



AGENDA

Ordinary Meeting of Council

12 April 2022

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

ON TUESDAY 12 APRIL 2022

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 | |
| 4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING | |
| 4.1 Ordinary Meeting held on 22 March 2022 | |
| 5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OF MATTERS ON THE AGENDA | |
| (Declarations also to be made prior to discussions on each item) | |
| | Page No. |
| 6. MAYORAL REPORTS | |
| Nil | |
| 7. NOTICES OF MOTION | |
| NOM22/004 Children Services Forum | 3 |
| NOM22/005 Eurobodalla Shire Council supports an end to Native Forest Logging in Eurobodalla Shire | 8 |
| NOM22/006 Proposal to construct a Community Recreation Hub at Mogo..... | 10 |
| NOM22/007 Affordable Housing Strategy | 11 |
| 8. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FROM COUNCILLORS | |
| Nil | |

9. PETITIONS	
Nil	
10. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS	
GMR22/031	Endorsement of Eurobodalla Community Strategic Plan12
GMR22/032	Request for Tender (RFT) - 2122/060 Traffic Control Service Panel19
GMR22/033	Request for Tender (RFT) - 2122/054 Water Tanker Support for Council's Grading Team22
11. PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY REPORTS	
Nil	
12. INFRASTRUCTURE REPORTS	
IR22/010	Local Traffic Committee No 6 for 2021-22.....25
13. COMMUNITY, ARTS AND RECREATION REPORTS	
Nil	
14. DELEGATE REPORT	
DR22/001	LGNSW Special Conference.....40
15. URGENT BUSINESS	
2. DEALING WITH MATTERS IN CLOSED SESSION.....	43
17. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS	

**DR CATHERINE DALE
GENERAL MANAGER**

NOM22/004 CHILDREN SERVICES FORUM

S012-T00025

Responsible Officer: Councillors Tanya Dannock and David Grace

Attachments: Nil

Councillors Tanya Dannock and David Grace have given notice that at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on Tuesday 12 April 2022, they will move the following motion.

MOTION

THAT Council:

1. Acknowledge the efforts of Council staff to take the initiative to lead a collaborative sector-wide approach to sustained change and improvements in the Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) to support economic development, educators, families and children of the Eurobodalla.
2. Endorse the ECEC Action Plan and State of the Industry summary report.
3. Support advocacy to the NSW and Australian governments and relevant peak bodies for meaningful review of programs and pay rates.
4. Endorse the pursual of funding opportunities in collaboration with ECEC services to address actions of the plan.

BACKGROUND

Council provides a range of Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) services in the shire and is highly aware of the many challenges currently facing the ECEC sector locally, with the need to take both immediate and longer term actions to ensure appropriate, affordable and available childcare continues to be provided in our community.

As a civic leader, Council, via the Children's Services team has taken a lead role in advocacy, most recently hosting a Children's Services Forum in Batemans Bay on Saturday 12 March 2022.

Council staff invited sector stakeholders to partner in a co-design process to develop the forum in terms of what was needed to make it happen and how, where and when it would be presented.

Approximately 35 participants attended, including childcare operators and staff, health/allied health/disability related organisations and services, as well as elected representatives, including the Hon. Dr Michael Holland, Member for Bega and Councillors Tanya Dannock and David Grace.

The forum panel agreed on ensuring the forum presented local data (facts) that would include available demographic and industry information, and survey results from both educators and service directors/managers across the shire.

This information provided the basis from which to start action planning. As a result of a discussion of the data, survey results and the experiences of participants at the forum, a number of key action areas were identified, with associated issues brainstormed by the group.

They are:

1. Pay/Award conditions
2. Assessment and Rating/Quality Improvement Plan (QIP)

NOM22/004 CHILDREN SERVICES FORUM

S012-T00025

3. Child Health
4. Resourcing
5. Staffing
6. Qualifications and Training

The top three priorities were voted on for each issue, which has provided the basis of a priority action plan to reduce negative impacts on service delivery and availability. No doubt there is a lot more work to be done in this space, however this document will become an ally in the pursuit of change.

It is anticipated that there will be a range of actions that can be addressed at the local level, achieved by seeking grant funds, developing services or working together in innovative ways. Some of the outcomes of the forum will require a high degree of advocacy to the state and federal governments, given they have responsibility for implementing the regulations and conditions for service operation in this industry.

While Council has a role as an advocate, partner and service provider, it is only one player in the successful delivery of the action plan. Our industry partners, funding bodies and state and federal representatives will also need to play a role if we are to achieve meaningful change, supporting both the industry, children and working parents.

Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) Action Plan

As outlined above, six main action areas emerged. Of the brainstormed potential actions for each issue, the top three of each are outlined below as the sector priority action plan as a start.

There are a range of other actions deemed a lesser priority that individuals. Services or groups may choose to take up or to be developed further into a more comprehensive action plan as momentum may support. It will be important for the sector to capture any effort and outcomes as the plan is progressed.

ISSUE 1. PAY/AWARD

Action	Measure	Responsibility
1.1 Use the Eurobodalla Early Years network to lobby representative and peak bodies to combine awards and increase pay rates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submissions to and responses from representative bodies • Award rates/pay is increased 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Learning Network • ECEC Services • Council
1.2 Seek funding or processes to support a project for the Eurobodalla Early Learning Network to assist with accessing grants, getting the right information and promoting early years educator careers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding achieved • Sector satisfaction with support • Increased staff availability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Learning Network • ECEC Services
1.3 Advocate to childcare union to step	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submissions to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Learning

NOM22/004 CHILDREN SERVICES FORUM

S012-T00025

up – Big steps campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> union Award rates/pay is increased 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network ECEC Services
-------------------------	---	--

ISSUE 2. ASSESSMENT AND RATING/QIP

Action	Measure	Responsibility
<p>2.1 Lobby the various levels of government, peak bodies, and ACEQA to simplify the A&R process including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> more regular visits from Authorised Officers to see us in our natural state support visits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submissions to and responses from NSW and Australian governments and others A&R processes simplified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECEC services Council
<p>2.2 Increase networking to support services sharing success, ideas, experiences.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased participation rates in network events Satisfaction of services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECEC services
<p>2.3 Seek funding and collaborate to enable time to plan and prepare for A&R</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level of funding achieved Services report coping better with A&R requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECEC services Council

ISSUE 3. CHILD HEALTH

Action	Measure	Responsibility
<p>3.1 Seek funding and advocate for more allied health therapists (OT, physio etc) and mental health clinicians (children / youth)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level of funding achieved Submissions to and responses from NSW and Australian governments Number of new services available locally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECEC services Council NSW Health Local support services

NOM22/004 CHILDREN SERVICES FORUM

S012-T00025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services report better outcomes for children 	
<p>3.2 Embed resilience and capacity to local services by advocating to funding bodies to consider weighting on grants to support local services to provide recovery/resilience services for children and families</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submissions to and responses from NSW and Australian governments • Local services receiving more funding for services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council • ECEC services • Local support services
<p>3.3 Seek opportunities and funding for health care professionals to visit services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of funding achieved • Number of ECEC services with visiting health staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council • NSW Health • ECEC services

ISSUE 4. RESOURCING

Action	Measure	Responsibility
<p>4.1 Identify and promote trauma and behavioural issues training for educators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training sourced • Participation and satisfaction rates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council • ECEC services • Local support services
<p>4.2 Share resources across the sector</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systems for sharing resources developed and promoted • Satisfaction rates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECEC services
<p>4.3 Secure and promote child protection and other accredited training courses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accredited training packages sourced and delivered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council • Skills brokers

ISSUE 5. STAFFING

Action	Measure	Responsibility
<p>5.1 Improve recognition of the professionalism of the early childhood sector</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sector promoted and marketed well • Workforce issues diminished 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECEC services • ECEC peak bodies

NOM22/004 CHILDREN SERVICES FORUM

S012-T00025

<p>5.2 Instigate a Eurobodalla Early Learning Sector Awards night</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awards night established and implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECEC services
<p>5.3 Explore opportunities to share staff and/or develop a staffing pool</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffing issues reduced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECEC services

ISSUE 6. QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING

Action	Measure	Responsibility
<p>6.1 Reinstate face-to-face Cert III and Diploma Early Childhood Education and Care at TAFE to support the workforce needs of the sector</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cert III and Diploma Early Childhood Education and Care offered on campus at Moruya TAFE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of Regional Youth • Council • Dept Ed
<p>6.2 Provide more professional development locally for current staff</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills gaps identified and training options promoted • Participant satisfaction • Reported improvement in skill support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECEC services • Council
<p>6.3 Advocate for and promote traineeships to develop career paths</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECEC careers promoted via schools and community • Improved numbers of trainee take-up in the sector reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council • Skills brokers • ECEC services

In addition to the Action Plan, Council has prepared an **Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) – State of the Industry summary report**, which details key demographic information, industry data, resourcing and availability data, survey results. This is attached and will be used as a tool; in implementing the action plan, and most importantly, support advocacy activities.

