



BOGAN SHIRE COUNCIL

Business Paper

24 September 2015

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17 September 2015

COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held in the Council Chambers, Nyngan on Thursday 24 September 2015 at 9.30am.

AGENDA

1. Opening Prayer
2. Remembrances
3. Apologies
4. Declarations of Interest
5. Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor
6. Confirmation of the Closed and Confidential Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20 August 2015
7. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20 August 2015
8. Foreshadow Motion
9. General Manager's Report incorporating reports from:-
 - Manager Corporate Services
 - Manager Engineering Services
 - Manager Development and Environmental Services
10. Correspondence
11. Grants and Funding

Your attendance at this meeting would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Debb Wood

Corporate Performance and Human Resources Officer

REPORT TO ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL – GENERAL MANAGER

Councillors

I submit the following report for consideration:-

1 ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR

1.1 Introduction

This report outlines the provisions for the election of the Mayor along with the Deputy Mayor prescribed by the Local Government Act and Regulations.

1.2 Legislative Provisions

The Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government Regulations 2005 make the following provisions for the election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor by Councillors.

1.2.1 Term of Office

The person elected holds the office of Mayor for one year. The person elected to the office of Deputy Mayor may be elected for the Mayoral term or a shorter term.

1.2.2 Returning Officer

The General Manager (or a person appointed by the General Manager) is the Returning Officer.

1.2.3 Nomination

- A Councillor may be nominated without notice for election as Mayor or Deputy Mayor.
- The nomination is to be made in writing by 2 or more Councillors (one of whom may be the nominee). The nomination is not valid unless the nominee has indicated consent to the nomination in writing.
- The nomination is to be delivered or sent to the Returning Officer and the Returning Officer is to announce the names of the nominees at the Council meeting at which the election is to be held.

1.2.4 Election

- If only one Councillor is nominated, that Councillor is elected.
- If more than one Councillor is nominated, the Council is to resolve whether the election is to proceed by **preferential ballot**, by **ordinary ballot** or by **open voting**.

**General Manager's Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
held on 24 September 2015**

- The election is to be held at the Council meeting at which the Council resolves on the method of voting.

In the Regulations:

ballot has its normal meaning of secret ballot.

open voting means voting by a show of hands or similar means.

1.2.5 Voting Method

(i) Ordinary Ballot or Open voting

These provisions apply if the election proceeds by ordinary ballot or by open voting.

Marking of ballot-papers

- If the election proceeds by ordinary ballot, the Returning Officer is to decide the manner in which votes are to be marked on the ballot-papers.
- An informal ballot-paper must be rejected at the count.

Count—2 candidates

- If there are only 2 candidates, the candidate with the higher number of votes is elected.
- If there are only 2 candidates and they are tied, the one elected is to be chosen by lot.

Where there are more than 3 candidates additional steps are required.

(ii) Preferential Ballot

Provisions are available for election by preferential ballot.

(iii) General

Choosing by lot

To choose a candidate by lot, the names of the candidates who have equal numbers of votes are written on similar slips of paper by the Returning Officer, the slips are folded by the Returning Officer so as to prevent the names being seen, the slips are mixed and one is drawn at random by the Returning Officer and the candidate whose name is on the drawn slip is chosen.



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Result

The result of the election (including the name of the candidate elected as Mayor or Deputy Mayor) is:

- to be declared to the Councillors at the Council meeting at which the election is held by the Returning Officer, and
- to be delivered or sent to the Director-General and to the Secretary of the Local Government and Shires Associations of New South Wales.

1.3 Procedure

Nomination forms for the office of Mayor and Deputy Mayor may be handed to the General Manager at any time including immediately prior to the election process.

1.4 Recommendations

1. That nominations be called firstly for the office of Mayor and secondly for the office of Deputy Mayor.
2. That the term of office of the Deputy Mayor coincides with that of the Mayor.

Derek Francis

General Manager



**General Manager's Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
held on 26 September 2014**

2 FORESHADOW MOTION

That Council take no action in relation to the Biodiversity offset package proposed by Tritton Resources, however Council has no desire to delay the progress of the development.

Councillor JE Hampstead OAM

General Manager's Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
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REPORT TO ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL – GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mayor and Councillors

The following report is submitted for consideration:-

1 CHECKLIST

Item No.	Date	Minute No	Matter	Action Required	Officer	Status
1	26/07/2012	193/2012	Transfer of Land – Nymagee St 5,7 & 9	Council seek EOI to demolish the subject dwelling & associated structures including removal of excessive vegetation.	MDES	Completed works. Site will be grass seeded and native tree planting with irrigation proposed. <u>COMPLETED</u>
2	25/10/2012	315/2012	Local Heritage Sites	When new VIC commences, signpost heritage sites with heritage colour and erect sign with the history of each location.	GM	VIC accreditation approved. Design of signs underway.
3	13/12/2012 28/03/2013	418/2012 098/2013	Davidson Park Revitalisation Program	Council remove the entire playground, equipment, associated ground cover, fencing & park-bench seating with shelter. Establish paving pathways to the mural.	MDES	Most works completed. Due to lack of staff, majority of remaining works to be reprogrammed to 2 nd quarter 2015/2016.

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4	19/12/2013	532/2013	Rezoning of Rural Land Outside the Nyngan Township	Report on estimated cost be provided to February 2014 Council meeting prior to progressing with the proposal.	MDES	<p>Planning proposal lodged with the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure. Gateway Determination: Rezoning to proceed subject to conditions.</p> <p>Consultancies underway to complete Bushfire and Flood Risk Management Plan reports required by Department of Planning.</p> <p>Deadline for completion of Planning Proposal is February 2016.</p>
5	27/02/2014	006/2014	Medical Services	Pursue & make enquiries into using the Nyngan Multipurpose Service Centre & waiting rooms to attract an additional Medical Officer with VMO rights.	GM	Discussions with Senior Management of NSW Western LHD ongoing – use of MPS is a possibility.
6	28/05/2015	156/2015	Teamster Rest Area	<p>Cobb & Co Coach & Wool Wagon location.</p> <p>Invite NHS to make suggestions for internal & external painting that the school could undertake.</p>	MDES	Contact made with NHS. On site meeting held – NHS preparing a design proposal.

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7	22/06/2014	209/2014	Tourist Information Bay	On commencement of project, Council advise owners/apparent owners of existing highway signage that existing signs to be removed & may be replaced by signs on the Information Bays. Council charge an annual fee and an initial fee.	GM / MES	DA approved. Construction expected to commence October 2015.
8	26/09/2014	362/2014	Nyngan Waste Management & Resource Facility	Cost analysis be presented to Council to compare costs of providing additional staff to man the facility against awarding a contract to an external party.	MDES	Assumptions included in draft budget. Section 96 modification application to amend the hours of operation as no Sunday trading is currently approved. Expression of Interest to be advertised within the Region to enable cost analysis once Waste Facility Operational Plan is prepared. This will provide the details to understand how the facility will need to be managed during operation and in accordance with licence requirements for either Council staff or contractor. Further report to Council once above matters have been finalised.

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9	26/09/2014	363/2014	Fire Safety Audit Program	Further report on progress of compliance with Program.	MDES	Fire Safety Audit Reports (FSARs) to all selected properties completed. Meetings held with several owners/Board of Directors.
	26/02/2015	033/2015		Legal proceedings including the issuing of Notices and Orders to commence against the owner/occupier of any premises who fails to confirm their agreement to comply with the findings of the FSAR.		Efforts still being made to have owners upgrade building voluntary.
10	26/02/2015	024/2015	Long Day Care	Loan be raised for Council's contribution to the project.	MCS	Will be raised towards the end of 2015/16 financial year.
	20/08/2015	290/2015		Manager, Development & Environmental Services prepares a report for Sept 2015 Council Meeting on the estimated cost of construction of LDCC.	MDES	Construction quotes still forthcoming from contractors. Verbal Report to Council meeting.
	20/08/2015	328/2015		Council investigate funding for Long Day Care Learning Programs.	MCS	

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11	26/02/2015	034/2015	Street Trees	An Arborist Report be obtained and a report to April 2015 Council meeting.	MDES	Arborist inspected nominated trees and now awaiting Arborist report. Report yet to be received. Arborist consultant first selected has failed to provide report. New consultant has been selected with a quote to undertake a tree assessment report on street trees forthcoming. Expected prior to 24 September Council meeting.
12	26/02/2015 <hr/> 25/06/2015	042/2015 <hr/> 224/2015	Chinese Portion – Nyngan Cemetery	Repairs to the burner be carried out in the current year's program. Other upgrading matters be considered in 2015/16 estimates. A Heritage Conservation & Management Report be prepared by a selected Consultant within the allocated budget. Send a copy of the MDES report & recommendations from the Heritage Conservation & Management Report to Mr White.	MDES	List of consultants available within the area obtained. Quotes are to be obtained from at least three consultants. Two quotes received and third forthcoming. Expected prior to 24 September Council meeting. Action pending completion of report.

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				Send a letter to the Chinese Embassy with a copy of the Heritage Conservation & Management Report.		Action pending completion of report.
13	26/03/2015	077/2015	Traffic Committee Recommendations	Council look at ways of decorating the overhead camera structure on the eastern side of town.	MES	Write to RMS – in progress. Waiting on reply from RMS. RMS have advised that the structure cannot be modified. <u>COMPLETED</u>
14	23/07/2015	243/2015	Dental Surgery	Report be prepared for Council on the cost/benefit of co-locating the Dental Surgery with the Medical Centre.	MDES	Scheduled for last quarter 2015.
15	23/07/2015	252/2015	Railway Turntable	Make enquiries through Rail Heritage, or elsewhere, to source the availability of an old steam engine, & if so, what would be the cost of locating it onto the old Turntable.	MES	In Progress.
16	23/07/2015	263/2015	Crushed Waste Rock	Council approach Tritton Mines to offer to purchase the rock.	MES	In Progress.

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17	23/07/2015	269/2015	O'Reilly Park Toilet Facility Upgrade	Upgrades to toilet facility, an access way, ramp and handrail.	MDES	Program of works to be established.
18	20/08/2015	291/2015	Justice Department – Juvenile Offenders	Write to State Govt. Justice Dept giving examples of inadequate legislation in dealing with juvenile offenders.	GM	<u>COMPLETED</u>
19	20/08/2015	296/2015	Court House Closures	Write to Troy Grant MP expressing concerns why he has authorised these closures as some of the affected areas are within his electorate.	GM	<u>COMPLETED</u>
20	20/08/2015	297/2015	Removal of shed – proposed Medical Centre, Pangee Street.	Call for Expressions of Interest for the purchase & removal of shed.	MDES	Placed on hold. Program of works amended. Awaiting quotations for underground storage tank removal.
21	20/08/2015	317/2015	Biodiversity Offset Package proposed by Tritton Resources	General Manager to:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make necessary enquiries about proposal; • Seek legal advice & consulting with NSW Dept Planning & 	GM / MDES	Based on the scope of work required, the legal cost is confirmed to be between \$6,000 and \$8,000 plus further legal costs to prepare a Voluntary Planning Agreement relating to

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				<p>Environment to establish a biodiversity fund;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake further negotiations with the applicant to establish a biodiversity & other site specific locations; • Further report to Council once legal advice, consultation & site selections have occurred. 		<p>the Biodiversity offset funding.</p> <p>Further report required to October 2015 meeting.</p>
	20/08/2015	320/2015	Big Bogan Structure	Call for Expressions of Interest from individuals or companies who wish to produce or promote merchandise.	CSO	<p><u>UPDATE:</u> Expressions of Interest called – Notice in Council Column 2 September 2015.</p> <p><u>COMPLETED</u></p>

1.1 Recommendation

That the report relating to the Monthly Checklist be received and those items marked as “Completed” be removed from the checklist.

2 AUSTRALIA DAY 2016 LOCAL CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Summary:

- *The purpose of this report is to request Council to review the Australia Day Award categories, nomination form, guidelines and voting system.*

2.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to request Council to review the Australia Day Local Citizen of the Year Award categories, guidelines and voting system.

2.2 Background

At present there are 6 Local Australia Day Award categories:-

- Citizen of the Year;
- Young Citizen of the Year;
- Sportsperson of the Year;
- Junior Sportsperson of the Year;
- Sports Team of the Year; and
- Community Event of the Year.

Sports Team of the Year was added in 2011 as there were very few individuals being nominated in the Sportsperson and Junior Sportsperson Awards categories.

At the 28 February 2015 Council meeting, Council resolved that the Australia Day 2016 voting arrangements be considered, including:-

- Community members being able to vote;
- Nominees' consent to nomination; and
- Categories for Awards.

2.3 Discussion

Nomination Form:

Every year it is getting harder to get nominations for the Local Australia Day Awards and several nominees have contacted Council upon receipt of their congratulatory nominee letter to ask that their nomination to be removed from the ballot.

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A suggestion to ensure this does not occur is to change the nomination form to require permission to be nominated for an award to be granted by the nominee.

Criteria for Nominees:

The Australia Day 2007 Nomination Form criteria for Sportsperson and Junior Sportsperson of the Year are as follows:

- 1 *The nominee's achievements must have been within the 2006 calendar year.*
- 2 *They must have resided within the Shire for a minimum of three months during 2006.*
- 3 *They must regard Bogan Shire as their home.*
- 4 *Their achievements need not have taken place within the Shire.*
- 5 *Good sportsmanship is to be taken into consideration.*
- 6 *Junior Sportsperson of the Year must be 18 years or younger as at 31 December 2006*

The current Australia Day Guidelines state that all nominees must be Australian citizens and reside in Bogan Shire at the time of nomination.

The Voting System:

Councillors have been voting for their preferred nominees as an attempt to encourage other community members onto the voting panel in 2009 was not successful. In 2008 five community members were written to and asked to be on the judging panel. Four accepted but declined the offer to vote in future years.

It is intended that Council's Records Section will manage the receipt of nominations and distribution / collection of voting material.

2.4 Attachments

- Australia Day 2016 Nomination Form
- Australia Day 2016 Guidelines
- 2007 Nomination Form.

2.5 Recommendation

For Council's consideration.



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ATTACHMENT 1

**Bogan Shire Council Australia Day Awards
Nomination Form**

Nomination for:

- Citizen of the Year (*26 years or older on 26 January 2016*)
- Young Citizen of the Year (*under 26 years of age on 26 January 2016*)
- Sportsperson of the Year
- Junior Sportsperson of the Year (*18 years and under on 26 January 2016*)
- Sports Team of the Year
- Community Event of the Year

DETAILS OF PERSON BEING NOMINATED:

Surname: _____ Title: _____

Other names: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Date of birth: _____ Age: _____

Does the nominee currently live and/or work in Bogan Shire? YES/NO

Is the nominee an Australian citizen? YES/NO

Will nominee be aged 26 years or over on 26 January 2016? YES/NO

Has the nominee agreed to being nominated for an award? YES/NO

Nominee's Signature _____

Date _____



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CONTRIBUTION/S TO THE COMMUNITY FOR WHICH THE PERSON IS NOMINATED (including membership or life membership of community and/or sporting groups, awards and other significant achievements):

Please attach additional sheets/material if required.

****If nominating a Community Event of the Year please complete this section:***

Event Name: _____

Date of Event: _____

Organiser / Organisation’s Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

***COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR – REASON FOR NOMINATING – HOW HAS THE ORGANISATION / EVENT CONTRIBUTED TO THE COMMUNITY?**

Please attach additional sheets/material if required.

OTHER PERSONS WHO MAY BE CONTACTED FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT NOMINEE:



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Name:	Name:
Position:	Position:
Relationship to Nominee	Relationship to Nominee
Address:	Address:

Telephone:	Telephone:
Email:	Email:

TO BE COMPLETED BY PERSON SUBMITTING NOMINATION:

Surname: Title:

Other names:

Address:

Suburb: Postcode:

Telephone:

Email:

Organisation
(if any):

Signature

Date:

Please use this checklist to ensure that your nomination is complete

- I have read the Nomination Guidelines and Criteria
- The information provided in this nomination is accurate.
- Supporting material, including references and media (newspaper clippings) are attached

Nominations close on Friday 15 January 2016

Please send completed form to:

The General Manager
PO Box 221
Nyngan NSW 2825

The awards will be announced on Australia Day Tuesday 26 January 2016.



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ATTACHMENT 2



**NSW Local Citizen of the Year Awards
Guidelines and Criteria**

Each year the people of **Bogan Shire** are invited to nominate fellow citizens for the NSW Local Citizen of the Year Awards. The awards aim to recognise outstanding achievement during the past year and/or contribution to the local community over a number of years.

Award Categories

- **Citizen of the Year:** open to persons 26 years or older on 26 January 2016.
- **Young Citizen of the Year:** open to persons under 26 years of age on 26 January 2016.
- **Community Event of the Year:** open to the person or group who has staged the most outstanding community event during the past year.
- **Australia Day Awards:**
 - **Sportsperson of the Year:** Presented for contribution to Sport in the local area. The nominee's efforts to advance their chosen sporting activity and their performance over the past year are considered.
 - **Junior Sportsperson of the Year:** Presented for contribution to Sport in the local area. (18 years & under)
 - **Sports Team of the Year:** Presented for contribution to Sport in the local area.

Criteria and Eligibility

- Nominees must be Australian citizens and reside in Bogan Shire at the time of nomination.
- Unsuccessful nominees may be re-nominated in subsequent years.
- Self nominations will not be accepted.
- Awards will not be granted posthumously.
- The minimum age for the NSW Local Citizen of the Year Awards is 16 years on 26 January 2016.
- A person cannot receive a second award in the same Award category, but can be considered for recognition in a separate category in following years e.g. Young Citizen of the Year and then Citizen of the Year.
- All nominees will be considered for the Citizen of the Year Award, in their addition to their original nomination category.
- Nominees aged 60 years and over on 26 January 2016 will also be considered for the Senior Citizen of the Year Award, in addition to their original nomination category.
- Nominees aged 16 to 25 years on 26 January 2016 will also be considered for the Young Citizen of the Year Award, in addition to their original nomination category.

Nomination Process

- To nominate, please complete the nomination form. The nomination should detail the nature, duration and impact of the nominee's contribution to Bogan Shire.
- Nominations must be received by **Friday 15 January 2016**.
- Any supporting documentation should be attached to the nomination form.
- Nominations must be submitted to General Manager, P O Box 221, Nyngan NSW 2825
- The awards will be presented on Tuesday 26 January 2016 - Australia Day 2016.
- The selection of recipients will reflect the nominations received and information available to the Judging Panel at the time. Bogan Shire Council reserves the right to withdraw an award if further information or the recipient's conduct draws the NSW Local Citizen of the Year Awards into disrepute.

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held on 24 September 2015

ATTACHMENT 3



Bogan Shire
Council
Nominations for Australia Day Awards
2007

CATEGORIES

Citizen of the Year

Young Citizen of the Year

Junior Sportsperson of the Year

Senior Sportsperson of the Year

Community Event

Closing Date

Thursday 18th January

NOMINEE: _____
CATEGORY: _____
NOMINATED BY: _____
SIGNATURE: _____

ATTACH A RESUME OF YOUR NOMINEE'S ACHIEVEMENTS OR COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT

NB: The following criteria will apply for the judging of Sportsperson and Junior Sportsperson of the Year

- 1 The nominee's achievements must have been within the 2006 calendar year.
- 2 They must have resided within the Shire for a minimum of three months during 2006.
- 3 They must regard Bogan Shire as their home.
- 4 Their achievements need not have taken place within the Shire.
- 5 Good sportsmanship is to be taken into consideration.
- 6 Junior Sportsperson of the Year must be 18 years or younger as at 31 December 2006
- 7 **Community Event** – An event undertaken during the past year which was of benefit to the community.

