.

KSK Program - a flyer was distributed amongst other services and public notice boards to start the process of new enrolments for 2020. The children on both Tuesday and Thursday afternoons enjoyed Christmas craft, cooking, movie afternoon and a party for each separate afternoons last day.

January was very hot and this was reflected in attendance numbers; also intensive swimming lessons were on in Bingara and many of the regular families were away on holidays.

The service was only open for eight days in total during January due to staff leave and public holidays. Craft, inside play, outside play and games were made available to the families who did attend the service for this period.

The rooms were rearranged and the outside areas revamped by the toy librarian for a fun 2020 program.

The weekly routine has been revamped with after school program Kool Skool Kids being offered on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons this year.

A slight change to the opening hours in the toy room for the morning session sees it still available for three mornings a week offering craft, parenting support, special guests, outreach service visits.

Supported Playgroup Development Worker

Funding body – Family and Community Services

| Warialda Toy Library | November | December | January |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Total daily attendance count for children, (no. of children having utilised the service calculating each day over the month) | 103 | 158 | 34 |
| Full borrowing members (new) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Non borrowing members (new and/or renew) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Casual borrowing members (new or renew) | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Commemorative Birth Certificate – voucher memberships | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Commemorative Birth Certificate | 0 | 1 | 0 |

applications received

| | | | |
|--|----|----|----|
| Toys returned | 11 | 4 | 0 |
| Toys borrowed | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Groups using the service (FDC carers, Church and Pharmacy) | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Monday group activity morning | 16 | 35 | 5 |
| Tuesday group activity morning | 25 | 32 | 3 |
| Wednesday group activity morning | 0 | 19 | 10 |
| Thursday group activity morning | 28 | 40 | 12 |
| Friday group activity morning | 34 | 32 | 4 |



Fun at the Warialda Toy Library



Vacation Care, Warialda

Significant events for the month of December included:

3 December – Christmas decorating morning took place at the service where children were provided with the opportunity to decorate the services tree and building.

6 December – children participated in making reindeer food, followed by a jingle bracelet creation session.

9 December - families were provided with information regarding toddler and sounds development.

11 December – Toy Library Christmas party. Families attended this session with a plate of food to share and a picnic morning tea took place outside. Children engaged in water play activities briefly, before heading back indoors where a visit from Santa took place with all children receiving a book for this occasion. Various Christmas craft experiences, including reindeer food

making, were provided for the children as well as a sausage sizzle lunch to conclude the event.

12 December - Christmas baubles were created by the children attending the morning service session on this day.

13 December - sensory play was incorporated into the festive celebrations with the children being provided with a Christmas themed sensory tub.

16 December - as the school holiday period approached, families were provided with a current media guidelines resource sheet, explaining the recommended time children should be limited to screen time as per age. This information also provided families with education regarding what is actually considered 'screen time' and how it can impact children's development, mood and behavior.

17 December - paper plate Christmas masks were created by the children attending on this morning.

19 December - Christmas cook up day with children making Christmas tree cookies.

20 December - Christmas dough creation morning.

Although the service was operational during the Christmas school holiday period, numbers were recorded as being low in trend compared to previous January school holiday periods. This can be attributed to families being away and the intensive swimming program that takes place during January coinciding directly with service session times.

The service still provided many experiences such as; sensory play experiences, painting, craft and story time sessions, cooking and music sessions for those few attending the service sessions.

| Playgroup Location | November | December | January |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Warialda – Monday morning | 16 | 35 | 5 |
| Gravesend – Wednesday morning | 12 | 9 | School Christmas holidays |
| Bingara – Thursday morning | 42 | 19 | School Christmas holidays |
| Total | 70 | 63 | 5 |

December is always a busy time for playgroups across the shire. December 2019 was no different with plenty of Christmas craft activities and experiences being provided for all children attending playgroup sessions.

Warialda and Gravesend playgroup members along with members of the toy library joined to celebrate Christmas on 11 December, with their annual Christmas party taking place at the Warialda Toy Library. Families attended this session with a plate of food to share, and a picnic morning tea took place outside. Children engaged in water play activities briefly before heading back indoors where a visit from Santa took place, with all children receiving a book

for this occasion. Various Christmas craft experiences, including reindeer food making, were provided for the children as well as a sausage sizzle lunch to conclude the event.

Bingara playgroup celebrated their Christmas party on 12 December with a slip and slide experience, party food and a gift provided to each child and mother attending the service on this day.

Warialda provided two playgroup sessions during this school holiday break with only five children attending overall to these sessions. Free play, puzzle and games, playdough and face painting were some of the activities provided for over these two days. There were no playgroups held during January in Bingara and Gravesend.

Bingara Preschool

*Funding body - Early Childhood Education and Care Directorate
NSW Department of Education and Communities*

| Days | December | January |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Tuesday | 25 | 15 |
| Wednesday | 21 | 15 |
| Thursday | 20 | 17 |
| Friday | 23 | 8 |

End of Year Presentation: The annual Bingara Preschool Presentation evening was held on Monday 9 December at 6pm. It was held at the Roxy and there was a large group of parents, friends and family that attended. The children performed four of their favourite songs: Cuddly Koala, Baby Shark, Tooty Ta and Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear. Each child received a book as a gift, their completed portfolio and a graduation/completion certificate.

Santa visited the event, which made the children and their families smile. The Preschool received a lot of positive feedback on the event.

Final days for 2019: The last formal day for the children at Bingara Preschool was Wednesday 18 December. The staff spent Thursday 19 and Friday 20 December, cleaning and re-organising all the equipment and resources for 2020.



Bingara Preschool resumed on 28 January 2020.

Tharawonga Mobile Resource Unit

Funding body – Department of Education | Department of Employment
Australian Government

| Day | Venue | 2-3yo | 3-5yo | Transition to school | Total In Attendance |
|-----------|------------|-------|-------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Monday | Yetman | 0 | 8 | 3 | 8 |
| Tuesday | North Star | 2 | 13 | 6 | 15 |
| Wednesday | Yallaroi | 1 | 10 | 3 | 11 |
| Thursday | Tulloona | 1 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| Thursday | Gravesend | 2 | 10 | 3 | 12 |
| Friday | Gravesend | 2 | 11 | 5 | 13 |
| Friday | Crooble | 1 | 5 | 2 | 6 |

December was busy with children’s Christmas functions at each venue, creating craft for parent’s presents and decorating halls.

Tharawonga saw 18 children transitioning to school. This has reduced our numbers at all venues and although we have several new enrolments, the drought has had a big impact upon the service.

Tulloona Service has been recessed due to only one child requiring care at the venue during 2020.

Gravesend Clubhouse has had some repairs done during the holidays.

North Star now has a long day care service twice per week to take the place of Tulloona on Thursday.

Crooble service was about to be closed at the end of 2019 as there were only four children booked for 2020. Parents rallied and found three more children so the service remains on a Friday at this point in time.

Yallaroi service has remained as usual at the Yallaroi Hall.

Yetman venue has changed from the Sporting Club to the school, the main reason being staff safety due to sharing the Sporting Club with the general public using the caravan park.

Hours for Tharawonga Mobile Resource Unit 2020

| DAY | VENUE | OPERATING HOURS |
|-----------|------------|-----------------|
| Monday | Yetman | 8:30am – 3:00pm |
| Tuesday | North Star | 9:00am – 3:00pm |
| Wednesday | Yallaroi | 8:30am – 2:30pm |
| Thursday | North Star | 9:00am – 3:00pm |
| Thursday | Gravesend | 8:30am – 4:00pm |
| Friday | Gravesend | 8:30am – 4:00pm |
| Friday | Crooble | 8:30am – 2:30pm |

CONSULTATION

Consultation has occurred within the Organisation and Community Development Directorate.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy implications are those relating to the 2019/2020 Operational Plan and the Policies of Gwydir Shire Council.

FINANCIAL, ECONOMIC and RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (including Asset Management)

The activities carried out by the Organisation and Community Development Department are in line with the 2019/2020 Operational Plan.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS (Social and Environment)

The activities undertaken by the Organisation and Community Development Department regarding social and environmental factors are targeted in line with the 2019/2020 Operational Plan.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the monthly Organisation and Community Development Report for December 2019 and January 2020 be received

ATTACHMENTS

AT- Attach 1 - WHS Report

Attach 1 - WHS REPORT



| Department | Current Month | | | | | Total (Financial Year) | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| | Hazards Reported | Near Miss Reported | First Aid Treatments | Workplace Verifications | Toolbox/Safety Meetings/Training | Hazards Reported | Near Miss Reported | Workplace Verifications | Toolbox/Safety Meetings/Training | |
| Social Services | | | | | | | | | | |
| Naroo and Aged Services | | | | | | | | | | |
| Community Assets | | | | | | | | 2 | | |
| Finance | | | | | | | | | | |
| People and Culture | | | | | | | | | | |
| IT and Business Improvement | | | | | | | | | | |
| Marketing and Economic Development | | | | | | | | | | |
| Safety, Risk & Procurement | | | | | | | | | | |
| Planning and Environment | | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| Building Services | | | | | | 5 | | 1 | 1 | |
| Utilities | | | | | | 5 | | 1 | 1 | |
| Engineering Services | | | | | | 12 | | 6 | 5 | |
| TOTAL | | | | 4 | 12 | 38 | 2 | 40 | 12 | |
| Department Lag Indicators | | | | | | | | | | |
| Current Month | | | | | Total (Financial Year) | | | | | |
| Department | Incidents Reported | First Aid Treatments | Medical Treatment Injuries | Lost Time Injuries | Incidents Reported | First Aid Treatments | Medical Treatment Injuries | Lost Time Injuries | | |
| Social Services | | | | | 3 | 2 | | 1 | | |
| Naroo and Aged Services | 4 | | | 1 | 6 | | | 2 | | |
| Community Assets | 2 | | 2(external) | | 2 | | 2(external) | | | |
| Finance | | | | | | | | | | |
| People and Culture | | | | | | | | | | |
| IT and Business Improvement | | | | | | | | | | |
| Marketing and Economic Development | | | | | | | | | | |
| Safety, Risk & Procurement | | | | | 1 | | | | | |
| Planning and Environment | | | | | 5 | | 1 | 1 | | |
| Building Services | | | | | 4 | | 2 | | | |
| Utilities | | | | | 5 | | 1 | 1 | | |
| Engineering Services | | | | | 12 | | 6 | 5 | | |
| TOTAL | 11 | | | 1 | 38 | 2 | 6 | 10 | | |

| Department | Current Month | | | | | | Total (Financial Year) | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|----------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--|
| | Incident Type | Severity | Investigation Status | Corrective Action Status | Investigation Open | Investigation Overdue | Investigations Closed | Actions Scheduled/In Progress | Actions Overdue | Actions Closed | |
| Social Services | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Narrow and Aged Services | 2 x Personal Injuries 2 x Property Damage | | 1 x Closed 3 x Overdue | 4 x Closed | | 1 | 3 | | | 4 | |
| Community Assets | 2 x Personal Injuries (external) | | 2 x Overdue | | | 2 | | | | | |
| Finance | | | | | | | | | | | |
| People and Culture | | | | | | | | | | | |
| IT and Business Improvement | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Marketing and Economic Development | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Safety, Risk & Procurement | | | | | | | | 2 | | 3 | |
| Planning and Environment | 1 x Property Damage/Theft | | | | | 1 | 5 | | | | |
| Building Services | 1 x Property Damage | | | | | | 5 | | | 1 | |
| Utilities | 1 x Personal Injury | | 1 x Overdue | 1 x In Progress 1 x Closed | | 2 | 6 | 1 | | 6 | |
| Engineering Services | 2 x Property Damage | | | | | 2 | 11 | | 3 | 6 | |
| TOTAL | 5 x Personal Injuries 6 x Property Damage | | 6 x Overdue 1 x Closed | 5 x Closed 1 x In Progress | | 11 | 36 | 3 | 3 | 20 | |
| Commentary | A number of old investigations and actions are open which appears to be due to a lack of software familiarity. Incident severity is currently not utilised when reporting incidents due to software limitations however this is an important focus area going forward. Historical data (July 2019 to November 2019) is being sourced and some fields remain incomplete at this time. | | | | | | | | | | |

Item 8 Monthly Investment and Rates Collection Report - January 2020

FILE REFERENCE

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 5. Organisational Management

OUTCOME: 5.1 CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

STRATEGY: 5.1.1 Financial management and accountability systems - CFO - internal

AUTHOR Manager, Finance

DATE 3 February 2020

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

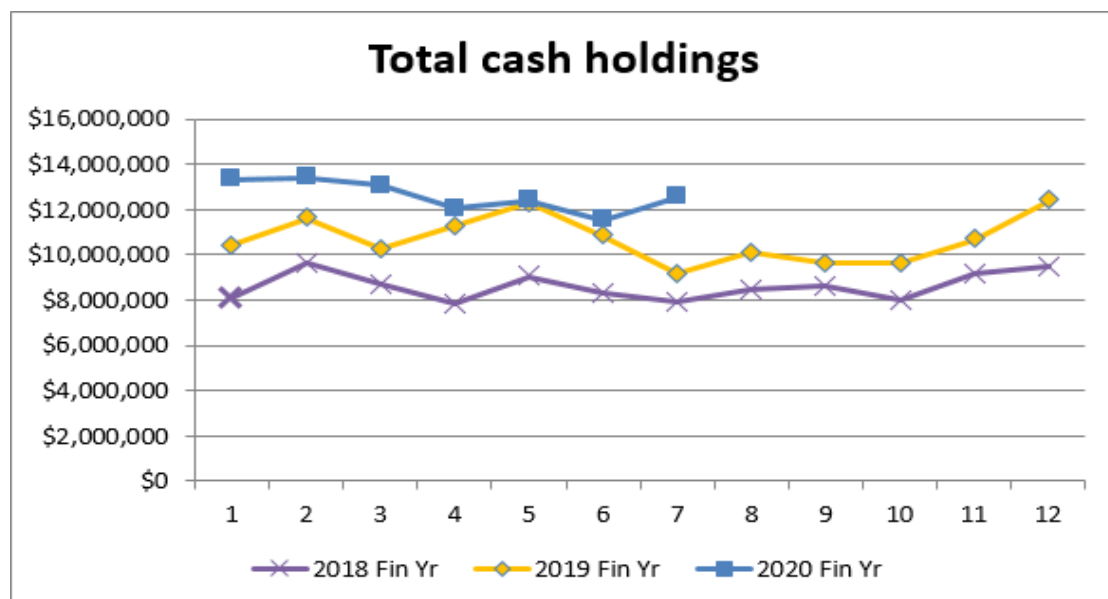
At each monthly Ordinary Meeting, the Council is presented with the schedule relating to Investments, as at the end of the previous month.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Clause 19(3) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 1993, the following information provides details of Council's funds invested as at 31 January 2020.

| Direct Investments | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|-------|-----------------------|
| Broker | ID | Investment Name | Rating | Type | Next Rollover | Yield | Current Value |
| NAB | 2020.07 | NAB | AA | TD | 31-03-2020 | 1.60% | \$1,000,000.00 |
| NAB | 2020.08 | NAB | AA | TD | 31-03-2020 | 1.60% | \$1,000,000.00 |
| NAB | 2020.09 | NAB | AA | TD | 14-04-2020 | 1.60% | \$1,000,000.00 |
| Grand Total | | | | | | | \$3,000,000.00 |
| Managed Funds | | | | | | | |
| Fund | Investment Horizon | Type | 3 Mth Avg Yield | Current Value | | | |
| Regional Australia Bank | At Call | Cash | See report | \$312,410.73 | | | |
| Tcorp Cash Fund | At Call | Cash | See report | \$5,064,081.84 | | | |
| Tcorp Medium Term Fund | At Call | Cash | See report | \$1,088,499.05 | | | |
| Grand Total | | | | | | | \$6,464,991.62 |
| Total Investments | | | | | | | |
| Direct Investments | | | | | | | \$3,000,000.00 |
| Managed Funds | | | | | | | \$6,464,991.62 |
| Grand Total | | | | | | | \$9,464,991.62 |

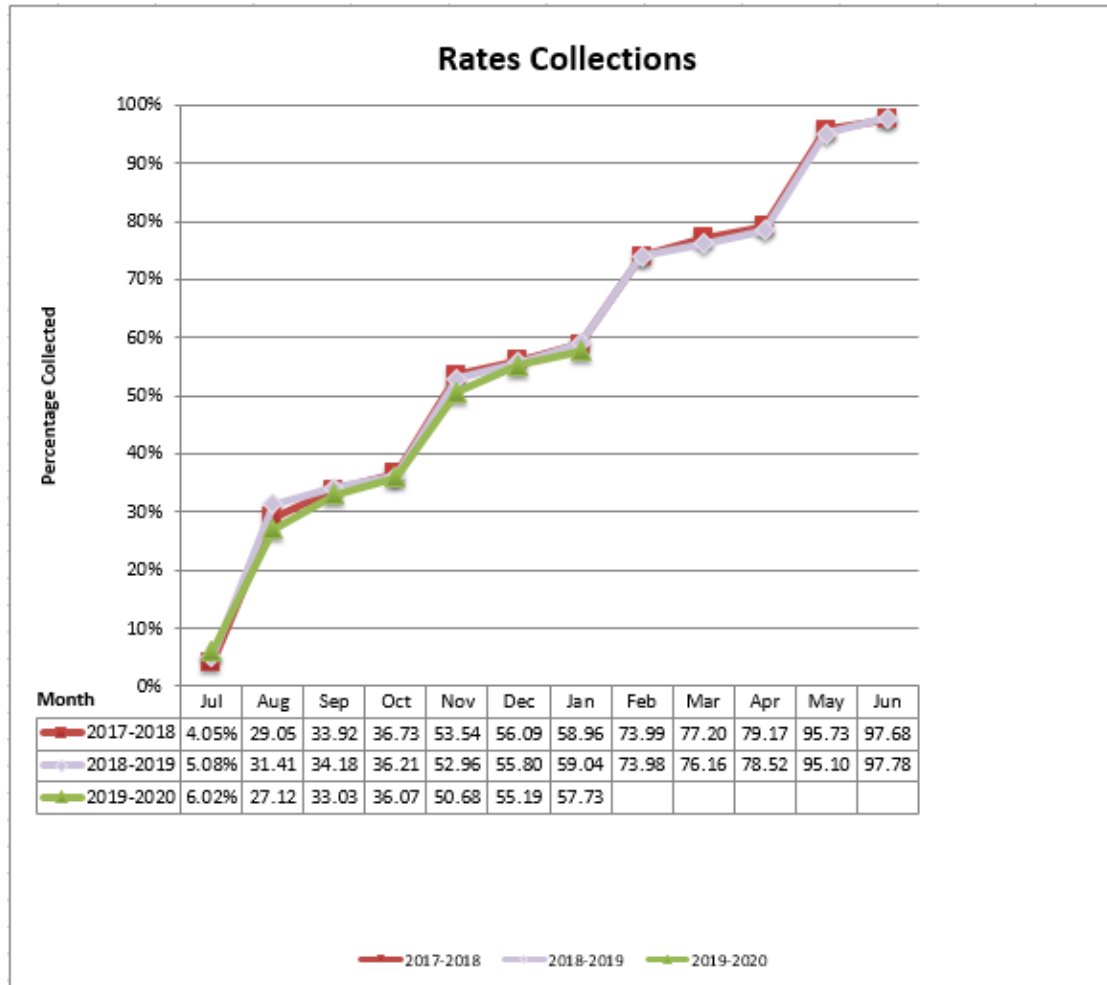
| Cash and Investments | |
|---|------------------------|
| Total Investments | |
| Direct Investments | \$3,000,000.00 |
| Managed Funds | \$7,989,185.61 |
| Grand Total Investments | \$10,989,185.61 |
| Total Cash and Investments | |
| Investments | \$10,989,185.61 |
| Cash at bank | \$ 1,517,386.25 |
| Grand Total Cash and Investments | \$12,506,571.86 |
| General Fund Cash | |
| Total cash and investments | \$12,506,571.86 |
| LESS: | |
| Water fund* | -\$881,643.84 |
| Sewer fund* | -\$3,406,087.84 |
| Waste fund* | -\$3,193,056.20 |
| Other restrictions: | |
| Employee leave entitlements* | -\$900,000.00 |
| Carry over works in progress* | -\$1,200,000.00 |
| Asset replacement* | -\$800,000.00 |
| Bonds and deposits | -\$290,000.00 |
| Unexpended grants* | -\$950,000.00 |
| Developer contributions | -\$256,000.00 |
| *These figures may change with end of year processing | |
| Discretionary General Fund Cash | \$629,783.98 |



I, Helen Thomas, Finance Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer for Gwydir Shire Council, certify that the Council’s investments have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council’s Investment Policy (F.01.03), as amended.

RATES COLLECTIONS

The graph below represents a comparative of the percentage collections for the current year against the two previous rating years. The current years’ collections are up to 31 January 2020.



OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the monthly Investment and Rates Collection Report for January 2020 be received

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Item 9 Meeting Cycle Dates - 2020

FILE REFERENCE

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 5. Organisational Management

OUTCOME: 5.1 CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

STRATEGY: 5.1.3 Administrative functions - GM - internal

AUTHOR General Manager

DATE 5 February 2020

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

This report recommends the adoption of the draft meeting cycle for February to September 2020.

BACKGROUND

At the Ordinary meeting of Council on 27 September 2018, the meeting cycle dates were adopted for meetings up to and including September 2019.

The following arrangements exist at present in respect of the Council's meeting cycle:

Regular day and time of Ordinary Meetings and Standing Committee Meetings:

The Ordinary Council Meetings of Council are set as the last Thursday of each month usually commencing at 9am unless there is some kind of conflict with other events.

The Standing Committee Meetings have been held, if required, on the second Thursday of each month usually commencing at 9am.

Manner of giving notice of Meetings:

The Business Papers and summons for the Ordinary Council and Committee Meetings are issued no later than the close of business on the Fridays prior to the Meetings. This is achieved by the electronic agenda being uploaded to the Councillors' iPad device via Dashboard unless there are unusual circumstances that make it impossible to achieve this timeframe.

Any Councillor may request a hard copy of the Business Paper.

While it has been the practice to alternate the Meeting venues monthly between Warialda and Bingara, with the legislative requirement to have all meetings recorded since the commencement of 2020, Council currently only has the Warialda office set up to accommodate this. Meetings will need to be held in Warialda until such time as the Bingara Council Chambers is able to meet this requirement.

The recommended meeting dates designed to accommodate the foreseen issues that may arise next year are outlined in the attached document.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received

FURTHER that the recommended meetings dates for 2020 are accepted

ATTACHMENTS

AT- Proposed Meeting Cycle for 2020

| Suggested Meeting Cycle | | |
|---|-----------------|--|
| Date | Location | Comments |
| 2020 January no meetings unless required | | |
| Thursday 27 February 2020 | Warialda | Change of venue due to requirement for recording meetings |
| Thursday 26 March 2020 | ? Bingara | Dependent upon audio setup |
| Thursday 23 April 2019 | Warialda | Good Friday 10 April and Anzac Day Thursday 25 April. No Committee Meeting |
| Thursday 21 May 2020 | Bingara | Country Mayors meeting on 28 May |
| Thursday 25 June 2020 | Warialda | ALGA General Assembly possibly during June 2020 TBC |
| Thursday 30 July 2020 | Bingara | |
| Thursday 27 August 2020 | Warialda | |
| Thursday 24 September 2020 | Bingara | Elections |