**NOM22/005 EUROBODALLA SHIRE COUNCIL SUPPORTS AN END TO NATIVE FOREST
LOGGING IN EUROBODALLA SHIRE**

S012-T00025

Responsible Officer: Alison Worthington - Councillor

Attachments: Nil

Councillor Alison Worthington has given notice that at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on Tuesday 12 April 2022 she will move the following motion.

MOTION

THAT Council:

1. Notes the growing evidence that native forest logging by Forestry Corporation of NSW (FCNSW) in our State Forests is both economically and environmentally unsustainable.
2. Notes that logging in our State Forests is incompatible with our shire's and our region's investments in nature-based tourism enterprises, climate change mitigation and the protection of biodiversity.
3. Advocates to the NSW State government for the urgent development of a plan for the just transition of the native forest industry to ecologically sustainable plantations.
4. Notes that both WA and Victorian State Governments have announced such transitions and have provided end dates for native forest logging of 2024 and 2030 respectively.
5. Acknowledges and responds to the calls from concerned south coast residents for better management of State Forests to support nature-based tourism enterprises, recreational usage, threatened species habitat protection and carbon sequestration.
6. Advocate that the NSW State government enact plans to manage our State Forests, in partnership with south coast communities and local councils, for their nature-based tourism assets, recreational opportunities, biodiversity values and for carbon sequestration.
7. Write to the NSW Premier Dominic Perrotet, the Minister for Agriculture Dugald Saunders, and the shareholder Ministers for FCNSW the Treasurer and Minister for Energy Matt Kean, and the Minister for Finance and Employee Relations Damien Tudehope, along with the relevant Shadow Ministers.

BACKGROUND

There is growing community demand here in the Eurobodalla, across NSW, as well as around Australia and the world, for native forest logging to stop, and for the native forest timber industry to be transitioned to sustainable plantations.

We are in the middle of twin deteriorating crises - the Biodiversity Crisis and the Climate Crisis. Native forest logging practices in our south coast State Forests, which make up 31% of our shire's land area, directly contribute to both crises.

Logging of our south coast State Forests is not economically or environmentally sustainable.

An article in the Sydney Morning Herald on 15 March 2022 reported that the state-owned Forestry Corporation suffered a \$20 million loss last year, with NSW taxpayers forced to pay \$441 per hectare to log critical native forests.

**NOM22/005 EUROBODALLA SHIRE COUNCIL SUPPORTS AN END TO NATIVE
FOREST LOGGING IN EUROBODALLA SHIRE**

**S012-
T00025**

Annex 6 - Ecosystems and Biodiversity - of the ESC Draft Climate Action Plan currently on public exhibition states that:

“Logging of native forests is significantly subsidised in NSW by sustainable plantation timber harvesting operations (Perkins and Macintosh 2013; ZeroSE 2021; Campbell and McKeon 2016).

It also provides relatively little local employment: less than 50 people in the Southern Forestry region as a whole are involved with logging and chipping of public native forests (ZeroSE 2021). Job numbers in this area declined by 27% in the decade from 2006 to 2016, and most of those remaining would likely have options available for new recruitment (Frontier Economics and Macintosh 2021).”

Just last week a session of the NSW Parliamentary Committee Inquiry into the long term sustainability and future of the timber and forest products industry heard submissions, here in this building, from residents who have conducted community compliance monitoring of FCNSW activity in south coast State Forests. Their monitoring and reporting resulted in \$78,000 in five fines from the NSW Environment Protection Authority for illegal logging in Mogo, Bodalla and Boyne State Forests shortly after the Black Summer fires.

The penalty notices related to the destruction of hollow-bearing trees and critical habitat and a failure to protect feed trees and critically-endangered swift parrots.

This simply does not align with objectives from the South Coast Destination Management Plan to be “sustainable and compatible with the branding and character of the region” ie ‘All kinds of natural’ and ‘The Nature Coast’, and clearly does not uphold “the importance of the natural environment to the ongoing sustainability of the visitor economy.”

The Draft Climate Action Plan has quoted from the Frontier Economics 2021 report Comparing the value of alternative uses of native forests in Southern NSW which also found that “stopping native forestry in the state’s south could produce a net economic benefit of about \$60 million, while reducing net greenhouse gas emissions by almost 1 million tonnes per year over the period 2022-2041.”

Our native forests are simply worth more left standing so that they can be sustainably managed for values other than timber production. These values include the forest’s critical role in sequestering carbon, both within trees and in the soil, in providing threatened species habitats, clean water catchments to support our oyster industry, and nature-based tourism and recreation opportunities.

Sources:

<https://www.smh.com.au/politics/nsw/20m-loss-native-forest-logging-last-year-cost-nsw-taxpayers-441-per-hectare-20220314-p5a4g1.html>

<https://www.frontier-economics.com.au/documents/2021/11/comparing-the-value-of-alternative-uses-of-native-forest-in-southern-nsw.pdf/>

https://www.esc.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0004/212971/Eurobodalla-Climate-Action-Plan-2022-32.pdf

NOM22/006 PROPOSAL TO CONSTRUCT A COMMUNITY RECREATION HUB AT MOGO

S012-T00025

Responsible Officer: Amber Schutz - Councillor

Attachments: Nil

Councillor Amber Schutz has given notice that at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on Tuesday 12 April 2022, she will move the following motion.

MOTION

THAT Council provide in principle support to the Mogo Business Chamber for their proposal to construct a Community Recreation Hub, to be funded via the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants program, at Mogo Recreation Park. This support is subject to the proposed uses of the facility being appropriate for the purpose of public recreation and that the proposal for the structure and associated infrastructure is in compliance with all relevant legislation.

BACKGROUND

The Mogo community was severely impacted by 2019/20 summer bushfires and more recently by floods. It is a small but resilient community. The Mogo Business Chamber were recently successful in being awarded funding through the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants program to build a Community Recreation Hub and pump track within the Mogo township.

This is an exciting project that provides an inclusive and accessible meeting place for a community heavily impacted by natural disasters.

I recommend that Council provide in principle support for locating a Community Recreation Hub at Mogo Recreation Park subject to the proposed uses of the facility being appropriate for the purpose of public recreation in compliance with all relevant legislation.

By providing such support it gives certainty to the Mogo Business Chamber, Resilience NSW, NSW Crown Lands, and Council staff to continue to work collaboratively to achieve the best outcome for the community.

NOM22/007 AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGY

S012-T00025

Responsible Officer: David Grace - Councillor

Attachments: Nil

Councillor David Grace has given notice that at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on Tuesday 12 April 2022, he will move the following motion.

MOTION

THAT Council work proactively with the Eurobodalla Homelessness and Housing Solutions Forum to identify key issues, workshop options and develop an advocacy plan in relation to social housing and homelessness.

BACKGROUND

The lack of adequate low cost and emergency housing has been an issue in the Eurobodalla Shire for many years. In the last few years there has been rapid population growth in the Shire, partly because of infrastructure projects such as the Batemans Bay bridge and the Bay Pavilions. New projects such as the Moruya Hospital and Bypass will maintain this pressure. There has also been increased interest in working from home as a result of the pandemic, which has resulted in people choosing to live permanently in the Shire. On top of these pressures, we are still recovering from the impact of the 2019/20 bushfires and subsequent floods.

On 25 March 2022, the Bay Post reported that “There are around 700 people in the Eurobodalla Shire without stable accommodation, which is more than four times the figure of 121 homeless people in the area, according to the 2016 census.” Many of these people are couch surfing or living in cars or tents, as well as Council managed “primitive camping areas”.

The housing crisis in the Eurobodalla Shire is deepening and action is needed now to address the immediate issues faced by those who are experiencing homelessness or housing stress, and to make some short term steps to provide long term, stable and affordable for all members of our community.

This can be achieved by effectively and proactively engaging with the governments and not for profit organisations already working in our shire, via the Eurobodalla Homelessness and Housing Solutions Forum, to address local issues, as well as advocating to the state and federal governments for meaningful long term change.

GMR22/031 ENDORSEMENT OF EUROBODALLA COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

**S004-
T00030**

Responsible Officer: Dr Catherine Dale - General Manager

Attachments: 1. Under Separate Cover - Eurobodalla Community Strategic Plan

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: 9.1.1 Undertake sound, best practice long term community and corporate planning

Operational Plan Link: 9.1.1.1 Review Council's Delivery Program and prepare the Operational Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Community Strategic Plan (CSP) is the highest-level plan that Council will prepare as part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) framework. Council has a custodial role in initiating, preparing and monitoring the CSP on behalf of the community. However, it is not wholly responsible for its implementation. Other partners, such as other levels of governments, community organisations and business may also be engaged in delivering the long-term goals of the Plan.

The CSP has been prepared in accordance with Section 402 of the *Local Government Act* and the Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines and must be exhibited for 28 days, prior to endorsement by Council.

The CSP is a whole of community plan, reviewed and developed in partnership with the community. It identifies and articulates the community's long-term aspirations, priorities and vision.

Council first developed its community Strategic Plan in 2010, with further comprehensive reviews in 2012 and 2016. In accordance with the Act, Council is required to review its IPR documents following an ordinary council election to ensure currency of the plans, hence the current review.

Council approved a Community Engagement Strategy for the CSP review on 25 May 2021 and prepared 'Our Story', a snapshot of Eurobodalla in 2021, to inform the discussion.

