



LEETON
SHIRE COUNCIL

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
AGENDA

25 OCTOBER 2023
7:00PM

TO BE HELD IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
23-25 CHELMSFORD PLACE
LEETON NSW 2705

Authorised for release: Jackie Kruger General Manager

**LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL
AGENDA
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
25 October 2023
7:00PM**

1. CIVIC PRAYER
2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
3. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND ANY MATTERS ARISING

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 20 September 2023, as circulated, be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

5. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS
6. MAYORAL MINUTES
7. REPORTS TO COUNCIL

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- 8. NOTICES OF MOTIONS**
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- 11. CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

MEETINGS VIDEO RECORDED

Council meetings are now video recorded. Members of the public are advised that their voice and/or image may form part of that recording.

ADDRESSING COUNCIL / PUBLIC REPRESENTATION

If any member of the public wishes to formally address the Council in relation to a matter in this agenda they are to register to speak for a maximum of three (3) minutes by Tuesday 12 noon preceding the meeting.

Contact Governance via 6953 0911 or email council@leeton.nsw.gov.au

OATH OF OFFICE

Councillors' obligations under the Oath or Affirmation of Office are as follows:

I swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of Leeton and the Leeton Shire Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE

I solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of Leeton Shire and the Leeton Shire Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

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?
- Could your possible conflict of interest lead to private gain or loss at public expense?
- Can the decision be justified in terms of public interest?
- Would it withstand public scrutiny?

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- A conflict of interest is a clash between private interest and public duty. There are two types of conflict: Pecuniary – regulated by the Local Government Act and Division of Local Government and, Non-pecuniary – regulated by Codes of Conduct and policy. ICAC, Ombudsman, Division of Local Government (advice only).

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 interest 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 interest conflict with my official role?

Whilst seeking advice is generally useful, the ultimate decision rests with the person concerned.

AGENCY ADVICE

Officers of the following agencies are available during office hours to discuss the obligations placed on Councillors, Officers and Community Committee members by various pieces of legislation, regulation and Codes.

Contact	Phone	Email	Website
Leeton Shire Council	6953 0911	council@leeton.nsw.gov.au	www.leeton.nsw.gov.au
ICAC	8281 5999 Toll Free 1800 463 909	icac@icac.nsw.gov.au	www.icac.nsw.gov.au
Office of Local Government	4428 4100	olg@olg.nsw.gov.au	www.olg.nsw.gov.au
NSW Ombudsman	9286 1000 Toll Free 1800 451 524	nswombo@ombo.nsw.gov.au	www.ombo.nsw.gov.au

GENERAL MANAGER'S MATTERS

ITEM 7.1 WESTERN RIVERINA ARTS ANNUAL REPORT

RECORD NUMBER	23/257
RELATED FILE NUMBER	EF22/35
AUTHOR/S	Museum, Gallery & Heritage Officer
APPROVER/S	Executive Manager People & Culture

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

Leeton Shire Council makes an annual budget allocation of \$13,134 for membership of Western Riverina Arts (WRA). This report summarises the reported benefits to the Leeton Community of this investment.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council notes the information in the Western Riverina Arts reports.

REPORT

(a) Background

The Board of WRA held its AGM in June 2023. In anticipation of Council's continued funding in 2023/24, WRA has outlined its outcomes for 2022/23 in the Annual Report.

(b) Discussion

WRA utilises Council's annual investment to support Leeton's creative community. For 2022/23, WRA supported the Leeton Shire creative community in the following manner.

- Micro Grants – Administered and distributed grants across the region.
 - Country Arts Support Program (CASP) – Provided workshops and assessment services to the NSW Government for the CASP Arts and Cultural Finding Program.
 - Administered by Western Riverina Arts, CASP supported Red Earth Ecology - Leeton Memories amongst other regional projects.
 - Regional Arts Development Organisation (RADO) Workshops with the NSW Government – Provided outcomes on the logistics of distributing grants to the region through the RADO network.
-

- Leeton and District Aboriginal Land Council (L&DLALC) – Provided logistical and in-kind support for projects initiated by the Leeton Wiradjuri Community:
 - Miil Miil Productions Languages Project 2022.
 - NAIDOC Art Workshop with Cory McKenzie and Allen McKenzie Snr.
 - Miil Miil Productions Studio Presentation to NSW Minister for Arts Benjamin Franklin - L&DLALC and Leeton Museum and Art Gallery.
 - Wiradjuri/Wiradyuri Languages Miil Miil Productions YouTube Premiere.

- Riverina Writing House / Leeton Writers' Collective:
 - Les Wicks Travelling Poet - Riverina Lectures and 2x Writers Workshop,
 - Underground Sessions.
 - 'Inside Film' Jake Speer writer workshop.

- Mona Magazine – Provided support on Issue 2.

- Leeton Artists and Leeton Art Society – Sponsored and supported the Society and member artists in the development of several projects including:
 - Penny Paniz Acquisitive Art Prize 2022 – Coordinate an independent judging process.
 - Youth Art Workshop.
 - 2022 Murrumbidgee Short Story Competition – in association with Narrandera Arts and Creative Network, Leeton Art Society Inc and Griffith and Regional Association of the Performing Arts.
 - 2022 inaugural Western Riverina Arts ROR Residency awarded to LSC resident Dorothy Roddy.
 - John Coppola Film Acting Workshop, Bronwyn Boyle Consulting.
 - inFREQUENCY Restart Grant Support - Jason Richardson.

- Create NSW SongMakers Winter Sessions:
 - Held at Yanco Institute, the sessions are presented by APRA AMCOS as part of the Holiday Break program supported by the Office for Regional Youth in partnership with Create NSW.

- Women's Wellbeing Weaving Circle – Supported Jo Roberts' in the development of a Weaving Circle in Leeton for local women, a safe space for reflection and healing.

- Leeton Shire Council:
 - Grant Workshop 'Get Your Grant On', at Leeton Museum and Art Gallery (funded by the NSW Government in association with WRA and Leeton Museum and Art Gallery) – a free grant writing workshop.
 - WRA Marketing Workshop 'Get the Word Out', at Leeton Museum and Art Gallery (funded by the NSW Government in association with WRA and Leeton Museum and Art Gallery) – a free social media workshop.
 - Yanco Museum Project | Dorothy Roddy: Moments In Time – Dorothy Roddy, Artist and Curator, along with Leonie Napier, Project Leader of the Yanco Museum Project, premiered an Exhibition at Leeton Museum and Art Gallery.
 - Lee Blacker-Noble: Past Glories at Leeton Museum and Art Gallery.

- o 'Her Story': Roslyn Lockhart Exhibition at Leeton Museum and Art Gallery – supported by Western Riverina Arts, Murrumbidgee Council, NSW Government through Create NSW and Leeton Museum and Gallery.
- o Australian Art Deco Festival Leeton, 2022 – Supported development and presentation of Bloodshed at the Banquet and Harp Deco.

For the year ended 31 December 2022, Western Riverina Arts reported a surplus on activities (\$17,585) above the budget projection against the previous year (\$4,905).

Western Riverina Arts' Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2022 reported total assets of \$183,890 and liabilities of \$14,210.

(c) Options

Nil – this report is for information only.

IMPLICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED

(a) Financial

Council's annual contribution for 23/24 to Western Riverina Arts is \$13,134 and is in the adopted budget.

(b) Policy

There are no policy implications from this report.

(c) Legislative/Statutory

There are no legislative or statutory requirements arising from this report.

(d) Risk

Council's interests are promoted through staff representation on the governing board.

CONSULTATION

(a) External

The Western Riverina Arts Board has provided the attached reports for Council's information.

(b) Internal

Nil

LINK/S TO THE DELIVERY PROGRAM/OPERATIONAL PLAN (DPOP)

Under the Key Priority Area CSP FOCUS AREA 1 - A connected, inclusive and enriched community within Council's adopted Delivery Program/Operational Plan – DELIVERY PROGRAM FUNCTIONAL AREA 2 - Museum, Arts and Cultural Services -

DELIVERY PROGRAM ACTIVITY 2.3 - Maintain strong working relationships with: Western Riverina Arts, including being an active member of the Board; Leeton Family and Local History Society, including systems support for collection management - OPERATIONAL PLAN ACTIVITY 2.3.1 - Host and collaborate with Western Riverina Regional Arts to successfully deliver events, public art projects and programs in Leeton Shire, including providing opportunities to promote local artistic endeavour".

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Western Riverina Arts Annual Report (2022)

ANNUAL REPORT

2022



western riverina ARTS

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**Ngiyani yindyamali Aboriginal mayiny
murrubandha mayinny galangga Australia
Ngangaagi.**

**We respect Aboriginal peoples as the First
Peoples and Custodians of Australia.**

**We would like to acknowledge the
Wiradjuri/Wiradyuri people, the Traditional
Owners and Custodians of the land on which we
live and work, and pay our respects to Elders
past and present. Sovereignty has never been
ceded. We extend that respect to all Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander People.**

**Please be advised that this report contains
images of people who are deceased.**

FROM THE CHAIR

Through 2022, Western Riverina Arts (WRA) continued to cement our organisation in the communities of Griffith, Leeton, Murrumbidgee, and Narrandera through the assistance, contact, recognition, and promotion we provide. It has been a privilege to support and work with our emerging and existing artists in this post-covid recovery period. With pride I note that WRA programs and partnerships reached some 30,000 audience members through 2022, attending festivals, exhibitions, regional events, workshops, and performances.

My thanks to our incredible staff, led by Aanya, the treasure we never knew we would be lucky enough to find. Camille, Elijah, Melissa, and our newest team member Gemma, who takes over from Camille in 2023. They keep WRA open and available through hard work, innovation, and a great social media presence. I am sincerely grateful for their immense effort.

An increase in funding has provided WRA with some sustainability and stability, allowing us to look to the bigger picture and our strategic wish list which, in 2022, enabled us to expand the team with Elijah in the new role of Creative Officer. Elijah is developing digital arts initiatives, seeking funding, partnerships and projects that will generate long-term employment and opportunities in digital arts in our region.

In 2022 the Minister for the Arts The Hon. Ben Franklin, MLC gave unprecedented support to regional arts in NSW and personally visited the Leeton Museum and Art Gallery, the studios of Miil Miil Productions, and the offices of Western Riverina Arts.

I would like to thank Oumi Karenga-Hewitt who took on the role of Vice-Chair this year and did an amazing job. Welcome to our new board members, Karen Barrett (Leeton), Sue Ruffles (Narrandera), and Sue Mitchell, Eden Hercus and Jo Chauncy (Murrumbidgee). I acknowledge the contribution of Julie Briggs, our founding Chair, who retired from the Board this year. This will be my last report as Chair as I am stepping down from the position but will remain on the Board as Narrandera Shire Council's representative.

Looking forward to 2023 I am honoured to take on a Director's role on the Board of Regional Arts NSW. The last six years as Chair of Western Riverina Arts have been exhilarating and challenging. I have immense satisfaction and pride in what we have been able to achieve and in the resilience of this wonderful organisation. It has been an amazing experience.

Susan Killham



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



2022 was a transformative year for Western Riverina Arts. With the deaths of three major artists in our region, our team was profoundly affected. This loss closely followed the Pandemic that was still bearing upon us. I also faced some challenging times personally with family in hospital, a broken foot, and direct impact from the floods. Despite the challenges WRA's Board and staff delivered a significant program over twelve months.

WRA's strategic direction for 2022 was all about professional development where Covid-19 left two years of school leavers and two years of tertiary graduates facing an entirely new world. In regional NSW the creative industry was restarting in order to build sustainability. In 2022 the after-effects of the Pandemic was felt in all four of our Local Government Areas. We then extended our efforts to increase the professional development program by building strategic partnerships throughout 2022. We also maintained grant application support services and workshops. Funding for arts and culture remained a high need for the Western Riverina.

First Nations arts and culture is one of the priority areas for WRA and in 2022 we continued to work with the Wiradjuri/Wiradyuri community and First Nations organisations across the region. Additionally, the broader program saw outcomes in audience attendances, community capacity, and development of pathways for the region's artists and creative community.

It was with sadness and a huge thankyou that we say goodbye to founding Board Member Julie Briggs who retired from the WRA Board mid year. Julie was an unreservedly dedicated contributor to the organisation from its beginnings in 2011. As Chair, Vice Chair, and Community Member for Narrandera, Julie helped to shape, guide, be a part of, and support arts and culture in the Western Riverina. Additionally, she is a prevailing creative talent herself. Chair Sue Killham and Julie Briggs provided unconditional support to my role as Executive Director at a critical time. Together they made a strong and committed team serving as Officers of the Board who were always there when called upon. Oumi Karenga-Hewitt as incoming Vice Chair in 2022 has filled the role with equal passion, talent and commitment. I extend my deep thanks to the Board as a whole for everything they do for WRA.

This year we grew our team and welcomed Elijah Ingram to the role of Creative Officer. Projects and Communications Officer Camille Whitehead served three solid years at WRA contributing vastly to its vision, growth and outlook. I extend enormous appreciation for all the work she has done over this hard-hitting time. In 2023 I look forward to working with Gemma Purcell in the role. With a secure team WRA is committed to supporting the region in as many ways as possible.

Aanya Whitehead

P PROJECTS & COMMUNICATIONS

The Projects and Communications Officer handles the organisation's communication for a wide variety of outlets and helps to "spread the word" as well as support and coordinate projects that are initiated, supported or strategically partnered with Western Riverina Arts. This role was taken on by Camille Whitehead in January 2020 who went on to serve for three years. Camille provided a critical communication point for the region and was valued by the Western Riverina arts and cultural community for her high level of expertise, knowledge and support. 2022 was the year that was restarting after Covid-19 restrictions had been lifted. An overview of the communication work in 2022 included project coordination and weekly promotion of; emerging grants and opportunities, local arts and cultural news, promotion of events. 19 events were attended and 11 newsletters published.

Following a tragic start to the year where we lost major artists in the region, Camille persevered and was responsible for a number of initiatives including the administration of the WRA Micro Grants which was in its second year; 27 grants were allocated to the arts and cultural community across the Western Riverina. Camille also initiated and created the RoR/WRA Residency in Griffith in partnership with Kristy-Lee Agresta which was awarded to Leeton artist Dorothy Roddy. An exhibition from the Residency saw it tour to Griffith, Leeton and Narrandera. The Murrumbidgee Short Story Competition was in its second year receiving a 46% increase in the number of authors, and a 36% increase in the number of stories entered. Other WRA projects in the communications department included a wellbeing weaving circle with Jo Roberts, professional development support for Travis Lawton, coordination of the Rescue of Riverina Native Birds exhibition, and partnering on five workshops which included two on grant writing. WRA's year finished in celebration with its annual Networking Christmas Party, programmed and produced by Camille, bringing everyone together before the summer break.

Camille Whitehead finished her time at WRA in February 2023 to take on other opportunities: "I have enjoyed working with the fabulous team, board members and of course the artists who have made this job so incredibly special. I am very proud of what has been achieved over the last three years. I know I will always look back on my time here with great fondness."

Gemma Purcell takes on the role of Projects and Communications officer in 2023. Moving forward there is a lot to look forward to with her extensive experience in arts and community across the Western Riverina.



C CREATIVE OFFICER

Working as Creative Officer for Western Riverina Arts has been rewarding and informative. Since commencing in July 2022, the position has allowed me to develop friendships and pursue a career in screen that has not been seen before in this region. Significantly, my work aligns with the outcomes of Miil Miil Productions which has fostered tangible cultural and economic benefits for the region. I hope that in the future I can work to ensure the sustainability of the industry.

The Creative Officer role has allowed me to promote and place an emphasis on digital and future Arts and has permitted the development of innovative installations and the exploration of new artistic frontiers. As the Creative Officer for Western Riverina Arts, my primary focus has been on fostering partnerships within the digital and screen arts community in the region. My work as Co-founder of Miil Miil Productions has proven to be instrumental in securing financial support for various projects benefiting individual artists and organisations in a broad sense. This has also contributed to the overall development of the screen industry within the region allowing the screen arts to be placed front and centre here in regional NSW where no opportunities have been before.

2022 also saw the strategic partnership between Miil Miil Productions, Western Riverina Arts, South West Arts and Eastern Riverina Arts that will see a long term regional business strategy for the screen industry supported across the South West regions of NSW.

In 2023 projects will include the launch of Miil Miil Productions that is partnered with the Leeton and District Local Aboriginal Land Council. More partnerships will move forward with Birdyulang Animations, Kensington House Entertainment via a co-production of 'Lords of the Soil' a short film featuring Wiradyuri language, and the development of an Aboriginal specific history of water in the region.

The future aim is to grow the Creative Officer position to become near or close to fulltime and open up traineeships and upskilling opportunities that lead to significant employment and more jobs and careers in regional arts and culture.

Elijah Ingram



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VER*NICA COLLINS



Ver*nica Collins (1962-2022)

2022 commenced with a deep and heavy sadness in the Western Riverina community with the the passing of Wiradjuri/Wiradyuri artist of national significance, Ver*nica Collins.

Ver*nica Collins was a powerful presence and a thunderous force of life who imparted great love to those around her every day. Ver*nica leaves a vital and lifelong national legacy across all aspects of her life; she was history in the making as an artist expressing her Wiradjuri/Wiradyuri heart and deep pride in her community and culture.

Ver*nica was uncompromising in her creativity and her culture. A true master artist whose works are so deep, so touching, so pure and so skillful that to behold a painting is to feel the underskin and mystery of this vast and beautiful country.

Ver*nica was an Elder born before the 1967 referendum who was a wife, a mother, grandmother, aunty, and lifelong political activist demanding justice and redress. She walked the streets of her much-loved community of Griffith as well as those corridors of her representative politicians, always asserting her sovereign rights unceded through her words, her writings and her art.

(Note: The artist's name is not spelled out in full out of cultural respect for the family. Both the artist before her passing, and the family, have given permission for her image to be used).

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LYNNE MCQUILLAN



Lynne McQuillan (1950-2022)

Western Riverina Arts shared heartfelt sympathies with the Leeton art community and the family of Lynne McQuillan who passed away in 2022. A talented artist and three-time Penny Paniz Acquisitive Art Prize winner, Lynne was dedicated to the arts, sharing her knowledge and volunteering her time at Leeton Museum and Art Gallery. Lynne was a founding member of the Leeton Art Society and a passionate supporter of art in Leeton. Lynne shared her artistic talent freely with all. She was a quiet, gentle and kind lady who never wanted to draw attention to herself. Lynne was awarded many Penny Paniz art prizes and was the winner of lots of other prizes for her artworks. She was well known for her beautiful pastel artworks. Leeton Art Society members said: "We always looked forward to Lynne's demonstrations for us at Tuesday Casual Art mornings. RIP our beautiful talented artist and compassionate good friend, we will miss you Lynne!"



LEE BLACKER-NOBLE



Lee Blacker-Noble (1934-2022)

Lee Blacker-Noble of Leeton was a multi-talented artist and one of the visionary founding members of the Leeton Art Society. She was a keen traveller with an adventurous and curious spirit and a love of science fiction and fantasy, all of which greatly influenced her work. In Lee's own words: "There's nothing better than painting. I think that's what's kept me going all these years, the ability to be able to paint. It's a lot better than sitting in front of the TV – I can tell you that! When you're painting you can't worry about anything else, you are completely involved in what you're doing when you're painting." Lee Blacker-Noble was featured as Western Riverina Arts "Artist of the Month" in May 2021 where she narrated her dynamic and adventurous creative journey in detail. Leeton Art Society honoured her memory at the 2023 Penny Paniz Acquisitive Art Prize noting her extraordinary and long-standing contribution to art in Leeton.



PROGRAM 2022

Western Riverina Arts held a varied and expanded program for 2022 compared to previous years. More events were held and more projects were in development. The arts and cultural community was very active coming out of the effects of the Pandemic. The year was also affected by major flooding that impacted the arts and cultural community broadly. Along with its standard program, the organisation concentrated heavily on professional development in 2022 and fostered many strategic partnerships. It also connected more substantially with the Regional Arts Development Office (RADO) Network across NSW. WRA concentrated on aligned partnerships with its RADO neighbours Eastern Riverina Arts and South West Arts, to expand the program in more regional areas.



PROGRAM 2022

- **MIIL MIIL PRODUCTIONS LANGUAGES PROJECT 2022 - LEETON & DISTRICT LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL (L&DLALC)**
- **NAIDOC ART WORKSHOP WITH CORY MCKENZIE AND ALLEN MCKENZIE SNR - L&DLALC**
- **LES WICKS TRAVELLING POET - RIVERINA LECTURES - SARAH TIFFEN RIVERINA WRITING HOUSE**
- **LILLARDIA BRIGGS-HOUSTON - 2022 NATIONAL FASHION COLLECTION SUPPORT**
- **MAKE GROUP SUPPORT - KERRI WEYMOUTH ART THERAPIST**
- **MIIL MIIL PRODUCTIONS STUDIO PRESENTATION TO NSW MINISTER FOR ARTS BENJAMIN FRANKLIN - L&DLALC & LEETON MUSEUM & ART GALLERY**
- **MONA MAGAZINE ISSUE 2 SUPPORT**
- **PENNY PANIZ ACQUISITIVE ART PRIZE 2022 - LEETON ART SOCIETY**
- **POLITICAL WOMEN - THE CAD FACTORY AND GRIFFITH REGIONAL ART GALLERY**
- **REGIONAL FUTURES MENTORSHIP - JACOB CHARLES & HAPE KIDDLE**
- **RESCUE OF RIVERINA NATIVE BIRDS EXHIBITION 2022 - GRIFFITH BUSH SUMMIT WITH PRIME MINISTER ANTHONY ALBANESE - SOUTH WEST ARTS, GRIFFITH REGIONAL THEATRE, GRIFFITH REGIONAL ART GALLERY**
- **RESCUE OF RIVERINA NATIVE BIRDS EXHIBITION 2022 REGIONAL TOUR - SOUTH WEST ARTS**
- **SONGMAKERS YANCO**
- **SPRING INTO OCTOBER ART EXHIBITION - MURRUMBIDGEE COUNCIL**
- **TRAVIS LAWTON SCULPTURE WORKSHOP WITH ANDREW WHITEHEAD**
- **UNDERGROUND SESSIONS - SARAH TIFFEN RIVERINA WRITING HOUSE**
- **WARANGESDA STAGE PLAY SYDNEY OPENING SEASON - BURRUNDI THEATRE**
- **WIRADJURI/WIRADYURI LANGUAGES MIIL MIIL PRODUCTIONS YOUTUBE PREMIERE - L&DLALC**
- **WOMEN'S WELLBEING WEAVING CIRCLE - JO ROBERTS**
- **WRA MARKETING WORKSHOP 'GET THE WORD OUT' - LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL**
- **WRA 2022 MICRO GRANTS**
- **WRA 2022 NETWORKING CHRISTMAS PARTY**
- **ROR RESIDENCY AWARDED TO DOROTHY RODDY - KRISTY-LEE AGRESTA ROR**
- **YOUTH ART WORKSHOP - LEETON ART SOCIETY**

PROGRAM 2022

- **2022 MURRUMBIDGEE SHORT STORY COMPETITION - HILARY MANNING, NACNET, LEETON ART SOCIETY, GRAPA, MONA**
- **A DAY IN THE ORCHARD SCULPTURE WORKSHOP & MUSIC SPONSORSHIP**
- **ART OF DONOR WORKSHOP**
- **BEACHO RECORDING - HEAPS DECENT, KILN STUDIOS**
- **YOUTH WELLBEING WORKSHOPS - BURRUNDI THEATRE, GRIFFITH COMMUNITY CENTRE**
- **CASP GRANT WORKSHOP**
- **CASP GRANTS**
- **CREATIVE RIVERINA DATABASE - EASTERN RIVERINA ARTS, SOUTH WEST ARTS**
- **YANCO MUSEUM PROJECT - DOROTHY RODDY, YANCO AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE**
- **DR TREAHA HAMM JOYCE SPENCER EXHIBITION - THE CAD FACTORY, THE SPENCER FAMILY**
- **FIRST NATIONS WELLBEING & INDIGENOUS ART THERAPY FORUM - BURRUNDI THEATRE**
- **GRANT WORKSHOP 'GET YOUR GRANT ON' - LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL**
- **GRANT APPLICATION & WRITING SUPPORT**
- **'THE CRUCIBLE' - GRAPA**
- **GRIFFITH REGIONAL HOSPITAL COMMUNITY ART CONSULTATION - THE CAD FACTORY**
- **HAY MUSEUM WORKSHOP WITH MONICA DAVIDSON - SOUTH WEST ARTS**
- **'HER STORY' ROSLYN LOCKHART EXHIBITION - LEETON MUSEUM & ART GALLERY**
- **HILARY GEDDES TOUR**
- **INFREQUENCY RESTART SUPPORT - JASON RICHARDSON**
- **'INSIDE FILM' JAKE SPEER WRITER WORKSHOP - SARAH TIFFEN RIVERINA WRITING HOUSE**
- **JOHN COPPOLA FILM ACTING WORKSHOP - BRONWYN BOYLE CONSULTING**
- **JOYCE SPENCER TEXTILES FELLOWSHIP OPEN FOR 2023 - THE CAD FACTORY, THE SPENCER FAMILY**
- **LEETON ART DECO FESTIVAL 2022 - LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL**

STATISTICS

20 projects in 2022

34 Letters of Support

\$3,024,675 worth of funding applied for

\$1,257,360 worth of funding brought into the region

Growth in Social Media following **13.42%**

Posts shared on Social Media **522**

Page views on WRA Website **10,623** ^7.27%

E-news Subscribers **568** ^13.2%

Facebook Followers **3,470** ^14.2%

Facebook Likes **2,959** ^10.8%

Instagram Followers **1,839** ^10.2%

Twitter Followers **837** ^1.67%

LinkedIn Followers **81** ^109%

FINANCE SUMMARY

Income	\$ 2022	\$ Budget	\$ Difference	Note
Grants	427,776	229,000	198,776	1)
Other Income	10,374	5,300	5,074	2)
Interest	127	1,000	(873)	
Total Income	438,277	235,300	202,977	
Expenses				
Program and Project Expenses	198,264	38,800	159,464	3)
Operating Costs	67,848	59,795	8,053	4)
Salaries and Wages	154,580	131,800	22,780	5)
Total Expenses	420,692	230,395	190,297	
Surplus	17,585	4,905	12,680	6)

Notes:

- 1) More grant funding applied for in 2022, including an increase in Create NSW core funding
- 2) More earned income through funded projects
- 3) Expenditure reflects extra grant funded activity
- 4) Higher operational costs attributed to higher costs of goods and services across regional areas
- 5) Costs associated with the WRA team expanding in 2022
- 6) A majority of the surplus is from increased grant and program activity

In 2022, Western Riverina Arts Inc. maintained its core funding from Create NSW as well as LGA member contributions from Griffith, Leeton, Murrumbidgee and Narrandera. Grants for project funding were above the budget estimates as well as other earned income sources. The Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 were reviewed by Treasurer Anthony Morton who confirmed all areas looked as expected for the year. Treasurer noted that the program area had expanded because grants and auspiced funds were higher than budget estimates. This was offset against the same in the income section. The twelve months saw variances in some operational budget areas but these were within expectations. The organisation was in a stable position for 2022.

G

GOVERNANCE

About Western Riverina Arts

Western Riverina Arts (WRA) is a not-for-profit organisation that works in partnership with its member councils to support, develop and promote the arts in the Western Riverina on Wiradjuri/Wiradyuri Country. Formally launched in 2011, WRA is part of a network of 15 regional arts boards in NSW with Regional Arts NSW their peak body. Western Riverina Arts is funded by the NSW state government through Create NSW, and through contributions from its member councils.

With a population of over 50,000 people and several high-profile artists, the Western Riverina has an active, diverse and rich cultural life. WRA is the peak arts conduit organisation in the region and aims to support its rural communities by acting to ensure the vitality and sustainability of arts and culture by:

- Developing audiences
- Encouraging community capacity
- Developing pathways for artists and creative communities
- Promoting cultural events
- Initiating project activity
- Strengthening regional cultural development
- Connecting creative communities

Member Councils and Funding Partners

- Griffith City Council
- Leeton Shire Council
- Murrumbidgee Council
- Narrandera Shire Council
- Regional Arts NSW – Peak NSW Regional Arts Body
- Create NSW – Core Funding Partner

2022 Staff

Aanya Whitehead – Executive Director - Narrandera
Camille Whitehead – Projects and Communications Officer - Leeton
Elijah Ingram - Creative Officer - Leeton
Melissa Lemke - Administration Officer - Barellan
Austin King - Exhibition Steward - Jerilderie

2022 Board Members

Susan Carey Killham - Narrandera Shire Council Representative, Chair
Julie Briggs - Narrandera Community Representative, Vice Chair (outgoing Sep 2022)
Oumi Karenga-Hewitt - Griffith Community Representative, Vice Chair (incoming Jun 2022)
Anthony Morton - Griffith Co-opted Member, Treasurer
Karen Barrett - Leeton Shire Council Representative (incoming Dec 2022)
Suesann Vos - Leeton Shire Council Representative (outgoing Sep 2022)
Ken Dachi - Leeton Community Representative
Cr Anne Napoli - Griffith City Council Representative (outgoing Jun 2022)
Cr Jenny Ellis - Griffith City Council Representative (incoming Jun 2022)
Cr Sue Ruffles - Narrandera Community Representative (incoming Sep 2022)
Cr Faith Bryce - Murrumbidgee Council Representative (outgoing Jun 2022)
Joanna Chauncy - Murrumbidgee Community Representative (incoming Sep 2022)
Eden Hercus - Murrumbidgee Council Delegate (incoming Dec 2022)
Sue Mitchell - Murrumbidgee Council Delegate (incoming Dec 2022)
Melanie Toscan - Co-opted Member

SUPPORTERS

westrivarts.com.au | 0428 882 059 | rado@westrivarts.com.au
PO Box 355, Leeton NSW 2705 | 27-33 Chelmsford Place, Leeton NSW 2705

Western Riverina Arts
is supported by



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Cover: Dizzy Dilemma recipient of WRA Micro Grant 2022. Image supplied by D.Dilemma
Contents: Artwork by Lindee Russell 'The Bidgee at Narrandera' 2022. Photo Western Riverina Arts.
Page 3: Artwork by Sonia Undy recipient of WRA Micro Grant 2022. Image supplied by Sonia Undy 2022.
Page 4: Chair Sue Killham. Photo by Camille Whitehead for Western Riverina Arts 2022.
Page 5: Executive Director Aanya Whitehead. Photo Western Riverina Arts 2022.
Page 6: Projects and Communications Officer Camille Whitehead. Photo Western Riverina Arts 2020.
Page 7: Creative Officer Elijah Ingram. Photo Western Riverina Arts 2022.
Page 8: Ver*nica Collins (1962-2022) WRA Artist of the Month May 2020. Photo by Camille Whitehead for Western Riverina Arts. Published with permission of family.
Page 9: Lynne McQuillan (1950-2022) and artworks by. Photos by Camille Whitehead for Western Riverina Arts 2021.
Page 10: Lee Blacker-Noble (1934-2022) and artworks by. WRA Artist of the Month May 2021. Photos by Camille Whitehead for Western Riverina Arts 2021.
Page 11: Clockwise from top right:
(i) Roslyn Lockhart (L) with subject of background portrait for 'Her Story' exhibition Leeton Museum and Art Gallery 2022. Photo by Camille Whitehead for Western Riverina Arts 2022.
(ii) Jacob Charles (L) and Hape Kiddle (R) Regional Futures Mentorship. Photo by Camille Whitehead for Western Riverina Arts 2022.
(iii) Textile work by Dr Treaahna Hamm Joyce Spencer Fellowship Exhibition 2022. Photo courtesy The Cad Factory.
(iv) Landscape by Anne Morshead Leeton Museum and Art Gallery Exhibition 2022. Photo by Camille Whitehead for Western Riverina Arts 2022.
(v) Kerry-Anne Jones and Monica Davidson Hay Museum Workshop. Photo by Camille Whitehead for Western Riverina Arts 2022.
(vi) Michelle Cartright and work by. Penny Paniz Acquisitive Art Prize 2022. Photo by Camille Whitehead for Western Riverina Arts 2022.
(vii) Dorothy Roddy and work by. RoR Residency 2022. Photo by Camille Whitehead for Western Riverina Arts 2022.
(viii) John Coppola Film Acting Workshop hosted at Miil Miil Production Studios. Photo supplied by Bronwyn Boyle Consulting 2022.

ITEM 7.2 ANNUAL DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST RETURNS BY COUNCILLORS AND DESIGNATED PERSONS - 1 JULY 2022 - 30 JUNE 2023

RECORD NUMBER	23/177
RELATED FILE NUMBER	EF22/35
AUTHOR/S	Governance & Customer Service Coordinator
APPROVER/S	General Manager

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to advise Council that the annual Disclosure of Interest Returns by Councillors, senior management and designated persons for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 were submitted in the appropriate form, by the deadline of 30 September 2023 and have been made publicly available on Council's website.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council notes for information that the 2022/2023 Annual Disclosure of Interest Returns by Councillors, senior management, and designated persons have been submitted as required, on time and are publicly available.

REPORT

(a) Background

Under Clause 4.21 of Leeton Shire Council's Code of Conduct, Councillors and designated persons must make and lodge annually with the General Manager a return in the form set out in Schedule 1.

Council must make all returns of interest publicly available in accordance with the requirements of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*, the *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2018* and any guidelines issued by the NSW Information Commissioner.

(b) Discussion

Disclosure of Interest Returns were lodged in the appropriate format by the due date of 30 September 2023 by all Councillors, senior management and designated persons for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

In addition, Councillor, senior management and designated person returns of interests have been made publicly available, free of charge, on Council's website as per Guideline 1 issued by the Information Commissioner.

(c) Options

Nil – This report is for noting only.

IMPLICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED

(a) Financial

Nil

(b) Policy

Code of Conduct – Section Five: Pecuniary Interests

(c) Legislative/Statutory

Local Government Act 1993 – Sect 440 Code of Conduct

Local Government Act 1993 – Sect 739 Protection of Privacy

Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2018 and guidelines issues by the Information Commissioner

Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998

(d) Risk

Corporate Risk – Councillors, senior staff and designated persons have obligations under the Code of Conduct to submit pecuniary interest returns.

Non-submission of a pecuniary interest disclosure form is potentially a breach of the Code of Conduct.

CONSULTATION

(a) External

Office of Local Government
Information and Privacy Commission

(b) Internal

Councillors
Senior Management Team
Management

LINK/S TO THE DELIVERY PROGRAM/OPERATIONAL PLAN (DPOP)

CSP FOCUS AREA 5 - Strong leadership and civic participation – DELIVERY PROGRAM
FUNCTIONAL AREA 9 - Governance and Administration - DELIVERY PROGRAM
ACTIVITY 9.6 - Deploy reliable and efficient corporate and project governance
including audit, risk and improvement - OPERATIONAL PLAN ACTIVITY 9.6.4 - Maintain

a Compliance Register to track Council's compliance with all legislative and governance requirements.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report

ITEM 7.3 UPDATED POSITION PAPER ON THE ACCOUNTING TREATMENT OF RFS ASSETS

RECORD NUMBER	23/267
RELATED FILE NUMBER	EF22/35
AUTHOR/S	General Manager
APPROVER/S	General Manager

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

Council is presented with an updated Position Paper on the Accounting Treatment of Rural Fire Service Assets for consideration and adoption.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council adopts an updated Position Paper on the Accounting Treatment of Rural Fire Service Assets as per **Attachment 1** of this report, with the key points being:

1. In accordance with the provisions of the Australian Accounting Standards and associated pronouncements and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice, Leeton Shire Council (Council) has determined that it does not control any rural firefighting equipment that is vested in Council under the *Rural Fires Act 1997* (RFS Act) and, as such, does not recognise Rural Fire Services (RFS) Assets in its Annual Financial Statements. Council will include in its Annual Financial Statements a notation to this effect.
 2. As it does not control any rural firefighting equipment (including but not limited to the procurement, deployment, or disposal of the red fleet), Council will not undertake any stocktake of such RFS assets.
 3. Council maintains the right to reconsider its future treatment of RFS buildings which have historically been treated as Council controlled assets, although in practice they are not.
 4. Council supports LGNSW and Country Mayors' advocacy that the RFS Act should be updated to accurately reflect that the management and control of all RFS assets (red fleet and buildings) falls fully under the management and control of the NSW Government (via the RFS or any associated NSW department).
-

REPORT

(a) Background

Leeton Shire Council (Council) has previously made the decision not to bring to account the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) assets nominally vested in the Council under section 119

of the *Rural Fires Act 1997*. Mayoral Minute of 27 July 2022 (resolution 22/090) refers, as does Council resolution 22/133 of 28 September 2022 (**Attachment 2**).

Council's position not to account for RFS assets still stands, with this updated paper being further strengthened by the "Parker Report" commissioned by the NSW Office of Local Government and released publicly following a GIPA request by a local NSW Council working closely with Leeton Shire Council.

Council received a qualified audit from the NSW Auditor General for its 2022/23 financial statements for not accounting for the red fleet. This is very likely to be repeated by the NSW Auditor General for 2023/24.

(b) Discussion

Leeton Shire Council's accounting treatment of RFS assets **is explicitly permitted** by the NSW Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting issued by the Office of Local Government (OLG) on which states:

Councils need to assess whether they control any rural firefighting equipment in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and recognise in their financial statements any material assets under their control and state the relevant accounting policy in relation to the treatment.

In making the decision to not bring to account the RFS assets vested under the RFS Act, the Council has considered the definition of an in Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) Statement of Accounting Concepts 4: Definition and Recognition of the Elements of financial Statements – in particular the definition of control:

- **24** *The second essential characteristic of an asset is control, which relates to the capacity of the entity to benefit from the asset in the pursuit of its objectives and to deny or regulate the access of others to that benefit. **The entity controlling an asset is the one that can, depending on the nature of the asset, exchange it, use it to provide goods or services, exact a price for others' use of it, use it to settle liabilities, hold it, or perhaps distribute it to owners.** An asset is specific to an entity in that it cannot at the same time be an asset of another entity, except in those circumstances where the asset is controlled indirectly through the entity by virtue of control of the entity by another entity. In these circumstances, **the asset would be recognised in the financial report of the entity that directly controls the asset** and in the financial report of the economic entity comprising the controlled and parent entities.*
- **37** *Control over future economic benefits has been identified as an essential asset characteristic. While the ability of an entity to exercise control will often stem from the existence of legally enforceable rights, the absence of legal ownership does not preclude the existence of control. For example, an entity may protect the future economic benefits embodied in a formula or an invention not by obtaining a patent but by maintaining secrecy. **Similarly, the presence of legal rights does not guarantee control.** For example, goods may be sold subject to reservation of title, whereby a stipulation is placed in a sale of goods agreement to the effect that ownership of the goods does not pass to the buyer until the time of payment. The substance of these arrangements*

is that the buyer effectively has control over the future economic benefits embodied in the delivered goods unless there is an incapacity to pay. The seller, while possessing legal title and therefore the right to resume possession in the event of the buyer's default, does not control the future economic benefits embodied in the goods.

- *Another example is where a government entity, such as a government department, does not have legal ownership of the buildings in which it operates, such ownership vesting in another government entity, but controls the future economic benefits embodied in the buildings because of the terms of a particular government policy, ministerial directive or administrative arrangement.*
- Section 119 of the Rural Fires Act nominally vests the assets with the Council. In reality the (compulsory) Service Level Agreement with the RFS leaves the Council with no control over the purchase, deployment, disposal, operation, maintenance, distribution or condition of RFS equipment.
- Note s119 of the *Rural Fires Act* also requires the RFS to seek concurrence of the Council if any of the equipment vested in it is to be used outside the Council area. This concurrence is neither ever sought by the RFS nor given by this Council – nor has it been reasonably expected. The assets are fully under the control of the RFS.
- Of note, Council does not have sufficient information to hand to allow it to reliably measure the RFS assets nominally vested in the Council or their materiality relative to Council's asset base or net income (the latter being how the Audit Office apparently measured materiality in 2020/21 for other Councils). Without knowledge of the quantity, nature and condition of the asset it is impossible to reliably measure the value of the asset. More importantly, it is not appropriate for Council to undertake these tasks as Council does not control the assets.

Council's position not to account for RFS assets is supported by the OLG Parker Report (April 2018) and the BDO opinion of November 2021, as outlined in the Updated Position Paper (**Attachment 1**).

(c) Options

THAT Council:

1. Adopts the updated position paper. ***This is the recommended option.***
2. Adopts updated position paper, with amendments.

IMPLICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED

(a) Financial

It is estimated that accounting for RFS assets would impact Council's financial position in the vicinity of \$178K.

(b) Policy

This report forms Council's policy position on the financial treatment of RFS assets.

(c) Legislative/Statutory

Rural Fire Service Act 1997
Local Government Act 1993

(d) Risk

Adopting this position as recommended is likely to see Council receive a qualified audit which may result in reputational damage. This can be mitigated by explaining the context and Council's cooperation with LGNSW and other rural Councils to stand up for something we consider incorrect and unfair.

CONSULTATION

(a) External

In Councils engagement with the NSW Audit Office (individually and collectively through Country Mayors and LGNSW), they remain resolute about supporting the NSW Treasury view that the NSW Government does not own the red fleet so by default it must be owned by local government.

In reporting to Parliament on the audit of local government 2022, the Auditor General wrote in her foreword as follows:

"Disappointingly, accounting for the value of rural firefighting equipment vested in councils continued to be an unnecessary distraction and resulted in 43 councils having their financial statements qualified. We continue to recommend that the Office of Local Government should intervene where councils fail to comply with Australian Accounting Standards by not recognising assets vested to them under section 119(2) of the Rural Fires Act 1997".

(b) Internal

ARIC - who advocate strongly that Council should not account for RFS red fleet assets in its annual financial statements.

LINK/S TO THE DELIVERY PROGRAM/OPERATIONAL PLAN (DPOP)

Under the Key Priority Area CSP FOCUS AREA 5 - Strong leadership and civic participation within Council's adopted Delivery Program/Operational Plan – DELIVERY PROGRAM FUNCTIONAL AREA 9 - Governance and Administration - DELIVERY PROGRAM ACTIVITY 9.3 - Provide respected and effective representation, leadership and advocacy - OPERATIONAL PLAN ACTIVITY 9.3.1 - Continue advocacy with Federal and Local MPs and government agencies on key issues for the region, including but not limited to water, health, housing, migration, job creation and policing".

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 UPDATED ACCOUNTING TREATMENT OF RFS ASSETS POSITION PAPER

- 2** POLICY POSITION ON THE TREATMENT OF RFS ASSETS - Council - Wednesday, 28 September 2022

Background

Leeton Shire Council (Council) has previously made the decision not to bring to account the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) assets nominally vested in the Council under s119 of the *Rural Fires Act 1997*. Mayoral Minute of 27 July 2022 (resolution 22/090) refers, as does Council resolution 22/133) of 28 September 2022.

Council's position not to account for RFS assets still stands, with this updated paper being further strengthened by the "Parker Report" commissioned by the NSW Office of Local Government and released publicly following a GIPA request by a local NSW Council working closely with Leeton Shire Council.

Council's Statement on the Accounting Treatment of RFS Assets

1. In accordance with the provisions of the Australian Accounting Standards and associated pronouncements and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice, Leeton Shire Council (Council) has determined that it does not control any rural firefighting equipment that is vested in Council under the *Rural Fires Act 1997* and, as such, does not recognise RFS Assets in its Annual Financial Statements. Council will include in its Annual Financial Statements a notation to this effect.
2. As it does not control any rural firefighting equipment (including but not limited to the procurement, deployment or disposal of the red fleet), Council will not undertake any stocktake of such RFS assets.
3. Council maintains the right to reconsider its future treatment of RFS buildings which have historically been treated as Council controlled assets, although in practice they are not.
4. Council supports LGNSW and Country Mayors' advocacy that the RFS Act should be updated to accurately reflect that the management and control of all RFS assets (red fleet and buildings) falls fully under the management and control of the NSW Government (via the RFS or any associated NSW department).

Rationale for Position

Leeton Shire Council's accounting treatment of RFS assets is explicitly permitted by the NSW Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting issued by the Office of Local Government which states:

Councils need to assess whether they control any rural firefighting equipment in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and recognise in their financial statements any material assets under their control and state the relevant accounting policy in relation to the treatment.

In making the decision to not bring to account the RFS assets vested under the Rural Fires Act, the Council has considered the definition of an asset in Australian Accounting Standards

Board (AASB) Statement of Accounting Concepts 4: Definition and Recognition of the Elements of Financial Statements – in particular the definition of control.

- **24** *The second essential characteristic of an asset is control, which relates to the capacity of the entity to benefit from the asset in the pursuit of its objectives and to deny or regulate the access of others to that benefit. **The entity controlling an asset is the one that can, depending on the nature of the asset, exchange it, use it to provide goods or services, exact a price for others' use of it, use it to settle liabilities, hold it, or perhaps distribute it to owners.** An asset is specific to an entity in that it cannot at the same time be an asset of another entity, except in those circumstances where the asset is controlled indirectly through the entity by virtue of*

control of the entity by another entity. In these circumstances, **the asset would be recognised in the financial report of the entity that directly controls the asset** and in the financial report of the economic entity comprising the controlled and parent entities.

- **37** Control over future economic benefits has been identified as an essential asset characteristic. While the ability of an entity to exercise control will often stem from the existence of legally enforceable rights, the absence of legal ownership does not preclude the existence of control. For example, an entity may protect the future economic benefits embodied in a formula or an invention not by obtaining a patent but by maintaining secrecy. **Similarly, the presence of legal rights does not guarantee control.** For example, goods may be sold subject to reservation of title, whereby a stipulation is placed in a sale of goods agreement to the effect that ownership of the goods does not pass to the buyer until the time of payment. The substance of these arrangements is that the buyer effectively has control over the future economic benefits embodied in the delivered goods unless there is an incapacity to pay. The seller, while possessing legal title and therefore the right to resume possession in the event of the buyer's default, does not control the future economic benefits embodied in the goods.
- Another example is where a government entity, such as a government department, does not have legal ownership of the buildings in which it operates, such ownership vesting in another government entity, but controls the future economic benefits embodied in the buildings because of the terms of a particular government policy, ministerial directive or administrative arrangement.
- Section 119 of the Rural Fires Act nominally vests the assets with the Council. In reality, the (compulsory) Service Level Agreement with the RFS leaves the Council with no control over the purchase, deployment, disposal, operation, maintenance, distribution or condition of RFS equipment.
- Note s119 of the *Rural Fires Act* also requires the RFS to seek concurrence of the Council if any of the equipment vested in it is to be used outside the Council area. This concurrence is neither ever sought by the RFS nor given by this Council – nor has it been reasonably expected. The assets are fully under the control of the RFS.
- Of note, Council does not have sufficient information to hand to allow it to reliably measure the RFS assets nominally vested in the Council or their materiality relative to Council's asset base or net income (the latter being how the Audit Office apparently measured materiality in 2020/21 for other Councils). Without knowledge of the quantity, nature and condition of the asset it is impossible to reliably measure the value of the asset. More importantly, it is not appropriate for Council to undertake these tasks as Council does not control the assets.

Independent Expert Opinion 1 in Support of Council's position – Colin Parker

Commissioned by the Office of Local Government, a draft report entitled: "Review of accounting for 'red truck' assets and other fire-fighting equipment in NSW. An independent expert's report" is dated April 2018. Also known as "the Parker Report", it was only released publicly in 2022 following a GIPA request.

The Report was authored by Mr Colin Parker who is principal of GAAP Consulting. Mr Parker has over 40 years' experience in financial reporting, auditing and ethics policy and implementation, including as Director Accounting and Auditing with CPA Australia. His credentials include being a member of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, chairman of the Audit Advisory Committee to the board of CA ANZ, and as an advisor to the IPA on all aspects of professional standards.

The Parker Report / Opinion points out:

- Clause 33 page 15 - AASB 116 does not contain any reference to a definition of control nor discussion of ownership for purpose of asset recognition.
- Clause 34 page 15 - there is nothing in AASB 116 which supports an argument that legal ownership is a 'strong indication of control' (Treasury view) and assets are vested in the Council as per Rural Fire Services Act 1997, giving Council 'legal ownership' (NSW Audit Office). This finding is also borne out in my consideration of other accounting standards – some dating back to the transition of IFRS in 2005-2006, other being more recent.
- Clause 29 page 8 - The councils have no substantive rights for the control of fire-fighting equipment – vesting by itself does not confer control.
- Clause 92 page 23 - The RFS has decision-making authority over fire-fighting equipment under the Act and rural fire service agreements. The RFS exercises this authority through them, including the functions of zone managers and rural fire brigades.
- Clause 28 page 8 - Furthermore, control of fire-fighting equipment by the RFS is evident by procurement (and replacement and retirement) decisions, service standards for the care and maintenance, access, and deployment within the district and elsewhere. These are substantive rights of the RFS. The RFS also has a protective right that prevents Councils from selling or disposing of the assets without the written consent from the RFS commissioner. There are instances noted by some councils where the 'delegates' of the RFS district restrict council access to fire-fighting equipment.
- Clause 91 page 23 - The service potential of an asset is specific to the entity and its objectives. An asset cannot be controlled by two entities. The fire-fighting equipment benefits both the councils and the RFS in helping them to comply with their legislative requirements. The RFS has the substantive responsibilities for the prevention, mitigation and suppression of bush and other fires in local government areas and other parts of the State, and controls fire-fighting equipment to meet its statutory objectives.
- Clause 25 page 8 - It is the reason for the RFS existence. Clause 26 page 8 - On the other hand, councils have their own unique responsibilities under the *Local Government Act 1993* such as prescribed functions (s21) and service functions, including the provision of goods, services and facilities and carrying out of activities (s24), public land, environmental-upgrade agreements, and regulatory functions. The Councils also have what I would consider as secondary or ancillary obligations under the *Rural Fires Act 1997* to those of the RFS.

Mr Parker concludes (Clause 29 page 8) - **The Councils have no substantive rights for the control of fire-fighting equipment– vesting by itself does not confer control.**

Independent Expert Opinion 2 in Support of Council's position – BDO

The BDO report dated November 2021 was commissioned by Leeton Shire Council with funding support from 38 other NSW Local Government councils.

BDO is a leading international accounting firm and the Report was authored by Ms Aletta Boshoff (Partner). Aletta Boshoff is an IFRS advisory specialist with over 25 years' experience in financial reporting and accounting. She has lectured on financial accounting and reporting, auditing and assurance and taxation at various Australian and South African Universities and has authored various financial reporting and accounting textbooks. Aletta Boshoff also spent several years as a Project Manager at the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

The BDO Report / Opinion points out:

SUMMARY

Pursuant to the *Rural Fire Services Act 1997* ('the Act'), all fire fighting equipment purchased or constructed wholly or partly from money to the credit of the NSW Rural Fire Fighting Fund is to be vested in the council of the area for or on behalf of which the fire fighting equipment has been purchased or constructed. Fire fighting equipment includes:

- Fire fighting apparatus, including all vehicles, equipment and other things used for or in connection with the prevention or suppression of fire or the protection of life or property in case of fire
- Buildings
- Water storage towers, and
- Lookout towers.

The Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service may, also pursuant to the Act but with the concurrence of the council in which the rural fire fighting equipment is vested:

- Use any of the fire fighting equipment not reasonably required by the council to deal with incidents in the area of the council or incidents outside the area, and
- Enter into a rural fire district service agreement with any local authority responsible for a rural fire district.

Pursuant to Leeton Shire Council's rural fire district service agreement with the Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service:

- The Leeton Shire Council will make available and allow the Commissioner and the NSW Rural Fire Service to use the:
 - Fire fighting equipment allocated to the district, and
 - Premises identified in the agreement
- The agreement will remain in force until such time as:
 - One of the parties to the agreement breaches the agreement and the breach is unable to be rectified within 21 days of the notification of the breach
 - The failure by either party to make a payment required under the agreement, or
 - One of the parties to the agreement has given notice of its intention to terminate the agreement, and 6 months has passed since that notice was given.

Australian Accounting Standards require a 'substance over (legal) form' approach. For instance, where an entity's rights and obligations in respect to a transaction or other event are contained in

two or more contracts or other legal arrangements, substance over form accounting can be achieved by combining the contracts and other arrangements in a single unit of account, thereby treating the group of rights and obligations as a single item. Such an approach is particularly appropriate when the rights and/or obligations an entity has under one contract or legal arrangement nullify all of the rights and/or obligations the same entity has under another contract or arrangement. In such circumstances, combining the two sets of rights and obligations results in a unit of account that comprises no assets or liabilities of the entity, consistent with the substance of the arrangement as a whole.

Accordingly, in accounting for rural fire fighting equipment, the Leeton Shire Council should treat its respective rights and obligations arising from the Act and its associated Rural Fire District Service Agreement with the Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service as a single unit of account that provides:

- The Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service with the right to all of the economic benefits embodied in the rural fire fighting equipment attributed to the Council and all premises belonging to the Council that are made available to the Commissioner, and
- The Council with the right to receive payments in respect to the rural fire fighting equipment attributed to it as well as all of the premises made available by the Leeton Shire Council to the Commissioner.

From Leeton Shire Council's perspective, this single unit of account has the features of a finance lease under AASB 16 *Leases*. Accordingly, consistent with the requirements in AASB 16, Leeton Shire Council would recognise a receivable from the Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Services (rather than the rural fire fighting equipment and premises made available to the Commissioner).

Leeton Shire Council's treatment of the arrangement with the Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service as a finance lease is consistent with the substance of its arrangement with the Commissioner. Under AASB 16, the underlying asset to a finance lease is not recognised by the lessor because the lessee is considered to have the right to control the use of the underlying asset. Pursuant to the Act and the rural fire district service agreement, the Commissioner has the capacity to control the use of the underlying assets (fire fighting equipment and premises) because the Commissioner has the right to:

- Obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from the use of the fire fighting equipment attributed to the Council and the premises made available by the Council, and
- Direct how and for what purpose the assets are used throughout their period of use.

Notation for Financial Statements (Indicative only and may be subject to change)

Council does not control rural fire-fighting equipment (known as the Red Fleet) and in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and the Code of Accounting Practice has not brought these assets to account. Leeton Shire Council's accounting policy on rural fire -fighting equipment has been comprehensively verified and supported by leading independent experts.

Tony Reneker
Mayor
23 October 2023

LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL
Ordinary Council Meeting - Wednesday 28 September 2022

ITEM 7.1 POLICY POSITION ON THE TREATMENT OF RFS ASSETS

RECORD NUMBER	22/396
RELATED FILE NUMBER	EF21/429
AUTHOR/S	General Manager
APPROVER/S	General Manager

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

Council has previously passed resolutions on 27 July 2022 (Mayoral Minute 22/091) and 23 June 2022 (ARIC Minutes 22/068) in regards to the financial treatment of RFS assets. This report seeks to collate a single policy position outlining the reasons why Leeton Shire Council does not account for Rural Fire Service (RFS) red fleet in its Annual Financial Statements.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council adopts a Policy Position on its Accounting Treatment of RFS Assets as follows:

1. In accordance with the provisions of the Australian Accounting Standards and associated pronouncements and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice, Council has determined that it does not control any rural firefighting equipment that has been vested to Council under the *Rural Fires Act 1997* and, as such, does not recognise RFS assets in its Annual Financial Statements. Council will include in its Annual Financial Statements a notation to this effect. Council will not undertake any stocktake of such assets either given it does not control the RFS assets.
 2. Separately, Council has sought and accepted a professional opinion from BDO that confirms under Australian Accounting Standards that the RFS, as lessee (as per the perpetual RFS District Service Agreement), has full rights to control the use of all underlying assets and Council should therefore not recognise such assets as receivables. In the interim, Council will continue to account for RFS buildings on Council land while the wider matter is resolved but Council reserves the right to not account for RFS buildings on Council land either in future years.
 3. Council will join with LGNSW to advocate for the immediate updating of the RFS Act to accurately reflect that the management and control of RFS assets is indeed undertaken by the NSW Government (via the RFS or any associated NSW department) and to remove from the Act any reference to local government being the entity in which RFS Assets are vested.
-

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REPORT

(a) Background

Council is a party to the Murrumbidgee Rural Fire District Service Agreement. This is a perpetual agreement, meaning that it remains on foot regardless of any expiry date unless Council was to withdraw. See **Attachment 1**.

Council is facing a qualified audit opinion from the NSW Audit Office for not recognising RFS 'red fleet' in its 2021/22 Annual Financial Statements. The NSW Audit Office considers that the RFS assets should be accounted for and depreciated on Council's books.

Council has previously accepted and relied on a BDO opinion that considers Council's relationship with the RFS to be a 'finance lease' that - under Australian Accounting Standard AASB16 - would not recognise RFS assets as a receivable from the Commissioner of the NSW RFS. A précis of the BDO advice is at **Attachment 2**. The NSW Audit Office has disagreed with this advice as they interpret vesting in the RFS Act 1997 (the Act) to mean legal ownership and control by Council even though there is no legal definition of vesting in the Act.

Further, in a Report to Parliament on Local Government 2021, the NSW Auditor General has stated that NSW Councils should include rural firefighting equipment in their Annual Financial Statements and recommended that the Office of Local Government (OLG) compels Councils do so. Council understands that the OLG has advised NSW Treasury and/or NSW Audit Office that it is outside of their remit to do this.

Of note, it is apparent that the NSW Audit Office has based its view on who controls RFS assets on the opinion of the NSW State Government, rather than determining their own opinion as an independent entity working to the Australian Accounting Standards. The NSW Audit Office has written in its Report to Parliament on Local Government 2021 (underlining added by author of this report to council):

"The financial statements of the NSW Total State Sector and the NSW Rural Fire Service do not include these assets, as the State is of the view that rural firefighting equipment that has been vested to councils under section 119(2) of the Rural Fires Act 1997 is not controlled by the State. In reaching this conclusion, the State argued that on balance it would appear that councils control the rural firefighting equipment that has been vested to them. It is important to note that there are only two parties who would be considered to control this equipment – the NSW Rural Fire Service in the State sector, or councils in the local government sector.

The Department of Planning and Environment (inclusive of the Office of Local Government) (the Department) confirmed in the 'Report on Local Government 2020' (tabled in Parliament on 27 May 2021) their view that rural firefighting equipment is not controlled by the NSW Rural Fire Service.

The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting confirms the State's view that it does not control these assets but provides the 'Councils need to assess whether they control any rural firefighting equipment in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards'. It would however seem, given the State's view that it does not control these assets, that these assets can

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only be controlled and therefore recognise by councils in the local government sector."

(b) Discussion

AASB 116 sets out criteria for asset recognition. An asset is defined as a resource that is controlled by the entity as a result of past events and from which future economic benefits are expected to flow to the entity (49). Attention needs to be given to its underlying substance and economic reality and not merely its legal form (51). The right of ownership is not essential to the determination of control (57). The AASB requires that an asset can only be recognised if it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the entity.

In considering where effective control lies and where responsibility for the function lies, Council finds the following:

- While the RFS Act provides that all firefighting equipment is to be vested in the Council of the area (section 119 of the Act), Council neither receives future economic benefits nor has control over those future benefits. Specifically, Council has no input at all into the operations or capital acquisitions of the RFS at either a governance or management level. In fact, the NSW RFS has the function to provide rural fire services for NSW (9(1)(a)).
- Council has no control over the procurement, deployment or disposal of RFS assets which is all undertaken by RFS staff. In fact, Council has no access to and is not permitted to use any plant and equipment held by the RFS.
- Council does not insure RFS red fleet, the RFS does. Currently Council does insure RFS buildings.
- Council does not undertake any stocktake or hold any inventory on RFS assets. Currently Council includes RFS buildings in its buildings' asset register and accounts for these in its Annual Financial Statements.

Leeton Shire Council has considered the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice, the Australian Accounting Standards, and its own advice sought from BDO and determined that Council does not control the rural firefighting equipment.

Of note, Council does not procure, deploy, manage or dispose of any RFS assets or, indeed, have any input into such matters.

Council's obligation and commitment to the rural fire fighting function is deemed to have been fulfilled in full by way of the statutory contribution expense that is made annually under the local service agreement (11.7%).

Council therefore considers it right and proper that RFS assets are not accounted for in its Annual Financial Statements.

The Mayor, a Councillor (usually the Deputy Mayor), the General Manager and the Responsible Accounting Officer are required to sign a statement each year attesting the Council's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

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Accordingly, a notation will be included in the financial statements that acknowledges that the control test over rural fire assets has been undertaken with Council forming the opinion that it does not control these assets.

Council maintains the right to reconsider its future treatment of RFS buildings in accordance with the BDO advice. In the interim, Council will continue to recognise buildings as Council assets as the RFS Service Agreement identifies that Council retains full legal right to possession and control over premises occupied by the RFS.

While Council, in reality, effectively does not control these premises either and will continue to advocate for the buildings to revert to NSW government responsibility, maintaining the status quo is deemed appropriate while the RFS ownership and control debate remains unresolved by the NSW Government.

(c) Options

1. Adopt policy position as recommended.
2. Adjust the recommended policy position.
3. Do not adopt the policy.

IMPLICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED

(a) Financial

It is estimated that accounting for RFS assets would impact Council's financial position by \$178,000.

(b) Policy

This report forms Council's policy position on the financial treatment of RFS assets.

(c) Legislative/Statutory

Rural Fire Service Act 1997
Local Government Act 1993

(d) Risk

Adopting this position as recommended is likely to see Council receive a qualified audit which may result in reputational damage. This can be mitigated by explaining the context and Council's cooperation with LGNSW and other rural Councils to stand up for something we consider incorrect and unfair.

CONSULTATION

(a) External

BDO
LGNSW
LG Professionals
Other Councils

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(b) Internal

Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC)

LINK/S TO THE DELIVERY PROGRAM/OPERATIONAL PLAN (DPOP)

Under the Key Priority Area FOCUS AREA 5. Strong leadership and civic participation within Council's adopted Delivery Program/Operational Plan – 5 - Our Council operates efficiently and effectively - 5.1 - Practice sound financial and resource management - Practice sound financial management".

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Rural Fire District Service Agreement
- 2 Campaign 2 - Summary of Key Points from BDO Technical Accounting Advice - 16 September 2021

ITEM 7.4 PROPOSED MINOR REVISION TO ORGANISATION (SENIOR) STRUCTURE

RECORD NUMBER	23/265
RELATED FILE NUMBER	EF22/35
AUTHOR/S	General Manager
APPROVER/S	General Manager

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

Proposed minor revision to Organisation (Senior) Structure.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council adopts an organisation (senior) structure comprising of a General Manager, 3 Directors (Corporate, Operations and Economic / Community Development) and an Executive Manager People and Culture.

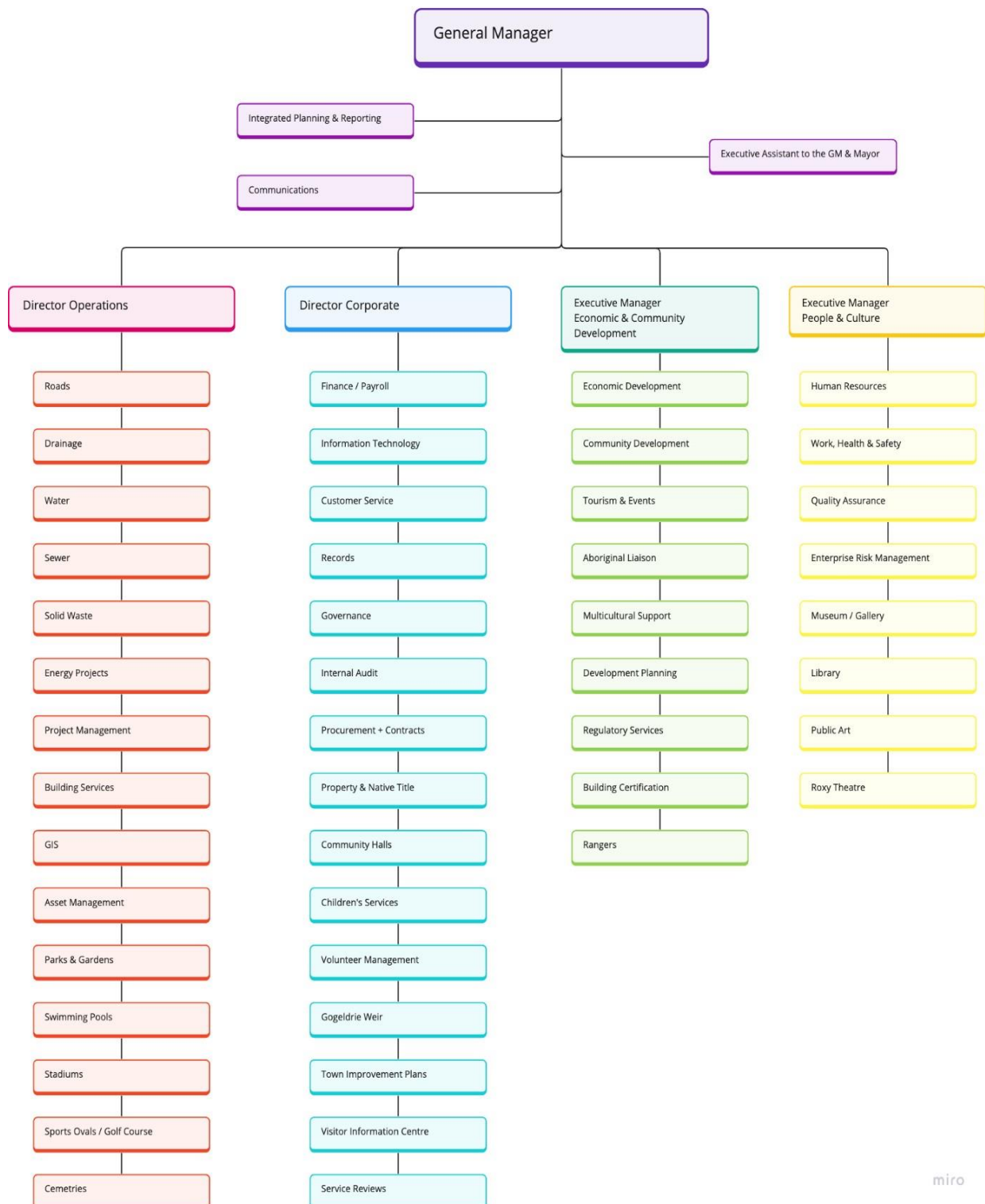
REPORT

(a) Background

Council's current organisational (Senior) structure comprises of a General Manager, 2 Directors (Operations and Corporate) and 2 Executive Managers (Economic / Community Development and People and Culture).

Both Director roles are vacant and are being covered by Interim Directors.

Current Organisation (Senior Structure)



miro

Following a review of workload distribution and responsibilities, and current organisational priorities, as well as informal discussions with the elected Council at workshops, it is being recommended that Council moves to a General Manager, 3

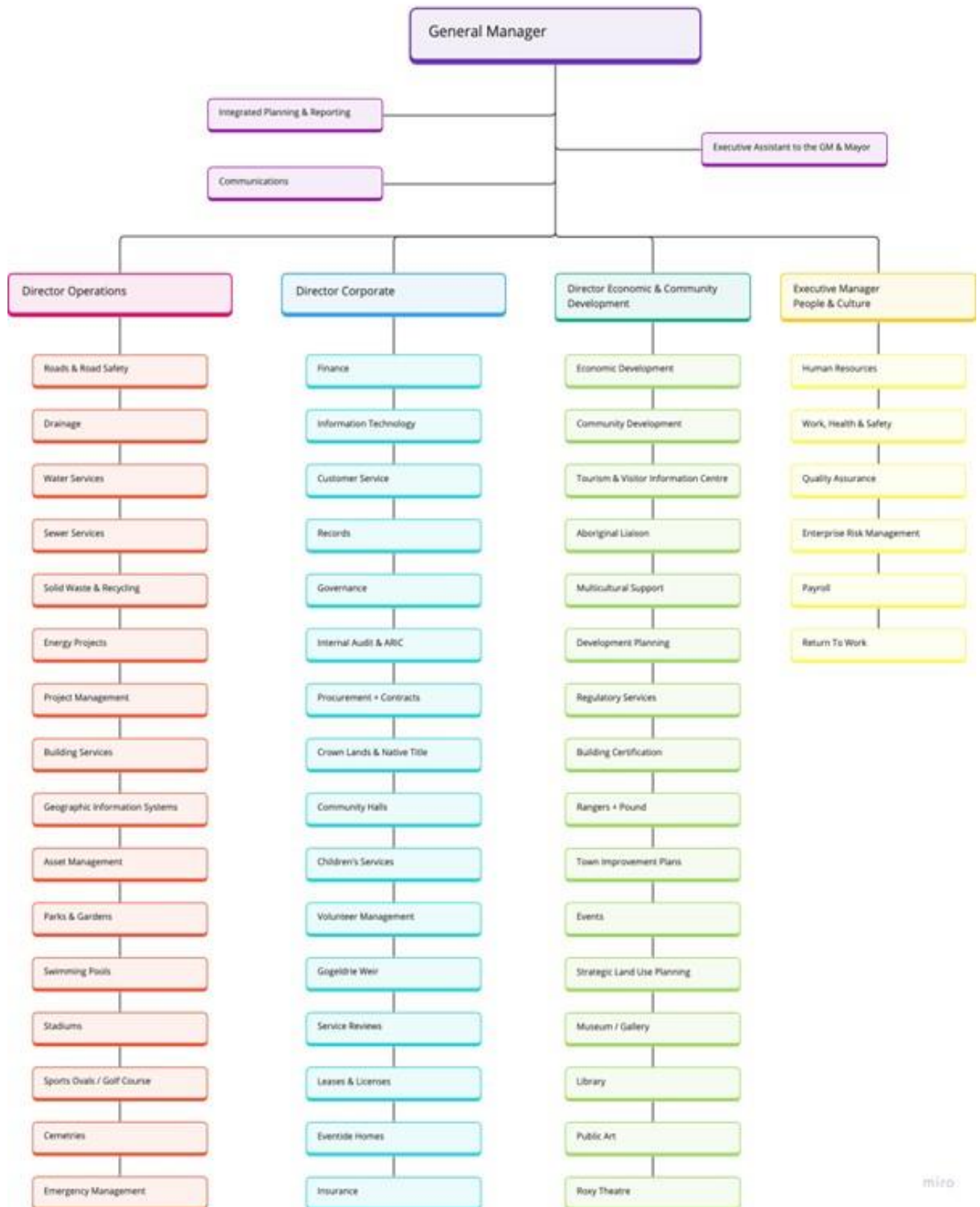
Director Structure (Operations, Corporate, and Economic / Community Development) and with 1 Executive Manager (People and Culture).

(b) Discussion

The proposed minor redistribution of functional priorities will see:

- External facing cultural services - library, museum, public art and Roxy - move from People and Culture to Economic and Community Development.
- The Visitor Information Centre (VIC) move from Corporate to Economic and Community Development which is already responsible for tourism marketing.
- Town improvement planning - which is focussed on placemaking - move from Corporate to Economic and Community Development.
- Strategic land use planning appropriately recognised as a function under Economic and Community Development that is already being resourced.
- Social housing - Eventide Homes run by Argyle Housing - having a clearer relationship management pathway to Council under Corporate.
- Emergency management planning appropriately recognised as a function under Operations that is already being resourced.
- Leases and licences appropriately recognised as a function under Corporate that needs to be resourced.
- Payroll move from Corporate to People and Culture to better ensure the alignment with Award conditions.
- Return to work appropriately recognised as a function under People and Culture that is already being resourced.

Proposed Organisation (Senior Structure)



miro

(c) Options

THAT Council:

1. Adopts the revised organisation (senior) structure. ***This is the recommended option.***
2. Adopts the revised organisation (senior) structure, with amendments.
3. Does not change the organisation (senior structure).

IMPLICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED

(a) Financial

There is likely to be a modest increase in the cost of the senior team wages (to meet industry expectations) but this will be absorbed in the current wages budget (from vacancies). Council's pay philosophy across the organisation is to pay 10% either side of the median for similar jobs in similar sized Councils. This philosophy will continue to apply. Council uses LGNSW benchmarking for large rural Councils when making its assessment of pay parity.

(b) Policy

Leeton Shire Council Resourcing Strategy

(c) Legislative/Statutory

Local Government Act 1993 – section 223 (i) outlines the elected body's role “to determine the senior staff position within the organisation structure of the Council. Note: That except from the General Manager all members of the Senior Management Team have award-based contracts and are not designated as Senior Staff (on fixed term contracts) under the Local Government Act 1993.

Local Government Award 2022 NSW

(d) Risk

There needs to be good alignment between strategy, capability and funding for a workforce to effectively deliver the organisation's services, programs and plans.

CONSULTATION

(a) External

Nil

(b) Internal

Executive Manager People and Culture

[LINK/S TO THE DELIVERY PROGRAM/OPERATIONAL PLAN \(DPOP\)](#)

Under the Key Priority Area THEME 6 - "STRONG LEADERSHIP" within Council's adopted Delivery Program/Operational Plan – 20 - A community that is always on the front foot – 20d is to "Strive to deliver the aspirations of the community through effective workforce and technology management – Effectively manage Council's workforce to support Council's objectives to be met".

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report

CORPORATE MATTERS

ITEM 7.5 PROPOSAL TO REBALANCE THE RATES FOR IMPROVED EQUITY

RECORD NUMBER	23/247
RELATED FILE NUMBER	EF22/35
AUTHOR/S	Director Corporate
APPROVER/S	General Manager

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

This report outlines a rebalanced rate structure for Leeton Shire Council to be implemented from the commencement of the 2024/2025 financial year and recommends endorsement for public consultation.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Endorses for public consultation a revised ordinary rate structure from the 2024/25 financial year onwards as a means of more equitably and fairly distributing the rates burden between rate categories. The changes are outlined as follows:
 - a. Residential rate category – continue to implement rate peg increases as set by IPART;
 - b. Farmland rate category – will have no rate peg increases for 3 years (between the 2024/25 and 2026/27 financial years) to allow a rebalancing of rates applied to the farmland category; and
 - c. Business rate category – a new sub-category (Business – Industrial) will be created and along with the Business - General category will be allocated the remaining balance of the annual rate peg increases in a split of 75% Business – Industrial and 25% to Business – General. These rate increases will apply for 3 years (the 2024/25 to 2026/27 financial years) to rebalance the business rates to be more in line with Group 11 comparative Councils.
 2. A further report will be brought back to Council in December 2023.
-

REPORT

(a) Background

Compared to other Group 11 Councils across NSW, business rates in Leeton are low and farmland rates are relatively high.

In 23/24 the average Leeton residential rate is \$1,046, whereas the average OLG Group 11 residential rate is \$963 or \$985 for the median.

In 23/24 the average Leeton business rate is \$1,401, whereas the average OLG Group 11 business rate is \$2,438 or \$1,919 for the median.

In 23/24 the average Leeton farmland rate is \$3,855, whereas the average OLG Group 11 farmland rate is \$3,743 or \$3,264 for the median.

In August 2023 Morrison Low was commissioned to undertake a rate structure review for Leeton Shire Council. The review and subsequent recommendation are aimed at creating a more sustainable and fairer rating structure between rate categories.

From the workshops with Council, it was considered prudent to steer Leeton Shire's average rates to be closer to the average and median of OLG Group 11 Councils. The rebalancing proposal recommended in this report is aimed at getting closer to the desired outcome.

(b) Discussion

Council has determined that it should review the current rating structure to see that it is still fit-for-purpose regarding equity, simplicity and efficiency as a means of levying its ratepayers.

The review undertook a three-step process as follows:

1. Examined current rate structure and rates map.
2. Revised and updated the rates benefit model (based on service benefits allocation – inequity between rates paid and value of benefits that ratepayers have access to) with the revised rate structure, and
3. Developed a detailed rating model to test and validate various options for the proposed rate structure to provide a more equitable structure overall.

Morrison Low provided presentations to Council workshops in both September 2023 and October 2023 on the progress and status of the review at those points.

In **(Attachment 1)** to this report scenarios are provided on:

- Scenario 1, as recommended, apply the normal rate peg % annually to the Residential rate category (levy 3.5% in 2024/25, 2.5% in 2025/26 and 2.5% in 2026/27), no increase in the Farmland rates and the balance of the rate pegging increase allocated to the Business rate category split between Business General (25%) and a new sub-category Business Industrial (75%).
- Scenario 2, provides some partial relief to the Residential rate category by providing a small reduction in the annual % rate increase (levy 3.0% in 2024/25, 2.2% in 2025/26 and 2.2% 2026/27), no increase in the Farmland rates and the balance of the rate pegging increase allocated to the Business rate category split between Business General (25%) and a new sub-category Business Industrial (75%). This does not make a significant difference in the average individual rates applied to the Residential category.

If the recommended scenario proceeds, by year 3 (26/27) all rate categories will move closer to the OLG Group 11 averages or medians;

- In 26/27 the average Leeton residential rate is \$1,124 whereas the average OLG Group 11 residential rate is \$1,047 or \$1,071 for the median.
- In 26/27 the average Leeton business rate is \$2,196, whereas the average OLG Group 11 business rate is \$2,651 or \$2,087 for the median.
- In 26/27 the average Leeton farmland rate is \$3,855, whereas the average OLG Group 11 farmland rate is \$4,070 or \$3,549 for the median.

(Attachment 2) shows the proposed new Business - Industrial sub category that would apply if the recommendation is endorsed. All rating categories have to be contiguous and homogeneous. Based on the proposed maps, the new Business – Industrial sub category will amount to 186 assessments of the total of the current 493 business assessments.

Note: that there may be future business-industrial areas considered at a later date such as WRConnect and Young Road.

(c) Options

Council has 4 options available to consider;

Option A (This is the recommended option)

THAT Council:

1. Endorses for public consultation a revised ordinary rate structure from the 2024/25 financial year onwards as a means of more equitably and fairly distributing the rates burden between rate categories. The changes are outlined as follows;
 - a. Residential rate category – continue to implement rate peg increases as set by IPART;
 - b. Farmland rate category – will have no rate peg increases for 3 years (between the 2024/25 and 2026/27 financial years) to allow a rebalancing of rates applied to the farmland category; and
 - c. Business rate category – a new sub-category (Business – Industrial) will be created and along with the Business - General category will be allocated the remaining balance of the annual rate peg increases in a split of 75% Business – Industrial and 25% to Business – General. These rate increases will apply for 3 years (the 2024/25 to 2026/27 financial years) to rebalance the business rates to be more in line with Group 11 comparative councils.

Option B

The recommend option but with the freeze on farmland rates only extending for 2 years instead of 3 years.

Option C

Council could opt to provide some part relief to the Residential rate category by reducing the rate peg increase applied to that category and apply a larger portion of the annual increase to the Business rate category as illustrated in the attachment, and

Option D

Council could opt to not change the rating structure as proposed and retain the existing structure of levying rates to the ratepayers of Leeton Shire Council.

IMPLICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED

(a) Financial

The adoption of a new rating structure will not result in any additional revenue to Council beyond the annual rate peg as Council is limited to its notional income regarding the levying of rates (unless a Special Rate Variation is applied for). The new rating structure is designed to rebalance rates more equitably between the three rate categories.

If the forecast rate peg for 24/25 is 3.5% the additional income to Council will be \$284,773. If the forecast rate peg for 25/26 is 2.5% the additional income to Council will be \$210,528. If the forecast rate peg for 26/27 is 2.5% the additional income to Council will be \$215,791.

(b) Policy

A change to the rate structure will be reflected in the annual revenue policy of Council as part of the development of the Long Term Financial Plan.

(c) Legislative/Statutory

Other than ensuring compliance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, this recommendation does not have any legislative or statutory implications. Council can amend its rating structure as per the review recommendation.

(d) Risk

This recommendation is not assessed to carry material risks to Council. The current system of rating particularly to the business category sees the average rate to businesses being quite low compared to other Group 11 Councils in particular. The rebalancing of rates between categories is a desirable outcome and provides a fairer distribution of the rates burden to ratepayers overall.

CONSULTATION

(a) External

Council engaged Morrison Low to undertake a review of the current rating structure and provide analysis and recommendations on an appropriate new rating structure to carry forward.

If Council endorses the recommendation as proposed, public engagement will occur during November, most especially with Leeton businesses.

(b) Internal

Senior Management
Manager Finance
Senior Rates Officer

LINK/S TO THE DELIVERY PROGRAM/OPERATIONAL PLAN (DPOP)

Under the Key Priority Area CSP FOCUS AREA 5 - Strong leadership and civic participation within Council's adopted Delivery Program/Operational Plan – DELIVERY PROGRAM FUNCTIONAL AREA 9 - Governance and Administration - DELIVERY PROGRAM ACTIVITY 9.7 - Deploy reliable and efficient corporate management - financial, asset, property, records, information technology, buildings and plant/fleet - OPERATIONAL PLAN ACTIVITY 9.7.2 - Complete a rates review, in consultation with ratepayers".

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Revised Rate Structure Scenarios Addendum - Morrison Low
- 2 Business-Industrial Sub Category Maps

Rebalancing the rate structure – Scenario 1

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Rate peg input		3.50%	2.50%	2.50%
Rate Income	\$8,136,348	\$8,421,121	\$8,631,649	\$8,847,440
Annual increase		\$284,773	\$210,528	\$215,791

Average rate increase

Proposed three-year transition period for rates redistribution

	Category split	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Residential	52.5%	3.5%	2.5%	2.5%
Business	47.5%	19.6%	12.1%	11.1%
Farmland	0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

	Business Sub-category split	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Business General	25%	8.7%	5.9%	5.7%
Business Industrial	75%	33.8%	18.7%	16.1%

© Morrison Low

Rebalancing the rate structure – Scenario 2

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Rate peg input		3.50%	2.50%	2.50%
Rate Income	\$8,136,348	\$8,421,121	\$8,631,649	\$8,847,440
Annual increase		\$284,773	\$210,528	\$215,791

Average rate increase

Proposed three-year transition period for rates redistribution

Category split	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	
Residential	45%	3.0%	2.2%	2.2%
Business	55%	22.7%	13.7%	12.3%
Farmland	0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Business Sub-category split	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	
Business General	25%	10.1%	6.8%	6.5%
Business Industrial	75%	39.1%	20.8%	17.6%

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Impact on the Average Rates – Scenario 1

3-Year Rate Peg "holiday" for farmland, with residual rates burden re distributed to the business category. The rate peg will apply to all categories from 2027/28

Category	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Residential	\$1,046	\$1,082	\$1,110	\$1,138	\$1,166
Business	\$1,401	\$1,676	\$1,879	\$2,087	\$2,139
Farmland	\$3,855	\$3,855	\$3,855	\$3,855	\$3,951
All rated categories Total	\$1,512	\$1,565	\$1,604	\$1,644	\$1,685

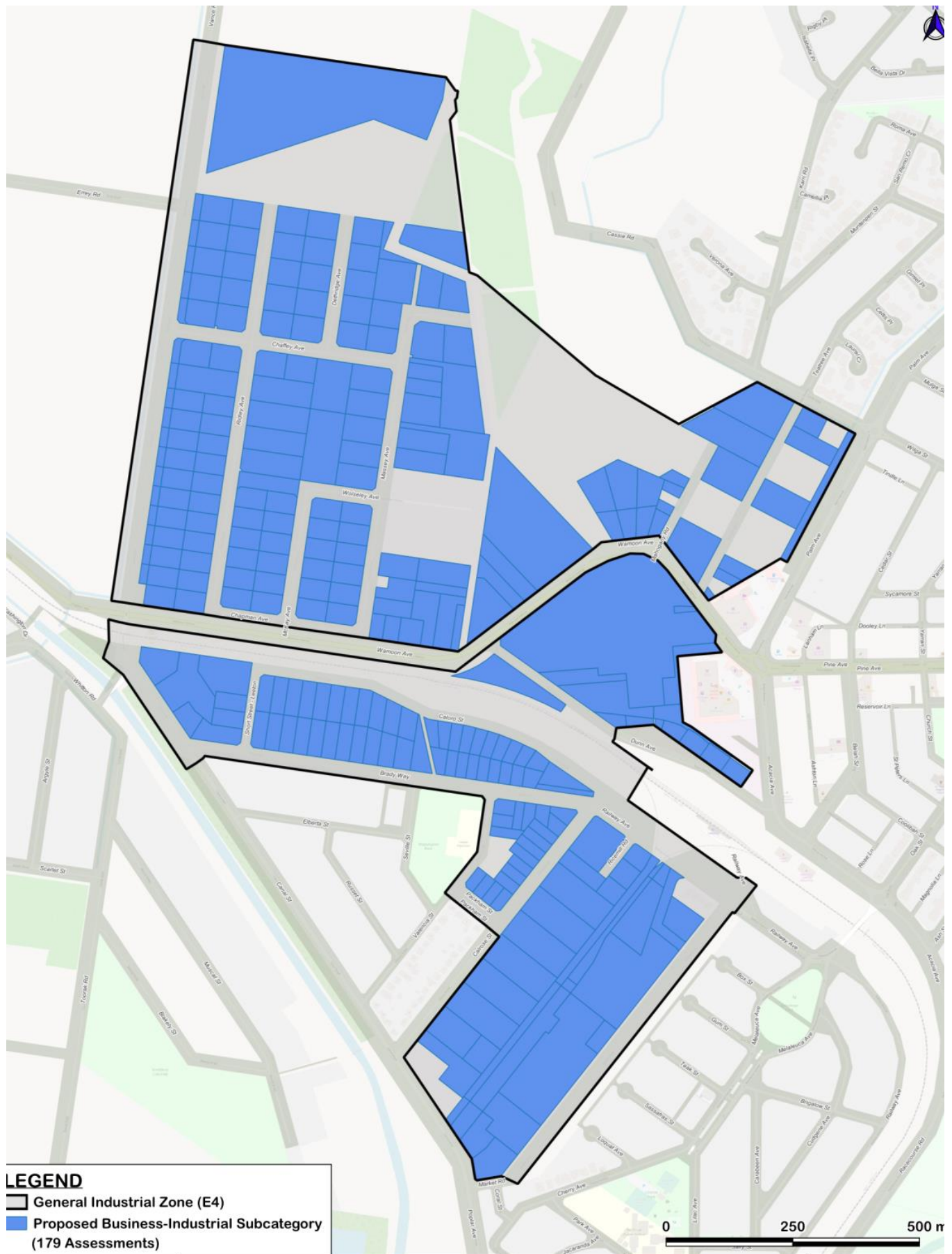
Sub-category	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Residential	\$1,046	\$1,077	\$1,100	\$1,124	\$1,153
Business - General	\$1,277	\$1,406	\$1,501	\$1,598	\$1,638
Business - Industrial Leeton	\$1,649	\$2,296	\$2,773	\$3,263	\$3,345
Business - Industrial Whitton	\$683	\$936	\$1,124	\$1,315	\$1,348
Farmland	\$3,855	\$3,855	\$3,855	\$3,855	\$3,951
All rated categories Total	\$1,512	\$1,565	\$1,604	\$1,644	\$1,685

Impact on the Average Rates – Scenario 2

3-Year Rate Peg "holiday" for farmland, a slight reduction in the rate peg increase for residential category and with residual rates burden redistributed to the business category. The rate peg will apply to all categories from 2027/28

Category	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Residential	\$1,046	\$1,077	\$1,100	\$1,124	\$1,153
Business	\$1,401	\$1,719	\$1,954	\$2,196	\$2,250
Farmland	\$3,855	\$3,855	\$3,855	\$3,855	\$3,951
All rated categories Total	\$1,512	\$1,565	\$1,604	\$1,644	\$1,685

Sub-category	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Residential	\$1,046	\$1,077	\$1,100	\$1,124	\$1,153
Business - General	\$1,277	\$1,406	\$1,501	\$1,598	\$1,638
Business - Industrial Leeton	\$1,649	\$2,296	\$2,773	\$3,263	\$3,345
Business - Industrial Whitton	\$683	\$936	\$1,124	\$1,315	\$1,348
Farmland	\$3,855	\$3,855	\$3,855	\$3,855	\$3,951
All rated categories Total	\$1,512	\$1,565	\$1,604	\$1,644	\$1,685

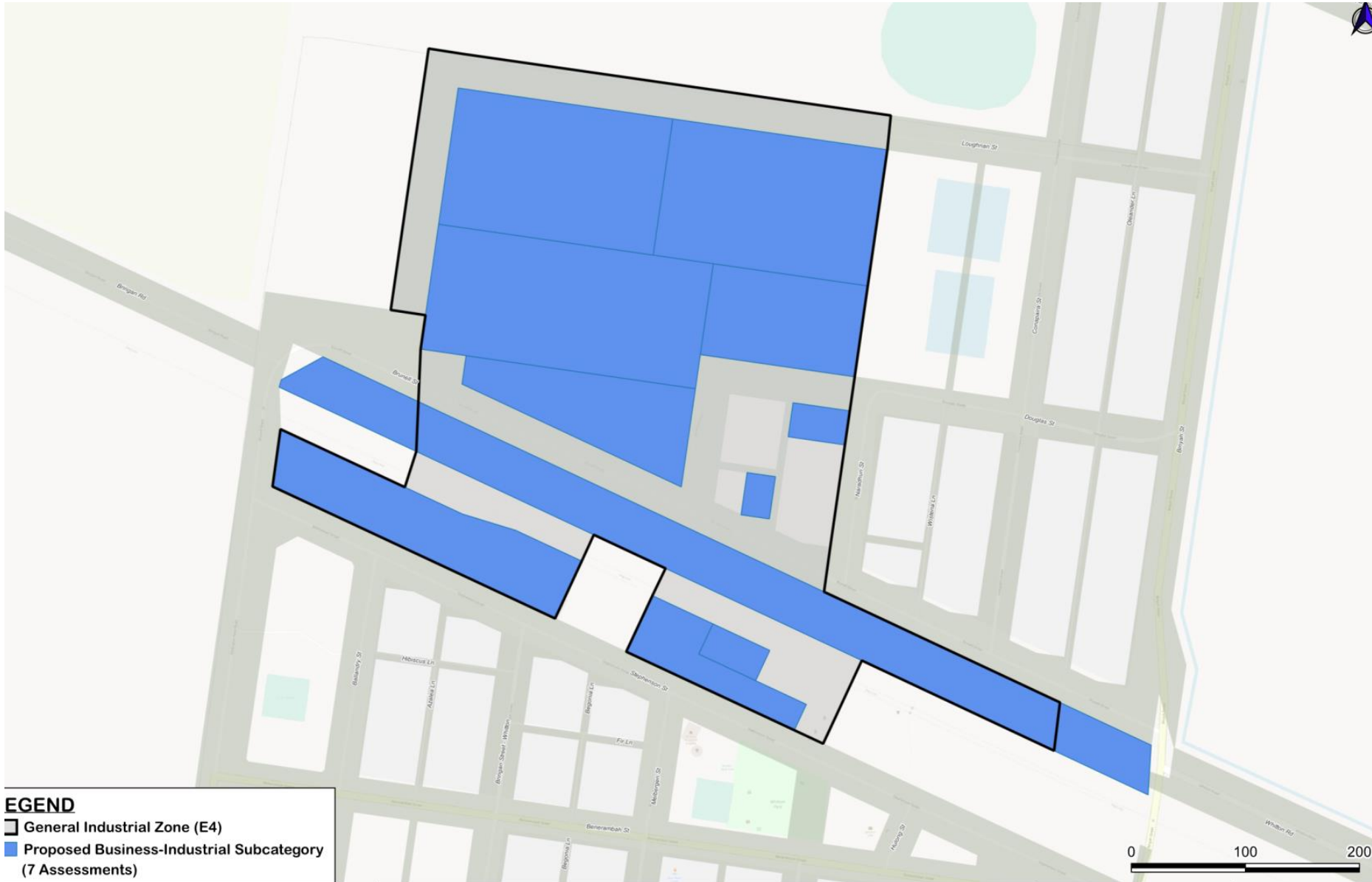


Phone: (02) 6953 09111
 Email: council@leeton.nsw.gov.au
 23-25 Cheimsford Pl, Leeton

Proposed Business Rating Subcategory to be called Business-Industrial Leeton Town Centre

This map has been created for the purpose of showing basic locality information over Leeton Shire Council. Property boundary line network data is supplied by State Government. Any error should be reported to the GIS Section, Leeton Shire Council. This map is a representation of the information currently held by Leeton Shire Council. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the product, Council accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions. Any feedback on omissions or errors would be appreciated.

Date: 18/10/2023
 Compiled By: LSC GIS Section
 Projection: GDA 1994 - Zone 55



EGEND

- General Industrial Zone (E4)
- Proposed Business-Industrial Subcategory (7 Assessments)

 **LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL**
 Phone: (02) 6953 0911
 Email: council@leeton.nsw.gov.au
 23-25 Chelmsford Pl. Leeton

**Proposed Business Rating Subcategory
 to be called Business-Industrial
 Whitton Town Centre**

This map has been created for the purpose of showing basic locality information over Leeton Shire Council. Property boundary line network data is supplied by State Government. Any error should be reported to the GIS Section, Leeton Shire Council. This map is a representation of the information currently held by Leeton Shire Council. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the product, Council

Date: 18/10/2023
Compiled By: LSC GIS Section
Projection: GDA 1994 - Zone

ITEM 7.6 INVESTMENTS REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

RECORD NUMBER	23/260
RELATED FILE NUMBER	EF22/35
AUTHOR/S	Accountant
APPROVER/S	Manager Finance Director Corporate

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

This report provides details of the performance of Council's investment portfolio for the period ending 30 September 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council notes the information contained in the Investments Report for September 2023.

REPORT

(a) Background

This report is required to be prepared monthly and presented at the next available Ordinary Council meeting in accordance with Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

(b) Discussion

Council's cash and investment holdings total \$52,992,983.

As at 30 September 2023, Leeton Shire Council has \$50,976,386 invested in Approved Deposit Institutions (ADIs) of which \$6,382,876 (12.52%) is invested with local bank branches.

Attached to this report is a Statement of Bank Reconciliation (**Attachment 1**) and a Summary of Investments (**Attachment 2**) as at 30 September 2023.

The Statement of Bank Reconciliation reconciles the Bank Statement balances to the General Ledger at 30 September 2023 by taking into account unrepresented cheques, unrepresented deposits, and unrepresented debits.

The Summary of Investments details all the investments held by Leeton Shire Council as at 30 September 2023.

The following table details the total Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investment holdings:

Cash in Transaction Account	\$ 2,016,597
Deposits At Call Accounts	\$14,876,386
Investments	\$36,100,000
TOTAL	\$52,992,983

The table below details the monthly movements of investments for September 2023.

Opening Investments Balance	\$ 49,917,105
Less:	
Maturities (4)	\$ 4,000,000
Transfer to CBA Current Account	\$
Subtotal	\$ 45,917,105
Plus:	
Roll-overs	\$ 4,000,000
New Investments	\$ 1,000,000
CBA Business Online Saver (BOS) movements	\$ 23,974
AMP Business Saver Account	\$ 1
AMP 31 Day Notice Account	\$ 25,733
Macquarie Cash Management Accelerator Account	\$ 9,573
Closing Investments Balance	\$ 50,976,386
Add back Cash in Transaction accounts	2,016,597
Total Cash and Investments	\$ 52,992,983

The following table details the break-up of investments according to the restrictions which are placed on them based on the Notes to the Financial Statements (Draft) 30 June 2023.

Total Cash and Investments	\$ 52,992,983
Less restrictions	
Water Supply (Excl. Unfinished Works)	\$ 18,005,000
Sewerage Services (Excl. Unfinished Works)	\$ 8,936,000
Domestic Waste Management	\$ 5,545,000
*Other external restrictions	\$ 2,496,000
External Restrictions (Excl. Unfinished Works) - Sub Total	\$ 34,982,000
Internal restrictions	\$ 12,879,000
Total restrictions	\$ 47,861,000
Operating Capital & Unfinished Works	\$ 5,131,983

*Includes - Unspent Grants Restrictions, Stormwater Levy Restriction, Deposits, Retentions and Bonds

Externally restricted funds can only be used for the purposes for which they were raised. These include water, sewer, domestic waste operations and unexpended specific purpose grants.

Internally restricted funds are set aside through Council resolution for specific purposes such as plant replacement, infrastructure renewal or funded provisions. Internal restrictions are considered as part of the Budget adoption or the Quarterly Budget Review process.

Operating Capital is used to provide working capital for Council to fund short-term operations, current Capital works program, and fluctuations in payables and receivables.

Water Investments Summary

In accordance with Murrumbidgee Irrigation (MI) records, the total Water Licenses currently held are 5,584 ML. As of the 15 September 2023 Water Allocation update, Murrumbidgee General Security has a 39% allocation, High Security has 95% allocation.

(Attachment 3) is the September 2023 Marsden Jacob report for the information of Councillors.

Council has undertaken temporary trade of 750 ML for \$115,904 (net of sale brokerage fees) as at 30 September 2023.

Water Entitlements	Entitlement	Allocation (%)	Total Allocation (ML)	F'cast + Usage (ML)	Sales this month	Total Volume Sold (ML)	Safety Margin (ML)	Remaining Allocation (Saleable) (1)	Market rate 22.9.23	Potential Income from Sales
Town Water High Security (C7)	4,097	100%	4,097	2,400			-	500	\$210.00	\$105,000
Investment Water										
High Security (C3)	971	95%	922		750	750		172	\$210.00	\$36,120
*General Security (C1)	516	44%	227		-	-		227	\$210.00	\$47,670
Carryover		100%	155		-	-		155	\$210.00	\$32,550
Unmeterd Usage		100%	(42)							
Total	5,584		5,359	2,400	750	750	-	1,054		\$221,340

Source: Marden Jacob Water Market Update 15th September 2023

(1) In accordance with the Temporary Sale of Water Allocation Policy, Council can sell up to 500ML of Town Water up until 31 October. From 1 November, a 10% safety margin in remaining expected water demand is used.

Council currently has an estimated 1,050 ML of allocation available for trade. Temporary prices are currently at about \$210/ML.

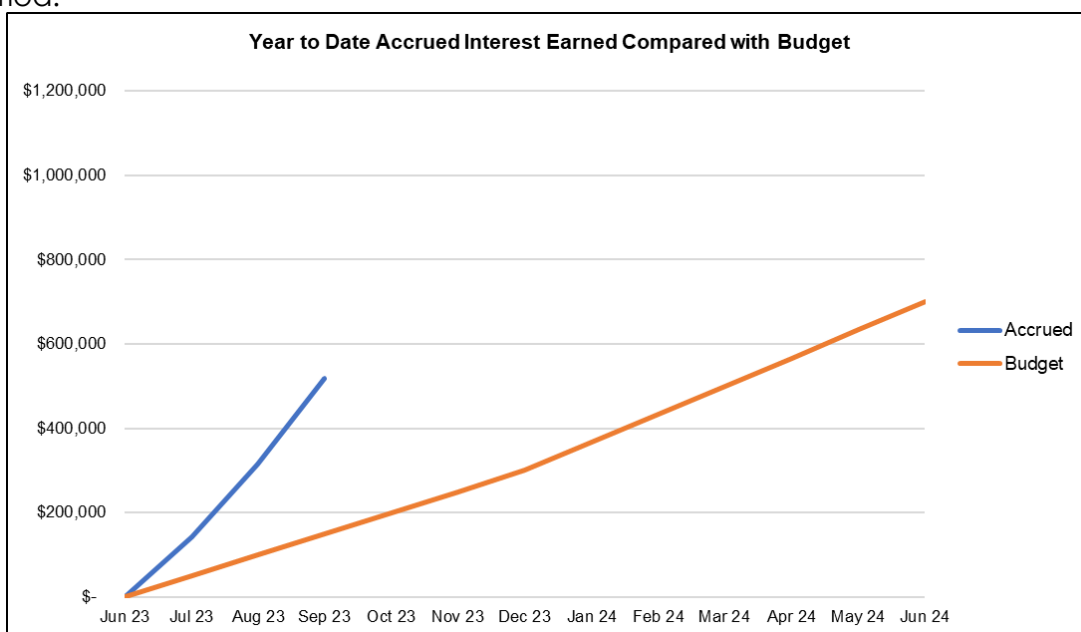
IMPLICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED

(a) Financial

The annualised rate of return across the portfolio is 4.32% for September 2023.

The actual \$205,069 in interest earned for September 2023 is higher than the original budgeted amount of \$58,333 by \$146,736.

The following graph compares year-to-date interest with the budgeted interest for the period.



The Budgeted Interest for FY23/24 is \$700K. The consolidated actual investment income from 1 July 2023 to 30 September 2023 compared to the original budgeted investment interest is detailed below.

Actual versus budgeted interest and earnings	Sep-23	Year To Date
Investments - Interest earned	\$ 137,864	\$ 324,997
Deposits at call	\$ 65,731	\$ 191,617
Rebates and Other earnings	\$ 1,473	\$ 2,753
Total Earnings	\$ 205,069	\$ 519,368
Budgeted Interest	\$ 58,333	\$ 174,999
Variance – Positive	\$ 146,736	\$344,369

Total investment income allocation by fund is detailed below:

Interest Apportionment	Sep-23	Year to Date
General Fund (incl. Waste)	\$ 109,044	\$ 269,771
Water Fund	\$ 63,578	\$ 186,604
Sewer Fund	\$ 32,447	\$ 62,993
Total Interest Earned	\$ 205,069	\$ 519,368

The following tables provide information on investment rates this year compared to last year, as well as a comparison of investment balances from this year to last year.

Performance Measures	Year to Date	Last Year (Sept)
Portfolio Average Interest Rate (YTD inc. Cash)	4.22%	2.22%
Investment Balances	Year to Date	Last Year
Opening Balance as at 1 Sept	\$49,917,105	\$47,251,829
Current Balance as at 30 Sept	\$50,976,386	\$48,275,270

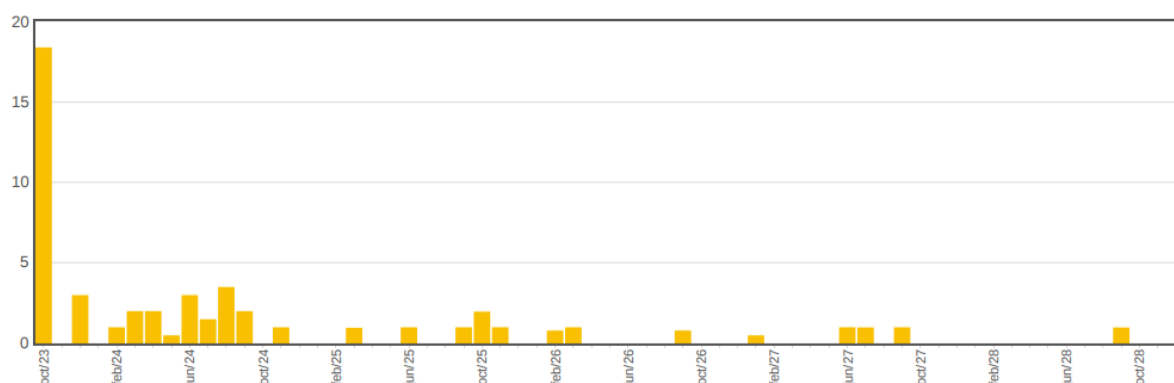
RBA Board Meeting

The RBA left its official cash rate unchanged at 4.10% for the third successive month in its September meeting. The accompanying statement continues to suggest the RBA retains a bias to tighten further if needed but is hopeful that it has done enough to return inflation to target.

Council Portfolio Compliance

Investment Maturing Profile

The portfolio remains lightly diversified from a maturity perspective with deposits maturing out to 5 years. The graph below shows when Council's current investments mature and the related values.



Financial Asset Allocation

Council's financial assets are invested as per the table below:

Investment Type	Risk Assessment		Investment Face Value	% of Portfolio
	Capital	Interest		
Term Deposits	Low	Low	25,000,000	49.04%
Cash/At Call Deposits	Low	Low	14,876,386	29.18%
Floating Rate Notes	Low	Low	6,600,000	12.95%
Bonds	Low	Low	4,500,000	8.83%
TOTAL			50,976,386	100%

Counterparty

As at the end of September 2023, Council did not have an overweight position to any single Authorised Deposit Taking Institution. The portfolio is well-diversified across the investment grade spectrum (all are rated BBB or higher).

All aggregate ratings categories are within the Investment Policy limits.

Compliant	Issuer	Rating	Invested (\$) ^	Invested (%)	Max. Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	RBC Covered	AAA	\$990,675	1.95%	45%	\$21,915,143
✓	Suncorp Covered	AAA	\$501,216	0.98%	45%	\$22,404,603
✓	ANZ Bank	AA-	\$1,990,020	3.91%	45%	\$20,915,798
✓	CBA	AA-	\$8,881,197	17.45%	45%	\$14,024,621
✓	NAB	AA-	\$5,500,000	10.81%	45%	\$17,405,818
✓	NTTC	AA-	\$1,000,000	1.96%	45%	\$21,905,818
✓	WBC	AA-	\$5,000,000	9.82%	45%	\$17,905,818
✓	Macquarie	A+	\$3,935,795	7.73%	35%	\$13,879,841
✓	Aus. Military	BBB+	\$1,000,000	1.96%	30%	\$14,270,545
✓	Bendigo (Rural)	BBB+	\$968,313	1.90%	30%	\$14,302,232
✓	BoQ	BBB+	\$4,972,290	9.77%	30%	\$10,298,255
✓	QBank	BBB+	\$799,537	1.57%	30%	\$14,471,009
✓	AMP Bank	BBB	\$10,857,419	21.33%	30%	\$4,413,126
✓	Auswide Bank	BBB	\$1,000,987	1.97%	30%	\$14,269,558
✓	Bank Australia	BBB	\$1,004,628	1.97%	30%	\$14,265,917
✓	MyState Bank	BBB	\$2,499,741	4.91%	30%	\$12,770,804
			\$50,901,818	100.00%		

Credit Quality

The following table details the credit rating of each of the categories in which Council has money invested. All investments are compliant with Council's Investment Policy.

Compliant	Credit Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested %	Max. Limit (%)
Yes	AAA Category	\$1,491,891	2.93%	100.00%
Yes	AA Category	\$22,371,217	43.95%	100.00%
Yes	A Category	\$3,935,795	7.73%	80.00%
Yes	BBB Category	\$23,102,915	45.39%	70.00%
Yes	Unrated ADI's	\$0	0.00%	30.00%
		\$50,901,818	100.00%	

**Note: Valuations of Council's senior Floating Rate Notes on the Imperium Markets platform are marked-to-market and priced on a daily basis from an independent third-party provider. Council has recorded its FRNs internally at the purchase price or face value. As such, the total portfolio's balance is likely to differ as at the reporting date. (Imperium Markets)*

Maximum Limit Percentage is based on the Revised Investment Policy for 2022.

(b) Legislative/Statutory

All funds are invested in accordance with section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993 and the Ministerial Investment Order.

CONSULTATION

(a) External

Council's investment advisors are Imperium Markets (for financial investment advice) and Marsden Jacobs (for water trading advice).

Advisors were contacted by staff for financial investment advice during the month of September 2023.

(b) Internal

Director Operations

LINK/S TO THE DELIVERY PROGRAM/OPERATIONAL PLAN

CSP FOCUS AREA 5 - Strong leadership and civic participation – DELIVERY PROGRAM
FUNCTIONAL AREA 9 - Governance and Administration - DELIVERY PROGRAM
ACTIVITY 9.7 - Deploy reliable and efficient corporate management - financial, asset, property, records, information technology, buildings and plant/fleet - OPERATIONAL
PLAN ACTIVITY 9.7.3 - Foster Council's financial sustainability through maximising investment returns, including cash and water sales".

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Bank Reconciliation September 23
- 2 Summary of Investments September 23
- 3 Marsden Jacob September 2023

MONTH END BANK RECONCILIATION REPORT

Prepared by the Accountant

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of its position in respect of bank balances.

BACKGROUND

This report is prepared monthly and presents movements in the Council's bank account.

BANK RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

as at 30 September 2023

BALANCE AS PER GENERAL LEDGER

Opening Balance:	1/09/2023		\$	2,861,501.00
September Movements:			-\$	829,345.50
Closing Balance:	30/09/2023		\$	2,032,155.50
Less Unprocessed Bank Statement Transactions:			-\$	15,558.56
Total:			\$	2,016,596.94

BALANCE AS PER BANK STATEMENTS

		\$	1,995,386.71
Less Unpresented Cheques			
Less Unpresented Debits			
Plus Unpresented Deposits		\$	21,210.23
Total		\$	2,016,596.94



 Responsible Accounting Officer
 10 October 2023

Leeton Shire Council

Summary of Term Investments as at: 30/09/2023

		BBSW 90:		Average Yield: 4.32%							
Inv No	Financial Institution/Broker	Investment	Note	Ref No	Investment Date	Investment Term (months)	Remaining Term (months)	Principal	Yield %	Maturity	Type
10-00	Commonwealth Bank L	CBA Business Online Saver - Cash	Cash	10206481	12/10/09	167	0	6,382,876.19	4.10%	11/10/23	DAC
		AMP Business Saver Account									
20-00	AMP Bank	AMP 31 Day Notice Account		437864762	10/07/20	39	0	496.81	2.85%	11/10/23	DAC
21-00	AMP Bank	Macquarie Cash Management		971165956	17/07/20	38	0	6,356,922.23	5.15%	11/10/23	DAC
22-00	Macquarie Bank	Accelerator Account		940367790	07/11/20	35	0	2,136,090.46	4.50%	11/10/23	DAC
20-11	ANZ Bank	ANZ Bank		AU3FN00497	29/08/19	60	10	1,000,000.00	4.72%	29/08/24	FRN
23-15	Curve Securities Pty Ltd	Members Banking Group Ltd		AU3FN00754	24/02/23	36	28	800,000.00	5.63%	24/02/26	FRN
23-16	Laminar Capital	Auswide Bank		AU3FN00766	17/03/23	36	29	1,000,000.00	5.82%	17/03/26	FRN
22-21	Commonwealth Bank L	Commonwealth Bank		AU3FN00656	14/01/22	60	39	500,000.00	4.99%	14/01/27	FRN
23-01	Commonwealth Bank L	Royal Bank of Canada		AU3FN00700	13/07/22	60	45	500,000.00	4.69%	13/07/27	FRN
23-10	Laminar Capital	MyState Bank Ltd		AU3FN00726	13/10/22	36	24	500,000.00	4.94%	13/10/25	FRN
23-11	Commonwealth Bank L	Suncorp-Metway Ltd		AU3FN00726	17/10/22	36	24	500,000.00	4.54%	17/10/25	FRN
23-13	Curve Securities Pty Ltd	Bank Australia		AU3FN00737	24/11/22	36	25	1,000,000.00	5.73%	24/11/25	FRN
24-05	Commonwealth Bank L	Macquarie Bank		AU3FN00811	14/09/23	36	35	800,000.00	4.98%	14/09/26	FRN
22-23	Commonwealth Bank L	Bendigo and Adelaide Bank		8156149	17/03/22	36	17	1,000,000.00	3.00%	17/03/25	Bond
22-27	Commonwealth Bank L	Bank of Queensland		AU3C80288	29/04/22	42	24	1,000,000.00	4.00%	29/10/25	Bond
21-10	Northern Territory Treasury	Territory Bond		AA-109-38	14/09/20	38	2	1,000,000.00	1.25%	15/12/23	Bond
23-02	Commonwealth Bank L	Royal Bank of Canada		AU3C80290	13/07/22	60	45	500,000.00	4.50%	13/07/27	Bond
24-07	Laminar Capital	ANZ Bank		AU3C80302	22/09/23	59	59	1,000,000.00	4.95%	11/09/28	Bond
21-26	Australian Military Bank	Australian Military Bank		301037038	13/04/21	36	6	1,000,000.00	0.76%	15/04/24	LTD
22-15	Westpac Bank	Westpac Bank		9514165	21/10/21	24	0	1,000,000.00	0.87%	23/10/23	LTD
22-17	Westpac Bank	Westpac Bank		9563400	11/11/21	36	13	1,000,000.00	1.60%	11/11/24	LTD
22-19	Westpac Bank	Westpac Bank		9620456	09/12/21	24	2	1,000,000.00	1.21%	11/12/23	LTD
22-20	AMP Bank	AMP Bank		TD34064791	21/12/21	24	2	1,000,000.00	1.55%	21/12/23	LTD
22-22	National Aust Bank	National Aust Bank		88-293-8040	23/02/22	24	4	1,000,000.00	1.80%	24/02/24	LTD
22-24	Westpac Bank	Westpac Bank		9806557	22/03/22	24	5	1,000,000.00	2.21%	22/03/24	LTD
22-31	Bank of Queensland	Bank of Queensland		508507	23/06/22	24	8	1,000,000.00	4.40%	24/06/24	LTD
22-32	Macquarie Bank	Macquarie Bank		232613257	24/06/22	24	8	1,000,000.00	4.43%	24/06/24	LTD
23-07	National Aust Bank	National Aust Bank		97-327-3005	27/09/22	24	11	1,000,000.00	4.90%	27/09/24	LTD
23-09	AMP Bank	AMP Bank		TD35113463	06/10/22	12	0	500,000.00	4.55%	06/10/23	LTD
23-12	AMP Bank	AMP Bank		TD11296728	27/10/22	12	0	1,000,000.00	5.00%	27/10/23	LTD
23-17	AMP Bank	AMP Bank		TD22644030	23/03/23	11	5	1,000,000.00	5.05%	22/03/24	LTD
23-18	Bank of Queensland	Bank of Queensland		724391	11/04/23	12	6	1,000,000.00	4.75%	11/04/24	LTD
23-19	AMP Bank	AMP Bank		TD56942364	01/05/23	12	7	500,000.00	5.10%	01/05/24	LTD
23-20	Curve Securities Pty Ltd	MyState Bank Ltd		30265677	03/05/23	5	1	1,000,000.00	4.80%	31/10/23	LTD
23-21	National Aust Bank	National Aust Bank		36-359-9876	08/06/23	24	20	1,000,000.00	5.17%	08/06/25	LTD
23-22	Bank of Queensland	Bank of Queensland		772448	21/06/23	48	44	1,000,000.00	5.40%	21/06/27	LTD

Leeton Shire Council

		Summary of Term Investments as at: 30/09/2023		BBSW 90:	4.14%	Average Yield: 4.32%				
23-23	MyState Bank	MyState Bank Ltd	30271520	28/06/23	12	8	1,000,000.00	5.65%	28/06/24	LTD
24-01	National Aust Bank	National Aust Bank	26-415-8864	11/07/23	12	9	1,500,000.00	5.55%	11/07/24	LTD
24-02	AMP Bank	AMP Bank	TD52801630	08/08/23	12	10	500,000.00	5.65%	08/08/24	LTD
24-03	Commonwealth Bank	Commonwealth Bank	38344709	16/08/23	11	10	2,000,000.00	5.57%	15/08/24	LTD
24-04	National Aust Bank	National Aust Bank	42-900-9737	11/09/23	12	11	1,000,000.00	5.20%	11/09/24	LTD
24-06	Westpac Bank	Westpac Bank	11067864	14/09/23	48	47	1,000,000.00	4.94%	14/09/27	LTD
24-08	Bank of Queensland	Bank of Queensland	833891	29/09/23	24	23	1,000,000.00	5.23%	29/09/25	LTD
Total Investments:								\$ 50,976,385.69		

Leeton Shire Council

Summary of Term Investments as at: 30/09/2023

BBSW 90: 4.14% Average Yield: 4.32%

Investment by Type		
Investment	Amount	%
AMP Bank	4,500,000	8.8%
Auswide Bank	1,000,000	2.0%
National Aust Bank	5,500,000	10.8%
Australian Military Bank	1,000,000	2.0%
ANZ Bank	2,000,000	3.9%
Territory Bond	1,000,000	2.0%
CBA Business Online Sa	6,382,876	12.5%
AMP 31 Day Notice Acc	6,356,922	12.5%
Macquarie Cash Manag	2,136,090	4.2%
Commonwealth Bank	2,500,000	4.9%
Westpac Bank	5,000,000	9.8%
Bendigo and Adelaide	1,000,000	2.0%
Bank of Queensland	5,000,000	9.8%
Macquarie Bank	1,800,000	3.5%
AMP Business Saver Acc	497	0.0%
Royal Bank of Canada	1,000,000	2.0%
MyState Bank Ltd	2,500,000	4.9%
Suncorp-Metway Ltd	500,000	1.0%
Bank Australia	1,000,000	2.0%
Members Banking Gro	800,000	1.6%
TOTAL	50,976,386	100.0%
Local	6,382,876	12.52%
Non Local	44,593,510	87.48%

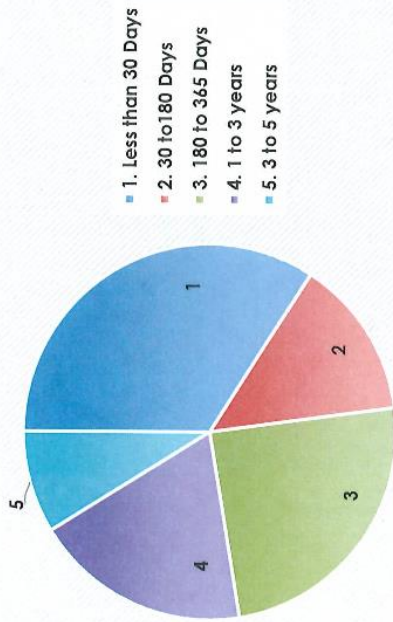
Investments by Age		
Age	Amount	%
1. Less than 30 Days	17,376,386	34%
2. 30 to 180 Days	7,000,000	14%
3. 180 to 365 Days	12,500,000	25%
4. 1 to 3 years	9,600,000	19%
5. 3 to 5 years	4,500,000	9%
TOTAL	50,976,386	100%

Investments by Age and Type		
Sum of Principal		Total
Current	DAC	14,876,386
	LTD	20,000,000
	FRN	1,000,000
	Bond	1,000,000
Current Total		36,876,386
Non Current	LTD	5,000,000
	FRN	5,600,000
	Bond	3,500,000
Non Current Total		14,100,000
Grand Total		50,976,386
DAC	Deposit At Call	
LTD	Long Term Deposit	
FRN	Floating Rate Notes	
Bond	Long Term Bond	

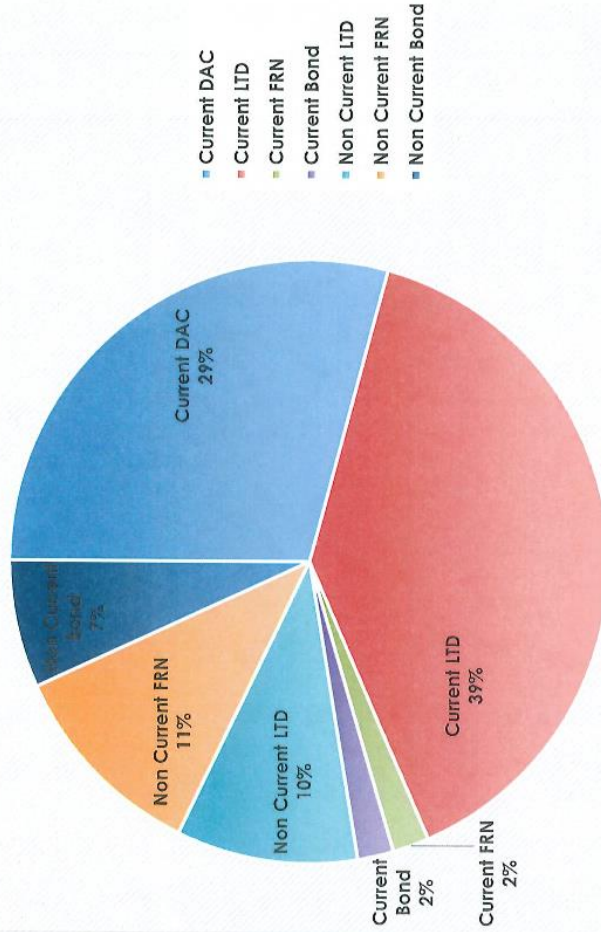
Leeton Shire Council

Summary of Term Investments as at: **30/09/2023** BBSW 90: **4.14%** Average Yield: **4.32%**

Investments by Age



Investments by Type and Term



Explanatory notes:
 All investments noted above were made in accordance with the Act, the regulations and Council's Investment Policy

Responsible Accounting Officer
 11 October, 2023



Water Market Update – 22nd September 2023

Market Summary

- Leeton Shire Council currently has an estimated **1,050 ML** of temporary allocation available for trade. See water balance on last page. The surplus can be either sold now or held until later in the year (Nov-Jan) when demand increases due to summer irrigation.
- Temporary prices are currently at about **\$210-\$220/ML, up from \$190 in July.** (see chart below). Price are increasing on the back of anticipated dry conditions and large amount of crop plantings in the MI.
- Murrumbidgee General Security has a 44% allocation, High Security has 95% allocation. The General Security allocation increase is underpinned by higher than minimum inflows accruing in storages and an increase in the releases anticipated from the Snowy Hydro system.
- With dry conditions forecast and inflows reducing substantially in recent weeks, water to ensure high priority needs for 2024/25 may be required. Each assessment going forward will need to consider the requirements for 2024/25 prior to allocating further water in 2023/24.
- On 19th September 2023, Bureau of Meteorology declared an El Niño and positive Indian Ocean Dipole are underway. This declaration reinforces the long-range rainfall and temperature forecasts, which continue to predict warmer and drier conditions for much of Australia over the next three months.

Forecast general security allocations (%)

(Any carryover water can be added to these indicative allocations)

Repeat of historical inflow conditions	1 Nov 2023	1 Feb 2024
99 chances in 100 (extreme dry) (99%)	44%	44%
9 chances in 10 (very dry) (90%)	44%	44%
3 chances in 4 (dry) (75%)	45%*	45%*
1 chance in 2 (median) (50%)	50%*	54%*
1 chance in 4 (wet) (25%)	50%*	100%*

Note 1: Estimated values indicative only, not guaranteed and subject to change based on actual events unfolding.

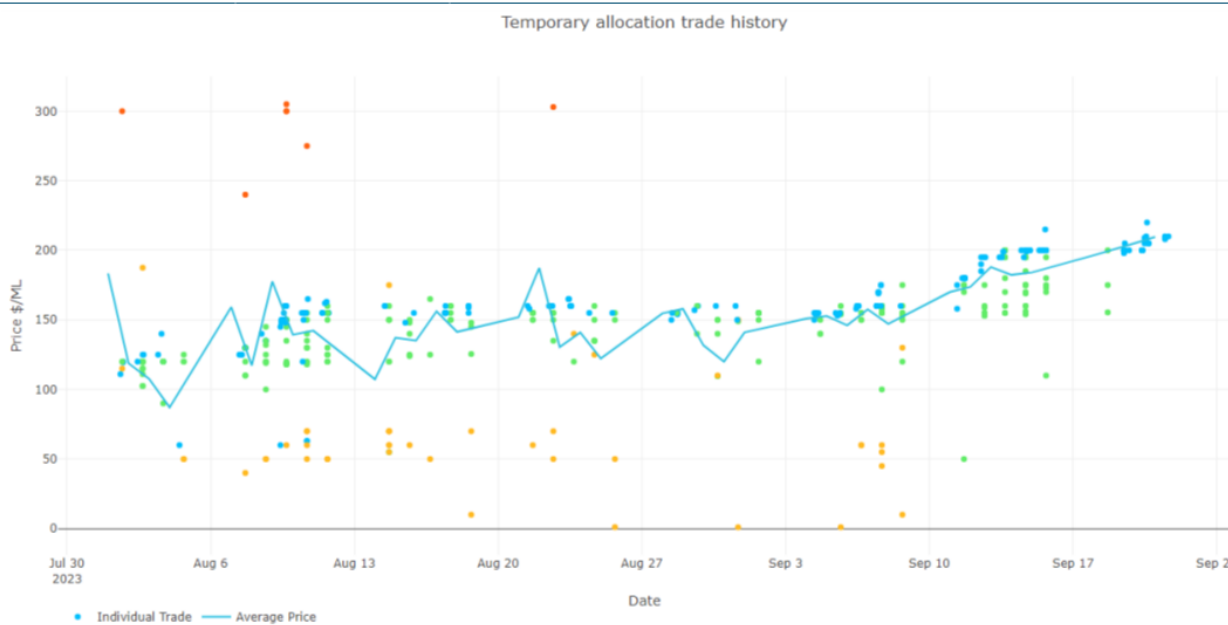
Note 2: Forecast assumes 28% carryover on average.

*Should rainfall conditions suppress demand and create unregulated conditions, resource improvements will be governed by regulated usage, rather than inflow volumes. Suppressed usage will mean stunted resource improvement.

MARSDEN JACOB ASSOCIATES

Murrumbidgee market prices as of 19th July 2023, Temporary Market

Trade type	Current spot price	Chart description
Temporary Allocation	\$210/ML	Price trending up from \$190/ML to \$210/ML on 22 September 2023.



Source: www.waterflow.io

Last 5 Temporary Trades

13 MURRUMBIDGEE

Last traded 22nd Sep

^ Hide last 5 Trades

Date	Price / ML	Volume	Broker
22nd Sep 2023	\$210	120 ML	Ruralco Water
22nd Sep 2023	\$205	10 ML	Ruralco Water
22nd Sep 2023	\$210	14 ML	Ruralco Water
22nd Sep 2023	\$210	45 ML	Ruralco Water
21st Sep 2023	\$210	200 ML	Ruralco Water

www.marsdenjacob.com.au

www.waterflow.io

MARSDEN JACOB ASSOCIATES

Water Availability	Volumes (ML)	
General Security	227	A
Carryover	155	B
High Security	922	C
Town Water	4097	
MI deduction	42	
Total available allocation	5360	

Town Water	Volumes (ML)	
Usage to date	472	
Estimated remaining usage	1928	
Town Water Available for Sale*	500	D

Water Sales	Volumes (ML)
Sales to date	750

Estimated Water available for sale (ML) A+B+C+D	1,050
--	--------------

Source: MI Statements and LSC

*The council trade policy states that up to 500 ML of Town Water can be sold at any time after the commencement of the water year up until 31 October. From 1 November, a 10% safety margin on remaining expected water demand is used.

Statement of Confidentiality

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ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

ITEM 7.7 APPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL HERITAGE PLACES GRANTS FOR 2023/24

RECORD NUMBER	23/258
RELATED FILE NUMBER	EF22/35
AUTHOR/S	Town Planner
APPROVER/S	Manager Planning, Building and Health

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

The Local Heritage Places grant scheme was advertised during July and August 2023. As a result, seven (7) applications for funding assistance were received and were assessed by Council's Heritage Advisor Noel Thomson. A report from the heritage advisor was presented to the Leeton Shire Council Heritage Committee for consideration on 21 September 2023.

These applications are now submitted to Council for review and approval.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approves the following Local Heritage Places Grant offers for 2023/24:

Applicant	Work to be done	Total Project Cost	Funding Requested	Funding Recommended	Applicant's Contribution
Sheree Collins	Repainting of external façade to shop	\$4,500	\$2,250	\$2,250	\$2,250
Marie Eurell	New signage at Shopfront at "Morris Chambers"	\$1,205	\$553	\$600	\$605
Fiona de Wit	External timber repair works and painting to farm residence	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$3,700	\$6,300
Sue Ciavarella	Restoration of windows at Residence	\$5,500	\$2,750	\$2,750	\$2,750
William Barwick (St Peters Church)	External painting of St Peter's Church	\$16,225	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$11,225
Beverly Johnson	Restoration of walls & ceiling at former Anglican Church	\$7,500	\$3,750	\$3,700	\$3,800
(incl GST)		\$44,930	\$19,303	\$18,000	\$26,930

REPORT

(a) Background

Funding is available for 'Listed' heritage items in the Leeton Local Environmental Plan 2014 or for buildings supported by Council's heritage advisor as being of heritage significance. The Local Heritage Places Grants for 2023/24 were advertised and open for application during July and August 2023. Noel Thomson reviewed the seven (7) applications received whereupon the applications were presented to the Leeton Shire Council Heritage Committee on 21 September 2023 for consideration. The Heritage Grant assessment report is attached.

The Leeton Heritage Committee unanimously accepted the recommendation of the Heritage Advisor and recommended that 6 applications be approved.

(b) Discussion

The following seven (7) applications were received for heritage funding:

2023-24/1 Repairs and repainting to exterior of Shop, 2 Church Street, Leeton

Submission from Owner (Sheree Collins) for the proposed repairs, restoration and repainting the external facade of the Shop at 2 Church Street, Leeton is located within the Leeton Heritage Conservation Area and on review of the works proposed suits the criteria of the local heritage fund.

Recommendation for the external upgrade, repairs and repainting of Shop is that funding of \$2,250 (incl GST) is acceptable for this important project that will improve the streetscape. Works to be undertaken to Heritage Advisor recommendations and approval required from Council as per LEP Clause 5.10 (3) prior to works commencing on site.

2023-24/2 New signage to Shopfront at "Morris Chambers", 38 Wade Avenue, Leeton

Submission from tenant (Maree Eurell) is for the proposed new signage to the shopfront windows of "Morris Chambers". This building is local Heritage Item (I45) "Morris Chambers" in Leeton LEP and therefore the building has heritage significance, with the new signage is not to detract, with the new signage project suits the criteria for heritage funding.

Recommendation is for the new signage to the window at "Morris Chambers" be undertaken as per heritage advisor recommendations with funding of \$600 (incl GST) acceptable for this project. Approval required from Council as per LEP Clause 5.10 (3) prior to works commencing on site.

2023-24/3 External timber repairs & repainting at farm residence 410 Kooba Road, Whitton

Submission from Owner (Fiona de Wit) notes the project is for the restoration and repainting of the exterior timber areas of the farm residence at Farm 1307-410 Kooba Road, Whitton. Her submission has included costings for engaging an engineer to undertake a structural investigation report. This inclusion does not meet funding criteria and has been excluded from the recommended funding. On review of all

other works the proposal meets the criteria for local heritage funding as the building is of heritage significance.

Recommendation is for the restoration and painting works at the farm residence at 410 Kooba Road, Whitton be undertaken as per heritage advisor recommendations with funding of \$3,700 (incl GST) acceptable for this project.

2023-24/4 Repairs, restoration windows to Residence at 7 Wade Ave, Leeton

Submission from Owner (Sue Ciavarella) notes the project is for the restoration of deteriorated timber windows + repainting to the exterior areas of the residence at 7 Wade Ave, Leeton. On review, the works proposed suits the criteria of the local heritage fund for this listed Heritage Item (146) "Residence".

Recommendation for the external repairs and repainting of windows to the Residence is that funding of \$2,750 (incl GST) is acceptable for this project. Works to be undertaken to Heritage Advisor recommendations and approval required from Council as per LEP Clause 5.10 (3) prior to works commencing on site.

2023-24/5 External painting to St Peters Church, Church Street, Leeton

Submission from representative of the Anglican Church (William Barwick) for the proposed external repainting of St Peters Church, that is on the site of the locally listed Heritage Item (158) "St Peters Church Hall" in Leeton LEP and in the Leeton Heritage Conservation Area. Therefore, due to the church not being the heritage item its rating is very low, although the works proposed are suitable for heritage funding.

This an important project and part of the jubilee celebrations for the church, recommendation for funding of \$5,000 (incl GST) acceptable for this project. For the repainting of the external areas of St Peters Church, the Works to be undertaken to Heritage Advisor recommendations and approval required from Council as per LEP Clause 5.10 (3) prior to works commencing on site.

2023-24/6 Restoration of walls & ceiling at former Church, Melbergen Street, Whitton

Submission from Owner (Beverly Johnson) notes the project is for the restoration of the walls and ceiling to remove later added 'modern' material at the former Church at 9 Melbergen Street, Whitton. The former "St Johns Anglican Church" is local heritage item (192) in Leeton LEP and has heritage significance and on review of the works proposed suits the criteria of the local heritage fund.

Recommendation is for the restoration works at the former "St Johns Anglican Church" be undertaken as per heritage advisor recommendations with funding of \$3,700 (incl GST) acceptable for this project. Approval required from Council as per LEP Clause 5.10 (3) prior to works commencing on site.

2023-24/7 Replacement of trees / landscaping at Showground, 66 Acacia Avenue, Leeton

Submission from representative of the Leeton Trustee for Showground Trust (George Stevens) is for the proposed replacement of trees and landscaping on the site of the listed Heritage Item (152) "Showground buildings" at 66 Acacia Avenue, Leeton. It is noted that the replacement 'landscaping' is not building works and therefore do not meet the criteria of the local heritage fund.

Applicant	Property/ Heritage Listing	Work to be done	Total Project Cost	Funding Requested	Funding Recommended	Applicant's Contribution	Rating
Sheree Collins	No – in Leeton HCA	Repainting to external façade to shop	\$4,500	\$2,250	\$2,250	\$2,250	68
Marie Eurrell	Yes – LEP Item 145	New signage to Shopfront at "Morris Chambers"	\$1,205	\$553	\$600	\$605	65
Fiona de Wit	No	External timber repair works and painting to farm residence	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$3,700	\$6,300	47
Sue Ciavarella	Yes – LEP Item 146	Restoration of windows at Residence	\$5,500	\$2,750	\$2,750	\$2,750	71
William Barwick (St Peters Church)	No – Yes for the site – LEP Item 158	External painting to St Peter's Church	\$16,225	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$11,225	67
Beverly Johnson	Yes – LEP Item 192	Restoration of walls & ceiling at former Anglican Church	\$7,500	\$3,750	\$3,700	\$3,800	70
George Stevens (Trustee for Showground Trust)	No – Yes, for the site – LEP Item 152	Replacement of trees/ landscaping at Leeton Showground	\$7,000	\$3,500	Nil	\$-	38
(incl GST)			\$51,930	\$22,803	\$18,000	\$26,930	

(c) Options

THAT Council:

1. Approves the Local Heritage Places Grants as recommended. **This is the recommended option**
2. Approves the Local Heritage Places grant with amendments.
3. Another resolution as determined by Council.

IMPLICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED

(a) Financial

The 2023/24 Operational Plan Council documents an allocation of \$19K for the Local Heritage Places Grants. This funding is made up of a grant of \$5,500 from the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage. If Council approves the recommendations made in this report, there will be \$1K remaining funds available.

(b) Policy

Nil

(c) Legislative/Statutory

Leeton Local Environmental Plan 2014
Heritage Act 1977
Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

(d) Risk

Applicants must complete projects by the due date or grant funds will not be paid. This would allow grant funds to be reallocated.

CONSULTATION

(a) External

The Local Heritage Places Grants were advertised in the local paper as well as Council's website and via social media.

(b) Internal

Executive Manager Economic and Community Development
Heritage Committee
Heritage Advisor

LINK/S TO THE DELIVERY PROGRAM/OPERATIONAL PLAN (DPOP)

CSP FOCUS AREA 3 - A thriving regional economy – DELIVERY PROGRAM
FUNCTIONAL AREA 5 - Planning, Building and Public Health - DELIVERY PROGRAM
ACTIVITY 5.4 - Provide built heritage services, including access to a heritage advisor and heritage grant funding for private heritage listed properties - OPERATIONAL PLAN ACTIVITY 5.4.1 - Offer an annual Heritage Grants program with a focus on Leeton's CBD to promote Leeton's position as a regional Art Deco capital of Australia".

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Heritage Committee Minutes and attachments 21 Sept 2023 - Local Heritage Grants 2023-2024

**MINUTES OF THE HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21
SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 12.00 NOON COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present: Cr Tony Ciccia, Ali Mehdi, Wendy Senti, Margaret Strong

Apologies: Cr George Weston, Francois Van Der Berg

Confirmations of previous Minutes Moved/S Sharman Seconded/T Ciccia

Agenda Items

1. Local Heritage Fund Summary 2023/2024 (attached)

Noel Thomson – presented photographs for each application to the committee for reference.

Discussion held in relation to Summary as follows:

- 1.1 2023-24/3 – External timber repair works and painting for farm residence – Farm 1307, 410 Kooba Road, Whitton

Wendy Senti

Isn't this well outside the Heritage area. Leeton Family Local History is concerned in relation to funds being distributed to persons who are not in Heritage area or a Heritage listed item – should we wait.

Tony Ciccia

Welcomes and encourages people outside town areas within the Shire to apply for Heritage funding. If they meet the criteria there should be no problem with making an application for consideration.

Noel Thomson

This application is within guidelines for heritage/conservation area.

It is important to encourage a wider range eg: post war house, pre-war house, colonial items to be on the heritage schedule.

Agrees with owners of residence at 410 Kooba Road, Whitton that it is Heritage significant. Residence has interesting features from the era:

- Original woodwork around windows
- Original fascia boards
- Original design features within house ie wardrobes, tiling etc

**MINUTES OF THE HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21
SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 12.00 NOON COUNCIL CHAMBERS (CONT'D)**

Painting and timber repair will ensure that these features will not be replaced by more up-to-date products.

This house should be listed as a heritage item when we complete our next Heritage Review.

Margaret Strong

Mentioned that the owners are keen to restore the house's internal and external features and that is why they have applied for Heritage funding.

1.2 2023-24/7 – Replacement of trees/landscaping at Leeton Showground

Noel Thomson

Landscaping is not in the guidelines for Heritage funding and hence the low ranking of 7.

Tony Ciccia

Suggested that Showground Trust should apply to Landcare organisations for help with trees/landscaping.

2. Noel Thomson Heritage Advisor's Report dated September 2023
(attached)

Seven (7) applications received.

Heritage Advisor has recommended that the following six (6) applications proceed:

- **2023-24/1** Repainting to external façade to shop at 2 Church Street, Leeton
- **2023-24/2** New Signage to shopfront at "Morris Chambers" 38 Wade Avenue, Leeton
- **2023-24/3** External timber repair works and painting to farm residence at 410 Kooba Road, Whitton
- **2023-24/4** restoration of windows at residence at 7 Wade Avenue, Leeton
- **2023-24/5** External painting to St Peter's Church at 24 Church Street, Leeton
- **2023-24/6** Restoration of walls & ceiling at former Anglican Church at 9 Melbergen Street, Whitton

**MINUTES OF THE HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21
SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 12.00 NOON COUNCIL CHAMBERS (CONT'D)**

Heritage Advisor has recommended that the following application does not proceed:

- **2023-24/7** Replacement of trees/landscaping at Leeton Showground
Acacia Avenue, Leeton

Sarah Sharman asked Committee if they were happy to proceed with the Heritage Advisor's recommendations.

Committee asked that Minutes be made available to George Weston and following that they ADOPT Heritage Advisor's Report

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Suggested that excess of \$1,000 from Funding Recommended Figure of \$19,000 perhaps could be utilised next year or disbursed evenly between seven (7) recommended applications this year.

Discussion had in relation to the repainting of shopfront façades in relation to how amazing they look. Such a shame that some shopfronts in prominent locations were not repainted.

Sarah Sharman

Unfortunately owners of these particular shopfronts did not wish to proceed with the repainting. Costing broken up as follows: Council 60% owners 40%.

Wendy Senti

Enquired where the Rotunda materials were stored following its demolition as the Leeton RSL are interested in restoring the other Rotunda at the Showground utilising these materials.

Noel Thomson

Noel will follow up with the Showground Trust as to where the materials are located and inform Wendy Senti accordingly.

Margaret Strong

Requested that more time in relation to advice of next meeting be given if possible. This will allow Committee to thoroughly consider items and perhaps add to Agenda items.

This to be relayed to Francois Van Der Berg for noting.

Meeting closed 12.55pm



Local Heritage Fund Summary 2023/2024

Number	Applicant	Address / Property	Property / Heritage Listing	Work to be done	Total Project Cost	Funding Requested	Funding Recommended	Applicant's Contribution	Rating	Ranking
2023-24/1	Sheree Collins	2 Church St, Leeton	No - in Leeton HCA	Repainting to external façade to Shop	\$4,500	\$2,250	\$2,250	\$2,250	68	3
2023-24/2	Marie Eurell	38 Wade Ave, Leeton	Yes - LEP Item I45	New signage to Shopfront at "Morris Chambers"	\$1,205	\$553	\$600	\$605	65	5
2023-24/3	Fiona de Wit	Farm 1307 - 410 Kooba Rd, Whitton	No	External timber repair works and painting to farm residence	\$10,000 \$7,425 Less engineer	\$5,000	\$3,700	\$6,300 \$3,725	47	6
2023-24/4	Sue Ciavarella	7 Wade Ave, Leeton	Yes - LEP Item I46	Restoration of windows at Residence	\$5,500	\$2,750	\$2,750	\$2,750	71	1
2023-24/5	William Barwick (St Peters Church)	24 Church St, Leeton	No - Yes for the site - LEP Item I58	External painting to St Peter's Church	\$16,225	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$11,225	67	4
2023-24/6	Beverly Johnson	9 Melbergen St, Whitton	Yes - LEP Item I92	Restoration of walls & ceiling at former Anglican Church	\$7,500	\$3,750	\$3,700	\$3,800	70	2
2023-24/7	George Stevens (Trustee for Showground Trust)	66 Acacia Ave, Leeton	No - Yes, for the site - LEP Item I52	Replacement of trees / landscaping at Leeton Showground	\$7,000	\$3,500	Nil	\$-	38	7
TOTAL	(incl GST)				\$51,930	\$22,803	\$18,000	\$26,930		

Note: Leeton Shire Council budget for heritage funding 2023/24 - \$19,000

LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL REPORT

To: Leeton Shire Council SEPT 2023
By: Noel Thomson – Heritage Advisor
Subject: Local Heritage Fund Applications 2023-24
for Leeton Shire

Leeton Shire Local Heritage Fund Applications 2023-24

Funding is available for 'Listed' heritage items or buildings in the Heritage Conservation Areas in the Leeton Local Environmental Plan, or a building supported by Council's heritage advisor as being of heritage significance. Further to receipt of Applications to Leeton Shire Local Heritage Fund, Noel Thomson as Leeton Shire Council's Heritage Advisor has reviewed the seven (7) applications received and provides the following advice;

2023-24/1 Repairs and repainting to exterior of Shop, 2 Church St, Leeton

Submission from Owner (Sheree Collins) for the proposed repairs, restoration and repainting the external facade of the Shop at 2 Church St, Leeton is located within the Leeton Heritage Conservation Area and on review of the works proposed suits the criteria of the local heritage fund.

Recommendation for the external upgrade, repairs and repainting of Shop is that funding of \$2,250 (incl GST) is acceptable for this important project that will improve the streetscape. Works to be undertaken to Heritage Advisor recommendations and approval required from Council as per LEP Clause 5.10 (3) prior to works commencing on site.

2023-24/2 New signage to Shopfront at "Morris Chambers", 38 Wade Ave, Leeton

Submission from tenant (Maree Eurell) is for the proposed new signage to the shopfront windows of "Morris Chambers". This building is local Heritage Item (I45) "Morris Chambers" in Leeton LEP and therefore the building has heritage significance, with the new signage is not to detract, with the new signage project suits the criteria for heritage funding.

Recommendation is for the new signage to the window at "Morris Chambers" be undertaken as per heritage advisor recommendations with funding of \$600 (incl GST) acceptable for this project. Approval required from Council as per LEP Clause 5.10 (3) prior to works commencing on site.

2023-24/3 External timber repairs & repainting at farm residence 410 Kooba Rd, Whitton

Submission from Owner (Fiona de Wit) notes the project is for the restoration and repainting of the exterior timber areas of the farm residence at Farm 1307- 410 Kooba Rd, Whitton. On review of the works proposed suits the criteria of the local heritage fund for this building which has heritage significance. It is noted that in the application that amount for engaging the Engineer to undertake structural investigation & report is included in the costings with NT noting that due this building not being a heritage item then funding for this item does not meet funding criteria.

Recommendation is for the restoration and painting works at the farm residence at 410 Kooba Rd, Whitton be undertaken as per heritage advisor recommendations with funding of \$3,700 (incl GST) acceptable for this project.

2023-24/4 Repairs, restoration windows to Residence at 7 Wade Ave, Leeton

Submission from Owner (Sue Ciavarella) notes the project is for the restoration of deteriorated timber windows + repainting to the exterior areas of the residence at 7 Wade Ave, Leeton. On review, the works proposed suits the criteria of the local heritage fund for this listed Heritage Item (I46) "Residence".

LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL REPORT

Recommendation for the external repairs and repainting of windows to the Residence is that funding of \$2,750 (incl GST) is acceptable for this project. Works to be undertaken to Heritage Advisor recommendations and approval required from Council as per LEP Clause 5.10 (3) prior to works commencing on site.

2023-24/5 External painting to St Peters Church, Church St, Leeton

Submission from representative of the Anglican Church (William Barwick) for the proposed external repainting of St Peters Church, that is on the site of the locally listed Heritage Item (158) "St Peters Church Hall" in Leeton LEP and in the Leeton Heritage Conservation Area. Therefore due to the church not being the heritage item its rating is very low, although the works proposed are suitable for heritage funding.

This an important project and part of the jubilee celebrations for the church, recommendation for funding of \$5,000 (incl GST) acceptable for this project. For the repainting of the external areas of St Peters Church, the Works to be undertaken to Heritage Advisor recommendations and approval required from Council as per LEP Clause 5.10 (3) prior to works commencing on site.

2023-24/6 Restoration of walls & ceiling at former Church, Melbergen St, Whitton

Submission from Owner (Beverly Johnson) notes the project is for the restoration of the walls and ceiling to remove later added 'modern' material at the former Church at 9 Melbergen St, Whitton. The former "St Johns Anglican Church" is local heritage item (192) in Leeton LEP and has heritage significance and on review of the works proposed suits the criteria of the local heritage fund.

Recommendation is for the restoration works at the former "St Johns Anglican Church" be undertaken as per heritage advisor recommendations with funding of \$3,700 (incl GST) acceptable for this project. Approval required from Council as per LEP Clause 5.10 (3) prior to works commencing on site.

2023-24/7 Replacement of trees / landscaping at Showground, 66 Acacia Ave, Leeton

Submission from representative of the Leeton Trustee for Showground Trust (George Stevens) is for the proposed replacement of trees and landscaping on the site of the listed Heritage Item (152) "Showground buildings" at 66 Acacia Ave, Leeton. It is noted that the replacement 'landscaping' is not building works and therefore do not meet the criteria of the local heritage fund.

Note: Refer attached Assessment Forms and Summary for further information

Trusting the foregoing advice is of assistance at this time.



NOEL THOMSON FRAIA
LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL HERITAGE ADVISOR



Planning and
 Environment



LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL
 LOCAL HERITAGE FUND
 ASSESSMENT FORM 2023-2024

Project Name		Score 100	Assessor	Specialist	Comments
REPAINTING OF FACADE TO SHOP 2 CHURCH ST, LEETON					
Project No.		2023-2024/1			
My Project is for	Assess the heritage listing for the proposed project application	40			
	SHR Heritage listed item/s	15		-	
	LEP Heritage listed item/ Conservation Area	12		12	IN LEETON HCA
	Main Street / Heritage Study Area	8		-	
	Other significant item	5		5	
Sub Total				17	
Priorities	Assess the project against your Council's local heritage fund priorities for this funding round	23			
Priority 1	Commercial properties within the Main Street Conservation Areas and/or Heritage Item identified as having significant Art Deco features:- a) Repair of original features; b) Painting in period colour and styles - Art Deco Colours; c) Replacement of advertising signage with Art Deco Style advertising signage d) Works to meet BCA requirements for new uses eg. Disabled access.	15		15	
Priority 2	Buildings outside the Main Street or Heritage Study areas that are identified by Council's Heritage Advisor as having heritage significance:- a) Painting in period colours; b) Repair/restoration of heritage features; c) Restoration of period front fences; d) Works to meet BCA requirements for new uses	8		-	
Sub Total				15	

Project Name		Score	Assessor	Specialist	Comments
Common Selection Criteria	Assess the project against ALL of these criteria	17			
Sustainable long term benefits	Long term plan in place to manage heritage item/s	6		5	
Public benefit & enjoyment	Increase opportunities for learning about & access	4		4	
Capacity & Commitment	Time, financial & management skills	3		3	
	Complete within funding timeframe	4		4	
Sub Total				16	
Project	Assess the quality and completeness of the project application	20			
	Project scope	5		5	
	Project costings	5		5	
	Photos	5		5	
	Greater than \$ for \$ contribution	5		5	
Sub Total				20	
TOTAL				68	ADJUSTED TOTAL
Funding	Assess the funding requested				
	Total Project Cost		\$	\$ 4,450	
	Requested amount		\$	\$ 2,250	
	Applicant Contribution		\$	\$ 2,200	
	Recommended amount		\$	\$ 2,250	
Assessors summary comments					
<p>THIS SHOP IN LEETON'S HCA IS IN NEED OF FACADE RESTORATION + REPAINTING AND IS A PROJECT THAT MEETS LHF CRITERIA FOR FUNDING.</p>					
Name NOEL THOMSON LEETON SHIRE HERITAGE ADVISOR			Date 15/9/2023		
<p>If approved, any special project funding conditions (to be added to the Funding Agreement)</p> <p>eg Heritage Specialist required for this project eg To confirm paint colour scheme before proceeding eg Approvals required: Local Government / Heritage Act</p> <p style="text-align: center;">APPROVAL FOR THE FACADE WORKS REQUIRED AS PER LEP CLAUSE 5.10 (3) PRIOR TO COMMENCING ON SITE</p>					



Planning and
Environment



LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL
LOCAL HERITAGE FUND
ASSESSMENT FORM 2023-2024

Project Name		Score 100	Project No.		
NEW SIGNAGE TO SHOPFRONT 30 WADE AVE, LEETON			2023-2024 / 2		
My Project is for		Assessor	Specialist	Comments	
Assess the heritage listing for the proposed project application		40			
	SHR Heritage listed item/s	15		-	
	LEP Heritage listed item/ Conservation Area	12		12	HERITAGE ITEM (145)
	Main Street / Heritage Study Area	8		8	"MORRIS CHAMBERS"
	Other significant item	5		-	
Sub Total				20	
Priorities					
Assess the project against your Council's local heritage fund priorities for this funding round		23			
Priority 1	Commercial properties within the Main Street Conservation Areas and/or Heritage Item identified as having significant Art Deco features:- a) Repair of original features; b) Painting in period colour and styles - Art Deco Colours; c) Replacement of advertising signage with Art Deco Style advertising signage d) Works to meet BCA requirements for new uses eg. Disabled access.	15		15	
Priority 2	Buildings outside the Main Street or Heritage Study areas that are identified by Council's Heritage Advisor as having heritage significance:- a) Painting in period colours; b) Repair/restoration of heritage features; c) Restoration of period front fences; d) Works to meet BCA requirements for new uses	8		-	
Sub Total				15	

Project Name		Score	Assessor	Specialist	Comments
Common Selection Criteria	Assess the project against ALL of these criteria	17			
Sustainable long term benefits	Long term plan in place to manage heritage item/s	6		3	
Public benefit & enjoyment	Increase opportunities for learning about & access	4		3	
Capacity & Commitment	Time, financial & management skills	3		3	
	Complete within funding timeframe	4		4	
		Sub Total		13	
Project	Assess the quality and completeness of the project application	20			
	Project scope	5		4	
	Project costings	5		4	
	Photos	5		4	
	Greater than \$ for \$ contribution	5		5	
		Sub Total		17	
		TOTAL		65	ADJUSTED TOTAL
Funding	Assess the funding requested				
	Total Project Cost		\$	\$1209.50	
	Requested amount		\$	\$552.95	
	Applicant Contribution		\$	\$651.55	
	Recommended amount		\$	\$600.00	
Assessors summary comments					
<p>THIS BUILDING IS HERITAGE LISTED AND IN LEETON HCA, WITH NEW SIGNAGE (ILLUMINATED??) PROVIDED AT THE SHOPFRONT WINDOW. 'ART DECO STYLE' SIGNAGE DOES MEET CRITERIA FOR HERITAGE FUNDING</p>					
Name			Date		
NOEL THOMSON LEETON SHIRE HERITAGE ADVISOR			15/9/2023		
If approved, any special project funding conditions (to be added to the Funding Agreement)					
eg Heritage Specialist required for this project		APPROVAL FOR THE SIGNAGE WORKS REQUIRED UNDER VEP			
eg To confirm paint colour scheme before proceeding		CHANGE 5.10 (3) PRIOR TO COMMENCING ON SITE.			
eg Approvals required: Local Government / Heritage Act					



Planning and
 Environment



**LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL
 LOCAL HERITAGE FUND
 ASSESSMENT FORM 2023-2024**

Project Name		EXTERNAL TIMBER REPAIRS + PAINTING TO FARM HOUSE		Project No.		2023-2024 / 3	
Farm 1307 - 410 KOORBA RD, WHITTON		Score	Assessor	Specialist	Comments		
		100					
My Project is for	Assess the heritage listing for the proposed project application	40					
	SHR Heritage listed item/s	15		-			
	LEP Heritage listed item/ Conservation Area	12		-			
	Main Street / Heritage Study Area	8		-			
	Other significant item	5		5			
		Sub Total		5			
Priorities	Assess the project against your Council's local heritage fund priorities for this funding round	23					
Priority 1	Commercial properties within the Main Street Conservation Areas and/or Heritage Item identified as having significant Art Deco features:- a) Repair of original features; b) Painting in period colour and styles - Art Deco Colours; c) Replacement of advertising signage with Art Deco Style advertising signage d) Works to meet BCA requirements for new uses eg. Disabled access.	15					
Priority 2	Buildings outside the Main Street or Heritage Study areas that are identified by Council's Heritage Advisor as having heritage significance:- a) Painting in period colours; b) Repair/restoration of heritage features; c) Restoration of period front fences; d) Works to meet BCA requirements for new uses	8		8			
		Sub Total		8			

Project Name		Score	Assessor	Specialist	Comments
Common Selection Criteria	Assess the project against ALL of these criteria	17			
Sustainable long term benefits	Long term plan in place to manage heritage item/s	6		5	
Public benefit & enjoyment	Increase opportunities for learning about & access	4		4	
Capacity & Commitment	Time, financial & management skills	3		3	
	Complete within funding timeframe	4		4	
		Sub Total		16	
Project	Assess the quality and completeness of the project application	20			
	Project scope	5		5	
	Project costings	5		5	
	Photos	5		3	
	Greater than \$ for \$ contribution	5		5	
		Sub Total		18	
		TOTAL		47	ADJUSTED TOTAL
Funding	Assess the funding requested				
	Total Project Cost		\$	\$10,000	ONLY REPAIRS + PAINTING TO BE FUNDED.
	Requested amount		\$	\$ 5,000	→ \$7425
	Applicant Contribution		\$	\$ 5,000	
	Recommended amount		\$	\$ 3,700	
Assessors summary comments					
<p>THIS FARM HOUSE DOES HAVE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE AND IS IN NEED OF TIMBER REPAIRS TO WINDOWS, FASCIAS, BARGE/GABLE ENDS AND REPAINTING WHICH MEETS THE CRITERIA FOR HERITAGE FUNDING.</p> <p>NOTE: THE STRUCTURAL ENGINEER'S REPORT ALTHOUGH NECESSARY DOES NOT MEET CRITERIA FOR FUNDING.</p>					
Name			Date		
NOEL THOMSON LEETON SHIRE HERITAGE ADVISOR			15/9/2023		
If approved, any special project funding conditions (to be added to the Funding Agreement)					
eg Heritage Specialist required for this project					
eg To confirm paint colour scheme before proceeding					
eg Approvals required: Local Government / Heritage Act					



Planning and
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**LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL
 LOCAL HERITAGE FUND
 ASSESSMENT FORM 2023-2024**

Project Name		REPAIRS + PRESERVATION OF WINDOW AT RESIDENCE 7 WADE AVE, LEETON		Project No.	2023-2024 / 4	
		Score 100		Assessor	Specialist	Comments
My Project is for	Assess the heritage listing for the proposed project application	40				
	SHR Heritage listed item/s	15			-	
	LEP Heritage listed item/ Conservation Area	12			12	HERITAGE LISTED ITEM IAG
	Main Street / Heritage Study Area	8			8	"RESIDENCE"
	Other significant item	5			-	
		Sub Total			20	
Priorities	Assess the project against your Council's local heritage fund priorities for this funding round	23				
Priority 1	Commercial properties within the Main Street Conservation Areas and/or Heritage Item identified as having significant Art Deco features:- a) Repair of original features; b) Painting in period colour and styles - Art Deco Colours; c) Replacement of advertising signage with Art Deco Style advertising signage d) Works to meet BCA requirements for new uses eg. Disabled access.	15			15	
Priority 2	Buildings outside the Main Street or Heritage Study areas that are identified by Council's Heritage Advisor as having heritage significance:- a) Painting in period colours; b) Repair/restoration of heritage features; c) Restoration of period front fences; d) Works to meet BCA requirements for new uses	8			-	
		Sub Total			15	

Project Name		Score	Assessor	Specialist	Comments
Common Selection Criteria	Assess the project against ALL of these criteria	17			
Sustainable long term benefits	Long term plan in place to manage heritage item/s	6		5	
Public benefit & enjoyment	Increase opportunities for learning about & access	4		4	
Capacity & Commitment	Time, financial & management skills	3		3	
	Complete within funding timeframe	4		4	
		Sub Total		16	
Project	Assess the quality and completeness of the project application	20			
	Project scope	5		5	
	Project costings	5		5	
	Photos	5		5	
	Greater than \$ for \$ contribution	5		5	
		Sub Total		20	
		TOTAL		71	ADJUSTED TOTAL
Funding	Assess the funding requested				
	Total Project Cost		\$	\$5,500	
	Requested amount		\$	\$3,750	
	Applicant Contribution		\$	\$2,750	
	Recommended amount		\$	\$2,750	
Assessors summary comments					
<p>THIS IMPORTANT HERITAGE LISTED RESIDENCE IS IN NEED OF RESTORATION TO TIMBER WINDOWS + DOORS WHICH SUITS THE CRITERIA FOR HERITAGE FUNDING - IMPORTANT ORIGINAL FEATURES ARE TO BE RETAINED + RESTORED + REPAINTING</p>					
Name NOEL THOMSON LEETON SHIRE HERITAGE ADVISOR			Date 15/9/2023		
If approved, any special project funding conditions (to be added to the Funding Agreement)					
eg Heritage Specialist required for this project		WORKS TO BE UNDERTAKEN TO HERITAGE ADVISOR RECOMMENDATIONS AND APPROVAL AS PER LEP CLAUSE 5.10 (3) REQUIRED PRIOR TO COMMENCING WORKS ON SITE			
eg To confirm paint colour scheme before proceeding					
eg Approvals required: Local Government / Heritage Act					



Planning and
 Environment



**LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL
 LOCAL HERITAGE FUND
 ASSESSMENT FORM 2023-2024**

Project Name		Score 100	Assessor	Specialist	Comments
EXTERNAL PAINTING TO ST PETER'S CHURCH 24 CHURCH ST, LEETON					
Project No.		2023-2024/5			
My Project is for	Assess the heritage listing for the proposed project application	40			
	SHR Heritage listed item/s	15		-	
	LEP Heritage listed item/ Conservation Area	12		12	HALL IS LISTED NOT THE CHURCH,
	Main Street / Heritage Study Area	8		8	HOWEVER IN HCA
	Other significant item	5		-	
Sub Total				20	
Priorities	Assess the project against your Council's local heritage fund priorities for this funding round	23			
Priority 1	Commercial properties within the Main Street Conservation Areas and/or Heritage Item identified as having significant Art Deco features:- a) Repair of original features; b) Painting in period colour and styles - Art Deco Colours; c) Replacement of advertising signage with Art Deco Style advertising signage d) Works to meet BCA requirements for new uses eg. Disabled access.	15		15	
Priority 2	Buildings outside the Main Street or Heritage Study areas that are identified by Council's Heritage Advisor as having heritage significance:- a) Painting in period colours; b) Repair/restoration of heritage features; c) Restoration of period front fences; d) Works to meet BCA requirements for new uses	8		-	
Sub Total				15	

Project Name		Score	Assessor	Specialist	Comments
Common Selection Criteria	Assess the project against ALL of these criteria	17			
Sustainable long term benefits	Long term plan in place to manage heritage item/s	6		4	
Public benefit & enjoyment	Increase opportunities for learning about & access	4		4	
Capacity & Commitment	Time, financial & management skills	3		3	
	Complete within funding timeframe	4		4	
		Sub Total		15	
Project	Assess the quality and completeness of the project application	20			
	Project scope	5		5	
	Project costings	5		5	
	Photos	5		5	
	Greater than \$ for \$ contribution	5		5	
		Sub Total		20	
		TOTAL		70	ADJUSTED TOTAL
Funding	Assess the funding requested				
	Total Project Cost		\$	\$16,225	
	Requested amount		\$	\$5,000	
	Applicant Contribution		\$	\$11,225	
	Recommended amount		\$	\$5,000	
Assessors summary comments					
<p>THE PAINTING OF ST PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH IS A WORTHWHILE PROJECT AND SUITS THE CRITERIA FOR HERITAGE FUNDING - NOTING THAT THE CHURCH HALL IS THE HERITAGE ITEM.</p>					
Name			Date		
NOEL THOMSON LEETON SHIRE HERITAGE ADVISOR			15/9/2023		
If approved, any special project funding conditions (to be added to the Funding Agreement)					
eg Heritage Specialist required for this project			<p>THESE RESTORATION WORKS WILL REQUIRE APPROVAL AS PER LET CHANGE S.10 (3) PRIOR TO COMMENCING ON SITE.</p>		
eg To confirm paint colour scheme before proceeding					
eg Approvals required: Local Government / Heritage Act					



Planning and
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**LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL
LOCAL HERITAGE FUND
ASSESSMENT FORM 2023-2024**

Project Name RESTORATION OF WALLS, WINDOWS & CEILING AT FORMER ANGLICAN CHURCH, WHITTON		Project No. 2023-2024 / 6			
		Score 100	Assessor	Specialist	Comments
My Project is for	Assess the heritage listing for the proposed project application	40			
	SHR Heritage listed item/s	15		-	
	LEP Heritage listed item/ Conservation Area	12		12	LEP ITEM 192
	Main Street / Heritage Study Area	8		-	" WHITTON ANGLICAN CHURCH "
	Other significant item	5		5	
Sub Total				17	
Priorities	Assess the project against your Council's local heritage fund priorities for this funding round	23			
Priority 1	Commercial properties within the Main Street Conservation Areas and/or Heritage Item identified as having significant Art Deco features:- a) Repair of original features; b) Painting in period colour and styles - Art Deco Colours; c) Replacement of advertising signage with Art Deco Style advertising signage d) Works to meet BCA requirements for new uses eg. Disabled access.	15		15	
Priority 2	Buildings outside the Main Street or Heritage Study areas that are identified by Council's Heritage Advisor as having heritage significance:- a) Painting in period colours; b) Repair/restoration of heritage features; c) Restoration of period front fences; d) Works to meet BCA requirements for new uses	8		-	
Sub Total				15	

Project Name		Score	Assessor	Specialist	Comments
Common Selection Criteria	Assess the project against ALL of these criteria	17			
Sustainable long term benefits	Long term plan in place to manage heritage item/s	6		5	
Public benefit & enjoyment	Increase opportunities for learning about & access	4		3	
Capacity & Commitment	Time, financial & management skills	3		3	
	Complete within funding timeframe	4		4	
		Sub Total		15	
Project	Assess the quality and completeness of the project application	20			
	Project scope	5		5	
	Project costings	5		5	
	Photos	5		5	
	Greater than \$ for \$ contribution	5		5	
		Sub Total		20	
		TOTAL		67	ADJUSTED TOTAL
Funding	Assess the funding requested				
	Total Project Cost		\$	\$ 7,500	
	Requested amount		\$	\$ 3,750	
	Applicant Contribution		\$	\$ 3,750	
	Recommended amount		\$	\$ 3,700	
Assessors summary comments					
<p>THE FORMER ANGLICAN CHURCH IN WHITTON HAS PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED HERITAGE FUNDING FOR FLOORING STABILISATION WORKS WITH THE WALLS + CEILING RESTORATION THE NEXT PROJECT. THESE WORKS MEETS THE CRITERIA FOR HERITAGE FUNDING.</p>					
Name	NOEL THOMSON, LEETON SHIRE HERITAGE ADVISOR			Date	15/9/2023
If approved, any special project funding conditions (to be added to the Funding Agreement)					
eg Heritage Specialist required for this project		APPROVAL FOR THE WORKS REQUIRED UNDER VEF CLAUSE 5.10 (3)			
eg To confirm paint colour scheme before proceeding		PRIOR TO COMMENCING ON SITE			
eg Approvals required: Local Government / Heritage Act					



Planning and
 Environment



**LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL
 LOCAL HERITAGE FUND
 ASSESSMENT FORM 2023-2024**

Project Name REPLACEMENT OF TREES AT LEETON SHOWGROUNDS ACACIA AVE, LEETON		Project No. 2023-2023/7			
		Score 100	Assessor	Specialist	Comments
My Project is for	Assess the heritage listing for the proposed project application	40			
	SHR Heritage listed item/s	15		-	
	LEP Heritage listed item/ Conservation Area	12		12	SHOWGROUND BUILDINGS ARE THE LISTED HERITAGE ITEMS ON SITE.
	Main Street / Heritage Study Area	8		-	
	Other significant item	5		-	
Sub Total				12	
Priorities	Assess the project against your Council's local heritage fund priorities for this funding round	23			
Priority 1	Commercial properties within the Main Street Conservation Areas and/or Heritage Item identified as having significant Art Deco features:- a) Repair of original features; b) Painting in period colour and styles - Art Deco Colours; c) Replacement of advertising signage with Art Deco Style advertising signage d) Works to meet BCA requirements for new uses eg. Disabled access.	15		-	
Priority 2	Buildings outside the Main Street or Heritage Study areas that are identified by Council's Heritage Advisor as having heritage significance:- a) Painting in period colours; b) Repair/restoration of heritage features; c) Restoration of period front fences; d) Works to meet BCA requirements for new uses	8		-	
Sub Total				0	

Project Name		Score	Assessor	Specialist	Comments
Common Selection Criteria	Assess the project against ALL of these criteria	17			
Sustainable long term benefits	Long term plan in place to manage heritage item/s	6		3	
Public benefit & enjoyment	Increase opportunities for learning about & access	4		1	
Capacity & Commitment	Time, financial & management skills	3		3	
	Complete within funding timeframe	4		4	
Sub Total				11	
Project	Assess the quality and completeness of the project application	20			
	Project scope	5		5	
	Project costings	5		5	
	Photos	5		1	
	Greater than \$ for \$ contribution	5		5	
Sub Total				15	
TOTAL				38	ADJUSTED TOTAL
Funding	Assess the funding requested				
	Total Project Cost		\$	\$7,000	
	Requested amount		\$	\$8,500	
	Applicant Contribution		\$	\$3,500	
	Recommended amount		\$	NIL	
Assessors summary comments					
<p>THE LANDSCAPING / TREE REPLACEMENT PROJECT AT THE SHOWGROUNDS DOES NOT MEET THE CRITERIA FOR HERITAGE FUNDING AND HIGHER PRIORITIES WITH OTHER PROJECTS, SO UNFORTUNATELY NO FUNDING.</p>					
Name			Date		
NOEL THOMSON LEETON SHIRE HERITAGE ADVISOR			15/9/2023		
<p>If approved, any special project funding conditions (to be added to the Funding Agreement)</p> <p>eg Heritage Specialist required for this project</p> <p>eg To confirm paint colour scheme before proceeding</p> <p>eg Approvals required: Local Government / Heritage Act</p>					

ITEM 7.8 QUICK RESPONSE GRANT APPLICATION - GRALEE SCHOOL

RECORD NUMBER	23/263
RELATED FILE NUMBER	EF21/359
AUTHOR/S	Community Development Coordinator
APPROVER/S	Executive Manager Economic & Community Development

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of an application received through Council's Community Grants program under the Quick Response Grant category.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council awards Gralee School \$500 from the Quick Response Grant program to go towards five (5) students attending the Senior State Ten Pin Bowling Finals 31st October – 2nd November 2023 in Sydney.

REPORT

(a) Background

Council's Community Grants Program includes a 'Quick Response' Grant Category which aims to support activities that arise unexpectedly, with limited notice, outside the window of the twice-yearly Community Grants Scheme. Applications within this category are capped at a maximum of \$2K.

An application has been received from Gralee School requesting \$2K to subsidise the cost of five (5) students representing Riverina at the Senior State Ten Pin Bowling Finals.

In August 2023 the students attended the Riverina Inclusive School Sport Ten Pin Bowling in Griffith. They won and will now represent Riverina at the Senior State Ten Pin Bowling Finals in Sydney. This event is outside of the Community Strengthening Grants rounds.

(b) Discussion

Gralee School students do not get many opportunities to participate in representative sports, especially at a State level. This is a very exciting opportunity for the students and their families and aligns with the Community Strategic Plan Focus Area 1, A connected, inclusive and enriched community.

Gralee School is contributing \$2,486.35, and each family is contributing \$100 of their own funds to the cost of attending the event. See (**Attachment 1**) for more details.

The remaining budget for the Quick Response Grants is \$1,206. This budget is also used to fund the 'Youth Development' Grant category, a set amount of \$250 per applicant that is available to support high achievement in a cultural, academic, or sporting activity at a State, National or International level event.

Since Council is unable to meet the full requested grant amount of \$2K it is recommended to fund the individual family contribution of \$100 per student. This approach provides immediate financial relief to families and leaves funds in the budget for future youth development grants.

(c) Options

THAT Council:

1. Approves the Gralee School grant application for a lesser amount of \$500. **This is the recommended option.**
2. Approves the Gralee School grant application for a different amount.
3. Rejects the Gralee School grant application.

IMPLICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED

(a) Financial

The Quick Response and Youth Development Category of the Community Grants program has an annual budget of \$10K.

\$1,025 has been reserved for annual donations to each school in the Shire for end-of-year presentations.

To date \$2,500 has been allocated to Youth Development Grants and \$5,269 has been allocated to Quick Response Grants.

If \$500 is awarded to Gralee School, there will be \$706 remaining in the budget.

(b) Policy

Leeton Shire Council's Donations, Assistance, Sponsorships and Grants Policy.
Community Grant Program Guidelines.

(c) Legislative/Statutory

Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) states the following:

Can a Council financially assist others?

1. A Council may, in accordance with a resolution of the Council, contribute money or otherwise grant financial assistance to persons for the purpose of exercising its functions.
2. A proposed recipient who acts for private gain is not ineligible to be granted financial assistance but must not receive any benefit under this section until at least 28 days' public notice of the Council proposal to pass the necessary resolution has been given.

(d) Risk

To ensure funds are spent appropriately, all beneficiaries are required to acquit the grants received from Council.

CONSULTATION

(a) External

Staff have consulted with the applicants.

(b) Internal

None

LINK/S TO THE DELIVERY PROGRAM/OPERATIONAL PLAN (DPOP)

Under the Key Priority Area FOCUS AREA 5. Strong leadership and civic participation within Council's adopted Delivery Program/Operational Plan – 4 - We are active community members who recognise we all have a role to play - 4.3 - Provide and facilitate access to grant programs and funding opportunities - Support the community by offering a Community Grants program".

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Attachment 1 - Quick Response Grant Application - Gralee School



QUICK RESPONSE GRANT APPLICATION

Please ensure that you have read a copy of the guidelines before completing this application

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Name of community group or organisation	GRALEE SCHOOL
Contact Name	CARLY RAE
Postal Address	76A YANCO AVE, LEETON NSW 2705
Email	gralee-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone	02 6953 3350

Incorporated non-profit organisation* Yes No
 Certificate of Currency* Yes No
 Public Liability* Yes No
**Please attach copies*

AUSPICE DETAILS (ONLY IF APPLICABLE)

Auspice organisation applying on behalf of group	
Contact Name	
Postal Address	
Email	
Phone	

Incorporated non-profit organisation* Yes No
 Certificate of Currency* Yes No
 Public Liability* Yes No
**Please attach copies*

REASON FOR QUICK RESPONSE

Remember: Poor planning does not justify a quick response grant application

To assist in the funding to allow the students to gain the full experience of a state competition.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Title:
Senior State Ten Pin Bowling finals
Project Summary:
We have 5 students that have worked hard and progressed to the finals of the ten pin bowling representative team.
Community Benefit:
This will help students from low socioeconomic back grounds be able to be apart of something and go somewhere they wouldn't normally have the opportunity to.

Partner Organisation	Roles & Responsibilities	Contribution (\$)	Contribution (In Kind)

Project Start Date: 31-10-2023
Project End Date: 02-11-2023

**Please keep in mind that projects can not begin before payment is approved and processes – see guidelines for more information*

Council Officer's Name: Emily Goodall
Date of Contact: 25-09-2023

**It is a requirement of the application process that you contact a Council Officer to discuss the project*

Link to Council's Community Strategic Plan:
 Choose an item.

PROJECT BUDGET

Outline your project budget and include your own organisation's cash and/or in-kind contribution. Also include any confirmed/unconfirmed and in-kind contributions from partner organisations and other funding bodies (C=Confirmed; NC= Not Confirmed, IK= In-Kind)

Income	C/NC/IK	Amount (\$)
Grant amount requested from Leeton Shire Council	NC	\$2000.00
Entry/participant fees	-	0.00
Cash from own organisation	C	\$2486.35
In-kind from own organisation	-	0.00
Cash from partner organisation	-	0.00
Other: Parents/Carers	NC	\$500.00
Other: Sporting Schools	C	\$1000.00
	Total	\$5986.35


Expenditure	Amount (\$)
Materials and project costs Fuel & Travel	\$1000.00
Fees and wages	\$2000.00
Promotion and publicity	-
Venue costs Accomodation	\$1386.35
Administration	-
Other: Food	\$1500.00
Other: Public Transport	\$100.00
	Total
	\$5986.35

*Total income should equal expenditure

What items will be funded by the Community Strengthening Grant? Accomodation & food for the students.
--

CERTIFICATION

I, the applicant, certify that all details supplied in this application form and in any attached documents are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. The application has been submitted with the full knowledge and agreement of the management of the community group, organisation or auspice body. I have read the accompanying guidelines and information to applicants provided with this application form.

Group Organisation		Auspice Organisation	
Name	Carly Rae	Name	
Title	Principal	Title	
Date	17/10/23	Date	
Signature		Signature	

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

Complete the checklist on the following page before you submit your application using ONE of these methods:

Email

council@leeton.nsw.gov.au

Mail

IPR, Governance and Engagement Team
Leeton Shire Council
23-25 Chelmsford Place
Leeton NSW 2705

In person

Leeton Shire Council
23-25 Chelmsford Place
Leeton NSW 2705

CHECKLIST

To ensure your application is considered, it is essential that you complete all sections of this application form and provide all supporting documentation as requested.

Required supporting material

- Public liability insurance certificate
 - Certificate of Currency
 - Quotes
 - Email/letters of support
-
- The organisation/individual is an incorporated association or is auspiced by an incorporated body
 - The project will directly benefit residents of Leeton Shire Council
 - The project aligns with the strategic priorities of the Community Strategic Plan
 - The application was received prior to the closing date
 - Insurance paperwork was included in the application
 - All questions have been answered
 - An authorised person has signed the application
 - The project outlined in the application is a new project or program (ie doesn't replicate any activity previously funded by Council's grants program)
 - A clear understanding of a target group and their need has been demonstrated
 - if applicable, acquittals have been completed for previously funded projects

COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS

ITEM 1 COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORT

RECORD NUMBER	23/262
RELATED FILE NUMBER	EF21/508
AUTHOR	Executive Assistant to the General Manager and Mayor

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council notes the Councillor activity reports submitted for the period between 20 September 2023 to 25 October 2023.

Cr Tony Reneker

4 October 2023	Meeting with Local Member for Farrer Sussan Ley
6 October 2023	Meeting with Member for Murray Helen Dalton
7 October 2023	GPSO Ball Griffith
11 October 2023	Interview with WIN News
13 October 2023	Sporting Walk of Fame Meeting
14 October 2023	Chill & Grill & Leeton United Football Club 2023 Presentation Dinner
17 October 2023	CWA Murrumbidgee Lachlan Group Conference & AGM, Meeting with Southern Cross Care and Interview with New South Wales Irrigators' Council
19 October 2023	Historical Society Meeting
22 October 2023	Gogeldrie Weir Site Visit
23 October 2023	NSC/LSC Airport Committee Meeting
24 October 2023	Leeton Connect Meeting
25 October 2023	Technical Subcommittee Meeting

Cr Paul Smith

9 October 2023	Yanco Town Improvement Committee Meeting
12 October 2023	Light Up Leeton Stakeholder Engagement Meeting
22 October 2023	Gogeldrie Weir Site Visit
