

AGENDA FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, 7th November 2022

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to clause 7 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice that the Council Meeting of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council will be held at the Coonamble Shire Council Chambers on **7**th **November 2022** commencing at <u>10:30am</u> to discuss the items listed in the Agenda.

Michael Urquhart GENERAL MANAGER

Table of Contents	
1. OPENING OF MEETING	3
2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS	3
3. LEAVE OF ABSENCE	3
4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS	4
5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING	5
5.1 MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 29th August 2022	5
6. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER	11
ITEM 6.1 COUNCIL'S DECISION ACTION REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2022	11
ITEM 6.2 CIRCULARS RECEIVED FROM THE NSW OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT	15
ITEM 6.3 CASH ON HAND AND INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 31 th AUGUST 2022 and 30 th	^h 31
ITEM 6.4 CLOSEDOWN OF COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION OFFICES OVER THE 2022/2023 FESTIVE SEASON	
ITEM 6.5 FIRST QUARTER OPERATIONAL PLAN 2022/2023	35
ITEM 6.7 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT – SEPTEMBER 2022	52
ITEM 6.8 IMPORTANT DATES – UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS	57
7. BIOSECURITY REPORT	59
ITEM 7.1 QUARTERLY BIOSECUIRTY REPORT	59
8. QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING	62
9. CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT MEETING	63
10. CLOSE OF MEETING	63

1. OPENING OF MEETING

Time:____am

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land we gather upon today and pay respect to the Elders both past, present and emerging.

3. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

are accepted

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillors and senior staff are reminded of their obligation to declare their interest in any matters listed before them.

In considering your interest you are reminded to include pecuniary, non-pecuniary and conflicts of interest as well as any other interest you perceive or may be perceived of you.

Councillors may declare an interest at the commencement of the meeting, or alternatively at any time during the meeting should any issue progress or arise that would warrant a declaration.

 Councillor
 Item No.
 Pecuniary/ Non-Pecuniary
 Reason

 Image: I

Councillors must state their reasons in declaring any type of interest.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING

5.1 MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 29th August 2022

Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 29th August 2022

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting held 29th August 2022, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Seconded:

Attachments:

Meeting Minutes – 29th August 2022.

Page 1 of 4

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY 29th AUGUST 2022 AT 10:35AM.

PRESENT: Clrs D. Batten, B. Fisher, M Cooke, Z Holcombe, N. Kinsey, Clr P Cullen, Clr D Todd, Clr G Peart and Clr G Whiteley

ABSENT: Clr I Woodcock

STAFF MEMBERS: M. Urquhart (General Manager), A. Fletcher (Senior Biosecurity Officer), and R Wilson (Minute Secretary).

WELCOME: Meeting was opened at 10:35am and Chairman Clr D Batten welcomed all councillors and staff to the meeting.

08/22/01 Leave of Absence

Resolved:

That the leave of absence received from Councillors Clr I Woodcock is accepted and a leave of absence granted.

Moved: Clr Fisher Seconded: Clr Todd

Carried

Declaration of oath/Affirmation of Office

Pursuant to Section 233A of the Local Government Act 1993, the following Councillor took an Oath of Office;

Clr Greg Whiteley

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- NIL

08/22/02 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 27th June 2022

Resolved:

That the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting held 27th June 2022, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Clr Cooke Seconded: Clr Cullen

Carried

29th August 2022

Ordinary Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes

08/22/03 Annual Financial Statements 2021/2022

Resolved:

- 1. The Draft Annual Financial Reports for 2021/2022 be referred to Council's Auditor.
- The Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, General Manager be authorised to sign the necessary Financial Statements.
- On receipt of the Audit Report, a copy be forwarded to the Office of Local Government and any other relevant statutory body.
- 4. Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to set the date at which the Auditor's report and the Financial Statements be presented to the public, additionally be reviewed/adopted by Council formally as required, subject to Section 418 of the Local Government Act 1993 and it's requirements.

Moved: Clr Kinsey Seconded: Clr Fisher

Carried

08/22/03 Council's Decision Action Report – August 2022	
Resolved:	
That the Resolution Register for August 2022 be received and noted	
Moved: Cir Peart Seconded: Cir Todd	Carried
	Carrieu

08/22/04 Circulars Received From the NSW Office of Local Government

Resolved:

That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 22-19 to 22-22 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

Moved: Cir Holcombe Seconded: Cir Todd

Carried

Page 3 of 4

08/22/05 Cash and Investment Report- 30th June 2022 & 31st July 2022

Resolved:

That the investment report for 30th June 2022 and 31st July 2022 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Fisher Seconded: Clr Kinsey

Carried

08/22/06 Supplementary Roadside Control Program

Resolved:

That the General Managers report be received.

Moved: Clr Todd Seconded: Clr Kinsey

Carried

08/22/07 Fourth Quarter Operational Plan 2021/2022 & Annual Delivery Program

Resolved:

That: Council accept the progress made on the 2021/2022 Operational Plan as at 30th June 2022 and Annual Delivery program.

Moved: Clr Cooke Seconded: Clr Peart

Carried

08/22/08 Payment of Expenses & Provision of Facilities to Councillors - Policy

Resolved:

1. That the General Managers Report be received.

Council adopt the "Payment of Expenses & Provision of Facilities to Councillors" policy as tabled.

The policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days and public submissions be invited.

Moved: Clr Todd Seconded: Clr Holcombe

Carried

29th August 2022

Ordinary Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Page 4 of 4

08/22/09 Important Dates for Councillors - Upcoming Meetings and Events

Resolved:

That Council receive and note the list of upcoming meetings and events.

Moved: Clr Cooke Seconded: Clr Whiteley

Carried

Carried

Carried

08/22/10 Senior Biosecurity Officer's Report

Resolved:

1. That the report be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Kinsey Seconded: Clr Fisher

09/22/11 African Boxthorn Bio Control Release

Resolved:

1. That CMCC Staff be delegated the authority to select the most appropriate five (5) sites for the introduction of the African Boxthorn Bio Control trial.

2. That a report on the African Boxthorn bio control trials be included in the next Council business paper.

Moved: Clr Whiteley Seconded: Clr Kinsey

Date of the next CMCC Council Meeting to be Monday 31st October 2022 at Coonabarabran.

Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 11:40am

Chairman

General Manager

29th August 2022

Ordinary Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes

6. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

ITEM 6.1 COUNCIL'S DECISION ACTION REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2022

REPORTING SECTION:	General Manager
AUTHOR:	Michael Urquhart

Summary:

This schedule summarises the current position of action taken in respect of matters considered at the previous meetings of Council when the outcomes have not been finalised.

Background:

Attached is the Resolution Register which summaries outstanding action in respect of all resolutions which required action and are still outstanding. The exception is for the last meeting where items that have been completed are included. Councillors are reminded that any queries should be raised with the General Manager prior to the meeting.

Current Position:

Details of actions taken/being taken are flagged for each motion. Over time the register may grow in size because, whilst resolutions are actioned after the meeting, it is not always possible to resolve issues quickly, especially if other government agencies are involved or Council's own in-house resources are stretched, Council has to prioritise work commitments.

In these circumstances the register become3s the simple tool of keeping track of matters awaiting attention.

Again, Councillors are reminded that any queries should be raised with the General Manager prior to the meeting as this would streamline the meeting process and also resolve minor issues more expediently.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Resolution Register.

Governance Issues:

Standard Procedure dictates that Council resolutions should be implemented as soon as practicably be achieved.

Environmental Issues: Nil.

Stakeholders: CMCC Council

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Nil.

Conclusion:

That the Resolution Register be received and noted. It is requested that any queries be raised with the General Manager prior to meeting day to facilitate proceedings at the meeting.

Council's Decision Action Report – September 2022

Recommendation:

That the Resolution Register September 2022 be received and noted.

Moved: Seconded:

Attachment:

Action Resolution Register.