In reviewing the CSP Council developed a dedicated website, *Our Eurobodalla*. This website provided a platform to engage the community through a variety of tools including a survey, workshop in a box and virtual vision boards. The website was available for 28 days from 5 October 2021 and received over 1600 visits.

Our community vision has been reviewed and developed by the community. It reflects the kind of community we would like to be in ten to twenty years' time and is designed to encourage commitment and a sense of common purpose and responsibility.

Our vision is: From our beaches to our bushlands, rivers and mountains... Our Eurobodalla is a place of inclusive communities embracing sustainable lifestyles. Our future balances our natural

GMR22/031 ENDORSEMENT OF EUROBODALLA COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

**S004-
T00030**

assets and thriving economy. Our community is resilient and collaborative, and this underpins all that we do. To achieve this vision five goals were developed with supporting strategies.

The CSP addresses social, environmental, economic and civic leadership goals and is based on social justice issues, in line with IPR guidelines.

Progress will be monitored against community indicators and Council has identified key partnerships and strategic regional and state priorities that link with the CSP.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Council endorse the Community Strategic Plan.
2. A copy of the Community Strategic Plan be posted on Council’s website and in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, a copy be provided to the Director-General by notifying the Minister of the appropriate URL link to access the plan within 28 days of adoption.

BACKGROUND

Local councils in NSW are required to undertake their planning and reporting activities in accordance with the local government Integrated Planning and Reporting framework.

The IPR framework is detailed in the figure below:



GMR22/031 ENDORSEMENT OF EUROBODALLA COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

**S004-
T00030**

The CSP outlines our community vision: *From our beaches to our bushlands, rivers and mountains... Our Eurobodalla is a place of inclusive communities embracing sustainable lifestyles. Our future balances our natural assets and thriving economy. Our community is resilient and collaborative, and this underpins all that we do.*

Under the vision are five goals:

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

To achieve the vision and goals of the CSP there are a further 18 strategies which show how we will go about achieving the goals and vision of our community.

CONSIDERATIONS

The CSP is a whole of community plan, reviewed and developed in partnership with the community. It identifies the community's long-term aspirations, priorities and vision, with goals and strategies in place to articulate and meet that vision.

The Integrated Planning and Reporting framework recognises that most communities share similar aspirations: a safe, healthy and pleasant place to live, a sustainable environment, opportunities for social interaction, opportunities for employment and reliable infrastructure. The difference lies in how each community responds to these needs. It also recognises that council plans and policies should not exist in isolation and should be connected to Council's high-level planning documents.

This framework allows NSW councils to draw their various plans together, understand how they interact and achieve the maximum leverage from their efforts by planning holistically for the future.

Councils need to take a long-term view and consider social, economic and environmental aspects, and the needs of current and future generations when making decisions. This underpins the planning and reporting framework.

Each Community Strategic Plan must adequately address social, environmental, economic and civic leadership considerations. This approach is generally referred to as 'the quadruple bottom line'. This approach ensures that the Community Strategic Plan is balanced and takes a holistic view.

Legal

The Community Strategic Plan has been prepared in accordance with Section 402 of the *Local Government Act* and the Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines.

GMR22/031 ENDORSEMENT OF EUROBODALLA COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

**S004-
T00030**

Policy

Integrated Planning and Reporting framework provides the context for Council's policy development and implementation.

Environmental

Goal number one of the CSP reflects the community sentiment with regard to the natural environment - *Our sustainable shire celebrates our natural environment and outdoor lifestyles.*

The strategies that will help achieve goal one are:

- 1-1 Move together for a sustainable future
- 1-2 Value, protect, and enhance our natural environment
- 1-3 Respond to our changing climate and natural hazards
- 1-4 Work together in the management and use of our valuable resources

Social Impact

Goal number two of the CSP defines the community's thoughts in relation to the recognition and respect of our heritage and unique culture - *Our community that welcomes, celebrates, and supports everyone*

The strategies to assist to achieve goal two are:

- 2-1 Acknowledge our belongings, embrace our diversity
- 2-2 Encourage community spirit and enable healthy lifestyles
- 2-3 Provide rich learning opportunities and experiences
- 2-4 Foster a safe community

Economic Development Employment Potential

Goal number three of the CSP considers that the development of Eurobodalla is responsive, functional and sympathetic to our environment and we balance growth and economic demands with sustainable practices - *Our region of vibrant places and spaces*

The strategies identified to assist in achieving this goal include:

- 3-1 Balance development between the needs of people, place and productivity
- 3-2 Support diversified industry and thriving businesses
- 3-3 Embrace and value our creative arts
- 3-4 Celebrate our unique region through inclusive places and spaces

Asset

Goal number four of the CSP outlines the need for connected and resilient infrastructure - *Our connected community through reliable and safe infrastructure networks.*

A connected and resilient community will be achieved via the following strategies:

- 4-1 Provide integrated and active transport networks to enable a connected and accessible Eurobodalla
- 4-2 Strengthen linkages through air, road, and marine transport options
- 4-3 Enhance connectivity through improved telecommunications and power supply

GMR22/031 ENDORSEMENT OF EUROBODALLA COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

**S004-
T00030**

Financial

This plan is a community plan and not a Council plan. Council develops its suite of IPR documents in response to the Strategies outlined in the Community Strategic Plan. The Council will endorse a Long Term Financial Plan and budget with its Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2022-23.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

The CSP has been developed with the community, with a range of engagement processes undertaken in both the original Plan (2010), reviews (2012 and 2016) and in the current review process.

Council approved a Community Engagement Strategy for the CSP review on 25 May 2021 and prepared *Our Story*, a snapshot of Eurobodalla in 2021, to inform discussion.

To inform the current review of the CSP Council commissioned an independent, statically reliable, community wellbeing survey in May 2021, with 403 community members participating.

To engage the community on the CSP review, Council developed a dedicated website called *Our Eurobodalla*. The website was available to the community for 28 days from 5 October 2021 and included a variety of tools including surveys, virtual vision boards and a workshop in a box.

An extensive awareness campaign was conducted to ensure a broad reach across the community and stakeholders. This included a radio advertisement and interviews, banner on Council's website, posts on Council's Facebook and Instagram pages, articles in Living in Eurobodalla quarterly newsletter and multiple other Council published newsletters. Letters were also sent to schools and community groups and association inviting them to participate.

Our Eurobodalla website received over sixteen hundred visits with 231 surveys completed, six workshops in a box submissions from community groups and over 1,000 contributions to the virtual vision boards.

Council placed the draft CSP on public exhibition between 23 February to 22 March 2022 and issued a media release 24 February 2022 calling for submissions.

Summary of Submissions

Council received six public submissions during the draft CSP exhibition period. Councillors received and considered all submissions in the final Community Strategic Plan. The table below provides a summary of the issues raised in the submissions and Council's response.

Issue	Response
The acknowledgement of the term 'climate change'	Staff acknowledge the three submissions that queried the terminology with regard to climate change. It should be noted that the community's sentiment with regard to our natural environment and the importance of its protection was highly valued. Goal number one in the CSP ' <i>Our sustainable shire celebrates our natural</i>

GMR22/031 ENDORSEMENT OF EUROBODALLA COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

S004-T00030

	<p><i>environment and outdoor lifestyle</i>’ reflects this sentiment.</p> <p>When developing the strategies that sit under this goal, staff included ‘1.3 Respond to our changing climate and natural hazards.’</p> <p>Further, staff included the words ‘climate change’ in the overview of Goal one, on page 15, so that it reads:</p> <p><i>‘The potential impacts of climate change and natural disasters, such as those related to bushfires, flood and landslips, are managed and risks are reduced to protect life, property, and the environment’.</i></p> <p>Additionally, Council’s draft Climate Action Plan proposes Eurobodalla’s response to mitigating climate change and adapting to its impacts.</p>
<p>Consideration of the Tilba District Strategic Plan</p>	<p>Council acknowledges the Tilba District Strategic Plan (TDSP) and appreciates the similarities of the priorities with our Eurobodalla’s Community Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Hence, the TDSP has been added to the Planning in Partnership section of the CSP showing how their plan aligns to the goals in this plan.</p>
<p>Responsibility of Council in delivering the Plan</p>	<p>The Community Strategic Plan is a whole of community plan which relies on many people, groups, levels of government and agencies to all contribute and work together towards achieving the vision and goals. Council plays a custodial role in preparing the Plan however are not the sole contributor.</p> <p>The Plan indicates which contributor is responsible for leading each strategy to achieve our community’s vision and goals, but it is important to recognise that all contributors have a role to play in their community.</p> <p>For example, Strategy 2.3 Provide rich learning opportunities and experiences identifies the NSW Government as the lead agency to deliver on this strategy as they are responsible for education in NSW. However, that is not to say that others don’t have a role to play in delivering on this strategy. Parents have a role in enrolling their children into schools, and Council will advocate to improve the opportunities and also provide Children Services in the form of Out Of School Hours programs, 3B’s playgroup and education programs through the libraries.</p>

GMR22/031 ENDORSEMENT OF EUROBODALLA COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

**S004-
T00030**

	The 2022-26 Delivery Program and 2022-23 Operational Plan is Council's response to the Community Strategic Plan and articulates the activities and actions Council is proposing to undertake to work towards the strategy and achieve the vision and goals of the Community Strategic Plan.
--	---

Changes to the exhibited Community Strategic Plan

Below is a list of changes that have been made to the draft CSP since it was placed on exhibition:

- Page 15 – revised the description of the goal to include the words 'climate change' to reflect the sentiment of submissions received.
- Page 24 – updated the Planning in Partnership page to include the Canberra Region Joint Organisation's priorities and also included the Tilba District Strategic Plan.
- A number of minor grammatical changes were included.

