



AGENDA FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, 6th March 2023

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 **6th March 2023** commencing at **10:30am** to discuss the items listed in the Agenda.

Michael Urquhart
GENERAL MANAGER

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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

Leave of Absence
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That the leave of absence received from _____are accepted and a leave of absence granted.</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

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.

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

Councillor	Item No.	Pecuniary/ Non-Pecuniary	Reason

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING

5.1 MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 19th December 2022

Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 19th December 2022
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Recommendation:

That the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting held 19th December 2022, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Meeting Minutes – 19th December 2022.

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL
HELD VIA ONLINE TEAMS MEETING ON MONDAY 19th DECEMBER 2022 AT 10:36AM.**

PRESENT: Cllrs D. Batten, B. Fisher, Z Holcombe, Cllr D Todd, Cllr I Woodcock and Cllr G Whiteley, Cllrs M Cooke, N Kinsey, P Cullen

ABSENT: Cllr G Peart

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

WELCOME: Meeting was opened at 10:36am and Chairman Cllr D Batten welcomed all councillors and staff to the meeting.

12/22/01 Leave of Absence

Resolved:

That the leave of absence received from Councillors Cllr G Peart is accepted and a leave of absence granted.

Moved: Cllr Fisher

Seconded: Cllr Todd

Carried

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- Nil

12/22/02 Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 7th November 2022

Resolved:

That the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting held 7th November 2022, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Cllr Fisher

Seconded: Cllr Cooke

Carried

12/22/03 Council's Decision Action Report – December 2022

Resolved:

That the Resolution Register for December 2022 be received and noted

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Holcombe

Carried

12/22/04 Circulars Received From the NSW Office of Local Government

Resolved:

That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 22-31 to 22-38 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Kinsey

Seconded: Clr Whiteley

Carried

12/22/05 Cash and Investment Report - 31st October 2022 & 30th November 2022

Resolved:

That the investment report for 31st October 2022 and 30th November 2022 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Holcombe

Seconded: Clr Fisher

Carried

12/22/06 2021-2022 Audited Financial Statements and Audit Report

Resolved:

That Council receive the Audited Financial Reports together with Auditor's Reports for the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.

Moved: Clr Fisher

Seconded: Clr Todd

Carried

12/22/07 Castlereagh Macquarie County Council – Annual Report 2021/2022

Resolved:

Council formally adopts its Annual Report for 2021/2022

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Cooke

Carried

12/22/08 Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW and Procedures (2020)

Resolved:

That: Council receives and adopts the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW and Procedures*.

Moved: Clr Cooke

Seconded: Clr Holcombe

Carried

12/22/09 Code of Meeting Practice Policy Review

Resolved:

That: Council adopt the revised Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW

Moved: Clr Todd

Seconded: Clr Holcombe

Carried

12/22/10 Adoption of Organisation Structure

Resolved:

That Council receives and adopts the Organisation Structure as presented.

Moved: Clr Holcombe

Seconded: Clr Whiteley

Carried

Clr Pat Cullen joined the meeting 10:52am

12/22/11 Council Policy and Procedure Review

Resolved:

That Council receive the General Managers report and adopts the revised policies and procedures as presented:

1. Financial Management and Control Policy
2. Related Parties AASB Policy and Forms
3. Purchase Card Policy
4. Work Health and Safety Policy
5. Leave Policy
6. Pesticide Use Notification Plan

Moved: Cllr Cooke

Seconded: Cllr Woodcock

Carried

12/22/12 Minister for Agriculture Announces Funding for Hudson Pear Control

Resolved:

(a) That Council receive the General Managers report

(b) The General Manager liaise with the LLS and DPI in the development of a control plan for the area, and the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council actively participate in the roll out of all elements of the control program.

(c) That the Hudson Pear Co-ordinator be invited to attend the next and subsequent meetings of CMCC to enable face to face updates of the Hudson Pear Control project and its progression.

Moved: Cllr Todd

Seconded: Cllr Whiteley

Carried

12/22/13 Important Dates for Councillors – Upcoming Meetings and Events

Resolved:

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

Moved: Cllr Kinsey

Seconded: Cllr Holcombe

Carried

12/22/14 Senior Biosecurity Officer's Report

Resolved:

That the report be received and noted.

Moved: Cllr Holcombe

Seconded: Cllr Todd

Carried

Date of the next CMCC Council Meeting to be Monday 27th February 2023 at Coonamble.

Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 12:15pm

Chairman

General Manager

6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES/DELEGATES

ITEM 6.1 MACQUARIE & LACHLAN VALLEYS WEEDS COMMITTEE – OCTOBER 2022



Macquarie & Lachlan Valleys Weeds Committee

CHAIRMAN	SENIOR VICE CHAIRMAN	JUNIOR VICE CHAIRMAN	SECRETARY
Roger Smith Phone: 02 6393 8025 Mobile: 0419 011 002	Tom Pickering Phone: 02 6384 2554 Mobile: 0436 806 276	Kane Davison Phone: 02 6392 3271 Mobile: 0467 818 671	Melissa Brennan Phone: 02 6393 8057 Mobile: 0419 612 448

Minutes of General Meeting Australian National Field Days, Orange Thursday 20 October 2022

Meeting commenced at 10.04am

Present

Name	Organisation
Brianna Davies	Mid-West Regional Council
Ron Milne	Parkes Shire Council
Andrew Cole	Orange City Council
Des Mackey	Dubbo Regional Council
Glenn Sloane	Parkes Shire Council
Elizabeth Bryce	Cowra Shire Council
Chris Jackson	Upper Macquarie County Council
Damian Wray	Bogan Shire Council
Tina Smart	Cowra Shire Council
Tom Pickering	Acting Chairman
Kane Davison	Cabonne Shire Council
David Dickerson	Cabonne Shire Council
Matt Croft	Dubbo Regional Council
Kelvin Scott	Dubbo Regional Council
Jarrod Anstey	Dubbo Regional Council
Glenn Neyland	Bland Shire Council
Mark Holmes	Bland Shire Council
Sean Costigan	Mid-Western Regional Council
Justin Hetherington	Mid-Western Regional Council
Amanda Turner	Mid-Western Regional Council
Benjamin Mott	Acting Secretary
Mitch Townsend	Cabonne Shire Council
Bradley Webb	Cabonne Shire Council
Jodie Lawler	Central West LLS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to Orange and thanked those who had travelled for today's meeting.

The Chairman called for apologies.

Name	Organisation
Melissa Brennan	Secretary
Roger Smith	Chairman
Steve Pearson	Crown Land
Andrew McConnachie	NSW DPI
Andrea Fletcher	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
Julie Richards	Crownland
Colleen Farrow	Central Tablelands LLS
Andy McKinnon	Western LLS
Shayne Smith	Bourke Shire Council
Archie Harding	Narromine Shire Council
Michael Urquhart	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
Katrina Underwood	Mid-Western Regional Council
Kellie Frost	Weddin Shire Council
Steve Watts	Wentworth Shire Council
Andrew Francis	Parkes Shire Council
Laurie Thompson	Lachlan Shire Council
Megan Wyllie	South East LLS
Cath Rummery	NPWS
Michael Smith	Narromine Shire Council
Dean Handley	Brewarrina Shire Council
Laura Foulcher	Mid-Western Regional Council
Grahame McCubbin	Bland Shire Council

Moved Glenn Neyland

Seconded Justin Hetherington

Carried

Confirmation of previous meeting minutes on 16th August at Mudgee

Moved Justin Hetherington

Seconded Kane Davison

Carried

Business arising from previous meeting held at Mudgee on 16th August 2022

There were none

Chairman's report

Thanks to Mel for organizing this meeting and to Tom for standing in for me at this meeting. Mel is also away for today's meeting so Ben will be doing the secretarial duties.

The Macquarie and Lachlan Valleys Weeds Committee annual television campaign kicked off at the start of September on Imparja and Prime. Has any LCA received feedback regarding the campaign.

An email was sent to Doug Campbell and the DPI Invasives Training Mailbox relaying members thoughts regarding the NSW Weed Biosecurity Essentials Course. The emails were sent on the 26 August 2022 and at the time of writing this report a response hadn't been received.

The John Ryan Award will be presented at this meeting. Congratulations to a deserved winner.

Don't forget if you would like any training organized, please liaise with Mel.

Enjoy the field days

*Moved Andrew Cole
Seconded Kane Davison
Carried*

Correspondence

There were none.

Financial report

The Chairman went through the Macquarie & Lachlan Valleys bank statements advising the committee of the available funds.

The Chairman called for any questions.

There were none.

Training

The committee has no new training coming up in the future

Presentation of John Ryan award

Glenn Neyland presented the John Ryan Award to Tom Pickering. Congratulations to Tom.

Update from other organisations etc (DPI, LLS's)

- CW LLS WAP funds starting to be received
- Project wise signage in campgrounds
- Investing in Tech (drone training & drones for all Councils)
- Biological workshop in Stuart Town 26th October
- There is still a job vacancy in Forbes

Round Table Discussion

St John's Wort – Talk on toxicity and how big this season looks.

Strategic Plan Feedback

- Not many submissions, mainly negative
- Officers don't like the information on the last page (General Biosecurity Duties)
- Confusion around what can be in a local plan against regional plan
- Conversations about how to interpret a GBD and what's a realistic effort
- Local plan can't contradict regional plan
- Very different interpretations between regions
- How do we get regions on the same page??

Verbal Delegate Reports

Bland

- Busy spraying African Boxthorn
- Lots of RFS hazard fire reduction work
- Preparing to start St Johns Wort and road shoulder work.

Cabonne

- Busy with inspections, mainly around town
- Working on Blackberry, Boxthorn and Spiny Burrgrass
- Numbers well on track to be mostly done by Christmas
- Preparing for St John's Wort

Cowra

- Inspecting areas that have not been done for a long time
- Forest Mulcher about to start working around town on woody weeds

Parkes

- Smashing out inspections soon as water has been a battle??
- Lots of Tiger Pear – struggling to keep up
- Parthenium Weed Detector Dogs in Parkes dates are 9-10 November

Hilltops

- Has been too wet
- Not looking forward to St John's Wort
- Re writing and reviewing policies for Riverina WAP report
- Had a stand at the Merino Field Days which was a great success

Bogan

- Have been flooded for a month
- Native Grass out competing with Blue Heliotrope

Mid-Western

- Losing an officer (Amanda) to the Local Land Services, she was thanked for her service
- Looking for another officer to replace Amanda
- Roadside spraying, 130kms done
- Completed 280 inspections
- Reinspected 147 properties
- Whisky Grass moving, bit of a concern
- Doing mapping work with Water NSW/LLS

Upper Macquarie

- Has been too wet, hard to follow up
- Inspections have been moved back a bit
- Transport for NSW have paid, completed work, and commenced new sections under a Direction
- Discussion around court case

Orange

- Has been too wet and cold, very slow
- Will start Blackberry spraying in the next couple of weeks
- Inspections have been quiet

Dubbo

- Has been too wet to do much
- They have a full team now with the new starter
- Doing some boxthorn work and they have changed from Chartis to Iconix?