CMCC ACTION RESOLUTION REGISTER

27.06.22	06/22/09	 That: 1. Council join with the Far North West Joint Organisation and its member Councils in establishing a Shared Audit Risk and Improvement Committee in accordance with Section 428B of the Local Government Act 1993. 2. That Council delegate authority to the Far North West Joint Organisation to appoint the chair and two (2) independent members from the Shared Audit Risk and Improvement Committee to serve the Far North West Joint Organisation, all three (3) members Council's and Castlereagh Macquarie County Council. 3. That Council appoint Clr Bill Fisher to serve as the non- voting board members on the ARIC for this Council only. 1. That Council adopt the Drafts Terms of Reference developed for the operation of the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee noting the initial term to cater to the shorter period to be served by the current Council and the fact there is no current need for the Chair to be pre-qualified at this stage 	GM		In Progress
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29.08.22	08/22/03	 The Draft Annual Financial Reports for 2021/2022 be referred to Council's Auditor. The Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and General Manager be authorised to sign the necessary Financial Statements. On receipt of the Audit Report, a copy be forwarded to the Office of Local Government and any other relevant statutory body. Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to set the date at which the Auditor's report and Financial Statements be presented to the public, additionally be reviewed/adopted by Council formally as required, subject to Section 418 of the Local Government Act 1993 and it's requirements. 	GМ		
29.08.22	08/22/08	 That the General Managers Report be received Council adopt the "Payment of Expenses & Provisions of Facilities to Councilors" policy as tabled. The policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days and public submissions be invited. 	GМ	Advertising placed in various newspapers and on Council website. No submission received.	Completed
29.08.22	08/22/11	 That CMCC Staff be delegated the authority to select the most appropriate five (5) sites for the introduction of the African Boxthorn Bio Control trial. That a report on the African Boxthorn Bio Control trials be included in the next Council business paper. 	GM		

ITEM 6.2 CIRCULARS RECEIVED FROM THE NSW OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

REPORTING SECTION:	General Manager
AUTHOR:	Michael Urquhart

Summary:

Copies of circulars received from the Local Government Office Department of Premier and Cabinet are attached for Councillors information. Circulars are emailed to Councillors when published from LGNSW.

Background:

The General Manager has listed the following circulars issued by the Office of Local Government:

- 22-23 Audit of written returns of interests
- 22-24 Consultation on draft Model Media Policy
- 22-25New standard contracts of employment for general managers and executive officers and updated guidelines for the appointment and oversight of general managers
- 22-26 Her Majesty the Queen
- 22-27 Discussion paper- Senior staff employment
- 22-28 Annual Report and Annual Performance Statement Checklists
- 22-29 End of Financial Reporting 2021-22
- 22-30 Guidelines on the recruitment of senior council executives

Governance Issues:

All circulars have Governance implications. Where necessary the subject of particular circulars will be raised in following reports.

Stakeholders:

Councillors Castlereagh Macquarie County Council staff

Financial Implications:

Obviously some circulars will have a financial impact and where this is the case, Councillors particular attention will be drawn to them.

Conclusion:

Council will need to comply with the various requirements set out in the circulars.

Circulars Received From the NSW Office of Local Government

Recommendation:

That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 22-23 to 22-30 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

Moved: Seconded:

Attachments: Circulars 22-23 to 22-30



Circular Details	Circular No 22-23 / 25 August 2022 / A826280
Previous Circular	N/A
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / 'designated persons' / council governance staff
Contact	Investigations Team / 02 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Information

Audit of written returns of interests

What's new or changing

 The Office of Local Government (OLG) will be undertaking an audit of written returns of interests lodged by councillors and designated persons.

What this will mean for your council

- Councillors, administrators, and other council officials (general managers, senior staff and other 'designated persons') should note that their written returns of interests may be subject to review as part of the OLG audit.
- Advance notice of the audit is being given to allow councillors, administrators, and designated persons the opportunity to ensure their returns are accurate and complete.
- Councils may wish to undertake their own review of returns to facilitate compliance, particularly to ensure all sections of the return have been completed, and that the return period and date are correct.

Key points

- Councillors and designated persons are required to lodge written returns of interest in accordance with the requirements set out in their council's code of conduct.
- Councillors and designated persons are required to lodge a new return with their council's general manager no later than 30 September 2022, unless exempt from doing so.
- A failure to correctly lodge and/or disclose interests is misconduct and can result in disciplinary action being taken.

Where to go for further information

- The OLG has issued guidance on the completion of disclosure of interest returns, which is available <u>here</u>.
- For more information about the completion of returns of interests, please contact OLG's Council Governance Team by telephone on 4428 4100 or by email to <u>olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</u>.

Melanie Hawyes Deputy Secretary, Crown Lands and Local Government

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Circular Details	Circular No 22-24 / 31 August 2022 / A832194
Previous Circular	21-08 Consultation on draft Model Social Media and Councillor
	and Staff Interaction Policies and on the development of a Model
	Media Policy
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / All council staff
Contact	Council Governance / (02) 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Response to OLG

Consultation on draft Model Media Policy

What's new or changing

- The Office of Local Government (OLG) has issued a consultation draft of a Model Media Policy.
- OLG is seeking the views of councils and other stakeholders on the consultation draft prior to finalising the model policy.
- The model policy has been developed drawing on best practice across the local government sector.
- The model policy will not be mandatory, and councils will be free to choose whether to use the policy or to adapt it for their own purposes. If adopted, the policy will operate to supplement the provisions of councils' adopted codes of conduct.

What this will mean for your council

• OLG is inviting submissions from councils and other stakeholders on the consultation draft of the Model Media Policy.

Key points

- The draft Model Media Policy is available on OLG's website <u>here</u>.
- Submissions may be made by email to olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.
- Submissions should be labelled "Model Media Policy" and marked to the attention of OLG's Council Governance Team.
- Submissions should be made before 26 October 2022.

Where to go for further information

• For further information, contact OLG's Council Governance Team on (02) 4428 4100 or by email to <u>olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</u>.

Melanie Hawyes Group Deputy Secretary Crown Lands and Local Government

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Circular Details	Circular No 22-25 / 31 August 2022 / A812271
Previous Circular	22-12 Proposed amendments to the standard contract of
	employment for general managers
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / Joint Organisation Executive
	Officers / Human Resources Staff
Contact	Council Governance Team / 02 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Councils and joint organisations to implement

New standard contracts of employment for general managers and executive officers and updated guidelines for the appointment and oversight of general managers

What's new or changing

- The "departmental chief executive" has approved new standard contracts of employment for general managers of councils and executive officers of joint organisations under section 338 of the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act).
- The new standard contracts have been developed in consultation with the sector in response to recommendations arising from ICAC's investigation of the former Canterbury City Council (Operation Dasha).
- New Guidelines for the Appointment and Oversight of General Managers have also been issued under section 23A of the Act to assist councils in the implementation of the new contracts.
- The Guidelines have been updated to reflect the new standard contracts and to implement ICAC's recommendation that they include guidance that general managers' performance agreements include performance indicators related to the promotion of an ethical culture. The Guidelines also contain guidance on the importance of good working relationships between councils and general managers.
- The changes are summarised in the attachment to this circular.

What this will mean for your council

- Under section 338 of the Act, general managers and executive officers must be employed under contracts with terms of between 12 months and 5 years based on the standard contracts approved by the departmental chief executive of OLG.
- When appointing a new general manager or executive officer or renewing their contract, councils and joint organisations must use the new approved standard contracts.
- The approval of the new standard contracts does not affect existing employment contracts general managers and executive officers are employed under. However, clause 19.2 of existing contracts allows them to be varied by agreement between the employee and the council or joint organisation to be consistent with the provisions of the new approved standard contracts.

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- A separate review is being undertaken of employment arrangements under the Act for "senior staff". Until the review is completed, councils should continue to use the existing approved standard contract of employment for senior staff.
- Under section 23A of the Act, councils and joint organisations must consider the updated Guidelines when exercising their functions in relation to the recruitment and oversight of general managers.

Where to go for further information

- The new standard contracts of employment for general managers and executive officers and the updated Guidelines are available <u>here</u>.
- Information about the amendments to the standard contracts is set out in the attachment to this circular.
- For further information please contact OLG's Council Governance Team on (02) 4428 4100 or by email at <u>olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</u>.

Melanie Hawyes Deputy Secretary, Crown Lands and Local Government

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ATTACHMENT

What changes have been made to the standard contracts of employment for general managers of councils and executive officers of joint organisations to ensure greater security of employment?

A key focus of the amendments to the standard contracts of employment for general managers and executive officers is to strengthen access to mediation under the contract to manage and address conflict in the relationship when it arises and to ensure more rigour in decisions by councils to terminate the employment of the general manager.

These amendments include the following:

- Before terminating a general manager's or executive officer's employment for poor performance, the council or joint organisation must have first conducted a performance review, concluded that the general manager's or executive officer's performance falls short of the performance criteria or the terms of their performance agreement, and afforded the general manager or executive officer a reasonable opportunity to utilise dispute resolution.
- Where a council or joint organisation intends to terminate the employment of its general manager or executive officer utilising the 'no fault' termination provision (clause 10.3.1(e)), if either party requests it and both parties agree, they may participate in mediation in relation to the proposed decision to terminate. If the council or joint organisation does not agree to participate in mediation, it must give the general manager or executive officer reasons for its decision where the general manager or executive officer requests it.
- Councils and joint organisations and their general managers or executive officer may agree on a mediator when the contract is made.
- Where a council or joint organisation terminates the general manager's or executive officer's employment under the "no fault" termination provision (clause 10.3.1(e)), the council or joint organisation must give the general manager or executive officer reasons for its decision to terminate their employment where the general manager or executive officer requests it.
- Serious and persistent breaches of the council's code of conduct by the general manager or executive officer constitute grounds for summary dismissal.

What changes are being made to the standard contracts of employment for general managers and executive officers relating to their remuneration?