CONCLUSION

The Community Strategic Plan is the highest-level plan that Council will prepare as part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework. Council has a custodial role in initiating, preparing and monitoring the CSP on behalf of the community. However, it is not wholly responsible for its implementation. Other partners, such as other levels of governments, community organisations and businesses may also be engaged in delivering the long-term objectives of the Plan.

The Community Strategic Plan has been prepared in accordance with Section 402 of the Local Government Act and the Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines. The draft document was exhibited for 28 days from 23 February to 22 March 2022. During the exhibition period, six public submissions were received and considered in the final version of the Community Strategic Plan.

**GMR22/032 REQUEST FOR TENDER (RFT) - 2122/060 TRAFFIC CONTROL
SERVICE PANEL**

**S004-
T00041**

Responsible Officer: Dr Catherine Dale - General Manager

Attachments: 1. Confidential - Request for Tender 2122-060 Traffic Control Services

Outcome: 9 Innovative and Proactive Leadership

Focus Area: 9.2 Ensure financial sustainability and support the organisation in achieving efficient ongoing operations

Delivery Program Link: 9.2.3 Provide administrative, technical and trade services to support the organisation

Operational Plan Link: 9.2.3.3 Manage fleet and procurement services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the associated evaluation process for Request for Tender (RFT) No. 2122-060 - Traffic Control Services Panel, that was advertised on 1 February 2022 for the purpose of establishing a pre-qualified list of traffic control services providers for a period of two years with an option of a further two by twelve months.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Council endorses the selection of the panellists listed for RFT No. 2122-060 within the Confidential Attachment.
2. Accordingly approves the entering into the Deeds of Standing Offers with the proposed panelists as detailed within the Confidential Attachment.

BACKGROUND

Council regularly engages external suppliers to provide traffic control services across the entire Shire for its works program. It was estimated that Council's annual expenditure is approx. \$1.2m which therefore exceeds the tendering threshold amounts.

Given the need for strict safety risk mitigation and quality management for each procurement activity, without a pre-negotiated set of pricing and terms would be time consuming for both parties to the associated contract and may not represent best value for money. A panel arrangement provides a screening of compliance and cost up front, removing the need for many lengthy procurement processes.

RFT No. 2122/060 was advertised on 01 February 2022 and closed at 2pm on 23 February 2022. The Request for Tender had a good response with nine (9) tenders received to provide services.

The list of tenderers are as follows.

- Asset Arbor
- DD Traffic Management Pty Ltd
- East Coast traffic Control
- Lack Group Traffic Pty Ltd

**GMR22/032 REQUEST FOR TENDER (RFT) - 2122/060 TRAFFIC CONTROL
SERVICE PANEL**

**S004-
T00041**

- Platinum Traffic Services Pty Ltd
- Stop Slow Traffic Control NSW Pty Ltd
- Titanium Traffic Management
- TMPACS Pty Ltd
- Traffic Logistics Pty Ltd

A summary of the evaluation including each level of compliance against the evaluation criteria and proposed panel composition is provided with the confidential attachment.

CONSIDERATIONS

Request for Tender (RFT) No. 2122/060 – Traffic Control Services Panel, was advertised for the purpose of establishing a pre-qualified list of Traffic Control service providers. Establishing a panel for traffic control services will provide the following benefits to Council:

- Meeting the tendering requirements of Section 55 of the Local Government Act and removing the risk of spending above the \$250,000 threshold with individual service providers;
- Providing a level playing field for local service providers to bid for work in the Local Government setting in general;
- Removing the need for costly and time consuming individual quotation and compliance screening processes for every requirement; and
- Better contract management by having a Deed of Standing Offer.

The outcome will assist Council in avoiding costly future screening exercises over a two-year period (with the option to extend the agreement by a further 2 x 12 months) and ensure Council comply with the tendering requirements of Section 55 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Nine tenders were received during the advertising period and the names are attached in the Confidential Attachment.

Legal

RFT No. 2122/060 was advertised in accordance with *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 REG 167* and *Local Government Act 1993*.

The tender was advertised on Council's noticeboard, in the Sydney Morning Herald and at Council's Tenderlink web portal (www.tenderlink.com/eurobodalla).

Prior to the RFT closing, a Tender Evaluation Plan was approved and distributed amongst the Tender Evaluation Panel. Declarations of Confidentiality and Interest Forms were completed and signed by the Tender Evaluation Committee.

Policy

The tendering activity and associated evaluation for which this tender applies has been administered in compliance with Council's Procurement Policy, Code of Practice – Procurement,

**GMR22/032 REQUEST FOR TENDER (RFT) - 2122/060 TRAFFIC CONTROL
SERVICE PANEL**

**S004-
T00041**

Code of Practice – Tendering, the Local Government Procurement Guidelines, *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* and *Section 55 of the Local Government Act 1993*.

Financial

The outcome of the proposed Traffic Control Service Panel will be to avoid costly future procurement engagement costs.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

Subject to the resolution of Council to the Traffic Control Services Panel, the community will be informed of the panel via Council’s contract register found on Council’s website.

CONCLUSION

The tender process has been conducted in accordance with mandatory Council and Local Government requirements and the preferred tenderers have been assessed, through an extensive evaluation as representing best value for money and meeting the compliance and skills requirements of the tender

Deeds of Standing Offer will be entered into with the preferred panelists as detailed within the Confidential Attachment.

**GMR22/033 REQUEST FOR TENDER (RFT) - 2122/054 WATER TANKER
SUPPORT FOR COUNCIL'S GRADING TEAM**

**S004-
T00062**

Responsible Officer: Dr Catherine Dale - General Manager

Attachments: 1. Confidential - Request for Tender - 2122/054 Water Tanker Support for Council's Grading Team

Outcome: 9 Innovative and Proactive Leadership

Focus Area: 9.2 Ensure financial sustainability and support the organisation in achieving efficient ongoing operations

Delivery Program Link: 9.2.3 Provide administrative, technical and trade services to support the organisation

Operational Plan Link: 9.2.3.3 Manage fleet and procurement services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the associated evaluation process for Request for Tender (RFT) No. 2122-054 - Water Tanker Support, that was advertised on 09 February 2022 for the purpose of establishing Council's two (2) year Water Tanker Support for Council's Grading Team with an option of a further two by twelve months.

This briefing outlines the associated evaluation process and will inform Council resolution of the resultant water tanker arrangement.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Council endorses the selection of the preferred supplier for RFT No. 2122-054 within the Confidential Attachment.
2. Accordingly approves the entering into a Deed of Standing Offer with the preferred supplier as detailed within the Confidential Attachment.

BACKGROUND

Council's grading team has an on-going requirement for water tanker support to undertake their operational requirements successfully. Gravel roads within the Eurobodalla Shire are maintained according to a grading schedule endorsed by Council each year. In order complete grading operations successfully, gravel roads must be dampened by a mobile water tanker.

Council do not have a water truck within its own Fleet and therefore need to externally hire one.

The list of tenderers are as follows.

- A W Dummett Pty Ltd
- Allison Earthworks & Haulage
- Ostler Earthmoving Pty Ltd
- Reid Family Trust t/as Eurocoast Water
- Rollers Australia Pty Ltd

**GMR22/033 REQUEST FOR TENDER (RFT) - 2122/054 WATER TANKER
SUPPORT FOR COUNCIL'S GRADING TEAM**

**S004-
T00062**

- Welsh's Tipper & Water Hire Pty Ltd

The existing contract for water tanker support will expire on 30 June 2022.

A summary of the evaluation including each level of compliance against the evaluation criteria and proposed panel composition is provided with the confidential attachment.

CONSIDERATIONS

Request for Tender (RFT) No. 2122/054 – Water Tanker Support for Council's Grading Team, was advertised for the purpose of renewing an existing contract and on-going requirement. Establishing a contract will provide the following benefits to Council:

- Meeting the tendering requirements of Section 55 of the Local Government Act and removing the risk of spending above the \$250,000 threshold with individual service providers;
- Providing a level playing field for local service providers to bid for work in the Local Government setting in general;
- Removing the need for costly and time-consuming individual quotation and compliance screening processes for every requirement; and
- Better contract management by having a Deed of Standing Offer.

The outcome will assist Council in avoiding costly future screening exercises over a two-year period (with the option to extend the agreement by a further 2 x 12 months) and ensure Council comply with the tendering requirements of Section 55 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Six (6) Submissions were received during the advertising period and the names are attached in the Confidential Attachment

Legal

RFT No. 2122/054 was advertised in accordance with *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 REG 167* and *Local Government Act 1993*.

The tender was advertised on Council's noticeboard, in the Sydney Morning Herald and at Council's Tenderlink web portal (www.tenderlink.com/eurobodalla).

Prior to the RFT closing, a Tender Evaluation Plan was approved and distributed amongst the Tender Evaluation Panel. Declarations of Confidentiality and Interest Forms were completed and signed by the Tender Evaluation Committee.

Policy

The tendering activity and associated evaluation for which this tender applies has been administered in compliance with Council's Procurement Policy, Code of Practice – Procurement, Code of Practice – Tendering, the Local Government Procurement Guidelines, *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* and *Section 55 of the Local Government Act 1993*.

**GMR22/033 REQUEST FOR TENDER (RFT) - 2122/054 WATER TANKER
SUPPORT FOR COUNCIL'S GRADING TEAM**

**S004-
T00062**

Financial

After the first year of the contract, hire rates will be adjusted in accordance with the rise and fall clause of the contract. The rise and fall clause take into account Consumer Pricing Index (CPI) – All Groups Sydney providing for a broader spread of economic factors, therefore minimising the risk of adverse price movement for both parties.

Funds have been allocated within the existing budget for the grading of the gravel road network across the Shire. These funds are sufficient to cover the cost of the water tanker operations.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

Subject to the resolution of Council to the Water Tanker Support for Council's Grading Team, the community will be informed of the panel via Council's contract register found on Council's website.

CONCLUSION

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

Deeds of Standing Offer will be entered into with the preferred tenderer as detailed within the Confidential Attachment.

IR22/010 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 6 FOR 2021-22

S030-T00018

Responsible Officer: Warren Sharpe OAM - Director Infrastructure Services
Attachments: 1. Under Separate Cover - Moruya CBD HPAA plan
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 16 March 2022, are as follows:

- Signage and Line Marking - Moruya CBD east, Church Street and Queen Street raised pedestrian crossings, Ford Street median and 2 hour parking restrictions, Moruya
- Special Event Application – Narooma Oyster Festival
- Special Traffic Management – ANZAC Day Marches in Batemans Bay, Moruya and Narooma.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. The minutes of the Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee Meeting No 5 for 2021-22 be received and noted.
2. i) Council Plan No. 5156 Set BQ Sheets 03,19,20 and 21 detailing the signage and line marking associated with the Moruya CBD east Church Street and Queen Street raised pedestrian crossings, Ford Street median and 2 hour parking restrictions as adjusted, be approved.
 - ii) If Council determines not to proceed with the raised pedestrian crossing in front of the bakery in Queen Street, the regulatory plan be adjusted to reflect the decision of Council.
 - iii) Ongoing discussions be held with Moruya Business Chamber regarding the parking needs for Moruya in the longer term.
 - iv) A summary of the modifications to the scheme arising from the community engagement highlighted in these minutes of the Local Traffic Committee be noted for transparency.

IR22/010 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 6 FOR 2021-22

S030-T00018

BACKGROUND

The Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee Meeting No 6 for 2021-22 was held on 16 March 2022. The meeting was attended by Councillor Amber Schutz (Chair), Senior Constable Scott Britt, Emma Pietruska (Transport for NSW), Andrew Gaudiosi (Transport for NSW) Warren Sharpe OAM (Director Infrastructure Services), Carl Ginger (Manager Technical Services), Dave Hunter (Traffic Coordinator), Kate McDougall (Road Safety Officer and minute taker) and Daniel Week (Maintenance Planning Officer).

APOLOGIES

A representative for the Local State Member the Hon Michael Holland is yet to be confirmed.

DEPUTATIONS

Nil.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee Meeting No 5 for 2021-22 held on 3 February 2022 were confirmed and accepted.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil.

ROAD TRANSPORT (SAFETY AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT) ACT FOR DETERMINATION

2022.RT.015 Signage and Line Marking - Moruya CBD east, Church Street and Queen Street raised pedestrian crossings, Ford Street median and 2 hour parking restrictions, Moruya

BACKGROUND

Moruya CBD is the main business centre for the town. Many of the businesses are located on the eastern side of the Princes Highway, positioned between Vulcan Street (Princes Highway) to the west and Ford Street and further east.

Eurobodalla advocated to Transport for NSW for the implementation of improved pedestrian facilities and lower speed zones within Moruya CBD to better protect pedestrians, improve walkability of the CBD and support businesses by encouraging people to walk around the CBD and spend more time.

Consistent with Council's adopted Delivery Program and Operational Plan, this element was included within the adopted Eurobodalla Road Safety Plan 2019-22 under Section 6.2.4.

Changes to the speed zoning options now permit a lowering of the speed zone in high pedestrian areas where supported by physical changes to the road environment that assists lowering the actual speed environment. This new approach recognises the need to better cater for pedestrians in high pedestrian activity areas, taking account of the movement of people on foot, on bikes and in motor vehicles, rather than the historical focus more weighted to the movement of vehicles.

IR22/010 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 6 FOR 2021-22

S030-T00018

This more inclusive approach also takes account of the need to provide for a community where people of all ages and abilities feel able to enjoy the basics of life such as shopping in their local town in a safer and more accessible environment.

Consequently, Council developed a traffic speed management scheme for Moruya CBD inclusive of physical measures to reduce actual travel speeds and improve pedestrian accessibility through the installation of additional infrastructure. This was unanimously supported by the Local Traffic Committee at its meeting held on 10 September 2020 and subsequently approved by unanimous vote of Council at its Ordinary meeting of Council on 27 October 2020.

The first structures were then installed in line with the scheme as follows:

- i) Ford Street
 - a raised pedestrian crossing between Queen Street and Church Street
 - a small mountable roundabout at the intersection with Ford Lane (to Woolworths car park)
- ii) Shore Street
 - Installation of two raised threshold marked pedestrian crossings
 - Provision of connecting pathways along Shore Street.

Council has also recently provided a short length of connecting pathway on the southern side of Queen Street east across the frontage of a private residence.

In October 2021, Ford Street and Shore Street were designated as a High Pedestrian Activity Area 30 km/h speed zone area by Transport for NSW (TfNSW), understood to be the first initiative of this kind in regional NSW.

Feedback derived from direct conversation with users of the new facilities provided confirmation that new crossing facilities were highly valued by the workers and pedestrians using the CBD area. No complaints have been received about the installations.

Verbal feedback from the sector has also been positive, celebrating the initiative shown by Eurobodalla Shire Council and the Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee in the critically important area of road safety. This included a visit from Co-founder of the Little Blue Dinosaur Foundation, a foundation established to advocate for improved road safety, particularly for young children ([Objectives -Little Blue Dinosaur FoundationLittle Blue Dinosaur](#)).

During 2021, Council applied to the NSW Government for funding to expand the pedestrian improvement scheme into Queen Street east, Church Street east and to complete the next stage of Ford Street between Ford Lane and Queen Street in line with the overall scheme previously adopted by Council. This grant application was accompanied by letters of support from the Moruya Business Chamber and three business owners directly affected by the proposal.

On 22 February 2022 Council accepted a \$280,000 grant from Transport for NSW to undertake the implementation of the high pedestrian activity scheme within Moruya CBD. Council also requested that further engagement be undertaken with businesses and the community (see detail outlined below under community engagement).

IR22/010 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 6 FOR 2021-22

S030-T00018

CONSIDERATIONS

This proposal is in line with adopted strategic plan No. 5156 Set BQ 03A 28/06/2021. Structures identified for installation within this grant are:

- i) Ford Street
 - o Addition of a concrete median island and protected right turn lane (into IGA) between Ford Lane and Queen Street to improve pedestrian safety and traffic flow into and out of the CBD
- ii) Queen Street east
 - o 2 new raised pedestrian crossings between Ford Street and Princes Highway
- iii) Church Street east
 - o A raised pedestrian crossing between Ford Street and Princes Highway.

The grant is for the installation of the physical infrastructure. Once installed, it is anticipated that Transport for NSW will complete a review of the speed zone with a view to implementing an extension of the existing 30km/hr speed zone (which would then be consistent with the actual speed of travel). Transport for NSW has indicated in principle support for the expansion of the 30km/hr speed zone. The speed zone proposal does not include the Princes Highway.

Moruya Business Chamber has indicated support for the expansion of the 30km/hr speed zone as proposed in their submission.

Community Engagement

Consultation on the next phase of the scheme has been ongoing since 2020 with the Moruya Business Chamber (MBC), who have been supportive of the initiatives to better support businesses and improved access for all modes of people movement throughout the CBD. Letters of support were also provided by the Chamber and three impacted businesses with this grant application.

Initial engagement included discussion about replacing the all day on-street parking with 2 hour parking to mitigate the small loss of on-street parking. It was agreed this would assist with increasing turnover of on-street car spaces adjoining the businesses and help offset the small amount of parking to be removed.

