



INVERELL  
SHIRE COUNCIL



*The Playground at ANZAC Park, Delungra has received a facelift. The old and damaged equipment has been replaced and includes the installation of a dual swing, slide including landing, fire engine rocker, and a Geo-climber. The equipment was funded by the 2021/22 Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program.*

## Business Paper

### Ordinary Meeting of Council

### Wednesday, 22 March 2023

**INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL****NOTICE OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL**

16 March, 2023

An Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held in the Council Chambers, Administrative Centre, 144 Otho Street, Inverell on Wednesday, 22 March, 2023, commencing at **3.00pm**.

Your attendance at this Ordinary Meeting of Council 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 recorded. The 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.

**I would like to remind those present that an audio recording of the meeting will be uploaded on the Council's website at a later time and participants should be mindful not to make any defamatory or offensive statements.**

**P J HENRY PSM**

**GENERAL MANAGER**

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## Recording of Council Meetings

Council meetings are recorded. By entering the Chambers during an open session of Council, you consent to your attendance and participation being recorded.

The recording will be archived. All care is taken to maintain your privacy; however as a visitor of the public gallery, your presence may be recorded.

## 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 Code of Conduct and Office of Local Government
- **Non-pecuniary** – regulated by Code 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?

### Code of Conduct

For more detailed definitions refer to Council's and Model Code of Conduct, Part 4 – Pecuniary Interests and Part 5 – Non – Pecuniary Conflicts of Interest.

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

Under the provisions of 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 [Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests form](#) or [Non-Pecuniary Interests 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.





## MEETING CALENDAR

January 2023 – December 2023

### Ordinary Meetings:

Time: 3.00 pm

Venue: Council Chambers

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed
25 (Special)	22	22	26	24	^28	26	23	27	25	22	13

### Major Committee Meetings:

Civil and Environmental Services - 9.00 am

Economic and Community Sustainability - 10.30 am

Venue: Committee Room

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed	Wed
No Meeting	8	8	12	10	14	12	9	13	11	8	No Meeting

Members of the public are invited to observe meetings of the Council.

Should you wish to address Council, please contact the Office of the General Manager on 6728 8206.

^ Meeting at which the Management Plan for 2023/2024 is adopted.



**INVERELL**  
SHIRE COUNCIL

# INTERNAL CALENDAR

## April 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1.
Daylight Saving Ends Sapphire City Markets 2.	Reports due for Committee Meetings by 4.30pm 3.	4.	5.	6.	Good Friday Start of School Holidays 7.	Easter Saturday 8.
Easter Sunday 9.	Easter Monday 10.	11.	9.00am Civil & Environmental Committee Meeting 10.30am Economic & Community Sustainability Committee Meeting 12.	13.	14.	15.
Sapphire City Markets 16.	Reports due for Ordinary Council Meeting by 4.30pm 17.	18.	19.	Youth Week Begins – until 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2023 20.	21.	Inverell Motorcycle Restorers Club Event – Pioneer Village 22.
23.	24.	ANZAC Day Last Day of School Holidays 25.	3.00pm Ordinary Council Meeting 26.	27.	Movie Under the Stars 28.	Grafton to Inverell Multicultural Festival 29.
30.						

 Council office closed

**1 APOLOGIES**

**2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 22 February, 2023, as circulated to members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.*

**MINUTES OF INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE, 144 OTHO STREET,  
INVERELL  
ON WEDNESDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 2023 COMMENCING AT 3.06PM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Paul Harmon (Mayor), Cr Jo Williams, Cr Di Baker, Cr Stewart Berryman, Cr Kate Dight, Cr Jacko Ross, Cr Wendy Wilks and Cr Nicky Lavender.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Brett McInnes (Acting General Manager) and Paul Pay (Director Corporate and Economic Services).

## **1 APOLOGIES**

### **RESOLUTION 2023/8**

Moved: Cr Di Baker

Seconded: Cr Jo Williams

*That the apology received from Cr Paul King for personal reasons be accepted and leave of absence granted.*

**CARRIED**

## **2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

*That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 14 December, 2022, and the Special Council Meeting held on 25 January, 2023, as circulated to members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of those meetings.*

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

Cr Paul Harmon declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in Item #11.5 of the Information Report "Summary of Development Applications, Construction Certificates and Complying Developments Certificates during January 2023". The nature of the interest is Cr Harmon's wife is an employee of a DA applicant.

Cr Wendy Wilks declared a Pecuniary Interest in Item #11.5 of the Information Report "Summary of Development Applications, Construction Certificates and Complying Developments Certificates during January 2023". The nature of the interest is Cr Wilks is a relative of a DA applicant.

Cr Kate Dight declared a Pecuniary Interest in Item #13.5 "Community Contribution Strategy – Dumaresq Solar Farm P/I (DSF)". The nature of the interest is Cr Dight is a shareholder in a parcel of land on which a solar farm is situated in an adjoining shire.

### **Previously Declared Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

Cr Di Baker declared a non-pecuniary Interest in Item #13.3 'Inverell Aquatic Centre Replacement Post Tender Negotiations', the nature of the interest is that Cr Baker is a member of the Regional

Planning Panel which may be required to evaluate the Development Application for the redevelopment of the Inverell Aquatic Centre.

Cr Wendy Wilks declared a pecuniary interest in Item #13.3 'Inverell Aquatic Centre Replacement Post Tender Negotiations', the nature of the interest is that Cr Wilks has a family member listed as a subcontractor to one of the tenderers for this project.

#### **4 PUBLIC FORUM**

At this juncture, the time being 3.10pm, the Mayor welcomed the members of the public and opened the Public Forum Session by inviting members of the public to speak.

##### **Mr Bob Bensley – Council information**

Mr Bensley addressed Council regarding the lack of information relating to recent Council achievements and issues in the local media, specifically the Inverell Times.

Mr Bensley praised Council over a wide range of accomplished projects and initiatives and is concerned there is no historical record being taken for future reference. He cited historical publications written by himself and Elizabeth Wiedemann and is fearful any future historical publication on Inverell Shire, will lack any reference to Local Government activities.

##### **Mr Heinrich Haussler – Joey's Mini World Cup**

Mr Haussler spoke in support of his request for Council to sponsor the return of the Joey's Mini World Cup in 2023. Mr Haussler provided information on the history of the tournament and the indicative returns to the local community should the event be held in Inverell.

#### **5 MAYORAL MINUTE**

##### **5.1 ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR S13.7.2**

###### **RECOMMENDATION:**

*That:*

- i) there shall be a Deputy Mayoral position on Council for a period of twelve (12) months;*
- ii) In the event that more than one candidate has been nominated for the position of Deputy Mayor the method of election for Deputy Mayor be determined by Council; and*
- iii) The nomination forms and ballot papers used in the election be destroyed following the declaration of the result.*

The Acting General Manager advised nomination forms for the position of Deputy Mayor were received from Cr Kate Dight.

There being only one (1) nomination, Cr Kate Dight was declared duly elected as Deputy Mayor for the ensuing one (1) year period.

**5.2 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES S13.6.7****RESOLUTION 2023/9**

Moved: Cr Di Baker

Seconded: Cr Jacko Ross

*That:*

- i) *the representatives on the two Major Committees remain the same as the previous 12 months, being:*

*Economic & Community Sustainability Committee – Crs King, Williams, Dight and Lavender*

*Civil & Environmental Services Committee – Crs Berryman, Baker, Ross and Wilks*

- ii) *the following Councillors be appointed to the Advisory Committees:*

COMMITTEE	DELEGATE ENTITLEMENT	DELEGATES
<b>Aboriginal Consultative Committee</b> Established to promote an increased knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal Culture and society in the wider community and to develop the interests of the Aboriginal people in the local area.	Mayor, General Manager, 1 Ashford Local Land Council, 1 Anaiwan Local Land Council, 5 members of the community	- Mayor - Cr King - (General Manager - servicing officer)
<b>Aquatic Centre Planning Sunset Committee</b> Established to consider the contents of the relevant consultant reports and work with staff to develop a Swimming Pools Renewal Strategy. Upon completion of the strategy, the committee will assist in the formulation of a design brief to achieve the outcomes contained in the strategy.	Mayor, 3 Representatives	- Mayor - Cr Ross - Cr Berryman - Cr Wilks
<b>Audit Risk &amp; Improvement Committee</b> Committee established to guide the internal audit function of Council.	1 Representative (excluding the Mayor), and 2 independents	- Cr Lavender
<b>Conduct Review Committee</b> (Statutory term) Committee that establishes the facts of an allegation that has been referred to it in accordance with the provisions of Council's Code of Conduct.	1 Representative (Mayor), General Manager), and 3 independents	- Mayor - General Manager - Expressions of interest to be called for independents as required.
<b>Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC)</b> - Provision of the State Emergency Rescue and Management Act. The role of the LEMC is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent or reduce the impact of emergencies;</li> <li>• Ensure the preparedness of our community;</li> </ul>	1 Representative  And Local Emergency Management Officer (LEMO).	- Cr Wilks - Manager Civil Engineering (LEMO).



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide an effective and coordinated response to the emergency;</li> <li>• Provide for the recovery of our community.</li> </ul>		
<b>Local Traffic Committee (LTC)</b> A technical review committee that advises the Council on matters for which the Council has delegated authority. Council is not bound by the advice given by its LTC, however if Council does wish to act contrary to the unanimous advice of the LTC or when the advice is not unanimous, it must notify the RMS & the NSW Police before proceeding.	LTC comprises 4 formal representatives: - 1 Council - 1 NSW Police - 1 RMS - 1 Local State Member or their nominee	- Manager Civil Engineering  (delegated by the Mayor).
<b>Waste Management Sunset Committee</b> A Committee formed to: a. Review the approved Waste Management Strategy and recommend any appropriate amendments to Council for consideration, and b. The issues of Container Deposit Scheme and scavenging rights be referred to the Sunset Committee for consideration.	Comprises 3 Representatives	- Cr Berryman - Cr Harmon - Cr King
<b>Public Art Sunset Committee</b> A sub-committee formed to work with the Inverell Art Gallery Supervisor and Inverell Cultural Group president to develop a vision for public art projects in Inverell Shire.	Comprises: - General Manager - Manager Tourism - 1 Representative - 3 community reps	- General Manager, - Manager Administrative and Marketing Services - Cr Williams

iii) *the following Councillors be appointed to the Community Committees:*

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>DELEGATE ENTITLEMENT</b>	<b>DELEGATES</b>
Delungra District Development Council	1 Representative	Cr Lavender
Equestrian Council	(Fixed Term) 1 Representative	Cr Baker
Inverell Development Support Group	2 Representatives (Mayor & General Manager)	Cr Harmon General Manager
Inverell Liquor Consultative Committee	1 Representative	Cr King
Inverell Sports Council	(Fixed Term) 2 Representatives	Cr Harmon Cr Ross
Inverell Sapphire City Festival	1 Representative	Mayor (ex-officio) Cr Williams
Yetman Hall & Progress Association	1 Representative	Cr Dight
Youth Council	1 Representative	Cr Dight

**CARRIED**

### 5.3 ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO REGIONAL & LOCAL ORGANISATIONS (ANNUAL APPOINTMENT) S13.6.7

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That:*

- i) the following Council delegates be appointed to the Regional & Local Organisations:*

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>DELEGATE ENTITLEMENT</b>	<b>DELEGATES</b>
Country Public Libraries Association of NSW	1 Representative	Cr Dight
Inverell Pioneer Village	1 Representative	Cr Berryman
Northern Tablelands Bush Fire Management Committee	1 Representative	Local Emergency Management Officer (Manager Civil Engineering)
Overloading of Vehicles Committee	1 Representative	Manager Civil Engineering
Border Regional Organisation of Councils (BROC)	1 Representative	Cr Dight

### 5.4 MEETING DATES AND TIMES S13.5.4

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That the Ordinary Meetings of Council be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month commencing at 3pm.*

## 6 ADVOCACY REPORTS

Nil

## 7 NOTICES OF BUSINESS

Nil

## 8 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

## 9 COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 9.1 CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES - 8 FEBRUARY 2023

**RESOLUTION 2023/10**

Moved: Cr Stewart Berryman

Seconded: Cr Wendy Wilks

- i. *That the Minutes of the Civil and Environmental Services Committee held on Wednesday, 8 February, 2023, be received and noted; and*
- ii. *The following recommendations of the Civil and Environmental Services Committee be adopted by Council.*

**CARRIED**

**9.1.1 DA-125/2021 - Two (2) Lot Subdivision and Manufactured Home Estate - 31 Brownleigh Vale Drive, Inverell**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That Development Application 125/2021 be approved subject to:*

1. *General Terms of Approval being issued by the Department of Planning and Environment – Water for this development;*
2. *The following conditions of consent:*

**GENERAL CONDITIONS**

1. *Inverell Shire Council issues its consent, subject to conditions stated hereunder, in accordance with Section 4.17 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.*

*Consent is granted for:*

- *A two (2) lot subdivision; and*
- *Construction of a manufactured home estate on proposed Lot 2.*

*To confirm and clarify the terms of consent, the development must be carried out in accordance with the stamped and approved plans and accompanying documentation, unless modified by any following condition. Any deviation will require the consent of Council.*

2. *The development is to be undertaken in accordance with the General Terms of Approval (**Appendix 1** of this consent) and any subsequent Controlled Activity Approval (as amended), issued by the Department of Planning and Environment - Water.*
3. *All fees, Section 7.11 (formerly Section 94) contribution and other contributions will be adjusted in accordance with Council's fees and charges at the date of payment.*
4. *The development must comply with all relevant prescribed conditions as contained in Part 4, Division 2 of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2021.*

**CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE 2 LOT SUBDIVISION**

**Prior to Commencement of any Subdivision Works**

5. *Prior to the commencement of any subdivision works, including earthworks, a Subdivision Works Certificate must be obtained.*

**Prior to issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate**

6. *Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate, a detailed engineering survey and design must be submitted to and approved by Council for the following works:*
  - *The extension of Brownleigh Vale Drive and cul-de-sac, which is to be bitumen sealed with rollover kerb and gutter or similar;*
  - *The extension of the street lighting into the proposed cul-de-sac;*
  - *The two existing 100mm diameter water mains running along Brownleigh Vale Drive*

*will need to be cross connected at the end of the cul-de-sac servicing the proposed development. Stop valves will need to be provided to allow flow from alternate sources during water main outages;*

- *Stormwater drainage for the cul-de-sac; and*
- *Erosion and sediment control during construction.*

*The detailed design must be in accordance with the following:*

- **NATSPEC Specifications**
  - *Group 0 - Planning and Design;*
  - *Group 01- General;*
  - *Group 11- Construction- Roadways; and*
  - *Group 13- Construction- Public Utilities.*
- **Water Supply Code of Australia**
  - *WSA 02 - Sewerage Code of Australia; and*
  - *WSA 03- Water Supply Code of Australia.*

7. *Prior to issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate, a geotechnical/hydrological report is to be submitted to and approved by Council. At minimum, this report must:*

- *Investigate geotechnical conditions below the depth of excavation and/or likely foundation depth to determine the presence of groundwater on both proposed Lot 1 and proposed Lot 2;*
- *Where groundwater is present, the report must include recommendations in relation to:*
  - *Design parameters for the Manufactured Home Estate (e.g. foundations, permanent and temporary supports, road pavement); and*
  - *Design parameters for any future residential construction on proposed lot 1; and*
  - *Measures to be implemented during construction of the Manufactured Home Estate and installation of homes to mitigate potential groundwater impacts.*

8. *Prior to issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate, a Traffic Management Plan (TMP) relating to the construction traffic shall be submitted to Council for approval. The TMP should at a minimum:*

- *Discuss measures to mitigate impacts to traffic flow and adjoining residents associated with construction traffic for the subdivision; and*
- *Provide a transport code of conduct that ensures any impacts are reduced as far as reasonably practical.*

9. *Prior to the issue of a Construction Certificate(s) separate approval(s) from Council under Section 138 of the Roads Act 1993 is required for any works within Council's road reserve. For any such works, design plans must be submitted to Council for approval prior to issue of the Subdivision Works Certificate.*

#### **During Subdivision Works**

10. *The applicant will:*

- *repair, or pay the full costs associated with repairing, any public infrastructure that is damaged by the development; and*
- *re-locate, or pay the full costs associated with relocating, any public infrastructure*

*that needs to be relocated as a result of the development.*

11. *Where the proposed development involves the disturbance of any existing survey monuments, those monuments affected will need to be relocated by a registered surveyor under the Surveying and Spatial Information Act 2002. A plan showing the relocated monuments will then be required to be lodged as a matter of public record at the Lands Titles Office.*
12. *Should any aboriginal artefacts or places be discovered during excavation/construction, all works are to cease immediately. Heritage NSW is to be contacted immediately and any direction or requirements complied with.*
13. *During construction the applicant must ensure that arrangements are made for Council to carry out inspections. Request for Council inspections may be made either by telephone or in person. Forty eight (48) hours notice must be given for inspections.*

*Inspections are required to be carried out in order to ensure that a Subdivision Certificate can be issued for the relevant stage. In the event that any inspection is not carried out, a Subdivision Certificate cannot be issued. Inspections will generally be required at the following stages:*

- After stripping of topsoil from roads and fill areas (all erosion and sediment control devices and traffic control signs shall be installed at this stage);*
- After completion and compaction of the road sub grade;*
- After placement and compaction of each layer of gravel pavement material prior to sealing;*
- After laying and jointing of all stormwater drainage pipelines, water pipelines and sewer pipelines, prior to backfilling;*
- During application of bitumen seal or asphaltic concrete wearing surface;*
- After restoration and completion of all works; and*
- As otherwise required to confirm that the works are satisfactorily executed and in conformity with engineering specifications, environmental controls and conditions of development consent.*

*It should be noted that Council charges fees for inspections. These inspection fees must be paid prior to release of the Subdivision Certificate associated with the development consent. Inspection fees will be adjusted in accordance with Council's fees and charges operating at the time of inspection. In the event additional inspections are required, those inspections will attract inspection fees at the rate applicable at the time the inspections are carried out.*

14. *During subdivision works, any relocation or alteration of public utilities required as a result of the development is to be carried out at no cost to Council.*
15. *During construction, stockpiles of topsoil, sand, aggregate, spoil or other material must be stored clear of any drainage path or easement, natural watercourse, footpath, kerb or road surface and measures must be in place to prevent the movement of such material off site.*
16. *Works on site are to be carried out in accordance with the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 in relation to noise, dust and associated nuisances from the site. The carrying out of works must not interfere with the amenity of the surrounding lands.*
17. *During construction, stockpiles of topsoil, sand, aggregate, spoil or other material must be stored clear of any drainage path or easement, natural watercourse, footpath, kerb or road surface and measures must be in place to prevent the movement of such material off site.*

**Prior to Issue of a Subdivision Certificate**

18. *An application for a Subdivision Certificate must be submitted to and approved by Council. A Subdivision Certificate will not be issued nor the final plan signed by Council until all relevant conditions have been complied with.*
19. *Prior to issue of a Subdivision Certificate, the extension of Brownleigh Vale Drive and cul-de-sac are to be dedicated as public road, at no cost to Council.*
20. *Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Certificate, all necessary easements, restrictions as-to user pursuant to Section 88B of the Conveyancing Act 1919 must be clearly marked on the plan of subdivision. Council is to be nominated as a party empowered to release, vary or modify only those easements and/or restrictions required by the conditions of this development consent.*
21. *Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Certificate, any pavement damage or structural deterioration caused to Council's roads by the use of roads as haulage routes for materials used in construction of the subdivision must either be repaired to the satisfaction of Council, or a payment made of the costs incurred by Council to undertake the repairs.*
22. *Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Certificate, electricity and National Broadband services are to be provided to all lots. The proponent is required to submit to Council, certificates from:*
  - *An approved electricity service provider indicating that satisfactory arrangements have been made for the provision of electricity to each lot in the subdivision; and*
  - *An approved National Broadband Network service provider indicating that satisfactory arrangements have been made for the provision of telecommunications to each lot in the subdivision.*
23. *Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Certificate, all civil works are to be completed in accordance with the approved Subdivision Works Certificate, engineering plans and specifications. The works are to have had all necessary inspections.*
24. *Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Certificate, the proponent is to enter into a Defects Liability Period contract with Council, guaranteeing performance of work of any contractors for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of the issue of a Subdivision Certificate.*
25. *Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Certificate, Works as Executed Plans must be submitted to and accepted by Council. The plans are to be endorsed by a suitably qualified and practicing civil engineer certifying that the plans accurately reflect the Works as Executed.*
26. *Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Certificate, a Community Services Contribution for Lot 2 must be paid to Council pursuant to Section 7.11 (formerly Section 94) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.*
27. *Prior to the issue of a Subdivision Certificate, in reliance upon Section 64 of the Local Government Act and Division 5 of Part 2 of Chapter 6 of the Water Management Act, a Certificate of Compliance must be issued by Council for Lot 2 and complied with by the applicant.*

**Note:**

- *This will require payment to Council of a Contribution (for water) for Lot 2 under Council's Development Servicing Plan No. 1 for one (1) equivalent tenement; and*
- *This will require payment to Council of a Contribution (for sewer) for Lot 2 under Council's Development Servicing Plan No. 1 for one (1) equivalent tenement.*

**CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE MANUFACTURED HOME ESTATE****Prior to Commencement of Works**

28. *Prior to commencement of any works for the manufactured home estate, a staging plan must be submitted to and approved by Council for the construction of civil infrastructure,*

*landscaping and installation of manufactured homes.*

*This staging plan must nominate the following works to be completed as part of Stage 1:*

- *Access crossings off Brownleigh Vale Drive;*
- *Construction of the main community building at the estate entrance;*
- *Construction of the community swimming pool;*
- *Construction of the lawn bowling green;*
- *Construction of the community shed;*
- *The car parking adjacent to the main community building; and*
- *Boundary landscaping.*

29. *Prior to commencement of any works for the manufactured home estate, a Construction Certificate must be obtained for the construction of civil and infrastructure and community facilities.*

*Separate Construction Certificates may be obtained for each stage, or a combined Construction Certificate inclusive of multiple stages may be obtained, consistent with the approved staging plan.*

**Prior to Issue of a Construction Certificate**

30. *Prior to the issue of a Construction Certificate, detailed engineering survey and design must be submitted to and approved by Council for the following works (as relevant to the stage)*

- *Bulk earthworks and retaining walls, which are to be wholly contained within the development site (including footing and sub-surface drainage);*
- *Sealed access roads;*
- *Sealed car parking, including line marking and visitor parking signage;*
- *Provision of water services to each lot;*
- *Fire hydrants in accordance with Clause 34 of the Local Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2005*
- *Adjustments to Council's sewer main and provision of sewer services, which must comply with the following:*
  - *New Council sewer mains to be constructed in the footpaths (not centre of road);*
  - *No horizontal bending of sewer mains at deflection points. Sewer manholes will be required; and*
  - *Council does not use "Wang" sewer junctions. "Cut-in" sewer junctions will be required.*
- *Stormwater drainage, including the provision of inter-allotment drainage along the boundary with Auburn Road properties. This inter-allotment drainage must be wholly located within the development site;*
- *Provision of lighting along the internal access roads; and*
- *Erosion and sediment control during construction.*

*The detailed design must be in accordance with the following:*



- **NATSPEC Specifications**

- Group 0 - Planning and Design;
- Group 01- General;
- Group 11- Construction- Roadways; and
- Group 13- Construction- Public Utilities.

- **Water Supply Code of Australia**

- WSA 02 - Sewerage Code of Australia; and
- WSA 03- Water Supply Code of Australia.

- **NSW Water Directorate, building in the Vicinity of Sewer Mains Guidelines 2019 (or any subsequent revisions); and**

- **The geotechnical/hydrological report provided prior to issue of a Subdivision Works Certificate.**

31. *Prior to issue of a Construction Certificate, a Traffic Management Plan (TMP) relating to the construction traffic for the relevant stage/s shall be submitted to Council for approval. The TMP should at a minimum:*

- *Discuss measures to mitigate impacts to traffic flow and adjoining residents associated with construction traffic; and*
- *Provide a transport code of conduct that ensures and impacts are reduced as far as reasonably practical.*

32. *Prior to the issue of a Construction Certificate(s) separate approval(s) from Council under Section 138 of the Roads Act 1993 is required for any works within Council's road reserve. For any such works, design plans must be submitted to Council for approval prior to issue of the Subdivision Works Certificate.*

**During Construction**

33. *The applicant will:*

- *repair, or pay the full costs associated with repairing, any public infrastructure that is damaged by the development; and*
- *re-locate, or pay the full costs associated with relocating, any public infrastructure that needs to be relocated as a result of the development.*

34. *Where the proposed development involves the disturbance of any existing survey monuments, those monuments affected will need to be relocated by a registered surveyor under the Surveying and Spatial Information Act 2002. A plan showing the relocated monuments will then be required to be lodged as a matter of public record at the Lands Titles Office.*

35. *Should any aboriginal artefacts or places be discovered during excavation/construction, all works are to cease immediately. Heritage NSW is to be contacted immediately and any direction or requirements complied with.*

36. *During construction, any relocation or alteration of public utilities required as a result of the development is to be carried out at no cost to Council.*

37. *During construction, stockpiles of topsoil, sand, aggregate, spoil or other material must be stored clear of any drainage path or easement, natural watercourse, footpath, kerb or road surface and measures must be in place to prevent the movement of such material off site.*

38. *Works on site are to be carried out in accordance with the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 in relation to noise, dust and associated nuisances from the site. The carrying out of works must not interfere with the amenity of the*

surrounding lands.

39. During construction, stockpiles of topsoil, sand, aggregate, spoil or other material must be stored clear of any drainage path or easement, natural watercourse, footpath, kerb or road surface and measures must be in place to prevent the movement of such material off site.

**Prior to Operation of the Manufactured Home Estate**

40. Prior to operation of the manufactured home estate, an approval to operate must be obtained for the relevant stage/s in accordance with Section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993.

**Prior to issue of an Approval to Operate under Section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993**

41. Prior to issue of an approval to operate under Section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993, all civil works, services, car parking, lighting and landscaping is to be completed in accordance with the approved staging plan, landscaping plans and relevant Construction Certificate.
42. Prior to issue of a Subdivision Certificate, a three (3) metre easement for sewer is to be created over all sewer mains through the site and dedicated in favour of Council.
43. Prior to issue of an approval to operate under Section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993, in reliance upon Section 64 of the Local Government Act and Division 5 of Part 2 of Chapter 6 of the Water Management Act, a Certificate of Compliance must be issued by Council for the relevant stage/s of the manufactured home estate.

Note: This will require payment to Council of contributions for water and sewer under Council's Development Servicing Plan No. 1 for each dwelling site consistent with the following table.

	Water Contribution	Sewer Contribution
Manufactured Home Type	Equivalent Tenement (ET)	Equivalent Tenement (ET)
3 bedrooms	0.8	1 ET
2 bedrooms	0.6	0.75
2 bedrooms	0.6	0.75
1 bedroom	0.4	0.5

44. Prior to issue of an approval to operate under Section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993, a Traffic Management Plan (TMP) relating to the transport of manufactured homes for the relevant stage/s shall be submitted to Council for approval. The TMP should at a minimum:
- Identify the transport route;
  - Discuss measures to mitigate impacts to traffic flow and adjoining residents associated with the process of transporting moveable dwellings; and
  - Provide a transport code of conduct that ensures and impacts are reduced as far as reasonably practical.
45. Prior to issue of an approval to operate under Section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993, a flood emergency plan for the manufactured home estate is to be submitted to and approved by Council.
46. Prior to issue of an approval to operate under Section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993, a suitable agreement must be in place with a private contractor or Council for collection of waste. A copy of this agreement is to be provided to Council.

**Ongoing Use**

47. *Manufactured homes are not permitted to be constructed on-site.*
48. *Each manufactured home must be connected to:*
- *Reticulated water;*
  - *Reticulated sewer;*
  - *Electricity; and*
  - *Telephone.*
49. *No manufactured home is permitted to exceed one (1) storey in height'.*
50. *A manufactured home must have a floor level equal to (or above), 1 metre above the 1 in 100 flood level.*
51. *The community facilities are only permitted to be used by residents of the manufactured home estate and their guests.*
52. *The community facilities must comply with the following hours of operation:*
- *Main communal facilities building – 7:00am – 9:00pm Mon-Sun;*
  - *Main communal outdoor facilities – 7:00am – 8:00pm Mon-Sun; and*
  - *Communal shed – 7:00am – 6:00pm Mon-Sun.*
53. *The swimming pool pump and filtration equipment must not be used in such a manner that it emits noise that can be heard within a habitable room in any other residential premises (regardless of whether any door or window to that room is open):*
- (a) *before 8.00 am or after 8.00 pm on any Sunday or public holiday; and*
  - (b) *before 7.00 am or after 8.00 pm on any other day.*
54. *Musical instruments and electrically amplified sound equipment must not be used in the community facilities in such a manner that it emits noise that can be heard within a habitable room in any other residential premises (regardless of whether any door or window to that room is open):*
- *Before 8 am and after midnight on any Friday, or Saturday or the day immediately before a public holiday; and*
  - *Before 8 am and after 10 pm on any other day.*
55. *Service vehicles (e.g. waste) for the manufactured home estate and delivery vehicles to the community facilities are restricted to:*
- *7 am to 6 pm Monday to Saturday; and*
  - *8 am to 6 pm on Sundays and public holidays.*
56. *All access roads must be adequately lit between sunset and sunrise.*
57. *All external lighting must:*
- *Comply with AS/NZS 4282:2019, Control of the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting, and*
  - *Be mounted, screened and directed in a way that it does not create a nuisance or light spill on to buildings on adjoining lots or public places.*
58. *The use of the main community building as a food premises must comply with all applicable legislation/regulation and standards including:*
- *The Food Act 2003;*
  - *Food Regulation 2004;*

- *Food Standards Australia and New Zealand – Food Standards Code 2001;*
- *Relevant Australian Standards for Design, Construction and Fit out of Food Premises; and*
- *Mechanical ventilation – Australian Standard 1668.2-2002 The use of ventilation and air conditioning in buildings - Ventilation design for indoor air contaminant control.*

59. *To comply with the Swimming Pools Act 1992 the owner of the premises on which a swimming pool is situated must ensure that the swimming pool is at all times surrounded by a child-resistant barrier:*

- *that separates the swimming pool from any residential building situated on the premises and from any place (whether public or private) adjoining the premises; and*
- *that is designed, constructed, installed and maintained in accordance with the regulations and Australian Standard 1926-2007 Swimming pool safety.*

60. *A resuscitation techniques flow sequence sign/poster is to be displayed in a prominent position adjacent to the pool. The sequence must be in accordance with the Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Guideline, illustrated by drawings with key words only in bold print, and contain a statement to the effect that formal instruction in resuscitation is also essential. The sign shall comply with the other relevant guidelines of the Australian Resuscitation Council and include the name of the teaching organisation or other body that published the sign and the date of its publication.*

#### **Advice Only**

- (a) *It is the Applicant's responsibility to make the appropriate application with Essential Energy for the supply of electricity to the development, which may include the payment of fees, contributions and if required, new designated electrical infrastructure, which may also require easements to be created. If it is deemed that designated electrical infrastructure is required, then all fees for such infrastructure (which may be substantial) will be borne by the Applicant. Refer Essential Energy's Contestable Works Team for requirements via email [contestableworks@essentialenergy.com.au](mailto:contestableworks@essentialenergy.com.au).*
- (b) *The Applicant will need to engage the services of an Accredited Service Provider to ensure adequate provision of power is available to all dwelling(s) in accordance with NSW Service and Installation Rules. A Level 2 Electrician will be able to advise on these requirements and carry out the required work to ensure compliance.*
- (c) *Any proposed landscaping in the vicinity of electrical infrastructure must comply with the latest industry guideline currently known as ISSC 20 Guideline for the Management of Activities within Electricity Easements and Close to Infrastructure.*
- (d) *As part of the subdivision, easement/s are to be created for any existing electrical infrastructure, using Essential Energy's standard easement terms current at the time of registration of the plan of subdivision. This will also include satisfactory arrangements with Essential Energy in relation to the existing overhead powerlines and poles located at the proposed extension of Brownleigh Vale Drive. Refer to Essential Energy's Contestable Works Team for requirements via email [contestableworks@essentialenergy.com.au](mailto:contestableworks@essentialenergy.com.au).*
- (e) *Essential Energy's records indicate there is overhead electricity infrastructure located within close proximity to the property. Any activities within this location must be undertaken in accordance with ISSC 20 Guideline for the Management of Activities within Electricity Easements and Close to Infrastructure. Approval may be required from Essential Energy should activities within the property encroach on the electricity infrastructure.*

(f) Prior to carrying out any works, a “Dial Before You Dig” enquiry should be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Part 5E (Protection of Underground Electricity Power Lines) of the Electricity Supply Act 1995 (NSW).

(g) Given there is electricity infrastructure in the area, it is the responsibility of the person/s completing any works around powerlines to understand their safety responsibilities. SafeWork NSW ([www.safework.nsw.gov.au](http://www.safework.nsw.gov.au)) has publications that provide guidance when working close to electricity infrastructure. These include the Code of Practice – Work near Overhead Power Lines / Underground Assets.

3. Any other condition, or amendment to the conditions, deemed appropriate by the Director Civil and Environmental Services.

S375A Record of Voting	Councillors For:	Councillors Against:
Harmon	√	
Baker	√	
Berryman	√	
Ross	√	
Wilks	√	
Dight	√	
Williams	√	
Lavender	√	

### 9.1.2 Review of Council Policy - B Double, Restricted Access Vehicle, High Mass Limit Vehicle Assessment for Route Approval on Shire Roads within Inverell Shire Council Local Government Area.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

*That the amended policy – ‘B-Double, Restricted Access Vehicle, High Mass Limit Vehicle Assessment for Route Approval on Shire Roads within Inverell Shire Council Local Government Area’, be adopted.*

### 9.1.3 Fixing Local Roads Pothole Repair Funding

#### RECOMMENDATION:

*That:*

- The information be received and noted; and*
- The proposed funding allocation model be endorsed for Round 1 and Round 2 of the Fixing Local Roads Pothole Repair funding.*

**9.1.4 Modular B Triple Access Request Inverell to Texas****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That Council approve the application for Modular B-Triple access under pilot arrangement from Inverell Freighters Depot to the Shire Boundary at Texas, QLD through the NHVR permit system.*

**9.1.5 Special Flood Consideration Clause****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That Council endorse the intent of the submission as outlined in the report regarding the potential mandating of a Special Flood Considerations Clause.*

**9.1.6 Governance - Performance Reporting on Road Maintenance Council Contracts****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That the information report be received and noted.*

**9.1.7 Information Reports****RECOMMENDATION**

*That the information be received and noted.*

**9.2 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MINUTES - 8 FEBRUARY 2023****RESOLUTION 2023/11**

Moved: Cr Jo Williams

Seconded: Cr Nicky Lavender

- i. That the Minutes of the Economic and Community Sustainability Committee held on Wednesday, 8 February, 2023, be received and noted; and*
- ii. The following recommendations of the Economic and Community Sustainability Committee be adopted by Council.*

**CARRIED****9.2.1 Expiring Licence Agreement - Inverell Community Gardens****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That:*

- i. Council renew the agreement with Inverell Community Gardens for Reserve 1571, Lot 3 DP 127538 (140 Ross Street), Inverell;*
- ii. The licence agreement be for a five (5) year period with a five (5) year option;*

- iii. *The Licence fee be \$521.91 per annum (GST Inclusive) with a 3% increase per annum;*
- iv. *The Licence Agreement be subject to any other terms and conditions as negotiated by Council's General Manager; and*
- v. *Inverell Community Gardens be responsible for any electricity, water, sewer, waste management and stormwater charges and any metered water use.*

### 9.2.2 Federal Funding for Trove

#### RECOMMENDATION:

*That:*

1. *Council make representation to the local Federal Member, the Hon. Barnaby Joyce, in relation to the need for a sustainable Federal Funding Model for the continuation of free access to the Trove national database and upgrade of the digital archive systems of Trove.*
2. *Council write to the Hon. Tony Burke, Federal Minister for the Arts and the Hon. Paul Fletcher, Shadow Minister for Science and the Arts, calling for sustainable funding to ensure the continuation of free access to the Trove national database and upgrade of the digital archive systems of Trove.*
3. *Council endorse the actions of the NSW Public Libraries Association in lobbying for additional sustainable funds for the continuation of free access to the Trove national database and upgrade of the digital archive systems of Trove.*

### 9.2.3 Conduct of 2024 Local Government Elections

#### RECOMMENDATION:

*That:*

- i. *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.*
- ii. *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.*
- iii. *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.*

### 9.2.4 Quarterly Budget and Operational Plan 2022/2023

#### RECOMMENDATION:

*That:*

- i) *Council's Quarterly Operational Plan and Budget Review for 31st December, 2022 be adopted; and*
- ii) *The proposed variations to budget votes for the 2022/2023 Financial Year be adopted*



*providing an estimated Cash Surplus at 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2022 from operations of \$3,603.*

### 9.2.5 Information Reports

#### RECOMMENDATION

*That the information reports be received and noted.*

## 10 DESTINATION REPORTS

### 10.1 BOUNDARY REALIGNMENT REQUEST BETWEEN GLEN INNES SEVERN COUNCIL AND INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL S13.3.2

#### RESOLUTION 2023/12

Moved: Cr Di Baker  
Seconded: Cr Jo Williams

*That Council accepts in principle the proposal to have the boundary realigned between Glen Innes Severn Council and Inverell Shire Council areas by transferring part of Crown Land Road Corridor between Lot 107 DP 753292 and Lot 2 DP 1187044 having an area of approximately 700m2 from the Inverell Shire Council Local Government Area to the Glen Innes Severn Council Local Government Area.*

**CARRIED**

### 10.2 YURRUUN ABORIGINAL CORPORATION S2.14.1

#### RESOLUTION 2023/13

Moved: Cr Jo Williams  
Seconded: Cr Kate Dight

*That Council note the information of the Yurruun Corporation.*

**CARRIED**

### 10.3 REFERRAL OF CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS S13.5.2/16

#### RESOLUTION 2023/14

Moved: Cr Kate Dight  
Seconded: Cr Stewart Berryman

*That Council refer the items to Closed (Public excluded) meeting of the Council and that the press and members of the public be asked to leave the chambers whilst Council considers the following items:*

**Item:** Community Contribution Strategy - Dumaresq Solar Farm P/L (DSF)

**Authority:** Section 10A (2) (d(i)) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

**Item:** Request to host 2023 Joeys Mini World Cup

**Authority:** Section 10A (2) (d(i)) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

**Item:** Inverell Aquatic Centre Replacement Post Tender Negotiations

**Authority:** Section 10A (2) (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

**CARRIED**

## **11 INFORMATION REPORTS**

### **11.1 LETTER OF APPRECIATION - NEW ENGLAND VISIONS 2030 INSTITUTE - PROMOTION OF HEALTH PETITION TO 'SPLIT OFF' FROM HUNTER NEW ENGLAND HEALTH S24.20.6**

#### **RESOLUTION 2023/15**

Moved: Cr Wendy Wilks

Seconded: Cr Kate Dight

*That the information report be received and noted.*

**CARRIED**

### **11.2 COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION (CMA) - 2023 STATE ELECTION PRIORITIES S14.11.1/15**

#### **RESOLUTION 2023/16**

Moved: Cr Wendy Wilks

Seconded: Cr Kate Dight

*That the information report be received and noted.*

**CARRIED**

At 3.53pm, Cr Paul Harmon left the meeting having previously declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in Item #11.5 of the Information Report "Summary of Development Applications, Construction Certificates and Complying Developments Certificates during January 2023". The nature of the interest is Cr Harmon's wife is an employee of a DA applicant.

At 3.53pm, Cr Wendy Wilks left the meeting having previously declared a Pecuniary Interest in Item #11.5 of the Information Report "Summary of Development Applications, Construction Certificates and Complying Developments Certificates during January 2023". The nature of the interest is Cr Wilks is a relative of a DA applicant.

At 3.53pm Cr Kate Dight assumed the Chair.

**11.3 SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS, CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATES AND COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES DURING DECEMBER 2022 S18.10.2/15**

**RESOLUTION 2023/17**

Moved: Cr Di Baker

Seconded: Cr Jacko Ross

*That the information report be received and noted.*

**CARRIED**

**11.5 SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS, CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATES AND COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES DURING JANUARY 2023 S18.10.2/16**

**RESOLUTION 2023/18**

Moved: Cr Di Baker

Seconded: Cr Jacko Ross

*That the information report be received and noted.*

**CARRIED**

At 3.56pm, Cr Paul Harmon returned to the meeting and resumed as Chair.

At 3.56pm, Cr Wendy Wilks returned to the meeting.

**11.4 ORDINANCE ACTIVITIES REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2022 S18.10.1**

**RESOLUTION 2023/19**

Moved: Cr Kate Dight

Seconded: Cr Nicky Lavender

*That the information report be received and noted.*

**CARRIED**

**11.6 ORDINANCE ACTIVITIES REPORT FOR JANUARY 2023 S18.10.2**

**RESOLUTION 2023/20**

Moved: Cr Kate Dight

Seconded: Cr Wendy Wilks

*That the information report be received and noted.*

**CARRIED**

## 12 GOVERNANCE REPORTS

### 12.1 DRAFT RISK APPETITE STATEMENTS S4.11.21

#### RESOLUTION 2023/21

Moved: Cr Nicky Lavender

Seconded: Cr Kate Dight

*That Council adopt the draft Risk Appetite Statements and refer them to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee for inclusion in the Enterprise Risk Management Framework.*

**CARRIED**

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

At 3.58pm, the Chairperson noted that no members of the public or press were in attendance at the meeting therefore Council proceeded to consider the motion to close the meeting to the press and public.

#### RESOLUTION 2023/22

Moved: Cr Di Baker

Seconded: Cr Wendy Wilks

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

**CARRIED**

At 3.58pm, Cr Kate Dight left the meeting during the debate on this matter having previously declared a Pecuniary Interest in Item 13.5 "Community Contribution Strategy – Dumaresq Solar Farm P/I (DSF)". The nature of the interest is Cr Dight is a shareholder in a parcel of land on which a solar farm is situated in an adjoining shire.

At 4.05pm, Cr Kate Dight returned to the meeting.

At 4.43pm, Cr Di Baker left the meeting during the debate on this matter having previously declared a non-pecuniary Interest in Item #13.3 'Inverell Aquatic Centre Replacement Post Tender Negotiations'. The nature of the interest is that Cr Baker is a member of the Regional Planning Panel which may be required to evaluate the Development Application for the redevelopment of the Inverell Aquatic Centre.

At 4.43pm, Cr Wendy Wilks left the meeting during the debate on this matter having previously declared a pecuniary interest in Item #13.3 'Inverell Aquatic Centre Replacement Post Tender Negotiations', the nature of the interest is that Cr Wilks has a family member listed as a subcontractor to one of the tenderers for this project.

At 4.56pm, Cr Di Baker returned to the meeting.

At 4.56pm, Cr Wendy Wilks returned to the meeting.