The following amendments have been made to the provisions of the contracts relating to general managers' and executive officers' remuneration:

 Clause 8.4 of the contract has been amended to clarify that a discretionary performance-based pay increase only applies for one year unless the council or joint organisation determines that it is to apply for the balance of the contract.

Office of Local Government 5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541 Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541 T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209 E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au W www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468 Clause 8.4 also allows for the payment of a retention bonus on one occasion during the term of the contract. This accrues on an annual, pro-rata basis for the remainder of the term of the contract and is to be paid to the general manager or executive officer at the end of the contract period.

What other changes are being made to the standard contracts of employment for general managers and executive officers?

Other changes include:

- Definitions and other provisions have been updated to reflect legislative and administrative changes made since the previous standard contracts were approved.
- A new provision has been included (clause 5.5) empowering the departmental chief executive of OLG to approve an extension of the timeframes prescribed under clause 5 for the renewal of the contract in exceptional or unforeseen circumstances.
- Minor amendments have been made to the functions and duties of general managers and executive officers prescribed under clause 6 to reflect legislative changes and to place an obligation on general managers and executive officers to ensure a safe workplace and to facilitate compliance with the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*.
- A new provision (clause 7.12) has been included that confirms that the performance agreement, action plan and any associated records that contain information about the work performance or conduct of the general manager or executive officer are to remain confidential unless otherwise agreed to by the general manager or executive officer or required by law.
- The provision that provides that the contract automatically terminates where the employee becomes bankrupt (clause 10.4.2) has been extended to also apply if the employee is disqualified from managing a corporation under Part 2D.6 of the *Corporations Act 2001*.
- The service of notice provisions, (clause 18), have been updated to allow service by email.

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Circular Details	Circular No 22-26 / 09/09/2022
Who should read this	Mayors / General Managers
Contact	Council Governance Team
Action required	Information

Her Majesty the Queen

Australians woke to the news this morning that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II passed away on 8 September 2022 at the age of 96.

Her Late Majesty played a vital role in the shaping of NSW. She visited NSW cities, suburbs and regional areas on many occasions throughout her reign and will be forever linked to our State and to our Nation.

Today is a day of mourning, with flags lowered to half mast, and there will be a number of official steps taken to recognise the Sovereign's death.

Where to go for further information

More information on protocols and how NSW will pay tribute and observances will be provided at on the NSW Government website at https://www.nsw.gov.au/sovereign

Information is also available on the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet website at: <u>https://www.pmc.gov.au/frequently-asked-questions</u>.

These websites are being updated frequently as new information emerges.

Melanie Hawyes Deputy Secretary, Crown Lands and Local Government

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Circular Details	Circular No 22-27 / 19 September 2022 / A830472
Previous Circular	N/A
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / All council staff
Contact	Council Governance Team / (02) 4428 4100/ olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Response to OLG

Discussion paper – Senior staff employment

What's new or changing

- In response to the findings and recommendations of the Independent Commission Against Corruption arising from its investigation of the former Canterbury City Council (Operation Dasha), the parties to the *Local Government (State) Award* (the Award), have requested the Government to amend the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) to remove the ability for councils to determine positions in their organisation structure to be "senior staff positions".
- The Office of Local Government (OLG) has issued a discussion paper to seek the views of the broader local government sector on the changes requested by the parties to the Award. This feedback will be used to inform the Government's position on this issue.
- The discussion paper is available on OLG's website <u>here</u>.

What this will mean for your council

- Councils are invited to make submissions indicating whether they would support the making of the legislative amendments requested by the parties to the Award set out in the discussion paper.
- Submissions may be made by email to olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.
- Submissions should be labelled 'senior staff employment' and marked to the attention of OLG's Council Governance Team.
- Submissions should be made by COB 15 November 2022.

Key points

- Under the current provisions of the Act, the holders of positions determined by councils to be "senior staff positions" must be employed using standard contracts of between 1–5 years duration.
- A council can only determine a position to be a senior staff position if the responsibilities, skills, and accountability of the position are generally equivalent to those applicable to the Executive Band of the Award (executive level employees) and the total remuneration package is equal to or greater than the minimum remuneration package payable with respect to senior executives whose positions are graded Band 1 under the *Government Sector Employment Act 2013*.

Office of Local Government 5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541 Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541 T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209 E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au w www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468 • Under the model proposed by the parties to the Award, only the general manager would be employed under a standard contract and all other council staff, including senior executives, would be employed under the Award.

Where to go for further information

- The discussion paper is available on OLG's website here.
- For further information, please contact OLG's Council Governance Team on 02 4428 4100 or by email at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.

Melanie Hawyes Deputy Secretary, Crown Lands and Local Government

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Circular Details	Circular No 22-28 / 27 September 2022 / A832250	
Previous Circular	21-16 Annual Report and Annual Performance Statement	
	Checklists	
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / All council staff / Joint	
	Organisations/Executive Officers	
Contact	Performance Team / (02) 44284100 olg@olg.nsw.gov.au	
Action required	Council and Joint Organisations to Implement	

Annual Report and Annual Performance Statement Checklists

What's new or changing

- The annual report checklist has been updated for councils.
- The annual performance statement checklist has been updated for Joint Organisations (JOs)

What this will mean for your council

• Councils can use the annual report checklist and JOs can use the annual performance statement checklist to ensure that the information required under the *Local Government Act 1993* (Act), the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* and other relevant legislation and guidelines is included within their annual report and annual performance statement.

Key points

- Under the Act, councils must prepare an annual report and JOs an annual performance statement within five months after the end of the financial year.
- Councils and JOs must upload a copy of the annual report to their website and provide a copy to the Minister for Local Government and such other persons and bodies as regulations require. Councils and JOs should notify the Minister by providing a URL link to the Office of Local Government (OLG) (olg@olg.nsw.gov.au).
- Councils should ensure they report performance against targets, outcomes, efficiency and cost effectiveness over time.
- JOs should ensure they report as to their progress in implementing strategies and plans for delivering strategic regional priorities.

Where to go for further information

The annual report and annual performance statement checklists are available on OLG's website at https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/councils/policy-and-legislation/guidelines-and-policy-information-resources-for-councils/council-annual-reporting-requirements/

MID

Mel Hawyes Deputy Secretary Crownlands and Local Government

Office of Local Government 5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541 Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541 T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209 E olg@olg.nsw.gov.au www.olg.nsw.gov.au ABN 20 770 707 468



Circular Details	22-29 / 12 October 2022 / A836899
Previous Circular	21-23
Who should read this	Finance Staff / General Managers
Contact	Performance Team / 4482 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Information /Council to Implement

End of Year Financial Reporting 2021-22

What's new or changing

End of year financial reporting information for 2021/22.

What this will mean for your council

 Councils and Joint Organisations need to review the attached end of year financial reporting information when submitting their 2021/22 Financial Statements and Financial Data Return (FDR).

Key points

- Annexure 1 provides information to assist councils in submitting their 2021/22 Financial Statements and FDR.
- Annexure 2 provides information to assist joint organisations (JO) in submitting their 2021/22 Financial Statements and FDR.
- The FDR will be sent under separate cover with an explanatory email and will be available on the OLG Council Portal, in conjunction with this circular.
- The Financial Statements and FDR are to be sent electronically to OLG by 31 October 2022.
- Instructions on how and where to email these are included in the Annexures.

Where to go for further information

 The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting (Code) for 2021/22 is available on OLG's website at www.olg.nsw.gov.au/councils/council-finances/financial-reporting/localgovernment-code-of-accounting-practice-and-financial-reporting/

Melanie Hawyes Deputy Secretary Crownlands and Local Government

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Annexure 1: Information to assist councils prepare 2021/22 Financial Statements

- 1. Submission of Financial Statements
 - The General Purpose Financial Reports, Special Purpose Financial Reports, Special Schedules and the Auditor's Reports are to be formatted into a single PDF document, titled using the format: "Council name – Financial Statements – 2021-22".
 - All councils, county councils and joint organisations must lodge their Financial Statements by 31 October 2022.
 - The Financial Statements should be sent to <u>finance@olg.nsw.gov.au</u>.
 - Statements received after this date will be considered as being submitted late and not in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (Act).
- Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting (Code) Update 2021/22
 - The Code must be used to prepare the annual financial statements in accordance with the Act and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (Regulation).
 - The Code and supporting materials are available on the OLG website at <u>www.olq.nsw.qov.au/councils/council-finances/financial-reporting/local-government-code-of-accounting-practice-and-financial-reporting/</u>

3. Financial Data Return (FDR)

- The 2021/22 FDR will be emailed under separate cover.
- This is to be submitted by 31 October 2022 to <u>fdr@olq.nsw.gov.au</u> in an Excel format only.
- The FDR should be accurate and align with the audited financial statements.
- The return can also be accessed via the <u>Council Portal</u> on the OLG website.
- Information/data from the FDR will be used in the published Time Series Data and Your Council website.

