



Bulloo
Shire

I hereby give notice that
an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on:

Date: Thursday, 20 August 2026
Time: 9:00 AM
Location: Council Chambers, 68 Dowling Street
Thargomindah Queensland 4492

BUSINESS PAPER

Ordinary Council Meeting

20 August 2026

Tiffany Dare
Chief Executive Officer

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1 OPENING OF MEETING**2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS**

The Bulloo Shire Council acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which the meeting is being held, and pay respects to their elders, past and present.

3 ATTENDANCE INCLUDING APOLOGIES**4 CONDOLENCES****5 DECLARATION OF MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST/CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- Pursuant to section 172 of the Local Government Act 2009, a councillor who has a material personal interest in an issue to be considered at a meeting of the local government, or any of its committees
 - (a) must disclose the interest to the meeting; and
 - (b) must not be present at or take part in the meeting while the issue is being considered or voted on.
- A councillor who is barred from a meeting under subsection (1) must not be in the chamber where the meeting is being conducted, including any area set apart for the public.

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING - 16 JULY 2026

File Number: 162644

Author: Jane Vaschina, Executive Assistant

Authoriser: Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: 1. Minutes of Special Council Meeting - 16 July 2026

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 16 July 2026 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.



Bulloo
Shire

MINUTES

Special Council Meeting

16 July 2026

**MINUTES OF BULLOO SHIRE COUNCIL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 68 DOWLING STREET THARGOMINDAH QUEENSLAND 4492
ON THURSDAY, 16 JULY 2026 AT 9:00 AM**

PRESENT: Cr John Ferguson (Mayor), Cr Stewart Morton, Cr Russell Ferguson, Cr Maurice Parker

IN ATTENDANCE: Tiffany Dare (CEO), Kate Humphris (Admin & Finance Manager)

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor welcomed all Councillors and guests and declared the meeting open at 9.10am.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

The Bulloo Shire Council acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which the meeting is being held, and pay respects to their elders, past and present.

3 ATTENDANCE INCLUDING APOLOGIES

Cr Glyn Dare

4 CONDOLENCES

Nil

5 DECLARATION OF MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Pursuant to section 172 of the Local Government Act 2009, a councillor who has a material personal interest in an issue to be considered at a meeting of the local government, or any of its committees
 - (a) must disclose the interest to the meeting; and
 - (b) must not be present at or take part in the meeting while the issue is being considered or voted on.
- A councillor who is barred from a meeting under subsection (1) must not be in the chamber where the meeting is being conducted, including any area set apart for the public.

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil

7 RECEPTION OF PETITIONS

Nil

8 GENERAL BUSINESS & MATTERS FOR NOTING REPORTS**8.1 STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FINANCIAL POSITION 2025/2026****RESOLUTION 2026/126**

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That pursuant to section 205 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the statement of the financial operations and financial position of the Council in respect of the previous financial year ("the Statement of Estimated Financial Position") be received and its contents noted.

CARRIED

8.2 ADOPTION OF 2026/2027 BUDGET AND TEN YEAR FINANCIAL FORECAST**RESOLUTION 2026/127**

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That

- (a) Pursuant to section 104 of the Local Government Act 2009, 170 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 and as prepared in accordance with section 169 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council resolves to adopt the Budget for the 2026/2027 financial year as contained in the documents entitled Proposed Original Budget FY2027, Financial Statements and 10 Year Forecast, and Sustainability Ratios, and set out in the pages contained therein and incorporating:
 - i. The statement of Financial Position;
 - ii. The statement of Cash Flow;
 - iii. The statement of Comprehensive Income (Income & Expenditure);
 - iv. The statement of Changes in Equity;
 - v. The long-term Financial Forecast;
 - vi. The revenue policy and revenue statement;
 - vii. The relevant measures of financial sustainability; and
 - viii. The total value of the change, expressed as a percentage, in the rates and utility charges levied for the financial year compared with the rates and utility charges levied in the previous budget.
 - ix. The 2026/2027 capital works program
- (b) Pursuant to section 173(1) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 Council resolved that all money spent in the 2026/2027 financial year prior to the adoption of the budget has been included in the budget.

CARRIED

8.3 DIFFERENTIAL GENERAL RATES

RESOLUTION 2026/128

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Maurice Parker

That pursuant to section 81 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the categories in to which rateable land is categorised (as in Table 1), the description of those categories and, pursuant to sections 81(4) and 81(5) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the method by which land is to be identified and included in its appropriate category is as follows:

- i. Column 1 - Category (section 81)
- ii. Column 2 - Description (section 81)
- iii. Column 3 – Identification (sections 81(4) and 81(5))

Table 1

Category (section 81)	Description (section 81)	Identification (section 81(4) and 81(5))
Vacant and Residential Land		
1	Vacant Land - Thargomindah	All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.
2	Vacant Land - Hungerford	All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.
3	Vacant Land - Noccundra	All land within the Township of Noccundra that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.
4	Vacant Land – Other	All other land not identified in another category that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.
5	Residential - Thargomindah	All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as a single unit dwelling, multi-unit dwelling, large home site or Outbuildings.
6	Residential - Hungerford	All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as a single unit dwelling, multi-unit dwelling, large home site or Outbuildings.
Commercial and Industrial land		
7	Commercial - Thargomindah	All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.
8	Commercial - Hungerford	All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.
9	Commercial - Noccundra	All land within the Township of Noccundra that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.
10	Commercial - Other	All other land not identified in another category that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.
11	Industry - Thargomindah	All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.
Rural Lands		

12	Small Rural	All land greater than 100 Ha but less than 1,000 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as grazing or agricultural.
13	Rural	All land greater than 1,000 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as grazing or agricultural.
Intensive Industry and Other Lands		
14	Cat 6 – Jackson & Naccowlah	All land recorded in Council's land record as being used for the production (extraction) of Oil and / or Gas / Petroleum and / or the treatment thereof, currently identified as the Jackson and Naccowlah Oil and Gas Facility.
15	Cat 7 - Ballera	All land recorded in Council's land record as being used for the production (extraction) of Gas Petroleum and/or Oil identified as the South West Queensland Gas Centre
16	Cat 8 – Petroleum Leases	All other land used for the production of oil and/or gas not included in Category 14 or 15 generally known as other petroleum leases in the Shire.
17	Cat 9- Extractive Leases	All other land with a primary land use designated 'extractive' generally used for the extracting of precious metals and/or gemstones.
18	All Other Land	All other land in the shire.
19	Accommodation – 50 to 99	All land predominately used for providing intensive accommodation capable of accommodating 50 or more but less than 100 persons (other than travelling public) in rooms, suites or caravan sites specifically built or provided for this purpose.
20	Accommodation – 100 to 199	All land predominately used for providing intensive accommodation capable of accommodating 100 or more but less than 200 persons (other than travelling public) in rooms, suites or caravan sites specifically built or provided for this purpose.
21	Accommodation – 200 plus	All land predominately used for providing intensive accommodation capable of accommodating 200 or more persons (other than travelling public) in rooms, suites or caravan sites specifically built or provided for this purpose.
22	Mining Claim <900m ²	All mining claims over land that is 900m ² or less.
23	Mining Claim >900m ²	All mining claims over land that is larger than 900m ² .
24	All land > 10 Ha but < 100 Ha	All land, greater than 10 Ha but less than 100 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as residential.
25	All land with Carbon Credit Units	All land in whole or in part that has received Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCU).

- a) Council delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power, pursuant to sections 81(4) and 81(5) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, to identify the rating category to which each parcel of rateable land belongs.
- b) Pursuant to sections 74 and 76 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, for the purpose of making and levying rates for the 2026/27 financial year, the rateable value of land for a financial year is the value of the land for the financial year.
- c) Pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 80 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the differential general rate to be made and levied for each differential general rate category and, pursuant to section 77 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the minimum general rate to be made and levied for each differential general rate category, is as follows in Table 2:

Table 2

Category		Criteria	2026-27 Rate in c/\$	2026-27 Minimum
Vacant and Residential Land				
1		All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.	5.5554	489
2		All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.	4.0436	362
3		All land within the Township of Noccundra that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.	116.0606	362
4		All other land not identified in another category that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.	103.7031	415
5		All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as a single unit dwelling, multi-unit dwelling, large home site or Outbuildings.	8.1852	415
6		All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as a single unit dwelling, multi-unit dwelling, large home site or Outbuildings.	3.5020	350
Commercial and Industrial land				
7		All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.	7.8884	499
8		All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.	6.8369	431
9		All land within the Township of Noccundra that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.	112.8882	416
10		All other land not identified in another category that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.	23.5606	433
11		All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence), not identified in another category, that has a primary land use code designated as transport and storage or industrial.	8.6907	499
Rural Lands				
12		All land greater than 100 Ha but less than 1,000 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as grazing or agricultural.	0.4153	362
13		All land greater than 1,000 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as grazing or agricultural.	0.3918	445
Intensive Industry and Other Lands				
14		All land recorded in Council's land record as being used for the production (extraction) of Oil and / or Gas / Petroleum and / or the treatment thereof, currently identified as the Jackson and Naccowlah Oil and Gas Facility.	95.8790	721
15		All land recorded in Council's land record as being used for the production (extraction) of Gas Petroleum and/or Oil identified as the South West Queensland Gas Centre.	5,402.1178	721
16		All other land used for the production of oil and/or gas not included in Category 14 or 15 generally known as other petroleum leases in the Shire.	16.7218	721
17		All other land with a primary land use designated 'extractive' generally used for the extracting of precious metals and/or gemstones.	11.7002	362

18	All other land in the shire.	89.5064	895
19	All land predominately used for providing intensive accommodation capable of accommodating 50 or more but less than 100 persons (other than travelling public) in rooms, suites or caravan sites specifically built or provided for this purpose.	2.8475	13,049
20	All land predominately used for providing intensive accommodation capable of accommodating 100 or more but less than 200 persons (other than travelling public) in rooms, suites or caravan sites specifically built or provided for this purpose.	2.8475	26,099
21	All land predominately used for providing intensive accommodation capable of accommodating 200 or more persons (other than travelling public) in rooms, suites or caravan sites specifically built or provided for this purpose.	2.8475	52,196
22	All mining claims over land that is 900m ² or less.	-	175
23	All mining claims over land that is larger than 900m ² .	-	522
24	All land, greater than 10 Ha but less than 100 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as residential.	8.1885	415
25	All land in whole or in part that has received Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCU).	1.3802	445

d) Pursuant to section 116 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the amount of the differential general rate to be levied for the 2026/2027 financial year on the categories of land identified in Column 1 of the table above, be limited to an amount no more than an amount equal to the amount of general rate levied on that land in the previous financial year increased by the percentage identified below:

- General rates increased by 3%
- Minimum general rate increased by 3%

CARRIED

8.4 CHANGE IN THE RATES AND UTILITY CHARGES

RESOLUTION 2026/129

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Maurice Parker

That pursuant to sections 169(7) and 169(8) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council notes that the percentage change in the total rates and utility charges budgeted to be levied for the 2026–27 financial year, compared with the total rates and utility charges budgeted for the 2025–26 financial year, is 2%, excluding discounts and rebates.

CARRIED

8.5 WATER UTILITY CHARGES

RESOLUTION 2026/130

Moved: Cr Maurice Parker

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That pursuant to section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 99 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council make and levy water utility charges, for the supply of water services by the Council, as follows:

Hungerford Water Rates

Description	Units	2026/27 Charge
Each residence – Treated or Bore and Untreated Water	Water – Connected Charge	\$ 510
Water – Consumption Charge – Treated or Bore Water Only	Per kL	\$ 0.20

Thargomindah Water Rates

Charge Type	Category	Access / Connected Charge	Consumption Charge per kl
Vacant	Water Access	\$ 380	n/a
Residential	Residential Connected	\$ 510	\$ 0.20
Commercial 1	Commercial 1 - Connected	\$ 510	\$ 0.20
Commercial 2	Commercial 2 - Connected	\$ 797	\$ 0.20
Commercial 3	Commercial 3 - Connected	\$ 2,040	\$ 0.20

Definitions for the access / connected charges:

Fixed Access Charges

1. Water Access Charge
 - a. Vacant land with access to the water network but no water meter.
2. Residential Connected Charge of \$510.
 - a. Residential or vacant land that is connected to the water network.
3. Commercial 1 Connected Charge of \$510. (Same as Residential Charge)
 - a. Other non-residential installations not mentioned in Commercial 2 or 3.
4. Commercial 2 Connected Charge of \$797 (1.5625 x Commercial 1).
 - a. Roadhouse, Truck Stop, Parks, Council Office.
5. Commercial 3 Connected Charge of \$2,040 (4 x Commercial 1).
 - a. Facilities such as School, Hospital, Pool, Hotel, Motel, Caravan Park.

Consumption Charges

1. Consumption Charge Tier 1 of \$0.20 for each kl used.

CARRIED

8.6 SEWERAGE UTILITY CHARGES

RESOLUTION 2026/131

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That, pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 99 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council make and levy the following sewerage utility charges for the provision of sewerage services for the 2026/27 financial year:

Charge Description	Definition	2026/27 Charge
Sewerage – Access Charge	Charge applied to each parcel of land in the sewer area that has the potential to be connected to the sewer scheme, whether connected or not.	\$ 282.94
Sewerage – Connected Charge	Charge applied to a single unit dwelling, each unit of a multi-unit dwelling, each room in workers accommodation and the 1 st pedestal at all other connected allotments.	\$ 565.88
Sewerage – Additional Pedestal	After the Sewerage – Connected Charge, the Charge applied to each additional non-residential pedestal (including urinal cistern) that is connected to the sewer scheme.	\$ 282.94

CARRIED

8.7 WASTE MANAGEMENT UTILITY CHARGES

RESOLUTION 2026/132

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Maurice Parker

That pursuant to section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 99 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council make and levy waste management utility charges, for the supply of waste management services by the Council, as follows:

Description	Charging Basis	2026/27 Charge
Garbage – Domestic Environmental Charge	Charge applied to each domestic assessment within Thargomindah to contribute towards costs of providing the recycling and waste transfer facilities.	\$ 29.05
Garbage – Commercial Environmental Charge	Charge applied to each commercial assessment within Thargomindah to contribute towards costs of providing the recycling and waste transfer facilities.	\$ 58.11
Garbage – Domestic Collection	Charge for one refuse bin of up to 240L to be collected and disposed of once per week from each domestic premises. Each additional bin will be each charged another Garbage – Domestic Collection.	\$ 218.11
Garbage – Commercial Collection	Charge for one refuse bin of up to 240L to be collected and disposed of twice per week from each commercial premises. Each additional bin will be each charged another Garbage – Commercial Collection.	\$ 420.82

CARRIED

8.8 DISCOUNT FOR PROMPT PAYMENT ON RATES & UTILITY CHARGES**RESOLUTION 2026/133**

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That in accordance with Section 130 Local Government Regulation 2012, Council allow three percent (3%) discount on General Rates (excluding Charges, Interest, Excess Water Charges, State Fire Services and Special Rates and Charges) provided that: -

- i. Payment is received within the discount period (i.e. within 30 days after the dates of the Rates Notice) or, where under special circumstances, an agreement has been entered into between the ratepayer and Council that rates and charges will be paid by instalments over the course of the financial year; and
- ii. the discount applies only if other rates or charges are paid.

CARRIED

8.9 INTEREST ON OVERDUE RATES AND CHARGES**RESOLUTION 2026/134**

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Maurice Parker

That in accordance with Section 133 Local Government Regulation 2012, interest be charged on Rates and Utility Charges during the 2026/2027 financial year at a rate of 12.19% (calculated on daily basis) on all properties which have outstanding balances after a clear thirty (30) days from the issue of the Rates Notice.

CARRIED

8.10 REBATES AND CONCESSIONS**RESOLUTION 2026/135**

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That

- a) In accordance with Section 119 & 120 Local Government Regulation 2012, and Council's Revenue Policy, Council grant to eligible pensioners, a remission of rates equivalent to 20% of the total rates and charges levied with the maximum subsidy payable of \$200.00 per annum.
- b) A Pensioner is defined by Centrelink criteria.

CARRIED

8.11 LEVY AND PAYMENT**RESOLUTION 2026/136**

Moved: Cr Maurice Parker

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council

- a) Pursuant to section 107 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 and the Fire Services Act 1990, Council's rates and charges, and the State Government's Emergency Management, Fire and Rescue Levy be levied:
 - for the half year 1 July 2026 to 31 December 2026 - in August 2026; and
 - for the half year 1 January 2027 to 30 June 2027 - in February 2027.
- b) Pursuant to section 118 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, that Council's rates and charges, and the State Government's Emergency Management, Fire and Rescue Levy, be paid within 30 days of the date of the issue of the rate notice.

CARRIED

8.12 REVENUE STATEMENT 2026/2027**RESOLUTION 2026/137**

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council:

- a) Receive and note the document titled 'Proposed Revenue Statement 2026/2027' included in this report.
- b) Pursuant to Section 81 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 determine that for the purpose of levying differential general rates for the 2026/2027 financial year the different categories of rateable land and a description of those categories is included in Attachment 1 of the Revenue Statement.
- c) Adopt the Revenue Statement 2026/2027 in accordance with Section 169 (2) (b) of the Local Government Regulation 2012.
- d) Levies differential general rates, special rates and charges for those properties identified in the Overall Plan relevant to their area and utility charges for the 2026/2027 financial year pursuant to Section 94 of the Local Government Act 2009 at the rates included within the Revenue Statement.
- e) Determine, pursuant to Section 118 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, those rates and charges must be paid within 30 calendar days after the notice has been issued.
- f) Determine to allow a discount for the payment of rates and charges pursuant to Section 130 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 in accordance with the Revenue Statement.

- g) Determine to allow payment of certain rates or charges by arrangements and concessions to certain classes of ratepayer pursuant to Section 129 and Section 119 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 in accordance with the Revenue Statement.

CARRIED

8.13 DEBT POLICY

RESOLUTION 2026/138

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That Council adopt the Debt (Borrowings) Policy, as presented.

CARRIED

8.14 REVENUE POLICY

RESOLUTION 2026/139

Moved: Cr Maurice Parker

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council adopt the Revenue Policy, as presented.

CARRIED

8.15 INVESTMENT POLICY

RESOLUTION 2026/140

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That Council adopt the Investment Policy, as presented.

CARRIED

8.16 FEES AND CHARGES 2026/2027

RESOLUTION 2026/141

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That in accordance with Chapter 4 Part 2 Sec 97 (Cost Recovery Fees) of the *Local Government Act 2009*, and in accordance with Section 262(3)(c) (Powers in support of responsibilities) of the *Local Government Act 2009*, set the Cost Recovery Fees the Commercial Fees & Charges for 2026/2027 as per the following Schedule: –

Register of Miscellaneous Fees & Charges.

- Cost Recovery Fees
- Commercial Fees & Charges

CARRIED

8.17 OPERATIONAL PLAN 2026/2027

RESOLUTION 2026/142

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council adopt the Operational Plan for 2026/2027, as presented.

CARRIED

8.18 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE 2026/2027

RESOLUTION 2026/143

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That Council adopt the Organisational Structure, as presented, to commence 01 July 2026.

CARRIED

9 LATE ITEMS

Nil

10 NEXT MEETING

Nil

11 CLOSURE

The Meeting closed at 10.18am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Meeting of the Bulloo Shire Council held on 20 August 2026.

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CHAIRPERSON

6.2 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING - 16 JULY 2026

File Number: 162643

Author: Jane Vaschina, Executive Assistant

Authoriser: Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: 1. Minutes of Council Meeting - 16 July 2026

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 16 July 2026 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.



MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

16 July 2026

**MINUTES OF BULLOO SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 68 DOWLING STREET THARGOMINDAH QUEENSLAND 4492
ON THURSDAY, 16 JULY 2026 AT 10:00 AM**

PRESENT: Cr John Ferguson (Mayor), Cr Stewart Morton, Cr Russell Ferguson, Cr Maurice Parker

IN ATTENDANCE: Tiffany Dare (CEO)

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor welcomed all Councillors and guests and declared the meeting open at 11.00am

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

The Bulloo Shire Council acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which the meeting is being held, and pay respects to their elders, past and present.

3 ATTENDANCE INCLUDING APOLOGIES

Cr Glyn Dare

4 CONDOLENCES

Nil

5 DECLARATION OF MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Pursuant to section 172 of the Local Government Act 2009, a councillor who has a material personal interest in an issue to be considered at a meeting of the local government, or any of its committees
 - (a) must disclose the interest to the meeting; and
 - (b) must not be present at or take part in the meeting while the issue is being considered or voted on.
- A councillor who is barred from a meeting under subsection (1) must not be in the chamber where the meeting is being conducted, including any area set apart for the public.

Councillor	Item	MPI/COI
Mayor John Ferguson	14.12	T2023-2024-127 Tyre Supply and Repair Two (2) Year Contract - Option for Twelve (12) Month Extension
Cr Russell Ferguson	14.12	T2023-2024-127 Tyre Supply and Repair Two (2) Year Contract - Option for Twelve (12) Month Extension

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**6.1 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING - 18 JUNE 2026****RESOLUTION 2026/144**

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 18 June 2026 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

CARRIED

7 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil

8 RECEPTION OF PETITIONS

Nil

9 NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

10 RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

11 MAYORAL REPORTS**11.1 MAYORS REPORT****RESOLUTION 2026/145**

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That Council receive and note the Mayors Report for the month of June 2026.

CARRIED

12 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORTS**12.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT****RESOLUTION 2026/146**

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Maurice Parker

That Council receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's Report for the month of June 2026.

CARRIED

13 COMMITTEE AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES & BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

14 GENERAL BUSINESS & MATTERS FOR NOTING REPORTS**14.1 CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COUNCILLORS POLICY****RESOLUTION 2026/147**

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council endorse the Code of Conduct for Councillors Policy, as presented.

CARRIED

14.2 OPERATIONAL PLAN 2025-2026 PROGRESS REPORT - 30 JUNE 2026 (Q4)**RESOLUTION 2026/148**

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That Council receive and note the 1st April – 30th June 2026 quarterly report for the Operational Plan 2025-2026 in accordance with s174 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

CARRIED

14.3 CORPORATE PLAN 2021-2026 PROGRESS REPORT**RESOLUTION 2026/149**

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Maurice Parker

That Council receive and note the final Annual Report on the implementation of the Corporate Plan 2021–2026 for the 2025/26 financial year.

CARRIED

14.4 BUDGET AMENDMENT – THARGOMINDAH KERB AND CHANNEL PROGRAM**RESOLUTION 2026/150**

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That Council approve a budget amendment of \$1,000,000 in the 2026/27 financial year for the Thargomindah Kerb and Channel Program to undertake priority kerb and channel renewal and construction works, with projects to be prioritised and delivered based on drainage outcomes, community benefit.

CARRIED

14.5 BUSINESS CASE, FEASIBILITY AND FUNDING DEVELOPMENT RESERVE**RESOLUTION 2026/151**

Moved: Cr Maurice Parker

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council:

1. Establish a Strategic Projects and Grant Development Fund with an annual allocation of \$100,000.
2. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to approve expenditure from the Fund up to \$15,000 per project for:
 - Business cases;
 - Feasibility studies;
 - Land surveys and site investigations;
 - Concept and preliminary design work;
 - Technical investigations;
 - Grant and funding application development;
 - Joint regional projects; and
 - Specialist professional advice required to progress strategic opportunities.
3. Require all expenditure from the Fund to be reported to Council through the monthly financial report.
4. Note that expenditure from the Fund does not constitute approval to proceed with project delivery, construction or ongoing commitments, which remain subject to separate Council consideration where required.

CARRIED

14.6 ACQUISITION OF PART OF LOT 30 WN8 FOR FUTURE TOWNSHIP EXPANSION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**RESOLUTION 2026/152**

Moved: Cr Maurice Parker

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council:

1. Endorse the acquisition of part of Lot 30 WN8 for future township expansion, housing development, community infrastructure and economic development purposes.
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to lodge an application with the State of Queensland to purchase part of Lot 30 WN8.
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to undertake Native Title consultation and negotiate any required Indigenous Land Use Agreement associated with the proposed acquisition.
4. Receive a further report once the State's consideration of the application has progressed and more detailed cost estimates become available.

CARRIED

14.7 DISASTER MANAGEMENT REFORM DISCUSSION PAPER - SUBMISSION**RESOLUTION 2026/153**

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

RECOMMEDATION

That Council:

1. Endorse the preparation and lodgement of a submission in response to the Australian Government's Disaster Management Reform Discussion Paper.
2. Note that the submission remains under development and that a draft has been provided to Councillors for information.
3. Authorise the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to finalise and lodge the submission on behalf of Bulloo Shire Council prior to the submission deadline.

CARRIED

14.8 REQUEST TO PURCHASE LAND - THARGOMINDAH**RESOLUTION 2026/154**

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That Council

- a) Accept the offer from Max Orbell and Kate Humphris for the purchase of Lot 2 SP348654, previously offered for sale by tender, for the sum of \$6,000 (including GST).
- b) Apply Council's standard conditions of sale, including:
 - payment of a \$5,000 building bond; and
 - a requirement that construction of a dwelling commence within 24 months of settlement, failing which the bond may be forfeited.

CARRIED

Adjournment

Council adjourned for Lunch at 11:54pm and resumed the meeting at 12:24m.

Attendance

Kate Humphris, Admin & Finance Manager, attended the meeting 12:24pm.

14.9 ADMIN & FINANCE REPORT**RESOLUTION 2026/155**

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council receive and note the Administration & Finance Services Report for June 2026.

CARRIED

14.10 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**RESOLUTION 2026/156**

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That Council adopt the Financial Performance Report for period ending 30th June 2026 in accordance with Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulations 2012*.

CARRIED

14.11 HIRE OF COUNCIL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT POLICY**RESOLUTION 2026/157**

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council adopt the reviewed Hire of Council Plant and Equipment Policy, as presented.

CARRIED

MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST – 14.12

Councillor John Ferguson informed the meeting that he has a Material Personal Interest in relation to Item 14.12, T2023-20247-127 Tyre Supply & Repair Two (2) Year Contract – Option for Twelve (12) Month Extension.

The nature of the interest is that his daughter and son-in-law own the business that was awarded the tender.

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, Cr Ferguson advised that he would leave the meeting while the matter was discussed and voted upon.

Cr John Ferguson left the meeting at 12:45 pm.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST – 14.12

Councillor Russell Ferguson informed the meeting that he has a Conflict of Interest in relation to Item 14.12, T2023-20247-127 Tyre Supply & Repair Two (2) Year Contract – Option for Twelve (12) Month Extension.

The nature of the conflict is that his niece and nephew-in-law own the business that was awarded the tender.

Cr Russell Ferguson advised that he wished to participate in the discussion and vote on the matter. Cr Ferguson stated that the current matter relates solely to the exercise of an extension option contained within the original tender and contract, which was previously considered and awarded by Council. The extension is conditional upon satisfactory contractor performance, with no issues having been identified in relation to the contract.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST – COUNCILLOR RUSSELL FERGUSON – ITEM 14.12**RESOLUTION 2026/158**

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Maurice Parker

That Council, pursuant to section 150ES of the *Local Government Act 2009*, determines that Councillor Russell Ferguson's conflict of interest in Item 14.12, is not so significant that it would reasonably be regarded as likely to influence his decision in relation to the matter, as the extension option formed part of the original tender and contract previously awarded by Council and no performance issues have been identified.

Therefore, Councillor Russell Ferguson is permitted to participate in the discussion and vote on the matter.

CARRIED

14.12 T2023-2024-127 TYRE SUPPLY AND REPAIR TWO (2) YEAR CONTRACT - OPTION FOR TWELVE (12) MONTH EXTENSION

RESOLUTION 2026/159

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Maurice Parker

That Council:

- a) approve the extension of the Tyre Supply and Repair contract to Turnouts Mechanical Services for a further twelve (12) months, with an expiry date of 30 July 2027, based on the tendered rates approved by Council under Resolution 2024/179, unless otherwise varied in accordance with the contract; and
- b) delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to finalise contract arrangements, including confirmation of applicable rates for the extension period.

CARRIED

Attendance

Mayor Ferguson returned to the Meeting at 12:50pm.

14.13 T2025-2026-119 ONE (1) X WATER CART HIRE FOR WARRI GATE ROAD CRC PROJECT

RESOLUTION 2026/160

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council:

- a) accept the tender submitted from Side Dump Industries for one (1) x water cart hire, total cost of \$162,518 excluding GST; for six (6) rosters; and
- b) delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to finalise contract arrangements.

CARRIED

14.14 T2025-2026-118 TWO (2) X WATER CART HIRE FOR NOCCUNDRA AIRSTRIP

RESOLUTION 2026/161

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That Council:

- a) accept the tender submitted by Tolbra for one (1) x AB Double Water Truck configuration, total cost of \$298,130.91 ex GST; for six (6) cycles of water cart hire; and
- b) delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to finalise contract arrangements.

CARRIED

Attendance

George Inocentes, Engineer, attended the meeting at 12:54pm.

14.15 T2025-2026-277 - NORTH EAST ZONE 1 (77) & T2025-2026-278-288 - BULLOO DOWNS ROAD (78) AND TICKALARA ROAD (88)

RESOLUTION 2026/162

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That Council

1. Accepts the schedule of rates tender submitted by Half Hitch Contracting Pty Ltd for the sum of \$2,069,379.92 ex GST to complete 2025-2026-277 - Flood Damaged Roads Restoration – North East Zone 1 (77) contract; and
2. Accepts the schedule of rates tender submitted by Tolbra Earthmovers and Haulage Pty Ltd for the sum of \$4,983,457.61 ex GST to complete 2025-2026-278-288 - Flood Damaged Roads Restoration – Bulloo Downs Road and Tickalara Road (78) and (88) contract with the immediate commencement of work program; and
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to sign and seal the contract in the form proposed; and
4. Resolves that the tendered rates, tender submissions, evaluation details and all discussions relating to this matter be treated as confidential commercial information and not disclosed except as required by law; and
5. The Tender Evaluation Criteria and associated weightings for all significant tenders be presented to Council for endorsement prior to the release of the tender documentation. Following endorsement, tender submissions are to be evaluated by officers in accordance with the approved criteria and weightings.

CARRIED

Council amended the motion following consideration of the tender evaluation results. While the Local Preference measure had been assessed as a self-declared component of the tender submissions, Council determined that K.G. & S.C. Bowen and Half Hitch Contracting offered a comparable level of local content and economic benefit to the community.

Having regard to this assessment, Council considered that Half Hitch Contracting achieved the highest overall evaluation score following the amendment to the Local Preference assessment and, accordingly, amended the resolution to reflect this outcome.

Council also resolved that, for future significant tenders, the proposed tender evaluation criteria and associated weightings be presented to Council for endorsement prior to the release of tender documentation. This requirement was introduced as the evaluation criteria and weightings have not previously been formally endorsed by Council before tenders were called, and will provide greater transparency, consistency and governance over future procurement processes.

Attendance

Kate Humphris left the meeting at 1:23pm

14.19 OPERATIONAL SERVICES REPORT**RESOLUTION 2026/163**

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That Council receive and note the Operational Services Report for June 2026.

CARRIED

Attendance

George Inocentes left the meeting at 1:50pm.

Tamie Warner attended the meeting at 1:54pm

14.16 COMMUNITY, CULTURE & PLACES REPORT**RESOLUTION 2026/164**

Moved: Cr Russell Ferguson

Seconded: Cr Stewart Morton

That Council receive and note the Community, Culture & Places report for the month of June 2026.

CARRIED

14.17 RURAL & TOWN SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT**RESOLUTION 2026/165**

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council receive and note the Rural Services Department Report for June 2026.

CARRIED

14.18 SPECIAL PROJECTS

RESOLUTION 2026/166

Moved: Cr Stewart Morton

Seconded: Cr Russell Ferguson

That Council receive and note the Special Projects report for the month for June 2026.

CARRIED

15 LATE ITEMS

Nil

16 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil

17 NEXT MEETING

Next Ordinary Meeting on 20th August 2026.

18 CLOSURE

The Meeting closed at 2:17pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 20 August 2026.

.....

CHAIRPERSON

7 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

8 RECEPTION OF PETITIONS

9 NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

10 RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

11 MAYORAL REPORTS

11.1 MAYORS REPORT

File Number: 162642
Author: John Ferguson, Mayor
Authoriser: Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Mayors Report for the month of July 2026.

MEETINGS

The Mayor and Councillors, as part of their roles attend a range of meetings. Accordingly, meetings, appointments, functions, media commitments, civic receptions and committee meetings have been listed below.

Meetings and Consultations

16th Ordinary Council Meeting
16th Special Council Meeting
30/31st Darling Downs and South West Council of Mayors

Media

- 2WEB
- ABC Longreach

12 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORTS

12.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT

File Number: 162672

Author: Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer

Authoriser: Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's Report for the month of July 2026.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Outstanding Resolution Items

Update of outstanding actions below, those actions arising in the previous Council meetings that are not listed as been completed.

Meeting Date	Subject	Action	Comments
December 2020	Survey of Warri Gate Road	Engage a surveyor to prepare two survey plans, one over Naryilco Land and the other over Nockatunga land to allow for an application be made with DNRME for a simultaneous Road Opening and Closure for the entire length of road from the Bundeena Road to Warry Gate on the Queensland/New South Wales border within the localities of Nockatunga and Cameron Corner.	Waiting on landholders to review documentation
February 2025	Res 2025/32 Proposed New Water Bore on Warri Gate Road	That Council endorse the application to the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) for the installation of a water bore on Warri Gate Road, with a budget of up to \$800,000.	Approvals granted. Liaising with contractor to commence drilling
December 2025	Res 2025/233 – Floodway and Traffic Monitoring Devices	That Council approve a trial of six Band7 Direct-to-Cell Satellite Floodway and Rainwater Gauge monitoring devices on a 24-month plan at key points along the Bulloo River.	IoT onsite 6th September to commence installation
January 2026	Res 2026/13 - WATER BORES ON WARRI GATE ROAD	That Council approve an allocation of \$120,000 for the installation of water bores along Warri Gate Road.	Planning Application lodged. Permit to Take Water Lodged for 2yr period.
February 2026	Res 2026/30 GRIDS ON SHIRE ROADS	That Council undertake a Shire-wide grid inspection and assessment program, including photographic evidence and updates to Council's grid/register records, and report the outcomes back to Council for further consideration.	No Action; raised lack of process with HR and Engineer.

Meetings attended

9 th	QRA Meeting – Changes to Disaster Recovery Funding
	TMR Monthly Meeting
10 th	Telstra Meeting
14 th	WHS ELT Meeting
16 th	Ordinary Council Meeting
17 th	Department of Local Government
21 st	Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning
24 th	South-West Flood Study/Floodplain Management Project
28 th	QRA Monthly Meeting
30 th /31 st	Darling Downs

Upcoming Meetings

Date	Meeting	Locations	Council Representative
14 August	BROC Meeting	Brewarrina	
20 August	Ordinary Council Meeting	Thargomindah	All
25 August	SWQROC Meeting	Brisbane	Mayor
26-27 th August	WQAC Assembly 2026	Brisbane	Mayor
17 September	Ordinary Council Meeting	Thargomindah	All
8 October	Bulloo Audit Committee Meeting	Thargomindah	Cr Glyn Dare Cr Russell Ferguson
15 October	Ordinary Council Meeting	Thargomindah	
18 October	DDSWQCoM Meeting	Cairns	Mayor
19 October	SWQROC AGM	Cairns	Mayor
19-21 October	LGAQ Annual Conference	Cairns	
13 November	BROC Meeting	St George	
19 November	Ordinary Council Meeting	Thargomindah	All
23-24 November	SWQROC + SWRRTG & SWQWSA	Roma	Mayor
14 December	SWQROC Meeting	Online	Mayor
17 December	Ordinary Council Meeting	Thargomindah	All

13 COMMITTEE AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES & BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

14 GENERAL BUSINESS & MATTERS FOR NOTING REPORTS

14.1 STANDING ORDERS FOR MEETING PROCEDURE

File Number: 161976

Author: Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer

Authoriser: Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer

Attachments:

1. Standing Orders for Council Meetings (under separate cover)
2. Model Meeting Procedures (under separate cover)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to endorse the following documents in accordance with Local Government (Councillor Complaints) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2018.

- Standing Orders for Council Meetings
- Model Meeting Procedures

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 2009

Local Government (Empowering Councils) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2026

CONSIDERATIONS

Standing Orders for Council Meetings & Model Meeting Procedures

CORPORATE & OPERATIONAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

GOV2 Conduct Council business in an open and transparent manner.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the reviewed Standing Orders for Council Meetings document & Model Meeting Procedures, as presented.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Local Government, Water and Volunteers updated the Model Meeting Procedures (MMP) document in June 2026 to align with the LGA amendments as a result of the *Local Government (Empowering Councils) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2026*.

Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

Nil

DISCUSSION

Model Meeting Procedures for Council Meetings, including Standing Committees, have been updated in accordance with the Department's best practice guidelines.

The documents were reviewed, and amendments were made to the Model Meeting Procedures (MMP) to commence on 1st July 2026. The updated documents have now been adopted and published on the Department's website.

The Standing Orders document was also been updated to reflect the amendments to the MMP.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL RISK

If Council does not update its Meeting Procedures and Standing Orders in line with the Department's best practice Model Meeting Procedures, there is a risk that meeting processes may become inconsistent with current legislative requirements and governance standards.

CRITICAL DATES

Last update in March 2026.

CONSULTATION

Department of Local Government, Water and Volunteers

14.2 LGAQ ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026 - REGISTRATION TO ATTEND**File Number:** 161972**Author:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Authoriser:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** 1. 130th LGAQ Annual Conference Program (under separate cover)**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to consider registration to attend the 130th LGAQ Annual Conference in October 2026.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

Nil

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Nil

CORPORATE & OPERATIONAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

- (a) Endorse the attendance of two Councillors as delegates to attend the LGAQ Annual Conference in line with Councils Membership subscription.
- (b) Endorse the attendance of an additional Councillors in conjunction with the CEO to attend the Conference as observers.

BACKGROUND

The 130th LGAQ Annual Conference will take place at the Cairns Convention Centre from 19-21 October 2026.

As part of the annual Membership Subscription, Member Councils pay a Conference Levy which entitles each Council to be represented at the Conference by two (2) official Delegates. In addition, Councils may register Additional Observers—such as remaining Councillors and the Chief Executive Officer—should they wish to attend the Conference.

Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

Nil

DISCUSSION

The preliminary program for the 130th Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) Annual Conference has been provided for Council's consideration.

The conference presents an opportunity for elected members to participate in sessions covering local government governance, policy, advocacy, leadership, financial sustainability, infrastructure, community development and emerging issues affecting Queensland councils.

As the program is currently preliminary and subject to change, Council should review the proposed content and assess its relevance to the strategic priorities, operational responsibilities and professional development needs of the organisation. Consideration should also be given to the potential benefits of networking with other local governments, government agencies and industry stakeholders.

Should Council determine that attendance would provide value to the organisation and community, delegates may be nominated in accordance with Council's budget and travel provisions.

Council is therefore requested to consider the preliminary program and determine whether it wishes to be represented at the conference and, if so, nominate the appropriate delegates

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Approximately \$6000/person

- Registration Fee for Additional Observer
- Accommodation (4x Nights)
- Travel (Car – Air)
- Meals

CRITICAL DATES

Conference Date: 19-21 October 2026

Early Bird Registration closed 2 October 2026

CONSULTATION

Nil

14.3 THARGOMINDAH SPORTING INC - REQUEST FOR IN-KIND SUPPORT FOR 2026 EVENT**File Number:** 162443**Author:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Authoriser:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** 1. Thargomindah Sporting Inc - Request for Support 2026**PURPOSE**

That Council consider a request from Thargomindah Sporting Inc. to waive hire fees for plant and equipment for the Thargomindah Motorbike Gymkhana and Enduro event being held 18-20 September 2026.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

N/A

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

3.02.1 Hire of Council Plant and Equipment Policy

CORPORATE & OPERATIONAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

Operational Plan:

COM 2.2.1 Support current and new community groups and activities, and their infrastructure requirements.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Approves the provision of in-kind assistance to Thargomindah Sporting Inc. for the Thargomindah Motorbike Gymkhana and Enduro to be held from 18–20 September 2026;
2. Waives the hire fees associated with the use of the Thargomindah Rodeo Grounds;
3. Provides a skip bin and wheelie bins for waste management purposes during the event;
4. Makes available generators for the canteen and camping facilities should mains power not be restored prior to the event;
5. Makes available a Council PA system for the duration of the event; and
6. Authorises the use of Council plant and machinery, including a bobcat, backhoe/loader and grader, subject to operational requirements, staff availability and Council resource availability.

BACKGROUND

Council has received correspondence from Thargomindah Sporting Inc. requesting in-kind assistance to support the Thargomindah Motorbike Gymkhana and Enduro scheduled to be held from 18–20 September 2026.

The event is a community-based sporting and tourism activity that attracts participants and visitors to the region and provides economic and social benefits to the township through increased visitation, local spending and community engagement.

Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

Nil

DISCUSSION

The assistance requested consists primarily of the use of Council-owned facilities and equipment, including:

- Hire of the Thargomindah Rodeo Grounds;
- Provision of a skip bin and wheelie bins for waste management;
- Hire of generators for the canteen and camping areas should mains power not be available;
- Use of a public address (PA) system; and
- Use of Council plant and machinery for event preparation and site establishment, including a bobcat, backhoe/loader and grader.

Council has historically provided support to a range of community, sporting and recreational events where such support is considered to provide a broader benefit to the community and promote social, recreational and economic outcomes.

Should Council wish to support the event, the assistance can be provided as an in-kind contribution, subject to operational requirements and availability of Council staff, plant and equipment. Any Council plant and equipment utilised for the event would be operated by suitably qualified personnel and scheduled so as not to adversely impact core Council operations or statutory service delivery obligations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget 2026/20267 Community Support In-Kind \$20,000

The estimated value of the requested in-kind assistance, based on Council's adopted Fees and Charges Schedule, is approximately \$2,631.00 (including GST), excluding any staff costs associated with delivery, collection, waste servicing, or generator transport and setup.

Equipment	Rate (inc GST)	Days/Quantity/Hours	Total (inc. GST)
Wheelie Bins*	-	-	-
Skip Bin Hire*	\$295.00 (weekly rate)		\$295.00
Grader	\$179.00 (hour)	4 hours	\$716.00
Skid Steer / Bobcat	\$138.00 (hour)	4 hours	\$552.00
Backhoe / Loader	\$267.00 (hour)	4 hours	\$1,068.00

STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL RISK

Nil

CRITICAL DATES

18 – 20 September 2026

CONSULTATION

Engineer

Bulloo Shire Council
Dowling Street,
Tharogmindah QLD 4492

Attn: Chief Executive Officer and Councillors

Subject: Request for Council Support – Thargomindah Sporting Inc Gymkhana Event – September 2026

Dear Mayor, Councillors and Chief Executive Officer,

On behalf of the Thargomindah Sporting Inc Committee, I respectfully request Bulloo Shire Council's consideration and support for our upcoming Gymkhana events through the waiver of associated Council fees and charges.

Thargomindah Sporting Inc is a volunteer-based, not-for-profit organisation operated by a committee of five local women who dedicate significant time and effort to planning, coordinating and delivering community events for the benefit of residents, families and visitors to the Bulloo Shire region.

Our annual Gymkhana weekend is one of the region's major community events, attracting competitors and spectators from across Queensland and the interstate. The event provides substantial social, recreational and economic benefits to the community, encouraging youth participation, supporting local businesses, and promoting Thargomindah as a destination for family-friendly sporting events.

To assist with the successful delivery of this event, we respectfully request Council support through the waiver of fees associated with:

- Hire of the Thargomindah Rodeo Grounds
- Skip bin hire and provision of wheelie bins for waste management
- Generator hire for both the canteen and camping facilities
- PA System
- Hire of Council machinery required for event preparation and site establishment, including:
 - Bobcat
 - Backhoe/Loader

- Grader

The requested machinery is required to assist with the preparation of camping areas, parking areas, arena surrounds and general event setup to ensure the grounds are safe and suitable for competitors, campers and visitors.

As a volunteer-run organisation, the Thargomindah Sporting Inc Committee relies heavily on sponsorships, donations, fundraising activities and community support to deliver this event each year. The costs associated with hosting a safe and successful Gymkhana continue to increase, and without the generous support of local businesses, sponsors, volunteers and organisations, events on this scale would not be possible.

Any assistance provided by Bulloo Shire Council significantly reduces the financial burden on our organisation and allows us to direct available funds towards prize money, facility improvements, safety requirements, event infrastructure and activities that enhance the experience for competitors, spectators and visitors. Council's support plays a vital role in ensuring the ongoing success and sustainability of this important community event.

The Thargomindah Sporting Inc Committee greatly appreciates the ongoing support Bulloo Shire Council provides to community organisations and events. Our Gymkhana contributes directly to the local economy through increased visitation, accommodation bookings, fuel sales, food purchases and other local business activity, while also providing an important social event for families across the region.

With over \$25,000 in prize money on offer across the weekend, the event continues to attract competitors and spectators from throughout Queensland, New South Wales and interstate, delivering significant economic and social benefits to the Bulloo Shire. The event showcases our community, encourages tourism and provides opportunities for local businesses to benefit from the increased visitation.

We respectfully request that this matter be considered at the July 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting and thank Council for its consideration.

Should any further information be required, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,



Dama Howard

President

Thargomindah Sporting Inc

14.4 THARGOMINDAH SPORTING INC - COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION**File Number:** 162764**Author:** Jane Vaschina, Executive Assistant**Authoriser:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** 1. Thargomindah Sporting Inc. Application for Community Grants Funds**PURPOSE**

That Council consider a request from the Thargomindah Sporting Inc for funding under the Community Grants Program for the 2026 Thargomindah Motorbike Gymkhana and Enduro.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

N/A

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Policy 4.03.2 Community Grants Policy

CORPORATE & OPERATIONAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

COM 2.2.1 Support current and new community groups and activities, and their infrastructure requirements.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the allocation of \$5,000 to the Thargomindah Sporting Inc under the Community Grants program to support the delivery of the Thargomindah Motorbike Gymkhana and Enduro in September 2026.

BACKGROUND

Council has received a funding application from the Thargomindah Sporting Inc. Community Grants Program. The application seeks \$5,000 in financial assistance to support the running of the Thargomindah Motorbike Gymkhana and Enduro, scheduled to be held over the weekend of Friday 18 to Sunday 20 September 2025.

Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

Nil

DISCUSSION

The Thargomindah Motorbike Gymkhana and Enduro is a locally organised community event that aims to bring together residents and visitors for a weekend of family-friendly sporting activities. It features motorbike gymkhana and endurance race. The event plays an important role in fostering community spirit, promoting physical activity, and encouraging regional tourism. The Association is requesting \$5,000, the proposed budget, and how the funds will be used are outlined in the attached application. Council has verified all supporting documents and recommends Council approve the funding request.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

2026/27 Budget

- Community Grants: \$20,000
- In Kind: \$20,000

Separate applications for In Kind Support for hire of grounds and facilities \$2,631.00 and hire of plant and machinery \$4,672.00 for Junior Motor bike track

STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL RISK

Nil

CRITICAL DATES

Event: Friday, 18 to Sunday, 20 September 2026

CONSULTATION

Nil



Bulloo Shire Council Community Grants Program

APPLICATION FORM

Please read the Guidelines thoroughly before completing this application form. Faxed copies and incomplete application forms will not be considered.

1. WHICH GRANTS CATEGORY ARE YOU MAKING APPLICATION TO? Tick ONE only.

- ☒ Sport & Recreation
☐ Events
☐ Community Development
☐ Environmental

2. ORGANISATION'S/INDIVIDUAL'S DETAILS – this section must be completed

Organisation name *Provide the name of the organisation undertaking the project/activity.*

Thargomindah Sporting Inc

Contact Person for the project

Dama Howard

Does your organisation have an ABN? Yes ☒ No ☐
 Give ABN 58 454 535 457
 Please attach a "Statement by Supplier" form.

Is your organisation GST registered? Yes ☐ No ☒

Postal Address

13 Frew St Thargomindah, Q, 4492

Email

Thargo-Sporting-Inc@outlook.com

Status of Organisation

- ☒ Incorporated Association Give Certificate Number IA57190
☐ Company Limited by Guarantee
☐ Other Give details *If not incorporated, you will need to complete Q.3*

Number of members

5

Does your organisation have Open Membership? No ☐ Yes ☒

Grant Amount Requested
 (from budget on page 7)

\$ 5000.00

Total Project Budget
 (from budget on pg 7)

\$25,000.00



Bulloo Shire Council Community Grants Program

3. SPONSOR'S DETAILS *If your organisation is not incorporated you need a sponsor – an incorporated body to accept the legal and financial responsibility for the project. Please ensure you attach a letter of agreement from the sponsor organisation confirming acceptance of responsibility for the project.*

Sponsor Organisation's name

Does this organisation have an ABN? ☐ Yes Give ABN

☐ No Please attach a "Statement by Supplier" form

Is this organisation GST registered? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Postal Address

Status of Sponsor

☐ Incorporated Association Give Certificate number

☐ Company Limited by Guarantee

☐ Other Give details

4. PROJECT OVERVIEW – Please complete. Do not write "see attached". You may wish to attach further information, but this section must be completed.

Provide a detailed description of the project, including:

a) Title of Project

b) Brief description

Gymkhana and Enduro is an all ages event spanning 3 days. 18 th – 20 th Sept 2026
18 th Friday arvo/night – nominations for events
19 th Saturday – Gymkhana
20 th Enduro

c) Date/s of project/event

d) Where the project/event will take place – Street address, Town



Bulloo Shire Council Community Grants Program

e) List who will be involved – *including any partnering organisations*

QLD QAS
Food vendors (Ice Cream van , Outback grazing Co)
Live entertainment

f) Objective the project aims to achieve

To hold a community sporting event that encourages competitors to travel from all over
Australia to attend. The event will provide economic benefits for Thargomindah by
Increasing visitor spending on accommodation, food, fuel and in local businesses.

5. FINANCIAL & LEGAL DOCUMENTATION *Attach copies of the following documentation*

- ☐ Certificate of Incorporation *(for applicant organisation or sponsor organisation)*
- ☐ Latest Audited Financial Statement
- ☐ Current Public Liability Insurance Policy/Certificate
- ☐ Where applicable – a letter from the sponsor organisation confirming acceptance of responsibility for the project.
- ☐ A copy of the Statement by a Supplier form, where an organisation does not have an ABN.

6. CONTACT PERSON'S DETAILS *For enquiries relating to the application*

Title

Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms ☐ Dr ☐ Other ☐

Full name

Dama Howard

Position in organisation

President

Business hours phone number

Mobile phone number

Fax number

	0428 218 874	
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Email

Thargo-Sporting-Inc@outlook.com



Bulloo Shire Council Community Grants Program

7. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA Refer to guidelines – Page 2

How will your project address Council's identified priorities (as stated in corporate documents)?

The Thargomindah Sporting Inc Motorbike Gymkhana and Enduro supports Bulloo
Shire Council's priorities by encouraging community participation, healthy recreation
and tourism. The event will attract competitors and visitors to Thargomindah,
providing economic benefits for local businesses through spending on
accommodation, fuel, food and other services. It also brings the community
together through volunteering and promotes Thargomindah as a destination for
regional sporting events.

8. COMMUNITY BENEFIT

How will the community or sector benefit from the project?

The project will benefit the community by providing a safe, family-friendly sporting
event that encourages participation and brings people together from across the
region. Events like this help strengthen community connections,
reduce social isolation and support positive mental wellbeing.
The event will also attract visitors to Thargomindah, increasing spending at local
Businesses.



Bulloo Shire Council Community Grants Program

9. CONSULTATION

Who has been consulted in development of this project?

Who supports the proposal?

Keedi Jade Music – Live entertainment
QAS
Bulloo Shire Council
Food Vendors – Outback Grazing Co
Desert gateway Tours - Stall
Bulloo Shire Community members

10. MARKETING & PROMOTION

How will your project be promoted and marketed to the broader community?

How will you share what you have learnt with others?

Facebook
Posters located around Bulloo Shire
Social media
Word of mouth



Bulloo Shire Council Community Grants Program

11. PROJECT PLAN *Provide brief and succinct points.*

Project Tasks <i>Brief description of task</i>	Task Responsibility <i>Who will perform task</i>	Time Frame <i>Approx date when task to be performed</i>	Costs <i>Costs required to complete task</i>
Setting up grounds	TSI committee	1 month prior	NA
Marking out tracks	TSI committee	2 weeks prior	NA
Organising judges	TSI committee	2 weeks prior	NA
Clean up	TSI committee	21 st -22 nd Sept	NA



Bulloo
Shire

Bulloo Shire Council Community Grants Program

BUDGET List proposed expenditure and income for your project. Only include costs which relate to this project.

WHEN APPLYING FOR THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT OR CONSTRUCTION OF ASSETS, APPLICANTS ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE 2 RECENT QUOTES

N/A	Budget Item	Total Cost Inc. GST	N/A	Budget Item	Total Cost Inc GST
	Project Expenditure	\$		Income	\$
	Project staff / contractors/coaches	NA		Organisation's contribution to project (float)	\$1000
	Materials and equipment	\$4050		Projected project revenue/income	
	Venue hire	\$200		Donations/Sponsorship	\$10,000
	Travel costs	NA		Contributions from other funding schemes (see Q.13)	
	Administration costs			Grant – Bulloo Shire Council Which budget items are to be covered by the grant? Ambulance and Equipment	\$5000
	Insurance for event/project	\$1000		Nomination Fees	\$4000
	Approvals (see Q.13)	\$250		Fundraising	\$5000
	Training				
	Advertising & Marketing	NA			
	Prize Money	16,000			
	Ambulance Costs	\$3,500			
	Total Project Expenditure	\$ 25,000		Total Project Income	\$25,000

NB: PROJECT EXPENDITURE AND INCOME MUST BE THE SAME AMOUNT

12. CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OTHER FUNDING SCHEMES

Provide details of any other funding body that may contribute to this project

Organisation's name	Approved		Pending	Amount \$
	Yes	No		
Bulloo Shire Council			✓	\$5000



Bulloo Shire Council Community Grants Program

13. RELEVANT APPROVALS *Your project may require approvals from various authorities. Have these approvals been obtained?*

Agency	Approval Required	Approval Obtained
Council's Building Approval		
Environmental authorities		
Liquor Licensing	✓	✓
Land Owner		
Lease Holder		
Native Title		
Other (please specify)		

15. CERTIFICATION

To be signed by the President/Chair Chief Executive of the organisation.

- I certify that to the best of my knowledge the statements made in this application are true.
- I understand that if the Bulloo Shire Council approves a grant, I will be required to accept the conditions of grant in accordance with Bulloo Shire Council's audit requirements
- I consent to the information contained within this application being disclosed to or by Bulloo Shire Council for the purpose of assessing, administering and monitoring my current and any future Bulloo Shire Council grant applications.

Name: Dama Howard Position in Organisation: President

Signature:  Date: 6/8/26

***Congratulations! You have finished.
Please forward with required documentation to:***

The Chief Executive Officer
Community Grants
Bulloo Shire Council
PO Box 64
Thargomindah QLD 4492



Bulloo Shire Council Community Grants Program

CHECKLIST FOR ORGANISATIONS

Please check you have included the following information or documents, where applicable:

- ☐ Certificate of Currency for Public Liability Insurance
- ☐ Receipt from the Office of Fair Trading indicating current incorporation
- ☐ Audited Financial Statements for the past year
- ☐ A copy of the minutes confirming the decision to seek financial assistance and expend organisational funds on the specific project.
- ☐ Copies of quotations (at least 2 quotations) for capital works or purchases of capital items, equipment etc
- ☐ Letters of support
- ☐ Names of proposed contractors/artists, including a summary resume, or details on how suitable staff will be identified to be engaged in the project.

14.5 THARGOMINDAH SPORTING INC - JUNIOR MOTORBIKE TRACK**File Number:** 162445**Author:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Authoriser:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** 1. Thargomindah Sporting Inc - Motorcross Track Reinstatement**PURPOSE**

That Council consider a request from Thargomindah Sporting Inc. to re-establish the Junior Motorbike Track for the Thargomindah Motorbike Gymkhana and Enduro event being held 18-20 September 2026.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

N/A

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

3.02.1 Hire of Council Plant and Equipment Policy

CORPORATE & OPERATIONAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

Operational Plan:

COM 2.2.1 Support current and new community groups and activities, and their infrastructure requirements.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the provision of in-kind assistance to Thargomindah Sporting Inc. to re-establish the Junior Motorbike Track for the Thargomindah Motorbike Gymkhana and Enduro to be held from 18–20 September 2026 including a bobcat, backhoe/loader and grader, subject to operational requirements, staff availability and Council resource availability.

BACKGROUND

Council has received correspondence from Thargomindah Sporting Inc. requesting in-kind assistance to re-establish the Junior Motorbike Track for the Thargomindah Motorbike Gymkhana and Enduro scheduled to be held from 18–20 September 2026.

The event is a community-based sporting and tourism activity that attracts participants and visitors to the region and provides economic and social benefits to the township through increased visitation, local spending and community engagement.

Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

Nil

DISCUSSION

The proposed re-establishment of the Junior Motorbike Track would provide a valuable recreational asset for local youth, encourage participation in organised sporting activities, and further enhance the facilities available at the Thargomindah Rodeo Grounds.

The Club has requested Council assistance with:

- Identifying and allocating a suitable area within the Rodeo Grounds precinct for the track;
- Obtaining any required cultural heritage clearances or approvals for the proposed location; and
- Providing access to Council plant required for construction of the track, including a loader, backhoe and skid steer (Bobcat).

In response to the request, Council provided the Club with a map of the recreation reserve and requested that a preferred location be identified for further investigation.

Council has reviewed the proposed location and notes that it is situated within an area that has already been subject to cultural heritage clearance therefor no additional cultural heritage investigations are considered necessary at this stage.

-27.99883° S, 143.78192° E

-27.99886° S, 143.78220° E

-27.99949° S, 143.78207° E

-27.99953° S, 143.78207° E

-28.00008° S, 143.78239° E

-27.99979° S, 143.78159° E

-27.99912° S, 143.78179° E





It is noted that the Junior Motorbike Track is not a Council-established or Council-operated facility. Existing tracks within the Rodeo Grounds precinct were established by the Club, and the current proposal is for the Club to undertake the construction works themselves. Accordingly, Council's involvement is limited to consideration of the use of the land, confirmation of cultural heritage requirements, and any assistance that may be provided through the hire or use of Council plant, subject to availability, operator requirements, insurance and risk management considerations.

As the proposed works are located within an existing culturally cleared area and are intended to support a community sporting and recreational activity, the proposal is considered to provide a positive community benefit while maintaining compliance with cultural heritage obligations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget 2026/20267 Community Support In-Kind \$20,000

The estimated value of the requested in-kind assistance, based on Council's adopted Fees and Charges Schedule, is approximately \$4,672.00 (including GST), excluding any staff costs associated with delivery, collection, waste servicing, or generator transport and setup.

Equipment	Rate (inc GST)	Days/Quantity/Hours	Total (inc. GST)
Grader	\$179.00 (hour)	8 hours	\$1,432.00
Skid Steer / Bobcat	\$138.00 (hour)	8 hours	\$1,104.00
Backhoe / Loader	\$267.00 (hour)	8 hours	\$2,136.00

STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL RISK

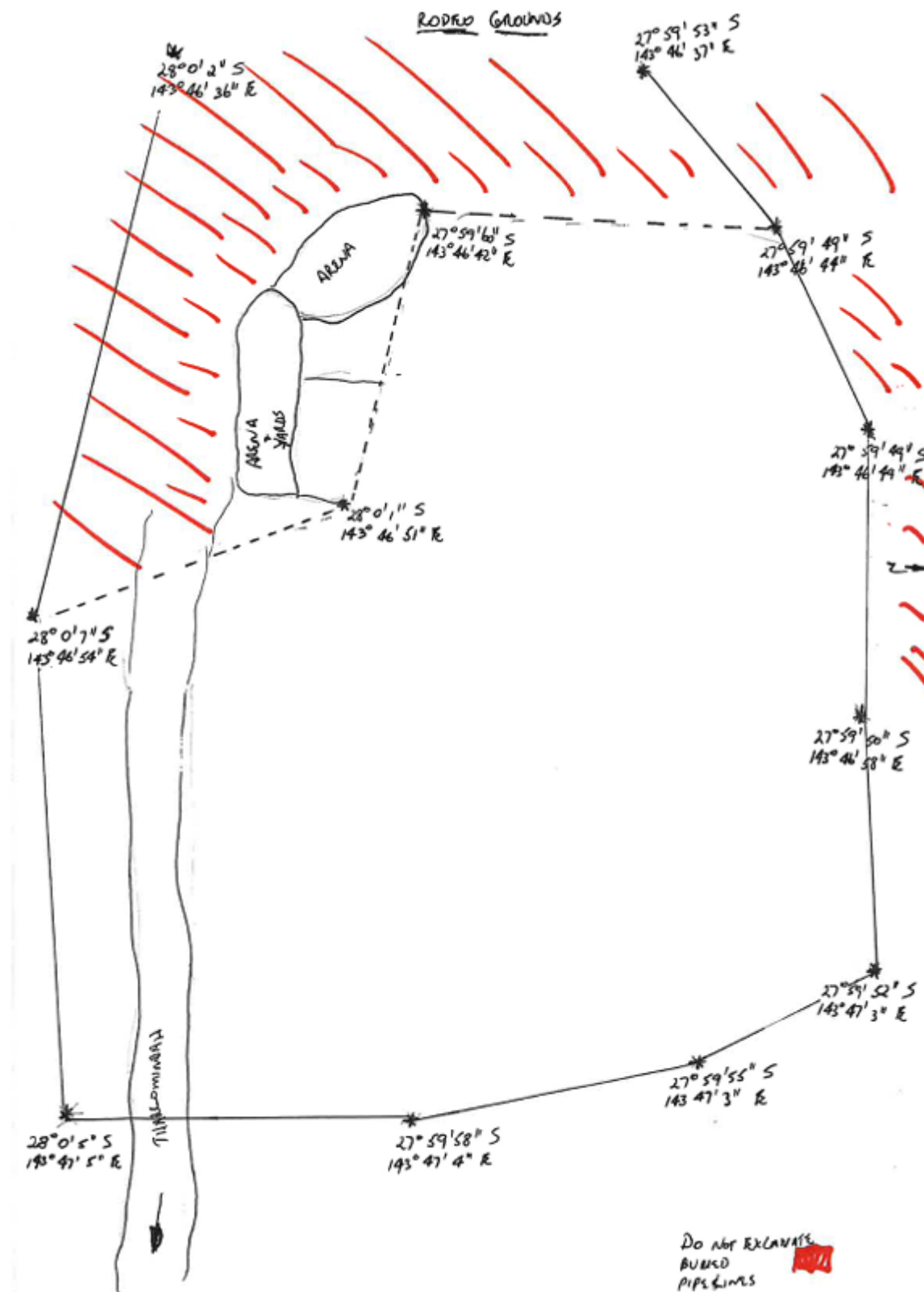
Nil

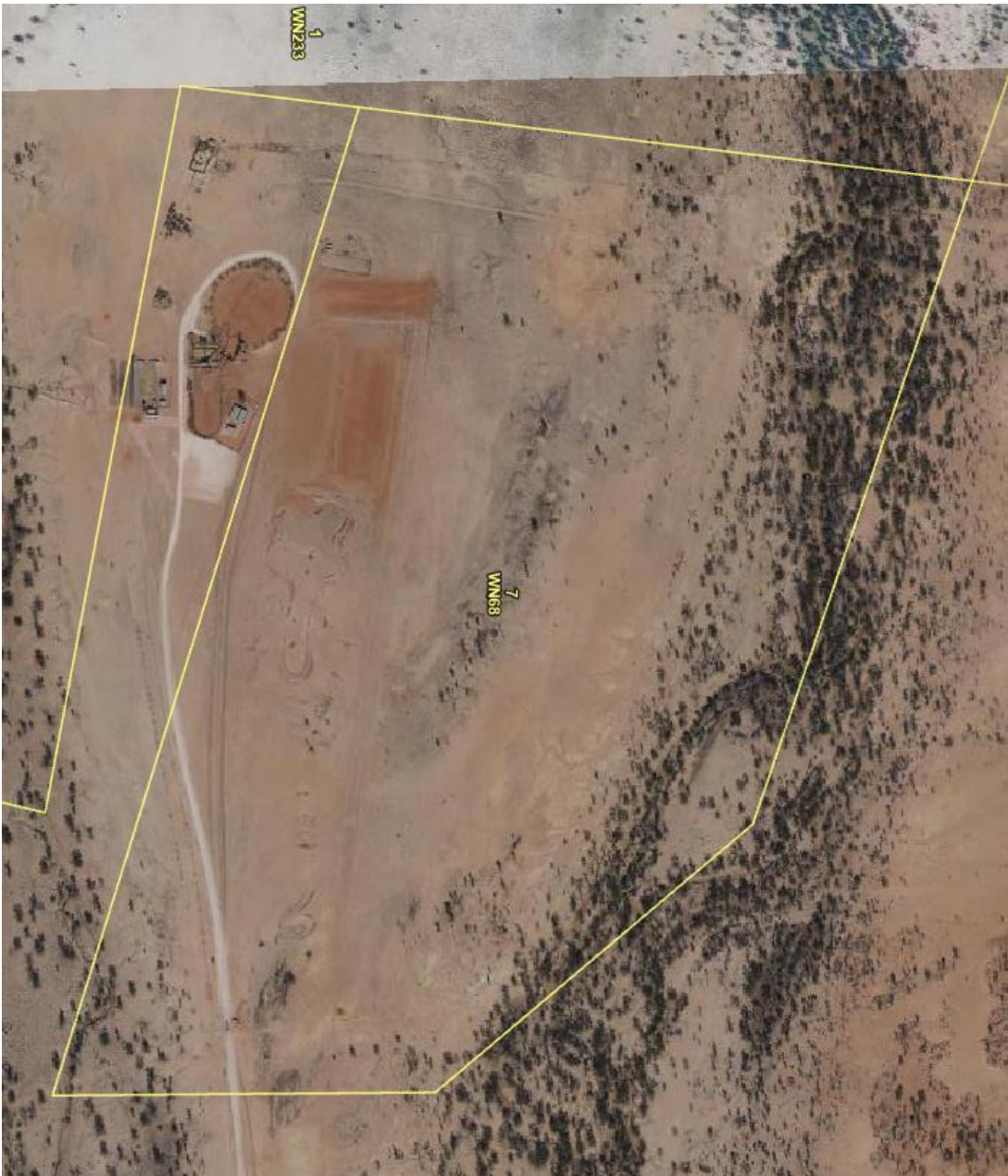
CRITICAL DATES

18 – 20 September 2026

CONSULTATION

Engineer





Bulloo Shire Council
Dowling Street,
Tharogmindah QLD 4492

Attn: Chief Executive Officer and Councilors

Subject: Request for Council Support – Re-establishment of Junior Motorbike Track at the Tharogmindah Rodeo Grounds

On behalf of the Tharogmindah Sporting Inc Committee, I am writing to seek Bulloo Shire Council's support for the re-establishment of a Junior Motorbike Track at the Tharogmindah Rodeo Grounds.

Tharogmindah Sporting Inc is a volunteer-based, not-for-profit organisation operated by a small committee of local volunteers dedicated to providing recreational, sporting and community opportunities for local families and visitors to the Bulloo Shire region.

The proposed Junior Motorbike Track would provide a safe and controlled environment for local children and visiting competitors to participate in motorbike activities, develop riding skills and engage in outdoor recreation. The track would also support the continuation and growth of junior motorbike events held in conjunction with community Gymkhanas and other sporting activities conducted at the Rodeo Grounds.

The original junior motocross track was established through countless hours of volunteered labour and the generous support of local businesses that donated machinery, materials and resources. Bulloo Shire Council was also instrumental in supporting the initial development of the facility. The track became a valued community asset, providing local children with a safe place to ride, learn and build their confidence and skills.

Unfortunately, the significant flooding experienced throughout the Bulloo Shire during 2025 resulted in the destruction of the original junior motocross track, leaving the track completely obliterated. The loss of this facility has had a noticeable impact on local children, who no longer have access to a dedicated area to ride their dirt bikes, develop their riding abilities, and participate in a safe and controlled environment. The committee has received ongoing enquiries from community members seeking the return of the track, recognising the positive role it played in keeping local youth active, engaged and developing valuable riding and safety skills.

In recent years, community members have regularly approached the committee regarding the re-establishment of the track, expressing a strong desire to see this facility return for the benefit of local youth. This project is about providing the children of our town with opportunities to develop riding skills, participate in organised recreational activities, and enjoy a safe environment designed specifically for junior competitors.

To assist with this project, we respectfully request Council's support through:

- Assistance in identifying and allocating a suitable designated area within the Rodeo Grounds precinct for the track;
- Assistance with any required cultural heritage clearances or approvals associated with the proposed location;
- Hire or provision of Council machinery required for the construction and establishment of the track, including:
 - Loader
 - Backhoe
 - Skid Steer (Bobcat).

As a volunteer-run organisation, the committee relies heavily on sponsorships, donations, fundraising efforts and community support to improve facilities and provide recreational opportunities for local families. Council assistance with this project would significantly reduce establishment costs and enable the committee to once again create a facility that benefits local children, visiting families and the wider community.

The re-establishment of the Junior Motorbike Track would provide a valuable recreational asset for local youth, encourage participation in organised sporting activities and further enhance the facilities available at the Thargomindah Rodeo Grounds. The project aligns with the committee's ongoing commitment to promoting family-friendly events, youth engagement, and community wellbeing within the Bulloo Shire.

We respectfully request that this matter be considered at the July 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting and thank Council for its consideration and ongoing support of community initiatives.

Should any further information be required, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Dama Howard

Dama Howard

President

Thargomindah Sporting Inc

14.6 HUNGERFORD SPORTS ASSOCIATION - REQUEST TO IN-KIND SUPPORT FOR 2026 EVENT**File Number:** 162727**Author:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Authoriser:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** 1. Hungerford Sports Association - Request for Support**PURPOSE**

That Council consider a request from the Hungerford Sport Association to waive the plant hire fees for the period 02 – 04 October 2026, for equipment required during the Hungerford Horse and Motorbike Gymkhana.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

N/A

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

3.02.1 Hire of Council Plant and Equipment Policy

CORPORATE & OPERATIONAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

Operational Plan:

COM 2.2.1 Support current and new community groups and activities, and their infrastructure requirements.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the request from the Hungerford Sports Association and waive plant hire fees for the use of the Council Water Truck, and provide support for the installation and display of the Hungerford Flood Plaque during the Hungerford Horse and Motorbike Gymkhana 2026 Event, subject to operational requirements.

BACKGROUND

Council has received a request from the Hungerford Sports Association to use Council's Water Truck during the 2026 Hungerford Horse and Motorbike Gymkhana. The event is scheduled to be held from 02 -04 October 2026.

The Association has requested:

- Installation and display of the Hungerford Flood Plaque during the event weekend; and
- Use of a water truck to assist with dust suppression around key event areas.

The Association has also requested that any associated plant hire fees be waived.

The Hungerford Horse and Motorbike Gymkhana, teams with the 150 Year Celebration is a community-based sporting and tourism event that attracts visitors to the region and provides economic and social benefits to the township through increased visitation, local spending and community engagement.

Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

Nil

DISCUSSIONHungerford Flood Plaque

Council previously discussed the installation of the Hungerford Flood Plaque and agreed that the plaque be displayed at the Sports Field during the event before being relocated to its permanent location within the Town Hall/Park precinct following the event. Staff are currently liaising with Michael Brock regarding the design and construction of a suitable base for the plaque.

Council is able to support the installation and display of the flood plaque as part of the event preparations.

Water Truck

The Hungerford Sports Association has advised that any plant provided would only be operated by suitably licensed and competent operators.

At present, Council is utilising hired water trucks for operational requirements. As these vehicles are owned by a third-party contractor, Council is unable to authorise their use by external parties or waive associated hire charges. Should a Council-owned water truck be available in the area during the event period, Council will endeavour to provide assistance where practical and subject to operational requirements. If hired plant continues to be required for Council operations at that time, staff can provide the Association with the supplier's details so that hire arrangements may be made directly with the contractor.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget 2026/20267 Community Support In-Kind \$20,000

Equipment	Rate (inc GST)	Days/Quantity/Hours	Total (inc. GST)
Water Cart	\$217.00 (hour)	8 hours	\$1,738

STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL RISK

Liability and Insurance - There is a risk of damage to the equipment or injury while in use. The Hungerford Progress Association has stated that only suitably licensed drivers will operate the equipment and Council has adequate insurance coverage to mitigate this risk.

CRITICAL DATES

2 – 4 October 2026

CONSULTATION

Nil



Request for Assistance – Hungerford 150-Year Celebration & Hungerford Horse & Motorbike Gymkhana

Hungerford Sports Association Inc.

Bulloo Shire Council

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

On behalf of the Hungerford Sports Association Inc., I am writing to request Bulloo Shire Council's assistance with preparations for Hungerford's upcoming 150-year celebration weekend, to be held at the Hungerford Horse and Motorbike Gymkhana from 2–4 October.

This milestone is an important opportunity to recognise Hungerford's history, community spirit and ongoing connection with the wider Bulloo Shire region. We are hoping to present the town well for visitors and community members attending the celebration.

We respectfully request Council's financial assistance and practical support with the following items:

- A flood plaque to be in place for the weekend.
- Provision of a water truck to help keep dust down around key areas during the event.

Any support Council is able to provide would be greatly appreciated and would contribute significantly to making the celebration welcoming, safe and memorable for all who attend.

We would be grateful if Council could consider this request and advise what assistance may be available. The Hungerford Sports Association Inc. would be happy to provide any further information required.

Thank you for your consideration and ongoing support of the Hungerford community.

Yours faithfully,

Stacy Keane

Hungerford Sports Association Inc.

14.7 HUNGERFORD SPORTS ASSOCIATION - COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION**File Number:** 162873**Author:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Authoriser:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** 1. Hungerford Sports Association - Community Grants Application (under separate cover)**PURPOSE**

That Council consider a request from the Hungerford Sports Association for funding under the Community Grants Program for the 150th Year Celebration & Hungerford Horse and Motorbike Gymkhana from 2–4 October 2026.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

N/A

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Policy 4.03.2 Community Grants Policy

CORPORATE & OPERATIONAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

COM 2.2.1 Support current and new community groups and activities, and their infrastructure requirements.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the allocation of \$5,000 to the Hungerford Sports Association under the Community Grants program to support the delivery of the Hungerford Horse and Motorbike Gymkhana from 2–4 October 2026.

BACKGROUND

Council has received a funding application from the Hungerford Sports Association for the Community Grants Program. The application seeks \$5,000 in financial assistance to support the running of the Hungerford Horse and Motorbike Gymkhana, scheduled to be held over the weekend of Friday 02 to Sunday 04 October 2026.

Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

Nil

DISCUSSION

The Hungerford Sports Association is a locally organised community event that aims to bring together residents and visitors for a weekend of family-friendly sporting activities. The event plays an important role in fostering community spirit, promoting physical activity, and encouraging regional tourism. The Association is requesting \$5,000, the proposed budget, and how the funds will be used are outlined in the attached application. Council has verified all supporting documents and recommends Council approve the funding request.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Community Grants: \$20,000

In Kind: \$20,000

Council has contributed \$15,381 towards the 150th Year Celebration through funding the booklets.

STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL RISK

Nil

CRITICAL DATES

Event: Friday, 02 to Sunday, 04 October 2026

CONSULTATION

Nil

14.8 NOCCUNDRA GYMKHANA RODEO CLUB INC - COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION**File Number:** 162867**Author:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Authoriser:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** 1. Noccundra Gymkhanan Rodeo Club - Community Grants Application (under separate cover)**PURPOSE**

That Council consider a request from the Noccundra Gymkhana Rodeo Club Inc for funding under the Community Grants Program for the 2026 Gymkhana Event.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

N/A

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Policy 4.03.2 Community Grants Policy

CORPORATE & OPERATIONAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

COM 2.2.1 Support current and new community groups and activities, and their infrastructure requirements.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the allocation of \$5,000 to the Noccundra Gymkhana Rodeo Club Inc under the Community Grants program to support the delivery of the Noccundra Gymkhana on 09 - 11 October 2026.

BACKGROUND

Council has received a funding application from the Noccundra Gymkhana Rodeo Inc for the Community Grants Program. The application seeks \$5,000 in financial assistance to support the running of the Noccundra Gymkhana, scheduled to be held over the weekend of Friday 09 to Sunday 11 October 2026.

Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

Nil

DISCUSSION

The Noccundra Gymkhana is a locally organised community event that aims to bring together residents and visitors for a weekend of family-friendly sporting activities. The event plays an important role in fostering community spirit, promoting physical activity, and encouraging regional tourism. The Association is requesting \$5,000, the proposed budget, and how the funds will be used are outlined in the attached application. Council has verified all supporting documents and recommends Council approve the funding request.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Community Grants: \$20,000

In Kind: \$20,000

STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL RISK

Nil

CRITICAL DATES

Event: Friday, 09 to Sunday, 11 October 2026

CONSULTATION

Nil

14.9 NATIONAL BARREL HORSE AUSTRALIA D4 SOUTHWEST - REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

File Number: 162493
Author: Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer
Authoriser: Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE

To consider a request from National Barrel Horse Australia (NBHA) D4 Southwest for Council support for the inaugural NBHA D4 Southwest Round 12 & 13 event to be held at the Thargomindah Rodeo Grounds on 5-6 September 2026.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

N/A

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

3.02.1 Hire of Council Plant and Equipment Policy

CORPORATE & OPERATIONAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

Operational Plan:

COM 2.2.1 Support current and new community groups and activities, and their infrastructure requirements.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. Approves the provision of in-kind assistance to National Barrel Horse Australia (NBHA) D4 Southwest for the NBHA D4 Southwest Round 12 & 13 event to be held from 5-6 September 2026;
2. Waives the hire fees associated with the use of the Thargomindah Rodeo Grounds;
3. Makes available generators for the canteen and camping facilities should mains power not be restored prior to the event;
4. Makes available a Council PA system for the duration of the event; and
5. Authorises the use of Council plant and machinery, including a tractor, subject to operational requirements, staff availability and Council resource availability.

BACKGROUND

Council has received correspondence from National Barrel Horse Australia (NBHA) D4 Southwest seeking assistance for its upcoming NBHA D4 Southwest Round 12 & 13 event proposed to be held at the Thargomindah Rodeo Grounds on 5-6 September 2026.

The event is being coordinated locally by Ms Dama Howard and hosted by NBHA D4 Southwest under the leadership of President Kirsty Doyle. The event will feature barrel racing and pole bending competitions across multiple age groups, ranging from children aged four years through to senior competitors aged 65 years and over.

NBHA D4 Southwest has advised that it intends for the event to become an annual fixture and anticipates attracting competitors, families and spectators from across South West Queensland, South East Queensland and New South Wales.

The organisation has requested Council consideration of the following support:

- Waiver of hire fees for the Thargomindah Rodeo Grounds;
- Provision of a Council generator from 5-6 September 2026;
- Use of a Council tractor to assist with preparation of the arena prior to the event;
- Use of the Council public address (PA) system; and
- Consideration of a financial sponsorship or donation towards the establishment of the inaugural event.

Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

Nil

DISCUSSION

The proposed event represents an opportunity to expand the range of sporting and recreational events hosted within Bulloo Shire and has the potential to attract visitors to the region, generating economic benefits for local businesses through accommodation, fuel, food, tourism and general retail expenditure.

The event aligns with Council's broader objective of supporting community activities that encourage visitation, promote regional tourism and contribute to local economic development.

Council has historically supported community organisations and events through a combination of in-kind assistance, facility usage arrangements and financial contributions where considered appropriate. The level of support provided generally reflects the anticipated community benefit, economic impact and strategic value of the event to the Bulloo Shire.

The request for use of Council plant, equipment and facilities requires consideration of operational availability, staffing resources, insurance requirements and risk management obligations. Any use of Council-owned plant would need to be managed in accordance with Council's policies and procedures, including operator competency requirements and availability of equipment during the requested period.

The requested waiver of venue hire fees would constitute an in-kind contribution by Council. Similarly, the provision of a generator, PA system and tractor would represent additional in-kind support through the use of Council assets and resources.

As this is the inaugural event, Council may wish to consider supporting the activity through a combination of in-kind assistance and financial sponsorship, recognising the potential long-term economic and community benefits should the event become an annual fixture within the Shire.

Council should also consider that the applicant is not a Bulloo Shire-based organisation. Approval of in-kind support for an external organisation may establish a precedent and increase the likelihood of similar requests from sporting clubs, community groups and organisations located

Recommendation - Option 1

That Council:

1. Decline the request for in-kind support for the NBHA D4 Southwest Round 12 & 13 event; and
2. Note that the applicant is not a Bulloo Shire-based club or community organisation.

Recommendation - Option 2

That Council:

1. Approve the provision of in-kind assistance to National Barrel Horse Association (NBHA) D4 Southwest for the NBHA D4 Southwest Round 12 & 13 event to be held on 5-6 September 2026;
2. Waive the hire fees associated with the use of the Thargomindah Rodeo Grounds;
3. Make available generators for the canteen and camping facilities should mains power not be restored prior to the event;
4. Make available a Council PA system for the duration of the event; and
5. Authorise the use of Council plant and machinery, including a tractor, subject to operational requirements, staff availability, insurance requirements and Council resource availability.

Recommendation - Option 3

That Council partially approve the provision of in-kind assistance to National Barrel Horse Association (NBHA) D4 Southwest for the NBHA D4 Southwest Round 12 & 13 event to be held on 5-6 September 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget 2026/20267 Community Support In-Kind \$20,000

The estimated value of the requested in-kind assistance, based on Council's adopted Fees and Charges Schedule, is approximately \$1,394.20 (including GST), excluding any staff costs associated with delivery, collection, waste servicing, or generator transport and setup.

Equipment	Rate (inc GST)	Days/Quantity/Hours	Total (inc. GST)
Waive Hire Fees	\$108 (day)	2 days	\$216.00
Generator Hire	\$55.45 (hr)	16hrs	\$887.20
PA System	-	16hrs	-
Tractor	\$72.75 (hour)	4hrs	\$291

STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL RISK

Nil

CRITICAL DATES

Event date: 5-6 September 2026

CONSULTATION

Nil

-----Original Message-----

From: Dama Howard <Dama.Howard@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, 13 July 2026 8:19 PM
To: CEO <CEO@bulloo.qld.gov.au>
Subject: NBHA D4 South West Event

Attn- CEO Tiffany Dare

Letter to submit to July Council Meeting

Kirsty Doyle
President – NBHA D4 Southwest
National Barrel Horse Australia

Dama Howard
Local Organiser

Date: 13/07/2026

To:
Chief Executive Officer
Bulloo Shire Council

Subject: Request for Council Support – NBHA D4 Southwest Round 12 & 13, Thargomindah – 29 & 30 August 2026

Dear Mayor, Councilors and Chief Executive Officer,

On behalf of National Barrel Horse Australia (NBHA) D4 Southwest, we respectfully seek Bulloo Shire Council's support for our upcoming NBHA D4 Southwest Round 12 & 13 event, to be held at the Thargomindah Rodeo Grounds on 29 and 30 August 2026.

This is an exciting opportunity to bring a new equestrian event to the Bulloo Shire, with the potential to become an annual fixture that attracts competitors and visitors from across New South Wales, South East Queensland and South West Queensland.

The event caters for a wide range of competitors, with age divisions beginning at 4 years of age through to 65+ years, making it a truly family-friendly event. Classes include Led/Assisted, Youth, Teen, Opens and Seniors, with both barrel racing and pole bending events, ensuring participation across all experience levels.

As a new event for the region, we anticipate a broad number of competitors, families and spectators travelling to Thargomindah. These visitors will utilise local accommodation, fuel/ roadhouse facilities, Local Foodworks and other local businesses throughout the weekend, providing a valuable economic boost to the community.

To assist us in delivering a safe, professional and successful event, we respectfully request Council's consideration of the following:

Waiver of the hire fees for the Thargomindah Rodeo Grounds.

Use of a Council generator from Friday 28 August through to Sunday 30 August 2026 (to provide power to these facilities at the Rodeo grounds for Catering and campers)

Use of a Council tractor to assist with preparing and establishing the arena and grounds to NBHA competition standards prior to the event. (we wish to prepare the arena 1st or 2nd week of August)

Use of the Council PA system for event announcements and operations.

Consideration of a financial donation or sponsorship towards the establishment of this inaugural event within the Bulloo Shire.

The event is being coordinated locally by Dama Howard, a proud Bulloo Shire resident and enthusiastic supporter of local sport and community events, who has been instrumental in organising the event and preparing the venue. The event is hosted by NBHA D4 Southwest, under the leadership of President Kirsty Doyle.

Council's support would not only assist in the successful delivery of this inaugural event but would also demonstrate Bulloo Shire's commitment to encouraging sporting tourism and supporting events that strengthen regional communities. We are committed to promoting Bulloo Shire throughout our advertising, social media platforms, and event promotions, helping showcase Thargomindah as a welcoming destination for equestrian sport and regional tourism.

We sincerely appreciate your consideration of our request and would welcome the opportunity to discuss our event further. We look forward to partnering with Bulloo Shire Council to make this a successful and enduring event for the region.

Yours faithfully,

Dama Howard
0428218874
Local Organiser
NBHA D4 Southwest– Thargomindah

Kirsty Doyle
President
NBHA D4 Southwest - Charleville

14.10 ADMIN & FINANCE REPORT**File Number:** 162749**Author:** Kate Humphris, Admin & Finance Manager**Authoriser:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** Nil**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive and note the Administration & Finance Services Report for July 2026.

ADMINISTRATION**Customer Service Requests**

Listed below is a summary of the 11 External Service Requests received for the month of July 2026.

Department - Type	Number
Council Building Maintenance	1
Housing Maintenance	6
Hire of Halls, Parks & Facilities	1
Rates Enquiries	1
Road Conditions	2

TENDERS

Item	Department	Status
T2025-2026-208 Turkey Nest Dam Constructions – Warri Gate Road	Executive	Open

PROCUREMENT

Bulloo Shire Council's Procurement Policy states the commitment of Council to assist the local businesses in the development of competitive local business and industry. This is stated in Council's Procurement Policy Statement No. 2:

"Council acknowledges that it has an important role to play in the local economy and is committed to assisting local industry engage in business with Council."

To date, Council has paid a total of **\$2,470,059** to local contractors and businesses for all goods and services procured from 1st July 2026 to 31st July 2026.

GRANTS

Council continues to seek new funding as grant opportunities arise, with the below list providing a summary of all existing and applied for grant programs:

Gambling Community Benefit Fund

This project is now complete but cannot be acquitted due to online grants system transitioning to a new system. Timelines for acquittals will be adjusted appropriately.

Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) 24-25 and WQPHN 25-26

These are ongoing operational grants that are being successfully delivered by Council and managed by Council's Health and Wellbeing Officer.

Local Roads and Community Infrastructure – Phase 1, 3 & 4

- 2024-25 Annual Reports for all phases submitted.
- Final report for Phase 1 submitted.
- All works for Phase 3 and Phase 4 now completed with final acquittal reports submitted.
- The audited financial reports are being prepared.
- Preparing each phase for End of Year Audit

QRA Crucial Access Links - Sealing and fencing of Noccundra Airstrip

Claim lodged in MARS Portal. Progress payment due in August 2026.

Monthly Update included in Operational Services Report.

Roads to Recovery 2025/2026 – Warri Gate Road

Works completed – Final reports being prepared for End of Year Audit.

Residential Activation Fund – Sams/Frew St Truck Infrastructure

- Contract for the water mains extension awarded and ground broken in June 2026.
- Tender revision necessary to include Moore, Henry and Sams Streets.
- Final design for the sewerage infrastructure under revision, with tender documentation currently nearing completion.
- Final design for the stormwater infrastructure has been completed, with tender documentation nearing completion.
- The end of June progress report has been submitted.

Residential Activation Fund –Sewerage Treatment Plant

- Design options are being finalised.

- Ground was broken end May 2026.
- The end of June progress report has been submitted.

Country Roads Connect Program

10km Seal on Warri Gate Road.

Monthly Update included in Operational Services Report.

Community Recovery and Resilience Officer (CRRO)

- Council has been funded to engage a full-time equivalent (FTE)* CRRO and delivery of community recovery Eligible Activities.
- The applicant commenced duty on 13 April 2026 and has submitted an Action Plan and commenced activities.
- The Government has approved the extension of the engagement until April 2027.
- End of Year 2026 financial reports lodged.

Monthly Updates included in Community, Culture & Places Report.

Supply Scheme Fund

Council has been approved for funding to undertake a review of the planning scheme. Contractor awarded and review underway.

Community Energy Upgrade Fund

Council was successful in its application for funds to install rooftop solar PV systems and automation controls at three Council owned facilities in Thargomindah. The proposed installation sites are being reviewed.

Monthly Updates included in Special Projects Report.

Sport and Recreation Recovery Grants

Funding approved for the Community Centre, Sports Grounds (Oval), Memorial Park and Rodeo Grounds and the Golf Club. Contracts executed and monthly reporting commencing August.

Monthly Updates included in Special Projects Report.

Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Program (QRRRP)

Council was invited to apply for funds for flood studies and levee concept designs for Thargomindah and Hungerford, the design of an evacuation centre for Thargomindah updating the Local Disaster Management Plan and subplans and updating the Disaster Dashboard. The applications follow the Government announcement in January 2026 of a \$15 million investment to build flood resilience in South West Queensland, with '\$10 million to design and early works for a flood levee to protect

Thargomindah, managing flood risk for the Bulloo, Lower Thomson River and Cooper Creek catchments'. Submission has been lodged with QRA.

Monthly Updates included in Special Projects Report.

Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program

Application for Warri Gate Road Stage 4 submitted.

Grant applications in development include:

- Passenger Transport Accessible Infrastructure Program – potential projects to be agreed – note 50% co-contribution.
- Home Grown Tourism Events Program – when program opens.
- Regional Tourism Infrastructure Program – program open, potential application under consideration.
- Honouring our Veterans grant under consideration – to install plaques on River Walk.
- Council applied for funds under the Rural Libraries Queensland Places and Spaces grant for painting and carpeting.
- Council is exploring funding and grant options to upgrade tourism and heritage assets/facilities.
- Grants Officer will undertake further review of upcoming grants to align with new Council priorities and Local Resilience Action Plan.

14.11 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

File Number: 162750
Author: Kate Humphris, Admin & Finance Manager
Authoriser: Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present Council's monthly financial statements.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulations 2012*.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Nil

CORPORATE & OPERATIONAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Financial Performance Report for period ending 31st July 2026 in accordance with Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulations 2012*.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulations 2012*, Council must prepare a financial report and present the report at each meeting of government.

Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

Nil

DISCUSSION

Financial statements, including Council's Operating Statement, Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) and Cash Flow Statement for the period ending 31st July 2026, are included for the information of Council.

Financial Sustainability Indicators

Council's Current Ratio key performance indicator is showing lower than target guidelines due to Council's high contract liabilities and revenue not yet received/recognised. This ratio is expected to gradually improve as Council's operations continue and contract liabilities decrease, resulting in a more favourable ratio. Moreover, the Operating Surplus Ratio is lower than target as rates are yet to be levied.

Key Local Government Performance Indicators

Indicator	Formula	Target	31 st July 2026	Comment
Current Ratio Is Council able to pay off its short-term liabilities with its current assets?	$\frac{\text{Current Assets}}{\text{Current Liabilities}}$	Greater than 3%	2.61%	Lower than target. Grant funds received before works complete.
Operating Surplus Ratio Does Council have sufficient operating revenue to meet Council operating costs?	$\frac{\text{Surplus (Deficit) from council operations}}{\text{Revenue generated from Council operations}}$	0 to 10%	-130%	Lower than target. Rates not yet levied.
Unrestricted Cash Expense Ratio Has Council properly planned for when payments associated with Council activities are due?	$\frac{\text{Unrestricted Cash}}{\text{Expected cash operating costs for one month}}$	Greater than 4 months	16.64 months	Higher than target.

Bulloo Shire Council				
Operating Statement (Income Statement)				
Period Ending 31st July 2026				
	Jul-26	Actual - YTD	Amended Budget 2026/2027	Variance %
Operating Revenue				
Rates and Charges	0	0	6,349,721	0%
Less: Discount, Rebate & Remissions	0	0	-184,158	0%
	0	0	6,165,563	
Fees and Charges	2,216	2,216	63,031	4%
Interest	274,315	274,315	1,335,071	21%
Rental Income	81,115	81,115	426,841	19%
	357,646	357,646	1,824,943	
Recoverable Works	29,718	29,718	3,182,149	1%
Other Income	54,241	54,241	148,221	37%
Contributions	0	0	0	
Subsidies and Grants	687,141	687,141	76,195,964	1%
	771,100	771,100	79,526,334	
Total Operating Revenues	1,128,746	1,128,746	87,516,840	
Operating Expenditure				
Administration and Governance Cost	1,005,981	1,005,981	6,800,488	15%
Corporate Services Costs	214,340	214,340	2,523,351	8%
Town Service Costs	209,967	209,967	3,684,208	6%
Net Plant Operating Costs	-92,863	-92,863	-2,876,523	3%
Rural Service	19,818	19,818	782,961	3%
Finance Services	7,199	7,199	52,500	14%
Depreciation	544,400	544,400	6,532,798	8%
Road Services	685,933	685,933	70,005,850	1%
Total Operating Expenditure	2,594,775	2,594,775	87,505,633	
OPERATING CAPABILITY BEFORE CAPITAL	-1,466,029	-1,466,029	11,207	
Capital Items				
Sale of non-current assets	0	0	-268,954	
Council Capital Contributions	0	0	10,647,097	
Subsidies and Grants	186,482	186,482	22,332,841	1%
Net Capital Expenditure	0	0	-32,710,984	
INCR / (DECR) IN OPERATING CAPABILITY INCL CAPITAL	-1,279,547	-1,279,547	11,207	

Bulloo Shire Council Financial Position As at 31st July 2026			
	Notes	Balance	Amended Budget 2026/2027
Current Assets			
Cash and Equivalents	11	61,587,233	41,301,530
Trade and Other Receivables	12	665,941	7,083,450
Prepayments		0	184,400
Inventories	13	4,845,082	4,154,400
Contract Assets	12	4,386,104	8,028,600
		71,484,360	60,752,380
Land Held for Development /Sale	15	-29,637	0
Total Current Assets	2	71,454,723	60,752,380
Non-Current Assets			
Trade & Other Receivables		0	0
Property, Plant and Equipment	18	314,331,694	356,458,350
Total Non-Current Assets	2	314,331,694	356,458,350
TOTAL ASSETS		385,786,417	417,210,730
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payments	20	1,172,075	6,380,200
Contract Liabilities		25,034,651	22,644,000
Borrowings	21	0	0
Provisions	23	1,174,640	1,170,000
Total Current Liabilities		27,381,366	30,194,200
Non-Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	20	0	0
Contract Liabilities		0	0
Borrowings	21	0	0
Provisions	23	86,561	14,300
Total Non-Current Liabilities		86,561	14,300
TOTAL LIABILITIES		27,467,927	30,208,500
NET COMMUNITY ASSETS		358,318,490	387,002,230
Community Equity			
Asset Revaluation Reserve	25	190,179,067	207,202,660
Accumulated Surplus	26	168,139,423	179,799,570
Shire Capital		0	0
Other Reserves	28	0	0
TOTAL COMMUNITY EQUITY		358,318,490	387,002,230

Balance Sheet: Note 11

Cash at bank – the majority of this has been invested in QTC at market rates to maximise return on investment.

Account	Balance	Interest Rate	Restricted Cash	Unrestricted Cash
NAB	308,093	4.20%		308,093
Explorers Caravan Park	46,169	0.00%		46,169
QTC - 22039	7,060,553	5.11%		7,060,553
QTC - 22040	50,611,783	5.11%	27,467,927	23,143,855
QTC - 23766	3,559,632	5.11%		3,559,632
Float Money	1,003	0.00%		1,003
Total	61,587,233		27,467,927	34,119,306

Council's unrestricted cash has decreased from \$35,829,565 in June to \$34,119,306 in July, resulting in a \$1,710,259 decrease.

Please refer to the below cash flow workings that make up this movement.

Bulloo Shire Council				
Cash Flows Operating Activities Workings				
	OP Bal	Jul-26	Inc/(Dec)	Comments
Cash and cash equivalents at end of reporting year	64,411,130	61,587,233	-2,823,897	Refer to Cash Flow Statement for a breakdown.
Restricted Cash				
Contract liabilities	25,744,694	25,034,651	-710,043	
Liabilities	1,586,936	1,172,075	-414,861	
Committed Costs	0	0	0	
Provisions	1,249,935	1,261,201	11,266	
Total Restricted Cash	28,581,565	27,467,927	-1,113,638	
Total Unrestricted Cash	35,829,565	34,119,306	-1,710,259	

Note: While the unrestricted cash balance is reported at \$34.119 million, this amount includes funds required to support Council's ongoing operational budget, and Council funded capital items approved for the FY2027 year. Accordingly, the full unrestricted cash balance is not available for new projects or discretionary expenditure.

Bulloo Shire Council Statement of Cash Flows Period Ending 31st July 2026			
	Notes	YTD - July 2026	Amended Budget 2026/2027
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:			
Receipts from Customers		692,919	9,921,710
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		-4,772,496	-79,675,820
		-4,079,577	-69,754,110
Interest Received		274,315	1,335,000
Rental Income		80,733	425,930
Non-Capital Grants and Contributions		662,891	74,698,630
Borrowing Costs		0	0
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	35	-3,061,638	6,705,450
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:			
Payments for Property, Plant and Equipment		51,259	-31,480,000
Payments for Intangible Assets		0	-500,000
Proceeds from Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment	5	0	269,000
Capital Grants and Contributions		186,482	22,333,000
Other Cash Flows from Investing activities		0	0
Net Cash Flow from Investing Activities		237,741	-9,378,000
Cash Flow from Financing Activities			
Proceeds from Borrowings		0	0
Repayment of Borrowings		0	0
Net Cash Flow from Financing Activities		0	0
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash Held		-2,823,897	-2,672,550
Cash at Beginning of Reporting Period 30 June 2025		64,411,130	43,973,910
Cash at End of Reporting Period	11	61,587,233	41,301,360

PLANT AND EQUIPMENT PROFITABILITY

The table below shows actual vs budget BSC Plant Profitability for the period ending 31st July 2026.

Job Cost	Description	Jul-26 Inc / Exp	YTD Inc / Exp	%	Budget
Revenue					
7100-1905	Plant Hire	331,151	331,151	6%	5,290,458
7100-1100	Fuel Rebate Subsidy	944	944	1%	78,666
7100-1900	Flood Truck Revenue	0	0		0
7100-1917	Other Income - Plant	1,964	1,964	6%	20,000
7100-1918	Profit/Loss on Disposal of Assets	0	0		0
Total Revenue		334,059	334,059	6%	5,389,124
Expenditure					
7100-2005	Plant Maintenance - Parts & Labour	38,290	38,290	4%	912,015
7100-2010	Plant Maintenance - Tyres & Batteries	9,839	9,839	5%	208,393
7100-2015	Plant Maintenance - Fuel & Oils	101,071	101,071	12%	843,735
7100-2020	Plant Rego. & Insurance	79,054	79,054	34%	231,000
7100-2025	Workshop Consumables	2,202	2,202	6%	34,325
7100-2030	Workshop Operating Costs	7,215	7,215	4%	167,027
7100-2035	Radio & T.V. Maintenance	618	618	4%	17,440
7100-2600	Depreciation-Plant & Depot	105,789	105,789	8%	1,269,462
Total Expenditure		344,076	344,076	9%	3,683,397
Profit (Loss)		-10,017	-10,017	-1%	1,705,727

The table below outlines the plant profitability position after carrying forward the FY2026 underspend and accounting for year-to-date plant profitability, plant purchases and committed plant costs. After these allocations, the remaining balance is -\$37,920. This indicates that all plant profitability generated in FY2026 and year to date has been fully allocated to plant acquisitions and committed expenditure.

Plant Purchases	
Item	\$
Opening Plant Profitability Balance	399,858
YTD Plant Profitability	-10,017
YTD Plant Purchases	0
Committed Costs	427,761
Remaining	-37,920

CONSULTANT REPORT – 31ST JULY 2026

Consultant	July 2026 Expenditure	YTD Expenditure 2026/2027	Comments
AMB Geotech SQS Pty Ltd	3,124	3,124	Soil Testing Services
Ashurst Australia	585	585	Legal Services
Findex (Aust) Pty Ltd, Crowe Australasia	1,650	1,650	Audit Services
Forge Solutions QLD Pty Ltd	68,107	68,107	Disaster Management Services (Claimable)
GBA Consulting Engineers	23,372	23,372	Consulting Engineers
GHD Pty Ltd	6,170	6,170	Consulting Engineers
Ian A Rosenberger Solicitor	5,819	5,819	Legal Services
King & Company Solicitors	660	660	Legal Services
Mead Perry Group Pty Ltd	5,500	5,500	Accounting Services
Peak Services	15,086	15,086	Grant Support
Peter Driemel	7,412	7,412	EH Consultancy Service
Safe As Gold Consulting	21,721	21,721	WHS Consultancy Service
Shepherd Services Pty Ltd	269,654	269,654	Road Consultancy Service (Claimable)
Total	428,860	428,860	

DEBTORS SUMMARY – 31ST JULY 2026

Debtors Category	Current	30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	Balance
Sundry Debtors	24,611.29	4,855.08	1,517.00	1,650.00	32,633.37
Housing Rent	3,588.10	793.20	0.00	458.20	4,839.50
Aerodrome Fuel	913.58	6,826.65	0.00	0.00	7,740.23
Common Fees	0.00	0.00	714.04	489.90	1,203.94
Qld Government	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Federal Government	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	29,112.97	12,474.93	2,231.04	2,598.10	46,417.04

RATES SUMMARY – 31ST JULY 2026

Rates	
Brought forward arrears including Interest	78,346.05
Interest current year	802.41
Rates Levied in 2026-27	0.00
Total	79,148.46
Less Rates Collected during 2026-27	2,347.82
Govt & Council pensioner subsidy 2026-27	0.00
Discount on rates collection during 2026-27	0.00
Write-Offs	0.00
Credit supplementary notices	0.00
Total Outstanding Balance *	76,800.64
Unallocated Receipts	-40,689.80
Current Outstanding Balance	36,110.84

14.12 ASSET REVALUATION REPORT**File Number:** 162858**Author:** Kate Humphris, Admin & Finance Manager**Authoriser:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:**
1. Comprehensive Report
2. Indexation Report**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement to adopt the comprehensive Revaluation of Road Infrastructure, and the Indexation of Water & Sewer Infrastructure, Land, Buildings and Other Structures report by AVR Consulting.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

- Local Government Act 2009
- Local Government Regulation 2012

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

2.91.2 Non Current Asset Accounting Policy

3.01.1 Asset Management Policy

CORPORATE & OPERATIONAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

GOV1.2 Ensure sustainable and responsible financial management.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the Comprehensive Report and Indexation Report presented in Attachment 1 and 2 to be applied for the 2025-2026 Financial Year.

BACKGROUND

Bulloo Shire Council engaged AVR Consulting to undertake a comprehensive valuation of Council's roads asset class. The engagement also included an indexation valuation of Council's water and sewer infrastructure, land, buildings and other structures asset classes recorded within Council's asset register. The valuations have been prepared to assist Council in ensuring that the carrying values of these asset classes are appropriately reflected for financial reporting purposes and are to be applied in the 2025-2026 financial year.

Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

Nil

DISCUSSION

AVR Consulting performed an onsite roads review in April 2026 across all accessible roads, with the review extending up to two thirds of the road network. The onsite assessment formed part of the comprehensive valuation process and assisted in confirming the condition, fair value, and

replacement cost assumptions applied to Council's roads asset class. See Attachment 1 for more details.

AVR Consulting applied its valuation and indexation methodology as detailed in Attachment 2. This included consideration of Council's regional locality, available sales evidence for land assets, and relevant construction cost indices to determine the applicable fair value movements for the 2025–2026 financial year.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Applying the indexation valuation results in an increase to the written down value of Council's buildings, other structures, water and sewerage asset classes from \$49.563 million to \$54.174 million as at 30 June 2026, representing an overall increase of \$4.612 million. This increase will be recognised in the Balance Sheet through an increase in the carrying value of Council's non-current assets and a corresponding increase to the asset revaluation reserve.

	Pre	Post	Diff
Building			
Gross	50,456,559.08	56,199,176.61	5,742,617.53
Accum	23,760,820.62	26,545,411.96	2,784,591.34
WDV	26,695,738.46	29,653,764.65	2,958,026.19
Other Structures			
Gross	17,430,457.76	18,571,594.63	1,141,136.87
Accum	8,630,819.43	9,202,130.71	571,311.28
WDV	8,799,638.33	9,369,463.92	569,825.59
Water			
Gross	14,382,492.74	15,471,098.89	1,088,606.15
Accum	4,395,250.19	4,730,168.25	334,918.06
WDV	9,987,242.55	10,740,930.64	753,688.09
Sewerage			
Gross	6,118,228.58	6,613,193.27	494,964.69
Accum	2,038,294.12	2,203,192.11	164,897.99
WDV	4,079,934.46	4,410,001.16	330,066.70
Totals			
Gross	88,387,738.16	96,855,063.40	8,467,325.24
Accum	38,825,184.36	42,680,903.04	3,855,718.68
WDV	49,562,553.80	54,174,160.36	4,611,606.56

The comprehensive valuation summary is presented in Attachment 1 and overall changes will be presented to Council with the 2025-2026 Financial Statements.

STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL RISK

If Council does not adopt the comprehensive valuation and indexation report, the carrying value of Council's infrastructure and other asset classes may not accurately reflect fair value for the 2025–2026 financial year. This may impact the accuracy of Council's financial statements, asset management planning, depreciation calculations and long-term financial forecasting. Adoption of the valuation outcomes will assist Council to maintain accurate asset records, support audit compliance and ensure responsible financial management.

CRITICAL DATES

20 August 2026

CONSULTATION

AVR Consulting

C Alexander Accounting

Engineer

Admin and Finance Manager



BULLOO SHIRE COUNCIL

REVALUATION OF ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING PURPOSES AS AT
30 JUNE 2026

Prepared By: Nick Fein BEng (Mech) MIEAust MIPWEAQ
nick.fein@avrconsulting.com.au



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Version Number	Issue Date	Assignment Reference	Details	Author	Reviewer
1.0	21 May 2026	BSC-QLD-001	Draft report issued	Nick Fein BEng (Mech) MIEAust MIPWEAQ	Kayla Lakeland BEng (Civil) MIPWEAQ
2.0	22 May 2026	BSC-QLD-001	Draft report updated	Nick Fein BEng (Mech) MIEAust MIPWEAQ	Kayla Lakeland BEng (Civil) MIPWEAQ
3.0	10 August 2026	BSC-QLD-001	Final report issued	Nick Fein BEng (Mech) MIEAust MIPWEAQ	Kayla Lakeland BEng (Civil) MIPWEAQ
4.0	17 August 2026	BSC-QLD-001	Updated values to include FY26 additions	Nick Fein BEng (Mech) MIEAust MIPWEAQ	Kayla Lakeland BEng (Civil) MIPWEAQ



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INSTRUCTIONS

In accordance with instructions received from Tiffany Dare - Chief Executive Officer, we have provided an assessment of Bulloo Shire Council's Specified Road Infrastructure for Financial Reporting purposes. Our valuation is provided on the basis of Fair Value as at 30 June 2026.

VALUATION

Our assessment of the value of the specified assets on the basis of Fair Value, exclusive of GST and subject to the assumption and conditions contained in this report, as at 30 June 2026, is as follows:

Component Type	Gross Replacement Cost	Fair Value	Accumulated Depreciation	Annual Depreciation
Formation	\$157,728,413	\$151,320,178	\$6,408,235	\$157,729
Pavement	\$75,232,115	\$55,056,560	\$20,175,554	\$1,581,873
Seal	\$16,849,948	\$11,855,793	\$4,994,155	\$842,497
Kerb & Channel	\$1,791,335	\$1,418,482	\$372,853	\$29,856
Bridges	\$14,020,264	\$9,901,971	\$4,118,293	\$175,494
Culverts	\$31,955,254	\$24,084,297	\$7,870,957	\$397,883
Footpaths	\$681,378	\$560,110	\$121,267	\$9,740
Gates	\$68,400	\$29,588	\$38,812	\$1,368
Grids	\$2,874,400	\$1,742,834	\$1,131,566	\$57,488
Open Drain	\$80,564	\$78,416	\$2,148	\$537
Stormwater Pipe	\$183,140	\$178,562	\$4,578	\$2,289
Stormwater Pit	\$73,112	\$71,284	\$1,828	\$914
Grand Total	\$301,538,323	\$256,298,075	\$45,240,246	\$3,257,668

For and on behalf of AVR Consulting,

Signature

Nick Fein BEng (Mech) MIEAust MIPWEAQ

Director

Peer Reviewer

Kayla Lakeland BEng (Civil) MIPWEAQ

Infrastructure Consultant

I, the counter-signatory, acting in the capacity as a Supervising Member, have reviewed the draft Valuation Report and working papers, and based upon that review, I am satisfied that there is a reasonable basis for the valuation methodology adopted.'

"Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standard Legislation.



INTRODUCTION

INSTRUCTIONS

Instructions have been received from Tiffany Dare - Chief Executive Officer, Bulloo Shire Council (BSC), to assess the Fair Value of Road Infrastructure for financial reporting purposes as at 30 June 2026.

We have valued the specified assets on the basis of Fair Value in accordance with:

- ❖ Australian Accounting Standards – AASB 13 - Fair Value Methodology.
- ❖ Australian Accounting Standards – AASB 2022-10 – Amendments to AASB 13
- ❖ International Valuation Standards.

In adopting the Fair Value of the assets contained within this report for Financial Reporting purposes, the entity should have regard to the Australian and International Accounting Standards and in particular satisfy the following criteria:

- ❖ The presumption that the entity does not have any intention or need to liquidate, to curtail the scale of its operations or to undertake a transaction on adverse terms; and
- ❖ The entity intends to retain the assets for continuous use for the purposes of the enterprise for the foreseeable future.

DATES OF INSPECTION

13 - 17 April 2026

DATE OF VALUATION

30 June 2026

NOT SUBJECT TO CHANGE

This valuation is provided on the basis that there was no material change to the assets, their features, or market conditions, between the dates of inspection and the date of valuation.

VALUER'S INTEREST

We hereby certify that the valuer:

- ❖ Has no interest, financial or otherwise, in the assets subject to appraisal.
- ❖ Is suitably qualified to conduct the valuation.
- ❖ Is authorized under the law of the state or territory where the valuation takes place to act as a valuer; and
- ❖ Confirms that the valuation has been prepared for financial reporting purposes only.



SUBJECT ASSETS

BSC's Road Infrastructure consist of the following sub-classes, the below table summarises the total quantities in each asset sub-class:

Component Type	Total Quantity Subject to Valuation	Unit of Measure
Roads Urban	25.7	Km
Roads Rural	1,908	Km
Kerb & Channel	6.2	Km
Bridges	4	Number
Culverts	289	Number
Footpaths	2980	m ²
Gates	12	Number
Grids	136	Number
Open Drains	182	m
Stormwater Pipes	346	m
Stormwater Pits	13	Number

LOCATIONS

The subject assets are located within and surrounding the towns and localities of:

- ❖ Thargomindah
- ❖ Bulloo Downs
- ❖ Cameron Corner
- ❖ Durham
- ❖ Hungerford
- ❖ Noccundra

Due to the nature of Road Infrastructure, they are generally constructed in most parts of the local government area, with higher concentrations in the major towns.



SCOPE OF INSPECTIONS

Due to the nature of Road Infrastructure, not all assets were inspected as part of the valuation process. BSC specified which assets were to be inspected. The number of assets inspected in each asset sub-class is summarised below:

Component Type	Inspection Requirement	Percentage Inspected
Roads Urban	Sample of assets physically inspected	>95%
Roads Rural	Sample of assets physically inspected	53%
Kerb & Channel	All assets physically inspected	100%
Bridges	Sample of assets physically inspected	25%
Culverts	Sample of assets physically inspected	14%
Footpaths	All assets physically inspected	100%
Gates	Sample of assets physically inspected	16%
Grids	Sample of assets physically inspected	39%
Open Drains	All assets physically inspected	100%
Stormwater Pipes	Underground asset, no physical inspections undertaken	0%
Stormwater Pits	Underground asset, no physical inspections undertaken	0%



HIGHEST AND BEST USE

For financial reporting purposes in Australia the definition of Highest and Best Use in accordance to the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB13) is:

'A fair value measurement of a non-financial asset takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.'

The highest and best use of a non-financial asset takes into account the use of the asset that is physically possible, legally permissible and financially feasible, as follows:

- ❖ A use that is physically possible takes into account the physical characteristics of the asset that market participants would take into account when pricing the asset (e.g., the location or size of a property).
- ❖ A use that is legally permissible takes into account any legal restrictions on the use of the asset that market participants would take into account when pricing the asset (e.g., the zoning regulations applicable to a property).
- ❖ A use that is financially feasible takes into account whether a use of the asset that is physically possible and legally permissible generates adequate income or cash flows (taking into account the costs of converting the asset to that use) to produce an investment return that market participants would require from an investment in that asset put to that use.

Highest and best use is determined from the perspective of market participants, even if the entity intends a different use. However, an entity's current use of a non-financial asset is presumed to be its highest and best use unless market or other factors suggest that a different use by market participants would maximise the value of the asset.

Council's assets are valued on the basis that the entity intends to retain the assets for a continuous use for the purposes of the enterprise and for the foreseeable future. Therefore, we have had regard to assessing the value of the assets on its existing use ensuring that the highest and best use noting that the current use of an asset is presumed to be its highest and best use unless market or other factors suggest a different use would maximise its value.



FINANCIAL REPORTING VALUATION METHODOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

The valuation of BSC's Road Infrastructure has been completed in accordance with guidance notes and papers issued by:

- ❖ International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)
- ❖ Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB); and
- ❖ International Valuation Standards Council (IVSC)

The Australian Property Institute is a member of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the International Valuation Standards Council.

We provide our opinion of values having regard to AASB accounting standards, in particular AASB 13, AASB 116 and AASB 2022-10.

Under AASB 116 the value of property, plant and equipment assets is to be recorded at Fair Value. Where possible, this is determined using a comparable sales-based, market value approach. However, the methodology we have adopted to determine Fair Value has depended on the level of specialisation of the asset being measured, the existence of a secondary market for the asset, and the availability and quality of comparable market evidence.

Many assets, particularly those of a type typically held by government entities, are rarely sold and often little or no direct comparable sales evidence exists. When sales evidence does not exist to support the value of an asset, a Market Value approach is not suitable, so an alternative cost-based approach is adopted.

VALUATION INPUTS

AASB 13 directs valuers to disclose their approach to fair value measurement (i.e., Market Value or Cost approach and categorise the inputs that determine and support valuation process. The valuation inputs used to measure Fair Value are categorised into three levels:

- ❖ Level 1 - Fair Values that reflect the unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- ❖ Level 2 - Fair Values that are based on inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are directly or indirectly observable for the asset or liability.
- ❖ Level 3 - Fair Values that are derived from data unobservable in the market.

Level 1 do not apply to property, plant, and equipment assets, which are only valued with reference to level 2 (observable) and Level 3 (unobservable) inputs.

AASB 13 requires the reporting entity (and therefore the valuer) to maximise the use of observable inputs and minimise the use of unobservable inputs. Where level two inputs were unavailable or, in the case of a comparable sale where the comparable is too dissimilar to the asset being valued, the valuation has been based on level 3 inputs.

AASB 13 paragraph 84 states that:



'An adjustment to a Level 2 input that is significant to the entire measurement might result in a fair value measurement categorised within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy if the adjustment uses significant unobservable inputs.'

Specific inputs used in the market approach and the cost approach are discussed in the relevant sections below.

MARKET VALUE

The Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Australian Property Institute define Market Value as:

'The estimated amount for which an asset or liability should exchange on the valuation date between a willing buyer and a willing seller in an arm's length transaction, after proper marketing and where the parties had each acted knowledgeably, prudently and without compulsion.'

MARKET VALUE METHOD

This approach requires the valuer to seek out and examine comparable sales of similar asset types and 'compare' it to the subject asset being valued. As part of the valuation process the valuer has adjusted his or her calculations to reflect differences between the comparable sale and the asset being valued.

The market approach can also use the summation approach, where the various parts of a property are added together to calculate value, or the income approach, where an asset produces an income that can be capitalised at an appropriate market yield.

VALUATION INPUTS – MARKET VALUE

The valuer has considered inputs such as:

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| ❖ Location | ❖ Land Size | ❖ Land Use / Zoning |
| ❖ Building Size | ❖ Geography | ❖ Topography |
| ❖ Type of Construction | ❖ Asset Condition | ❖ Easements and Restrictions |

The assessment of comparable sales evidence can be subjective in its analysis and as such, the valuer has determined to what extent the comparable sale differs from the subject property in order to determine whether the valuation inputs are classified as level 2 or level 3.

COST APPROACH (CURRENT REPLACEMENT COST)

The cost approach provides an indication of value using the economic principle that a buyer will pay no more for an asset than the cost to obtain an asset of equal utility, whether by purchase or by construction, unless undue time, inconvenience, risk, or other factors are involved.

The approach provides an indication of value by calculating the current replacement or reproduction cost of an asset and making deductions for physical deterioration and all other relevant forms of obsolescence.

COST APPROACH METHOD

The International Valuation Standards Council (IVSC) describes three cost approach methods:



- a) replacement cost method: a method that indicates value by calculating the cost of a similar asset offering equivalent utility,
- b) reproduction cost method: a method under the cost that indicates value by calculating the cost to recreating a replica of an asset, and
- c) summation method: a method that calculates the value of an asset by the addition of the separate values of its component parts.

Generally, (a) replacement cost is used in financial reporting valuations as it is relevant to determining the price that a participant would pay. This is because it is based on replicating the utility of the asset, not the exact physical properties of the asset.

The key steps in the replacement cost method are:

- a) calculate the costs that would be incurred by a typical participant seeking to create or obtain an asset providing equivalent utility,
- b) determine whether there is any depreciation related to physical, functional, and external obsolescence associated with the subject asset, and
- c) deduct total depreciation from the total costs to arrive at a value for the subject asset.

The replacement cost adopted is generally that of a modern equivalent asset, which is one that provides similar function and equivalent utility to the asset being valued, but which is of a current design and constructed using current cost-effective materials and techniques.

VALUATION INPUTS – COST APPROACH

Inputs into the cost approach are often a mix of observable and unobservable inputs. Listed below are some examples of Cost Approach inputs:

- ❖ Valuer's opinion of physical condition (unobservable / subjective)
- ❖ Unit rate (\$/m² or \$/linear metre (unobservable / subjective)
- ❖ Contemporary construction cost data (unobservable)
- ❖ Cost guide unit rates, such as Cordell's or Rawlinson's (observable)
- ❖ Regional loading indices (observable / publicly available).
- ❖ Asset size, material, type, and structure (observable)
- ❖ Useful life and remaining useful (unobservable / subjective)
- ❖ Valuers' professional judgement (unobservable).

If the valuer has had to rely upon a substantial amount of unobservable data and employ a significant level of professional judgement in determining value, the valuation has been based on Level 3 inputs.

We note all assets have been valued using the cost approach using level 3 inputs.



ASSET COMPONENTISATION

AASB 116.43 requires that each part of an asset that has a significant cost component relevant to the total cost, should be treated separately. The intention of this standard is to recognise that the significant parts of larger assets are likely to have different useful lives.

An example of separating components is for sealed roads which have been separated into: bulk earthworks, pavement and surface. Separating these assets allows for improved recording and analysis of renewals, replacement timing and useful life.

We have adopted the level of componentisation prescribed by BSC in their fixed asset register, and it is deemed appropriate for the purposes of this valuation.

DEPRECIATION METHODOLOGY

Straight line depreciation has been used for all assets valued using the cost approach.

CONSIDERATION OF AASB2022-10

AASB2022-10 was formally adopted as amendments to AASB 13 on 1 January 2024. The application is specifically for non-for profit public sector entities, which includes local governments. The clarifications have been considered when undertaking this valuations and is discussed below.

When the inputs to the valuation were compiled, we have considered Council's internal data as much as possible. This was also compared to market based data and our experience with local government assets. When it was deemed reliable, Council's own data was adopted as an input to the valuation.

In estimating the replacement cost of the reference assets (unit rates), consideration has been given to the following:

- ❖ Costs required to restore another entity's assets,
- ❖ Disruption costs such as traffic control, and
- ❖ Land preparation costs if not already included in subject land's fair value.

After discussions were undertaken with Council staff, it was concluded that the instances these costs would be incurred when constructing the subject assets would be rare and impractical to measure reliably, and would therefore not have a material impact on the valuation results.

TOTAL USEFUL LIFE

The total useful life (TUL) of an asset is a measure of the estimated time that the asset or a component is expected to be available for use by the reporting entity. It should be noted that in reality, no two assets provide the same useful life due to varying usage, actual construction (versus assumed) and maintenance factors.

Generally structural assets have longer useful lives than say, mechanical and electrical assets. To further refine the estimated useful life, inputs such as climate, maintenance, usage, and obsolescence are considered.

The useful lives we have adopted are not prescribed in any journal or building guide; however, they are consistent with the range of lives that are being used by other professionals in the valuation



industry and are supported by data from IPWEA'S Asset Management & Financial Management Guidelines - Practise Note 12 2017 – 'Useful Life of Infrastructure' for assets of the type and construction that form the subject of this report.

REMAINING USEFUL LIFE

This is defined as the estimated remaining life of the asset having regard to Physical Deterioration, Functional Obsolescence and Economic Obsolescence, which are described below:

❖ PHYSICAL DETERIORATION

This may occur due to wear, inadequate maintenance, dry rot, damage by termites or borers, or normal weathering and decay. Any one or more of these causes of depreciation might relate only to a part or to parts of an asset, e.g., flooring, plumbing components, fence posts, and other items less durable than the main structure.

❖ FUNCTIONAL OBSOLESCENCE

This exists in respect of older type assets that are no longer fully functional in accordance with current requirements. Causes may include inconvenience of interior layout, outdated and inefficient lifts, fixtures and fittings, or where an existing machine is no longer compatible with new systems within a process.

❖ ECONOMIC OBSOLESCENCE:

A lessening of economic utility may be caused by extrinsic circumstances beyond the control of an owner. For example, non-conforming use under a town-planning scheme, changes in the character of the locality, technological advances for which the building cannot readily be adapted or large increases in land values. The effect of any one such change might be that a building or other improvement, formerly economic, no longer contributes adequately to the highest and best use of the land.

REMAINING USEFUL LIFE CALCULATION

The remaining lives we adopt in our depreciation calculations are estimated using three distinct factors:

- ❖ Visual Inspection / Condition.
- ❖ Known Age; and
- ❖ Estimated Age.

Where an asset's condition is able to be determined from the valuer's inspection, the remaining life has been estimated on a sliding scale or 'depreciation score.' Where inspections have not been undertaken, the remaining life has been calculated using BSC's condition ratings or construction dates. During our inspections, they were in most instances found to be an accurate reflection of the current condition.

The depreciation score given to an asset is used to reflect remaining utility and considers not just physical deterioration, but also functional and economic obsolescence. We have adopted a scale of 1-5, with 1 being new and 5 being in poor condition.



OBSOLESCENCE FACTOR (CONDITION)

The condition ratings referenced within this valuation are based on a 0 – 10 system and consider 'physical deterioration', 'economic obsolescence' and 'functional obsolescence'.

As we have described above, the obsolescence factor is often referred to as a condition rating and can be adjusted to reflect more than just physical condition.

That said, our valuation approach still considers how a hypothetical market participant might think when using the cost approach. The table below provides an explanation of the condition ratings used:

Condition (0-10)	Condition (1-5)	Remaining Service Potential	Description	Condition (1-5)
0	1	100% - 81%	New or as new condition. Only planned cyclic inspection and routine maintenance required.	Excellent/ Very Good
1				
2	2	80% - 61%	Good condition with minor defects. Minor routine maintenance along with planned cyclic inspection and maintenance.	Good
3				
4	3	60%-41%	Average/fair condition with some significant defects requiring regular maintenance on top of planned cyclic inspections and maintenance.	Satisfactory / Average
5				
6				
7	4	40%-21%	Poor condition with asset requiring significant renewal/ rehabilitation, or higher levels of inspection and substantial maintenance to keep the asset serviceable.	Poor
8				
9	5	20%-0%	Very poor condition. Asset physically unsound and/or beyond rehabilitation. Renewal required.	Very Poor
10				



SUMMARY OF VALUATION APPROACHES

Class	Valuation Approach	AASB Input Level
Road Infrastructure	Cost Approach	3

UNOBSERVABLE INPUT DISCLOSURE

The following table summarises some of the common unobservable inputs and their relationship to the measurement of Fair Value in this valuation:

Unobservable Input	Range of Input	Relationship With Fair Value
Overhead Percentage	20%	The higher the overhead percentage, the higher the Fair Value
Useful Lives	20 – 1000	The higher the useful life, the higher the Fair Value
Condition Rating	0 - 10	The lower the Condition Rating, the higher the Fair Value
Remaining Useful Lives	0 – 999	The higher the remaining life, the higher the Fair Value



VALUATION SUMMARY

Subject to the assumptions and qualifications contained within this report, we have assessed the combined Fair Value of Bulloo Shire Council's Road Infrastructure, as at 30 June 2026 to be:

Component Type	Gross Replacement Cost	Fair Value	Accumulated Depreciation	Annual Depreciation
Formation	\$157,728,413	\$151,320,178	\$6,408,235	\$157,729
Pavement	\$75,232,115	\$55,056,560	\$20,175,554	\$1,581,873
Seal	\$16,849,948	\$11,855,793	\$4,994,155	\$842,497
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Grids	\$2,874,400	\$1,742,834	\$1,131,566	\$57,488
Open Drain	\$80,564	\$78,416	\$2,148	\$537
Stormwater Pipe	\$183,140	\$178,562	\$4,578	\$2,289
Stormwater Pit	\$73,112	\$71,284	\$1,828	\$914
Grand Total	\$301,538,323	\$256,298,075	\$45,240,246	\$3,257,668

This valuation is for the use only of Bulloo Shire Council to whom it is addressed and for financial reporting purposes only. No responsibility is extended to any third party who may use or rely on the whole or any part of the content of this valuation in any way and neither the valuer nor AVR Consulting shall have any liability to any third party who does. No responsibility will be accepted for photocopied signatures or copies of this report.

The figures listed above reflect the combined value of all individual asset values within that sub-category. Individual values are listed in the spreadsheets provided.

Neither the whole nor any part of this valuation or any reference thereto may be included in any published documents, circular or statement, nor published in part or full in any way, without written approval of the form and context in which it may appear.

No liability is accepted for any loss or damage (including consequential or economic loss) suffered as a consequence of fluctuations in the property market subsequent to the date of valuation.



For and on behalf of AVR Consulting,

Signature

Nick Fein BEng (Mech) MIEAust MIPWEAQ
Director

Peer Reviewer

Kayla Lakeland BEng (Civil) MIPWEAQ
Infrastructure Consultant

I, the counter-signatory, acting in the capacity as a Supervising Member, have reviewed the draft Valuation Report and working papers, and based upon that review, I am satisfied that there is a reasonable basis for the valuation methodology adopted.'

"Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standard Legislation.



SCHEDULE OF VALUES

The associated schedules for of values for the Road Infrastructure are attached in excel format.



COPY OF CLIENT INSTRUCTIONS

Dear Nick

Re: Comprehensive Valuation of Infrastructure Assets

I refer to your request for quote submitted for the comprehensive valuation of infrastructure assets for the Bulloo Shire Council.

I am pleased to advise AVR Consulting's proposal has been accepted and Council looks forward to working with you.

Please contact Kate Humphris, Admin & Finance Manager, to arrange the Desktop Valuations via kateh@bulloo.qld.gov.au and George Inocentes, Engineer, via engineer@bulloo.qld.gov.au for the Comprehensive Valuations.

Yours faithfully,

Tiffany Dare
Chief Executive Officer



QUALIFICATIONS

CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT FOR AUTHORISED USERS ONLY

This confidential document is for the sole use of persons directly provided with it by AVR Consulting. Use by, or reliance upon this document by anyone other than Bulloo Shire Council is not authorised and AVR Consulting will not be held liable for any loss arising from such unauthorised use or reliance. The document should not be reproduced without our prior written approval.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

The values stated within this report are exclusive of GST. Newly constructed residential property may be exempt in such cases, we have assumed the market value is inclusive of GST.

In analysing the sales and leasing evidence we have provided as comparable sales we have attempted to determine if the sales price or annual rent is inclusive or exclusive of GST. With regard to sales or rental evidence, we advise that statutory reporting of either sales or rental values often does not record whether the sale price or rental amount is inclusive or exclusive of GST.

Where we have not been able to verify if GST is included in the sale price or annual rent, we have assumed it is inclusive of GST.

OUR INVESTIGATIONS

This valuation is conducted on the basis that we are not engaged to conduct all possible investigations in relation to the property. We have identified certain limitations to our investigations to enable you to instruct further investigations if you consider this appropriate.

AVR Consulting is not liable for any loss occasioned by a decision not to instruct further investigations.

ASSUMPTIONS

Assumptions are a necessary part of this valuation. AVR Consulting adopts assumptions because some matters are not capable of accurate calculation, or fall outside of the scope of our expertise, or our instructions. The risk that any of the assumptions adopted in this document may be incorrect should be considered. AVR Consulting does not warrant or represent that the assumptions on which this valuation is based are accurate or correct.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY OTHERS

This document contains a significant volume of information that is directly derived from other sources, without verification by us including, but not limited to planning documents and environmental or other expert reports. We confirm that we are not instructed to verify that information. Further, the information is not adopted by AVR Consulting as our own, even when it is used in our calculations. Where the contents of this document have been derived, in whole or in part, from other sources, AVR Consulting does not warrant or represent that such information is accurate or correct. We believe that the information supplied is within a level of accuracy tolerance



and that material facts have not been intentionally withheld. For the purpose of our valuation assessment, we have assumed that this information is correct.

FUTURE MATTERS

To the extent that this document includes any statement as to a future matter, that statement is provided as an estimate and/or opinion based on the information known to AVR Consulting at the date of this document. AVR Consulting does not warrant that such statements are accurate or correct.

VALUATION DATE

This valuation is current as at the date of valuation only. The value assessed herein may change significantly and unexpectedly over a relatively short period of time (including as a result of general market movements or factors specific to the particular property). Liability for losses arising from such subsequent changes in value is excluded as is liability where the valuation is relied upon after the date of the valuation.



APPENDIX 1 – DEFINITIONS

COST APPROACH

'A valuation technique that reflects the amount that would be required currently to replace the service capacity of an asset (often referred to as current replacement cost, or historically as depreciated replacement cost).

FAIR VALUE

Fair Value is defined as:

'The price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.'

HIGHEST AND BEST USE

In relation to non-financial assets, the principal of 'Highest and best Use' must also be considered and measurement must consider a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The highest and best use of a non-financial asset considers the use of the asset that is physically possible, legally permissible, and financially feasible, as follows:

- (a) A use that is physically possible takes into account the physical characteristics of the asset that market participants would consider when pricing the asset (e.g., the location or size of a property).
- (b) A use that is legally permissible takes into account any legal restrictions on the use of the asset that market participants would consider when pricing the asset (e.g., the zoning regulations applicable to a property).
- (c) A use that is financially feasible takes into account whether a use of the asset that is physically possible and legally permissible generates adequate income or cash flows (considering the costs of converting the asset to that use) to produce an investment return that market participants would require from an investment in that asset put to that use.

Highest and best use is determined from the perspective of market participants, even if the entity intends a different use. However, an entity's current use of a non-financial asset is presumed to be its highest and best use unless market or other factors suggest that a different use by market participants would maximise the value of the asset.

MARKET APPROACH

The market approach provides an indication of value by comparing the asset with identical or comparable (that is similar) assets for which price information is available.

MARKET VALUE

Market Value is defined as:



'The estimated amount for which an asset or liability should exchange on the valuation date between a willing buyer and a willing seller in an arm's length transaction, after proper marketing and where the parties had each acted knowledgeably, prudently and without compulsion.'

PRINCIPAL (OR MOST ADVANTAGEOUS) MARKET

A market transaction takes place either in:

- ❖ The principal market, the market with the greatest volume and level of activity for the asset or liability; or
- ❖ In the absence of a principal market, the most advantageous market.

An entity need not undertake an exhaustive search of all possible markets to identify the principal market or, in the absence of a principal market, the most advantageous market, but it shall take into account all information that is reasonably available. In the absence of evidence to the contrary, the market in which the entity would normally enter into a transaction to sell the asset or to transfer the liability is presumed to be the principal market or, in the absence of a principal market, the most advantageous market.

If there is a principal market for the asset or liability, the fair value measurement shall represent the price in that market (whether that price is directly observable or estimated using another valuation technique), even if the price in a different market is potentially more advantageous at the measurement date.

PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Property, plant, and equipment are tangible items that: (a) are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes; and (b) are expected to be used during more than one period.'



APPENDIX 2 – VALUATION STANDARDS

It is important to understand the relationship between accounting, financial reporting and valuation standards published by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB), the International Valuation Standards Council (IVSC) and the Australian Property Institute (API). The IASB is the independent standard-setting body of the International Financial Reporting Standards Foundation (IFRS Foundation) and sets International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS's).

IFRS's are adopted in Australia through pronouncements made by the AASB. Australian Accounting Standards incorporate the IFRS's, modified as necessary for application by Not for Profit (NFP) entities. For-profit entities preparing general purpose financial statements under the Tier 1 reporting requirements can state compliance with IFRS's. NFP entities may not be able to state compliance with IFRS's. AAS's are frequently updated, and care should be taken to ensure that the valuation is conducted in accordance with the AAS applicable in respect of the valuation date.

INTERNATIONAL VALUATION STANDARDS

The International Valuation Standards Council (IVSC) has formulated and published, in the public interest, International Valuation standards (IVS's) and promotes those standards for worldwide acceptance and observance. The IVS's have been developed for the procedural guidance of the valuation of assets for a variety of purposes including for use in financial statements and to harmonise standards amongst the world states and bring uniformity.

The IVSC liaises with the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and other international bodies such as the International Federation of Accountants, International Organisation of Security Commissions and BASEL Committee on Banking Supervision. The IVSC also provides advice and counsel relating to asset valuation to the accounting profession. The relevant sections of the IVS's are intended to comply with the IFRS's.

Valuation Standards published by the IVSC are adopted by the Australian Property Institute. It is a Valuers responsibility to comply with the IVS applicable at the date of valuation, keep informed of any changes and, apply them appropriately and consistently when providing valuations.

AUSTRALIAN PROPERTY INSTITUTE

The Australian Property Institute issued Guidance Paper "AVGP 302 – Valuation of Real Property, Plant & Equipment for use in Australian Financial Reports" on 1 July 2021. The purpose of AVGP 302 is to provide information, commentary, opinion, advice, and recommendations to Institute Valuer Members (Valuers) undertaking valuations of real property, plant & equipment (including heritage and infrastructure assets) for use in Australian financial reports and to assist users of those financial reports to understand the basis upon which real property, plant and equipment valuations are undertaken.

Valuers providing valuations of real property, plant, and equipment for use in Australian financial reports must do so to the standard of professionalism and skill required and consistent with



membership of the Institute and in compliance with the law. AVGP 302 does not deal with all conceivable issues that a Valuer may consider relevant to their financial statement valuations. Accordingly, Valuers should familiarize themselves with the detail of the individual AAS, effective as at the valuation date of their report, which the report addresses.



APPENDIX 3 – ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

AASB 5 NON-CURRENT ASSETS HELD FOR SALE & DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

This standard provides guidelines on the grouping and accounting of assets held for sale. Assets that are classified as held for sale are to be measured at the lower of the carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell.

AASB 13 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT

This standard defines Fair Value, sets out a single standard framework for measuring Fair Value and required disclosure regarding approach to measurement.

This standard also defines a hierarchy of inputs to be disclosed.

Under this standard there are three defined levels of Fair Value measurement:

- ❖ Level 1 - Fair Values that reflect the unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- ❖ Level 2 - Fair Values that are based on inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are directly or indirectly observable for the asset or liability.
- ❖ Level 3 - Fair Values that are derived from data unobservable in the market.

AASB 16 LEASES

This standard sets out the principles for the recognition, measurement, presentation, and disclosure of leases. The objective is to ensure that lessees and lessors provide relevant information in a manner that faithfully represents those transactions. This information gives a basis for uses of financial statements to assess the effect that leases have on the financial position, financial performance, and cash flows of an entity. This standard is applicable to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

AASB 116 PROPERTY PLANT & EQUIPMENT

This is the standard most relevant to the valuation of property, plant and equipment and is applicable to all entities including not-for-profit entities. The objective is to prescribe the accounting treatment so that users of the financial report can obtain information about the entity's property, plant, and equipment investments. The standard excludes assets held for sale (AASB 5).

The standard defines fair value and the frequency and suggested approach to be taken in the revaluation of property, plant, and equipment assets.

AASB 136 IMPAIRMENT OF ASSETS

This standard is to ensure that assets are carried at no more than their recoverable amount. This standard does not apply to investment property that is measured at fair value (AASB 140 Investment Property). An impairment loss is the amount by which the carrying amount of an asset or a cash generating unit exceeds its recoverable amount. This loss may be for various reasons including a decline in the asset's market value that is more significant than expected or adverse changes to the entity or the market in which it operates.



AASB 140 INVESTMENT PROPERTY

Investment Property is property that is held to earn rentals or capital appreciation on both rather than for production or supply of goods and services or for administrative purposes or for sale in ordinary course of business. This standard prescribes the accounting treatment for investment property including those assets partially held for rental or capital appreciation. This standard requires all entities to determine the fair value of investment property for the purpose of either measurement (if the entity uses the fair value model) or disclosure (if it uses the cost model).

VALUATION PREMISE

The highest and best use of each asset may be derived from its use in combination with other assets and liabilities or on a stand-alone basis.

Market participants may maximise the value of an asset (or group of assets) by using the asset in combination with other assets, or with other assets and liabilities. When considering the valuation premise, AASB 13 clarifies that the fair value of the asset should be measured from the perspective of market participants who are presumed to hold the complementary assets and liabilities.

As the land and buildings would transfer in one line in a hypothetical transaction, it is considered that the properties provide maximum value to market participants on an 'in combination' basis (i.e., the land and building assets associated with the subject property) and then apportioned on a summation basis for each asset class being land and buildings.



AVR Consulting Pty Ltd

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Brisbane City QLD 4000

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BULLOO SHIRE COUNCIL

INDEXATION OF WATER & SEWER
INFRASTRUCTURE, LAND, BUILDINGS
AND OTHER STRUCTURES

FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING PURPOSES AS AT

30 JUNE 2026

Prepared By: Kayla Lakeland BEng (Civil) MIPWEAQ
kayla.lakeland@avrconsulting.com.au



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Version Number	Issue Date	Assignment Reference	Details	Author	Reviewer
1.0	31 March 2026	BSC-QLD-001	Draft report issued	Kayla Lakeland BEng (Civil) MIPWEAQ	Nick Fein BEng (Mech) MIEAust MIPWEAQ
2.0	11 May 2026	BSC-QLD-001	Updated with March quarterly indices	Kayla Lakeland BEng (Civil) MIPWEAQ	Nick Fein BEng (Mech) MIEAust MIPWEAQ
3.0	21 July 2026	BSC-QLD-001	Amended	Kayla Lakeland BEng (Civil) MIPWEAQ	Nick Fein BEng (Mech) MIEAust MIPWEAQ
4.0	28 July 2026	BSC-QLD-001	Amended	Kayla Lakeland BEng (Civil) MIPWEAQ	Nick Fein BEng (Mech) MIEAust MIPWEAQ
5.0	7 August 2026	BSC-QLD-001	Changed water & sewer indices breakdown, updated indices using June quarterly data	Kayla Lakeland BEng (Civil) MIPWEAQ	Nick Fein BEng (Mech) MIEAust MIPWEAQ
6.0	10 August 2026	BSC-QLD-001	Issued final	Kayla Lakeland BEng (Civil) MIPWEAQ	Nick Fein BEng (Mech) MIEAust MIPWEAQ



INTRODUCTION

INSTRUCTIONS

Instructions have been received from Kate Humphris - Accountant, Bulloo Shire Council (BSC), to undertake an indexation of Water & Sewer Infrastructure, Land, Buildings and Other Structures for financial reporting purposes as at 30 June 2026.

The indexation has been undertaken in accordance with:

- ❖ Australian Accounting Standards Board AASB 13 - Fair Value Measurement.
- ❖ Australian Accounting Standards Board AASB 116 – Property, Plant and Equipment.
- ❖ International Valuation Standards - Effective 31 January 2022.
- ❖ Queensland Treasury's Non-Current Assets Policy (NCAP) 3 – Valuation of Non-Current Assets - Effective 1 July 2021.

According to Queensland Treasury's NCAP 3, the application of an indexation does not constitute a change in valuation technique or a change to an asset's fair value hierarchy.

The assets subject to indexation in this report include the following:

- ❖ Water Infrastructure
- ❖ Sewer Infrastructure
- ❖ Land
- ❖ Buildings (including houses)
- ❖ Other Structures

DATE OF INDEXATION

30 June 2026

INDEXATION PERIODS

The assets have been indexed over the following periods:

Asset Class	Indexation Period
Water Infrastructure	1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026
Sewer Infrastructure	1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026
Land	1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026
Buildings	1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026
Other Structures	1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026



LAST COMPREHENSIVE VALUATION

The dates of the previous comprehensive valuations for BSC's asset classes have been summarised in the below table, along with the approach to valuation:

Asset Class	Date of Last Comprehensive Valuation	Valuation Approach
Water Infrastructure	30/06/2024	Cost Approach (Current Replacement Cost)
Sewer Infrastructure	30/06/2024	Cost Approach (Current Replacement Cost)
Land	30/06/2022	Market Value
Buildings	30/06/2022	Cost Approach (Current Replacement Cost)
Other Structures	30/06/2022	Cost Approach (Current Replacement Cost)

It should be noted that AVR Consulting has not conducted any of the previous comprehensive valuations, and as such cannot specifically comment on the findings or results. This indexation has been conducted on the basis that the results of the previous comprehensive valuations are complete and an accurate reflection of the Fair Value.

The information in the table above has been sourced from Bulloo Shire Council's Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025, which is publicly available on the Bulloo Shire Council website.

VALUER'S INTEREST

We hereby certify that the valuer:

- ❖ Has no interest, financial or otherwise, in the asset subject to indexation.
- ❖ Is suitably qualified to conduct the indexation.
- ❖ Is authorized under the law of the state or territory where the indexation takes place to act as a valuer;
and
- ❖ Confirms that the indexation has been prepared for financial reporting purposes only



METHODOLOGY

LOCALITY CONSIDERATIONS

Bulloo Shire Council is geographically positioned in regional/remote Queensland. As such, constructions costs are typically uplifted in these locations due to factors such as freight, contractor mobilisation, travel, accommodation, labour availability, etc.

As the specified indices below are pulled from data across metropolitan and regional locations through the state, the indices are weighted to reflect this.

This additional allowance should be incorporated at the time of a comprehensive valuation. The replacement value determined at that point would already reflect location-specific cost factors. We note applying an additional index to this adjusted value may result in a duplication of the locality component, potentially overstating the replacement value of the asset.

LAND

Land market movements in the Bulloo Shire Council area have been assessed on a high-level approach based on internal analysis of all real property sales in the locality over the previous years. We have removed any outlying data points to ensure the results are not skewed. The land assets are located in 3 towns/regions namely Thargomindah, Hungerford and Noccundra.

Due to the nature of the assets and their location, there is a significant dearth of available data. Thargomindah shows only three vacant land transactions while Hungerford shows 3 improved residential transactions and Noccundra report none.

The limited sales activity in Thargomindah and Hungerford showed transactions with varying sale prices; however, these properties differed significantly in lot size. When analysed on a rate per square metre basis, the results indicated no significant variation in underlying value. Accordingly, a 0% index change has been adopted for either locality.

Noccundra recorded no sales during the indexation period, and as such, a 0% index change has been applied for this region as well.



BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The buildings and infrastructure assets have been categorised into six different index categories: roads and bridges, civil, electrical, mechanical, buildings and water and sewer mains. The changes in gross replacement costs over the period of indexation from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 were assessed by applying the specified indices to each individual component.

The indices have been sourced from producer price indices from The Australian Bureau of Statistics. These are publicly available statistics which are released quarterly. They can be downloaded at the following location:

<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/economy/price-indexes-and-inflation/producer-price-indexes-australia/latest-release>

The results have then been cross checked and align with Queensland Treasury's Asset Revaluation Indices.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

The road and bridge index has been determined by analysing producer price index 3101: Road and Bridge Construction Queensland over the period of 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026. The table below outlines the index used and the change over the indexation period.

Producer Price Index	Index June 2025	Forecasted Index June 2026	Weighting	% Change Over Indexation Period
3101: Road and Bridge Construction Queensland	145.9	154.5	100%	5.9%

Subsequently, we have adopted a 5.9% increase over the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 for road and bridge assets.

CIVIL

The civil index is a composite index calculated by AVR Consulting, combining relevant producer price indices. The table below outlines the indices used and their weightings.

Producer Price Index	Index June 2025	Forecasted Index June 2026	Weighting	% Change Over Indexation Period
3101: Road and Bridge Construction Queensland	145.9	154.5	33.33%	5.9%
6923: Engineering Design and Engineering Consulting Services	137.2	142.6	33.33%	3.9%
2034: Concrete Product Manufacturing	178.1	178.2	33.33%	0.1%
Composite Civil Index	153.7	158.4	100%	3.1%

Subsequently, we have adopted a 3.1% increase over the period of 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 for civil assets.



ELECTRICAL

The electrical index is a composite index calculated by AVR Consulting, combining relevant producer price indices. The table below outlines the indices used and their weightings.

Producer Price Index	Index June 2025	Forecasted Index June 2026	Weighting	% Change Over Indexation Period
243: Electrical Equipment Manufacturing	146.2	152.6	60%	4.4%
6923: Engineering Design and Engineering Consulting Services	137.2	142.6	40%	3.9%
Composite Electrical Index	142.6	148.6	100%	4.2%

Subsequently, we have adopted a 4.2% increase over the period of 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 for electrical assets.

MECHANICAL

The mechanical index is a composite index calculated by AVR Consulting, combining relevant producer price indices. The table below outlines the indices used and their weightings.

Producer Price Index	Index June 2025	Forecasted Index June 2026	Weighting	% Change Over Indexation Period
246: Specialised Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing	178.9	179.8	60%	0.5%
6923: Engineering Design and Engineering Consulting Services	137.2	142.6	40%	3.9%
Composite Mechanical Index	162.2	164.9	100%	1.7%

Subsequently, we have adopted a 1.7% increase over the period of 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 for mechanical assets.



BUILDINGS

The buildings index is a composite index calculated by AVR Consulting, combining relevant producer price indices. The table below outlines the indices used and their weightings.

Producer Price Index	Index June 2025	Forecasted Index June 2026	Weighting	% Change Over Indexation Period
3020: Non-Residential Building Construction Queensland	156.0	169.5	80%	8.7%
3011 House Construction Queensland	184.5	199.2	20%	8.0%
Composite Buildings Index	178.8	193.3	100%	8.1%

Subsequently, we have adopted an 8.1% increase over the period of 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 for building assets.

WATER AND SEWER MAINS

The water & sewerage mains index is a composite index calculated by AVR Consulting, combining relevant producer price indices. The table below outlines the indices used and their weightings.

Producer Price Index	Index June 2025	Forecasted Index June 2026	Weighting	% Change Over Indexation Period
3101: Road and Bridge Construction Queensland	145.9	154.5	33.33%	5.9%
6923: Engineering Design and Engineering Consulting Services	137.2	142.6	33.33%	3.9%
191: Polymer product manufacturing	162.8	174.3	33.33%	7.1%
Composite Water & Sewer Mains Index	148.6	157.1	100%	5.7%

Subsequently, we have adopted a 5.7% increase over the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 for water & sewerage main asset's gross replacement cost.

WATER AND SEWER OVERALL CHANGE

The water and sewerage changes have been calculated by applying either the Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Non-Residential Building, and Water & Sewerage Mains indices to the individual assets within the Water and Sewer infrastructure assets and then determining the movement in their gross replacement values. The table below outlines this overall change.

Asset Class	Overall Change
Water Infrastructure	4.0%
Sewerage Infrastructure	4.9%



OTHER STRUCTURES

The other structures index has been calculated by applying either the Civil, Electrical and Mechanical indices to the individual assets within the Other Structure assets and then determining the movement in their gross replacement values. The table below outlines this overall change.

Asset Class	Overall Change
Other Structures	3.4%

SUMMARY OF ADOPTED INDICES

The table below summarises the adopted indices and their index application.

Index Category	Index Code	Adopted Index (%)	Index Application
Road and Bridges	R	5.9%	Gross Replacement Cost
Civil	C	3.1%	Gross Replacement Cost
Electrical	E	4.2%	Gross Replacement Cost
Mechanical	M	1.7%	Gross Replacement Cost
Buildings	B	8.1%	Gross Replacement Cost
Water and Sewer Mains	MN	5.7%	Gross Replacement Cost
Land (Thargomindah)	TH	0.0%	Fair Value
Land (Hungerford)	HF	0.0%	Fair Value
Land (Noccundra)	N	0.0%	Fair Value

ASSESSING CHANGE IN FAIR VALUE

Excluding land assets, the subject assets have all been previously valued using the cost approach in their respective comprehensive valuations. The changes in fair value should be assessed by adjusting the gross replacement cost by the adopted indices, then subsequently deducting a year from the 2025 remaining life to reflect a further year's physical deterioration.

Further noting any impairment, functional or economic obsolescence which may affect the change in Fair Value.

It should be noted, any assets that were disposed during the financial year should not be included in the assessment and any acquisitions/additions added in at cost.



INDEXATION RESULTS

Subject to the assumptions and qualifications contained within this report, we have undertaken the indexation over the period of 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2026:

Asset Class	Adopted Index (%)	Index Application
Water Infrastructure	4.0%	Gross Replacement Cost
Sewer Infrastructure	4.9%	Gross Replacement Cost
Land	0.0%	Fair Value
Buildings	8.1%	Gross Replacement Cost
Other Structures	3.4%	Gross Replacement Cost

This indexation is for the use only of Bulloo Shire Council to whom it is addressed and for financial reporting and no other purpose. No responsibility is extended to any third party who may use or rely on the whole or any part of the content of this indexation in any way and neither the valuer nor AVR Consulting shall have any liability to any third party who does. No responsibility will be accepted for photocopied signatures. The figures listed above reflect the combined value of all individual asset values within that category. Individual values are listed in the accompanying spreadsheets.

Only a signed original of this valuation should be relied upon, and no responsibility will be accepted for photocopies of the report. Neither the whole nor any part of this valuation or any reference thereto may be included in any published documents, circular or statement, nor published in part or full in any way, without written approval of the form and context in which it may appear. No liability is accepted for any loss or damage (including consequential or economic loss) suffered as a consequence of fluctuations in economic conditions subsequent to the date of valuation.

For and on behalf of AVR Consulting:

Kayla Lakeland BEng (Civil) MIPWEAQ
Infrastructure Consultant
*Peer Reviewer

Regan Kenealy B.Prop AAPI
Certified Practicing Valuer

Nick Fein BEng (Mech) MIEAust MIPWEAQ
Director - Plant, Equipment & Infrastructure

I, the counter-signatory, acting in the capacity as a Supervising Member, have reviewed the draft Valuation Report and working papers, and based upon that review, I am satisfied that there is a reasonable basis for the valuation methodology adopted.

"Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standard Legislation."



COPY OF INSTRUCTIONS

Dear Nick

Re: Comprehensive Valuation of Infrastructure Assets

I refer to your request for quote submitted for the comprehensive valuation of infrastructure assets for the Bulloo Shire Council.

I am pleased to advise AVR Consulting's proposal has been accepted and Council looks forward to working with you.

Please contact Kate Humphris, Admin & Finance Manager, to arrange the Desktop Valuations via kateh@bulloo.qld.gov.au and George Inocentes, Engineer, via engineer@bulloo.qld.gov.au for the Comprehensive Valuations.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T. Dare".

Tiffany Dare
Chief Executive Officer



QUALIFICATIONS

CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT FOR AUTHORISED USERS ONLY

This confidential document is for the sole use of persons directly provided with it by AVR Consulting. Use by, or reliance upon this document by anyone other than Bulloo Shire Council is not authorised and AVR Consulting will not be held liable for any loss arising from such unauthorised use or reliance. The document should not be reproduced without our prior written approval.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

The values stated within this report are exclusive of GST. Newly constructed residential property may be exempt in such cases, we have assumed the market value is inclusive of GST.

In analysing the sales and leasing evidence we have provided as comparable sales we have attempted to determine if the sales price or annual rent is inclusive or exclusive of GST. With regard to sales or rental evidence, we advise that statutory reporting of either sales or rental values often does not record whether the sale price or rental amount is inclusive or exclusive of GST.

Where we have not been able to verify if GST is included in the sale price or annual rent, we have assumed it is inclusive of GST.

OUR INVESTIGATIONS

This valuation is conducted on the basis that we are not engaged to conduct all possible investigations in relation to the property. We have identified certain limitations to our investigations to enable you to instruct further investigations if you consider this appropriate. AVR Consulting is not liable for any loss occasioned by a decision not to instruct further investigations.

ASSUMPTIONS

Assumptions are a necessary part of this valuation. AVR Consulting adopts assumptions because some matters are not capable of accurate calculation, or fall outside of the scope of our expertise, or our instructions. The risk that any of the assumptions adopted in this document may be incorrect should be considered. AVR Consulting does not warrant or represent that the assumptions on which this valuation is based are accurate or correct.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY OTHERS

This document contains a significant volume of information that is directly derived from other sources, without verification by us including, but not limited to planning documents and environmental or other expert reports. We confirm that we are not instructed to verify that information. Further, the information is not adopted by AVR Consulting as our own, even when it is used in our calculations. Where the contents of this document have been derived, in whole or in part, from other sources, AVR Consulting does not warrant or represent that such information is accurate or correct. We believe that the information supplied is within a level of accuracy tolerance and that material facts have not been intentionally withheld. For the purpose of our valuation assessment, we have assumed that this information is correct.



FUTURE MATTERS

To the extent that this document includes any statement as to a future matter, that statement is provided as an estimate and/or opinion based on the information known to AVR Consulting at the date of this document. AVR Consulting does not warrant that such statements are accurate or correct.

CONTAMINATION ISSUES

Contaminants such as asbestos, chemicals, toxic wastes, or other potentially hazardous materials could, if present, adversely affect the value of the property. Unless otherwise stated in this report, the extent of hazardous substances, which may or may not be represented on or in the property, was not considered by the valuer in the conclusion of value. The stated value estimated is on the assumption that there is no material on or in the property that would cause loss in value. No responsibility is assumed for any such conditions, and the recipient of this report is advised that the valuer is not qualified to detect such substances, quantify the impact on values, or estimate the remedial cost.

VALUATION DATE

This valuation is current as at the date of valuation only. The value assessed herein may change significantly and unexpectedly over a relatively short period of time (including as a result of general market movements or factors specific to the particular property). Liability for losses arising from such subsequent changes in value is excluded as is liability where the valuation is relied upon after the date of the valuation.

14.13 DIESEL - INVENTORY WRITE-OFF**File Number:** 162849**Author:** Kate Humphris, Admin & Finance Manager**Authoriser:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement to write off diesel inventory that is no longer held or available, ensuring accurate financial records and compliance with Council's asset management and accounting policies.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

- Local Government Act 2009
- Local Government Regulation 2012

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

3.01.1 Asset Management Policy

CORPORATE & OPERATIONAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

1.1 GOV Deliver transparent and effective governance

1.2 GOV Ensure sustainable and responsible financial management

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- a) endorse a stores adjustment to write off 600 litres of diesel at \$1,278.00 from Plant 1196 – Trailer Fuel 1,200L, recorded in the 2025-2026 financial year;
- b) endorse a stores adjustment to write off 4,485 litres of diesel at \$9,239.10 from Plant 185 – Tank 12,000L, held at Warri Gate Camp, recorded in the 2025-2026 financial year; and
- c) note a budget proposal will be presented at the Q1 Budget Review to recommend the purchase of a Data Fuel Management Console to be installed on Plant 185.

BACKGROUNDPlant 1196 – Trailer Fuel 1,200L

In April 2026, a Council employee reported that the fuel stored in Plant 1196 had been contaminated with water following rainfall. The trailer and tank were inspected for damage; however, no visible damage was identified. As a result, the tank was drained and cleaned, resulting in the disposal of 600 litres of diesel at a value of \$1,278.00. Since the incident, Plant 1196 has remained parked under shelter to minimise the risk of further contamination, and no additional issues have been reported to date.

Plant 185 – Tank 12,000L – Warri Gate Camp

During the 2025-2026 financial year, Shepherd Services engaged Council to hire the Warri Gate Camp, with the arrangement ending 28 February 2026. This arrangement included the use of diesel stored in Plant 185, with Shepherd Services to be invoiced for the fuel used. During the debtor invoicing process and reconciliation against Shepherd Services' fuel records, it was identified that a total fuel quantity of 4,485 litres had been incorrectly issued to Shepherd Services private works. This quantity was subsequently confirmed to relate to fuel dip records and misread tally sheet quantities, rather than actual fuel usage. Reversing the incorrect issues has resulted in a corresponding stock variance of this amount. Council's stores and operations staff have reviewed the matter; however, the location or use of the variance quantity remains unable to be confirmed. Unfortunately, it is recommended to write off 4,485 litres of diesel at a value of \$9,239.10.

To reduce the likelihood of similar issues occurring in the future, a budget proposal will be presented to Council as part of the Q1 Budget Review for the purchase and installation of a Data Fuel Management Console at Warri Gate Camp. This system would operate in a similar manner to the console currently installed at the Thargomindah Depot diesel tank and would require fuel transactions to be authorised using proximity keys issued to approved staff.

Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

Nil.

DISCUSSION

The identified diesel variances relate to fuel that is no longer held or available for Council use and therefore require adjustment to ensure Council's inventory records accurately reflect stock on hand. The write-off is necessary to recognise the loss of diesel associated with Plant 1196, following confirmed water contamination, and Plant 185, following reconciliation of fuel records associated with the Warri Gate Camp hire arrangement.

While the circumstances relating to each variance differ, both matters highlight the importance of maintaining accurate fuel records and appropriate controls over fuel storage and usage. Council officers have reviewed the variances and, based on the information available, the relevant quantities are unable to be recovered or otherwise reconciled.

The proposed stores adjustments will ensure Council's financial and inventory records are accurate for the 2025-2026 financial year. In addition, the proposed consideration of a Data Fuel Management Console for Plant 185 is intended to strengthen future controls by improving transaction authorisation, monitoring and reconciliation of fuel usage at Warri Gate Camp.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Should Council endorse these recommendations, a stores adjustment expense of approximately \$10,517.10 will be recognised in the 2025-2026 financial year.

STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL RISK

Operational risk exists where fuel inventory records do not accurately reflect stock on hand, as this may impact financial reporting, asset management, stock control and Council's ability to monitor fuel usage effectively. The proposed write-off will correct the identified variances and ensure Council's inventory records are accurate for the 2025-2026 financial year. Future risk will be mitigated through ongoing stock reconciliation processes and consideration of improved fuel management controls, including the proposed Data Fuel Management Console for Plant 185 at Warri Gate Camp.

CRITICAL DATES

Nil

CONSULTATION

Admin and Finance Manager

Engineer

Store Persons

14.14 TENDER EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA**File Number:** 162706**Author:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Authoriser:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:**

1. DRFA / QRA Funded Projects - Selection Criteria and Weighting
2. Bulloo Shire Council RFT Selection Criteria and Weighting

PURPOSE

To seek Council endorsement of the tender evaluation selection criteria and weighting to be used when assessing submissions received through Council's procurement processes, including:

1. Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) works tenders developed and managed by external procurement consultants such as Shepherd Services; and
2. Council-managed tenders for plant hire, civil construction, professional services, management contracts and other significant procurement activities.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

The procurement of goods, services and works must be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2009 and Local Government Regulation 2012.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council's Procurement Policy requires procurement activities to be undertaken in accordance with the principles of:

- Value for Money;
- Open and Effective Competition;
- Probity and Transparency;
- Accountability;
- Ethical Behaviour; and
- Support for Local Business and Industry where appropriate

CORPORATE & OPERATIONAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS**1.1 Deliver transparent and effective governance****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Endorse the Tender Evaluation Criteria and associated weightings for public tenders as presented in Attachments A and B;
2. Adopt Attachment A for DRFA/QRA-funded works and procurement processes managed by Shepherd Services;
3. Adopt Attachment B for all other Council procurement activities, including plant hire, civil construction works, professional services and management contracts; and

4. Require all tender evaluation panels to assess submissions in accordance with the endorsed criteria and weightings unless alternative project-specific criteria are approved by Council.

BACKGROUND

Historically, Council's procurement process has generally involved:

- Preparation of tender documentation;
- Public advertisement or invitation;
- Receipt of submissions;
- Evaluation by an assessment panel; and
- Presentation of a recommendation to Council for award.

While evaluation criteria have been included within tender documentation and applied by evaluation panels, Council has not undertaken a formal resolution endorsing the selection criteria prior to the assessment process.

As Council continues to undertake larger procurement activities, including DRFA reconstruction projects, capital works contracts, panel arrangements and professional service contracts, it is considered appropriate to strengthen governance arrangements by formalising Council's role in endorsing the evaluation framework prior to assessment.

Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

Nil

DISCUSSION

Tender evaluation criteria form the foundation of an objective and defensible procurement process. Endorsing the criteria before tenders are opened provides assurance to Councillors, tenderers and the community that submissions will be assessed consistently and without bias.

The proposed process does not require Council to assess individual tenders or participate in the detailed evaluation process. Rather, Council's role is to approve the criteria and weightings that reflect Council's priorities and procurement objectives.

This approach provides a number of governance benefits, including:

- Increased transparency regarding how tenders will be assessed;
- Improved confidence in evaluation panel recommendations;
- Reduced risk of challenges to procurement decisions;
- Greater consistency across Council-managed and consultant-managed procurements;
- Clear demonstration that procurement decisions are based on pre-determined and endorsed criteria; and
- Improved audit and probity outcomes.

For DRFA reconstruction works, Shepherd Services and similar consultants often develop project-specific criteria that recognise reconstruction capability, regional delivery experience, resources, safety systems and project methodology. For Council-managed procurements, criteria may

additionally consider matters such as local content, plant availability, contractor capacity, management experience and demonstrated value for money. Any project-specific criteria would continue to be tailored to the procurement being undertaken.

The proposed change represents a governance enhancement rather than a change to Council's procurement policy or evaluation methodology.

Conclusion

Formal endorsement of tender evaluation criteria prior to tender assessment will strengthen procurement governance, improve transparency and provide Councillors with greater confidence that tender recommendations presented for decision have been assessed against a clearly defined and approved framework. The proposed process aligns with Council's Procurement Policy principles and represents good governance practice for both DRFA-funded and Council-funded procurement activities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications associated with endorsing the proposed process.

STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL RISK

Risk	Consequence	Mitigation
Tender evaluation criteria not formally endorsed by Council	Perceived lack of transparency or consistency in procurement decisions	Council endorsement of criteria prior to evaluation
Councillor uncertainty regarding evaluation recommendations	Reduced confidence in tender outcomes	Council endorses criteria and weightings before assessments commence
Inconsistent procurement practices across projects	Difficulty demonstrating fairness and value for money	Adopt a standard governance approach for all major procurement processes

CRITICAL DATES

Nil

CONSULTATION

Shepherd Services

Admin & Finance Manager

Attachment A

REQUEST FOR TENDER**BULLOO SHIRE COUNCIL****PART C – EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Tenders will be evaluated against the criteria and weightings stated in Part B – Tender Information. The information requested in Part 5 – Response Schedules is intended to provide the information needed for that assessment. Tenderers should answer the relevant Response Schedules clearly and concisely and are not required to repeat the same information elsewhere in the Tender.

Only Tenders which are initially assessed as satisfying any stated Mandatory Criteria will proceed to the weighted evaluation. Where the same information is relevant to more than one criterion, it will be assessed only for the aspect described under that criterion so that the same benefit is not scored twice.

RATES, PRICE AND VALUE FOR MONEY – WEIGHTING 30%

Tenders will be assessed against criteria relating to individual rates, price and overall value for money presented by the Tenderers submission.

Tender Pricing Schedules will be checked for arithmetic accuracy and completeness as part of the Mandatory Criteria check. Tender Pricing Schedules found to be incomplete will not be considered beyond the initial Mandatory Criteria check.

Arithmetic errors in Tenderers Pricing Schedules may be corrected for clarity without notification to the relevant tenderer.

Rates

The rates Tendered for each item will be assessed to determine their individual specific value for money. The Tendered rates will be compared between each submission to help form part of the overall value for money assessment. Comparison of rates will allow for the assessment of the relative value of each Tender submission against all other Tenders.

Assessment of Tendered rates will also include consideration of Schedule K2 Additional Works rates.

Price

The total price of submitted tenders will be assessed and compared against all other Tenders. The price will be determined using the quantities provided in Schedule K1 Pricing Schedule.

Tenderers shall note that the quantities provided in Schedule K1 Pricing Schedule are the quantity of work for each identified treatment and road under the Contract.

Value for Money

Tenderers overall financial submissions will be considered and compared against each tender submission to identify which submission represent the best value for money.

Value for money will be assessed via an arithmetic comparison of each tender against the lowest complying tendered price. Tenders will be ranked and receive an arithmetic score with the lowest complying tender value being awarded maximum points with the remaining complying tenders arithmetically ranked according to their total value excluding GST.

Assessment of value for money will also include consideration of Schedule K2 Additional Works rates.

LOCAL PREFERENCE POLICY – WEIGHTING 20%

This criterion is worth 20 points and assesses the measurable local economic benefit committed by the Tenderer through business presence, local employment and purchasing from local suppliers and subcontractors.

REQUEST FOR TENDER**BULLOO SHIRE COUNCIL**

Complete Schedule J using genuine and reasonable estimates based on the Tender program, workforce, suppliers and pricing. Exact future payroll or invoice information is not required at Tender stage.

Tenderers do not have to be local to submit a Tender and a zero local-content score will not make a Tender non-conforming. The Evaluation Panel will calculate the percentages and scores (green tables).

If the Tender is successful, the accepted Schedule J commitments will form part of the Contract.

Key Definitions

The following definitions relate to all matters associated with the consideration of local content and economic benefits.

LOCAL AREA DEFINITION	
Term	Meaning
Local Area	The area within the Bulloo Shire Council local government boundary.
Regional Area	Barcoo Shire, Quilpie Shire, Paroo Shire, Bourke Shire and the immediate adjoining areas of the South Australian Outback Communities Authority area and Unincorporated NSW (Far West) area.

LOCAL CONTENT	
Term	Meaning
Eligible Local Expenditure	The part of Eligible Project Expenditure expected to be paid directly to Local Suppliers.
Eligible Project Expenditure	Estimated payments, excluding GST, to independent suppliers and subcontractors for goods and services used to deliver the Contract. It excludes the Tenderer's own employee wages, profit, general head-office overheads, finance costs, depreciation, internal hire charges for Tenderer-owned plant and internal transfers that do not represent genuine third-party expenditure.
Local Labour Days	The estimated Labour Days to be worked on the Contract by Local Residents, including employees of the Tenderer and employees of subcontractors. One person working for one working day equals one Labour Day.
Local Resident	A person whose usual or permanent residential address is within the Local Area at Tender Closing. Temporary accommodation used while working on the Contract does not make a person a Local Resident.
Local Supplier	An independent supplier or subcontractor directly paid by the Tenderer that has a Permanent Business Presence within the Local Area. The Tenderer is not required to investigate where that supplier purchases its own goods or materials.
Permanent Business Presence	A genuine established office, workshop, yard, operational depot or home-based business from which the Tenderer ordinarily conducts its business. A postal address, registered office only, temporary project office, camp, laydown area or facility established solely or primarily for this Contract does not qualify.
Total Project Labour Days	The estimated total Labour Days to be worked on the Contract by all personnel, including the Tenderer's employees and subcontractor employees.

Scoring Method

Schedule J will be assessed via the provision of information within the tender submission which supports each of the components below

Component	Points	Basis
Business Presence	8	Location and genuine operating presence stated in Schedule J1
Local Employment	8	Local Labour Days as a percentage of Total Project Labour Days calculated via Schedule J2

REQUEST FOR TENDER**BULLOO SHIRE COUNCIL**

Component	Points	Basis
Local Purchasing and Subcontracting	4	Eligible Local Expenditure as a percentage of total Eligible Project Expenditure calculated via Schedule J3
TOTAL	20	Applied directly as the Local Content Commitment score out of 20

Schedule J1 – Business Presence

The maximum number points allocated to business presence is 8 points.

Points	Assessment
8	Permanent Business Presence within the Local Area
4	Permanent Business Presence within the Regional Area, but outside the Local Area
0	No qualifying Permanent Business Presence within the Local Area or Regional Area

To receive 4 or 8 points, complete Schedule J1 and attach one reasonable item of evidence such as a local government rates notice, lease agreement or utility account. If the 0-point option applies, no supporting evidence is required.

The highest applicable score only will be awarded.

Schedule J2 – Local Employment

The maximum number points allocated to local employment is 8 points.

The Principal will calculate the Local Employment score from the Labour Days stated in Schedule J2 using the following formula:

Local Employment Score
Local Employment Score = $8 \times (\text{Local Labour Days} \div \text{Total Project Labour Days})$

When completing the tender submission please account for and/or note the following information:

- Include the Tenderer's employees and subcontractor employees who are Local Residents.
- Use reasonable Labour Day estimates based on the Tender program.
- Employee names and residential addresses are not required; provide only the role or work group and town or locality requested in Schedule J2.
- The Local Employment Creation information in Schedule J2 is requested information only and is not separately scored.
- If no Local Labour Days are proposed, enter 0. A general statement that local people may be employed, without an estimated Local Labour Day commitment, will not receive points.

Example:

700 Local Labour Days out of 1,000 Total Project Labour Days equals 70%. The score is $8 \times 0.70 = 5.60$ points.

J3 – Local Purchasing and Subcontracting – maximum 4 points

The maximum number points allocated to local purchasing and subcontracting is 4 points.

The Principal will calculate the Local Purchasing score from the expenditure stated in Schedule J3 using the following formula:

REQUEST FOR TENDER**BULLOO SHIRE COUNCIL****Local Purchasing Score**

Local Purchasing Score = $4 \times (\text{Eligible Local Expenditure} \div \text{total Eligible Project Expenditure})$

When completing the tender submission please account for and/or note the following information:

- Local Expenditure is based on genuine payments made directly to independent suppliers and subcontractors that have a Permanent Business Presence within the Local Area.
- Do not include the Tenderer's own employee wages, profit, general head-office overheads, finance costs, depreciation or internal hire charges for Tenderer-owned plant.
- For Tenderer-owned plant, include only genuine third-party costs such as fuel, repairs, servicing or parts. Independent subcontractor invoices may be included even where the subcontractor's employees are also included in J2; the labour component of the subcontractor's invoice does not need to be separated.
- The assessment is based on the business directly paid by the Tenderer. Tenderers do not need to investigate where a Local Supplier purchases its own goods or materials.
- Schedule J also reports Eligible Local Expenditure as a percentage of the Total Tender Price to show overall local economic impact. That figure is not separately scored.

Example: \$500,000 Eligible Local Expenditure out of \$1,000,000 total Eligible Project Expenditure equals 50%. The score is $4 \times 0.50 = 2.00$ points

Supporting Information and Verification

Tenderers must be aware of the following requirements when preparing and submitting their tender documentation.

- The Principal may check Schedule J against the Tender program, personnel, subcontractor, resource and pricing information contained elsewhere in the Tender.
- For each Local Supplier expected to receive 5% or more of the Total Tender Price, attach one reasonable item of evidence such as an existing quotation, email, letter, supplier confirmation or recent invoice. Tenderers are not expected to obtain a new formal quotation solely for this purpose.
- The Principal may verify business addresses, contact proposed suppliers and request clarification or reasonable supporting information after Tender Closing.
- Post-close clarification may explain or verify the Tender as submitted but must not be used to materially improve a Tenderer's Local Content Commitment.
- If an arithmetic error, inconsistency or unsupported amount is identified, the Principal may correct the calculation or assess only the part of the claimed local content that can reasonably be substantiated. Any such assessment will be documented and applied consistently to Tenderers.

Worked scoring example

Component	Points
No qualifying local or regional business presence	0.00
70% Local Labour Days	5.60
50% Eligible Local Expenditure	2.00
TOTAL LOCAL CONTENT COMMITMENT SCORE	7.60 / 20

If the same Tenderer had a qualifying Permanent Business Presence within the Local Area, 8.00 points would be added, producing a total Local Content Commitment score of 15.60 out of 20.

Contract Commitment and Reporting

The successful Tenderer's Schedule J, together with any written clarification accepted by the Principal, will form the accepted Local Content Commitment under the Contract. The Contractor will be required to provide the short reports specified in the Contract, maintain reasonable supporting records, notify likely material shortfalls and take reasonable corrective action where required.

REQUEST FOR TENDER**BULLOO SHIRE COUNCIL**

Community sponsorships, social initiatives and other information provided in Schedule D are not separately scored under this Local Content Commitment criterion unless another disclosed evaluation criterion expressly states otherwise.

CAPABILITY / RESOURCES / PERSONNEL – WEIGHTING 30%

This criterion is worth 30 points and is divided equally between Capability (10 points), Resources (10 points) and Personnel (10 points). Tenderers should complete the relevant Part 5 Response Schedules and do not need to repeat the same information in a separate narrative.

The assessment is focused on the Tenderer's proposed arrangements for this Contract. Previous completed-project experience is assessed under Previous Experience and local residence or local purchasing is assessed under Local Content Commitment, so those matters will not be double-scored here.

Capability – Maximum 10 Points

Capability will be assessed principally from Schedule I – Work Procedures and Methodology and Schedule M – Tender Program. The Evaluation Panel will consider the Tenderer's understanding of the Works, proposed methodology, sequencing and program, management of project risks and constraints, logistics, coordination with the Principal and other contractors, and the overall practicality and deliverability of the proposed approach.

Innovation is not mandatory. A sound, conventional and well-explained delivery approach can achieve a high score. Innovative methods will be considered where they provide a credible benefit in safety, quality, environmental protection, cost or delivery time.

Resources – Maximum 10 Points

Resources will be assessed principally from Schedule G, Schedule F2 and the Tender Program. The Evaluation Panel will consider whether the proposed plant, equipment, subcontracted resources and off-site support are suitable and available in the quantities required to meet the Tender Program.

Tenderers should clearly identify the resources that will be available at the proposed commencement time, including any leased, hired or subcontracted plant, and briefly identify reasonable contingency arrangements for breakdowns or other resource interruptions. Tenderers do not need to list plant or equipment that is not relevant to the Works.

Personnel – Maximum 10 Points

Personnel will be assessed principally from Schedule F1 and the Tender Program. The Evaluation Panel will consider the availability, proposed time allocation, relevant qualifications and experience of nominated key personnel, whether the proposed staffing level is sufficient for the program, and the availability of suitable alternative personnel if a nominated person becomes unavailable.

Personnel nominated in the Tender are expected to be the personnel engaged to deliver the Works, subject to any substitution permitted under the Contract.

Current workload and commitments identified in Schedule E1 may also be considered to the extent they affect the Tenderer's ability to make the proposed resources and personnel available when required.

The Panel may seek clarification where the proposed program, resources or personnel appear inconsistent with one another or with other information in the Tender.

MANAGEMENT PLAN DOCUMENTATION AND IMPLEMENTATION – WEIGHTING 10%

This criterion is worth 10 points. Assessment will primarily use Schedule H and the supporting information requested in Schedules H1 to H5. Tenderers should provide concise, relevant examples demonstrating the management systems they will rely upon to safely and effectively deliver the Works.

REQUEST FOR TENDER**BULLOO SHIRE COUNCIL**

Where a management system is third-party certified, attach the current certification requested in Schedule H. Third-party certification is not mandatory unless expressly required elsewhere in the Tender and does not automatically receive a higher score. A well-developed and demonstrably implemented internal system may score highly.

The Evaluation Panel will consider the relevance and completeness of the Tenderer's systems, their suitability for the Works, and evidence that the systems are actually implemented in practice, such as audits, inspections, checklists, toolbox records or other site-generated records.

Tenderers should avoid attaching large quantities of generic material that do not assist the assessment.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE – WEIGHTING 10%

This criterion is worth 10 points. Assessment will primarily use Schedule E2 and referee or past-performance information available to the Principal. Tenderers should identify recent completed projects that are genuinely comparable to the Works and provide the brief project, value and client details requested in Schedule E2. Lengthy case studies are not required.

The Evaluation Panel will consider the relevance, scale and complexity of the completed work; experience in remote or comparable operating environments; and demonstrated performance in areas such as quality, timeliness, safety, contract administration and client satisfaction.

For Tenderers that have previously undertaken work for the Principal, relevant internal contract performance records and the experience of personnel who have directly administered those contracts may be considered.

For Tenderers that have not previously worked for the Principal, nominated referees and other reliable information about comparable completed contracts may be considered. A Tenderer will not be disadvantaged merely because it has not previously worked for the Principal. Previous experience is scored under this criterion and will not be separately re-scored under Capability.

ASSESSMENT SCORING

The qualitative components of Management Plan Documentation and Implementation, Previous Experience, Capability, Resources and Personnel will be assessed using the following 0–10 scale. Capability, Resources and Personnel are each scored separately out of 10.

SCORE	ASSESSMENT
0	Inadequate response, many deficiencies, does not meet the criterion
2	Marginal response, significant deficiencies, only partially meets the criterion
4	Fair response, some deficiencies, generally approaches the criterion
6	Good response, no material deficiencies, meets the criterion
8	Very good response, clearly exceeds the criterion in relevant respects
10	Outstanding response, substantially and demonstrably exceeds the criterion

Request for Tender**Bulloo Shire****Schedule J – Local Content Commitment**

This Schedule and sub-schedules form part of the tender evaluation and must be completed by the Tenderer.

The Local Content Commitment criterion is worth 20 points. The details and figures provided must be reasonable estimates based on the tenderers tender program and pricing. Exact future payroll or invoice information is not required at Tender stage.

PLEASE KEEP THIS SIMPLE

Complete the boxes and tables below using your best reasonable estimate. To ensure privacy **do not** provide employee names or residential addresses. Use the town or locality only. Attach only the limited evidence specifically requested.

You do not have to be a local business to submit a Tender. If you have no local business presence, local employees or local purchasing, enter '0' or 'Nil' where applicable. This will not make your Tender non-conforming.

QUICK GUIDE

STEP	WHAT TO DO
J1	Select where your permanent business office or depot is located, provide some information about the facility and attach one item of evidence if claiming points.
J2	Estimate the labour days to be worked by people who usually live within the Principal's municipal area.
J3	Estimate the amount you will pay to suppliers and subcontractors located within the Principal's municipal area.
J4	Check that the information is complete, sign the declaration and include this Schedule in your Tender. The Tender Evaluation Panel will calculate the percentages and scores.

Criteria Scoring

The Local Content Commitment criterion is worth 20 points and is accounted for in the following manner.

SCHEDULE	NAME	POINTS AVAILABLE
J1	Business Presence	8
J2	Local Employment	8
J3	Local Purchasing and Subcontracting	4

Request for Tender**Bulloo Shire****J1 – Business Presence**

Please identify the location and details of your business and its operations in relation to the Principal's municipal area.

Tick one box only. A permanent business presence must be a genuine established place from which the Tenderer ordinarily conducts its business. A genuine home-based business may qualify where it is the Tenderer's ordinary and established base of business operations. A postal address, temporary project office, camp, laydown area or facility established solely or primarily for this Contract does not qualify.

TICK	BUSINESS LOCATION	POINTS AVAILABLE
☐	Permanent office, workshop, yard or operational depot within the Principal's municipal area.	8
☐	Permanent office, workshop, yard or operational depot within the Regional Area*, but outside the Principal's municipal area.	4
☐	No permanent office, workshop, yard or operational depot within the Principal's municipal area or the Regional Area*.	0

* Regional Area means Barcoo, Quilpie, Paroo and Bourke Shires and the immediate adjoining areas of the South Australian Outback Communities Authority area and Unincorporated NSW (Far West) area.

If you selected the 0-point option above, no evidence or further information is required under Sub-schedule J1. Proceed to Sub-schedule J2.

If claiming 4 or 8 points please attach at least one of the following items of evidence	
☐	Local government authority rates notice
☐	Lease agreement
☐	Utility account

BUSINESS ADDRESS AND FACILITY DETAILS	
Street address	
Facility type and normal use	
Approximate date operations commenced	
Number of permanent staff normally based there	

Request for Tender**Bulloo Shire****J2 – Local Employment**

Tenderers must provide a reasonable estimate of the Labour Days to be worked on this Contract. Include the Tenderer's employees and subcontractor employees. **Do not provide employee names or residential addresses.**

A local person is a person whose usual or permanent residential address is within the Principal's municipal area at Tender Closing.

Labour Day means one person working on the Contract for one working day. For example, 5 people working for 10 days equals 50 Labour Days.

Complete the table below using reasonable estimates from your Tender program. Count each person once only and provide their normal residential location. If a person could fall into more than one category, include them under their main role.

NUMBER OF PERSONNEL			
Role or Work Function	No. of Local People	No. of Non-local People	Town / Locality
Project management / supervision			
Plant operators and drivers			
Labourers and trades			
Subcontractor workforce			
Apprentices / trainees			
TOTAL			

Detail the estimated total number of working days personnel will be employed in each role or work function to deliver all works associated with delivery of the contract. If a person could fall into more than one category, include them under their main role.

ESTIMATED WORKING DAYS			
Role or Work Function	Local Labour Days (A)	Project Labour Days (B)	Comment / Details (if required)
Project management / supervision			
Plant operators and drivers			
Labourers and trades			
Subcontractor workforce			
Apprentices / trainees			
TOTAL			

Request for Tender**Bulloo Shire****Local Workforce Percentage Calculation – Completed by the Principal**

The Principal will calculate the local workforce percentage details below as part of its assessment of tenders.

Total Local Labour Days (A)	days
Total Project Labour Days (B)	days
Local Workforce Percentage = $A \div B \times 100$	%

Worked Example

Calculation of the score to be applied to local employment is undertaken as follows.

700 Local Labour Days ÷ 1,000 Total Days x 100 = 70%. This receives a score of 5.6 points out of 8 (70% x 8 = 5.6).

Local Employment Creation

Information only – not separately scored. The information below assists Council to understand the employment benefit generated by the Contract. It does not provide additional points under J2.

Please provide a simple estimate of the local employment benefit expected from the Contract. Do not count the same person in more than one row.

TYPE	NO. OF PEOPLE	ROLE(S) / DETAILS
Existing local people retained or allocated to the contract		
New local people proposed to be recruited (excluding apprentices / trainees below)		
Local apprentices / trainees allocated or proposed to be recruited for the Contract		

Request for Tender**Bulloo Shire****J3 – Local Purchasing and Subcontracting**

Please provide a genuine estimate of payments to be made to independent suppliers and subcontractors in delivering this Contract. Estimates may be rounded to the nearest \$1,000. Exact invoice values are not required at Tender stage.

Local Expenditure

Detail the estimated amount to be paid directly to businesses with a genuine permanent operation within the Principal's municipal area. All amounts must exclude GST.

Non-local Expenditure

Detail the estimated amount to be paid directly to businesses that **do not** have a genuine permanent operation within the Principal's municipal area. All amounts must exclude GST.

Do not include the Tenderer's own employee wages, profit, general head-office overheads, finance costs, depreciation or internal hire charges for plant owned by the Tenderer. For plant owned by the Tenderer, include only genuine third-party costs such as fuel, repairs, servicing or parts. Payments to independent subcontractors may be included even where the subcontractor's employees are also included in J2; Tenderers are not required to separate the labour component of a subcontractor's invoice.

HOW TO COUNT LOCAL SPENDING

For this Schedule, expenditure is assessed by reference to the business directly paid by the Tenderer. If goods or services are purchased from a genuine Local Supplier, the payment to that supplier may be treated as Local Expenditure. You do not need to investigate where that supplier purchases its own goods or materials. Payments through an associated entity or intermediary that does not undertake a genuine local business operation can not be treated as Local Expenditure merely because it has a local address.

VERIFICATION

The Principal may check this Schedule against other information in the Tender and may seek clarification or reasonable supporting information. If an arithmetic error, inconsistency or unsupported amount is identified, the Principal may correct the calculation or assess only the part of the claimed local content that can reasonably be substantiated. Any such assessment will be documented and applied consistently to Tenderers.

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE			
Category	Proposed Supplier(s) & Location	Local Expenditure (C)	Non-local Expenditure (D)
Materials		\$	\$
Fuel and oils		\$	\$
Plant or equipment hired from others		\$	\$
Parts, tyres, repairs and servicing		\$	\$
Accommodation and catering		\$	\$
Freight and transport		\$	\$
Subcontractors and other services		\$	\$
Other – describe		\$	\$
TOTAL ELIGIBLE PROJECT EXPENDITURE		\$	\$

Request for Tender**Bulloo Shire****Local Purchasing Percentage – Completed by the Principal**

The Principal will calculate the local purchasing percentage details below as part of its assessment of tenders.

Total Local Expenditure (C)	\$
Total Project Expenditure (Total Local Expenditure (C) + Total Non-local Expenditure (D)) = E	\$
Local Purchasing Percentage = $C \div E \times 100$	%
Total Tender Price ex GST (F)	\$
Local Economic Impact = $C \div F \times 100$ (reported only; not separately scored)	%

Worked Example

Calculation of the score to be applied to local purchasing and subcontracting is undertaken as follows.

\$500,000 Total Local Expenditure (C) + \$1,000,000 Total Eligible Project Expenditure (E) $\times 100 = 50\%$. The Principal will calculate a score of 2.0 points out of 4 ($50\% \times 4 = 2.0$).

Major Local Supplier Evidence

For each local supplier expected to receive 5% or more of the Total Tender Price, attach one reasonable item such as an existing quotation, email, letter, supplier confirmation or recent invoice. Tenderers are not expected to obtain a new formal quotation solely to complete this Schedule. If evidence is not yet available, briefly explain the basis of the estimate below. Evidence is not required for every small purchase.

Supplier	Estimated % of Tender Price	Attached Evidence / Explanation

Major Non-local Suppliers – Optional

If your local purchasing percentage is reduced because important goods or services are not reasonably available within the Principal's municipality, you may briefly explain this below. This is optional and is not separately scored.

Item	Why it is not reasonably available locally

Request for Tender**Bulloo Shire****J4 – Tenderer Declaration**

The information provided in this Schedule represents the Tenderer's committed local content targets for the Contract, subject to any adjustment permitted under the Contract where circumstances reasonably change during delivery.

By signing below, the Tenderer confirms that:

- The information in Schedule J is a genuine and reasonable estimate based on the Tender program, workforce, suppliers and pricing;
- The Tenderer understands the Principal may seek clarification and verify the information provided during the tender evaluation period;
- The Tenderer understands that, if successful, this Schedule and accepted clarifications will form part of the Contract and the Contractor will be required to report actual outcomes; and
- The Tenderer will promptly notify the Principal if it becomes aware that a material commitment is unlikely to be achieved.

Name	
Position	
Company	
Signature	
Date	

Request for Tender**Bulloo Shire****J5 – Contract Local Content Report**

The report below is provided for example and illustrative purposes only. The successful Contractor will be required to provide short periodic reports detailing progress against the commitments made at Tender.

SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR ONLY – DO NOT COMPLETE WITH THE TENDER		
Use this short form during the Contract at the reporting times stated in Annexure Part A Item 19E. Figures are cumulative from commencement of the Contract to the reporting date.		
Contract Number		
Reporting Date		
Reporting Level / Milestone		
Contractor		
Prepared by		
Measure	Accepted Commitment	Actual to Date
Permanent business presence		
Local Labour Days	Days	Days
Total Project Labour Days	Days	Days
Local Workforce Percentage	%	%
Eligible Local Expenditure	\$	\$
Total Eligible Project Expenditure	\$	\$
Local Purchasing Percentage	%	%
Report Item	Details	
Main local suppliers used		
Changes from the accepted Schedule		
Expected shortfall and reason, if any		
Corrective action proposed		

Contractor certification: I certify that this report is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and is supported by records that can be provided on reasonable request.

Name	
Position	
Company	
Signature	
Date	

Attachment B

Management Contracts	
Responsible Manager: Various	
<i>Selection Criteria</i>	<i>Weigh Score</i>
Price	20%
Roster Resiliency and Relief Coverage	20%
Relevant Experience and Capability	20%
Operational and Maintenance Strategy	15%
Local Content	15%
Insurance, Licences, Qualifications, Safety and Management Processes	10%

Management Contracts include:

- Explorers Caravan Park;
- Town Maintenance & Thargomindah Airport; and
- Cleaning Contract.

Purchase of Plant & Fleet Vehicles	
Responsible Manager: Engineer	
<i>Selection Criteria</i>	<i>Weigh Score</i>
Price, Inclusions (as per attachment below)	35%
Vehicle Specifications	25%
Warranty, Spare Parts, Maintenance and Servicing	15%
Delivery Schedule	15%
Insurance, Safety and Management Processes	10%

Register of Prequalified Suppliers List	
Responsible Manager: Admin and Finance Manager	
<i>Selection Criteria</i>	<i>Weigh Score</i>
Schedule of Rates / Price List	20%
Tenderer's Resources & Key Personnel	20%
Relevant Experience	20%
Local Content	20%
Insurance, Certificates, Qualifications & Safety and Management Processes	20%

Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System	
Responsible Manager: Admin and Finance Manager	
<i>Selection Criteria</i>	<i>Weigh Score</i>
Pricing Schedule	35%
Fit for Purpose	35%
Relevant Experience and Service Delivery and Support Track Record	15%
Mitigation of "Failure to Deliver" Risk	15%

Other	
Responsible Manager: Various	
<i>Selection Criteria</i>	<i>Weigh Score</i>
Schedule of Rates	20%
Relevant Experience	20%
Tenderer's Resources & Key Personnel	20%
Operational Strategy	15%
Local Content	15%
Licencing, Qualifications, Insurance, Safety and Management Processes	10%

Other includes:

- Civil Works;
- Tyre Repair and Supply Contract;
- Winning & Crushing of Gravel;
- Wet Hire of Plant;
- Consultancy Services; and
- Building & Construction.

14.15 CONTRACT VARIATION APPROVALS - DELEGATIONS TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**File Number:** 162866**Author:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Authoriser:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** 1. Procurement Policy - Draft (under separate cover)**PURPOSE**

This report seeks Council approval to establish a timely, controlled and accountable process for the approval of financial variations to contracts where the original expenditure was approved by Council.

The report recommends that Council expressly authorise the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to approve contract variations up to the CEO's financial delegation limit, as recorded in Council's Financial Delegation Register and amended from time to time, subject to defined budget, procurement, contractual and reporting controls.

The report also presents, in Attachment 1, the outstanding contract variations currently awaiting approval. This allows Council to determine those variations separately if Council does not support the proposed ongoing delegation to the CEO.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 2009 - sections 257, 259 and 260

Local Government Regulation 2012 - section 238

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

2.74.1 Procurement Policy

Council Delegations Register and Financial Delegation Register

CORPORATE & OPERATIONAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

Efficient and accountable administration of Council contracts and timely delivery of Council infrastructure, including externally funded disaster recovery works, while maintaining appropriate financial, procurement and governance controls.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

PART A - ONGOING CONTRACT VARIATION APPROVAL

1. Notes that section 5.5.3 of Procurement Policy 2.74.1 presently requires financial variations to Council-approved expenditure to be approved by Council unless Council has previously authorised an officer by resolution.
2. For the purposes of section 5.5.3 of Procurement Policy 2.74.1 and, to the extent required, pursuant to section 257 of the Local Government Act 2009 and section 238 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, authorises and delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the

authority to approve and execute financial variations to contracts previously approved by Council up to, but not exceeding, the CEO's financial delegation limit recorded in the Financial Delegation Register, as amended from time to time (currently \$280,000 ex GST).

3. Determines that the authority in Item 2 is subject to the following conditions: the variation is within an approved budget and/or confirmed project funding; remains within the general nature, purpose and scope of the original procurement; is supported by a written contractual and value assessment; and does not otherwise require a Council resolution under legislation or Council policy.
4. Determines that, for the authority in Item 2, the applicable financial limit is the net additional expenditure arising from the individual variation or a series of related variations, and that a variation must not be divided or staged for the purpose of avoiding the CEO's delegation limit.
5. Directs that the authority in Item 2 is not to be further delegated and that all variations approved by the CEO under this authority are to be recorded in Council's contract variation register and reported to Council at the next ordinary meeting or through the established monthly contract reporting process.
6. Adopts the amendments to section 5.5.3 of Procurement Policy 2.74.1 set out in Attachment 2 and directs the CEO to update the Delegations Register, Financial Delegation Register and associated procurement/contract administration procedures as required to give effect to this resolution.
7. Requires any variation exceeding the CEO's financial delegation, any variation for which sufficient approved budget or funding is unavailable, or any variation that materially changes the original procurement to be referred to Council for approval before commitment, except where an applicable emergency provision lawfully permits otherwise.

PART B - CURRENT OUTSTANDING CONTRACT VARIATIONS

8. Approves the outstanding contract variations listed in Attachment 1 at the values stated in that attachment and authorises the CEO and relevant contract administrator to complete the administrative actions necessary to formally notify the contractors and update the applicable purchase orders and contract registers.
9. Notes that Part B is intended to be capable of being considered independently of Part A so that the current outstanding variations can be determined even if Council does not support the proposed ongoing delegation.

BACKGROUND

Bulloo Shire Council is currently administering a significant number of concurrent road construction and restoration contracts. These works are being delivered under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

(DRFA) and Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets (REPA) programs, with the works required to be delivered within funding and contract timeframes.

Variations are a normal contract administration mechanism for construction contracts. During delivery, circumstances can arise that require a change to the contracted work, quantities, methodology or other requirements. Where the change has been identified as a legitimate contract variation by the Superintendent, which has a financial effect, the Principal must be able to assess the change, confirm funding and provide a timely decision to the contractor.

Council's current Procurement Policy 2.74.1 was adopted on 19 June 2025 under Resolution 2025/108. Section 5.5.3 establishes the current procedure for financial contract variations.

Section 5.5.3 requires each variation to be approved in writing by a delegated officer, confirms that sufficient approved budget must exist, requires the purchase order to be amended, and requires officers to ensure a variation does not significantly change the original procurement. The final requirement of section 5.5.3 states: "In the case of Council approved expenditure, all variations must be approved by Council, unless previously authorised by a Council resolution to an officer."

As contracts greater than \$200,000 are generally awarded by Council resolution under the Procurement Policy, the practical effect is that financial variations to those contracts must return to Council unless a prior Council resolution provides an officer with authority to approve them.

Council resolved on 21 May 2026, under Report Resolution 2026/66, to increase the CEO's financial delegation from \$200,000 to \$280,000. Notwithstanding that general financial delegation, section 5.5.3 continues to require Council approval of variations to Council-approved expenditure unless Council expressly authorises an officer for that purpose.

The CEO previously held the authority to approve contract variations. The material reviewed for preparation of this report does not establish the precise terms, limits or current status of any earlier variation authority. This report therefore does not rely on historical practice and instead seeks a fresh, express and auditable Council resolution.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS RELATED TO THIS MATTER

- 19 June 2025 - Resolution 2025/108: adoption of Procurement Policy 2.74.1.
- 21 May 2026 - Report Resolution 2026/66: increase of the CEO's financial delegation from \$200,000 to \$280,000.

Individual construction contracts have also been awarded by separate Council resolutions. Those award resolutions generally establish the original contractual commitment but do not, by themselves, remove the specific variation approval requirement in section 5.5.3 unless the resolution expressly authorises subsequent variations.

DISCUSSION

CURRENT POLICY POSITION

The current Procurement Policy already contains a mechanism that allows the present approval arrangement to be changed. Section 5.5.3 does not require Council to permanently retain every variation decision; it

expressly allows Council-approved expenditure to be varied where Council has previously authorised an officer by resolution.

Accordingly, the proposed change is not an avoidance of Council's Procurement Policy. It uses the exception contemplated by the policy and establishes the governance controls that will apply when the CEO exercises the authority.

A separate issue within section 5.5.3 is the requirement that a purchase order amendment be approved by an officer with sufficient financial and contractual delegation for the entire new aggregated order amount, including the variation. For a multi-million-dollar contract, this requirement can prevent an otherwise modest variation from being approved by the CEO even though Council has already approved the original contract value. Attachment 2 therefore proposes an amendment that clarifies the treatment of Council-approved contract values when a variation is within the CEO's delegated variation authority.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT OF THE CURRENT ARRANGEMENT

The current arrangement is impractical for active construction contracts. Variations commonly arise while contractors have labour, plant and equipment mobilised on site and are awaiting a direction before proceeding with affected work. A delay in obtaining approval can stop or disrupt work, create inefficient sequencing, extend occupation of the site and expose Council to avoidable delay, standby or prolongation claims where an entitlement exists under the contract.

The timing problem is particularly significant for remote roadworks. A contractor may have a full crew and substantial plant operating many kilometres from Thargomindah. Where an issue requires a prompt decision, waiting for the next ordinary Council meeting is not compatible with efficient construction delivery.

The current process also creates a practical governance risk. If operational personnel direct work to avoid a contractor standing idle before the required Council approval is obtained, Council may have a contractual commitment that has not followed its internal approval process. Conversely, if no direction is given until the next meeting, Council can incur avoidable cost and program delay. Neither outcome is desirable.

An example of the implications of delayed variation approval is provided below. While the example is fictitious, it is based on actual likely costs and recent quotes for similar situations.

- A contractor identifies additional heavy formation grading, required to repair a section of road which has been adversely affected due to the adjacent flood damage.
- The elapsed time between the damage occurring and completion of the work has caused the originally identified extent of work to increase.
- Based on the additional treatment area and the contractor's tendered rates, the additional work is costed at value of \$2,000.
- Approval of the variation via Council takes two weeks.
- Throughout the two week approval period the contractor has continued to complete the contract works and is 40km further along the road.
- The contractor is happy and able to return to the site to complete the additional works.

- However, the contractor advises that to return they would charge mobilisation and demobilisation costs to return their plant and equipment to the variation site and then transport it back to the current work front.
- The contractor quotes a mobilisation and demobilisation cost of \$7,000 on top of the actual cost of the work.
- Meaning the total variation cost, rather than being \$2,000 has increased to \$9,000, purely based on the length of the approval process.

A further example of possible costs. Again, a fictitious situation but based on a recent situation and quoted costs.

- A contractor identifies a situation where they need to complete road repair works which are not included in the contract.
- The contractor is unable to proceed further with contract works due to the nature of the repair works preventing their plant and equipment moving beyond the site.
- The road repair works are costed at a value of \$10,000.
- Approval of the variation via Council takes ten days.
- The contractor is unable to move to another area as they have previously completed all other accessible contract works.
- The contractor and its resources (plant, equipment and personnel) do not have other work immediately available to them, and even if they did, they would be required to demobilise and remobilise their resources to and from the current site adding to the cost.
- The contractor submits a claim for delay costs at a rate of \$6,000 per day.
- The Superintendent assesses the claim and determines they are entitled to the costs under the contract.
- At the delay cost rate and given the approval time, the \$10,000 variation has increased to \$70,000, purely based on the length of the approval process.

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

Section 257 of the Local Government Act 2009 allows Council, by resolution, to delegate powers to the CEO, except for a power that legislation requires Council itself to exercise by resolution. A delegation to the CEO must be reviewed annually. Section 260 requires delegations to be recorded in the local government delegations register.

Section 238 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 expressly addresses the making, amendment or discharge of contracts under delegation. In broad terms, it permits a delegate to take contractual action where the resulting expenditure is provided for in the approved annual budget, is within the limits stated in the delegation resolution, or falls within the genuine emergency or hardship provisions. The section does not displace any other legal approval or procedure that applies.

The proposed approach is therefore consistent with the statutory framework, provided the Council resolution, Procurement Policy and relevant delegation instruments are aligned and the expenditure remains properly budgeted and authorised.

PROPOSED APPROVAL FRAMEWORK

The recommended approval pathway is that the CEO becomes the approval point for financial variations within the CEO's normal financial delegation. The CEO would not be required to approve a variation merely because it falls below the dollar limit; the CEO would retain discretion to refuse, seek further information or refer a matter to Council where the risk, scope or circumstances warrant Council consideration.

For current construction contracts, the intended workflow is:

- The contractor, Superintendent's Representative or Council officer identifies the potential change and the contractual basis for a variation.
- The Superintendent's Representative assesses entitlement, scope, valuation, program impact and supporting records, and prepares a written recommendation.
- Council personnel confirm the applicable budget, project funding and procurement position.
- The CEO considers and, where satisfied, provides written variation approval within the CEO's delegation.
- The Superintendent or Superintendent's Representative formally communicates the approved contractual direction or variation to the contractor.
- Council records the approved variation in the purchase order, variation register and contract financial records, with the variation subsequently reported to Council.

This maintains separation between technical assessment and financial approval while allowing the contractor to receive a formal decision promptly, rather than waiting for the next Council meeting.

DELEGATION LIMIT AND AGGREGATION

The CEO's current financial delegation is \$280,000. It is recommended that the variation authority be tied to the CEO's financial delegation as amended from time to time rather than fixing a separate dollar amount in the Procurement Policy. This avoids the policy and delegation register becoming inconsistent if Council later changes the CEO's financial delegation.

For the proposed authority to work in practice, the CEO's limit should apply to the additional expenditure created by the variation, not to the original contract value that Council has already approved. Related changes must nevertheless be treated together. For example, a \$400,000 variation could not lawfully or properly be divided into two \$200,000 variations merely to remain within delegation.

The revised contract value and cumulative variation position must continue to be monitored. A proposed variation must be referred to Council where it exceeds the CEO's delegation, exceeds available approved budget or funding, materially changes the original procurement, or presents a level of commercial, procurement or strategic risk that warrants Council consideration.

GOVERNANCE AND REPORTING CONTROLS

The proposed delegation transfers the timing of an operational contract decision; it does not remove Council oversight. The following controls are recommended:

- Written assessment and written CEO approval for every financial variation.
- Confirmation of approved budget and, where applicable, QRA or other external funding before approval.
- Review that the change remains within the nature and purpose of the original procurement and does not amount to a substantially different procurement.
- No further delegation of this specific approval authority, unless Council later resolves otherwise.
- Maintenance of a central contract variation register showing individual and cumulative variation values and the revised contract position.
- Regular reporting of CEO-approved variations to Council, providing transparency without requiring Council to make each operational decision.

These controls preserve Council visibility and accountability while removing the delay inherent in requiring a Council resolution for each variation.

CURRENT OUTSTANDING VARIATIONS

Since the current approval requirement was identified, a number of financial variations have been held pending formal approval. These matters need to be resolved irrespective of whether Council supports the proposed ongoing delegation.

Attachment 1 is therefore structured as a consolidated schedule of all outstanding variations. Council can approve the schedule as a separate part of the resolution. Following approval, the CEO and contract administrators can complete the necessary purchase order, variation register and contractor notification actions.

FUTURE CONTRACT AWARD REPORTS

If the proposed standing policy amendment is adopted, future contract award reports will not need to repeat the entire delegation framework. However, for significant contracts it remains good practice for the award report to identify any approved contingency or funding allowance and confirm that subsequent variations will be managed under the Procurement Policy and Delegations Register.

If Council elects not to amend the policy on a standing basis, future contract award resolutions should expressly authorise the CEO to approve variations within the CEO's financial delegation. Otherwise, the same approval constraint will recur each time Council awards a contract.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposed delegation does not, of itself, approve additional project expenditure. Each variation must still have an identified contractual basis, be assessed for value, and be supported by sufficient approved budget and/or confirmed external funding before it is approved.

For DRFA-funded contracts, the funding eligibility of the varied work must continue to be checked against the applicable QRA approval and funding arrangements. A Council delegation cannot make otherwise ineligible expenditure eligible for reimbursement.

A more responsive variation process is expected to reduce the risk of avoidable contractor standby, disruption and prolongation costs arising solely from internal approval delay. It should also assist in maintaining contract programs and externally imposed delivery deadlines.

STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL RISK

Maintaining the current approval arrangement presents the following risks:

- delays to active construction works while contractors await Council meeting decisions;
- additional cost exposure associated with standby, disruption, remobilisation or prolongation where contract entitlements arise;
- pressure on operational personnel to give informal or premature directions before the required internal approval exists;
- delays to DRFA and other externally funded programs and potential pressure on funding completion deadlines; and
- administrative burden associated with preparing individual Council reports for routine contract variations.

The proposed delegation introduces a different risk: that a significant contractual commitment could be approved administratively without sufficient Council visibility. The recommended dollar limit, budget and scope controls, prohibition on further delegation, written assessment requirements, central register and Council reporting are intended to manage that risk.

CRITICAL DATES

Multiple Council construction contracts are currently in delivery and outstanding variations require determination. The proposed authority should take effect immediately upon Council resolution with the completion of any required updates to the Delegations Register and Procurement Policy.

The current Procurement Policy records June 2026 as its next review date. The proposed amendment can therefore be incorporated as part of the policy review process without delaying the immediate Council authorisation provided by the resolution.

CONSULTATION

Internal consultation for implementation should include the Chief Executive Officer, Admin and Finance Manager, relevant Council engineering/project personnel and Shepherd personnel responsible for contract administration.

Because the change concerns Council's statutory and financial delegation framework, the final form of the delegation instrument and policy amendment should be checked by Council's governance and/or legal adviser before the updated instruments are issued.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council adopt Part A of the recommendation to establish an ongoing CEO approval pathway for contract variations within the CEO's financial delegation and adopt Part B to resolve the current outstanding variations listed in Attachment 1.

ATTACHMENT 1**OUTSTANDING CONTRACT VARIATIONS**

The table below contains all financial contract variations awaiting approval at the date the Council agenda was finalised. The quoted amounts are the assessed variation values, excluding GST, which are supported by the relevant contract administration records.

Contract / Contractor	Var. No.	Description / Contractual basis	Amount ex GST	Budget / Contract Value / Funding	Recommendation
2025-2026-213 South East Zone / RECS Group	CLA4	New Hamilton Gate Road Change of treatment type from heavy formation grading plus 50/75mm of imported material to heavy formation grading only / Removal of additional material incorporation due to rollover of sites into new QRA claim.	- \$14,543.00	\$2,581,162.47 / \$1,330,658.50 / QRA funded Submission 74	Approve
2025-2026-213 South East Zone / RECS Group	CLA4	New Hamilton Gate Road Treatment of unsuitable subgrade material / Treatment required due to persistent wet areas on New Hamilton Gate Road	+ \$31,640.00	\$2,581,162.47 / \$1,330,658.50 / QRA funded Submission 74	Approve
2025-2026-213 South East Zone / RECS Group	CLA4	Hungerford Road Reshape table drain / Reshaping required due to excessive scour impacting on adjacent road pavement treatments	+ \$1,610.00	\$2,581,162.47 / \$1,330,658.50 / QRA funded Submission 74	Approve
2025-2026-213 South East Zone / RECS Group	CLA4	Hungerford Road Rock protection work / Additional cost due to sourcing rock from roadside as no quarry or gravel pit rock available	+ \$600.00	\$2,581,162.47 / \$1,330,658.50 / QRA funded Submission 74	Approve
2025-2026-202 Orientos Road / Tolbra	[V2]	Orientos Road QRA Submission 73 works. Additional works due to Tolbra already working on Orientos Road.	+ \$176,435.22	\$471,746.15 / No Sub 73 contract / QRA funded Submission 73	Approve
2025-2026-203 Epsilon Road / Tolbra	[V3]	Epsilon Road QRA Submission 73 works. Additional works due to Tolbra already working on Epsilon Road.	+ \$45,924.52	\$471,746.15 / No Sub 73 contract / QRA funded Submission 73	Approve
2025-2026-204 Bransby Santos Road / Tolbra	[V4]	Bransby Santos Road QRA Submission 73 works. Additional works due to Tolbra already working on Bransby Santos Road.	+ \$36,824.03	\$471,746.15 / No Sub 73 contract / QRA funded Submission 73	Approve
2025-2026-205 Omicron Road & Toona Gate Road / Strezborn-Dunns JV	[V5]	Omicron Road & Toona Gate Road QRA Submission 73 works. Additional works due to Dunns already working on Omicron Road & Toona Gate Road.	+ \$28,384.38	\$471,746.15 / No Sub 73 contract / QRA funded Submission 73	Approve
2025-2026-205 Omicron Road & Toona Gate Road / Strezborn-Dunns JV	[V6]	Cameron Corner Road QRA Submission 73 works. Additional works due to Dunns already working on Cameron Corner Road.	+ \$4,247.80	\$471,746.15 / No Sub 73 contract / QRA funded Submission 73	Approve

Total value of POSITIVE outstanding variations proposed for approval: **\$ 325,665.95** excluding GST.

Total value of NEGATIVE outstanding variations proposed for approval: **-\$14,543.00** excluding GST.

Each variation listed above is to be supported on the contract file by the contractor's submission (where applicable), assessment of contractual entitlement, valuation, funding/budget confirmation and the Superintendent/Superintendent's Representative recommendation.

ATTACHMENT 2**PROPOSED AMENDMENT - PROCUREMENT POLICY 2.74.1, SECTION 5.5.3**

It is proposed that section 5.5.3 be amended so that the existing controls are retained while providing an express approval pathway for variations to contracts originally approved by Council. The following replacement wording is recommended for the variation procedures portion of section 5.5.3:

5.5.3 VARIATIONS - PROPOSED REPLACEMENT PROCEDURE

Variation procedures for contracts are as follows:

- Each financial variation must be approved in writing by an officer holding the required financial and contractual authority.
- Before approval, the approving officer must verify that sufficient funds are available within an approved budget and, where applicable, the relevant external funding approval.
- Each approved variation must be recorded against the contract and purchase order and must identify the change in scope and the approved financial adjustment.
- For a contract or expenditure originally approved by Council, the Chief Executive Officer may approve a financial variation up to the CEO's financial delegation limit recorded in the Financial Delegation Register, as amended from time to time, provided the variation complies with this section and any conditions imposed by Council resolution.
- For the purpose of the preceding paragraph, the financial delegation limit applies to the net additional expenditure arising from the individual variation or a series of related variations. The original contract value previously approved by Council is not to be counted against the CEO's variation approval limit. A variation must not be divided or staged to avoid an applicable delegation or approval limit.
- The requirement for approval of an amended purchase order by reference to the entire aggregated order amount does not prevent the CEO approving a variation under the preceding paragraphs where the original contract value was approved by Council. The revised contract value must nevertheless be recorded and monitored.
- Officers must ensure that variations do not significantly or materially change the nature, purpose or substantial requirements of the original procurement. Where a proposed change would result in arrangements substantially different from those originally procured, a new procurement process and/or Council approval may be required.
- A financial variation must be referred to Council where the variation exceeds the CEO's financial delegation, sufficient approved budget or funding is unavailable, the variation materially changes the original procurement, or legislation or another Council policy requires the matter to be decided by Council resolution.

- Variations approved by the CEO must be recorded in Council's contract variation register and reported to Council through the established contract or financial reporting process.
- Non-financial contract administration matters, including extensions of time and other non-financial scope matters, continue to be managed by the appropriately authorised contract administrator in accordance with the relevant contract and delegation instruments.

The policy amendment should be read together with the Council resolution authorising the CEO, the Delegations Register and the Financial Delegation Register. Where there is any inconsistency, Council's governance adviser should settle the final instrument before implementation.

14.16 AUCTION OF STREET SWEEPER

File Number: 162344
Author: Helen Taylor, Plant Fleet Coordinator
Authoriser: Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider an offer received for the sale of Plant 7004 – 2012 Rosmech Street Sweeper.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

Nil

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

3.01.1 Asset Management Policy

CORPORATE & OPERATIONAL PLAN CONSIDERATIONS

INF5.3 Maintain Council assets to a high standard

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the offer for \$2,727.27 ex GST for Pant 7004 – 2012 Rosmech Street Sweeper.

BACKGROUND

Council engaged NASCO Auctioneers to auction plant and equipment identified as surplus to Council's operational requirements. As part of this process, the 2012 Rosmech Street Sweeper was deemed surplus and was included in the auction. Council received an offer of \$3,000 including GST (\$2,727.27 excluding GST); however, this is below the reserve price of \$5,000 including GST (\$4,545.45 excluding GST).

Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

2026/3 – That Council b) dispose of the existing street sweeper by auction; and contract street sweeping services to an external provider.

DISCUSSION

As the Rosmech Street Sweeper did not attract any offers during the initial auction round, it is recommended that Council accept the offer for \$2,727.27 excluding GST.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no cost to Council to conduct the auction, as the buyer is responsible for the applicable auction fees. The current written down value of the 2012 Rosmech Street Sweeper is \$38,039.49 as at 31/05/2026. Acceptance of the offer of \$2,727.27 excluding GST will result in Council recognising a loss on disposal.

STRATEGIC/OPERATIONAL RISK

Council incurs financial loss if plant and equipment is not being fully utilised.

CRITICAL DATES

Nil

CONSULTATION

Admin and Finance Manager

Engineer

14.17 COMMUNITY, CULTURE & PLACES REPORT**File Number:** 162825**Author:** Tamie Warner, Community, Culture & Places**Authoriser:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** Nil**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive and note the Community, Culture & Places report for the month of July 2026

CORPORATE / HUMAN RESOURCES ORGANISATIONAL ACTIVITY**New Starters**

Nil

Resignations

Nil

Positions Advertised

Executive Assistant

HEADCOUNT

Employment Type	Opening Balance	New Starters	Terminated	July Balance
Full Time	49	2	1	50
Part Time	-	-	-	-
Casual	5	-	-	5
Fixed Term	-	-	-	-
Apprentice	-	-	-	-
Totals	54	2	1	55

VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

SWQROC Tourism Group**RAB Funding 2025-2028 – New Product Development (Drive Itinerary)**

Work continued throughout July on the SWQROC Drive Tourism Product Development Project. Discussions continued around creative concepts, stakeholder engagement and future visitor-facing materials that will form part of the regional drive itinerary project. The project remains focused on developing a marketable drive tourism product that aligns with regional branding and visitor expectations.

StoryTowns Delivery as part of the RAB Project

Work continued on the development of StoryTowns content for Bulloo Shire. Research, content compilation and story development progressed during July, focusing on local history and heritage stories that showcase the region's unique landscapes, history and community life. Audio content development remains ongoing as part of the wider SWQROC project deliverables.

Channel Country Music Muster

The 2026 Channel Country Music Muster was successfully held during July, once again delivering significant economic and tourism benefits to Thargomindah and the wider Bulloo region.

The event attracted in excess of 500 visitors to the township over the week-long festival period, placing considerable demand on local accommodation providers, caravan parks, food outlets, retailers and tourism operators. Planning, coordination and visitor servicing activities occupied a substantial portion of July, with staff assisting patrons throughout the event period.

The Muster continues to be one of Bulloo Shire's premier tourism events and provides substantial exposure for the region through social media, word-of-mouth marketing and repeat visitation. Feedback received throughout the event was overwhelmingly positive, with visitors commenting on the welcoming nature of the community and the quality of the event experience.

Music in the Mulga – Recap

The 2026 Music in the Mulga festival—yet again faced significant challenges beyond our control. With apprehension we headed west to prepare for setup. Fuel prices and scare mongering by the media regarding the fuel prices and the supposed inability to obtain fuel led to numerous refunds and patrons advising the inability to attend due to costs. Passing no vans on the way out and hearing the dismal reports on visitor numbers in each area did not improve the mindset.

Tourism Industry Development & Networking

July provided several opportunities to remain engaged with industry stakeholders and current tourism initiatives including:

Review of the newly opened Round 2 Tourism Icons Investment Fund opportunities to identify potential future projects and funding pathways relevant to regional tourism development.

Participation in ongoing tourism industry updates from Tourism and Events Queensland regarding visitor trends, regional rewards campaigns and industry development opportunities.

Continued engagement with Visitor Information Centre network updates and tourism accreditation requirements.

The Visitor Information Centre remained exceptionally busy throughout July due to peak winter travel season and the Channel Country Music Muster.

Staff continued to provide visitor servicing through face-to-face enquiries, phone enquiries and email responses relating to:

- Road conditions and route planning
- Accommodation availability
- Events and activities
- Attractions and experiences
- General visitor information

Significant interest continued in regional touring opportunities, road conditions and event-related visitation, reflecting strong seasonal travel throughout Outback Queensland.

Marketing & Promotion

Marketing activity throughout July included:

- Ongoing management of Explore Bulloo social media channels.
- Event promotion and visitor information updates.
- Promotion of local attractions, businesses and experiences.
- Support for regional campaigns through Tourism and Events Queensland and Queensland Country Tourism.
- Continued promotion of Bulloo Shire through online visitor servicing platforms and tourism industry networks.

VIC Statistics

VIC		Facebook – Explore Bulloo		Instagram	
Visitors	1199	Interactions	36K	Views	9.2K
Phone calls	486	Comments	-	Interactions	861
Email enquirers	76	Views	22K	Reach	194

	New followers	36	New followers	5
	Total Followers	9,168K	Total followers	1413

LIFESTYLE AND RECREATION

- Wire Workshop was held and attended by 7 participants
- Upcoming workshops - Upholstery – 15/16 August.
- 26/27 Workshops are in the planning stage.

Activity –			Visits
Total Library Visits	May	June	July
Tourists	3	5	-
Local Adults	9	10	7
Local Children	31	92	13
First 5 Forever (Parents and Children)	35	29	9
F5F On the Road (Seasonal) – Thargo Polox	15	18	-
Afterschool Craft		85	13
Book loans	38	83	28
WQPHN Activities – Healthy Ageing Program			
Water Aerobics (Seasonal)	-	-	
Massage/Beauty Treatments/Hairdresser (55yrs & Over)	2	17	22
Luncheon (1)	-	17	16
InBody Scans	2	1	2
Workshops/Community Events/School Holiday			
Book Club	4	5	-
Theatre Production – Pram Kickers	32	16	
Teelow court visits		Visits	
Healthy ageing activities	38	23	21
Visiting Therapists		13	22

Library

- Book Club continues and meet the first Wednesday of every month
- Playgroup continues every Thursday at the Library and there will now also be RAFS Playgroup every 2nd Tuesday in the park.
- Afterschool craft continues but numbers have decreased.

COMMUNITY RECOVERY & RESILIENCE

July was a month of consolidation, detailed planning and continued advocacy, with a strong focus on turning community feedback into practical recovery and resilience actions. Work progressed across remote community engagement, wellbeing and service access, community capacity building, program compliance, evidence collection and preparation for several major activities scheduled for August.

A key priority was following up the issues raised through the Noccundra, Cameron Corner and Hungerford consultations. Community feedback was reviewed against the South West Queensland after-action review to identify matters that were not fully reflected or required further local attention. This work reinforced the importance of clear disaster communication, consistent information pathways, trusted face-to-face service delivery and continued engagement with geographically isolated residents.

Significant effort was also directed toward finalising the Community Leadership, Wellbeing and Resilience Weekend, confirming the AI for Recovery workshops, refining the Hungerford engagement model, strengthening monitoring and audit systems, and ensuring public communications and proposed activities remained clearly aligned with CRRO and Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements requirements.

Activity Summaries

- Continued follow-up and reporting on the Noccundra, Cameron Corner and Hungerford community consultations, including review of local feedback, identification of advocacy priorities, and progression of actions relating to communication, service access, wellbeing and community connection.
- Strengthened partnerships with Queensland Community Recovery Team, RFDS, TRACC and Lifeline to explore practical wellbeing, recovery and outreach opportunities for remote and isolated residents.
- Progressed planning for ongoing community engagement activities, including the first Noccundra and Cameron Corner community gathering to maintain connection, share information and support community-led recovery and preparedness discussions.
- Finalised planning, procurement and stakeholder coordination for the Community Leadership, Wellbeing and Resilience Weekend, including school engagement activities, community workshops and leadership, wellbeing and resilience sessions.
- Developed promotional materials, participant surveys and evidence collection tools to support delivery, reporting and evaluation of upcoming resilience-building activities.
- Continued planning and promotion of the AI for Recovery: Community Capacity Building Series, supporting community groups, volunteers, businesses and residents to strengthen communication, capability and access to recovery and resilience resources.
- Enhanced the Hungerford Gymkhana engagement model to improve participation opportunities for remote residents and strengthen community recovery and resilience outcomes.
- Explored opportunities to strengthen community capacity, volunteer sustainability and organisational effectiveness through future community-focused training initiatives and stakeholder engagement.
- Participated in regional CRRO collaboration and advocacy activities to support improved program consistency, capability development and outcomes for remote communities.
- Continued development of monitoring, reporting and audit systems, including milestone tracking, evidence collection, financial reporting and documentation processes.
- Progressed development of the Community Recovery & Resilience Hub to support knowledge sharing, referrals, community access to services and long-term resilience outcomes.

- Delivered ongoing community communications and recovery promotion through newsletters, social media and stakeholder engagement activities.

Looking Ahead – August 2026

August will focus on delivering key recovery and resilience activities, including the Community Leadership, Wellbeing and Resilience Weekend, the Noccundra and Cameron Corner community gathering, and the AI for Recovery: Community Capacity Building Series. These activities will continue to strengthen social connection, community participation, leadership development and practical recovery outcomes across Bulloo Shire.

A key area of focus will be progressing the Animals in Emergencies initiative and the development of the Bush Telegraph Mates program. Building on outcomes from the Community Leadership, Wellbeing and Resilience Weekend, the program aims to identify and support existing and emerging community leaders who can act as informal community connectors, helping to strengthen communication networks, encourage neighbour-to-neighbour support, check in on vulnerable residents, share important information and promote social connectedness across the Shire.

Work will also continue to strengthen access to wellbeing, recovery and preparedness services through partnerships with RFDS, TRACC, Lifeline, Queensland Community Recovery, GIVIT and other service providers, while progressing future initiatives including Think Fast, Stay Safe, Voices of Country and the community storytelling project.

14.18 RURAL & TOWN SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT**File Number:** 162766**Author:** Donna Hobbs, Rural & Town Services Manager**Authoriser:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** 1. SW RDRIP Draft**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive and note the Rural Services Department Report for July 2026.

BIOSECURITY**LANDHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

Throughout the past month, Council staff have been actively engaging with landholders via phone calls, emails, and face-to-face consultations. These discussions centred on key biosecurity issues, including weed surveillance and management, trapping workshops, Bird Flu, the implementation and review of biosecurity plans, and the Primary Producer Brigade Field Day. The properties consulted as part of these activities included Nappa Merrie, Omicron, Epsilon, Orientos, Tickalara, Bulloo Downs, Dynevor Downs, Thargomindah Station, Wiralla, Autumnvale, Yakara, Boodgherree, Kilcowera, Moombidary, Nockatunga, Naryilco, Durham Downs, Picarilli, Bingara, Besm, Nooyeah, and Wombula.

BIRD FLU (H5 Avian Influenza)

Australian Government Update - Detection of H5 bird flu

As of 1.00pm AEST, 10 August 2026, Australia has 231 confirmed detections of H5 bird flu in wild birds.

- 10 in Western Australia (WA)
- 163 in South Australia (SA)
- 4 in New South Wales (NSW)
- 1 in Queensland (QLD)
- 53 in Victoria (VIC).

This is the serious H5 bird flu strain that has been circulating globally.

There have been no detections in poultry or the wider agriculture industry.

The Consultative Committee for Emergency Animal Disease (CCEAD) has reviewed its previous advice and endorsed a framework on national poultry biosecurity measures that will commence from 31 July. Under this framework, state and territory governments are responsible for issuing advice on biosecurity measures using a risk-based approach.

State and territory governments are responsible for surveillance and response activities on the ground. They are actively working with industry to provide guidance on implementation of enhanced biosecurity measures, as appropriate.

As bird flu is a notifiable animal disease, anyone who suspects that an animal may be infected is legally required to report it immediately to the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1 800 675 888 (available 24/7) or 13 25 23.

Information continues to be distributed to landholders and community.

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

Rural Service staff and Clynton (Invasive Plants and Animals contractor) spent two weeks in July surveying and spraying Restricted Category 3 (Category 3 restrictive invasive plants must not be given away, sold or released into the environment, the Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with invasive plants under their control.) Restricted Invasive Weeds.

Surveys were conducted by drone, in the buggy and walking. Surveyed areas included Bundilla Creek, Soonah Crossing, Karwalke, Wongetta, Hungerford Crossing, Bulloo River, Bundeena and Hungerford town. Access to other areas is still limited due to wet conditions.

Parkinsonia was sprayed at Wongetta and on the Bulloo River through Thargomindah Station. Coral Cactus was sprayed on Karwalke and Hungerford Town. A check at Bundeena found that some Coral Cactus has died from the Cochineal Bug, some is partially dead; and some new bushes were found that were healthy and growing well, these were sprayed and some were found with the Cochineal bug well established and killing the plant. There was no evidence of new plants of Opuntia Puberula that was found and sprayed last year.



Large Coral Cactus plant at Bundeena



Parkinsonia at Wongetta

Catchment Rehabilitation Funding Program

Western Queensland Surface Trough and Associated Rainfall and Flooding, Catchment Rehabilitation Program is administered by QRA, and is designed to support communities and organisations in Western Queensland affected by the 2025 surface trough event. The program aims to facilitate the restoration and rehabilitation of natural environments impacted by severe weather conditions. This is a competitive grant that Council is collaborating with SQ Landscapes as the lead agency to submit an application.

MEETINGS, TRAINING AND EVENTS ATTENDED DURING THE MONTH

- 13 Bulloo Local Recovery Group Meeting
- 15 ELT WHS Meeting

UNBREAKABLE FARMER LUNCHEON

Rural Service staff attended a lunch event alongside the Bulloo Shire community with Warren Davies, known as “The Unbreakable Farmer”, Australia’s leading rural mental health speaker and advocate. The event was hosted by the Royal Flying Doctor Service. However, rain prevented some landholders from participating in the luncheon.

BULLOO LOCAL RECOVERY GROUP MEETING

Summary of Minutes – Meeting Held on 13 July 2026

Community Recovery and Resilience Activities

The Council’s Community Recovery and Resilience Officer, Gillian Strong, began her role on 13 April. Council’s request for an extension is currently under consideration by NEMA. Activities are being delivered in accordance with the approved work plan, which includes several initiatives focusing on community engagement:

- Walk & Talks: Early morning sessions at 5:00am allow residents to share concerns and connect.
- Community Engagement: Activities have taken place in Hungerford and Noccundra, fostering greater involvement within these communities.
- Growing Leaders’ Program: Scheduled to start in August in partnership with the Thargo Bulls, this program aims to develop leadership skills among local participants.
- Grant Writing Workshop: A workshop is planned to support residents in grant applications, with a focus on using AI ethically to strengthen proposals.

Gillian has invited all service providers to upcoming community events, aiming to facilitate easier connections in central locations. These include Hungerford Sports (2–4 October) and Noccundra Rodeo & Gymkhana (9–11 October).

Partner Organisations

- Rural Aid: Mark has been active in the region, including attending the Shearer’s Shindig in May.
- GIVIT: GIVIT continues to work across the regions, maintaining connections with communities in need.
- Lifeline: Lifeline Teams are still visiting Thargomindah, delivering services. Kylie will connect with Gillian to discuss local needs.

SOUTH WEST QLD REGIONAL DROUGHT RESILIENCE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**Background**

During 2023/24, the team from UniSQ worked with Regional Development Australia Darling Downs South West (RDADDSW) to carry out stakeholder engagement and develop the South West Regional Drought Resilience Plan (RDRP). This RDRP contains Action Plans that broadly describe initiatives recommended by stakeholders across the region to lessen the impacts of drought and build future resilience for local communities, economies, landscapes and infrastructure. The RDRP was formally approved by the State and the Australian governments in 2024. The next step is to develop an Implementation Plan and turn the broad initiatives into ‘fundable’ projects.

The Australian government has already announced a commitment of funding for projects based on initiatives in the RDRP through the Future Drought Fund and other federal funding programs. The Queensland government has also committed to support such projects. For the SW, nearly \$2million has been committed from Future Drought Funds to implement the regional plans.

Reason to participate

There is a need to work with interested stakeholders to gather their ideas and inputs and co-design a series of project outlines based on the broad ideas in the RDRP Action Plan. A series of roundtable discussions have been held around the SW to get local advice on the important steps and elements needed to most effectively implement these projects in the SW region. A workshop was held in Quilpie but it struggled to attract landholder input. UniSQ are providing another opportunity for producers from the far SW to provide comment on what other SW communities identified as priorities.

Engagement findings so far indicate that the following project topics are a priority for stakeholders in the Southwest Region:

- Improve business skills and capacity
- Maintenance of critical community support infrastructure
- Drought resilient land management
- Business diversification
- Access to (local) community based mental health services (and other support services)
- Local capacity to understand and use data & drought related information
- Drought vulnerability and risk profiles
- Maintain adequate southwest region's workforce during drought

Emails were sent to landholders on 28 July seeking interest in a consultation session for the plan; no responses have been received to date. UniSQ held an information session on the draft plan via Teams on 7 August.

Key feedback included:

- Clarification on the future role and influence of Drought Declarations and Drought Committees (currently under review by DPI).
- Concern regarding the reference on Page 13 to drought as an LDMG agenda item, noting drought is not a declared disaster under the *Disaster Management Act 2003* and current reductions in disaster management funding may limit capacity to address additional out-of-scope matters.

Simone Talbot (SWROC) attended the session and is coordinating a submission on behalf of Southwest ROC Councils.

A follow up email was also sent out to landholders following the Teams Meeting on 7 August to collate any further comments or suggestions on the draft plan.

Draft plan is attached for review

Rural Fire Primary Producer Brigade Field Days

Charleville Area Rural Fire Service presented a Field Day for Rural Fire Brigade members and Non-Members at the Kullilli room on Tuesday 28th July. Rural Service staff and seven landholders attended the day.

Topics covered:

- BOM seasonal overview
- protecting your land
- calling fire coms
- understanding fire behaviour and rate of spread
- Australian Inter-Service Incident Management Systems
- obtaining approval to use your heavy equipment when a fire starts.





Primary Producer Brigade Field Days

These events aim to enhance bushfire preparedness and resilience of primary producers in the area. All primary producers are welcome

09:30am-1:30pm

Quilpie | Monday 27th July

Thargomindah | Tuesday 28th July

Cunnamulla | Wednesday 29th July

Morven | Thursday 30th July

Augathella | Friday 31st July

Morning Tea and Lunch will be provided

Come along to hear about how the RFSQ can support fire management for the upcoming higher risk bushfire period

RSVP
Monday 20th July 2026
RFSQ Charleville Area Office
Ph: (07) 4656 5839
Email: RFSQ.Charleville@fire.qld.gov.au






Non-member landholders signed up on the day and received their PPE and PPC for firefighting. Anyone with slip on units that are not working correctly were encouraged to take them to the local mechanics to be fixed and Rural Fire Service will cover the cost of repairs.

TOWN SERVICES

Airport

- Airport operations continued throughout the reporting period and included some crack sealing of runway strip. The airstrip was not required to be closed for this activity.
- Aviation fuel supply remained reliable, with no shortages or issues recorded, ensuring uninterrupted service delivery.
- 8 RFDS aeromedical retrievals were successfully facilitated, supporting critical health service delivery to the region.
- BKR Town Maintenance maintained consistent oversight and management of operations at the Thargomindah Aerodrome including inspection of airstrip prior to each REX and RFDS landing and take-off as per CASA Regulations.

Facilities and Housing

Routine maintenance and minor repairs were conducted as required, and blinds continue to be progressively installed in Council housing by Town Services staff. The housing maintenance inspection program commences on Tuesday 25 August.

Parks and Gardens

Town Services staff continued regular kerbside waste collection and skip bin servicing. Staff also carried out general grounds maintenance including mowing and whipper snipping, at locations such as the Council Administration Office, Visitor Information Centre (VIC) grounds, Leahy House, Truck Stop, Teelow Court, and Senior Units. In addition, staff assisted with event pack up for the Channel Country Music Muster.

Parks and Gardens also completed Rest Area Servicing at five locations:

- Jackson T section Skip Bin
- BESM rest area – whipper snipped; bins emptied
- Lake Bindegolly – bins emptied
- Ambulance Bay on the Cunnamulla Road – bins emptied.
- Noccundra amenities – whipper snipped

(Draft) South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience **Implementation** Plan

VERSION: 0.2 22/05/2026



Draft South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Implementation Plan (RDRIP)

Document Sign-off

Version History

Version	Author	Change	Date
0.1	Robert Mellor	Initial draft	18/05/2026
0.2.	Mellor/Drysdale	Draft	22/05/2026



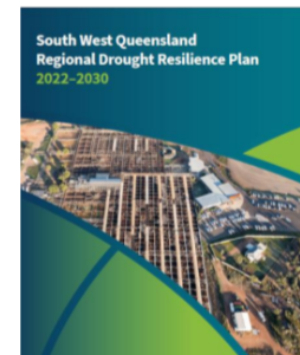
Draft South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Implementation Plan (RDRiP)

Introduction

The South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Implementation Plan (RDRiP) is built upon the foundations of the **South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Plan (RDRP) 2022-2030**. It has been co-designed with the inputs from key stakeholders along with the voices and experiences of the region's people.

The South West Queensland RDRP was developed in accordance with the guidelines distributed by the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund (FDF) program. The purpose of the RDRP is to contribute towards the following objectives:

- Growing the self-reliance and performance (productivity and profitability) of the agricultural sector.
- Improving the natural capital of the agricultural landscape for better environmental outcomes.
- Strengthen the wellbeing and social capital of rural, regional and remote communities.
- Specify key actions (regional and local) that can be implemented to build drought resilience in the region.



The practical implementation of the South West Queensland RDRP has commenced with the co-design and development of this **Regional Drought Resilience Implementation Plan (RDRiP)**. This RDRiP provides a more detailed description of the projected outcomes, associated project activities, and key deliverables for a series of projects based on the actions described in the RDRP.

The project activities in this RDRiP have not been developed to meet specific funding guidelines but may be further modified in the future to better fit with funding, investment and/or resourcing requirements. The project delivery dates will be influenced by available funds, resources, drought status (some actions may be escalated at the early stages of drought), and/or dependent on a linked action being completed. It is acknowledged that some elements of the activities may have already commenced and including them in this plan highlights their importance and the need to build on existing foundations to improve regional drought resilience. **The intent of this Implementation Plan is to build on existing actions, activities and working groups (or similar), and not to replace or duplicate them where possible.**

This RDRiP should be regarded as a 'living' document – the projects and priorities contained within the RDRiP build upon the activities identified in the South West Queensland RDRP and were deemed by key stakeholders to be the most relevant at the time of production. It is expected that, over time, projects and priorities will continue to evolve in response to new challenges and/or opportunities. This RDRiP will be reviewed annually to ensure it is current and progress reported to communities and stakeholders.

Methodology. This RDRiP, and the projects within, is based on the endorsed South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Plan (RDRP) and has been developed through an extensive engagement and co-design process that included:

- Design/scoping meetings with RDADSW personnel and a review of relevant: policies; program/project reports; information documents and websites.



Draft South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Implementation Plan (RDRiP)

- Extensive marketing through existing networks, traditional and digital media, individual invitations
- Interactive stakeholder workshops in Roma, Cunnamulla, St George, Quilpie and Charleville – that involved over 55 diverse participants in a series of development and co-design exercises.
- Review and collation of the workshop outputs and development of a First draft RDRiP for discussion and feedback from RDADDSW personnel.
- Revision of the draft RDRiP and development of a second draft RDRiP based on feedback and follow-up information gained from key stakeholders
- Review of the second draft RDRiP by a Reference Group – consisting of key stakeholders (regional, government and non-government) – and also the Board of the RDADDSW.
- Production of the Final South West Queensland RDRiP and endorsement by the RDADDSW Board.

Key Delivery Partners have been identified for each project. The listing any partner does not imply that they will necessarily lead or fund the activities but that their involvement in an advisory and/or implementation role is critical to successful delivery. Whilst one of these partners may take a leading role in the implementation of the activity or project, other organisations may take on this role through the course of the project's life.

Prioritisation of projects. During the engagement, participants prioritised project idea both anonymously and individually. This was then cross-checked against the consensus priorities developed through group work. The projects and priorities in this RDRiP are developed from the combined results of all our engagements.

Key messages and enabling factors. The programs and projects identify a number of key roles: in some cases, there is an advocacy role required by organisations such as RDADDSW (and other key delivery partners); in some case new partnerships and sharing with other regions is recommended; whilst in others, funding and resources are simply required.

The following 'critical enablers' were identified:

- Continuity of funding is essential to underpinning the resilience of communities -many successful programs were identified that have been abandoned due to the lack of ongoing funding.
- Better coordination of the many individuals and organisations that lobby, plan for and provide drought support - improved, funded coordination could maximise their effect. Support for building and maintaining community networks is a persistent issue.
- In most towns, it was recognised that a mantra of "*Local support for local people*" should be adopted.
- Digital connectivity and ability to use it effectively is a critical and persistent issue for much of the region.
- There is a need to build on, and support, existing advocacy capacity within the region so that local input into drought policy and program development and delivery can continue effectively.

Note: In 2025, the Queensland Department of Primary Industry (DPI) released the '**Primary Industries Prosper 2050**' blueprint. This RDRiP has been co-designed to align with the key elements and priorities of the Queensland 'Prosper 2050' blueprint. Where there is significant alignment between RDRiP elements and 'Prosper 2050' they are indicated in the RDRiP by the following icon: 



Draft South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Implementation Plan (RDRiP)

South West Queensland RDRiP Activity Programs

P1 IMPROVING DROUGHT PLANNING, IMPACT MONITORING AND EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS IN THE SOUTH WEST QUEENSLAND

PROJECT	PROJECT GOALS	PROPOSED PROJECT ACTIVITIES	PROPOSED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	RELEVANT DROUGHT CYCLE (Before, During, After & Ongoing)	POTENTIAL DELIVERY PARTNERS	PROJECT PRIORITY (Critical, High, Medium)
P1.1 Develop: - Socio-economic vulnerability and risk profiles for various community sectors in South West Queensland - Vulnerability and risk profiles for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the South West Qld - Risk profiles for South West Queensland land systems that are most vulnerable and at risk to the impacts of drought. 	Identify those in the communities that are most vulnerable or at risk from the impacts of drought. Guide targeted investment of money and support to those most in need in the community. Reduce the impacts of drought on local communities and landscapes.	Stage 1: Develop and pilot a framework which is appropriate for a local government (LGA) scale to identify appropriate indicators that can be used to map vulnerable and at-risk sectors/demographics in of each local governments in the South West Qld. Stage 2: Take the Piloted framework and apply across all local government areas in the South West Qld. Stage 3: Share the framework with other Queensland regions to inform a possible state- wide drought vulnerability and risk mapping framework.	Stage1: A piloted vulnerability and risk framework for three communities in South West Qld local government areas. Stage2: Community vulnerability and risk profile for all LGAs in the South West Qld. Stage3: Framework fully or partially adopted across Queensland.	Before During	RDADDSW Local Governments UniSQ NGOs SWQROC TRACC RFCS	
	Identify those small & medium enterprises (SMEs) that are most vulnerable and at risk to the impacts of drought and identify and share mechanisms that reduce these vulnerabilities and risks. Reduce the impacts of drought on SMEs.	Stage 1: Working with local SMEs in the South West Qld, to identify the key components of SME operations and structure that influence their vulnerability and risk to the impacts of drought. Share the initial findings. Stage 2: Expand the coverage of the area of work identified in Stage1 throughout the South West Qld. Stage 3: Implement strategies to share key learning and findings that reduce the impacts of drought on SMEs.	Stage1: A practical process to identify key components of an SME that influence their ability to manage drought impacts that has been developed, tested and refined. Report and short video presentation. Stage2: The process developed and tested in Stage1 is applied across the region. Stage3: Mechanisms to effectively share the outcomes of Stage1 & 2 are developed and implemented.		RDADDSW Chambers of Commerce DPI (RED Officers) UniSQ RFCS SMEs Business Groups Lions/Rotary etc SWQROC	

Draft South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Implementation Plan (RDRIP)

	Develop a framework to identify and monitor the impact of drought on land systems in the South West Qld. Map vulnerable and at-risk land systems to support targeted consultation with the relevant land managers to identify management options to reduce the impacts of drought on those land systems. Land management practices that improve resilience to drought.	Stage 1: South Qld Landscapes (SQL), in consultation with producer groups, Landcare groups and government agencies, develop a set of indicators and practices to measure these indicators that allows the mapping of vulnerable and at-risk land systems. Stage 2: SQL carry out targeted consultation with land managers and other land management experts, to identify land management options to increase drought resilience of vulnerable and at-risk land systems.	Stage1: An agreed map of the South West Qld region's land systems with an overlay of those areas most vulnerable and at risk to drought. Stage2: A specific set of land management options to reduce the impact of drought in various regional land systems.		SQL DPI DETSI Agforce QFF	
P1.2 Developing more effective measurement of drought - by intensity, spatial and other scales 	Improved systems for measuring levels of drought and its intensity at local scales.	Provide South West Qld regional input into the development of a statewide project to establish: • Levels of drought intensity (e.g. minor, major, severe, worst on record) • Objective measures of intensity • Mapping of intensity down to localised levels.	An agreed set of objective measures of drought for Queensland regions	Before After	BoM DPI DETSI Universities	Medium
P1.3 Increase the regional capacity in South West Queensland to interpret and utilise relevant climate and drought forecast indicators. 	Increase the support for climate and weather forecast users to better interpret available information and use appropriate tools.	Advocate for more resources (people and money) to increase the number of locally based people to work with producers and community to build their capacity to use climate and weather-related forecasting tools.	An increased network of climate/weather interpretation support personnel placed in local communities throughout South West Queensland	Ongoing	RDADDSW Local Government's Agforce QFF UniSQ (CACs) SWROC	

Draft South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Implementation Plan (RDRIP)

Background to Program/Project Development

Issues and Discussions:

Consistent feedback from stakeholders recommended combining a number of initial project ideas presented during the engagement workshops – the program and projects presented above are the result of those recommendations

Reliability of data collected was discussed often in the region... as was the reliability of the current (radar) hardware to collect the data. There was a lot of discussion about the private sector sources of climate data/forecasting being more reliable than BoM

Noted by many participants that there are very few socio-economic indicators being measured currently to observe their relationship to drought...possibly some mental health indicators. This is an area that deserves some attention.

Discussions also raised the critical issue;” ...so we collect all this data...who has it...what do they do with it...and where is it made available?”

In the South West it was highlighted that whilst the Qld government has signalled it will be retaining some kind of system of ‘drought declarations’... it is unknown what this would mean in reality.

Two locations (St George and Quilpie) nominated themselves as interested in being involved in pilot activities to develop ‘better’ drought impact indicators

This program proposes project activities that are a combination of: research and development, advocacy and lobbying; developing new partnerships and working with other regions

Engagement discussions highlighted the consideration of contractors in all activities: as they are also very vulnerable to the impacts of extreme climatic events such as drought and floods.

Relevant Stakeholder Comments:

- *making sure indicators link to the right outcomes*
 - *link indicators to social economic ecological outcomes*
 - *where does this info “sit”? How can it be accessed*
- *Collate what people are already using*
- *Early warning is to map vulnerable groups*
- *Farm house hold support take up/mental health referrals → indicators*
- *Clarity around what does a drought declaration instigate??*
- *Need to include private sector*
- *Contractors? School population?*
- *Isnt there a single source...ABARES?*
- *Financial gains are sometimes not clear*
- *NOTE: ABS data for Quilpie is wrong because of the way they collect data...*
- *Is there one central database for all private weather stations*
- *Put the tools in the hands of the farmers/land managers to collect and share climate data – have a person to drive it. Must be very farmer friendly*
- **Local Drought Committee – what is their role!*
- *Possibly an app for famers to monitor/report on weather.*
- *Committee of locals for drought info sharing like LDMG [local disaster mgt group]*
- *APP collect on farm climate data and fodder/feed levels and stock purchases and sales to show multiple factors. Stock numbers may be unreliable -but they are an indicator*
- *Investigate climate monitoring stations in the shire? Like in Balonne*
- *BOM – media catastrophizing issue... source of truth? What does BOM mean?*
- *Australian Drought Monitor – used by financial counsellors.*
- *Social indicators? – well-resourced already in Charleville to respond. Capacity to scale up and respond.*
- *Private industry solutions? Is this already doing the job?*
- *“We don’t have the capacity to do it ourselves... we need assistance...but we don’t want people coming in here with a one size fits all approach... we want to be involved in deciding what works for us... we want a toolkit that we can choose from”*
- *How do we know where to spend money so that the most in need are targeted”?*
- *Contractors should be given access to the same financial support opportunities as available to primary producers.*

Draft South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Implementation Plan (RDRIP)

P2 BUILDING DROUGHT RESILIENCE THROUGH IMPROVING BUSINESS VIABILITY.

PROJECT	PROJECT GOALS	PROPOSED PROJECT ACTIVITIES	PROPOSED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	DROUGHT CYCLE (Before, During, After & Ongoing)	POTENTIAL DELIVERY PARTNERS	PROJECT PRIORITY (Critical, High, Medium)
P2.1 Strengthen business planning and financial literacy in South West Queensland regional communities. 	Business owners (primary and town) are better equipped to carry out the financial operations of their business.	Stage 1: Contract the services of local/regional training providers to develop and pilot a training package that improves the financial management capacity of business owners. Stage 2: Deliver the training package across the South West Qld targeting those SMEs identified in P1.1 as being most vulnerable and at-risk to drought impacts.	Stage1: Financial management training packages developed and tested. Stage2: Financial management training is being delivered across the South West Qld.	Before & Ongoing	RFCS RDADDSW Chambers of Commerce DPI (RED Officers) UniSQ SWQROC Frontier Services RFCS RFCS TAFE	Critical 
P2.2 Better understand the potential challenges/benefits of business diversification options. 	Business viability is maximised. Business managers are better able to make more informed decisions regarding diversification opportunities.	Stage 1: Draw on findings in P1.1 SME project to identify case studies in the South West Qld region showcasing both successful and unsuccessful implementation of diversification opportunities. Stage 2: Fund the extension of the case studies.	Stage1: A set of case diversification case studies are identified and documented. Stage2: The case studies are being shared through multiple learning streams.	Ongoing		High

Draft South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Implementation Plan (RDRIP)

Background to Program/Project Development

Issues and Discussions:

This program was developed by combining a number of initial project ideas presented during the engagement workshops – the program and projects presented above are the result of stakeholder recommendations

Stakeholders articulated that drought and other climate risks were part of ‘daily life’ in the region. However, it was recognised that many enterprises – especially agricultural- still failed to adequately plan for drought and climate risk as part of their ‘normal’ business planning. It was also identified that it was unknown how many enterprises failed during drought periods because they were poorly managed – and would have probably failed anyway. Hence the need to build capacity in business planning and financial literacy as a generic foundation. This topic was the one that engendered the most discussion in the South West.

The opportunities (and challenges) provided by emerging ‘renewables’ and ‘environmental’ markets need to be encouraged through availability of ‘trusted and independent’ advice/information as well as training and capacity-building. There has been significant development of ‘renewables’ opportunities (e.g. wind and solar farms) in the South West and stakeholders declared that whilst it was still controversial “... the arguments are a bit better informed these days”. Nevertheless they encouraged “more and more” education to help landholders make better, informed decisions.

Again, there was many comments on the existing good work of the Rural Financial Counselling (RFC) Service and building the capacity of locally-based support and advice personnel. It was also noted that more marketing and continued support for the Farm Business Resilience Plans was clearly necessary

Business diversification and developing a more diverse source of income (both on-farm/off-farm and also for ‘town’ support businesses) was identified as a key factor in drought resilience.

A few conversations in this region highlighted the business opportunities in drought itself – i.e. opportunities for community-owned feedlots; developing co-working spaces in town for people to develop drought resilience ideas; and community/collective ways of supporting at-home working on diverse business activities.

This program proposes project activities that are a combination of: advocacy; research and development; information and knowledge sharing; field testing and capacity-building

Relevant Stakeholder Comments:

- *Lots of assumptions around other levels of knowledge*
- *How do we get everyone’s level of knowledge up? Make sources available.*
- *Farm Business Resilience Plans doing this effectively*
- *Getting Graziers to come to town for any event is very hard.*
- *Motivator needed to incentivize participation in business planning.*
- *Face to face is hard to justify time off farm when online options exist.*
- *Identify existing or design a template for farmers to download for a farm business plan i.e. Farm Drought preparedness Plan (Farm Business Resilience Plan)... and add a Climate Business Resilience Plan section for small town businesses – climate risk management section of the plan*
- *Build awareness of legal/regulatory/requirements of running a business → provide access to advice*
- *Build opportunities for staff/owners to have innovation “headspace”*
- *Balonne business mentoring (primary production and non-primary production) fund to run again*
- *FBRP ...farm Business Resilience Planning program ... needs marketing and re-branding to get people to uptake the resources....e.g running more workshops*
- *link to activity about FTE to support businesses (in long term role)*
- *Support chambers of Commerce to support promotion and engagement*
- *CUC (Country University Centres): support /advocacy for continued funding and resources*
- *Look at the Birchup Cropping Group Model*
- *Remote/Farm people working in town? Co-Working space for people to come in to town and work for the day -good space for visiting professionals to work from*
- *-Importance of roads, flights and physical connectivity in making these opportunities available*
- *Feasibility study for an oil refinery*

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P3 IMPROVE LAND MANAGEMENT FOR DROUGHT RESILIENCE

PROJECT	PROJECT GOALS	PROPOSED PROJECT ACTIVITIES	PROPOSED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	DROUGHT CYCLE (Before, During, After & Ongoing)	POTENTIAL DELIVERY PARTNERS	PROJECT PRIORITY (Critical, High, Medium)
P3.1 Reducing the impacts of drought on land condition through improved land management. 	Improved land condition of the South West Qld region. Increased integration of 'traditional' wisdom and knowledge (indigenous and non-indigenous) into land management practices. Building a shared land management knowledge base to extend the learning.	Stage 1: Extend the foot print of SQL's project 'From Knowledge to Action: Drought Resilience Through Regional Peer Learning and Implementation Support'. Adopting its three pathways: - Pathway 1: Traditional Peer-to-Peer Learning Groups - Pathway 2: Single-Day Learning Events - Pathway 3: Implementation Support Through all activities take specific action to: increase the integration of traditional (indigenous and non-indigenous) knowledge; increase the involvement and participation of indigenous/First nations peoples. Make Stage1. findings and resources available. Stage 2: Select and appropriate 'home' for a shared knowledge base and secure funding for the development and management of a pilot (2 years). Evaluate and seek ongoing funding for further development and maintenance. Review the success of the program and recommended improvements.	Stage1: - Case studies identified and shared. - On ground demonstration trials established. - Successful engagement of communities in the region occurring and monitored – particularly indigenous/First Nations peoples. Stage2: Shared knowledge base selected, resourced and piloted. Areas for program expansion and/or improvement identified and implemented.	Ongoing	SQL DPI DETSI Agforce QFF SWQROC NRMs, Friends of the Bushland High Schools, TAFE, Universities Drought Hub	Critical 

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Background to Program/Project Development

Issues and Discussions:

Stakeholder engagement strongly supported the concept that improved land management had both explicit and implicit effects on improved drought resilience. Better land (and crop and/or livestock) management practices were nominated as having 'obvious' positive effects on: soil condition; livestock health and resilience; sediments control; weed control; biosecurity; water efficiency etc.

It was noted that there was already a wide (and possibly 'overwhelming') amount of information, training and resources available from a wide variety of sources and providers. However, it seemed efforts needed to focus on improving training participation and/or the uptake and adoption of better practices. Whilst further resources would be welcome, improving adoption and uptake of (existing) better practices would be beneficial in its own right.

As with Darling Downs, it was expressed that incorporating traditional knowledge and 'wisdom' – from the collective experience of both Aboriginal/First Nations elders and non-indigenous 'old farmers' – was very important...especially in Cunnamulla. There was a large amount of discussion on ideas about how to capture and share such knowledge.

The South West engagement reinforced the idea of existing programs and initiatives that have already done well – the Ag Immersion program at St George and Dirranbandi high schools were given as examples.

'Peer-to-Peer' learning; field visits, demonstration projects and on-site learning were suggested as being more effective for 'farmers' than formal training courses. However, this needed to be supplemented with self-learning materials. Also training for extension and support workers-train the trainer. All needed to be provided at no-cost or low-cost.

As with other regions, there were many comments about the need for a shared and/or generic platform for information and learning resources.

This program proposes project activities that are a combination of: research and development; information and knowledge sharing; field testing and capacity-building.

Relevant Stakeholder Comments:

- *Work to link good land management with viability*
- *Need to be better at describing & promoting what each course offers and how to access create a workplan.*
- *Need better follow-up after courses.*
- *St George SHS and Dirranbandi schools have great ag programs... Council planning for St George boarding school (their farm school) the school has the AWE (agriculture, water, environment) collaboration with the council and the AG immersion Program*
- *Incentive vs regulation*
- *This need extension training programs for extension people*
- *Primary producers field days.*

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P4 IMPROVING WATER MANAGEMENT FOR DROUGHT RESILIENCE

PROJECT	PROJECT GOALS	PROPOSED PROJECT ACTIVITIES	PROPOSED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	DROUGHT CYCLE (Before, During, After & Ongoing)	POTENTIAL DELIVERY PARTNERS	PROJECT PRIORITY (Critical, High, Medium)
P4.1 Improving water supply, security and water use efficiency in all households, businesses and public places in the South West Queensland region. 	Water is used more efficiently. Effective local/regional input into water related policy design. Water is better managed during drought.	Stage 1: Establish and/or (where established), better support, Local water committees (e.g. Stanthorpe Community Reference Panel) to provide critical local input into how best to increase water security and water use. Lobby and advocate for continued education and learning programs re: water efficiency. Lobby and advocate for appropriate infrastructure to support regional water security. Lobby and advocate for funding to implement the South West Queensland Water and Sewerage Infrastructure Strategy. Stage 2: Advocate for funding to better support (funding, availability of grants, 'backbone' and governance support etc to the local water committees to carry out their role of increasing water security in the area and more efficient water use.	Stage1: Local water committees are established throughout South West Qld. Continued lobbying and advocacy for education and learning programs re: water efficiency and appropriate infrastructure to support regional water security. Lobbying and advocacy for funding to implement the South West Queensland Water and Sewerage Infrastructure Strategy – strategy is being implemented. Stage2: The local water committees are being adequately funded and/or are better supported – and are providing key input into government policy and programs. Continued lobbying and advocacy for: education and learning programs and further implementation of the South West Queensland Water and Sewerage Infrastructure Strategy.	Before	Local Governments RDADDSW One Basin CRC Local Government, South West Qld regional Water user groups, NRM & Catchment Management Orgs, SunWater and other Water providers, Local Governments, First Nations Groups LDMGs	High 
P4.2 Increase the support to farmers to improve their water related infrastructure.		Advocate for an increase in available funding for water infrastructure in any drought related funding schemes.	A detailed business case prepared which supports an increase in the water infrastructure grants and a broadening of eligibility, and a range of other support options. The case is presented to government by a representative group of	Ongoing		Medium

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P			stakeholders.			
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Background to Program/Project Development

Issues and Discussions:

Water security and the need for more reliable water supply for a number of communities in the South West Qld was not a topic in the South West that generated a lot of discussion (possibly because the engagement workshops were held at a time when recent flooding events were still in people's minds). Nevertheless, during the prioritisation exercises, the engagement participants ranked the topic highly.

It was recognised that efforts need to continue on a number of water-based reforms: improved regional water infrastructure to supply urban, industrial and agricultural water needs; improved on-site water infrastructure (and support/subsidy/tax relief to fund it) for agriculture; increased use of water-efficient infrastructure and technology across all sectors (including public facilities); and continuing education around water efficient practices

This program proposes projects that are a combination of: governance; lobbying and advocacy; education; funding and support.

Relevant Stakeholder Comments:

- *Water infrastructure subsidies need to stay*
- *GABSI scheme is very good*
- *SW Water and Waste Strategy needs to be looked at*
- *"water is critical for human needsneeds to be cheaper"*

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P5 SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES IN THE SOUTH WEST QUEENSLAND REGION FOR BETTER DROUGHT RESILIENCE

PROJECT	PROJECT GOALS	PROJECT ACTIVITIES	PROJECT DELIVERABLES	DROUGHT CYCLE (Before, During, After & Ongoing)	DELIVERY PARTNERS	PROJECT PRIORITY (Critical, High, Medium)
P5.1 Strengthen Community Networks in South West Queensland 	Strong community networks to lobby and advocate for change, provide input for planning and preparation, and provide support during droughts	Identify and map existing community networks and relevant government/non-governments agencies and organisations. Identify role (existing and potential) in: lobbying/advocacy; planning and input; providing support Develop a strategy to seek funding and resources to strengthen networks and alliances. Seek funding from various sources (e.g. FRRR)	Network map with identification of existing/potential roles Strategy to identify and lobby potential funding sources	Ongoing	RDADDSWW Local Disaster Management Groups (LMDG) Federal, State & Local Government Departments. Industry Groups, Chambers of commerce UNSQ SWQROC 'Interagency' groups RFCS, Business advisers Philanthropics Red Cross, NFPs, NGOs Banks and finance sector	High 

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P5.3 Improve the access to and support for community mental health services for South West Queensland communities. 	South West Qld communities are receiving increased mental health support.	Stage 1. Work with Tackling Regional Adversity through Connected Communities (TRACC), RFDS and Public Health Network (PHN) and other mental health programs to develop a more comprehensive South West Qld Regional Mental Health Plan with consideration of building personal and community (drought) resilience. Stage 2. Work with local stakeholders to develop a business case that supports increased funding for existing community based mental health facilities and programs e.g. Men's Shed, Black Dog, Headspace etc. Stage 3. Continue to advocate for increased resources for community based mental health facilities and programs. Develop a case for making Centrelink mental health program to be accessible. Advocate for Centrelink mental health program to be accessible to a wider group of clients.	Stage 1. Improved South West Qld Regional Mental Health Plan drafted. Business case produced and presented to funding bodies. Stage 2. Business case and lobbying and advocacy to increase resources Stage 3. Continued lobbying and advocacy A case for making Centrelink mental health program to be accessible is developed. Meeting with Centrelink and other appropriate government agencies and politicians have occurred.	Ongoing	RDADDSW, Local Government, Qld Health -TRACC PHN Mental health support NFPs – Red X, Salvos, Uniting Care, Churches/Faith groups Mens Shed Black Dog Headspace Outback Futures Centrelink State and Govt agencies	Medium
P5.4 Develop a local 'Resilience Champions' program to support communities through droughts. 	A network of Local 'Resilience Champions' is identified and supported. Their capacity strengthened to allow them to lead and support their communities through droughts and other 'hard times'.	Identify key local 'Resilience Champions' with South West regional stakeholders. Identify appropriate 'leadership' programs (such as FRRR, ARLF, Red Earth) and support local champions to apply for and undertake programs - particularly for young people and women. Initiate a regional 'Resilience Champions' award.	A network of champions is identified in the South West region. 'Resilience Champions' are supported and have successfully applied for appropriate leadership programs. Regional Champions award is sponsored and in place.	Ongoing	QDPI, Local Government, RFCs NRM & Catchment Management Orgs SWQROC Industry Groups -MLA, Universities First nations Groups, NGOs, Lions and Rotary Faith groups, Youth groups - Philanthropic FRRR/ARLF	High 

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P.5.5. Maintaining an adequate workforce in SW communities during drought	Analyse regional workforce profile and historic effects of drought – particularly on agricultural and supply chain workers Develop and trial employment incentives and opportunities for drought - affected communities in SW Qld.	Establish current regional employment 'landscape' and historical impacts of drought on local workforce in SW Qld. Develop and/or build on strategies and ideas, incentives and opportunities to maintain a more stable local workforce. Identify sources of potential funding – government and private sector Seek funding for pilot employment incentives and opportunities for affected communities in SW Qld.	Analysis (report) of workforce issue in SW Qld Development of a SW Qld Workforce Strategy Continued Lobbying and advocacy	Ongoing	RDADDSW UniSQ (CACS) QDPI Industry Groups Drought hubs State and Federal Government agencies Banks and Finance Sector Business and employment groups Local Government, SWQROC, WQAC RFCs and business support groups	Critical 
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Background to Program/Project Development

Issues and Discussions:

This program and projects have been developed from combining project ideas in the engagement workshops.

In a number of locations, community leaders and stakeholders explicitly stated that they felt they were 'well-supplied' with support services for their community. However, the issues around attracting and retaining support service workers were persistent. The issue of access to locally-based support people – for a wide range of 'general' advisory services and for business and social support, was a strong and persistent theme in discussions during the engagement workshops. It was strongly urged to build on the foundation of existing successful programs/initiatives and 'trusted' delivery partners.

In particular, it was identified that access to a choice of mental health services - both medical/clinical and also community/preventative was critically important during times of drought. As discussed, it was important to have a range of delivery options – e.g. anonymous, self-help/study, community events, and peer-to-peer – all supported by trusted and locally-based personnel

The region already has strong regional and community alliances – both formal and informal – and it was noted that these alliances/networks needed resources, 'backbone support' and succession planning. They were deemed as critical to maintaining the 'social glue' that kept communities working effectively together during times of drought and also for collective lobbying and advocacy. The idea of identifying and celebrating 'community champions' was one that had a lot of support especially in Charleville.

The issue of maintaining an adequate workforce for a range of roles- agricultural, non-agricultural, on-farm, off-farm, support, small business etc – was highlighted as being persistent and critical.... And one that was severely exacerbated by drought. Stakeholders suggested that there were many 'small' ideas that would all contribute to increased attraction and retention but there was recognition that it was an issue that needed continued and coordinated action as well as continued lobbying and advocacy. Some ideas (e.g. a community drought feedlot) sought to use drought itself as a trigger to develop employment opportunities.

This program proposes projects that are a combination of: identifying gaps in current services; building networks and partnerships; strengthening governance; lobbying and advocacy; education; funding and support.

Relevant Stakeholder Comments:

- *Consistent local face needed*
- *Housing is an issue*
- *Grow your own workshop*
- *Suitability of applicants e.g. nursing*
- *Have to accept that some people just don't want help*
- *Need to be able to help small business*
- *Lack of housing for staff*
- *Lack of childcare*
- *Grant writing workshops needed*
- *Piss off govt regulations + red tape*
- *De-centralisation of Govt services not the numbers that used to be.*
- *Strategic workforce plan e.g. High School traineeship*
- *What do we need to engage with landholders who are not engaging with existing information.*
- *Housing a big challenge to get people here advocacy required to address.*
- *Incentivise the renovation of houses*
- *Challenge to get staff*
- *Around here getting a workforce is the challenge.*
- *Access childcare help & education (ag colleges)*
- *Focus on getting young people into staying in the workforce*
- *Look to opportunities for doing online work which would require upskilling... this would require good digital connectivity*
- *Drought feeding (lot) facility – diversification project*
- *Mining industry currently provides an opportunity for people to work off farm – need to look to the future?*



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P6 ADEQUATE AND APPROPRIATE DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT DROUGHT RESILIENCE

PROJECT	PROJECT GOALS	PROJECT ACTIVITIES	PROJECT DELIVERABLES	DROUGHT CYCLE (Before, During, After & Ongoing)	DELIVERY PARTNERS	PROJECT PRIORITY (Critical, High, Medium)
P6.1 Improve digital connectivity and the use of digitally based technology for the South West Queensland region. 	Effective digital connectivity for all communities in the South West Qld region. A reduction in the extent of connectivity 'black spots' in the region. South West Qld communities are better able to take advantage of digital products and programs. Uptake of Agricultural technology (Agtech) is improved.	Stage 1. Continued lobbying TELCOs and Government to improve digital services to the South West Qld region Stage 2. Use existing reviews - e.g. SWQROC Digital Infrastructure Committee Report to further develop ideas for implementation. Identify 'black spots' for home, mobile and farm connectivity in the South West Qld region. Advocate for more resources to address the region's 'black spots'. Stage 3. Identify and document existing digital literacy programs in the South West Qld region. Advocate for more resources to deliver these digital literacy programs in the region. Stage 4. Continued lobbying and advocacy for funding/resources to trial and pilot new Agtech products/resources in the South West Qld region	Stage 1. A comprehensive database/map of black spot areas produced and verified for the South West Qld region. Stage 2. Selection of key ideas from the SWQROC Digital Infrastructure Committee Report <i>to be further developed for lobbying and funding applications</i>. Current and updated map of black spots in the region – business case and continued advocacy for a program to reduce the extent of blackspots in the region. Stage 3. Collated report of existing digital literacy services and gaps in services. Continued lobbying and advocacy for increased digital literacy programs Stage 4. Funding opportunities identified and accessed. Pilot programs are developed. Pilot projects delivered in the region with project subsidy – they are evaluated and a business case of results (economic and other) is developed and made available. Examples of new technology adoption are available for contact/field visits	Ongoing	QLD DNRMMR&RD, RDADDSW, Local Government SWQROC TELCOs RFCS, QDPI, Department of Education, TAFE, Schools Digital technology companies, Agtech companies RDADDSW QDPI, Universities, RD&E organisations, Industry groups, Private sector, Banks, Financial institutions.	Medium

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Background to Program/Project Development

Issues and Discussions:

Lack of digital connectivity, poor internet service and mobile black spots are “...*simply a fact of life out here...*” in discussions with stakeholders across South West Qld. It is persistent topic of many annoyed discussions. Engagement discussions highlighted that an increasing number of government drought-related services were increasingly being shifted to an ‘online’ service (eg information, Telehealth, applications for government programs etc)...and without reliable internet connections these services were increasingly difficult to access for people in the South West Qld. Similarly, it was noted that many ‘drought-related’ education and learning programs were only available in an online format and once again, poor internet connections made them harder to access. Even weather warning/forecasting systems often relied on reliable and high speed internet connections to be effective

As in Darling Downs, there were frequent comments and remarks from local stakeholders that better internet and mobile services were “...*their right*” ... and “...*simply the responsibility of the government and the Telcos...*”. There was a strong opinion that whilst it was a critical priority in the region, the Drought Plan should not prioritise allocation of funding/resources on this topic. Some people simply advocated for the government to subsidise access to satellite- based services such as Starlink.

It was strongly suggested to build upon existing positive initiatives- e.g the SWQROC Digital Infrastructure Committee Report – and use this as a foundation for implementable ideas.

This program proposes projects that are a combination of: identifying gaps in current services, lobbying and advocacy; education; funding and support.

Relevant Stakeholder Comments:

- *How to use these digital contraptions is the issue.*
- *Digital literacy is the real issue*
- *Go to FRRR for grants*
- *One of the biggest game changers*
- *SWQROC Digital Infrastructure Committee Report (Sam O Toole) – implementation of this could be included*
- *Support farmers to adopt tech on farms and to better manage their land (education and tech support) e.g. on-farm telemetry*
- *various projects have been submitted for funding through FDF...what are the Gaps?*
- *community access to the internet online services in central Hub (i.e. in Mungindi in the past) including when tourism industry can be supported – ongoing support for council library Hubs*
- *in drought subsidy for Starlink/internet boosters etc for anyone in the region*

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P9 CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR DROUGHT RESILIENCE

PROJECT	PROJECT GOALS	PROJECT ACTIVITIES	PROJECT DELIVERABLES	DROUGHT CYCLE (Before, During, After & Ongoing)	DELIVERY PARTNERS	PROJECT PRIORITY (Critical, High, Medium)
P7.1 Identifying critical 'community support' infrastructure in the South West Queensland region and taking steps to ensure it adequately meets community needs in drought times. 	Critical infrastructure that contributes to reducing the impact of drought is known, built, maintained and upgraded.	Work with community members to undertake a review of 'critical' community support infrastructure in the South West Qld region– used by the community during times of drought. Develop a South West Qld Regional map and strategy to build and/or maintain adequate 'critical' community support infrastructure throughout the South West Qld region.	A series of community Drought Resilience Community Support Infrastructure field visits/workshops to gather findings and develop ideas for a regional strategy. e.g. Cunnamulla, Quilpie, Thargomindah, Roma, Charleville, StGeorge etc A regional review and map of 'critical' community support infrastructure that is 'vital' during periods of drought – along with a discussion paper with findings (possibly and App and website) A Drought Resilience Infrastructure Strategy for the South West Qld region is drafted and shared with relevant government agencies, asset managers and local governments.	Ongoing	RDADDSW Local Govts. LGAQ SWQROC Industry Groups, Chambers of Commerce CWA, Red Cross, Not-for- profits Local Sporting Groups, Faith-based organisations and churches, Youth groups IPWEA IEAUST Philanthropics – e.g. BHP Foundation LDMGs, RDMGs	Critical 

Draft South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Implementation Plan (RDRiP)

Background to Program/Project Development

Issues and Discussions:

Stakeholder workshops highlighted the need to plan for, build and maintain 'critical support infrastructure' that is vital for community resilience during drought. This topic was ranked very highly in the South West region.

Public and local government infrastructure such as roads, hospitals, airstrips, stock routes, water supply and storage etc, also needed to be planned for and maintained in expectation of drought periods. Typically this is done by local government in coordination with states and the Commonwealth agencies.

Many stories and anecdotes from regional participants and stakeholders, highlighted the need to ensure that the 'community support' infrastructure was maintained and available during drought periods – this could include community meeting spaces, showgrounds, sports fields, swimming pools etc. Whilst the value of such infrastructure could at first appear intangible, such places often were critical to maintaining the social 'glue' and mental wellbeing that keeps individuals and communities resilient during droughts.

It was suggested this is a topic that would be best addressed by the development of a region-wide strategy and response. It also needs to coordinate with community support infrastructure that is utilised by the Disaster Management Groups during natural disasters.

This program proposes projects that are a combination of: identifying gaps in current services, planning and mapping, developing a strategy, building community networks and lobbying and advocacy for funding.

Relevant Stakeholder Comments:

- *All services need to know what all other services are doing.*
- *House – SW Regional stakeholder network*
- *Make sure all stakeholders come along*
- *Infrastructure is there, just need to know where to find it.*
- *Community Navigator...For Charleville, Sandy Gurney is in place*
- *Murweh Shine do it well!!!*
- **Potential App for trends in the regions*
- *We should have some sort of infrastructure navigator*
- *Organisation perspective and*
- *Community perspective*
- *Maybe LDMGs have this kind of information*
- *Neighbourhood Centres QLD have a good drought Strategy*
- *Hold events – that bring all the services together eg mental health*
- *-Maintaining sporting clubs is critical*
- *-Stock route critical infrastructure*
- *-Roma saleyard/ Basset Parks*
- *-Road Network is critical*

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APPENDICES.

1. Alignment with the South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Plan (RDRP)

The projects described in this implementation plan (RDRiP) build upon the Resilience Activities identified in the South West Queensland RDRP. The following table indicates the alignment of the projects to the relevant RDRP Resilience Activities.

Note: RDRP Resilience Activities were sometimes combined where it logically led to a clear project design. The final list of projects in this RDRiP was developed and prioritised based on the input from regional stakeholders during our engagement – some RDRP activities may still require further development in the future.

South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Implementation Plan (RDRiP)		South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Plan (RDRP)	
Program	Project	Resilience Activity	Ref Page
Improving drought planning, impact monitoring and early warning systems in the South West Qld region.	Develop: - Socio-economic vulnerability and risk profiles for various community sectors in the South West Qld - Vulnerability and risk profiles for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the South West Qld - Risk profiles for South West Qld land systems that are most vulnerable and at risk to the impacts of drought.	<i>Develop risk profiles of vulnerable groups, including women, children, the elderly, farmers, pastoralists, marginalised communities and Indigenous groups.</i>	53
		<i>Design effective drought monitoring and early warning systems – integrating climate, soil, water and socioeconomic indicators, along with real time drought assessment products that provide timely information to support decisions.</i>	53
		<i>Establish trends in key health indicators of individuals and communities including well-being, population trends and health service provision for South West Qld.</i>	53
		<i>Establish agreed landscape vulnerability and risk indicators for landscapes and natural environment.</i>	58
		<i>Further develop and fund monitoring frameworks to track farm and town business viability.</i>	55
	Developing more effective measurement of drought - by intensity, spatial and other scales.	<i>Invest in developing and maintaining weather and other early warning infrastructure to ensure there is coverage for all of the South West Qld region at a local scale.</i>	53

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	Increase the regional capacity to interpret and extend relevant climate and drought forecast indicators.	<i>Build local teams in the South West Qld region to provide effective interpretation and usage of drought monitoring, early warning and short time forecasting products.</i>	53
Building drought resilience through improving business viability.	Strengthen business planning and financial literacy in South West Queensland regional communities.	<i>Support free/ low-cost Business Mentoring programs, such as Rural Financial Counsellors, to better prepare farming and town businesses, and to assist them in preparing and planning for and managing their businesses during drought.</i>	56
	Better understand the potential challenges/benefits of business diversification options.	<i>Establish on and off farm business diversification opportunities along with analysis of opportunities, risks, blockers to uptake and establishment costs associated with these diversification opportunities.</i>	56
Improve land management for drought resilience	Reducing the impacts of drought on land condition through improved land management.	<i>Continue to design participatory, tailored and comprehensive drought monitoring and early warning systems, integrating multi-scale climate, soil and water information.</i>	57
		<i>Promote agricultural production systems that are drought resistant.</i>	59
		<i>Improve communication and information-sharing processes to increase awareness of risks to landscapes and natural environment associated with drought.</i>	58
		<i>Use local and Indigenous knowledge on drought characteristics, impacts and risks on landscape and natural environment wherever feasible.</i>	58
Improving water management for drought resilience	Improving water supply, security and water use efficiency in all households, businesses and public places in the South West Queensland region.	<i>Increase water supply options through investment in sustainable approaches to water harvesting, locating new potential resources, building new storages and groundwater recharge.</i>	61
		<i>Implement principles of Integrated Water Resource Management to reduce pressure on water resources and increase availability of water to reduce the number of people exposed to drought impacts.</i>	61
	Increase the support to farmers to improve their water related infrastructure.	<i>Build financial capacity in farm enterprises to allow for the maintenance of property infrastructure during drought.</i>	61
Supporting communities in the South West Qld region for better drought resilience	Strengthen Community Networks in South West Queensland.	<i>Increase regional capacity to share drought risk and coordinate drought resilience as a priority for the whole region.</i>	54
		<i>Promote social networking/community events in droughts so that "a problem shared is a problem halved".</i>	54

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	Improve access to and sustainability of local support services in drought-affected areas of South West Queensland.	<i>Enhance community's capacity for self-help through having health and financial support workers to be locally based and not only prioritised to areas of greatest need but also to communities that have taken efforts to reduce their vulnerability.</i>	54
	Improve the access to and support for community mental health services for South West Queensland communities.	<i>Enhance community's capacity for self-help through having health and financial support workers to be locally based and not only prioritised to areas of greatest need but also to communities that have taken efforts to reduce their vulnerability.</i>	54
	Develop a local 'Resilience Champions' program to support communities through droughts.	<i>Develop and implement a comprehensive framework of Drought Resilience education programs, including school education programs, vocational and tertiary programs, 'professional' training programs, training for agricultural enterprises and local businesses, academic programs and research.</i>	54
		<i>Increase regional capacity to share drought risk and coordinate drought resilience as a priority for the whole region.</i>	54
	Maintaining an adequate workforce in SW communities during drought.	<i>Introduce employment incentives and opportunities for affected communities in South West Queensland.</i>	54
Adequate and appropriate digital infrastructure to support drought resilience.	Improve digital connectivity and use of digitally based technology for the South West Queensland region.	<i>Funding infrastructure that provides and/or informs early warning systems is a priority of governments.</i>	60
		<i>The level of infrastructure required to service rural communities is known.</i>	60
		<i>Ensure that adequate resources are available to build and maintain essential infrastructure.</i>	60
Critical infrastructure for drought resilience	Identify critical 'community support' infrastructure and the level of maintenance required to keep that infrastructure, so it adequately meets community needs in drought times.	<i>The level of infrastructure required to service rural communities is known.</i>	60
		<i>Ensure that adequate resources are available to build and maintain essential infrastructure.</i>	60

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2. Priority Programs and Projects – based on results of stakeholder and community engagement

Five engagement roundtable stakeholder discussions were held at Roma, St George, Cunnamulla, Charleville and Quilpie. The objectives of the roundtable forums were to:

- Introduce attendees to the SW Regional Drought Resilience Plan (RDRP) which was developed in 2022 and endorsed by Ministers in 2023
- Discuss and further develop project concepts that would deliver on the SWRDRP goals and outcomes around reducing the impact of drought on communities, economies, landscapes and infrastructure
- Prioritise those project concepts

Attendance at the roundtable forums varied from 20 to 4 participants with the total number of attendees being 55. The attendees came from a cross section of stakeholders, organisations and agencies. The attendance numbers of those who registered as 'Primary Producers' and/or 'First Nations people' were low, however many of the attendees had a number of roles and brought multiple perspectives e.g. financial counsellors who also had their own farms/properties. Local Government in the region was well represented by councillors and/or staff.

Project Prioritisation

The project actions and ideas in the original RDRP were reviewed and collated to a series of 18 projects to be used in the roundtable workshops– seen in the following table. Possible (draft) implementation activities for each of the projects were provided as discussion starters. The roundtable feedback collected was used to further develop project concepts from individual and/or a combination of the following 18 project topics. At the close of each workshop, participants 'prioritised' the project ideas by allocating 10 dots beside those projects they felt were most important – and this is shown in the table below. The table also identifies several projects, that have been ultimately combined into one program or project.

When prioritising projects and activities for funding. Consideration should be given to the phase of drought (before, during or after) at the time of prioritising and future seasonal projections. The successful implementation of some of the projects identified will be very strongly influenced by the phase of drought that is current at time of implementation. Another consideration should be the opportunities provided through various funding programs. A level of flexibility may be required to match the project importance (from engagement) with the funding program objectives.



Draft South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Implementation Plan (RDRIP)

Taking this into mind, the following tables provides indicative prioritised project topics.

PROJECTS RANKED DURING ENGAGEMENT (Higher score = Higher Perceived priority)	ROMA	ST GEORGE	CUNNAMULLA	CHARLEVILLE	QUILPIE	TOTAL	'TOP FIVE' RANKED PROJECTS 1=Highest
1 Drought impact & early warning indicators	2	1	3	1	4	11	
2 Improving drought impact monitoring/warning hardware, technology & infrastructure	5	1	5	2	1	14	
3 Strengthening local capacity to understand and use data & drought related information	4	6	7	6	1	24	
4 Effective drought data management		1	1	4	3	9	
5 Local wisdom and traditional knowledge is utilised	5	1	11	9		26	
6 Improve business skills and capacity	12	12	7	12	3	46	1
7 Drought resilient land management	7	5	4	14	4	34	5
8 Maintain adequate SW workforce during drought	3	5	11	18	3	40	2
9 Adequate digital connectivity in SW region	4	2	3	2		11	
10 Improved water security and efficiency	3	9	4	10	3	29	
11 Business diversifications	4	10	7	11	4	36	4
12 Better understanding of value of renewables etc	4			9		11	
13 Drought vulnerability and risk profiles		9	3	7	4	23	
14 Maintenances of critical community support infrastructure	7	6	5	1	19	38	3
15 Strengthened regional alliances and networks	4	2		3	7	16	
16 Community resilience champions	4	2	5	18		29	
17 Access to (local) community support services	5	3	8	2		18	
18 Access to (local) community based mental health services	7	2	5			14	

A lot of discussion to combine these projects	A lot of discussion to combine these projects	A lot of discussion to combine these projects	A lot of discussion to combine these projects
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Draft South West Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Implementation Plan (RDRiP)

The table below was developed to lessen the bias that may have resulted from larger forum numbers in some locations compared to others. The project topics below are those that each workshop prioritised as being in the highest five

Individual Location Rankings					
Roma	Improve business skills and capacity	Maintenance of critical community support infrastructure	Access to (local) community based mental health services (and other support services)	Improving drought monitoring/warning hardware, technology & infrastructure	Drought resilient land management
St George	Improve business skills and capacity	Maintenance of critical community support infrastructure	Local capacity to understand and use data & drought related information	Drought vulnerability and risk profiles	Business diversification
Cunnamulla	Local capacity to understand and use data & drought related information	Local wisdom and traditional knowledge is utilised	Access to (local) community support services	Maintain adequate SW workforce during drought	Business diversification
Charleville	Improve business skills and capacity	Drought resilient land management	Community resilience champions	Maintain adequate SW workforce during drought	Business diversification
Quilpie	Drought impact & early warning indicators	Maintenance of critical community support infrastructure	Strengthened regional alliances and networks	Drought vulnerability and risk profiles	Drought resilient land management

Identified as a TOP FIVE priority in three locations	Identified as a TOP FIVE priority in two locations	Identified as a TOP FIVE priority in one location
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Engagement findings indicate that the following project topics are a priority for stakeholders in the South West Region:

- Improve business skills and capacity
- Maintenance of critical community support infrastructure
- Drought resilient land management
- Business diversification
- Access to (local) community based mental health services (and other support services)
- Local capacity to understand and use data & drought related information
- Drought vulnerability and risk profiles
- Maintain adequate South West region's workforce during drought

. The results of all engagement findings, including both tables, were considered when developing the final RDRiP prioritisation.



14.19 SPECIAL PROJECTS

File Number: 162809
Author: Chris Woodland, Projects Manager
Authoriser: Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Special Projects report for the month for July 2026.

GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS**Residential Activation Fund (RAF) - Replacement of Thargomindah Sewerage Treatment Plant**

GHD Engineering has advised that preliminary design activities are continuing; however, completion of the preliminary design report has been delayed due to dependencies on final MEDLI water balance modelling. Final geotechnical investigations have been completed, and the report has been provided to GHD to support design development. Final modelling work has now been received from the specialist consultant and is being incorporated into the project assessment. GHD has advised that the preliminary design report, including assessment of the shortlisted treatment options, is expected to be delayed by approximately one to two weeks from the original program.

Key technical investigations have identified that the existing pond system performs more favourably than previously assumed following recent desilting works, with updated modelling providing a more accurate representation of site conditions. Design development will continue once the final modelling outcomes have been reviewed and incorporated into the preliminary design assessment.

Residential Activation Fund (RAF) - Thargomindah Golf Course Effluent Ponds

Desilting works at the Thargomindah Golf Course effluent ponds have now been completed, restoring storage capacity within the pond system. Recent rainfall has resulted in the ponds refilling and they are currently at high water levels, demonstrating the effectiveness of the completed maintenance works and improved pond capacity.

Recent investigations and modelling have confirmed that the golf course effluent ponds have significantly increased storage capacity following desilting works. Site observations indicate the ponds are currently holding high water levels following recent rainfall events without overflowing, demonstrating improved storage performance.

Updated modelling has also provided a more accurate representation of pond performance under current operating conditions and will be incorporated into GHD Engineering's assessment of long-term wastewater treatment and effluent management options. The investigations have identified that future reuse of treated effluent for golf course irrigation may remain a viable option, subject to regulatory requirements and future operational needs.



Golf Course – Desilted effluent ponds 1 and 2

Residential Activation Fund (RAF) – Frew and Sams Street Trunk Infrastructure

Detailed design development for the Frew and Sams Street Trunk Infrastructure project is progressing across the proposed water, sewer and stormwater networks. Engineering reviews have focused on coordinating the new infrastructure with existing services, reducing utility conflicts and improving constructability outcomes for future delivery.

Sewer infrastructure

Design development for the Frew and Sams Street Trunk Infrastructure project is progressing in consultation with GHD Engineering, Flovac and relevant utility providers. Recent work has focused on refining the vacuum sewer design to improve constructability, reduce conflicts with existing infrastructure and minimise excavation risks. Design amendments include adjustments to sewer alignments, increased clearances from power infrastructure and adoption of the smaller 450-litre collection pit configuration to reduce excavation depth and construction complexity.

An electrical safety advice request has been submitted to Ergon Energy to confirm requirements for works in proximity to existing power infrastructure, with responses expected in the coming weeks. Further revisions to the Flovac design drawings are also underway to incorporate Council's preferred design outcomes and address utility service constraints identified during detailed design review.

The project remains in the detailed design phase, with engineering reviews and utility coordination continuing to support procurement and construction planning.

Stormwater infrastructure

Design coordination has been undertaken to ensure the proposed drainage system integrates with the sewer network and avoids conflicts with underground services. Reviews have focused on maintaining appropriate separations between sewer, water and stormwater assets while supporting the future development outcomes of the precinct.

Water infrastructure

Key works substantially completed include the installation of the new water main infrastructure along Frew Street, Moore Street, Henry Street and sections of Sams Street, together with associated property service connections, valves, hydrants and testing requirements. Variation works were undertaken following confirmation that some existing water services shown on historic plans did not exist and additional infrastructure was required to fully service the area.

The project has encountered some delays due to wet weather and limited sections of rock excavation; however, these issues were managed on site and works continued without significant impact to the overall project outcome. Council and the contractor worked collaboratively to address these matters and progress the project toward completion.

Subject to completion of the remaining minor works, commissioning and final close-out documentation. After discussion with the contractor the, Town Water Services Tender is expected to be completed by the end of August.



Sams St -Town water installation

Community Energy Upgrade Fund (CEUF)

Key works completed or substantially completed include the installation of the new water main infrastructure along Frew Street, Moore Street, Henry Street and sections of Sams Street, together with associated property service connections, valves, hydrants and testing requirements. Variation works were undertaken following confirmation that several existing water services shown on historic plans did not exist and additional infrastructure was required to fully service the area.

The project encountered some delays due to wet weather and limited sections of rock excavation; however, these issues were managed on site and works continued without significant impact to the overall project outcome. Council and the contractor worked collaboratively to address these matters and progress the project toward completion.

Subject to completion of the remaining minor works, commissioning and final close-out documentation, the Town Water Services Tender is expected to be completed shortly



Proposed CEUF funded Solar installation extension location to sports oval

Sport and Recreation Recovery Grant (SRRG)

Sport and Recreation Recovery Grant (SRRG) Program Update

Overall Program Status

All five SRRG-funded projects are active, with investigations, condition assessments, project planning and scope development continuing across the program. Current efforts are focused on completing the information required to support detailed scopes of work, cost estimates and procurement documentation for submission to the Department by 31 August 2026.

The Department has advised that final approval of the submitted project information is required before procurement, contractor engagement and construction activities can commence. As a result, current activities are focused on planning, assessments and project development to ensure all projects are ready to proceed immediately upon receipt of final Departmental approval.

Rodeo Grounds Upgrade

Detailed inspections and assessment of the existing fencing infrastructure have been completed to support development of replacement fencing works under the recovery program. A comprehensive inspection of the existing water supply and effluent infrastructure has also been undertaken and will assist in preparing the scope of works for future upgrades. A detailed electrical audit and condition assessment of the existing electrical and lighting infrastructure is also proposed prior to seeking quotations for electrical upgrade and replacement works. These investigations will assist in defining project priorities, identifying compliance requirements and supporting future procurement activities.

Sports Field Upgrade

Site inspections have been completed as part of the Sports Field recovery project. A comprehensive electrical audit and condition assessment of the existing electrical and sports lighting infrastructure is to be undertaken prior to seeking quotations for any electrical, lighting or associated infrastructure upgrade works. The audit will assist in defining the scope of works, identifying compliance requirements and ensuring future procurement activities are based on a clear understanding of existing asset condition.

Golf Club Restoration Project

Detailed inspections and assessment of fencing infrastructure have been completed to support the development of replacement fencing works within the Golf Club recovery project. Desilting works at the golf course effluent ponds have also been completed, restoring storage capacity within the pond system. Following recent rainfall events, the ponds have refilled and are currently holding high water levels, demonstrating the effectiveness of the completed maintenance works and improved pond performance.

Memorial Park Recovery Project

Planning, procurement and project scoping activities continue for the Memorial Park restoration project. Project scheduling and scope refinement activities remain ongoing to support delivery of the approved flood recovery works and restoration of community infrastructure.

Community Centre and Squash Courts Restoration

Project planning and delivery activities continue for the Community Centre and Squash Courts restoration project. Procurement preparation, contractor engagement and project scheduling activities remain ongoing to support completion of the approved recovery works and return of the facilities to full operational use.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Housing Maintenance

Planning for a structured housing maintenance program is underway to address priority maintenance items and reduce the current maintenance backlog across Council-owned dwellings. Existing inspection reports and maintenance records are being reviewed and consolidated to assist with the development of detailed scopes of work and cost estimates.

Current activities are focused on developing a comprehensive maintenance register, prioritising works and establishing a structured delivery program to support future procurement and housing asset management.

Thargomindah Town Water Cooling System Audit

Background: An independent inspection and audit of the Thargomindah Water Cooling Plant, cooling ponds and associated power infrastructure was commissioned through Leigh Fowkes of Northern Renewable Group. The scope of the review included assessment of the cooling plant operation, cooling pond system, solar and battery infrastructure, power supply arrangements, historical operational issues, and identification of options to improve system performance and reliability.

The audit report is currently being reviewed and will assist in developing future upgrade and maintenance priorities for the cooling plant and associated infrastructure. The recommendations will support the preparation of future works programs, budgeting considerations and long-term asset management planning for the facility.

Brief findings:

The site inspection found the ABB PowerStore BESS, pump control room and Schneider ElectricSCADA/control system to be in generally good condition and operating satisfactorily under the conditions available during the inspection. The PV/BESS supplied the observed site loads over the two-day period without observed grid import, and the BESS maintained stable internal temperature and balanced rack SOC indications.

The most significant current physical issues are the missing/damaged PV modules and the Tank No. 3 leak. The PV arrays should be reinstated using electrically and mechanically compatible replacement modules, with DC connector types verified before installation and bypass wiring appropriately protected or removed. Tank No. 3 should be repaired and the hydraulic system returned to normal configuration before final integrated testing.

A final assessment of peak-system adequacy should be based on a warm-weather integrated performance test after rectification. This test is necessary to establish whether the existing PV generation and BESS have sufficient power and usable energy to support the complete cooling plant under high ambient temperature and sustained cooling demand, and to confirm the intended grid-support sequence.



14.20 OPERATIONAL SERVICES REPORT**File Number:** 162784**Author:** George Inocentes, Engineer**Authoriser:** Tiffany Dare, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** 1. Flovac - Monthly Sewer Report - Thargomindah - July 2026 (under separate cover)**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive and note the Operational Services Report for July 2026.

TMR RMPC (Routine Maintenance Performance Contract)

- Tender for Grid removal along 94A and 94B have been approved.
- Clearing works along Cunnamulla Road and Quilpie Road continues.
- Shoulder Grading has been on progress along Bundeena Road

TMR FLOOD DAMAGE RESTORATION DRFA

Flood Damage Restoration works:

- Eulo–Hungerford Road (7001): Heavy Formation Grading with top-up gravel.
 - Crushing of gravel at Boorrara Pit has been delayed due to recent rainfall. The crushing contractor has commenced crushing gravel.
- Bundeena Road (94B) & Cunnamulla–Thargomindah Road (94A):
 - In-situ stabilisation works have been awarded to Everest Civil and are scheduled to commence in the last week of August. Works have been timed to enable sealing of the stabilised sections in early September during more favourable weather conditions.
 - Austek has been awarded the bitumen sealing works, which are programmed to commence following completion of the stabilisation works.

TMR TIDS (Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme)

- Survey has commenced for the required section for proper design, Council Staff has been task to do the survey by using Council Survey instrument.

TMR DRFA Betterment Works at Paroo Crossing

- Council has been in meeting with TMR Principal Engineer and Consultant Engineer to discuss the delivery of pipes
- Negotiation to TMR Betterment project has been finalised and accepted Council Tender price.
- This project can start once we had the award for TMR including the submission of Construction Plan.

- Discussions have been held with TMR engineers regarding project timing, with a preference to commence works in mid-August or early September. An early start will maximise construction time available prior to the storm season, which typically occurs between December and March.
- Council has been engaged by TMR to purchase the Pipes needed for this job.

Country Road Connect (CRC)

- Two significant floodways have been identified along the route which require culvert installations to improve flood resilience and road access.
- Embankment on the Culvert and Pipes has been completed for this job.
- Replace of Grid has been completed including concrete approached for these Grid and this was done in-conjunction with the Culvert works to save money for the concrete while the concreter has been on site.
- Weather permitting, 5.2km will be ready to seal in a couple of stint.
- This works has been delayed due to wet weather that we had on this area.

Drill of Bore

- Bore drilling works have been awarded to Drill Engineering & Pastoral Co (Depco).
- State planning approval has been obtained for the project.
- The project is currently awaiting the required water permit prior to the commencement of drilling activities.

Bundilla Culvert Installation

- Installation of the culvert and concrete works over the culvert have been completed.
- Installation of concrete canvas will commence once site conditions are sufficiently dry and the embankment slopes are suitable for construction activities.

Council Maintenance

- Repairs to, or replacement of, the concrete causeway crown at the Ballera Bridge Crossing have been scheduled, with works to be undertaken by D&D Concrete.
- Road patching works along Warri Gate Road have commence, more patching is needed including Innamincka road.

Sealing Noccundra Airstrip

- Gravel for the subgrade has been completed and laid.
- Crushing of the remaining gravel has been completed
- Carting of gravel for the base has commence and Council engage sub-Contractor to cart the gravel as Council tippers has been busy carting gravel on other Council jobs.

Grid Register

- New updated Grid Register have been completed including defect and latest photos on each grid for Council information as per link below.

REPA Emergent Works

- Tolbra has commenced emergent works on Cameron Corner where bulk of work is to carting some embankment material to fill in on the swamp area.

Sewerage Treatment Plant Upgrade

- GBA Consulting Engineers continue to work closely with Council's Engineer and Special Projects Manager to progress the Sewerage Treatment Plant Upgrade project.
- Desilting works at the treated effluent storage area adjacent to the Golf Club have been completed.
- GHD is continuing hydraulic modelling and technical assessments using information provided by GBA in consultation with Council. The modelling will help inform the next stage of project planning and design.

WATER:**Thargomindah Town Water Supply**

- Cooling Plant:
 - The filter maintenance works required at the Cooling System has been delayed due to availability of the necessary parts in Australia. These parts are expected to be available toward the end of August – these works will be scheduled to occur as soon as the parts are on-hand. These works are being facilitated by NRG, and once completed permission can be sought from the Regulator to bring the system back online.
 - Repairs to the pressure reducing valve at Bore 01 has been delayed due to availability of the required parts, these repairs are expected to be completed by the end of August.
 - BSC staff attended the quarterly SWQWSA meeting which was held in Charleville.
- Bore 02:
 - The Thargomindah Town Water Supply is currently being supplied by Bore 02 only due to a failure of the pressure reduction valve at Bore 01. Bore 01 will be reinstated to operate in conjunction with Bore 02 once the valve has been repaired.
 - The flow rate at Bore 02 has been slightly lowered to reduce the noise being produced by the water flow through the cavity style pressure reducing valve. The pressure will be re-calibrated once Bore 01 is brought back online.

Usage

The following readings were recorded for July 2026:

July water supply usage	16,013.0KL
Total supply from Bore 01	0.0KL
Total supply from Bore 02	16,013.0KL
Average daily water usage	516.5KL
Water supply usage for 2025/2026 (July only)	16,013.0KL
Council's annual allocation (Licence No. 618478)	345,000KL
% of allocation used	4.6%
Maximum Air Temperature	24.3°C
Minimum Air temperature	2.7°C
Average Maximum Air Temperature	19.9°C
Average Minimum Air Temperature	7.8°C
Recorded rainfall for July 2026	19.2mm

Hungerford (Non-potable & Raw Water Supplies)

- There were no incidents reported for the raw water supply during July 2026.

Usage

The following readings were recorded for July 2026 for water usage in Hungerford:

Bore Water – Town Usage	
July water supply usage	90.0KL
Average daily water usage	2.9KL
Water supply usage for 2025/2026 (July only)	90.0KL

Extracted from Bore	
Total water extracted in July	312KL
Total water extracted for 2025/2026 (July only)	312KL

Raw Water – Town Usage	
July water supply usage	301.0KL
Average daily water usage	9.7KL
Water supply usage for 2025/2026 (July only)	301.0KL

Extracted from Paroo River	
Total water extracted in July	744.0KL
Total water extracted for 2025/2026 (July only)	744.0KL

Noccundra (Raw Water Supply)

- There were no incidents reported for the raw water supply during July 2026.

SEWERAGE

Sewerage Pump Station:

- All sewerage operations are now contracted – please see attached for the contractor's report.
- There were no incidents reported at the Sewerage Pump Station during July 2026.

Flovac Operations:

Since Flovac commenced operations, operational hours on the Vac Pumps has reduced from 15+ hours per day to 6 hours per day, but the operator has noticed that the discharge pumps have been operating for a lot longer than expected each day. Further investigations have included testing and performing calculations at night when there is no inward flow which has determined that the flow rate from the discharge pumps has decreased to 2.3L/s – this was determined with no vacuum pumps operating to create optimum performance. Discharge pumps should be operating at a minimum of 8-10L/s per pump to maintain flow levels with influent from the vacuum pumps (16L/s).

The Borger discharge pumps were first installed in 2007, they are a brother load pump with zero tolerance which causes degradation to the rubber lobes. These pumps have been rebuilt several times, with the gear boxes being upgraded approximately 4 years ago to accommodate for the 8-10L/s, however it appears that these pumps are now failing.

Flovac are currently investigating options for replacing these pumps which will include having a back-up pump on-hand to ensure continuity of operations should there be a pump failure or breakdown.

Sewerage Treatment Plant:

- All sewerage operations are now contracted – please see attached for the contractor's report.
- There were no incidents reported at the Sewerage Treatment Plant during July 2026.

Usage

The calculated volume of effluent pumped and processed by the sewerage treatment plant is ongoing with the following results recorded. The flow through the Thargomindah Sewerage Treatment plant for July 2026 was:

Total discharge pumped to wastewater treatment plant	2,636.16KL
Total volume of effluent discharge from the Wastewater Plant	1,348.0KL
Average daily discharge to wastewater plant	85.04KL
Total discharge from Wastewater Plant 2025/2026 (July only)	1,348.0KL

WASTE

- Rubbish collection services for both wheelie bins and skip bins were carried out without incident throughout July.
- A staff member has been permanently appointed to oversee the day-to-day operations of the Landfill area and Recycle area of the Thargomindah Refuse Facility.
- Representatives from the Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation (DETSI) visited the region to meet relevant staff and inspect the waste facilities identified in the current Environmental Authority. The sites visited included:
 - Thargomindah Sewerage Treatment Plant
 - Thargomindah Pump Station
 - Thargomindah Sewerage Lagoons
 - All Refuse Facilities (Thargomindah, Noccundra and Hungerford)
 - All Sports Grounds (Thargomindah, Noccundra and Hungerford) for an inspection of sewer catchments.

WORKSHOP REPORT

All Generators - monthly checks all around town – Have been carried out by Staff

Various machines –replacement of new batteries, Tyres & services – as needed

Outstanding Defects

Only plant and equipment that are currently **out of service** are listed below. Plant remaining operational and awaiting minor repairs has not been included in this report.

PLANT No	PLANT DESCRIPTION	DEFECT TYPE	Comments	Date Purchase Order	Purchase Order No.
558	Loader	External door lock broken	The external door lock is inoperable, requiring staff to reach through the window to open the door. This has resulted in a workplace injury. The plant has been tagged out of service by WHS pending repair of the door locking mechanism and confirmation that the unit is safe to return to operation.	3/07/2026	31539
5001	Traffic Lights	Solar wiring from the solar is not charging battery	Mechanic has identified a fault with the solar charging system. Due to the age of the unit, replacement parts are difficult to source. <i>Council is currently assessing the cost-effectiveness of repairs compared with replacement or hire of an alternative unit.</i>	3/02/2026	30635
5003	Traffic Lights	control box won't respond & keep breaking fuses	Mechanic has identified faults within the control box, which is repeatedly blowing fuses. Due to the age of the unit, replacement parts are difficult to source. <i>Council is currently assessing the cost-effectiveness of repairs compared with replacement or hire of an alternative unit.</i>	3/02/2026	30635
9007	Kubota Mower	Right Mower Blade has come loose, replace discharge Cover, Replace spindle guard/cup	Waiting on Quotes/order		
124	EWP	Will not travel- stuck as if it is elevated	Waiting on Quotes/order		

Plant Defects Register			
STATUS			
DEFECTS			
DATE	MONTH DEFECTS REPORTED	DEFECTS REPAIRED	TOTAL DEFECTS (OUTSTANDING)
24-Dec	3	0	3
30-Dec	74	70	4
January	19	17	2
February	32	30	2
March	30	29	1
April	12	11	1
May	28	25	2
June	15	10	5
July	28	11	17
August	3	0	3
September			
October			
November			
December			
	244	203	40

Purchase of Council New Plant Machine

The following new Council Plant is schedule to be deliver by the winning tenderer:

Budget Purchases Still to come:

- 12ton Truck Crane/Tip – tender awarded
- Roller Pedestrian

Plant Arrivals

Nil

15 LATE ITEMS

16 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil

17 NEXT MEETING

18 CLOSURE