3 LEASE OF POUND PADDOCK

Summary:

- *The purpose of this report is for Council to consider whether to allow the temporary lease of the "Pound Paddock".*
- *Major showground events including the Nyngan Show make use of the site for parking purposes from time to time.*
- *Interest has been shown by a local resident in a short-term lease of the property (up until April 2016) for the purposes of keeping stud horses and goats.*

3.2 Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider whether to allow the temporary lease of Lot 4 & 5 Section 11 DP 758803 known as the "Pound Paddock" on the corner of Oxley & Hoskins Street, Nyngan.

3.2 Background

This area has been identified as the future site of the Nyngan Retirement Village however construction is not expected to start in the immediate future. Major showground events including the Nyngan Show make use of the site for parking purposes from time to time.

3.3 Discussion

Interest has been shown by a local resident in a short-term lease of the property (up until April 2016) for the purposes of keeping stud horses and goats.

Should Council wish to lease the property a suitable market-related rental will have to be determined – perhaps via the expression of interest process. At the time of writing this report no similar leases have been identified to allow rental comparisons.

It would be in Council's interests to advertise its intention to lease the property if it intends to do so.

3.4 Recommendation

1. That Council advertises its intention to lease, for a period up until April 2016, Lot 4 & 5 Section 11 DP 758803 known as the "Pound Paddock", calling for expressions of interest from the community.
2. That the General Manager and Mayor be authorised to negotiate a short-term lease, for a period up until April 2016, in the best interests of Council.

4 FIT FOR THE FUTURE PROCESS – JOINT ORGANISATIONS

Summary:

- *The purpose of this report is to update Council on the Fit for the Future process as it relates to Joint Organisations.*
- *As part of the Fit for the Future process, the NSW Government set up five pilot groups of NSW councils to work with them to develop the Joint Organisations model.*
- *The NSW Government has now released an Emerging Directions Paper which outlines thinking on the key components of the JO model - the purpose, functions, governance and resource needs.*

4.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the Fit for the Future process as it relates to Joint Organisations.

4.2 Background

As part of the Fit for the Future process, the NSW Government set up five pilot groups of NSW councils to work with them to develop the Joint Organisations model and build better working relationships between councils and State agencies. The pilots are the Hunter, Illawarra, Central NSW, Namoi and Riverina regions. Each pilot is trialing a slightly different model, to reflect the different working relationships and priorities of their region to develop the Joint Organisation model, which will be finalised in early 2016.

4.3 Discussion

To mark the halfway mark of the trial, the NSW Government has now released an Emerging Directions Paper which outlines thinking on the key components of the JO model - the purpose, functions, governance and resource needs.

Key components of the Paper include:

- The mandated core functions of the JO, which are largely in line with OROC's existing functions and the enabling of regionally defined functions – including service delivery.
- Board membership, which unlike OROC, is limited to elected representatives and attracts a sitting fee.
- Appointment of an Executive Officer, which unlike OROC, is "at an equivalent level to a General Manager, senior staff member in a council or a Department of Premier and Cabinet Regional Coordinator."



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Submissions on the content of the Paper are invited by Friday 16 October 2015.

4.4 Attachment

1. Ministerial Circular 15-06 - Joint Organisations - Have Your Say
2. Joint Organisations – Emerging Issues Paper

4.5 Recommendation

For noting.

ATTACHMENT 1

Fit for the Future

Joint Organisations Emerging Directions Paper

SEPTEMBER 2015



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ACCESS TO SERVICES

The Office of Local Government is located at:

Levels 1 & 2

5 O'Keefe Avenue
NOWRA NSW 2541
Phone 02 4428 4100
Fax 02 4428 4199
TTY 02 4428 4209

Locked Bag 3015
NOWRA NSW 2541

Level 9, 6 – 10 O'Connell Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
Phone 02 9289 4000
Fax 02 9289 4099

PO Box R1772
ROYAL EXCHANGE NSW 1225

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General Manager's Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council held on 24 September 2015

Working together to build Joint Organisations



As part of our commitment to Rebuilding NSW the Government is continuing to work with local councils to strengthen communities across the State.

With a record \$1 billion investment in local government through the Fit for the Future reforms, we are helping to build councils that are well positioned to support our communities into the future.

Our vision is that all councils will provide the services and facilities their communities need and deserve, as effectively and efficiently as possible.

To make this happen, we have provided councils with unprecedented support and incentives to make the changes they need through the Fit for the Future process.

A key part of this is Joint Organisations. The creation of Joint Organisations is a significant commitment from the Government to strengthen regions.

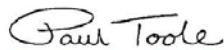
Regional Joint Organisations will help councils to be more involved in planning the regional infrastructure that sustains their local economies, such as important freight routes and regional airports that serve markets and communities beyond their council boundaries. The new organisations will also strengthen opportunities for regional leadership and capacity building and ensure that people in regional communities have a strong advocate for their needs.

Currently five pilot Joint Organisations, in partnership with the NSW Government, are trialling in Central NSW, the Hunter, Illawarra, Namoi and Riverina regions to tackle the issues that matter to regional communities – jobs, transport, water and tourism.

The *Joint Organisations, Emerging Directions Paper* sees us reach an important key milestone in the Fit for the Future reforms. This important next step gives the many councils across NSW with a keen interest in JOs the opportunity to help shape the model that will bring real benefits to communities in regional NSW.

I look forward to hearing the views of the community, councils, Regional Organisation of Councils, business groups and other interested parties and continuing the discussion as the pilots progress.

Together, we can create stronger councils and stronger communities across NSW.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Toole".

The Hon Paul Toole MP

Minister for Local Government

General Manager's Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council held on 24 September 2015

Introduction

Enabling stronger collaboration

Regional communities play a major role in supporting the State's future. The Office of Local Government has established five pilot Joint Organisations which will give regional councils a stronger voice in partnering with the State to deliver what communities need. As the Joint Organisation pilot program is now half way through, it is time to start looking at what has been successful during the pilot and how the Joint Organisation Model should be legislated.

This paper provides a brief outline of the pilot progress to date and reflects on the key elements of the emerging model. These reflections are grouped into three areas: purpose, principles and functions; entity and powers; and governance and accountability.

There is a brief outline of each area to be considered, followed by a statement or statements titled "Emerging Directions". The emerging direction table identifies and highlights the points for discussion and consultation.

This is the first consultation paper for the Joint Organisation Model and does not attempt to answer all aspects of the model. This paper will explore core elements such as the purpose and functions of Joint Organisations and how they should be enabled in the legislation. Further work will be undertaken in the coming months to explore additional considerations.

The development of the pilots is a collaboration of the councils in each regional pilot, State agencies and stakeholders. It is through the strength of this collaboration that the pilots have positively progressed and will continue to forge new ways of operating in the future.

Have your say

The Office of Local Government would like to hear what you think about the emerging directions for the Joint Organisation Model.

Tell us what you think in a written submission. Your submission must include your name, organisation (if relevant), and contact details.

Please respond by email (preferred) or via post to the emerging directions outlined in this paper by close of business on **16 October 2015**.

E: jointorganisations@olg.nsw.gov.au

Joint Organisations Emerging Directions
Office of Local Government
Locked Bag 3015 Nowra, NSW 2541

What will be the outcome of this consultation?

Following consultation refinement of the key areas of the Joint Organisation Model will inform a Joint Organisation Framework Paper. The Joint Organisation Framework Paper will be released later in 2015.

Further information

For further information please contact Erin Hale from the Office of Local Government on T:02 4428 4193 E: erin.hale@olg.nsw.gov.au.

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Background

The Fit for the Future reforms are the result of almost four years of consultation and review with the community and local government sector. The reforms set out a vision of change and will help councils to deliver the infrastructure and services their communities need now, and in the future.

Expressing the need for change, the Independent Local Government Review Panel recommended the establishment of Joint Organisations to help respond to the needs and circumstances of different regions by strengthening regional collaboration and enabling better partnerships with the State.

The commitment to establish regional Joint Organisations is a key part of the NSW Government's package to support councils to become fit for the future, with over \$5 million being invested in establishing 15 Joint Organisations.

Joint Organisations are central to local government reform in regional NSW and an opportunity for councils to play a more active role in their region and work in new ways with each other and the State.

They reflect the changing face of local government in NSW, the unique challenges facing regional NSW, and will help some regional councils to deliver the infrastructure and services their communities need. Joint Organisations will encourage collaboration between State and Local Government to plan a better future for regional and rural communities in NSW.

Progress to date

In September 2014 the State Government released its Joint Organisation Roadmap and announced it would work with local government to pilot Joint Organisations. The Government called for expressions of interest to pilot Joint Organisations during 2015 and committed to working with five regions: Central NSW, the Hunter, Illawarra, Namoi and Riverina.

The selected regions include a diverse mix of councils which have demonstrated a strong history of effective collaboration. They have a clear focus on partnering with the State to tackle key priorities in regional communities, to help their communities to thrive.

The pilots commenced in February 2015 with each trialling a different model, which reflected the different working relationships and priorities of their region.

A charter and regional strategic priorities have been developed by the pilots, in consultation with State agencies and other stakeholders, to guide their operation and planning. The pilots have been working with State agencies and the Office of Local Government and have provided valuable insights to inform the Joint Organisation Model.

On 10 July 2015, 44 representatives from the pilot Joint Organisations, State Agencies and peak bodies attended the Mid-pilot Workshop. The discussions at this workshop helped form the emerging directions statements for this paper.

The purpose of this paper is to communicate these emerging directions to the broader local government sector and seek feedback to inform the further development of the Joint Organisation model.

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Part A: Purpose, Principles and Core Functions

Purpose

The purpose of Joint Organisations, stated in the NSW Government's Joint Organisation Roadmap and confirmed through the pilot process to date, is: *To provide a consistent regional forum for local councils to work together, with the State and others, on issues of regional strategic priority.*

Joint Organisations provide a platform for local councils and the State to work together at the regional level on the things that matter most to regional communities such as jobs, education, transport and housing.

Principles

The principles for Joint Organisations were discussed as part of a Joint Organisation workshop held in November 2014 and built on the work of the Independent Local Government Review Panel and the Government's response. These principles have been refined and new principles identified throughout the pilot process. The Principles identified as the Emerging Directions below were confirmed at the Mid-Pilot Workshop in July 2015.

Meeting these principles, particularly providing legal status, will remove many limits faced by existing regional entities, including Regional Organisations of Councils and county councils. Legal status would give Joint Organisations political 'gravitas' and legislative legitimacy to partner with the State and other stakeholders on issues of strategic regional importance.

As legal entities Joint Organisations would also be able to employ staff, manage contracts and undertake regulatory functions, if and as directed by member councils.

Emerging Direction - Principles

Joint Organisations should:

- have legal status;
- be enabled through the Local Government Act and recognised in other relevant legislation;
- not be a fourth tier of government;
- not impose significant red tape or cost and ensure benefits outweigh the costs;
- embed collaborative relationships between local government and NSW Government, as well as a wide range of other stakeholders and partners;
- have a consistent core with flexible elements;
- protect entitlements for council staff;
- enable significant projects and initiatives, and associated funding and assets, to be managed regionally;
- ensure good governance; and
- serve the best interest of the region while being accountable to member councils.

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Core functions



Fig 1: Joint Organisation core functions emerging from subsequent discussion

Three core functions of Joint Organisations have been identified through the pilot process and include:

- Regional strategic planning and priority setting;
- Intergovernmental collaboration; and
- Regional leadership and advocacy.

The concept of 'priority setting' will ensure Joint Organisations consider the relative importance of issues within a regional context and provide a more solid basis for resource allocation.

Joint Organisations may choose to undertake core functions only. As these functions are unlikely to require significant cost or pose significant financial or governance risks, they may be undertaken by a relatively small, structurally 'lean' Joint Organisation. However, it is important to ensure that the Joint Organisation is not prevented from undertaking larger projects to carry out their core functions, such as infrastructure projects, if appropriate.

Emerging Direction – Core Function

The core functions of: regional strategic planning and priority setting; intergovernmental collaboration; and regional leadership and advocacy are not only consistent with the recommendations of the Independent Local Government Review Panel, but have also been sufficiently tested through the pilot process to possess both appropriate scope and flexibility for the Joint Organisations to partner effectively with the State.

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Regionally defined functions

Regionally defined functions, or optional non-core functions, may be broadly operational and give practical effect to strategic decisions that the Joint Organisations make. These functions may include strategic capacity building and service delivery.

There was general consensus from participants at the Mid-Pilot Workshop that regionally defined functions should be

- As determined by the councils
- Enabled, not prescribed by the legislation
- Flexible.

While the importance of enabling Joint Organisations to undertake regionally defined functions has been unanimously agreed, there have been mixed opinions as to whether the 'core' Joint Organisation should undertake these functions or whether they should only be undertaken by 'Joint Organisation-formed entities'.

There has been some limited discussion through the pilot process on what may be called 'Joint Organisation-formed entities' or subsidiaries. The advantages of these Joint Organisation-formed subsidiaries are that they keep the core Joint Organisation relatively lean, focussed on policy setting and at 'arms-length' from significant service and asset management and risk.

Emerging Direction – Regionally Defined Functions

Joint Organisations must be enabled, under legislation, to undertake a range of regionally defined functions. This would provide each Joint Organisation with options for how they undertake these regionally defined functions, either through the 'core' or Joint Organisation-formed entity.

General Manager's Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council held on 24 September 2015

Part B: Entity and Powers

The Independent Local Government Review Panel recommended that Joint Organisations be established as new statutory regional organisations under the Local Government Act. In its response the Government agreed to identify the 'necessary legislative model' through the Joint Organisation pilot process.

While the pilot process has confirmed that Joint Organisations should be enabled in the Local Government Act, the following four broad options were identified and considered in making this determination.

1. Do nothing
2. Body Corporate in the Local Government Act (Prescriptive)
3. Hybrid Statutory Corporation
4. Body Corporate in the Local Government Act (Enabling)

Consideration was given to Joint Organisations as bodies corporate rather than bodies politic due to changes in the Commonwealth Fair Work Act, which now expressly excludes local government from the national industrial relations system. In light of this, it was determined that Joint Organisations be considered as bodies corporate not bodies politic.

Option 1 – Do nothing

The Government's response to the Independent Local Government Review Panel made it clear that this is not an option to be pursued. It perpetuates issues with, and limitations of, existing regional collaboration arrangements including:

- lack of legal status;
- inability to enter into contracts, tender, employ staff or own assets; and
- ad-hoc membership and relationships across regional and rural NSW.

Option 2 – Body Corporate in the Local Government Act (Prescriptive)

This option is not an entity to be pursued as it would prescribe in detail a 'one size fits all' set of functions, governance and accountability arrangements for Joint Organisations. This would limit flexibility and potentially impose a high regulatory burden.

The pilot process has reinforced the need for flexibility and a low red tape burden, in keeping with the principles underpinning both the Local Government Act review, and the proposed principles for the Joint Organisation model.

Option 3 – Hybrid Statutory Corporation

This option enables Joint Organisations as statutory corporations through a combination of provisions in the Local Government Act and existing body corporate legislation from a limited suite of existing entity types including:

- Incorporated Association under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009* (NSW); or
- Company Limited by Guarantee under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth).

This would require minimal change to the Local Government Act but create added complication with the requirement that Joint Organisations establish themselves as one of these two entities.

General Manager's Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council held on 24 September 2015

Some separate governance requirements, financial and asset management and reporting would be required through the Associations Incorporation Act or the Corporations Act.

Option 4 – Body Corporate in the Local Government Act (Enabling)

Like Option 2, this option enables Joint Organisations as bodies corporate wholly under the Local Government Act. However unlike Option 2, this option provides for flexibility for the Joint Organisation to operate and carry out regionally-defined (optional) functions, either directly or through other arrangements.

All statutory requirements including core functions, mandatory membership requirements, the role of the governing body as well as any governance, reporting and staffing requirements would be provided for within the Local Government Act framework. The model would also provide flexibility for the Joint Organisation to undertake regionally defined functions either directly or through other arrangements.

The Local Government Act would require that each Joint Organisation be established by proclamation outlining details such as name, functions, membership, fees and designated area consistent with minimal requirements in the Act.

The direction that emerged very strongly through consultation at the Mid-Pilot Workshop is that the Joint Organisation entity should be Body Corporate in the Local Government Act (Enabling). Reasons participants preferred this model included that it is:

- embedded and enabled in the Local Government Act;
- protected from changes outside the Local Government Act;
- less 'messy' than the hybrid model;
- the most enabling and flexible option;
- able to define core functions;
- protective of staff under the Local Government (State) Award;
- able to facilitate secondments from councils to Joint Organisations and to attract staff from within the industry;
- less expensive to manage administratively;
- less onerous in terms of reporting responsibilities than the hybrid model;
- less likely to result in liability issues, such as for company directors under the Corporations Act; and
- consistent with the philosophy, paradigm and framework of Joint Organisations.

This option may look something like this:

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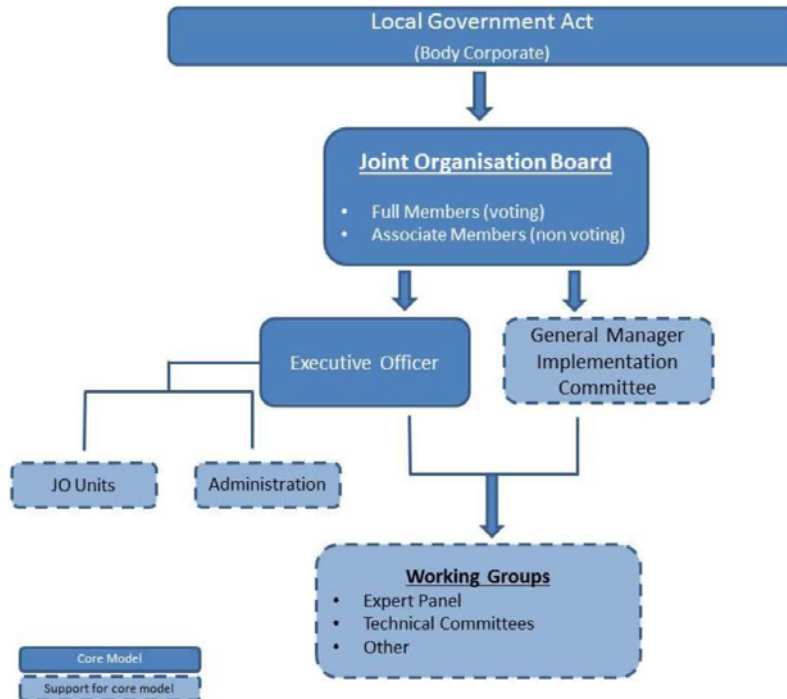


Fig 2: Body Corporate in the Local Government Act (enabling)

Emerging Direction – Entity and Powers

The Joint Organisation entity should be Body Corporate in the Local Government Act (Enabling). This will enable the Joint Organisation to operate wholly under the Local Government Act and have other provisions within the Act apply to Joint Organisations.

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Part C: Governance and Accountability

The Joint Organisation pilots are trialling various governance models as outlined in their Charters. In particular, these variances occur in the composition of the Board and in voting and decision making. Some of the differences include:

- 1 Vs. 2 representatives from each member council;
- Equal Vs. Unequal voting of all member councils;
- Mayor as representative Vs. nominated elected representatives; and
- Voting Chair Vs. Independent non-voting Chair.

Due to the variance in models being piloted, discussion at the Mid-Pilot Workshop was not focussed on trying to identify the 'right' or 'best' model for the implementation of Joint Organisations. Discussion at the workshop focussed on what has been learnt through the pilot process so far. Some of these learnings include:

- Must have a 'regional hat' on as part of a Joint Organisation
- Need a 'circuit breaker' if decision cannot be reached
- Must have strong communications with member councils
- Joint Organisations should be enabled by a Statement of Regional Priorities process
- Need Executive Officer to be Senior Staff/GM or DPC Regional Coordinator Equivalent.

There were mixed views on resourcing the Joint Organisation and whether this should be the responsibility of member councils or whether Joint Organisations should be jointly funded by the State.

While it is intended that the Joint Organisation Model be flexible enough to allow Joint Organisations to have regional variances to meet regional requirements, there are certain elements that would form part of the Joint Organisation model 'consistent core'. Although potentially contentious, minimum requirements for elements such as the composition of the Board, voting and decision making, role of members, planning and reporting and resourcing will likely form part of the core Joint Organisation model.

General Manager's Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council held on 24 September 2015

Emerging Direction – Governance and Accountability

Composition of the Joint Organisation Board:

- One representative from each full member council
- DPC regional coordinator is an associate (non-voting) member
- Representative of member councils must be an elected representative and chosen by the council based on capability and capacity
- Appointment to the Joint Organisation Board is 2 years to align with proposed changes to mayoral terms
- The Chair of the Joint Organisation Board is to be chosen by the voting members of the Board.

Voting and decision making:

- Member councils should have equal voting rights
- The Chair should not have a casting vote
- Appropriate authority for core regional functions should be delegated to the Joint Organisation
- A majority vote on a Joint Organisation Board (75%) should be required for a decision to be made, to recognise the importance of regional-scale decision making.

Role of Joint Organisation Board members:

- The Joint Organisation member role should be modelled on the councillor role in the Act but includes a need to act in the best interest of the Joint Organisation and region as a whole
- The role of the Chair should be modelled on the role of the Mayor (less the urgent policy making function), with a requirement to act in the best interests of the region as a whole.

Planning and Reporting:

- Joint Organisations should be required to develop succinct work plans drawn from existing local and regional plans, in collaboration with the State Government and others and identify Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- Joint Organisations should be required to produce succinct Annual Performance Statements to show key stakeholders the extent to which they are achieving their priorities according to the KPIs identified by the Joint Organisation
- Current minimum requirements in the Local Government Act for financial reporting and accounting for councils apply to Joint Organisations.

Resourcing:

- Joint Organisation members should receive a Joint Organisation Board sitting fee
- Members fund ongoing administration and regional priorities from available sources, most likely largely based on contributions from member councils using a locally negotiated formula
- Joint Organisation staff be employed under the Local Government (State) Award
- Joint Organisations be required to employ an Executive Officer, with the equivalent capabilities and at an equivalent level to a General Manager, senior staff member in a council or a Department of Premier and Cabinet Regional Coordinator.

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Part D: Other Considerations

Boundaries

The Local Government Act will require mandatory membership of Joint Organisations within designated areas based on clear communities of interest, within strategic regional growth planning boundaries.

Boundary criteria noted during the early stages of the reforms journey by the Local Government Review Panel and included in the Joint Organisation Roadmap state that the Joint Organisation must:

- align with/nest within strategic regional growth planning boundaries;
- demonstrate a clear community of interest between member councils;
- not adversely impact on other councils or Joint Organisations;
- be based around a strong regional centre, where possible; and
- be of appropriate scale and capacity to partner with the State and Federal Government and other investment partners.

County Councils

In its response to the Independent Local Government Review Panel, the Government said it would consider the relationship between existing county councils and water utilities with Joint Organisations.

This work will happen in the coming months when there is greater certainty around what the Joint Organisation entity will look like, as well as its governance and resourcing arrangements. This issue will be explored further in the Joint Organisation Working Framework Paper.

JO Formed Entities

Further work needs to be undertaken to explore Joint Organisation-formed entities and the relationship these entities will have with the core Joint Organisation. This will be explored further in the Joint Organisation Working Framework Paper.

Next steps

Following consultation refinement of the key areas of the Joint Organisation Model will inform a Joint Organisation Working Framework Paper. The Joint Organisation Working Framework Paper will be released for discussion during October 2015.

An evaluation report and final Joint Organisation Model will be finalised in early 2016 to inform Cabinet and Bill processes in the second quarter of 2016. Implementation of the final Joint Organisation Model is planned from September 2016.

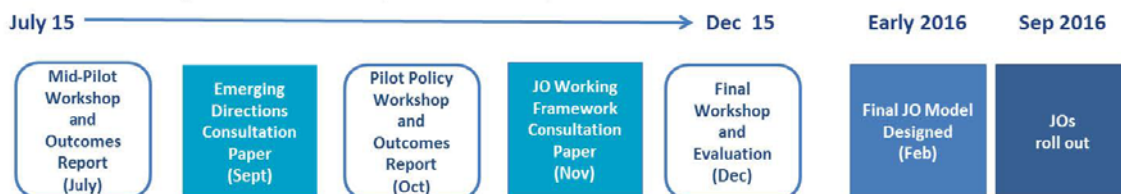


Fig 3: Next steps

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ATTACHMENT 2



Circular No. 15-06
Date 10 September 2015
Doc ID. A43331

Ministerial Circular

JOINT ORGANISATIONS - HAVE YOUR SAY

A key milestone in the Fit for the Future local government reforms has been reached, with the release of a report on the future direction of Joint Organisations.

Joint Organisations are central to local government reform in regional NSW and an opportunity for councils to play a more active role in their region and work in new ways with each other and the State.

Currently five pilot Joint Organisations are being trialled in Central NSW, the Hunter, Illawarra, Namoi and Riverina regions to tackle the issues that matter to regional communities – jobs, transport, water and tourism.

To mark the halfway mark of the trial, an Emerging Directions Paper has been released which outlines thinking on the key components of the JO model - the purpose, functions, governance and resource needs.

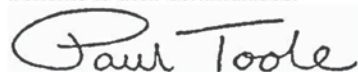
Successful Joint Organisations will bring more economic and social opportunities to regional areas so it is important to continue to work together to get this key part of Fit for the Future right.

The JO report can be found here: <http://www.fitforthefuture.nsw.gov.au/joint-organisations>

How to make a submission

- Submissions are to be sent to the Joint Organisations Emerging Directions email address: jointorganisations@olq.nsw.gov.au
- The closing date for submissions is **5.00pm, Friday 16 October 2015**

This important next step gives the many councils across NSW with a keen interest in JOs the opportunity to help shape the model that will bring real benefits to their communities.



Paul Toole

**The Hon Paul Toole MP
Minister for Local Government**

NSW Government
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

5 LEASE OF TOWN HALL ROOMS

Summary:

- *The purpose of this report is for Council to consider whether to lease two rooms in the Nyngan Town Hall.*
- *The two office rooms on the western end of the Nyngan Town Hall have been vacant for some years.*
- *Council has now been approached by CentaCare for the lease of these rooms.*

5.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider whether to lease two rooms in the Nyngan Town Hall.

5.2 Background

The two office rooms on the western end of the Nyngan Town Hall have been vacant for some years. Council has now been approached by CentaCare for the lease of these rooms.

5.3 Discussion

Should Council wish to lease the property a suitable rental should be determined. Previously, at least one of the community services organisations who have operated out of the Town Hall have been given the premises rent-free. As electricity costs have escalated in recent years and these rooms cannot be separately metered, consideration should be given as to whether to make provision for the recovery of electricity cost from the tenant.

Some minor maintenance and cleaning work will be required to make the rooms fit for occupation.

As the intended use of the rooms is for community purposes, in line with previous use of these rooms, and the rooms have been vacant for some time, it is in the General Manager's opinion, not considered necessary to advertise Council's intention to lease the rooms should it resolve to do so.

5.4 Attachment

1. Letter received from CentaCare requesting the lease.
2. Picture showing the rooms being requested.

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5.5 Recommendation

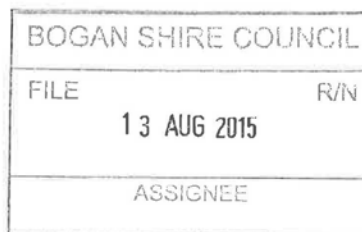
1. For Council's consideration.
2. That the General Manager and Mayor be authorised to negotiate a 12 month lease with CentaCare in the best interests of Council.

ATTACHMENT 1

Meagan Giddy
PO Box 109
Nyngan NSW 2825

13th August 2015

The General Manager
Bogan Shire Council
PO Box 221
Nyngan NSW 2825



Dear Sir,

Re: Renting A Room in the Town Hall

I have recently started a new position with CentaCare, based in Nyngan. I am employed as a family Worker and will be responsible for running school transition programs within the school and delivering parenting programs for those in the community who require assistance. CentaCare offers a free service, is available to everyone with no referrals being required. I am able to work with families with children from 0 to 18 years, with the main focus being on children from 0 to 12 years. I will also be trying to cover areas that are not presently addressed within the community, such as working with parents with children 8 to 12 years.

I am currently working from the Catholic school library, but this arrangement isn't really suitable as I am unable to have people come into the school to see me. I have spoken with Donna Pumpa about the availability of a space that I can operate from. Donna showed me a couple of possibilities and I was most taken with the rooms in the Town Hall as it has street access, good lighting and an overall good feel to it.

As a registered Counsellor I was also hoping, at some stage, to be able to offer a free counselling service to the community (outside of my office hours) as I am specialising in child and adolescent wellbeing and would like to provide the community with a place young people can turn to when needed.

At this stage, I am just wondering about the possibility of renting a space in the Town Hall, and the costs involved. Obviously, as there is only myself, and I am only in the beginning stages of setting myself up, CentaCare would probably want something economical.

Please feel free to contact me anytime.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Giddy".

Meagan Giddy
Phone: 0427 813 278

**General Manager's Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
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FamilyCare provides:

- Home visiting
- Parenting Skills and Support
- Peer Support Groups
- School Readiness Programs
- Supported Playgroups

Through the FamilyCare program parents will access

- Information about child development
- Learning opportunities to help them raise healthy and happy children
- Parent groups and support networks
- Other local support services

.....and their children will engage in:

- Fun activities with their families
- Early learning opportunities
- Activities that enhance social and school readiness skills.

FamilyCare is delivered in :

**Bourke, Brewarrina, Broken Hill, Cobar, Condobolin, Nyngan, Warren and
Parkes/Parkes Region.**

For further information contact

Phone: 02 6850 1777

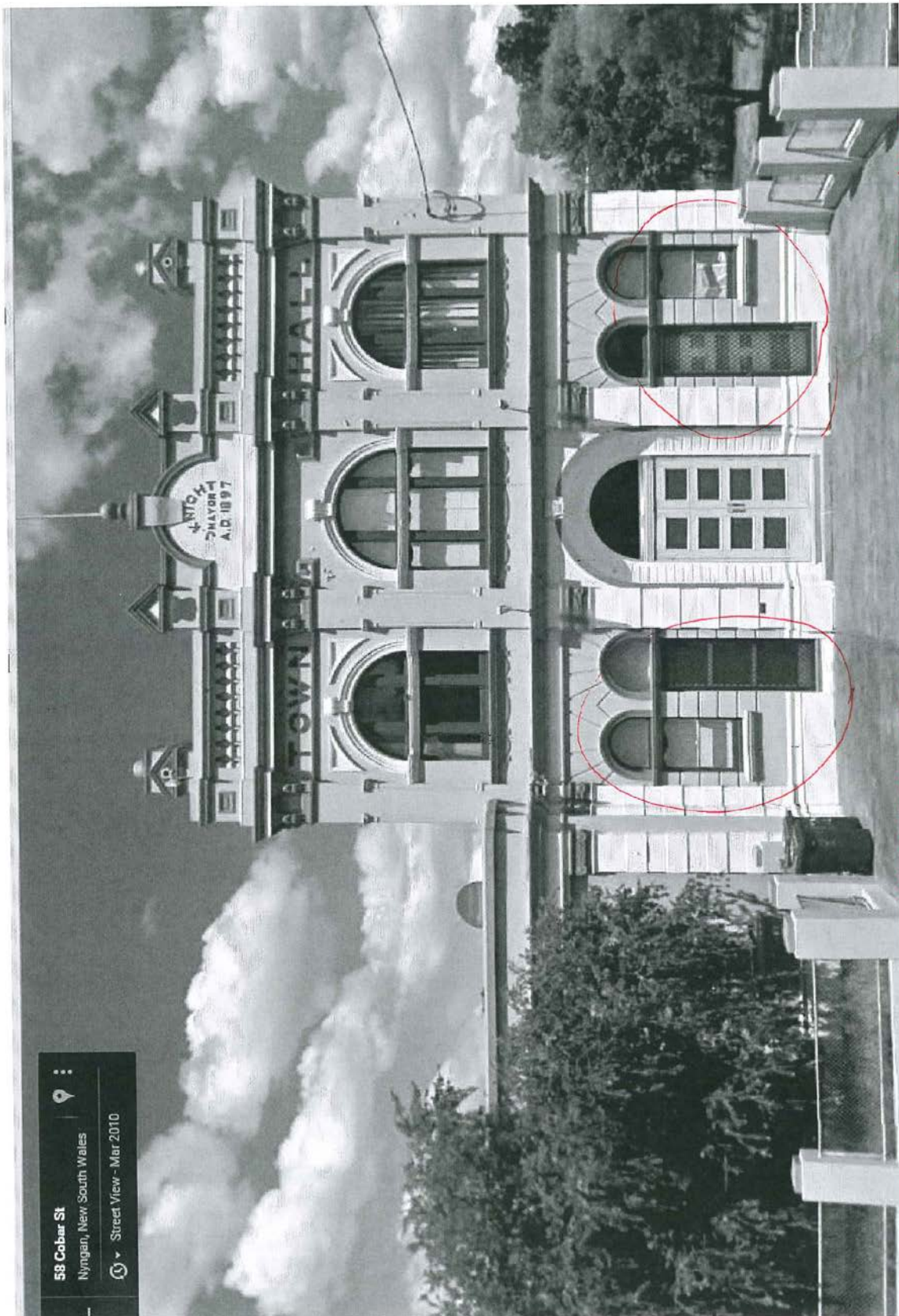
Email: enquiries@centacarewf.org.au



Proudly part of the CentaCare network and the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes

General Manager's Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
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ATTACHMENT 2



Extra space - storage
Spare desk for visiting services.

→

Proposed Office

58 Cobbar St
Nyngan, New South Wales
Street View - Mar 2010

6 CHRISTMAS – NEW YEAR CLOSURE

Summary:

- *The purpose of this report is to obtain Council's approval for the closure of Council offices over the Christmas/New Year holiday period.*
- *As a long-established practice in common with other Councils, Bogan Shire Council has closed its Council offices between Christmas and New Year.*
- *Following past practice, this would mean that the Shire offices would be closed for what would otherwise be normal working days on Tuesday 29, Wednesday 30 and Thursday 31 December.*

6.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council's approval for the closure of Council offices over the Christmas/New Year holiday period.

6.2 Background

As a long-established practice in common with other Councils, Bogan Shire Council has closed its Council offices between Christmas and New Year.

Concessional leave has previously been granted to indoor office staff in recognition of the effort put in by them during the year, including voluntarily working unpaid overtime during the year. Outdoor staff have not been granted any special leave over this period as, traditionally, they have been paid for all overtime throughout the year and have received a Christmas bonus of \$100 in recognition of effort.

6.3 Issues

Christmas Day and Boxing Day fall on a Friday and Saturday this year (with Monday being gazetted as the Boxing Day public holiday) and New Year's Day on the following Friday. Following past practice, this would mean that the Shire offices would be closed for what would otherwise be normal working days on Tuesday 29, Wednesday 30 and Thursday 31 December.

Council has delegated the granting of concessional leave to the General Manager subject to a Council decision to close the offices. The granting of concessional leave is currently under review given changes in working arrangements for office staff and the need to ensure all staff are treated equitably.



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6.4 Recommendation

That in addition to the public holidays over the Christmas / New Year period, Council closes the Shire Offices on 29, 30 and 31 December 2015 and advises the community accordingly.

Derek Francis

GENERAL MANAGER



Manager Corporate Services' Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
held on 24 September 2015

REPORT TO ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL – MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

Mayor and Councillors

The following reports are submitted for consideration:-

1 BANK RECONCILIATION

1.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to present the reconciliation of Council's cash book, bank statements and ledger bank account as at 31st August 2015.

1.2 Background

The presentation of the reconciliation of Council's cash book, bank statements and ledger bank accounts is not a requirement of any Act, however historically it has been provided for the information of Councillors.

Bank Reconciliation for August 2015		
Council General Fund		
Bank Statement Balance	\$	676,087.28cr
Add Deposits not yet receipted	\$	151,719.95cr
Less Unpresented Payments	\$	65,168.33dr
Balance as per Council	\$	762,638.90cr
Represented by the following in Council Ledgers		
Account		
19001.8000.8000	\$	762,638.90cr
Difference	\$	0.00

1.3 Recommendation

That the bank reconciliation report be received and noted.



**Manager Corporate Services' Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
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2 INVESTMENTS AUGUST 2015

2.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to outline the performance of Council's investment portfolio for the month of August 2015.

2.2 Background

In accordance with Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 a report must be presented to the Council setting out details of all the money that the Council has invested under section 625 of the Act.

2.3 Discussion

The Investment Report for August 2015 is shown below. At the 31st August 2015 Council had \$10.5 million invested. There has been an increase to Council's investments since the July 2015 report of \$1,000,000. This was primarily due to the receipt of Grants in August for Long Day Care Centre \$450,000, Financial Assistance Grants First Quarterly Instalment of \$451,000 and R2R Revenue of \$690,000.

On the 2nd September Council invested another \$2,000,000 with the National Bank for 6 months @ 2.9% maturing on the 1st March 2016. We have investments maturing in September, October and November if the money is required before this date.

All money has been invested in accordance with Council's investment policy.

Consideration of this report means that Council is complying with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

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Investment Movements for August 2015

It is hereby certified that these investments have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Regulations thereto.

Bogan Shire - Investment movements for August 2015							
REF	Source	Maturity	Days	% rate	Interest	Bal 31/07/2015	Bal 31/08/2015
4493	CBA	11-Feb-16	365	3.250%	32,500	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
6784	NAB	06-Nov-15	180	2.900%	7,309	500,000.00	500,000.00
5189	NAB	08-Nov-15	180	2.900%	14,619	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
3204	NAB	11-Sep-15	180	3.130%	15,778	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
1203	NAB	17-Sep-15	180	3.150%	15,879	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
7202	NAB	17-Oct-15	180	2.950%	11,832	800,000.00	800,000.00
802	Westpac - Maxi direct	n/a	n/a	Variable		4,154,249.87	5,159,456.86
	Balance securities held					9,454,249.87	10,459,456.86
	Balance Ledger 19010.8200.8200					9,454,249.87	10,459,456.86
	Summary by institution						
	CBA					1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
	NAB					4,300,000.00	4,300,000.00
	Westpac					4,154,249.87	5,159,456.86
						9,454,249.87	10,459,456.86

2.4 Recommendation

That the Investments Report be received and noted.

3 SUMMARY OF RATE & ANNUAL CHARGES COLLECTION

3.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide a comparison of rate collections as at 31st August 2015, with the same period last year.

3.2 Background

This report is provided for the information of Councillors.