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Annexure 2: Information to assist JOs prepare 2021-22 Financial Statements

- 1. Submission of Financial Statements
 - The General Purpose Financial Reports and the Auditor's Reports are to be formatted into a single PDF document, titled using the format: "JO name – Financial Statements – 2021-22".
 - All joint organisations must lodge their Financial Statements by 31 October 2022.
 - The Financial Statements should be sent to <u>finance@olg.nsw.gov.au</u>.
 - Statements received after this date will be considered to be submitted late and not in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (Act).
- 2. Joint Organisations Supplement to Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting (Supplement)
 - The Supplement must be used to prepare the annual financial statements in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act) and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (Regulation).
 - The Supplement is available on the Office of Local Government (OLG) website at <u>www.olg.nsw.qov.au/councils/council-finances/financial-</u> reporting/local-government-code-of-accounting-practice-and-financialreporting.

3. JO Financial Data Return (FDR)

- The 2021/22 JO FDR will be emailed under separate cover.
- This is to be submitted by 31 October 2022 to jofdr@olq.nsw.gov.au in an Excel format only.
- The JO FDR should be accurate and align with the audited financial statements.
- The return can also be accessed via the <u>Council Portal</u> on the OLG website.

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Circular Details	Circular 22-30 / 21 October 2022 / A831056
Previous Circular	21-22 Updated guidance on the appointment and dismissal of senior
	staff
Who should read this	Councillors/General Managers/Joint Organisation Executive
	Officers/Human Resources Staff
Contact	Council Governance Team / 02 4428 4100 / <u>olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</u>
Action required	Council to Implement

Guidelines on the recruitment of senior council executives

What's new or changing

- The "departmental chief executive" of the Office of Local Government (OLG) has
 issued Guidelines on the recruitment of senior council executives under section 23A
 of the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act). The Guidelines are available here.
- The Guidelines have been issued in response to the Independent Commission Against Corruption's corruption prevention recommendations arising from its investigation of the former Canterbury City Council (Operation Dasha).

What this will mean for your council

• The Guidelines provide guidance on the following topics:

- o merit selection in recruitment processes
- the development of staff capabilities and the use of internal recruitment processes
- o the need for councils to have recruitment policies
- the use of recruitment/human resources specialists when recruiting for senior executive roles
- o the use of subject matter experts when recruiting for senior executive roles
- o the role of internal audit in auditing recruitment processes
- o the role of councillors in the recruitment of staff
- o consultation with councillors on "senior staff" appointments, and
- o reporting wrongdoing in recruitment processes.
- Under section 23A of the Act, general managers and councils must consider the Guidelines when exercising their functions in relation to the recruitment of senior executives and other roles where relevant.

Where to go for further information

- The Guidelines are available here.
- For further information please contact OLG's Council Governance Team on (02) 4428 4100 or by email at <u>olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</u>.

Melanie Hawyes Group Deputy Secretary, Crown Lands and Local Government

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ITEM 6.3 CASH ON HAND AND INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 31th AUGUST 2022 and 30th

REPORTING SECTION:	General Manager
AUTHOR:	Michael Urquhart

Summary:

This report provides a summary and analysis of Council's cash and investments for the period ending 31st August 2022 and 30th September 2022.

Background:

The investment portfolio consists of bank accounts and fixed rate interest bearing deposits. The portfolio is regularly reviewed in order to maximise investment performance and minimise risk. Council's investment portfolio is not subject to share market volatility.

Comparisons are regularly made between existing investments with available products that are not part of Council's portfolio, but that meet Council's policy guidelines.

All investments at 31st August 2022 and 30th September 2022 are compliant with the Relevant Reference Documents and Policies listed later in this report.

Current Position:

Council at 30th September 2022 held a total of \$762,434.12 in on-call and interest bearing deposits with financial institutions within Australia. All investments are held with approved deposit taking institutions with a short term rating A-2(A2)/BBB or higher. Council does not have any exposure to unrated institutions.

Investment Number	Date invested	Amount \$	Lodged With	Rate % per annum	Term	Due Date
TD902448851	30/08/2022	\$500,000.00	AMP	3.05	114 days	22/12/2022
General Fund Bank Account Balance		\$506,553.17	СВА			N/A
TOTAL		\$1,006,553.17				

31st August 2022

30th September 2022

Investment Number	Date invested	Amount \$	Lodged With	Rate % per annum	Term	Due Date
TD902448851	30/08/2022	\$500,000.00	AMP	3.05	114 days	22/12/2022
General Fund Bank Account Balance		\$262,434.12	СВА			N/A
TOTAL		\$762,434.12				

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Local Government Act (NSW), 1993 Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 Ministerial Investment Order 5th January 2016 Investment Policy

Governance issues:

Nil

Environmental issues: Nil

Financial Implications: As per report

Alternative Solutions/Options: Nil

Stakeholders:

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Constituent Councils Residents of Constituent Councils Financial Institutions

Certification – Responsible Accounting Officer

- I hereby certify that the investments listed in the attached report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, the Investment Order (of the Minister) 5th January 2016 and Council's Investments Policy.
- 2. I hereby certify that Council's cash book and ledger have been reconciled to the bank statement as at the end of month.

Michael J Urquhart

General Manager – Responsible Accounting Officer

Conclusion:

As at 31st August 2022, Council's available cash and invested funds totalled \$762,434.12

Cash and Investment Reports – 31st August 2022 and 30th September 2022

Recommendation:

That the investment report for 31st August 2022 and 30th September 2022 be received and noted.

Moved: Seconded:

Attachments: Nil

ITEM 6.4 CLOSEDOWN OF COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION OFFICES OVER THE 2022/2023 FESTIVE SEASON

REPORTING SECTION:	General Manager
AUTHOR:	Michael Urquhart

Summary:

It is considered efficient for the majority of Council's operations to close down for the work days between Christmas and New Year's Day. It also suits the needs of the majority of staff to plan holidays during the Festive Season.

Discussion (including issues and background):

This year Christmas Day falls on Sunday 25th December, Boxing Day on Monday 26th December and New Year's Day on Sunday 1st January 2023. It is proposed that Council operations close down from Friday 23rd December 2022 to Friday 6th January 2023, inclusive.

For the closedown period, staff are required to utilise accumulated flex-time and/or take the balance using accrued annual leave. During the closedown essential service staff remain on duty in the garbage and water/sewer service areas and emergency service staff are rostered to be on call in other areas of Council operations.

Relevant Reference Documents:

NSW Local Government (State) Award 2020 Public Holidays Act 2010 WSC Time-In-Lieu Policy and Procedure

Stakeholders:

Walgett Shire Council Walgett Shire community Council staff

Financial Implications:

As staff will be required to take flex time and/or annual leave, during this time, any rostered staff (working during this period) will be paid at the normal rates of pay and any penalties due, in accordance with the NSW Local Government (State) Award 2020.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

NIL

Conclusion:

The writer recommends Council approve that Council administration offices be closed down from Friday 23rd December 2022 to Friday 6th January 2023, inclusive, over the festive season.

Closedown of Council Administration Offices over the 2022/2023 Festive Season

Recommendation:

1. Council operations close from Friday 23rd December 2022 to Friday 6th January 2023, inclusive, and the General Manager make satisfactory arrangements for the maintenance of essential services and provision of emergency call out services.

2. The closedown be effectively notified to residents along with details of essential service and emergency call out arrangements.

3. Note a separate shutdown period will be put in place for all outdoor staff to coincide with the commencement of the skeleton crews in accordance with the Award.

Moved: Seconded:

Attachments:

Nil

ITEM 6.5 FIRST QUARTER OPERATIONAL PLAN 2022/2023

REPORTING SECTION:	General Manager
AUTHOR:	Michael Urquhart

Summary:

This report provides Council with the status of the first quarter Operational Plan Targets for 22/23.

Background:

Section 405 of the Local Government Act 1993 requires Council to adopt an Operational Plan and this report comments on the status of the Operational Plan as at 30th September 2022 and the extent to which the performance targets have been achieved.

Current Position:

The first quarter Operational Plan Status Report is attached for Council's information.

At this point in time, a vast majority of the performance targets have been met, while a small number of projects are on-going. Status comments explain the position.

Governance issues:

Council must comply with the IP & R legislation as outlined in the Local Government Act 1993.

Environmental issues:

N/A

Stakeholders: Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Financial Implications:

Budget allocations have been made in the Operational Plan 22/23.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

N/A

Conclusion:

Council should note the progress made during the first quarter of the Operational Plan for 22/23.

First Quarter Operational Plan 22/23

Recommendation:

That Council accept the progress made on the 2022/2023 Operational Plan as at 30th September 2022.