**RESOLUTION 2023/23**

Moved: Cr Kate Dight  
Seconded: Cr Jacko Ross

*That Council proceeds out of Closed Council into Open Council.*

**CARRIED**

Upon resuming Open Council at 4.56pm, the Chairperson verbally reported that the Council had met in Closed Council, with the Press and Public excluded, and had resolved to recommend to Council the following:

**13.1 COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION STRATEGY - DUMARESQ SOLAR FARM P/L (DSF) S18.6.52/08****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That:*

1. *Council support in principle the establishment of a community benefit fund as proposed by Dumaresq Solar Farm.*
2. *The General Manager be authorised to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding with the proponent for the fund.*
3. *Council's preferred method of distribution of the community component of the fund be as per the model identified in the governance arrangements section of the report.*

**13.2 REQUEST TO HOST 2023 JOEYS MINI WORLD CUP S26.3.6****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That Council complete further due diligence on the Joey's Mini World Cup competition and its future and report back to the March 2023 Committee Meetings.*

**13.3 INVERELL AQUATIC CENTRE REPLACEMENT POST TENDER NEGOTIATIONS S5.9.27****RECOMMENDATION**

*That a supplementary report regarding post tender negotiations for the Inverell Aquatic Centre Replacement be received.*

**13.4 INVERELL AQUATIC CENTRE REPLACEMENT POST TENDER NEGOTIATIONS S5.9.27****RECOMMENDATION**

*That the information regarding progress of negotiations with the preferred contractor for the design*

*and construction of the Inverell Aquatic Centre Replacement be received and noted.*

## **ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **RESOLUTION 2023/24**

Moved: Cr Nicky Lavender

Seconded: Cr Stewart Berryman

*That the recommendations of Closed Council be adopted.*

**CARRIED**

**The Meeting closed at 4.59pm.**

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

**4 PUBLIC FORUM**

**5 MAYORAL MINUTE**

Nil

**6 ADVOCACY REPORTS**

Nil

**7 NOTICES OF BUSINESS**

Nil

**8 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

Nil



**9 COMMITTEE REPORTS****9.1 CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES - 8 MARCH 2023****File Number:** S4.11.16/15 / 23/8075**Author:** Kristy Paton, Corporate Support Officer - Publishing**SUMMARY:**

Meeting held on Wednesday, 8 March, 2023.

For the consideration of Council.

**COMMENTARY:**

Refer to the attached minutes of the meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- i. *That the Minutes of the Civil and Environmental Services Committee held on Wednesday, 8 March, 2023, be received and noted; and*
- ii. *The following recommendations of the Civil and Environmental Services Committee be adopted by Council.*

**9.1.1 Bitumen Resurfacing Program 2023/2024****RECOMMENDATION:***That:*

- *the 2023-2024 Bitumen Resurfacing Program be adopted as presented; and*
- *the adopted Bitumen Resurfacing Program be placed on Council's website for the information of the community.*

**9.1.2 Governance - Performance Reporting on Road Maintenance Council Contracts****RECOMMENDATION:***That the information be received and noted.***9.1.3 Information Reports****RECOMMENDATION***That the information reports be received and noted.***ATTACHMENTS:**

1. **Minutes of Civil and Environmental Services Committee Meeting 8 March, 2023**

**MINUTES OF INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL  
CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE COMMITTEE ROOM, ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE, 144 OTHO STREET,  
INVERELL  
ON WEDNESDAY, 8 MARCH 2023 AT 9.00AM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Stewart Berryman (Chair), Cr Paul Harmon (Mayor), Cr Di Baker, Cr Jacko Ross and Cr Wendy Wilks.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Cr Nicky Lavender, Cr Kate Dight, Cr Paul King OAM and Cr Jo Williams.

Paul Henry (General Manager), Brett McInnes (Director Civil & Environmental Services), Paul Pay (Director Corporate and Economic Services) and Justin Pay (Manager Civil Engineering).

**1 APOLOGIES**

Nil

**2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Di Baker

Seconded: Cr Wendy Wilks

*That the Minutes of the Civil and Environmental Services Committee Meeting held on 8 February, 2023, 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 PUBLIC FORUM**

Nil

**5 DESTINATION REPORTS**

**5.1 BITUMEN RESURFACING PROGRAM 2023/2024 S28.21.1/16**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Paul Harmon

Seconded: Cr Jacko Ross

*The Committee recommend to Council that:*

- *the 2023-2024 Bitumen Resurfacing Program be adopted as presented; and*
- *the adopted Bitumen Resurfacing Program be placed on Council's website for the information of the community.*

**CARRIED**

## **6 INFORMATION REPORTS**

### **6.1 BITUMEN RESURFACING PROGRAM OUTCOMES - 2022/2023 S28.21.1/16**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Di Baker

Seconded: Cr Wendy Wilks

*That the information report be received and noted.*

**CARRIED**

### **6.2 WORKS UPDATE S28.21.1/16**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Di Baker

Seconded: Cr Wendy Wilks

*That the information report be received and noted.*

**CARRIED**

## **7 GOVERNANCE REPORTS**

### **7.1 GOVERNANCE - PERFORMANCE REPORTING ON ROAD MAINTENANCE COUNCIL CONTRACTS S1.2.3/16**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Paul Harmon

Seconded: Cr Wendy Wilks

*That the information be received and noted.*

**CARRIED**

**The Meeting closed at 9.15 am.**

**9.2 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MINUTES - 8 MARCH 2023**

**File Number:** S4.11.17/15 / 23/8078

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

**SUMMARY:**

Meeting held on Wednesday, 8 March, 2023.

For the consideration of Council.

**COMMENTARY:**

Refer to the attached minutes of the meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- i. That the Minutes of the Economic and Community Sustainability Committee held on Wednesday, 8 March, 2023, be received and noted; and*
- ii. The following recommendations of the Economic and Community Sustainability Committee be adopted by Council.*

**9.2.1 Expiring Licence Agreement - Mr Ian Vivers**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That:*

- i) Council renew the Licence Agreement with Ian Vivers for Lot 287 DP 750076 Eastern Feeder Road, Inverell, for a two (2) year period with a further two (2) year option;*
- ii) the Licence fee be \$225.11 per annum (GST Inclusive) with a 3% increase per annum; and*
- iii) the Licence Agreement be subject to any other terms and conditions as negotiated by Council's General Manager.*

**9.2.2 Expiring Licence Agreement - Mr George Hunt, Yetman General Store - Supply and Sale of Fuel**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That:*

- i) Council renew the licence agreement with Mr George Hunt for the supply and sale of fuel at the Yetman General Store located at 40 Warialda Street, Yetman (Lot 1, DP335538);*
- ii) The Licence Agreement be for a (5) year term with a further five (5) year option under the same terms and conditions;*
- iii) The Licence fee be a 'peppercorn' rental; and*
- iv) The Licence Agreement be subject to any other terms and conditions as negotiated by Council's General Manager.*

**9.2.3 2023 General Land Revaluation (2022 Base Date)****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That the report be received and noted.*

**9.2.4 Membership of Aboriginal Consultative Committee****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That Council appoint Vicky Duncan, Leroy Connors, Belinda (Natalie) Delaney, Darren Finn, Amelia Kellner, Sue Blacklock, James Sheather and Melanie (Jane) Blair as community representatives to the Inverell Shire Aboriginal Consultative Committee for a period of two (2) years.*

**9.2.5 Governance - Monthly Investment Report****RECOMMENDATION:**

*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.*

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- 1. Minutes of Economic and Community Sustainability Committee Meeting 8 March, 2023**

**MINUTES OF INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL  
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE COMMITTEE ROOM, ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE, 144 OTHO STREET,  
INVERELL  
ON WEDNESDAY, 8 MARCH 2023 AT 12.10 PM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Paul King OAM (Chair), Cr Kate Dight, Cr Nicky Lavender and Cr Jo Williams.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Cr Stewart Berryman, Cr Jacko Ross and Cr Wendy Wilks.

Paul Henry (General Manager), Brett McInnes (Director Civil & Environmental Services) and Paul Pay (Director Corporate and Economic Services).

**1 APOLOGIES**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Kate Dight

Seconded: Cr Nicky Lavender

*That the apology received from Cr Paul Harmon and Cr Baker for personal reasons be accepted and leave of absence granted.*

**CARRIED**

**2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Nicky Lavender

Seconded: Cr Jo Williams

*That the Minutes of the Economic and Community Sustainability Committee Meeting held on 8 February, 2023, 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 EXPIRING LICENCE AGREEMENT - MR IAN VIVERS S5.10.164**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Kate Dight

Seconded: Cr Jo Williams

*The Committee recommends to Council that:*

- i) Council renew the Licence Agreement with Ian Vivers for Lot 287 DP 750076 Eastern Feeder Road, Inverell, for a two (2) year period with a further two (2) year option;
- ii) the Licence fee be \$225.11 per annum (GST Inclusive) with a 3% increase per annum; and
- iii) the Licence Agreement be subject to any other terms and conditions as negotiated by Council's General Manager.

**CARRIED**

#### **4.2 EXPIRING LICENCE AGREEMENT - MR GEORGE HUNT, YETMAN GENERAL STORE - SUPPLY AND SALE OF FUEL S5.4.7**

##### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Nicky Lavender

Seconded: Cr Jo Williams

*The Committee recommends to Council that:*

- i) Council renew the licence agreement with Mr George Hunt for the supply and sale of fuel at the Yetman General Store located at 40 Warialda Street, Yetman (Lot 1, DP335538);
- ii) The Licence Agreement be for a (5) year term with a further five (5) year option under the same terms and conditions;
- iii) The Licence fee be a 'peppercorn' rental; and
- iv) The Licence Agreement be subject to any other terms and conditions as negotiated by Council's General Manager.

**CARRIED**

#### **4.3 2023 GENERAL LAND REVALUATION (2022 BASE DATE) S25.12.11**

##### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Kate Dight

Seconded: Cr Nicky Lavender

*The Committee recommends to Council that the report be received and noted.*

**CARRIED**

#### **4.4 MEMBERSHIP OF ABORIGINAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE S2.14.1**

##### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Paul King OAM

Seconded: Cr Kate Dight

*The Committee recommends to Council that Council appoint Vicky Duncan, Leroy Connors, Belinda (Natalie) Delaney, Darren Finn, Amelia Kellner, Sue Blacklock, James Sheather and Melanie (Jane) Blair as community representatives to the Inverell Shire Aboriginal Consultative Committee for a period of two (2) years.*

**CARRIED**

## **5 GOVERNANCE REPORTS**

### **5.1 GOVERNANCE - MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT S12.12.2**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Kate Dight

Seconded: Cr Nicky Lavender

*The Committee recommends 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**

**The Meeting closed at 12.24PM.**



**9.3 JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - 8 MARCH 2023****File Number:** S4.11.17/15 / 23/8103**Author:** Kristy Paton, Corporate Support Officer - Publishing**SUMMARY:**

Meeting held on Wednesday, 8 March, 2023.

For the consideration of Council.

**COMMENTARY:**

Refer to the attached minutes of the meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- i. That the Minutes of the Joint Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 8 March, 2023, be received and noted; and*
- ii. The following recommendations of the Joint Committee Meeting be adopted by Council.*

**9.3.1 Further Information Regarding Request to Host 2023 Joey's Mini World Cup****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That:*

- i) Council sponsor the 2023 Joeys Mini World Cup in 2023, with an option to sponsor the event in 2024 and 2025;*
- ii) Council provide up to \$50,000 sponsorship for Promotion, Website fees, Referees costs, Printing and advertising, Cup booklet, Trophies, Event insurance, Presentation night expenses, first aid and Administration subject to the event organiser providing sufficient evidence for payment;*
- iii) Council fund up to \$25,000 in support costs;*
- iv) Council be recognised and appropriately acknowledged as the major sponsor of the event;*
- v) the Event Organiser unconditionally indemnify (release) Council from all claims, suits, demands, actions or proceedings (whether at law, in equity or arising under any statute) arising out of, or in connection with, the conduct of the Event or associated activities;*
- vi) the contribution be subject to any other terms and conditions as determined appropriate by the General Manager; and*
- vii) Council offset the sponsorship provided in point 1 above by seeking grants or other third-party sponsorships.*

**ATTACHMENTS:****1. Minutes of Joint Committee Meeting Meeting 8 March, 2023**

**MINUTES OF INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL  
JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE COMMITTEE ROOM, ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE, 144 OTHO STREET,  
INVERELL  
ON WEDNESDAY, 8 MARCH 2023 AT 9.20 AM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Paul Harmon (Mayor), Cr Kate Dight, Cr Stewart Berryman, Cr Di Baker, Cr Paul King OAM, Cr Nicky Lavender, Cr Jacko Ross, Cr Wendy Wilks and Cr Jo Williams.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Paul Henry (General Manager), Brett McInnes (Director Civil & Environmental Services) and Paul Pay (Director Corporate & Economic Services).

**1 APOLOGIES**

Nil

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

Nil

**3 DESTINATION REPORTS**

**3.1 FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING REQUEST TO HOST 2023 JOEY'S MINI WORLD CUP S26.3.6**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Di Baker

Seconded: Cr Wendy Wilks

*The Committee recommend to Council that:*

- i) Council sponsor the 2023 Joeys Mini World Cup in 2023, with an option to sponsor the event in 2024 and 2025;*
- ii) Council provide up to \$50,000 sponsorship for Promotion, Website fees, Referees costs, Printing and advertising, Cup booklet, Trophies, Event insurance, Presentation night expenses, first aid and Administration subject to the event organiser providing sufficient evidence for payment;*
- iii) Council fund up to \$25,000 in support costs;*
- iv) Council be recognised and appropriately acknowledged as the major sponsor of the event;*
- v) the Event Organiser unconditionally indemnify (release) Council from all claims, suits, demands, actions or proceedings (whether at law, in equity or arising under any statute) arising out of, or in connection with, the conduct of the Event or associated activities;*
- vi) the contribution be subject to any other terms and conditions as determined appropriate by the General Manager; and*
- vii) Council offset the sponsorship provided in point 1 above by seeking grants or other third-party sponsorships.*

**CARRIED**

**The Meeting closed at 9.30am.**

## 10 DESTINATION REPORTS

### 10.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY - COUNCIL-RELATED DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

**File Number:** S4.14.5/01 / 23/6756

**Author:** Anthony Alliston, Manager Development Services

#### SUMMARY:

The Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Conflict of Interest) Regulation 2022 will take effect on 3 April, 2023 and NSW Councils are required to have a conflict of interest policy in place.

This report has been initiated following the conclusion of the 28-day public exhibition of the Draft Conflict of Interest Policy and the revised Inverell Shire Community Participation Plan.

Council are requested to endorse the Draft Conflict of Interest Policy and the revised Inverell Shire Community Participation Plan.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

*That Council endorse the Draft Conflict of Interest Policy and the revised Inverell Shire Community Participation Plan.*

#### COMMENTARY:

#### BACKGROUND

In November 2022 a report was presented to the Civil and Environmental Services Committee in regard to "council-related development applications" and a Draft Conflict of Interest Policy. As an outcome of the report, the Committee recommended (RES:149/22) to Council that:

1. *The Draft Conflict of Interest Policy be endorsed for public exhibition in conjunction with the necessary administrative changes to the Inverell Shire Community Participation Plan and placed on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days; and*
2. *A further report be prepared for consideration at the conclusion of the public exhibition.*

#### PUBLIC EXHIBITION

The Draft Conflict of Interest Policy and the revised Inverell Shire Community Participation Plan were placed on public exhibition for 28 days from 9 February, 2023 until 9 March, 2023. The exhibition involved the documents being placed on Council's web-site and at the front counter of the administration building. The Draft policy was also notified in the Inverell Times on 9 February 2023.

A copy of the Draft Conflict of Interest Policy is included as **Attachment 1**. A copy of the revised Inverell Shire Community Participation Plan is included as **Attachment 2**.

At the conclusion of the 28-day public exhibition period no submissions were received.

#### CONCLUSION

At the conclusion of the 28-day public exhibition of the Draft Conflict of Interest Policy and the revised Inverell Shire Community Participation Plan no submissions were received.

Council are requested to endorse the Draft Conflict of Interest Policy and the revised Inverell Shire Community Participation Plan.

Inverell Shire Council are required to commence implementation of the policy on 3 April, 2023 for any relevant Development Applications.

**RISK ASSESSMENT:**

Nil

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Adoption of a Conflict of Interest Policy for council-related development applications seeks to formalise measures already used by Inverell Shire Council when assessing and determining council-related development applications.

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

Nil

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The assessment and determination of council-related development applications will need to comply with the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Conflict of Interest) Regulation 2022* which takes effect on 23 April, 2023.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

**10.2 CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE****File Number:** S4.12.1 / 23/8026**Author:** Paul Henry, General Manager**SUMMARY:**

This report submits Council's Draft Code of Meeting Practice utilised by Council for readoption.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That Council:*

- i) Adopt the Draft Code;*
- ii) Place the Draft Code on public exhibition of a period of not less than 28 days; and*
- iii) Invite public submissions on the Draft Code for a period not less than 42 days commencing from the date which the Draft Code was placed on public exhibition.*

**COMMENTARY:**

Councils must adopt a code of meeting practice that incorporates the mandatory provisions of the Model Meeting Code within 12 months of the local government elections. A council's adopted meeting code must not contain provisions that are inconsistent with the mandatory provisions.

A council's adopted meeting code may also incorporate the non-mandatory provisions of the Model Meeting Code and any other supplementary provisions adopted by the council.

Councils and committees of councils of which all the members are councillors must conduct their meetings in accordance with the code of meeting practice adopted by the council.

a) Current Code

Council currently has a Code of Meeting Practice that utilises the provisions of the Model Code issued by the Office of Local Government.

b) Review

s. 360 of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council within 12 months of the general election to review the existing Code of Meeting Practice and make such adjustments as it considers appropriate. Any adjustments must not contain provisions that are inconsistent with the mandatory provisions.

In 2021 the Office of Local Government reviewed the Model Code and issued a revised document to Councils. An amendment was made to the Model Code implementing recommendation 6 in ICAC's report in relation to its investigation of the former Canterbury City Council (Operation Dasha). ICAC recommended that the Model Meeting Code be amended to require that council business papers include a reminder to councillors of their oath or affirmation of office, and their conflict of interest disclosure obligations. The amendment states:

*'Statement of ethical obligations*

*3.23 Business papers for all ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the council and committees of the council must contain a statement reminding councillors of their oath or affirmation of office made under section 233A of the Act and their obligations under the council's code of conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest'*

Councillors are requested to review the attached Draft Code of Meeting Practice with a view adopting prior to placing on public exhibition.

c) Community Consultation

Once the Draft Code of Meeting Practice is adopted, Council must:

- i) Place the Draft Code on public exhibition for 28 days with a submission period of 42 days,
- ii) Consider any public submission on this draft document, and
- iii) Proceed to adopt a final form of the Code of Meeting Practice.

**RISK ASSESSMENT:**

Nil.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

Nil

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Draft Code of Meeting Practice [↓](#)



# **INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE**

**Adopted by Council (date) 2023**

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

This Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW (the Model Meeting Code) is prescribed under section 360 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (the Regulation).

A council and a committee of the council of which all the members are councillors must conduct its meetings in accordance with the code of meeting practice adopted by the council.

## 2 MEETING PRINCIPLES

2.1 Council and committee meetings should be:

*Transparent:* Decisions are made in a way that is open and accountable.

*Informed:* Decisions are made based on relevant, quality information.

*Inclusive:* Decisions respect the diverse needs and interests of the local community.

*Principled:* Decisions are informed by the principles prescribed under Chapter 3 of the Act.

*Trusted:* The community has confidence that councillors and staff act ethically and make decisions in the interests of the whole community.

*Respectful:* Councillors, staff and meeting attendees treat each other with respect.

*Effective:* Meetings are well organised, effectively run and skilfully chaired.

*Orderly:* Councillors, staff and meeting attendees behave in a way that contributes to the orderly conduct of the meeting.

## 3 BEFORE THE MEETING

### Timing of ordinary council meetings

3.2 The council shall, by resolution, set the frequency, time, date and place of its ordinary meetings.

**Note: Under section 365 of the Act, councils are required to meet at least ten (10) times each year, each time in a different month unless the Minister for Local Government has approved a reduction in the number of times that a council is required to meet each year under section 365A.**

Extraordinary meetings

- 3.3 If the mayor receives a request in writing, signed by at least two (2) councillors, the mayor must call an extraordinary meeting of the council to be held as soon as practicable, but in any event, no more than fourteen (14) days after receipt of the request. The mayor can be one of the two councillors requesting the meeting.

**Note: Clause 3.3 reflects section 366 of the Act.**

Notice to the public of council meetings

- 3.4 The council must give notice to the public of the time, date and place of each of its meetings, including extraordinary meetings and of each meeting of committees of the council.

**Note: Clause 3.4 reflects section 9(1) of the Act.**

- 3.5 For the purposes of clause 3.4, notice of a meeting of the council and of a committee of council is to be published before the meeting takes place. The notice must be published on the council's website, and in such other manner that the council is satisfied is likely to bring notice of the meeting to the attention of as many people as possible.

- 3.6 For the purposes of clause 3.4, notice of more than one (1) meeting may be given in the same notice.

Notice to councillors of ordinary council meetings

- 3.7 The general manager must send to each councillor, at least three (3) days before each meeting of the council, a notice specifying the time, date and place at which the meeting is to be held, and the business proposed to be considered at the meeting.

**Note: Clause 3.7 reflects section 367(1) of the Act.**

- 3.8 The notice and the agenda for, and the business papers relating to, the meeting may be given to councillors in electronic form, but only if all councillors have facilities to access the notice, agenda and business papers in that form.

**Note: Clause 3.8 reflects section 367(3) of the Act.**

Notice to councillors of extraordinary meetings

- 3.9 Notice of less than three (3) days may be given to councillors of an extraordinary meeting of the council in cases of emergency.

**Note: Clause 3.9 reflects section 367(2) of the Act.**

Giving notice of business to be considered at council meetings

- 3.10 A councillor may give notice of any business they wish to be considered by the council at its next ordinary meeting by way of a notice of motion. To be included on the agenda of the meeting, the notice of motion must be in writing and must be submitted seven (7) business days before the meeting is to be held.
- 3.11 A councillor may, in writing to the general manager, request the withdrawal of a notice of motion submitted by them prior to its inclusion in the agenda and business paper for the meeting at which it is to be considered.
- 3.12 If the general manager considers that a notice of motion submitted by a councillor for consideration at an ordinary meeting of the council has legal, strategic, financial or policy implications which should be taken into consideration by the meeting, the general manager may prepare a report in relation to the notice of motion for inclusion with the business papers for the meeting at which the notice of motion is to be considered by the council.

Questions with notice

- 3.14 A councillor may, by way of a notice submitted under clause 3.10, ask a question for response by the general manager about the performance or operations of the council.
- 3.15 A councillor is not permitted to ask a question with notice under clause 3.14 that comprises a complaint against the general manager or a member of staff of the council, or a question that implies wrongdoing by the general manager or a member of staff of the council.
- 3.16 The general manager or their nominee may respond to a question with notice submitted under clause 3.14 by way of a report included in the business papers for the relevant meeting of the council or orally at the meeting.

Agenda and business papers for ordinary meetings

- 3.17 The general manager must cause the agenda for a meeting of the council or a committee of the council to be prepared as soon as practicable before the meeting.
- 3.18 The general manager must ensure that the agenda for an ordinary meeting of the council states:
- (a) all matters to be dealt with arising out of the proceedings of previous meetings of the council, and
  - (b) if the mayor is the chairperson – any matter or topic that the chairperson proposes, at the time when the agenda is prepared, to put to the meeting, and
  - (c) all matters, including matters that are the subject of staff reports and reports of committees, to be considered at the meeting, and
  - (d) any business of which due notice has been given under clause 3.10.

- 3.19 Nothing in clause 3.18 limits the powers of the mayor to put a mayoral minute to a meeting under clause 9.6.
- 3.20 The general manager must not include in the agenda for a meeting of the council any business of which due notice has been given if, in the opinion of the general manager, the business is, or the implementation of the business would be, unlawful. The general manager must report, without giving details of the item of business, any such exclusion to the next meeting of the council.
- 3.21 Where the agenda includes the receipt of information or discussion of other matters that, in the opinion of the general manager, is likely to take place when the meeting is closed to the public, the general manager must ensure that the agenda of the meeting:
- (a) identifies the relevant item of business and indicates that it is of such a nature (without disclosing details of the information to be considered when the meeting is closed to the public), and
  - (b) states the grounds under section 10A(2) of the Act relevant to the item of business.

**Note: Clause 3.21 reflects section 9(2A)(a) of the Act.**

- 3.22 The general manager must ensure that the details of any item of business which, in the opinion of the general manager, is likely to be considered when the meeting is closed to the public, are included in a business paper provided to councillors for the meeting concerned. Such details must not be included in the business papers made available to the public and must not be disclosed by a councillor or by any other person to another person who is not authorised to have that information.

#### Statement of ethical obligations

- 3.23 Business papers for all ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the council and committees of the council must contain a statement reminding councillors of their oath or affirmation of office made under section 233A of the Act and their obligations under the council's code of conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.

#### Availability of the agenda and business papers to the public

- 3.24 Copies of the agenda and the associated business papers, such as correspondence and reports for meetings of the council and committees of council, are to be published on the council's website, and must be made available to the public for inspection, or for taking away by any person free of charge at the offices of the council, at the relevant meeting and at such other venues determined by the council.

**Note: Clause 3.24 reflects section 9(2) and (4) of the Act.**

- 3.25 Clause 3.24 does not apply to the business papers for items of business that the general manager has identified under clause 3.21 as being likely to be considered when the meeting is closed to the public.

**Note: Clause 3.25 reflects section 9(2A)(b) of the Act.**

- 3.26 For the purposes of clause 3.24, copies of agendas and business papers must be published on the council's website and made available to the public at a time that is as close as possible to the time they are available to councillors.

**Note: Clause 3.26 reflects section 9(3) of the Act.**

- 3.27 A copy of an agenda, or of an associated business paper made available under clause 3.24, may in addition be given or made available in electronic form.

**Note: Clause 3.27 reflects section 9(5) of the Act.**

Agenda and business papers for extraordinary meetings

- 3.28 The general manager must ensure that the agenda for an extraordinary meeting of the council deals only with the matters stated in the notice of the meeting.
- 3.29 Despite clause 3.28, business may be considered at an extraordinary meeting of the council, even though due notice of the business has not been given, if:
- (a) a motion is passed to have the business considered at the meeting, and
  - (b) the business to be considered is ruled by the chairperson to be of great urgency on the grounds that it requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting of the council.
- 3.30 A motion moved under clause 3.29(a) can be moved without notice but only after the business notified in the agenda for the extraordinary meeting has been dealt with.
- 3.31 Despite clauses 10.20–10.30, only the mover of a motion moved under clause 3.29(a) can speak to the motion before it is put.
- 3.32 A motion of dissent cannot be moved against a ruling of the chairperson under clause 3.29(b) on whether a matter is of great urgency.

Pre-meeting briefing sessions

- 3.33 Prior to each ordinary meeting of the council, the general manager may arrange a pre-meeting briefing session to brief councillors on business to be considered at the meeting. Pre-meeting briefing sessions may also be held for extraordinary meetings of the council and meetings of committees of the council.
- 3.34 Pre-meeting briefing sessions are to be held in the absence of the public.

- 3.36 The general manager or a member of staff nominated by the general manager is to preside at pre-meeting briefing sessions.
- 3.37 Councillors must not use pre-meeting briefing sessions to debate or make preliminary decisions on items of business they are being briefed on, and any debate and decision-making must be left to the formal council or committee meeting at which the item of business is to be considered.
- 3.38 Councillors (including the mayor) must declare and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in relation to any item of business that is the subject of a briefing at a pre-meeting briefing session, in the same way that they are required to do so at a council or committee meeting. The council is to maintain a written record of all conflict of interest declarations made at pre-meeting briefing sessions and how the conflict of interest was managed by the councillor who made the declaration.

#### **4 PUBLIC FORUMS**

- 4.1 The council will hold a public forum prior to each ordinary meeting of the council for the purpose of hearing oral submissions from members of the public on items of business to be considered at the meeting. Public forums may also be held prior to extraordinary council meetings and meetings of committees of the council.
- 4.3 Public forums are to be chaired by the mayor or their nominee.
- 4.4 To speak at a public forum, a person must first make an application to the council in the approved form. Applications to speak at the public forum must be received prior to the meeting, and must identify the item of business on the agenda of the council meeting the person wishes to speak on, and whether they wish to speak 'for' or 'against' the item.
- 4.6 Legal representatives acting on behalf of others are not to be permitted to speak at a public forum unless they identify their status as a legal representative when applying to speak at the public forum.
- 4.7 The general manager or their delegate may refuse an application to speak at a public forum. The general manager or their delegate must give reasons in writing for a decision to refuse an application.
- 4.11 Approved speakers at the public forum are to register with the council any written, visual or audio material to be presented in support of their address to the council at the public forum, and to identify any equipment needs prior to the meeting. The general manager or their delegate may refuse to allow such material to be presented.
- 4.12 The general manager or their delegate is to determine the order of speakers at the public forum.
- 4.13 Each speaker will be allowed five (5) minutes to address the council. This time is to be strictly enforced by the chairperson. An extension of five (5) minutes may be granted by Council.

- 4.14 Speakers at public forums must not digress from the item on the agenda of the council meeting they have applied to address the council on. If a speaker digresses to irrelevant matters, the chairperson is to direct the speaker not to do so. If a speaker fails to observe a direction from the chairperson, the speaker will not be further heard.
- 4.15 The chairperson may ask questions of a speaker following their address at a public forum. Questions put to a speaker must be direct, succinct and without argument.
- 4.16 Speakers are under no obligation to answer a question put under clause 4.15.
- 4.17 Speakers at public forums cannot ask questions of the council, councillors, or council staff.
- 4.20 When addressing the council, speakers at public forums must comply with this code and all other relevant council codes, policies, and procedures. Speakers must refrain from engaging in disorderly conduct, publicly alleging breaches of the council's code of conduct or making other potentially defamatory statements.
- 4.21 If the chairperson considers that a speaker at a public forum has engaged in conduct of the type referred to in clause 4.20, the chairperson may request the person to refrain from the inappropriate behaviour and to withdraw and unreservedly apologise for any inappropriate comments. Where the speaker fails to comply with the chairperson's request, the chairperson may immediately require the person to stop speaking.
- 4.22 Clause 4.21 does not limit the ability of the chairperson to deal with disorderly conduct by speakers at public forums in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of this code.
- 4.23 Where a speaker engages in conduct of the type referred to in clause 4.20, the general manager or their delegate may refuse further applications from that person to speak at public forums for such a period as the general manager or their delegate considers appropriate.
- 4.24 Councillors (including the mayor) must declare and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in relation to any item of business that is the subject of an address at a public forum, in the same way that they are required to do so at a council or committee meeting. The council is to maintain a written record of all conflict of interest declarations made at public forums and how the conflict of interest was managed by the councillor who made the declaration.

**Note: Public forums should not be held as part of a council or committee meeting. Council or committee meetings should be reserved for decision-making by the council or committee of council. Where a public forum is held as part of a council or committee meeting, it must be conducted in accordance with the other requirements of this code relating to the conduct of council and committee meetings.**

## 5 COMING TOGETHER

### Attendance by councillors at meetings

- 5.1 All councillors must make reasonable efforts to attend meetings of the council and of committees of the council of which they are members.

**Note: A councillor may not attend a meeting as a councillor (other than the first meeting of the council after the councillor is elected or a meeting at which the councillor takes an oath or makes an affirmation of office) until they have taken an oath or made an affirmation of office in the form prescribed under section 233A of the Act.**

- 5.2 A councillor cannot participate in a meeting of the council or of a committee of the council unless personally present at the meeting.

- 5.4 Where a councillor is unable to attend one or more ordinary meetings of the council, the councillor should request that the council grant them a leave of absence from those meetings. This clause does not prevent a councillor from making an apology if they are unable to attend a meeting. However, the acceptance of such an apology does not constitute the granting of a leave of absence for the purposes of this code and the Act.

- 5.5 A councillor's request for leave of absence from council meetings should, if practicable, identify (by date) the meetings from which the councillor intends to be absent and the grounds upon which the leave of absence is being sought.

- 5.6 The council must act reasonably when considering whether to grant a councillor's request for a leave of absence.

- 5.7 A councillor's civic office will become vacant if the councillor is absent from three (3) consecutive ordinary meetings of the council without prior leave of the council, or leave granted by the council at any of the meetings concerned, unless the holder is absent because they have been suspended from office under the Act, or because the council has been suspended under the Act, or as a consequence of a compliance order under section 438HA.

**Note: Clause 5.7 reflects section 234(1)(d) of the Act.**

- 5.8 A councillor who intends to attend a meeting of the council despite having been granted a leave of absence should, if practicable, give the general manager at least two (2) days' notice of their intention to attend.

### The quorum for a meeting

- 5.9 The quorum for a meeting of the council is a majority of the councillors of the council who hold office at that time and are not suspended from office.

**Note: Clause 5.9 reflects section 368(1) of the Act.**



- 5.10 Clause 5.9 does not apply if the quorum is required to be determined in accordance with directions of the Minister in a performance improvement order issued in respect of the council.

**Note: Clause 5.10 reflects section 368(2) of the Act.**

- 5.11 A meeting of the council must be adjourned if a quorum is not present:
- (a) at the commencement of the meeting where the number of apologies received for the meeting indicates that there will not be a quorum for the meeting, or
  - (b) within half an hour after the time designated for the holding of the meeting, or
  - (c) at any time during the meeting.
- 5.12 In either case, the meeting must be adjourned to a time, date, and place fixed:
- (a) by the chairperson, or
  - (b) in the chairperson's absence, by the majority of the councillors present, or
  - (c) failing that, by the general manager.
- 5.13 The general manager must record in the council's minutes the circumstances relating to the absence of a quorum (including the reasons for the absence of a quorum) at or arising during a meeting of the council, together with the names of the councillors present.
- 5.14 Where, prior to the commencement of a meeting, it becomes apparent that a quorum may not be present at the meeting, or that the health, safety or welfare of councillors, council staff and members of the public may be put at risk by attending the meeting because of a natural disaster or a public health emergency, the mayor may, in consultation with the general manager and, as far as is practicable, with each councillor, cancel the meeting. Where a meeting is cancelled, notice of the cancellation must be published on the council's website and in such other manner that the council is satisfied is likely to bring notice of the cancellation to the attention of as many people as possible.
- 5.15 Where a meeting is cancelled under clause 5.14, the business to be considered at the meeting may instead be considered, where practicable, at the next ordinary meeting of the council or at an extraordinary meeting called under clause 3.3.

#### Entitlement of the public to attend council meetings

- 5.31 Everyone is entitled to attend a meeting of the council and committees of the council. The council must ensure that all meetings of the council and committees of the council are open to the public.

**Note: Clause 5.31 reflects section 10(1) of the Act.**

- 5.32 Clause 5.31 does not apply to parts of meetings that have been closed to the public under section 10A of the Act.

- 5.33 A person (whether a councillor or another person) is not entitled to be present at a meeting of the council or a committee of the council if expelled from the meeting:

- (a) by a resolution of the meeting, or
- (b) by the person presiding at the meeting if the council has, by resolution, authorised the person presiding to exercise the power of expulsion.

**Note: Clause 5.33 reflects section 10(2) of the Act.**

**Note: 15.15 confer a standing authorisation on all chairpersons of meetings of the council and committees of the council to expel persons from meetings. Clause 15.15 authorises chairpersons to expel persons other than councillors from a council or committee meeting.**

#### Webcasting of meetings

- 5.34 Each meeting of the council or a committee of the council is to be recorded by means of an audio or audio-visual device.
- 5.35 At the start of each meeting of the council or a committee of the council, the chairperson must inform the persons attending the meeting that:
- (a) the meeting is being recorded and made publicly available on the council's website, and
  - (b) persons attending the meeting should refrain from making any defamatory statements.
- 5.36 The recording of a meeting is to be made publicly available on the council's website:
- (a) at the same time as the meeting is taking place, or
  - (b) as soon as practicable after the meeting.
- 5.37 The recording of a meeting is to be made publicly available on the council's website for at least 12 months after the meeting.
- 5.38 Clauses 5.36 and 5.37 do not apply to any part of a meeting that has been closed to the public in accordance with section 10A of the Act.

**Note: Clauses 5.34 – 5.38 reflect section 236 of the Regulation.**

- 5.39 Recordings of meetings may be disposed of in accordance with the *State Records Act 1998*.

#### Attendance of the general manager and other staff at meetings

- 5.40 The general manager is entitled to attend, but not to vote at, a meeting of the council or a meeting of a committee of the council of which all of the members are councillors.

**Note: Clause 5.40 reflects section 376(1) of the Act.**

- 5.41 The general manager is entitled to attend a meeting of any other committee of the council and may, if a member of the committee, exercise a vote.

**Note: Clause 5.41 reflects section 376(2) of the Act.**

- 5.42 The general manager may be excluded from a meeting of the council or a committee while the council or committee deals with a matter relating to the standard of performance of the general manager or the terms of employment of the general manager.

**Note: Clause 5.42 reflects section 376(3) of the Act.**

- 5.43 The attendance of other council staff at a meeting, (other than as members of the public) shall be with the approval of the general manager.

## 6 THE CHAIRPERSON

### The chairperson at meetings

- 6.1 The mayor, or at the request of or in the absence of the mayor, the deputy mayor (if any) presides at meetings of the council.

**Note: Clause 6.1 reflects section 369(1) of the Act.**

- 6.2 If the mayor and the deputy mayor (if any) are absent, a councillor elected to chair the meeting by the councillors present presides at a meeting of the council.

**Note: Clause 6.2 reflects section 369(2) of the Act.**

### Election of the chairperson in the absence of the mayor and deputy mayor

- 6.3 If no chairperson is present at a meeting of the council at the time designated for the holding of the meeting, the first business of the meeting must be the election of a chairperson to preside at the meeting.

- 6.4 The election of a chairperson must be conducted:

- (a) by the general manager or, in their absence, an employee of the council designated by the general manager to conduct the election, or
- (b) by the person who called the meeting or a person acting on their behalf if neither the general manager nor a designated employee is present at the meeting, or if there is no general manager or designated employee.

- 6.5 If, at an election of a chairperson, two (2) or more candidates receive the same number of votes and no other candidate receives a greater number of votes, the chairperson is to be the candidate whose name is chosen by lot.

- 6.6 For the purposes of clause 6.5, the person conducting the election must:

- (a) arrange for the names of the candidates who have equal numbers of votes to be written on similar slips, and

- (b) then fold the slips so as to prevent the names from being seen, mix the slips and draw one of the slips at random.

- 6.7 The candidate whose name is on the drawn slip is the candidate who is to be the chairperson.
- 6.8 Any election conducted under clause 6.3, and the outcome of the vote, are to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

#### Chairperson to have precedence

- 6.9 When the chairperson rises or speaks during a meeting of the council:
  - (a) any councillor then speaking or seeking to speak must cease speaking and, if standing, immediately resume their seat, and
  - (b) every councillor present must be silent to enable the chairperson to be heard without interruption.

### **7 MODES OF ADDRESS**

- 7.1 If the chairperson is the mayor, they are to be addressed as 'Mr Mayor' or 'Madam Mayor'.
- 7.2 Where the chairperson is not the mayor, they are to be addressed as either 'Mr Chairperson' or 'Madam Chairperson'.
- 7.3 A councillor is to be addressed as 'Councillor [surname]'.
- 7.4 A council officer is to be addressed by their official designation or as Mr/Ms [surname].
- 7.5 Councillors, with the exception of the Chairperson, shall (except when prevented by bodily infirmity) rise in their place and stand while speaking in council.

### **8 ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETINGS**

- 8.1 At a meeting of the council, the general order of business is as fixed by resolution of the council.
- 8.3 The order of business as fixed under clause 8.1 may be altered for a particular meeting of the council if a motion to that effect is passed at that meeting. Such a motion can be moved without notice.

**Note: Part 13 allows council to deal with items of business by exception.**

- 8.4 Despite clauses 10.20–10.30, only the mover of a motion referred to in clause 8.3 may speak to the motion before it is put.

## 9 CONSIDERATION OF BUSINESS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

### Business that can be dealt with at a council meeting

- 9.1 The council must not consider business at a meeting of the council:
- (a) unless a councillor has given notice of the business, as required by clause 3.10, and
  - (b) unless notice of the business has been sent to the councillors in accordance with clause 3.7 in the case of an ordinary meeting or clause 3.9 in the case of an extraordinary meeting called in an emergency.
- 9.2 Clause 9.1 does not apply to the consideration of business at a meeting, if the business:
- (a) is already before, or directly relates to, a matter that is already before the council, or
  - (b) is the election of a chairperson to preside at the meeting, or
  - (c) subject to clause 9.9, is a matter or topic put to the meeting by way of a mayoral minute, or
  - (d) is a motion for the adoption of recommendations of a committee, including, but not limited to, a committee of the council.
- 9.3 Despite clause 9.1, business may be considered at a meeting of the council even though due notice of the business has not been given to the councillors if:
- (a) a motion is passed to have the business considered at the meeting, and
  - (b) the business to be considered is ruled by the chairperson to be of great urgency on the grounds that it requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting of the council.
- 9.4 A motion moved under clause 9.3(a) can be moved without notice. Despite clauses 10.20–10.30, only the mover of a motion referred to in clause 9.3(a) can speak to the motion before it is put.
- 9.5 A motion of dissent cannot be moved against a ruling by the chairperson under clause 9.3(b).

### Mayoral minutes

- 9.6 Subject to clause 9.9, if the mayor is the chairperson at a meeting of the council, the mayor may, by minute signed by the mayor, put to the meeting without notice any matter or topic that is within the jurisdiction of the council, or of which the council has official knowledge.
- 9.7 A mayoral minute, when put to a meeting, takes precedence over all business on the council's agenda for the meeting. The chairperson (but only if the chairperson is the mayor) may move the adoption of a mayoral minute without the motion being seconded.

- 9.8 A recommendation made in a mayoral minute put by the mayor is, so far as it is adopted by the council, a resolution of the council.
- 9.9 A mayoral minute must not be used to put without notice matters that are routine and not urgent or matters for which proper notice should be given because of their complexity. For the purpose of this clause, a matter will be urgent where it requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting of the council.

#### Staff reports

- 9.11 A recommendation made in a staff report is, so far as it is adopted by the council, a resolution of the council.

#### Reports of committees of council

- 9.12 The recommendations of a committee of the council are, so far as they are adopted by the council, resolutions of the council.
- 9.13 If in a report of a committee of the council distinct recommendations are made, the council may make separate decisions on each recommendation.

#### Questions

- 9.14 A question must not be asked at a meeting of the council unless it concerns a matter on the agenda of the meeting or notice has been given of the question in accordance with clauses 3.10 and 3.14.
- 9.15 A councillor may, through the chairperson, put a question to another councillor about a matter on the agenda.
- 9.16 A councillor may, through the general manager, put a question to a council employee about a matter on the agenda. Council employees are only obliged to answer a question put to them through the general manager at the direction of the general manager.
- 9.17 A councillor or council employee to whom a question is put is entitled to be given reasonable notice of the question and, in particular, sufficient notice to enable reference to be made to other persons or to information. Where a councillor or council employee to whom a question is put is unable to respond to the question at the meeting at which it is put, they may take it on notice and report the response to the next meeting of the council.
- 9.18 Councillors must put questions directly, succinctly, respectfully and without argument.
- 9.19 The chairperson must not permit discussion on any reply to, or refusal to reply to, a question put to a councillor or council employee.

## 10 RULES OF DEBATE

### Motions to be seconded

- 10.1 Unless otherwise specified in this code, a motion or an amendment cannot be debated unless or until it has been seconded.

### Notices of motion

- 10.2 A councillor who has submitted a notice of motion under clause 3.10 is to move the motion the subject of the notice of motion at the meeting at which it is to be considered.
- 10.3 If a councillor who has submitted a notice of motion under clause 3.10 wishes to withdraw it after the agenda and business paper for the meeting at which it is to be considered have been sent to councillors, the councillor may request the withdrawal of the motion when it is before the council.
- 10.4 In the absence of a councillor who has placed a notice of motion on the agenda for a meeting of the council:
- (a) any other councillor may, with the leave of the chairperson, move the motion at the meeting, or
  - (b) the chairperson may defer consideration of the motion until the next meeting of the council.

### Chairperson's duties with respect to motions

- 10.5 It is the duty of the chairperson at a meeting of the council to receive and put to the meeting any lawful motion that is brought before the meeting.
- 10.6 The chairperson must rule out of order any motion or amendment to a motion that is unlawful or the implementation of which would be unlawful.
- 10.7 Before ruling out of order a motion or an amendment to a motion under clause 10.6, the chairperson is to give the mover an opportunity to clarify or amend the motion or amendment.
- 10.8 Any motion, amendment, or other matter that the chairperson has ruled out of order is taken to have been lost.

### Amendments to motions

- 10.10 An amendment to a motion must be moved and seconded before it can be debated.
- 10.11 An amendment to a motion must relate to the matter being dealt with in the original motion before the council and must not be a direct negative of the original motion. An amendment to a motion which does not relate to the matter being dealt with in the original motion, or which is a direct negative of the original motion, must be ruled out of order by the chairperson.

- 10.12 The mover of an amendment is to be given the opportunity to explain any uncertainties in the proposed amendment before a seconder is called for.
- 10.13 If an amendment has been lost, a further amendment can be moved to the motion to which the lost amendment was moved, and so on, but no more than one (1) motion and one (1) proposed amendment can be before council at any one time.
- 10.14 While an amendment is being considered, debate must only occur in relation to the amendment and not the original motion. Debate on the original motion is to be suspended while the amendment to the original motion is being debated.
- 10.15 If the amendment is carried, it becomes the motion and is to be debated. If the amendment is lost, debate is to resume on the original motion.
- 10.16 An amendment may become the motion without debate or a vote where it is accepted by the councillor who moved the original motion.

#### Foreshadowed motions

- 10.17 A councillor may propose a foreshadowed motion in relation to the matter the subject of the original motion before the council, without a seconder during debate on the original motion. The foreshadowed motion is only to be considered if the original motion is lost or withdrawn and the foreshadowed motion is then moved and seconded. If the original motion is carried, the foreshadowed motion lapses.
- 10.18 Where an amendment has been moved and seconded, a councillor may, without a seconder, foreshadow a further amendment that they propose to move after the first amendment has been dealt with. There is no limit to the number of foreshadowed amendments that may be put before the council at any time. However, no discussion can take place on foreshadowed amendments until the previous amendment has been dealt with and the foreshadowed amendment has been moved and seconded.
- 10.19 Foreshadowed motions and foreshadowed amendments are to be considered in the order in which they are proposed. However, foreshadowed motions cannot be considered until all foreshadowed amendments have been dealt with.

#### Limitations on the number and duration of speeches

- 10.20 A councillor who, during a debate at a meeting of the council, moves an original motion, has the right to speak on each amendment to the motion and a right of general reply to all observations that are made during the debate in relation to the motion, and any amendment to it at the conclusion of the debate before the motion (whether amended or not) is finally put.
- 10.21 A councillor, other than the mover of an original motion, has the right to speak once on the motion and once on each amendment to it.



- 10.22 A councillor must not, without the consent of the council, speak more than once on a motion or an amendment, or for longer than five (5) minutes at any one time.
- 10.23 Despite clause 10.22, the chairperson may permit a councillor who claims to have been misrepresented or misunderstood to speak more than once on a motion or an amendment, and for longer than five (5) minutes on that motion or amendment to enable the councillor to make a statement limited to explaining the misrepresentation or misunderstanding.
- 10.24 Despite clause 10.22, the council may resolve to shorten the duration of speeches to expedite the consideration of business at a meeting.
- 10.25 Despite clauses 10.20 and 10.21, a councillor may move that a motion or an amendment be now put:
- (a) if the mover of the motion or amendment has spoken in favour of it and no councillor expresses an intention to speak against it, or
  - (b) if at least two (2) councillors have spoken in favour of the motion or amendment and at least two (2) councillors have spoken against it.
- 10.26 The chairperson must immediately put to the vote, without debate, a motion moved under clause 10.25. A seconder is not required for such a motion.
- 10.27 If a motion that the original motion or an amendment be now put is passed, the chairperson must, without further debate, put the original motion or amendment to the vote immediately after the mover of the original motion has exercised their right of reply under clause 10.20.
- 10.28 If a motion that the original motion or an amendment be now put is lost, the chairperson must allow the debate on the original motion or the amendment to be resumed.
- 10.29 All councillors must be heard without interruption and all other councillors must, unless otherwise permitted under this code, remain silent while another councillor is speaking.
- 10.30 Once the debate on a matter has concluded and a matter has been dealt with, the chairperson must not allow further debate on the matter.

## 11 VOTING

### Voting entitlements of councillors

- 11.1 Each councillor is entitled to one (1) vote.

**Note: Clause 11.1 reflects section 370(1) of the Act.**

- 11.2 The person presiding at a meeting of the council has, in the event of an equality of votes, a second or casting vote.

**Note: Clause 11.2 reflects section 370(2) of the Act.**

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- 11.3 Where the chairperson declines to exercise, or fails to exercise, their second or casting vote, in the event of an equality of votes, the motion being voted upon is lost.

Voting at council meetings

- 11.5 A councillor who is present at a meeting of the council but who fails to vote on a motion put to the meeting is taken to have voted against the motion.
- 11.6 If a councillor who has voted against a motion put at a council meeting so requests, the general manager must ensure that the councillor's dissenting vote is recorded in the council's minutes.
- 11.7 The decision of the chairperson as to the result of a vote is final unless the decision is immediately challenged and not fewer than two (2) councillors rise and call for a division.
- 11.8 When a division on a motion is called, the chairperson must ensure that the division takes place immediately. The general manager must ensure that the names of those who vote for the motion and those who vote against it are recorded in the council's minutes for the meeting.
- 11.9 When a division on a motion is called, any councillor who fails to vote will be recorded as having voted against the motion in accordance with clause 11.5 of this code.
- 11.10 Voting at a meeting, including voting in an election at a meeting, is to be by open means (such as on the voices, by show of hands or by a visible electronic voting system). However, the council may resolve that the voting in any election by councillors for mayor or deputy mayor is to be by secret ballot.

Voting on planning decisions

- 11.12 The general manager must keep a register containing, for each planning decision made at a meeting of the council or a council committee (including, but not limited to a committee of the council), the names of the councillors who supported the decision and the names of any councillors who opposed (or are taken to have opposed) the decision.
- 11.13 For the purpose of maintaining the register, a division is taken to have been called whenever a motion for a planning decision is put at a meeting of the council or a council committee.
- 11.14 Each decision recorded in the register is to be described in the register or identified in a manner that enables the description to be obtained from another publicly available document.
- 11.15 Clauses 11.12–11.14 apply also to meetings that are closed to the public.

**Note: Clauses 11.12–11.15 reflect section 375A of the Act.**

**Note: The requirements of clause 11.12 may be satisfied by maintaining a register of the minutes of each planning decision.**

## **12 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

- 12.1 The council may resolve itself into a committee to consider any matter before the council.

**Note: Clause 12.1 reflects section 373 of the Act.**

- 12.2 All the provisions of this code relating to meetings of the council, so far as they are applicable, extend to and govern the proceedings of the council when in committee of the whole, except the provisions limiting the number and duration of speeches.

**Note: Clauses 10.20–10.30 limit the number and duration of speeches.**

- 12.3 The general manager or, in the absence of the general manager, an employee of the council designated by the general manager, is responsible for reporting to the council the proceedings of the committee of the whole. It is not necessary to report the proceedings in full, but any recommendations of the committee must be reported.
- 12.4 The council must ensure that a report of the proceedings (including any recommendations of the committee) is recorded in the council's minutes. However, the council is not taken to have adopted the report until a motion for adoption has been made and passed.

## **13 DEALING WITH ITEMS BY EXCEPTION**

- 13.1 The council or a committee of council may, at any time, resolve to adopt multiple items of business on the agenda together by way of a single resolution.
- 13.2 Before the council or committee resolves to adopt multiple items of business on the agenda together under clause 13.1, the chairperson must list the items of business to be adopted and ask councillors to identify any individual items of business listed by the chairperson that they intend to vote against the recommendation made in the business paper or that they wish to speak on.
- 13.3 The council or committee must not resolve to adopt any item of business under clause 13.1 that a councillor has identified as being one they intend to vote against the recommendation made in the business paper or to speak on.
- 13.4 Where the consideration of multiple items of business together under clause 13.1 involves a variation to the order of business for the meeting, the council or committee must resolve to alter the order of business in accordance with clause 8.3.
- 13.5 A motion to adopt multiple items of business together under clause 13.1 must identify each of the items of business to be adopted and state that they are to be adopted as recommended in the business paper.

- 13.6 Items of business adopted under clause 13.1 are to be taken to have been adopted unanimously.
- 13.7 Councillors must ensure that they declare and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in relation to items of business considered together under clause 13.1 in accordance with the requirements of the council's code of conduct.

#### **14 CLOSURE OF COUNCIL MEETINGS TO THE PUBLIC**

##### Grounds on which meetings can be closed to the public

- 14.1 The council or a committee of the council may close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises the discussion or the receipt of any of the following types of matters:
- (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 ground of legal professional privilege,
  - (h) information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on community land,
  - (i) alleged contraventions of the council's code of conduct.

**Note: Clause 14.1 reflects section 10A(1) and (2) of the Act.**

- 14.2 The council or a committee of the council may also close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises a motion to close another part of the meeting to the public.

**Note: Clause 14.2 reflects section 10A(3) of the Act.**

##### Matters to be considered when closing meetings to the public

- 14.3 A meeting is not to remain closed during the discussion of anything referred to in clause 14.1:
- (a) except for so much of the discussion as is necessary to preserve the relevant confidentiality, privilege or security, and
  - (b) 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 – unless the council or committee concerned is satisfied that discussion of the matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

**Note: Clause 14.3 reflects section 10B(1) of the Act.**

14.4 A meeting is not to be closed during the receipt and consideration of information or advice referred to in clause 14.1(g) unless the advice concerns legal matters that:

- (a) are substantial issues relating to a matter in which the council or committee is involved, and
- (b) are clearly identified in the advice, and
- (c) are fully discussed in that advice.

**Note: Clause 14.4 reflects section 10B(2) of the Act.**

14.5 If a meeting is closed during the discussion of a motion to close another part of the meeting to the public (as referred to in clause 14.2), the consideration of the motion must not include any consideration of the matter or information to be discussed in that other part of the meeting other than consideration of whether the matter concerned is a matter referred to in clause 14.1.

**Note: Clause 14.5 reflects section 10B(3) of the Act.**

14.6 For the purpose of determining whether the discussion of a matter in an open meeting would be contrary to the public interest, it is irrelevant that:

- (a) a person may misinterpret or misunderstand the discussion, or
- (b) the discussion of the matter may:
  - (i) cause embarrassment to the council or committee concerned, or to councillors or to employees of the council, or
  - (ii) cause a loss of confidence in the council or committee.

**Note: Clause 14.6 reflects section 10B(4) of the Act.**

14.7 In deciding whether part of a meeting is to be closed to the public, the council or committee concerned must consider any relevant guidelines issued by the Departmental Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government.

**Note: Clause 14.7 reflects section 10B(5) of the Act.**

Notice of likelihood of closure not required in urgent cases

14.8 Part of a meeting of the council, or of a committee of the council, may be closed to the public while the council or committee considers a matter that has not been identified in the agenda for the meeting under clause 3.21 as a matter that is likely to be considered when the meeting is closed, but only if:

- (a) it becomes apparent during the discussion of a particular matter that the matter is a matter referred to in clause 14.1, and
- (b) the council or committee, after considering any representations made under clause 14.9, resolves that further discussion of the matter:

- (i) should not be deferred (because of the urgency of the matter), and
- (ii) should take place in a part of the meeting that is closed to the public.

**Note: Clause 14.8 reflects section 10C of the Act.**

Representations by members of the public

- 14.9 The council, or a committee of the council, may allow members of the public to make representations to or at a meeting, before any part of the meeting is closed to the public, as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed.

**Note: Clause 14.9 reflects section 10A(4) of the Act.**

- 14.10 A representation under clause 14.9 is to be made after the motion to close the part of the meeting is moved and seconded.
- 14.11 Where the matter has been identified in the agenda of the meeting under clause 3.21 as a matter that is likely to be considered when the meeting is closed to the public, in order to make representations under clause 14.9, members of the public must first make an application to the council in the approved form. Applications must be received by **close of business 2 days before** the meeting at which the matter is to be considered.
- 14.12 The general manager (or their delegate) may refuse an application made under clause 14.11. The general manager or their delegate must give reasons in writing for a decision to refuse an application.
- 14.13 No more than two (2) speakers are to be permitted to make representations under clause 14.9.
- 14.14 If more than the permitted number of speakers apply to make representations under clause 14.9, the general manager or their delegate may request the speakers to nominate from among themselves the persons who are to make representations to the council. If the speakers are not able to agree on whom to nominate to make representations under clause 14.9, the general manager or their delegate is to determine who will make representations to the council.
- 14.15 The general manager (or their delegate) is to determine the order of speakers.
- 14.16 Where the council or a committee of the council proposes to close a meeting or part of a meeting to the public in circumstances where the matter has not been identified in the agenda for the meeting under clause 3.21 as a matter that is likely to be considered when the meeting is closed to the public, the chairperson is to invite representations from the public under clause 14.9 after the motion to close the part of the meeting is moved and seconded. The chairperson is to permit no more than two (2) speakers to make representations in such order as determined by the chairperson.
- 14.17 Each speaker will be allowed five (5) minutes to make representations, and this time limit is to be strictly enforced by the chairperson. Speakers must confine their representations to whether the meeting should be closed to the public. If a speaker digresses to irrelevant matters, the chairperson is to direct

the speaker not to do so. If a speaker fails to observe a direction from the chairperson, the speaker will not be further heard.

Expulsion of non-councillors from meetings closed to the public

- 14.18 If a meeting or part of a meeting of the council or a committee of the council is closed to the public in accordance with section 10A of the Act and this code, any person who is not a councillor and who fails to leave the meeting when requested, may be expelled from the meeting as provided by section 10(2)(a) or (b) of the Act.
- 14.19 If any such person, after being notified of a resolution or direction expelling them from the meeting, fails to leave the place where the meeting is being held, a police officer, or any person authorised for the purpose by the council or person presiding, may, by using only such force as is necessary, remove the first-mentioned person from that place and, if necessary restrain that person from re-entering that place for the remainder of the meeting.

Information to be disclosed in resolutions closing meetings to the public

- 14.21 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. The grounds must specify the following:
- (a) the relevant provision of section 10A(2) of the Act,
  - (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.

**Note: Clause 14.21 reflects section 10D of the Act.**

Resolutions passed at closed meetings to be made public

- 14.22 If the council passes a resolution during a meeting, or a part of a meeting, that is closed to the public, the chairperson must make the resolution public as soon as practicable after the meeting, or the relevant part of the meeting, has ended, and the resolution must be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.
- 14.23 Resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting, that is closed to the public must be made public by the chairperson under clause 14.22 during a part of the meeting that is webcast.

## 15 KEEPING ORDER AT MEETINGS

### Points of order

- 15.1 A councillor may draw the attention of the chairperson to an alleged breach of this code by raising a point of order. A point of order does not require a seconder.
- 15.2 A point of order cannot be made with respect to adherence to the principles contained in clause 2.1.
- 15.3 A point of order must be taken immediately it is raised. The chairperson must suspend the business before the meeting and permit the councillor raising the point of order to state the provision of this code they believe has been breached. The chairperson must then rule on the point of order – either by upholding it or by overruling it.

### Questions of order

- 15.4 The chairperson, without the intervention of any other councillor, may call any councillor to order whenever, in the opinion of the chairperson, it is necessary to do so.
- 15.5 A councillor who claims that another councillor has committed an act of disorder, or is out of order, may call the attention of the chairperson to the matter.
- 15.6 The chairperson must rule on a question of order immediately after it is raised but, before doing so, may invite the opinion of the council.
- 15.7 The chairperson's ruling must be obeyed unless a motion dissenting from the ruling is passed.

### Motions of dissent

- 15.8 A councillor can, without notice, move to dissent from a ruling of the chairperson on a point of order or a question of order. If that happens, the chairperson must suspend the business before the meeting until a decision is made on the motion of dissent.
- 15.9 If a motion of dissent is passed, the chairperson must proceed with the suspended business as though the ruling dissented from had not been given. If, as a result of the ruling, any motion or business has been rejected as out of order, the chairperson must restore the motion or business to the agenda and proceed with it in due course.
- 15.10 Despite any other provision of this code, only the mover of a motion of dissent and the chairperson can speak to the motion before it is put. The mover of the motion does not have a right of general reply.



Acts of disorder

15.11 A councillor commits an act of disorder if the councillor, at a meeting of the council or a committee of the council:

- (a) contravenes the Act, the Regulation or this code, or
- (b) assaults or threatens to assault another councillor or person present at the meeting, or
- (c) moves or attempts to move a motion or an amendment that has an unlawful purpose or that deals with a matter that is outside the jurisdiction of the council or the committee, or addresses or attempts to address the council or the committee on such a motion, amendment or matter, or
- (d) insults, makes unfavourable personal remarks about, or imputes improper motives to any other council official, or alleges a breach of the council's code of conduct, or
- (e) says or does anything that is inconsistent with maintaining order at the meeting or is likely to bring the council or the committee into disrepute.

**Note: Clause 15.11 reflects section 182 of the Regulation.**

15.12 The chairperson may require a councillor:

- (a) to apologise without reservation for an act of disorder referred to in clauses 15.11(a), (b), or (e), or
- (b) to withdraw a motion or an amendment referred to in clause 15.11(c) and, where appropriate, to apologise without reservation, or
- (c) to retract and apologise without reservation for any statement that constitutes an act of disorder referred to in clauses 15.11(d) and (e).

**Note: Clause 15.12 reflects section 233 of the Regulation.**

How disorder at a meeting may be dealt with

15.13 If disorder occurs at a meeting of the council, the chairperson may adjourn the meeting for a period of not more than fifteen (15) minutes and leave the chair. The council, on reassembling, must, on a question put from the chairperson, decide without debate whether the business is to be proceeded with or not. This clause applies to disorder arising from the conduct of members of the public as well as disorder arising from the conduct of councillors.

Expulsion from meetings

15.15 All chairpersons of meetings of the council and committees of the council are authorised under this code to expel any person other than a councillor, from a council or committee meeting, for the purposes of section 10(2)(b) of the Act. Councillors may only be expelled by resolution of the council or the committee of the council.

Note: A motion to expel any person from a meeting is considered a procedural motion to be put by the Chair and as such does not require a seconder.

- 15.16 Clause 15.15, does not limit the ability of the council or a committee of the council to resolve to expel a person, including a councillor, from a council or committee meeting, under section 10(2)(a) of the Act.
- 15.17 A councillor may, as provided by section 10(2)(a) or (b) of the Act, be expelled from a meeting of the council for having failed to comply with a requirement under clause 15.12. The expulsion of a councillor from the meeting for that reason does not prevent any other action from being taken against the councillor for the act of disorder concerned.
- Note: Clause 15.17 reflects section 233(2) of the Regulation.**
- 15.18 A member of the public may, as provided by section 10(2)(a) or (b) of the Act, be expelled from a meeting of the council for engaging in or having engaged in disorderly conduct at the meeting.
- 15.19 Where a councillor or a member of the public is expelled from a meeting, the expulsion and the name of the person expelled, if known, are to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- 15.20 If a councillor or a member of the public fails to leave the place where a meeting of the council is being held immediately after they have been expelled, a police officer, or any person authorised for the purpose by the council or person presiding, may, by using only such force as is necessary, remove the councillor or member of the public from that place and, if necessary, restrain the councillor or member of the public from re-entering that place for the remainder of the meeting.

Use of mobile phones and the unauthorised recording of meetings

- 15.23 Councillors, council staff and members of the public must ensure that mobile phones are turned to silent during meetings of the council and committees of the council.
- 15.24 A person must not live stream or use an audio recorder, video camera, mobile phone or any other device to make a recording of the proceedings of a meeting of the council or a committee of the council without the prior authorisation of the council or the committee.
- 15.25 Without limiting clause 15.18, a contravention of clause 15.24 or an attempt to contravene that clause, constitutes disorderly conduct for the purposes of clause 15.18. Any person who contravenes or attempts to contravene clause 15.24, may be expelled from the meeting as provided for under section 10(2) of the Act.
- 15.26 If any such person, after being notified of a resolution or direction expelling them from the meeting, fails to leave the place where the meeting is being held, a police officer, or any person authorised for the purpose by the council or person presiding, may, by using only such force as is necessary, remove the first-mentioned person from that place and, if necessary, restrain that person from re-entering that place for the remainder of the meeting.

## 16 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- 16.1 All councillors and, where applicable, all other persons, must declare and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at meetings of the council and committees of the council in accordance with the council's code of conduct. All declarations of conflicts of interest and how the conflict of interest was managed by the person who made the declaration must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the declaration was made.

## 17 DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL

### Council decisions

- 17.1 A decision supported by a majority of the votes at a meeting of the council at which a quorum is present is a decision of the council.

**Note: Clause 17.1 reflects section 371 of the Act in the case of councils and section 400T(8) in the case of joint organisations.**

- 17.2 Decisions made by the council must be accurately recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the decision is made.

### Rescinding or altering council decisions

- 17.3 A resolution passed by the council may not be altered or rescinded except by a motion to that effect of which notice has been given under clause 3.10.

**Note: Clause 17.3 reflects section 372(1) of the Act.**

- 17.4 If a notice of motion to rescind a resolution is given at the meeting at which the resolution is carried, the resolution must not be carried into effect until the motion of rescission has been dealt with.

**Note: Clause 17.4 reflects section 372(2) of the Act.**

- 17.5 If a motion has been lost, a motion having the same effect must not be considered unless notice of it has been duly given in accordance with clause 3.10.

**Note: Clause 17.5 reflects section 372(3) of the Act.**

- 17.6 A notice of motion to alter or rescind a resolution, and a notice of motion which has the same effect as a motion which has been lost, must be signed by three (3) councillors if less than three (3) months has elapsed since the resolution was passed, or the motion was lost.

**Note: Clause 17.6 reflects section 372(4) of the Act.**

- 17.7 If a motion to alter or rescind a resolution has been lost, or if a motion which has the same effect as a previously lost motion is lost, no similar motion may be brought forward within three (3) months of the meeting at which it was lost. This clause may not be evaded by substituting a motion differently worded, but

in principle the same.

**Note: Clause 17.7 reflects section 372(5) of the Act.**

- 17.8 The provisions of clauses 17.5–17.7 concerning lost motions do not apply to motions of adjournment.

**Note: Clause 17.8 reflects section 372(7) of the Act.**

- 17.9 A notice of motion submitted in accordance with clause 17.6 may only be withdrawn under clause 3.11 with the consent of all signatories to the notice of motion.
- 17.10 A notice of motion to alter or rescind a resolution relating to a development application must be submitted to the general manager no later than two (2) business days after the meeting at which the resolution was adopted.
- 17.11 A motion to alter or rescind a resolution of the council may be moved on the report of a committee of the council and any such report must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the council.

**Note: Clause 17.11 reflects section 372(6) of the Act.**

- 17.12 Subject to clause 17.7, in cases of urgency, a motion to alter or rescind a resolution of the council may be moved at the same meeting at which the resolution was adopted, where:
- (a) a notice of motion signed by three councillors is submitted to the chairperson, and
  - (b) a motion to have the motion considered at the meeting is passed, and
  - (c) the chairperson rules the business that is the subject of the motion is of great urgency on the grounds that it requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting of the council.
- 17.13 A motion moved under clause 17.12(b) can be moved without notice. Despite clauses 10.20–10.30, only the mover of a motion referred to in clause 17.12(b) can speak to the motion before it is put.
- 17.14 A motion of dissent cannot be moved against a ruling by the chairperson under clause 17.12(c).

Recommitting resolutions to correct an error

- 17.15 Despite the provisions of this Part, a councillor may, with the leave of the chairperson, move to recommit a resolution adopted at the same meeting:
- (a) to correct any error, ambiguity or imprecision in the council's resolution, or
  - (b) to confirm the voting on the resolution.
- 17.16 In seeking the leave of the chairperson to move to recommit a resolution for the purposes of clause 17.15(a), the councillor is to propose alternative wording for the resolution.

- 17.17 The chairperson must not grant leave to recommit a resolution for the purposes of clause 17.15(a), unless they are satisfied that the proposed alternative wording of the resolution would not alter the substance of the resolution previously adopted at the meeting.
- 17.18 A motion moved under clause 17.15 can be moved without notice. Despite clauses 10.20–10.30, only the mover of a motion referred to in clause 17.15 can speak to the motion before it is put.
- 17.19 A motion of dissent cannot be moved against a ruling by the chairperson under clause 17.15.
- 17.20 A motion moved under clause 17.15 with the leave of the chairperson cannot be voted on unless or until it has been seconded.

## **18 TIME LIMITS ON COUNCIL MEETINGS**

- 18.4 Council or a committee of the council to resolve to adjourn a meeting at any time. The resolution adjourning the meeting must fix the time, date and place that the meeting is to be adjourned to.
- 18.5 Where a meeting is adjourned under clause 18.4, the general manager must:
  - (a) individually notify each councillor of the time, date and place at which the meeting will reconvene, and
  - (b) publish the time, date and place at which the meeting will reconvene on the council's website and in such other manner that the general manager is satisfied is likely to bring notice of the time, date and place of the reconvened meeting to the attention of as many people as possible.

## **19 AFTER THE MEETING**

### Minutes of meetings

- 19.1 The council is to keep full and accurate minutes of the proceedings of meetings of the council.

**Note: Clause 19.1 reflects section 375(1) of the Act.**

- 19.2 At a minimum, the general manager must ensure that the following matters are recorded in the council's minutes:
  - (a) the names of councillors attending a council meeting,
  - (b) details of each motion moved at a council meeting and of any amendments moved to it,
  - (c) the names of the mover and seconder of the motion or amendment,
  - (d) whether the motion or amendment was passed or lost, and
  - (e) such other matters specifically required under this code.

- 19.3 The minutes of a council meeting must be confirmed at a subsequent meeting of the council.

**Note: Clause 19.3 reflects section 375(2) of the Act.**

- 19.4 Any debate on the confirmation of the minutes is to be confined to whether the minutes are a full and accurate record of the meeting they relate to.

- 19.5 When the minutes have been confirmed, they are to be signed by the person presiding at the subsequent meeting.

**Note: Clause 19.5 reflects section 375(2) of the Act.**

- 19.6 The confirmed minutes of a meeting may be amended to correct typographical or administrative errors after they have been confirmed. Any amendment made under this clause must not alter the substance of any decision made at the meeting.

- 19.7 The confirmed minutes of a council meeting must be published on the council's website. This clause does not prevent the council from also publishing unconfirmed minutes of its meetings on its website prior to their confirmation.

Access to correspondence and reports laid on the table at, or submitted to, a meeting

- 19.8 The council and committees of the council must, during or at the close of a meeting, or during the business day following the meeting, give reasonable access to any person to inspect correspondence and reports laid on the table at, or submitted to, the meeting.

**Note: Clause 19.8 reflects section 11(1) of the Act.**

- 19.9 Clause 19.8 does not apply if the correspondence or reports relate to a matter that was received or discussed or laid on the table at, or submitted to, the meeting when the meeting was closed to the public.

**Note: Clause 19.9 reflects section 11(2) of the Act.**

- 19.10 Clause 19.8 does not apply if the council or the committee resolves at the meeting, when open to the public, that the correspondence or reports are to be treated as confidential because they relate to a matter specified in section 10A(2) of the Act.

**Note: Clause 19.10 reflects section 11(3) of the Act.**

- 19.11 Correspondence or reports to which clauses 19.9 and 19.10 apply are to be marked with the relevant provision of section 10A(2) of the Act that applies to the correspondence or report.

Implementation of decisions of the council

- 19.12 The general manager is to implement, without undue delay, lawful decisions of the council.

**Note: Clause 19.12 reflects section 335(b) of the Act.**

**20 COUNCIL COMMITTEES**Application of this Part

- 20.1 This Part only applies to committees of the council whose members are all councillors.

Council committees whose members are all councillors

- 20.2 The council may, by resolution, establish such committees as it considers necessary.
- 20.3 A committee of the council is to consist of the mayor and such other councillors as are elected by the councillors or appointed by the council.
- 20.4 The quorum for a meeting of a committee of the council is to be:
- (a) such number of members as the council decides, or
  - (b) if the council has not decided a number – a majority of the members of the committee.

Functions of committees

- 20.5 The council must specify the functions of each of its committees when the committee is established but may from time to time amend those functions.

Notice of committee meetings

- 20.6 The general manager must send to each councillor, regardless of whether they are a committee member, at least three (3) days before each meeting of the committee, a notice specifying:
- (a) the time, date and place of the meeting, and
  - (b) the business proposed to be considered at the meeting.
- 20.7 Notice of less than three (3) days may be given of a committee meeting called in an emergency.

Attendance at committee meetings

- 20.8 A committee member (other than the mayor) ceases to be a member of a committee if the committee member:
- (a) has been absent from three (3) consecutive meetings of the committee without having given reasons acceptable to the committee for the

- member's absences, or
- (b) has been absent from at least half of the meetings of the committee held during the immediately preceding year without having given to the committee acceptable reasons for the member's absences.

20.9 Clause 20.8 does not apply if all of the members of the council are members of the committee.

#### Non-members entitled to attend committee meetings

20.10 A councillor who is not a member of a committee of the council is entitled to attend, and to speak at a meeting of the committee. However, the councillor is not entitled:

- (a) to give notice of business for inclusion in the agenda for the meeting, or
- (b) to move or second a motion at the meeting, or
- (c) to vote at the meeting.

#### Chairperson and deputy chairperson of council committees

20.11 The chairperson of each committee of the council must be:

- (a) the mayor, or
- (b) if the mayor does not wish to be the chairperson of a committee, a member of the committee elected by the council, or
- (c) if the council does not elect such a member, a member of the committee elected by the committee.

20.12 The council may elect a member of a committee of the council as deputy chairperson of the committee. If the council does not elect a deputy chairperson of such a committee, the committee may elect a deputy chairperson.

20.13 If neither the chairperson nor the deputy chairperson of a committee of the council is able or willing to preside at a meeting of the committee, the committee must elect a member of the committee to be acting chairperson of the committee.

20.14 The chairperson is to preside at a meeting of a committee of the council. If the chairperson is unable or unwilling to preside, the deputy chairperson (if any) is to preside at the meeting, but if neither the chairperson nor the deputy chairperson is able or willing to preside, the acting chairperson is to preside at the meeting.

#### Procedure in committee meetings

20.15 Subject to any specific requirements of this code, each committee of the council may regulate its own procedure. The provisions of this code are to be taken to apply to all committees of the council unless the council or the committee determines otherwise in accordance with this clause.



- 20.16 Whenever the voting on a motion put to a meeting of the committee is equal, the chairperson of the committee is to have a casting vote as well as an original vote unless the council or the committee determines otherwise in accordance with clause 20.15.
- 20.18 Voting at a council committee meeting is to be by open means (such as on the voices, by show of hands or by a visible electronic voting system).

#### Closure of committee meetings to the public

- 20.19 The provisions of the Act and Part 14 of this code apply to the closure of meetings of committees of the council to the public in the same way they apply to the closure of meetings of the council to the public.
- 20.20 If a committee of the council passes a resolution, or makes a recommendation, during a meeting, or a part of a meeting that is closed to the public, the chairperson must make the resolution or recommendation public as soon as practicable after the meeting or part of the meeting has ended, and report the resolution or recommendation to the next meeting of the council. The resolution or recommendation must also be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.
- 20.21 Resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting that is closed to the public must be made public by the chairperson under clause 20.20 during a part of the meeting that is webcast.

#### Disorder in committee meetings

- 20.22 The provisions of the Act and this code relating to the maintenance of order in council meetings apply to meetings of committees of the council in the same way as they apply to meetings of the council.

#### Minutes of council committee meetings

- 20.23 Each committee of the council is to keep full and accurate minutes of the proceedings of its meetings. At a minimum, a committee must ensure that the following matters are recorded in the committee's minutes:
- (a) the names of councillors attending a meeting,
  - (b) details of each motion moved at a meeting and of any amendments moved to it,
  - (c) the names of the mover and seconder of the motion or amendment,
  - (d) whether the motion or amendment was passed or lost, and
  - (e) such other matters specifically required under this code.
- 20.25 The minutes of meetings of each committee of the council must be confirmed at a subsequent meeting of the committee.
- 20.26 Any debate on the confirmation of the minutes is to be confined to whether the minutes are a full and accurate record of the meeting they relate to.

- 20.27 When the minutes have been confirmed, they are to be signed by the person presiding at that subsequent meeting.
- 20.28 The confirmed minutes of a meeting may be amended to correct typographical or administrative errors after they have been confirmed. Any amendment made under this clause must not alter the substance of any decision made at the meeting.
- 20.29 The confirmed minutes of a meeting of a committee of the council must be published on the council's website. This clause does not prevent the council from also publishing unconfirmed minutes of meetings of committees of the council on its website prior to their confirmation.

## 21 IRREGULARITIES

- 21.1 Proceedings at a meeting of a council or a council committee are not invalidated because of:
- (a) a vacancy in a civic office, or
  - (b) a failure to give notice of the meeting to any councillor or committee member, or
  - (c) any defect in the election or appointment of a councillor or committee member, or
  - (d) a failure of a councillor or a committee member to declare a conflict of interest, or to refrain from the consideration or discussion of, or vote on, the relevant matter, at a council or committee meeting in accordance with the council's code of conduct, or
  - (e) a failure to comply with this code.

**Note: Clause 21.1 reflects section 374 of the Act.**

**22 DEFINITIONS**

the Act	means the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>
act of disorder	means an act of disorder as defined in clause 15.11 of this code
amendment	in relation to an original motion, means a motion moving an amendment to that motion
audio recorder	any device capable of recording speech
business day	means any day except Saturday or Sunday or any other day the whole or part of which is observed as a public holiday throughout New South Wales
chairperson	in relation to a meeting of the council – means the person presiding at the meeting as provided by section 369 of the Act and clauses 6.1 and 6.2 of this code, and in relation to a meeting of a committee – means the person presiding at the meeting as provided by clause 20.11 of this code
this code	means the council's adopted code of meeting practice
committee of the council	means a committee established by the council in accordance with clause 20.2 of this code (being a committee consisting only of councillors) or the council when it has resolved itself into committee of the whole under clause 12.1
council official	has the same meaning it has in the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW
day	means calendar day
division	means a request by two councillors under clause 11.7 of this code requiring the recording of the names of the councillors who voted both for and against a motion
foreshadowed amendment	means a proposed amendment foreshadowed by a councillor under clause 10.18 of this code during debate on the first amendment
foreshadowed motion	means a motion foreshadowed by a councillor under clause 10.17 of this code during debate on an original motion
open voting	means voting on the voices or by a show of hands or by a visible electronic voting system or similar means
planning decision	means a decision made in the exercise of a function of a council under the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> including any decision relating to a development application, an environmental planning instrument, a development control plan or a development contribution plan under that Act, but not including the making of an order under Division 9.3 of Part 9 of that Act
performance improvement order	means an order issued under section 438A of the Act

quorum	means the minimum number of councillors or committee members necessary to conduct a meeting
the Regulation	means the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>
webcast	a video or audio broadcast of a meeting transmitted across the internet either concurrently with the meeting or at a later time
year	means the period beginning 1 July and ending the following 30 June

### 10.3 PROPOSED ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

**File Number:** S22.10.1 / 23/7484

**Author:** Paul Henry, General Manager

#### SUMMARY:

This report presents the proposed Senior Staff Structure for adoption by Council. The proposed structure represents an affirmation of the existing structure.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

*In accordance with S.332 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council endorse the Senior Staff Structure detailed in the report.*

#### COMMENTARY:

S.333 of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council to redetermine its Organisation Structure within 12 months of an ordinary election. Since 2009, Council has authorised the use of a 'two Director Model' to oversight the delivery of Council's Strategic Objectives. The structure, and division of functional responsibilities are:



It is considered that this structure is characterised by:

- a) An appropriate distribution of functional responsibilities
- b) An appropriate vehicle for undertaking the necessary governance for the organisation
- c) A cost-effective span of management control
- d) A good alignment and use of the skills and set of the Senior Staff
- e) The funding allocated for the employment costs of council staff are set out in the Operational Plan. This cost of this structure is within the allocated resources.

It is recommended that the existing Senior Staff Structure be retained.

**RISK ASSESSMENT:**

Nil

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

Nil

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

**10.4 ADOPTION OF CODES OF CONDUCT****File Number:** S4.14.1/01 / 23/7512**Author:** Paul Henry, General Manager**SUMMARY:**

This report submits the three (3) Codes of Conduct utilised by Council for readoption.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That the following Codes of Conduct be adopted:*

- (a) *Code of Conduct for Councillors;*
- (b) *Code of Conduct for Council Staff; and*
- (c) *Code of Conduct for Committee Members, Delegates of Council and Council Advisors.*

**COMMENTARY:**

S.440 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* states that Council must adopt a Code of Conduct that is applicable to Councillors, members of staff of Council and delegates of Council. This Code adopted by a Council must as a minimum standard contain all the provisions of the 'Model Code' produced by the Office of Local Government (Note: This model code is issued as a s.23A guideline – a directive that Council must take into account before exercising its functions).

**a) Current Codes**

Council currently has codes that set standards of behaviour for:

- i) Councillors,
- ii) Council Staff, and
- iii) Council Delegates

A copy of these documents is attached. These codes utilised the provisions of the 'Model Codes' issued by the Office of Local Government – unamended or with any provisions added.

**b) Review**

S.440 (7) of the *Local Government Act 1993* required Council within 12 months of the general election to review the existing Code of Conduct and make such adjustments as it considers appropriate. Any adjustments must 'add' to the code, but not 'diminish' the Model Code.

In 2020, the Office of Local Government reviewed the Model Code and issued a revised document to Councils. At its August 2020 Council meeting, Inverell Shire Council adopted the new Model Code. I am not aware of any issue that has arisen since 2020 that may generate a need to revise any of the codes utilised by council.

No suggested amendments to the Model Code have been issued by the Office of Local Government since August, 2020. However, Councillors are requested:

- i) To review the attached documents
- ii) Identify any matter that they believe should be addressed in the Code, and
- iii) If an issue is identified, suggest a standard of behaviour that should be codified into the documents.

**c) Procedures for Code of Conduct Complaints**

Currently the Office of Local Government is reviewing the system for managing councillor misconduct. This review does not impact the current task Council is required to undertake, however it is mentioned for information of the actions that has been recommended is a complete rewrite of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

The new State Government is expected to deal with this issue within 12 months of the conduct of the March State Election.

**RISK ASSESSMENT:**

Nil

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

Nil

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Code of Conduct for Councillors [↓](#)
2. Code of Conduct for Council Staff [↓](#)
3. Code of Conduct for Committee Members, Delegates of Council and Council Advisors  
[↓](#)





**The Model Code of Conduct  
for Local Councils in NSW**

**Code of Conduct for Councillors**

**2020**

**Adopted Council Meeting 26 August 2020**

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## **PART 1 INTRODUCTION**

This code of conduct applies to councillors. It is based on the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* ("the Model Code of Conduct") which is made under section 440 of the *Local Government Act 1993* ("LGA") and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* ("the Regulation").

The Model Code of Conduct sets the minimum standards of conduct for council officials. It is prescribed by regulation to assist council officials to:

- understand and comply with the standards of conduct that are expected of them
- enable them to fulfil their statutory duty to act honestly and exercise a reasonable degree of care and diligence (section 439)
- act in a way that enhances public confidence in local government.

Section 440 of the LGA requires every council (including county councils) and joint organisation to adopt a code of conduct that incorporates the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct. A council's or joint organisation's adopted code of conduct may also include provisions that supplement the Model Code of Conduct and that extend its application to persons that are not "council officials" for the purposes of the Model Code of Conduct (eg volunteers, contractors and members of wholly advisory committees).

A council's or joint organisation's adopted code of conduct has no effect to the extent that it is inconsistent with the Model Code of Conduct. However, a council's or joint organisation's adopted code of conduct may prescribe requirements that are more onerous than those prescribed in the Model Code of Conduct.

Councillors, administrators, members of staff of councils, delegates of councils, (including members of council committees that are delegates of a council) and any other person a council's adopted code of conduct applies to, must comply with the applicable provisions of their council's code of conduct. It is the personal responsibility of council officials to comply with the standards in the code and to regularly review their personal circumstances and conduct with this in mind.

Failure by a councillor to comply with the standards of conduct prescribed under this code constitutes misconduct for the purposes of the LGA. The LGA provides for a range of penalties that may be imposed on councillors for misconduct, including suspension or disqualification from civic office. A councillor who has been suspended on three or more occasions for misconduct is automatically disqualified from holding civic office for five years.

**Note:** References in this code of conduct to councils are also to be taken as references to county councils and joint organisations.

**Note:** In adopting this code of conduct, joint organisations should adapt it to substitute the terms "board" for "council", "chairperson" for "mayor", "voting representative" for "councillor" and "executive officer" for "general manager".

**Note:** In adopting this code of conduct, county councils should adapt it to substitute the term "chairperson" for "mayor" and "member" for "councillor".

## PART 2 DEFINITIONS

In this code the following terms have the following meanings:

administrator	an administrator of a council appointed under the LGA other than an administrator appointed under section 66
committee	see the definition of “council committee”
complaint	a code of conduct complaint made for the purposes of clauses 4.1 and 4.2 of the Procedures.
conduct	includes acts and omissions
council	includes county councils and joint organisations
council committee	a committee established by a council comprising of councillors, staff or other persons that the council has delegated functions to and the council's audit, risk and improvement committee
council committee member	a person other than a councillor or member of staff of a council who is a member of a council committee other than a wholly advisory committee, and a person other than a councillor who is a member of the council's audit, risk and improvement committee
council official	includes councillors, members of staff of a council, administrators, council committee members, delegates of council and for the purposes of clause 4.16 of the Model Code of Conduct, council advisers
councillor	any person elected or appointed to civic office, including the mayor and includes members and chairpersons of county councils and voting representatives of the boards of joint organisations and chairpersons of joint organisations
delegate of council	a person (other than a councillor or member of staff of a council) or body, and the individual members of that body, to whom a function of the council is delegated
election campaign	includes council, state and federal election campaigns
environmental planning instrument	has the same meaning as it has in the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
general manager	includes the executive officer of a joint organisation

joint organisation	a joint organisation established under section 400O of the LGA
LGA	the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>
local planning panel	a local planning panel constituted under the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
mayor	includes the chairperson of a county council or a joint organisation
members of staff of a council	includes members of staff of county councils and joint organisations
the Office	Office of Local Government
personal information	information or an opinion (including information or an opinion forming part of a database and whether or not recorded in a material form) about an individual whose identity is apparent or can reasonably be ascertained from the information or opinion
the Procedures	the <i>Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW</i> prescribed under the Regulation
the Regulation	the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2005</i>
voting representative	a voting representative of the board of a joint organisation
wholly advisory committee	a council committee that the council has not delegated any functions to

### **PART 3      GENERAL CONDUCT OBLIGATIONS**

#### General conduct

- 3.1 You must not conduct yourself in a manner that:
- a) is likely to bring the council or other council officials into disrepute
  - b) is contrary to statutory requirements or the council's administrative requirements or policies
  - c) is improper or unethical
  - d) is an abuse of power
  - e) causes, comprises or involves intimidation or verbal abuse
  - f) involves the misuse of your position to obtain a private benefit
  - g) constitutes harassment or bullying behaviour under this code, or is unlawfully discriminatory.
- 3.2 You must act lawfully and honestly, and exercise a reasonable degree of care and diligence in carrying out your functions under the LGA or any other Act (*section 439*).

#### Fairness and equity

- 3.3 You must consider issues consistently, promptly and fairly. You must deal with matters in accordance with established procedures, in a non-discriminatory manner.
- 3.4 You must take all relevant facts known to you, or that you should be reasonably aware of, into consideration and have regard to the particular merits of each case. You must not take irrelevant matters or circumstances into consideration when making decisions.
- 3.5 An act or omission in good faith, whether or not it involves error, will not constitute a breach of clauses 3.3 or 3.4.

#### Harassment and discrimination

- 3.6 You must not harass or unlawfully discriminate against others, or support others who harass or unlawfully discriminate against others, on the grounds of age, disability, race (including colour, national or ethnic origin or immigrant status), sex, pregnancy, marital or relationship status, family responsibilities or breastfeeding, sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status or political, religious or other affiliation.
- 3.7 For the purposes of this code, "harassment" is any form of behaviour towards a person that:
- a) is not wanted by the person
  - b) offends, humiliates or intimidates the person, and
  - c) creates a hostile environment.

Bullying

3.8 You must not engage in bullying behaviour towards others.

3.9 For the purposes of this code, “bullying behaviour” is any behaviour in which:

- a) a person or a group of people repeatedly behaves unreasonably towards another person or a group of persons, and
- b) the behaviour creates a risk to health and safety.

3.10 Bullying behaviour may involve, but is not limited to, any of the following types of behaviour:

- a) aggressive, threatening or intimidating conduct
- b) belittling or humiliating comments
- c) spreading malicious rumours
- d) teasing, practical jokes or ‘initiation ceremonies’
- e) exclusion from work-related events
- f) unreasonable work expectations, including too much or too little work, or work below or beyond a worker's skill level
- g) displaying offensive material
- h) pressure to behave in an inappropriate manner.

3.11 Reasonable management action carried out in a reasonable manner does not constitute bullying behaviour for the purposes of this code. Examples of reasonable management action may include, but are not limited to:

- a) performance management processes
- b) disciplinary action for misconduct
- c) informing a worker about unsatisfactory work performance or inappropriate work behaviour
- d) directing a worker to perform duties in keeping with their job
- e) maintaining reasonable workplace goals and standards
- f) legitimately exercising a regulatory function
- g) legitimately implementing a council policy or administrative processes.

Work health and safety

3.12 All council officials, including councillors, owe statutory duties under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (WHS Act). You must comply with your duties under the WHS Act and your responsibilities under any policies or procedures adopted by the council to ensure workplace health and safety. Specifically, you must:

- a) take reasonable care for your own health and safety
- b) take reasonable care that your acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons
- c) comply, so far as you are reasonably able, with any reasonable instruction that is given to ensure compliance with the WHS Act and any policies or procedures adopted by the council to ensure workplace health and safety
- d) cooperate with any reasonable policy or procedure of the council relating to workplace health or safety that has been notified to council staff

- e) report accidents, incidents, near misses, to the general manager or such other staff member nominated by the general manager, and take part in any incident investigations
- f) so far as is reasonably practicable, consult, co-operate and coordinate with all others who have a duty under the WHS Act in relation to the same matter.

Land use planning, development assessment and other regulatory functions

- 3.13 You must ensure that land use planning, development assessment and other regulatory decisions are properly made, and that all parties are dealt with fairly. You must avoid any occasion for suspicion of improper conduct in the exercise of land use planning, development assessment and other regulatory functions.
- 3.14 In exercising land use planning, development assessment and other regulatory functions, you must ensure that no action, statement or communication between yourself and others conveys any suggestion of willingness to improperly provide concessions or preferential or unduly unfavourable treatment.

Binding caucus votes

- 3.15 You must not participate in binding caucus votes in relation to matters to be considered at a council or committee meeting.
- 3.16 For the purposes of clause 3.15, a binding caucus vote is a process whereby a group of councillors are compelled by a threat of disciplinary or other adverse action to comply with a predetermined position on a matter before the council or committee, irrespective of the personal views of individual members of the group on the merits of the matter before the council or committee.
- 3.17 Clause 3.15 does not prohibit councillors from discussing a matter before the council or committee prior to considering the matter in question at a council or committee meeting, or from voluntarily holding a shared view with other councillors on the merits of a matter.
- 3.18 Clause 3.15 does not apply to a decision to elect the mayor or deputy mayor, or to nominate a person to be a member of a council committee or a representative of the council on an external body.

Obligations in relation to meetings

- 3.19 You must comply with rulings by the chair at council and committee meetings or other proceedings of the council unless a motion dissenting from the ruling is passed.
- 3.20 You must not engage in bullying behaviour (as defined under this Part) towards the chair, other council officials or any members of the public present during council or committee meetings or other proceedings of the council (such as, but not limited to, workshops and briefing sessions).
- 3.21 You must not engage in conduct that disrupts council or committee meetings or other proceedings of the council (such as, but not limited to, workshops and



briefing sessions), or that would otherwise be inconsistent with the orderly conduct of meetings.

3.22 You must not engage in any acts of disorder or other conduct that is intended to prevent the proper or effective functioning of the council, or of a committee of the council. Without limiting this clause, you must not:

- a) leave a meeting of the council or a committee for the purposes of depriving the meeting of a quorum, or
- b) submit a rescission motion with respect to a decision for the purposes of voting against it to prevent another councillor from submitting a rescission motion with respect to the same decision, or
- c) deliberately seek to impede the consideration of business at a meeting.

## **PART 4      PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

### What is a pecuniary interest?

- 4.1 A pecuniary interest is an interest that you have in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to you or a person referred to in clause 4.3.
- 4.2 You will not have a pecuniary interest in a matter if the interest is so remote or insignificant that it could not reasonably be regarded as likely to influence any decision you might make in relation to the matter, or if the interest is of a kind specified in clause 4.6.
- 4.3 For the purposes of this Part, you will have a pecuniary interest in a matter if the pecuniary interest is:
- (a) your interest, or
  - (b) the interest of your spouse or de facto partner, your relative, or your partner or employer, or
  - (c) a company or other body of which you, or your nominee, partner or employer, is a shareholder or member.
- 4.4 For the purposes of clause 4.3:
- (a) Your “relative” is any of the following:
    - i) your parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child
    - ii) your spouse’s or de facto partner’s parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child
    - iii) the spouse or de facto partner of a person referred to in paragraphs (i) and (ii).
  - (b) “de facto partner” has the same meaning as defined in section 21C of the *Interpretation Act 1987*.
- 4.5 You will not have a pecuniary interest in relation to a person referred to in subclauses 4.3(b) or (c):
- (a) if you are unaware of the relevant pecuniary interest of your spouse, de facto partner, relative, partner, employer or company or other body, or
  - (b) just because the person is a member of, or is employed by, a council or a statutory body, or is employed by the Crown, or
  - (c) just because the person is a member of, or a delegate of a council to, a company or other body that has a pecuniary interest in the matter, so long as the person has no beneficial interest in any shares of the company or body.

### What interests do not have to be disclosed?

- 4.6 You do not have to disclose the following interests for the purposes of this Part:
- (a) your interest as an elector
  - (b) your interest as a ratepayer or person liable to pay a charge
  - (c) an interest you have in any matter relating to the terms on which the provision of a service or the supply of goods or commodities is

- offered to the public generally, or to a section of the public that includes persons who are not subject to this code
- (d) an interest you have in any matter relating to the terms on which the provision of a service or the supply of goods or commodities is offered to your relative by the council in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as apply to persons who are not subject to this code
  - (e) an interest you have as a member of a club or other organisation or association, unless the interest is as the holder of an office in the club or organisation (whether remunerated or not)
  - (f) an interest you have relating to a contract, proposed contract or other matter, if the interest arises only because of a beneficial interest in shares in a company that does not exceed 10 per cent of the voting rights in the company
  - (g) an interest you have arising from the proposed making by the council of an agreement between the council and a corporation, association or partnership, being a corporation, association or partnership that has more than 25 members, if the interest arises because your relative is a shareholder (but not a director) of the corporation, or is a member (but not a member of the committee) of the association, or is a partner of the partnership
  - (h) an interest you have arising from the making by the council of a contract or agreement with your relative for, or in relation to, any of the following, but only if the proposed contract or agreement is similar in terms and conditions to such contracts and agreements as have been made, or as are proposed to be made, by the council in respect of similar matters with other residents of the area:
    - i) the performance by the council at the expense of your relative of any work or service in connection with roads or sanitation
    - ii) security for damage to footpaths or roads
    - iii) any other service to be rendered, or act to be done, by the council by or under any Act conferring functions on the council, or by or under any contract
  - (i) an interest relating to the payment of fees to councillors (including the mayor and deputy mayor)
  - (j) an interest relating to the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities to councillors (including the mayor and deputy mayor) in accordance with a policy under section 252 of the LGA
  - (k) an interest relating to an election to the office of mayor arising from the fact that a fee for the following 12 months has been determined for the office of mayor
  - (l) an interest of a person arising from the passing for payment of a regular account for the wages or salary of an employee who is a relative of the person
  - (m) an interest arising from being covered by, or a proposal to be covered by, indemnity insurance as a councillor
  - (n) an interest arising from the appointment of a councillor to a body as a representative or delegate of the council, whether or not a fee or other recompense is payable to the representative or delegate.

- 4.7 For the purposes of clause 4.6, “relative” has the same meaning as in clause 4.4, but includes your spouse or de facto partner.

What disclosures must be made by a councillor?

4.8 A councillor:

- (a) must prepare and submit written returns of interests in accordance with clause 4.9, and
- (b) must disclose pecuniary interests in accordance with clause 4.16 and comply with clause 4.17 where it is applicable.

Disclosure of interests in written returns

- 4.9 A councillor must make and lodge with the general manager a return in the form set out in schedule 2 to this code, disclosing the councillor’s interests as specified in schedule 1 to this code within 3 months after:

- (a) becoming a councillor, and
- (b) 30 June of each year, and
- (c) the councillor becoming aware of an interest they are required to disclose under schedule 1 that has not been previously disclosed in a return lodged under paragraphs (a) or (b).

- 4.10 A councillor need not make and lodge a return under clause 4.9 paragraphs (a) and (b) if:

- (a) they made and lodged a return under that clause in the preceding 3 months, or
- (b) they have ceased to be a councillor in the preceding 3 months.

- 4.11 A councillor must not make and lodge a return that the councillor knows or ought reasonably to know is false or misleading in a material particular.

- 4.12 The general manager must keep a register of returns required to be made and lodged with the general manager.

- 4.13 Returns required to be lodged with the general manager under clause 4.9(a) and (b) must be tabled at the first meeting of the council after the last day the return is required to be lodged.

- 4.14 Returns required to be lodged with the general manager under clause 4.9(c) must be tabled at the next council meeting after the return is lodged.

- 4.15 Information contained in returns made and lodged under clause 4.9 is to be made publicly available in accordance with the requirements of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*, the *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009* and any guidelines issued by the Information Commissioner.

Disclosure of pecuniary interests at meetings

- 4.16 A councillor who has a pecuniary interest in any matter with which the council is concerned, and who is present at a meeting of the council or committee at

which the matter is being considered, must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable.

4.17 The councillor must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting of the council or committee:

- (a) at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by the council or committee, or
- (b) at any time during which the council or committee is voting on any question in relation to the matter.

4.18 In the case of a meeting of a board of a joint organisation, a voting representative is taken to be present at the meeting for the purposes of clauses 4.16 and 4.17 where they participate in the meeting by telephone or other electronic means.

4.19 A disclosure made at a meeting of a council or council committee must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

4.20 A general notice may be given to the general manager in writing by a councillor to the effect that the councillor or the councillor's spouse, de facto partner or relative, is:

- (a) a member of, or in the employment of, a specified company or other body, or
- (b) a partner of, or in the employment of, a specified person.

Such a notice is, unless and until the notice is withdrawn or until the end of the term of the council in which it is given (whichever is the sooner), sufficient disclosure of the councillor's interest in a matter relating to the specified company, body or person that may be the subject of consideration by the council or council committee after the date of the notice.

4.21 A councillor is not prevented from being present at and taking part in a meeting at which a matter is being considered, or from voting on the matter, merely because the councillor has an interest in the matter of a kind referred to in clause 4.6.

4.22 A councillor does not breach clauses 4.16 or 4.17 if the councillor did not know, and could not reasonably be expected to have known, that the matter under consideration at the meeting was a matter in which they had a pecuniary interest.

4.23 Despite clause 4.17, a councillor who has a pecuniary interest in a matter may participate in a decision to delegate consideration of the matter in question to another body or person.

4.24 Clause 4.17 does not apply to a councillor who has a pecuniary interest in a matter that is being considered at a meeting if:

- (a) the matter is a proposal relating to:
  - (i) the making of a principal environmental planning instrument applying to the whole or a significant portion of the council's area, or

- (ii) the amendment, alteration or repeal of an environmental planning instrument where the amendment, alteration or repeal applies to the whole or a significant portion of the council's area, and
  - (b) the pecuniary interest arises only because of an interest of the councillor in the councillor's principal place of residence or an interest of another person (whose interests are relevant under clause 4.3) in that person's principal place of residence, and
  - (c) the councillor made a special disclosure under clause 4.25 in relation to the interest before the commencement of the meeting.
- 4.25 A special disclosure of a pecuniary interest made for the purposes of clause 4.24(c) must:
  - (a) be in the form set out in schedule 3 of this code and contain the information required by that form, and
  - (b) be laid on the table at a meeting of the council as soon as practicable after the disclosure is made, and the information contained in the special disclosure is to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- 4.26 The Minister for Local Government may, conditionally or unconditionally, allow a councillor who has a pecuniary interest in a matter with which the council is concerned to be present at a meeting of the council or committee, to take part in the consideration or discussion of the matter and to vote on the matter if the Minister is of the opinion:
  - (a) that the number of councillors prevented from voting would be so great a proportion of the whole as to impede the transaction of business, or
  - (b) that it is in the interests of the electors for the area to do so.
- 4.27 A councillor with a pecuniary interest in a matter who is permitted to be present at a meeting of the council or committee, to take part in the consideration or discussion of the matter and to vote on the matter under clause 4.26, must still disclose the interest they have in the matter in accordance with clause 4.16.

## **PART 5 NON-PECUNIARY CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

### What is a non-pecuniary conflict of interest?

- 5.1 Non-pecuniary interests are private or personal interests a council official has that do not amount to a pecuniary interest as defined in clause 4.1 of this code. These commonly arise out of family or personal relationships, or out of involvement in sporting, social, religious or other cultural groups and associations, and may include an interest of a financial nature.
- 5.2 A non-pecuniary conflict of interest exists where a reasonable and informed person would perceive that you could be influenced by a private interest when carrying out your official functions in relation to a matter.
- 5.3 The personal or political views of a council official do not constitute a private interest for the purposes of clause 5.2.
- 5.4 Non-pecuniary conflicts of interest must be identified and appropriately managed to uphold community confidence in the probity of council decision-making. The onus is on you to identify any non-pecuniary conflict of interest you may have in matters that you deal with, to disclose the interest fully and in writing, and to take appropriate action to manage the conflict in accordance with this code.
- 5.5 When considering whether or not you have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter you are dealing with, it is always important to think about how others would view your situation.

### Managing non-pecuniary conflicts of interest

- 5.6 Where you have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter for the purposes of clause 5.2, you must disclose the relevant private interest you have in relation to the matter fully and in writing as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the non-pecuniary conflict of interest and on each occasion on which the non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises in relation to the matter.
- 5.7 If a disclosure is made at a council or committee meeting, both the disclosure and the nature of the interest must be recorded in the minutes on each occasion on which the non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises. This disclosure constitutes disclosure in writing for the purposes of clause 5.6.
- 5.8 How you manage a non-pecuniary conflict of interest will depend on whether or not it is significant.
- 5.9 As a general rule, a non-pecuniary conflict of interest will be significant where it does not involve a pecuniary interest for the purposes of clause 4.1, but it involves:
  - a) a relationship between a council official and another person who is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that is particularly close, such as a current or former spouse or de facto partner, a relative for the purposes of clause 4.4 or another person

from the council official's extended family that the council official has a close personal relationship with, or another person living in the same household

- b) other relationships with persons who are affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that are particularly close, such as friendships and business relationships. Closeness is defined by the nature of the friendship or business relationship, the frequency of contact and the duration of the friendship or relationship
- c) an affiliation between the council official and an organisation (such as a sporting body, club, religious, cultural or charitable organisation, corporation or association) that is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that is particularly strong. The strength of a council official's affiliation with an organisation is to be determined by the extent to which they actively participate in the management, administration or other activities of the organisation
- d) membership, as the council's representative, of the board or management committee of an organisation that is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration, in circumstances where the interests of the council and the organisation are potentially in conflict in relation to the particular matter
- e) a financial interest (other than an interest of a type referred to in clause 4.6) that is not a pecuniary interest for the purposes of clause 4.1
- f) the conferral or loss of a personal benefit other than one conferred or lost as a member of the community or a broader class of people affected by a decision.

5.10 Significant non-pecuniary conflicts of interest must be managed in one of two ways:

- a) by not participating in consideration of, or decision making in relation to, the matter in which you have the significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest and the matter being allocated to another person for consideration or determination, or
- b) if the significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises in relation to a matter under consideration at a council or committee meeting, by managing the conflict of interest as if you had a pecuniary interest in the matter by complying with clauses 4.16 and 4.17.

5.11 If you determine that you have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter that is not significant and does not require further action, when disclosing the interest you must also explain in writing why you consider that the non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances.

5.12 Despite clause 5.10(b), a councillor who has a significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter, may participate in a decision to delegate consideration of the matter in question to another body or person.



Political donations

5.13 Councillors should be aware that matters before council or committee meetings involving their political donors may also give rise to a non-pecuniary conflict of interest.

5.14 Where you are a councillor and have received or knowingly benefitted from a reportable political donation:

- a) made by a major political donor in the previous four years, and
- b) the major political donor has a matter before council,

you must declare a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in the matter, disclose the nature of the interest, and manage the conflict of interest as if you had a pecuniary interest in the matter by complying with clauses 4.16 and 4.17. A disclosure made under this clause must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

5.15 For the purposes of this Part:

- a) a “reportable political donation” has the same meaning as it has in section 6 of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*
- b) “major political donor” has the same meaning as it has in the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*.

5.16 Councillors should note that political donations that are not a “reportable political donation”, or political donations to a registered political party or group by which a councillor is endorsed, may still give rise to a non-pecuniary conflict of interest. Councillors should determine whether or not such conflicts are significant for the purposes of clause 5.9 and take the appropriate action to manage them.

5.17 Despite clause 5.14, a councillor who has received or knowingly benefitted from a reportable political donation of the kind referred to in that clause, may participate in a decision to delegate consideration of the matter in question to another body or person.

Loss of quorum as a result of compliance with this Part

5.18 A councillor who would otherwise be precluded from participating in the consideration of a matter under this Part because they have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in the matter is permitted to participate in consideration of the matter if:

- a) the matter is a proposal relating to:
  - i) the making of a principal environmental planning instrument applying to the whole or a significant portion of the council’s area, or
  - ii) the amendment, alteration or repeal of an environmental planning instrument where the amendment, alteration or repeal applies to the whole or a significant portion of the council’s area, and
- b) the non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises only because of an interest that a person has in that person’s principal place of residence, and

- c) the councillor discloses the interest they have in the matter that would otherwise have precluded their participation in consideration of the matter under this Part in accordance with clause 5.6.

5.19 The Minister for Local Government may, conditionally or unconditionally, allow a councillor who is precluded under this Part from participating in the consideration of a matter to be present at a meeting of the council or committee, to take part in the consideration or discussion of the matter and to vote on the matter if the Minister is of the opinion:

- a) that the number of councillors prevented from voting would be so great a proportion of the whole as to impede the transaction of business, or
- b) that it is in the interests of the electors for the area to do so.

5.20 Where the Minister exempts a councillor from complying with a requirement under this Part under clause 5.19, the councillor must still disclose any interests they have in the matter the exemption applies to, in accordance with clause 5.6.

#### Personal dealings with council

5.21 You may have reason to deal with your council in your personal capacity (for example, as a ratepayer, recipient of a council service or applicant for a development consent granted by council). You must not expect or request preferential treatment in relation to any matter in which you have a private interest because of your position. You must avoid any action that could lead members of the public to believe that you are seeking preferential treatment.

5.22 You must undertake any personal dealings you have with the council in a manner that is consistent with the way other members of the community deal with the council. You must also ensure that you disclose and appropriately manage any conflict of interest you may have in any matter in accordance with the requirements of this code.

## **PART 6 PERSONAL BENEFIT**

- 6.1 For the purposes of this Part, a gift or a benefit is something offered to or received by a council official or someone personally associated with them for their personal use and enjoyment.
- 6.2 A reference to a gift or benefit in this Part does not include:
- a) items with a value of \$10 or less
  - b) a political donation for the purposes of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*
  - c) a gift provided to the council as part of a cultural exchange or sister-city relationship that is not converted for the personal use or enjoyment of any individual council official or someone personally associated with them
  - d) a benefit or facility provided by the council to a councillor
  - e) attendance by a council official at a work-related event or function for the purposes of performing their official duties, or
  - f) free or subsidised meals, beverages or refreshments provided to councillors in conjunction with the performance of their official duties such as, but not limited to:
    - i) the discussion of official business
    - ii) work-related events such as council-sponsored or community events, training, education sessions or workshops
    - iii) conferences
    - iv) council functions or events
    - v) social functions organised by groups, such as council committees and community organisations.

### Gifts and benefits

- 6.3 You must avoid situations that would give rise to the appearance that a person or body is attempting to secure favourable treatment from you or from the council, through the provision of gifts, benefits or hospitality of any kind to you or someone personally associated with you.
- 6.4 A gift or benefit is deemed to have been accepted by you for the purposes of this Part, where it is received by you or someone personally associated with you.

### How are offers of gifts and benefits to be dealt with?

- 6.5 You must not:
- a) seek or accept a bribe or other improper inducement
  - b) seek gifts or benefits of any kind
  - c) accept any gift or benefit that may create a sense of obligation on your part, or may be perceived to be intended or likely to influence you in carrying out your public duty
  - d) subject to clause 6.7, accept any gift or benefit of more than token value as defined by clause 6.9

- e) accept an offer of cash or a cash-like gift as defined by clause 6.13, regardless of the amount
  - f) participate in competitions for prizes where eligibility is based on the council being in or entering into a customer–supplier relationship with the competition organiser
  - g) personally benefit from reward points programs when purchasing on behalf of the council.
- 6.6 Where you receive a gift or benefit of any value other than one referred to in clause 6.2, you must disclose this promptly to the general manager in writing. The recipient or general manager must ensure that, at a minimum, the following details are recorded in the council's gift register:
- a) the nature of the gift or benefit
  - b) the estimated monetary value of the gift or benefit
  - c) the name of the person who provided the gift or benefit, and
  - d) the date on which the gift or benefit was received.
- 6.7 Where you receive a gift or benefit of more than token value that cannot reasonably be refused or returned, the gift or benefit must be surrendered to the council, unless the nature of the gift or benefit makes this impractical.

#### Gifts and benefits of token value

- 6.8 You may accept gifts and benefits of token value. Gifts and benefits of token value are one or more gifts or benefits received from a person or organisation over a 12-month period that, when aggregated, do not exceed a value of \$100. They include, but are not limited to:
- a) invitations to and attendance at local social, cultural or sporting events with a ticket value that does not exceed \$100
  - b) gifts of alcohol that do not exceed a value of \$100
  - c) ties, scarves, coasters, tie pins, diaries, chocolates or flowers or the like
  - d) prizes or awards that do not exceed \$100 in value.

#### Gifts and benefits of more than token value

- 6.9 Gifts or benefits that exceed \$100 in value are gifts or benefits of more than token value for the purposes of clause 6.5(d) and, subject to clause 6.7, must not be accepted.
- 6.10 Gifts and benefits of more than token value include, but are not limited to, tickets to major sporting events (such as international matches or matches in national sporting codes) with a ticket value that exceeds \$100, corporate hospitality at a corporate facility at major sporting events, free or discounted products or services for personal use provided on terms that are not available to the general public or a broad class of persons, the use of holiday homes, artworks, free or discounted travel.
- 6.11 Where you have accepted a gift or benefit of token value from a person or organisation, you must not accept a further gift or benefit from the same person or organisation or another person associated with that person or organisation within a single 12-month period where the value of the gift, added to the value

of earlier gifts received from the same person or organisation, or a person associated with that person or organisation, during the same 12-month period would exceed \$100 in value.

- 6.12 For the purposes of this Part, the value of a gift or benefit is the monetary value of the gift or benefit inclusive of GST.

“Cash-like gifts”

- 6.13 For the purposes of clause 6.5(e), “cash-like gifts” include but are not limited to, gift vouchers, credit cards, debit cards with credit on them, prepayments such as phone or internet credit, lottery tickets, memberships or entitlements to discounts that are not available to the general public or a broad class of persons.

Improper and undue influence

- 6.14 You must not use your position to influence other council officials in the performance of their official functions to obtain a private benefit for yourself or for somebody else. A councillor will not be in breach of this clause where they seek to influence other council officials through the proper exercise of their role as prescribed under the LGA.
- 6.15 You must not take advantage (or seek to take advantage) of your status or position with council, or of functions you perform for council, in order to obtain a private benefit for yourself or for any other person or body.

## **PART 7      RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN COUNCIL OFFICIALS**

### Obligations of councillors and administrators

- 7.1 Each council is a body politic. The councillors or administrator/s are the governing body of the council. Under section 223 of the LGA, the role of the governing body of the council includes the development and endorsement of the strategic plans, programs, strategies and policies of the council, including those relating to workforce policy, and to keep the performance of the council under review.
- 7.2 Councillors or administrators must not:
- a) direct council staff other than by giving appropriate direction to the general manager by way of council or committee resolution, or by the mayor or administrator exercising their functions under section 226 of the LGA
  - b) in any public or private forum, direct or influence, or attempt to direct or influence, any other member of the staff of the council or a delegate of the council in the exercise of the functions of the staff member or delegate
  - c) contact a member of the staff of the council on council-related business unless in accordance with the policy and procedures governing the interaction of councillors and council staff that have been authorised by the council and the general manager
  - d) contact or issue instructions to any of the council's contractors, including the council's legal advisers, unless by the mayor or administrator exercising their functions under section 226 of the LGA.
- 7.3 Despite clause 7.2, councillors may contact the council's external auditor or the chair of the council's audit risk and improvement committee to provide information reasonably necessary for the external auditor or the audit, risk and improvement committee to effectively perform their functions.

### Obligations of staff

- 7.4 Under section 335 of the LGA, the role of the general manager includes conducting the day-to-day management of the council in accordance with the strategic plans, programs, strategies and policies of the council, implementing without undue delay, lawful decisions of the council and ensuring that the mayor and other councillors are given timely information and advice and the administrative and professional support necessary to effectively discharge their official functions.
- 7.5 Members of staff of council must:
- a) give their attention to the business of the council while on duty
  - b) ensure that their work is carried out ethically, efficiently, economically and effectively
  - c) carry out reasonable and lawful directions given by any person having authority to give such directions
  - d) give effect to the lawful decisions, policies and procedures of the council, whether or not the staff member agrees with or approves of them

- e) ensure that any participation in political activities outside the service of the council does not interfere with the performance of their official duties.

Inappropriate interactions

7.6 You must not engage in any of the following inappropriate interactions:

- a) councillors and administrators approaching staff and staff organisations to discuss individual or operational staff matters (other than matters relating to broader workforce policy), grievances, workplace investigations and disciplinary matters
- b) council staff approaching councillors and administrators to discuss individual or operational staff matters (other than matters relating to broader workforce policy), grievances, workplace investigations and disciplinary matters
- c) subject to clause 8.6, council staff refusing to give information that is available to other councillors to a particular councillor
- d) councillors and administrators who have lodged an application with the council, discussing the matter with council staff in staff-only areas of the council
- e) councillors and administrators approaching members of local planning panels or discussing any application that is either before the panel or that will come before the panel at some future time, except during a panel meeting where the application forms part of the agenda and the councillor or administrator has a right to be heard by the panel at the meeting
- f) councillors and administrators being overbearing or threatening to council staff
- g) council staff being overbearing or threatening to councillors or administrators
- h) councillors and administrators making personal attacks on council staff or engaging in conduct towards staff that would be contrary to the general conduct provisions in Part 3 of this code in public forums including social media
- i) councillors and administrators directing or pressuring council staff in the performance of their work, or recommendations they should make
- j) council staff providing ad hoc advice to councillors and administrators without recording or documenting the interaction as they would if the advice was provided to a member of the community
- k) councillors attending on-site inspection meetings with lawyers and/or consultants engaged by the council associated with current or proposed legal proceedings unless permitted to do so by the council's general manager or, in the case of the mayor or administrator, unless they are exercising their functions under section 226 of the LGA.

## **PART 8 ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND COUNCIL RESOURCES**

### Councillor and administrator access to information

- 8.1 The general manager is responsible for ensuring that councillors and administrators can access information necessary for the performance of their official functions. The general manager and public officer are also responsible for ensuring that members of the public can access publicly available council information under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (the GIPA Act).
- 8.2 The general manager must provide councillors and administrators with the information necessary to effectively discharge their official functions.
- 8.3 Members of staff of council must provide full and timely information to councillors and administrators sufficient to enable them to exercise their official functions and in accordance with council procedures.
- 8.4 Members of staff of council who provide any information to a particular councillor in the performance of their official functions must also make it available to any other councillor who requests it and in accordance with council procedures.
- 8.5 Councillors and administrators who have a private interest only in council information have the same rights of access as any member of the public.
- 8.6 Despite clause 8.4, councillors and administrators who are precluded from participating in the consideration of a matter under this code because they have a conflict of interest in the matter, are not entitled to request access to council information in relation to the matter unless the information is otherwise available to members of the public, or the council has determined to make the information available under the GIPA Act.

### Councillors and administrators to properly examine and consider information

- 8.7 Councillors and administrators must ensure that they comply with their duty under section 439 of the LGA to act honestly and exercise a reasonable degree of care and diligence by properly examining and considering all the information provided to them relating to matters that they are required to make a decision on.

### Refusal of access to information

- 8.8 Where the general manager or public officer determine to refuse access to information requested by a councillor or administrator, they must act reasonably. In reaching this decision they must take into account whether or not the information requested is necessary for the councillor or administrator to perform their official functions (see clause 8.2) and whether they have disclosed a conflict of interest in the matter the information relates to that would preclude their participation in consideration of the matter (see clause 8.6). The general manager or public officer must state the reasons for the decision if access is refused.



Use of certain council information

8.9 In regard to information obtained in your capacity as a council official, you must:

- a) only access council information needed for council business
- b) not use that council information for private purposes
- c) not seek or obtain, either directly or indirectly, any financial benefit or other improper advantage for yourself, or any other person or body, from any information to which you have access by virtue of your office with council
- d) only release council information in accordance with established council policies and procedures and in compliance with relevant legislation.

Use and security of confidential information

8.10 You must maintain the integrity and security of confidential information in your possession, or for which you are responsible.

8.11 In addition to your general obligations relating to the use of council information, you must:

- a) only access confidential information that you have been authorised to access and only do so for the purposes of exercising your official functions
- b) protect confidential information
- c) only release confidential information if you have authority to do so
- d) only use confidential information for the purpose for which it is intended to be used
- e) not use confidential information gained through your official position for the purpose of securing a private benefit for yourself or for any other person
- f) not use confidential information with the intention to cause harm or detriment to the council or any other person or body
- g) not disclose any confidential information discussed during a confidential session of a council or committee meeting or any other confidential forum (such as, but not limited to, workshops or briefing sessions).

Personal information

8.12 When dealing with personal information you must comply with:

- a) the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*
- b) the *Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002*
- c) the Information Protection Principles and Health Privacy Principles
- d) the council's privacy management plan
- e) the Privacy Code of Practice for Local Government

Use of council resources

8.13 You must use council resources ethically, effectively, efficiently and carefully in exercising your official functions, and must not use them for private purposes unless this use is lawfully authorised and proper payment is made where appropriate.

- 8.14 You must be scrupulous in your use of council property, including intellectual property, official services, facilities, technology and electronic devices and must not permit their misuse by any other person or body.
- 8.15 You must avoid any action or situation that could create the appearance that council property, official services or public facilities are being improperly used for your benefit or the benefit of any other person or body.
- 8.16 You must not use council resources (including council staff), property or facilities for the purpose of assisting your election campaign or the election campaigns of others unless the resources, property or facilities are otherwise available for use or hire by the public and any publicly advertised fee is paid for use of the resources, property or facility.
- 8.17 You must not use the council letterhead, council crests, council email or social media or other information that could give the appearance it is official council material:
- a) for the purpose of assisting your election campaign or the election campaign of others, or
  - b) for other non-official purposes.
- 8.18 You must not convert any property of the council to your own use unless properly authorised.

Internet access

- 8.19 You must not use council's computer resources or mobile or other devices to search for, access, download or communicate any material of an offensive, obscene, pornographic, threatening, abusive or defamatory nature, or that could otherwise lead to criminal penalty or civil liability and/or damage the council's reputation.

Council record keeping

- 8.20 You must comply with the requirements of the *State Records Act 1998* and the council's records management policy.
- 8.21 All information created, sent and received in your official capacity is a council record and must be managed in accordance with the requirements of the *State Records Act 1998* and the council's approved records management policies and practices.
- 8.22 All information stored in either soft or hard copy on council supplied resources (including technology devices and email accounts) is deemed to be related to the business of the council and will be treated as council records, regardless of whether the original intention was to create the information for personal purposes.

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- 8.23 You must not destroy, alter, or dispose of council information or records, unless authorised to do so. If you need to alter or dispose of council information or records, you must do so in consultation with the council's records manager and comply with the requirements of the *State Records Act 1998*.

Councillor access to council buildings

- 8.24 Councillors and administrators are entitled to have access to the council chamber, committee room, mayor's office (subject to availability), councillors' rooms, and public areas of council's buildings during normal business hours and for meetings. Councillors and administrators needing access to these facilities at other times must obtain authority from the general manager.
- 8.25 Councillors and administrators must not enter staff-only areas of council buildings without the approval of the general manager (or their delegate) or as provided for in the procedures governing the interaction of councillors and council staff.
- 8.26 Councillors and administrators must ensure that when they are within a staff only area they refrain from conduct that could be perceived to improperly influence council staff decisions.

**PART 9      MAINTAINING THE INTEGRITY OF THIS CODE**Complaints made for an improper purpose

- 9.1 You must not make or threaten to make a complaint or cause a complaint to be made alleging a breach of this code for an improper purpose.
- 9.2 For the purposes of clause 9.1, a complaint is made for an improper purpose where it is trivial, frivolous, vexatious or not made in good faith, or where it otherwise lacks merit and has been made substantially for one or more of the following purposes:
- a) to bully, intimidate or harass another council official
  - b) to damage another council official's reputation
  - c) to obtain a political advantage
  - d) to influence a council official in the exercise of their official functions or to prevent or disrupt the exercise of those functions
  - e) to influence the council in the exercise of its functions or to prevent or disrupt the exercise of those functions
  - f) to avoid disciplinary action under the Procedures
  - g) to take reprisal action against a person for making a complaint alleging a breach of this code
  - h) to take reprisal action against a person for exercising a function prescribed under the Procedures
  - i) to prevent or disrupt the effective administration of this code under the Procedures.

Detrimental action

- 9.3 You must not take detrimental action or cause detrimental action to be taken against a person substantially in reprisal for a complaint they have made alleging a breach of this code.
- 9.4 You must not take detrimental action or cause detrimental action to be taken against a person substantially in reprisal for any function they have exercised under the Procedures.
- 9.5 For the purposes of clauses 9.3 and 9.4, a detrimental action is an action causing, comprising or involving any of the following:
- a) injury, damage or loss
  - b) intimidation or harassment
  - c) discrimination, disadvantage or adverse treatment in relation to employment
  - d) dismissal from, or prejudice in, employment
  - e) disciplinary proceedings.

Compliance with requirements under the Procedures

- 9.6 You must not engage in conduct that is calculated to impede or disrupt the consideration of a matter under the Procedures.
- 9.7 You must comply with a reasonable and lawful request made by a person exercising a function under the Procedures. A failure to make a written or oral

submission invited under the Procedures will not constitute a breach of this clause.

- 9.8 You must comply with a practice ruling made by the Office under the Procedures.

Disclosure of information about the consideration of a matter under the Procedures

- 9.9 All allegations of breaches of this code must be dealt with under and in accordance with the Procedures.

- 9.10 You must not allege breaches of this code other than by way of a complaint made or initiated under the Procedures.

- 9.11 You must not make allegations about, or disclose information about, suspected breaches of this code at council, committee or other meetings, whether open to the public or not, or in any other forum, whether public or not.

- 9.12 You must not disclose information about a complaint you have made alleging a breach of this code or a matter being considered under the Procedures except for the purposes of seeking legal advice, unless the disclosure is otherwise permitted under the Procedures.

- 9.13 Nothing under this Part prevents a person from making a public interest disclosure to an appropriate public authority or investigative authority under the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994*.

Complaints alleging a breach of this Part

- 9.14 Complaints alleging a breach of this Part by a councillor or an administrator are to be managed by the Office. This clause does not prevent the Office from referring an alleged breach of this Part back to the council for consideration in accordance with the Procedures.

**SCHEDULE 1: DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS AND OTHER MATTERS IN WRITTEN RETURNS SUBMITTED UNDER CLAUSE 4.9**Part 1: PreliminaryDefinitions

1. For the purposes of the schedules to this code, the following definitions apply:

*address* means:

- a) in relation to a person other than a corporation, the last residential or business address of the person known to the councillor disclosing the address, or
- b) in relation to a corporation, the address of the registered office of the corporation in New South Wales or, if there is no such office, the address of the principal office of the corporation in the place where it is registered, or
- c) in relation to any real property, the street address of the property.

*de facto partner* has the same meaning as defined in section 21C of the *Interpretation Act 1987*.

*disposition of property* means a conveyance, transfer, assignment, settlement, delivery, payment or other alienation of property, including the following:

- a) the allotment of shares in a company
- b) the creation of a trust in respect of property
- c) the grant or creation of a lease, mortgage, charge, easement, licence, power, partnership or interest in respect of property
- d) the release, discharge, surrender, forfeiture or abandonment, at law or in equity, of a debt, contract or chose in action, or of an interest in respect of property
- e) the exercise by a person of a general power of appointment over property in favour of another person
- f) a transaction entered into by a person who intends by the transaction to diminish, directly or indirectly, the value of the person's own property and to increase the value of the property of another person.

*gift* means a disposition of property made otherwise than by will (whether or not by instrument in writing) without consideration, or with inadequate consideration, in money or money's worth passing from the person to whom the disposition was made to the person who made the disposition, but does not include a financial or other contribution to travel.

*interest* means:

- a) in relation to property, an estate, interest, right or power, at law or in equity, in or over the property, or

- b) in relation to a corporation, a relevant interest (within the meaning of section 9 of the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth) in securities issued or made available by the corporation.

*listed company* means a company that is listed within the meaning of section 9 of the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth.

*occupation* includes trade, profession and vocation.

*professional or business association* means an incorporated or unincorporated body or organisation having as one of its objects or activities the promotion of the economic interests of its members in any occupation.

*property* includes money.

*return date* means:

- a) in the case of a return made under clause 4.9(a), the date on which a person became a councillor
- b) in the case of a return made under clause 4.9(b), 30 June of the year in which the return is made
- c) in the case of a return made under clause 4.9(c), the date on which the councillor became aware of the interest to be disclosed.

*relative* includes any of the following:

- a) a person's spouse or de facto partner
- b) a person's parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child
- c) a person's spouse's or de facto partner's parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child
- d) the spouse or de facto partner of a person referred to in paragraphs (b) and (c).

*travel* includes accommodation incidental to a journey.

#### Matters relating to the interests that must be included in returns

2. *Interests etc. outside New South Wales:* A reference in this schedule or in schedule 2 to a disclosure concerning a corporation or other thing includes any reference to a disclosure concerning a corporation registered, or other thing arising or received, outside New South Wales.
3. *References to interests in real property:* A reference in this schedule or in schedule 2 to real property in which a councillor has an interest includes a reference to any real property situated in Australia in which the councillor has an interest.
4. *Gifts, loans etc. from related corporations:* For the purposes of this schedule and schedule 2, gifts or contributions to travel given, loans made,

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or goods or services supplied, to a councillor by two or more corporations that are related to each other for the purposes of section 50 of the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth are all given, made or supplied by a single corporation.



## Part 2: Pecuniary interests to be disclosed in returns

### Real property

5. A person making a return under clause 4.9 of this code must disclose:
  - a) the street address of each parcel of real property in which they had an interest on the return date, and
  - b) the street address of each parcel of real property in which they had an interest in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
  - c) the nature of the interest.
6. An interest in a parcel of real property need not be disclosed in a return if the person making the return had the interest only:
  - a) as executor of the will, or administrator of the estate, of a deceased person and not as a beneficiary under the will or intestacy, or
  - b) as a trustee, if the interest was acquired in the ordinary course of an occupation not related to their duties as the holder of a position required to make a return.
7. An interest in a parcel of real property need not be disclosed in a return if the person ceased to hold the interest prior to becoming a councillor.
8. For the purposes of clause 5 of this schedule, "interest" includes an option to purchase.

### Gifts

9. A person making a return under clause 4.9 of this code must disclose:
  - a) a description of each gift received in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
  - b) the name and address of the donor of each of the gifts.
10. A gift need not be included in a return if:
  - a) it did not exceed \$500, unless it was among gifts totalling more than \$500 made by the same person during a period of 12 months or less, or
  - b) it was a political donation disclosed, or required to be disclosed, under Part 3 of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*, or
  - c) the donor was a relative of the donee, or
  - d) subject to paragraph (a), it was received prior to the person becoming a councillor.
11. For the purposes of clause 10 of this schedule, the amount of a gift other than money is an amount equal to the value of the property given.

### Contributions to travel

12. A person making a return under clause 4.9 of this code must disclose:
  - a) the name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to the expenses of any travel undertaken by the person in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
  - b) the dates on which the travel was undertaken, and

- c) the names of the states and territories, and of the overseas countries, in which the travel was undertaken.

13. A financial or other contribution to any travel need not be disclosed under this clause if it:

- a) was made from public funds (including a contribution arising from travel on free passes issued under an Act or from travel in government or council vehicles), or
- b) was made by a relative of the traveller, or
- c) was made in the ordinary course of an occupation of the traveller that is not related to their functions as the holder of a position requiring the making of a return, or
- d) did not exceed \$250, unless it was among gifts totalling more than \$250 made by the same person during a 12-month period or less, or
- e) was a political donation disclosed, or required to be disclosed, under Part 3 of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*, or
- f) was made by a political party of which the traveller was a member and the travel was undertaken for the purpose of political activity of the party in New South Wales, or to enable the traveller to represent the party within Australia, or
- g) subject to paragraph (d) it was received prior to the person becoming a councillor.

14. For the purposes of clause 13 of this schedule, the amount of a contribution (other than a financial contribution) is an amount equal to the value of the contribution.

#### Interests and positions in corporations

15. A person making a return under clause 4.9 of this code must disclose:

- a) the name and address of each corporation in which they had an interest or held a position (whether remunerated or not) on the return date, and
- b) the name and address of each corporation in which they had an interest or held a position in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
- c) the nature of the interest, or the position held, in each of the corporations, and
- d) a description of the principal objects (if any) of each of the corporations, except in the case of a listed company.

16. An interest in, or a position held in, a corporation need not be disclosed if the corporation is:

- a) formed for the purpose of providing recreation or amusement, or for promoting commerce, industry, art, science, religion or charity, or for any other community purpose, and
- b) required to apply its profits or other income in promoting its objects, and
- c) prohibited from paying any dividend to its members.

17. An interest in a corporation need not be disclosed if the interest is a beneficial interest in shares in a company that does not exceed 10 per cent of the voting rights in the company.
18. An interest or a position in a corporation need not be disclosed if the person ceased to hold the interest or position prior to becoming a councillor.

Interests as a property developer or a close associate of a property developer

19. A person making a return under clause 4.9 of this code must disclose whether they were a property developer, or a close associate of a corporation that, or an individual who, is a property developer, on the return date.

20. For the purposes of clause 19 of this schedule:

*close associate*, in relation to a corporation or an individual, has the same meaning as it has in section 53 of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*.

*property developer* has the same meaning as it has in Division 7 of Part 3 of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*.

Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations

21. A person making a return under clause 4.9 of the code must disclose:
  - a) the name of each trade union, and of each professional or business association, in which they held any position (whether remunerated or not) on the return date, and
  - b) the name of each trade union, and of each professional or business association, in which they have held any position (whether remunerated or not) in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
  - c) a description of the position held in each of the unions and associations.
22. A position held in a trade union or a professional or business association need not be disclosed if the person ceased to hold the position prior to becoming a councillor.

Dispositions of real property

23. A person making a return under clause 4.9 of this code must disclose particulars of each disposition of real property by the person (including the street address of the affected property) in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, under which they wholly or partly retained the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property.
24. A person making a return under clause 4.9 of this code must disclose particulars of each disposition of real property to another person (including the street address of the affected property) in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, that is made under arrangements with, but is not made by, the person making the return, being a disposition under

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which the person making the return obtained wholly or partly the use of the property.

25. A disposition of real property need not be disclosed if it was made prior to a person becoming a councillor.

#### Sources of income

26. A person making a return under clause 4.9 of this code must disclose:

- a) each source of income that the person reasonably expects to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June, and
- b) each source of income received by the person in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year.

27. A reference in clause 26 of this schedule to each source of income received, or reasonably expected to be received, by a person is a reference to:

- a) in relation to income from an occupation of the person:
  - (i) a description of the occupation, and
  - (ii) if the person is employed or the holder of an office, the name and address of their employer, or a description of the office, and
  - (iii) if the person has entered into a partnership with other persons, the name (if any) under which the partnership is conducted, or
- b) in relation to income from a trust, the name and address of the settlor and the trustee, or
- c) in relation to any other income, a description sufficient to identify the person from whom, or the circumstances in which, the income was, or is reasonably expected to be, received.

28. The source of any income need not be disclosed by a person in a return if the amount of the income received, or reasonably expected to be received, by the person from that source did not exceed \$500, or is not reasonably expected to exceed \$500, as the case may be.

29. The source of any income received by the person that they ceased to receive prior to becoming a councillor need not be disclosed.

30. A fee paid to a councillor or to the mayor or deputy mayor under sections 248 or 249 of the LGA need not be disclosed.

#### Debts

31. A person making a return under clause 4.9 of this code must disclose the name and address of each person to whom the person was liable to pay any debt:

- a) on the return date, and
- b) at any time in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year.

32. A liability to pay a debt must be disclosed by a person in a return made under clause 4.9 whether or not the amount, or any part of the amount, to

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be paid was due and payable on the return date or at any time in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, as the case may be.

33. A liability to pay a debt need not be disclosed by a person in a return if:
- a) the amount to be paid did not exceed \$500 on the return date or in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, as the case may be, unless:
    - (i) the debt was one of two or more debts that the person was liable to pay to one person on the return date, or at any time in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, as the case may be, and
    - (ii) the amounts to be paid exceeded, in the aggregate, \$500, or
  - b) the person was liable to pay the debt to a relative, or
  - c) in the case of a debt arising from a loan of money the person was liable to pay the debt to an authorised deposit-taking institution or other person whose ordinary business includes the lending of money, and the loan was made in the ordinary course of business of the lender, or
  - d) in the case of a debt arising from the supply of goods or services:
    - (i) the goods or services were supplied in the period of 12 months immediately preceding the return date, or were supplied in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, as the case may be, or
    - (ii) the goods or services were supplied in the ordinary course of any occupation of the person that is not related to their duties as the holder of a position required to make a return, or
  - e) subject to paragraph (a), the debt was discharged prior to the person becoming a councillor.

Discretionary disclosures

34. A person may voluntarily disclose in a return any interest, benefit, advantage or liability, whether pecuniary or not, that is not required to be disclosed under another provision of this Schedule.

**SCHEDULE 2: FORM OF WRITTEN RETURN OF INTERESTS SUBMITTED UNDER CLAUSE 4.9**'Disclosures by councillors and designated persons' return

1. The pecuniary interests and other matters to be disclosed in this return are prescribed by Schedule 1 of the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* (the Model Code of Conduct).
2. If this is the first return you have been required to lodge with the general manager after becoming a councillor or designated person, do not complete Parts C, D and I of the return. All other parts of the return should be completed with appropriate information based on your circumstances at the return date, that is, the date on which you became a councillor or designated person.
3. If you have previously lodged a return with the general manager and you are completing this return for the purposes of disclosing a new interest that was not disclosed in the last return you lodged with the general manager, you must complete all parts of the return with appropriate information for the period from 30 June of the previous financial year or the date on which you became a councillor or designated person, (whichever is the later date), to the return date which is the date you became aware of the new interest to be disclosed in your updated return.
4. If you have previously lodged a return with the general manager and are submitting a new return for the new financial year, you must complete all parts of the return with appropriate information for the 12-month period commencing on 30 June of the previous year to 30 June this year.
5. This form must be completed using block letters or typed.
6. If there is insufficient space for all the information you are required to disclose, you must attach an appendix which is to be properly identified and signed by you.
7. If there are no pecuniary interests or other matters of the kind required to be disclosed under a heading in this form, the word "NIL" is to be placed in an appropriate space under that heading.

Important information

This information is being collected for the purpose of complying with clause 4.21 of the Model Code of Conduct.

You must not lodge a return that you know or ought reasonably to know is false or misleading in a material particular (see clause 4.23 of the Model Code of Conduct). Complaints about breaches of these requirements are to be referred to the Office of Local Government and may result in disciplinary action by the council, the Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government or the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

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The information collected on this form will be kept by the general manager in a register of returns. The general manager is required to table all returns at a council meeting.

Information contained in returns made and lodged under clause 4.21 is to be made publicly available in accordance with the requirements of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*, the *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009* and any guidelines issued by the Information Commissioner.

You have an obligation to keep the information contained in this return up to date. If you become aware of a new interest that must be disclosed in this return, or an interest that you have previously failed to disclose, you must submit an updated return within three months of becoming aware of the previously undisclosed interest.

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by [full name of councillor or designated person]

as at [return date]

in respect of the period from [date] to [date]

[councillor's or designated person's signature]  
[date]

#### A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest

#### B. Sources of income

1 Sources of income I reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June

Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)

2 Sources of income I reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June

Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee

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3 Sources of other income I reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June

Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

*[Include description sufficient to identify the person from whom, or the circumstances in which, that income was received]*

#### C. Gifts

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
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#### D. Contributions to travel

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
---	--------------------------------------	---

#### E. Interests and positions in corporations

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
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F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

#### G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
---	-------------------------

#### H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June
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#### I. Dispositions of property

1 Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the



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street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

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2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

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J. Discretionary disclosures

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**SCHEDULE 3: FORM OF SPECIAL DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST SUBMITTED UNDER CLAUSE 4.25**

1. This form must be completed using block letters or typed.
2. If there is insufficient space for all the information you are required to disclose, you must attach an appendix which is to be properly identified and signed by you.

**Important information**

This information is being collected for the purpose of making a special disclosure of pecuniary interests under clause 4.36(c) of the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* (the Model Code of Conduct).

The special disclosure must relate only to a pecuniary interest that a councillor has in the councillor's principal place of residence, or an interest another person (whose interests are relevant under clause 4.3 of the Model Code of Conduct) has in that person's principal place of residence.

Clause 4.3 of the Model Code of Conduct states that you will have a pecuniary interest in a matter because of the pecuniary interest of your spouse or your de facto partner or your relative or because your business partner or employer has a pecuniary interest. You will also have a pecuniary interest in a matter because you, your nominee, your business partner or your employer is a member of a company or other body that has a pecuniary interest in the matter.

"Relative" is defined by clause 4.4 of the Model Code of Conduct as meaning your, your spouse's or your de facto partner's parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child and the spouse or de facto partner of any of those persons.

You must not make a special disclosure that you know or ought reasonably to know is false or misleading in a material particular. Complaints about breaches of these requirements are to be referred to the Office of Local Government and may result in disciplinary action by the Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government or the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

This form must be completed by you before the commencement of the council or council committee meeting at which the special disclosure is being made. The completed form must be tabled at the meeting. Everyone is entitled to inspect it. The special disclosure must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

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Special disclosure of pecuniary interests by [full name of councillor]

in the matter of [insert name of environmental planning instrument]

which is to be considered at a meeting of the [name of council or council committee (as the case requires)]

to be held on the                      day of                      20     .

Pecuniary interest	
Address of the affected principal place of residence of the councillor or an associated person, company or body (the identified land)	
Relationship of identified land to the councillor [Tick or cross one box.]	<input type="checkbox"/> The councillor has an interest in the land (e.g. is the owner or has another interest arising out of a mortgage, lease, trust, option or contract, or otherwise). <input type="checkbox"/> An associated person of the councillor has an interest in the land. <input type="checkbox"/> An associated company or body of the councillor has an interest in the land.
Matter giving rise to pecuniary interest <sup>1</sup>	
Nature of the land that is subject to a change in zone/planning control by the proposed LEP (the subject land) <sup>2</sup> [Tick or cross one box]	<input type="checkbox"/> The identified land. <input type="checkbox"/> Land that adjoins or is adjacent to or is in proximity to the identified land.
Current zone/planning control [Insert name of current planning instrument and identify relevant zone/planning control applying to the subject land]	

<sup>1</sup> Clause 4.1 of the Model Code of Conduct provides that a pecuniary interest is an interest that a person has in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to the person. A person does not have a pecuniary interest in a matter if the interest is so remote or insignificant that it could not reasonably be regarded as likely to influence any decision the person might make in relation to the matter, or if the interest is of a kind specified in clause 4.6 of the Model Code of Conduct.

<sup>2</sup> A pecuniary interest may arise by way of a change of permissible use of land adjoining, adjacent to or in proximity to land in which a councillor or a person, company or body referred to in clause 4.3 of the Model Code of Conduct has a proprietary interest.

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Proposed change of zone/planning control <i>[Insert name of proposed LEP and identify proposed change of zone/planning control applying to the subject land]</i>	
Effect of proposed change of zone/planning control on councillor or associated person <i>[Insert one of the following: "Appreciable financial gain" or "Appreciable financial loss"]</i>	

*[If more than one pecuniary interest is to be declared, reprint the above box and fill in for each additional interest.]*

Councillor's signature

Date

[This form is to be retained by the council's general manager and included in full in the minutes of the meeting]



**The Model Code of Conduct  
for Local Councils in NSW**

**Code of Conduct for Council Staff**

**2020**

**Adopted Council Meeting 26 August 2020**

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## PART 1 INTRODUCTION

This code of conduct applies to members of council staff, including general managers. It is based on the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* ("the Model Code of Conduct") which is made under section 440 of the *Local Government Act 1993* ("LGA") and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* ("the Regulation").

The Model Code of Conduct sets the minimum standards of conduct for council officials. It is prescribed by regulation to assist council officials to:

- understand and comply with the standards of conduct that are expected of them
- enable them to fulfil their statutory duty to act honestly and exercise a reasonable degree of care and diligence (section 439)
- act in a way that enhances public confidence in local government.

Section 440 of the LGA requires every council (including county councils) and joint organisation to adopt a code of conduct that incorporates the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct. A council's or joint organisation's adopted code of conduct may also include provisions that supplement the Model Code of Conduct and that extend its application to persons that are not "council officials" for the purposes of the Model Code of Conduct (eg volunteers, contractors and members of wholly advisory committees).

A council's or joint organisation's adopted code of conduct has no effect to the extent that it is inconsistent with the Model Code of Conduct. However, a council's or joint organisation's adopted code of conduct may prescribe requirements that are more onerous than those prescribed in the Model Code of Conduct.

Councillors, administrators, members of staff of councils, delegates of councils, (including members of council committees that are delegates of a council) and any other person a council's adopted code of conduct applies to, must comply with the applicable provisions of their council's code of conduct. It is the personal responsibility of council officials to comply with the standards in the code and to regularly review their personal circumstances and conduct with this in mind.

Failure by a member of staff to comply with a council's code of conduct may give rise to disciplinary action.

**Note:** References in this code of conduct to councils are also to be taken as references to county councils and joint organisations.

**Note:** In adopting this code of conduct, joint organisations should adapt it to substitute the terms "board" for "council", "chairperson" for "mayor", "voting representative" for "councillor" and "executive officer" for "general manager".

**Note:** In adopting this code of conduct, county councils should adapt it to substitute the term "chairperson" for "mayor" and "member" for "councillor".

## PART 2 DEFINITIONS

In this code the following terms have the following meanings:

administrator	an administrator of a council appointed under the LGA other than an administrator appointed under section 66
committee	see the definition of “council committee”
complaint	a code of conduct complaint made for the purposes of clauses 4.1 and 4.2 of the Procedures.
conduct	includes acts and omissions
council	includes county councils and joint organisations
council committee	a committee established by a council comprising of councillors, staff or other persons that the council has delegated functions to and the council's audit, risk and improvement committee
council committee member	a person other than a councillor or member of staff of a council who is a member of a council committee other than a wholly advisory committee, and a person other than a councillor who is a member of the council's audit, risk and improvement committee
council official	includes councillors, members of staff of a council, administrators, council committee members, delegates of council and, for the purposes of clause 4.16 of the Model Code of Conduct, council advisers
councillor	any person elected or appointed to civic office, including the mayor and includes members and chairpersons of county councils and voting representatives of the boards of joint organisations and chairpersons of joint organisations
delegate of council	a person (other than a councillor or member of staff of a council) or body, and the individual members of that body, to whom a function of the council is delegated
designated person	a person referred to in clause 4.8
election campaign	includes council, state and federal election campaigns
general manager	includes the executive officer of a joint organisation



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joint organisation	a joint organisation established under section 400O of the LGA
LGA	the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>
mayor	includes the chairperson of a county council or a joint organisation
members of staff of a council	includes members of staff of county councils and joint organisations
the Office	Office of Local Government
personal information	information or an opinion (including information or an opinion forming part of a database and whether or not recorded in a material form) about an individual whose identity is apparent or can reasonably be ascertained from the information or opinion
the Procedures	the <i>Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW</i> prescribed under the Regulation
the Regulation	the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2005</i>
wholly advisory committee	a council committee that the council has not delegated any functions to

### **PART 3      GENERAL CONDUCT OBLIGATIONS**

#### General conduct

- 3.1 You must not conduct yourself in a manner that:
- a) is likely to bring the council or other council officials into disrepute
  - b) is contrary to statutory requirements or the council's administrative requirements or policies
  - c) is improper or unethical
  - d) is an abuse of power
  - e) causes, comprises or involves intimidation or verbal abuse
  - f) involves the misuse of your position to obtain a private benefit
  - g) constitutes harassment or bullying behaviour under this code, or is unlawfully discriminatory.
- 3.2 You must act lawfully and honestly, and exercise a reasonable degree of care and diligence in carrying out your functions under the LGA or any other Act. (*section 439*).

#### Fairness and equity

- 3.3 You must consider issues consistently, promptly and fairly. You must deal with matters in accordance with established procedures, in a non-discriminatory manner.
- 3.4 You must take all relevant facts known to you, or that you should be reasonably aware of, into consideration and have regard to the particular merits of each case. You must not take irrelevant matters or circumstances into consideration when making decisions.
- 3.5 An act or omission in good faith, whether or not it involves error, will not constitute a breach of clauses 3.3 or 3.4.

#### Harassment and discrimination

- 3.6 You must not harass or unlawfully discriminate against others, or support others who harass or unlawfully discriminate against others, on the grounds of age, disability, race (including colour, national or ethnic origin or immigrant status), sex, pregnancy, marital or relationship status, family responsibilities or breastfeeding, sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status or political, religious or other affiliation.
- 3.7 For the purposes of this code, "harassment" is any form of behaviour towards a person that:
- a) is not wanted by the person
  - b) offends, humiliates or intimidates the person, and
  - c) creates a hostile environment.

Bullying

3.8 You must not engage in bullying behaviour towards others.

3.9 For the purposes of this code, “bullying behaviour” is any behaviour in which:

- a) a person or a group of people repeatedly behaves unreasonably towards another person or a group of persons and
- b) the behaviour creates a risk to health and safety.

3.10 Bullying behaviour may involve, but is not limited to, any of the following types of behaviour:

- a) aggressive, threatening or intimidating conduct
- b) belittling or humiliating comments
- c) spreading malicious rumours
- d) teasing, practical jokes or ‘initiation ceremonies’
- e) exclusion from work-related events
- f) unreasonable work expectations, including too much or too little work, or work below or beyond a worker's skill level
- g) displaying offensive material
- h) pressure to behave in an inappropriate manner.

3.11 Reasonable management action carried out in a reasonable manner does not constitute bullying behaviour for the purposes of this code. Examples of reasonable management action may include, but are not limited to:

- a) performance management processes
- b) disciplinary action for misconduct
- c) informing a worker about unsatisfactory work performance or inappropriate work behaviour
- d) directing a worker to perform duties in keeping with their job
- e) maintaining reasonable workplace goals and standards
- f) legitimately exercising a regulatory function
- g) legitimately implementing a council policy or administrative processes.

Work health and safety

3.12 All council officials, including councillors, owe statutory duties under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (WHS Act). You must comply with your duties under the WHS Act and your responsibilities under any policies or procedures adopted by the council to ensure workplace health and safety. Specifically, you must:

- a) take reasonable care for your own health and safety
- b) take reasonable care that your acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons
- c) comply, so far as you are reasonably able, with any reasonable instruction that is given to ensure compliance with the WHS Act and any policies or procedures adopted by the council to ensure workplace health and safety
- d) cooperate with any reasonable policy or procedure of the council relating to workplace health or safety that has been notified to council staff

- e) report accidents, incidents, near misses, to the general manager or such other staff member nominated by the general manager, and take part in any incident investigations
- f) so far as is reasonably practicable, consult, co-operate and coordinate with all others who have a duty under the WHS Act in relation to the same matter.

Land use planning, development assessment and other regulatory functions

- 3.13 You must ensure that land use planning, development assessment and other regulatory decisions are properly made, and that all parties are dealt with fairly. You must avoid any occasion for suspicion of improper conduct in the exercise of land use planning, development assessment and other regulatory functions.
- 3.14 In exercising land use planning, development assessment and other regulatory functions, you must ensure that no action, statement or communication between yourself and others conveys any suggestion of willingness to improperly provide concessions or preferential or unduly unfavourable treatment.

Obligations in relation to meetings

- 3.15 You must comply with rulings by the chair at council and committee meetings or other proceedings of the council unless a motion dissenting from the ruling is passed.
- 3.16 You must not engage in bullying behaviour (as defined under this Part) towards the chair, other council officials or any members of the public present during council or committee meetings or other proceedings of the council (such as, but not limited to, workshops and briefing sessions).
- 3.17 You must not engage in conduct that disrupts council or committee meetings or other proceedings of the council (such as, but not limited to, workshops and briefing sessions), or that would otherwise be inconsistent with the orderly conduct of meetings.

## **PART 4      PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

### What is a pecuniary interest?

- 4.1 A pecuniary interest is an interest that you have in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to you or a person referred to in clause 4.3.
- 4.2 You will not have a pecuniary interest in a matter if the interest is so remote or insignificant that it could not reasonably be regarded as likely to influence any decision you might make in relation to the matter, or if the interest is of a kind specified in clause 4.6.
- 4.3 For the purposes of this Part, you will have a pecuniary interest in a matter if the pecuniary interest is:
- (a) your interest, or
  - (b) the interest of your spouse or de facto partner, your relative, or your partner or employer, or
  - (c) a company or other body of which you, or your nominee, partner or employer, is a shareholder or member.
- 4.4 For the purposes of clause 4.3:
- (a) Your “relative” is any of the following:
    - i) your parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child
    - ii) your spouse’s or de facto partner’s parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child
    - iii) the spouse or de facto partner of a person referred to in paragraphs (i) and (ii).
  - (b) “de facto partner” has the same meaning as defined in section 21C of the *Interpretation Act 1987*.
- 4.5 You will not have a pecuniary interest in relation to a person referred to in subclauses 4.3(b) or (c):
- (a) if you are unaware of the relevant pecuniary interest of your spouse, de facto partner, relative, partner, employer or company or other body, or
  - (b) just because the person is a member of, or is employed by, a council or a statutory body, or is employed by the Crown, or
  - (c) just because the person is a member of, or a delegate of a council to, a company or other body that has a pecuniary interest in the matter, so long as the person has no beneficial interest in any shares of the company or body.

### What interests do not have to be disclosed?

- 4.6 You do not have to disclose the following interests for the purposes of this Part:
- (a) your interest as an elector
  - (b) your interest as a ratepayer or person liable to pay a charge
  - (c) an interest you have in any matter relating to the terms on which the provision of a service or the supply of goods or commodities is

offered to the public generally, or to a section of the public that includes persons who are not subject to this code

- (d) an interest you have in any matter relating to the terms on which the provision of a service or the supply of goods or commodities is offered to your relative by the council in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as apply to persons who are not subject to this code
- (e) an interest you have as a member of a club or other organisation or association, unless the interest is as the holder of an office in the club or organisation (whether remunerated or not)
- (f) an interest you have relating to a contract, proposed contract or other matter, if the interest arises only because of a beneficial interest in shares in a company that does not exceed 10 per cent of the voting rights in the company
- (g) an interest you have arising from the proposed making by the council of an agreement between the council and a corporation, association or partnership, being a corporation, association or partnership that has more than 25 members, if the interest arises because your relative is a shareholder (but not a director) of the corporation, or is a member (but not a member of the committee) of the association, or is a partner of the partnership
- (h) an interest you have arising from the making by the council of a contract or agreement with your relative for, or in relation to, any of the following, but only if the proposed contract or agreement is similar in terms and conditions to such contracts and agreements as have been made, or as are proposed to be made, by the council in respect of similar matters with other residents of the area:
  - i) the performance by the council at the expense of your relative of any work or service in connection with roads or sanitation
  - ii) security for damage to footpaths or roads
  - iii) any other service to be rendered, or act to be done, by the council by or under any Act conferring functions on the council, or by or under any contract
- (i) an interest of a person arising from the passing for payment of a regular account for the wages or salary of an employee who is a relative of the person
- (j) an interest arising from being covered by, or a proposal to be covered by, indemnity insurance as a council committee member

4.7 For the purposes of clause 4.6, "relative" has the same meaning as in clause 4.4, but includes your spouse or de facto partner.

What disclosures must be made by a designated person?

4.8 Designated persons include:

- (a) the general manager
- (b) other senior staff of the council for the purposes of section 332 of the LGA
- (c) a person (other than a member of the senior staff of the council) who is a member of staff of the council or a delegate of the council

and who holds a position identified by the council as the position of a designated person because it involves the exercise of functions (such as regulatory functions or contractual functions) that, in their exercise, could give rise to a conflict between the person's duty as a member of staff or delegate and the person's private interest

- (d) a person (other than a member of the senior staff of the council) who is a member of a committee of the council identified by the council as a committee whose members are designated persons because the functions of the committee involve the exercise of the council's functions (such as regulatory functions or contractual functions) that, in their exercise, could give rise to a conflict between the member's duty as a member of the committee and the member's private interest.

4.9 A designated person:

- (a) must prepare and submit written returns of interests in accordance with clause 4.18, and
- (b) must disclose pecuniary interests in accordance with clause 4.10.

4.10 A designated person must disclose in writing to the general manager (or if the person is the general manager, to the council) the nature of any pecuniary interest the person has in any council matter with which the person is dealing as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the interest.

4.11 Clause 4.10 does not require a designated person who is a member of staff of the council to disclose a pecuniary interest if the interest relates only to the person's salary as a member of staff, or to their other conditions of employment.

4.12 The general manager must, on receiving a disclosure from a designated person, deal with the matter to which the disclosure relates or refer it to another person to deal with.

4.13 A disclosure by the general manager must, as soon as practicable after the disclosure is made, be laid on the table at a meeting of the council and the council must deal with the matter to which the disclosure relates or refer it to another person to deal with.

What disclosures must be made by council staff other than designated persons?

4.14 A member of staff of council, other than a designated person, must disclose in writing to their manager or the general manager the nature of any pecuniary interest they have in a matter they are dealing with as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the interest.

4.15 The staff member's manager or the general manager must, on receiving a disclosure under clause 4.14, deal with the matter to which the disclosure relates or refer it to another person to deal with.

What disclosures must be made by a council committee member?

4.16 A council committee member must disclose pecuniary interests in accordance with clause 4.25 and comply with clause 4.26.

4.17 For the purposes of clause 4.16, a "council committee member" includes a member of staff of council who is a member of the committee.

Disclosure of interests in written returns

4.18 A designated person must make and lodge with the general manager a return in the form set out in schedule 2 to this code, disclosing the designated person's interests as specified in schedule 1 to this code within 3 months after:

- (a) becoming a designated person, and
- (b) 30 June of each year, and
- (c) the designated person becoming aware of an interest they are required to disclose under schedule 1 that has not been previously disclosed in a return lodged under paragraphs (a) or (b).

4.19 A person need not make and lodge a return under clause 4.18, paragraphs (a) and (b) if:

- (a) they made and lodged a return under that clause in the preceding 3 months, or
- (b) they have ceased to be a designated person in the preceding 3 months.

4.20 A person must not make and lodge a return that the person knows or ought reasonably to know is false or misleading in a material particular.

4.21 The general manager must keep a register of returns required to be made and lodged with the general manager.

4.22 Returns required to be lodged with the general manager under clause 4.18(a) and (b) must be tabled at the first meeting of the council after the last day the return is required to be lodged.

4.23 Returns required to be lodged with the general manager under clause 4.18(c) must be tabled at the next council meeting after the return is lodged.

4.24 Information contained in returns made and lodged under clause 4.18 is to be made publicly available in accordance with the requirements of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*, the *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009* and any guidelines issued by the Information Commissioner.



**Note: For the purpose of clauses 4.25 to 4.32, a “council committee member” includes a member of staff of council who is a member of a council committee.**

Disclosure of pecuniary interests at meetings

4.25 A council committee member who has a pecuniary interest in any matter with which the council is concerned, and who is present at a meeting of the committee at which the matter is being considered, must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable.

4.26 The council committee member must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting of the committee:

- (a) at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by the committee, or
- (b) at any time during which the committee is voting on any question in relation to the matter.

4.27 A disclosure made at a meeting of a council committee must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

4.28 A general notice may be given to the general manager in writing by a council committee member to the effect that the council committee member, or the council committee member's spouse, de facto partner or relative, is:

- (a) a member of, or in the employment of, a specified company or other body, or
- (b) a partner of, or in the employment of, a specified person.

Such a notice is, unless and until the notice is withdrawn or until the end of the term of the council in which it is given (whichever is the sooner), sufficient disclosure of the council committee member's interest in a matter relating to the specified company, body or person that may be the subject of consideration by the council committee after the date of the notice.

4.29 A council committee member is not prevented from being present at and taking part in a meeting at which a matter is being considered, or from voting on the matter, merely because the council committee member has an interest in the matter of a kind referred to in clause 4.6.

4.30 A person does not breach clauses 4.25 or 4.26 if the person did not know, and could not reasonably be expected to have known, that the matter under consideration at the meeting was a matter in which they had a pecuniary interest.

4.31 The Minister for Local Government may, conditionally or unconditionally, allow a council committee member who has a pecuniary interest in a matter with which the council is concerned to be present at a meeting of the committee, to take part in the consideration or discussion of the matter and to vote on the matter if the Minister is of the opinion that it is in the interests of the electors for the area to do so.

4.32 A council committee member with a pecuniary interest in a matter who is permitted to be present at a meeting of the committee, to take part in the

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consideration or discussion of the matter and to vote on the matter under clause 4.31, must still disclose the interest they have in the matter in accordance with clause 4.25.

## **PART 5 NON-PECUNIARY CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

### What is a non-pecuniary conflict of interest?

- 5.1 Non-pecuniary interests are private or personal interests a council official has that do not amount to a pecuniary interest as defined in clause 4.1 of this code. These commonly arise out of family or personal relationships, or out of involvement in sporting, social, religious or other cultural groups and associations, and may include an interest of a financial nature.
- 5.2 A non-pecuniary conflict of interest exists where a reasonable and informed person would perceive that you could be influenced by a private interest when carrying out your official functions in relation to a matter.
- 5.3 The personal or political views of a council official do not constitute a private interest for the purposes of clause 5.2.
- 5.4 Non-pecuniary conflicts of interest must be identified and appropriately managed to uphold community confidence in the probity of council decision-making. The onus is on you to identify any non-pecuniary conflict of interest you may have in matters that you deal with, to disclose the interest fully and in writing, and to take appropriate action to manage the conflict in accordance with this code.
- 5.5 When considering whether or not you have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter you are dealing with, it is always important to think about how others would view your situation.

### Managing non-pecuniary conflicts of interest

- 5.6 Where you have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter for the purposes of clause 5.2, you must disclose the relevant private interest you have in relation to the matter fully and in writing as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the non-pecuniary conflict of interest and on each occasion on which the non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises in relation to the matter. In the case of members of council staff other than the general manager, such a disclosure is to be made to the staff member's manager. In the case of the general manager, such a disclosure is to be made to the mayor.
- 5.7 If a disclosure is made at a committee meeting, both the disclosure and the nature of the interest must be recorded in the minutes on each occasion on which the non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises. This disclosure constitutes disclosure in writing for the purposes of clause 5.6.
- 5.8 How you manage a non-pecuniary conflict of interest will depend on whether or not it is significant.

5.9 As a general rule, a non-pecuniary conflict of interest will be significant where it does not involve a pecuniary interest for the purposes of clause 4.1, but it involves:

- a) a relationship between a council official and another person who is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that is particularly close, such as a current or former spouse or de facto partner, a relative for the purposes of clause 4.4 or another person from the council official's extended family that the council official has a close personal relationship with, or another person living in the same household
- b) other relationships with persons who are affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that are particularly close, such as friendships and business relationships. Closeness is defined by the nature of the friendship or business relationship, the frequency of contact and the duration of the friendship or relationship.
- c) an affiliation between the council official and an organisation (such as a sporting body, club, religious, cultural or charitable organisation, corporation or association) that is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that is particularly strong. The strength of a council official's affiliation with an organisation is to be determined by the extent to which they actively participate in the management, administration or other activities of the organisation.
- d) membership, as the council's representative, of the board or management committee of an organisation that is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration, in circumstances where the interests of the council and the organisation are potentially in conflict in relation to the particular matter
- e) a financial interest (other than an interest of a type referred to in clause 4.6) that is not a pecuniary interest for the purposes of clause 4.1
- f) the conferral or loss of a personal benefit other than one conferred or lost as a member of the community or a broader class of people affected by a decision.

5.10 Significant non-pecuniary conflicts of interest must be managed in one of two ways:

- a) by not participating in consideration of, or decision making in relation to, the matter in which you have the significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest and the matter being allocated to another person for consideration or determination, or
- b) if the significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises in relation to a matter under consideration at a committee meeting, by managing the conflict of interest as if you had a pecuniary interest in the matter by complying with clauses 4.25 and 4.26.

5.11 If you determine that you have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter that is not significant and does not require further action, when disclosing the interest you must also explain in writing why you consider that the non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances.

- 5.12 If you are a member of staff of council other than the general manager, the decision on which option should be taken to manage a non-pecuniary conflict of interest must be made in consultation with and at the direction of your manager. In the case of the general manager, the decision on which option should be taken to manage a non-pecuniary conflict of interest must be made in consultation with and at the direction of the mayor.

**Note: For the purpose of clauses 5.13 and 5.14, a “council committee member” includes a member of staff of council who is a member of a council committee.**

Loss of quorum as a result of compliance with this Part

- 5.13 The Minister for Local Government may, conditionally or unconditionally, allow a council committee member who is precluded under this Part from participating in the consideration of a matter to be present at a meeting of the committee, to take part in the consideration or discussion of the matter and to vote on the matter if the Minister is of the opinion that it is in the interests of the electors for the area to do so.
- 5.14 Where the Minister exempts a committee member from complying with a requirement under this Part under clause 5.13, the committee member must still disclose any interests they have in the matter the exemption applies to, in accordance with clause 5.6.

Other business or employment

- 5.15 The general manager must not engage, for remuneration, in private employment, contract work or other business outside the service of the council without the approval of the council.
- 5.16 A member of staff must not engage, for remuneration, in private employment, contract work or other business outside the service of the council that relates to the business of the council or that might conflict with the staff member's council duties unless they have notified the general manager in writing of the employment, work or business and the general manager has given their written approval for the staff member to engage in the employment, work or business.
- 5.17 The general manager may at any time prohibit a member of staff from engaging, for remuneration, in private employment, contract work or other business outside the service of the council that relates to the business of the council, or that might conflict with the staff member's council duties.
- 5.18 A member of staff must not engage, for remuneration, in private employment, contract work or other business outside the service of the council if prohibited from doing so.
- 5.19 Members of staff must ensure that any outside employment, work or business they engage in will not:
- a) conflict with their official duties
  - b) involve using confidential information or council resources obtained through their work with the council including where private use is permitted

- c) require them to work while on council duty
- d) discredit or disadvantage the council
- e) pose, due to fatigue, a risk to their health or safety, or to the health and safety of their co-workers.

Personal dealings with council

5.20 You may have reason to deal with your council in your personal capacity (for example, as a ratepayer, recipient of a council service or applicant for a development consent granted by council). You must not expect or request preferential treatment in relation to any matter in which you have a private interest because of your position. You must avoid any action that could lead members of the public to believe that you are seeking preferential treatment.

5.21 You must undertake any personal dealings you have with the council in a manner that is consistent with the way other members of the community deal with the council. You must also ensure that you disclose and appropriately manage any conflict of interest you may have in any matter in accordance with the requirements of this code.

## **PART 6 PERSONAL BENEFIT**

- 6.1 For the purposes of this Part, a gift or a benefit is something offered to or received by a council official or someone personally associated with them for their personal use and enjoyment.
- 6.2 A reference to a gift or benefit in this Part does not include:
- a) items with a value of \$10 or less
  - b) a political donation for the purposes of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*
  - c) a gift provided to the council as part of a cultural exchange or sister-city relationship that is not converted for the personal use or enjoyment of any individual council official or someone personally associated with them
  - d) benefit or facility provided by the council to an employee
  - e) attendance by a council official at a work-related event or function for the purposes of performing their official duties, or
  - f) free or subsidised meals, beverages or refreshments provided to council officials in conjunction with the performance of their official duties such as, but not limited to:
    - i) the discussion of official business
    - ii) work-related events such as council-sponsored or community events, training, education sessions or workshops
    - iii) conferences
    - iv) council functions or events
    - v) social functions organised by groups, such as council committees and community organisations.

### Gifts and benefits

- 6.3 You must avoid situations that would give rise to the appearance that a person or body is attempting to secure favourable treatment from you or from the council, through the provision of gifts, benefits or hospitality of any kind to you or someone personally associated with you.
- 6.4 A gift or benefit is deemed to have been accepted by you for the purposes of this Part, where it is received by you or someone personally associated with you.

### How are offers of gifts and benefits to be dealt with?

- 6.5 You must not:
- a) seek or accept a bribe or other improper inducement
  - b) seek gifts or benefits of any kind
  - c) accept any gift or benefit that may create a sense of obligation on your part, or may be perceived to be intended or likely to influence you in carrying out your public duty
  - d) subject to clause 6.7, accept any gift or benefit of more than token value as defined by clause 6.9

- e) accept an offer of cash or a cash-like gift as defined by clause 6.13, regardless of the amount
  - f) participate in competitions for prizes where eligibility is based on the council being in or entering into a customer–supplier relationship with the competition organiser
  - g) personally benefit from reward points programs when purchasing on behalf of the council.
- 6.6 Where you receive a gift or benefit of any value other than one referred to in clause 6.2, you must disclose this promptly to your manager or the general manager in writing. The recipient, manager, or general manager must ensure that, at a minimum, the following details are recorded in the council's gift register:
- a) the nature of the gift or benefit
  - b) the estimated monetary value of the gift or benefit
  - c) the name of the person who provided the gift or benefit, and
  - d) the date on which the gift or benefit was received.
- 6.7 Where you receive a gift or benefit of more than token value that cannot reasonably be refused or returned, the gift or benefit must be surrendered to the council, unless the nature of the gift or benefit makes this impractical.

#### Gifts and benefits of token value

- 6.8 You may accept gifts and benefits of token value. Gifts and benefits of token value are one or more gifts or benefits received from a person or organisation over a 12-month period that, when aggregated, do not exceed a value of \$100. They include, but are not limited to:
- a) invitations to and attendance at local social, cultural or sporting events with a ticket value that does not exceed \$100
  - b) gifts of alcohol that do not exceed a value of \$100
  - c) ties, scarves, coasters, tie pins, diaries, chocolates or flowers or the like
  - d) prizes or awards that do not exceed \$100 in value.

#### Gifts and benefits of more than token value

- 6.9 Gifts or benefits that exceed \$100 in value are gifts or benefits of more than token value for the purposes of clause 6.5(d) and, subject to clause 6.7, must not be accepted.
- 6.10 Gifts and benefits of more than token value include, but are not limited to, tickets to major sporting events (such as international matches or matches in national sporting codes) with a ticket value that exceeds \$100, corporate hospitality at a corporate facility at major sporting events, free or discounted products or services for personal use provided on terms that are not available to the general public or a broad class of persons, the use of holiday homes, artworks, free or discounted travel.
- 6.11 Where you have accepted a gift or benefit of token value from a person or organisation, you must not accept a further gift or benefit from the same person or organisation or another person associated with that person or organisation



within a single 12-month period where the value of the gift, added to the value of earlier gifts received from the same person or organisation, or a person associated with that person or organisation, during the same 12-month period would exceed \$100 in value.

- 6.12 For the purposes of this Part, the value of a gift or benefit is the monetary value of the gift or benefit inclusive of GST.

“Cash-like gifts”

- 6.13 For the purposes of clause 6.5(e), “cash-like gifts” include but are not limited to, gift vouchers, credit cards, debit cards with credit on them, prepayments such as phone or internet credit, lottery tickets, memberships or entitlements to discounts that are not available to the general public or a broad class of persons.

Improper and undue influence

- 6.14 You must not use your position to influence other council officials in the performance of their official functions to obtain a private benefit for yourself or for somebody else.
- 6.15 You must not take advantage (or seek to take advantage) of your status or position with council, or of functions you perform for council, in order to obtain a private benefit for yourself or for any other person or body.

## **PART 7      RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN COUNCIL OFFICIALS**

### Obligations of councillors and administrators

- 7.1 Each council is a body politic. The councillors or administrator/s are the governing body of the council. Under section 223 of the LGA, the role of the governing body of the council includes the development and endorsement of the strategic plans, programs, strategies and policies of the council, including those relating to workforce policy, and to keep the performance of the council under review.
- 7.2 Councillors or administrators must not:
- a) direct council staff other than by giving appropriate direction to the general manager by way of council or committee resolution, or by the mayor or administrator exercising their functions under section 226 of the LGA
  - b) in any public or private forum, direct or influence, or attempt to direct or influence, any other member of the staff of the council in the exercise of the functions of the staff member
  - c) contact a member of the staff of the council on council-related business unless in accordance with the policy and procedures governing the interaction of councillors and council staff that have been authorised by the council and the general manager.

### Obligations of staff

- 7.3 Under section 335 of the LGA, the role of the general manager includes conducting the day-to-day management of the council in accordance with the strategic plans, programs, strategies and policies of the council, implementing without undue delay, lawful decisions of the council and ensuring that the mayor and other councillors are given timely information and advice and the administrative and professional support necessary to effectively discharge their official functions.
- 7.4 Members of staff of council must:
- a) give their attention to the business of the council while on duty
  - b) ensure that their work is carried out ethically, efficiently, economically and effectively
  - c) carry out reasonable and lawful directions given by any person having authority to give such directions
  - d) give effect to the lawful decisions, policies and procedures of the council, whether or not the staff member agrees with or approves of them
  - e) ensure that any participation in political activities outside the service of the council does not interfere with the performance of their official duties.

### Inappropriate interactions

- 7.5 You must not engage in any of the following inappropriate interactions:
- a) councillors and administrators approaching staff and staff organisations to discuss individual or operational staff matters (other than matters

- relating to broader workforce policy), grievances, workplace investigations and disciplinary matters
- b) council staff approaching councillors and administrators to discuss individual or operational staff matters (other than matters relating to broader workforce policy), grievances, workplace investigations and disciplinary matters
  - c) subject to clause 8.6, council staff refusing to give information that is available to other councillors to a particular councillor
  - d) councillors and administrators who have lodged an application with the council, discussing the matter with council staff in staff-only areas of the council
  - e) councillors and administrators being overbearing or threatening to council staff
  - f) council staff being overbearing or threatening to councillors or administrators
  - g) councillors and administrators making personal attacks on council staff or engaging in conduct towards staff that would be contrary to the general conduct provisions in Part 3 of this code in public forums including social media
  - h) councillors and administrators directing or pressuring council staff in the performance of their work, or recommendations they should make
  - i) council staff providing ad hoc advice to councillors and administrators without recording or documenting the interaction as they would if the advice was provided to a member of the community
  - j) council staff meeting with applicants or objectors alone AND outside office hours to discuss planning applications or proposals

## **PART 8 ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND COUNCIL RESOURCES**

### Councillor and administrator access to information

- 8.1 The general manager is responsible for ensuring that councillors and administrators can access information necessary for the performance of their official functions. The general manager and public officer are also responsible for ensuring that members of the public can access publicly available council information under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (the GIPA Act).
- 8.2 The general manager must provide councillors and administrators with the information necessary to effectively discharge their official functions.
- 8.3 Members of staff of council must provide full and timely information to councillors and administrators sufficient to enable them to exercise their official functions and in accordance with council procedures.
- 8.4 Members of staff of council who provide any information to a particular councillor in the performance of their official functions must also make it available to any other councillor who requests it and in accordance with council procedures.
- 8.5 Councillors and administrators who have a private interest only in council information have the same rights of access as any member of the public.
- 8.6 Despite clause 8.4, councillors and administrators who are precluded from participating in the consideration of a matter under this code because they have a conflict of interest in the matter, are not entitled to request access to council information in relation to the matter unless the information is otherwise available to members of the public, or the council has determined to make the information available under the GIPA Act.

### Refusal of access to information

- 8.7 Where the general manager or public officer determine to refuse access to information requested by a councillor or administrator, they must act reasonably. In reaching this decision they must take into account whether or not the information requested is necessary for the councillor or administrator to perform their official functions (see clause 8.2) and whether they have disclosed a conflict of interest in the matter the information relates to that would preclude their participation in consideration of the matter (see clause 8.6). The general manager or public officer must state the reasons for the decision if access is refused.

### Use of certain council information

- 8.8 In regard to information obtained in your capacity as a council official, you must:
- a) subject to clause 8.13, only access council information needed for council business
  - b) not use that council information for private purposes

- c) not seek or obtain, either directly or indirectly, any financial benefit or other improper advantage for yourself, or any other person or body, from any information to which you have access by virtue of your position with council
- d) only release council information in accordance with established council policies and procedures and in compliance with relevant legislation.

#### Use and security of confidential information

8.9 You must maintain the integrity and security of confidential information in your possession, or for which you are responsible.

8.10 In addition to your general obligations relating to the use of council information, you must:

- a) only access confidential information that you have been authorised to access and only do so for the purposes of exercising your official functions
- b) protect confidential information
- c) only release confidential information if you have authority to do so
- d) only use confidential information for the purpose for which it is intended to be used
- e) not use confidential information gained through your official position for the purpose of securing a private benefit for yourself or for any other person
- f) not use confidential information with the intention to cause harm or detriment to the council or any other person or body
- g) not disclose any confidential information discussed during a confidential session of a council or committee meeting or any other confidential forum (such as, but not limited to, workshops or briefing sessions).

#### Personal information

8.11 When dealing with personal information you must comply with:

- a) the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*
- b) the *Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002*
- c) the Information Protection Principles and Health Privacy Principles
- d) the council's privacy management plan
- e) the Privacy Code of Practice for Local Government

#### Use of council resources

8.12 You must use council resources ethically, effectively, efficiently and carefully in exercising your official functions, and must not use them for private purposes, except when supplied as part of a contract of employment (but not for private business purposes), unless this use is lawfully authorised and proper payment is made where appropriate.

8.13 Union delegates and consultative committee members may have reasonable access to council resources and information for the purposes of carrying out their industrial responsibilities, including but not limited to:

- a) the representation of members with respect to disciplinary matters

- b) the representation of employees with respect to grievances and disputes
  - c) functions associated with the role of the local consultative committee.
- 8.14 You must be scrupulous in your use of council property, including intellectual property, official services, facilities, technology and electronic devices and must not permit their misuse by any other person or body.
- 8.15 You must avoid any action or situation that could create the appearance that council property, official services or public facilities are being improperly used for your benefit or the benefit of any other person or body.
- 8.16 You must not use council resources (including council staff), property or facilities for the purpose of assisting your election campaign or the election campaigns of others unless the resources, property or facilities are otherwise available for use or hire by the public and any publicly advertised fee is paid for use of the resources, property or facility.
- 8.17 You must not use the council letterhead, council crests, council email or social media or other information that could give the appearance it is official council material:
  - a) for the purpose of assisting your election campaign or the election campaign of others, or
  - b) for other non-official purposes.
- 8.18 You must not convert any property of the council to your own use unless properly authorised.

#### Internet access

- 8.19 You must not use council's computer resources or mobile or other devices to search for, access, download or communicate any material of an offensive, obscene, pornographic, threatening, abusive or defamatory nature, or that could otherwise lead to criminal penalty or civil liability and/or damage the council's reputation.

#### Council record keeping

- 8.20 You must comply with the requirements of the *State Records Act 1998* and the council's records management policy.
- 8.21 All information created, sent and received in your official capacity is a council record and must be managed in accordance with the requirements of the *State Records Act 1998* and the council's approved records management policies and practices.
- 8.22 All information stored in either soft or hard copy on council supplied resources (including technology devices and email accounts) is deemed to be related to the business of the council and will be treated as council records, regardless of whether the original intention was to create the information for personal purposes.

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- 8.23 You must not destroy, alter, or dispose of council information or records, unless authorised to do so. If you need to alter or dispose of council information or records, you must do so in consultation with the council's records manager and comply with the requirements of the *State Records Act 1998*.

Councillor access to council buildings

- 8.24 Councillors and administrators must not enter staff-only areas of council buildings without the approval of the general manager (or their delegate) or as provided for in the procedures governing the interaction of councillors and council staff.
- 8.25 Councillors and administrators must ensure that when they are within a staff only area they refrain from conduct that could be perceived to improperly influence council staff decisions.

**PART 9      MAINTAINING THE INTEGRITY OF THIS CODE**Complaints made for an improper purpose

- 9.1 You must not make or threaten to make a complaint or cause a complaint to be made alleging a breach of this code for an improper purpose.
- 9.2 For the purposes of clause 9.1, a complaint is made for an improper purpose where it is trivial, frivolous, vexatious or not made in good faith, or where it otherwise lacks merit and has been made substantially for one or more of the following purposes:
- a) to bully, intimidate or harass another council official
  - b) to damage another council official's reputation
  - c) to obtain a political advantage
  - d) to influence a council official in the exercise of their official functions or to prevent or disrupt the exercise of those functions
  - e) to influence the council in the exercise of its functions or to prevent or disrupt the exercise of those functions
  - f) to avoid disciplinary action under the Procedures
  - g) to take reprisal action against a person for making a complaint alleging a breach of this code
  - h) to take reprisal action against a person for exercising a function prescribed under the Procedures
  - i) to prevent or disrupt the effective administration of this code under the Procedures.

Detrimental action

- 9.3 You must not take detrimental action or cause detrimental action to be taken against a person substantially in reprisal for a complaint they have made alleging a breach of this code.
- 9.4 You must not take detrimental action or cause detrimental action to be taken against a person substantially in reprisal for any function they have exercised under the Procedures.
- 9.5 For the purposes of clauses 9.3 and 9.4, a detrimental action is an action causing, comprising or involving any of the following:
- a) injury, damage or loss
  - b) intimidation or harassment
  - c) discrimination, disadvantage or adverse treatment in relation to employment
  - d) dismissal from, or prejudice in, employment
  - e) disciplinary proceedings.

Compliance with requirements under the Procedures

- 9.6 You must not engage in conduct that is calculated to impede or disrupt the consideration of a matter under the Procedures.
- 9.7 You must comply with a reasonable and lawful request made by a person exercising a function under the Procedures. A failure to make a written or oral



submission invited under the Procedures will not constitute a breach of this clause.

- 9.8 You must comply with a practice ruling made by the Office under the Procedures.

Disclosure of information about the consideration of a matter under the Procedures

- 9.9 All allegations of breaches of this code must be dealt with under and in accordance with the Procedures.

- 9.10 You must not allege breaches of this code other than by way of a complaint made or initiated under the Procedures.

- 9.11 You must not make allegations about, or disclose information about, suspected breaches of this code at council, committee or other meetings, whether open to the public or not, or in any other forum, whether public or not.

- 9.12 You must not disclose information about a complaint you have made alleging a breach of this code or a matter being considered under the Procedures except for the purposes of seeking legal advice, unless the disclosure is otherwise permitted under the Procedures.

- 9.13 Nothing under this Part prevents a person from making a public interest disclosure to an appropriate public authority or investigative authority under the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994*.

Complaints alleging a breach of this Part

- 9.14 Complaints alleging a breach of this Part by the general manager are to be managed by the Office. This clause does not prevent the Office from referring an alleged breach of this Part back to the council for consideration in accordance with the Procedures.

- 9.15 Complaints alleging a breach of this Part by other council officials are to be managed by the general manager in accordance with the Procedures.

**SCHEDULE 1: DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS AND OTHER MATTERS IN WRITTEN RETURNS SUBMITTED UNDER CLAUSE 4.18**Part 1: PreliminaryDefinitions

1. For the purposes of the schedules to this code, the following definitions apply:

*address* means:

- a) in relation to a person other than a corporation, the last residential or business address of the person known to the designated person disclosing the address, or
- b) in relation to a corporation, the address of the registered office of the corporation in New South Wales or, if there is no such office, the address of the principal office of the corporation in the place where it is registered, or
- c) in relation to any real property, the street address of the property.

*de facto partner* has the same meaning as defined in section 21C of the *Interpretation Act 1987*.

*disposition of property* means a conveyance, transfer, assignment, settlement, delivery, payment or other alienation of property, including the following:

- a) the allotment of shares in a company
- b) the creation of a trust in respect of property
- c) the grant or creation of a lease, mortgage, charge, easement, licence, power, partnership or interest in respect of property
- d) the release, discharge, surrender, forfeiture or abandonment, at law or in equity, of a debt, contract or chose in action, or of an interest in respect of property
- e) the exercise by a person of a general power of appointment over property in favour of another person
- f) a transaction entered into by a person who intends by the transaction to diminish, directly or indirectly, the value of the person's own property and to increase the value of the property of another person.

*gift* means a disposition of property made otherwise than by will (whether or not by instrument in writing) without consideration, or with inadequate consideration, in money or money's worth passing from the person to whom the disposition was made to the person who made the disposition, but does not include a financial or other contribution to travel.

*interest* means:

- a) in relation to property, an estate, interest, right or power, at law or in equity, in or over the property, or

- b) in relation to a corporation, a relevant interest (within the meaning of section 9 of the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth) in securities issued or made available by the corporation.

*listed company* means a company that is listed within the meaning of section 9 of the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth.

*occupation* includes trade, profession and vocation.

*professional or business association* means an incorporated or unincorporated body or organisation having as one of its objects or activities the promotion of the economic interests of its members in any occupation.

*property* includes money.

*return date* means:

- a) in the case of a return made under clause 4.18(a), the date on which a person became a designated person
- b) in the case of a return made under clause 4.18(b), 30 June of the year in which the return is made
- c) in the case of a return made under clause 4.18(c), the date on which the designated person became aware of the interest to be disclosed.

*relative* includes any of the following:

- a) a person's spouse or de facto partner
- b) a person's parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child
- c) a person's spouse's or de facto partner's parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child
- d) the spouse or de facto partner of a person referred to in paragraphs (b) and (c).

*travel* includes accommodation incidental to a journey.

#### Matters relating to the interests that must be included in returns

2. *Interests etc. outside New South Wales:* A reference in this schedule or in schedule 2 to a disclosure concerning a corporation or other thing includes any reference to a disclosure concerning a corporation registered, or other thing arising or received, outside New South Wales.
3. *References to interests in real property:* A reference in this schedule or in schedule 2 to real property in which a designated person has an interest includes a reference to any real property situated in Australia in which the designated person has an interest.
4. *Gifts, loans etc. from related corporations:* For the purposes of this schedule and schedule 2, gifts or contributions to travel given, loans made,

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or goods or services supplied, to a designated person by two or more corporations that are related to each other for the purposes of section 50 of the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth are all given, made or supplied by a single corporation.

## Part 2: Pecuniary interests to be disclosed in returns

### Real property

5. A person making a return under clause 4.18 of this code must disclose:
  - a) the street address of each parcel of real property in which they had an interest on the return date, and
  - b) the street address of each parcel of real property in which they had an interest in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
  - c) the nature of the interest.
6. An interest in a parcel of real property need not be disclosed in a return if the person making the return had the interest only:
  - a) as executor of the will, or administrator of the estate, of a deceased person and not as a beneficiary under the will or intestacy, or
  - b) as a trustee, if the interest was acquired in the ordinary course of an occupation not related to their duties as the holder of a position required to make a return.
7. An interest in a parcel of real property need not be disclosed in a return if the person ceased to hold the interest prior to becoming a designated person.
8. For the purposes of clause 5 of this schedule, "interest" includes an option to purchase.

### Gifts

9. A person making a return under clause 4.18 of this code must disclose:
  - a) a description of each gift received in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
  - b) the name and address of the donor of each of the gifts.
10. A gift need not be included in a return if:
  - a) it did not exceed \$500, unless it was among gifts totalling more than \$500 made by the same person during a period of 12 months or less, or
  - b) it was a political donation disclosed, or required to be disclosed, under Part 3 of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*, or
  - c) the donor was a relative of the donee, or
  - d) subject to paragraph (a), it was received prior to the person becoming a designated person.
11. For the purposes of clause 10 of this schedule, the amount of a gift other than money is an amount equal to the value of the property given.

### Contributions to travel

12. A person making a return under clause 4.18 of this code must disclose:
  - a) the name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to the expenses of any travel undertaken by the person in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
  - b) the dates on which the travel was undertaken, and

- c) the names of the states and territories, and of the overseas countries, in which the travel was undertaken.
13. A financial or other contribution to any travel need not be disclosed under this clause if it:
- a) was made from public funds (including a contribution arising from travel on free passes issued under an Act or from travel in government or council vehicles), or
  - b) was made by a relative of the traveller, or
  - c) was made in the ordinary course of an occupation of the traveller that is not related to their functions as the holder of a position requiring the making of a return, or
  - d) did not exceed \$250, unless it was among gifts totalling more than \$250 made by the same person during a 12-month period or less, or
  - e) was a political donation disclosed, or required to be disclosed, under Part 3 of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*, or
  - f) was made by a political party of which the traveller was a member and the travel was undertaken for the purpose of political activity of the party in New South Wales, or to enable the traveller to represent the party within Australia, or
  - g) subject to paragraph (d) it was received prior to the person becoming a designated person.
14. For the purposes of clause 13 of this schedule, the amount of a contribution (other than a financial contribution) is an amount equal to the value of the contribution.

#### Interests and positions in corporations

15. A person making a return under clause 4.18 of this code must disclose:
- a) the name and address of each corporation in which they had an interest or held a position (whether remunerated or not) on the return date, and
  - b) the name and address of each corporation in which they had an interest or held a position in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
  - c) the nature of the interest, or the position held, in each of the corporations, and
  - d) a description of the principal objects (if any) of each of the corporations, except in the case of a listed company.
16. An interest in, or a position held in, a corporation need not be disclosed if the corporation is:
- a) formed for the purpose of providing recreation or amusement, or for promoting commerce, industry, art, science, religion or charity, or for any other community purpose, and
  - b) required to apply its profits or other income in promoting its objects, and
  - c) prohibited from paying any dividend to its members.

17. An interest in a corporation need not be disclosed if the interest is a beneficial interest in shares in a company that does not exceed 10 per cent of the voting rights in the company.

18. An interest or a position in a corporation need not be disclosed if the person ceased to hold the interest or position prior to becoming a designated person.

Interests as a property developer or a close associate of a property developer

19. A person making a return under clause 4.18 of this code must disclose whether they were a property developer, or a close associate of a corporation that, or an individual who, is a property developer, on the return date.

20. For the purposes of clause 19 of this schedule:

*close associate*, in relation to a corporation or an individual, has the same meaning as it has in section 53 of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*.

*property developer* has the same meaning as it has in Division 7 of Part 3 of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*.

Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations

21. A person making a return under clause 4.18 of the code must disclose:

- a) the name of each trade union, and of each professional or business association, in which they held any position (whether remunerated or not) on the return date, and
- b) the name of each trade union, and of each professional or business association, in which they have held any position (whether remunerated or not) in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
- c) a description of the position held in each of the unions and associations.

22. A position held in a trade union or a professional or business association need not be disclosed if the person ceased to hold the position prior to becoming a designated person.

Dispositions of real property

23. A person making a return under clause 4.18 of this code must disclose particulars of each disposition of real property by the person (including the street address of the affected property) in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, under which they wholly or partly retained the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property.

24. A person making a return under clause 4.18 of this code must disclose particulars of each disposition of real property to another person (including the street address of the affected property) in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, that is made under arrangements with, but is not made by, the person making the return, being a disposition under

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which the person making the return obtained wholly or partly the use of the property.

25. A disposition of real property need not be disclosed if it was made prior to a person becoming a designated person.

#### Sources of income

26. A person making a return under clause 4.18 of this code must disclose:
- a) each source of income that the person reasonably expects to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June, and
  - b) each source of income received by the person in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year.
27. A reference in clause 26 of this schedule to each source of income received, or reasonably expected to be received, by a person is a reference to:
- a) in relation to income from an occupation of the person:
    - (i) a description of the occupation, and
    - (ii) if the person is employed or the holder of an office, the name and address of their employer, or a description of the office, and
    - (iii) if the person has entered into a partnership with other persons, the name (if any) under which the partnership is conducted, or
  - b) in relation to income from a trust, the name and address of the settlor and the trustee, or
  - c) in relation to any other income, a description sufficient to identify the person from whom, or the circumstances in which, the income was, or is reasonably expected to be, received.
28. The source of any income need not be disclosed by a person in a return if the amount of the income received, or reasonably expected to be received, by the person from that source did not exceed \$500, or is not reasonably expected to exceed \$500, as the case may be.
29. The source of any income received by the person that they ceased to receive prior to becoming a designated person need not be disclosed.

#### Debts

30. A person making a return under clause 4.18 of this code must disclose the name and address of each person to whom the person was liable to pay any debt:
- a) on the return date, and
  - b) at any time in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year.
31. A liability to pay a debt must be disclosed by a person in a return made under clause 4.18 whether or not the amount, or any part of the amount, to be paid was due and payable on the return date or at any time in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, as the case may be.



32. A liability to pay a debt need not be disclosed by a person in a return if:
- a) the amount to be paid did not exceed \$500 on the return date or in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, as the case may be, unless:
    - (i) the debt was one of two or more debts that the person was liable to pay to one person on the return date, or at any time in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, as the case may be, and
    - (ii) the amounts to be paid exceeded, in the aggregate, \$500, or
  - b) the person was liable to pay the debt to a relative, or
  - c) in the case of a debt arising from a loan of money the person was liable to pay the debt to an authorised deposit-taking institution or other person whose ordinary business includes the lending of money, and the loan was made in the ordinary course of business of the lender, or
  - d) in the case of a debt arising from the supply of goods or services:
    - (i) the goods or services were supplied in the period of 12 months immediately preceding the return date, or were supplied in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, as the case may be, or
    - (ii) the goods or services were supplied in the ordinary course of any occupation of the person that is not related to their duties as the holder of a position required to make a return, or
  - e) subject to paragraph (a), the debt was discharged prior to the person becoming a designated person.

Discretionary disclosures

33. A person may voluntarily disclose in a return any interest, benefit, advantage or liability, whether pecuniary or not, that is not required to be disclosed under another provision of this Schedule.

**SCHEDULE 2: FORM OF WRITTEN RETURN OF INTERESTS SUBMITTED UNDER CLAUSE 4.18**'Disclosures by councillors and designated persons' return

1. The pecuniary interests and other matters to be disclosed in this return are prescribed by Schedule 1 of the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* (the Model Code of Conduct).
2. If this is the first return you have been required to lodge with the general manager after becoming a councillor or designated person, do not complete Parts C, D and I of the return. All other parts of the return should be completed with appropriate information based on your circumstances at the return date, that is, the date on which you became a councillor or designated person.
3. If you have previously lodged a return with the general manager and you are completing this return for the purposes of disclosing a new interest that was not disclosed in the last return you lodged with the general manager, you must complete all parts of the return with appropriate information for the period from 30 June of the previous financial year or the date on which you became a councillor or designated person, (whichever is the later date), to the return date which is the date you became aware of the new interest to be disclosed in your updated return.
4. If you have previously lodged a return with the general manager and are submitting a new return for the new financial year, you must complete all parts of the return with appropriate information for the 12-month period commencing on 30 June of the previous year to 30 June this year.
5. This form must be completed using block letters or typed.
6. If there is insufficient space for all the information you are required to disclose, you must attach an appendix which is to be properly identified and signed by you.
7. If there are no pecuniary interests or other matters of the kind required to be disclosed under a heading in this form, the word "NIL" is to be placed in an appropriate space under that heading.

Important information

This information is being collected for the purpose of complying with clause 4.21 of the Model Code of Conduct.

You must not lodge a return that you know or ought reasonably to know is false or misleading in a material particular (see clause 4.23 of the Model Code of Conduct). Complaints about breaches of these requirements are to be referred to the Office of Local Government and may result in disciplinary action by the council, the Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government or the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

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The information collected on this form will be kept by the general manager in a register of returns. The general manager is required to table all returns at a council meeting.

Information contained in returns made and lodged under clause 4.21 is to be made publicly available in accordance with the requirements of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*, the *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009* and any guidelines issued by the Information Commissioner.

You have an obligation to keep the information contained in this return up to date. If you become aware of a new interest that must be disclosed in this return, or an interest that you have previously failed to disclose, you must submit an updated return within three months of becoming aware of the previously undisclosed interest.

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by [full name of councillor or designated person]

as at [return date]

in respect of the period from [date] to [date]

[councillor's or designated person's signature]  
[date]

#### A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest

#### B. Sources of income

1 Sources of income I reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June

Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)

2 Sources of income I reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June

Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee

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3 Sources of other income I reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June

Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

*[Include description sufficient to identify the person from whom, or the circumstances in which, that income was received]*

#### C. Gifts

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
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#### D. Contributions to travel

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
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#### E. Interests and positions in corporations

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
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F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

#### G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
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#### H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June
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#### I. Dispositions of property

1 Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the

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street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

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2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

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J. Discretionary disclosures

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**The Model Code of Conduct  
for Local Councils in NSW**

**Code of Conduct for Council  
Committee Members, Delegates of  
Council and Council Advisers**

**2020**

**Adopted Council Meeting 26 August 2020**

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## **PART 1 INTRODUCTION**

This code of conduct applies to council committee members and delegates of council who are not councillors or staff of the council. It also applies to advisers of council for the purposes of clause 4.12. It is based on the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* ("the Model Code of Conduct") which is made under section 440 of the *Local Government Act 1993* ("LGA") and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* ("the Regulation").

The Model Code of Conduct sets the minimum standards of conduct for council officials. It is prescribed by regulation to assist council officials to:

- understand and comply with the standards of conduct that are expected of them
- enable them to fulfil their statutory duty to act honestly and exercise a reasonable degree of care and diligence (section 439)
- act in a way that enhances public confidence in local government.

Section 440 of the LGA requires every council (including county councils) and joint organisation to adopt a code of conduct that incorporates the provisions of the Model Code of Conduct. A council's or joint organisation's adopted code of conduct may also include provisions that supplement the Model Code of Conduct and that extend its application to persons that are not "council officials" for the purposes of the Model Code of Conduct (eg volunteers, contractors and members of wholly advisory committees).

A council's or joint organisation's adopted code of conduct has no effect to the extent that it is inconsistent with the Model Code of Conduct. However, a council's or joint organisation's adopted code of conduct may prescribe requirements that are more onerous than those prescribed in the Model Code of Conduct.

Councillors, administrators, members of staff of councils, delegates of councils, (including members of council committees that are delegates of a council) and any other person a council's adopted code of conduct applies to, must comply with the applicable provisions of their council's code of conduct. It is the personal responsibility of council officials to comply with the standards in the code and to regularly review their personal circumstances and conduct with this in mind.

Failure by a council committee member or delegate of the council to comply with a council's code of conduct may give rise to disciplinary action.

**Note:** References in this code of conduct to councils are also to be taken as references to county councils and joint organisations.

**Note:** In adopting this code of conduct, joint organisations should adapt it to substitute the terms "board" for "council", "chairperson" for "mayor", "voting representative" for "councillor" and "executive officer" for "general manager".

**Note:** In adopting this code of conduct, county councils should adapt it to substitute the term "chairperson" for "mayor" and "member" for "councillor".



## PART 2 DEFINITIONS

In this code the following terms have the following meanings:

committee	see the definition of “council committee”
complaint	a code of conduct complaint made for the purposes of clauses 4.1 and 4.2 of the Procedures.
conduct	includes acts and omissions
council	includes county councils and joint organisations
council committee	a committee established by a council comprising of councillors, staff or other persons that the council has delegated functions to and the council's audit, risk and improvement committee
council committee member	a person other than a councillor or member of staff of a council who is a member of a council committee other than a wholly advisory committee, and a person other than a councillor who is a member of the council's audit, risk and improvement committee
council official	includes councillors, members of staff of a council, administrators, council committee members, delegates of council and, for the purposes of clause 4.12, council advisers
councillor	any person elected or appointed to civic office, including the mayor and includes members and chairpersons of county councils and voting representatives of the boards of joint organisations and chairpersons of joint organisations
delegate of council	a person (other than a councillor or member of staff of a council) or body, and the individual members of that body, to whom a function of the council is delegated
designated person	a person referred to in clause 4.8
election campaign	includes council, state and federal election campaigns
general manager	includes the executive officer of a joint organisation
joint organisation	a joint organisation established under section 400O of the LGA

LGA	the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>
mayor	includes the chairperson of a county council or a joint organisation
members of staff of a council	includes members of staff of county councils and joint organisations
the Office	Office of Local Government
personal information	information or an opinion (including information or an opinion forming part of a database and whether or not recorded in a material form) about an individual whose identity is apparent or can reasonably be ascertained from the information or opinion
the Procedures	the <i>Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW</i> prescribed under the Regulation
the Regulation	the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2005</i>
wholly advisory committee	a council committee that the council has not delegated any functions to

### **PART 3      GENERAL CONDUCT OBLIGATIONS**

#### General conduct

- 3.1 You must not conduct yourself in a manner that:
- a) is likely to bring the council or other council officials into disrepute
  - b) is contrary to statutory requirements or the council's administrative requirements or policies
  - c) is improper or unethical
  - d) is an abuse of power
  - e) causes, comprises or involves intimidation or verbal abuse
  - f) involves the misuse of your position to obtain a private benefit
  - g) constitutes harassment or bullying behaviour under this code, or is unlawfully discriminatory.
- 3.2 You must act lawfully and honestly, and exercise a reasonable degree of care and diligence in carrying out your functions under the LGA or any other Act. (*section 439*).

#### Fairness and equity

- 3.3 You must consider issues consistently, promptly and fairly. You must deal with matters in accordance with established procedures, in a non-discriminatory manner.
- 3.4 You must take all relevant facts known to you, or that you should be reasonably aware of, into consideration and have regard to the particular merits of each case. You must not take irrelevant matters or circumstances into consideration when making decisions.
- 3.5 An act or omission in good faith, whether or not it involves error, will not constitute a breach of clauses 3.3 or 3.4.

#### Harassment and discrimination

- 3.6 You must not harass or unlawfully discriminate against others, or support others who harass or unlawfully discriminate against others, on the grounds of age, disability, race (including colour, national or ethnic origin or immigrant status), sex, pregnancy, marital or relationship status, family responsibilities or breastfeeding, sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status or political, religious or other affiliation.
- 3.7 For the purposes of this code, "harassment" is any form of behaviour towards a person that:
- a) is not wanted by the person
  - b) offends, humiliates or intimidates the person, and
  - c) creates a hostile environment.

Bullying

3.8 You must not engage in bullying behaviour towards others.

3.9 For the purposes of this code, “bullying behaviour” is any behaviour in which:

- a) a person or a group of people repeatedly behaves unreasonably towards another person or a group of persons, and
- b) the behaviour creates a risk to health and safety.

3.10 Bullying behaviour may involve, but is not limited to, any of the following types of behaviour:

- a) aggressive, threatening or intimidating conduct
- b) belittling or humiliating comments
- c) spreading malicious rumours
- d) teasing, practical jokes or ‘initiation ceremonies’
- e) exclusion from work-related events
- f) unreasonable work expectations, including too much or too little work, or work below or beyond a worker's skill level
- g) displaying offensive material
- h) pressure to behave in an inappropriate manner.

3.11 Reasonable management action carried out in a reasonable manner does not constitute bullying behaviour for the purposes of this code. Examples of reasonable management action may include, but are not limited to:

- a) performance management processes
- b) disciplinary action for misconduct
- c) informing a worker about unsatisfactory work performance or inappropriate work behaviour
- d) directing a worker to perform duties in keeping with their job
- e) maintaining reasonable workplace goals and standards
- f) legitimately exercising a regulatory function
- g) legitimately implementing a council policy or administrative processes.

Work health and safety

3.12 All council officials, including councillors, owe statutory duties under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (WHS Act). You must comply with your duties under the WHS Act and your responsibilities under any policies or procedures adopted by the council to ensure workplace health and safety. Specifically, you must:

- a) take reasonable care for your own health and safety
- b) take reasonable care that your acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons
- c) comply, so far as you are reasonably able, with any reasonable instruction that is given to ensure compliance with the WHS Act and any policies or procedures adopted by the council to ensure workplace health and safety
- d) cooperate with any reasonable policy or procedure of the council relating to workplace health or safety that has been notified to council staff

- e) report accidents, incidents, near misses, to the general manager or such other staff member nominated by the general manager, and take part in any incident investigations
- f) so far as is reasonably practicable, consult, co-operate and coordinate with all others who have a duty under the WHS Act in relation to the same matter.

Land use planning, development assessment and other regulatory functions

- 3.13 You must ensure that land use planning, development assessment and other regulatory decisions are properly made, and that all parties are dealt with fairly. You must avoid any occasion for suspicion of improper conduct in the exercise of land use planning, development assessment and other regulatory functions.
- 3.14 In exercising land use planning, development assessment and other regulatory functions, you must ensure that no action, statement or communication between yourself and others conveys any suggestion of willingness to improperly provide concessions or preferential or unduly unfavourable treatment.

Obligations in relation to meetings

- 3.15 You must comply with rulings by the chair at council and committee meetings or other proceedings of the council unless a motion dissenting from the ruling is passed.
- 3.16 You must not engage in bullying behaviour (as defined under this Part) towards the chair, other council officials or any members of the public present during council or committee meetings or other proceedings of the council (such as, but not limited to, workshops and briefing sessions).
- 3.17 You must not engage in conduct that disrupts council or committee meetings or other proceedings of the council (such as, but not limited to, workshops and briefing sessions), or that would otherwise be inconsistent with the orderly conduct of meetings.

**PART 4      PECUNIARY INTERESTS**What is a pecuniary interest?

- 4.1 A pecuniary interest is an interest that you have in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to you or a person referred to in clause 4.3.
- 4.2 You will not have a pecuniary interest in a matter if the interest is so remote or insignificant that it could not reasonably be regarded as likely to influence any decision you might make in relation to the matter, or if the interest is of a kind specified in clause 4.6.
- 4.3 For the purposes of this Part, you will have a pecuniary interest in a matter if the pecuniary interest is:
- (a) your interest, or
  - (b) the interest of your spouse or de facto partner, your relative, or your partner or employer, or
  - (c) a company or other body of which you, or your nominee, partner or employer, is a shareholder or member.
- 4.4 For the purposes of clause 4.3:
- (a) Your “relative” is any of the following:
    - i) your parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child
    - ii) your spouse’s or de facto partner’s parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child
    - iii) the spouse or de facto partner of a person referred to in paragraphs (i) and (ii).
  - (b) “de facto partner” has the same meaning as defined in section 21C of the *Interpretation Act 1987*.
- 4.5 You will not have a pecuniary interest in relation to a person referred to in subclauses 4.3(b) or (c):
- (a) if you are unaware of the relevant pecuniary interest of your spouse, de facto partner, relative, partner, employer or company or other body, or
  - (b) just because the person is a member of, or is employed by, a council or a statutory body, or is employed by the Crown, or
  - (c) just because the person is a member of, or a delegate of a council to, a company or other body that has a pecuniary interest in the matter, so long as the person has no beneficial interest in any shares of the company or body.

What interests do not have to be disclosed?

- 4.6 You do not have to disclose the following interests for the purposes of this Part:
- (a) your interest as an elector
  - (b) your interest as a ratepayer or person liable to pay a charge
  - (c) an interest you have in any matter relating to the terms on which the provision of a service or the supply of goods or commodities is

offered to the public generally, or to a section of the public that includes persons who are not subject to this code

- (d) an interest you have in any matter relating to the terms on which the provision of a service or the supply of goods or commodities is offered to your relative by the council in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as apply to persons who are not subject to this code
- (e) an interest you have as a member of a club or other organisation or association, unless the interest is as the holder of an office in the club or organisation (whether remunerated or not)
- (f) if you are a council committee member, an interest you have as a person chosen to represent the community, or as a member of a non-profit organisation or other community or special interest group, if you have been appointed to represent the organisation or group on the council committee
- (g) an interest you have relating to a contract, proposed contract or other matter, if the interest arises only because of a beneficial interest in shares in a company that does not exceed 10 per cent of the voting rights in the company
- (h) an interest you have arising from the proposed making by the council of an agreement between the council and a corporation, association or partnership, being a corporation, association or partnership that has more than 25 members, if the interest arises because your relative is a shareholder (but not a director) of the corporation, or is a member (but not a member of the committee) of the association, or is a partner of the partnership
- (i) an interest you have arising from the making by the council of a contract or agreement with your relative for, or in relation to, any of the following, but only if the proposed contract or agreement is similar in terms and conditions to such contracts and agreements as have been made, or as are proposed to be made, by the council in respect of similar matters with other residents of the area:
  - i) the performance by the council at the expense of your relative of any work or service in connection with roads or sanitation
  - ii) security for damage to footpaths or roads
  - iii) any other service to be rendered, or act to be done, by the council by or under any Act conferring functions on the council, or by or under any contract
- (j) an interest of a person arising from the passing for payment of a regular account for the wages or salary of an employee who is a relative of the person
- (k) an interest arising from being covered by, or a proposal to be covered by, indemnity insurance as a council committee member

- 4.7 For the purposes of clause 4.6, "relative" has the same meaning as in clause 4.4, but includes your spouse or de facto partner.

What disclosures must be made by a designated person?

4.8 Designated persons include:

- (a) a person who is a delegate of the council and who holds a position identified by the council as the position of a designated person because it involves the exercise of functions (such as regulatory functions or contractual functions) that, in their exercise, could give rise to a conflict between the person's duty as a delegate and the person's private interest
- (b) a person (other than a member of the senior staff of the council) who is a member of a committee of the council identified by the council as a committee whose members are designated persons because the functions of the committee involve the exercise of the council's functions (such as regulatory functions or contractual functions) that, in their exercise, could give rise to a conflict between the member's duty as a member of the committee and the member's private interest.

4.9 A designated person:

- (a) must prepare and submit written returns of interests in accordance with clause 4.15, and
- (b) must disclose pecuniary interests in accordance with clause 4.10.

4.10 A designated person must disclose in writing to the general manager the nature of any pecuniary interest the person has in any council matter with which the person is dealing as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the interest.

4.11 The general manager must, on receiving a disclosure from a designated person, deal with the matter to which the disclosure relates or refer it to another person to deal with.

What disclosures must be made by council advisers?

4.12 A person who, at the request or with the consent of the council or a council committee, gives advice on any matter at any meeting of the council or committee, must disclose the nature of any pecuniary interest the person has in the matter to the meeting at the time the advice is given. The person is not required to disclose the person's interest as an adviser.

4.13 A person does not breach clause 4.12 if the person did not know, and could not reasonably be expected to have known, that the matter under consideration at the meeting was a matter in which they had a pecuniary interest.

What disclosures must be made by a council committee member?

4.14 A council committee member must disclose pecuniary interests in accordance with clause 4.22 and comply with clause 4.23.

**Note: A council committee member identified by council as a "designated person" for the purposes of clause 4.8(b) must also prepare and submit written returns of interests in accordance with clause 4.15.**



Disclosure of interests in written returns

- 4.15 A designated person must make and lodge with the general manager a return in the form set out in schedule 2 to this code, disclosing the designated person's interests as specified in schedule 1 to this code within 3 months after:
- (a) becoming a designated person, and
  - (b) 30 June of each year, and
  - (c) the designated person becoming aware of an interest they are required to disclose under schedule 1 that has not been previously disclosed in a return lodged under paragraphs (a) or (b).
- 4.16 A person need not make and lodge a return under clause 4.15, paragraphs (a) and (b) if:
- (a) they made and lodged a return under that clause in the preceding 3 months, or
  - (b) they have ceased to be a designated person in the preceding 3 months.
- 4.17 A person must not make and lodge a return that the person knows or ought reasonably to know is false or misleading in a material particular.
- 4.18 The general manager must keep a register of returns required to be made and lodged with the general manager.
- 4.19 Returns required to be lodged with the general manager under clause 4.15(a) and (b) must be tabled at the first meeting of the council after the last day the return is required to be lodged.
- 4.20 Returns required to be lodged with the general manager under clause 4.15(c) must be tabled at the next council meeting after the return is lodged.
- 4.21 Information contained in returns made and lodged under clause 4.15 is to be made publicly available in accordance with the requirements of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*, the *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009* and any guidelines issued by the Information Commissioner.

Disclosure of pecuniary interests at meetings

- 4.22 A council committee member who has a pecuniary interest in any matter with which the council is concerned, and who is present at a meeting of the committee at which the matter is being considered, must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable.
- 4.23 The council committee member must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting of the committee:
- (a) at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by the committee, or
  - (b) at any time during which the committee is voting on any question in relation to the matter.

- 4.24 A disclosure made at a meeting of a council committee must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- 4.25 A general notice may be given to the general manager in writing by a council committee member to the effect that the council committee member, or the council committee member's spouse, de facto partner or relative, is:
- (a) a member of, or in the employment of, a specified company or other body, or
  - (b) a partner of, or in the employment of, a specified person.
- Such a notice is, unless and until the notice is withdrawn or until the end of the term of the council in which it is given (whichever is the sooner), sufficient disclosure of the council committee member's interest in a matter relating to the specified company, body or person that may be the subject of consideration by the council committee after the date of the notice.
- 4.26 A council committee member is not prevented from being present at and taking part in a meeting at which a matter is being considered, or from voting on the matter, merely because the council committee member has an interest in the matter of a kind referred to in clause 4.6.
- 4.27 A person does not breach clauses 4.22 or 4.23 if the person did not know, and could not reasonably be expected to have known, that the matter under consideration at the meeting was a matter in which they had a pecuniary interest.
- 4.28 The Minister for Local Government may, conditionally or unconditionally, allow a council committee member who has a pecuniary interest in a matter with which the council is concerned to be present at a meeting of the committee, to take part in the consideration or discussion of the matter and to vote on the matter if the Minister is of the opinion that it is in the interests of the electors for the area to do so.
- 4.29 A council committee member with a pecuniary interest in a matter who is permitted to be present at a meeting of the committee, to take part in the consideration or discussion of the matter and to vote on the matter under clause 4.28, must still disclose the interest they have in the matter in accordance with clause 4.22.

## **PART 5 NON-PECUNIARY CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

### What is a non-pecuniary conflict of interest?

- 5.1 Non-pecuniary interests are private or personal interests a council official has that do not amount to a pecuniary interest as defined in clause 4.1 of this code. These commonly arise out of family or personal relationships, or out of involvement in sporting, social, religious or other cultural groups and associations, and may include an interest of a financial nature.
- 5.2 A non-pecuniary conflict of interest exists where a reasonable and informed person would perceive that you could be influenced by a private interest when carrying out your official functions in relation to a matter.
- 5.3 The personal or political views of a council official do not constitute a private interest for the purposes of clause 5.2.
- 5.4 Non-pecuniary conflicts of interest must be identified and appropriately managed to uphold community confidence in the probity of council decision-making. The onus is on you to identify any non-pecuniary conflict of interest you may have in matters that you deal with, to disclose the interest fully and in writing, and to take appropriate action to manage the conflict in accordance with this code.
- 5.5 When considering whether or not you have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter you are dealing with, it is always important to think about how others would view your situation.

### Managing non-pecuniary conflicts of interest

- 5.6 Where you have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter for the purposes of clause 5.2, you must disclose the relevant private interest you have in relation to the matter fully and in writing as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the non-pecuniary conflict of interest and on each occasion on which the non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises in relation to the matter.
- 5.7 If a disclosure is made at a committee meeting, both the disclosure and the nature of the interest must be recorded in the minutes on each occasion on which the non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises. This disclosure constitutes disclosure in writing for the purposes of clause 5.6.
- 5.8 How you manage a non-pecuniary conflict of interest will depend on whether or not it is significant.
- 5.9 As a general rule, a non-pecuniary conflict of interest will be significant where it does not involve a pecuniary interest for the purposes of clause 4.1, but it involves:
  - a) a relationship between a council official and another person who is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that is particularly close, such as a current or former spouse or de facto partner, a relative for the purposes of clause 4.4 or another person from the council official's extended family that the council official has a

close personal relationship with, or another person living in the same household

- b) other relationships with persons who are affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that are particularly close, such as friendships and business relationships. Closeness is defined by the nature of the friendship or business relationship, the frequency of contact and the duration of the friendship or relationship.
- c) an affiliation between the council official and an organisation (such as a sporting body, club, religious, cultural or charitable organisation, corporation or association) that is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that is particularly strong. The strength of a council official's affiliation with an organisation is to be determined by the extent to which they actively participate in the management, administration or other activities of the organisation.
- d) membership, as the council's representative, of the board or management committee of an organisation that is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration, in circumstances where the interests of the council and the organisation are potentially in conflict in relation to the particular matter
- e) a financial interest (other than an interest of a type referred to in clause 4.6) that is not a pecuniary interest for the purposes of clause 4.1
- f) the conferral or loss of a personal benefit other than one conferred or lost as a member of the community or a broader class of people affected by a decision.

5.10 Significant non-pecuniary conflicts of interest must be managed in one of two ways:

- a) by not participating in consideration of, or decision making in relation to, the matter in which you have the significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest and the matter being allocated to another person for consideration or determination, or
- b) if the significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises in relation to a matter under consideration at a committee meeting, by managing the conflict of interest as if you had a pecuniary interest in the matter by complying with clauses 4.22 and 4.23.

5.11 If you determine that you have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter that is not significant and does not require further action, when disclosing the interest you must also explain in writing why you consider that the non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances.

5.12 Council committee members are not required to declare and manage a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in accordance with the requirements of this Part where it arises from an interest they have as a person chosen to represent the community, or as a member of a non-profit organisation or other community or special interest group, if they have been appointed to represent the organisation or group on the council committee.

Loss of quorum as a result of compliance with this Part

5.13 The Minister for Local Government may, conditionally or unconditionally, allow a council committee member who is precluded under this Part from participating in the consideration of a matter to be present at a meeting of the committee, to take part in the consideration or discussion of the matter and to vote on the matter if the Minister is of the opinion that it is in the interests of the electors for the area to do so.

5.14 Where the Minister exempts a committee member from complying with a requirement under this Part under clause 5.13, the committee member must still disclose any interests they have in the matter the exemption applies to, in accordance with clause 5.6.

Personal dealings with council

5.15 You may have reason to deal with your council in your personal capacity (for example, as a ratepayer, recipient of a council service or applicant for a development consent granted by council). You must not expect or request preferential treatment in relation to any matter in which you have a private interest because of your position. You must avoid any action that could lead members of the public to believe that you are seeking preferential treatment.

5.16 You must undertake any personal dealings you have with the council in a manner that is consistent with the way other members of the community deal with the council. You must also ensure that you disclose and appropriately manage any conflict of interest you may have in any matter in accordance with the requirements of this code.

## **PART 6      PERSONAL BENEFIT**

- 6.1 For the purposes of this Part, a gift or a benefit is something offered to or received by a council official or someone personally associated with them for their personal use and enjoyment.
- 6.2 A reference to a gift or benefit in this Part does not include:
- a) items with a value of \$10 or less
  - b) a political donation for the purposes of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*
  - c) a gift provided to the council as part of a cultural exchange or sister-city relationship that is not converted for the personal use or enjoyment of any individual council official or someone personally associated with them
  - d) attendance by a council official at a work-related event or function for the purposes of performing their official duties, or
  - e) free or subsidised meals, beverages or refreshments provided to council officials in conjunction with the performance of their official duties such as, but not limited to:
    - i) the discussion of official business
    - ii) work-related events such as council-sponsored or community events, training, education sessions or workshops
    - iii) conferences
    - iv) council functions or events
    - v) social functions organised by groups, such as council committees and community organisations.

### Gifts and benefits

- 6.3 You must avoid situations that would give rise to the appearance that a person or body is attempting to secure favourable treatment from you or from the council, through the provision of gifts, benefits or hospitality of any kind to you or someone personally associated with you.
- 6.4 A gift or benefit is deemed to have been accepted by you for the purposes of this Part, where it is received by you or someone personally associated with you.

### How are offers of gifts and benefits to be dealt with?

- 6.5 You must not:
- a) seek or accept a bribe or other improper inducement
  - b) seek gifts or benefits of any kind
  - c) accept any gift or benefit that may create a sense of obligation on your part, or may be perceived to be intended or likely to influence you in carrying out your public duty
  - d) subject to clause 6.7, accept any gift or benefit of more than token value as defined by clause 6.9

- e) accept an offer of cash or a cash-like gift as defined by clause 6.13, regardless of the amount
  - f) participate in competitions for prizes where eligibility is based on the council being in or entering into a customer–supplier relationship with the competition organiser
  - g) personally benefit from reward points programs when purchasing on behalf of the council.
- 6.6 Where you receive a gift or benefit of any value other than one referred to in clause 6.2, you must disclose this promptly to the general manager in writing. The general manager must ensure that, at a minimum, the following details are recorded in the council's gift register:
- a) the nature of the gift or benefit
  - b) the estimated monetary value of the gift or benefit
  - c) the name of the person who provided the gift or benefit, and
  - d) the date on which the gift or benefit was received.
- 6.7 Where you receive a gift or benefit of more than token value that cannot reasonably be refused or returned, the gift or benefit must be surrendered to the council, unless the nature of the gift or benefit makes this impractical.

#### Gifts and benefits of token value

- 6.8 You may accept gifts and benefits of token value. Gifts and benefits of token value are one or more gifts or benefits received from a person or organisation over a 12-month period that, when aggregated, do not exceed a value of \$100. They include, but are not limited to:
- a) invitations to and attendance at local social, cultural or sporting events with a ticket value that does not exceed \$100
  - b) gifts of alcohol that do not exceed a value of \$100
  - c) ties, scarves, coasters, tie pins, diaries, chocolates or flowers or the like
  - d) prizes or awards that do not exceed \$100 in value.

#### Gifts and benefits of more than token value

- 6.9 Gifts or benefits that exceed \$100 in value are gifts or benefits of more than token value for the purposes of clause 6.5(d) and, subject to clause 6.7, must not be accepted.
- 6.10 Gifts and benefits of more than token value include, but are not limited to, tickets to major sporting events (such as international matches or matches in national sporting codes) with a ticket value that exceeds \$100, corporate hospitality at a corporate facility at major sporting events, free or discounted products or services for personal use provided on terms that are not available to the general public or a broad class of persons, the use of holiday homes, artworks, free or discounted travel.
- 6.11 Where you have accepted a gift or benefit of token value from a person or organisation, you must not accept a further gift or benefit from the same person or organisation or another person associated with that person or organisation within a single 12-month period where the value of the gift, added to the value

of earlier gifts received from the same person or organisation, or a person associated with that person or organisation, during the same 12-month period would exceed \$100 in value.

- 6.12 For the purposes of this Part, the value of a gift or benefit is the monetary value of the gift or benefit inclusive of GST.

“Cash-like gifts”

- 6.13 For the purposes of clause 6.5(e), “cash-like gifts” include but are not limited to, gift vouchers, credit cards, debit cards with credit on them, prepayments such as phone or internet credit, lottery tickets, memberships or entitlements to discounts that are not available to the general public or a broad class of persons.

Improper and undue influence

- 6.14 You must not use your position to influence other council officials in the performance of their official functions to obtain a private benefit for yourself or for somebody else.
- 6.15 You must not take advantage (or seek to take advantage) of your status or position with council, or of functions you perform for council, in order to obtain a private benefit for yourself or for any other person or body.



## **PART 7 ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND COUNCIL RESOURCES**

### Use of certain council information

7.1 In regard to information obtained in your capacity as a council official, you must:

- a) only access council information needed for council business
- b) not use that council information for private purposes
- c) not seek or obtain, either directly or indirectly, any financial benefit or other improper advantage for yourself, or any other person or body, from any information to which you have access by virtue of your position with council
- d) only release council information in accordance with established council policies and procedures and in compliance with relevant legislation.

### Use and security of confidential information

7.2 You must maintain the integrity and security of confidential information in your possession, or for which you are responsible.

7.3 In addition to your general obligations relating to the use of council information, you must:

- a) only access confidential information that you have been authorised to access and only do so for the purposes of exercising your official functions
- b) protect confidential information
- c) only release confidential information if you have authority to do so
- d) only use confidential information for the purpose for which it is intended to be used
- e) not use confidential information gained through your official position for the purpose of securing a private benefit for yourself or for any other person
- f) not use confidential information with the intention to cause harm or detriment to the council or any other person or body
- g) not disclose any confidential information discussed during a confidential session of a council or committee meeting or any other confidential forum (such as, but not limited to, workshops or briefing sessions).

### Personal information

7.4 When dealing with personal information you must comply with:

- a) the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*
- b) the *Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002*
- c) the Information Protection Principles and Health Privacy Principles
- d) the council's privacy management plan
- e) the Privacy Code of Practice for Local Government

### Use of council resources

- 7.5 You must use council resources ethically, effectively, efficiently and carefully in exercising your official functions, and must not use them for private purposes unless this use is lawfully authorised and proper payment is made where appropriate.
- 7.6 You must be scrupulous in your use of council property, including intellectual property, official services, facilities, technology and electronic devices and must not permit their misuse by any other person or body.
- 7.7 You must avoid any action or situation that could create the appearance that council property, official services or public facilities are being improperly used for your benefit or the benefit of any other person or body.
- 7.8 You must not use council resources (including council staff), property or facilities for the purpose of assisting the election campaigns of others unless the resources, property or facilities are otherwise available for use or hire by the public and any publicly advertised fee is paid for use of the resources, property or facility.
- 7.9 You must not use the council letterhead, council crests, council email or social media or other information that could give the appearance it is official council material:
  - a) for the purpose of assisting your election campaign or the election campaign of others, or
  - b) for other non-official purposes.
- 7.10 You must not convert any property of the council to your own use unless properly authorised.

#### Internet access

- 7.11 You must not use council's computer resources or mobile or other devices to search for, access, download or communicate any material of an offensive, obscene, pornographic, threatening, abusive or defamatory nature, or that could otherwise lead to criminal penalty or civil liability and/or damage the council's reputation.

#### Council record keeping

- 7.12 You must comply with the requirements of the *State Records Act 1998* and the council's records management policy.

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- 7.13 All information created, sent and received in your official capacity is a council record and must be managed in accordance with the requirements of the *State Records Act 1998* and the council's approved records management policies and practices.
- 7.14 All information stored in either soft or hard copy on council supplied resources (including technology devices and email accounts) is deemed to be related to the business of the council and will be treated as council records, regardless of whether the original intention was to create the information for personal purposes.
- 7.15 You must not destroy, alter, or dispose of council information or records, unless authorised to do so. If you need to alter or dispose of council information or records, you must do so in consultation with the council's records manager and comply with the requirements of the *State Records Act 1998*.

**PART 8      MAINTAINING THE INTEGRITY OF THIS CODE**Complaints made for an improper purpose

- 8.1 You must not make or threaten to make a complaint or cause a complaint to be made alleging a breach of this code for an improper purpose.
- 8.2 For the purposes of clause 8.1, a complaint is made for an improper purpose where it is trivial, frivolous, vexatious or not made in good faith, or where it otherwise lacks merit and has been made substantially for one or more of the following purposes:
- a) to bully, intimidate or harass another council official
  - b) to damage another council official's reputation
  - c) to obtain a political advantage
  - d) to influence a council official in the exercise of their official functions or to prevent or disrupt the exercise of those functions
  - e) to influence the council in the exercise of its functions or to prevent or disrupt the exercise of those functions
  - f) to avoid disciplinary action under the Procedures
  - g) to take reprisal action against a person for making a complaint alleging a breach of this code
  - h) to take reprisal action against a person for exercising a function prescribed under the Procedures
  - i) to prevent or disrupt the effective administration of this code under the Procedures.

Detrimental action

- 8.3 You must not take detrimental action or cause detrimental action to be taken against a person substantially in reprisal for a complaint they have made alleging a breach of this code.
- 8.4 You must not take detrimental action or cause detrimental action to be taken against a person substantially in reprisal for any function they have exercised under the Procedures.
- 8.5 For the purposes of clauses 8.3 and 8.4, a detrimental action is an action causing, comprising or involving any of the following:
- a) injury, damage or loss
  - b) intimidation or harassment
  - c) discrimination, disadvantage or adverse treatment in relation to employment
  - d) dismissal from, or prejudice in, employment
  - e) disciplinary proceedings.

Compliance with requirements under the Procedures

- 8.6 You must not engage in conduct that is calculated to impede or disrupt the consideration of a matter under the Procedures.
- 8.7 You must comply with a reasonable and lawful request made by a person exercising a function under the Procedures. A failure to make a written or oral

submission invited under the Procedures will not constitute a breach of this clause.

- 8.8 You must comply with a practice ruling made by the Office under the Procedures.

Disclosure of information about the consideration of a matter under the Procedures

- 8.9 All allegations of breaches of this code must be dealt with under and in accordance with the Procedures.

- 8.10 You must not allege breaches of this code other than by way of a complaint made or initiated under the Procedures.

- 8.11 You must not make allegations about, or disclose information about, suspected breaches of this code at council, committee or other meetings, whether open to the public or not, or in any other forum, whether public or not.

- 8.12 You must not disclose information about a complaint you have made alleging a breach of this code or a matter being considered under the Procedures except for the purposes of seeking legal advice, unless the disclosure is otherwise permitted under the Procedures.

- 8.13 Nothing under this Part prevents a person from making a public interest disclosure to an appropriate public authority or investigative authority under the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994*.

Complaints alleging a breach of this Part

- 8.14 Complaints alleging a breach of this Part by a council committee member or delegate of council are to be managed by the general manager in accordance with the Procedures.

**SCHEDULE 1: DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS AND OTHER MATTERS IN WRITTEN RETURNS SUBMITTED UNDER CLAUSE 4.15**Part 1: PreliminaryDefinitions

1. For the purposes of the schedules to this code, the following definitions apply:

*address* means:

- a) in relation to a person other than a corporation, the last residential or business address of the person known to the designated person disclosing the address, or
- b) in relation to a corporation, the address of the registered office of the corporation in New South Wales or, if there is no such office, the address of the principal office of the corporation in the place where it is registered, or
- c) in relation to any real property, the street address of the property.

*de facto partner* has the same meaning as defined in section 21C of the *Interpretation Act 1987*.

*disposition of property* means a conveyance, transfer, assignment, settlement, delivery, payment or other alienation of property, including the following:

- a) the allotment of shares in a company
- b) the creation of a trust in respect of property
- c) the grant or creation of a lease, mortgage, charge, easement, licence, power, partnership or interest in respect of property
- d) the release, discharge, surrender, forfeiture or abandonment, at law or in equity, of a debt, contract or chose in action, or of an interest in respect of property
- e) the exercise by a person of a general power of appointment over property in favour of another person
- f) a transaction entered into by a person who intends by the transaction to diminish, directly or indirectly, the value of the person's own property and to increase the value of the property of another person.

*gift* means a disposition of property made otherwise than by will (whether or not by instrument in writing) without consideration, or with inadequate consideration, in money or money's worth passing from the person to whom the disposition was made to the person who made the disposition, but does not include a financial or other contribution to travel.

*interest* means:

- a) in relation to property, an estate, interest, right or power, at law or in equity, in or over the property, or

- b) in relation to a corporation, a relevant interest (within the meaning of section 9 of the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth) in securities issued or made available by the corporation.

*listed company* means a company that is listed within the meaning of section 9 of the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth.

*occupation* includes trade, profession and vocation.

*professional or business association* means an incorporated or unincorporated body or organisation having as one of its objects or activities the promotion of the economic interests of its members in any occupation.

*property* includes money.

*return date* means:

- a) in the case of a return made under clause 4.15(a), the date on which a person became a designated person
- b) in the case of a return made under clause 4.15(b), 30 June of the year in which the return is made
- c) in the case of a return made under clause 4.15(c), the date on which the designated person became aware of the interest to be disclosed.

*relative* includes any of the following:

- a) a person's spouse or de facto partner
- b) a person's parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child
- c) a person's spouse's or de facto partner's parent, grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, lineal descendant or adopted child
- d) the spouse or de facto partner of a person referred to in paragraphs (b) and (c).

*travel* includes accommodation incidental to a journey.

#### Matters relating to the interests that must be included in returns

2. *Interests etc. outside New South Wales:* A reference in this schedule or in schedule 2 to a disclosure concerning a corporation or other thing includes any reference to a disclosure concerning a corporation registered, or other thing arising or received, outside New South Wales.
3. *References to interests in real property:* A reference in this schedule or in schedule 2 to real property in which a designated person has an interest includes a reference to any real property situated in Australia in which the designated person has an interest.
4. *Gifts, loans etc. from related corporations:* For the purposes of this schedule and schedule 2, gifts or contributions to travel given, loans made,

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or goods or services supplied, to a designated person by two or more corporations that are related to each other for the purposes of section 50 of the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth are all given, made or supplied by a single corporation.



## Part 2: Pecuniary interests to be disclosed in returns

### Real property

5. A person making a return under clause 4.15 of this code must disclose:
  - a) the street address of each parcel of real property in which they had an interest on the return date, and
  - b) the street address of each parcel of real property in which they had an interest in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
  - c) the nature of the interest.
6. An interest in a parcel of real property need not be disclosed in a return if the person making the return had the interest only:
  - a) as executor of the will, or administrator of the estate, of a deceased person and not as a beneficiary under the will or intestacy, or
  - b) as a trustee, if the interest was acquired in the ordinary course of an occupation not related to their duties as the holder of a position required to make a return.
7. An interest in a parcel of real property need not be disclosed in a return if the person ceased to hold the interest prior to becoming a designated person.
8. For the purposes of clause 5 of this schedule, "interest" includes an option to purchase.

### Gifts

9. A person making a return under clause 4.15 of this code must disclose:
  - a) a description of each gift received in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
  - b) the name and address of the donor of each of the gifts.
10. A gift need not be included in a return if:
  - a) it did not exceed \$500, unless it was among gifts totalling more than \$500 made by the same person during a period of 12 months or less, or
  - b) it was a political donation disclosed, or required to be disclosed, under Part 3 of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*, or
  - c) the donor was a relative of the donee, or
  - d) subject to paragraph (a), it was received prior to the person becoming a designated person.
11. For the purposes of clause 10 of this schedule, the amount of a gift other than money is an amount equal to the value of the property given.

### Contributions to travel

12. A person making a return under clause 4.15 of this code must disclose:
  - a) the name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to the expenses of any travel undertaken by the person in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
  - b) the dates on which the travel was undertaken, and

- c) the names of the states and territories, and of the overseas countries, in which the travel was undertaken.
13. A financial or other contribution to any travel need not be disclosed under this clause if it:
- a) was made from public funds (including a contribution arising from travel on free passes issued under an Act or from travel in government or council vehicles), or
  - b) was made by a relative of the traveller, or
  - c) was made in the ordinary course of an occupation of the traveller that is not related to their functions as the holder of a position requiring the making of a return, or
  - d) did not exceed \$250, unless it was among gifts totalling more than \$250 made by the same person during a 12-month period or less, or
  - e) was a political donation disclosed, or required to be disclosed, under Part 3 of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*, or
  - f) was made by a political party of which the traveller was a member and the travel was undertaken for the purpose of political activity of the party in New South Wales, or to enable the traveller to represent the party within Australia, or
  - g) subject to paragraph (d) it was received prior to the person becoming a designated person.
14. For the purposes of clause 13 of this schedule, the amount of a contribution (other than a financial contribution) is an amount equal to the value of the contribution.

#### Interests and positions in corporations

15. A person making a return under clause 4.15 of this code must disclose:
- a) the name and address of each corporation in which they had an interest or held a position (whether remunerated or not) on the return date, and
  - b) the name and address of each corporation in which they had an interest or held a position in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
  - c) the nature of the interest, or the position held, in each of the corporations, and
  - d) a description of the principal objects (if any) of each of the corporations, except in the case of a listed company.
16. An interest in, or a position held in, a corporation need not be disclosed if the corporation is:
- a) formed for the purpose of providing recreation or amusement, or for promoting commerce, industry, art, science, religion or charity, or for any other community purpose, and
  - b) required to apply its profits or other income in promoting its objects, and
  - c) prohibited from paying any dividend to its members.

17. An interest in a corporation need not be disclosed if the interest is a beneficial interest in shares in a company that does not exceed 10 per cent of the voting rights in the company.

18. An interest or a position in a corporation need not be disclosed if the person ceased to hold the interest or position prior to becoming a designated person.

Interests as a property developer or a close associate of a property developer

19. A person making a return under clause 4.15 of this code must disclose whether they were a property developer, or a close associate of a corporation that, or an individual who, is a property developer, on the return date.

20. For the purposes of clause 19 of this schedule:

*close associate*, in relation to a corporation or an individual, has the same meaning as it has in section 53 of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*.

*property developer* has the same meaning as it has in Division 7 of Part 3 of the *Electoral Funding Act 2018*.

Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations

21. A person making a return under clause 4.15 of the code must disclose:

- a) the name of each trade union, and of each professional or business association, in which they held any position (whether remunerated or not) on the return date, and
- b) the name of each trade union, and of each professional or business association, in which they have held any position (whether remunerated or not) in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, and
- c) a description of the position held in each of the unions and associations.

22. A position held in a trade union or a professional or business association need not be disclosed if the person ceased to hold the position prior to becoming a designated person.

Dispositions of real property

23. A person making a return under clause 4.15 of this code must disclose particulars of each disposition of real property by the person (including the street address of the affected property) in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, under which they wholly or partly retained the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property.

24. A person making a return under clause 4.15 of this code must disclose particulars of each disposition of real property to another person (including the street address of the affected property) in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, that is made under arrangements with, but is not made by, the person making the return, being a disposition under

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which the person making the return obtained wholly or partly the use of the property.

25. A disposition of real property need not be disclosed if it was made prior to a person becoming a designated person.

#### Sources of income

26. A person making a return under clause 4.15 of this code must disclose:

- a) each source of income that the person reasonably expects to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June, and
- b) each source of income received by the person in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year.

27. A reference in clause 26 of this schedule to each source of income received, or reasonably expected to be received, by a person is a reference to:

- a) in relation to income from an occupation of the person:
  - (i) a description of the occupation, and
  - (ii) if the person is employed or the holder of an office, the name and address of their employer, or a description of the office, and
  - (iii) if the person has entered into a partnership with other persons, the name (if any) under which the partnership is conducted, or
- b) in relation to income from a trust, the name and address of the settlor and the trustee, or
- c) in relation to any other income, a description sufficient to identify the person from whom, or the circumstances in which, the income was, or is reasonably expected to be, received.

28. The source of any income need not be disclosed by a person in a return if the amount of the income received, or reasonably expected to be received, by the person from that source did not exceed \$500, or is not reasonably expected to exceed \$500, as the case may be.

29. The source of any income received by the person that they ceased to receive prior to becoming a designated person need not be disclosed.

30. A fee paid to a councillor or to the mayor or deputy mayor under sections 248 or 249 of the LGA need not be disclosed.

#### Debts

31. A person making a return under clause 4.15 of this code must disclose the name and address of each person to whom the person was liable to pay any debt:

- a) on the return date, and
- b) at any time in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year.

32. A liability to pay a debt must be disclosed by a person in a return made under clause 4.15 whether or not the amount, or any part of the amount, to

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be paid was due and payable on the return date or at any time in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, as the case may be.

33. A liability to pay a debt need not be disclosed by a person in a return if:
- a) the amount to be paid did not exceed \$500 on the return date or in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, as the case may be, unless:
    - (i) the debt was one of two or more debts that the person was liable to pay to one person on the return date, or at any time in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, as the case may be, and
    - (ii) the amounts to be paid exceeded, in the aggregate, \$500, or
  - b) the person was liable to pay the debt to a relative, or
  - c) in the case of a debt arising from a loan of money the person was liable to pay the debt to an authorised deposit-taking institution or other person whose ordinary business includes the lending of money, and the loan was made in the ordinary course of business of the lender, or
  - d) in the case of a debt arising from the supply of goods or services:
    - (i) the goods or services were supplied in the period of 12 months immediately preceding the return date, or were supplied in the period since 30 June of the previous financial year, as the case may be, or
    - (ii) the goods or services were supplied in the ordinary course of any occupation of the person that is not related to their duties as the holder of a position required to make a return, or
  - e) subject to paragraph (a), the debt was discharged prior to the person becoming a designated person.

Discretionary disclosures

34. A person may voluntarily disclose in a return any interest, benefit, advantage or liability, whether pecuniary or not, that is not required to be disclosed under another provision of this Schedule.

**SCHEDULE 2: FORM OF WRITTEN RETURN OF INTERESTS SUBMITTED UNDER CLAUSE 4.15**'Disclosures by councillors or designated persons' return

1. The pecuniary interests and other matters to be disclosed in this return are prescribed by Schedule 1 of the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* (the Model Code of Conduct).
2. If this is the first return you have been required to lodge with the general manager after becoming a councillor or designated person, do not complete Parts C, D and I of the return. All other parts of the return should be completed with appropriate information based on your circumstances at the return date, that is, the date on which you became a councillor or designated person.
3. If you have previously lodged a return with the general manager and you are completing this return for the purposes of disclosing a new interest that was not disclosed in the last return you lodged with the general manager, you must complete all parts of the return with appropriate information for the period from 30 June of the previous financial year or the date on which you became a councillor or designated person, (whichever is the later date), to the return date which is the date you became aware of the new interest to be disclosed in your updated return.
4. If you have previously lodged a return with the general manager and are submitting a new return for the new financial year, you must complete all parts of the return with appropriate information for the 12-month period commencing on 30 June of the previous year to 30 June this year.
5. This form must be completed using block letters or typed.
6. If there is insufficient space for all the information you are required to disclose, you must attach an appendix which is to be properly identified and signed by you.
7. If there are no pecuniary interests or other matters of the kind required to be disclosed under a heading in this form, the word "NIL" is to be placed in an appropriate space under that heading.

Important information

This information is being collected for the purpose of complying with clause 4.21 of the Model Code of Conduct.

You must not lodge a return that you know or ought reasonably to know is false or misleading in a material particular (see clause 4.23 of the Model Code of Conduct). Complaints about breaches of these requirements are to be referred to the Office of Local Government and may result in disciplinary action by the council, the Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government or the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

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The information collected on this form will be kept by the general manager in a register of returns. The general manager is required to table all returns at a council meeting.

Information contained in returns made and lodged under clause 4.21 is to be made publicly available in accordance with the requirements of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*, the *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009* and any guidelines issued by the Information Commissioner.

You have an obligation to keep the information contained in this return up to date. If you become aware of a new interest that must be disclosed in this return, or an interest that you have previously failed to disclose, you must submit an updated return within three months of becoming aware of the previously undisclosed interest.

Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by [full name of councillor or designated person]

as at [return date]

in respect of the period from [date] to [date]

[councillor's or designated person's signature]  
[date]

#### A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest

#### B. Sources of income

1 Sources of income I reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June

Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)

2 Sources of income I reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June

Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee

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3 Sources of other income I reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June

Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

*[Include description sufficient to identify the person from whom, or the circumstances in which, that income was received]*

#### C. Gifts

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
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#### D. Contributions to travel

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
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#### E. Interests and positions in corporations

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
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F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

#### G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
---	-------------------------

#### H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June
---

#### I. Dispositions of property

1 Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the



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street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

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2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

---

J. Discretionary disclosures

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**10.5 REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP - NULLAMANNA HALL 85TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION****File Number:** S12.22.1/16 / 23/6837**Author:** Kristy Paton, Corporate Support Officer - Publishing**SUMMARY:**

Council has received a letter from the Nullamanna Reserve Land Manager requesting sponsorship for the Nullamanna Hall's 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*A matter for Council.*

**COMMENTARY:**

Council is requested to provide sponsorship for the amount of \$500 for Nullamanna Hall's 85<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations.

To celebrate the 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the Nullamanna Hall, a celebration will be taking place on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> of April, the Easter long weekend.

The celebrations will also act as reunion for residents and former residents of Nullamanna and there will be a focus on collecting information on the family history relating to properties in the area and information to support the Reserve Land Manager's application for [Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grants Program](#) for a WWII Memorial Board in the Hall.

To kick off the celebrations a Lunch will be held in the hall on Saturday, 8 April. Afternoon tea will follow where residents past and present can gather to share stories. Saturday's celebrations will conclude with a 2-course dinner at the hall including entertainment and raffles.

On Sunday, 9 April, a Breakfast will be held at the hall followed by a picnic lunch at the Inverell Pioneer Village where the last standing Nullamanna Church is located.

Celebrations for the Hall's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday and reunion attracted over 120 people over two days.

The total project cost is \$2070 excluding the cost of lunch at the Pioneer Village.

Council is asked to determine if it wishes to provide sponsorship of the Nullamanna Hall's 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations, and if so, in what capacity.

**RISK ASSESSMENT:**

Nil

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

Should Council choose to support this event sufficient funding is available in Councils Donation budget - \$28,543.39

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

**10.6 REQUEST TO WAIVE ALCOHOL PROHIBITED AREA FOR VICTORIA PARK - GRAFTON TO INVERELL SPORTING EVENT****File Number:** S26.3.7/15 / 23/7218**Author:** Paul Henry, General Manager**SUMMARY:**

A request has been received regarding the waiving of the Alcohol Prohibited Area in Victoria Park on 29 April, 2023. Council is being asked to consider the request.

**RECOMMENDATION:***That:*

- i. The serving of alcohol be permitted in a clearly designated and defined area (to a standard set by the Office of Liquor & Gaming) in Victoria Park from 4pm – 10pm on Saturday 29 April 2023 for the Grafton to Inverell Sporting Event dinner; and*
- ii. A notice of the suspension of the Alcohol Prohibited Area for the event be published in the Inverell Times, on Council's Website and social media.*

**COMMENTARY:**

The Inverell Cycle Club has written to Council to advise there will be a dinner held at Victoria Park to conclude the proceedings of the Grafton to Inverell Cycle Classic being held on Saturday, 29 April, 2023. The Club has requested a waiving of the Alcohol Prohibited Area in Victoria Park for this event.

The dinner will be catered by a regional vendor, the Firey Cook and The Welder's Dog Inverell have been asked to operate a licenced bar in a designated area separated from the public between the hours of 4pm to 10pm. The designated area is shown on the attached map. It has been requested that the 'Alcohol Prohibited Area' status for the designated area be waived.

It is permissible to lift the prohibition for a particular purpose, however, if this is favoured, the permission should be conditioned to limit the duration of the event as stated above.

It should be noted the Police have indicated they have no objection to the waiving of the Alcohol Prohibited Area for this event.

Council is requested to consider this matter.

**RISK ASSESSMENT:**

Nil

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

Nil

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. **Victoria Park - Designated Area** [↓](#)



**10.7 CROWN LAND - DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT - GRAMAN SPORTS GROUND****File Number:** S5.19.4/02 / 23/7573**Author:** Kristy Paton, Corporate Support Officer - Publishing**SUMMARY:**

In accordance with the reformed *Crown Lands Management Act 2016* and *Local Government Act 1993*, Council is required to compile plans of management for all parcels of Crown Land that have been authorised to be managed by Council. Council is being asked to review and recommend the attached Plan of Management for Graman Sports Ground to be provided to the NSW Department of Industry for comment.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That Council:*

1. *Review and approve the attached draft Plan of Management for Graman Sports Ground; and*
2. *Resolve to refer the draft Plan of Management for Graman Sports Ground to the NSW Department of Industry for review and advice.*

**COMMENTARY:**

In accordance with the reformed *Crown Lands Management Act 2016* and *Local Government Act 1993*, Council is required to compile plans of management for all parcels of Crown Land that are managed by Council.

A site-specific generic draft Plan of Management has been prepared for the Graman Sports Ground and is attached.

The attached flowchart provided by NSW Department of Industry displays the required steps in adopting a plan of management under the reformed legislation. In this case, Approach 1 will be followed.

Subsequent reports to Council for the adoption process of this draft Plan of Management will take place once advice is received from the NSW Department of Industry for Council to consider recommending placing the document on public exhibition; and after public exhibition to consider submissions, negotiations and adoption.

**RISK ASSESSMENT:**

Nil

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

Nil

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS:**

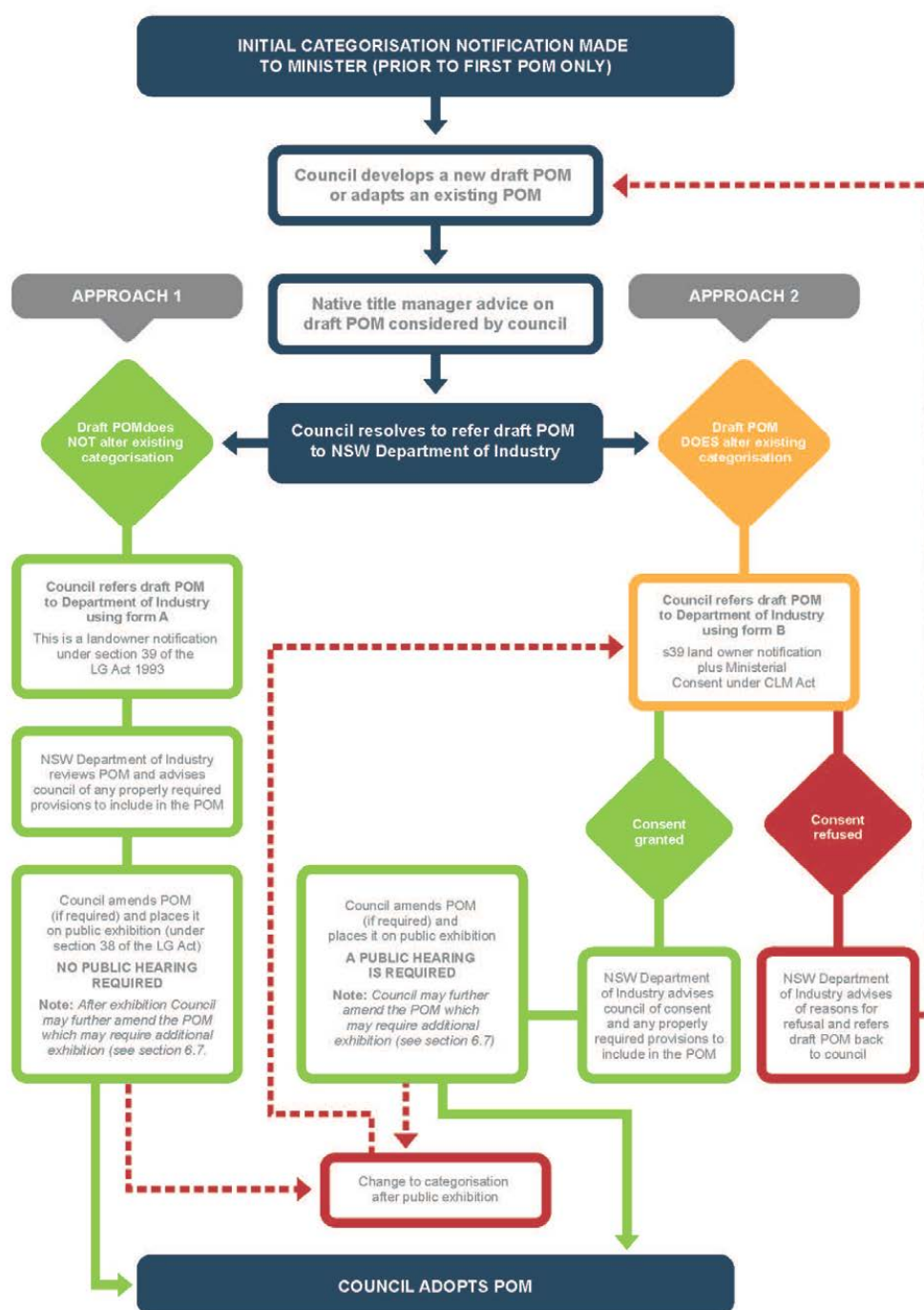
1. **Overview of the Plan of Management Adoption Process - NSW Department of Industry**  
[↓](#)
2. **Draft - Plan of Management - Graman Sports Ground** [↓](#)





Developing plans of management for community land Crown reserves— guidelines

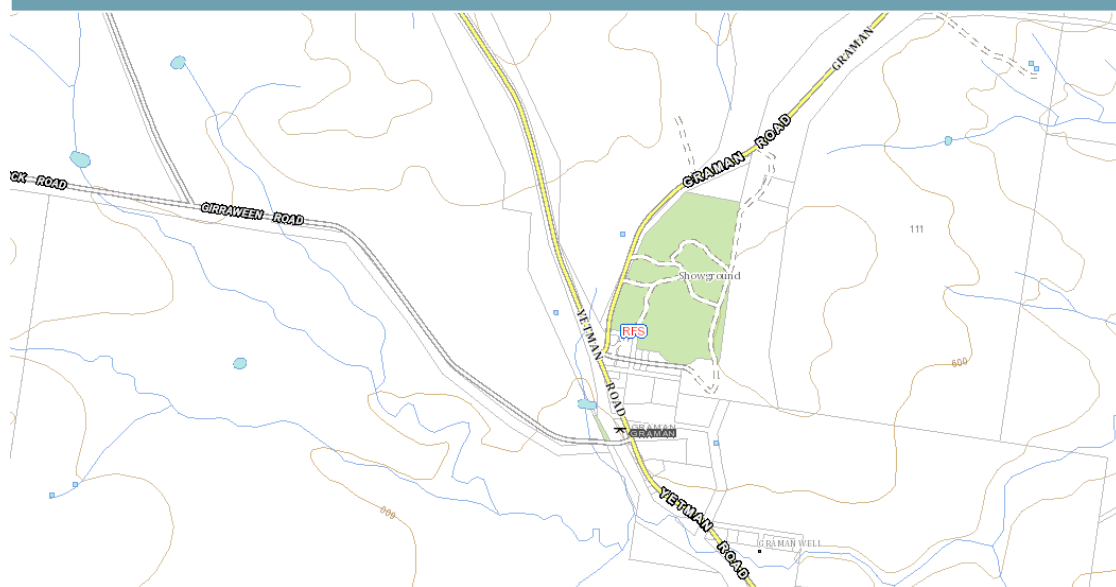
Figure 1 Overview of the POM adoption process







# DRAFT GENERIC PLAN OF MANAGEMENT



## FOR GRAMAN SPORTS GROUND

Ref:  
Inverell Shire Council

## Document Control

Title: Draft Plan of Management – Graman Sports Ground

Document Number:

Date	Revision	Author	Reviewer	Approved Date
19.01.2021	Draft Version	S. Williams		

## Project Timeframe

Issue	Date	Description	Council Officer
1	January 2021	Draft Version	S. Williams
	March 2023	Council Meeting	K. Paton
		Public Notification	
		Public Hearing	
2		Final Version	
		Native Title Advice	
		Adoption by Council	

This draft Plan of Management was developed by Inverell Shire Council.  
For further information please contact Council's Corporate Support Directorate.

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## 1. Introduction

Graman Sports Ground	
Location: 30 Graman Road, Graman	Description: Lots 67 & 160, DP 750115
Legal Status of Land: Reserved	Reserve Number: 51381
Classification: Natural Area (Bushland), General Community Use	Purpose: Public Recreation; Racecourse
Management Committee: Sapphire City Motor Sports Inc.	

### 1.1 Background

On 14 November 2016, the NSW Parliament passed the *Crown Land Management Act 2016 (NSW)* effecting significant changes to the way councils manage Crown land. Under detailed governance provisions councils appointed to manage dedicated or reserved Crown land are to do so under a more transparent and streamlined approach.

On 1 July, 2018 the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* came into force. The *Crown Land Management Act 2016* appointed Councils as Crown land Managers for Crown land identified as local land. Council as Crown Land Manager is authorised to manage Crown land as if it were public land under the *Local Government Act 1993*.

This consolidation of management of Crown Land into a single incorporated manager, the 'Crown Land Manager' affords the treatment of reserved or dedicated Crown land as if it were public land under the *Local Government Act 1993*, including requirements for the preparation of a draft Plan of Management.

The 2019 draft generic Plan of Management for the Inverell Shire Council is an outcome of Council's resolution to review management of community land under Council control in light of revised legislative provisions. The development of a draft generic Plan of Management for community land categorised as park, sportsground, and general community use enables a future framework to meet the vision and aspirations of desired community outcomes. Land within this draft Plan of Management is owned by the Crown and is managed by Inverell Shire Council as Crown Land Manager under the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

### 1.2 What is a Plan of Management?

A Plan of Management is a document that provides direction and continuity for the planning, resource management, maintenance, operation and programming of community land. The plan enables management to proceed in an efficient and sustainable manner, helps reconcile competing interests, identifies priorities for the allocation of available resources and facilitates public understanding and input.

Initial adoption of a draft Plan of Management and subsequent periodic revision of a Plan of Management also enables changing social, economic and ecological conditions to be considered as they arise. Where necessary, the plan can be amended to reflect these changes. This draft Plan of Management has been developed to meet the requirements of the *Crown Lands Management Act 2016* and the *Local Government Act 1993* specifically and to inform the public and relevant stakeholders.

### 1.3 Land that this Plan of Management Applies

This draft Plan of Management applies to reserved Crown Land that is reserved as Graman Sports Ground (Lots 67 and 160, DP 750115). Schedule A outlines the location and description of the land covered by this Plan of Management.

### 1.4 How can community land be used?

The primary legislation that impacts the designated use of community land includes the *Local Government Act 1993*, *Native Title Act 1993 (Commonwealth)*, and *Crown Land Management Act 2016*. These acts along with the implications that they impose on community land is outlined in this section.

It must also be noted that the permissibility of development proposed for community land must be in accordance with the Inverell Local Environmental Plan (2011). Plans of Management cannot supersede, replace, or stand in place of planning instruments such as Local Environmental Plans.

#### Local Government Act 1993

Section 35 of the *Local Government Act 1993* provides that community land can only be used in accordance with:

- The Plan of Management applying to that area of community land;
- Any law permitting the use of the land for a specified purpose or otherwise regulating the use of the land; and
- The provisions of Division 2 of Chapter 6 of the Act.

Under section 36 of the *Local Government Act 1993* community land can be categorised into the following categories:

- Park
- Sportsground
- Natural Area Bushland
- Natural Area Wetland
- Natural Area Watercourse
- Natural Area Escarpment
- Natural Area Foreshore
- General Community Use
- Area of Cultural Significance

Each category of community land has designated core objectives specified by the Act. Section 46(2) of the Act requires that Council can only grant a lease, licence or another estate (other than in respect to public utilities) for a purpose that is consistent with the core objectives applying to each category of community land. Therefore, the category allocated to each parcel of land is imperative. Along with its own core objectives, each category of community land also has its own community values, management issues, permissible uses, and action plan.

This draft generic Plan of Management for the Inverell Shire Council applies to Graman Sports Ground and surrounding bushland, categorised as: general community use with the gazetted purpose of public recreation; racecourse and Natural Area (Bushland) with the gazetted purpose of public recreation.

#### Crown Land Management Act 2016

In addition to the community land owned by Council throughout the Shire, Council manages 86 parcels of land under the provisions of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

Crown land for which Council is appointed Crown Land Manager is managed in line with the reserve purpose and in accordance with public land and the principles as set out in Division 3 of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*. These principles specify:

- Native resources, including water, soil, flora, fauna and aesthetic qualities must be conserved wherever possible;
- Environmental protection principles must be adhered to in relation to the management and administration of Crown land;
- The management of the Crown land must encourage public use and enjoyment where appropriate;
- Crown land must be managed in a manner that is sustainable for all aspects of the land including resources; and
- Management of Crown land must be in accordance with the best interests of the State and remain consistent with the above principles.

### Native Title Act 1993 (Commonwealth)

- Native title is the legal recognition of the individual or communal rights and interests which Aboriginal people have in land and water, where Aboriginal people have continued to exercise their rights and interests in accordance with traditional law and custom since before the British asserted sovereignty over Australia. Native title rights and interests are formally recognised under the *Native Title Act 1993 (Commonwealth)*.
- Prior to any works commencing in relation to this PoM, the Native Title Manager must comply with the requirements of the *Native Title Act*. It is presumed that native title exists over Crown Land unless it meets the definition of excluded land under s8.1 of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*. The extinguishment of native title can only be determined by a federal court.

## 2. Core Objectives of this Plan of Management

The core objectives for the Graman Sports Ground are:

- a) To promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public;
- b) To provide a Committee to have care, control and management of the land and buildings; and
- c) To determine the role of the Council and the Committee.

### 2.1 General Community Use Category

Section 36(l) of the *Local Government Act 1993* specifies that the core objectives for land categorised as “general community use” are as follows:

- To promote, encourage, and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public:
  - a) in relation to public recreation and physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public; and
  - b) in relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).

## 2.2 Natural Area (bushland) Category

Section 36(J) of the *Local Government Act 1993* specifies that the core objectives for land categorised as “bushland” are as follows:

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as bushland are—

- a) to ensure the ongoing ecological viability of the land by protecting the ecological biodiversity and habitat values of the land, the flora and fauna (including invertebrates, fungi and micro-organisms) of the land and other ecological values of the land, and
- b) to protect the aesthetic, heritage, recreational, educational and scientific values of the land, and
- c) to promote the management of the land in a manner that protects and enhances the values and quality of the land and facilitates public enjoyment of the land, and to implement measures directed to minimising or mitigating any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and
- d) to restore degraded bushland, and
- e) to protect existing landforms such as natural drainage lines, watercourses and foreshores, and
- f) to retain bushland in parcels of a size and configuration that will enable the existing plant and animal communities to survive in the long term, and
- g) to protect bushland as a natural stabiliser of the soil surface

## 3. Authority

### 3.1 Ownership

The Council assumed Trusteeship of this parcel of land on 25 September, 1987 in pursuance of the provisions of section 37p, *Crown Lands Consolidation Act, 1913*.

### 3.2 Formation of the Committee

The Sapphire Motorsports Club Inc. were granted permission to have management control of the Reserve under Council authority on 27 November, 2013 by resolution number 158/13. This was following public survey of the Graman community who showed their support for the Committee to use and maintain the facility.

### 3.3 Limitations

- a) The Committee shall not undertake any structural alterations without approval of Council and completion of the necessary application forms;
- b) The Committee shall not sell or remove any items from the land or buildings;
- c) The Committee will have the authority to act without reference to Council, however, Council retains the right to final arbitration; and
- d) Inverell Shire Council shall not be obligated to act on any recommendation of The Sapphire City Motor Sports Club Inc. Committee.

### 3.4 Club Responsibilities

The Sapphire City Motor Sports Club Inc. has the following responsibilities:

- a) Utilise the Reserve to promote an increased knowledge and understanding of motor vehicles;
- b) Maintain membership of the Confederation of Australian Motor Sports (CAMS);
- c) Ensure all motor sports events conducted at the Reserve comply with Code developed by CAMS;
- d) Maintain the 20,000 litre tank at the Reserve in working condition;

- e) During events at the Reserve, provide two (2) 1,000 litre water tankers for supplementary water supply;
- f) Keep the grounds clean, tidy and mown;
- g) Keep the Graman community informed of the Club's activities;
- h) Generally, be a 'good corporate citizen' in the Graman area;
- i) Pay all electricity charges in a timely manner;
- j) Permit community access to the Reserve at times other than when motor events are being held;
- k) Set fees and charges for use of the facilities;
- l) Approve any individual or organisation wishing to hire the Reserve; and
- m) Maintain the land and buildings in accordance with the *Local Government Act, 1993*, ordinances, and the policies of Council.

## 4. Finance

### 4.1 Expenditure

- a) The Council may vote money for the maintenance and operation of the land and buildings annually, following consideration of the estimates presented by the Committee;
- b) The Committee shall have the authority to expend all funds received that is hiring fees, grants, donations, as well as monies from Council, in accordance with this Plan of Management.

### 4.2 Income

- a) All income received by the Committee shall be paid into an appropriate bank account;
- b) Any monies voted by Council shall be paid to the Committee quarterly in advance, less any costs paid by Council;
- c) The Committee shall submit an estimate of income and suggested fees annually.

### 4.3 Source of Income

- a) Hiring fees and charges
- b) Government grants
- c) Donations
- d) Council allocated funds

## 5. Community Values Relating to Community Land

### 5.1 General Community Use (GCU) Values and Objectives

GCU Value	GCU Objective
Scenic	To provide community and/or recreational facilities which have minimal impact on the visual amenity of the area.
Environmental	To provide a community facility which is ecologically sustainable and has minimal adverse impact on surrounding natural area.
Social	To develop community facilities which provide space for the community to pursue recreational, leisure, cultural, community and social interests.
Community Services	To develop community facilities which provide space for activities which address the social and welfare needs of the local community.



## 6. What are Management Issues for Community Land?

Management issues are matters that arise periodically and generally impact on the areas of community land. The identified management issues are used to define management strategies in the resulting action plans. The identification of potential management issues assists Council in establishing action plans to carry out mitigation strategies in order to ensure that community land is used, maintained and managed in a sustainable way. The following action plan gives details of the strategies and actions recommended to be adopted and carried out under the Plan of Management for Graman Sports Ground.

## 6.1 Management Issues for Land Classified as General Community Use – public recreation; racecourse and Natural Area (Bushland).

### 6.1.1 Safety and Risk Assessment

Objective	Performance Target	Means of Achieving Objective & Performance Target	Manner of Assessment
<p>Minimise opportunities for risk of injury in community land.</p> <p>Ensure the safety of the public whilst visiting Graman Sports Ground.</p>	<p>Ensure Council and user groups are adequately protected from risk and public liability.</p> <p>Encourage community involvement in the recognition and remediation of public risk.</p> <p>Prevent unsafe use of areas.</p> <p>Ensure all facilities are constructed, installed and maintained to the relevant Australian Standards.</p> <p>Ensure the public is not threatened by fire.</p> <p>Discourage anti-social behaviours and encourage community involvement in reporting such behaviour.</p> <p>Manage community land to reduce bushfire risk to life and property.</p> <p>Develop permanent asset protection zones.</p>	<p>The buildings, fittings and surrounds of Graman Sports Ground are included in Council's insurance policies for fire, burglary and public liability.</p> <p>The Committee members are protected from some liability by the provisions of the <i>Local Government Act</i> and Council's Insurance Policies.</p> <p>If the Committee intend to carry out high risk activities a full risk assessment prior to use may be required to assist in identifying problem areas and potential risk mitigation strategies.</p> <p>Undertake periodic risk assessments for Graman Sports Ground.</p> <p>Ensure regulatory signage is current and appropriately located.</p> <p>Review any existing facilities in accordance with Council's Engineering Guidelines.</p> <p>Respond promptly and appropriately to claims of dangerous behaviour and/or damage to infrastructure/equipment.</p>	<p>Number of public liability claims on Graman Sports Ground.</p> <p>Consistency with Engineering Guidelines.</p> <p>Undertake bushfire assessment.</p>

## 6.1.2 Maintenance

Objective	Performance Target	Means of Achieving Objective & Performance Target	Manner of Assessment
Ensure areas are safe and fit for purpose.	<p>Ensure community land is maintained to standard.</p> <p>Reduce visual barriers that hide vandalism activities.</p> <p>Reduce the amount of litter and dumping incidents.</p> <p>Repair and/or replace out-dated facilities to an acceptable standard.</p> <p>Ensure that all lease and licence agreements are current.</p> <p>Ensure the Committee operates in accordance with the Plan of Management.</p>	<p>Prioritise maintenance tasks that pose a risk to safety and functionality of community land.</p> <p>Adequately provide for maintenance works in annual budget.</p> <p>Ensure any development on the site is assessed using the “Safer by Design” guidelines issued by the Department of Planning.</p> <p>Clear dumped rubbish promptly, track down offenders and install signage to discourage dumping.</p> <p>Conduct a review of all facilities on Graman Sports Ground and source funding to upgrade facilities where necessary.</p> <p>Periodically review lease, licence and management committee agreements.</p> <p>Review objectives and policies of the Committee every four (4) years.</p> <p>The Committee review the operation of the Plan of Management once a year and make recommendations to Council.</p> <p>Council review operations of the Committee annually.</p> <p>Provide ongoing assistance, support and information to the Committee.</p>	<p>Monitor annual maintenance budgets.</p> <p>Community feedback.</p> <p>Report dumping incidents to Council Compliance Officers.</p> <p>Outcomes of the Committee reviews.</p>

## 6.1.3 Access and Connectivity

Objective	Performance Target	Means of Achieving Objective & Target	Manner of Assessment
Minimise adverse impacts of public access onto community land.	<p>Prevent unauthorised access to community land.</p> <p>Ensure that each facility is accessible and in accordance with relevant standards.</p> <p>Design and construct walking tracks where appropriate, ensuring minimal erosion and soil loss.</p>	<p>Close any non-essential pedestrian and vehicle access.</p> <p>Provide adequate parking where appropriate.</p> <p>Review car parking and pedestrian accessibility provisions in accordance with Council's Development Control Plan, Engineering Guidelines, Community Strategic Plan, Inclusion (Disability) Action Plan and Inverell Public Open Space Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Stop unauthorised use of community land classified as General Community Use for access to private lands.</p> <p>Maintain existing roads and walking tracks to ensure safety and prevent erosion.</p> <p>Inspect tracks and footpaths and maintain when necessary.</p> <p>Plan and develop pathways to ensure minimal erosion and soil loss.</p>	<p>Consistency with Council's Development Control Plan, Engineering Guidelines, Community Strategic Plan, Inclusion (Disability) Action Plan and Inverell Public Open Space Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Community feedback.</p> <p>Council Officer Inspections.</p>

## 6.1.4 Environment

Objective	Performance Target	Means of Achieving Objective and Performance Target	Manner of Assessment
<p>To manage Graman Sports Ground so as to maintain the ecological values.</p> <p>Maintain ecological processes.</p> <p>Retain the distribution, abundance and diversity of native species and existing communities.</p> <p>Manage and eradicate pests, plants and noxious weeds.</p>	<p>Ensure habitat values are not compromised and improve values where appropriate.</p> <p>Avoid compromising biodiversity values as perceived by the public about threats posed by native fauna and flora.</p> <p>Manage impacts to aboriginal heritage when developing and maintaining community land.</p>	<p>Identify sensitive community land classified on Graman Sports Ground.</p> <p>Implement necessary environmental management practices and development constraints.</p> <p>Undertake a revegetation program where required.</p> <p>Develop an ongoing maintenance program of rare and threatened species.</p> <p>Map and document the location of rare and threatened species.</p> <p>Erect signs notifying the community of sensitive areas and exclusion of domestic animals.</p> <p>Control weeds using best practice.</p> <p>Manage impacts to aboriginal heritage in accordance with Office of Environment &amp; Heritage guidelines.</p> <p>Undertake mandatory training courses to ensure staff and the Committee understand the correct procedures for washing down and blowing down equipment after mowing to minimise the spread of weeds.</p> <p>Carefully control management practices e.g. Fertiliser application rates and rehabilitation of bare areas.</p>	<p>Assess key environmental indicators for Graman Sports Ground.</p>

## 6.1.5 Community Involvement

Objective	Performance Target	Means of Achieving Objective and Performance Target	Manner of Assessment
<p>Involve the community in the management of community land classified as General Community – Public Recreation</p> <p>Committee place the interest of the Graman community as a high priority and contribute where possible.</p> <p>Reduce the impact of use of Graman Sports Ground on neighbouring properties.</p>	<p>Encourage the participation of the community in reporting incidents.</p> <p>Assess community values of Graman Sports Ground.</p> <p>Encourage neighbours to notify Council of any concerns regarding vandalism, dumping, dust, noise etc.</p>	<p>Continue to support the Committee in the maintenance and monitoring of Graman Sports Ground</p> <p>Committee water track before use to reduce dust.</p> <p>Committee notify the community of Graman of any upcoming events that will be held on Graman Sports Ground.</p>	Community feedback.

## 6.1.6 Landscape Design and Character

Objective	Performance Target	Means of Achieving Objective and Performance Target	Manner of Assessment
<p>Minimise adverse impacts on adjacent land uses.</p> <p>Maximise the sustainability of community land.</p>	<p>Retain and enhance natural features of Graman Sports Ground where possible.</p> <p>New structures to be located in appropriate areas and designed appropriately.</p> <p>Reduce the potential for crime within community land.</p> <p>Reduce impact of the use of Graman Sports Ground for motor sports on neighbouring properties.</p>	<p>Plan appropriately including materials selection and colour schemes.</p> <p>Consider constraints such as bushfire when siting facilities.</p> <p>Consider adjacent land uses when developing community land.</p> <p>Ensure any development on the site is assessed using the “Safer by Design” guidelines issued by the Department of Planning.</p>	<p>Consistency with engineering guidelines.</p> <p>Reported rates of vandalism.</p>

## 7. Permissible uses / future uses

Community land is valued for its important role in the social, intellectual, spiritual and physical enrichment of residents, workers, and visitors to the Inverell Shire.

The intrinsic value of community land is also recognised, as is the important role this land plays in biodiversity conservation and ecosystem function.

Inverell Shire Council encourages a wide range of uses of community land and intends to facilitate uses which increase the activation of its land, where appropriate. Within buildings, swimming pools, and recreational and sporting facilities in particular, Inverell Shire Council intends to permit and encourage a broad range of appropriate activities.

The use of community land is often supported by appropriate ancillary development such as playground equipment, amenity blocks or food kiosks. The general types of uses which may occur on community land categorised as **General Community Use**, and the forms of development generally associated with those uses, are set out in Table 1 below. The facilities on community land may change over time, reflecting the needs of the community.

The anticipated uses and associated development identified in the table are intended to provide a general guide. The terminology used is not intended to impose an exact meaning. For example, a reference to 'football' includes any variations of that game.

It is anticipated that new sports may develop, and others increase or decrease in popularity. If this occurs, then some community land may be modified to facilitate the changing forms of 'active recreation' enjoyed by the community. References such as 'field', or 'court', are not intended to exclude other sporting surfaces.

The general types of uses which may occur on community land categorised as **Natural Area – Bushland**, and the forms of development generally associated with those uses, are set out in Table 2 below. The facilities on community land may change over time, reflecting the needs of the community.

The anticipated uses and associated development identified in the tables are intended to provide a general guide.

**Table 1 Permissible use and development of community land categorised as General Community Use**

General community use	
<b>Purpose/Use</b> Providing a location for, and supporting, the gathering of groups for a range of social, cultural or recreational purposes. Providing multi-purpose buildings (e.g. community halls and centres) with specialised community uses such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>casual or informal recreation</li> <li>meetings (including for social, recreational, educational or cultural purposes)</li> <li>functions</li> <li>concerts, including all musical genres</li> <li>performances (including film and stage)</li> <li>exhibitions</li> <li>fairs and parades</li> <li>workshops</li> <li>leisure or training classes</li> <li>childcare (e.g. before and after school care, vacation care)</li> <li>designated group use (e.g. scout and girl guide use)</li> <li>educational centres, including libraries, information and resource centres</li> <li>entertainment facilities.</li> </ul>	<b>Development to facilitate uses</b> Development for the purposes of social, community, cultural and recreational activities. Development includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>provision of buildings or other amenity areas to facilitate use and enjoyment by the community</li> <li>development (particularly within buildings) for the purposes of addressing the needs of a particular group (e.g. a stage)</li> <li>landscaping and finishes, improving access, amenity and the visual character of the general community area</li> <li>water saving initiatives such as rain gardens</li> <li>energy saving initiatives such as solar lights and solar panels</li> <li>carparking and loading areas</li> <li>advertising structures and signage (such as A-frames and banners) that:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>relate to approved uses/activities</li> <li>are discreet and temporary</li> <li>are approved by the council</li> </ul> </li> <li>locational, directional and regulatory signage.</li> </ul>

Table 2 permissible use and development of community land categorised as Natural Area (Bushland)

Natural Area (Bushland)	
Purpose/Use	Development to facilitate uses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preservation of the council's natural heritage including the identified endangered ecological communities</li> <li>• Preservation of biological diversity and habitat</li> <li>• Providing a location for relaxation and passive informal recreation</li> <li>• Walking/hiking</li> <li>• Guided bushwalks</li> <li>• Environmental and scientific study</li> <li>• Bush regeneration works</li> <li>• Carbon sequestration</li> <li>• Bio-banking</li> <li>• Approved bush care projects requiring ecological restoration activities associated with protection of flora and fauna.</li> <li>• Fire hazard reduction.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visitor facilities: toilets, picnic tables, BBQs, sheltered seating areas, lighting, low impact carparks, refreshment kiosks (but not restaurants)</li> <li>• Low-impact walking trails</li> <li>• Interpretive signage, information kiosks</li> <li>• Water-saving initiatives such as rain gardens, swales and sediment traps</li> <li>• Bridges, observation platforms, signs</li> <li>• Work sheds or storage sheds required in connection with the maintenance of the land</li> <li>• Temporary erection or use of any building or structure necessary to enable a filming project to be carried out</li> <li>• Locational, directional and regulatory signage</li> </ul>

### 7.1 Express authorisation of leases and licences and other estates

Under section 46(1)(b) of the LG Act, leases, licences and other estates formalise the use of community land. A lease, licence or other estate may be granted to organisations and persons, community groups, sports clubs and associations, non-government organisations, charities, community welfare services, non-profit organisations and government authorities.

The lease or licence must be for uses consistent with the reserve purpose(s), the assigned categorisation and zoning of the land, be in the best interests of the community as a whole, and enable, wherever possible, shared use of community land.

Any lease or licence proposal will be individually assessed and considered, including the community benefit, compatibility with this PoM and the capacity of the community land itself and the local area to support the activity.

A lease is normally issued where exclusive control of all or part of an area by a user is proposed. In all other instances a licence or short-term licence or hire agreement will be issued.

### 7.2 Leases and Licences authorised by the plan of management

This plan of management **expressly authorises** the issue of leases, licences and other estates over the land covered by the plan of management, in accordance with section 46(1)(b) of the LG Act, provided that:

- the purpose is consistent with the purpose for which it was dedicated or reserved
- the purpose is consistent with the core objectives for the category of the land
- the lease, licence or other estate is for a permitted purpose listed in the *Local Government Act 1993* or the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005
- the issue of the lease, licence or other estate and the provisions of the lease, licence or other estate can be validated by the provisions of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth)
- where the land is subject to a claim under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* the issue of any lease, licence or other estate will not prevent the land from being transferred in the event the claim is granted
- the lease, licence or other estate is granted and notified in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993* or the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005



- the issue of the lease, licence or other estate will not materially harm the use of the land for any of the purposes for which it was dedicated or reserved.

Table 3 further identifies the purposes for which leases and licences may be issued over the reserves identified in this plan of management and the maximum duration of leases, licences and other estates.

Table 3 Express authorisation for leases, licences and other estates on reserves listed in this plan of management.

Community land covered	Maximum term	Purpose for which tenure may be granted
<b>Leases</b>		
General Community Use	20 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– childcare or vacation care</li> <li>– educational purposes, including libraries, education classes, workshops</li> <li>– cultural purposes, including concerts, dramatic productions and galleries</li> <li>– recreational purposes, including fitness classes, dance classes and games</li> <li>– sporting uses developed/operated by a private operator</li> <li>– kiosk, café and refreshment purposes</li> <li>– commercial retail uses associated with the facility (e.g. sale or hire of sports goods)</li> </ul>
Natural Area (Bushland)	20 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– walkways, pathways, bridges, causeways</li> <li>– observation platforms, signs</li> <li>– information kiosk</li> <li>– kiosk selling light refreshments (but not restaurants)</li> <li>– bicycle/boat hire or similar</li> <li>– work sheds or storage sheds required in connection with the maintenance of the land</li> <li>– toilets</li> <li>– temporary erection or use of any building or structure necessary to enable a filming project to be carried out</li> </ul>
<b>Licences</b>		
General Community Use	5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– social purposes (including childcare, vacation care)</li> <li>– educational purposes, including libraries, education classes, workshops</li> <li>– recreational purposes, including fitness classes, dance classes</li> <li>– café/kiosk areas</li> </ul>
Natural Area (Bushland)	5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– walkways, pathways, bridges, causeways</li> <li>– observation platforms, signs</li> <li>– Information kiosk</li> <li>– Kiosk selling light refreshments (but not restaurants)</li> <li>– Bicycle/boat hire or similar</li> <li>– work sheds or storage sheds required in connection with the maintenance of the land</li> <li>– toilets</li> <li>– temporary erection or use of any building or structure necessary to enable a filming project to be carried out</li> </ul>
<b>Other estates</b>		

Community land covered	Maximum term	Purpose for which tenure may be granted
All community land and buildings	5 years	This PoM allows the council to grant 'an estate' over community land for the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities and provision of services, or connections for premises adjoining the community land to a facility of the council or public utility provider on the community land in accordance with the LG Act.

### 7.3 Short-Term Licences

Short-term licences and bookings may be used to allow the council to program different uses of community land at different times, allowing the best overall use.

Short-term licences are authorised for the purpose of:

- (a) the playing of a musical instrument, or singing, for fee or reward
- (b) engaging in a trade or business
- (c) the playing of a lawful game or sport
- (d) the delivery of a public address
- (e) commercial photographic sessions
- (f) picnics and private celebrations such as weddings and family gatherings
- (g) filming sessions
- (h) the agistment of stock.

Fees for short-term casual bookings will be charged in accordance with the council's adopted fees and charges at the time.

### 7.4 Native title and Aboriginal land rights considerations in relation to leases, licences and other estates

When planning to grant a lease or licence on Crown reserves, the council must comply with the requirements of the Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993* (NT Act) and have regard for any existing claims made on the land under the NSW *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* (ALR Act).

It is the role of the council's engaged or employed native title manager to provide written advice in certain circumstances to advise if the proposed activities and dealings are valid under the NT Act.

## 8. Policies or Plans which may affect the Management of Community Land

Council has many plans and policies that may affect the management of Graman Sports Ground beyond the discussed management issues and resulting action plans. The major influences are Council's existing adopted policies, Council's own budgeting process, and Council's commitment to working with the community in providing and facilitating the provision of services that enhance the quality of life for all residents.

### Council Policies

Inverell Shire Council Policies/Strategies that may relate to Community Land	Year Adopted
Community Strategic Plan	2017
Delivery Plan	2017
Disabled Access	2009
Erosion & Sediment Control	2009
Inclusion (Disability) Action Plan	2017
Inspection Reports – Sporting Equipment, Playground Equipment etc.	2009
Inverell Public Open Space Strategy	2017
Local Emergency Management	2007
Pesticide Notification Plan	2017
Roadside Slashing	2009
Roadside Treatment Policy (Weeds)	2009
Sporting Fields – Conditions of Use	2016
Sporting Fields – Contributions	2009
Sporting Fields – Shade	2009
State of the Environment Report	2011
Subdivisions – Public Reserves	2009

## 9. Review

The Committee will review the operation of this Plan of Management once per year and make recommendations as required to Council for consideration. Council will review the operations of the Committee annually.

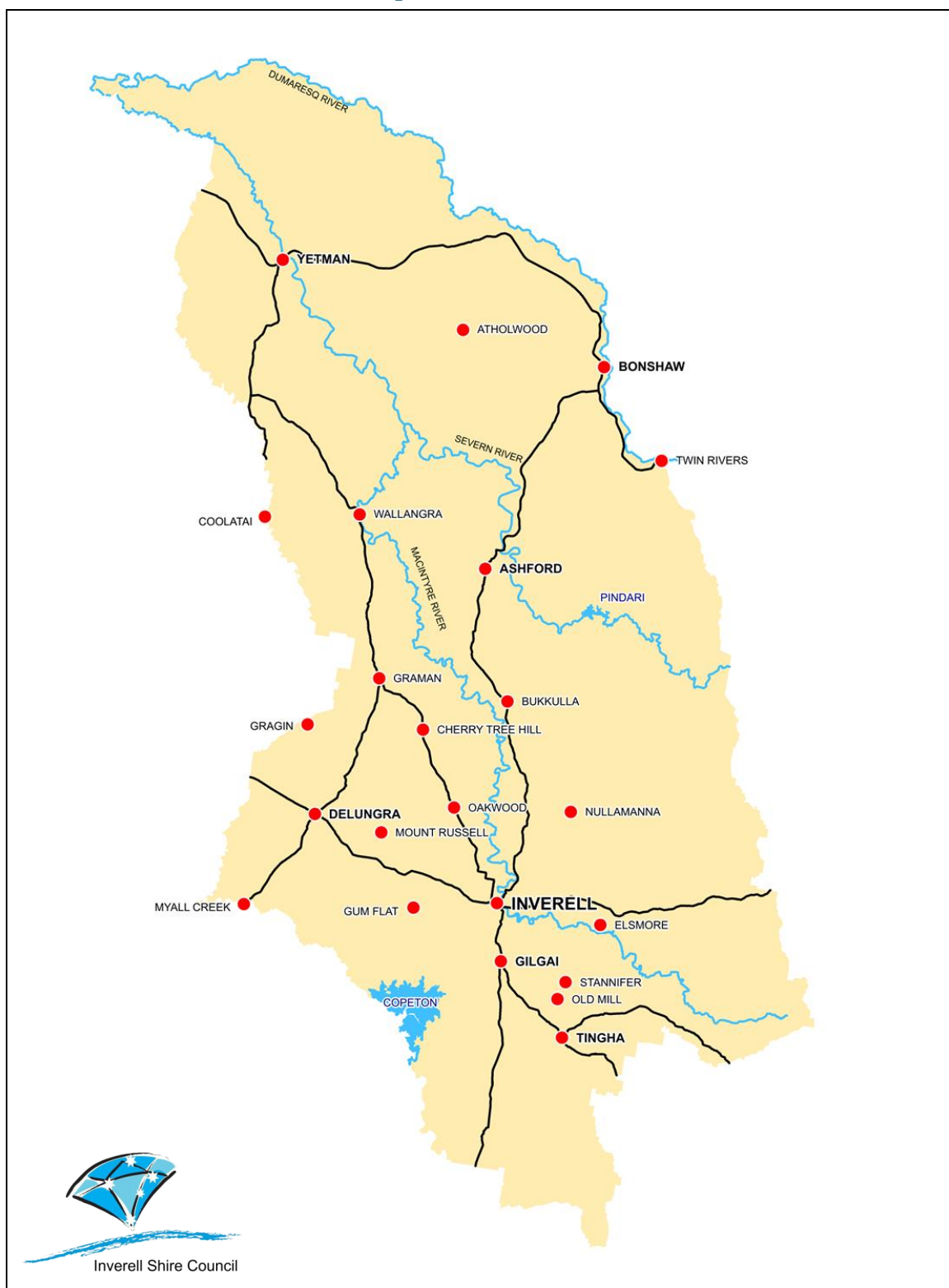
Reviews of this Plan of Management will be carried out at 4-year intervals with the appropriate consultation processes with all relevant stakeholders and the community being undertaken at these reviews. Each review will assess the performance of this Plan of Management along with its alignment with community values, requirements, objectives and policies.

**Appendix 1 – Schedule A**

Parcel Number	Title	Property Address	Suburb	Description	Categorisation	Map Ref	Reserve Name	Gazette Date
51381	Lots 67 & 160, DP 750115	30 Graman Road	Graman	Sports Ground	Natural Area (Bushland), General Community Use	2.0	Graman Sports Ground	17/03/1916

## Appendix 2 - Maps

### Map - Inverell Shire



### Location Map - Graman Sports Ground





Map – Graman Sports Ground – Sapphire City Motor Sports Committee



**10.8 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (ALGWA) NSW  
BRANCH CONFERENCE - NOMINATION OF DELEGATES****File Number:** S4.3.1 / 23/8065**Author:** Paul Henry, General Manager**SUMMARY:**

The Council has a policy of sending two (2) delegates to the ALGWA Conference. Council is requested to determine the attendees for the Conference.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That Council determine the two (2) Councillors to attend the 2023 ALGWA Conference.*

**COMMENTARY:**

The 2023 Australian Local Government Women's Association (NSW Branch) Conference will hold its annual conference in Forbes from 27 to 29 April, 2023.

Council has a policy (reaffirmed by Council at its meeting held on 26 October 2022) that 'two (2) delegates be authorised to attend this conference.

Council is now requested to determine if it will be represented at this conference and if so who will be the authorised delegates.

**RISK ASSESSMENT:**

Nil

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

Nil

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil



**10.9 REFERRAL OF CONFIDENTIAL REPORT****File Number:** S13.5.2/16 / 23/8017**Author:** Kristy Paton, Corporate Support Officer - Publishing**SUMMARY:**

Referral of confidential report.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That Council refer the items to Closed (Public excluded) meeting of the Council and that the press and members of the public be asked to leave the chambers whilst Council considers the following items:*

**Item:** *Companion Animal Impounding Facility*

**Authority:** *Section 10A (2) (d(i)) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.*

**COMMENTARY:**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 9 (2A) *Local Government Act 1993*, the General Manager is of the opinion that consideration of the following item(s) is likely to take place when the meeting is closed to the public.

**Item:** Companion Animal Impounding Facility

**Description:** Tenders for the construction of the new Companion Animal Impounding Facility closed on Friday, 27 January 2023. Council is being asked to consider the recommendation of the Tender Review Panel regarding the Project.

**Reason:** Commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it (s. 10A (2) (d(i)) *Local Government Act 1993*).

**RISK ASSESSMENT:**

Nil

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

Nil

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

**11 INFORMATION REPORTS****11.1 STRATEGIC TASKS - 'SIGN OFF' - DECEMBER 2022****File Number:** S4.13.2 / 23/4496**Author:** Kristy Paton, Corporate Support Officer - Publishing**SUMMARY:**

A part of a successful governance program is a need for administration to indicate to the policy makers that the requirements of the legislation, under which the organisation operates, has been provided. As a result, this information report provides Councillors with a statement of assurance from the General Manager that in accordance with the *Local Government Act, 1993*; the tasks have been complied with.

**COMMENTARY:**

The December 2022 tasks required to be undertaken are detailed below. Any of these tasks may be added to as Council becomes familiar with this new initiative.

Date	Compliance Requirement	Achieved/Not Achieved	Comments
4 December	Councils must adopt a new policy on the payment of expenses and provision of facilities to the mayor and councillors within 12 months of an election [LGA s252]	Achieved	Adopted February 2022.
4 December	Council must review their organisation structure within 12 months of an election [LGA s333]	To be achieved	Report to be considered at March Council meeting
4 December	Council must adopt a code of meeting practice within 12 months of an election [LGA s360]	To be achieved	Report to be considered at March Council meeting
4 December	Councils must review all their delegations within 12 months of an election [LGA s380]	Achieved	Delegations reviewed by Council February 2022
4 December	Councils must review their adopted codes of conduct within 12 months of an election [LGA s440(7)]	To be achieved	Report to be considered at March Council meeting
4 December	Local approvals and orders policies are automatically revoked 12 months after each ordinary election unless adopted after the	Not applicable. Inverell Shire Council not required to have local approvals and orders policies.	

	election [LGA s165]		
5 December	Last day for audited financial statements to be presented to the public [LGA s 418(2)]	Achieved	
30 December	Model Code of Conduct Complaints Statistics Collection Form due	Achieved	
31 December	Delivery Program progress reports provided to council at least every six (6) months.	Achieved	

I confirm that the performance criteria as set out in the criteria for scheduled tasks have been met for the month of December, 2022. I confirm the accuracy and completeness of the information provided above, in that to the best of my knowledge and understanding, all material information has been herein disclosed.

P J HENRY PSM  
GENERAL MANAGER

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

**11.2 STRATEGIC TASKS - 'SIGN OFF' - JANUARY 2023****File Number:** S4.13.2 / 23/4507**Author:** Kristy Paton, Corporate Support Officer - Publishing**SUMMARY:**

A part of a successful governance program is a need for administration to indicate to the policy makers that the requirements of the legislation, under which the organisation operates, has been provided. As a result, this information report provides Councillors with a statement of assurance from the General Manager that in accordance with the *Local Government Act, 1993*, the tasks have been complied with.

**COMMENTARY:**

The January 2023 tasks required to be undertaken are detailed below. Any of these tasks may be added to as Council becomes familiar with this new initiative.

Date	Compliance Requirement	Achieved/Not Achieved	Comments
30 January	Public Interest Disclosure Report due to the NSW Ombudsman [PIDA s6CA]	Achieved	
31 January	Last day for council's ledgers to be balanced and a list balances to be prepared for six-monthly inspections by council's auditor [LGReg cl 228]	Achieved	
31 January	Third quarter rates instalment notices to be sent [LGA s562(5)]	Achieved	

I confirm that the performance criteria as set out in the criteria for scheduled tasks have been met for the month of January, 2023. I confirm the accuracy and completeness of the information provided above, in that to the best of my knowledge and understanding, all material information has been herein disclosed.

P J HENRY PSM

GENERAL MANAGER

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

**11.3 STRATEGIC TASKS - 'SIGN OFF' - FEBRUARY 2023****File Number:** S4.13.2 / 23/7060**Author:** Kristy Paton, Corporate Support Officer - Publishing**SUMMARY:**

A part of a successful governance program is a need for administration to indicate to the policy makers that the requirements of the legislation, under which the organisation operates, has been provided. As a result, this information report provides Councillors with a statement of assurance from the General Manager that in accordance with the *Local Government Act, 1993*, the tasks have been complied with.

**COMMENTARY:**

The February 2023 tasks required to be undertaken are detailed below. Any of these tasks may be added to as Council becomes familiar with this new initiative.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Compliance Requirement</b>	<b>Achieved/Not Achieved</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1 February	First day for requests to Valuer General for estimates of changes in the value of land for which supplementary valuations are required to be furnished [LGA s513]	Achieved	
1 February	Low Cost Loan Initiative Reimbursement claim period opens (Initial Report or Progress Report due)	Not applicable	
28 February	Last day for Responsible Accounting Officer to submit quarterly budget review statement to council [LGReg cl 203(1)]	Achieved	February 2023
28 February	Third quarterly rates instalments due [LGA s562(3)(b)]	Achieved	28/02/2023

I confirm that the performance criteria as set out in the criteria for scheduled tasks have been met for the month of February, 2023. I confirm the accuracy and completeness of the information provided above, in that to the best of my knowledge and understanding, all material information has been herein disclosed.

P J HENRY PSMGENERAL MANAGER**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

**11.4 2023 JOEYS MINI WORLD CUP UPDATE****File Number:** S26.3.21/01 / 23/7650**Author:** Peter Caddey, Manager Administrative and Marketing Services**SUMMARY:**

Planning has commenced for the 2023 Joeys Mini World Cup to be held in Inverell. Council is requested to accept this report for information.

**COMMENTARY:**

Planning is underway for the Joeys Mini World Cup (JMWC), to be held in Inverell from Monday, 25 to Saturday 30 September, 2023.

Director of Corporate and Economic Services (DCES), Paul Pay and Manager Administrative and Marketing Services (MAMS), Peter Caddey met with Tournament Director Heinrich Haussler on Friday, 10 March, 2023. Mr Haussler was presented with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the event. Following discussions pertaining to the document, the MOU was signed by Mr Haussler. The MOU was subsequently counter signed by the General Manager and a copy sent to Mr Haussler via email on Monday, 13 March, 2023. A copy of the signed MOU will be presented at the Councillor Briefing Session.

Construction and design of the new website has commenced, together with a redesign of the event Facebook Page.

A training camp will be held in Inverell on the weekend of 15 and 16 April. Tournament Patron will be in attendance. It is expected that players from Inverell, Glen Innes, Armidale, Tamworth, Gunnedah and others dependant on availability, will participate.

The 2023 JMWC will utilise fields at the Inverell Sporting Complex for the duration of the Tournament. Should the expected team numbers be realised, Cameron Oval will be required to host matches for the Under 10s and Under 12 teams.

Monthly meetings will be conducted commencing the 26 April with DCES, MAMS and Mr Haussler, for the purpose of providing an update on the status of the event.

**RISK ASSESSMENT:**

Nil

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:**

Nil

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

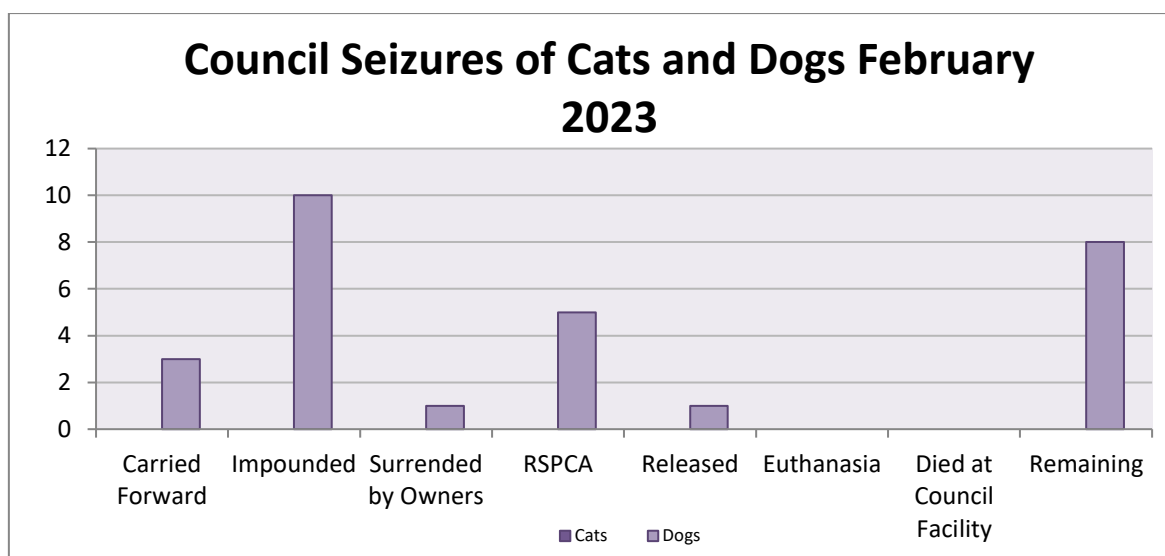
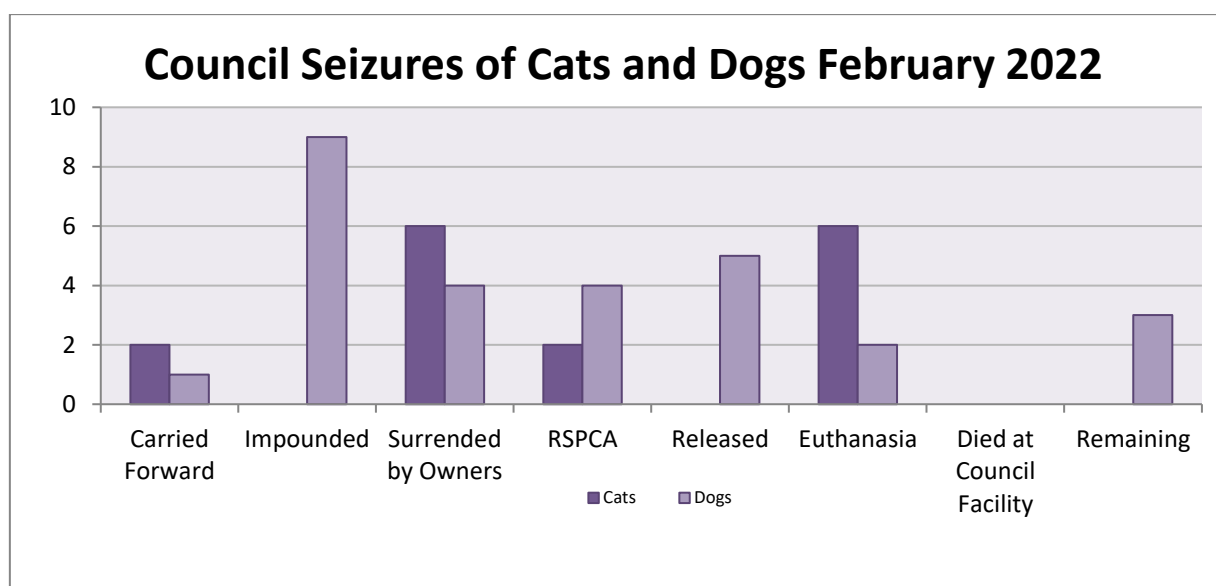
Nil

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

**11.5 ORDINANCE ACTIVITIES REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2023****File Number:** S18.10.1 / 23/6630**Author:** Robyn Waters, Administration Officer**SUMMARY:**

The following details the number of various Ordinance activities carried out during February 2023, in comparison to the same month in 2022.

**INFORMATION:****COMPLIANCE****Inverell Shire Council Pound Monthly Report February 2023****Inverell Shire Council Pound Monthly Report February 2022****ATTACHMENTS:****Nil**

<b>11.6 SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS, CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATES AND COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES DURING FEBRUARY 2023</b>
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**File Number:** S18.10.2/16 / 23/7171

**Author:** Robyn Waters, Administration Officer

**SUMMARY:**

This report is intended to keep Council updated on the Development Applications, Construction Certificates and Complying Development Certificates determined during the month of February 2023.

**DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS, REFUSALS AND VARIATIONS DURING FEBRUARY 2023**

**Development Approvals**

<u>Development Application Number</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Property</u>	<u>Development</u>	<u>\$ Amount</u>
DA -162/2022	777 Investments Pty Ltd	141 Otho Street, INVERELL 2360	Construction and use of motel accommodation, including 31 rooms, a managers residence, on site car parking, ingress and egress driveways and associated landscaping.	2,500,000.
DA-7/2023	Abode Building Design	77 Mather Street, INVERELL 2360	Dwelling with attached garage, earthworks, fence and retaining wall	424,270
DA-9/2023	Mr Taylor Mason	16 White Box Place, INVERELL 2360	Shed, driveway, outdoor entertaining area, deck and spa	120,000
DA-14/2023	Rural Cert Pty Ltd	532 Yetman Road, INVERELL 2360	Construction of Split Level Dwelling House, Retaining Walls & Detached Metal Shed	816,000
<b>Monthly estimated value of Approvals: February 2023</b>			<b>4</b>	<b>3,860,270</b>

**Development Amendments**

<u>Development Application Number</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Property</u>	<u>Development</u>	<u>\$ Amount</u>
DA-84/2021/A	Mr Michael James Frost	50A-50B Mather Street,	Subdivision	NIL



	and Mrs Lisa Ann Frost	INVERELL 2360		
<b>Monthly estimated value of Approvals: February 2023</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>NIL</b>

**Development Refusals**

Nil

**Variation to Development Standards Approved**

As part of the monitoring and reporting requirements established by the NSW Department of Planning, a report of all variations approved under delegation in accordance with Clause 4.6 of *the Inverell Local Environmental Plan 2012* must be provided to a full council meeting.

The following details the variations to development standards approved during February 2023.

**INFORMATION:**

Nil

**CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATES APPROVED AND AMENDED DURING FEBRUARY 2023****Construction Certificates approved by Council**

<b><u>Construction Certificate Number</u></b>	<b><u>Applicant</u></b>	<b><u>Property</u></b>	<b><u>Construction</u></b>	<b><u>\$ Amount</u></b>
CC-94/2022	The Inverell Returned Servicemen's Memorial	50 Granville Street, INVERELL 2360	Demolition of existing dwelling, subdivision and construction of a 2 storey duplex.	880,000
CC-2/2023	Abode Building Design	31 Bolands Lane, INVERELL 2360	Shed, earthworks, bathroom and laundry facilities for temporary occupation	33,000
CC-6/2023	TBN Construct Pty Ltd	86 MacIntyre Station Road, INVERELL 2360	Additions to pavilion to dwelling	20,000
CC-11/2023	The Trustee for McGavin Family Trust	69 Rifle Range Road, INVERELL 2360	Earthworks and retaining walls in preparation for future construction of warehouse	30,000
<b>Monthly estimated value of Approvals: February 2023</b>			<b>4</b>	<b>963,000</b>

**Amended Construction Certificates approved by Council**

CC-126/2022/A	Denori Pty Ltd	1 Swan Street.	Single Dwelling, Earthworks &	NIL
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	INVERELL 2360	Retaining Wall	
<b>Monthly estimated value of Approvals: February 2023</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>NIL</b>

**Construction Certificates approved by Private Certifier**

NIL

**Amended Construction Certificates approved by Private Certifier**

Nil

**COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES APPROVED AND AMENDED DURING FEBRUARY 2023****Complying Development Certificates Approved by Council**

CD-3/2023	Build with Ben	107 Henderson Street, INVERELL 2360	Alterations and additions to dwelling	80,000
CD-4/2023	LEGS	34 Shirley Street, INVERELL 2360	Alterations and additions to a single-storey fibre cement clad dwelling	43,000
<b>Monthly estimated value of Approvals: February 2023</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>123,000</b>

**Amended Complying Development Certificates approved by Council**

Nil

**Complying Development Certificates approved by Private Certifier**

Nil

**Amended Complying Development Certificates approved by Private Certifier**

Nil

**TOTAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION FOR INVERELL SHIRE DURING FEBRUARY 2023:**

<b>Type of Consent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>\$ Amount</b>
Construction Certificates – Council Approved	<b>4</b>	<b>963,000</b>
Construction Certificates – Private Certifier	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>
Complying Development – Council Approved	<b>2</b>	<b>123,000</b>
Complying Development – Private Certifier	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1,086,000</b>

Estimated Value of Approvals issued in the financial ytd in: **2022/2023**      **(99)**      **\$15,930,464**  
**2021/2022**      **(128)**      **\$20,130,846**

Attachments:

Nil

**12 GOVERNANCE REPORTS**

Nil

**13 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:

**13.1** Companion Animal Impounding Facility Construction Tender