New Weed Incursions

Cabonne has seen increase in calls about Ink Weed.

Weeds Advertising

There was a discussion about maybe giving the weeds tv ad campaign a freshen up for next year's ad.

General Business

The Dubbo Weeds Conference will be on 7-10 August next year.

Next Meeting Venue

14 February 2023 – Bland

The meeting closed at 11.11am.



Macquarie & Lachlan Valleys Weeds Committee

CHAIRMAN	SENIOR VICE CHAIRMAN	JUNIOR VICE CHAIRMAN	SECRETARY
Roger Smith Phone: 02 6393 8025 Mobile: 0419 011 002	Tom Pickering Phone: 02 6384 2554 Mobile: 0436 806 276	Tina Smart Mobile: 0437 765 327	Melissa Brennan Phone: 02 6393 8057 Mobile: 0419 612 448

Minutes of General Meeting
Lake Cowal Conservation Centre, West Wyalong
Tuesday 14 February 2023

Meeting commenced at 10.00am

Present

Name	Organisation
Andrea Fletcher	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
Andrew Cole	Orange City Council
Roger Smith	Chairman
Tina Smart	Cowra Shire Council
Thomas Pickering	Hilltops Council
Benjamin Mott	Hilltops Council
Kane Davison	Cabonne Shire Council
David Dickerson	Cabonne Shire Council
Mitch Townsend	Cabonne Shire Council
Dean Hambly	Brewarrina Shire Council
Glenn Neyland	Bland Shire Council
Grahame McCubbin	Bland Shire Council
Mark Holmes	Bland Shire Council
Glenn Sloane	Parkes Shire Council
Ron Milne	Parkes Shire Council
Archie Harding	Narromine Shire Council
Kellie Frost	Weddin Shire Council
Elizabeth Bryce	Cowra Shire Council
Laurie Thompson	Lachlan Shire Council
Rowan Bentick	Lachlan Shire Council

The Chairman welcomed everyone to Lake Cowal and thanked those who had travelled for today's meeting.

Welcome talk by Mal Carnegie on Lake Cowal Conservation centre's history, ongoing projects and aims.

The Chairman called for apologies.

Name	Organisation
Cathy Black	Bogan Shire Council
Andrew McConnachie	NSW DPI
Chloe Jones	Cabonne Shire Council
Lyn Jablonski	Narromine Shire Council
Rob Smith	NPWS
Peta Holcombe	Central West LLS
Andrew Mulligan	Central West LLS
Marita Sydes	Central Tablelands LLS
Andy McKinnon	Western LLS
Cathy Black	Bogan Shire Council
Ali Bigg	Northern Slopes Landcare Association
Steve Pearson	Crownland
Sean Costigan	Mid-Western Regional Council
Katrina Underwood	Mid-Western Regional Council
Brianna Davies	Mid-Western Regional Council
Laura Foulcher	Mid-Western Regional Council
Neil Glastonbury	Transport for NSW
Steve Watts	Wentworth Shire Council
Jodie Lawler	Central West LLS
George Hammond	Life member
Andrew Cosier	Crownland
John Nolan	Crownland
Chris Jackson	Upper Macquarie County Council
Tim Last	Cootamundra-Gundagai
Michael Urquhart	Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
Melissa Brennan	Secretary
Brad Webb	Cabonne Shire Council
Kelvin Frame	Bland Shire Council
Jason Neville	NPWS

Moved Andrew Cole

Seconded Tom Pickering

Carried

Confirmation of previous meeting minutes on 20 October 2022

Moved Kane Davison

Seconded Dean Hambly

Carried

Business arising from previous meeting held at Orange on 20 October 2022

There were none

Chairman's report

Firstly, thank you to Mel for organising this meeting and also to Glenn for organising the venue.

Unfortunately, I missed the Field Day meeting last October but from all accounts the meeting went well.

St John's Wort: As you would all be aware the St John's wort last year was incredible with infestations the worst I have seen. I travelled to Gilgandra in November and some paddocks along the highway looked as though they had been sown. Even though it is a widespread weed we mustn't allow for it to be taken off our priority weed list. Dugald Saunders, the NSW Minister for Agriculture, did mention in the Western Magazine the intended release of 10,000 Chrysolina beetles in December last year but as we know they are "hit and miss" and sometimes ineffectual. A letter was recently sent to the Minister from this committee seeking funding for research and development for a more effective biocontrol agent for St John's Wort. A response was received when this report was being written. Mr Saunders was also invited to attend our May meeting in Hilltops.

Television Campaign: At last year's October meeting it was mentioned our ad for the Television Campaign could do with a freshen up. This is very doable but of course comes with a cost. Later on in the meeting I would like to discuss the options available to the committee regarding the ad.

Weeds Conference: The NSW Biennial Weeds Conference is being held in Dubbo from the 7 – 10 August 2023. This is a great opportunity for local weeds officers to attend and even perhaps give a presentation. I'm sure there is a lot of worthwhile projects/accounts from across the region which could be presented. If you are contemplating giving a presentation and need a hand, please contact Mel or myself.

Training: We are still looking at running a vicious dog training session at our May meeting to be held in Hilltops. Mel is also investigating some other training options but is waiting for a response from Tocal College. Don't forget to contact Mel if you have any training ideas.

Annual Awards: The time to nominate fellow weeds officers for awards is upon us. This year we will be presenting the John Ryan Award, (which is an annual award), and the Tom Knowles Award which is a bi-annual award. The award is available for all weeds officers involved in any time of weed management across the Macquarie and Lachlan Valleys.

Biosecurity Act Review: The NSW Weeds Officers Association has received approval from NSW DPI to extend the timeframe to receive submissions regarding the review of the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015. To have your say is relatively easy through an online portal which even I could do so it must be easy!!! Comments are due by the 24 February 2023.

Hilltops Meeting: Our May meeting will be held at Hill Tops Council on the 9th May with training and other activities being organised for the 8th May. Tom and Ben will give us an update later in this meeting.

*Moved Roger Smith
Seconded Benjamin Mott
Carried*

Correspondence

The Chairman read through the incoming and outgoing correspondence – the committee sent out a letter to The Hon. Dugald Saunders MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW regarding the St John's Wort problem.

Financial report

The Chairman went through the Macquarie & Lachlan Valleys bank statements advising the committee of the available funds.

The Chairman called for any questions.

There were none.

Moved Andrew Cole

Seconded Elizabeth Bryce

Carried

Training

We are currently looking into the dog & photography course for the Hilltops meeting and any future training members require.

Update from other organisations etc (DPI, LLS's)

None in attendance

Discussion about St John's Wort

The committee felt like last year's Minister report was inaccurate and misleading. The beetles were released by Andrea Fletcher but that's not how it was sold. The LLS board tried to move it, eradicate didn't happen. \$200K was spent on Wort control. Fireweed incursion at Coolah. \$2.6 Million for Hudson Pear, not ideal but sounds good, bit hard to manage/use.

Verbal Delegate Reports

Narromine

- Lots of work on Boxthorn
- Lots of Blue Heliotrope around
- New manager is worried about fire season, lots of verge Council land spraying
- Not much St John's Wort

Weddin

- Nothing happened in Weddin while Kellie off on leave as there was no one else to do her role
- St John's Wort completely out of control
- They lost trainee as they were never actually signed into a course

Cowra

- St John's Wort, there was a lot around, heard from an Angus breeder that it affected the whites of their eyes and sent them blind
- Wyangala has bad beetle mites out there at the moment
- More Chilean Needle Grass at Woodstock then thought, but Flupropanate worked on it
- Sticky Nightshade popping up around areas of Cowra

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

- Wet wall in bio centre
- Parkinsonia surveillance starting
- Biosecurity Act – wording on who decides what's practical is misleading
- Rain has knocked around the biocontrol's on Hudson, big rain last year, still their numbers just washed out. Landowners need to be better. Looking into starting to fine.

Bland

- Spraying Bathurst Burr and St John's Wort
- Lots of Cactus, Mother of Millions and found a new incursion of Pencil Cactus.
- Lots of Boxthorn but some sites too wet. Ran inspection program on hobby blocks for Boxthorn.
- Did a run of St John's Wort, has gone feral in areas like everywhere else.
- Hit Blue Heliotrope hard.
- Winning on Coolatai at the moment, working hard on it, only few spots off main highways.
- Sticky Nightshade found on site at Weethalle.
- Spiny Burgrass still a problem but are beating it with persistent control.
- Euphorbia is a pest, working hard but it's spreading rapidly and not much controls it. Tony Cook from DPI did a lot of study on it, but it didn't go too far.
- Council purchased new ipad which has been set up for roam.

Lachlan

- Everything coming up everywhere
- St John's Wort population growing rapidly

Hilltops

- Big year for Silverleaf Nightshade, seems to be coming. The LLS land is the biggest concern with no work being done.
- Blue Heliotrope site found last year is coming back
- Spraying Crownland with drones
- Result was good on Hume Highway but needed follow up but couldn't get flupropanate
- Funding for hothouse

Cabonne

- Lots of work on Chilean Needle Grass at Borenore
- Found lots of St John's Wort beetle, cold wet weather knocked them
- Cadia Mine funding from Newcrest internally for \$3 million for Sticky Nightshade research on controls. Contractors are spraying in the mine site and not doing a great job??
- Chasing Johnson Grass at Canowindra
- Lots of Blackberry

Parkes

- Lots of Silverleaf and Blue Heliotrope but starting to win the battles. New incursions around roadwork sides and new roads.
- Found 3 sites of Stickyleaf Nightshade but seem to be controlled.
- No sign of Parthenium coming back.

Brewarrina

- Treating Boxthorn around town and LLS areas.
- Parkinsonia along the Narren and going to aerially monitor the Paroo
- Hudson Pear found at Goodooga
- No weeds officer at Bourke or Cobar

Orange

- Spraying cycle lots of St John's Wort
- Roger asking minister for funding for St John's Wort on behalf of Macquarie & Lachlan Valley Weeds Committee.

New Weed Incursions

Everyone spoke about new incursions above. Bland mentioned that they found a new incursion of Pencil Cactus.

Weeds Advertising

There was a discussion about “should we freshen up the weeds ad”. We will look at a 5-year cycle but maybe keep an eye on logos.

General Business

Glenn Neyland talked about the Weedsan app, he attended a workshop but was a bit hit & miss as you need photos of every plant, as many as possible.

There was a discussion around the website as it needs updating.

