

INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL
NOTICE OF MEETING
CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

8 March, 2018

A Civil & Environmental Services Committee Meeting will be held in the Committee Room, Administrative Centre, 144 Otho Street, Inverell on Wednesday, 14 March 2018, commencing at 9.00 am.

Your attendance at this Civil & Environmental Services Committee Meeting would be appreciated.

P J HENRY PSM

GENERAL MANAGER

A G E N D A

SECTION A	APOLOGIES CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS/PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS PUBLIC FORUM BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES
SECTION B	ADVOCACY REPORTS
SECTION C	COMMITTEE REPORTS
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SECTION G	CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS (COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE)

Quick Reference Guide

Below is a legend that is common between the:

- Inverell Shire Council Strategic Plan;
- Inverell Shire Council Delivery Plan; and
- Inverell Shire Council Operational Plan.



MINUTES OF THE CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, 144 OTHO STREET, INVERELL ON
WEDNESDAY, 14 FEBRUARY 2018, COMMENCING AT 9.00 AM.

PRESENT: Cr D F Baker (Chairperson), Crs P J Harmon, M J Peters, S J Berryman and J N McCosker.

Also in attendance: Crs C M Dight, P A King and A A Michael.

Paul Henry (General Manager), Brett McInnes (Director Civil and Environmental Services), Anthony Alliston (Manager Development Services), Justin Pay (Manager Civil Engineering) and Sharon Stafford (Executive Assistant).

SECTION A

APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies received.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED (McCosker/Berryman) that the Minutes of the Civil and Environmental Services Committee Meeting held on 8 November, 2017, as circulated to members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

2. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS/PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no interests declared.

3. PUBLIC FORUM S13.5.6/11

At this juncture, the time being 9.02 am, the Chair welcomed the members of the public and opened the Public Forum Session by inviting members of the public to speak:

Roslyn Hulbert Otho Street Renewal

As the owner of an Otho Street business, Ms Hulbert expressed strong opposition to the Otho Street roadworks. Ms Hulbert cited that the roadworks will cause disruption to businesses, result in a loss of shade and impact upon her business walk past trade. Ms Hulbert was concerned that the impact from the renewal works may result in the closure of businesses in the precinct.

Lucinda Fleming Otho Street Renewal

Ms Fleming expressed her objection to the Otho Street roadworks and voiced her lack of confidence in Council's Mayor and General Manager as a result of Council's plans to renew the Town Centre.

Cassie Walls Otho Street Renewal

Ms Walls noted the work currently being undertaken by Council to improve the CBD and agreed that the town needs to move forward. Ms Walls understands the need to remove the London Plane trees however requested that Council

delay commencement of the works to enable further consideration of the plan by the community. Ms Walls suggested shopper promotions during the roadworks period to assist in easing the pressure on Otho Street businesses.

Ian Foster

Otho Street Renewal

Mr Foster stated, that in his opinion, Otho Street is adequate and there is no need for any change. Mr Foster noted that he was not opposed to the removal and replacement of the London Plan trees with a more suitable and allergy free alternative.

At this juncture, the time being 9.20 am, the Public Forum Session closed and the Committee resumed the balance of the Agenda.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil.

SECTION B
ADVOCACY REPORTS

GM-A 1. NOTICE OF BUSINESS – OTHO STREET

RESOLVED (Peters/McCosker) that the Committee recommend to Council that management explain in writing why the public were informed of the road closure prior to final RMS sign off.

Motion (Peters/McCosker) that the Committee recommend to Council that Inverell Shire undertake a comprehensive Environmental Impact Study immediately.

The Motion on being put to the meeting was Lost.

DCES-A 2. MEETING ATTENDED: GILGAI COMMUNITY MEETING, GILGAI HALL
GM-A

RESOLVED (Harmon/McCosker) that the Committee recommend to Council that:

- a) *provision be made in Council's Long Term Strategic Plan for the construction of a concrete or smooth asphalt cycle/walk track between Gilgai and Inverell,*
- b) *planning for the establishment of the track commence, and*
- c) *Council make application to various grant bodies seeking funding for the project.*

SECTION D
DESTINATION REPORTS

GM-A 1. WIND/SOLAR FARM MATTERS S18.6.52/01

RESOLVED (Berryman/Harmon) that the Committee recommend to Council that:

- a) *The draft Terms of Reference for the Community Support Fund be adopted (noting that the Membership of the Committee will comprise the Mayor and one other Councillor) and Council advertise for expressions of interest from community members interested in appointment to the Community Support Fund Committee.*

FURTHER RESOLVED (Berryman/McCosker) that the additional revenue from the rating of wind farms be allocated to "Special Projects – Roads", with selected projects determined by Council in concert with preparation of the Annual Operating Plan.

BS-A 2. FIRE AND RESCUE NSW – FIRE SAFETY REPORTS S7.11.2/11

RESOLVED (Harmon/Berryman) that the Committee recommend to Council that the actions to date in this matter be noted and a further report be prepared for the February 2018 Council Meeting.

DP-A 3. STATE SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT (SSD 8643) – SAPPHIRE SOLAR FARM – KINGS PLAINS, NSW S18.6.52/05

RESOLVED (Harmon/Berryman) that the Committee recommend to Council that Council make an online submission in respect of State Significant Development (SSD 8643) Sapphire Solar Farm – Kings Plains NSW in relation to:

- *Independent road dilapidation reporting prior to construction, for all local and state roads;*
- *After construction, a subsequent report to assess the damage that may have resulted from construction;*
- *On-going and regular measures to restore and reinstate road damage resulting from construction of the project;*
- *Fire risk associated with the development being adequately addressed;*
- *Council having the opportunity to review the draft approval conditions prior to being finalised; and*
- *Any other matters raised by a Councillor or the public during the exhibition period.*

MCS-A 4. REGIONAL ROADS REHABILITATION PROGRAM – REPAIR PROGRAM FUNDING ALLOCATION 2018/2019 S15.8.22

RESOLVED (Harmon/Berryman) that the Committee recommend to Council that the project for the 2018/2019 REPAIR program be reconstruction of Segment 520/530 of Inverell-Bonshaw Road.

SECTION E
INFORMATION REPORTS

1. WORKS UPDATE S28.21.1/11

RESOLVED (Harmon/Berryman) that the items contained in the Information Reports to the Civil & Environmental Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 14 February 2018, be received and noted.

SECTION F
GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Peters Road Classification Review

Cr Peters sought clarification on behalf of a number of property owners regarding the recent reclassification of a number of roads in the Shire.

The DCES advised that property owners are encouraged to bring any concerns they may have in respect of the reclassifications back to

Council for review.

Cr Berryman Sapphire Wind Farm

Cr Berryman informed the Committee that CWP Renewables may seek assistance from Council in respect of dealing with CASA regarding lighting on wind turbines.

Cr McCosker Old Stannifer Road

Cr McCosker noted that he has received positive feedback in respect of the recent upgrade of Old Stannifer Road.

Cr McCosker noted the property accesses on the road and sought advice on possible future widening.

Manager Developer Charges - Subdivision
Development
Services

Mr Alliston advised the Committee that as a direct result of recent changes implemented by Council to reduce developer charges and encourage development within the Shire, two (2) development applications have been submitted to Council for consideration.

Manager White Rock Wind Farm
Development
Services

Mr Alliston confirmed that the proponents of White Rock have lodged a modification for the next stage of the Wind Farm which proposes turbines 200m in height.

The modification is currently on exhibition.

GM-A Cr Peters Renewable Energy S14.5.1

RESOLVED (Peters/McCosker) that the Committee recommend to Council that as Inverell Shire Council is a strong supporter of renewable energy and noting that renewable energy has brought a great deal of wealth to this community, that Council urge the Federal Government to change their policy position in respect of renewable energy.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.35 am.

CR D F BAKER

CHAIRPERSON

CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, 14 March, 2018

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TO CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING 14/03/2018

ITEM NO:	1.	FILE NO: S15.8.21
DESTINATION 5:	The communities are served by sustainable services and infrastructure	S
SUBJECT:	ALLOCATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY BLOCK GRANT FUNDS 2017/2018	
PREPARED BY:	Justin Pay, Manager Civil Engineering	

SUMMARY:

The Roads and Maritime Services Supplementary Block Grant Program (previously known as the 3X4 Program) provides tied funds of \$160,000 to be utilised on the Regional Road Network for upgrade/major maintenance works.

The Committee is requested to recommend to Council that the 2017/2018 Supplementary Block Grant funding be allocated to road and drainage reconstruction on MR187 Yetman Road.

COMMENTARY:

The Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) Supplementary Block Grant Program (previously known as the 3X4 Program) provides tied funds of \$160,000 to be utilised on the Regional Road Network for upgrade/major maintenance works. This grant is in addition to the RMS Block grant program which provides \$2.52M for maintenance and upgrade works on the regional road network in 2017/2018.

During formulation of the 2017/2018 budget, it was resolved that a future report be presented to this Committee in order to allocate this year's funding.

Engineering staff have reviewed the asset management system to determine the current maintenance and rehabilitation needs on the regional road network. It is recommended to allocate this years funding to road and drainage reconstruction on MR187 Yetman Road. The funding will be utilised to upgrade a number of drainage structures on the section of road between Cucumber Creek and Wallangra. This will allow the current road rehabilitation works to progress further than previously planned. Allocating these funds to this project will create efficiency through gaining the benefit of a greater economy of scale by utilising these funds as part of a larger project.

Once final costs of the recent construction works are reconciled, the exact length of the proposed construction will be determined. This information will be presented to the Committee in a future works update report.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN, DELIVERY PLAN AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

Strategy: S.08 Civil infrastructure is secured, maintained and used to optimum benefit.

Term Achievement: S.08.01 An asset management strategy is in operation for civil infrastructure that optimises its use and maintains it to agreed standards fit for its contemporary purpose.

Operational Objective: S.08.01.01 An Asset Management Strategy for Civil assets is developed, maintained and implemented.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S COMMENT:

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee recommend to Council that the 2017/2018 Supplementary Block Grant funding be allocated to road and drainage reconstruction on MR187 Yetman Road.

ITEM NO:	2.	FILE NO: S18.3.1
DESTINATION 2:	A community that is healthy, educated and sustainable	C
SUBJECT:	EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST - STRUCTURE PLANS FOR NEW RESIDENTIAL AREAS - LISTING	
PREPARED BY:	Anthony Alliston, Manager Development Services	

SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to list for consideration a report which deals with confidential matters and information which is recommended for determination by Council in a meeting closed to the public and media.

COMMENTARY:

Local Government Act 1993 (the Act), and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* makes provision for the closure of meetings to the public and media in specified circumstances. In particular s.10A of the Act provides that Council may close to the public and media so much of a meeting as relates to the discussion and consideration of information identified in s.10A(2). The matters which may be closed to the public and media, as stated in the Act, must involve:

- (a) *Personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors.)*
- (b) *The personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer.*
- (c) *Information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.*
- (d) *Commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:*
 - (i) *prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or*
 - (ii) *confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or*
 - (iii) *reveal a trade secret.*

- (e) *Information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law.*
- (f) *Matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property.*
- (g) *Advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege.*
- (h) *Information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on community land.*

In considering whether to close a part of a meeting to the public and media, Councillors are also reminded of further provisions of s.10D of the Act which states:

Grounds for closing part of meeting to be specified

- (1) *The grounds on which part of a meeting is closed must be stated in the decision to close that part of the meeting and must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.*
- (2) *The grounds must specify the following:*
 - (a) *the relevant provision of section 10A(2),*
 - (b) *the matter that is to be discussed during the closed part of the meeting,*
 - (c) *the reasons why the part of the meeting is being closed, including (if the matter concerned is a matter other than a personnel matter concerning particular individuals, the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer or a trade secret) an explanation of the way in which discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.*

Having regard for the requirements stated in s.10D of the Act Councillors should note that the matter listed for discussion in Closed Committee includes information provided by the applicants which is considered to be commercially sensitive.

The recommendation that this item of business be considered in Closed Committee is specifically relied on section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Act as consideration of the matter involves:

- a) Commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, and
- b) On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of the matter outweighs the public interest in openness and transparency in Council decision-making by discussing the matter in open meeting.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN, DELIVERY PLAN AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

Strategy: C.04 Improve the integration of natural and built environments.

Term Achievement: C.04.01 Development Controls are promoting excellence in rural design that balances the protection and enhancement of the natural environment with the needs of the citizens.

Operational Objective: C.04.01.01 To ensure that the physical development of the Shire provides for a variety of living choices which is in harmony with the natural characteristics and the surrounding built environment.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S COMMENT:

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the matter be referred to Closed Council for consideration as:

- i) the matters and information are 'commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.' (Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act, 1993);*
- ii) on balance the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of the information outweighs the public interest in openness and transparency in Council decision-making by discussing the matter in open meeting; and*
- iii) all reports and correspondence relevant to the subject business be withheld from access to the media and public as required by section 11(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993.*

ITEM NO:	3.	FILE NO: S5.9.23
DESTINATION 5:	The communities are served by sustainable services and infrastructure	S
SUBJECT:	INVERELL SPORTING COMPLEX UPGRADES - UPDATE	
PREPARED BY:	Anthony Alliston, Manager Development Services	

SUMMARY:

This report has been prepared in response to Council's resolution to endorse the Inverell Public Open Space Strategy in December 2017 (RES 148/17) and to update the Committee on the planned and recently completed projects at the Sporting Complex.

COMMENTARY:

The recently adopted Inverell Public Open Space Strategy identifies a number of upgrade projects at the Inverell sporting Complex. Some of the planned projects have been completed, some are under construction and some remain outstanding.

Appendix 1 (D9-D10) includes the *Sports Complex – Master Plan* developed by ROSS Planning for Council during the development of the Public Open Space Strategy and to assist Council in applying for the ClubGRANTS Category 3 funding in December 2015. Appendix 1 (D10) also contains a letter of support used by Council for the successful grant application.

In summary the overall Master Plan includes:

- Irrigation and levelling of six (6) touch football fields;
- Construction of a clubhouse;
- Installation of portable grandstands;

- Lighting of three (3) rectangle (large ball sports) fields;
- Lighting of two (2) netball courts; and
- Establishment of an athletics precinct including:
 - A 400m grass track;
 - Long jump/triple jump area;
 - Shot put and discus areas; and
 - Storage shed.

Appendix 2 (D11-D23) includes the *Athletics Facility Design Paper* which was also developed by ROSS Planning at the request of Council. It includes a more detailed design of the athletics precinct.

In terms of progress on the upgrades the following items have now been completed:

- Irrigation, levelling and field rehabilitation;
- Clubhouse;
- Portable grandstands and concrete pads; and
- Storage shed for athletics.

The lighting upgrades are currently under construction and near completion. The following photographs show the completed and near completed projects.



Photo 1 – Irrigated and rehabilitated touch fields



Photo 2 – New Clubhouse building



Photo 3 – Portable grandstands on concrete pads



Photo 4 – Storage shed for athletics



Photo 5 – The footings and trenching for the lights

To facilitate relocating athletics to the Sporting Complex the following planned items (as shown in Appendix 2, D11-D23) also need to be completed:

- Athletics track (designed, surveyed and marked);
- Long jump/triple jump area;

- Carparking, fencing, civil works and associated drainage;
- Shot put and discus areas.

In addition to the above projects, the following works will need to be undertaken to complete the Master Plan and the recommendations contained in the recently adopted Inverell Public Open Space Strategy.

- Additional covered area adjacent to toilets and athletics storage shed;
- Upgrade existing toilet block;
- Rehabilitation, repairs and resurfacing of netball courts;
- Upgrade of netball canteen to meet food standards;
- Awning enclosure to provide a netball clubroom and additional awning for BBQ area;
- Upgrade carparking and drainage at netball courts; and
- Strategic planting of suitable shade trees throughout the complex.

To facilitate the above projects, Council has applied for and will seek opportunities for grant funding to complete the recommendations contained in the Inverell Public Open Space Strategy and Master Plan.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN, DELIVERY PLAN AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

Strategy: S.07 Provide accessible and usable recreation facilities and services meet the needs of the community.

Term Achievement: S.07.01 Recreational and leisure facilities and services that meet community needs and are maintained to promote optimal utilisation.

Operational Objective: S.07.01.01 Facilitate joint use of the Shire's recreation and leisure facilities, sporting and open space facilities including co-location of programs.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S COMMENT:

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee recommend to Council that the information be noted and the actions of the staff in continuing to seek funding to complete outstanding projects in the master plan be endorsed.

APPENDIX 1**Sports Complex - Master Plan**

1. Laser level and install irrigation to the six touch fields (three football fields). Irrigation will include installation of a new water main and individual irrigation systems for each field space
2. Develop a central clubhouse precinct (see attached plans for detail)
3. Install lighting to competition standard (for large ball sports)
4. Purchase portable grandstands for use across the facility
5. Install lighting to training standard (for large ball sports)
6. Install lighting to training standard (for large ball sports)
7. Establish Inverell's new athletics precinct
 - 7a. 400m grass track
 - 7b. Long/triple jump area
 - 7c. Shot put and discus area
 - 7d. Storage shed (8m x 6m)
8. Install lighting on two netball courts to competition standard (for large ball sports)

Water main and irrigation
 Indicative light pole locations



Anthony Allison
 Manager Development Services
 Inverell Shire Council
 PO Box 138
 Inverell NSW 2360



03 December 2015

To whom it may concern

ROSS Planning takes pleasure in providing this letter of support for Council's ClubGRANTS Category 3 funding application to develop a range of quality community sporting facilities at the Sports Complex.

We have been working closely with Council and the local community over recent months to develop a Public Open Space Strategy. The Strategy will guide future development of the sport and recreation parks across the town. To-date, we have developed an Issues Paper and have the draft Strategy nearing completion.

The consultation and demand analysis undertaken as important components of the project have highlighted some key issues and directions.

- ☐ Council has established a quality range of well maintained community parks and sporting facilities
- ☐ Whilst the majority of the sporting user groups are well catered for, opportunity exists for targeted embellishment upgrades and a small number of new developments
- ☐ Varley Oval (the town's premier single-field facility) is heavily used and field sharing and scheduling can be problematic.

Discussions with existing (and potential new) user groups at the Sports Complex have highlighted specific areas of opportunity.

- ☐ The 'lower' fields running along the river are heavily used for football and touch. However, the fields are beginning to struggle under this field pressure and require top dressing and the establishment of a suitable irrigation system. This will ensure the ongoing sustainability of these important field spaces
- ☐ The 'upper' fields are the primary venue for football training and matches in town. Training opportunities and scheduling are currently limited given the minimal existing sporting lights (that do not meet necessary Australian Standards). Demand exists to provide at least one field with competition standard lighting with at least two additional fields lit to training purposes
- ☐ As a key (and growing) sport for females in Inverell, netball requires additional lit courts to meet user needs for training and competition during the winter sporting season
- ☐ Despite the high levels of use attracted at the Sports Complex, a lack of clubhouse facility (including amenities and canteen) is detrimental for existing users and is potentially stifling growth. Given the extreme weather conditions in Inverell (e.g. bitter cold during the winter sporting season and hot conditions during the summer sporting season) access to a suitable indoor venue is essential. Such a facility would provide a focal point for the Sports Complex and prove highly beneficial for the many sporting groups based at the venue
- ☐ The sport of little athletics is struggling at its current venue - Varley Oval. The sport is effectively being 'squeezed out' by the primary field sport users at the facility. Sub-standard field event areas have been developed to accommodate changes at the venue required for the other user groups. Consultation suggests that decreases in participation are resulting as parents are becoming disgruntled with the current arrangements. However, opportunity exists to develop a purpose-built athletics venue at the Sports Complex - and this should be pursued with vigour. Ideally, the new facility should include a grass running track, field event areas (2 shot put circles, 2 discus circles and cages, long/triple jump pits and areas for javelin and high jump), storage shed and access to the existing amenities block at the Sports Complex
- ☐ The provision of moveable grandstands at the Sports Complex would prove advantageous for all user groups. The grandstands could be moved throughout the Complex depending on the scheduling of events and carnivals to meet spectator requirements.

Inverell has a strong sporting tradition and Council should be proud of the quality of facilities it has provided to enable this culture. The proposed facility developments will only prove to further embed sport as a key past-time and ensure ongoing growth in participation and sports development.

We wish Council all the best with this application and would be pleased like to discuss this matter in more detail if required.

Kind regards,

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APPENDIX 2





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Background

1.1 Athletics in Inverell

As the only community athletics facility in Inverell, Varley Oval, is well used by local schools for athletics carnivals. Further, the facility hosts the annual primary school zone carnival. It is also the home of the Inverell Little Athletics Centre. Importantly, it should be noted that the Oval is a fully fenced (and locked facility) that precludes unstructured athletics training opportunities.

Varley Oval

In addition to athletics, Varley Oval is also heavily used for rugby league, cricket and AFL.

The site includes a range of athletics facilities:

- ☐ 8-lane grass 'circular' track
- ☐ 6-lane grass sprint straight inside the circular track
- ☐ shot put circle
- ☐ discus circle (without cage)
- ☐ dual width long jump/triple jump pit with grass approaches
- ☐ spectator seating
- ☐ pavilion, canteen, storage and amenities
- ☐ sealed car parking.

Issues and considerations

Varley Oval has been designed and developed as Inverell's premier outdoor sports venue. It functions well as a cricket, AFL and rugby league venue. The running track has a high quality grass surface. However, the oval dimensions do not allow for a grass track to be marked to meet the requirements for athletics (IAAF guidelines). The 8-lane grass track is less than 400m long and is almost completely circular (without appropriate front and back straights). Additionally, lane 8 is marked far too close to the perimeter fencing and is a safety concern.

There are limited areas at the facility (outside of the oval footprint) appropriate for field events. The site includes only one shot put and discus circle (and the discus circle does not have a permanent safety cage). For zone-level events, two circles for both shot put and discus is preferred. The discus landing area is too small and is a safety concern. Additionally, safety cages are essential for discus at all levels of carnival. The long jump/triple jump area has appropriate length approaches. However, the pit is not wide enough to safely accommodate two jumpers, the pits are too short and the grass approaches are badly worn and uneven. Finally, this jumps area is in an area that is somewhat hidden from the track events by a line of mature trees.

In summary, Varley Oval provides a high quality playing surface and modern and well-maintained ancillary facilities (amenities, pavilion, storage, car parking etc). However, the facilities for track and field events are inadequate and potentially stifling growth in the sport. Opportunities for athletics facility development at an alternate venue should be investigated.





1.2 Opportunities at the Sporting Complex

Existing arrangements

The Sporting Complex (the Complex) is Inverell's largest multi-field facility. In addition to formal sports, the facility is open to the public for recreation pursuits. The Complex forms a large community precinct with the adjoining Showgrounds.

The Complex is arranged as three smaller 'precincts'.

- ☐ The lower fields area along the river is the equivalent to three full-size lit rectangular fields. An amenities block and small servery are located in this area. Installation of irrigation and field works were recently completed on these fields
- ☐ A synthetic hockey field with clubhouse is located to the east of the lower fields in a fully fenced facility. A two-storey storage facility is located between the lower fields and hockey facility
- ☐ The upper fields have a quality turf surface the equivalent of approximately five full-size rectangular fields. Two turf cricket wicket blocks are located in this area. Recent upgrades to this area include clubhouse and amenities development, field and court lighting installation and provision of spectator seating. Eight bitumen netball courts (and grass courts area) and a clubhouse are located on the eastern side of the upper playing field area, while an amenities block is centrally located.

Current usage

The Complex is used for a range of training and fixtures, including:

- ☐ football (junior) - training one afternoon/evening each week, Saturday morning fixtures
- ☐ football (senior) - training three afternoons/evenings each week, weekend fixtures on a home-and-away basis
- ☐ netball - training up to four times each week and fixtures on Saturdays
- ☐ touch - senior touch fixtures two afternoon/evenings each week during the summer sporting season
- ☐ cricket - matches are played on Saturdays during the summer sporting season and infrequently mid-week for school matches
- ☐ the Complex also hosts coaching and development squads, events and carnivals (such as the Joeys Mini World Cup and small schools football carnival).

Potential for athletics development

Opportunity exists to increase the use of the upper fields area across both the summer and winter sporting seasons. Athletics is a year-round sport - with school events commencing in winter and the little athletics season conducted across the summer season.

With the athletics facilities at Varley Oval limiting growth in the sport, this study outlines the potential for athletics development at the Sporting Complex.



Existing and proposed athletics uses

As previously noted, Varley Oval currently hosts a range of school and little athletics carnivals.

2.1 School athletics

Local schools

A number of local schools currently use Varley Oval for their annual school athletics carnivals. Representatives from each of these schools note:

Inverell High School

- ☐ approximately 400 students compete in the carnival
- ☐ given it is a fully fenced facility, the security at Varley Oval makes supervision easy
- ☐ the pavilion, canteen and amenities are all important facilities for the carnival
- ☐ having only one shot put and one discus circle is suitable for this carnival (although javelin is conducted on an adjoining field)
- ☐ long jump approaches and pits are poor
- ☐ appreciate the need to have a community athletics venue open for training and coaching purposes.

Holy Trinity School

- ☐ up to 400 students compete in the carnival
- ☐ field events are conducted at the school prior to the carnival. As a result, Varley Oval is only used for track events
- ☐ provision of suitable amenities is essential
- ☐ access to a canteen assists in running a successful event
- ☐ shaded areas for spectators is preferred.

Ross Hill Public School

- ☐ 350 students compete in this carnival
- ☐ Varley Oval works well for the school (particularly given that competitor numbers in the field events are kept small by trials at the school in advance)
- ☐ the pavilion, canteen and amenities are all used for the carnival
- ☐ the security provided at Varley Oval is advantageous.

McIntyre High School

- ☐ more than 400 students compete in the carnival at Varley Oval
- ☐ difficulties at the Oval include lack of area for javelin, only one circle for both shot put and discus, short landing area and no cage at discus, long jump run-ups and boards are poor and the pit is too short for older athletes
- ☐ the pavilion, canteen and scoreboard are all used during the carnival
- ☐ athletics in Inverell is stifled as there is very limited access to Varley Oval for training and coaching activities.

Inverell Zone Primary School Sport

The one-day zone primary schools athletics carnival attracts approximately 250 athletes from across eleven local primary schools. The event provides the pathway for talented athletes to move through to the North West regional championships.

While this carnival is currently conducted at Varley Oval, preference is for a site that includes two shot put circles, two discus circles (with cages), at least two long jump pits with quality approaches and access to a canteen, amenities and spectator areas.

New England Zone Secondary School Sport

In recent years, the Zone secondary school athletics carnivals (for the North West region) have been replaced by school-based nominations direct to the regional championships.

North West Region School Sport

The construction of a full synthetic facility at Tamworth in 2017 will see all regional-level school events conducted there.



2.2 Little athletics

Inverell Little Athletics Centre

The little athletics centre competes across the summer sporting season with centre-based training conducted every Thursday afternoon. Additionally, athletes have the opportunity to compete in Gala Days (five are conducted across the zone - including one hosted by the Inverell centre).

The centre has enjoyed membership increases in recent years, with 66 athletes registered in the 2016/17 season. This has been achieved despite a decrease in membership across the State. Facility requirements for weekly centre activities include appropriate grass running track (with front and back straight), at least one shot put circle and discus circle with cage, two long/triple jump pits with level approaches and suitable length pits. Additionally, the centre requires sufficient storage for the wide range of athletics equipment, a basic canteen and amenities.

In addition, the facility requires a straight capable of conducting 110m hurdle events - something that is simply not practical at Varley Oval.

The Inverell Centre Gala Day was conducted in November and attracted 60 athletes from Inverell, Gunnedah, Tamworth, Glen Innes and Armidale. Hosting the Gala Day necessitates similar facilities to that required for centre activities.

New England Zone

Centres with suitable facilities can expect to host the Zone championships every 4-5 years. This two-day event attracts approximately 200 participants and is the qualifying event for the Region 1 Championships.

With 200 participants, preferred facilities include an 8-lane track, two shot put and two discus circles (with cages), synthetic approaches for long jump and triple jump and suitable spectator viewing areas.

The ability to compete under lights would be advantageous as it would allow some escape from the heat of daylight hours. The 2016 event conducted in Gunnedah in December was difficult for athletes, officials and spectators given the 40 degree temperatures.

Region 1

Preference is for regional-level events to be conducted at facilities with a synthetic track and synthetic field event approaches. With construction of a new facility of this nature in Tamworth commencing in 2017 - this venue is expected to host the majority of the Region 1 little athletics championships. However, there may also be a need to conduct this championship in 'country' areas on an infrequent basis. If a quality facility was developed in Inverell, it may be successful in attracting this event.

The Region 1 championships are conducted across two days and attract in excess of 700 athletes.

In order to host this event, a quality eight lane grass (or synthetic) track is required, along with two areas for each of the field event disciplines. Additionally, given the large number of athletes, spectators and officials, suitable amenities are important as are large areas for parking.

New England Coaching Clinic

A two-day coaching clinic has been conducted in Tamworth for a number of years. The clinic attracts approximately 150 participants. If a suitable facility was available in Inverell, the clinic could be hosted there, or preferably the clinic could be repeated in Inverell (potentially aligning with a Level 1 coaching course being conducted).

2.3 Informal training and coaching

With Varley Oval currently a locked facility, there is limited scope for informal athletics training and coaching. This stifles opportunities for athletes to advance and is a particular issue for field event athletes seeking avenues to train (e.g. long jump pits and throwing circles).



Design and rationale

If Council and the community are to invest in developing a new athletics facility for Inverell, it would be appropriate to develop a high-level facility capable of hosting both local-level events (e.g. little athletics centre events and local school carnivals), zone-level events (e.g. New England zone little athletics and Inverell zone primary schools) and occasional regional-level events (Region 1 little athletics championship). Most importantly, the facility should remain available for public training and coaching opportunities - just as fields are available for cricket, rugby league and soccer (etc) when not being used for formal competition.

Given the recent facility upgrades, the availability of suitable under-utilised field space and the existing central amenities block, the upper fields at the Sporting Complex are well-suited to athletics facility development.

3.1 Track and field facilities

Track events

Clearly, the key difference between the current facilities at Varley Oval and those proposed for the Sporting Complex will be the development of a quality grass track that meets IAAF¹ specifications. In addition to appropriate length straights and tighter curves, the facility will provide eight lanes with safe run-off areas. Additionally, the track will be developed to ensure that the infield remains free for field events (rather than the need for an internal sprint straight as is the case at Varley Oval).

The main straight is proposed to run slightly north-west to south-east and runners will enjoy the prevailing tail winds in winter, spring and early summer. Opportunity will also exist to switch races to the back straight to achieve tail winds if required.

The 400m track would include:

- ☐ 8 lane front straight (to allow for 110m hurdle events),
- ☐ 8 lane back straight (to allow for 100m events)
- ☐ 8 lane 400m track.

¹ International Association of Athletics Federations



Field events

The field event facilities required for the site to be attractive to a wide range of users and events include:

- ☐ 2 shot put circles
- ☐ 2 discus circles with cages
- ☐ 2 double width long/triple jump pits with dual synthetic approaches.

Field lighting

Pre-season athletics training and competition often runs throughout the winter months (when available daylight hours are limited). Additionally, peak athletics competition time (in most of Australia) is during the hotter months when competing in the evening is more pleasant. While there are currently no athletics events conducted under lights at Varley Oval, the provision of field lights is considered advantageous to further expand the attractiveness of the facility.

Additionally, well-designed field lighting will also prove beneficial to the other field sports using the facility (e.g. football).

The design and installation of sports field floodlighting is highly technical and should be led by a professionally accredited sports lighting engineer. While no Australian Standard exists for outdoor athletics lighting, the IAAF details indicative guidelines for field lighting. The table below highlights that there are marked differences between the recommended lux levels for various uses. Given that most of the proposed events to be held at the facility are of a local or (potentially) zone nature, the lighting recommendations for club competition are most appropriate. However, it would also be appropriate for lighting to a lower level if that can be achieved in the short- to medium-term.

Level of use	IAAF - Maintenance Illuminance (minimum lux)
Recreation and training	75
Club competitions	200
National and international competitions	500

Ideally, the lighting should be designed to include different illuminance levels that are appropriate to the type of use. The ability to switch between training and competition modes and to switch on lighting to individual event areas is important to limit unnecessary electricity usage.



3.2 Ancillary facilities

Appropriate ancillary facilities required to service a higher-level athletics facility include:

- ☐ large three bay storage shed with extra high roller doors to allow ease of access for bulky equipment such as high jump mats and hurdles. (Ideally, the shed should be incorporated with the existing amenities building to establish a central hub)
- ☐ shaded viewing areas with outlooks across the track and finish line
- ☐ 900mm chain mesh fence separating spectators and the long jump/triple jump area (adjacent to the front straight)
- ☐ 900mm chain mesh fence designating the throwing areas.

Parking

Given the frequency of events this facility may attract, it is imperative that the design includes both formal and overflow car parking areas. The sealed car park on the southern side of the netball clubhouse should be expanded to accommodate additional parking for athletics. Additionally, further car parking may be developed along the internal road leading to the central hub and along Eucalypt Drive. Finally, it will be important that suitable drop-off areas are designated for buses along the entry road at the northern end of the upper fields area.

3.3 Staging

Given the need for all of the proposed track and field facilities to be available to conduct an athletics event, it is somewhat difficult to stage development. However, if a staged approach is preferred by Council, the following aspects could be considered for later development:

- ☐ construction of second long/triple jump pit
- ☐ construction of synthetic approaches for long/triple jump
- ☐ construction of permanent cages for the two discus circles (although temporary netting would be required in the first instance)
- ☐ construction of a fence between the spectator area and the long/triple jump area (and front straight)
- ☐ provision of facility lighting
- ☐ provision of additional car parking (unsealed overflow car parking may suffice in the short-term).

3.4 Rationale

Track layout

It is preferable to have athletics tracks oriented north-south to avoid potential difficulties associated with athletes (and officials) looking into the sun. However, given the existing layout (and orientation) of the football fields and the location of the two turf wicket blocks, the athletics track is proposed for the southern side of the Sporting Complex upper field area in a north-west to south-east orientation. This layout will cause minimal impact on the football fields and will ensure that the turf wicket block is not disturbed (as it will fit wholly within the running track in-field).

A spectator area proposed along the southern boundary under the shade of the existing trees will provide quality viewing areas along the front straight and finish line area. Additionally, the proposed covered area will also offer views across the track area.

Field events

The proposed location of the track will allow the long/triple jump area to sit outside the front straight and off the football fields, yet in close proximity to the spectator areas.

It is proposed to conduct javelin events inside the running track. (Preferably with throws taken from the eastern end to limit impacts of javelins landing on the cricket wicket block). High jump will also be conducted inside the track at the eastern end to reduce the distance that the mats are moved from the storage shed.

A discus and shot put area is proposed for the south east corner of the site. Two levelled areas are anticipated - a large raised area on the eastern side for male discus and shot put and a lower area for female discus and shot put. Positioning the two discus circles and cages in the far corners of this location allows for a large landing area. It will also be important that the shot put circles are located such that a chain mesh fence can be constructed along the northern side of the throwing area and along the edge of the internal road. A boom gate should be located across the road near the central building hub to ensure that vehicles do not encroach on the athletics event areas.

Summary

The provision of a quality 8-lane 400m track designed to meet IAAF guidelines and the range of field event areas proposed in this paper will meet the needs of the existing athletics users - Inverell Little Athletics Centre, New England Zone Little Athletics, local primary and secondary schools and the Inverell Zone Primary Schools.

Importantly, this development would also position Inverell to seek more regular high-level multi-day events such as the Region 1 Little Athletics Championship and New England Little Athletics Coaching Clinics. With families travelling to attend these multi-day events, Inverell will enjoy economic benefits through accommodation, meal and fuel expenses.

Finally, providing a quality athletics facility with open community access (unlike the current restricted access arrangements at Varley Oval) is expected to result in increases in informal coaching and training (and ultimately assist to reignite the sport). There is scope that this proposed development may be the catalyst for a senior athletics club to be established in Inverell and provide a pathway for school athletes and little athletes through to the senior ranks.

3.5 Complex - Athletics facility design

1. Existing undercover gathering area
2. Existing football fields
3. Existing field (with turf wicket block, football field and netball court overlays)
4. Existing netball hard courts
5. Existing netball canteen and covered area
6. Proposed athletics and cricket car park (unsealed)
7. Install chain mesh fencing to restrict vehicle and pedestrian access to the athletics throwing area
8. Existing amenities building
9. Construct new storage facility with covered outdoor area extension to the amenities building
10. Shot put (1)
11. Shot put (2)
12. Discus (1)
13. Discus (2)
14. Spectator gathering areas
15. Grass javelin area
16. 8-lane 400m grass track with front and back straights
17. Existing turf wicket block (not impacted)
18. Dual width and dual length long/triple jump facility with synthetic approach (capable of up to four jumpers simultaneously)



3.6 Field event specifications

The following specifications have been adapted from the IAAF Track and Field Facilities Manual. This manual should be referred to again before construction.

Discus

- ☐ 2.5m diameter concrete circle lowered 70mm to 80mm below ground level with a rim at least 6mm thick. Set in a concrete square (at ground level)
- ☐ 2 or 3 drainage pipes flush with the throwing circle but located toward the left and right edges
- ☐ finished with a small wood float to ensure traction
- ☐ chain mesh cage located at least 3m from the centre of the throwing circle and extending up to 7m along the foul lines. The cage should be approximately 4m high

Shot put

- ☐ 2.135m diameter concrete circle lowered 70mm to 80mm below ground level with a rim at least 6mm thick. Set in a concrete square (at ground level)
- ☐ 2 or 3 drainage pipes flush with the throwing circle but located toward the left and right edges
- ☐ finished with a small wood float to ensure traction
- ☐ wooden stop board in the shape of an arc (1.21m long on the inner edge and 0.1m high)

Javelin

- ☐ requires no construction - linemarking only inside the track

Long/triple jump

To accommodate four junior pits:

- ☐ dual approach (and dual length) 2.6m wide and 58m long
- ☐ landing pit (for two jumpers) of 9m x 4m (one double pit at each end)
- ☐ concrete border to maintain sand for each pit.



Proposed track, jumps and spectator area



Proposed male shot put and discus area



Proposed female shot put and discus area



Amenities block



TO CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING 14/03/2018

ITEM NO:	1.	FILE NO: S16.7.19/05
DESTINATION 5:	The communities are served by sustainable services and infrastructure	S
SUBJECT:	RURAL ROAD CLASSIFICATIONS	
PREPARED BY:	David Strugnell, Asset Management Coordinator	

SUMMARY:

This report has been provided in response to a Question Without Notice at the February 2018 Civil and Environmental Services Committee Meeting. The report provides clarification regarding the recent re-classification of a number of roads in the Shire.

COMMENTARY:

In March, 2017, Council staff undertook a comprehensive review of the rural road network classification system that resulted in Council adopting a policy outlining a formal classification for each road segment. All of Council's rural roads were examined to determine what their classification should be in relation to the rest of the network. In order to determine the classification the use of the road was taken into account and a conclusion was made on how much benefit it provides to the community. A number of aspects of service delivery were considered, including:

- The purpose of the road in relation to the rest of the network. This is based on whether a road functions or should function as a route between major towns and centres or tourist, agricultural, commercial and industrial facilities; or as a link between these types of roads. Roads are otherwise considered to provide access to rural properties.
- The number of properties using the road to access the network, which was calculated using information from Council's rural addressing system to determine the number of direct property accesses in each road segment. Routes to the nearest town or village were then identified and the number of property entrances indirectly serviced by each segment was also calculated.
- The amount and type of traffic using each road segment including information on the number of light and heavy vehicles, school bus routes, and the value and frequency of movements for differing types of freight. This was identified from traffic surveys carried out by Council, along with information obtained from transport operators and major industrial and agricultural operations within the district.
- The road's accident history. This was determined using the crash statistics published by the NSW Centre for Road Safety.
- Areas of social, environmental or economic significance were identified by staff with local knowledge and by reference to cadastral and terrestrial database information published by the New South Wales State Government.

Also considered was the vesting of the road reserve (whether it was controlled by Council, the State or Crown Lands) and any predicted future impacts on the above factors.

Roads were first ranked by their purpose, then by average daily traffic and number of property accesses. Finally, other information such as types and values of freight, school bus routes, accident history and areas of significance were used to conclude the recommended classification. This criteria based ranking was carried out by the asset management team, who then provided all of the information along with their recommendations to the Manager Civil Engineering and road supervision staff for review.

Councillors will recall that the report to the March 2017 Civil and Environmental Services Committee Meeting included an appendix listing all of the recommended classification changes and the rationale behind them. The policy was adopted by the committee and subsequently by the Council as a whole, as presented. Subsequent to the adoption of the new policy, property owners on roads that had their classification downgraded were notified and a number of them have since approached Council to review these classifications.

At present, 18 responses have been received for different roads. Of these roads, three (3) were identified as Crown Public Roads and the respondents have been advised to contact Crown Lands. A further five (5) responses were resolved after discussions with staff. A review of the original decision is being undertaken on the remaining four (4) roads. In at least one (1) instance it was discovered that there was an anomaly with the traffic counts that had informed the original decision, as such new traffic counts have been programmed for these roads. Further information about the types of traffic travelling on these roads that has been provided by the respondents will also be included during the review.

Information gathering for the purpose of reviewing these classifications is still underway. It is anticipated that the information will be available for a report to be provided to the Civil and Environmental Services Committee's April 2018 meeting detailing the outcome of the review and allowing Council to re-consider these classifications.

ITEM NO:	2.	FILE NO: S4.2.1
DESTINATION 3:	An environment that is protected and sustained	E
SUBJECT:	COMMENCEMENT OF THE AMENDED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT 1979	
PREPARED BY:	Chris Faley, Development Planner	

SUMMARY:

On 1 March, 2018, the amended *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* commenced operation.

The purpose of this report is to brief Committee Members on those updates which have taken immediate effect and the updates which do not take effect until a later date.

COMMENTARY:

Background

In early 2017, the NSW Department of Planning and Environment exhibited a draft bill, which proposed to make a range of amendments to the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (*EP&A Act*). A report on this matter was considered at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 22 March 2017 (RES 24/17).

The NSW Parliament passed the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment Act 2017* in November 2017.

The amending legislation commenced on 1 March, 2018, with:

- A number of provisions in effect as of 1 March 2018; and
- Other provisions being delayed until a later date pending further guidance and consultation.

Prior to 1 March 2018, Council's Development Services staff attended several information sessions relating to the amended EP&A Act, including a Planning Institute of Australia forum featuring Garry White, Chief Planner of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment. A webinar hosted by the Department was attended by Council staff on 1 March 2018, which provided a summary of the changes. Additionally, the NSW Department of Planning and Environment have provided Council with a dedicated contact person to assist with the new legislation.

Key provisions in effect

The following key amendments are in effect from 1 March, 2018:

- Implementation of Local Planning Panels;
- Updated numbering; and
- Ending transitional arrangements for former Part 3A Major Projects.

Implementation of Local Planning Panels

As of 1 March, 2018, all councils in Greater Sydney and Wollongong must establish a Local Planning Panel.

Any other Council may establish a Local Planning Panel for their respective Local Government Area. The Minister of Planning also has the power to direct a council to form a Local Planning Panel.

A Local Planning Panel has the function of a council as a consent authority for Development Applications. It also provides advice to council on Planning Proposals and other planning/development matters.

The Local Planning Panel is comprised of:

- An approved independent person appointed as the chairperson of the panel with relevant expertise that includes expertise in law or in government and public administration;
- 2 other approved independent persons with relevant expertise; and
- A representative of the local community who is not a councillor or mayor.

A person is not eligible to be a member of a Local Planning Panel if the person is a:

- Councillor of that or any other council;
- Property developer; or
- Real estate agent.

For Inverell, the implementation of a Local Planning Panel will be a matter for Council. Given the development trends and pressures of Inverell are significantly different than those in the Sydney region, a Local Planning Panel for Inverell is not considered of high importance at this point in time.

Updated Numbering

The clauses of the *EP&A Act* have been renumbered and relocated as a result of the amendments.

For example, Development Applications were previously assessed under Section 79C of the *EP&A Act*. The provisions of Section 79C have been relocated and renumbered as Clause 4.15 in the amended *EP&A Act*.

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment has developed a guide listing previous clause numbers and their corresponding number in the amended *EP&A Act*. Furthermore, transitional arrangements have been introduced, where previous Clause numbers can still be used, allowing Council's and others time to update forms, letters, etc. to the new numbering system. In the short term, the updating of forms, letters, etc. will be a minor administrative burden on Council staff.

Ending transitional arrangements for former Part 3A

Part 3A of the *EP&A Act 1979* related to Major Projects considered by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment. Part 3A of the *EP&A Act* was repealed in 2011; however, transitional arrangements were introduced for modifications.

Transitional arrangements for modifications have now ended. Any future modifications will be assessed through the current State Significant Development and State Significant Infrastructure pathways. While this amendment may have some impact on renewable energy projects in the region, it will have a negligible impact on Council operations.

Key provisions which have been delayed

A number of other significant provisions have been introduced into the amended *EP&A Act*; however, their implementation has been deferred as shown in the Table below.

<u>Provision</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Commencement</u>
Statement of Reasons for Decisions	For the determination of a Development Application, a Statement of Reasons must be made, which addresses any statutory requirements and how community concerns were taken into account in making the decision. These reasons must be taken into account as part of determining future modifications.	1 July 2018
Building and Subdivision Provisions	The changes to the building and subdivision areas will be implemented in stages and will require further consultation, including the development of the building manual, preparation of relevant guidance material and review of the schemes for issuing occupation certificates and subdivision certificates.	1 September 2018
Community Participation Plans	<p>A Community Participation Plan will outline the consultation a Planning Authority (i.e. Council) will undertake for planning functions (Development Application, Planning Proposal, etc.).</p> <p>Schedule 1 of the amended EP&A Act specifies mandatory requirements for community consultation.</p> <p>Until a Community Consultation Plan has been prepared by the Planning Authority, community consultation of planning matters is to be undertaken under those provisions that existed prior to 1 March 2018.</p>	1 July 2019

Local Strategic Planning Statements	<p>The form, structure and length of Local Strategic Planning Statements have not yet been determined.</p> <p>Based on the information sessions recently attended by Development Services staff; at this stage, it is understood that a Local Strategic Planning Statement will be a 10-20 page summary of the 20-year vision for land-use in the local area, the special character and values that are to be preserved and how change will be managed into the future.</p>	<p>1 July 2019 – Greater Sydney</p> <p>1 July 2020 – other regions</p>
Standard Development Plans	<p>The NSW Government will establish a standard, online format for DCPs drawing on new model provisions to be prepared by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.</p>	2020

Conclusion

The amendments to the *EP&A Act* introduced on 1 March, 2018 represent a significant change to planning legislation in NSW and provide greater emphasis on strategic planning and community consultation.

The staged implementation of the amendments will assist Council in managing the changes and allocating appropriate resources. The immediate impact on Council resources is primarily administrative, being the revision of application forms, letters, etc. to reflect the new numbering of the Act.

It is considered that the key components of the amended *EP&A Act*, which will have the greatest influence on Council and the broader community, will be the deferred matters such as Local Strategic Planning Statements and Community Participation Plans.

At this stage, further action by Council in respect to the deferred matters is not considered necessary. It is expected that between 1 March, 2018 and the above commencement dates, the NSW Department of Planning and Environment will undertake further consultation and develop specific guides, templates and resources to assist councils.

ITEM NO:	3.	FILE NO: S28.21.1/11
DESTINATION 5:	The communities are served by sustainable services and infrastructure.	S
SUBJECT:	WORKS UPDATE	
PREPARED BY:	Justin Pay, Manager Civil Engineering	

SUMMARY:

This report is intended to keep Council updated on the capital works and maintenance programs.

COMMENTARY:**SR 199 Auburn Vale Road Pavement Widening and Rehabilitation – McBrides Lane to Masons Lane – Stage Two (2)**

Stage two (2) of this project involves the widening and pavement rehabilitation of a 1.1km section of Auburn Vale Road from Masons Lane to Minnamurra Lane (chainage 3.4km to 4.5km south of Inverell). The total budget allocation for the entire project is \$1M, with \$474K remaining for the completion of stage two (2).

The extension of the triple cell culvert and associated drainage works has been completed. The subgrade of the shoulder has been prepped and the existing road way milled and spread over the shoulders ready for sub base material. The hauling of sub base material has been postponed due to wet weather, this work will re-commence as soon as the road shoulders dry out.

MR 187 “Cucumber Creek” Pavement Widening and Rehabilitation

This project involves the widening and rehabilitation of the section of Yetman Road north of Cucumber Creek, including upgrades to a number of significant drainage structures. Currently \$2.1M is allocated to the project from multiple sources. The project will be completed in stages with the exact length to be rehabilitated dependant on the final design and cost. It is anticipated the total extent of works will be between 4 and 5kms. Stage one (1) of the project incorporates a section of Yetman Road from 62.6km to 64.0km whilst stage two (2) incorporates a section from 64.0km to 66.7km north of Inverell.

Construction on a 500 metre section of stage two (2) from CH 64.500 to CH 65.000 has been completed in late February 2018, this section of the project involved extending drainage structures, earthworks and pavement construction. This section of road was sealed on 22 February, 2018.

Works have commenced on section two (2) of stage one (1) from CH 63.330 to CH 64.080 with the extension of the drainage structures completed the week ending 2 March, 2018. The earthworks stage of this section is due to commence this week once weather permits.

Works are planned to be completed by the end of the current financial year.

MR 63 “Black Jack” Pavement Widening and Rehabilitation

This project involves the widening and pavement rehabilitation and drainage extensions of a 1130 metre section of the Warialda Road, chainage 65.5km to 66.7km east of Warialda. This project is a link up of past construction projects. The budget allocation for this project is \$450K funded from the Repair Program.

Works on all drainage structures have been completed, the subgrade has been prepped for sub base material. Sub base material has been hauled in from a nearby property with a total of 3000m³ of material delivered to the site over 3 days.

The sub base is now up to the required level and stabilisation works will be commencing on 7 March 2018, weather permitting and will continue for 6 days.

The works are still planned to be completed in late March 2018, a seal date is still to be confirmed.



MR 63 ready for stabilization.

Otho Street – Town Centre Renewal Project – Byron Street to Evans Street

Works have commenced and are progressing well on the Otho Street TCRP project. Nine (9) Plane trees were removed on Monday 12 February and following this, works commenced on replacing the pedestrian crossing. The new crossing is to have the same shape as the previous, however the raised ramp has been removed and damage to the surrounding kerb and gutter is being repaired.

Works crews have completed the removal of the crossing and have poured concrete for the new crossing and associated gardens. Edge tree planting and garden construction is now completed at this location. Laying of asphalt at the crossing was scheduled for Sunday, 4 March, however was postponed due to wet weather. Staff are currently working with contractors to determine the next available date to complete the asphalt works.

Works crews started trenching the centre of the road on Monday, 26 February, in preparation for Pin Oak tree planting. This work started between Evans Street and the crossing and will see the east bound traffic lane closed to traffic until the centre median is constructed, a U turn movement is still in operation for east bound traffic from Byron Street to the crossing. This traffic management plan will continue to be monitored to ensure safety for traffic, pedestrians and workers.

Despite recent periods of wet weather the project is on schedule to be completed within the planned fifteen (15) week time frame.

Maintenance Grading

Maintenance grading works were undertaken on the following roads during February 2018:

SR 49 Upper Severn River Rd	4.9km
SR 17 Holdfast Road	22.0km
SR 173 Delungra Bypass Rd	4.0km
SR 205 Fox's Lane	5.3km
SR 181 Havilah Park Rd	7.3km

SR 188 Eddy Park Lane	5.1km
Total	48.6km

Reactive /Spot Grading

Reactive/spot grading works were undertaken on the following roads during February 2018.

SR 59 Graman Road	5.0km
Total	5.0km

Heavy Patching

No Heavy Patching Works were undertaken during February 2018.

2017/2018 Gravel Resheeting Program

Gravel re-sheeting works were undertaken on the following roads during February 2018.

SR174 Abbots Lane	4.4km
SR173 Delungra Bypass Rd	3.7km
Total	8.1km

Other Maintenance Activities

Council's State, Regional and Local Roads, Urban and Village Street maintenance activities, such as bitumen patching, drainage and shoulder repairs as well as vegetation control, are continuing as required. Town maintenance will continue as programmed.

ITEM NO:	4.	FILE NO: S.30.11.4
DESTINATION 5:	The communities are served by sustainable services and infrastructure	S
SUBJECT:	ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES (RMS) CONCURRENCE OTHO STREET TOWN CENTRE RENEWAL PLAN (TCRP) WORKS	
PREPARED BY:	Brett McInnes, Director Civil & Environmental Services	

SUMMARY:

This report has been prepared in response to a Notice of Business regarding RMS concurrence for the Otho Street TCRP works.

COMMENTARY:

In response to Notice of Business from Cr Peters, Council at its Ordinary meeting on the 28 February, 2018 resolved *"that management explain in writing why the public were informed of the road closure prior to final RMS sign off"*.

Council resolved to implement and fund the Town Centre Renewal Plan (TCRP) treatment in Otho Street (between Byron Street and Evans Street) at their meeting on the 27 September, 2017. The report that Council considered identified an autumn 2018 planting period should the works proceed. Council was also made aware of the extremely tight time frame to complete all necessary pre planning works and have construction advanced to the stage to facilitate an autumn 2018 planting.

Prior to Council placing the TCRP on public exhibition, significant consultation was undertaken with the RMS given their concurrence role for some road segments contained within the TCRP. This is particularly relevant to Otho Street which forms part of State Highway 12 (Gwydir Highway). The RMS completed a detailed assessment of the TCRP over a three (3) month period in late 2013. This included site visits by RMS Engineers and referrals to various (assets, road safety, planning, environmental) internal branches of the RMS. This was an exhaustive process where comprehensive information including material specifications, geotechnical information, structural engineering, crossing configuration (including sight distance calculations) was required and provided to the RMS. Ultimately, the RMS issued their unqualified support for the project in correspondence to Council dated 13 December, 2013 stating “*RMS has reviewed the draft plans for the main street renewal and has no concerns with the proposal*”.

When Council resolved to undertake the Otho Street works on the 27 September, 2017, site specific plans were finalised and certifications obtained from suitably qualified consulting engineers. Council commenced the process of obtaining concurrence under Section 138 of the *Roads Act 1993* from the RMS in early November 2017. As Otho Street is a classified road (highway) concurrence from the RMS is required. The design information sent to the RMS was consistent with what they had previously considered. The only notable changes involved enhanced engineering specifications to the original concept. In seeking concurrence the RMS were made aware of Council's intended start date for works being February 2018, which coincides with a traditionally quieter calendar period for CBD traders.

During the RMS considerations of Council's section 138 application, both the RMS Regional Director and the Acting Manager Network & Safety Services advised Council's Manager Civil Engineering that an approval mechanism would be in place to allow Council to commence works on the mid block crossing on the intended start date.

Given the circumstances above and having not received any indications to the contrary from the RMS, Council sought to confirm a start date of the 29 January 2018, making the necessary arrangements including community notification of works. Council's executive was kept apprised of the situation with the RMS over the December 2017/January 2018 period.

Nearing the close of business on Thursday 25 January (Friday 26 Public Holiday) Council received advice from the RMS indicating they had changed their conditions contained in a Works Authorisation Deed (WAD) that Council had previously endorsed. This meant amongst other things the RMS were now requesting additional information including an independent Road Safety Audit. Council worked in an expedient manner to provide the RMS with all additional information required and ultimately received formal concurrence on 7 February, 2018.

Whilst it is unfortunate that there was a minor delay in the intended start date and this created unnecessary confusion in the community, Council can take some comfort that the TCRP design ultimately withstood a complete additional level review with the RMS.

It is often normal practice in the interests of efficiency for Council to run a number of project preliminaries such as notification and obtaining procedural approvals concurrently. The benefits of such have historically outweighed any negatives. It is also not an unusual situation for Council to be awaiting final approvals from the RMS for works on the highway right up to the start date.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the items contained in the Information Reports to the Civil & Environmental Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 14 March, 2018, be received and noted.