Moved: Seconded:

Attachments: 22/23 Operational Plan



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Operational Plan & Delivery Program Status report 2022/2023

As at 30th September 2022

6. Principal Activities of Council

Statement of Principal Activities to be undertaken to achieve objectives

Note: In the following tables the column headed "BA & SO" provides in order, a reference to the Main Business Activity Priorities number and the Strategic Objective number from the Business Activity Strategic Plan.

1. Provide information to Council to allow decisions at Council Meetings							
Required Activity	BA &	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th		
	SO				September 2022		
Ensure Business Paper is ready for distribution.	2.3	GM	At least 7 days, working days prior to the Council Meeting.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Compliant		
Provide recommendations to Council when possible.	2.3	GM	Include in business paper for Council's consideration.		Recommendations provided.		

2.	Respond	to Counc	illor inquiries related to the admi	nistration function	
Required Activity	BA &	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th
	SO				September 2022
Provide information to Councillors within Council's policy guidelines	2.3	GM	On day requested where possible, or within 5 working days (unless request requires detailed investigation).	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	On-going
Provide written information as requested	2.3	GM	Within 5 working days (unless request requires detailed investigation		On-going

3. Update Council policy register							
Required Activity	BA &	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th		
	SO				September 2022		
Update new or amended administration policies in Council's policy register.	2.3	GM	Within 14 days of adoption or amendment	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	On-going		
Review Council administration policies.	2.3	GM	Within 2 months of expiry of policy or every 2 years		Review underway to be tabled 2022.		

	4. Provid	de inform	ation to public in a timely and ef	fective manner	
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022
Ensure Council business papers are made available in hard copy at Council's office.	2.1	GM	At least 3 working days before the Council meeting.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying
Ensure other public information is made available at Council's office.	2.1	GM	As soon as practicable after it becomes public information.		Complying
Ensure business papers are provided to constituent councils.	2.1	GM	Post to General Managers at the same time as Councillors' business papers.		Complying
Ensure minutes, business papers and other information is posted to Council's website.	2.1	GM	As soon as practicable.		Complying

Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022
Quarterly Budget Review Statements and Delivery Programme Review to Council.	2.2	GM	August, October, February and April Meetings.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying
Audited Financial Statements to Office of Local Government. Financial Data collection return.	2.2	GM	By the end of October.		Completed on time.
Notice of meeting at which audited reports are to be presented.	2.2	GM	By date specified by Office of Local Government.		Completed
Audited Financial Reports presented to public	2.2	GM	Prior to December meeting.		To be presented December 2022
Draft Operational Plan and Budget on public exhibition.	2.2	GM	February meeting.		May 2023
Operational Plan and Budget to be adopted	2.2 2.2	GM GM	Following April meeting.		May 2023

6. Ens	ure all oth	ner statut	tory returns are completed and	l lodged by the due date	
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022
Pecuniary Interest Returns.	2.2	GM	30 September annually.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance	Complying tabled October 2022
Council's Annual Report prepared and lodged with Office of Local Government	2.2	GM	30 November annually.	with target level.	In progress
Other returns as required by Office of Local Government, Department of Primary Industries, or others	2.2	GM	No later than return date specified		Lodged on time

7. Implementation of Council decisions							
Required Activity	BA &	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th		
	SO				September 2022		
Implement Council decisions	2.2	GM	Within 10 working days of	Satisfactory completion	Complying and on		
following Council meeting			Council Meeting	of task in accordance	time		
				with target level.			
			For prosecutions, within 2		Nil prosecutions		
			months of Council resolution				

8. Con	tinue to e	nsure the	e provision of finance to Counci	I from available sources	
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022
Liaise with constituent councils regarding the level of Council contributions and the apportionment of contributions.	2.4	GM	Continuously.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	To be advised in due course when IPART Rate Peg is announced.
Letter to Constituent Councils concerning Council's proposed Delivery Plan and Budget estimates for the forthcoming financial year, and the contribution sought from constituent councils.	2.4	GM	30 April.		
Application to Department of Primary Industries for grants under NSW Weeds Action Programme as necessary.	2.4	GM	As required under Weeds Action Programme 1520.		Scheduled 2023
Provide grant returns to Department	2.4	GM	As required under Weeds Action		Scheduled 2023
of Primary Industries. Pursue opportunities for securing grant funds from other available sources.	2.4 & 1.4	GM	Programme 1520 As required		When available

9. Continue current financial management direction and review Business Activity Strategic Plan and Delivery Programme						
Required Activity	BA &	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th	
	SO				September 2022	
Review Business Activity Strategic	2.1 &	GM	Continuously	Satisfactory completion	Scheduled 2023	
Plan.	2.4			of task in accordance		
				with target level.		
	2.1 &	GM	Continuously		Scheduled 2023	
Review Delivery Programme.	2.4					
		GM	Maintain reserve of at least		As at 30 th June 2021	
Provide adequate funds for employee	2.3		50% of Long Service Leave		reserve was 53.4% of	
leave entitlements.			liability		liability	

	10.	Provide	financial information and advice	to Council	
Required Activity	BA &	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th
	SO		_		September 2022
Provide financial advice as required.	2.2 & 2.3	GM	At Council meetings	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with	Complying on-going
				target level.	Complying on-going
Provide quarterly update on financial	2.2 &.3	GM	At Council Meeting following		
trends relating to Council's			end of quarter		
expenditure.					
11. Ensure that Council's	Operatio	nal Plan	and Budget is considered in order	r to allow adoption by 30 Jun	e each year
Required Activity	BA &	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th
	SO	_	-		September 2022
Draft Plan to be presented to Council.	2.2	GM	February Meeting.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance	Scheduled 2023
Draft Plan adopted to allow 28 day public exhibition.	2.2	GM	April Meeting.	with target level.	Scheduled 2023

Draft Plan to be adopted following			
consideration of any submissions			Scheduled 2023
received.			

12. Promote the Council's interests through participation with relevant organisations								
Required Activity	BA &	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th			
	SO				September 2022			
Participate in Macquarie Valley Weeds Advisory Committee activities through attendance at meetings and supply of information as required to assist the lobbying of State and Federal Governments.	1.1	GM	Attend meetings and provide information as requested.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Staff attend meetings.			

13. Provide active support for LGNSW							
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022		
Provide information as requested by LGNSW to assist it to lobby governments.	3.1	GM	Information to be provided by the date requested.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying as and when required		
Utilise the services of LGNSW to further Council's interests	3.1	GM	As and when required by Council.		Complying as and when required		

	14	. Actively	pursue politicians to further Council's	interests	
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022
Invite politicians to attend Council meetings.	3.1	GM	Politicians to be invited to Council meetings as required.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Minister for Agriculture invited to August 22 meetings, unable to attend. Meeting scheduled 31 st October 2022 regarding Hudson Pear in Lightning Ridge
Meet with State and Federal Politicians to promote the interests of Council.	3.1	GM	As required		Monthly meeting with Minister for Agriculture Advisor
	15.	Minimise	the risks associated with all functions	of Council	0
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022
Identify new risks associated with Council's functions.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance	Complying
Analyse and prioritise all risks identified. Minimise exposure through	2.3 2.3	GM GM	Within 3 months after identification. Within budget constraints.	with target level.	Training for staff in 2023
rectification of risks. Update policy on the use of contractors.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.		Under review 2022
Review risk management policy.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.		Under review 2022

Update Risk Assessment re spraying	2.3	GM	When resources allow.	
from back of vehicles and consult				
WorkCover on proposal.				

16. Ensure Council staff are aware of their rights and responsibilities in relation to WH&S, risk management and EEO							
BA &	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th			
SO				September 2022			
2.3	GM	Ongoing as identified.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying on-going			
2.3	GM	Ongoing as required.		No training to date			
2.3	GM	Ongoing as required.		Scheduled for 2023			
2.3	GM	Annually.		To be completed			
2.3	GM	As required		To be completed 2022/23			
	BA & SO 2.3 2.3 2.3 2.3 2.3	BA & SOResp2.3GM2.3GM2.3GM2.3GM2.3GM	BA & Resp SO Resp Target 2.3 GM Ongoing as identified. 2.3 GM Ongoing as required. 2.3 GM Ongoing as required. 2.3 GM Ongoing as required. 2.3 GM Annually.	BA & SORespTargetPerformance Measure2.3GMOngoing as identified.Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.2.3GMOngoing as required.with target level.2.3GMOngoing as required.annually.			