Was looking for plants for Henty field days, but was frustrated as not allowed to take a parthenium plant. We should be able to as we understand the importance of handling properly. Group look into getting us permission to move.

Hilltops – stay in Young for meeting in May.

Next Meeting Venue

9 May 2023 – Hilltops

The meeting closed at 12.12pm.

ITEM 6.2 MACQUARIE & LACHLAN VALLEYS WEEDS COMMITTEE – FEBRUARY 2023



Macquarie & Lachlan Valleys Weeds Committee

CHAIRMAN	SENIOR VICE CHAIRMAN	JUNIOR VICE CHAIRMAN	SECRETARY
Roger Smith Phone: 02 6393 8025 Mobile: 0419 011 002	Tom Pickering Phone: 02 6384 2554 Mobile: 0436 806 276	Kane Davison Phone: 02 6392 3271 Mobile: 0467 818 671	Melissa Brennan Phone: 02 6393 8057 Mobile: 0419 612 448

01 February 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given that a **General Meeting** of the Macquarie & Lachlan Valleys Weeds Committee will be held at the Lake Cowal Conservation Centre, West Wyalong on **14 February 2023**, 9.30am for a 10.00am start. Morning tea will be provided @ 9.30am.

Agenda

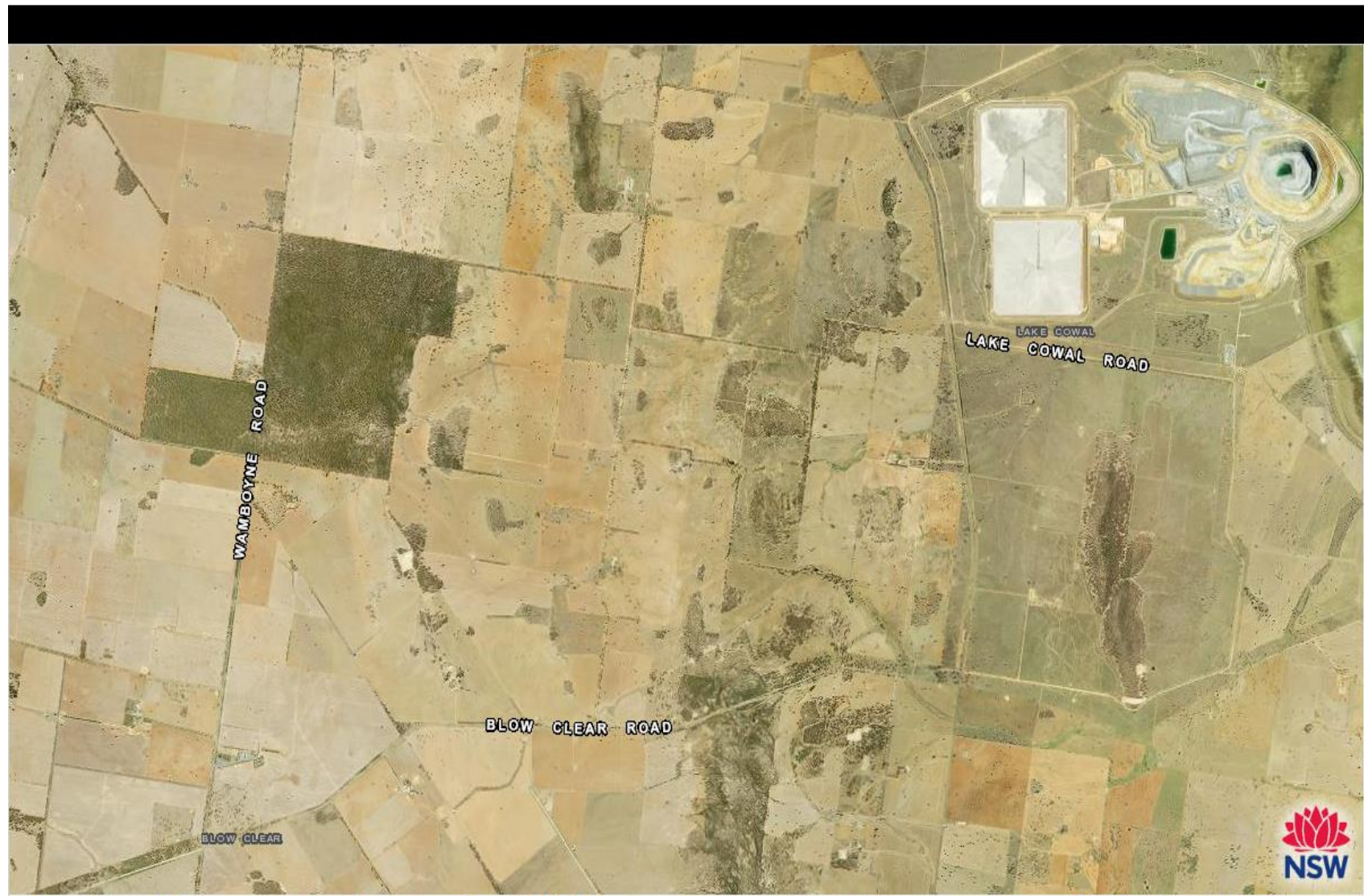
1. Welcome from Chairman
2. Welcome talk by Mal Carnegie on Lake Cowal Conservation centre's history, ongoing projects and aims
3. Apologies
4. Confirmation of Minutes from previous meeting, held at Orange on 20 October 2022
5. Business arising from Previous Minutes
6. Chair Report
7. Correspondence

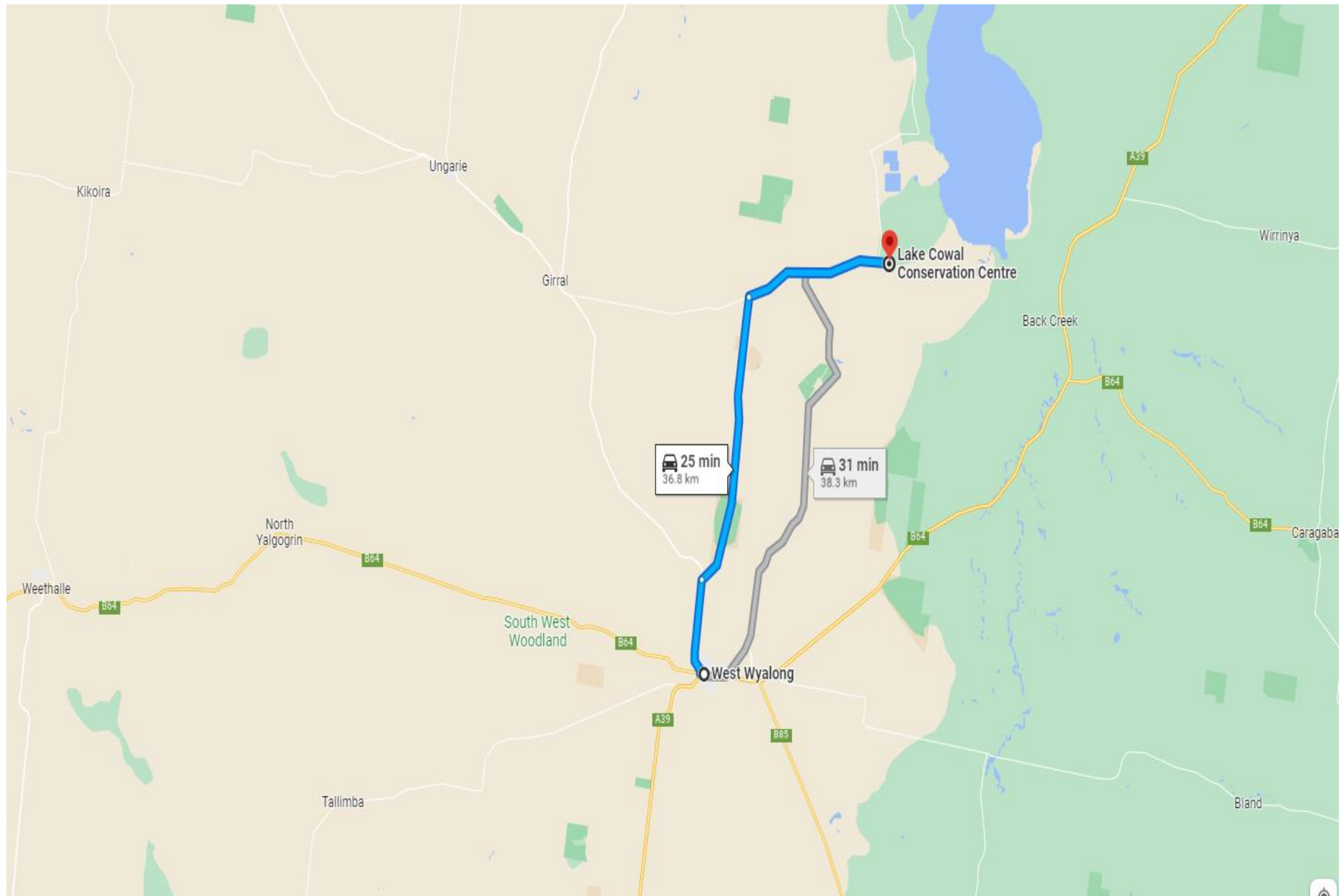
8. Financial Report
 - Current Financial Status
9. Training
10. Update from other organisations etc (DPI, LLS's)
11. Round Table Discussion
12. Discussion about St John's Wort
13. Verbal Delegate Reports
 - Each delegate to give a brief overview on what's been happening in their LCA
14. New Weed Incursions
15. Weeds Advertising
16. General Business
17. Next Meeting Venue
 - 9 May 2023 - Hilltops

Yours Sincerely



Roger Smith
Chairman





7. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

ITEM 7.1 COUNCIL'S DECISION ACTION REPORT – FEBRUARY 2023

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 becomes 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 – February 2023

Recommendation:

That the Resolution Register February 2023 be received and noted.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachment:

Action Resolution Register.



