

AGENDA

Ordinary Meeting of Council

8 September 2020

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

ON TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2020

COMMENCING AT 11.00AM

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
2.	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 2.1 Ordinary Meeting held on 25 August 2020
3.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OF MATTERS ON THE AGENDA (Declarations also to be made prior to discussions on each item) Page No.
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DR CATHERINE DALE GENERAL MANAGER

MR20/007 COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPMENT - INNER WEST

File Ref: S002-T00009

Attachments: Nil

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines a proposal by Inner West Council to create a Community to Community Relationship with our Shire.

Following the devastating summer bushfires, Inner West Council offered the support of four development assessment planners to assist our staff in processing of applications and a tourism marketing officer to assist with post bushfire campaign development. These officers were seconded to our Council and assisted from January until June 2020. This was a significant gesture from our city colleagues and has resulted in positive ongoing relationships between staff. Since that time, discussions have been held with myself and the Mayor of Inner West, Councillor Darcy Byrne, to explore further opportunities for a partnership between the two local government areas to produce mutual benefits in cultural, social, sporting, civic and economic development. This partnership potentially offers the opportunity for Inner West council staff to visit and experience the beauty of our shire and to promote the Eurobodalla to colleagues, family and friends back home.

Inner West is described as a uniquely creative community with vibrant and diverse neighbourhoods living side-by-side in harmony. They are a proud community defined by different cultures, ideologies and experiences. Inner West Council incorporates the Sydney suburbs of Balmain, Rozelle, Annandale, Leichhardt, Enmore, Marrickville and Ashfield.

The meeting between myself and Councillor Byrne and feedback received from Inner West Council employees and Council's staff indicate that establishment of a formal relationship between the two councils would be beneficial for both councils and our communities.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT

- 1. Council delegate to the General Manager to progress discussion on a formal community to community relationship with Inner West Council.
- 2. The relationship explore opportunities for building broader social, economic, sporting, cultural and civic society links between the people of Eurobodalla and Inner West. This may include specific plans to facilitate visitation to Eurobodalla Shire by residents, businesses and community, cultural and sporting organisations in the Inner West and vice versa.
- 3. A further report be presented to Council once a draft Plan has been progressed.

REPORT

At its meeting on 11 August 2020, Inner West Council resolved:

'THAT:

- 1. Discussions on a formal Community to Community Relationship between the Inner west and Eurobodalla Councils be initiated; and
- 2. The building of a broader social, economic, sporting and cultural and civic society links between the people of Eurobodalla Shire and the Inner West be incorporated into the

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agreement as a priority. This should include specific plans to facilitate visitation to Eurobodalla Shire by residents, businesses and community, cultural and sporting organisations in the Inner West and vice versa.'

Eurobodalla Council has formed relationships with other Council's from time to time to fulfil specific objectives. For example; in 2018, Council forged a friendship arrangement with Cobar Shire Council based on mutual understanding, friendship and cooperation for the benefit of both communities and local government in general and in particular, assist the community through the drought.

From December 2015 until March 2019 Council had a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Bega Valley Shire Council. The MOU was to strengthen the partnership which already existed between the two councils by implementing a more formal level of cooperation. Since its endorsement, the strategic partnership achieved cooperative arrangements and established greater efficiencies for both councils in a number of areas. The MOU was dissolved due to the synergies with the formal establishment of the Joint Organisation.

It is anticipated by Inner West Council that the relationship between the two councils could include:

- 1. Mutual sharing on
 - a. Policies
 - b. Sustainable procurement
 - c. Management bushland reserves
 - d. Public and environmental health, particularly in the Covic-19 era.
- 2. Opportunities for mentoring in the development of internal services. This may take the form of staff exchanges to provide professional development and the opportunity to work in different environmental, social and urban landscapes.
- 3. Tourism, events, cultural and business development with the potential of promoting Eurobodalla to Inner West residents and vise versa.

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Responsible Officer: Dr Catherine Dale - General Manager

Attachments: Nil

Outcome: 9 Innovative and Proactive Leadership

Focus Area: 9.1 Provide strong leadership and work in partnership to strategically

plan for the future and progress towards the community vision

Delivery Program Link: 9.1.2 Implement effective governance

Operational Plan Link: 9.1.2.2 Assist the Council in meeting its statutory obligations and roles

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview and update on the implications of COVID-19 on the governance components of local government and in particular:

- the 2021 local government elections,
- determination of the number of Councillors for 2021-2024,
- proposed extension of current committee nominations for a further 12 months,
- the timeframes for the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework as a result of the postponement of the 2020 local government elections,
- extension of Council policies, including the Local Orders Policy, for a further 12 months.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

- Council note that the local government elections will now be held on Saturday 4
 September 2021 with the NSW Electoral Commission administering the elections on Council's behalf.
- 2. In accordance with Section 224 (2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council determine the number of Councillors for the 2021-2024 term of office to be nine (one of whom is the popularly elected Mayor).
- 3. Council note the changed timelines for the preparation and review of the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework documents.
- Council extends the current appointment of Councillors (as listed in the report) and community members on its Advisory and Sunset Committees until September 2021.
- 5. Council's policy review process be deferred until the commencement of the new Council term, in September 2021. All current policies remain enforce until the review is completed.

BACKGROUND

The Minister for Local Government has published orders in the Gazette under section 318B of the *Local Government Act 1993* postponing the next ordinary local government elections in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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These orders have delayed the local government elections, and consequently, the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework timelines and review of local policies.

CONSIDERATIONS

2021 Local Government Elections

On 25 March 2020, the Office of Local Government (OLG) released a circular postponing the 2020 September elections for a period up to 31 December 2021. Given this, Council was no longer required to observe 'caretaker period' from August to September 2020.

On 12 June 2020, the Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP, made an order under the new section 318B(a1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* to postpone the local government ordinary elections scheduled for 12 September 2020 for twelve months.

On 26 June 2020, the Minister made a further order setting the date for the postponed Local government elections as Saturday 4 September 2021.

On 29 June 2020, the OLG released circular 20-25 outlining the requirements of councils with regards to the postponement of the election. Key points for Eurobodalla include:

- current councillors and popularly elected mayors will continue to hold their civic office until 4 September 2021.
- The postponement of the next ordinary election will not affect the timing of future council elections, and the subsequent ordinary local government elections will still proceed in September 2024.

For more details of the circular can be found at https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/council-circulars/20-25-the-date-of-the-next-ordinary-local-government-elections-is-4-september-2021/

At its meeting on 26 February 2019, Council resolved:

THAT:

- 1. The New South Wales Electoral Commissioner be engaged to administer Council's 2020 Elections for Mayor and Councillors.
- 2. Pursuant to section 296 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act 1993 an election arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all elections of the Council.
- 3. Pursuant to section 296 (2) and (3) the Act, as applied and modified by section 18, a Council poll arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all Council polls of the Council where necessary.
- 4. Pursuant to section 296 (2) and (3) the Act, as applied and modified by section 18, a constitutional referendum arrangement be entered into by contract for the Electoral Commissioner to administer all constitutional referenda of the Council where necessary.
- 5. Authority be granted to the General Manager to conduct negotiations with the Electoral Commissioner as to the terms of the engagement and to enter into a contract with the Commissioner on behalf of Council'.

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It should be noted that this resolution refers to 2020, however advice received from the NSW Electoral Commission, indicate that this resolution remains valid and the NSW Electoral Commission will conduct the local government election for Council on 4 September 2021.

A calendar for the Council meeting, briefings and public access dates for 2021 will be developed and provided for Council consideration in November 2020. These dates will take into account the necessary timelines for budgets and reporting requirements as well as include the caretaker provisions that will be observed in 2021.

Determination of the number of Councillors for 2021-2024

Section 224 (2) of the Local Government Act 1993 states 'Not less than 12 months before the next ordinary election, the council must determine the number, in accordance with subsection (1), of its councillors for the following term of office'. Therefore, Council is required under the Act to determine the number of Councillors for the 2021-2024 term of office.

The Act requires the number of Councillors to be at least 5 and not more than 15 (one of who is the Mayor). Since 1970, the Eurobodalla community has been represented by nine Councillors.

Data provided by the Office of Local Government, under the Your Council portal, indicates that Eurobodalla is categorized as a Group 4 Council. Under this grouping, the average number of Councillors is 10. The average population per Councillor is 3,965.

Eurobodalla currently has 9 Councillors and the average population per Councillor is 4,231.

On 22 October 2019, Council resolved:

'THAT in accordance with Section 224 (2) of the Local Government Act 1993, Council determine the number of Councillors for the 2020-2024 term of office to be nine (one of whom is the popularly elected Mayor)'.

If it is proposed to change the number of Councillors, Section 224 (3) of the Act requires Council to obtain approval for the change at a constitutional referendum. The practical effect of this provision of the Act is that, if it is proposed to change the number of Councillors, a constitutional referendum would be conducted in conjunction with the September 2021 election seeking approval for the change in the number of Councillors for the 2024-2028 term of office.

As Council has already resolved to maintain nine Councillors at its meeting on 22 October 2019, it is recommended that there be no change to the composition of the elected body.

In this regard, it should be noted that a decision made at a constitutional referendum binds the Council until changed by a subsequent constitutional referendum.

Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework requirements

On 1 May 2020, the OLG released a circular outlining Council's IP&R requirements and changes as a result of the postponement of the local government election until September 2021.

Key points to consider:

 2019-20 Annual Report will be prepared and presented to Council by 30 November 2020.

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- The existing Delivery Program 2017-21 will apply for a further 12 months, making the document in line with the extended Council term 2017-22 and maintaining the key themes and any activities.
- A fifth year Operational Plan (OP) (2021-22) will be developed with Councillors reflecting the current Delivery Program themes and activities. Discussions on OP actions will occur with Councillors in February 2021.
- The Delivery Program and Operational Plan will be prepared and exhibited in April/May 2021 for adoption by 30 June 2021.
- The existing Community Strategic Plan remains in place until 2022.
- The End of Term Report will be prepared and presented in July 2021. Any planned measurement and recording of progress towards the achievement of the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan can proceed and be used to inform the next Integrated Planning and Reporting cycle.
- Council will commence its next cycle of Integrated Planning and Reporting framework documents in January 2021, these documents will be adopted as follows:
 - o Community Strategic Plan adopted by 30 June 2022.
 - Delivery Program 2022-25 (reduced by 1 year as this current Delivery Program is extended to 5 years). This document is to be adopted by Council by 30 June 2022.
 - Operational Plan 2022-23 to be adopted by 30 June 2022.

Following is the timeframe for IP&R documents as listed above:

Document	Council's Deadline	Endorsed by:
Annual Report 2019-20	30 November 2020	Current Council
Delivery Program 2017-22 and Operational Plan 2021-22	30 June 2021	Current Council
End of Term Report	31 July 2021	Current Council
Community Strategic Plan	30 June 2022	New Council
Delivery Program 2022-2025	30 June 2022	New Council
Operational Plan 2022-23	30 June 2022	New Council

Proposed extension of current committee nominations for a further 12 months.

Council has previously appointed individual Councillors to represent it on community committees and other organisations. At its meeting on 25 September 2018, Council determined the term for committee appointments to be 2 years. This concludes in September 2020. As the current Council's term has been extended for a further 12 months, it is proposed to consider the extension of these appointment for the next 12 months. Extending these appointments provides continuity to the current committees.

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Current committee appointments:

Current committee appointments:		
Committee	Delegates nominated	
Section 355 Committees		
Moruya Racecourse Management Committee	Clr Pollock (Chair), Clr Tait	
Sunset/Steering Committees		
Batemans Bay Mackay Park Precinct Sunset Committee	Mayor (Chair), Clr Mayne, Clr Pollock	
Eurobodalla Disaster Relief Committee	Mayor (Chair) and Clr Pollock	
Advisory Committees		
Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (This committee is established in accordance with Guidelines under section 23A of the Local Government Act.)	Clr Constable, Clr Brown (The Chair is to be an independent member of the Committee.)	
Disability Inclusion Advisory Committee	Clr Thomson (Chair) and Clr Brown as alternate delegate	
Aboriginal Advisory Committee	Clr McGinlay and Clr Constable as alternate delegate	
Heritage Advisory Committee	Clr Nathan (Chair), Clr Thomson	
Coastal and Environmental Management Advisory Committee	Mayor (Chair), Clr McGinlay, Clr Tait	
Public Art Advisory Committee	Clr Brown (Chair) and Clr Thomson as alternate delegate	
Rural Producers Advisory Committee	Mayor (Chair), Clr Constable	
General Manager's Performance Review Panel	Mayor (Chair), all Councillors	
External Committees		
Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee (Established by Roads & Maritime Services)	Clr Mayne (Chair)	
Eurobodalla Bushfire Management Committee (Established by NSW Rural Fire Service)	Clr Constable	
Floodplain Management Association of NSW	Clr Thomson and Clr Tait as alternate delegate	
South East Arts	Clr Brown	
South East Regional Academy of Sport	Clr Brown	
South East Australian Transport Strategy Inc (SEATS)	Clr Mayne	

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Committee	Delegates nominated
External Committees – Ministerial and other Appointments	
Gulaga Board of Management (nomination of delegate to Minister is required)	Clr James Thomson Mayor (alternate)
Batemans Marine Park Advisory Committee (existing Ministerial appointment)	Councillor Rob Pollock OAM
Regional Development Australia, Far South Coast (existing Ministerial appointment)	Clr Rob Pollock OAM
Australian Coastal Councils Association (NSW Representative)	Clr James Thomson
Joint Regional Planning Panel	Clr Rob Pollock OAM

Proposed extension of local policies for 12 months

Council has adopted the practice of conducting a regular review of its policies (including Local Orders Policy) following the commencement of a new Council term, which in usual circumstances, happens every 4 years.

This practice ensures a regular review of Council's policies. It allows the incoming Council to review, amend if necessary, and adopt the policies that will guide Council decision-making for the term of the Council, or rescind any policies that are no longer required.

Conducting the review following the commencement of the new Council term also assists any new Councillors to familiarise themselves with Council's policies and provides an opportunity to provide input and suggest amendments if necessary.

The policy review requires a considerable amount of time and resources involving both staff and Councillors and must allow for the public exhibition of each policy proposed for adoption or rescission, to allow the community to make submissions. As such, the review is usually conducted over at least a 12-month period.

The next policy review was planned to commence after September 2020, following the local government elections. The elections have now been deferred to September 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Deferring the policy review until after the commencement of the new Council term is consistent with Council's usual practice for reviewing its policies. It will allow the newly-elected Council the opportunity to provide input into the adoption of the policies that will guide Council decision-making throughout their term.

Legal

The Minister for Local Government has published orders in the Gazette under section 318B of the *Local Government Act 1993* postponing the next ordinary local government elections in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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These orders have delayed the local government elections, and consequently, the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework timelines and review of local policies.

Financial

There is no impact on the 2020-21 budget. The cost of the election has been deferred until 2021-22 in line with changed timelines.

CONCLUSION

The Minister for Local Government published orders in the gazette under section 318B of the *Local Government Act 1993* postponing the next ordinary local government elections in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This has triggered a number of governance requirements in relation to the IP&R framework, election of deputy mayor, current committee nominations and policy reviews.

GMR20/025 FUNDING OFFER – STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITIES S008-T00020 PROGRAM AND REGIONAL TOURISM BUSHFIRE RECOVERY PROGRAM

Responsible Officer: Dr Catherine Dale - General Manager

Attachments: Nil

Outcome: 9 Innovative and Proactive Leadership

Focus Area: 9.1 Provide strong leadership and work in partnership to strategically

plan for the future and progress towards the community vision

Delivery Program Link: 9.1.3 Advocate and collaborate to advance the region and address local

issues

Operational Plan Link: 9.1.3.2 Seek sources of funding to implement community vision

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This reports seeks to inform Council of two successful funding offers from Australian and NSW governments:

- \$617,275 from NSW Government under its Stronger Country Communities Program Round 3
- \$30,000 from the Australian Government under its Regional Tourism Bushfire Recovery Program.

The Stronger Country Communities Program Round 3 funding is provided by the New South Wales Government and administered by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Regional Development. The funding must go towards local community infrastructure and projects.

This program offers grants to communities across New South Wales to support the delivery of projects that improve the lives of people who live in regional areas. The fund objectives are to boost the livability of communities in regional areas by providing new or upgraded social and sporting infrastructure or community programs that have strong local support and enhance opportunities for young people to be work ready and thrive in regional NSW.

The Regional Tourism Bushfire Recovery Program is provided by the Australian Government and is administered by the Australian Trade and Investment Commission.

This program offers grants to bushfire affected Local Government Authorities across Australia to support the delivery of tourism and event related projects to assist in strengthening the resilience of local economies and to help communities bounce back from the summer 2019-20 bushfires. This funding provides an opportunity to support local events that had been impacted or cancelled as a consequence of the bushfires.

The grant has been formally accepted and the report to Council will seek a resolution formally endorsing the actions taken.

GMR20/025 FUNDING OFFER – STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITIES PROGRAM AND REGIONAL TOURISM BUSHFIRE RECOVERY PROGRAM

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RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

- Council endorse the actions taken to accept the grant funds offered under the NSW Government Stronger Country Communities Program Round 3 totalling \$617,275 as follows:
 - (a) \$105,000 for Long Beach Playground
 - (b) \$147,000 for Narooma Foreshore infrastructure works
 - (c) \$175,000 for Wayfinding signage
 - (d) \$161,500 for YDrive program
 - (e) \$28,775 for Greener Streets program.
- 2. Council endorse the actions taken to accept the grant funds offered under the Australian Government Regional Tourism Bushfire Recovery Program totalling \$30,000 as follows:
 - (a) \$15,000 for River of Art River of Lights
 - (b) \$15,000 for Taste of Eurobodalla.
- 3. Letter of appreciation be sent to the local federal members for support in securing these grants for the Eurobodalla community.

BACKGROUND

Stronger Country Communities Program Round 3 funding

In July 2019 Council was advised that the NSW Government was releasing Stage 3 of its Stronger Country Communities program to enable regional communities to compete for funding for projects or programs of significance to their community, with 50% of available funding to be allocated to those projects and programs with a youth focus.

Eurobodalla was successful in securing funding for the following projects:

Long Beach Playground	\$105,000
Narooma Foreshore infrastructure works	\$147,000
Wayfinding signage	\$175,000
YDrive program	\$161,500
Greener Streets program	\$28,775

Regional Tourism Bushfire Recovery Program

Council was advised in February that the Commonwealth Government was releasing a package to enable local councils to assist community groups in the delivery of tourism events and products as part of the region's bushfire recovery. Total funding available in this stream per local government area was \$30,000.

GMR20/025 FUNDING OFFER – STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITIES PROGRAM AND REGIONAL TOURISM BUSHFIRE RECOVERY PROGRAM

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Scheduled local events were then further impacted by the outbreak of COVID 19 and the associated restrictions to large gatherings.

Council submitted applications to support the River of Art, River of Lights event and the proposed Taste of Eurobodalla event. Funding was confirmed for the following:

River of Art – River of Lights	\$15,000
Taste of Eurobodalla	\$15,000

CONSIDERATIONS

Stronger Country Communities Program Round 3 funding

These projects are identified as priorities in the following strategies:

- the Recreation and Open Space Strategy 2018, Action No. N8;
- is acknowledged in the Delivery Program 2017-21
 - 1.3 Encourage and enable healthy lifestyle choices
 - o 1.4 Ensure activities, facilities and services meet changing community needs
 - 1.5 Retain our unique identity, relaxed lifestyle options and strong community connections
 - o N83.2 Value, Protect and enhance our natural environment and assets; and
- aligns with Strategy 1 in the Regional Economic Development Strategy 2018 Support the development and growth of the regions tourism sector and overall lifestyle appeal – Improved coastal access and inclusive infrastructure.

Regional Tourism Bushfire Recovery Program

These projects are identified as priorities in the following strategies and/or plans:-

- Eurobodalla Event Strategy 2019-2024;
- is acknowledged in the Delivery Program 2017-21
 - 2.4 Strengthen community life through the delivery of a range of community events and activities;
 - 5.3.1 Implement the Eurobodalla Destination Action Plan
- aligns with Strategy 1 in the Regional Economic Development Strategy 2018 Support the development and growth of the regions tourism sector and overall lifestyle appeal – Improved coastal access and inclusive infrastructure.

Social Impact

Stronger Country Communities Program Round 3 funding

This funding will enable council to enhance planned playground works in Long Beach and support the Narooma community through the provision of electrical, water and public infrastructure at Quota Park.

GMR20/025 FUNDING OFFER – STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITIES PROGRAM AND REGIONAL TOURISM BUSHFIRE RECOVERY PROGRAM

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Implementation of our Wayfinding Signage Strategy will be brought forward and enable some tired town signage to be replaced.

The continuation of the YDrive program will benefit our young people in attaining their drivers licence and help them be job ready, while the greener streets program will identify and start to implement a practical, sustainable street beautification program

Regional Tourism Bushfire Recovery Program

This funding will enable local tourism operators and tourism, retail and accommodation providers to benefit from certainty around the delivery of events to benefit the local economy and assist recovery in the 2020-21 financial year. This will support the continuation of employment and economic stability in the wake of the bushfires and subsequent economic downturn.

Financial

Stronger Country Communities Program Round 3 funding

These projects will be accommodated in the 2020/2021/2022 budgets. All project overheads have been factored into the project estimates, so that Council's operating costs will be covered by the project funds.

Regional Tourism Bushfire Recovery Program

Taste of Eurobodalla will be accommodated in the 2020/2021/2022 budget and delivered by council's tourism team and the River of Lights event will be managed by the River of Art committee in conjunction with council's tourism team

CONCLUSION

Council has been offered grant funding from the NSW and Australian governments:

- \$617,275 from NSW Government under its Stronger Country Communities Program Round 3
- \$30,000 from the Australian Government under its Regional Tourism Bushfire Recovery Program.

This grant funding from the NSW and Australian governments is welcomed and has been formally accepted.

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Responsible Officer: Lindsay Usher - Director, Planning and Sustainability Services

Attachments: 1. Under Separate Cover - Draft Mogo Adventure Trails Hub Masterplan

Outcome: 5 Vibrant and Diverse Economy

Focus Area: 5.3 Focus on the development of sustainable tourism and quality events

and visitor experiences

Delivery Program Link: 5.3.2 Actively seek and support the development and hosting of events

Operational Plan Link: 5.3.2.2 Seek grant funding for the implementation of the Mogo

Adventure Trail

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report seeks Council's endorsement to publicly exhibit the draft Mogo Adventure Trails Hub Master Plan (the draft Plan) a copy of which is attached.

Council engaged specialist mountain biking consultants, Dirt Art (specialist mountain bike trail designers) to prepare a master plan for the Mogo Adventure Trails Hub.

Council has the vision, ahead of many local government areas in NSW to recognise the economic, health and social values of trails to a community. Council has recognised that investment in a trails network will support the growth of our visitor economy which prior to bushfires was worth \$464 million dollars. Continued planning for and investment in product such as this, is crucial to the recovery of our visitor economy post bushfire and COVID-19.

The draft Plan is the next step in the process that started with Council identifying the potential for the trails around Mogo to be developed as a premier mountain biking trail network and event precinct (Eurobodalla Delivery and Operational Plan 2017-2018).

An initial study prepared by TRC Tourism and presented to Council in August 2019, proposed that small tourism-focused towns/villages like Mogo, offer facilities and services and a local vibe that is attractive to riders and could easily become known as a 'trail town'.

The draft Plan builds on the work undertaken by TRC Tourism in the original study and provides further evidence and details around the key findings of that work. The draft Plan has a strong tourism and economic development focus with a view to utilising mountain biking as a major component of the economic revival of the region post bushfires. Through clearly articulating the potential of a 155km network of sustainably built trails, Dirt Art defines the key strengths of the target area as a mountain bike destination and positions the project within the broader mountain bike destination industry.

The draft Plan identifies a total trail network of approximately 155kms comprised of:

- approximately 125kms of new trail, and
- improvement and formalization of the 30kms of existing informal trail in Mogo State Forest and Deep Creek Dam.

While the current trails predominantly cater for intermediate riders, the proposed network provides a balanced level of trails to accommodate all riding abilities, including 54% for beginners, 35% for intermediates and 11% for skilled riders (including steep descents with

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flow/freeride features such as bumps and berms). The draft Plan also recognizes the opportunity to formalize 191kms of gravel grind trails along existing forestry roads.

It is recommended that the draft Plan be placed on public exhibition for 28 days in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Framework and Participation Plan. The draft Plan will only be available on Council's website due to the current implications of COVID-19.

If adopted, the draft Plan provides an opportunity to create a premier and nationally significant trail destination, which will attract strong visitation from across New South Wales, the ACT and around Australia

RECOMMENDATION

THAT

- 1. Council publicly exhibit the draft Mogo Adventure Trails Hub Master Plan for a period of 28 days.
- 2. A further report addressing the submissions received be presented to Council following the exhibition period.

BACKGROUND

The TRC Tourism Mogo Adventure Trails Hub Study (August 2019) (the Study) identified key opportunities for Mogo. These were its ability to create a critical mass of trails and trail related services in the village itself.

The Study prioritised the preparation of a master plan for the project. As a result of this recommendation, Council engaged Dirt Art who are leaders in the Australian mountain biking context, in the design and construction of mountain bike trails.

The draft Mogo Adventure Trails Hub Master Plan (draft Plan) builds on the work of TRC Tourism by reinforcing and providing further evidence around the following:

- the exponential growth in destination-focused mountain bike trail development across Australia in the past five years,
- case study analysis of areas such as Blue Derby, Maydena Bike Park and Thredbo Resort
 which are bringing in tens of thousands of visiting riders to mountain bike destinations
 each year and delivering tens of millions of dollars to local economies,
- evidence that because of its proximity to Sydney and Canberra markets, the Mogo region is in an ideal location to leverage from the growth in mountain biking and other trail activities,
- the potential to grow the tourist market, providing a year-round nature-based activity as another key experience in the region, and
- undertaking an audit of the existing and potential trail network and providing an overview of the network in regard to a range of criteria including staging, ride experience, market appeal and value to network.

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CONSIDERATIONS

Council's Role in Economic Development

Council's Economic Development Strategy – Advancing Eurobodalla clearly articulates that tourism is and will continue to be the driving force of the Eurobodalla economy (<u>Economic-Development-Strategy/Integrated-Economic-Growth-and-Development-Strategy-2019-28.pdf</u> – refer page 6).

Council's role in economic development is that of a facilitator. The key roles are delivering core functions of the organization such as:

- Planning, visioning and enabling
- Visitor, resident and investment attraction through destination management and development (bike and walking trails, marine infrastructure, town enhancements).

Our Shire's economy is structured around tourism, healthcare and construction. The economy is very reliant on these industries and with the inherent volatility that can be experienced in tourism the economy is very vulnerable. This has been the experience from bushfires and now Covid. Prior to bushfire and Covid, tourism supported 1,881 jobs (13% of total in Shire) and the majority of our businesses (364 businesses).

The trends impacting on the Eurobodalla economy (6th highest unemployment in NSW, high proportion of welfare dependency, ageing population and growing age dependency ratio) if left unchecked would shape the community so that in 20 years' time two out of every three residents would be 55+, there will be no growth in schools, community organizations and sporting clubs. Advancing Eurobodalla recognized that a greater balance in the future is required. To redress this imbalance was the need to grow 2,500 jobs over the next 10 years. Post bushfire and Covid and the estimated loss of 1,400 jobs, there is now a need to grow close to 4,000 jobs to balance the Eurobodalla's economy.

There is an explicit need to support the diversification of our Economy with support for tourism as the key driver being fundamental to this.

The NSW State Government has identified its number one strategic priority post bushfire being "support the development and growth of the Regions tourism sector and overall lifestyle appeal"; (Far South Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy (REDS) Addenda May 2020).

The medium term focus areas articulated in the REDS is to develop and diversify tourism offerings by:

 Development of endowment focused initiatives (e.g eco-tourism, walking tracks, aboriginal culture, MTB trails, provenance based food experiences and marine based experiences.

The rationale for this is to reduce the dependence on key assets (such as beaches) to insulate the tourism income.

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Council's strategic planning is clearly aligned with this focus area in particular the development of a nationally significant mountain bike hub.

Potential of Mogo Hub

Of most significance to emerge from Dirt Art's analysis, is the potential for the Mogo hub to be a "premier and nationally significant" trail destination. This is based on the following:

- Location: proximal to major population areas of Canberra and Sydney
- Temperate climate: the local climate is highly appealing for year-round riding
- Coastal location: the coastal location of the area will appeal to visiting riders
- Topography, terrain and elevation: the target area has moderate slopes and good elevation opportunities
- Urban infrastructure: the target area provides strong connectivity into townships fora genuine ride-in, ride-out opportunity; including the potential to link the urban areas of Mogo and Batehaven by a network of off-road bike trails
- Soil type: the shaly clay in the target area provides excellent year-round riding potential and wear characteristics and
- Regional positioning: there are extremely limited mountain bike destination opportunities within a five hour driving radius of the target area.

Adventure trails has significant potential to benefit the local and regional economy (see page 137 of the draft Plan):

- In its first year of operating, the trails network has the potential to attract 45,000 visitors and result in over \$11.8 million to the local economy
- Approximately 10 FTE jobs are expected to be created during construction and another
 20 FTE jobs once operational
- The potential for at least six new business opportunities (including shuttle services, accommodation, new events, etc) and allow existing businesses to value add to their current services and
- Attraction of more events due to the hub being able to cater for different racing formats.

Council staff are currently looking at potential opportunities and the development of an investment prospectus to support trail development, maintenance and broader value-added investment opportunities in the village of Mogo. A report on this will be provided at a later date.

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Legal

The proposed trail network moves through the Mogo State Forest and Deep Creek Dam. This land is owned and managed by Forestry Corporation of NSW (FCNSW) and NSW Crown Lands respectively.

The development of the trail network will require a permit from FCNSW.

Financial

Cost estimates for the construction and maintenance of the track network will be developed once the proposed track locations are confirmed. Track locations will be confirmed in finalising the masterplan after considering feedback received during public consultation of the draft.

Council is seeking grant funding opportunities to support the construction of the track network, noting that the network can be staged and the Masterplan will make recommendations on staging. Investigations are also continuing in regard to the potential management options and structures and in regard to the funding of ongoing maintenance. This includes the potential for maintenance to be funded through sponsorship. This model has been used successfully at other locations. Given the potential national significance of the proposal, the likelihood of sponsorship funding or significantly supporting maintenance is high.

As with other mountain bike track networks both in NSW and elsewhere, risk associated with use of the tracks will be managed through track design, construction and sign posting in accordance with the relevant standards.

Asset

The draft Plan proposes infrastructure in the form of two trail heads for the Mogo Adventure Trails Hub. The primary trail head is proposed within Mogo's village centre and will allow direct access to the trail network with a range of less formal entrances along the peripheries of the network. It is recommended that the trail head be supported with bike infrastructure such as bike stands, bike washes, trail maps, water refill station, car parking, change rooms and toilets. This connectivity between the trail network and Mogo village is sought after and will effectively utilise the existing services and amenity of the village. The integration of this project with the work on the Mogo Rebuild project will ensure that the village of Mogo can function as a center befitting its potential as a mountain biking destination. A secondary trail head is proposed for Batemans Bay, this trail head will only feature signage and minor infrastructure, providing clear and functional entry and exit to the trail network.

Economic Development Employment Potential

Adventure trails has significant potential to benefit the local and regional economy (see page 137 of the draft Plan):

- In its first year of operating, the trails network has the potential to attract 45,000 visitors and result in over \$11.8 million to the local economy
- Approximately 10 FTE jobs are expected to be created during construction and another 20 FTE jobs once operational
- The potential for at least six new business opportunities (including shuttle services, accommodation, new events, etc) and allow existing businesses to value add to their current services and

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 Attraction of more events due to the hub being able to cater for different racing formats.

Council staff are currently looking at potential opportunities and the development of an investment prospectus to support trail development, maintenance and broader value-added investment opportunities in the village of Mogo. A report on this will be provided at a later date.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

In developing the draft Plan, Dirt Art and Council officers have undertaken the following:

- A stakeholder workshop at Moruya Golf Club on 18 February 2020 attended by over 40 people from the mountain biking community, local business and key stakeholders. This workshop followed on from previous consultation and workshop conducted by TRC Tourism in 2019,
- Several one-on-one meetings with key stakeholders (businesses, members of the local mountain bike club, event organisers and tourism operators),
- Keeping councillors informed through invitations to all stakeholder workshops via the councillor newsletter,
- Ongoing discussions with Forestry Corporation of NSW and NSW Crown Lands, and
- Engagement via social media through the mountain biking group, "Off Camber" Facebook page enabling a consistent dialogue around the project.

The feedback and insights of the local mountain biking community has been instrumental in formulating an understanding of the issues and opportunities of the project and testing ideas and concepts to ground truth the draft Plan.

CONCLUSION

The Mogo Adventure Trails Hub provides an opportunity to create a premier and nationally significant trail destination, which will attract strong visitation from across New South Wales and around Australia. The project has potential to become an important driver in assisting with the economic recovery of the region following bushfires and the downturn associated with the COVID-19 virus.

The draft Plan proposes over 150km of trails, which capitalises on the key strengths of the area to create a premier trail destination, connected to Mogo village. The proposed trail system caters for a broad audience of riders, and a wide variety of riding styles in close proximity to Canberra and Sydney markets. This has the potential to significantly grow the economy and provide a number of jobs.

In addition, the draft Plan for the Mogo Adventure Trails Hub is an important strategic priority of the Nature Based Tourism Feasibility Study, Destination Action Plan and Eurobodalla's Delivery Program 2017-21 and Operational Plan 2020-21 and has the potential to be a key driver in stimulating the local economy after the bushfire and ongoing impact of COVID-19.

The project was identified as a key economic driver in the Eurobodalla and Regional Bushfire Recovery Action Plan.

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As part of the community and stakeholder engagement process, this report seeks Council endorsement of the draft Mogo Adventure Trails Hub Master Plan to be placed on public exhibition for 28 days. A further report will be provided to council following exhibition.

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Responsible Officer: Warren Sharpe OAM - Director Infrastructure Services

Attachments: Nil

Outcome: 7 Connected and Accessible Places

Focus Area: 7.1 Work in partnership to provide an integrated transport network

Delivery Program Link: 7.1.2 Provide a safe efficient and integrated transport network

Operational Plan Link: 7.1.2.4 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 for review. The main issues covered at the Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee meeting, held 6 August 2020, are as follows:

- Signage and Line marking 'No Stopping' at the intersection of Hector McWilliam Drive and Lake Street, Tuross Head.
- Signage and Line marking 'No Stopping' at the intersection of Cranbrook Road and Sharon Road, Batemans Bay
- Funding Offer Local Government Road Safety Officer Program 2020-2021
- On-road cycling facility along Beach Road between Batehaven shops and Surf Beach shops.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

- 1. The minutes of the Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee Meeting No 9 for 2019-20 be received and noted.
- 2. That Council Plan No. 5156 Set BB Sheet 23 detailing the 'No Stopping' signage and BB centre lines at the intersection of Hector McWilliam Drive and Lake Street, Tuross Head be approved.
- 3. That Council Plan No. 5156 Set BB Sheet 21 detailing the 'No Stopping' and 'Loading Zone' signage and double unbroken centre lines at the intersection of Cranbrook Road and Sharon Road, Batemans Bay be approved.
- 4. That the action of staff in accepting the offer of funding for \$32,859.75 under the Local Government Road Safety Program be endorsed.

BACKGROUND

The Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee Meeting No 1 for 2020-21 was held on 6 August 2020. The meeting was attended by Councillor Anthony Mayne (Chair), Michael Travers (Transport for

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NSW, RMS), Senior Constable Scott Britt (NSW Police), Danielle Brice (representative for the Hon Andrew Constance MP), Dave Hunter (Traffic Coordinator), Kate McDougall (Road Safety Officer) and Matt Cormick (minute taker).

APOLOGIES

Nil.

DEPUTATIONS

Nil.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee Meeting No 9 for 2018-19 held on 4 June 2020 were confirmed and accepted.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil.

ROAD TRANSPORT (SAFETY AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT) ACT FOR DETERMINATION

2021.RT.001 Signage – 'No Stopping' at the intersection of Hector McWilliam Drive and Lake Street, Tuross Head

Council has received concerns that at the intersection of Lake Street, Tuross Head there is an increase in risk to road users when vehicles park on Hector McWilliam Drive.

The Traffic Coordinator inspected the intersection and determined that the sight distance from the existing 'Stop' sign on Lake Street to vehicles travelling along Hector McWilliam Drive from the west is less than the required standard, if vehicles were parked along the road edge.

To improve sight lines it is proposed to install 'No Stopping' signage around both kerb lines at this 'T' intersection.

Council Plan No. 5156 Set BB sheet 23 detailing the location of the 'No Stopping' signage was reviewed by the Committee.

Recommendation:

That Council Plan No. 5156 Set BB Sheet 23 detailing the 'No Stopping' signage and BB centre lines at the intersection of Hector McWilliam Drive and Lake Street, Tuross Head be approved.

2021.RT.002 Signage and Line marking – 'No Stopping' at the intersection of Cranbrook Road and Sharon Road, Batemans Bay

A customer has concerns that the sight line from vehicles that approach Cranbrook Road from Sharon Road are unsatisfactory at this intersection.

The Traffic Coordinator inspected the intersection and determined that the sight distance from the existing give way holding line to vehicles approaching Cranbrook Road from the west is less than the required standard. The plan was delivered to the adjoining businesses.

To improve road safety and operation of the intersection it is proposed to install 'No Stopping' signs, for a distance of 27 metres along the north-west kerb line of Cranbrook Road.

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Additionally, 'No Stopping' signs are proposed along the southern kerb line of Cranbrook Road to allow west bound through traffic to pass vehicles stopped to turn right into Sharon Road.

An unbroken double centre linemark will be installed slightly offset from the road centre on Sharon Road and the give way holding line will be moved closer to Cranbrook Road. An unbroken double centre linemark will also be installed along Cranbrook Road.

Computer turning paths for a 19m semi-trailer were used and it is determined that the new arrangement will work.

After reviewing the plan, the owner of the adjoining industrial complex on the southern side of Cranbrook Road has concern that the current practice where large vehicles park parallel on street and unload to various businesses will not be able to continue if 'No Stopping' signs are installed.

The Committee agreed to replace the proposed 'No Stopping' signs with 'Loading Zone' signs on the southern side of Cranbrook Road. Although the current unloading practice is not ideal, it was agreed that allowing the current practice to continue presents less risk than other options such as a semi-trailer reversing down the steep driveway onto the road.

Council Plan No. 5156 Set BB sheet 22 detailing the signs and line marking was reviewed by the Committee.

The representative for Transport for NSW noted that another 'No Stopping' sign could be erected on the north-eastern corner of the intersection. The Traffic Coordinator agreed and will amend the plan to include signs 10m in each direction.

Recommendation:

That Council Plan No. 5156 Set BB Sheet 21 detailing the 'No Stopping' and 'Loading Zone' signage and double unbroken centre lines at the intersection of Cranbrook Road and Sharon Road, Batemans Bay be approved.

INFORMAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

2021.IN.001 Funding Offer – Local Government Road Safety Officer Program 2020-2021

The Local Government Road Safety Program is a partnership between Transport for NSW and participating local Councils in NSW. The program provides up to 50 per cent funding contribution toward the salary of a Road Safety Officer, and also provides funding for local road safety projects.

The Eurobodalla Road Safety Officer is employed 21 hours per week. Each financial year the Officer applies for funding based on NSW state-wide initiatives and campaigns and dedicated local road safety campaigns and initiatives. The focus of these road safety projects is primarily educational and aimed at behavioral change.

Council lodged applications for funding through Transport for NSW under the Local Government Road Safety Program.

Transport for NSW advised Council of success in securing \$32,859.75 to fund road safety projects under the Local Government Road Safety Program. All programs must adhere to the Roads and Maritime Services Local Government Program's Road Safety Project Funding

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Guidelines May 2020 Version 1.1, and subsequent versions, and be in accordance with the Local Government Road Safety Program Performance Funding Agreement between Council and Transport for New South Wales.

Details of funded projects:

1. Motorcycle Project – Jump On Your Bike - \$4224.00

In the current Road Safety Strategic Plan 2013-2017, motorcycles riders are identified as vulnerable road users with unique safety needs. Between January 2011 and December 2016 there were 84 motorcycle crashes resulting in 89 casualties.

The Eurobodalla is currently an undeclared area in attaining the pre-learner driving test and pre-provisional driving test, meaning that learner motorcycle riders do not have to complete a driving component prior to attaining their motorcycle licence. This project offers a riding experience to riders who are new and novice riders and for riders who are returning, over two days based on the rider's experience. One half day if offered to beginners and a full day to intermediate and returning riders.

As part of the training there will be information distributed about riding and tips to survive including the Ride to Live campaign and MotoCAP ratings for riding gear. Learning to ride a motorcycle properly on public roads is a complex skill. Small detailed changes to how you think, how you operate a motorcycle and even where you position yourself on the road can be the difference between enjoying your ride or not, and reducing your vulnerability. Stay Upright Queanbeyan will be engaged to help the new riders progress their riding skills and ability.

2. Road Safety and Your Work - \$660.00

In NSW about one quarter of road fatalities each year are from incidents that involve business vehicles, primarily a car or light truck. In the Eurobodalla Shire Council local government area driver fatigue accounted for 23% of fatalities and 11% of casualties from 2014 to 2018. The Eurobodalla Road safety Officer will be contacting businesses in the Shire to participate in a program aimed at keeping workers who use their vehicles as their workplace to be safe.

3. Kings Highway Road Safety Partnership - \$9753.15

The Kings Highway Road Safety Partnership is a partnership of multi-jurisdictional, multi-agencies operating since 2007. Partners include Eurobodalla Shire Council, Shoalhaven City Council, Queanbeyan – Palerang Regional Shire, NSW Policing, ACT Policing, Transport for NSW and ACT Government. The Road Safety Officer from Eurobodalla Shire Council coordinates this partnership.

The aim of this partnership is to reduce road trauma both in number and severity on the Kings Highway during peak holiday seasons by coordinating inter-agency education and enforcement strategies.

4. Helping Learner Drivers Become Safe Drivers - \$462.00

The purpose of the HLDBSD workshops are to educate the supervisors of learner drivers about the Graduated Learner Scheme and on how to use their learner driver log book, provide tips and hints on how to teach a learner driver, and advice on how to plan on-road driving lessons. To adjust to the current COVID-19 social distancing requirements these workshops may be

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conducted online or face to face based on the timing and health specifications at the time. As of June 30 2020 there were 967 learner drivers in the Eurobodalla.

5. A Meter Matters – Cycling \$2,530.00

The Eurobodalla is a major tourist destination during the summer holidays. Many visitors come to cycle around the Eurobodalla joining the local riders on the road. In addition to the many visitors there is an influx of motor vehicles and drivers.

From 2013-2017 there have been 21 pedal crashes in the Eurobodalla including 6 serious injury and 15 moderate injuries. In early 2020 there was a fatal bicycle crash in Batemans Bay. Council will request Marketing and Campaigns (TfNSW) to showcase the Metre Matters signage to be displayed on Southern Region permanent Variable Message Sign (VMS) to remind drivers of the 1 March 2016 Go Together laws pertaining to passing cyclists. The dates are flexible with TfNSW, but ideally through the summer months of December 2020 and January 2021. Understanding that the Centre for Road Safety have many messages that are rotated on their large gantry VMS, Council is accepting of their support of A Metre Matters during the summer period. The messages will be:

KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE WHEN PASSING CYCLISTS

GIVE CYCLISTS AT LEAST 1 METRE WHEN PASSING

6. Fatality Free Friday – \$220.00

Fatality Free Friday is an annual road safety day celebrated on the last Friday in May. In 2021 it will be held on May 28. The Eurobodalla has had 693 casualties in 483 injury crashes from 2014-2018 including 14 fatalities and 156 serious injuries. Fatality Free Friday helps people understand that their decisions to drive a car under adverse conditions, either physical, mental or environmental can have an impact on the road. We aim to have one day fatality free nationwide and we can build from that day.

7. Eurobodalla Seniors - \$1590.60

The estimated population of Eurobodalla Shire in 2018 was 38,288. It is known in 2016 there were 1,388 people over the age of 85, with the largest group being 65 to 69 years old. To provide an opportunity to showcase road safety to and by these cohorts a Seniors Event will be held in conjunction with Eurobodalla Community Development team. An event will bring together older road users to showcase their love of cars and road safety by showcasing their historic cars at a seniors' event.

Alongside the Show n Shine of older cars, seniors will be encouraged to participate in workshops including:

- driving school instructors on how to position yourself in a vehicle
- driving with medicines information given out by pharmacists
- is your car safe basic mechanics for new cars delivered by Council's qualified mechanics
- driving safety talk developed and delivered by NSW Police top ten misunderstood road rules.

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8. Fatigue – War on Waste - \$11,000.00

This is a fatigue project incorporating a sustainability and tourism/economic development project and was successfully conducted by Eurobodalla Shire Council, Queanbeyan – Palerang Regional Council, Goulburn Mulwaree Council and Shoalhaven City Council in 2019/2020 and Queanbeyan – Palerang Regional Council, Eurobodalla Shire Council and Goulburn Mulwaree Council in 2018/2019.

The project will capitalise on the popular 'war on waste' movement by identifying and promoting local cafes, Hotels and Motels in Queanbeyan – Palerang Regional Council, Eurobodalla Shire Council, Goulburn Mulwaree Council and Shoalhaven City Council supporting sustainability, and offering a discount to customers who provide their own re-useable mugs. The project will promote these cafes and travel within this region during peak summer time (which is when a peak wave of travel occurs in the region across the neighbouring council areas particularly down and back from the coast). We will team the promotion with a free giveaway of a travel mug that will feature a 'fatigue – don't trust your tired self' message.

Each Local Government Area will distribute and promote the project tailored to their LGA needs but each Council will also benefit from the region wide promotion of the campaign. ESC is coordinating the ordering and delivery of cups to other LGA's.

9. Hold My Hand - \$2,420.00

School zones have long been problematic with large numbers of children who are dropped off and picked up by parents at the gate. In the Eurobodalla Shire from 2011-2017 2% of all casualty crashes were in school zones or areas of 40km/h. During the COVID-19 era more children are being driven to school rather than using the bus service. Eurobodalla has approximately 2 children involved in casualty crashes each year. The aim is to reduce this figure and reduce the number of crashes in 40km school zones including vehicles and pedestrian crashes. Council's Road Safety Officer will be working with each primary school to help reduce the conflict between traffic and children during COVID-19 restrictions by providing each school with two (school and Council badged) signs reminding parents and carers to hold their child/children's hand in the high traffic areas around the school.

Recommendation:

That the action of staff in accepting the offer of funding for \$32,859.75 under the Local Government Road Safety Program be endorsed.

GENERAL BUSINESS

The Traffic Officer advised the Committee of the recent 'pop-up cycling' initiative.

Transport for NSW has provided funding to Local Government through the Fast Tracked Roadside Public Spaces Program. The initiative aims to stimulate transport changes in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and encourage safe cycling routes.

By allocating space on both sides of the road we aim to increase safety for cyclists and encourage cycling as an alternative mode of transport.

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Council has commenced work to provide four kilometres of on-road cycling along Beach Road between Batehaven shops and Surf Beach shops. This facility will link to the existing shared pathway network at both ends.

By allocating space on both sides of the road the aim is to increase safety for cyclists and encourage cycling as an alternative mode of transport.

The section between the Batehaven shops and Caseys Beach has dedicated bicycle lanes, defined by line-marking applied along the sealed shoulders. 'No Stopping' signs will be installed along the kerb line on both sides.

The section between Caseys Beach and the Surf Beach shops has bicycle pavement markers painted on the bitumen and some sections will have 'No Stopping' signs installed to make it easier for cars to pass bicycles while observing the 1 metre separation rule.

The installation of signage and line-marking is authorised under NSW Government 'Special COVID-19 traffic regulation delegation to councils for a period of 6 months.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee will be held on Thursday 3 September 2020 in Council's Committee Room commencing at 9am (dependent on COVID-19 protocol at that time).

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

Attachments: 1. Moruya Plan of Management Summary Submissions/Amendments

Confidential - Moruya Plan of Management - Submissions
 Moruya Plan of Management - Report of Public Hearing

4. Under Separate Cover - Moruya Golf Course and Showground

Reserves Plan of Management

Outcome: 1 Strong Communities, Desirable Lifestyle

Focus Area: 1.3 Encourage and enable healthy lifestyle choices

Delivery Program Link: 1.3.2 Plan for and provide a safe and accessible network of recreation

and community facilities

Operational Plan Link: 1.3.2.6 Prepare Plans of Management for Council managed Crown

Reserves

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to inform Council about the results of public exhibition for the draft Plan of Management for Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves (POM), with a recommendation to adopt the POM and change the land category from 'park' to 'general community use'.

The draft POM was open for public comment for a total of 116 days across two exhibition periods.

The final draft POM takes into consideration the issues raised in internal and external submissions plus the results of a Public Hearing.

Details of the most recent community engagement include:

- public exhibition of the draft POM for a period of 28 days from 24 June 2020 with a further 14 days allocated to receive submissions (total 42 days) in accordance with Section 38 of the NSW Local Government Act 1993 (LG Act)
- during the stated 42 day period and in accordance with Section 40A of the LG Act, Mr Garret Barry, an independent consultant appointed by Council, facilitated a Public Hearing (face to face and online) on 15 July 2020 into the proposed change the category of Crown Reserves 580022 and 96313 from 'park' to 'general community use' at which no objections were received
- 3. public exhibition of the independent report into the proposed change of category has occurred in accordance with Section 47G(3) of the LG Act.

Five external and two internal submissions were received resulting in seven minor amendments to the draft POM as described in this report.

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Submissions were received from the following groups.

- 1. Eurobodalla Canine Club
- 2. Moruya Golf Club
- 3. Eurobodalla District Show Society
- 4. Moruya Heritage and Progress Association
- 5. Moruya Business Chamber
- 6. Council Staff

The NSW Minister for Planning, Industry and the Environment – Crown Lands (the land owner) and the results of an independently chaired Public Hearing support the proposed change of category from 'park' to 'general community use'.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

- In accordance with Section 3.23(6) of the Crown land Management Act 2016 and pursuant to Section 40 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council adopt the Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves Plan of Management (POM) including the amendments made to the draft POM, and the change of category of Lot 1 DP 1141031 (Crown Reserve 580022) and Lot 2 DP 1086325 (Crown Reserve 96313) from 'park' to 'general community use'
- 2. An electronic copy of the adopted Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves Plan of Management, the relevant council minute and the report from the independently chaired Public Hearing into the proposed change of category be forwarded to the NSW Minister for Planning, Industry and the Environment Crown Lands as the land owner
- 3. All contributors to the Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves draft Plan of Management be thanked in writing.

BACKGROUND

The POM meets the minimum requirements set out under section 36(3) of the LG Act by identifying the following:

- the category of the land
- the objectives and performance targets of the POM with respect to the land
- the means by which Council and others propose to achieve the plan's objectives and performance targets
- the manner in which the Council and others propose to assess its performance with respect to the POM's objectives and performance targets, which may require the prior approval of the Council to the carrying out of any specified activity on the land.

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The POM also complies with section 36(3A) of the LG Act by identifying the following:

- a description of the condition and uses of the land and buildings as at the adoption of the plan
- the stated purposes for which the land can be used and the scale and intensity of that use.

CONSIDERATIONS

Legal

In accordance with Section 3.23 of the CLM Act, Council as the appointed Crown Land Manager, was required to assign an interim category to all Crown Reserves in Eurobodalla classified as community land. The interim category of 'park' was applied to Crown Reserves 580020 and 96313 consistent with the original Public Purposes of 'Public Recreation' that was gazetted by the Crown in 1866 and 1982 respectively.

On 13 November 2019, a delegate of the NSW Minister for Planning, Industry and the Environment – Crown Lands, granted consent to Council's application to alter the categorisation of Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves from the interim category of 'park' to 'general community use'.

The change of category to 'general community use' underpins a range of existing and proposed activities including public recreation purposes and events. Community consultation and the independent report from the public hearing also supports the proposal.

The core objectives under the NSW Local Government Act 1993 for management of community land categorised as 'general community use' are:

'to promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public:

- (a) in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and
- (b) in relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities)'.

Native Title

Under the Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993*, for a Native Title claim to be successful, Native Title claimants must prove a connection to the land and that Native Title has not been extinguished.

In accordance with the *Native Title Act* and the *NSW Crown Lands Management Act 2016*, Council's Native Title Manager notified Native Title Services Corporation (NTS Corp) on 20 December 2019 and again on 8 July 2020 regarding the Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves Plan of Management. Council received no response during the stated public exhibition periods, which indicates that the activities and actions proposed in this POM are not likely to impact Native Title at Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves.

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Policy

The Moruya Showground Management Committee (Section 355 Committee of Council) and Moruya Golf Club are responsible for the day to day management of the reserves in collaboration with Council. Their roles include maintenance, booking of certain activities and in the case of the Showground, the collection of fees and charges as adopted by Council.

In accordance with Section 36(3) of the LG Act, the POM contains a Management Action Plan (Section 2, pages 6-15) that identifies objectives and performance targets. These are the means by which each stakeholder, including Council, has agreed to meet the POM's objectives and targets, and the manner in which these actions will be monitored.

Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves has an important role to play in helping Council and the community to contribute towards the following actions in Council's 2017-21 Delivery Program.

- 1.3.2 Plan for and provide a safe and accessible network of recreation and community facilities
- 1.5.1 Strengthen community connections through community development initiatives
- 5.3.2 Actively seek and support the development and hosting of events
- 8.2.2 Work in partnership with the community on key projects
- 9.1.3 Advocate and collaborate to advance the region and address local issues.

Asset

Management Objective 1 (pages 7-9) - Create a venue that attracts local and regional agricultural, cultural, social, educational, sporting, recreational, canine and equestrian activities and events and Management Objective 2 (page 10) - Protect, maintain and enhance heritage values and facilities, are supported by 15 actions that serve to enhance facilities and services, supporting a range of current activities and future events while protecting the heritage values of the site.

The POM is also written to uphold the objectives of the adopted Moruya Showground Landscape Masterplan, the Moruya Showground Conservation Management Plan and the Moruya Showground Design Guidelines with respect to any new developments or building renovations on the Showground.

Environmental

Management Objective 3 (pages 11 and 12) - *Ensure that activities and construction minimise impacts on the environment*, is supported by seven environmental actions that serve to protect water quality, native vegetation and biodiversity while offering environmental safeguards for new developments and targets for reduced consumption of energy, water and waste.

Social Impact

Management Objective 4 (page 13) - *Maintain public safety and access for people of all abilities,* is supported by four actions to ensure that public access and safety is upheld at the site.

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Moruya Showground is the only venue of its type in Eurobodalla and serves as a regional agricultural venue and event space. The site is an important pedestrian thoroughfare and serves as an evacuation centre for people and livestock.

Economic Development Employment Potential

Management Objective 5 (pages 14 and 15) - Running of the Reserves is based on collaborative planning, transparent decision making, responsible asset and finance management and support for the other core objectives, includes nine actions that support the economic development and employment potential of Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves, through the continued support for and benefits derived from local and regional events.

The change of category proposed by the draft POM also supports the growth and diversity of activities on the reserves.

Financial

As a statutory document, the POM has few new financial implications for Council or other stakeholders. Financial considerations with respect to capital purchases have already been addressed in the adopted landscape masterplan for Moruya Showground, with indicative costs included.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

Community input collected in the period 2017-20 provided Council with detailed local knowledge about the history and usage of these reserves for the preparation of the draft POM.

The methods of engagement used during this period included:

- Focus Group sessions with the Moruya Showground Section 355 Committee of Council, Showground user groups, Moruya Sharks Rugby League Club, Cobowra Local Aboriginal Land Council and the Moruya Golf Club Board of Management
- A survey of the above groups to identify issues and opportunities for the reserves
- Liaison with Council's Youth, Aboriginal, Public Art, Disability Inclusion and Heritage Advisory Committees
- Articles on social media, in Council's newsletter, Community Noticeboard and on Council's website
- Correspondence on a regular basis with 40 user groups and relevant stakeholders
- 116 days of public exhibition of the draft POM
- A Public Hearing into the proposed change of category.

In accordance with Council Motion 19/142 (30 July 2019) and consent from a delegate for the NSW Minister for Planning, Industry and the Environment – Crown Lands (received 13 November 2019), the draft POM was placed on public exhibition for 74 days from Wednesday 4 December 2019 until Monday 17 February 2020. A Public Hearing into the proposed change of category that was scheduled to occur on 12 February 2020 was postponed due to the bush fire crisis.

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Council was briefed on 16 June 2020, signaling a resumption of community consultation on 24 June 2020, and informed that a rescheduled Public Hearing into the proposed change of category would be held on 15 July 2020.

Final consultation on the draft POM concluded on 4 August 2020 following 42 days. In total, the draft POM was open for public comment for 116 days across the two exhibition periods.

Five external and two internal submissions were received resulting in seven amendments recommended to the draft POM. A summary of the submissions and recommended amendments to the draft POM is provided as Attachment 1 and a scan of the original submissions is provided as confidential Attachment 2.

Submissions were received from the following groups.

- 1. Eurobodalla Canine Club
- 2. Moruya Golf Club
- 3. Eurobodalla District Show Society
- 4. Moruya Heritage and Progress Association
- 5. Moruya Business Chamber
- 6. Council Staff

Public Hearing

Independent planning consultant Mr. Garret Barry was selected from Council's list of preferred providers to conduct and report on the Public Hearing into the proposed change of category.

The Public Hearing was run online and in person by Mr. Barry on 15 July 2020 in accordance with the COVID-19 Legislation Amendment (Emergency Measures) Bill 2020 and Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (COVID-19 Planning Bodies) Regulation 2020.

The results of the Public Hearing supports Council's proposal to change the land category from 'park' to 'general community use'. A copy of the Public Hearing Independent Report by Mr. Barry is provided as Attachment 3.

Summary of submissions and responses

The following submissions were received during two public exhibition periods 4 December 2019 to 17 February 2020 and 24 June to 4 August 2020. The responses provide a rationale for recommended responses made in amending the draft POM.

1. Eurobodalla Canine Club

1.1. Related to Action 1.8: 'Maintain facilities and infrastructure at the Moruya Showground precinct to agreed levels of service', the Eurobodalla Canine Club suggested that all venue hirers are responsible for remediating the Showground arena, Ack Weyman Oval and related open spaces after use, not just Council and the Moruya Showground Management Committee.

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Response

Submission accepted. Action 1.8 amended to make all venue hirers responsible for remediation of open space areas.

1.2. Related to Action 4.4: 'Prepare evacuation plans for Moruya Golf Course and Moruya Showground precincts', the Eurobodalla Canine Club questioned the specific reference in the draft POM to 'flooding' and suggested a broadening of the intent to facilitate the preparation of evacuation plans regardless of the type of disaster.

Response

Submission accepted. Action 4.4 amended as follows to remove the specific reference to flooding.

- Action 4.4 Prepare evacuation plans for Moruya Golf Course and Moruya Showground precincts.
- 1.3. Eurobodalla Canine Club queried whether the draft POM referenced a seasonal hire policy.

Response

- Section 6.3 Approvals for activities on the land on page 51 of the draft POM references the *Sporting and Recreational Facilities Seasonal Hire Policy and Code of Practice*.
- 1.4. Eurobodalla Canine Club queried the appropriateness, based on heritage values, of the draft POM authorising Council to enter into licenses for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations at Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves.

Response

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

Rationale for recommended response

With the growth in the use of electric vehicles, it is appropriate to include the provision of electric vehicle charging stations on the public reserves, potentially including relevant sections of the golf club such as the parking area.

In response to the club's heritage conservation concerns, *Management Objective 2 - Protect, maintain and enhance heritage values and facilities*, and its Actions and Performance Measures, aim to ensure that new assets and infrastructure are installed in line with the Moruya Showground Conservation Management Plan and Design Guidelines.

2. Moruya Golf Club

A submission from Moruya Golf Club thanked Council 'for the work done creating the POM to cover all bases and allow us to try and move our business forward'.

Response

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

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3. Eurobodalla District Show Society (EDSS)

3.1 EDSS identified a typographical error with the incorrect inclusion of the word 'club' in the title of the Moruya Showground Management Committee on page 6.

Response

The error has been corrected in the POM.

3.2 EDSS would like the ESC and MSMC to look at installing a Caretaker with their own livein caravan while funds are sought and obtained for a permanent caretaker's residence.

Response

Not supported. No amendment to the POM.

Rationale for recommended response

- 3.2.1 In accordance with Action 1.9 of the POM, *Development Consent and approval* must be granted before camping can occur on the reserve. Installation of a Caretaker is not required until this consent is given.
- 3.2.2 Objective 5 of the POM states that 'on-site Caretaker is recruited, subject to a business case, the securing recurrent funds and the construction of a residence'.

The POM does not specify the type of dwelling, however at minimum, a business case for a permanent Caretaker needs to be established prior to other actions occurring.

3.3 EDSS is in full support of all-year-round traveling camping at the Showground.

Response

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

3.4 EDSS supports the inclusion of art that reflects the history and heritage of the Showground and Moruya

Response

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

3.5 EDSS believes that Moruya Showground should be included in the Moruya Heritage Walk.

Response

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

4. Moruya Heritage and Progress Association (MHPA)

4.1 MHPA supports the inclusion of art that reflects the history and heritage of the Showground and Moruya

Response

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

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4.2 MHPA believes that Moruya Showground should be included in the Moruya Heritage Walk.

Response

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

5. Moruya Business Chamber

5.1 Moruya Business Chamber supports all aspects of the POM and the proposed change of category.

Response

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

6. Internal submissions

6.1 Council's Development Assessment Division advised that a plan of management does not give consent under Part 4 for of the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EPA) for a use requiring consent. A Development Application would still be required for the use of the land irrespective of the POM.

Background

Action 1.9 and Section 6.3 (page 53) in the draft POM encouraged the permissibility of short term, year-round camping in designated areas of Moruya Showground. This outcome is supported by all user groups, Cobowra Local Aboriginal Land Council and Moruya Golf Club.

Response

To enable compliance with Part 4 of the EPA and the NSW Local Government Regulation 2005 concerning tents, caravans and annexes in caravan parks and camping grounds, the relevant wording of Section 6.3 and Action 1.9 have been amended with advice from Council's Development Assessment Division.

Submission accepted. Action 1.9 amended as follows.

Action 1.9 - Seek development consent to accommodate up to 200 campers in a legal, safe, and sustainable way in accordance with the *EPA Act, LG Act Section 68F(3)* and *Local Government (Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2005.*

6.2 Council's Environmental Services Division deemed Action 3.6 in the draft POM as a low priority due to minimal environmental benefit. Action 3.6 read as follows. '....undertake a site assessment and plan for environmental rehabilitation and ongoing maintenance of water courses.'

Response

Submission accepted. Action 3.6 has been deleted. The corresponding measure of success (M31) 'funds obtained to undertake rehabilitation works' has been retained to support the remaining environmental action 'Ensure that native drought-resistant plant

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species are used when renewing or developing new garden beds and landscaping where appropriate.'

6.3 Council's Recreation Services and Environmental Services – recommended an extension of action completion dates to respond to delays experienced during the 2019-20 bushfires.

Response

Submission accepted. Completion dates for Actions 4.4, 5.3 and 5.7 and corresponding targets and measures have been amended.

Recommended edits to the draft POM

- a) Typographical error on page 6 has been corrected with the deletion of the word 'club' from the title of the Moruya Showground Management Committee.
- b) Action 1.8 amended to make all venue hirers responsible for remediation of open space areas after use.
- c) Action 1.9 and Section 6.3 have been amended to include a Development Application step in the process of seeking year-round camping on the Reserves
- d) Action 3.6 (undertake a site assessment and plan for environmental rehabilitation and ongoing maintenance of water courses) deleted on advice from Council's Environment Team that the action would yield minimal environmental benefit.
- e) Action 4.4 amended to enable the preparation of broad evacuation plans for Moruya Golf Course and Moruya Showground precincts, not just in cases of flooding.
- f) Action completion dates have been extended in response to delays experienced due to the 2019-20 bushfire crisis.
- g) The results of the second exhibition period have been added to the final draft POM (Section 5.2.5).

CONCLUSION

The draft Plan of Management for Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves (POM) was open for public comment for 116 days across the two exhibition periods.

Five external and two internal submissions were received resulting in seven minor amendments to the draft POM as described in this report. Submissions were received from the following groups.

- 1. Eurobodalla Canine Club
- 2. Moruya Golf Club
- 3. Eurobodalla District Show Society
- 4. Moruya Heritage and Progress Association
- 5. Moruya Business Chamber
- 6. Council Staff

The results of an independently chaired Public Hearing support the proposed change of category from 'park' to 'general community use'.

Council has received universal support for the adoption of this POM. This support includes that of the land owner, NSW Minister for Planning, Industry and the Environment – Crown Lands, who provided consent on 13 November 2019 to the adoption of the POM and to the change of category from 'park' to 'general community use'.

Attachment 1 - Summary of submissions and amendments

Summary of submissions and amendments to the Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves draft Plan of Management (POM) July – August 2020

1. Eurobodalla Canine Club

1.1. Related to Action 1.8: 'Maintain facilities and infrastructure at the Moruya Showground precinct to agreed levels of service', the Eurobodalla Canine Club suggested that all venue hirers are responsible for remediating the Showground arena, Ack Weyman Oval and related open spaces after use. Not just Council and the Moruya Showground Management Committee.

Response

Submission accepted. Action 1.8 amended to make all venue hirers responsible for remediation of open space areas.

1.2. Related to Action 4.4: 'Prepare evacuation plans for Moruya Golf Course and Moruya Showground precincts', the Eurobodalla Canine Club questioned the specific reference in the draft POM to 'flooding' and suggested a broadening of the intent to facilitate the preparation of evacuation plans regardless of the type of disaster.

Response

Submission accepted. Action 4.4 amended as follows to remove the specific reference to flooding.

Action 4.4 - Prepare evacuation plans for Moruya Golf Course and Moruya Showground precincts.

1.3. Eurobodalla Canine Club queried whether the draft POM referenced a seasonal hire policy.

Response

Section 6.3 - Approvals for activities on the land on page 51 of the draft POM references the Sporting and Recreational Facilities Seasonal Hire Policy and Code of Practice.

1.4. Eurobodalla Canine Club queried the appropriateness, based on heritage values, of the draft POM authorising Council to enter into licenses for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations at Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves.

Response

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

Rationale for recommended response

With the growth in the use of electric vehicles, it is appropriate to include the provision of electric vehicle charging stations on the public reserve.

In response to the Canine Club's heritage conservation concerns, Management Objective 2 - Protect, maintain and enhance heritage values and facilities, and its Actions and Performance

Attachment 1 - Summary of submissions and recommended edits Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves draft Plan of Management

Attachment 1 - Summary of submissions and amendments

Measures, aim to ensure that new assets and infrastructure are installed in line with the Moruya Showground Conservation Management Plan and Design Guidelines.

Moruya Golf Club

A submission from Moruya Golf Club thanked Council 'for the work done creating the POM to cover all bases and allow us to try and move our business forward'.

Response

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

3. Eurobodalla District Show Society (EDSS)

3.1 EDSS identified a typographical error with the incorrect inclusion of the word 'club' in the title of the Moruya Showground Management Committee on page 6.

Response

The error has been corrected in the POM.

3.2 EDSS would like the ESC and MSMC to look at installing a Caretaker with their own live-in caravan while funds are sought and obtained for a permanent caretaker's residence.

Response

Not supported. No amendment to the POM.

Rationale for recommended response

- 3.2.1 In accordance with Action 1.9 of the POM, *Development Consent and approval* must be granted before primitive camping can occur on the reserve. Installation of a Caretaker is not required until this consent is given.
- 3.2.2 Objective 5 of the POM states that 'on-site Caretaker is recruited, subject to a business case, the securing recurrent funds and the construction of a residence'.

The POM does not specify the type of dwelling, however at minimum, a business case for a permanent Caretaker needs to be established prior to other actions occurring.

3.3 EDSS is in full support of all-year-round traveling camping at the Showground.

Response

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

3.4 EDSS supports the inclusion of art that reflects the history and heritage of the Showground and Moruya

Attachment 1 - Summary of submissions and recommended edits Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves draft Plan of Management

Attachment 1 - Summary of submissions and amendments

Response

SUBMISSIONS/AMENDMENTS

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

3.5 EDSS believes that Moruya Showground should be included in the Moruya Heritage Walk.

Response

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

4. Moruya Heritage and Progress Association (MHPA)

4.1 MHPA supports the inclusion of art that reflects the history and heritage of the Showground and Moruya

Response

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

4.2 MHPA believes that Moruya Showground should be included in the Moruya Heritage Walk.

Response

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

5. Moruya Business Chamber

5.1 Moruya Business Chamber supports all aspects of the POM and the proposed change of category.

Response

Submission noted. No amendment to the POM.

SUBMISSIONS/AMENDMENTS

Attachment 1 - Summary of submissions and amendments

6. Internal submissions

6.1 The Development Assessment Division advised that a plan of management does not give consent under Part 4 for of the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EPA) for a use requiring consent. A Development Application would still be required for the use of the land irrespective of the POM.

Background

Action 1.9 and Section 6.3 (page 53) in the draft POM encouraged the permissibility of short term, year-round camping in designated areas of Moruya Showground. This outcome is supported by all user groups, Cobowra Local Aboriginal Land Council and Moruya Golf Club.

Response

To enable compliance with Part 4 of the EPA and the NSW Local Government Regulation 2005 concerning tents, caravans and annexes in caravan parks and camping grounds, the relevant wording of Section 6.3 and Action 1.9 have been amended with advice from Council's Development Assessment Division.

Submission accepted. Action 1.9 amended as follows.

Action 1.9 - Seek development consent to accommodate up to 200 campers in a legal, safe, and sustainable way in accordance with the EPA Act, LG Act Section 68F(3) and Local Government (Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2005.

6.2 The Environmental Services Division deemed Action 3.6 in the draft POM as a low priority due to minimal environmental benefit. Action 3.6 read as follows. '....undertake a site assessment and plan for environmental rehabilitation and ongoing maintenance of water courses.'

Response

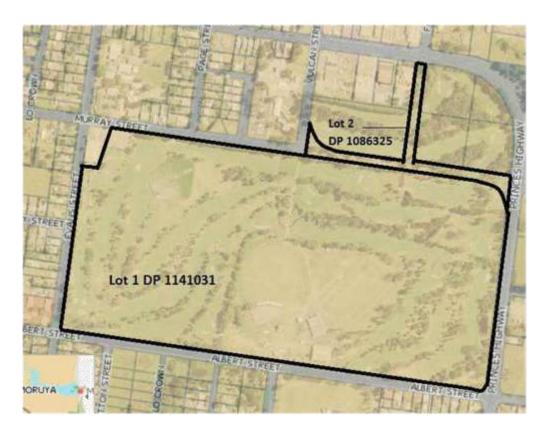
Submission accepted. Action 3.6 has been deleted. The corresponding measure of success (M31) 'funds obtained to undertake rehabilitation works' has been retained to support the remaining environmental action 'Ensure that native drought-resistant plant species are used when renewing or developing new garden beds and landscaping where appropriate.'

6.3 Recreation Services and Environmental Services – recommended an extension to the completion dates for Actions 4.4, 5.3, 5.7 to respond to delays experienced during the 2019-20 bushfire crisis.

Response

Submission accepted. Completion dates for Actions 4.4, 5.3 and 5.7 and corresponding targets and measures have been projected out or deleted.

Attachment 1 - Summary of submissions and recommended edits Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves draft Plan of Management REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING
OF 15 JULY, 2020 INTO THE PROPOSAL BY
EUROBODALLA SHIRE COUNCIL TO
RECATEGORISE MORUYA GOLF COURSE AND
SHOWGROUND RESERVES FROM "PARK" TO
"GENERAL COMMUNITY USE".



Garret Barry Planning Services Pty Ltd
23 July 2020

Summary

Council has exhibited a draft Plan of Management for the Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves which is in the town of Moruya. A copy of that exhibited Draft Plan is an attachment to this report.

Included in the proposals of the draft Plan is that the categorisation of the Reserve be changed from the current category of "Park" to that of "General Community Use".

As required under the crown lands and local government legislation, a public hearing into the proposal was held at the Moruya Golf Club on 15 July 2020, commencing 5 pm. Garret Barry of Garret Barry Planning Services, conducted the hearing as an independent Chair.

While no formal submission was made to the hearing there was a general question from the floor. The main issue from this question relates to concerns as to whether recategorisation may increase demands and hence funding burden on Council and ratepayers. This concern is discussed in the following report with a conclusion drawn that:

- Shire growth will continue to create demand for better and expanded public facilities.
- Expanding the range of public facilities that can lawfully be considered at the Moruya Golf Course and Showground reserves can potentially lead to demands for the funding of such new services.
- But such demand will be managed by Councils usual management planning and budgeting. The normal public consultation on these processes will help set priorities and allocation of resources.
- Having an up to date plan for the reserve and a wider range of potential uses, improves the prospects of grant funding from other levels of government.

The Consultant therefore considers Council is able to re-categorise Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves to General Community Use.

1 Statutory requirements

Under the Local Government Act 1993, Community Land requires a Plan of Management and all parcels of Community land are required to be placed in one of 5 categories:

- Natural Area
- Sports ground
- Park
- Area of Cultural Significance
- General Community Use.

The Moruya Golf Course and Showground comprises Crown Reserves 580020 and 96313. It comprises Lot 1 DP 1141031 and Lot 2 DP 1086325. A sketch of the land is on the cover of this report and full details are available in the draft Plan of Management.

The Crown Lands Management Act 2016 requires Councils who have been appointed the manager of a crown reserve, to manage that land as if it were council owned community land under the Local Government Act 1993. Eurobodalla Shire Council is the appointed manager of this reserve. At the time of the coming into effect of the new Crown Lands Management Act in July 2018, the reserve was given the category of Park.

Further, under the Local Government Act, Section 40 (A), should a Council wish to change the category of Community land, it must first conduct a Public Hearing and consider the report of such hearing before making any resolution to re-categorise the land

The proposal for the hearing must be given public notice.

Best practice guidelines suggest that the Chair of a Public Hearing should be independent from the Council.

Following the hearing, the chairperson must report to Council and Council must make such report publicly available.

2 Report of the hearing

Garret Barry, a Registered Town Planner, of Garret Barry Planning Services was engaged by Council to conduct the hearing.

Notice of the proposed public hearing was given by Council in the local press, on Council's web page, and direct email to reserve user groups, Cobowra Local Aboriginal Land Council, Moruya Business Chamber and specialist advisory committees of Council.

I, (Garret Barry) attended the Moruya Golf Club on 15 July 2020. The session commenced at 5 pm with a detailed presentation by Mr Picton of Council where the draft plan was overviewed and an explanation given of the process to date relating to exhibition.

I formally commenced the public hearing segment of the session at approximately 5.30 pm. In attendance were 10 members of the community plus Council representatives Steve Picton and Kerry Hyndes. Two further members of the community participated online by Zoom. A list of attendees forms attachment one of this report

I have reviewed the draft Plan of Management and Council's documentation relating to public notice and I am satisfied all notification requirements have been met.

After opening the hearing, I gave a summary of the requirements for the hearing and the rights of the community to make a submission. I invited all present and attending via Zoom to make submission if they desired.

No members of the community gave notice they wished to address the hearing.

However there was a question from the floor to the effect what impact the widening of permissible uses for the reserve might have on Council and ratepayer funding and budgets.

2

Analysis of the question

The main concern seemed to be whether the expansion of permissible public uses that the proposed reclassification would allow, may have consequences for Council and the community's limited funds.

Informal discussion ensued at where the following points/ observations were made:

- Shire growth will continue to create demand for better and expanded public facilities.
- Expanding the range of public facilities that can lawfully be considered at the Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves can potentially lead to demands for the funding of such new services.
- But such demand will be managed by Council's usual management planning and budgeting processes. The normal public consultation on these processes will help set priorities and the allocation of resources.
- Having an up to date plan for the reserve and a wider range of potential uses, improves the prospects of grant funding from other levels of government.

Conclusion

The issue of funding any wider services in the Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserve can be reasonably addressed through the plan of management processes and normal Council Shire wide recreational planning and budgeting. The public have a number of opportunities to participate in such processes and comment as to priorities.

Widening the category for this reserve to that of General Community Use will ensure all the proposed facilities in the draft Plan of Management can be lawfully accommodated.

No person at the public hearing spoke against the proposed re-categorisation from "park" to "general community use".

Re-categorisation of Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves to General Community Use appears supportable.

The hearing closed at 5.45 pm Garret Barry MPIA, RP Hearing chairman 15 July 2020.

Attachment One. Attendance list for the hearing:

Garret Barry. Hearing Chair Steve Picton. Council's recreation planner Kerry Hyndes. ESC. Controlling technology.

Community Members attending in person:

- Noelene Cowdray
- Graham Cowdray
 Ian Chalmers
- 4. Peter Mylott
- 5. Alison Worthington
- 6. Judy Manahan
- 7. Jude Manahan 8. Lindsay Boyton
- Josh Prowse
 Hillary Coulton.

Community members participating via Zoom

- 1. Brad Rossiter
- 2. Ewan Morrison.

CAR20/013 PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

S003 - T00034

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

Attachments: Nil

Outcome: 2 Celebrated Creativity, Culture and Learning

Focus Area: 2.1 Support and encourage the expression of our vibrant creative arts

sector

Delivery Program Link: 2.1.1 Develop and promote creative arts activities and industries

Operational Plan Link: 2.1.1.1 Co-ordinate the Public Art Advicory Committee and associated

projects

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The River of Art Festival are seeking permission to paint a mural on the wall of the public facilities at Quota Park at Forsters Bay, opposite the Wagonga Inlet in Narooma. Designed by local Aboriginal Artist Cheryl Davison and supported by artist Tim De Hann, this mural will activate a public space, enhance the Oyster Festival site, recognise an important oyster producing estuary and industry and be a focal point for reconciliation and community celebration post the bushfires.

River of Art has received funding from the Eurobodalla Disaster Relief Fund – Phase 2, Community Grant Applications, with funding to create murals at key locations across the shire. A request for \$5,000 to design and execute this mural was approved by the Committee and River of Art are working in partnership with the Business Chamber and the Narooma Oyster Festival to deliver the project. Both River of Art and the Oyster Festival are flagship events supported by Council and have a track record of delivering quality events and activities.

The Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) agreed to review this request outside of normal meeting frequency, due to the timing of the event, and unanimously support this project and recommend Council's endorsement.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council endorse the application of the River of Art Committee's Resilience and Renewal project mural on the public facility block at Quota Park, Forsters Bay, on the Wagonga Inlet foreshore in Narooma.

BACKGROUND

In 2020 the River of Art (RoA) festival committee planned the annual festival around the Resilience and Renewal theme as a response to the Bushfire crisis that devasted the Shire early in the year. The onset of Covid-19 seriously impacted the ability to deliver a full festival program.

It was decided that a mural event across the Shire could achieve much in the way of contributing to bushfire recovery and produce a lasting, beautifying and enhancing legacy, helping form a Shire-wide 'public art trail' to attract visitors, not only as part of the annual River of Art and Oyster Festivals, but throughout the year.

CAR20/013 PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

S003 - T00034

CONSIDERATIONS

RoA has decided upon several sites across the Shire for the funded murals that are on private land. However, the preferred location at Quota Park in Narooma is a Council facility on public land and the committee has made a submission to Council, via the PAAC, to seek permission to proceed.

The artwork is being funded by the Eurobodalla Disaster Relief Fund and has been designed by prominent local Aboriginal artist Cheryl Davison in collaboration with Tim De Hann.

This mural will activate a public space, enhance the Oyster Festival site, recognise an important oyster producing estuary and industry and be a focal point for reconciliation and community celebration post the bushfires.

CONCLUSION

The Public Art Advisory Committee supports the River of Art festival's request to paint a mural on the public facilities at Quota Park at Forsters Bay, opposite the Wagonga Inlet in Narooma and recommend Council endorsement.

15. 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.

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?

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@eurocoast.nsw.gov.au	www.esc.nsw.gov.au
ICAC	8281 5999	icac@icac.nsw.gov.au	www.icac.nsw.gov.au
Local Government Department	4428 4100	dlg@dlg.nsw.gov.au	www.dlg.nsw.gov.au
NSW Ombudsman	8286 1000 Toll Free 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.

Acronym	Meaning	Description
ACR	Australian Capital Region	The political and strategic grouping of the ACT government and 17 adjacent councils.
AEP	Annual Exceedance Probability	For floods expressed as a % eg 1% = 1:100 year event. The NSW Flood Guidelines nominate types of development and controls.
AHD	Australian Height Datum	Floor levels for buildings set to remain at or above flood level (expressed as 'freeboard').
APZ	Asset Protection Zone	Area to be cleared and maintained around habitable buildings in bushfire prone areas.
AS	Australian Standard	Standards set by national body as minimum construction, service, system, planning or design requirements.

Acronym	Meaning	Description
ВСА	Building Code of Australia	Prescribes minimum standards or performance base for building construction.
CAMP	Companion Animal Management Plan	Required by state law, plan nominating management of dogs and cats and areas for access for the exercise of dogs (eg beaches and reserves).
СС	Construction Certificate	Floor plans approved by council or private certifier in compliance with development conditions and BCA.
COPW	Condition of Public Works Report	Required by state law to define the condition of infrastructure assets, the cost to upgrade to defined standards, the current costs of maintenance and desired levels of maintenance.
СР	Cultural Plan	A cultural plan enables identification of cultural assets, identity and needs as well as providing a framework to develop cultural initiatives to increase opportunities for residents.
CSR	Complaint and Service Request	Requests received from public by phone, letter, email or Councillor to attend to certain works (eg pothole) or complain of certain service or offence (eg dogs barking).
DA	Development Application	Required by state law to assess suitability and impacts of a proposed development.
DAP	Disability Action Plan	Council plan outlining proposed works and services to upgrade facilities to progressively meet Disability Discrimination Act.
DCP	Development Control Plan	Local planning policy defining the characteristics sought in residential, commercial land.
DECCW	Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (formerly EPA, NPWS, DEC)	State agencies (former Environment Protection and National Parks), DNR managing state lands and natural resources and regulating council activity or advising on development applications.
DWE	Department of Water and Energy	State agency managing funding and approvals for town and country water and sewer services and State energy requirements.
DoP	Department of Planning	State agency managing state lands and regulating council activity or advising on development applications or strategic planning.
DLG	Department of Local Government	State agency responsible for regulating local government.
DoL	Department of Lands	State agency managing state lands and advising on development applications or crown land management.
DoC	Department of Commerce	State agency (formerly Public Works) managing state public water, sewer and buildings infrastructure and advising/supervising on council infrastructure construction.

Acronym	Meaning	Description
DoH	Department of Health	State agency responsible for oversight of health care (community and hospital) programs. Also responsible for public warning of reportable health risks.
DOTAR	Department of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development and Local Government	Federal agency incorporating infrastructure, transport system, and assisting regions and local government.
EBP	Eurobodalla Bike Plan	Strategic Plan identifying priorities and localities for cycleways in the Shire.
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement	Required for designated and state developments researching and recommending solutions to social, economic and environmental impacts.
EMP	Estuary Management Plan	Community based plan, following scientific research of hydrology and hydraulics, recommending actions to preserve or enhance social, economic and environmental attributes of estuary
EMS	Environmental Management System	Plans prepared by council (such as waste management and strategic planning) around AS14000.
EOI	Expressions of Interest	Often called in advance of selecting tenders to ascertain capacity and cost of private sector performing tasks or projects on behalf of council.
EP&A	Environment Planning & Assessment Act	State law defining types of development on private and public lands, the assessment criteria and consent authorities.
ESC	Eurobodalla Shire Council	
ESD	Ecologically Sustainable Development	Global initiative recommending balance of social, economic and environmental values in accord with 7 ESD principles.
ESS	Eurobodalla Settlement Strategy	Council strategy prepared with assistance of government to identify best uses and re-uses of urban lands, the appropriate siting of private and public investment (eg institutions, employment areas or high density residential) based on current and planned infrastructure and land capacity.
ET	Equivalent Tenement	Basis of calculation of demand or impact of a single dwelling on water and sewer system.
FAG	Financial Assistance Grant	Federal general purpose grant direct to local government based on population and other 'disability' factors.

Acronym	Meaning	Description
FSR	Floor Space Ratio	A measure of bulk and scale, it is a calculation of the extent a building floor area takes up of an allotment.
GIS	Geographic Information System	Computer generated spatial mapping of land and attributes such as infrastructure, slope, zoning.
IPART	Independent Pricing & Regulatory Tribunal	State body that reviews statutory or government business regulatory frameworks and pricing levels.
IPWEA	Institute Public Works Engineers Australia	Professional association.
IWCMS	Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy (or Plan)	Council plan identifying risk and social, economic and environmental benefit of proposed augmentation to water, sewer and stormwater systems.
IWMS	Integrated Waste Management (Minimisation) Strategy	Council plan identifying risk and social, economic and environmental benefit of proposed augmentation of waste (solids, effluent, contaminated, liquid trade waste).
LEP	Local Environment Plan	The statutory planning instrument defining the zones and objectives of urban and rural areas.
LGAct	Local Government Act	State law defining the role of Mayor, Councillors, staff, financing, approvals etc.
LGMA	Local Government Managers Australia	Professional association.
LGNSW	Local Government NSW	Representative advisory and advocacy group for councils in NSW.
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding	Agreement in principle between parties (eg council and agency) to achieve defined outcomes.
NPWS	National Parks & Wildlife Service	Now merged into DECCW.
NRM	Natural Resource Management	
NVC	Native Vegetation Act 2003	State law defining means of protection of threatened legislation and approval processes to clear land.
OC	Occupation Certificate	Issued by council or private certifier that building is safe to occupy and in compliance with development conditions and BCA.
OSMS	On site sewage management system	Includes septic tanks, aerated systems, biocycles etc.
PCA	Principal Certifying Authority	The person or organisation appointed by applicant to inspect and certify structures.

Acronym	Meaning	Description
PIA	Planning Institute of Australia	Professional association.
POEO	Protection of the Environment Operations Act	State law outlining standards for emissions and discharges and penalties for pollution.
РоМ	Plan of Management (usually for community land)	Council plan nominating type of uses for community land and range of facilities progressively to be provided on land.
PPP	Public Private Partnerships	
PTS	Public Transport Strategy	Council strategy to initiate mechanisms to promote and facilitate public transport (bus, taxi, community transport, cycles) in design of subdivisions, developments and council works.
REF	Review of Environmental Factors	Council examination of risk and social, economic and environmental benefit of proposed works, assessed against state planning, environment and safety laws.
REP	Regional Environment Planning Policy	Outlines compulsory state planning objectives to be observed in development assessment and strategic planning.
RFS	Rural Fire Service	State agency responsible for providing equipment and training for volunteer firefighter brigades, and the assessment and approval of developments in bushfire prone lands.
RLF	Regional Leaders Forum	The group of mayors and general managers representing the councils in the ACR.
RMS	Roads & Maritime Service	State agency responsible for funding, construction and maintenance of state roads, the approval of council works on arterial roads and development applications.
S64	S64 Contributions Plan	Developer contributions plan to enable, with council and state funds, the augmentation of water, sewer and stormwater infrastructure.
S94 S94A	S94 Contributions Plan S94A Contributions Plan Levy Plan	Developer contributions to enable construction of public infrastructure and facilities such as roads, reserves, carparks, amenities etc.
SCG	Southern Councils Group	Political and strategic grouping of councils along the NSW south coast from Wollongong to the border, lobbying government for assistance (eg highways) and resourcing sharing initiatives.
SCRS	South Coast Regional Strategy	Regional Strategy prepared by DoP for ESC, BVSC and part SCC to guide new LEPs.

Acronym	Meaning	Description
SEA	Strategic Environment Assessment	Spatial assessment of environmental constraints of land considered in design and assessment of subdivision and infrastructure.
		Scientific research behind assessment of capacity of land and waterways in rural residential and urban expansion lands to sustain human settlement.
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy	Outlines compulsory state planning objectives.
SNSWLHD	Southern NSW Local Health Districts	State board commissioned with oversight of health care in Highlands, Monaro and Far South Coast.
SoER	State of the Environment Report	Required by state law, the comprehensive assessment (every four years) of the condition and the pressures on the social, economic and environmental features of the Shire and appropriate responses to address or preserve those issues.
SP	Social Plan	Required by state law, the comprehensive assessment (every four years) of the condition and the pressures on the social framework of the community, their services and facilities and economic interactions.
SP	Structure Plan	Plan promoting landuses and siting of infrastructure and facilities in towns (eg, BBSP – Batemans Bay Structure Plan).
SRCMA	Southern Rivers Catchment Management Authority	State agency commissioned with assessment and monitoring of health and qualities of catchments from Wollongong to the border, and determine directions and priorities for public and private investment or assistance with grants.
STP	Sewer Treatment Plant	Primary, secondary and part tertiary treatment of sewage collected from sewers before discharge into EPA approved water ways or irrigation onto land.
TAMS	Total Asset Management System	Computer aided system recording condition and maintenance profiles of infrastructure and building assets.
TBL	Triple Bottom Line	Commercial term coined to encourage business to consider and disclose social and environmental risk, benefit and costs in the conduct of business to guide investors as to the long term sustainability and ethics of a business. Taken up by Council to record the basis of prioritisation, the review of condition, the monitor of progress and the financial disclosure of preventative or maintenance investment in council based social and environmental activities.
ToR	Terms of Reference	
TSC	Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995	State law governing the protection of nominated species and relevant assessment and development controls.

Acronym	Meaning	Description
WCF	Water Cycle Fund	Combination of water, sewer and stormwater activities and their financing arrangements.
WSUD	Water Sensitive Urban Design	Principle behind the IWCMS and council development codes requiring new developments to reduce demand and waste on water resources through contemporary subdivision and building design.