	17. Maintain and update Council's records management system								
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022				
Monitor record keeping procedures to ensure that they provide the best method of maintaining an accurate record of Council's activities.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying				

Review record keeping procedures with a view to updating and computerizing.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	Complying records are electronic

18. Implement syste	m of inforn	nation t	echnology capable of providing in	formation that is relevant an	d timely
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022
Monitor reporting system ability to provide information requirements.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying
Monitor technology improvements and assess future requirements.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.		Complying Investigating update of MYOB
Update Council's computer system, both hardware and software, to ensure that it enhances management and record keeping (as resources	2.3	GM	As required.		Lap tops updated regularly
allow). Review Council's website and implement systems for expanding content and keeping content up to date.	2.1 & 3.2	GM	Ongoing.		Reviewed constantly
	19. Compil	e accura	te data on the condition of currer	nt Council assets	
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022

Maintain assets register for all assets over \$5,000.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying
Monitor the condition of those assets	2.3	GM	Ongoing.		Complying
Identify maintenance requirements for those assets.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.		Complying Maintenance as required
Cost maintenance requirements and incorporate into annual budget.	2.3	GM	As identified.		Complying in conjunction with Senior Biosecurity Officer
20. Introduce a system for	electronic n	napping	of invasive weed infestations and t	he automation of Weeds O	fficers' reports
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022
Monitor the introduction of electronic mapping of invasive weed infestations and the automation of Weeds Officers' reporting procedures.	1.3 & 2.3	GM SWO	In conjunction with year 1 WAP 2020 2025.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying mapping on-going
Expand the introduction of electronic mapping of invasive weeds infestation and the automation of Weeds Officers' Reporting Procedures to the whole of Council's Area of Operations. Continue the training of staff in the use of the system in order to ensure it's most efficient and effective use.	1.3 & 2.3 1.3 &2.3	GM SWO GM SWO	In conjunction with year 1 WAP 2020 / 2025. Ongoing.		Continuing Complying Training as necessary Use of drones to assist with weed identification complete

21. Compile data on Council's current vehicle and plant fleet – condition and usage								
Required Activity	BA &	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th			
	SO				September 2022			
Analyse Council's current vehicle and plant fleet and its activities and assess future vehicle and plant	2.3	GM	Ongoing	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying			
needs.								

22. Ensure access to competitively priced chemicals for weeds control programmes								
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022			
Ensure access to competitively priced chemicals for weeds control programmes.	1.2	GM	As required	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying on-going assessment of prices when purchasing			

•

23. Actively pursue the control of invasive weeds along roadsides in Council's area								
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022			
Inspect roadsides prior to control works to ensure that control programmes are efficient and effective.	1.3	SWO	At least one week prior to spraying.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying inspections carried out			

Carryout necessary control works in line with Council's Budget allocations.	1.3	SWO	As seasonal conditions / and available funding permit.	Works continuing With staff and contractors
Respond to reports of invasive weeds on roadsides. Carry out control works in	1.3	swo	Carry out inspection within 7 days of notification.	All reports responded to
accordance with Council's policy and budget allocations.	1.3	swo	As required	Complying

	24. Active	ely pursu	ue the control of invasive weeds on	private lands	
Required Activity	BA &	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th
	SO				September 2022
Inspection of private lands to assist	1.2 &	SWO	At least 250 inspections per	Satisfactory completion	Complying on-going
landowners to fulfill their legal	3.2		quarter.	of task in accordance	
responsibilities in relation to invasive				with target level.	
weeds.					
Provide information to landowners on	1.2 &	SWO	If not done at time of inspection		Complying on-going
invasive weeds control	3.2		then within 1 week.		
Respond to invasive weed complaints	1.2 &	SWO	Initial inspection within 10		Complying on-going
	3.2		working days.		

25	. Actively	pursue	the control of invasive weeds on vac	cant Crown lands	
Required Activity	BA &	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th
	SO				September 2022
Inspect vacant Crown land parcels to	1.2	SWO	Prior to submission of	Satisfactory completion	In progress
facilitate application to DPI for funds			application.	of task in accordance	
for necessary control works.				with target level.	
Inspect vacant Crown lands to ensure	1.2	SWO			In progress
obligations for invasive weed control			As required as resources are		
are being met.			available.		
Provide information to Department of	1.2	SWO			In progress
Lands on invasive weed control			Within 10 working days of		
requirements			inspection.		
Respond to complaints for invasive	1.2	SWO			In progress
weeds on vacant Crown Land			Initial inspection within 10		
			working days.		
26. Ac	tively purs	sue the c	control of invasive weeds on land he	ld by Forests of NSW	
Required Activity	BA &	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th
	SO				September 2022
Inspect areas proposed to be clear	1.2	SWO	Within 28 days of receipt of	Satisfactory completion	When advised
felled in coming financial year.			Harvesting Plan of Operations.	of task in accordance	
				with target level.	
Advise Forests NSW of proposed clear	1.2	SWO	Within 14 days of inspection.		
fell areas that are potential weeds					
risks.					
Follow up to ensure control work is	1.2	SWO	Prior to Spring each year.		
carried out on potential weeds risks.					
Inspect areas surrounding standing	1.2	SWO	Ongoing as resources permit, or		
forests and "land bank" areas.			in response to complaints within		
Advise Forests NSW of areas that	1.2	SWO	10 working 14 days after		
pose a risk of weeds spreading to			inspection.		
adjoining land.					

27. Act	ively purs	ue the co	ontrol of invasive weeds on other	public authorities land	
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022
Inspect lands of public authorities to ensure obligations for invasive weeds control are being met.	1.2 & 1.3	SWO	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Continuing
Provide information to public authority on invasive weed control requirements.	1.2 & 1.3	swo	Within 10 working days of inspection.		Continuing
Respond to complaints regarding invasive weeds on lands of public authorities.	1.2 &1.3	SWO	Initial inspection within 10 working days.		Continuing

	28. Co	nduct aeria	spraying programmes for	invasive weeds	
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022
Organise programmes for aerial spraying of invasive weeds throughout the year as seasonal conditions permit and demand requires. Publicise aerial spraying programmes	1.2	GM/SW O	As required. As required.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	As required AS and when
in local media, and as occasion permits, to ensure maximum landholder participation.	1.2	GM/SW O	In accordance with		required No program
			Programmes		organised

Organise aerial spraying (involving all	SWO		
weeds officers) throughout Council's			
area in accordance with programmes.			

Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 30th September 2022
Pursue resource sharing through regular interaction with nearby councils and other public authorities to discuss regional weed plans and coordinated approaches to weed control	1.1	GM	Liaise with appropriate members and officers of surrounding councils and other public authorities as required.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Continuing. General Manager group developing legal action policy and procedure.

ITEM 6.7 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT – SEPTEMBER 2022

REPORTING SECTION:	General Manager
AUTHOR:	Michael Urguhart

Summary:

The General Manager reports to Council on the status of the September 2022 Quarterly Budget Review (QBR) Statement. The report outlines the first quarter operations against the adopted 2022/2023 budget estimates, with income and expenditure variations made because of actual differences or known trends.

Background:

The Quarterly Budget Review document is a statutory requirement under the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, Part 9, Division 3, Section 203 and is an essential aspect of Council's financial management. A budget review is to be prepared and submitted to Council not later than two months after the end of each quarter.

Current Position:

The current position is detailed in the attached Quarter 1 (period ending 30th September 2022) Quarterly Budget Review Statement report.

Generally the majority of income and expenditure estimates for 2022/2023 are on track, however there is a number of variations brought to account in the attached report because of current expenditure trends, rollover projects from 2021/2022 or the availability of known actual figures.

Council's General Fund operations after capital expenditures and transfers to and from reserves has recorded a deficit of \$440 for the quarter. The forecast cash result for the year is a deficit of \$93,135.

Description	Explanation	Saving	Expense
Insurance costs -	Actual insurance premiums for 22/23 have	183	5,623
various	far exceeded original CPI estimates		
Private works DPI	A new private works project assisting the	30,000	25,000
	DPI with Varroa Mite eradication		
	Totals of adjustments	30,183	30,623
	Net adjustment for quarter		440

The major variations for the September 2022 quarter are listed below.

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Local Government Act 1993 Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

Governance issues:

The Quarterly Budget Review Statement is a key document for Council in monitoring the progress of the Annual Budget and more broadly its achievement of the objectives within the Strategic Plan.

Financial Implications:

The Quarterly Budget Review details Councils current financial projections for the 2022/2023 fiscal year as at the quarter ending 30th September 2022.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Not Applicable

Conclusion:

The QBRS as at 30th September 2022 provides council with information relating to the status of the budget after three (3) months of operation.

Quarterly budget review statement – September 2022

Recommendation:

That Council adopt the attached Quarterly Budget Review Statement for 30th September 2022 as tabled.

Moved: Seconded:

Attachments:

September 2022. Quarterly Budget Review Statement

CASTLEREA	GH MACQUARIE COUN	TY COUNCIL						
Quarterly B	udget Review as at 30tl	n September	2022.					
	Adopted	Approved	Revised	Requested	Revised	Actual	Balance	%
	Budget	Variation	Budget	Variation	Budget	To Date	Remaining	utilised
	2022-23			This QTR	2022-23		For Year	for year
INCOME								
Administration								
DPI - NW LLS WAP Grant	\$115,375		\$115,375		\$115,375	\$0	\$115,375	0%
DPI - CW LLS WAP Grant	\$200,290		\$200,290		\$200,290	\$0	\$200,290	0%
Weed Certificates	\$1,000		\$1,000		\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	0%
Constituent Council Contribs	\$568,144		\$568,144		\$568,144	\$0	\$568,144	0%
Interest on Investments	\$6,000		\$6,000		\$6,000	\$3,396	\$2,604	57%
WH&S Incentive Rebate	\$5,115		\$5,115		\$5,115	\$0	\$5,115	0%
Administration - Total	\$895,924	\$0	\$895,924	\$0	\$895,924	\$3,396	\$892,528	0%
Private Works								
Private Works Income	\$95,929		\$95,929		\$95,929	\$4,029	\$91,900	4%
DPI Varroa Mite	\$0		\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000	400.017	\$30,000	0%
DPI Bio Contraol Unit Private Works - Total	\$90,000	\$0	\$90,000	\$20,000	\$90,000	\$38,317 \$42,346	\$51,683	43%
Private works - Total	\$185,929	ŞU	\$185,929	\$30,000	\$215,929	Ş42,540	\$173,583	207
Other Income								
Plant Income	\$159,806		\$159,806		\$159,806	\$29,741	\$130,065	19%
profit on sale of plant	\$5,000		\$5,000		\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	0%
Other Income - Total	\$164,806	\$0	\$164,806	\$0	\$164,806	\$29,741	\$135,065	18%
Revenue Income - Total	\$1,246,659	\$0	\$1,246,659	\$30,000	\$1,276,659	\$75,483	\$1,201,176	6%
EXPENDITURE								
Administration Costs								
General Manager's Salary	\$54,633		\$54,633		\$54,633	\$14,000	\$40,633	26%
Contract Administrative Support	\$51,705		\$51,705		\$51,705	\$6,280	\$45,425	12%
IPR Costs	\$369		\$369		\$369	\$0	\$369	0%
Travelling	\$2,000		\$2,000		\$2,000	\$27	\$1,973	1%
Audit Fees	\$19,821		\$19,821		\$19,821	\$5,000	\$14,821	25%
Advertising	\$3,046		\$3,046		\$3,046	\$297	\$2,749	10%
Printing & Stationary	\$2,311		\$2,311		\$2,311	\$584	\$1,727	25%
Postage & Freight Telephone	\$1,249 \$9,599		\$1,249 \$9,599		\$1,249 \$9,599	\$196 \$2,174	\$1,053	16% 23%
Bank Charges	\$9,599 \$710		\$9,599 \$710		\$9,599 \$710	\$2,174	\$7,425 \$593	23%
Legal Expenses	\$601		\$601		\$601	\$117	\$595	0%
sundry admin expenses	\$10,150		\$10,150		\$10,150	\$851	\$9,299	8%
web site costs	\$1,500		\$10,150		\$1,500	\$318	\$1,182	21%
Administration Costs - Total	\$157,694	\$0	\$157.694	\$0	\$157,694	\$29,844	\$127,850	19%

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda – 7th November 2022 – Ordinary Council Meeting

	Adopted	Approved	Revised	Requested	Revised	Actual	Balance	%
	Budget	Variation	Budget	Variation	Budget	To Date	Remaining	utilised
	2022-23			This QTR	2022-23		For Year	for year
Insurance Costs								
Fidelity Gaurantee	\$1,808		\$1,808	\$150	\$1,958	\$1,958	\$0	1009
Public Liability & Prof Indemnity	\$32,090		\$32,090	\$2,960	\$35,050	\$35,050	\$0	100%
Property Insurance	\$8,385		\$8,385	\$551	\$8,936	\$8,936	\$0	1009
Personal Accident	\$1,996		\$1,996	(\$183)	\$1,813	\$1,813	\$0	1009
Councillor's and Officers' Liability	\$12,358		\$12,358	\$840	\$13,198	\$13,198	\$0	100%
Motor vehicle liability	\$8,010		\$8,010	\$1,122	\$9,132	\$9,132	\$0	1009
Insurance Costs - Total	\$64,647	\$0	\$64,647	\$5,440	\$70,087	\$70,087	\$0	1009
Governance Costs								
Chairperson's Allowance	\$4,010		\$4,010		\$4,010	\$0	\$4,010	09
Councillors' Meeting Fees	\$18,619		\$18,619		\$18,619	\$0	\$18,619	09
Councillors' Travelling	\$3,816		\$3,816		\$3,816	\$2,159	\$1,657	579
Councillors' Subsistence - CMCC Mtgs	\$2,581		\$2,581		\$2,581	\$82	\$2,499	3%
Subscription - Shires Assoc	\$4,341		\$4,341		\$4,341	\$0	\$4,341	09
Delegates Expenses	\$1,502		\$1,502		\$1,502	\$0	\$1,502	09
Councillors Superannuation Governance Costs - Total	\$2,376	\$0	\$2,376 \$37,245	\$0	\$2,376 \$37,245	\$0 \$2,241	\$2,376 \$35,004	69
	\$37,245	ŞU	337,243	30	ş37,243	ŞZ,241	333,00 4	07
Employee Overheads								
ToolBox Meetings	\$2,358		\$2,358		\$2,358	\$0	\$2,358	09
Annual Leave	\$40,430		\$40,430		\$40,430	\$7,494	\$32,936	19%
Long Service Leave	\$14,158		\$14,158		\$14,158	\$954	\$13,204	79
Sick Leave	\$25,358		\$25,358		\$25,358	\$7,950	\$17,408	319
compassionate leave	\$1,644		\$1,644		\$1,644	\$1,583	\$61	96%
Employee Overheads distributed to works	(\$179,897)		(\$179,897)		(\$179,897)	(\$39,430)	(\$140,467)	229
Union Picnic Day Public Holidays NEI	\$1,710 \$15,828		\$1,710 \$15,828		\$1,710 \$15,828	\$0 \$1,694	\$1,710 \$14,134	09
Superannuation	\$13,828		\$48,012		\$15,828	\$15,127	\$32,885	329
Workers Compensation	\$10,500		\$10,500		\$10,500	\$1,885	\$8,615	18%
Protective Clothing	\$1,755		\$1,755		\$1,755	\$525	\$1,230	309
Allowances Disability/Climatic	\$1,753		\$1,753		\$1,753	\$0	\$1,753	09
Staff Training	\$16,391		\$16,391		\$16,391	\$2,218	\$14,173	149
Sub -Total - Employee Overheads	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!
Sub Total Administrative Overheads	\$259,586	\$ 0	\$259,586	\$5,440	\$265,026	\$102,172	\$162,854	399
Employee Overheads - Total								
Destruction of Weeds								
WAP 1520 Grant Expenses -Super'n - Bio Officers	\$11,753		\$11,753		\$11,753	\$0	\$11,753	0%
WAP 1520 Grant Expenses -Property Inspections	\$178,606		\$178,606		\$178,606	\$32,079	\$146,527	18%
WAP 1520 Grant Expenses - Other Costs -Cnl Roads	\$205,000		\$205,000		\$205,000	\$95,744	\$109,256	47%
WAP 1520 Grant Expenses - HR- Roads	\$108,807		\$108,807		\$108,807	\$27,542	\$81,265	25%
WAP 1520 Grant Expenses - HR - TSRs	\$8,882		\$8,882		\$8,882	\$2,255	\$6,627	25%
WAP 1520 Grant Expenses - HR - WCs	\$7,217		\$7,217		\$7,217	\$0	\$7,217	0%
WAP 1520 Grant Expenses - HR - Rail Corridors WAP 1520 Grant Expenses - HR - n,s,o	\$6,662		\$6,662		\$6,662	\$108 \$0	\$6,554	2%
WAP 1520 Grant Expenses - HR - n,s,o WAP 1520 Grant Expenses - H P T'force Admin	\$6,274 \$5,551		\$6,274 \$5,551		\$6,274 \$5,551	\$0 \$617	\$6,274 \$4,934	119
Employee Overheads distributed to works	\$179,897		\$179,897		\$179,897	\$39,430	\$140,467	22%
Parkinsonia Weed Control	\$175,857		\$19,422		\$19,422	\$1,171	\$18,251	69
Promotions & Field Days	\$13,487		\$13,487		\$13,487	\$3,879	\$9,608	29%
Computer Bio Security System	\$15,126		\$15,126		\$15,126	\$4,116	\$11,010	27%
Regional Meeting Expenses	\$6,896		\$6,896		\$6,896	\$1,618	\$5,278	239
Administration Weed Control	\$15,970		\$15,970		\$15,970	\$8,503	\$7,467	53%
Weed Control Publicity	\$3,237		\$3,237		\$3,237	\$355	\$2,882	119
Destruction of Weeds - Total	\$792,787	\$ 0	\$792,787	\$0	\$792,787	\$217,417	\$575,370	279
Duituate Washe								
Private Works	614.005		614.007		644.007	**	614.007	
Gilgandra Shire - Cost of Private Works	\$14,967		\$14,967		\$14,967	\$0	\$14,967	09
DPI - Biocontrol and Quanda DPI - Varroa Mite	\$82,000		\$82,000	\$25,000	\$82,000	\$38,317	\$43,683	479
Walgett Shire - Cost of Private Works	\$0 \$16,185		\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000 \$16,185	\$12,030	\$12,970	489
Coonabarabran - Private works	\$10,185		\$16,185 \$20,592		\$16,185 \$20,592	\$5,740 \$5,200	\$10,445 \$15,392	259
Hudson Pear - Private Works	\$20,592 \$12,664		\$20,592		\$20,592 \$12,664	\$5,200	\$15,592 \$12,054	257
Warren - Private works	\$12,004		\$12,004		\$12,004	\$010	\$12,034	#DIV/0!
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Coonamble - Private works	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	09

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda – 7th November 2022 – Ordinary Council Meeting

	Adopted	Approved	Revised	Requested	Revised	Actual	Balance	%
	Budget	Variation	Budget	Variation	Budget	To Date	Remaining	utilised
	2022-23			This QTR	2022-23		For Year	for year
Other Expenses								
Depot Expenses	\$10,187		\$10,187		\$10,187	\$3,005	\$7,182	299
Storage Rental	\$4,413		\$4,413		\$4,413	\$1,360	\$3,053	319
Plant Expenses	\$78,973		\$78,973		\$78,973	\$17,790	\$61,183	239
Depreciation	\$80,000		\$80,000		\$80,000	\$20,000	\$60,000	259
Other Expenses -Total	\$173,573	\$0	\$173,573	\$0	\$173,573	\$42,155	\$131,418	249
Revenue Expenses - Total	\$1,372,354	\$0	\$1,372,354	\$30,440	\$1,402,794	\$423,641	\$979,153	309
Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit) after Depreciation	(\$125,695)	\$0	(\$125,695)	(\$440)	(\$126,135)	(\$348,158)	\$222,023	276%
Capital Income								
Sale/Trade in of Plant Assets	\$40,000		\$40,000		\$40,000	\$0	\$40,000	09
Transfer from ELE Reserve	\$20,000		\$20,000		\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	09
Transfer from Plant Reserve	\$20,000		\$20,000		\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	09
Capital Income - Total	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	09
Capital Expenditure								
Minor Building Improvements	\$5,000		\$5,000		\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	09
Bio Control unit	\$5,000		\$5,000		\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	09
New Vehicles - Nett	\$70,000		\$70,000		\$70,000	\$0	\$70,000	09
Small Plant, Tools, Radios	\$2,000		\$2,000		\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	09
Transfer to ELE Reserve	\$5,000		\$5,000		\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	09
Transfer to Plant Reserve	\$8,405		\$8,405		\$8,405	\$0	\$8,405	09
Capital Expenditure - Total	\$95,405	\$0	\$95,405	\$0	\$95,405	\$0	\$95,405	09
Net Capital Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$15,405)	\$0	(\$15,405)	\$0	(\$15,405)	\$0	(\$15,405)	
Summary								
Total Income	\$1,326,659	\$0	\$1,326,659	\$30,000	\$1,356,659	\$75,483	\$1,281,176	
Total Expenditure	\$1,467,759	\$0	\$1,467,759	\$30,440	\$1,498,199	\$423,641	\$1,074,558	
Net Total Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$141,100)	\$0	(\$141,100)	(\$440)	(\$141,540)	(\$348,158)	\$206,618	
Add back depreciation and profit on sale	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	\$20,000	\$60,000	
Less Profit on sale	\$5,000		\$5,000		\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	
Add back reserve movements	(\$26,595)		(\$26,595)]	(\$26,595)	\$0	(\$26,595)	
Net cash result for year Surplus (Deficit)	(\$92,695)	\$0	(\$92,695)	(\$440)	(\$93,135)	(\$328,158)	\$235,023	

ITEM 6.8 IMPORTANT DATES – UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

REPORTING SECTION:	General Manager
AUTHOR:	Michael Urquhart

Summary:

A list of upcoming meetings and events is provided for Councillors information.

Background:

This report provides Councillors with an overview of upcoming meetings and events that Castlereagh Macquarie County Council staff are involved in.

Current Position:

Councillors are requested to raise any queries prior to the meetings listed.

Conclusion:

Provided there are no changes it is appropriate to receive and note the information.

Important Dates For Councillors - Upcoming Meetings & Events

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the list of upcoming meetings and events.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Calendar of events 2022

IMPORTANT DATES - Upcoming Meetings and Events - 2022

DATE	MEETING/FUNCTION	LOCATION	NOTES
1 st November	CMCC Staff Union Picnic Day		All Field Staff
2 nd – 3 rd November	North West Regional Meeting	Quirindi	
9 th November	Hudson Pear Taskforce Meeting	Lighting Ridge	Available Councillors, GM 7 Senior Bio Security Officer
10 th November	Harrisia Taskforce meeting	Lightning Ridge	
6 th December	Central West Regional meeting	Nyngan at the Engineering Depot Bogan Shire	
19 th December	CMCC Council Meeting	Coonamble Shire Council Chambers	All Councillors, GM & Senior Biosecurity Officer
22 nd December	Last working day for 2022		All field staff
9 th January 2023	Resume from Christmas leave		All field staff

7. BIOSECURITY REPORT

ITEM 7.1 QUARTERLY BIOSECUIRTY REPORT

REPORTING SECTION:	Biosecurity Control Works
AUTHOR:	Andrea Fletcher

Summary:

The attached report is provides an update of biosecurity matters in the County Council area.

Background:

Council has an obligation in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2015 to prevent, eliminate, minimise and manage biosecurity risks in the County Council local government area.

Current Position:

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council provides funding to resource its obligation in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2015, and the adopted Delivery Program and Operational Plan set out the activities, objectives and performance measures necessary for compliance.

Governance issues:

Biosecurity Act 2015 Local Government Act 1993

Environmental issues:

Any environmental issues are detailed in the attached update.

Stakeholders:

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Constituent Councils County Council LGA Ratepayers

Financial Implications:

Control and compliance operational expenditure matters are funded from the annual operational budget.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

There are no alternate options.

Conclusion:

The Senior Biosecurity Officer submits the attached report for Councils information.

Quarterly Biosecurity Report

Recommendation:

That the report be received and noted

Moved: Seconded:

Attachments:

Senior Biosecurity Officer Information on control activities.

Senior Biosecurity Report September 2022

Incessant rain has made conditions intolerable for releasing the Bio control agent, Puccinia rapipes for African Box Thorn. Five biocontrol agent release kits have been allocated to Castlereagh Macquarie County Council. One release site in each of our shires have been inspected and secured for the release. A request has been submitted to CSIRO to receive more release kits if available.

Another agent received is Puccinia anici-oleracei bio control agent for Flaxleaf fleabane, also a rust fungus and release methodology similar to Puccinia rapipes.

Once these agents have been released, a comprehensive report will be provided.

<u>22nd</u> Australasian Weed Conference September 2022 – The original date for this conference was October 2021 however due to Covid-19 postponed until this year. Prior to October 2021 a transcript was submitted for Hudson Pear and this year accepted to present. This presentation was partnered with Jo-Anna Skewes from Northern Slopes Landcare association and Cacti Coordinator for North West Region. To form a collaborative approach we titled the presentation "A Community Approach to Takling Hudson Pear". We also interviewed a couple of landowners from Lightning Ridge discussing the impacts Hudson Pear has had on their properties and views of the Biological control to include in the powerpoint presentation.

The presentation was well recognised and captivated the audience with much acknowledgment during the remainder of the conference with over 250 attending.

There were many other presenters of much interest especially those with infestations of species we have already inherited such as Parkinsonia, Wheel Cactus and Boxing Glove Cactus. The Parkinsonia in QLD, Wheel Cactus in Western Australia and Boxing Glove Cactus in SA & QLD have infestations equal to Hudson Pear in Lightning Ridge / Grawin areas. The infestations in WA & SA are much more inaccessible compared to Lightning Ridge / Grawin areas however, climate and soil types are similar which can easily allow new large-scale infestations in NSW especially Lightning Ridge / Grawin areas if left unrecognised and untreated.



(Wheel Cactus WA)

(Boxing Glove Cactus QLD)

(Viewing, 20-minute presentation, "A Community Approach to Tackling Hudson Pear")

Please be advised a new Regional Coordinator for North West LCS's has been appointed. Taking over the role of Regional Coordinator North West Local Land Services from Peter Dawson is Jo-Anna Skewes. Jo-Anna is based in Warialda. Peter Dawson has been a fantastic support and is now the Team Leader, Invasive Species & Plant Health for Local Land Services.

There are no new incursions to report however, our Biosecurity Officers remain vigilant even more so when water recedes and conditions allow opportunity for plant germination.

8. QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

9. CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: 19th December 2022 – Coonamble

10. CLOSE OF MEETING

Time: