



# **BUSINESS PAPER**

**Economic and Community  
Sustainability Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, 11 September 2019**

**INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL****NOTICE OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING**

5 September, 2019

An Economic and Community Sustainability Committee Meeting will be held in the Committee Room, Administrative Centre, 144 Otho Street, Inverell on Wednesday, 11 September, 2019, commencing at **10.30 AM**.

Your attendance at this Economic and Community Sustainability Committee Meeting would be appreciated.

Please Note: Under the provisions of the Code of Meeting Practice the proceedings of this meeting (including presentations, deputations and debate) will be webcast. An audio recording of the meeting will be uploaded on the Council's website at a later time. Your attendance at this meeting is taken as consent to the possibility that your voice may be recorded and broadcast to the public.

**P J HENRY PSM**

**GENERAL MANAGER**

**Agenda**

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## Ethical Decision Making and Conflicts of Interest

A guiding checklist for Councillors, officers and community committees

### Ethical decision making

- Is the decision or conduct legal?
- Is it consistent with Government policy, Council's objectives and Code of Conduct?
- What will the outcome be for you, your colleagues, the Council, anyone else?
- Does it raise a conflict of interest?
- Do you stand to gain personally at public expense?
- Can the decision be justified in terms of public interest?
- Would it withstand public scrutiny?

### Conflict of interest

A conflict of interest is a clash between private interest and public duty. There are two types of conflict:

- **Pecuniary** – regulated by the *Local Government Act 1993* and Office of Local Government
- **Non-pecuniary** – regulated by Codes of Conduct and policy. ICAC, Ombudsman, Office of Local Government (advice only). If declaring a Non-Pecuniary Conflict of Interest, Councillors can choose to either disclose and vote, disclose and not vote or leave the Chamber.

### The test for conflict of interest

- Is it likely I could be influenced by personal interest in carrying out my public duty?
- Would a fair and reasonable person believe I could be so influenced?
- Conflict of interest is closely tied to the layperson's definition of 'corruption' – using public office for private gain.
- Important to consider public perceptions of whether you have a conflict of interest.

### Identifying problems

- 1st** Do I have private interests affected by a matter I am officially involved in?  
**2nd** Is my official role one of influence or perceived influence over the matter?  
**3rd** Do my private interests conflict with my official role?

### Local Government Act 1993 and Model Code of Conduct

For more detailed definitions refer to Sections 442, 448 and 459 or the *Local Government Act 1993* and Model Code of Conduct, Part 4 – conflicts of interest.

### Disclosure of pecuniary interests / non-pecuniary interests

Under the provisions of Section 451(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (pecuniary interests) and Part 4 of the Model Code of Conduct prescribed by the Local Government (Discipline) Regulation (conflict of interests) it is necessary for you to disclose the nature of the interest when making a disclosure of a pecuniary interest or a non-pecuniary conflict of interest at a meeting.

**A Declaration form should be completed and handed to the General Manager** as soon as practicable once the interest is identified. Declarations are made at Item 3 of the Agenda: Declarations - Pecuniary, Non-Pecuniary and Political Donation Disclosures, and prior to each Item being discussed: The Declaration Form can be downloaded at [Declaration Form](#)

## 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.



**1 APOLOGIES**

**2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That the Minutes of the Economic and Community Sustainability Committee Meeting held on 14 August, 2019, as circulated to members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.*

**MINUTES OF INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL  
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE COMMITTEE ROOM, ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE, 144 OTHO STREET,  
INVERELL  
ON WEDNESDAY, 14 AUGUST 2019 AT 10.30 AM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Jacki Watts (Chair), Cr Paul King, Cr Paul Harmon, Cr Kate Dight and Cr Anthony Michael.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**COUNCILLORS:** Cr Stewart Berryman, Cr Neil McCosker, Cr Di Baker, Cr Mal Peters

**STAFF:** Paul Henry (General Manager), Brett McInnes (Director Civil & Environmental Services), Scott Norman (Director Corporate & Economic Services), and Paul Pay (Manager Financial Services).

**1 APOLOGIES**

Nil

**2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Anthony Michael

Seconded: Cr Paul King

*That the Minutes of the Economic and Community Sustainability Committee Meeting held on 10 July, 2019, as circulated to members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.*

**CARRIED**

**3 DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS/PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Nil

**4 DESTINATION REPORTS**

**4.1 SUBMISSION ON IPART REPORT INTO RATING**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Paul Harmon

Seconded: Cr Kate Dight

*That the Committee Recommend to Council that:*

- 1. Council makes a submission on the relevant recommendations of the IPART review of the Local Government Rating System.*
- 2. That the submission reflects the details of the report.*

**CARRIED**

#### 4.2 REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP - TINGHA SPORT AND RECREATION BOWLING CLUB INC.

##### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Paul King  
Seconded: Cr Kate Dight

*That the Committee recommend to Council that Council take Premium Sponsorship of the Tingha Sport and Recreation Bowling Club Inc for their Inaugural "Mine for Cash" Mixed Triples Bowls Carnival being held on 16 November, 2019 to the value of \$1000.*

**CARRIED**

#### 4.3 INVERELL COMMUNITY GARDEN - DONATION REQUEST

##### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Michael

That the report be received and noted.

The motion lapsed for the want of seconder.

Moved: Cr Kate Dight  
Seconded: Cr Paul King

That the Committee recommend to Council that Council contributes \$1,000 towards advertising, promotion and technical assistance associated with a community screening of the visionary film '2040' as a fundraiser for the relocation of the Inverell Community Gardens.

**LOST**

Moved: Cr Anthony Michael  
Seconded: Cr Paul Harmon

*That the Committee recommend to Council that Council contributes \$200 towards advertising, promotion and technical assistance associated with a community screening of the visionary film '2040' as a fundraiser for the relocation of the Inverell Community Gardens.*

**CARRIED**

Moved: Cr Anthony Michael  
Seconded: Cr Paul King

*That the Committee recommend to Council that Council invite the Executive of the Inverell Community Gardens to present their Strategic Plan for the Community Gardens including plans for long term financial sustainability.*

**CARRIED**

#### 5.4 MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION - MEMBERSHIP 2019/20

##### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Paul Harmon  
Seconded: Cr Anthony Michael

*That the Committee recommend to Council that Council thank the Murray Darling Association (MDA) for the invitation to join the association but decline to join at this time.*

**CARRIED**

## 4.5 LAND MATTERS

### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anthony Michael  
Seconded: Cr Paul Harmon

*That the matter be referred to Closed Council for consideration as the matters and information are:*

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

*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 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.*

**CARRIED**

## 5 GOVERNANCE REPORTS

### 5.1 GOVERNANCE - MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kate Dight  
Seconded: Cr Anthony Michael

*The Committee recommend to Council that:*

- i) the report indicating Council's Fund Management position be received and noted; and*
- ii) the Certification of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted.*

**CARRIED**

Cr Anthony Michael left the meeting at 11.25am.

## 6 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS (COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE)

At 11.28am, the Chairperson noted that no members of the public or press were in attendance at the meeting therefore the Committee proceeded to consider the motion to close the meeting to the press and public.



**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Paul Harmon

Seconded: Cr Kate Dight

*That the Committee proceeds into Closed Committee to discuss the matters referred to it, for the reasons stated in the motions of referral.*

**CARRIED**

Cr Anthony Michael returned to the meeting at 11.32am.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Kate Dight

Seconded: Cr Paul Harmon

*That the Committee proceeds out of Closed Committee into Open Committee.*

**CARRIED**

Upon resuming Open Committee at 11.40am, the Chairperson verbally reported that the Committee had met in Closed Committee, with the Press and Public excluded, and had resolved to recommend to Council the following:

**6.1 LAND MATTERS**

*That the Committee recommend to Council that:*

- a) *The General Manager be authorised to submit an offer for the land at the amount agreed to in closed meeting;*
- b) *The purchase be subject to any terms and conditions as negotiated by the General Manager;*
- c) *The land be classified as operational land; and*
- d) *When Council's acquisition program is complete that Council invite expressions of interest in the acquisition of the entire parcel of land owned by Council.*

**ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Anthony Michael

Seconded: Cr Paul Harmon

*That the recommendations of Closed Committee be adopted.*

**CARRIED**

**The Meeting closed at 11.41am.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Economic and Community Sustainability Committee held on 11 September 2019.**

.....  
**CHAIRPERSON**

**3 DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS/PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

## 4 DESTINATION REPORTS

### 4.1 CONDUCT OF THE 2020 LG ELECTION

**File Number:** S4.11.17/11 / 19/22750

**Author:** Scott Norman, Director Corporate and Economic Services

#### SUMMARY:

Councils must make a decision on how their September 2020 ordinary elections are to be administered no later than 1 October, 2019.

It is recommended that Council resolve to enter into an election arrangement with the NSW Electoral Commissioner (NSWEC) to administer all the Council's elections, polls and constitutional referenda.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

*That the Committee recommends to Council that:*

- 1. Pursuant to s. 296(2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) ("the Act") that an election arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all elections of the Council.*
- 2. pursuant to s. 296(2) and (3) of the Act, as applied and modified by s. 18, that a council poll arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all council polls of the Council.*
- 3. pursuant to s. 296(2) and (3) of the Act, as applied and modified by s. 18, that a constitutional referendum arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all constitutional referenda of the Council.*

#### COMMENTARY:

Council must decide whether or not to enter into an election arrangement with the NSW Electoral Commissioner (NSWEC) by 1 October 2019 and enter into an election arrangement with the NSWEC no later than 1 January 2020. If councils do not enter into an election arrangement with the NSWEC for the administration of their elections, they must engage an electoral services provider to administer their elections. This deadline has moved from March 2019 due to the ongoing review of the conduct of Local Government elections. Given Council's normal schedule of meetings the last opportunity Council will have to resolve this issue will be the September Ordinary Meeting.

New preference counting rules that come into effect at the next Council elections mean that it will no longer be possible for votes to be manually counted making it impossible for Councils to administer their own elections without the assistance of an expert electoral services provider (either the NSWEC or a commercial provider).

The NSW Government has asked the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) to review the costs of conducting Local Government elections in NSW. The draft IPART report recommended Councils meet the full cost of NSWEC conducting the elections; this would see an average increase of over 60% when compared to 2016 costs. After a consultation process IPART made a final report to the Minister for Local Government on Friday 30 August 2019. The Minister is yet to respond. NSWEC has advised that "Until the IPART report, and the Government's response to that report, have been released the NSWEC will be unable to provide Councils with service and costs estimates for the conduct of their elections."

At this point in time this leaves Council in the position of having to make a decision without knowing a price. If any additional information comes to hand before the September 2019 Ordinary Meeting it will of course be provided to the meeting.

In January 2019 the Australian Electoral Company, who are a commercial provider were approached for a quote to conduct the election, at that time their estimate was significantly more expensive than the NSWEC 2016 election costs. Much has changed since then, but there is still a great deal of uncertainty leaving the only practical recommendation being to engage NSWEC. While price is important, it is imperative that Council and the public have confidence that arrangements are in place to ensure the proper conduct of the election.

The latest OLG Circular is attached, more detailed information about the process to date can be found at:

[OLG Administration of 2020 Elections FAQ's](#)

[IPART Draft Review of local government election costs](#)

#### **RISK ASSESSMENT:**

The two (2) principal risks are a cost blow out and not ensuring the proper conduct of the 2020 election. Given the uncertain environment, contracting NSWEC is the best way of mitigating the risk of not ensuring the proper conduct of the election. Currently the cost of contracting NSWEC is unknown but it has been the subject of a rigorous review by IPART and ultimately will be beyond the control of Council. While this is not an ideal situation it is recommended as the most prudent course of action.

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

#### **CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

The estimated cost for the 2020 Election contained in Council's forward estimates is \$110,000.

The Cost of the 2016 Election was \$102,000.

The cost of the 2012 Election was \$85,000.

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Council must decide whether or not to enter into an election arrangement with the NSW Electoral Commissioner (NSWEC) by 1 October 2019 and enter into an election arrangement with the NSWEC no later than 1 January 2020. If councils do not enter into an election arrangement with the NSWEC for the administration of their elections, they must engage an electoral services provider to administer their elections.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. **19-12 Consultation by IPART on recommended reforms to local government election costs and extension of the deadline for councils to make a decision on the administration of their elections**

<b>Circular Details</b>	Circular No 19-12 / 27 June 2019 / A652969
<b>Previous Circular</b>	19-02 IPART review of the costs of conducting local government elections and extension of the deadline for councils to make a decision on the administration of their elections
<b>Who should read this</b>	Councillors / General Managers / Council Governance Staff
<b>Contact</b>	Council Governance Team / 02 4428 4100 / <a href="mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au">olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</a>
<b>Action required</b>	Information

## Consultation by IPART on recommended reforms to local government election costs and extension of the deadline for councils to make a decision on the administration of their elections

### What's new or changing?

- The Government has asked the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) to review the costs of conducting local government elections in NSW. IPART is now seeking feedback on its recommended changes to what councils pay for election services provided by the NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC). IPART's draft report and other information is available on IPART's website [here](#).
- The *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) has been amended to extend the timeframes for councils to make a decision on the administration of their September 2020 ordinary elections so that these decisions may be made in light of the outcomes of IPART's inquiry.
- Other amendments made to the Act mean that councils are no longer able to administer their own elections. If councils do not enter into an election arrangement with the NSWEC, they must engage an electoral services provider to administer their elections.

### What this will mean for your council

- IPART has invited councils and other interested parties to make a submission to its draft report by **19 July 2019**. Submissions can be made via IPART's online submission form [here](#).
- IPART is also holding a public forum on **2 July 2019**. Councils can register [here](#) to attend the public forum.
- IPART is due to provide its final report to the Minister for Local Government by Friday **30 August 2019**.
- Under the amendments to the Act, councils must make a decision on the administration of their September 2020 ordinary elections no later than **1 October 2019** and enter into an election arrangement with the NSWEC no later than **1 January 2020**. If councils do not enter into an election arrangement with the NSWEC for the administration of their elections, they must engage an electoral services provider to administer their elections.
- As previously noted in the FAQ attached to circular 18-43 "*Council decisions on the administration of the September 2020 elections*", issued on 12 December 2018, new preference counting rules that come into effect at the

next council elections mean that it will no longer be possible for votes to be manually counted making it impossible for councils to administer their own elections without the assistance of an expert electoral services provider (either the NSWEC or a commercial provider).

### Key points

- Among other things, IPART is recommending that councils meet the “efficient” costs of contestable election services provided by the NSWEC on the following basis:
  - the direct costs of contestable services are allocated to individual client councils
  - indirect costs of contestable services are allocated to all client councils, mostly on a per-electoral basis
  - the NSW Government pays for non-contestable election services (because no mechanism exists to charge for these services), with the exception of ‘enrolment’ activities (eg the provision of a paper or electronic copy of the residential roll to councils) - these should continue to be paid for by both client and non-client councils.
- Other recommended reforms include:
  - the mandatory unbundling, component pricing and offering of the NSWEC’s individual local government election services, with the NSWEC providing binding quotes for each individual election service
  - the establishment of independent regulatory oversight of the performance of all providers
  - reducing the period before an election by which a council has to resolve to engage the NSWEC from 18 months to 9 months
  - provision of assistance to councils to further develop their election management capabilities through a training program delivered by OLG
  - legislative change to ensure that a council’s general manager becomes responsible for producing a valid election result if and when the council ceases to engage the NSWEC for all election services.

### Where to go for further information

- Further information on IPART’s review of the costs of local government elections, including the draft report and contact details is available on IPART’s website [here](#).
- Alternatively contact OLG’s Council Governance Team on 02 4428 4100 or by email at [olg@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au).



**Tim Hurst**  
**Chief Executive**

Office of Local Government  
5 O’Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541  
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541  
T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209  
E [olg@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au) W [www.olg.nsw.gov.au](http://www.olg.nsw.gov.au) ABN 44 913 630 046



## 4.2 REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION - MOVIE NIGHT - LONG PLAIN HALL AND RECREATIONAL RESERVE

**File Number:** S5.13.11 / 19/30684

**Author:** Kristy Paton, Temporary Corporate Support Officer - Publishing

### SUMMARY:

Council has received a letter from Suzanne Baker, Secretary of the Board of Managers of the Long Plain Public Hall and Recreational Reserve requesting Council hold a movie night at the hall. The Committee is requested to consider their request.

### RECOMMENDATION:

*That the Committee recommend to Council that:*

- i. The request from the Board of Managers of the Long Plain Public Hall be received and acknowledged;*
- ii. The Board of Managers of the Long Plain Public Hall be informed that unfortunately there is no funding for this activity in Council's current budget; and*
- iii. Council assist with identifying funding for a Movie Night at Long Plain Hall by either incorporating the activity in an appropriate grant application or assisting the Board to apply for funding in their own right, which ever opportunity presents itself first.*

### COMMENTARY:

Suzanne Baker, Secretary of the Board of Managers of the Long Plain Public Hall and Recreational Reserve, has written correspondence requesting Council to consider holding a movie night at the Long Plain Hall. The aim of the movie night is to provide the Community with some relief from the drought and raise awareness of the new Long Plain Public Hall & Recreation Reserve Board Members. Ms Baker proposes the event be held Saturday, 7 December 2019 to coincide with their summer markets, which are being held on the Sunday.

The Long Plain Hall was built in 1922 and the Board of Managers have been making ongoing improvements to the hall in order for it to be used by the public again. This is the first time Council has been approached for support since the Board of Managers took over in August 2018.

In October 2018 Council resolved to allocate \$500K funding of the Drought Communities Program to the Community Resilience Programs focus area. This included events across the shire to regenerate rural villages, halls and community facilities, including Bonshaw, Elsmore, Mount Russell, Nullamanna, Delungra, Yetman, Inverell and Gum Flat. A condition of the funding was that all events needed to be completed by 30 June, 2019.

Although this grant program has now ceased, a number of alternative funding programs are currently available to community groups to assist with drought resilience events in rural communities. The cost associated with hosting a movie night is approximately \$2,000 plus GST. A breakdown of costs is as follows:

Movie Rights for public screening	\$400
Sound and lighting technician	\$450
Purchase of Movie	\$20
Staff time (minimum cost)	\$420
Advertising – Inverell Times, Radio, flyers, posters	\$800
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2090</b>



**RISK ASSESSMENT:**

There would be no change to Council's risk profile.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Management Policy: Donation Policy – 'Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 356 of the Local Government Act, 1993 may provide financial assistance by way of Donations to others, including charitable, community and sporting organisations. The purpose of providing Donations from public funds is to help promote or assist individuals or organisations for which there is a recognised public benefit, Generally the maximum donation provided will be \$200.00.'

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

Previous movie nights in other locations have been funded from discrete grant funding in relation to Youth Activities or Drought Communities Program. There is currently no such funding available.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

**4.3 REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE - BONSHAW DROUGHT RELIEF EVENT****File Number:** S5.13.3 / 19/30696**Author:** Fiona Adams, Manager Integrated Planning and Reporting**SUMMARY:**

Bonshaw Memorial Hall have written to Council seeking assistance to hold a men's breakfast in Bonshaw in November, which will include a performer from the Melbourne Comedy Festival and representatives from government agencies supporting drought affected areas.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That the Committee recommend to Council that:*

- i. The request from the Bonshaw Hall Committee be received and acknowledged.*
- ii. The Bonshaw Hall Committee be informed that unfortunately there is no funding for this activity on Council's current budget.*
- iii. That Council assist with identifying funding for men's breakfast by either incorporating the activity in an appropriate grant application or assisting the Committee to apply for funding in their own right, which ever opportunity presents itself first.*

**COMMENTARY:**

Michelle Ramsay, Secretary, Bonshaw Memorial Hall has written to Council seeking assistance to hold a men's breakfast in November to alleviate the pressures of drought for the rural community.

Michelle states the purpose of the event is to provide a mental health boost and also connect residents with the Rural Adversity Mental Health Program team, HealthWise will provide health checks and Local Land Services will also be in attendance.

Michelle says the event will be jointly hosted by Bonshaw School P&C, Bonshaw CWA and the venue will be Bonshaw Hall. Organisers have secured the support of Northern Tablelands Local Land Services, who will be covering the cost of catering and Michelle requests Council's assistance to contribute to the cost of a comedian / entertainer to feature at the event. The entertainer for the event is yet to be determined, however, organisers are in discussions with Melbourne Comedy Festival.

In October 2018, Council resolved to allocate \$500K funding of the Drought Communities funding to the Community resilience Programs focus area. This includes events across the shire to regenerate rural villages, halls and community facilities, including Bonshaw, with the hall also receiving upgrades with air conditioning installed and construction of internal amenities.

It is noted that Council provided Drought Communities Programme funding for the Bonshaw Hall Centenary celebrations held 29 June, 2019, which was a cost of \$8,384.75.

Bonshaw Hall Committee is currently preparing a grant application to the Sapphire Wind Farm to support this initiative, however, the outcome will not be known until late October 2019. Indicative costs for the event are as below and Michelle states anything Council can do to assist with funding the event would be appreciated.

Catering	\$ 500	LLS contribution
Promotion	200	
Hall hire	200	Bonshaw Hall in-kind contribution
Entertainment (inc travel & accom)	2,500	
Total event cost:	3,400	<i>Less contributions received of \$700</i>
<b>Funding required:</b>	<b>\$2,700</b>	

**RISK ASSESSMENT:**

There would be no change to Council's risk profile.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Management Policy: Donation Policy – 'Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 356 of the Local Government Act, 1993 may provide financial assistance by way of Donations to others, including charitable, community and sporting organisations. The purpose of providing Donations from public funds is to help promote or assist individuals or organisations for which there is a recognised public benefit. Generally the maximum donation provided will be \$200.00.'

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

Similar functions have previously been funded from the Drought Communities Program. There is currently no such funding available.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

**4.4 DONATION REQUEST - GARDEN ARTIST OF THE YEAR COMPETITION****File Number:** S12.22.1/12 / 19/30717**Author:** Kristy Paton, Temporary Corporate Support Officer - Publishing**SUMMARY:**

Council is in receipt of a letter from Julie Clinch a member of the Down-to-Earth Inverell Garden Group requesting a donation towards prizes for the Garden Artist of the Year Competition.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That the Committee recommend to Council that:*

- i. The request from the Down to Earth Inverell Garden Group be received and acknowledged;*
- ii. Council provide a donation of \$200 towards prizes for the Garden Artist of the Year Competition; and*
- iii. Council nominate a representative to present awards to the first and second prize winners.*

**COMMENTARY:**

Council is in receipt of a letter from Julie Clinch, a member of the Down-to-Earth Inverell Garden Group requesting a donation for the Garden Artist of the Year Competition. The group are in the final stages of planning the Open Gardens to be held as part of the Inverell Sapphire City Festival. All money raised will be donated to the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service. The Gardens will be open on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 October, 2019.

In conjunction with this year's Open Gardens, a Garden Artist of the Year Competition will be held. All money raised from the artist competition exhibition admission fee and the competition entry fee will be donated to the NSW Farmers Drought Relief Fund. Further information regarding the art competition can be found in last year's brochure (attached); this year's brochure is currently in the process of being finalised for printing.

The group are requesting a donation of \$200 from Council being \$100 for first prize, \$50 for second prize and \$50 for the People's Choice Award. This is the first time Council has received a request for donation for this event.

If Council are able to provide a donation, the group has asked if a Council representative can be present at the garden of Tim and Margaret Robinson to present the awards to the first and second prize winners. The winner of the People's Choice Award will be presented on the following Saturday at the exhibition of the artworks.

Council are asked if they would like to make a donation and if so, in what capacity.

A copy of donations made year to date is attached.

**RISK ASSESSMENT:**

There would be no change to Council's risk profile.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Management Policy: Donation Policy – 'Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 356 of the Local Government Act, 1993 may provide financial assistance by way of Donations to others, including charitable, community and sporting organisations. The purpose of providing Donations

from public funds is to help promote or assist individuals or organisations for which there is a recognised public benefit, Generally the maximum donation provided will be \$200.00.'

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

The recommendation aligns with Council Policy.

The appropriate budget vote is \$7400 already expended.

Mine for Cash – Tingha	\$1000
Girl Guide Donation	\$1400
Driver Safety Awareness Day – Don't be A Statistic	\$1000
Total	\$3400

Plus Inverell Angler's Association Fish Restocking (should it proceed) - \$500

Available for donation - \$3500

**A DONATION OF \$3280 FOR THE SAPPHIRE ROCK N ROLL FESTIVAL AND \$898 FOR THE ASSOCIATED ROAD CLOSURE HAS BEEN FUNDED FROM THE PROMOTIONAL EVENTS BUDGET.**

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- 1. 2018 Brochure - Garden Artist of the Year Competition**



# ARTWORK APPROVAL

TESS NEWMARCH - GARDEN ARTIST COMPETITION - A2, A3, A4 - PROOF 3



**JILL BROWN MEMORIAL AWARD**

## GARDEN ARTIST OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

Fundraising for NSW Farmers Drought Relief Fund

Celebrating ART & GARDENS with the DOWN-TO-EARTH Garden Group Westpac OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND

Inviting all artists, amateur, professional & students to come and produce an artwork on one of these days in the gorgeous garden of "Osterley" in any medium within 4 hours.

**SAT 27 OCTOBER 2018**  
**SUN 28 OCTOBER 2018**

10 am to 2.30 pm. Entry Fee \$10 ALL WELCOME  
 271 Old Bundarra Rd INVERELL NSW

**Winner and PRIZES awarded at 3 pm Sunday**  
 For further Information and Conditions of Entry  
**Garden Artist of the Year Contact 0428 669507**

**ART LIFE STUDIO** 56 Otho St Inverell  
**OPENING NIGHT 3 NOV 2018 6 pm**  
 Opportunity to buy the art  
*Andrea Fuchs* 0428 458706

**GARDEN ARTIST of the YEAR EXHIBITION**

### CHECK ARTWORK CAREFULLY THEN COMPLETE:

- ☐ ARTWORK APPROVED\*
- ☐ APPROVED WITH FOLLOWING CORRECTIONS\*\*  
 NO FURTHER PROOF NEEDED
- ☐ CORRECTIONS REQUIRED\*  
 SHOW A NEW PROOF

PRODUCTION WILL NOT COMMENCE UNTIL ARTWORK IS APPROVED IN WRITING.  
 Artwork Approval is accepted in two ways: the approval form signed and returned, OR written approval in an email.

\*\*PLEASE check this artwork proof carefully for errors and omissions. Your written Approval to Print constitutes acceptance of full responsibility for all errors, omissions and legal and ethical compliance in this document. The Designer will not accept liability for errors overlooked at this stage of proofing.  
 After approval, Simply Print Anything accepts no responsibility for undetected faults or inaccuracies, so please read carefully, clearly note changes and corrections, if any. Any reprinting will be at the customers own cost.

*Please Note: Images within this proof are low resolution to enable emailing.*

**ARTWORK:** If artwork has been done and in the event that the client does not wish to proceed to printing, there will be a charge for said artwork.

**COLOURS:** Colours on printed and electronic proofs are representative only - Monitors and printers cannot always display final print colours accurately. Colours may vary between orders.

**\*PRICING:** Additional artwork fees may apply. \*All prices exclude GST, unless specified. \*Freight additional

APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**4.5 REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION - REQUEST TO WAIVE FULL OR PARTIAL HIRE FEE OF TOWN HALL - UNSTOP-ABILITY****File Number:** S5.24.4 / 19/31238**Author:** Kristy Paton, Temporary Corporate Support Officer - Publishing**SUMMARY:**

Council has received a letter from Stephanie Marshall, Creative Director and Michele Jedlicka, Artistic Coordinator from Unstop-Ability requesting the hire fees of the Town Hall be waived.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That the Committee recommend to Council that:*

- i. The request from Stephanie Marshall and Michele Jedlicka from Unstop-Ability be received and acknowledged;*
- ii. Council provide a donation of \$200 towards the costs of staging the Unstop-Ability production.*

**COMMENTARY:**

Council has received a letter from Stephanie Marshall, Creative Director and Michele Jedlicka, Artistic Coordinator, from Unstop-Ability asking Council to consider waiving the hire fees of the Town Hall either in full or partially for their upcoming hire in October.

The Town Hall has been booked from 16 October 2019 – 18 October 2019 for the Unstop-Ability performance “Reach for the Stars”, with performances being held over the two (2) days. Unstop-Ability is a project which engages youth and adults with a disability. The 90 – minute performance features music, dancing and light shows and the combined effect in a celebration of community.

As Council may recall, the 2018 Unstop-Ability production was a huge success, with both performances being fully booked. This year, the cast has expanded to over 60 participants and numerous volunteers and will include a culturally led performance of the Gamilaroi Emu Dance, including children from the Ross Hill School Support Unit.

In their letter Stephanie and Michele state:

*We understand Council is often asked for a similar request, but ask in this case to remember such a consideration will affect hundreds of people in our district, and support the strong message of inclusion, community engagement, and understanding which we are all working to create and It is an opportunity directly in line with Council's own Inclusion Plan’.*

This year's performance is entirely funded by a private donation and entry for the performances is free of charge in order to encourage the community to attend.

The cost for hiring the hall for Unstop-Ability has been quoted as \$1433.00 which includes \$500 refundable bond and air conditioning costs.

Council has a schedule of fees and charges based on a reasonable user pay basis. In the past Council has been reluctant to waive hire fees for Council facilities but has considered making a donation that the organisation may then use towards hire fees. Council's adopted policy gives guidance of \$200 per donation.

**RISK ASSESSMENT:**

There is no change to Council's risk profile.



**POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Management Policy: Donation Policy – ‘Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 356 of the Local Government Act, 1993 may provide financial assistance by way of Donations to others, including charitable, community and sporting organisations. The purpose of providing Donations from public funds is to help promote or assist individuals or organisations for which there is a recognised public benefit, Generally the maximum donation provided will be \$200.00.’

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

The appropriate budget vote is \$7400 with \$3400 expended plus \$500 committed to trout restocking should it proceed.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil



**4.6 REQUEST FOR REDUCTION ON WATER ACCOUNT**

**File Number:** S32.10.1/12 / 19/31304

**Author:** Somone McLachlan, Debtors Clerk

**SUMMARY:**

Council has received a request from LJ Hooker Inverell acting agent for property 34 Oswald Street, Inverell. LJ Hooker are seeking Council's assistance by issuing an amended account based on average usage due to a water leak.

The Committee is being asked to consider a confidential report in respect of this matter.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That the matter be referred to Closed Council for consideration as the matters and information are:*

- a personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).*

*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 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.*

**COMMENTARY:**

The *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.*

It is recommended that, pursuant to Section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* the matter be referred to Closed Committee for consideration as the matters and information are:

- a personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

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 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*.

**4.7 NORTHERN INLAND ACADEMY OF SPORT****File Number:** S26.4.15 / 19/31455**Author:** Paul Henry, General Manager**SUMMARY:**

The Northern Inland Academy of Sport (NIAS) has requested Council to renew its support for the activities of the organisation by renewing its partnership.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*A matter for the Committee.*

**COMMENTARY:**

In 2018/19, NIAS introduced a new funding model for their activities which established a partnership program for the 19 Local Government Authorities in their service area. A partnership contribution was set at \$2K.

Council resolved to take out a partnership package, provided NIAS conduct training camps in Inverell.

NIAS has requested Council to renew its partnership for 2019/20. The cost is \$2K (plus GST).

**A. Support**

In return for being a partner NIAS will align each of their 12 sports with a particular town. NIAS wishes to base their netball program in Inverell.

NIAS will continue to hold academy training sessions in Inverell for some of their various sports program. In 2018/19 eight (8) training sessions were held in Inverell.

Inverell based athletes will be selected to join their various training programs. Currently, 42 athletes from Inverell participate in six (6) of NIAS sporting programs.

**B. Background**

The Academy was established to identify and prepare talented sports people in the Northern Inland region to reach their maximum potential. Its objective is to provide opportunities and support to help young athletes reach higher levels within their sport. It does this by providing talent development programs and sporting activities to overcome disadvantages such as tyranny of distance, lack of regular quality coaching, inadequate competition and limited exposure to State Sporting Organisations pathways.

The Academy currently coordinates 13 programs, AFL, Athletics, Basketball, Cycling, Football, Golf, Hockey (boys and girls), Netball, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Tennis, Individual Scholarship Lone Star program and a Regional Athlete and Coach Education (RACE) program to identify and support 280 athletes and 42 coaches in the North West/New England.

NIAS covers the whole of the North West of NSW from Tenterfield in the North, Ebor to the East, Moree/Coonabarabran in the West and Scone to the South. This is a total of 13 Local Government Areas.

### C. Administration Structure

NIAS is an incorporated, autonomous, community based organisation. The Academy's administration base office is in Tamworth. An 8 member volunteer board oversees the running of the Academy with the day to day operations undertaken by an Executive Officer, a Sports Program Officer and a Marketing and Communications manager.

### D. Funding Model

NIAS relies on the support of the region to fund its activities. It has established partnerships with the NSW State Government, community organisations and businesses.

The greatest source of funding comes from major partners who currently are:

NSW Department of Sport and Recreation provides an annual operating grant and specific project grants to assist the operations of the Academy. This support is ongoing and expected to increase in the following year.

Tamworth Regional Council provides office accommodation for the Administration base of the Academy.

The Region's Clubs continue to back NIAS with significant contributions both in cash and in-kind. Their support has included the following:

- Clubs NSW (North West) Financial Support Scheme;
- A number of the regions clubs support the NIAS via the Community Development and Expenditure (CDSE) Scheme including Moree Services Club, Armidale City Bowling Club, Gunnedah Services and Bowling Club, Narrabri RSL Club, Wee Waa Bowling Club, Lightning Ridge Bowling Club, Inverell RSM, and West Tamworth League Club.
- A scholarship scheme is in place to provide full and part Athlete Levy scholarships to athletes whose families cannot financially afford the costs to be in a NIAS talent development program.
- Support from NSW Clubs Main Body, Clubs NSW head office provides yearly cash sponsorship to assist with operational expenses of the Academy.

The second most significant source of funding comes from Naming Rights Partners with the next level of sponsorship being Associate Members. Relationships of note include Macquarie Bank who sponsors the National Primary Games and McDonalds Armidale who sponsor the National Football Camp.

### **RISK ASSESSMENT:**

Nil.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Management Policy: Donation Policy – 'The purpose of providing Donations from public funds is to help promote or assist individuals or organisations for which there is a recognised public benefit, Generally the maximum donation provided will be \$200.00.'

The amount requested is obviously above the stated policy. Alternatively it can be argued the proposal is more in line with a sponsorship than a donation and perhaps would sit more comfortably in another budget allocation.

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

The Associate Partnership Package would cost \$2,000 for the 2020 calendar year. Council has previously paid membership of \$570 in 2013 and 2014, nil in 2018 and \$2K in 2019. There is no specific allocation in the 2019-20 budget.

It is suggested that the Inverell Sports Council allocation (\$10K) be utilised if Council wish to be a sponsoring partner.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

## 5 INFORMATION REPORTS

### 5.1 TINGHA PLATEAU FIRES

**File Number:** S9.18.7 / 19/31492

**Author:** Paul Pay, Manager Financial Services

#### SUMMARY:

This report updates the Committee on the reimbursement of expenses associated with the Tingha Plateau Fires.

#### COMMENTARY:

Council staff made submissions to the Roads and Maritime Services and NSW Rural Fire Service for reimbursement of costs associated with the Tingha Plateau Fires. The total expenditure incurred by Council is summarised in the following table:

	<b>Total Fire Costs</b>	<b>Private Works Armidale Regional Council</b>	<b>Rural Fire Service Claim</b>	<b>RMS Claim</b>	<b>Council Costs</b>
Payroll Costs (Ordinary & Overtime)	\$ 130,245.49		\$ 38,267.04	\$ 50,171.27	\$ 41,807.18
Fuel	\$ 6,787.44		\$ 6,787.44	\$ -	\$ -
Plant Hire	\$ 40,963.34		\$ 5,532.27	\$ 17,721.70	\$ 17,709.37
Meals & Accommodation	\$ 41.00		\$ 41.00	\$ -	\$ -
Other	\$ 153,982.81		\$ -	\$ 153,982.81	\$ -
Private Works	\$ 71,816.32	\$ 71,816.32			
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$ 403,836.40</b>	<b>\$ 71,816.32</b>	<b>\$ 50,627.75</b>	<b>\$ 221,875.78</b>	<b>\$ 59,516.55</b>

Council has now received correspondence from the Roads and Maritime advising they have assessed Council's Emergency Works Claim against the requirements of the NSW Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements November 2019 (DRFA) and that Council's claim and supporting documentation / evidence meets DRFA eligibility requirements and our claim totalling \$221,876 has been approved for payment.

Council's submission to the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) is still under review. The RFS have not provided any timeframes around completing their assessment.

Council received reimbursement from Armidale Regional Council on 26 April, 2019.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

**6 GOVERNANCE REPORTS****6.1 GOVERNANCE - MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT****File Number:** S4.11.17/11 / 19/31258**Author:** Paul Pay, Manager Financial Services**SUMMARY:**

To report the balance of investments held as at 31 August, 2019.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*The Committee recommend to Council that:*

- i) the report indicating Council's Fund Management position be received and noted; and*
- ii) the Certification of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted.*

**COMMENTARY:**

Contained within this report are the following items that highlight Council's Investment Portfolio performance for the month to 31 August, 2019 and an update of the investment environment:

- (a) Council's investments as at 31 August, 2019;
- (b) Council Investments by Fund as at 31 August, 2019;
- (c) Interest – Budgeted vs Actual;
- (d) Investment Portfolio Performance;
- (e) Investment Commentary; and
- (f) Certification – Responsible Accounting Officer.

**A) Council Investments as at 31 August, 2019**

<b>Term Deposit Investment Group</b>										
<i>Investment No.</i>	<i>Borrower</i>	<i>FUND</i>	<i>Rating</i>	<i>Risk Rating</i>	<i>Purchase Date</i>	<i>Maturity Date</i>	<i>Current Yield</i>	<i>Principal Value</i>	<i>Current value</i>	<i>Term (days)</i>
19/03	Bank of Queensland	General	BBB+	2	03-Sep-18	03-Sep-19	2.73%	1,000,000	1,000,000	365
19/04	CBA	General	AA-	1	14-Sep-18	13-Sep-19	2.68%	1,000,000	1,000,000	364
19/05	National Australia Bank	Water	AA-	1	27-Sep-18	27-Sep-19	2.75%	1,000,000	1,000,000	365
19/24	Nexus Mutual	Sewer	NR	3	28-Mar-19	30-Sep-19	2.82%	1,500,000	1,500,000	186
19/06	St George Bank	General	AA-	1	02-Oct-18	02-Oct-19	2.60%	1,000,000	1,000,000	365
19/07	National Australia Bank	General	AA-	1	09-Oct-18	09-Oct-19	2.74%	1,000,000	1,000,000	365
19/28	Bank of Sydney	General	NR	3	17-Apr-19	17-Oct-19	2.65%	1,000,000	1,000,000	183
20/01	Bank of Sydney	General	NR	3	17-Jul-19	17-Oct-19	2.40%	1,500,000	1,500,000	92
19/08	Bendigo Adelaide Bank	General	BBB+	2	25-Oct-18	25-Oct-19	2.75%	2,000,000	2,000,000	365
19/11	National Australia Bank	Sewer	AA-	1	20-Nov-18	20-Nov-19	2.75%	2,000,000	2,000,000	365
19/12	Rural Bank	General	BBB+	2	27-Nov-18	27-Nov-19	2.85%	2,000,000	2,000,000	365
19/13	Police Credit Union (SA)	General	NR	3	27-Nov-18	27-Nov-19	2.94%	1,000,000	1,000,000	365
19/14	AMP BANK	General	A-	2	27-Nov-18	27-Nov-19	2.85%	2,000,000	2,000,000	365
19/15	AMP BANK	General	A-	2	27-Nov-18	27-Nov-19	2.85%	1,000,000	1,000,000	365
19/16	AMP BANK	Water	A-	2	27-Nov-18	27-Nov-19	2.85%	1,000,000	1,000,000	365
19/17	AMP BANK	General	A-	2	27-Nov-18	27-Nov-19	2.85%	1,000,000	1,000,000	365
19/23	AMP BANK	General	A-	2	18-Mar-19	13-Dec-19	2.80%	2,000,000	2,000,000	270
19/19	Summerland Credit Union	Water	NR	3	17-Dec-18	17-Dec-19	3.00%	2,000,000	2,000,000	365
19/25	Nexus Mutual	Water	NR	3	28-Mar-19	30-Dec-19	2.80%	1,000,000	1,000,000	277
19/20	National Australia Bank	General	AA-	1	09-Jan-19	09-Jan-20	2.75%	2,000,000	2,000,000	365
19/27	St George Bank	General	AA-	1	17-Apr-19	17-Apr-20	2.60%	2,000,000	2,000,000	366
20/04	Bank of Queensland	Sewer	BBB+	2	27-Aug-19	27-May-20	1.65%	2,000,000	2,000,000	274
19/09	ING BANK	General	A	1	25-Oct-18	25-Oct-20	2.90%	2,000,000	2,000,000	731
19/10	Westpac Bank	General	AA-	1	25-Oct-18	25-Oct-21	2.97%	2,000,000	2,000,000	1096
19/26	Police Credit Union (SA)	General	NR	3	28-Mar-19	29-Mar-21	2.90%	2,000,000	2,000,000	732
19/30	Rural Bank	General	BBB+	2	17-Apr-19	19-Apr-21	2.63%	1,000,000	1,000,000	733
19/33	Westpac Bank	Water	AA-	1	27-Jun-19	27-Jun-21	2.30%	2,000,000	2,000,000	731
20/02	Bank of Queensland	General	BBB+	2	17-Jul-19	19-Jul-21	2.00%	1,500,000	1,500,000	733
20/03	Bank of Queensland	General	BBB+	2	27-Aug-19	27-Aug-21	1.75%	2,000,000	2,000,000	731
19/29	Newcastle Permanent	General	BBB	2	17-Apr-19	19-Apr-22	2.70%	1,000,000	1,000,000	1098
19/31	Westpac Bank	Water	AA-	1	25-Jun-19	25-Jun-22	2.30%	1,000,000	1,000,000	1096
19/34	Westpac Bank	General	AA-	1	25-Jun-19	25-Jun-22	2.30%	2,000,000	2,000,000	1096
19/32	Westpac Bank	General	AA-	1	27-Jun-19	27-Jun-22	2.30%	2,000,000	2,000,000	1096
<b>Sub Total - Term Deposit Investment Group</b>								<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>50,500,000</b>	<b>50,500,000</b>

<b>Floating Rate Notes Investment Group</b>									
<i>As at Date</i>	<i>Borrower</i>	<i>FUND</i>	<i>Rating</i>	<i>Risk Rating</i>	<i>Purchase Date</i>	<i>Maturity Date</i>	<i>Current Yield*</i>	<i>Principal Value</i>	<i>Current value</i>
31/8/19	Commonwealth Bank	General	A1+	1	11/1/2019	11/1/2024	2.26% 3M BBSW + 113bp	2,000,000.00	2,034,826.00
31/8/19	ANZ Bank	General	A1+	1	8/2/2019	8/2/2024	2.07% 3M BBSW + 110bp	2,000,000.00	2,031,706.00
31/8/19	ANZ Bank	Water	A1+	1	8/2/2019	8/2/2024	2.07% 3M BBSW + 110bp	1,000,000.00	1,015,853.00
<b>Sub Total - Floating Rate Notes Investment Group</b>								<b>5,000,000.00</b>	<b>5,082,385.00</b>

<b>Cash Deposits Accounts Investment Group</b>									
<i>As at Date</i>	<i>Borrower</i>	<i>FUND</i>	<i>Rating</i>	<i>Risk Rating</i>	<i>Purchase Date</i>	<i>Maturity Date</i>	<i>Current Yield</i>	<i>Principal Value</i>	<i>Current value</i>
<b>Sub Total - Cash Deposits Accounts Investment Group</b>								<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>



**B) Council Investments by Fund 31 August, 2019**

Portfolio by Fund	31/07/2019	31/08/2019
General Fund	\$ 41,076,504	\$ 41,066,532
Water Fund	\$ 7,018,426	\$ 9,015,853
Sewer Fund	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 5,500,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 51,594,930</b>	<b>\$ 55,582,385</b>

Council's investment portfolio increased during August 2019. This was in respect of normal cash flow movements for receipts collected and payments made during July 2019. Additional funds from the August rate instalment and RMS receipts were also invested during August 2019.

**Interest – Budgeted verses Actual Result to Date**

	Ledger	2019/2020 Budget	Actuals to Date	Accrued Interest to Date	TOTAL
General Fund	128820	879,000.00	44,189.47	151,824.68	196,014.15
Water Fund	812350	125,000.00	865.48	35,013.70	35,879.18
Sewer Fund	906320	105,000.00	2,454.79	18,706.85	21,161.64
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,109,000.00</b>	<b>47,509.74</b>	<b>205,545.23</b>	<b>253,054.97</b>

Term deposit interest rates have moved to historic lows of approximately 1.5% for a twelve (12) month term deposit. Given our strong investment balances, Council is expected to meet interest revenue targets in 2019/2020. However, further rate cuts may require Council to downgrade this target in future years. This will require Council to reduce expenditure to offset the reduced income from investment revenue. Expenditure can be reduced by cutting various programs from the budget or by reducing/freezing budget increases, that is, no CPI increases. This results in an expenditure decrease in real terms.

**C) Investment Portfolio Performance**

Investment Portfolio Return		Benchmarks		
	% pa	RBA Cash Rate	Aus Bond Bank Bill	11am Cash Rate
Benchmark as at 31-8-19		1.00%	1.82%	1.00%
Term Deposits	2.63%			
Cash Deposit Accounts	0.00%			
Floating Rate Notes	2.13%			

**D) Investment Commentary**

Council's investment portfolio returns exceeded the 11am Cash Rate benchmark in all investment categories except for Council's cash deposit accounts. These accounts are held for liquidity purposes. Term Deposits exceeded all benchmarking indexes.

Council's investment portfolio of \$55.6M is almost entirely invested in fixed term deposits. Overall, the portfolio is highly liquid, highly rated and short-dated from a counterparty perspective.

With global inflation remaining low and downside risks for global growth increasing (driven by the ongoing trade wars and geopolitics), most global central banks have moved towards an easing bias. After the US Fed cut rates on 31st July, the market is currently fully factoring in the next 25bp rate cut on 18th September and a further cut by the end of 2019.

Domestically, the RBA remains on an easing bias looking to address the 'spare capacity' in the economy. The RBA has suggested that additional stimulus through further rate cuts may be warranted in order to target full employment. Governor Lowe is looking for support from the Federal Government through expansionary fiscal policy, discussed the idea of Quantitative Easing

(QE), and has now flagged an “extended period” of low interest rates to achieve full employment and progress towards their inflation target.

The global key risks for the RBA stem from the impact of ongoing trade and technology disputes, softening inflation, political uncertainty (e.g. US, Brexit, Hong Kong, Italy) and a broader slowdown in the global economy. The Board will continue to assess developments in the global and domestic market before considering further rate cuts.

Domestically, they are focused on employment, inflation, wage growth, housing and consumption. Should these areas continue to show signs of softening; the RBA remains on hand to adjust the official cash rate lower if required.

The futures market currently prices in a further 25bp rate cut by November 2019, taking the official cash rate down to 0.75%, with another factored in by May 2020.

**F) Certification – Responsible Accounting Officer**

I Scott Norman, hereby certify that the investments listed in this report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 and Council’s Investment Policy.

**RISK ASSESSMENT:**

Nil

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

It is noted that the volatility for current financial markets and pending legal actions will not impact on Council’s Rates and Charges, its ability to deliver its existing Services across the funds, or its medium or long term sustainability. Council’s overall Investment Portfolio remains sounds.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

**7 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS (COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE)****RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with the reasons stated in the referral reports:

**7.1 Request for reduction on water account**