In accepting the grant, Council resolved that further community engagement be undertaken to inform the community about the proposal and to receive feedback. This additional engagement included:

- i) Public report to Council on acceptance of the grant on 22 February 2022
- ii) Friday 25 February 2022, media release distributed to all local and regional media <https://www.esc.nsw.gov.au/news-and-events/latest-news/2022/moruya-road-safety-program-extended>
- iii) Radio interview with ABC radio on 25 February 2022
- iv) Friday 25 February 2022, provision of a fact sheet and letter to all businesses and landlords in the entire Moruya CBD outlining the proposal and advising of the drop-in session on Queen Street on 3 March 2022 and inviting feedback by 11 March 2022
- v) Monday 28 February the proposal was put on Council website under public

IR22/010 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 6 FOR 2021-22

S030-T00018

- exhibition with the overall plan of the scheme, including advice of a drop-in session on Queen Street on 3 March 2022 www.esc.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay
- vi) Thursday 3 March 2022 8am to 11am drop-in session held on Queen Street adjoining the proposed raised crossing. Attended by Council's Technical Services team including the Divisional Manager, Design Coordinator and Traffic Coordinator with Councillors invited to attend.
- vii) Monday 7 March 2022, Facebook post inviting people to an additional drop-in session on 10 March 2022, inviting feedback until 11 March <https://www.facebook.com/EurobodallaCouncil/posts/322514856575172> . This reached nearly 8000 people with 25 people clicking through to read the more detailed media release. Those making comment were asked to make formal submissions and assisted with instructions.
- viii) Tuesday 8 March 2022, further information was uploaded to the website on the proposal including more detailed plans. This included all plans in 5156 Set BQ for the Committee's review. This included advice of the extra drop-in session on Queen Street on 10 March 2022.
- ix) Wednesday 9 to Friday 11 March, the Traffic Coordinator walked around the entire CBD and discussed the scheme with available business managers/owners. 101 business premises were visited in person.
- x) Thursday 10 March 2022 8am to 11am, drop-in session held on Queen Street adjoining the proposed raised crossing. Attended by the Technical Services team including the Divisional Manager, Design Coordinator and Traffic Coordinator, with Councillors invited to attend.

Summarised results of the engagement undertaken since the beginning of March 2022 includes:

- a) Letters were sent to all business owners and landlords seeking feedback
- b) Direct one to one conversation with businesses were undertaken by Traffic Coordinator 9-11 March 2022
- 101 businesses visited
 - 54 people who identified as business managers or owners provided verbal to the Traffic Coordinator
 - 91% were in favour of the proposed pedestrian and median infrastructure
 - 96% were in favour of the proposed 2 hour on-street parking
 - An additional 17 people who identified as business managers or owners indicated they may submit feedback on-line and a further 4 business managers or owners indicated they would not be providing feedback
 - A fact sheet was provided to 19 other people representing the business and 11 businesses were closed with an additional fact sheet left at the business (these businesses had previously been sent a letter and plans at the start of the engagement)
- c) Drop-in session 3 March 2022 and 10 March 2022
- 31 community members (other than businesses)
 - Verbal feedback obtained with 89% of people in favour of the proposed pedestrian improvements scheme and 2 hour parking

IR22/010 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 6 FOR 2021-22

S030-T00018

- d) From the on-line public exhibition 28 February to 11 March 2022
- 12 submissions received with 1 respondent identifying as a BMO
 - 10 respondents gave an opinion for or against the scheme
 - 2 respondents did not offer an opinion for or against
 - 7 of the submissions were in favour of the proposal
 - The Chamber has suggested that the second element in Moruya near the bakery be deferred for further assessment of speeds along Queen Street east
 - a small number of businesses and community members (7) were against the second element within Queen Street east near the bakery.

In summary the engagement indicated very strong support and the following installations are recommended to proceed:

- Ford Street (between Ford Lane and Queen Street)
- Church Street east
- Queen Street east near Woolworths.

The engagement also indicated strong support for the second installation in Queen Street east near the bakery. A small number of nearby businesses were strongly against this fourth element and the Chamber has suggested deferral. Nonetheless, given the overall support for this element, including from some immediately adjoining owners and businesses, it is recommended this fourth element remain included to support a safer pedestrian environment in Queen Street east.

However, if Council determines not to proceed with this fourth element, then five (5) additional on-street parking spaces would be returned, reducing the net loss to eight (8) spaces.

Issues raised by the community:

i) Support for improved pedestrian access

There is strong community support for the proposed improvements to pedestrian safety and accessibility and to reduce the travel speeds of vehicles moving through the CBD offering more time for people to safely walk and cycle around the CBD. This also allows greater time for vehicles to avoid collision with pedestrians altogether.

The proposal also reduces the number and complexity of vehicle movements to/from driveways in Church Street east, thereby improving ease of driving along Church Street and pedestrian movements across and along Church Street.

ii) Net loss of parking

The original scheme proposed a modest net loss of parking of 23 spaces.

Feedback from community members identified potential locations where spaces may be returned including:

- a) One additional space will be lost in front of the café in Church Street - agreed
- b) Swimming pool car park – Shore Street – two additional spaces supported
- c) Moving the proposed bicycle parking in a space off Church Street east to opposite the Health Food Café – supported
- d) Removal of trees and landscaping to accommodate additional off-street parking – not

IR22/010 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 6 FOR 2021-22

S030-T00018

supported due to feedback that additional landscaping is sought rather than removing existing landscaped areas.

A further review of parking options by Council's team also identified the capability of providing additional off-street parking as follows:

- a) Near Harris Scarf – line marking to return five additional spaces
- b) Between Church Street and Shore Street – re-line marking to return a net 3 additional spaces.

Therefore, this engagement process has resulted in an additional net 10 parking spaces being identified, reducing the initial loss from 23 spaces to 16 spaces to now only 13 spaces across the CBD.

This is further offset by the introduction of 2 hour on-street parking as shown on the plan, increasing turnover adjacent to shopping areas. This change received very strong business and community support.

Given the very high number of public and private parking spaces across the CBD, this small net adjustment in parking is considered a small offset for the significant gains in pedestrian improvement, accessibility, landscape improvement and outdoor eating opportunities.

The Moruya Chamber has requested we consider some additional measures outside of the scope of this grant project in relation to medium plans for parking and adjustments to parking and taxi ranks along the highway. This will be investigated separately. Discussions with the Chamber indicate they wish the scheme to proceed immediately and would like to continue to work with Council on the longer term provision of additional off-street parking. Council is proposing to undertake further assessments of parking need based on evidence counts (which have to date shown there is plenty of parking capacity within Moruya).

In summary the engagement indicated very strong support and the following installations are recommended to proceed:

- Ford Street (between Ford Lane and Queen Street)
- Church Street east
- Queen Street east near Woolworths.

The engagement also indicated strong support for the second installation in Queen Street east near the bakery. A small number of nearby businesses were strongly against this fourth element highlighting that people driving through town stop at their business to pick up parts on the way through. Given the overall support for this element, including some immediately adjoining owners and businesses it is recommended this fourth element remain included.

However, if Council determines not to proceed with or defer this fourth element, then five (5) additional on-street parking spaces would be returned, reducing the net loss to eight (8) spaces.

iii) Support for landscaping elements

The proposal includes kerb blisters to narrow the street. This reduces the time for pedestrians to cross the street by almost half compared to the current arrangement.

IR22/010 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 6 FOR 2021-22

S030-T00018

It also provides the opportunity to increase the landscaping in the CBD. This element is already proposed and is supported in community and business feedback.

iv) Potential for vehicle queuing due to marked crossings

This proposal intentionally gives priority to pedestrians in Church Street east and Queen Street.

Ford Street (Queen Street to the Princes Highway) is established to allow high numbers of vehicle movements into and out of the CBD and to/from businesses and shopping centre car parks. The proposed works in Ford Street assist improve this traffic flow further whilst improving pedestrian safety.

Traffic volumes will remain relatively high in the CBD streets. However, the installations have been set back from the Princes Highway with adequate queuing space to the pedestrian crossing points. The Queen Street east crossing is 65 metres from the Princes Highway and the Church Street east crossing is 75 metres from the Princes Highway.

It is important to note that the provision of kerb blisters reduces the time required to cross the road and the exposure of a pedestrian by almost half compared to the current arrangement.

v) Support for additional outdoor dining Church Street

The café owner has requested the design incorporate additional outdoor dining area on the pathway. The inclusion of this element was agreed in principle prior to making the grant application and is included in the proposal.

A number of business owners elsewhere in the CBD, the Chamber and community members have indicated strong support for this inclusion.

vi) Movement of trucks

All elements are designed to accommodate truck movements within the CBD, including provision for truck turning.

Ford Street is a key access point for larger numbers and size of vehicles moving in and out of the CBD, with good access to the Princes Highway in both directions via the Princes Highway/Ford Street roundabout.

Whilst other streets will continue to operate to take vehicles required to access each individual business, where trucks have the option, Ford Street is a preferable alternative to reduce vehicle movements in the higher pedestrian areas.

vii) Other matters

The Chamber and other submissions raised other matters unrelated to the proposal. Some of these seek re-allocation of the funds which is not possible as the grant funds are specific to the scheme. These matters will be followed up separately to the pedestrian improvement scheme and grant funded works.

Regulatory Requirements

The installation of the proposed structures and associated parking restrictions require agreement of the Local Traffic Committee, as does the installation of the on-street 2 hour

IR22/010 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 6 FOR 2021-22

S030-T00018

parking limit. These regulatory requirements are included on plans Council Plan No 5156 Set BQ Sheets 03, 19,20 and 21.

Should Council resolve not to proceed with the second element in Church Street east near the bakery, then this element of the on-street parking changes would be removed from the scheme.

The vast majority of off-street parking remains all day parking. No additional off-street time restrictions are proposed at this stage. Should this be proposed or requested at a future time, then separate community engagement would be undertaken on any significant change at that time.

It is important to recognise that many of the off-street car parks are privately owned including:

- Car parks within residences in the CBD
- Small private car parks within businesses in the CBD
- Large private car parks within the CBD including:
 - Medical centres
 - Woolworths (part)
 - Harris Scarf (part)
 - IGA
 - Rear car park to the shops fronting Ford Street on the eastern side
 - All developments fronting the Princes Highway between Campbell Street and Ford Street and on Queen Street east of Ford Street
 - Monarch and Adelaide Hotels
 - Other small business car parks.

Overall, there is strong community support for the proposed additional pedestrian and traffic improvement scheme for Moruya CBD east and the slower speed environment. The consequential introduction of the 30km/hr high pedestrian activity area speed zone in Queen Street east and Church Street east is also recommended for consideration and implementation by Transport for NSW once the physical infrastructure is installed, as previously supported by the Local Traffic Committee and adopted within the Eurobodalla Road Safety Plan 2019-22.

The Committee reviewed Council Plan No. 5156 Set BQ Sheets 03,19,20 and 21 detailing the signage and line marking associated with the Moruya CBD east Church Street and Queen Street raised pedestrian crossings, Ford Street median and 2 hour parking restrictions adjusted, Moruya.

The history of the scheme was outlined leading up to the proposal presented to the Committee that:

- Planning for this scheme started in 2019 including consultation with the Moruya Business Chamber and was initially endorsed by the Local traffic Committee and Council in September 2020
- The \$280,000 grant was presented to Council on 28 February 2022 for acceptance and Councillors requested further community consultation
- The business community and general public have indicated strong overall support

IR22/010 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 6 FOR 2021-22

S030-T00018

- A key issue raised was loss of parking. The project team have worked to mitigate this, and the net loss has been reduced from the initial 23 spaces, down to 16 at the start of recent consultation and now down to a maximum 13 spaces.
- Due to funding parameters the scheme needs to be constructed and delivered this financial year
- The proposed 30 km/hr HPAA speed zone does not apply to the Princes Highway.

Extension of the 30km/hr HPAA scheme to cover Queen Street east and Church Street east is a matter for TfNSW to determine. This proposal has been supported by the Committee and Council previously. TfNSW has indicated in principle support for the 30km/hr HPAA extension subject to the infrastructure under this current proposal being constructed.

It was noted that:

- Positive feedback has been received for the existing infrastructure and 30km/hr HPAA already in place on Ford and Shore Streets
- With or without the bypass it is expected that there will be similar traffic volumes on the 3 streets affected by the proposal
- The expansion of the 30km/hr HPAA has good support from the engagement undertaken, including from the Chamber
- The 30km/h HPAA speed zone has good 'sector' support and is recognised as leading best practice in a regional town.

The Traffic Coordinator provided further detail on the engagement process:

- Explained how the community was engaged in March online, walking around and visiting business premises and information sessions
- 101 business premises visited and asked to speak to the manager or owner. Went back multiple times to businesses that were closed or temporarily unavailable. The proposed scheme was outlined to the business manager/owner (BMO) including the pros and cons ie risk reduction, improved accessibility, loss of on-street parking spaces.
- Encouraged BMOs to make a submission on-line and gave an option to provide a verbal opinion, provided hand out fact sheet similar to the on-line text to those who wanted one. Notes taken. The majority of BMO's chose to provide a simple yes in favour or no not in favour. Some commented that working to reduce net parking losses was preferable.
- All BMO except 1 indicated they had received the letter hand delivered on the proposed scheme. A letter was provided for that BMO.
- 54 out of 76 BMO provided verbal feedback and offered an opinion for or against. Per above in the report 91% (49 BMO) are in favor of the scheme although 6 of these BMO would like to see the crossing on Queen Street removed from the scheme
- Timed parking is supported by 96% of the BMO (52 out of 54)
- Most of the 76 BMO engaged acknowledged that the scheme would improve accessibility for all pedestrians particularly the elderly and people with disabilities

IR22/010 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 6 FOR 2021-22

S030-T00018

- Our Communications Manager noted that Facebook is a method of providing information. We do not utilise it for feedback as it does not necessarily provide an accurate indicator of the level of support for and against. It does tend to attract negative comment.
- The BMO from the café at the corner of Church Street and Ford Street requested that the 2 hour parking be extended to in front of their shop. The Committee agreed that the 2 hour parking be extended east on both sides of Church Street for a distance of about 30 metres from the intersection of Ford Street. This will be indicated on Plan No. 5156 Set BQ Sheets 03.

Other comments from Committee members:

- Councillor Amber Schutz noted that there was strong support with the main issue identified being the loss of parking near shops for those with limited mobility. The marked crossings provide better connectivity from off-street parking to the shops. A strength is that streetscaping creates an excellent environment for pedestrians.
- Andrew Gaudiosi from TfNSW asked for the distances of the crossing points from the highway (Vulcan Street) of the crossings on Church Street and Queen Street. It was noted there were 65m and 75m from the intersections respectively and this distance was more than adequate to cater for the traffic and pedestrian volumes expected. It was also noted that the main movements into the CBD were left into Shore Street off the highway southbound and right into the highway via Ford Street.

Summary:

- Strong support for Ford Street traffic safety and pedestrian improvements
- Strong support for Church Street east and Queen Street east raised pedestrian crossing installations. Desirable to include the crossing in Queen Street near the bakery as this is predominantly a business area with fewer residential houses than across in Church Street so more people accessing shops. Support from some businesses immediately adjacent second crossing as well as majority support overall.
- Moruya Business Chamber strongly supports the scheme and wants it to proceed now. Chamber would like ongoing discussions about parking for the medium term.
- Strong support for 2 hour on-street parking. The request during the engagement for an extension to the 2 hour parking in Church Street makes sense.
- Feedback during the engagement to relocate the bicycle parking to opposite the Health Food Café is supported and adds back one car space.
- Started with loss of 23 parking spaces, now down to 13, a net gain of 10 spaces through the engagement processes
- There are many non-Council owned car parks in the CBD

IR22/010 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 6 FOR 2021-22

S030-T00018

- The Committee supports the installation of all four infrastructure elements
- If Council determines not to proceed with the installation in front of the bakery, the regulatory plan can be adjusted accordingly without referral back to the Committee.

Emma Pietruska from TfNSW concurred with comments on the HPAA and advised that she is part of the team that will liaise with Council on any changes to this grant should that element be removed by Council against the recommendation of the Committee.

A summary of outcomes arising as a result of the engagement process:

- Additional parking spaces to be added to the pool car park by line marking
- Additional parking spaces to be added into the off-street car park between Church and Shore Street by re-line marking
- Additional parking space to be provided in off-street car park between Queen and Church Streets by re-line marking
- Location of bicycle parking to be relocated to the northern side of Church Street returning one parking space in off street car park south of Church Street
- Moving the accessible spaces one along to ensure they are immediately adjacent the physiotherapy
- Provision for set-down space near Church Street crossing point
- Net parking impact reduced from 23 to 16 to 13
- Agreement provided to work with the Chamber on longer term parking needs for Moruya CBD based on evidenced based investigation work
- Detailed design to ensure all truck turning movements will accommodate delivery vehicles
- Landscaping to allow good sight lines to/from pedestrians and be frangible in nature
- Bike racks to be designed for E-bikes
- Implementation of the originally proposed 2hr on-street parking
- Extension of the originally proposed 2hr on-street parking to Church Street east of Ford Street
- Local Traffic Committee recommendation to implement all four elements of the proposed pedestrian improvement scheme for Moruya CBD east, the modified off-street parking to return a net loss of 13 spaces compared to the original net loss of 23, the expanded 2hr on-street parking and the 30km/hr HPAA from the Local Traffic Committee

IR22/010 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 6 FOR 2021-22

S030-T00018

- Provision to undertake separate future investigation of matters raised in the engagement outside of the proposed scheme and respond to those making submissions.

Recommendations:

- i) Council Plan No. 5156 Set BQ Sheets 03,19,20 and 21 detailing the signage and line marking associated with the Moruya CBD east Church Street and Queen Street raised pedestrian crossings, Ford Street median and 2 hour parking restrictions adjusted, be approved.
- ii) If Council determines not to proceed with the raised pedestrian crossing in front of the bakery in Queen Street, the regulatory plan be adjusted to reflect the decision of Council.
- iii) Ongoing discussions be held with Moruya Business Chamber regarding the parking needs for Moruya in the longer term.
- iv) A summary of the modifications to the scheme arising from the community engagement highlighted in these minutes of the Local Traffic Committee be noted for transparency.

INFORMAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

2022.IN.006 Special Event Application — Narooma Oyster Festival

Traffic Management and Control Plans has been received for the 2022 Narooma Oyster Festival to be conducted around Wogonga Inlet foreshore in the vicinity of Quota Park on Riverside Drive, Narooma.

Road closures and detours will be in place between 7am on Thursday 5 May and 11.30pm on Saturday 7 May. A section of Riverside Drive will be closed with a detour in place around Bettini Lane, Fosters Bay Road and Lynch Street.

This special event submitted to Council is comprised essentially of stalls and fun events. It is estimated that there will be about 100 participants/organisers and 4000 spectators/customers.

Traffic Management and Control Plans were reviewed by the Committee. The Committee discussed parking. The Traffic Coordinator relayed that in the past parking was available in the various on-street and off-street areas in the vicinity of Quota Park and beyond with a relatively short walk from the 'Narooma Flat' CBD area.

The Chair asked if the local businesses around the foreshore can be serviced by delivery vehicles during the road closure period. The Traffic Coordinator relayed that the Traffic Control Plan indicates there are ample traffic control staff to arrange entry and exit of these vehicles at the road closure points.

It was also questioned if the event was commencing on Thursday this year as indicated in the submitted Traffic Management Plan, in previous years it commenced on Friday. The Traffic Coordinator advised he would investigate and report back to the Committee.

Since the meeting the applicant has provided a modified Traffic Management Plan indicating that the event will be open to the public at 4.00pm on Friday 6 May. This year additional setup

IR22/010 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 6 FOR 2021-22

S030-T00018

time is required (road closure from Thursday at 7am) due to the increase in the event's size and footprint.

Recommendation:

That the Traffic Management Plan and Traffic Control Plans for the Narooma Oyster Festival, to be conducted on Riverside Drive between Thursday 5 May to Saturday 7 May 2021 be approved.

2022.IN.006 Special Traffic Management – ANZAC Day Marches in Batemans Bay, Moruya and Narooma

ANZAC Day marches will be conducted in the following locations on 25 April:

- (a) Batemans Bay
- (b) Tomakin
- (c) Moruya
- (d) Tuross Head
- (e) Narooma.

As the marches in Batemans Bay, Moruya and Narooma affect the major road networks, Traffic Management and Control Plans are required.

Council will assist the event organisers to submit applications for Road Occupancy License's (ROL's) to Transport for NSW (TfNSW) for the Moruya and Narooma marches, as they require the use of the Princes Highway.

Traffic Management and Control Plans were reviewed by the Committee.

Recommendation:

That the submitted Traffic Management and Control Plans for the ANZAC Day marches for Batemans Bay, Moruya and Narooma to be conducted on 25 April 2022, subject to approval by the NSW Police and lodgment of a Road Occupancy License to Transport for NSW for the Moruya and Narooma events be approved.

GENERAL BUSINESS

The Police representative and the Chair asked the Council staff and TfNSW representatives how the organisations dealt with the large number of potholes on sealed roads due to the recent intense storm events. Both organisations relayed that as soon as possible after the event maintenance staff undertook immediate repairs using cold mix bitumen.

Triaging to minimise risks includes fixing large potholes on high volume roads and installing temporary warning and speed reduction signage. Additionally, construction crews were diverted to assist with temporary repairs.

The next step is the assessment of the damage and planning permanent rectification including using existing normal or seeking special grant funds.

This is a normal ongoing process for these extreme storm events.

IR22/010 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE NO 6 FOR 2021-22

S030-T00018

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Eurobodalla Local Traffic Committee will be held on Thursday 7 April 2022 in Council's Glass Meeting Room and via MS Teams commencing at 9.30am (dependent on COVID-19 protocol at that time).

DR22/001 LGNSW SPECIAL CONFERENCE

**S004-T00019,
S012-T00025**

Responsible Officer: Alison Worthington - Councillor

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: 9.1.2.3 Provide professional development opportunities for Councillors

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Local Government NSW Special Conference was held on 28 February – 2 March 2022 in Sydney. The conference focused on how councils can drive a “Locally Led” employment and economic recovery, as we continue to grapple with the complex challenges posed by the global pandemic.

Councillor Alison Worthington was one of Council’s delegates at the Conference and presents the following report.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Delegate Report from Councillor Alison Worthington be received and noted.

BACKGROUND

As Cr Mayne was unavailable to attend as planned, I was a late enrollment to the LGNSW Special Conference in his place. Due to having only very recently rejoined the LGNSW Association we four ESC councillors at the conference did not have speaking or voting rights, however it was a great opportunity to attend as an observer and learn much from:

- the motions brought to meeting from various councils
- the debate and conduct of the conference meeting, which covered over 100 business items
- networking with councillors from a diversity of LGA’s across the state and
- the workshops and forums that were on offer.

On arrival there was a real buzz as mayors, councillors and council staff from member councils across the state gathered for the first time in person since the pandemic began.

It was noted a number of times throughout the conference that attendance was made up of roughly 50/50 returning councillors and first time councillors. It became apparent that across NSW there had been quite a ‘changing of the guard’ in local government at the 4 December election, and most attribute this to the postponement of the elections and the challenges of the last term for serving councillors, due to a series of natural disasters and the pandemic.

The first item of Association business was the endorsement of the Fundamental Principles of LGNSW and this was updated by an amendment from Shoalhaven Mayor Amanda Findley to add the circular economy and climate mitigation to the principles - a particularly significant

DR22/001 LGNSW SPECIAL CONFERENCE

**S004-T00019,
S012-T00025**

inclusion considering the floods and latest natural disaster unfolding across NSW at that time in late February. Sadly there were councillors from the Northern Rivers and other flood affected areas that were unable to attend or left early due to the extreme weather and threats to their lives, homes and livelihoods.

The matter of IPART rate peg determination for 2022-23 at a puzzlingly low figure of just 0.7% was the hot topic of the conference. "Gross anomaly", "aberrant" and "shock determination" were just some of the terms used around this rate peg announcement and the items in the business paper addressing it.

From the LGNSW Board Motion to review the determination:

"This blow comes on top of the financial impacts on councils of successive natural disasters and the ongoing COVID pandemic. Councils have incurred tens of millions of dollars in increased costs in supporting their communities and lost revenue as the result of the downturn in economic activity.

This problem would not occur if rate pegging was abolished and councils had the ability to set their own rates in consultation with their communities. NSW has the lowest rates per capita of all the States."

I also learned from delegates that NSW is one of two states that bear this imposition of rate-pegging, The Mayor of Newcastle noted that a survey of Newcastle residents revealed that they were happy to pay a 5% Special Rate Variation over 5 years because they know it enables better investment in the future of their community.

The financial constraints on local government were also examined in the Day 3 keynote address by Michael Pascoe: Economic Outlook 2022-23 and Beyond.

Pascoe levelled his criticism at the Federal government's funding and investment failures and the roting of the delivery of Community Development Grants.

His view is that the current funding regime for local government denies council's needs for "predictable, plannable and investable" long-term planning for Australian communities.

Since the conference it has been great to see that with advocacy from the Association, the Local Government Minister Wendy Tuckerman has gained a special one-off rate variation for planned infrastructure and community services for eligible councils.

On Day 1 I attended a booked-out panel session on council involvement in the new National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

The speakers on this panel were:

- Gomeroi man Cr Charles Lynch, Co-Chair NSW Coalition of Aboriginal Peak Organisations (NSWCAPO) and Councillor, NSW Aboriginal Land Council.
- Cr Anne Dennis, a Gamilaraay woman and Councillor, NSW Aboriginal Land Council and
- Worimi man Joshua Mark Gilbert, Indigenous Co-Chair, Reconciliation NSW.

Launched in 2006, the Close the Gap Campaign is an independent coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and mainstream peak health and advocacy organisations, advocating for health equality by 2030.

DR22/001 LGNSW SPECIAL CONFERENCE

**S004-T00019,
S012-T00025**

Local Government is a party to the National Agreement on Closing the Gap through the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA).

For councils, the panel explored how to drive Closing the Gap outcomes that are place-based and adapted to local need, through each council's plans and delivery programs under the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

We were directed to this [Closing the Gap Fact Sheet for Local Government](#) and the 4 priority reforms in the National Agreement developed to shift the way governments work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The NSW Implementation has a 5th priority reform relating to employment, business growth and economic prosperity.

The key takeaway messages from this workshop were:

- Closing the Gap initiatives must be 'whole of community' and must be place-based.
- the need for a review of councils' procurement policies (due later this year) to include Aboriginal Procurement policies.
- that there is work to be done around preferred tendering as postcodes should matter here if we adhere to place-based targets.
- this can be an impactful tool in building capacity in Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCO's).
- another way to help build that capacity is to break big projects into smaller stages to put out to tender.
- know your local ACCO's, know the full scope of what each of your local Aboriginal services offer and do.
- Like all local government, Local Aboriginal Land Council's have their own unique funding constraints and an example of council's assisting them is to provide traineeships for Aboriginal youth in admin and accounting to build capacity in LALC's for meeting compliance and audit responsibilities which can cost LALC's \$30,000/year out of a \$150,000 budget.

Joshua Mark Gilbert from Reconciliation NSW has since shared his presentation 'How can local councils include and value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities?' which I have attached here.

https://lgnsw.org.au/Common/Uploaded%20files/Misc/2022-28-02_REC_NSW_presentation_to_LGNSW.pdf

Joshua particularly encouraged councils to take up the Pathways to Reconciliation program in local councils, early learning centres and schools. It delivers art & storytelling workshops as a pathway to reconciliation in communities.

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.