CMCC ACTION RESOLUTION REGISTER

27.06.22	06/22/09	<p>That:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 Cllr Bill Fisher to serve as the non-voting board members on the ARIC for this Council only. 4. 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	FNWJO advertising in February 2023 for Committee and Chairperson.	In Progress
27.06.2022	06/22-11	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be received and noted. 2. Media Awareness Program to be undertaken by GM in conjunction with distribution of flyers with rates notices 	GM	Flyers to quarterly rate notices. Information to be advertised in constituent Council newsletter	In Progress

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –6th March 2023 – Ordinary Council Meeting

19.12.2022	12/22/12	<p>(a) That Council receive the General Managers report</p> <p>(b) The General Manager liaise with the LLS and DPI in the development of a control plan for the area, and the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council actively participate in the roll out of all elements of the control program.</p> <p>(c) That the Hudson Pear Co-ordinator be invited to attend the next and subsequent meetings of CMCC to enable face to face updates of the Hudson Pear Control project and its progression.</p>	GM	GM arranged meeting with LLS with outcome reported to February meeting.	In progress
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ITEM 7.2 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:

- 22-39 Release of Cyber Security Guidelines for NSW Local Government
- 22-40 Amendments to the tendering provisions of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 and consultation of the development of new procurement guidelines for councils.
- 22-41 Update on the Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW
- 22-42 Councils and joint organisations to provide OLG's credit card guidelines to their ARICs

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
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 22-39 to 22-42 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.</p> <p>Moved: Seconded:</p>

Attachments:

Circulars 22-39 to 22-42



Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

Circular Details	Circular No 22-39 / 19 December 2022 / Doc ID A845675
Previous Circular	N/A
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / Council policy staff
Contact	Cyber Security
Action required	Information

Release of Cyber Security Guidelines for NSW Local Government

What's new or changing

- The Cyber Security Guidelines - Local Government (the Guidelines) allow councils to assess their cyber security maturity and plan their maturity uplift.
- The Guidelines outline cyber security standards and controls recommended by Cyber Security NSW for NSW local governments.

What this will mean for your council

- Councils can adopt the Guidelines or use them to form the basis of an internally developed cyber security policy.
- Adherence to the Guidelines is strongly recommended but voluntary with no requirement to report maturity scores to Cyber Security NSW.

Key points

- Councils are increasingly dependent on digital technologies and are a target for state-based, criminal and activist threat actors.
- A cyber-attack or incident has a risk of major disruption to services and operations, with genuine risk to critical infrastructure and services.
- Strong cyber security enables the effective use of emerging technologies and ensures confidence in the services provided by NSW local governments.
- The Guidelines should form the basis of an internally developed cyber security policy for individual NSW councils.
- Cyber Security NSW does not offer funding assistance for the implementation of the Guidelines or other cyber security maturity uplift.

Where to go for further information

- The Guidelines and relevant templates for council use are hosted on the Councils and Cyber Security NSW Microsoft Teams forum. To join the forum, contact community@cyber.nsw.gov.au.
- Cyber Security NSW offers various services to assist councils in boosting their cyber security capability. Contact info@cyber.nsw.gov.au for more information.
- For questions about the Guidelines, contact the Policy Development and Coordination Team at policy@cyber.nsw.gov.au.

Melanie Hawyes

Deputy Secretary, Crown Lands and Local Government

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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



Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

Circular Details	Circular No 22-40 / 19 December 2022 / A809665
Previous Circular	21-27 Review of the tendering provisions of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005
Who should read this	General Managers / Governance and Procurement Staff
Contact	Council Governance Team / 02 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Response to OLG / Council to Implement

Amendments to the tendering provisions of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 and consultation of the development of new procurement guidelines for councils.

What's new or changing

- Amendments have been made to the tendering provisions of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 to reduce red tape and to update them to reflect the increased use of electronic tendering by councils.
- The amendments, which have been developed following a public consultation process, will give effect to a recommendation by the Audit Office and will support councils to achieve greater efficiencies in their procurement.
- The amendments also allow decisions to decline to accept all tenders to be made under delegation. However, decisions to decline to accept all tenders and to enter into negotiations in relation to the subject matter of the tender, must still be made by a resolution of the council to ensure transparency and accountability.
- The Office of Local Government (OLG) is also developing comprehensive new procurement guidelines to complement the new regulations.
- The proposed guidelines will provide best practice guidance on all steps of the tendering process, procurement below the tendering threshold, probity, the use of NSW Government prequalification schemes and other providers' contractor panels, the use of procurement to promote social and economic development outcomes, and contract management and evaluation.
- OLG is seeking the views of councils and others on the content of the proposed guidelines and to identify best practice procurement in the local government sector.

What this will mean for your council

- To assist in the development of the guidelines, OLG is seeking the following from councils:
 - suggestions on what issues should be addressed in the guidelines
 - copies of or links to councils' policies, procedures or guidelines on tendering and procurement.
- Submissions may be made by email to olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.
- Submissions should be labelled "Procurement Guidelines Consultation" and marked to the attention of OLG's Council Governance Team.
- Submissions should be made before **Friday 24 February 2023**.

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- Information gathered during the initial consultation will be used to develop a draft of the procurement guidelines. These will be issued for a second round of consultation with the local government sector to ensure they are fit for purpose.

Key points

- In December 2020 the NSW Auditor-General released a report examining procurement management in local government. In her report, the Auditor-General recommended that the regulations be updated to reflect the increased use of electronic tendering and that comprehensive and updated guidance on effective procurement practices be published.

Where to go for further information

- The amended Regulations are available at <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/sl-2021-0460>.
- Contact OLG's Council Governance Team by telephone on 02 4428 4100 or by email at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.

Melanie Hawes

Deputy Secretary, Crown Lands and Local Government

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Office of
Local Government

Circular to Councils

Circular Details	Circular No 22-41 / 19 December 2022 / A843647
Previous Circular	22-21 Update on membership requirements for audit, risk and improvement committees
Who should read this	General Managers / Councillors / Council governance staff / Audit, risk and improvement committee members and internal audit personnel
Contact	Council Governance Team / (02) 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Information

Update on the *Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW*

What's new or changing

- The Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW (the Guidelines) have been approved. However, the Office of Local Government (OLG) has been advised that the amendments to the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 giving statutory force to elements of the Guidelines will not be made until early 2023.
- OLG has issued the approved Guidelines in draft form pending the supporting Regulation amendments being made so that councils can start to implement them.

What this will mean for your council

- The approved Guidelines are available on OLG's website - <https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/councils/governance/risk-management-audit-and-internal-controls/risk-management-and-internal-audit-framework-for-local-councils-in-nsw/>.
- The model terms of reference for audit risk and improvement committees, an example risk management policy, and the model internal audit charter have also been published on OLG's website in Word format for use by councils and joint organisations.
- Councils and joint organisations must comply with the Guidelines from **1 July 2024**. As of that date all councils and joint organisations will be required to ensure audit risk and improvement committee chairs and members meet the eligibility and independence requirements set out in the Guidelines and have a risk management framework and internal audit function in place that complies with the Guidelines.

Key points

- The final version of the Guidelines will be issued when the supporting Regulation amendments are made. While further minor amendments will be made to the Guidelines to align them with the supporting Regulations as drafted, OLG does not anticipate any significant changes.

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Where to go for further information

- For further information please contact the Council Governance Team on 02 4428 4100 or by email at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.
- If councils or joint organisations require assistance in establishing an ARIC or shared arrangements for an ARIC, they should contact their council engagement manager at OLG.

Melanie Hawyes

Deputy Secretary, Crown Lands and Local Government

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ITEM 7.3 CASH ON HAND AND INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 30th DECEMBER 2022 and 31st JANUARY 2023

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 30th December 2022 and 31st January 2023.

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 30th December 2022 and 31st January 2023 are compliant with the Relevant Reference Documents and Policies listed later in this report.

Current Position:

Council at 31st January 2023 held a total of \$1,162,022.31 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.

30th December 2022

Investment Number	Date invested	Amount \$	Lodged With	Rate % per annum	Term	Due Date
General Fund Bank Account Balance		\$1,147,842.78	CBA			N/A
TOTAL		\$1,147,842.78				

31st January 2023

Investment Number	Date invested	Amount \$	Lodged With	Rate % per annum	Term	Due Date
General Fund Bank Account Balance		\$1,162,022.31	CBA			N/A
TOTAL		\$1,162,022.31				

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

1. 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 January 2023, Council's available cash and invested funds totalled \$1,162,022.31

Cash and Investment Reports – 30th December 2022 and 31st January 2023
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That the investment report for 30th December 2022 and 31st January 2023 be received and noted.</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

Attachments:

Nil

ITEM 7.4 SECOND QUARTER OPERATIONAL PLAN & HALF YEARLY DELIVERY PROGRAM FOR 2022/2023

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager
AUTHOR: Michael Urquhart

Summary:

This report provides Council with the status of the second quarter Operational Plan and yearly Delivery Program Targets for 2022/2023.

Background:

Section 405 of the Local Government Act 1993 requires Council to adopt an Operational Plan and Section 404 requires Council to adopt a Delivery Program. This report comments on the status of the Operational Plan and Delivery Program as at 31st December 2022 and the extent to which the performance targets have been achieved.

Current Position:

The second quarter Operational Plan & Delivery Program 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 and reasons for the roll-over projects have been delayed.

Governance issues:

Local Government Act 1993
Local Government regulation (2005)

Environmental issues:

N/A

Stakeholders:

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
Constituent Councils

Financial Implications:

All matters arising from the operational plan are accordingly covered by budget allocations or variation in the Quarterly Budget Reviews.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

NIL

Conclusion:

Council should note the progress made during the second quarter of the Operational Plan 2022/2023 and half yearly Delivery Program.

Second Quarter Operational Plan & Half Yearly Delivery Program 2022/2023

Recommendation:

Council accept the progress made on the 2022/2023 Operational Plan and Delivery Program as at 31st December 2022.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Second Quarter Operational Plan and Half yearly Delivery Program for 2022/2023 Status Report



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Second Quarter Operational Plan 2022/2023

As at 31st December 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 & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 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 Councillor inquiries related to the administration function					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 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 & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 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 continuing.

