



# AGENDA

## Ordinary Meeting of Council

**9 May 2023**

### **Statement of Ethical Obligations**

The Mayor and Councillors are reminded that they remain bound by the Oath/Affirmation of Office made at the start of the council term to undertake their civic duties in the best interests of the people of Eurobodalla Shire Council and to faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act, to the best of their skill and judgement. The Mayor and Councillors are also reminded of the requirement for disclosure of conflicts of interest in relation to items listed for consideration on the Agenda or which are considered at this meeting in accordance with the Code of Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice.



**ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL  
TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MORUYA**

**ON TUESDAY 9 MAY 2023**

**COMMENCING AT 12.30PM**

**AGENDA**

(Proceedings of this meeting will be recorded as per Eurobodalla Shire Council's Code of Meeting Practice)

- 1. WELCOME**
- 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**
- 3. APOLOGIES**  
Nil
- 4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**  
4.1 Ordinary Meeting held on 28 March 2023
- 5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OF MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**  
(Declarations also to be made prior to discussions on each item)
- 6. MAYORAL REPORTS**  
Nil
- 7. NOTICES OF MOTION**  
Nil
- 8. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FROM COUNCILLORS**  
Nil
- 9. PETITIONS**  
Nil
- 10. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS**  
Nil

**Page No.**

- 11. PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY REPORTS**  
Nil
  
- 12. FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS**
  - FCS23/001 Exhibition of the draft Delivery Program 2022-26, Operational Plan  
2023-24 and Long-Term Financial Plan 2023-33..... 3
  - FCS23/002 Investments as at 31 March 2023 ..... 10
  
- 13. INFRASTRUCTURE REPORTS**
  - IR23/007 Acceptance of Funding - Implementation of Coastal Protection  
Works, North Batemans Bay ..... 13
  - IR23/008 Local Traffic Committee No 8 for 2022-23..... 16
  - IR23/009 Request for Tender No. 10056051 – Akolele Pressure Sewerage  
System ..... 20
  
- 14. COMMUNITY, ARTS AND RECREATION REPORTS**
  - CAR23/005 Children's Services Funding..... 23
  - CAR23/006 Eurobodalla NAIDOC week grants 2023..... 26
  - CAR23/007 Youth Action Plan ..... 28
  
- 15. DELEGATE REPORT**
  
- 16. URGENT BUSINESS**
  
- 17. DEALING WITH MATTERS IN CLOSED SESSION .....31**
  
- 18. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

**WARWICK WINN  
GENERAL MANAGER**

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**FCS23/001 EXHIBITION OF THE DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM 2022-26,  
OPERATIONAL PLAN 2023-24 AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2023-33** **S004-T00028,  
S004-T00029**

Responsible Officer: Stephanie Speedy - Director of Finance and Corporate Services (Acting)

Attachments: 

1. Under Separate Cover - Draft 2022-26 Delivery Program and 2023-24 Operational Plan
2. Under Separate Cover - Draft 2023-24 Fees and Charges
3. Under Separate Cover - Draft 2023-33 Long-Term Financial Plan

Community Goal: 5 Our engaged community with progressive leadership

Community Strategy: 5.2 Proactive, responsive and strategic leadership

Delivery Program Link: 5.2.2 Implement effective governance and long-term planning

Operational Plan Link: 5.2.2.3 Review and prepare Council's plans and reports under the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Under NSW Integrated Planning and Reporting legislation, councils are required to prepare a Community Strategic Plan, Resourcing Strategy, Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

A draft 2023-24 Operational Plan has been prepared and outlines actions Council will undertake to contribute to achieving the 2022-26 Delivery Program and the community's vision, as adopted in the Community Strategic Plan on 12 April 2022. The Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) is a component of the resourcing strategy Council is required to be prepared under the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework. The LTFP has a ten-year timeframe and is reviewed annually.

This report recommends the draft 2023-24 Operational Plan, the draft 2023-24 Fees and Charges, and the draft 2023-33 Long-Term Financial Plan be placed on public exhibition for not less than 28 days.

Following public exhibition, a further report will be submitted to Council for the consideration of submissions from the community, and adoption of the 2023-24 Operational Plan, 2023-24 Fees and Charges, and the 2023-33 Long-Term Financial Plan.

More than 200 actions across 31 service areas are represented in the 2023-24 Operational Plan, continuing Council's strong record of infrastructure and service provision for the community.

Councils across New South Wales are facing financial challenges due to increasing costs and policy that limits the ability to increase revenue. The draft 2023-24 Operational Plan projects significant operating deficits in the General Fund, resulting in an operating deficit for Council.

The LTFP recognises a number of financial challenges the Council is facing including ongoing operating deficits, high levels of debt and a significant capital works program. Significant work has been done by staff and councillors since December 2022 to examine and respond to these challenges, and the 2023-24 Operational Plan represents 'year zero'. A finance strategy will be prepared during 2023-24, aiming to mitigate some of these challenges and achieve long term financial sustainability.

**FCS23/001 EXHIBITION OF THE DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM 2022-26,  
OPERATIONAL PLAN 2023-24 AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN  
2023-33**

**S004-  
T00028,  
S004-T00029**

**RECOMMENDATION**

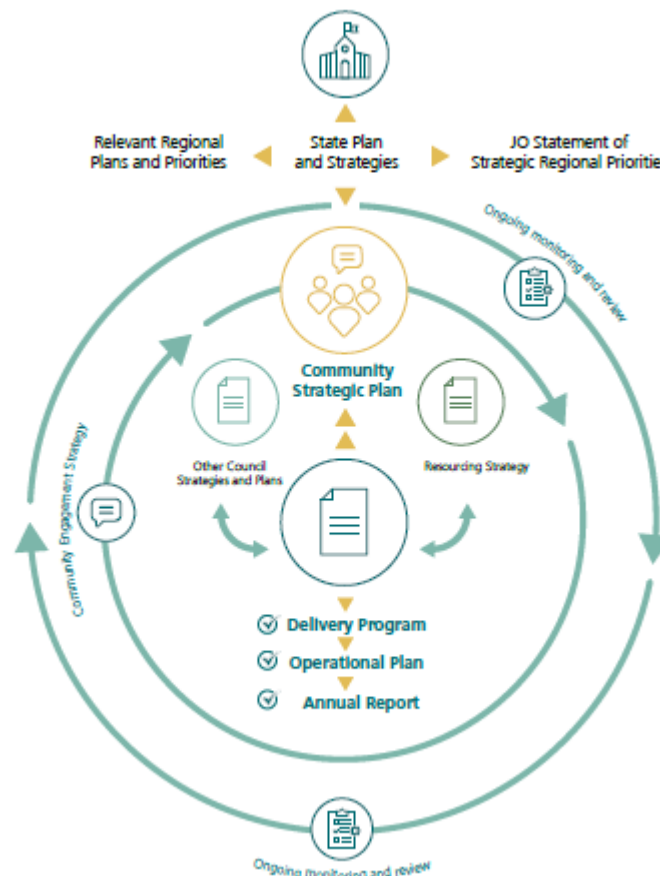
THAT

1. The draft 2023-24 Operational Plan, the draft 2023-24 Fees and Charges, and the draft 2023-33 Long-Term Financial Plan be placed on public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days.
2. Following public exhibition, a further report be submitted to Council for the consideration of submissions from the community and adoption of the 2023-24 Operational Plan, 2023-24 Fees and Charges, and the 2023-33 Long-Term Financial Plan.

**BACKGROUND**

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires all NSW councils to review and adopt key Integrated Plans within 12 months following local government elections. Under NSW Integrated Planning and Reporting legislation, councils are required to prepare a Community Strategic Plan, Resourcing Strategy, Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

The IPR framework is detailed in the figure below:



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**FCS23/001 EXHIBITION OF THE DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM 2022-26,  
OPERATIONAL PLAN 2023-24 AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN  
2023-33**

**S004-  
T00028,  
S004-T00029**

The Community Strategic Plan is the highest level that Council prepares and is a whole of community plan, reviewed and developed in partnership with the community. It identifies and articulates the community's vision and long-term goals.

The Resourcing Strategy, consisting of the Long-Term Financial Plan, Asset Management Strategy and Plans, and the Workforce Management Strategy, outlines how Council plans to allocate resources to achieve the vision and goals set out in the Community Strategic Plan. This strategy identifies how Council best plan, develop and utilise our resources to enhance performance of our business to deliver better outcomes for our community.

The Resourcing Strategy is a supporting document to the CSP and focuses on those matters that are the responsibility of Council. It focuses specifically on finances, assets and people.

The Delivery Program details the activities that the Council will deliver over its term and the strategies it will implement in consultation with the community and contained in the Community Strategic Plan.

The Operational Plan details the actions to be undertaken during the next financial year and includes the annual budget and fees and charges for the year ahead.

### **CONSIDERATIONS**

The Eurobodalla Community Strategic Plan was adopted by Council on 12 April 2022 and developed through an engagement process that included a survey, vision boards and 'workshops in a box' for the community using Council's online platform, and workshops for councillors and staff.

The five goals in the Community Strategic Plan are:

1. Our sustainable shire, that celebrates our natural environment and outdoor lifestyles
2. Our community that welcomes, celebrates, and supports everyone
3. Our region of vibrant places and spaces
4. Our connected community through reliable and safe infrastructure networks
5. Our engaged community with progressive leadership

The Community Strategic Plan includes 18 supporting strategies to realise these goals. The four-year Delivery Program outlines Council's commitment to the community and what it will deliver during its term to achieve the Community Strategic Plan objectives. The 2022-26 Delivery Program was prepared in response to the five Community Strategic Plan goals and 18 supporting strategies with 65 delivery program activities. These 65 delivery program activities remain unchanged in the Delivery Program 2022-26. The draft Operational Plan sets out 212 individual projects and activities that Council will undertake during 2023-24.

Each service that assists in achieving these outcomes is identified. Measures to track and report on progress in achieving each annual activity are also provided.

Key supporting documents such as plans and strategies that support the 2022-26 Delivery Program have been included in the services table. Hyperlinks to the relevant plans and

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**FCS23/001 EXHIBITION OF THE DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM 2022-26,  
OPERATIONAL PLAN 2023-24 AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN  
2023-33**

**S004-  
T00028,  
S004-T00029**

strategies will be provided, where possible, in the final document prior to adoption. This will ensure ease of access for community members reviewing the document.

Similar to most councils throughout the state and indeed the nation, Council faces significant financial challenges in the coming years. Cost of living pressures affect local government just as they do households. It is more expensive to build things, to maintain them, and to run the services our community expects. In March 2023, Councillors and senior staff spent two-half days reviewing the Council's financial situation to identify a path forward for the shire in response to these challenges. A finance strategy will be developed during 2023-24 with a 'finance-led and delivery-focussed' mindset.

### **Legal**

Section 404 of the Local Government Act 1993 requires Council to have a Delivery Program to implement the strategies established in its Community Strategic Plan, within the resources available as identified under the Resourcing Strategy.

Section 405 of the Local Government Act 1993 requires Council to adopt an Operational Plan before the beginning of each financial year which details the activities to be engaged in by the Council during the year as part of the Delivery Program. The Operational Plan must include a statement of the Council's revenue policy for the year covered by the Plan. The revenue policy must include the statements and particulars required by legislation. Following 28 days of exhibition, the draft 2023-24 Operational Plan is required to be adopted by 30 June 2023. The draft 2023-24 Fees & Charges and 2023-33 Long Term Financial Plan will also be exhibited in conjunction with the 2023-24 Operational Plan.

The Office of Local Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting Manual and Guidelines are comprehensive tools which have been used in the preparation of the draft 2022-26 Delivery Program and 2023-24 Operational Plan and the Long-Term Financial Plan.

### **Policy**

The Delivery Program and Operational Plan draws on and implements actions contained in adopted Council policy documents.

### **Asset**

The Asset Management Strategy and Plan 2022-32 as required as part of the Resourcing Strategy was adopted by Council on 28 June 2022. The Asset Management Strategy establishes a robust framework and methodology for systematically managing the asset portfolio to guide the planning, construction, maintenance, and operation of infrastructure to provide services to the community.

We will align our grants strategy to focus on renewal of assets and supporting work already scheduled. We will continue our advocacy for better models of funding to support asset renewal.

### **Financial**

This year's Operational Plan (2023-24) represents 'year zero'. To begin to tackle our financial challenges and ongoing operating deficits, the 2023-24 Operational Plan includes preparation of



**FCS23/001 EXHIBITION OF THE DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM 2022-26,  
OPERATIONAL PLAN 2023-24 AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN  
2023-33**

**S004-  
T00028,  
S004-T00029**

a future finance strategy, with the aim to return Council to a financially sustainable position. The focus is to ensure long term financial sustainability while maintaining continued delivery of a broad range of services and capital works as informed by Council's strategies.

Council's operations are separated into three funds for financial purposes. The three funds are the General Fund (which includes waste and environment activities), the Sewer Fund and the Water Fund. Separate rates are raised to fund general, environment, waste, sewer and water services and each entity has a number of different considerations such as general fund rates are subject to rate pegging. Water and Sewer funds seek a stable pricing path and any surplus are restricted in these funds. Council's 30-year Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy continues to inform the development of the budgets for the Water and Sewer funds.

The key projected financial results for each fund and a consolidated outlook are shown in the table below\*.

KEY RESULTS 2023-24 (\$'000)	GENERAL FUND	SEWER FUND	WATER FUND	CONSOLIDATED FUND
<b>Total income (before capital grants and contributions)</b>	92,108	25,426	20,690	138,223
<b>Total expenses</b>	100,997	25,162	18,918	145,077
<b>Net operating result (before capital grants and contributions)</b>	(8,890)	264	1,772	(6,854)
<b>Total capital program</b>	51,262	27,943	68,607	147,811
<b>Cash position – increase/(decrease) in unrestricted funds</b>	1,995	(9,257)	(19,918)	(27,181)

\*Numbers have been rounded up.

The General Fund projects an operating deficit before capital grants and contributions whilst Council's Water and Sewer funds project an operating surplus before capital grants and contributions.

The use of cash and level of unrestricted cash reserves must be closely managed to ensure Council is able to meet its obligations when they fall due.

The Revenue Policy incorporated into the budget and disclosed in this plan outlines the proposed changes for rates, levies and annual charges, pricing policies and proposed borrowings for 2023-24.

Proposed changes include:

- The general rate increases by 4.3% which is made up of the rate peg amount of 3.7% plus the population growth factor of 0.6% for 2023-24.
- The environmental levy rate increases by 4.3% which is made up of the rate peg amount of 3.7% plus the population growth factor of 0.6% for 2023-24.
- The waste collection charge increases by 4.3% for the typical household.
- The water access charge increases by 4.17% to \$375 (20mm connection access charge) and the usage charge increases by 2.56% to \$4.00 per kilolitre.

**FCS23/001 EXHIBITION OF THE DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM 2022-26,  
OPERATIONAL PLAN 2023-24 AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN  
2023-33**

**S004-  
T00028,  
S004-T00029**

- The sewer access charge increases by 4.85% to \$1,080 (20mm connection access charge), the usage charge increases by 4.88% to \$2.15 per kilolitre and the liquid trade waste usage charge increases by 3.03% to \$1.70 per kilolitre for compliant discharge.

**Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP)**

The 2022-32 LTFP adopted in June 2022 estimated operating deficits in the General Fund for the life of the plan and operating deficits for the Consolidated entity for the first five years of the plan. This plan was based on assumptions and modelling during the first quarter of 2022 (January-March 2022). Since then, Council has faced significant cost increases in delivering services, resourcing issues and inflationary pressures. As part of this year's LTFP, assuming our business-as-usual program, we estimated operating deficits between \$13-14million annually in General Fund alone. Ongoing financial deficits are not financially sustainable and mean we are spending more than we are receiving in revenue.

The draft LTFP as exhibited recognises that a business-as-usual scenario with continued operating deficits is unsustainable, and an alternate scenario is proposed. The alternate scenario recognises the financial challenges ahead of Council and the 2023-24 Operational Plan includes preparation of a future Finance Strategy to return Council to a financially sustainable position by becoming a 'Finance Led, Delivery Focussed' organisation. This Finance Strategy to be prepared and adopted during 2023-24 will critically analyse where Council can increase revenue, become more efficient and contain expenditure whilst delivering a service level enabling implementation of priorities and aspirations of the community. In the current LTFP, the Finance Strategy targets development of additional revenue streams, revision of expenditure and managing cash usage.

The General Fund is projected to run an operating deficit before capital grants and contributions which reduces over the duration of the LTFP. This is based on a service mix and level as described in the current Delivery Program and Operational Plan. Any future request for additional services, or increase to the service level, will need to be fully funded, or funded by a change in services required.

From a Consolidated Fund perspective, an operating deficit before capital is forecasted over the first seven years, moving into a surplus position in year eight of the LTFP. Cash balances remain positive and adequate throughout.

**Community and Stakeholder Engagement**

If the draft 2023-24 Operational Plan, draft 2023-24 Fees and Charges and the 2023-33 Long-Term Financial Plan are endorsed for public exhibition, Council will engage the community from 10 May to 6 June 2023 by:

- Informing the community about the public exhibition and inviting the community to provide feedback on the plans. This will be achieved using Council's own platforms and through local media.
- Making the draft 2023-24 Operational Plan, the draft Fees and Charges and draft 2023-33 Long-Term Financial Plan available for the community to read on Council's website. Requests for hard copies can be made by contacting the executive services team on 4474 7483, and reference and lending copies will be available at the libraries.

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**FCS23/001 EXHIBITION OF THE DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM 2022-26,  
OPERATIONAL PLAN 2023-24 AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN  
2023-33**

**S004-  
T00028,  
S004-T00029**

- Conducting community information sessions regarding Council's financial challenges. These will be held in Batemans Bay, Moruya and Narooma on dates to be advised. All members of the community are welcome to attend, and community associations will be invited to send representatives.
- All community submissions will be provided to councillors for review prior to any decisions being made about the 2023-24 Operational Plan, the 2023-24 Fees and Charges and 2023-33 Long-Term Financial Plan.

**CONCLUSION**

The draft 2023-24 Operational Plan, 2023-24 Fees and Charges and 2023-33 Long-Term Financial Plan will be publicly exhibited for 28 days. The community will be invited to provide feedback on the draft plans during the exhibition period, and Council will provide community information sessions to explain the financial challenges ahead and how they are being addressed. At the end of the public exhibition period Council will be provided with all submissions for consideration prior to adoption.

**FCS23/002 INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2023**

**S011-T00006,S012-T00025**

Responsible Officer: Stephanie Speedy - Director of Finance and Corporate Services (Acting)

Attachments: Nil

Community Goal: 5 Our engaged community with progressive leadership

Community Strategy: 5.3 Work together to achieve our collective vision

Delivery Program Link: 5.3.1 Provide strong corporate and financial management that is ethical, fair, transparent and accountable

Operational Plan Link: 5.3.1.1 Provide sound and strategic financial management and reporting

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to:

- certify that Council's investments in financial instruments have been made in accordance with legal and policy requirements
- provide information and details of investments
- raise other matters relevant to investing.

**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the certification of investments as at 31 March 2023, made in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council's Investment Policy and the provision of Clause 1 (Reg. 212) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, be received.

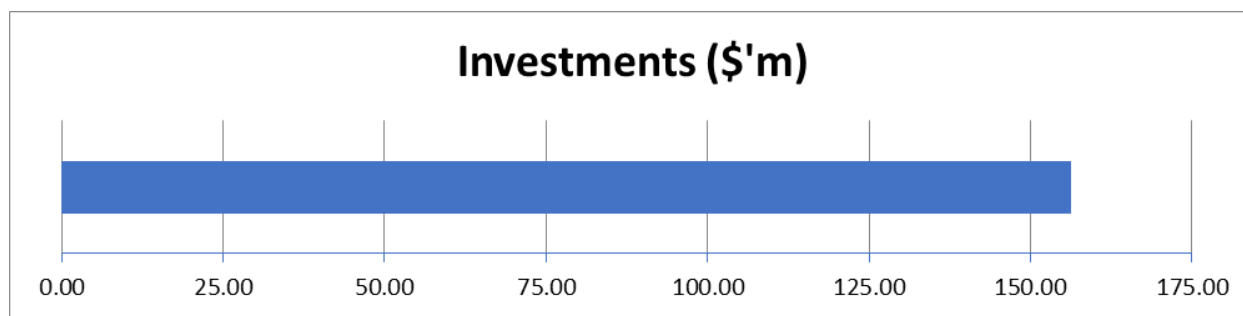
**CONSIDERATIONS**

**Policy**

The portfolio is compliant with Council's Investment Policy adopted by Council on 9 August 2022 (Minute 22/190).

**Financial**

Council investing overall



Council has \$166.38M (100%) invested in bank deposits. The bank deposits are held in banks rated A or greater, or covered by the AAA rated Government guarantee, except for \$42.50M invested in banks rated below A, and in the 'some limited risk' category of the policy.

**FCS23/002 INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2023**

**S011-T00006,S012-T00025**

Investments increased by \$10M during March 2023 due to normal variations in timing of cash flows.

The 'some limited risk' category is now restricted to BBB+ rating institutions which allows up to 30% of all investments. Currently there is 25.54% invested in BBB+ rating category. Investment in Government guaranteed deposits is \$1.75M representing 1.05% of the portfolio.

There are \$66.0M (39.67%) of funds invested in institutions which either have no direct financing exposure to projects in the fossil fuel sector or no longer directly finance projects in the fossil fuel sector but still have some exposure from historical funding.

The weighted average return for all investments for the month is 3.88%, which is below the Council policy benchmark of bank bill swap rate (BBSW) + 0.25% (3.91%).

Summary investment information

The following table is a summary of investment categories and balances at month end.

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>(\$)</b>
At call deposit	12,117,334
Term deposits	152,510,000
Term deposits Government guaranteed	1,750,000
	<b>166,377,334</b>
<i>Weighted average interest %:</i>	3.88%
<i>Average 90 day BBSW + 0.25%</i>	3.91%

**FCS23/002 INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2023**

**S011-T00006,S012-T00025**

Policy and liquidity risk

The investment policy is divided into two risk categories of credit risk (risk of ultimately not being able to redeem funds) and liquidity risk (risk of loss due to the need to redeem funds earlier than the investment term). Our investments comply with the risk policy as shown in the following table.

<b>Policy risk</b>	<b>Low liquidity risk %</b>	<b>Total % of investments</b>	<b>Policy risk % (max holdings)</b>
<b>Remote risk</b>	1.05	1.05	100.00
<b>Near risk free</b>	73.41	73.41	100.00
<b>Some limited risk (BBB+)</b>	25.54	25.54	30.00
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	

The unrestricted current ratio is the amount of unrestricted current assets compared to each dollar of current liability. The Office of Local Government suggests a minimum 1.5:1, and the audited unrestricted current ratio as at 30 June 2022 is 3.63:1. Council therefore has approximately \$3.63 of current assets for each \$1 of current liabilities.

**CONCLUSION**

Pursuant to provision of Clause 1 (Reg. 212) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, I hereby certify that these investments have been made in accordance with *the Local Government Act 1993* and related regulations.

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**IR23/007 ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING - IMPLEMENTATION OF COASTAL  
PROTECTION WORKS, NORTH BATEMANS BAY**

**S017-  
T000013**

Responsible Officer: Tony Swallow - Acting Director Infrastructure Services

Attachments: Nil

Outcome: 1 Our sustainable shire celebrates our natural environment and outdoor lifestyles

Focus Area: 1.2 Value, protect, and enhance our natural environment

Delivery Program Link: 1.2.2 Maintain healthy waterways and catchments by finalising and implementing estuary management plans and monitoring impacts

Operational Plan Link: 1.2.2.5 Seek funds and undertake estuary management projects

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the provision of \$5,000,000 in grant funding from the NSW Government to support Council's implementation of the recently certified Eurobodalla Open Coast Coastal Management Program's major infrastructure works in north Batemans Bay.

The grant funding was made available as a commitment from the NSW Government prior to the 2019 state election.

Council has worked with the responsible administrative agency, NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE), to facilitate the formal offer of grant funding to Council. The formal offer of funding was received from DPE on 14 February 2023 and has been accepted by Council.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT:

1. Council endorse the actions taken to accept the offer of \$5,000,000 in grant funding under the NSW Government Election Commitment Program to support implementation of the Eurobodalla Open Coast Coastal Management Program's major infrastructure works in north Batemans Bay.
2. A letter of appreciation be sent to the Member for Bega and NSW Department of Planning and Environment for providing this funding for the benefit of the Eurobodalla community.

### **BACKGROUND**

#### **NSW Government State Election Commitment Program**

Since the State Government election in 2019, Council has prepared and submitted the necessary detailed information to support the allocation of funding under a NSW Government State Election Commitment.

NSW Department of Planning and Environment wrote to Council on 14 February 2023 with a formal offer of grant funding for a total of \$5 million. This grant offer has been formally accepted in writing.

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**IR23/007 ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING - IMPLEMENTATION OF COASTAL  
PROTECTION WORKS, NORTH BATEMANS BAY**

**S017-  
T000013**

This funding has been allocated specifically to support Council's implementation of the recently certified Eurobodalla Open Coast Coastal Management Program's (CMP's) major infrastructure works in north Batemans Bay.

The \$5 million has been allocated to the following actions in the Open Coast CMP business plan:

- Protection of Wharf Road and remediation of adjoining land for public use and access (action CH1\_Ka Phase 1 and 2).
- Protection of Surfside from coastal inundation (action CH3\_D Phase 1).
- Protection of Bay Road, Long Beach from beach erosion (action CH1\_D Phase 1 and Phase 2). This action may also receive contribution of funds from Council and the NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants as required.

**CONSIDERATIONS**

**Asset**

Projects implemented with the available funding are aligned with Council's adopted *Eurobodalla Community Strategic Plan – Our Eurobodalla 2042, Delivery Program 2022-26*, and *Eurobodalla Open Coast Coastal Management Program 2023*.

The provision of grant funding allows these projects to be delivered for the benefit of our community, visitors and business.

**Economic Development Employment Potential**

The expenditure of \$5 million in grant funds within Eurobodalla will bring significant benefit to the local economy during the construction phases with procurement of materials, plant and equipment, and employment of local staff and contractors.

**Financial**

The NSW Government State Election Commitment funds allows for implementation of infrastructure works in north Batemans Bay as part of the Coastal Management Plan to be fully funded.

**Community and Stakeholder Engagement**

The community will be informed through provision of information on Council's website and newsletters; writing to residents, stakeholders, community groups; advertising on Council's noticeboard page in two local newspapers; and suitable media releases.

The works have been identified in the Open Coast CMP which involved substantial community and stakeholder engagement over the course of several years to ensure that all those who value the coast and could be impacted by change were involved, heard and part of the solutions.



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**IR23/007 ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING - IMPLEMENTATION OF COASTAL  
PROTECTION WORKS, NORTH BATEMANS BAY**

**S017-  
T000013**

**CONCLUSION**

Council has been successful in gaining \$5,000,000 for implementation of works to support the Eurobodalla Open Coast Coastal Management Program under the NSW Government State Election Commitment funding.

The grant has been accepted and this report seeks Council's endorsement of the action taken to secure and accept the grant funding.

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**IR23/008 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 8 FOR 2022-23**

**S030-T00018**

Responsible Officer: Tony Swallow - Acting Director Infrastructure Services  
Attachments: Nil  
Community Goal: 4 Our connected community through reliable and safe infrastructure networks  
Community Strategy: 4.1 Provide integrated and active transport networks to enable a connected and accessible Eurobodalla  
Delivery Program Link: 4.1.1 Plan for an integrated and active local transport network, guided by the NSW Government's Future Transport 2056 Strategy  
Operational Plan Link: 4.1.1.3 Coordinate the Local Traffic Committee

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Local Traffic Committee is primarily a technical review committee. It advises Council on traffic control matters that relate to prescribed traffic control devices or traffic control facilities for which Council has delegated authority.

The minutes of the Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee meeting are included in this report. The main issues covered at the Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee meeting held 6 April 2023, are as follows:

- Signage – Corrigan Crescent, Batehaven
- Signage and Line marking – Hawkins Road and Tuross Boulevard, Tuross Head
- Signage and Line marking – Wombat Crossing Murray Street, Moruya.

**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT:

1. The minutes of the Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee Meeting No 8 for 2022-23 be received and noted.
2. That Corrigan Crescent pdf detailing No Stopping signage to be moved on Corrigan Crescent, Batehaven be approved.
3. That Council Plan 5463 Set A Sheet 1-6 detailing shared pathway on Hawkins Road and raised pedestrian crossing Tuross Boulevard and Hawkins Road, Tuross Head be approved.
4. That Council Plan 4211 Set C Sheet 1 detailing raised pedestrian crossing on Murray Street, Moruya be approved.

**BACKGROUND**

The Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee Meeting No 8 for 2022-23 was held on 6 April 2023. The meeting was attended by Councillor Amber Schutz (Chair), Senior Sergeant Angus Duncombe (NSW Police), Sara Haider (Transport for NSW), Kate McDougall (Traffic Officer),

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**IR23/008 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 8 FOR 2022-23**

**S030-T00018**

Geoff Armstrong (Design Coordinator), Sheree Ward (Infrastructure Support Officer), Sarah Kerkham (representative for Michael Holland MP).

**APOLOGIES**

Nil

**DEPUTATIONS**

Nil

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee Meeting No 7 for 2022-23 held on 2 March 2023 were confirmed and accepted.

**OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Nil

**ROAD TRANSPORT (SAFETY AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT) ACT FOR DETERMINATION**

**2023.RT.027 Signage – Corrigan Crescent, Batehaven**

Council had received a request from Snr Sgt Angus Duncombe from Batemans Bay HWP at the Local Traffic Committee in February 2023 to relocate a 'No Stopping' sign at the exit of the Batehaven shops carpark on Corrigan Crescent as parked vehicles reduced vision of other vehicles using the road.

The Traffic Coordinator attended the site and observed cars exiting the carpark and experiencing the issues Snr Sgt Duncombe had mentioned.

A 'No Stopping' (R) sign is located 2 metres from the exit of the carpark on Corrigan Crescent on the northwest of the driveway. Relocating the 'No Stopping' (R) sign so that it is 9 metres from the exit of the carpark will allow vehicles to enter the roadway with a reduced risk of a collision with other vehicles.

LTC Recommendation:

That Corrigan Crescent pdf detailing No Stopping signage to be moved on Corrigan Crescent, Batehaven be approved.

**2023.RT.026 Signage and Linemarking – Hawkins Road and Tuross Boulevard, Tuross Head**

Council was successful in receiving funding under the NSW Government Transport for NSW (TfNSW) Active Transport Grant Program for Walking and Cycling Infrastructure. This program is a joint effort to encourage people to walk or cycle as part of their everyday commute. It complements Council's adopted "Eurobodalla Pathways Strategy June 2017, A strategy for safe walking and cycling pathways in Eurobodalla Shire".

A multi-faceted approach is taken to determine suitable sites, based on both the Eurobodalla Strategy and TfNSW guidelines. Other practicalities are also considered such as tying in with other construction projects like kerb and gutter or pavement rehabilitation works.

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**IR23/008 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 8 FOR 2022-23**

**S030-T00018**

Both NSW Government and Council contribute to the installation of the infrastructure. This year installation of the shared pathway along Hawkins Road and Tuross Boulevard has been selected with 2.5m wide shared paths and pedestrian refuge islands so people can safely cross roads.

From the original design, Transport for NSW returned advice recommending a wider platform on the raised crossing for the cycle lane and shared pathway to be continuous on Hawkins Road, not stopping at Waights Place, giving priority to pedestrians and cyclists.

LTC Recommendation:

That Council Plan 5463 Set A Sheet 1-6 detailing shared pathway on Hawkins Road and raised pedestrian crossing Tuross Boulevard and Hawkins Road, Tuross Head be approved.

**2023.RT.028 Signage and Line Marking – Wombat Crossing Murray Street, Moruya**

As part of governments' continuing program to improve road safety around schools, Council has received funds under the Federal Stimulus Road Safety Program to improve road safety around various schools in the Eurobodalla. This is a joint funding venture between the Australian and NSW Governments.

In Moruya, the school crossings on Murray Street adjoining Moruya Public School will be converted to become permanent (zebra) raised pedestrian priority crossings, known as wombat crossings.

It is accepted that wombat crossings are an improvement on school crossings. Benefits include that vehicles will travel slower, and the onus is taken off the schools to manage the crossings.

The school crossing will be removed, and the location modified to include raised (road hump) platforms with appropriate signage and line marking. Existing street lighting is adequate. The wombat crossings will be similar to those recently installed in Moruya CBD adjoining St Marys School Moruya.

Plan No. 4211 Set C Sheet 01 detailing the wombat crossings on Murray Street will be circulated to committee members prior to the meeting via email.

Recommendation:

That Council Plan 4211 Set C Sheet 1 detailing raised pedestrian crossing on Murray Street, Moruya be approved.

**INFORMAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Nil

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

- 7.1** Congo Road – concerns raised in relation to vehicle speeds. Police have been notified for further action. Traffic counters and classifiers to be considered.
- 7.2** Bus stop – North Head campground/Moruya Airport - Priors Bus Service are considering updating their timetable for servicing the airport. However, this may be some time away.

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**IR23/008 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 8 FOR 2022-23**

**S030-T00018**

**7.3** Narooma Forest Rally – mention - this is not on Council’s road network. Planned for 20 May 2023.

**7.4** Rally of the Bay – mention - the agenda is now being drafted by the event organisers to be presented at a future meeting.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee will be held on Thursday 4 May 2023 in Council’s Glass Meeting Room and via MS Teams, commencing at 9.30am.

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**IR23/009 REQUEST FOR TENDER NO. 10056051 – AKOLELE PRESSURE  
SEWERAGE SYSTEM**

**S029-T00004**

Responsible Officer: Tony Swallow - Acting Director Infrastructure Services

Attachments: 1. Confidential - RFT No. 10056051 - Akolele Pressure Sewerage System

Community Goal: 1 Our sustainable shire celebrates our natural environment and outdoor lifestyles

Community Strategy: 1.4 Work together in the management and use of our valuable resources

Delivery Program Link: 1.4.1 Provide safe, reliable and sustainable water and sewer services, guided by the Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy

Operational Plan Link: 1.4.1.3 Build and renew sewerage network

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council has committed to provide sewerage services to the village of Akolele. The project is required to reduce the risk of harm that existing onsite sewage management systems pose to public health and the sensitive receiving environment.

Request for Tender (RFT) No. 10056051 includes the construction of a pressure sewerage system in the Akolele Village which will provide sewerage services to 63 properties.

Council engaged NSW Public Works Advisory to advertise RFT No. 10056051 on Council's behalf.

This report outlines the evaluation of offers submitted in response to RFT No. 10056051 and provides a recommendation for the preferred tenderer.

**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT

1. Council endorses the selection of the preferred tenderer listed for Request for Tender No. 10056051 - Construction of the Akolele Pressure Sewerage System, within the confidential attachment; and
2. Accordingly approves the entering into of a contractual arrangement with the preferred tenderer, subject to the terms specified in the Request for Tender.

**BACKGROUND**

Council's Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy (IWCMS) 2016 identified the existing onsite sewage management systems in Akolele as having a medium-high risk on public and environmental health.

Council pursued funding for the project and was subsequently successful in obtaining a grant of \$762,000 through the Restart NSW Fund to complete the design and construction of the Akolele Sewerage Scheme.

RFT No. 10056051 includes the construction of a pressure sewerage system in the Akolele Village which will provide sewerage services to 63 properties. Sewage from properties in

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**IR23/009 REQUEST FOR TENDER NO. 10056051 – AKOLELE PRESSURE  
SEWERAGE SYSTEM**

**S029-  
T00004**

Akolele will be collected and pumped into Bega Valley Shire Council's Bermagui-Wallaga Lake sewerage system and will be treated at the Bermagui sewage treatment plant.

Once the sewerage system is operational, Bega Valley Shire Council's residential sewerage charges will be payable for properties within the boundary for the Akolele Sewerage Scheme. Bega Valley Shire Council will operate and maintain the Akolele pressure sewerage system.

RFT No. 10056051 was advertised on 15 February 2023 with a closing date of 23 March 2023. Offers were received from the following tenderers and assessed in accordance with the Tender Evaluation Plan dated 20 February 2023.

- Ledonne Constructions Pty Ltd
- Utilstra Pty Ltd.

A summary of the evaluation including each tenderer's scoring against the evaluation criteria is provided at the Confidential Attachment to this report.

## **CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Legal**

RFT No. 10056051 was advertised in accordance with clause 167 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 and Local Government Act 1993.

The tender was advertised on Council's noticeboard page, in local newspapers and through the NSW Government eTendering website (<https://tenders.nsw.gov.au>).

Before tender assessment was undertaken a formal Tender Evaluation Plan (TEP) was distributed amongst the Tender Evaluation Committee (TEC). Declarations of Confidentiality and Conflicts of Interest Forms were completed and signed by the TEC.

The offer submitted by the preferred tenderer has been assessed as the most advantageous tender which represents best value for money for Council due to the company's demonstrated experience, quality of workmanship, and satisfactory price in comparison to the pre-tender estimate.

### **Policy**

The procurement activity for which this report applies has been conducted in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy, Code of Practice – Procurement, Code of Practice – Tendering, the Local Government Procurement Guidelines, Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 and the Local Government Act 1993.

### **Environmental**

The works are required to reduce the risk of harm that existing onsite sewage management systems in Akolele pose to public health and the sensitive receiving environment. The infrastructure has been designed to cater for current and future service levels.

### **Social Impact**

Provision of sewerage services will improve the quality and reliability of sewerage services for residents and visitors of Akolele.

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**IR23/009 REQUEST FOR TENDER NO. 10056051 – AKOLELE PRESSURE  
SEWERAGE SYSTEM**

**S029-  
T00004**

**Financial**

A grant of \$762,000 was provided through the Restart NSW Fund for the design and construction of the Akolele Sewerage Scheme.

The amount tendered by the preferred tenderer can be accommodated within the existing sewer capital budget and sewer fund reserves.

**Community and Stakeholder Engagement**

The community will be informed of the tender outcome(s) via Council's contract register found in Council's 'Public Access to Information' web link.

**CONCLUSION**

The tender process has been conducted in accordance with mandatory Council and Local Government requirements and the preferred tenderer has been assessed, through an extensive evaluation as representing best value for money.

The preferred tender as identified in the Confidential Attachment is therefore recommended for the awarding of a contract for the construction of the Akolele Pressure Sewerage System.



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**CAR23/005 CHILDREN'S SERVICES FUNDING**

**S003-T00005**

Responsible Officer: Kathy Arthur - Director Community, Arts and Recreation Services

Attachments: Nil

Community Goal: 2 Our community that welcomes, celebrates, and supports everyone

Community Strategy: 2.3 Provide rich learning opportunities and experiences

Delivery Program Link: 2.3.3 Develop and provide early education services and programs that promote learning and development

Operational Plan Link: 2.3.3.3 Deliver grant funded child and family development programs

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council's agreement is sought to accept a grant variation from the Federal Department of Social Services' (DSS) Families and Children Program funding for a total of \$496,482.00 over 3 years.

Council's 3Bs Supported playgroup is an early intervention and prevention project aimed at reducing early childhood vulnerability at the time children start school. The 3B's playgroup program has been operating very successfully for the past seven years.

The 3B's program does not utilise any Council funding. It is fully funded by the DSS and value adds to the services for children and families already provided by Council.

The project provides a mobile service to local families across the shire, with a focus on hard-to-reach families with children under school age. Program delivery focuses on addressing the need for improved school readiness and supporting parental capacity as their child's first teacher.

The variation is to extend the 3Bs playgroup program for a further three years from July 2023 to June 2026. The project will continue to provide supported playgroups across the shire at eight locations, improving early childhood development and supporting the capacity of those in a parenting role as per the original funding agreement.

With this additional funding over three more years, on top of the seven years the service has successfully run, the 3Bs service will have supported local families for a period of ten years, with a total of \$1,630,614.00 in DSS funding achieved and expended locally.

**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Council accept the Department of Social Services funding of \$496,482.00 excluding GST for the continued provision of the 3B's Supported Playgroup project.

**BACKGROUND**

Council has been providing the 3B's mobile outreach program over the past seven years with the original funding agreement supporting the program for 5 years.

Council has received offers of continuation funds for the past 2 years with the latest offer of 3 years funding giving us the program coverage for a total of 10 years.

**CONSIDERATIONS**

The 3Bs project recognises the role of parents as their child's first teacher and delivers fortnightly supported playgroups across up to eight locations in the shire from Batemans Bay to Wallaga Lake. The focus is on building parent competency and confidence to engage in

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**CAR23/005 CHILDREN'S SERVICES FUNDING**

**S003-T00005**

children's play and learning experiences, to promote school readiness and reduce developmental vulnerability across key domains in the early years.

In addition to the program of playgroups, the project has enabled Council to run school readiness events, parenting forums and professional development for early learning professionals. The service was also sought after to run an additional two playgroups per week, funded by Playgroups NSW.

**Social Impact**

All Eurobodalla families with children under school age are eligible to attend. The supported playgroups support families to connect with existing services, child development expertise and online resources to develop positive community connections.

The project coordinator actively engages with local Elders, mothers, fathers and grandparents to incorporate 'hands-on' approaches and discussions to build confidence through the provision of learning opportunities at every session. There is a focus on innovation to initiate and maintain contact with hard-to-reach families and individual child assessments to determine programming requirements.

Improving home learning experiences and increasing knowledge and pathways to pre-school options for local children and families has resulted in positive long term social outcomes that include higher levels of readiness for school curriculums, and school engagement and retention in the longer term.

**Economic Development Employment Potential**

The project provides one full time position and several casual positions to ensure consistent support for the playgroups across the Eurobodalla.

Local goods and services are sourced wherever possible to maximize the benefit of external funding in our community.

Via participation in the project, parents and volunteers have also had opportunities to develop skills in child development which has enabled some instances of casual employment with the Children's Services team.

**Financial**

The 3Bs Supported playgroup project is fully grant funded, requiring statements each year to report on expenditure with an independent audited report at the cessation of the project.

The current offer is \$496,482.00 ex GST.

No additional funding from Council is required.

**Community and Stakeholder Engagement**

We regularly inform the community through providing information on Council's website; Online News; Living in Eurobodalla residents newsletter; posting on Council's and the Children's Services Facebook and Twitter; distributing print brochures when events are on and distributing media releases.

We collaborate with the community by seeking advice, ideas, and recommendations from networks and participating families.

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**CAR23/005 CHILDREN'S SERVICES FUNDING**

**S003-T00005**

**CONCLUSION**

The funding will ensure support for Eurobodalla families to continue to build their confidence and skills as the child's first teacher; to better manage children's transition from home to early childhood education and school; to strengthen and promote local children's services networks and support inclusion of the diverse needs of the local community.

The early years are fundamental to lifelong outcomes. Developing skills and dispositions for learning will support a successful start to school and are essential for long term school and occupational achievement. The 3Bs project will ultimately contribute to a more positive outcome for the participating families.

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**CAR23/006 EUROBODALLA NAIDOC WEEK GRANTS 2023**

**S003-T00040**

Responsible Officer: Kathy Arthur - Director Community, Arts and Recreation Services

Attachments: 1. Confidential - Eurobodalla NAIDOC Week Grants 2023 confidential attachment

Community Goal: 2 Our community that welcomes, celebrates, and supports everyone

Community Strategy: 2.1 Acknowledge our beginnings, embrace our diversity

Delivery Program Link: 2.1.1 Acknowledge and involve the traditional custodians of Eurobodalla and deliver the outcomes of the Aboriginal Action Plan

Operational Plan Link: 2.1.1.5 Celebrate NAIDOC week with events, activities and grant opportunities

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report seeks Council endorsement to support the recommended allocation of grant funds under the Eurobodalla NAIDOC Week Grants program for 2023.

Council's annual Eurobodalla NAIDOC Week Grants program aims to promote understanding of the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples within our community by providing funds to celebrate NAIDOC Week events and support participation in NAIDOC Week activities across the Eurobodalla.

Grants are valued up to \$500 to support community groups, schools and non-profits to deliver celebratory activities that promote understanding of Aboriginal history and culture, make a positive contribution to the community and demonstrate creativity, vision and originality.

Grant applications opened 20 February and closed 31 March 2023. Successful applicants in the confidential attachment are to be notified and receive recommended funds allocated by the review panel by 31 May for the delivery of events during NAIDOC Week which runs from 2 to 9 July 2023.

The total grant amount available in the 2022-2023 budget for the Eurobodalla NAIDOC Week Grants program is \$5356 of which \$5,350 has been recommended for allocation.

**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Council approve the recommendations detailed in the confidential attachment, awarding NAIDOC Week grants to the 10 organisations nominated.

**BACKGROUND**

As per most years, applications and amounts requested outweigh the total funds allocated.

There was a total of 12 applications commenced via the Smarty Grants portal, with 10 completed applications received by the closing date. All 10 applications were assessed against the eligibility criteria and assessed as meeting the requirements.

The review panel, including staff and a representative from Council's Aboriginal Advisory Committee, has recommended that all 10 eligible applicants are allocated funds (6 to receive partial funding and 4 to receive full funding).

A confidential summary sheet is attached to this briefing.

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**CAR23/006 EUROBODALLA NAIDOC WEEK GRANTS 2023**

**S003-T00040**

**CONSIDERATIONS**

**Eligibility**

To be eligible for a Eurobodalla NAIDOC Week Grant, applicants must show that they:

- are a Eurobodalla based and not-for-profit community group or able to prove that they are a bona fide Eurobodalla based community group
- can contribute some financial support or volunteer labour to the activity
- have adequate insurance coverage for the activity
- do not have any outstanding debts to council.

Each applicant is asked to demonstrate that the grant will be used positively to engage the wider community and promote a greater understanding of NAIDOC. The grant funds are not transferable, and projects will not be funded in retrospect.

**Social Impact**

The determinants of health that influence Indigenous peoples' health and wellbeing also include cultural factors, racism, disconnection to language and land and spiritual social and emotional wellbeing. Eurobodalla has a higher percentage of Aboriginal people living in the community compared to the state average. Annual NAIDOC week activities and celebrations are an important cultural event on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander calendar and promote understanding and acceptance in the wider community of the unique place first Australians occupy in our cultural landscape.

Council's NAIDOC week grants demonstrate a commitment from Council to support and promote Aboriginal cultural activities within the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community.

**Financial**

In 2022-2023 a budget of \$5,356 for NAIDOC Week grants was provided to support the activities of community groups, schools and/or non-profit organisations in celebrating NAIDOC Week. The combined total recommended by the review panel for funding is \$5,350.

**Community and Stakeholder Engagement**

We have informed the community through providing information on Council's website; Online News; Living in Eurobodalla residents newsletter; posting on Council's Facebook and Twitter; emailing our networks; and distributing a media release. A representative from the Aboriginal Advisory Committee participated in the review and recommendation of applications.

**CONCLUSION**

The Eurobodalla NAIDOC Week Grants program supports Council to positively and effectively collaborate with local not-for-profit groups and organisations to implement community focused activities and events during NAIDOC Week. The successful applications will help our community to celebrate and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture.

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**CAR23/007 YOUTH ACTION PLAN**

**S003-T00027**

Responsible Officer: Kathy Arthur - Director Community, Arts and Recreation Services  
Attachments: 1. Under Separate Cover - Draft Youth Action Plan  
Community Goal: 2 Our community that welcomes, celebrates, and supports everyone  
Community Strategy: 2.1 Acknowledge our beginnings, embrace our diversity  
Delivery Program Link: 2.1.4 Provide services and strengthen opportunities to retain and attract youth, supported by the Youth Action Plan  
Operational Plan Link: 2.1.4.5 Finalise and adopt the Youth Action Plan

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report seeks to provide information to Council regarding the Draft Youth Action Plan 2023 – 2028 (the Plan), which has been on exhibition for 28 days.

The draft Plan has been developed with reference to strategic planning at the federal, state and local level, as well as direct engagement with youth and youth-led platforms in Eurobodalla. Within the Plan, young people are defined as being aged 12-24.

The Plan has been developed around the three focus areas of safety, wellbeing and opportunity. Each focus area has a set of objectives with identified actions and proposed roles and responsibilities for Council and the community.

The plan was on public exhibition from 16 February to 16 March 2023 (28 days) to enable feedback from the community, with one submission received during that period. The final draft Plan has been updated, with some minor edits undertaken.

The draft Youth Action Plan 2023 - 2028 is a considered, accessible, and robust youth focused plan that has been developed through collaboration with key stakeholders.

Council can be positive that the Plan meets community expectations. It will promote that everyone, not just Council, has a role to play in building a community that supports young people to thrive.

**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Council adopt the draft Youth Action Plan 2023-2028.

**BACKGROUND**

Council's Youth Services have been providing services to young people aged 12 to 24 across the Eurobodalla for over 20 years including coordinating Council's Youth Committee and associated projects, managing Youth Café's and outreach services, providing the Y Drive Project and delivering annual youth-led, youth focused events and activities.

From mid-2021 to November 2022, council staff, members of the Workers with Youth Network (a network of community services and youth stakeholder organisations including local high schools) and Council's Youth Committee contributed to the development of the draft Plan.

Prior to this process, three youth forums were held in quick succession in February and March 2020 to inform the development of a Youth in Recovery Plan in direct response to the Black Summer Fires.

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**CAR23/007 YOUTH ACTION PLAN**

**S003-T00027**

These processes have informed the development and focus of the Plan.

**CONSIDERATIONS**

One written submission was received during the exhibition period, advocating for more youth based built infrastructure and opportunities for youth entertainment in Moruya. A response was provided indicating how the Plan responds to this by working with existing Council facilities including libraries, community spaces and recreation facilities to encourage youth participation.

The Plan includes actions to work with community partners, schools and businesses to facilitate youth-friendly programs and provide outreach services to targeted youth communities. Specific numbers and types of events have been actioned to occur annually.

Some minor edits have been made to improve document accessibility, and changes to wording in an identified action have been made and incorporated into the Plan. Some images have been replaced with photos from recent youth events.

Eurobodalla's youth make up 11% of the overall Eurobodalla population and live across the region, with higher densities of young people in areas including North Batemans Bay, Nelligen, Mogo and Akolele. Eurobodalla has 4,574 young people aged 12-24. Aboriginal youth make up 12% of 15-24 year olds and the median Indigenous age in Eurobodalla is currently 25. Of people aged 10-19 in Eurobodalla, 4% live with a disability.

The audience for youth services in Eurobodalla is defined by two distinct youth cohorts – school-aged youth between 12-17 years old and young adults aged between 18-24.

**Guiding values**

During engagement, key values arose that reflect what young people care about, what they would like to see more of, and what they like about where they live. These values help to bring to life the opinions and voice of young people and reflect the role of Eurobodalla's youth in shaping a region where they want to live, work and play.

Young people in Eurobodalla have identified that they value:

- Exploration - exploring the world through joy, entertainment and new experiences
- Freedom - being free to connect with and celebrate the natural landscape
- Learning - having access to opportunities to learn and build local career opportunities
- Leading - having an active voice in youth issues, programs and outcomes

**Key priorities**

The Plan sets out three key priority areas to guide the delivery of youth services to the community over the next four years. These priorities have been created in response to federal and state strategic plans for youth and are based on helping them to holistically meet their needs. Feedback from local young people has further formed the substance of each theme and will continue to guide the execution of each initiative.

Priority areas:

1. Safety - create, promote and program accessible and youth-friendly spaces
2. Wellbeing - support the health and wellbeing of young people

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**CAR23/007 YOUTH ACTION PLAN**

**S003-T00027**

3. Opportunity - provide opportunities for all young people to play, explore, develop and lead

**Social Impact**

Over the past few years our shire has experienced extreme conditions that have had lasting impacts on the community. Our youth population has not been left unaffected by this. There is a marked increase in mental health issues, interruptions to education and social norms and a subsequent change in the economic systems that influence employment and training opportunities.

The Plan is more than a report outlining Council's future priorities. It represents a whole of Council and whole of community approach, based on feedback from young people and stakeholders, and research on current best practice. Council takes a lead role in developing strategies to engage young people in civic participation activities, and in supporting the services for and with young people and local organisations.

As the shire continues to evolve, we need to work closely with our youth and the community to ensure we are meeting the current and future needs of our young people.

**Financial**

The Plan will be delivered by Council's Youth team using its existing operational budget.

In addition, Council is currently the recipient of several large grants that support the delivery of the programs in 'The Job Shop' and the Driver Licensing Access Program (DLAP), 'YDrive' and several smaller grants for youth week and school holiday programs that augment service delivery.

**Community and Stakeholder Engagement**

We have conducted a broad range of engagement activities including workshops, meetings with advisory groups, panels and surveys across the shire with young people, service groups and Council staff.

We have sought feedback from the community through a 28 day Public Exhibition where the Youth Action Plan 2023-2028 has been on Council's website, at the Batemans Bay, Moruya and Narooma libraries, and Moruya customer service centre.

**CONCLUSION**

The draft Youth Action Plan 2023-2028 is a considered, robust plan that has been developed through collaboration with key stakeholders and the community. The plan promotes that everyone, not just Council, has a role to play in building a community that supports young people to thrive.



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## 17. DEALING WITH MATTERS IN CLOSED SESSION

In accordance with Section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council can exclude members of the public from the meeting and go into Closed Session to consider confidential matters, if those matters involve:

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals; or
- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer; or
- (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business; or
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed;
  - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
  - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
  - (iii) reveal a trade secret,
- (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law; or
- (f) matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property; or
- (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege or information concerning the nature and location of a place; or
- (h) an item of Aboriginal significance on community land.

and Council considers that discussion of the material in open session would be contrary to the public interest.

In accordance with Section 10A(4) of the *Local Government Act 1993* the Chairperson will invite members of the public to make verbal representations to the Council on whether the meeting should be closed to consider confidential matters.

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## EUROBODALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

### ETHICAL DECISION MAKING AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

#### A GUIDING CHECKLIST FOR COUNCILLORS, OFFICERS AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEES

#### ETHICAL DECISION MAKING

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

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

#### THE TEST FOR CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

#### IDENTIFYING PROBLEMS

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

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

### AGENCY ADVICE

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

CONTACT	PHONE	EMAIL	WEBSITE
Eurobodalla Shire Council Public Officer	4474-1000	council@esc.nsw.gov.au	www.esc.nsw.gov.au
ICAC	8281 5999	icac@icac.nsw.gov.au	www.icac.nsw.gov.au
The Office of Local Government	4428 4100	dlg@dlg.nsw.gov.au	www.dlg.nsw.gov.au
NSW Ombudsman	1800 451 524	nswombo@ombo.nsw.gov.au	www.ombo.nsw.gov.au

Reports to Committee are presented generally by 'exception' - that is, only those items that do not comply with legislation or policy, or are the subject of objection, are discussed in a report.

Reports address areas of business risk to assist decision making. Those areas include legal, policy, environment, asset, economic, strategic and financial.

#### Reports may also include key planning or assessment phrases such as:

- Setback* Council's planning controls establish preferred standards of setback (eg 7.5m front; 1m side and rear);
- Envelope* taking into account the slope of a lot, defines the width and height of a building with preferred standard of 8.5m high;
- Footprint* the percentage of a lot taken up by a building on a site plan.