Rate Collections	2015-2016	2014-2015
Arrears Prior to 01/07/2015	328,362	341,128
First Instalment Outstanding as at 31/08/2015	203,792	389,692
Second Instalment Outstanding as at 31/08/2015	947,462	963,936
Third Instalment Outstanding as at 31/08/2015	962,882	977,278
Fourth Instalment Outstanding as at 31/08/2015	966,429	981,636
Total Arrears	532,154	730,820
Total Outstanding	3,408,928	3,653,670
Monthly Transactions		
Amount Levied & B/Fwd	4,957,709	4,745,107
Add: Adjustments	5,149	9,408
Less: Payments to end of March	-1,477,729	-1,027,586
Less: Rebates	-79,201	-76,221
Add: Postponed	3,000	2962
Gross Total Balance	3,408,928	3,653,670
Arrears of total amount levied %	11%	16%

Total arrears have decreased from \$730,820 at the 31st August 2014 to \$532,154 as at 31st August this year.

Each instalment amounts to approximately \$1,240,000
(Total Rates, Waste, Water & Sewer Access Charges)

Council has collected at this date \$450,000 more than at the same time last year.

17% of Ratepayers are in arrears for their first instalment. Reminder notices went out on the 15th September, 2015.

3.3 Recommendation

That the rates collections report be received and noted.

4 LEASE OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

Summary:

- *Two prime residential properties requiring new leases.*
- *Both are currently tenanted with good tenants.*
- *Rental is below market and needs to be raised.*

4.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to gain council approval for the preparation of new leases on 75 Cobar Street Nyngan and 41 Flashman Avenue Nyngan.

4.2 Background

Council owns residential properties at 75 Cobar Street and 41 Flashman Avenue and rents them out in the private market. The leases on these properties have expired and need to be renewed.

4.3 Issues

The rental market for residential stock in Nyngan is currently quite strong. Details relating to both of the abovementioned properties and their tenants are as follows:

75 Cobar Street, Nyngan

This property was renovated in late 2013 and early 2014. It is a two bedroom, one bathroom unit in excellent condition, and is currently rented for \$150 per week. The current occupiers are good tenants who pay their rent on time and look after the property well.

The current rental is below market and has not been increased since the original lease was signed on 24 February 2014. It is recommended that a standard residential lease be offered to the current tenants for a new rental amount of \$170 per week.

The current tenants have requested that a new split system air conditioner be installed. This can be tied to the lease negotiations.

41 Flashman Avenue, Nyngan

This property was built by Council in early 2013. It is a five bedroom, two bathroom house with a double garage. It is in excellent condition and is probably the best residential stock which Council owns.



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It is currently rented to Tritton Resources for \$330 per week. The current occupiers are good tenants who pay their rent on time and look after the property well.

The current rental is below market and has not been increased since the original lease was signed on 20 March 2014. It is recommended that a standard residential lease be implemented for a new rental amount of \$380 per week.

In both cases, if the current tenants were to not take up their respective new lease offers Council would be confident of finding new tenants in a relatively short timeframe.

4.4 Recommendation

That Council:

1. Enter into a standard residential one year lease agreement with the current tenants at 75 Cobar Street, Nyngan for \$170 per week.
2. Enter into a standard residential one year lease agreement with the current tenants at 41 Flashman Avenue, Nyngan for \$380 per week.

5 ADOPTION OF THE 2014/15 DRAFT ANNUAL STATEMENTS

Summary:

- *Statutory Accounts for 2014/15 must be adopted and referred to audit under Sect 413 of the LG Act.*
- *Audit will occur on 1 and 2 October 2015*
- *Consolidated Accounting Surplus of \$920K.*
- *Surplus of \$649K in General Fund.*
- *Consolidated cash reserves of \$8,630K*

5.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is for council to adopt the 2014/15 Draft Annual Statements and refer them for audit.

5.2 Background

Section 413 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993 requires Council to prepare a set of financial reports for each year and refer them for audit as soon as practicable after the end of the year.

The accounts are final except for some minor peripheral notes. There may be slight alterations which occur because of the audit process, although staff are confident that these will be minimal. If material changes are required the accounts will be brought back to Council.

A copy of the statements is attached. At the time of writing they had not been audited. The on-site audit is scheduled to occur on 1 and 2 October 2015. An electronic copy of these statements will be sent to the auditor when adopted by Council.

Once the audit is complete they will be signed by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer. They will then be forwarded to the Office of Local Government, advertised and presented to the public at the next meeting of Council.

5.3 Issues

The figures within the financial accounts are interesting and indicate how Council has performed financially over 2014/15 financial year.

There are several areas which vary significantly to previous years. Some of the highlights and lowlights for the year are as follows:



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Highlights

- Return to Positive Consolidated Result, although this is due to the full allocation of Financial Assistance Grants being received and the capitalisation of the re-sheeting of rural roads.
- Good cost recovery on private road construction tenders completed for the RMS.
- Low growth in Salary and Wages Costs.
- Increased income from Rates and Annual Charges due to more efficient billing practices.
- Virtually zero debt.
- Strong cash positions in all funds.
- Plant replacement reserve increased by \$440,000.

Lowlights

- Increased depreciation charges.
- The Water Fund returning a \$55,000 loss.
- Lower investment returns due to lower interest rates.
- An Increase in staff leave liability.

The consolidated accounts are made up of three funds. General, Water and Sewer. Unless otherwise stated, this report refers to the consolidated accounts.

The summarised performance of the three funds is shown in the table below:



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Item	Water \$000's	Sewer \$000's	General \$000's	Consolidated \$000's
Income	2,267	857	12,785	15,909
Expenditure	2,322	531	12,136	14,989
Surplus (Deficit)	(55)	326	649	920
Current Assets	1,597	2,538	6,284	10,419
Non-Current Assets	13,763	7,144	183,260	204,167
Total Assets	15,360	9,682	189,544	214,586
Liabilities	0	0	2,032	2,032
Equity	15,360	9,682	187,512	212,554

The primary reason for the surplus in General Fund is the capitalisation of \$746,000 worth of re-sheeting of rural unsealed roads, which were expensed in 2013/14.

A full set of draft financial statements will be tabled at this meeting and will be available upon request. The Income Statement, Balance Sheet and Statement of Cash flows is shown below.

**Manager Corporate Services' Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
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Income Statement

for the financial year ended 30 June 2015

Budget ¹			Actual	Actual
2015	\$ '000	Notes	2015	2014
Income from Continuing Operations				
<i>Revenue:</i>				
4,273	Rates & Annual Charges	3a	4,276	4,066
2,530	User Charges & Fees	3b	5,019	4,256
253	Interest & Investment Revenue	3c	258	280
153	Other Revenues	3d	244	166
4,948	Grants & Contributions provided for Operating Purposes	3e,f	5,962	4,267
930	Grants & Contributions provided for Capital Purposes	3e,f	100	143
<i>Other Income:</i>				
	Net gains from the disposal of assets	5	50	-
	Net Share of interests in Joint Ventures & Associates using the equity method	19	-	-
<u>13,087</u>	Total Income from Continuing Operations		<u>15,909</u>	<u>13,178</u>
Expenses from Continuing Operations				
4,725	Employee Benefits & On-Costs	4a	5,280	5,132
1	Borrowing Costs	4b	1	-
3,554	Materials & Contracts	4c	4,927	4,279
3,589	Depreciation & Amortisation	4d	3,422	3,384
	Impairment	4d	-	-
1,680	Other Expenses	4e	1,346	1,426
	Interest & Investment Losses	3c	-	-
	Net Losses from the Disposal of Assets	5	-	45
	Net Share of interests in Joint Ventures & Associates using the equity method	19	13	4
<u>13,549</u>	Total Expenses from Continuing Operations		<u>14,989</u>	<u>14,270</u>
<u>(462)</u>	Operating Result from Continuing Operations		<u>920</u>	<u>(1,092)</u>
Discontinued Operations				
	Net Profit/(Loss) from Discontinued Operations	24	-	-
<u>(462)</u>	Net Operating Result for the Year		<u>920</u>	<u>(1,092)</u>
(462)	Net Operating Result attributable to Council		920	(1,092)
	Net Operating Result attributable to Non-controlling Interests		-	-
<u>(1,392)</u>	Net Operating Result for the year before Grants and Contributions provided for Capital Purposes		<u>820</u>	<u>(1,235)</u>

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Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2015

\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2015	Actual 2014
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	6a	3,330	2,025
Investments	6b	5,300	5,300
Receivables	7	1,428	1,103
Inventories	8	361	248
Other	8	-	-
Non-current assets classified as "held for sale"	22	-	-
Total Current Assets		10,419	8,676
Non-Current Assets			
Investments	6b	-	-
Receivables	7	52	123
Inventories	8	-	-
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	9	204,062	190,207
Investments accounted for using the equity method	19	53	66
Investment Property	14	-	-
Intangible Assets	25	-	-
Non-current assets classified as "held for sale"	22	-	-
Other	8	-	-
Total Non-Current Assets		204,167	190,396
TOTAL ASSETS		214,586	199,072
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	10	714	385
Borrowings	10	2	2
Provisions	10	930	1,168
Liabilities associated with assets classified as "held for sale"	22	-	-
Total Current Liabilities		1,646	1,555
Non-Current Liabilities			
Payables	10	51	-
Borrowings	10	-	-
Provisions	10	335	79
Investments accounted for using the equity method	19	-	-
Liabilities associated with assets classified as "held for sale"	22	-	-
Total Non-Current Liabilities		386	79
TOTAL LIABILITIES		2,032	1,634
Net Assets		212,554	197,438
EQUITY			
Retained Earnings	20	141,167	140,247
Revaluation Reserves	20	71,387	57,191
Council Equity Interest		212,554	197,438
Non-controlling Equity Interests		-	-
Total Equity		212,554	197,438

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Statement of Cash Flows
for the financial year ended 30 June 2015

Budget 2015	\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2015	Actual 2014
Cash Flows from Operating Activities				
<u>Receipts:</u>				
4,274	Rates & Annual Charges		4,361	4,069
2,684	User Charges & Fees		5,018	4,044
253	Investment & Interest Revenue Received		231	371
5,913	Grants & Contributions		6,209	4,810
	Bonds, Deposits & Retention amounts received		3	-
159	Other		607	648
<u>Payments:</u>				
(4,725)	Employee Benefits & On-Costs		(5,427)	(5,176)
(3,197)	Materials & Contracts		(5,051)	(4,748)
(1)	Borrowing Costs		(1)	(3)
	Bonds, Deposits & Retention amounts refunded		-	-
(1,679)	Other		(1,595)	(1,577)
	Net Cash from Boundary Adjustments		-	-
3,681	Net Cash provided (or used in) Operating Activities	11b	4,355	2,438
Cash Flows from Investing Activities				
<u>Receipts:</u>				
Nil				
	Sale of Investment Securities		-	15
	Sale of Investment Property		-	-
	Sale of Real Estate Assets		-	-
242	Sale of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment		238	178
	Sale of Shares in Companies		-	-
	Sale of Interests in Joint Ventures & Associates		-	-
	Sale of Disposal Groups		-	-
12	Deferred Debtors Receipts		9	15
	Distributions Received from Joint Ventures & Associates		-	-
	Other Investing Activity Receipts		-	-
<u>Payments:</u>				
Nil				
	Purchase of Investment Securities		-	(3,500)
	Purchase of Investment Property		-	-
(3,700)	Purchase of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment		(3,297)	(3,827)
	Purchase of Real Estate Assets		-	-
	Purchase of Shares in Companies		-	-
	Purchase of Interests in Joint Ventures & Associates		-	-
	Deferred Debtors & Advances Made		-	-
	Contributions Paid to Joint Ventures & Associates		-	-
	Other Investing Activity Payments		-	-
(3,446)	Net Cash provided (or used in) Investing Activities		(3,050)	(7,119)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities				
<u>Receipts:</u>				
Nil				
<u>Payments:</u>				
(1)	Repayment of Borrowings & Advances		-	(1)
(1)	Net Cash Flow provided (used in) Financing Activities		-	(1)
234	Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents		1,305	(4,682)
5,005	plus: Cash & Cash Equivalents - beginning of year	11a	2,025	6,707
5,239	Cash & Cash Equivalents - end of the year	11a	3,330	2,025
Additional Information:				
	plus: Investments on hand - end of year	6b	5,300	5,300
	Total Cash, Cash Equivalents & Investments		8,630	7,325



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Analysis of some major components of the statements is shown below:

Income Statement

The Net Operating result for the year was a surplus of \$920,000. This was primarily due to higher than budgeted income. User Charges increased by \$763,000 on the back of \$265,000 more being billed to the RMS for tendered jobs and higher water and sewer usage charges (\$151,000). General Rates also increased by \$180,000 and annual charges for water sewer and waste by \$71,000.

\$287,000 was collected for the Water security project, which is reflected as additional income but this is offset by additional expenditure.

Expenditure has increased by \$729,000 mainly due to increased expenditure on materials for road construction on RMS tendered works. Depreciation on Council roads also increased by \$156,000. Pleasingly, employee costs only increased by 2.9% which was roughly in line with the award increase. Expenditure was reduced by the capitalisation of \$746,000 worth of re-sheeting work on rural roads.

Overall council has managed to hold its expenditure well, and only spent significantly extra where the spending has been more than offset by increased revenue.

Balance Sheet

The Consolidated Balance Sheet shows Council to be in a sound financial position as at 30 June 2015, with nett assets of \$213 million, including current assets of \$10.4 million and negligible debt. Cash and investments have increased by \$1.3 million due to externally restricted cash, mostly related to unexpended grants and money belonging to the sewerage service, increasing by \$563,000. Unrestricted cash has increased by \$684,000.

Debtors have increased by \$325,000 primarily due to higher monies owed by the RMS for roadworks completed but not yet paid for. These amounts have since been paid.

Creditors have increased by \$340,000 due to contractor roadworks performed but not paid for at balance date.

Provisions for staff entitlements have increased marginally which is disappointing as Council made an undertaking last year to reduce these balances. However the balance sheet is strong because these liabilities are adequately backed by cash.

Statement of Cash Flows

The statement of cash flows is important because, as its name suggests, it details what cash comes in and goes out. It does not take into account non-cash items such as depreciation, pre-payments and accruals.



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The statement shows that cash has increased by almost \$1.3 million over the year mainly due to increased collection of Rates, Annual Water and Sewer charges, User Charges and Grants. It was also due to lower than budgeted spending on Capital Works of \$530,000. This resulted in Council generating \$4.4 million from operations but only spending a net of \$3.1 million on Capital Projects.

Council collected \$974,000 more in user charges predominately from road-works on state highways tendered by the RMS to Council.

Council managed to collect \$87,000 more in Rates and Annual charges than it actually billed which meant that it was able to convert some long standing arrears into cash.

The strong Cash Flows for the year puts council in a strong position to fulfill its service and capital works commitments in future years.

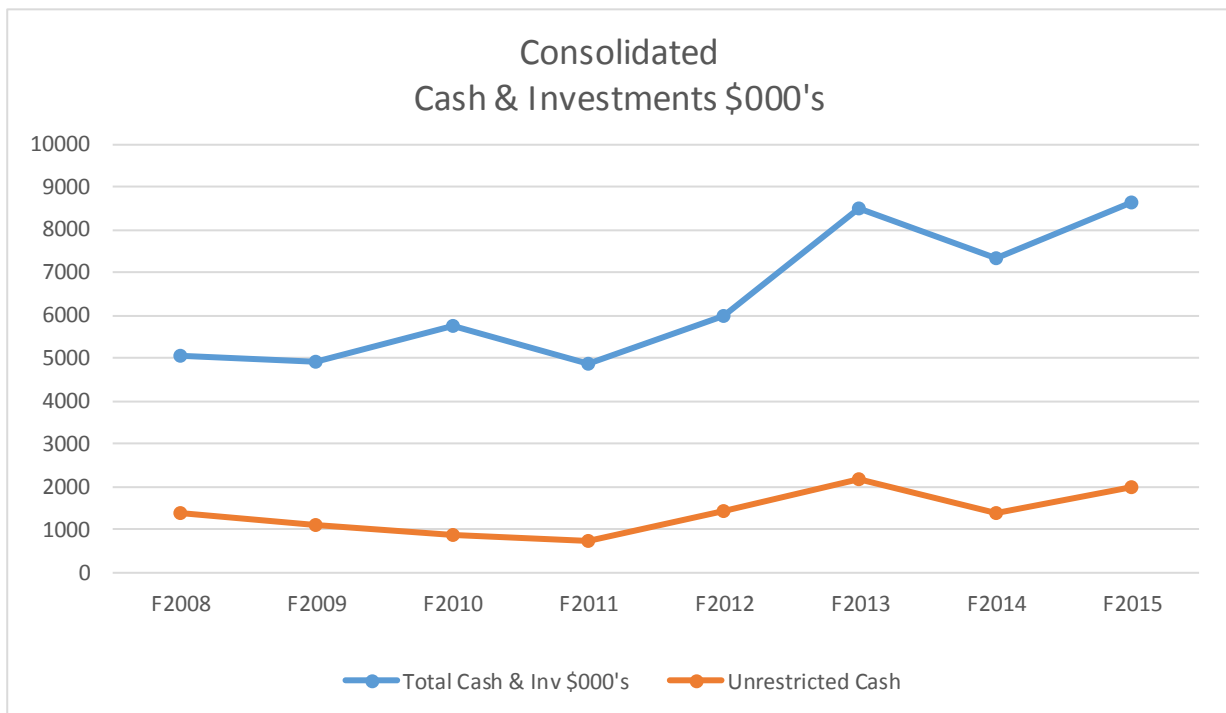
Restricted Cash – Note 6

External restrictions are cash balances which are required by legislation to be quarantined for future spending on a specified function. Accordingly, Council has restricted \$1.3 million for the water fund, \$2.4 million for the sewer fund and \$505,000 for specific purpose grants for things such as Work on Main and Shire Roads, the Bogan Bush Mobile, the Long Day Care Centre and software for development application tracking and electronic housing code.

Internal restrictions total \$2.4 million and have increased slightly due to an additional \$440,000 being added to the plant reserve, reflecting the plant items which were budgeted for but not purchased in 2014/15, and additional recoveries made from the charging out plant. This has been partially offset by a \$218,000 reduction in money restricted for carry-over capital works. Internal restrictions are not compulsory but are made because Council believes that it is prudent to do so.

Unrestricted cash has increased by \$570,000 due to strong net cash-flows from operations. The graph below shows Council's increase in cash over since 2008.

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Capital Spending – Note 9

Note nine shows that Council has \$204 million in fixed assets, most of these being in Roads. It also shows that Council spent \$3.1 million in capital works on these assets and that they depreciated by \$3.6 million.

In order to meet its Fit for the future benchmarks Council needs to increase its spending on capital renewals (including road re-sheeting and re-sealing) to exceed that of depreciation.

Ratios – Note 13

Financial ratios are detailed in note 13 of the financial statements. They are particularly important in the current local climate of mergers because they tend to be used in State Government reports to illustrate Council's financial strength at a glance. They are calculated using a combination of Income Statement and Balance Sheet figures.

Operating Performance Ratio

The operating performance ratio is healthy at 4.97%. It moved back into positive territory due to receiving its full FAG allocation this year and managing to increase user charges for RMS tendered works.

Own Source Operating Revenue

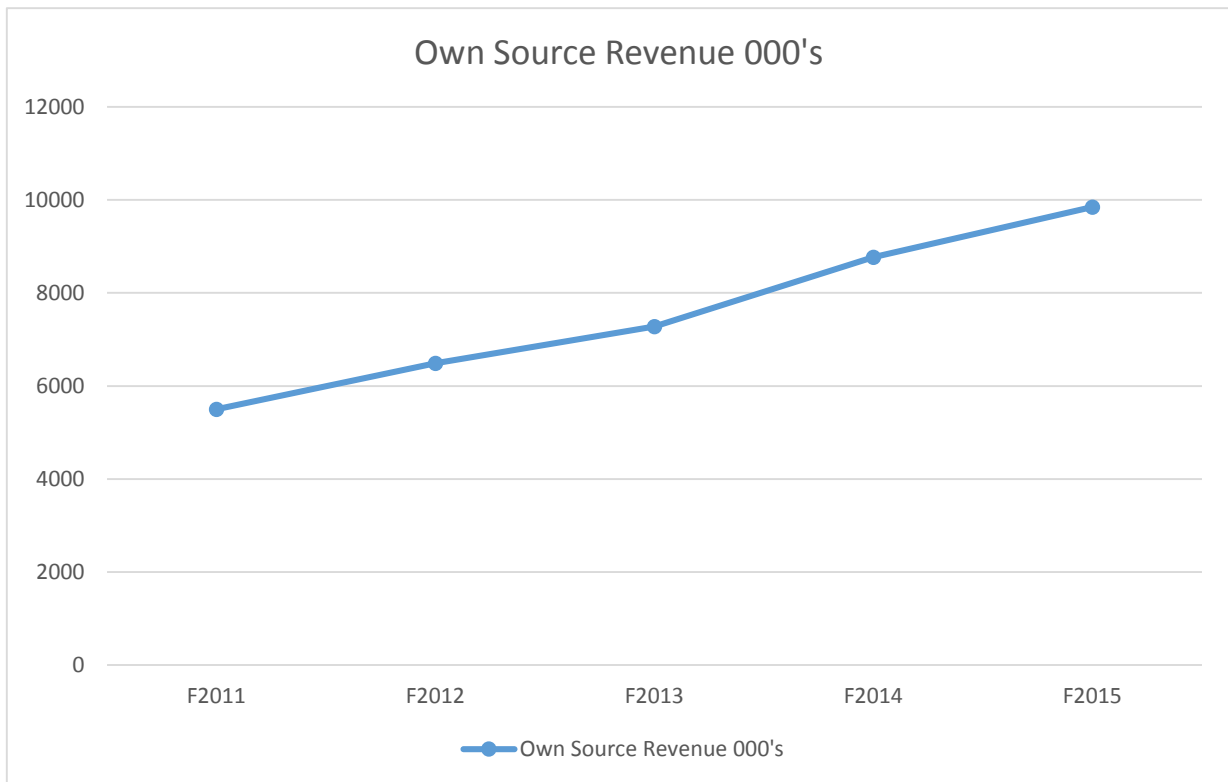
The consolidated own source operating revenue ratio is 62%, which is above the 60% benchmark used for fit for the future assessment. The projected Ratio supplied in Council's FFTF submission was 63%. If water and sewer are excluded the ratio is 54%.

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This ratio was higher last year when Council only received half its FAG entitlement. The ratio looks good because of additional income from tendered RMS jobs.

To illustrate its financial independence to the NSW Government it is important that Council keep this ratio as high as possible. To do this Council will need to be diligent in billing rates and service charges as well as continuing to obtain income from tendered works and user charges.

The graph below shows Council's the increase in own source revenue over the last five years.



Unrestricted Current Ratio

The unrestricted current ratio assesses the adequacy of working capital and its ability to meet Council's short term debt commitments as and when they fall due. It is measured by dividing unrestricted Current Assets by Current Liabilities. The minimum benchmark ratio is 1.5:1, Council's ratio is 7.6 to 1, which is way in excess of what is required. Council could consider investing in term deposits with a longer term maturity date, but would run the risk of being tied into the given returns if and when interest rates rise.



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Debt Service Ratio

Council's debt service ratio is negligible as it currently has virtually no loans. This puts Council in a strong position with plenty of scope to finance projects and none of its budget being used to pay off debt. This ratio will increase next year with the financing of the Nyngan Waste Cell, The Long Day Centre and the Medical Centre. Repaying loans for the construction of these facilities could take \$150,000 out of Council's operating budget.

Rates Outstanding Ratio

The rates outstanding ratio shows the proportion of Council's normal rates and charges that are owing. It currently stands at 6.2%, which is a big improvement on previous years, but still too high. Council reports on its collection status every month. This is an extremely important ratio as Council must convert rates to cash in order to pay its bills.

Cash Expense Cover Ratio

The cash expense cover ratio shows the amount of months Council could continue operating if no cash was to be received. It is a function of the amount of cash and investments which Council has, divided by the average monthly cash outgoings. Council is strong in this area as it has adequate cash reserves to fund its operations. The ratio shows that if Council generated no revenue at all it could continue to operate at current levels for 8.58 months.

Water Fund – Note 21

The water fund made a loss for the year of \$55,000. Expenditure increased for the year by \$362,000 mainly due to a \$307,000 increase in spending on materials and contracts and a \$56,000 increase in labour.

Income increased by \$448,000 on the back of a five per cent increase in access charges and more customers being identified as being liable to pay for the service. Usage charges increased by \$46,000 as a result of water sales to customers increasing by 24,860 kilolitres.

The balance sheet shows that the fund has adequate cash reserves of \$1.3 million, which is basically the same as the previous year. The cash will be needed in the coming years to fund an extensive capital works program planned by the Asset Engineer.

Sewer Fund – Note 21

The sewer fund returned a net operating surplus for the year of \$326,000. Overall income increased by \$115,000. This was due to usage charges increasing by \$101,000 as more non-residential properties were charged for discharging to the system than in previous years.



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The balance sheet shows the fund to have \$2.4 million in cash and investments. This is more than adequate to fund the capital works program in the foreseeable future, hence the nil increase in charges for this service for 2015/16 and projected minimal increases in future years.

Summary

The Financial Statements show Bogan Shire Council to be in a Sound Financial Position with adequate cash to pay bills as and when they fall due and minimal debt. Council will be challenged in future years when its debt level increases due to the building of the Long Day Care Centre and Medical Centre.

It will also need to cope with lower Roads to Recovery Grants from 2017/18 onwards. It will need to continue to increase own source revenue and keep expenditure under control so that it can maintain its current service levels and capital works program in future years.

5.4 Recommendation

1. That the Draft Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015 be adopted by the Council and referred for Audit.
2. That the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and responsible Accounting Officer be authorised to sign the necessary Financial Statements.
3. Council's audited financial reports and a copy of the Auditor's Reports be made available for public inspection on Council's web page and in printed format at the Council Chambers and Library.

6 INNOVATION FUND GRANT APPLICATION

Summary:

- *Seeking Council support to apply for a joint grant through the Innovation Fund.*
- *This will allow Council to implement a joint Strategic asset Management System which it otherwise wouldn't be able to afford.*
- *Council commitment will be up to \$30,000, some of this amount may be in-kind.*
- *This meets strategies 2.1.1, 2.1.3, 3.1.4 and 6.1.3 of Council's Operational Plan.*

6.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to seek Council support to apply for a Fit ForThe Future Innovation Fund Grant to purchase and implement a Strategic Asset Management System (SAMS). This application will be a joint application with Bogan, Gilgandra, Coonamble and Warren Shire Councils. Bourke and Brewarrina Councils have also been invited to participate.

6.2 Background

Bogan Shire Council has identified an opportunity to seek funding under the Fit for the Future Innovation Fund to purchase and implement a Strategic Asset Management System and invited the other identified "Rural Councils" in our area being Coonamble, Warren and Gilgandra to be involved. It was also noted that Bourke and Brewarrina Councils may wish to be involved. It is likely that Bogan Shire will be the applicant with support from the other Councils.

The Innovation Fund is a \$4m grants program established under the NSW Government Fit for the Future reforms.

Innovation fund grants are available to local Councils in regional NSW with a population less than 10,000 that have completed Fit for the Future template two or three along with those Councils in the Far West region who are not required to complete a Fit for the Future proposal.

Councils can apply individually or as a group with priority given to those Councils that are assessed as Fit for the Future.

The program provides one off grants of:

- up to \$150k for individual Councils
- up to \$400k for projects involving more than one Council

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For each grant a co-contribution of at least 30% is required (cash or in kind, such as labour, equipment, facilities, land/property or other resources).

The grant application process will commence towards the end of 2015 and close in February 2016.

6.3 Discussion

The joint application proposed is for the purchase and implementation of the software and hardware associated with a SAMS that will assist our Councils in meeting the demands of Total Asset Management into the future.

At this point a number of potential providers of asset management systems that have a proven track record, have been identified with the intention of arranging detailed demonstrations of their products. It is also intended that visits to regional councils that are more advanced in the use of asset management systems be arranged.

Council needs a SAMS in order to manage the usage, maintenance and upgrading of its assets in the most efficient and effective manner. However, these systems are expensive and Council cannot justify the cost of implementing one on its own. By implementing a joint system it allows Council to make a strong joint grant application and to defray the cost of implementation and running the system over several Councils.

Council's Asset Manager, Jayantha Ediriweera will oversee Council's involvement in this project.

A well implemented working SAMS will help Council attain many of the strategies agreed on in its Operational Plan, but will particularly meet Strategies 2.1.1 and 2.1.3 in relation to maintenance and management of shire roads, 3.1.4 in relation to the management and maintenance of buildings and 6.1.3 in relation to statutory reporting.

It is envisaged that the maximum level of Council's contribution would be \$30,000 with part of this to an in kind contribution.

6.4 Recommendation

That Bogan Shire Council commit to the joint Fit for the Future Innovation Grant Application for the purchase of a Strategic Asset Management System (SAMS) and accordingly commit a total of \$30,000 (including cash and in kind) budget to the project.

7 2014/15 ACTUAL COMPARED TO BUDGET

Summary:

- Council has performed well against budget with an overall surplus in General Fund of \$816,757.
- Council is unlikely to have the capacity to spend this additional money on roadworks in the 2015/16 financial year as previously resolved.
- Council is likely to need this money in future years when R2R funding reduces.

7.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to report on how Council has performed against its 2014/15 operating budget.

7.2 Background

Council adopted its 2014/15 budget on 26 June 2014. It revised it at the end of each quarter in response to changes in the financial landscape and changes in priorities.

The operating budget is an estimate of the collection and allocation of financial resources to and from programs.

7.3 Discussion

All three of Council's operational funds made an operational surplus as shown below these figures include depreciation:

Fund	2014/2015 Actual Plus Restrictions	2014/15 Total Revised Budget	Variance	Fav/Unfav
General	307,604	1,124,361	816,757	F
Water	185,728	263,516	77,788	F
Sewer	- 326,832	5,280	332,112	F
Consolidated	166,501	1,393,157	1,226,656	F

The General Fund has shown a budget surplus of \$816,757 which is a very pleasing result, although \$165,000 of this variance is due to depreciation, which leaves a cash surplus compared to budget of \$651,757.



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Council has previously resolved to spend the budget surplus on Capital Road Projects. The budget surpluses in Water and Sewer will be spent on assets belonging to those funds. The details of the budget variances are shown in the table attached to this report.

7.4 Summary

This result is a good one and enables Council to allocate additional money to roadworks as it previously resolved. At the time of making that resolution Council was not aware that it would receive additional Roads to Recovery money for the 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years.

With its large R2R program in the abovementioned years, and the carry forward of 1Km construction of Colane road, Council would struggle to spend any additional money over and above its budgeted Capital Works Program.

However Council will need additional money from 2017/18 onwards when Roads to Recovery funding drops back to \$624,000 per year.

It is therefore recommended that the budget surplus for 2014/15 be spend on roadworks in 2017/18 onwards.

7.5 Attachment

Actual compared to Budget 2014/2015 Financial Year.

7.6 Recommendation

That Council reserve the excess cash in General Fund for Capital Roadworks in the 2017/18 financial year.

**Manager Corporate Services' Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
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ATTACHMENT 1

Bogan Shire Council						
Actual Compared to Budget 2014/2015 Financial Year						
Outcome	2014/ 15 Total Actuals	Restrictions	2014/ 2015 Actuals with Restrictions	2014/ 15 Total Revised Budget	Variance	Fav / Unfav Analysis
Operating General and Waste	-73,362	380,966	307,604	1,124,361	816,757	F This variance is primarily due to favourable variances in Depreciation (\$165), Plant Recoveries (\$281K), RMCC Works (\$118K), Wages overhead recoveries (\$89K) and Weeds (\$51) offset by unfavourable variances in Road Maintenance (\$315K), Waste (111K) and Ground Maintenance (\$63K).
Building Our Community	1,087,056	20,966	1,108,022	1,019,918	-88,104	U Higher than budgeted wages and plant costs expended on grounds maintenance. Higher expenditure on Swimming pool utilities and equipment maintenance and higher than budgeted expenditure on tree maintenance at the Nyngan cemetery.
Connecting our Community	950,065	260,000	1,210,065	1,882,480	672,415	F Due to lower than budgeted depreciation on the road network and higher than budgeted recoveries from the charging out of plant to jobs. This has been partially offset by higher than budgeted spending on road maintenance.
Managing Our Environment	1,387,935		1,387,935	1,232,308	-155,627	U This unfavourable variance of \$155K is primarily caused by higher staff wages, contractor costs and materials charged to the waste depot and higher than budgeted depreciation on Council buildings.
Our Health & safety	47,137	100,000	147,137	227,416	80,279	F Primarily due to higher than budgeted contributions and re-imbursements from the Rural Fire Service, and the receipt of a stormwater management grant, part of which the corresponding expenditure was spent in the previous year.
Developing Our Economy	69,653		69,653	93,504	23,851	F Due to lower than budgeted expenditure on village maintenance.
Responsible Local Government	-3,579,992		-3,579,992	-3,446,324	133,668	F Due to lower than budgeted expenditure on consultants, as a result of of doing the financial statements and budgets in-house and lower than budgeted expenditure on salaries due to charging some time out to othe departments and some positions not being filled for part of the year. Also due to lower than budgeted expenditure on Salaries in the General Managers office and lower than budgeted expenditure on Councillor travel and conferences due to fewer Councillors attending the Local Government conference.
Labour Overheads	-35,216		-35,216	115,059	150,275	F Due to higher on-costs on outdoor staff charged to jobs. The current on-cost rate is 50%.
Operating Water	185,728	0	185,728	263,516	77,788	F Due to higher kilolitres of water billed to users.
Operating Sewer	-326,832	0	-326,832	5,280	332,112	F Billing of non-residential sewer charges.
CONSOLIDATED TOTALS	-214,465	380,966	166,501	1,393,157	1,226,656	F

8 BOGAN BUSH MOBILE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Summary:

- *The Quality Improvement Plan for the Bogan Bush Mobile has been completed and is being put to Council for endorsement.*
- *The plan has received favourable feedback from DET.*
- *The plan will be used to improve the BBM service.*

8.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to make Council aware of the recently completed Quality Improvement Plan written by Council staff for the Bogan Bush Mobile service. Quality Improvement plan (QIP).

8.2 Background

For the last two years BBM have been working with the department of education in developing a QIP. In this time the BBM team have enjoyed focusing on the Quality Areas set out in the QIP, these being in line with and part of the of the National Quality Framework, assessment and rating process.

8.3 Discussion

The writing of the QIP has been a process that has seen team growth and the educators build on strengths whilst addressing areas of improvement. We are very proud of the document we have produced which has received positive feedback from John Bradridge our funding manager with DET and Contact inc, whom delivered training around this for BBM.

We plan on continuing to use this method of self-reflection and improvement in the ongoing improvement of Bogan Bush Mobile Service.

The Plan will be tabled at the Council meeting, however copies are now available for those Councillors who wish to study it.

8.4 Recommendation

That Council endorse the Bogan bush Mobile Quality Improvement Plan tabled at its ordinary meeting on 24 September 2015.

Luke Taberner

MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

REPORT TO ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL – MANAGER ENGINEERING SERVICES

Mayor and Councillors

I submit the following report for consideration:-

1 OPERATIONAL REPORT

1.1 Civil Works

Work undertaken between the reporting period from the 10th of August 2015 to the 11th September 2015 consisted of the following:

- Completed work on the Cobb & Co display shed at Teamsters rest in Pangee Street, including assisting with the fitting of the roller doors.
- Constructed Cremation Burial Area at the Nyngan Cemetery.
- Repairs to brick entrance of the Nyngan Cemetery.
- Internal fit out of the Swimming Pool building including, installation of a hot water system, lining, painting, fitting of new kitchenette.
- Maintenance and repairs to the Senior Citizens Centre in Cobar Street.
- Constructed a concrete path at Nyngan sewer pump station.
- Constructed a concrete area around the wash bay sump at the Council Work Depot in Nymagee Street.
- Repairs and maintenance to the stormwater drainage of the Pangee Street Dental Surgery.
- Erected the "Big Bogan" at Teamster's Rest site, including boring hole for footing and pouring concrete slab for statue and esky.

1.2 Community Facilities

Work undertaken by Council's Community Facilities during this reporting period consisted of the following:

- Preparation of the ovals and sporting fields.
- Preparation of the showground facilities for Dog trials.
- Preparation of Palais Theatre for Nyngan Talent Show.
- Cleaning and sweeping of the Nyngan CBD.
- Preparing for private functions.
- Slashing of Albert Priest Channel

**Manager Engineering Services' Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
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- Slashing on the Tottenham Road.
- Cleaning and maintenance of town streets and nature strips.
- Cleaning of town streets gutters and culverts.

1.3 Roads

The work undertaken during this reporting period by Works Crews consisted of the following:

No.	Name	Comments
MR 228	Hermidale/Nymagee Road	2km construction sealed
MR 228	Hermidale/Nymagee Road	Construction continuing of next 2kms
MR 424	Monkey Bridge Road	Maintenance grade continuing
92	Colane Road	Maintenance grading completed
92	Colane Road	Resheeting commenced
21	Gongolgon Road	Re sheeting commenced
64	West Bogan Road	Maintenance grading completed
54	Jeffreys Road	Maintenance grading completed
22	Moonagee Road	Maintenance grading continuing
55	Trethowans Road	Maintenance grading completed
HW7	Mitchell Highway	Shoulder rehabilitation completed
60	Whiterock Road	Maintenance grading completed
61	O'Neills Road	Maintenance grading completed

Wet weather over the last reporting period has slightly limited work occurring on Council's rural roads within the network. Once again when the rural works crews have been unable to work on the roads they have completed the following tasks:

- Tree trimming of trees along town streets and rural roads.
- Delineation and signage maintenance on rural roads.
- Cleaning up and removal of rubbish around town.
- Slashing of town streets.



**Manager Engineering Services' Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
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Council's Jet-Patcher during this reporting period has carried out routine maintenance on the following roads:

- Yarrandale Road.
- Colane Road.
- Nyngan town streets.
- Mitchell Highway.
- Barrier Highway.
- Canonba Road.
- Tottenham Road.
- Hermidale/Nymagee Road

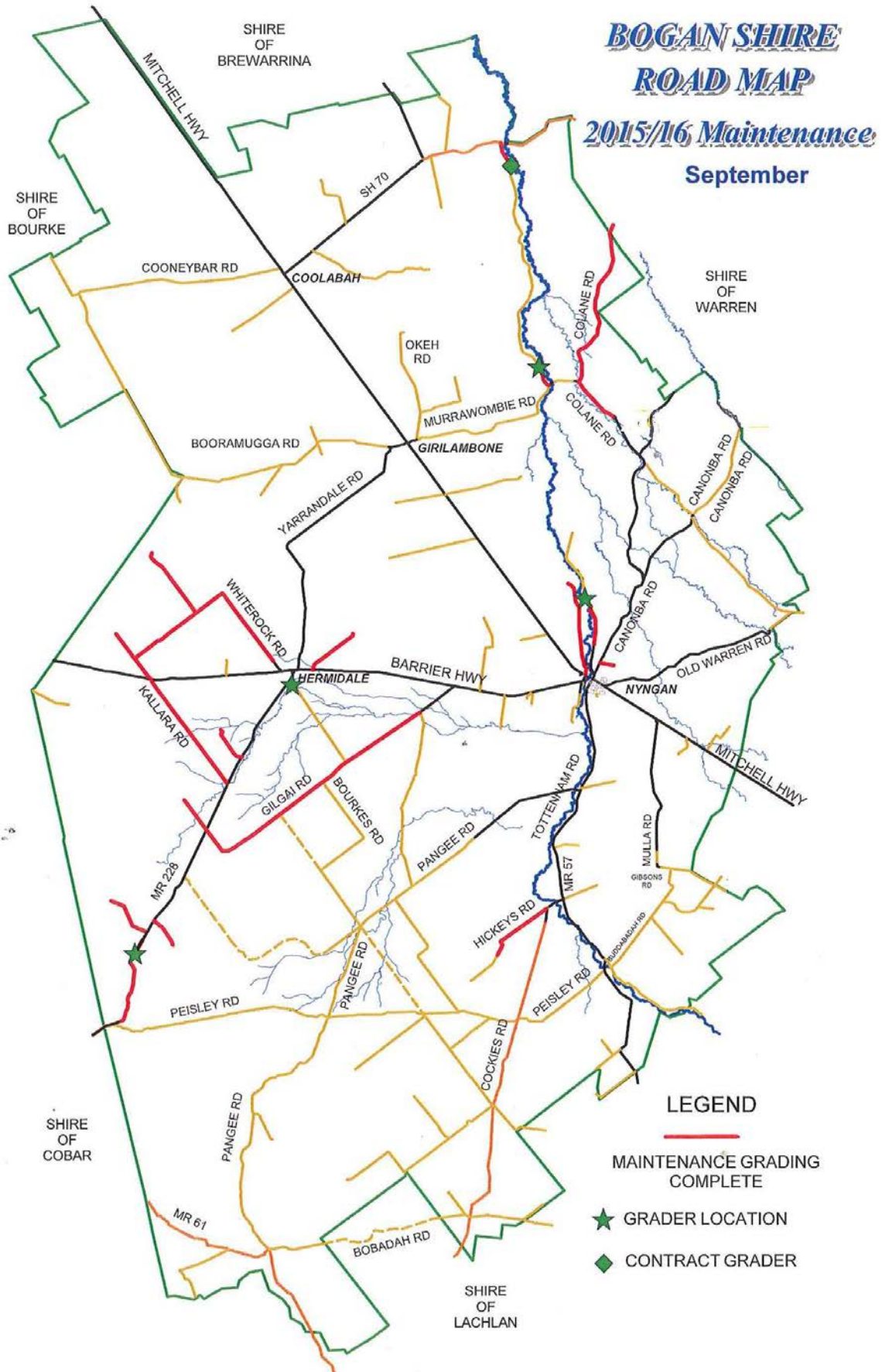
The works program for the remainder of September and beginning of includes but is not limited to the following:

- Maintenance grading and re-sheeting of the following roads Colane, Kallara, Laroo, Gongolgon, Whiterock, Mulla and Hermidale Nymagee.
- Completing the construction of 2km of Hermidale Nymagee Road for 2015-16.
- Sealing several sections of the Tottenham Road and Mulla Road.

1.4 Recommendation

That the Operational Report be received and noted.

**Manager Engineering Services' Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
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**Manager Engineering Services' Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
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2 TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to present the discussions of the Traffic Committee meeting held on Wednesday 26th August 2015 and for Council to consider their recommendations.

2.2 Background

The Traffic Committee meets quarterly to discuss traffic and pedestrian facilities and issues and to make recommendations to Council.

2.3 Discussion

The following issues were discussed:

Mitchell Highway Intersection with Moonagee Steet

Relocate the "Give Way" sign and holding line from Nymagee Street into Moonagee Street giving highway traffic the right of way at this intersection for a trial period of six months. Provide a "Children Crossing" warning sign in Nymagee Street to warn highway traffic of pedestrians.

Install larger "GIVE WAY" signs to increase visual impact at intersection. Investigate ripple strip at approach to the intersection.

RMS Safety Camera Sign

Council have requested that RMS be asked if the structure can be decorated to improve its appearance.

RMS have advised the structure cannot be modified or decorated.

Junior Rugby League Oval

RMS provided funding to install bollards and "No Stopping" signs either side of Cannonbar Street to provide an area with no parked vehicles for improved sight distance and safer crossing of the street for young children. The work has been completed.

It was recommended that road base be placed on the shoulder adjacent to the park to allow vehicles to get off the edge of the traffic lane in wet weather to provide better sight distance.

Funeral Processions

Highway Sergeant Allan Bridge referred to the letter sent to Council by the police regarding driving two abreast in a funeral procession and pointed out that this practice is illegal without road closures. Nyngan Sergeant Tony Wood advised that the police would work with the community where possible during funerals.

2015/16 Projects

Two projects were put forward for the current financial year. Pavement widening of Hoskins Street on the northern side of the Mitchell Highway and removal of the existing traffic island / garden in Oxley Street at the intersection of Moonagee Street. RMS will review project proposals and budgets.

Pre-School Bus Parking Area in Moonagee Street.

Council had been asked to review the bus parking area due to congestion in the afternoon but after inspecting the area and discussions held with the committee, it was considered to not be a major concern.

Cobar Street "No Parking" Area

Council had been requested to install a "No Stopping" area west of the Foodworks car park exit to improve sight distance. The police said there had not been any traffic issues reported at the location and the committee felt that there was no need for the restricted parking at the moment.

School Zone Flashing Lights

RMS are currently investigating the replacement of the Council operated School Zone Flashing Lights with their system.

Closing of Unsealed Roads

The Engineering Department is currently reviewing the closing of unsealed roads during and after wet weather. The use of the roads by four wheel drive vehicles and loaded heavy vehicles is causing major damage to unsealed roads.

2.4 Recommendation

That the report be received and noted.

3 GARFORD FIRE TRUCK RESTORATION

Summary:

- *The purpose of this report is to provide Council with further information on the storage of the Garford Fire Truck while it is being restored.*
- *Council offered a storage container at the depot to store the truck safely.*
- *The offer of a storage container was accepted, with a request that it has side opening doors to allow easier access to the truck to work on.*
- *A new storage container with side doors can be purchased from between \$7,800 and \$8,500 delivered.*
- *Possible Work Health and Safety issues for volunteers accessing the truck during normal depot operating times.*

3.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with further information on the storage of the Garford Fire Truck while it is being restored.

3.2 Background

After considering a letter from Keith White of the Nyngan Historical Society at the June Council Meeting, Council wrote to Mr White offering a storage container at our depot to store the truck safely.

3.3 Discussion

Mr White has accepted the offer of a storage container and has requested that it has side opening doors to allow easier access to the truck to work on.

After trying to obtain quotes for the supply of second hand containers with side doors, we were advised they were not available. The supplier has advised that a new storage container with side doors can be purchased from between \$7,800 and \$8,500 delivered to our depot.



Council would also need to agree to volunteers entering the depot to work on the truck. This may create Work Health and Safety issues when working on the vehicle during normal depot operating times.

3.4 Recommendation

For Council's consideration.

4 CONSENT TO CLOSE UNCONSTRUCTED COUNCIL ROAD

Summary:

- *The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the closing of a section of Council controlled road reserve along the frontage of the property "Springdale Park".*
- *The Department of Primary Industries - Lands has written to Council seeking consent to close the section of unconstructed road.*
- *Under the provisions of Section 38(2)(b) Roads Act 1993 if the Council road is closed the land within the road reserve becomes vested in the crown.*
- *The Crown may then dispose of the land under the Crown Lands Act 1989 to the adjoining land owner.*

4.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the closing of a section of Council controlled road reserve along the frontage of the property "Springdale Park".

4.2 Background

The Department of Primary Industries - Lands has written to Council seeking consent to close the section of unconstructed road shown with a yellow border in the attached aerial photograph.

4.3 Discussion

Under the provisions of Section 38(2)(b) *Roads Act 1993* if the Council road is closed the land within the road reserve becomes vested in the crown. The Crown may then dispose of the land under the *Crown Lands Act 1989* to the adjoining land owner.

The Department requests Bogan Shire Council's consent to the Department dealing with the subject unconstructed Council road. The Council road may then be processed together with other crown roads.

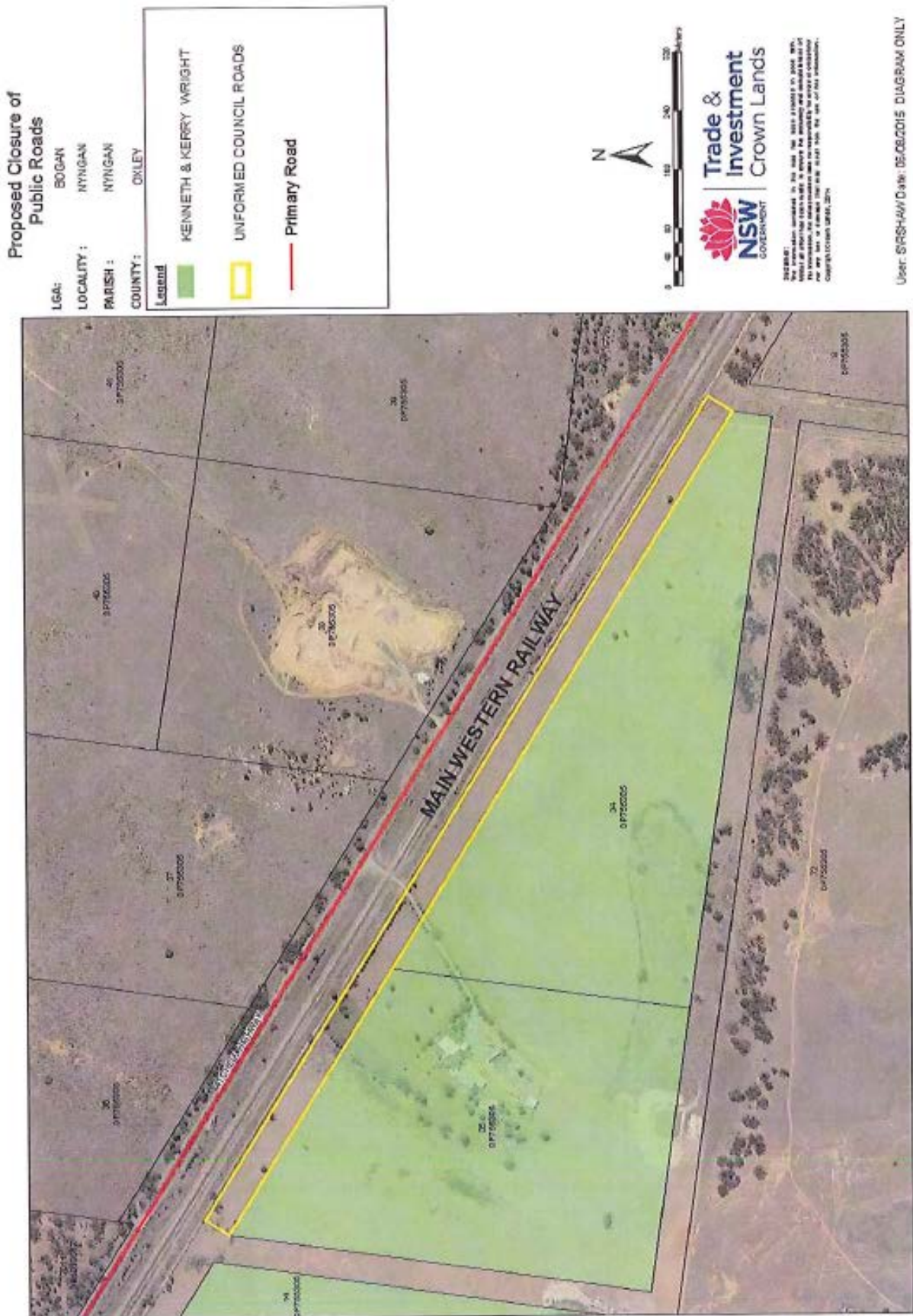
4.4 Attachment

- 1 Aerial Imagery of Council Road.
- 2 Road Closure Map.

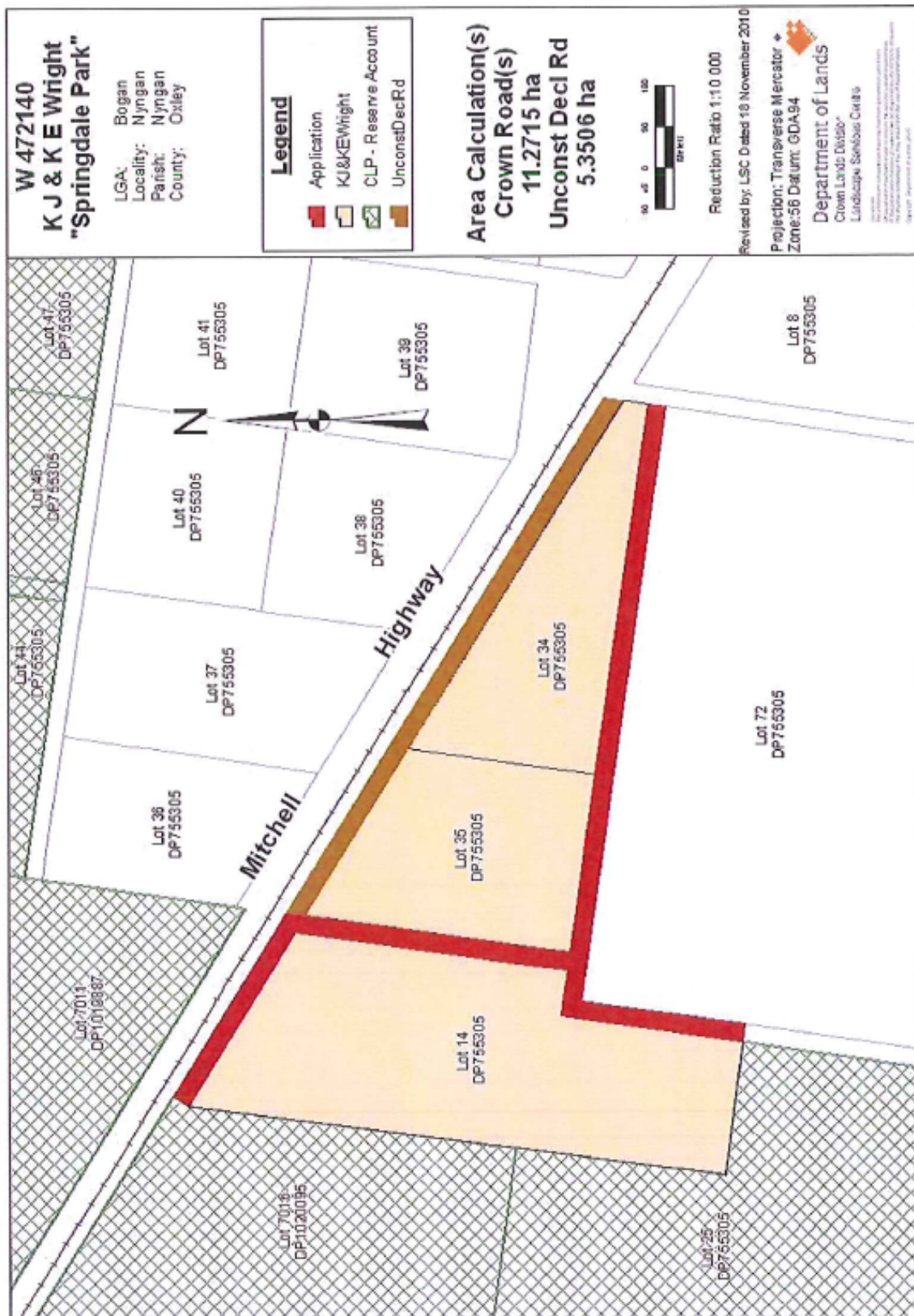
2.1 Recommendation

For Council's consideration.

ATTACHMENT 1



ATTACHMENT 2



5 NYNGAN AERODROME CAPITAL WORKS

Summary:

- *The purpose of this report is to request Council to consider reallocating the \$75,000 for the aerodrome resurfacing in the 2015/16 Capital Budget.*
- *Changes to regulations for certified aerodromes now requires runways over 1200 metres long to have an illuminated wind direction indicator adjacent to either end of the runway.*
- *Council has allocated \$75,000 in the current budget to resurface the aerodrome apron, taxiway, and part of the runway.*
- *The purchase and installation of a new illuminated wind direction indicator is estimated to cost \$15,000.*

5.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to request Council to consider reallocating the \$75,000 for the aerodrome resurfacing in the 2015/16 Capital Budget.

5.2 Background

Changes to regulations for certified aerodromes now requires runways over 1200 metres long to have an illuminated wind direction indicator adjacent to either end of the runway.

5.3 Discussion

Council has allocated \$75,000 in the current budget to resurface the aerodrome apron, taxiway, and part of the runway. Line marking is now due to be renewed on the apron and taxiway and will have to be completed as part of the resealing.

The purchase and installation of a new illuminated wind direction indicator is estimated to cost \$15,000 and as an alternative to allocating additional funds this year, it is estimated that the repairs and resealing of the apron and taxiway, the reinstatement of the line marking, and the installation of the new wind indicator can be completed within the current budget.

The runway will still require resealing but could be carried out over the next couple of years.

5.4 Recommendation

That the current budget allocation for resurfacing at the aerodrome be reallocated to reseal the apron and taxiway, reinstate the line marking, and installing an illuminated wind direction indicator.

6 WORKS DEPOT SECURITY GATE

Summary:

- *The purpose of this report is to request Council to allocate additional funds in the 2015/16 Capital Budget towards the installation of a security gate at the works depot.*
- *The 2015/16 Capital Budget includes an amount of \$10,700 for the supply and installation of an automatic security gate to permit access to the works depot.*
- *Council has allocated \$20,000 in the 2015/16 budget for improving security.*
- *It may be appropriate to utilise \$9,300 from that budget for the gate.*

6.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to request Council to allocate additional funds in the 2015/16 Capital Budget towards the installation of a security gate at the works depot.

6.2 Background

The 2015/16 Capital Budget includes an amount of \$10,700 for the supply and installation of an automatic security gate to permit access to the works depot.

6.3 Discussion

After considerable investigation into the available systems, it is believed that most efficient method of access is by use of a key pad at the gate in addition to an electronic device in each Council vehicle.

This will allow access to staff arriving in their own vehicles in the morning then allows the gate to be opened on approach by Council vehicles to eliminate waiting time.

The estimated cost to supply and install the preferred system with electronic devices for each vehicle is \$20,000. Council has allocated \$20,000 in the 2015/16 budget for improving security, starting on the updating of the key and lock system and it may therefore be appropriate to utilise \$9,300 from that budget for the gate.

6.4 Recommendation

That \$9,300 be transferred from the \$20,000 key and lock system capital budget to increase the Security Gate budget to \$20,000.

7 2015/16 REGIONAL ROADS EXPENDITURE

Summary:

- *The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the proposed Regional Roads expenditure for the 2015/16 financial year.*
- *RMS have not yet advised Council of our Block Grant allocation for 2015/16.*
- *RMS have confirmed the Repair Grant for work on the Hermidale to Nymagee Road.*
- *The 2015/16 regional roads budget is \$970,000.*
- *Proposed expenditure for the current financial year is based on the approved funding of \$1,033,000 (including Repair Grant) for last year.*

7.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the proposed Regional Roads expenditure for the 2015/16 financial year.

7.2 Background

Roads and Maritime Services have not yet advised Council of our Block Grant allocation for 2015/16 although they have confirmed the Repair Grant for work on the Hermidale to Nymagee Road.

Currently the 2015/16 regional roads budget is \$970,000 and is made up of the following based on the 2014/15 budget:

Regional Roads Sealed Maintenance	\$459,039
Regional Roads Unsealed Maintenance	\$360,961
Construct 2 km Hermidale Nymagee Road	\$300,000

7.3 Discussion

In the 2014/15 financial year Council received \$883,000 in block grant funding with an additional \$150,000 under the repair grant.

The following proposed expenditure for the current financial year is based on the approved funding of \$1,033,000 (including Repair Grant) for last year.



**Manager Engineering Services' Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
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Routine Sealed Maintenance	\$	207,111	
Routine Un-Sealed Maintenance	\$	265,889	
Bitumen Re-sealing	\$	135,000	4.5 km Tottenham Road
Crushed Rock Re-sheeting	\$	125,000	2 km Monkey Bridge Rd, 3 km Cockies Rd
Repair Program Construction	\$	300,000	2 km Hermidale Nymagee Road
	\$	1,033,000	

Of concern is that NSW Government funding is not sufficient to cover estimated costs to prevent Bogan Shire's Regional roads from falling into an unsatisfactory state of repair.

The estimated annual cost of maintaining our Regional Roads including bitumen re-sealing and gravel re-sheeting is \$1.237 million.

The attached letter from the General Manager to the General Purpose Standing Committee No.6 explains the shortfall in Regional Roads funding.

7.4 Attachment

Letter from the General Manager to the General Purpose Standing Committee No.6.

7.5 Recommendation

That the report be received and noted.

**Manager Engineering Services' Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
held on 24 September 2015**



"Comfortable Country Living"

9 September 2015

**The Director
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 6
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 200**

Dear Director

**Legislative Council Inquiry into Local Government in New South Wales – Question on
Notice at Cobar Hearing, 17 August 2015**

At the Cobar hearing on 17 August 2015, the General Manager was asked the following question in the context of the funding shortfall for Bogan Shire Council on Regional Roads:

***CHAIR:** My question is how far short is the funding that the State gives you to look after those roads? Is it 25 per cent short or five per cent short?*

Having taken the question on notice, investigations now indicate that

- The estimated annual cost of maintenance for these roads, including re-sealing and gravel re-sheeting is \$1.237 Million and annual depreciation is estimated at \$270,101
- Council's total Block Grant from the NSW Government in 2014/15 was \$883,000.

This indicates a 28% shortfall if depreciation is excluded from the calculation and 41% shortfall if it is included.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Francis", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Derek Francis
General Manager
Bogan Shire Council

Graeme Bourke
MANAGER ENGINEERING SERVICES

**Manager Development and Environmental Services' Report to the Ordinary Meeting of
Bogan Shire Council held on 24 September 2015**

**REPORT TO ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL – MANAGER DEVELOPMENT
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

Mayor and Councillors

I submit the following reports for consideration:-

1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

1.1 Introduction

Four (4) Development Applications have been approved since Council's August 2015 Meeting.

Application Number	Applicant	Address	Proposal	Value of Works	Status
2014/001	Dr Ryan Heggie	Cannonbar Road, NYNGAN	Hangar	64,000	Awaiting additional information as of 10/2/2014
2014/013	Peter Groeger	'Killawarra' COOLABAH	Extracting sand and gravel	5,000	Still waiting on consent from CL's 24/7/2014
2015/004	Tritton Resources Pty Ltd	Mitchell Highway GIRILAMBONE Lot 10 DP 751315 & Lot 3 DP 751342	Underground mine – "Avoca Tank"	20,000,000	Additional Information required from Applicant
2015/009	Emma Templeton	93-101 Pangee Street, NYNGAN	Modification to DA 2012/011	250,000	Additional information due to removal of onsite parking requested
2015/010	Tritton Resources Pty Ltd	Booramugga Road, GIRILAMBONE	Section 96 Modification to DA 1/91 to extend existing open cut mine	30,000,000	Additional Information required from Applicant for Office of Water
2015/017	Bogan Shire Council	Dandaloo/Oxley Street, NYNGAN	Child care centre	800,000	Under assessment
2015/018	Bogan Shire Council	76 Pangee Street, NYNGAN	Demolish sheds and shop fronts	60,000	Approved 18 August 2015

**Manager Development and Environmental Services' Report to the Ordinary Meeting of
Bogan Shire Council held on 24 September 2015**

2015/019	Bogan Shire Council	72,74,76 Pangee Street, NYNGAN	Medical Centre	1,200,000	Under assessment
2015/021	KJ Halal Meats Pty Ltd	Old Warren Road, NYNGAN	Alterations and Additions to Abattoirs	250,000	Under assessment and on public exhibition until 24 September 2015
2015/022	David Buchanan	17 Oatley Street, NYNGAN	Screen Enclosure	52,380	Approved 15 August 2015
2015/023	Zac Riley	Lot 6 Tottenham Road, NYNGAN	Shed	25,000	Approved 14 August 2015
2015/001 – Complying Development Application	Wright Way Building and Construction	Lot 2 Flashman Ave, NYNGAN	Dwelling and Outbuilding	390,000	Approved 24 August 2015

1.2 Recommendation

That the report be received and noted.



**Manager Development and Environmental Services' Report to the Ordinary Meeting of
Bogan Shire Council held on 24 September 2015**

2 OPERATIONAL REPORT – PARKS AND GARDENS TEAM

2.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to outline the key works undertaken since Council's August 2015 meeting by the Parks and Gardens Team.

2.2 Discussion

Key works that have been undertaken consisted of the following:

- Routine maintenance duties
- Supervision of students from Nyngan High School undertaking work experience
- Laying of turf and levelling of ground at the Big Bogan site
- Weed spraying around Pangee Street garden beds
- Cleaning of Nyngan Memorial Pool for re-opening
- Replanting of garden beds (Pangee Street Beautification)
- Tree planting at Teamsters Rest
- Mowing and whipper snipping of the Girilambone Cemetery

2.3 Recommendation

The report be received and noted.



**Manager Development and Environmental Services' Report to the Ordinary Meeting of
Bogan Shire Council held on 24 September 2015**

3 OPERATIONAL REPORT – WEEDS

3.1 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to outline the key works undertaken since Council's August 2015 meeting by the Noxious Weeds Officer.

3.2 Discussion

Key works that have been undertaken consisted of the following:

- Routine maintenance duties
- Supervision of students from Nyngan High School undertaking work experience
- Laying of turf and levelling of ground at the Big Bogan site
- Weed spraying around Pangee Street garden beds
- Cleaning of Nyngan Memorial Pool for re-opening
- Replanting of garden beds (Pangee Street Beautification)
- Tree planting at Teamsters Rest
- Mowing and whipper snipping of the Girilambone Cemetery

3.3 Recommendation

The report be received and noted.

Timothy Riley

MANAGER OF DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

1 COMMUNITY HUB – AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS

Attached is a copy of correspondence received from the Community Hub advising of the recently successful inaugural Job Expo held at the Town Hall on 17 June 2015. The Hub is now seeking partnerships with Council and the Nyngan High School to implement and design the Job Expo for 2016. The Town Hall and catering equipment is now requested free of charge for the Job Expo 2016.

1.1 Recommendation: For noting.

2 COLLERREINA HALL

Attached is a copy of correspondence, the Minutes of the AGM and Hall Hire Fees received from the Collierreina Hall Committee. The Committee has provided a list of items on how they wish to spend their allocation from Council. All questions asked in the correspondence have been addressed.

General Manager's Note:

The Collierreina Hall Committee has requested several projects for funding from their "village fund". Subject to costing showing sufficient funding being available it is recommended that these projects be approved by Council and the Committee notified accordingly. AGM Minutes are provided for Council's records. Hall hire fees are as reflected in Council's Operational Plan and Budget. Minor hire items are not reflected in Council's Operational Plan and Budget but amendments will be made at the next update.

2.1 Recommendation: For Council's Consideration.

3 LODGE OXLEY No 225

Attached is a copy of a letter of appreciation received from Keith White, Hon. Sec. Lodge Oxley 225, expressing the gratitude of the Lodge Master and Brethern in regards to rates for the present year.

3.1 Recommendation: That the letter be received.

4 NYNGAN LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL

Attached is a copy of correspondence received from Veneta Dutton, CEO Nyngan Local Aboriginal Land Council seeking permission to revegetate and rehabilitate the area of the old PB Service Station on the Mitchell Highway, incorporating design elements to work in with the Heritage Park design and enhance the beautification of the entrance to the main street.

**Precis of Correspondence to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
held on 24 September 2015**

The Nyngan LACL are applying for funding for the project, are seeking donations of plants from nurseries and have a volunteer Horticulturalist working with them on plant selection and garden design.

4.1 Recommendation: For Council's consideration. It is further recommended that the Nyngan LALC continue to liaise with Council's Manager of Development Services and that a report be presented to Council for approval of the final design once this is known.

5 BRETT HOWARD

Attached is a copy of correspondence received from Brett Howard, who has been selected to play in the New South Wales Rugby League's Indigenous Under 16s Young Achievers Europe Squad in November 2015. Brett is seeking a donation from Council of \$500.00 to assist with the cost of his tour of France.

General Manager's Note:

Similar applicants have been advised that Council is unfortunately not able to agree to their request due to the limitations on the financial contributions Council may make to individuals under the Local Government Act.

5.1 Recommendation: Recommended that Brett Howard be advised accordingly.

6 NYNGAN OBSERVER

Attached is a copy of correspondence received from Brian O'Flaherty, Managing Editor, Fairfax Regional Media, requesting Council to allow their reporter Grace Ryan to record the proceedings of the meeting using her iPhone to supplement her handwritten notes and access to Council documents.

Note from the General Manager: Clause 273 of the Local Government General Regulation, 2005 provides as follows:

- (1) A person may use a tape recorder to record the proceedings of a meeting of a council or a committee of a council only with the authority of the council or committee.
- (4) In this clause, tape recorder includes a video camera and any electronic device capable of recording speech, whether a magnetic tape is used to Previous Hitrecord or not.

6.1 Recommendation: For Council's consideration.

7 NYNGAN GARDEN CLUB

Attached is a copy of correspondence received from Anna Corby, Secretary Nyngan Garden Club expressing their interest in being involved in any beautification projects that Council has planned for the old PB Service Station on the corner of Nymagee Street and Mitchell Highway. The Club wishes to be notified of any plans that Council has for this block and if they can be of assistance in creating gardens on the site.

7.1 Recommendation: For Council's consideration. It is further recommended that the Nyngan garden Club continue to liaise with Council's Manager of Development Services and that a report be presented to Council for approval of any designs once these are known.

8 JASON SHONE – USU LOCAL DELEGATE

Attached is a copy of correspondence received from Jason Shone, on behalf of the USU members at Bogan Shire Council applying for Friday 2 October 2015 for the Annual Picnic Day as per Clause 20B of the Local Government State Award 2014.

All Councillors and the General Manager are invited as guests of the USU members.

8.1 Recommendation: That Council recognises Friday 2 October 2015 as Union Picnic Day under Clause 20B of the Local Government State Award 2014.

9 WEEKLY CIRCULARS

Weekly Circulars 32/15 to 36/15 are tabled for Council's information. Copies of the Circulars Indices and Summary of Items have been dispatched to Councillors.

9.1 Recommendation: That the Local Government Weekly Circulars be noted, **particularly Issue 36, Item 15: Councillors' Work Health and Safety Obligations.**



Grants and Funding to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
held on 24 September 2015

GRANTS AND FUNDING

LG Weekly 32/15 – 14 August 2015

NSW Children's Week Grants and Awards

Applications are open for funding of up to \$500 to hold events during NSW Children's Week in October. Nominations are also open for the NSW Children's Week Awards.

Second Round Fixing Country Roads Funding Open in September

The second round of NSW Government grants for the Fixing Country Roads program will open next month.

International WaterCentre Scholarships Now Open

The Brisbane-based International Water Centre (WC) is offering scholarships for professionals interested in joining either the Master of Integrated Water Management or Water Leadership Program next year.

LG Weekly 33/15– 21 August 2015

Fish Habitat Action Grants Now Open

Grants of up to \$40,000 are available for habitat rehabilitation projects to enhance recreational fishing.

LG Weekly 34/15 – 28 August 2015

Senior Week 2016 Grants

Applications for funding to hold events for next year's 2016 Seniors Week close 4 September 2015.

Resource Recovery Facility Grants

The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and the Environmental Trust have announced grants of between \$100,000 and \$1 million to support the expansion and updating of resource recovery facilities.



**Grants and Funding to the Ordinary Meeting of Bogan Shire Council
held on 24 September 2015**

LG Weekly 35/15 – 4 September 2015

Before And After School Care Grants

Applications are open for a NSW Government \$20 million grants program for schools to establish out of hours care facilities.

Community Sharps Management Program

Seeding funds for the 2015/16 financial year are now available to councils to develop and improve initiatives to manage the disposal of community sharps in local communities.

LG Weekly 36/15 – 11 September 2015

Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Funding

Councils and Aboriginal land councils are invited to submit expressions of interest for new funding of up to \$1 million to develop or enhance sport and recreation facilities.

Community Hub



Donna Pumpa
"Community Development Officer"
Bogan Shire Council
P.O. Box 221
Nyngan, 2825
New South Wales

BOGAN SHIRE COUNCIL	
FILE	R/N
17 AUG 2015	
ASSIGNEE	

Re: Partnership Approach

Dear Mr Derek Drancis,

The Nyngan Community Hub are pleased to inform you that it is seeking possible partnerships with a locally based enterprise and the Bogan Shire Council and the Nyngan Highschool, to implement and design the Nyngan Job Expo 2016.

As such, due to the valuable assistance afforded to the Nyngan Community Hub in the implementation of the Nyngan Employment Expo 2015, allowance of a Fee free facility (Nyngan Town Hall), we felt it only appropriate that the Bogan Shire Council receives the opportunity to partner with, not only the Community Hub but also a locally based Enterprise and the local Highschool to create an event that is both memorable but informative aswell.

On the 17th of June, 2015, the Community Hub held an inaugural Job Expo. This consisted of 13 exhibitors in teams of 2 within the Nyngan Town Hall.

This was attended by 35-40 Nyngan High School students and community people who agreed that it was good to attend something locally.

Exhibitors who had attended and those who couldn't attend this event all expressed an interest in participating in a Job Expo event held in 2016 within Nyngan.

In the 2015 event we had :

- Bogan Shire Councils
- Nyngan Health Service/Hospital
- Dept.Primary Industries-
- Australian Apprenticeships Centre

3/91 Pangee St NYNGAN NSW 2825

T: 02 68322985

F: 02 68322650

Mob: 0488318110

Community Hub



- Joblink Plus
- Elders Insurance-Nyngan Branch
- IPROWD
- Western TAFE
- Carewest
- NSW Ambulance Service-Nyngan Branch representative
- Aboriginal Employment Services
- Total College

Our intention is to make next years Job Expo bigger, better and more informative for visitors in 2016 than last year.

Looking forward to your reply.

Sidney Chatfield
Nyngan Community Hub Coordinator
schatfield@redcross.org.au
www.redcross.org.au

the
power of
humanity



100 YEARS
PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE
1914-2014

Working with **Aboriginal
and Torres Strait
Islander Communities**

I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we live and work and pay my respects to Elders past and present.

3/91 Pangee St NYNGAN NSW 2825

T: 02 68322985

F: 02 68322650

Mob: 0488318110

Colerreina Hall Committee

President: Mr. Ian Hamblin
"Buddabadah",
NYNGAN. NSW 2825
Phone 68334402

Secretary: Mr. Harry Holmes
"Homeville"
NYNGAN. NSW. 2825

Treasurer: Mrs. Lesley Hillam
66 Merilba Street,
TOTTENHAM. NSW 2873
Phone 68924261

Mr. D. Francis
Bogan Shire Council,
P.O. Box 221,
NYNGAN. NSW 2825

Dear Derek,

Re: Colerreina Hall

I have stepped down from the position of Secretary for the Colerreina Hall Committee and Harry Holmes has taken over the position.

I would like to finalize a few things that are still outstanding before I hand over the books and so I am asking for clarification regarding the following matters.

What is happening with the doors on the Tottenham side of hall? I understood that they were being replaced before the Centenary Ball last year? That is why they weren't painted when the hall was painted.

What is happening with the broken solar panels? I met with Brian Morris back in February and I have sent off all of the details regarding the solar panels (only in July) when I tracked them down. Bogan Shire now has a copy of the solar panels details that I hope will be kept on file for us as well as a copy in the Colerreina Hall minutes book.

I would also like to clarify with Bogan Shire regarding last year's allocation (Shire had been previously asked if allocation could build up over a number of years and committee understood that this could be done).

As I understand the following things were covered by the shire:-

2013/2014 - \$5,000 on painting, and exit lights

2014/2015 - Electrician checked solar panels

2015/2016 -

At our meeting last week we discussed how the Committee wants to spend the allocation of funds from the Shire (\$6,000) and the following things were listed:-

- New doors (both sides of hall) Push Bar exit doors on Tottenham side.
- Mobile Water Cooler
- Floor boards at glass doorway near bar (same as Brian put in at other door)
- New Shower block
- 2 x Spitfire heaters for warmer winter functions.
- Move the Cool room motor outside of hall to keep kitchen cooler in summer

Yours sincerely

Maree Plummer
Committee Member
Colerreina Hall Committee.
18th August, 2015

Colierreina Hall Committee

AGM – 12th August, 2015

Meeting opened 6.53 pm

Present; Maree Plummer, Joe Holmes, Gabe Holmes, Harry Holmes, Lesley Hillam, Ian Hamblin, Doug Holmes & Al Tyler.

Apologies: Tim Ellem, Lyndel Ellem, Brian Plummer & Bernadette Carter.

Minutes 2014 AGM read

Motion: AGM 2014 minutes are true and accurate.

Moved: Maree

Seconded: Joe

Carried

Hall charges are to stay the same – copy in Blue Minutes book.

Constitution: Stay the same.

Treasurer's Report:

Please see attached report (Attachment)

Term Deposit of: \$23,018.43

Total Cash available is \$37,113.48

Moved: Lesley

Seconded: Ian

Carried

President's Report:

Thank you to all.

Election of Office Bearers:

President: Ian Hamblin, Nominated by Doug, Seconded by Joe, Carried.
Accepted by Ian

Secretary: Harry Holmes, Nominated by Maree Plummer, Seconded by Ian
Accepted by Harry

Treasurer: Lesley Hillam, Nominated by Ian, Seconded by Doug
Accepted by Lesley

Vice Presidents: Joe Holmes and Doug Holmes, Nominated by Gabe, Seconded by Maree.
Accepted by Joe and Doug

Publicity Officer: Gus Hodgekinson, Nominated by Maree, Seconded by Harry.

Meeting closed 7.20pm

COLLERREINA MEMORIAL HALL

Hall Hire Fees

Hall Hire	\$100 *
Bond on hall hire	\$100 and/or according to Committee discretion
Chairs	.50c each and/or according to Committee discretion
Tables	\$ 6 each
BBQ	\$ 20 Hire fee and bbq to be left clean.
Temprite	\$ 20 + gas used

In all cases any damages are paid for by the hirer.

* Refer to Constitution:-

- **Facilities Hire & Nomination of Charges:**
Collerreina Hall Committee has sole authority to hire all hall facilities and to reduce or waive all hire fees.



Lodge Oxley No 225

Masonic Centre

Terangion Street

P.O.Box 53

Nyngan 2825

The General Manager

Bogan Shire Council

Cobar Street

Nyngan. 2825

Dear Derek,

The Worshipful Master and Brethern wish to express their gratitude for the consideration extended to Lodge Oxley with regard to the rates for the present year.

Thank you very much.

Yours Faithfully,

Keith White

Hon. Sec. Lodge Oxley 225

28/08/2015



Mr Derek Francis,
Mayor and Councillors
PO Box 221
Bogan Shire Council
Nyngan NSW 2825

3rd September 20115

RE: Aboriginal Garden on Old BP site, Mitchell Hwy

Dear Mr. Francis, Mayor Donald and Councillors,

Nyngan Local Aboriginal Land Council currently seeking permission to revegetate and rehabilitate the area of the Old BP on the Mitchell Hwy.

As the parkland opposite is the Heritage Park, we feel it having a garden that is related to the oldest Heritage of Australia would demonstrate we are working together to create a one community and a garden the Aboriginal Community can feel they have connection and belonging to, something to protect and preserve.

Our garden design would have a path way and a circle area, not identical to the Heritage park but something that would work with the design and enhance the beautification to the main entrance to the main street.

Our design is a meeting place, where four rows of plants lead to a circle, with different coloured pavers on the ground creating the meeting place in the middle. Two boomerang shaped garden beds would surround this. We aim for the garden to be low maintenance and place a sign in the area about the Warrior named Bogan and other Aboriginal information. We would also like to place signage that explains the boundaries of the Aboriginal people within the Bogan Shire, this being the Wongaibon (Wangaaybuwan), Ngiyampaa and Weilwan (Wayilwan) people.

Mr Timothy Riley stated there is three large heavy sleep style logs that could be used as seating, and bark chips that could cover the gardens.

We are currently applying for funding for the project, and are seeking donations of plants from various nursery to assist in the costing of the project. We have a volunteer Horticulturalist who is given us advice on the most suitable cultural plants and the design.

I have attached our draft copy of the garden, and some of the plants that have been suggested by a nursery and horticulturist.

We feel that if the application is granted, then it would demonstrate that we are working together to benefit our community, and show that we are working together as whole.

be informed, be involved, be inspired.



We look forward to working with Bogan Shire Council to assist in beautification of our Community.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Veneta Dutton".

Veneta Dutton
Chief Executive Officer
Nyangn Local Aboriginal Land Council

be informed, be involved, be inspired.



Plant List Information

Some of the plants listed below will be used not all of these, we are waiting for further advice from the Horticulturist. All plants are indigenous to the region.

Shrubs

<i>Acacia deanei</i>	Deane's Wattle	
<i>Acacia decora</i>	Western Golden Wattle	
<i>Acacia doratoxylon</i>	Currawang	Spearwood
<i>Acacia hakeoides</i>	Hakea Wattle	
<i>Acacia lineata</i>	Streaked Wattle	
<i>Acacia murrayana</i>	Sandhill Wattle	
<i>Acacia victoriae</i>	Elegant Wattle	Cultural food plant
<i>Canthium oleifolium</i>	Wild Lemon	Cultural food plant
<i>Dodonaea truncatiales</i>	Propellor Hopbush	
<i>Dodonaea viscosa ssp cuneata</i>	Wedge-leaf Hopbush	
<i>Eremophila debilis</i>	Amulla	Cultural food plant
<i>Geijera parviflora</i>	Wilga	
<i>Olearia pimeleoides</i>	Showy Daisy-bush	
<i>Olearia ramulosa</i>	Twiggy Daisy-bush	
<i>Rhagodia spinescens</i>	Thorny Saltbush	Cultural food plant
<i>Santalum acuminatum</i>	Quandong	Cultural food plant

Trees

<i>Allocasuarina luehmannii</i>	Buloke
<i>Eucalyptus chloroclada</i>	Baradine Gum
<i>Eucalyptus dumosa</i>	Congoo Mallee
<i>Eucalyptus dwyeri</i>	Dwyer's Red Gum
<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	Grey Box
<i>Eucalyptus populnea</i>	Bimble Box
<i>Eucalyptus socialis</i>	Red Mallee
<i>Eucalyptus viridis</i>	Green Mallee
<i>Hakea tephrosperma</i>	Hook-leaf Needlewood

Ground Covers

<i>Dianella revoluta</i>	Flax Lilly
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Long-leaved Mat-rush
<i>Lomandra multiflora</i>	Many-flowered Mat-rush
<i>Themeda australis</i>	Kangaroo Grass

be informed, be involved, be inspired.

NATIVE & CULTURAL FOODS

BUSH FOODS EATIBLE PLANTS

Davidson Plum

Grows 3 meters tall (sour) great for jams/marinade for meat.

Midgen Berry

Grows as a small hedge 1 meter wide, 2 meters high
Sweet ginger taste

Rye Berries

Grows to 5 meters high used for Jelly, pancakes, salads,
jams, muffins and cordial, eat straight from the tree.

Lemon Myrtle

Grows to 5 meters high, complements- seafood, biscuits,
oils, cheesecake, muffins, chicken & tea.

Lilly Pilly

Grows to 5 meters high, small leaf - eatable leaves & fruits
Great in salads

Diannella

Has eatable purple fruit

Finger Lime

Pulp is like cavier

Sand Paper Fig

(Watery Fig) Figs are eatable

Walking Stick Palm

Has eatable red berries

Bulrush

(Typha) The starch was a staple diet for Aborigines, it
resembles wheaten flour

Kurrajong

Seeds are eaten raw or roasted after removal of irritating
yellow hairs, they taste nutty the swollen roots of young
trees were also eaten

Mulga

This was a useful plant supplying abundant eatable seeds,
gums, honeydew (apples) and the timber was used for tools

Leopard Wood

Used for toothaches the gum was eaten like toffee



CURRENT BUSH

Carissa oata



OTHER NAMES: Turkey bush, baroom bush, blackberry

FIELD NOTES: This scrawny shrub has broad opposite leaves, mostly 1-2 cm long, and pairs of straight spines along stems that ooze milky sap when cut. The fruits are oval, brownish-black, 1-1.5 cm long, and ripen any time of year.

Currant bush grows in arid woodlands, dry rainforests, seashore scrubs, and along rainforest margins and mangrove fringes.

USES: Aborigines ate the berries, which taste like juicy dates, though they are full of gritty seeds. In 1945 a stockman lost for days in bush near Clermont said the berries saved him from hunger and thirst.

KONKERBERRY

Carissa lanceolata



OTHER NAMES: Conkle berry, conker berry

FIELD NOTES: (Not illustrated.) Perhaps only a variety of currant bush, konkerberry has smaller reddish-black berries, 0.5-1.5 cm long, and much narrower, very slender, dull greyish-green leaves (see leaf gallery), 2-4 cm long. It otherwise fits the description of currant bush. It is a prickly, sprawling or upright shrub of dry woodlands, growing up to 3 m tall.

USES: Aborigines eat the tasty berries, which contain traces of vitamin C. Dried berries, gathered from beneath the bush, were sometimes soaked and eaten.



NITRE BUSH

Nitroaria billardieri



OTHER NAMES: Dillon bush, wild grape, karumbil, [*N. scholieri*]

FIELD NOTES: Nitre bush forms a large, sprawling, sometimes spiny shrub, 0.5-3 m tall. The fruits are red, purple or yellow, 1-2 cm long, contain a large, pointed seed, and ripen in summer and autumn. The slender fleshy leaves are 1-4 cm long. Plants in south-western Australia grow upright, have broader leaves, and may represent a separate, undescribed species.

Nitre bush grows on beaches, dunes and coastal headlands, and inland on saltbush plains, claypans, river flats, overgrazed pastures and degraded farmlands. It sometimes forms impenetrable thickets.

USES: The fruiting of nitre bushes was a time of feasting for Aborigines

in southern Australia. The botanist Carl Wilhelm in 1860 described bushes:

so full of fruit, that the natives lie down on their backs under them, strip off the fruit with both hands, and do not rise until the whole bush has been cleared of its load.

Emus are also very fond of the fruits, and flocks of up to 80 have been seen feasting at the bushes. Their droppings may contain more than a thousand of the seeds, which are designed for dispersal by emus. The bird's stomach strips a layer from the seeds that inhibits germination.

Nitre fruits taste like salty grapes. Some crops are more palatable than others, and explorer J. M. Stuart suggested their cultivation, an idea championed recently by CSIRO researcher J. C. Noble. He had samples of fruit canned, but found they tasted bitter and astringent and yielded little vitamin C.

nutrition *now.*

Bounty of the bush

Our top chefs are embracing Australian native foods for their unique flavours, but their nutritional benefits are equally impressive, says Queensland-based dietitian Neha Bhatia. Here are a few to look out for:

WARRIGAL GREENS

This leafy green, also called Botany Bay spinach, is high in vitamin C and potassium. Only leaves and young stems should be eaten and it's important to blanch them first for three minutes to remove soluble oxalates. Discard water, rinse and use it like spinach or silverbeet in frittatas and pies, or as a side dish.

DAVIDSON'S PLUMS

This burgundy-coloured rainforest fruit varies in size from a grape to a large plum and is high in vitamins E and C, folate, zinc, magnesium, calcium and potassium. It has a sour, tangy taste, similar to rhubarb, and can be eaten fresh or used to make jam, chutney and sauces.

DESERT LIME

Native to Queensland and NSW, this wild citrus fruit has been found to have high levels of vitamins C and E, lutein and folate. They look like tiny lemons, have a more intense flavour than normal limes

and are used in marinades, salad dressings or sorbet.

QUANDONGS

This highly nutritious fruit is red on the outside with white or cream-coloured flesh. Quandongs contain twice the vitamin C of oranges. Try them poached with yoghurt or muesli, baked into sweet pies or made into sauces to accompany meat dishes.

RIBERRY

These reddish-pink berries were found to contain more antioxidants than blueberries in a CSIRO study. They're also a good source of calcium, iron and fibre. Riberries have a spicy, clove-like flavour and make delicious sauces to accompany meat, fish or cheese.

Where to find them:

Australian native foods can be found fresh, dried and frozen. Search for online suppliers such as www.bushfoodshop.com or retailers in your area. Also, look for native foods at local farmers' markets. ▶



Brett Howard
35 Tabratong St
Nyngan NSW 2825
M: 0407 154 664

4th September 2015

Councilors and Mayor
PO BOX 221
Nyngan NSW 2825

Dear Mr Donald and Fellow Councilors,

My name is Brett Howard, I am a young Aboriginal man from Nyngan and I am seeking your support. I would like to ask if you could kindly donate \$500 to assist me the tour cost. As I have been selected to play in the Under 16 Young Achievers Europe Squad where we travel to France, we leave Australia on the 10th November 2015. I would like to ask if you could kindly donate \$500 to assist me the tour cost, as the total amount is \$5,000.

I also played for the Nyngan Tigers under 18, and first grade and I plays 5/8 or half back.

I have been working casual with the Bogan Shire Council, and enjoying it very much. I have been saving my money for the trip, but finding the cost is becoming a lot more than I first realized.

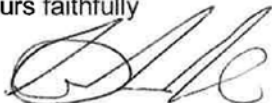
As you may be aware in 2012 my father past away from cancer and since then my mother Annie, has been studying nursing, and has recently started work as the Aboriginal Community Health worker in Nyngan. My father's father, Pop (Tom) Howard has been by my side guiding me and supporting me with my football career. He was going to travel and assist me with the costing but has recently been diagnosed with Cancer and may not be able to travel.

This trip is a once in a life time opportunity, and feel it would assist in creating a pathway to my football career. I would like to do my family and my Community proud, and represent Nyngan with pride and honour.

Please find enclosed a copy of the PNG trip pamphlet I sent to organisations that assisted last year and I will be send one again after this trip also, and also an article from the First Nations Telegraph about the tour.

Please contact me on the above number to discuss further.

Yours faithfully



Brett Howard

U16 Young Achievers Europe Tour Squad announced

by Nicholas Janzen
25 August 2015

Former NRL star Beau Chumpton and rugby league legend Ronny Gibbs will play mentoring roles for the New South Wales Rugby League's Indigenous Under-16s Young Achievers Tour squad for their history-making tour of Europe in November.

The tour, which takes non-elite players from across NSW, from places as small and remote as Bourke and Collarenebri, to France and Italy, is as much about social and cultural learnings as it is about the greatest game of all.

The tour is self-funded, with monetary support and resources provided by the New South Wales Rugby League and KARE Aboriginal Resources Incorporated.

All participants must have an 80 per cent attendance record at school for the past 12 months -- and they will visit a number of historically significant locations on the trip including battlefields of the Somme, focusing on the Indigenous involvement in the World Wars.

Champion and Gibbs will be part of the touring party which will also attend a reception at the Australian Embassy in Paris, as well as act as guests of the Mayor of Villers-Bretonneux for the laying of the wreaths on Armistice Day.

The Indigenous Under-16s Young Achievers Tour squad will wear Anzac-themed jerseys that highlight the cultural and historical significance of the tour.



Jake Gillett, left, and Jason Edwards. Image supplied

The NSWRL's Indigenous Under-16s Young Achievers Tour squad:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Cody Benson (Lakeeland) | William Lousick (Wellington) |
| Stephen Blair (South West Rocks) | Roderick Matthews (Prospect) |
| Adem Campbell (Thirlmere) | Jai McGrath (Mafabar) |
| Jason Edwards (Glenmore Park) | Tre Meunter (Maddington, WA) |
| Clinton Edwards (Bourke) | Daniel Parker (Mount Pritchard) |
| Connor Cahill (Bourke) | Graham Peckham (Wellington) |
| Jeffrey Filok (Collarenebri) | Jalen Rose (Bourke) |
| Aubrey French (Campbelltown) | Tristan Reilly (South West Rocks) |
| Heath Gibbs (Cardiff) | Tristan Sailor (Bull) |
| Jake Gillett (Colyton) | Declan Scott-Bower (Bega) |
| James Goonrey (Parkes) | Joshua Slegwalt (Wagga Wagga) |
| Tayden Mieling (Wollongbar) | Benjamin Sibane (Griffith) |
| Cody Hodge (Estella) | Kotoni Staggs (Wellington) |
| Tyson Hodge (Estella) | Reece Townsend (Zelland) |
| Kobi Hookey (Leichhardt) | Victor Ward (Garden Suburb) |
| Brett Howard (Nyngan) | Jackson Watson (Kinoumbar) |
| Dean Kelly (Chilley) | Ethan Whyman (Garden Suburb) |

more give, less take

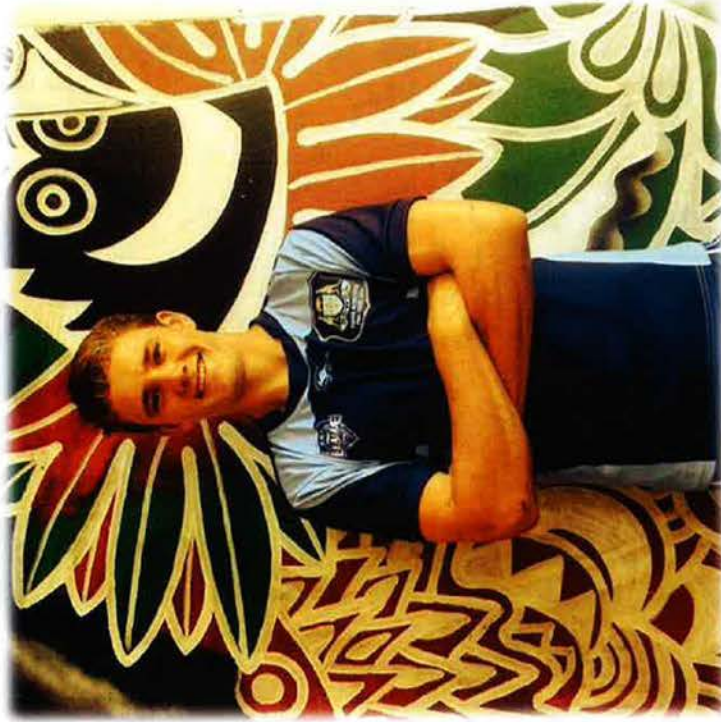


Creating real jobs and opportunities
for Indigenous Australia.

Find out more



Brett Howard



NSW Rugby League Young Achievers Tour

Papua New Guinea

October 2014



This trip was once in a life time opportunity.
I would like to thank my family for their support and encouragement, Nyngan JRL, AGL and NSWALC for their financial assistance.

Thanks heaps
Brett



Overlooking the Community



Group photo of the Young Achievers



During the game
I am No. 6
Position 5/8



Clinic at the school



Our transport for the week



During the game



At the volcano



Local's showing us how to open a coconut



With the Australian NRL team



Warm down session



Traditional welcome dancing





After the game



Nyngan Boys



Kick off



Group photo



Spending some time with the local kids



At the volcano

Nyngan Observer

Friday, September 4, 2015

**DEREK FRANCIS
GENERAL MANAGER
BOGAN SHIRE COUNCIL
70 Bogan Street
Nyngan, NSW, 2825**

Dear Mr Francis,

RE: Recording of Bogan Shire Council meetings.

As you are aware, Nyngan Observer reporter Grace Ryan covers the Bogan Shire Council meetings and publishes news reports on the various issues discussed and dealt with in proceedings.

Ms Ryan would like to use her company iPhone to record meetings to supplement her hand-written notes and access to council documents.

It is important the *Nyngan Observer* maintains the highest possible standard of accuracy in its reporting of debates, discussions, speeches, motions and resolutions etc.

It would help the newspaper if Ms Ryan could record proceedings to assist her in informing the Bogan community on matters before the council.

Use of recordings would help her give priority to council coverage and meet her deadlines for the next edition of the newspaper.

We would therefore be grateful if you and/or the council could allow Ms Ryan to record council meetings.

Yours sincerely,
Brian O'Flaherty
Managing Editor



BOGAN SHIRE COUNCIL	
FILE	R/N
08 SEP 2015	
ASSIGNEE	

Nyngan Garden Club



Nyngan Garden Club
40 Nymagee St
Nyngan, NSW 2825
0268321358
31st August, 2015

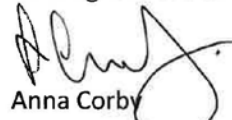
The Manager,
Bogan Shire Council

BOGAN SHIRE COUNCIL	
FILE	R/N
03 SEP 2015	
ASSIGNEE	

Dear Mr Francis,

The Nyngan Garden Club would like to enquire about any development that may have been proposed for the vacant block of land on the corner of Nymagee and Mitchell Sts, the address of the old Shell service Station. The Club is always looking for local projects we can help with that will beautify the town, and that block could be viable for this purpose. The corner could be a lovely welcome to the town, perhaps with a variety of low maintenance native plants, a seat and a shade shelter. We are interested in the future use of this land because it is one of the first things visitors see when they enter the town. It needs to lead into the lovely gardens already established in the main street, but at the moment is looking in need of some tender loving care. If you could advise us if there are any plans for this block, or if it is available for us to take to a meeting to seek club consensus for us to create gardens there, perhaps in consultation with the Bogan Shire Council if they have plans already under consideration.

Looking forward to your reply,



Anna Corby
Secretary, Nyngan Garden Club.

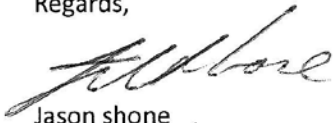
Monday 14th September 2015

To Derek,

The united services union members, wish to apply for Council's permission to hold the annual union picnic on Friday 2nd October 2015, which will be held at the Nyngan RSL club.

United services union members wish to invite Councillor's and the General Manager to join us for a fun family day if they wish.

Regards,



Jason shone

USU Shire Delegate