4. Provide information to public in a timely and effective manner					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 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

5. Ensure all statutory requirements are completed and financial returns and plans are completed and lodged by the due date					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 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.	2.2	GM	By the end of October.		Completed on time.
Financial Data collection return.					
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.		Completed
Draft Operational Plan and Budget on public exhibition.	2.2	GM	February meeting.		Scheduled for May 2023
Operational Plan and Budget to be adopted	2.2 2.2	GM GM	Following April meeting.		Scheduled for June 2023

6. Ensure all other statutory returns are completed and lodged by the due date					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 2022
Pecuniary Interest Returns.	2.2	GM	30 September annually.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying tabled October 2022
Council's Annual Report prepared and lodged with Office of Local Government	2.2	GM	30 November annually.		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 & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 2022
Implement Council decisions following Council meeting	2.2	GM	Within 10 working days of Council Meeting For prosecutions, within 2 months of Council resolution	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying and on time Nil prosecutions

8. Continue to ensure the provision of finance to Council from available sources					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 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. Scheduled for February 2023
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 of Primary Industries.	2.4	GM	As required under Weeds Action Programme 1520		Scheduled 2023
Pursue opportunities for securing grant funds from other available sources.	2.4 & 1.4	GM	As required		When available

9. Continue current financial management direction and review Business Activity Strategic Plan and Delivery Programme					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 2022
Review Business Activity Strategic Plan.	2.1 & 2.4	GM	Continuously	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Scheduled 2023
Review Delivery Programme.	2.1 & 2.4	GM	Continuously		Scheduled 2023
Provide adequate funds for employee leave entitlements.	2.3	GM	Maintain reserve of at least 50% of Long Service Leave liability		As at 30 th June 2022 reserve was 53.4% of liability

10. Provide financial information and advice to Council					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 2022
Provide financial advice as required.	2.2 & 2.3	GM	At Council meetings	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying on-going
Provide quarterly update on financial trends relating to Council’s expenditure.	2.2 & 3	GM	At Council Meeting following end of quarter		Complying on-going
11. Ensure that Council’s Operational Plan and Budget is considered in order to allow adoption by 30 June each year					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 2022
Draft Plan to be presented to Council.	2.2	GM	April Meeting.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Scheduled 2023
Draft Plan adopted to allow 28 day public exhibition.	2.2	GM	April Meeting.		Scheduled 2023
Draft Plan to be adopted following consideration of any submissions received.					Scheduled 2023

12. Promote the Council's interests through participation with relevant organisations					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 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 31st December 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 31st December 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. Minister visited Lightning Ridge in December 2022 regarding Hudson Pear in Lightning Ridge Monthly meeting with Minister for Agriculture Advisor
Meet with State and Federal Politicians to promote the interests of Council.	3.1	GM	As required		
15. Minimise the risks associated with all functions of Council					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 2022
Identify new risks associated with Council's functions.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying
Analyse and prioritise all risks identified.	2.3	GM	Within 3 months after identification.		Training for staff in 2023
Minimise exposure through rectification of risks.	2.3	GM	Within budget constraints.		
Update policy on the use of contractors.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.		Under review 2023
Review risk management policy.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.		Under review 2023
Update Risk Assessment re spraying from back of vehicles and consult WorkCover on proposal.	2.3	GM	When resources allow.		

16. Ensure Council staff are aware of their rights and responsibilities in relation to WH&S , risk management and EEO					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 2022
Provide training to staff on relevant legislation.	2.3	GM	Ongoing as identified.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying on-going
Provide training on EEO to staff.	2.3	GM	Ongoing as required.		No training to date
Provide staff with training on risk management.	2.3	GM	Ongoing as required.		Scheduled for 2023
Review and update staff training programme.	2.3	GM	Annually.		To be completed
Review EEO Management Plan.	2.3	GM	As required		To be completed 2022/23

17. Maintain and update Council's records management system					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 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 system of information technology capable of providing information that is relevant and timely					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 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
Update Council’s computer system, both hardware and software, to ensure that it enhances management and record keeping (as resources allow).	2.3	GM	As required.		Investigating update of MYOB
Review Council’s website and implement systems for expanding content and keeping content up to date.	2.1 & 3.2	GM	Ongoing.		Lap tops updated regularly. New lap top for CWO. Reviewed constantly
19. Compile accurate data on the condition of current Council assets					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 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
Cost maintenance requirements and incorporate into annual budget.	2.3	GM	As identified.		Maintenance as required Complying in conjunction with Senior Biosecurity Officer

20. Introduce a system for electronic mapping of invasive weed infestations and the automation of Weeds Officers' reports					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 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.	1.3 & 2.3	GM SWO	In conjunction with year 1 WAP 2020 / 2025.		Continuing
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	GM SWO	Ongoing.		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 & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 2022
Analyse Council's current vehicle and plant fleet and its activities and assess future vehicle and plant needs.	2.3	GM	Ongoing	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying

22. Ensure access to competitively priced chemicals for weeds control programmes					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 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 31st December 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.	1.3	SWO	Carry out inspection within 7 days of notification.		All reports responded to
Carry out control works in accordance with Council's policy and budget allocations.	1.3	SWO	As required		Complying

24. Actively pursue the control of invasive weeds on private lands					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 2022
Inspection of private lands to assist landowners to fulfill their legal	1.2 & 3.2	SWO	At least 250 inspections per quarter.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	Complying on-going

responsibilities in relation to invasive weeds. Provide information to landowners on invasive weeds control	1.2 & 3.2	SWO	If not done at time of inspection then within 1 week.		Complying on-going
Respond to invasive weed complaints	1.2 & 3.2	SWO	Initial inspection within 10 working days.		Complying on-going

25. Actively pursue the control of invasive weeds on vacant Crown lands					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 2022
Inspect vacant Crown land parcels to facilitate application to DPI for funds for necessary control works.	1.2	SWO	Prior to submission of application.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	In progress
Inspect vacant Crown lands to ensure obligations for invasive weed control are being met.	1.2	SWO	As required as resources are available.		In progress
Provide information to Department of Lands on invasive weed control requirements	1.2	SWO	Within 10 working days of inspection.		In progress
Respond to complaints for invasive weeds on vacant Crown Land	1.2	SWO	Initial inspection within 10 working days.		In progress
26. Actively pursue the control of invasive weeds on land held by Forests of NSW					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 2022
Inspect areas proposed to be clear felled in coming financial year.	1.2	SWO	Within 28 days of receipt of <i>Harvesting Plan of Operations</i> .	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	When advised
Advise Forests NSW of proposed clear fell areas that are potential weeds risks.	1.2	SWO	Within 14 days of inspection.		
Follow up to ensure control work is carried out on potential weeds risks.	1.2	SWO	Prior to Spring each year.		
	1.2	SWO			

Inspect areas surrounding standing forests and “land bank” areas. Advise Forests NSW of areas that pose a risk of weeds spreading to adjoining land.	1.2	SWO	Ongoing as resources permit, or in response to complaints within 10 working 14 days after inspection.		
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27. Actively pursue the control of invasive weeds on other public authorities land					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 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. Conduct aerial spraying programmes for invasive weeds					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 2022
Organise programmes for aerial spraying of invasive weeds throughout the year as seasonal conditions permit and demand requires.	1.2	GM/SW O	As required.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.	As required
Publicise aerial spraying programmes in local media, and as occasion permits, to ensure maximum landholder participation.	1.2	GM/SW O	As required.		AS and when required
	1.2				

Organise aerial spraying (involving all weeds officers) throughout Council's area in accordance with programmes.		SWO	In accordance with Programmes		Aerial inspection of Lightning Ridge area in 2023 as part of LLS program.
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29. Actively pursue regional resources sharing with neighbouring councils and other public authorities to provide cost benefits to Council in the provision of services					
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure	Status as at 31st December 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.



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Delivery Programme

2022/23 – 2024/25

Principal Activities of Council

Statement of Principal Activities to be undertaken to achieve objectives

1. Building Relationships			
Strategy Objectives	Strategy	Activities	Progress as at 31/12/22
Build strong relationships with other natural resource managers having responsible in, or adjacent to, the County Council's area of operations through a program to improve liaison between natural resource managers	Foster a spirit of cooperation with other natural resource managers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend seminars, workshops etc conducted by other natural resource managers where appropriate Encourage natural resource managers to participate in Council activities, such as public meetings and workshops. Share information with other natural resource managers. Host an annual meeting between natural resource managers to foster good relations and to provide a convenient forum for the exchange of information and the facilitation of cooperation. Encourage and establish personal contact between Council staff and staff of other natural resource managers. A data base of contacts staff and others in other natural resource managers. Investigate and promote joint works for noxious weed control by natural resource managers. Where appropriate, endeavour to have natural resource managers, particularly private occupiers, enter into joint arrangements for noxious weed control work. Investigate what incentives the Council might offer to private occupiers to enter into joint arrangements for noxious weed control work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff attend Continuing On-going Complete On-going in particular with LLS Hudson Pear incentive commenced February 2023.

2. Noxious Weeds Control			
Strategy Objectives	Strategy	Activities	Progress as at 31/12/22
Ensure the effectiveness of the Council's role in improving the natural environment through a reduction in noxious weeds.	Ensure that the Council is aware of any presence of noxious weeds in its area of Operations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a regular and systematic program of property visits to private landholders and any infestations of noxious weeds found on property visits are mapped and properly recorded. Ensure that weed infestations on roads are mapped and properly recorded. In conjunction with public authorities, conduct a regular and systematic program of property visits to land of public authorities and ensure weed infestations on land of public authorities are mapped and properly recorded. Respond promptly to complaints about the presence of noxious weeds. Provide assistance and support to private occupiers in controlling noxious weeds on their land and to prepare Property Weed Management Plans for their land and assist in the preparation of the Plans. Conduct a regular program of property visits to enhance the Council's knowledge of weed control work carried out on private land, and ensure that private landholders are provided with accurate and timely advice on their weed control obligations. Actively pursue the control of noxious weeds on vacant Crown land and regularly inspect vacant Crown land to ensure weed control obligations are being met. Facilitate application for necessary funds to finance weed control work by the Council on vacant Crown land. Provide information to the responsible Department on the state of noxious weed control on vacant Crown land. Actively pursue the control of noxious weeds on land of Forests NSW and inspect areas proposed to be clear felled in coming financial year that are potential weed risks and follow up to ensure control work is carried out on potential weed risks. Conduct aerial spraying programs for noxious weeds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing Continuing Continuing Council is proactive in this regard. On-going Annual program in place Council initiative for HP approved by DPI Information provide regularly On-going program No program 22/23

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publicise aerial spraying in local media, and as occasions permits, to ensure maximum landholder participation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is done when program is prepared
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3. Noxious Weeds Control - Roadside			
Strategy Objectives	Strategy	Activities	Progress as at 31/12/22
<p>Improve the effectiveness of the control of noxious weeds on roads by promoting changes in management techniques and cooperative action.</p>	<p>Ensure that all occupiers are aware of their obligations to control noxious weeds on roads</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include in the Council's advisory and extension material an explanation of the circumstances in which occupiers are required to control noxious weeds on roads. Where appropriate, bring to the public's notice via press releases and by other appropriate means the obligations on occupiers to control noxious weeds on roads. Where occupiers are failing to control weeds on roads, as required by the Act, bring the requirements to their attention in writing. Commence a program of inspections to identify all noxious weed infestations on roads in the Council's area of operations and ensure they are properly recorded. Prepare a program of work for the control by the Council of noxious weeds on roads where the responsibility for control is the Council's, giving priority in the program of work to isolated infestations and to infestations where the level of infestation on adjoining and adjacent land is low or where occupiers of such land have an approved Property Weed Management Plan for the control of the weed. Include in the Council's annual estimates adequate provision to fund the program of work for the control of noxious weeds on roads. Where the adjoining occupier is liable for the control of noxious weeds on a road and the work is not being undertaken, encourage the occupier to comply with the obligations and where this is unsuccessful use the regulatory powers, in accordance with this Strategy, to enforce compliance. Pursue alternatives for the control of noxious weeds on roads. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete, in place Press release issued to media outlets/newsletters Occupiers notified On-going Programs in place Additional funds allocated for 22/23 to 24/25 On-going Bio-Control program in place

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate means to achieve the revegetation of roadsides with indigenous species. Encourage road authorities to revegetate roadsides with indigenous species and to institute work practices which minimise disturbance of roadsides by road construction and maintenance work. Investigate the use of constituent council Weeds Officers for the control of noxious weeds on roads where they are undertaking weed control on the road for other purposes (road maintenance or environmental weed control). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No program to date No program to date CMCC responsible for noxious weed control on roadsides
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4. Noxious Weeds Control Funding			
Strategy Objectives	Strategy	Activities	Progress as at 31/12/22
Secure funding, where possible to assist occupiers in their management of noxious weeds by encouraging policy change by NSW State Government and other funding authorities.	Provide assistance and support to occupiers in securing funding for noxious weed control.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endeavour to ensure that the Council is aware of all sources of funding for noxious weed control. Encourage occupiers to apply for grants to assist with noxious weed control wherever possible and appropriate and provide assistance to occupiers in applying for grant funds for weed control work. Write to State and Federal politicians regularly drawing attention to the necessity for increased funding for noxious weed control and for a broadening of the eligibility criteria. Encourage Constituent Councils to increase support for the Council because of the public goods that flow from noxious weed control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding programs reported to Council CMCC has collaborated with landowners on grant applications Letters written to Minister for Agriculture and DPI On-going

5. Communication Policies			
Strategy Objectives	Strategy	Activities	Progress as at 31/12/22
Improve communications between the Council and its community through increase use of electronic and other media.	Provide Improve the Council's profile in the community..	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep under review the appropriateness of the council's corporate logo and ensure that the corporate logo appears on all Council publications, advertisements, uniforms, letterhead, Council office, etc. • Hold Council's Ordinary meetings at least once each year in the area of each of the constituent councils. • Investigate the feasibility and benefit of holding Council's Ordinary meetings at least once each year in the area of each of the constituent councils. • Any Ordinary Council meeting should be held on a day, at a time, and at a venue that will encourage attendance and participation. • Inform members of the Council's community of the Council's activities and seek input into the Council's operations. • Ensure that each of the public meetings is advertised widely and that members of the Council community are invited, and encouraged, to attend. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going • Council has agreed for meetings to be held in Coonamble with bus tours in other LGA's • Meeting held in central LGA Coonamble • Community consultation regularly • Advertising is comprehensive

6. Community Consultation			
Strategy Objectives	Strategy	Activities	Progress as at 31/12/22
<p>Improve the accountability of the Council to its community by providing more open access to information and public participation.</p>	<p>Encourage members of the Council's community to take an interest in the Council's affairs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that, through improved communications between the Council and its community, members of the Council's community are aware of the Council and its role. • Inform members of the Council's community of their rights to be kept informed of the Council's activities via newspaper advertisements and other Council publications. • Ensure that members of the Council's community receive meaningful information on the Council's operations. • Early in each financial year, prepare a leaflet containing succinct and meaningful information, in plain English, on the Council's operations for the past year and its planned operations and budget for the current year. • Publicise the availability of the leaflet and have staff hand a copy to any member of the Council's community with whom they come in contact, or send out, with the rate notices of constituent councils or otherwise. • Establish a proper complaints handling procedure. • Ensure that all complaints are recorded in the database. • The General Manager to investigate all complaints and to make a determination on an appropriate response. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing • Advertising in local newspapers, radio & newsletters • Continuing • No publication produced 22/23 • No publication produced 22/23 • Complete & in operation • On-going • On-going

7. Administration			
Strategy Objectives	Strategy	Activities	Progress as at 31/12/22
Develop an efficient and effective Council administration of the management of noxious weeds through improved training, procedures and use of technology	Engage and retain sufficient skilled staff to provide administrative services to the Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constantly monitor the workload of all staff and as necessary, engage additional staff, or provide other support, to meet the fluctuating workload of the Council. Ensure that all staff receive continuing training as required. Investigate the employment of a Community Liaison Officer to assist Weeds Officers in their education and advisory function. Provide up to date computer and other technological facilities including drones for inspections. Continue and enhance the present practice of entering into arrangements with constituent councils, or others, for obtaining GIS data. Provide an efficient records management system and appropriate storage for both soft and hard copies. Continually update and enhance the Council's website (www.noxiousweeds.org.au) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional contractors engaged 22/23 In accordance with grant requirements No investigation IT software & hardware updated regularly Drone in use Continuing & up to date In place & in operation Updated regularly

8. Funding Arrangements			
Strategy Objectives	Strategy	Activities	Progress as at 31/12/22
Secure the Council's financial position by promoting stronger funding agreements with funding bodies and seeking alternative sources of funds.	Secure alternative sources of funding for the Council's ordinary operations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lobby politicians to have the noxious weed control grant programs increased. Investigate the availability of grant funds from other sources to assist the Council in its ordinary operations. Lobby public authorities for funding of weed control work on roads. Investigate alternative sources of grant funds for identifiable council weed control projects, such as serrated tussock control. Maximise income from fees, charges and income producing operations. Investigate opportunities for the Council to enhance income from its operations. Ensure that all operations carried out on a contract or agreed basis on behalf of others, including the control of weeds on private property by arrangement with the landholder, are properly costed and the cost fully recovered. Ensure that the Council does not undertake weed control work for which the Council does not have a statutory obligation unless the work is properly costed and charged at its true cost. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lobbied successfully in 22/23 for Hudson Pear funding Annually Lobbied LLS 22/23 Annually Additional private works undertaken Full cost & recovery is basis of changing policy No subsidy for works

9. Lobbying			
Strategy Objectives	Strategy	Activities	Progress as at 31/12/22
Increase public awareness of the impact of noxious weeds on the community and the cost to the community of noxious weeds through contract with the community leaders and public awareness campaigns.	Increase politicians awareness of weeds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write to politicians at every opportunity drawing attention to the importance of weeds and their impact on the community. • Encourage interested groups in the community to lobby politicians about weeds issues and provide background material for their use in doing so. • Invite politicians to Council meetings and to any other Council activities such as field days, community meetings, etc. • Foster an interest in weeds in the local and rural press and news media and generate an interest in weeds by means of press releases in relation to any relevant noxious weed matter, such as scientific advances, research, new control initiatives, council activities, and such like. • Publicise weed matters within the Council's community and ensure that the importance of weeds is emphasised in all Council publications. • Continue and enhance the practice of having constituent councils include with rate notices a suitable information brochure about noxious weeds and the work of the Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Politicians lobbied successfully in 22/23 • Interested groups and CMCC collaboration • Minister invited regularly however CMCC meeting clashed with Ministers obligations • Minister visited Bio Control Centre to inspect and announce funding program • Regularly publicized • No brochure 22/23 • on-going

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue and enhance the practice of having constituent councils include with Section 149 and 603 certificates a suitable information brochure about noxious weeds and the work of the Council and advising of the desirability of having a pre-purchase inspection about the noxious weed status of land. 	
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10. Technology			
Strategy Objectives	Strategy	Activities	Progress as at 31/12/22
Enhance the educational and advisory role of the Council through the provision of a range of written and electronic materials and staff promotion of this role.	Ensure Council fulfills its educational and advisory role.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that Weeds Officers are aware of the importance of the educational and advisory role. Keep the training of Weeds Officer up to date so that they are better able to fulfil the educational and advisory role. Provide assistance to occupiers in completing Property Weed Management Plans and applying for the Council's approval to such plans. Council staff to attend at local agricultural shows and provide facilities for distributing educational and advisory material and provide advice on noxious weed matters (perhaps jointly with Department of Primary Industries). Target solicitors and conveyancers and educate them on noxious weed problems and how they might best protect their clients. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-going Annual training program in place Continuing Annual events attended by CMCC Staff On-going

11. Regulatory Powers			
Strategy Objectives	Strategy	Activities	Progress as at 31/12/22
<p>Improve the effectiveness of the Council's regulatory roles by the strategic use of the regulatory power and appropriate publicity.</p>	<p>To use the Council's regulatory powers, where necessary, to enforce the requirements of the Act with regards to noxious weed control.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institute a program of inspections to ensure compliance by private occupiers with programs of work set out in approved Property Weed Management Plans. • The General Manager will, in accordance with this Plan and other Council policies, authorise the issue of a penalty notice, or the prosecution of an occupier or owner, at the General Manager's discretion and after consultation with the Senior Biosecurity Officer, where it appears that an offence against the Act or the regulations has been committed. • The General Manager will authorise the issue of a penalty notice, or the prosecution of an occupier or owner, only where the General Manager is satisfied that such action – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) is necessary to enforce compliance by the offender with the Act and all other methods to encourage compliance have been unsuccessful, or, (b) will serve as an example to others and will encourage the control of noxious weeds and further the implementation of this Strategy. • The General Manager will authorise the issue of a penalty notice in preference to prosecution action. • Publicise the Council's intention to use its regulatory powers to enforce the requirements of the Act with regard to noxious weed control. • Include in the Council's advisory and extension material an explanation of Councils regulatory powers and the circumstances in which the Council will use its regulatory powers to enforce the requirements of the Act. • Weeds Officers to explain, both orally and in writing, to occupiers, and where appropriate, owners, who are failing to meet the requirements of the Act, the regulatory consequences that may follow their continued failure to comply with the requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs in place • Compliance policy being developed • Policy being developed • Policy being developed • Notification is publicized • Completed annually • Continuing • Continuing

		<p>of the Act.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasise in press releases and on all appropriate public occasions that the Council will use its regulatory powers to enforce the requirements of the Act where there is continued failure by occupiers and owners to comply with the Act. • Ensure that the powers of inspection are used strictly in accordance with the Act and the Council's priorities. • Before entering premises the Council will make every reasonable endeavour to contact the occupier to discuss its intention to enter and will endeavour to secure the occupier's consent to the entry, and a permanent record of the circumstances and details of all oral consents by occupiers to enter premises will be kept. • Endeavour to secure the cooperation of public authorities in controlling noxious weeds on land that they occupy. • Where a public authority has failed to comply with Section 13, and the Council has been unsuccessful in securing its cooperation in controlling noxious weeds on land that it occupies, recommend to the Minister that a weed control notice be given by the Minister to the public authority. • Ensure that the regulatory powers are used fairly and impartially and in accordance with this strategy. • All staff are to be made aware of the provisions of this plan relating to the use of regulatory powers. • The General Manager to thoroughly investigate all complaints concerning the use of the regulatory powers. • Institute a program of random reviews of instances where a failure of occupiers or owners to comply with the Act has not resulted in regulatory action to ensure that the matters were managed in accordance with this strategy. • Report to the Council the result of any reviews conducted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy under development • This is done with all inspections • Continuing • No issues recorded 22/23 • No non-compliance in 22/23 • Inspectors fully aware of Bio Security Act • No complaints 22/23 • Policy for compliance under development • No reviews conducted
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ITEM 7.5 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT – DECEMBER 2022

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager
AUTHOR: Michael Urquhart

Summary:

The General Manager reports to Council on the status of the December 2022 Quarterly Budget Review (QBR) Statement. The report outlines the first quarter operations against the adopted 2022/23 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 31st December 22) Quarterly Budget Review Statement report.

Generally, the majority of income and expenditure estimates for 2022/23 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 2021/22 or the availability of known actual figures. The main expenditure overspend for the December 22 quarter is roadside spraying in the Warrumbungle LGA due to the unprecedented weed season for St Johns Wort.

Council's General Fund operations after capital expenditures and transfers to and from reserves has recorded a deficit of \$79,678 for the quarter. The forecast cash result for the year is a deficit of \$172,813.

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

Description	Explanation	Saving	Expense
Private works	Additional private works operations	8,000	6,000
Plant Income/expenditure	The wet weather in the first half of 22/23 reveals a reduction in plant income which is offset with a reduced expenditure.	15,000	30,000
Roadside spraying	The expanded spray program has exceeded the original estimate.	0	80,000
Administration weed control	Additional wages and salary costs.	0	5,000
Other variations	Net of all other variations for the quarter	18,322	0
	Totals of adjustments	41,322	121,000
	Net adjustment for quarter		(\$79,678)

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 2022/23 fiscal year as at the quarter ending 31st December 2022.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Not Applicable

Conclusion:

The QBRS as at the 31st December 2022 provides council with information relating to the status of the budget after six (6) months of operation.

Quarterly Budget Review Statement – December 2022
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That Council adopt the attached Quarterly Budget Review Statement for 31st December 2022 as tabled.</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

Attachments:

December 2022 Quarterly Budget Review Statement.

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL									
Quarterly Budget Review as at 31st December 2022.									
	Adopted Budget 2022-23	Approved Variation	Revised Budget	Requested Variation This QTR	Revised Budget 2022-23	Actual To Date	Balance Remaining For Year	% utilised 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	\$3,531	\$203,821	\$203,821	\$0	100%	
Weed Certificates	\$1,000		\$1,000	(\$500)	\$500	\$0	\$500	0%	
Constituent Council Contribs	\$568,144		\$568,144	\$6,516	\$574,660	\$574,660	\$0	100%	
Interest on Investments	\$6,000		\$6,000	\$6,000	\$12,000	\$6,516	\$5,484	54%	
Motor Vehicle Refund			\$0	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$0	100%	
WH&S Incentive Rebate	\$5,115		\$5,115	(\$115)	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	100%	
Administration - Total	\$895,924	\$0	\$895,924	\$16,182	\$912,106	\$790,747	\$121,359	87%	
Destruction of Weeds									
CRIF Grant 20-21	\$0		\$0		\$0		\$0	#DIV/0!	
Mesquite Control - Grant	\$0		\$0		\$0		\$0	#DIV/0!	
Parthenium Weed - Grant	\$0		\$0		\$0		\$0	#DIV/0!	
Parkinsonia - Grant	\$0		\$0		\$0		\$0	#DIV/0!	
Destruction of Weeds - Total	\$0		\$0		\$0		\$0		
Private Works									
Private Works Income	\$95,929		\$95,929	\$8,000	\$103,929	\$66,255	\$37,674	64%	
DPI Varroa Mite	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000		\$30,000	\$26,329	\$3,671	88%	
DPI Bio Control Unit	\$90,000		\$90,000		\$90,000	\$38,317	\$51,683	43%	
Private Works - Total	\$185,929	\$30,000	\$215,929	\$8,000	\$223,929	\$130,901	\$93,028	58%	
Other Income									
Plant Income	\$159,806		\$159,806	(\$30,000)	\$129,806	\$60,715	\$69,091	47%	
profit on sale of plant	\$5,000		\$5,000		\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	0%	
Other Income - Total	\$164,806	\$0	\$164,806	(\$30,000)	\$134,806	\$60,715	\$74,091	45%	
Revenue Income - Total	\$1,246,659	\$30,000	\$1,276,659	(\$5,818)	\$1,270,841	\$982,363	\$288,478	77%	
EXPENDITURE									
Administration Costs									
General Manager's Salary	\$54,633		\$54,633		\$54,633	\$26,000	\$28,633	48%	
Contract Administrative Support	\$51,705		\$51,705		\$51,705	\$15,837	\$35,868	31%	
IPR Costs	\$369		\$369		\$369		\$369	0%	
Travelling	\$2,000		\$2,000	(\$1,000)	\$1,000	\$27	\$973	3%	
Audit Fees	\$19,821		\$19,821		\$19,821	\$12,198	\$7,623	62%	
Advertising	\$3,046		\$3,046		\$3,046	\$2,351	\$695	77%	
Printing & Stationary	\$2,311		\$2,311		\$2,311	\$949	\$1,362	41%	
Postage & Freight	\$1,249		\$1,249		\$1,249	\$457	\$792	37%	
Telephone	\$9,599		\$9,599		\$9,599	\$3,931	\$5,668	41%	
Bank Charges	\$710		\$710		\$710	\$175	\$535	25%	
Legal Expenses	\$601		\$601		\$601	\$0	\$601	0%	
sundry admin expenses	\$10,150		\$10,150		\$10,150	\$6,668	\$3,482	66%	
web site costs	\$1,500		\$1,500		\$1,500	\$570	\$930	38%	
Administration Costs - Total	\$157,694	\$0	\$157,694	(\$1,000)	\$156,694	\$69,163	\$87,531	44%	

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –6th March 2023 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Insurance Costs								
Fidelity Guarantee	\$1,808	\$150	\$1,958		\$1,958	\$1,958	\$0	100%
Public Liability & Prof Indemnity	\$32,090	\$2,960	\$35,050		\$35,050	\$35,050	\$0	100%
Property Insurance	\$8,385	\$551	\$8,936		\$8,936	\$8,936	\$0	100%
Personal Accident	\$1,996	(\$183)	\$1,813		\$1,813	\$1,813	\$0	100%
Councillors' and Officers' Liability	\$12,358	\$840	\$13,198		\$13,198	\$13,198	\$0	100%
Motor vehicle liability	\$8,010	\$1,122	\$9,132		\$9,132	\$9,132	\$0	100%
Insurance Costs - Total	\$64,647	\$5,440	\$70,087	\$0	\$70,087	\$70,087	\$0	100%
Governance Costs								
Chairperson's Allowance	\$4,010		\$4,010		\$4,010	\$0	\$4,010	0%
Councillors' Meeting Fees	\$18,619		\$18,619		\$18,619	\$0	\$18,619	0%
Councillors' Travelling	\$3,816		\$3,816		\$3,816	\$684	\$3,132	18%
Councillors' Subsistence - CMCC Mtgs	\$2,581		\$2,581		\$2,581	\$429	\$2,152	17%
Subscription - Shires Assoc	\$4,341		\$4,341	\$694	\$5,035	\$5,035	\$0	100%
Delegates Expenses	\$1,502		\$1,502		\$1,502	\$0	\$1,502	0%
Councillors Superannuation	\$2,376		\$2,376		\$2,376	\$0	\$2,376	0%
Governance Costs - Total	\$37,245	\$0	\$37,245	\$694	\$37,939	\$6,148	\$31,791	16%
Employee Overheads								
ToolBox Meetings	\$2,358		\$2,358	(\$1,000)	\$1,358	\$42	\$1,316	3%
Annual Leave	\$40,430		\$40,430		\$40,430	\$9,610	\$30,820	24%
Long Service Leave	\$14,158		\$14,158		\$14,158	\$2,226	\$11,932	16%
Sick Leave	\$25,358		\$25,358		\$25,358	\$8,268	\$17,090	33%
compassionate leave	\$1,644		\$1,644		\$1,644	\$1,583	\$61	96%
Employee Overheads distributed to works	(\$179,897)		(\$179,897)		(\$179,897)	(\$60,980)	(\$118,917)	34%
Union Picnic Day	\$1,710		\$1,710	(\$334)	\$1,376	\$1,376	\$0	100%
Public Holidays NEI	\$15,828		\$15,828		\$15,828	\$3,388	\$12,440	21%
Superannuation	\$48,012		\$48,012		\$48,012	\$25,765	\$22,247	54%
Workers Compensation	\$10,500		\$10,500		\$10,500	\$3,864	\$6,636	37%
Protective Clothing	\$1,755		\$1,755		\$1,755	\$1,442	\$313	82%
Allowances Disability/Climatic	\$1,753		\$1,753	(\$500)	\$1,253	\$0	\$1,253	0%
Staff Training	\$16,391		\$16,391		\$16,391	\$3,416	\$12,975	21%
Sub - Total - Employee Overheads	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$1,834)	(\$1,834)	\$0	(\$1,834)	0%
Sub Total Administrative Overheads	\$259,586	\$5,440	\$265,026	(\$2,140)	\$262,886	\$145,398	\$117,488	55%
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	\$41,849	\$136,757	23%
WAP 1520 Grant Expenses - Other Costs - Cnl Roads	\$205,000		\$205,000	\$80,000	\$285,000	\$238,467	\$46,533	84%
WAP 1520 Grant Expenses - HR- Roads	\$108,807		\$108,807		\$108,807	\$54,689	\$54,118	50%
WAP 1520 Grant Expenses - HR - TSRs	\$8,882		\$8,882		\$8,882	\$4,497	\$4,385	51%
WAP 1520 Grant Expenses - HR - WCs	\$7,217		\$7,217		\$7,217	\$0	\$7,217	0%
WAP 1520 Grant Expenses - HR - Rail Corridors	\$6,662		\$6,662		\$6,662	\$365	\$6,297	5%
WAP 1520 Grant Expenses - HR - n,s,o	\$6,274		\$6,274		\$6,274	\$0	\$6,274	0%
WAP 1520 Grant Expenses - H P T'force Admin	\$5,551		\$5,551		\$5,551	\$3,517	\$2,034	63%
Employee Overheads distributed to works	\$179,897		\$179,897		\$179,897	\$60,980	\$118,917	34%
Parkinsonia Weed Control	\$19,422		\$19,422		\$19,422	\$1,171	\$18,251	6%
Promotions & Field Days	\$13,487		\$13,487		\$13,487	\$4,621	\$8,866	34%
Computer Bio Security System	\$15,126		\$15,126		\$15,126	\$8,232	\$6,894	54%
Regional Meeting Expenses	\$6,896		\$6,896		\$6,896	\$3,338	\$3,558	48%
Administration Weed Control	\$15,970		\$15,970	\$5,000	\$20,970	\$14,962	\$6,008	71%
Weed Control Publicity	\$3,237		\$3,237		\$3,237	\$1,037	\$2,200	32%
Destruction of Weeds - Total	\$792,787	\$0	\$792,787	\$85,000	\$877,787	\$437,725	\$440,062	50%
Private Works								
Gilgandra Shire - Cost of Private Works	\$14,967		\$14,967		\$14,967	\$11,256	\$3,711	75%
DPI - Biocontrol and Quanda	\$82,000		\$82,000		\$82,000	\$49,320	\$32,680	60%
DPI - Varroa Mite	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000		\$25,000	\$23,319	\$1,681	93%
Walgett Shire - Cost of Private Works	\$16,185		\$16,185		\$16,185	\$6,492	\$9,693	40%
Coonabarabran - Private works	\$20,592		\$20,592		\$20,592	\$18,860	\$1,732	92%
Hudson Pear - Private Works	\$12,664		\$12,664		\$12,664	\$318	\$12,346	3%
Crown land	\$0		\$0	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$5,681	\$319	95%
Coonamble - Private works	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Private Works -Total	\$146,408	\$25,000	\$171,408	\$6,000	\$177,408	\$115,246	\$62,162	65%
Other Expenses								
Depot Expenses	\$10,187		\$10,187		\$10,187	\$3,700	\$6,487	36%
Storage Rental	\$4,413		\$4,413		\$4,413	\$2,080	\$2,333	47%
Plant Expenses	\$78,973		\$78,973	(\$15,000)	\$63,973	\$36,547	\$27,426	57%
Depreciation	\$80,000		\$80,000		\$80,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	50%
Other Expenses -Total	\$173,573	\$0	\$173,573	(\$15,000)	\$158,573	\$82,327	\$76,246	52%
Revenue Expenses - Total	\$1,372,354	\$30,440	\$1,402,794	\$73,860	\$1,476,654	\$780,696	\$695,958	53%
Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit) after Depreciation	(\$125,695)	(\$440)	(\$126,135)	(\$79,678)	(\$205,813)	\$201,667	(\$407,480)	-98%

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Agenda –6th March 2023 – Ordinary Council Meeting

Capital Income								
Sale/Trade in of Plant Assets	\$40,000		\$40,000		\$40,000	\$0	\$40,000	0%
Transfer from ELE Reserve	\$20,000		\$20,000		\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	0%
Transfer from Plant Reserve	\$20,000		\$20,000		\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	0%
Capital Income - Total	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	0%
Capital Expenditure								
Minor Building Improvements	\$5,000		\$5,000		\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	0%
Bio Control unit	\$5,000		\$5,000		\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	0%
New Vehicles - Nett	\$70,000		\$70,000		\$70,000	\$0	\$70,000	0%
Small Plant, Tools, Radios	\$2,000		\$2,000		\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	0%
Transfer to ELE Reserve	\$5,000		\$5,000		\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	0%
Transfer to Plant Reserve	\$8,405		\$8,405		\$8,405	\$0	\$8,405	0%
Capital Expenditure - Total	\$95,405	\$0	\$95,405	\$0	\$95,405	\$0	\$95,405	0%
Net Capital Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$15,405)	\$0	(\$15,405)	\$0	(\$15,405)	\$0	(\$15,405)	
Summary								
Total Income	\$1,326,659	\$30,000	\$1,356,659	(\$5,818)	\$1,350,841	\$982,363	\$368,478	
Total Expenditure	\$1,467,759	\$30,440	\$1,498,199	\$73,860	\$1,572,059	\$780,696	\$791,363	
Net Total Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$141,100)	(\$440)	(\$141,540)	(\$79,678)	(\$221,218)	\$201,667	(\$422,885)	
Add back depreciation and profit on sale	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	
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)	(\$440)	(\$93,135)	(\$79,678)	(\$172,813)	\$241,667	(\$414,480)	

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL						
December 2022 Quarterly Budget Review						
Income Statement						
						2022/23
Income from continuing operations						
User charges and fees						225
Interest and investment revenue						12
Other revenues						6
Grants and Contributions provided for operating purposes						893
Other income						
Net gains from disposal of assets						5
Total income from continuing operations						1,141
Expenses from continuing operations						
Employee benefits and on-costs						600
Materials and services						633
Depreciation and amortisation						80
Net losses from the disposal of assets						0
Total expenses from continuing operations						1,313
Operating result from continuing operations						-172
NET OPERATING RESULT FOR THE YEAR						-172
Net operating result attributable to Council						
Net operating result for the year before contributions provided for capital purposes						-172

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL						
Statement of Comprehensive Income						
						2022/23
Net operating result for the year as per the Income Statement						-172
Total Comprehensive Income for the year						-172

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL					
December 2022 Quarterly Budget Review					
Statement of Financial Position					
ASSETS					2022/23
Current Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents					930
Investments					121
receivables					28
Inventories					20
Total Current Assets					1,099
Non-current assets					
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment					300
Right of use assets					6
Total non-current assets					306
Total Assets					1,405
					80
LIABILITIES					-42
Current Liabilities					38
Payables					41
Lease liabilities					6
Provisions					155
Total Current Assets					202
Non-current liabilities					
Lease liabilities					0
Provisions					14
Total non-current liabilities					14
Total Liabilities					216
NET ASSETS					1,189
EQUITY					
Accumulated surplus					956
Revaluation Reserve					184
Council equity interest					1,140
Total equity					1,140

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL							
Statement of Changes in Equity						2022/23	
Opening balance						1,128	
Net operating result for the year						-172	
Equity - balance at end of the reporting period						956	

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL							
Statement of Cash Flows							
for the years ending						2022/23	
Cash flows from operating activities							
Receipts:							
User charges and fees						225	
Interest and investment revenue						12	
Other revenues						6	
Grants and Contributions provided for operating purposes						883	
Payments:							
Employee benefits and on-costs						-600	
Materials and contracts						-673	
Net cash provided (or used in) operating activities						-147	
Cash flows from investing activities							
Receipts:							
Sale of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment						40	
Payments							
Purchase of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment						-70	
Net cash provided (or used in) investing activities						-30	
Cash flows from financing							
Principal component of lease payments						-5	
Net cash flows from financing activities						-5	
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents						-172	
Plus: cash and cash equivalents - beginning of year						1,066	
Cash and cash equivalents - end of year						894	
plus: investments on hand - end of year						121	
Total cash, cash equivalents and investments						1,015	

ITEM 7.6 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
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That Council receive and note the list of upcoming meetings and events.</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

Attachments:

Calendar of events 2023

IMPORTANT DATES - Upcoming Meetings and Events - 2023

DATE	MEETING/FUNCTION	LOCATION	NOTES
10 th & 11 th March 2023	Coonabarabran P & A Show	Coonabarabran	
14 th March 2023	Central West Regional	Pilliga Pottery, Warrumbungle Shire	
17 th & 18 th March 2023	Baradine P & A Show		
23 rd March 2023	Central West Hudson Pear Taskforce	Quanda field trip followed by a meeting at Coonamble Bowling Club	
29 th March 2023	Parthenium and Prickle Bush Meeting	Wollongbar	
24 th April 2023	CMCC Council Meeting	Coonamble Shire Council Chambers	
28 th & 29 th April 2023	Gilgandra P & A Show	Gilgandra	
2 nd May 2023	North West Regional Meeting	TBC	
9 th May 2023	Hudson Pear Taskforce Meeting	Lightning Ridge Bowling Club	
13 th & 14 th May 2023	Walgett P & A Show	Walgett	
23 rd & 24 th May 2023	Coonamble P & A Show	Coonamble	
6 th June 2023	Central West Regional Meeting	TBC	
23 rd June 2023	Warren P & A Show	Warren	
1 st August 2023	North West Regional Meeting	TBC	
7 th – 11 th August 2023	NSW Weeds Conference	Dubbo	
22 nd & 23 rd August 2023	Ag Quip	Gunnedah	
5 th September 2023	Central West Regional Meeting	TBC	
31 st October 2023	North West Regional Meeting	TBC	
5 th December 2023	Central West Regional Meeting	TBC	



AGENDA FOR CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, 6th March 2023

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to clause 7 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice that the Closed Council Meeting of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council will be held at Coonamble Shire Council Chambers on 6th March 2023 to discuss the items listed in the Agenda.

Michael Urquhart
GENERAL MANAGER

AGENDA

8. MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

Time:

That the public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Sections 10A (2) (c) & (d) of the Local Government Act 1993 on the basis that the items deal with:

(c) That information that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting business (or proposed to conduct business)

(d) That the matter and information is commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Moved:

Seconded:

9. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS/CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING

ITEM 9.1 Report from the General Manager

ITEM 9.LLS Hudson Pear Contract

10. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Return to Open Session
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That Council return to open session</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

11. ADOPTION OF CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

Adoption of Closed Session Reports
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That Council adopt the recommendations of the Close Committee Reports.</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

12. BIOSECURITY REPORT

ITEM 12.1 QUARTERLY BIOSECURITY 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
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That the report be received and noted</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

Attachments:

Senior Biosecurity Officer Information on control activities.

Senior Biosecurity Report February 2023

Power point presentation - *burning Hudson Pear & other control options*

St John's Wort season has eased with dryer weather. The current weed focus across the County Council is Green Cestrum, African Box Thorn, Blue Heliotrope, Harrisia Cactus, Yellow Star Thistle and ongoing with Hudson Pear.

New Incursions – Fireweed (*Senecio madagascariensis*).

The land 145 HA, is on the corner of Black stump Way and Warrumbungle Way.

Fireweed is a Weeds of National Significance (WONS) and a Regional Priority & eradication weed for Central West NSW. 5 large bags were filled after hand removal of the weed. 6 coordinates showing densities of the infestations have been recorded.

Fireweed grows along the Australian east coast from Victoria to Central Queensland. It is most invasive in coastal regions. It is also on the northern and southern tablelands.

Fireweed comes from southeast Africa. It was first seen in the Hunter Valley in 1918, and now first found in Dubbo and Warrumbungle December 2022.

Fireweed reduces productivity, difficult to control, poisonous to livestock and can cause death. Fireweed is often mistaken with Fireweed Groundsels species and Ragwort species both native.

Fireweed can produce up to 18,000 seeds per plant.



Aerial Inspections

Hudson Pear W/C 28th February 2023. This inspection will be focussing on the boundaries of Lightning Ridge, Cumborah and Lightning Ridge areas to map any out-lining infestations to schedule ground control.



Parkinsonia W/C 13th March 2023 - Mapping infestations along the Barwon, Namoi and Narran Rivers for ground control.

13. QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

14. CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: 24th April 2023

15. CLOSE OF MEETING

Time: