



Greater
Hume
Council

Ordinary Meeting of Greater Hume Council

Wednesday, 11 September 2024

NOTICE is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of the Greater Hume Council will be held at Council Chambers, 40 Balfour St, Culcairn, commencing at 6.00pm. The meeting commences with a Public Forum.

Persons wishing to address Council in the forum must register by 5pm Monday, 9th September 2024. The conduct of the forum is governed by the Council's Code of Meeting Practice.

Council live streams meetings so that the public may view the proceedings of the meeting in real time or later. View the recording of the meeting at <https://bit.ly/35uKFxX>

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'E Arnold'.

Evelyn Arnold
GENERAL MANAGER

ORDER OF BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED
REFER OVERLEAF

Ordinary Meeting of Greater Hume Council

Wednesday, 11 September 2024

In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice, this Council Meeting is being recorded and will be placed on Council's webpage for public information. All present today are reminded that by speaking you are agreeing to your view and comments being recorded and published. You are also reminded that, if or when speaking, you are to be respectful to others and use appropriate language. Greater Hume Council accepts no liability for any defamatory or offensive remarks or gestures during this Council Meeting.

BUSINESS:

1. OPENING THE MEETING

2. PRAYER

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

"I would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Wiradjuri people, and pay my respect to elders both past, present and emerging".

4. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council – 14 August 2024

6. ACTION REPORT FROM THE MINUTES

7. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

8. MAYORAL MINUTE(S)

9. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

10. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

PART A For Determination

- Corporate and Community Services

ITEM REFERRED TO CLOSED COUNCIL

- Nil

PART B To Be Received and Noted

- Corporate and Community Services
- Engineering

PART C Items for Information

- Governance
- Corporate and Community Services
- Engineering
- Environment and Planning

PART D Items for Information

11. MATTERS OF URGENCY

12. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – CONFIDENTIAL CLOSED COUNCIL REPORT

13. CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

ORDINARY MEETING OF GREATER HUME COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BALFOUR ST, CULCAIRN
ON WEDNESDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

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MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Nil

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OFFICERS' REPORTS – PART A - FOR DETERMINATION
ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

Nil

GOVERNANCE

Nil

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CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. 2023/2024 DRAFT GENERAL PURPOSE AND SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CERTIFICATE BY COUNCIL

Report prepared by Chief Financial Officer – Dean Hart

REASON FOR REPORT

To present to Council the Draft General Purpose and Special Purpose Financial Statements for year ending 30 June 2024, which require certification and referral to Council's external auditors.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Nil

DISCUSSION

The Local Government Act 1993 ("the Act") relating to the preparation of Council's annual financial reports requires that:

1. Section 413 – A council must prepare financial reports for each year, and must refer them for audit as soon as practicable after the end of that year.
2. Section 413(2) – A council's financial reports must include:
 - a. A general purpose financial report
 - b. Any other matter prescribed by the regulations
 - c. A statement in the approved form by the council as to the opinion of the general purpose financial report.

The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting requires Council to complete a Special Purpose Financial Report for all business activities declared by Council and that Council complete a Statement on its Special Purpose Financial Report. A copy of the required Statements are included as **(ANNEXURE 1)**.

3. Section 413(3) – The general purpose financial report must be prepared in accordance with the Act and the regulations and the requirements of:
 - a. The publications issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board, as in force for the time being, subject to the regulations, and
 - b. Such other standards as may be prescribed by the regulations.
4. Section 416 – A council's financial reports for a year must be prepared and audited within 4 months after the end of the year concerned.

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2023/2024 DRAFT GENERAL PURPOSE AND SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS –
CERTIFICATE BY COUNCIL (CONT)

5. Section 418 – Upon receiving the Auditor’s Report, the Act requires the council to give at least 7 days public notice of the meeting at which it proposes to present its audited financial reports, together with the Auditor’s Report, to the public. The public notice must include a statement that the business of the meeting will include presentation of the audited financial reports, the Auditor’s Report, and a summary of the financial reports.

6. Section 420 – Any person may make submissions in respect of the Council’s audited financial reports or the Auditor’s Report. Such submissions must be in writing and lodged with Council within 7 days after the public meeting at which these reports are presented. Copies of all submissions received must be referred to Council’s Auditor. The Council must take such action as it considers appropriate in respect to any submissions received, including giving notice to the Office of Local Government of any matter that appears to require amendment of the Council’s Financial Statements. In order to facilitate the public notice, meeting and submission process, it is considered appropriate that Council delegate to the General Manager authority, upon receipt of the Auditor’s Report by Council to:
 - a. Arrange for the public notice of this meeting, in the required format, to be placed in the Border Mail newspaper, advising of the meeting at which the Auditor’s Report will be presented.
 - b. Arrange for the Council’s audited financial reports and a copy of the Auditor’s Report to be made available for public inspection on Council’s website and at the Council’s offices and libraries.
 - c. List the audited financial reports and Auditor’s Report on the Agenda for the October 2018 Council Meeting.

7. Section 428 – The audited financial reports must be included in the Council’s annual report.

8. Clause 215 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, requires that the Statement under Section 413(2)(c) on the annual financial report must be made by resolution of the Council and signed by the:
 - a. Mayor
 - b. At least one (1) other Councillor
 - c. General Manager
 - d. Responsible Accounting Officer

Annual financial reports have now been completed for Greater Hume Shire Council, Greater Hume Shire Council Water Fund and Greater Hume Shire Council Sewer Fund.

Council is responsible for the preparation of the financial reports and adequate disclosures. This includes the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls, selection and application of accounting policies, and the safeguarding of the assets of Council.

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2023/2024 DRAFT GENERAL PURPOSE AND SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS –
CERTIFICATE BY COUNCIL (CONT)

The General Manager reports that the Annual Financial Statements have been drawn up in accordance with:-

- The Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) and the regulations made thereafter
- The Australian Accounting Standards and professional pronouncements
- The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting
- The Local Government Asset Accounting Manual

Further it is advised that they will:

- Present fairly the financial position and operating result for the year; and
- Accord with Council's accounting and other records.

The General Manager is not aware of any issue that would make the reports false or misleading in any way.

In relation to the Special Purpose Financial Statements, it is advised that the Statements have been drawn up in accordance with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting and the:-

- NSW Government Policy Statement "Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government"
- Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability "Best Practice Management and Water Supply and Sewerage" Guidelines.

It is further advised that these reports:

- Present fairly the financial position and operating result for each of Council's declared Business Units for the year; and
- Accord with Council's accounting and other records.

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2023/2024 DRAFT GENERAL PURPOSE AND SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS –
CERTIFICATE BY COUNCIL (CONT)

Detailed below is a snapshot of Council's financial position as at 30 June 2024 (subject to Audit)

Income Statement

	2023/2024 \$,000	2022/2023 \$,000
Operating Income	45,476	45,874
Capital Grants and Contributions	12,501	5,943
Net Gain on Disposal of Assets	369	273
Total Income from Continuing Operations	58,346	52,090
Operating Expenditure	45,334	41,890
Net Loss on Disposal of Assets	Nil	Nil
Net Operating Result for the year	13,012	10,200
Net operating result for the year before capital grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	511	4,257

Statement of Financial Position

Total Current Assets	46,125	40,673
Total Current Liabilities	16,074	14,617
Total Non-Current Assets	855,474	798,961
Total Non-Current Liabilities	5,438	8,484
Total Equity	880,087	816,533

Net Operating Result for the year

The 2023/2024 results reflect a strong net operating result from continuing operations of \$13.012m. This is an increase of \$2.812m on the previous year.

Net operating result before grants and contributions for capital purposes decreased by \$3.761m from \$4.257m to \$0.511m. The 2023/2024 financial year result was impacted by expenditure to repair roads damaged during the September 2022 and February 2023 flood events. Council is awaiting payment of \$3.382m for works completed by not yet funded.

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2023/2024 DRAFT GENERAL PURPOSE AND SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS –
CERTIFICATE BY COUNCIL (CONT)

Income from Continuing Operations

Total Income received for the year was \$58.346m up from \$52.090m in the previous year. This was mainly due to capital grant funding which has increased by \$6.558m. A number of major grant funded projects contributed to this increase including the Jingellic Road reconstruction, the Brocklesby/Balldale road reconstruction, the Coppabella Bridge Replacement and the Wantagong 5 Bridges Replacement project.

External/Internal Restrictions (Reserves)

Council has externally restricted reserves of \$13.454m (includes \$190k held in Trust and \$891k for the Walla and Culcairn Solar Farm Voluntary Planning Agreements) and internal restrictions of \$14.848m.

External restrictions are generally developer contributions, unexpended grants and water and sewerage funds which can only be used for the purposes for which they were raised. Council has more flexibility with internal restrictions whereby Council can, by resolution, vary the purpose of restriction or remove it all together.

An amount of \$3.197m has been restricted for uncompleted works across the Shire.

Statement of Performance Measures

Detailed performance measures have been prepared as part of the financial statements. The performance measures assess Council’s financial position across a number of measures and industry benchmarks. Details of the performance measures for the General Purpose Financial Statements and Special Purpose Financial Statements are attached (**ANNEXURE 2**) (subject to Audit)

Satisfactory reserves are held in most schemes. Scheme reserves are detailed below (Subject to Audit):

FUND	\$,000
Greater Hume Shire Council Sewerage Fund	2,427
Greater Hume Shire Council Water Fund	3,789
TOTAL	6,216

Audit Committee Review

A meeting of the Greater Hume Shire Council Internal Audit Committee will be held on Tuesday 10 September 2023 to review the draft financial statements and to provide an opportunity for the Committee to ask questions and seek clarification from Council’s Chief Financial Officer on all aspects of the statements.

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2023/2024 DRAFT GENERAL PURPOSE AND SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS –
CERTIFICATE BY COUNCIL (CONT)

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

CONCLUSION

The General Manager has provided assurances as to the manner in which the Statements have been prepared it is recommended that General Manager, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and the Chief Financial Officer be authorised to sign the Statement by Councillors and Management for the 2023/2024 General Purpose and Special Purpose Financial Statements.

RECOMMENDATION

That on the basis of the assurances provided by the General Manager:

1. The Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024 be adopted.
2. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and the Chief Financial Officer be authorised to sign the Statement by Councillors and Management for the 2023/2024 General Purpose and Special Purpose Financial Statements.
3. The Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024 be referred to the Council's External Auditor for audit.
4. Council hereby delegate to the General Manager authority, upon receipt of the Auditor's report of the Council, to:
 - a. Forward a copy of the Financial Statements to the Office of Local Government and Australian Bureau of Statistics.
 - b. Arrange for public notice, in the required format, of the Council Meeting at which the Financial Statements will be presented to the public.
 - c. Arrange for Council's audited Financial Statements and a copy of the Auditor's Reports to be made available for public inspection.
 - d. List the presentation of audited Financial Statements and Auditor's Reports on the Agenda for the October 2024 Council Meeting.

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ENGINEERING

Nil

ITEM TO BE REFERRED TO CLOSED COUNCIL

Nil

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OFFICERS' REPORTS – PART B – TO BE RECEIVED AND NOTED

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

2. COMBINED INVESTMENT ACCOUNT – MONTH ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Report prepared by Senior Accountant/Finance Team Leader – Camilla Webb

REASON FOR REPORT

This report presents to Council details of all funds invested as at 31 August 2024 as required by the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Objective We lead a vibrant, connected and inclusive community

Outcome 1.1 Leadership and advocacy is demonstrated and encouraged in our communities

DISCUSSION

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, the Responsible Accountant must present to Council monthly, the status of the investments held by Council. The Responsible Accountant must detail the investments held, and their compliance with both internal policy and external regulation under the Ministerial Order of Investments.

In accordance with the recommendations made by the Office of Local Government (OLG) Investment Policy Guidelines published in June 2010, the monthly Investments Reports are attached to the Council investment report. This allows a stand-alone report to be published on Council's website for the public to view without having to peruse the Council meeting agenda for the relevant meeting.

Councillors should note that Council has engaged an external investment manager, Curve Securities, to source appropriate investment opportunities with the aim of transitioning Council's investment portfolio to meet the investment parameters as detailed in Council's revised Investment Policy. Curve Securities will work with Council to ensure that Council's overall investment portfolio is diversified across a wider spectrum of approved financial institutions thereby achieving improved security and asset protection. It should be noted that each individual investment is still held directly by Council with each financial institution.

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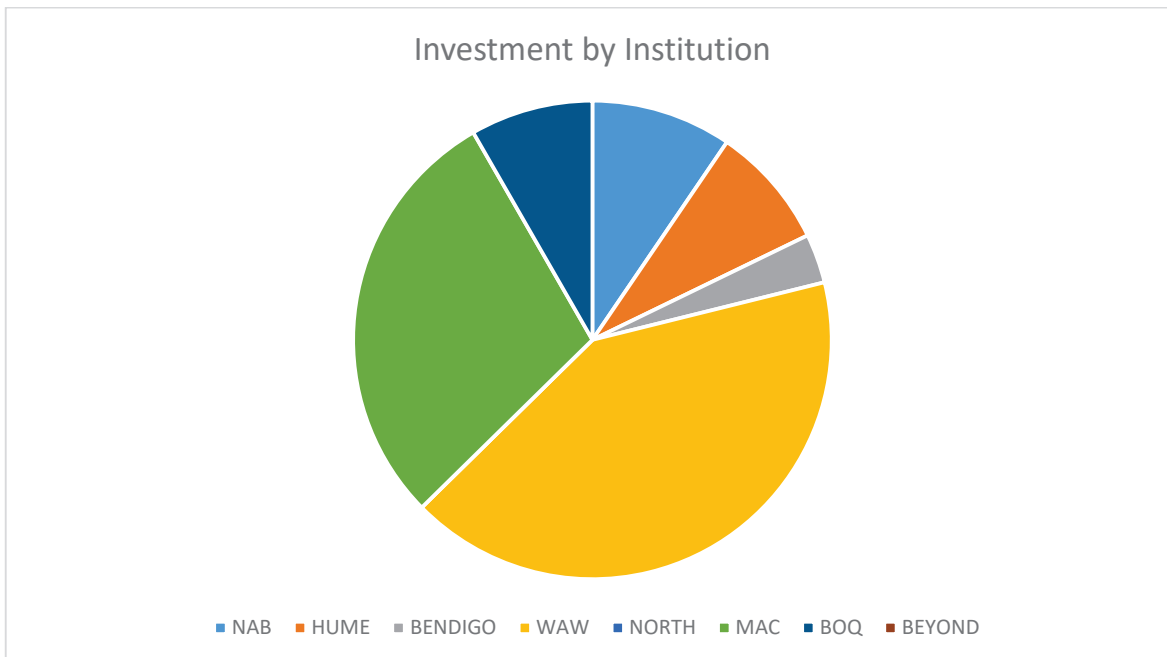
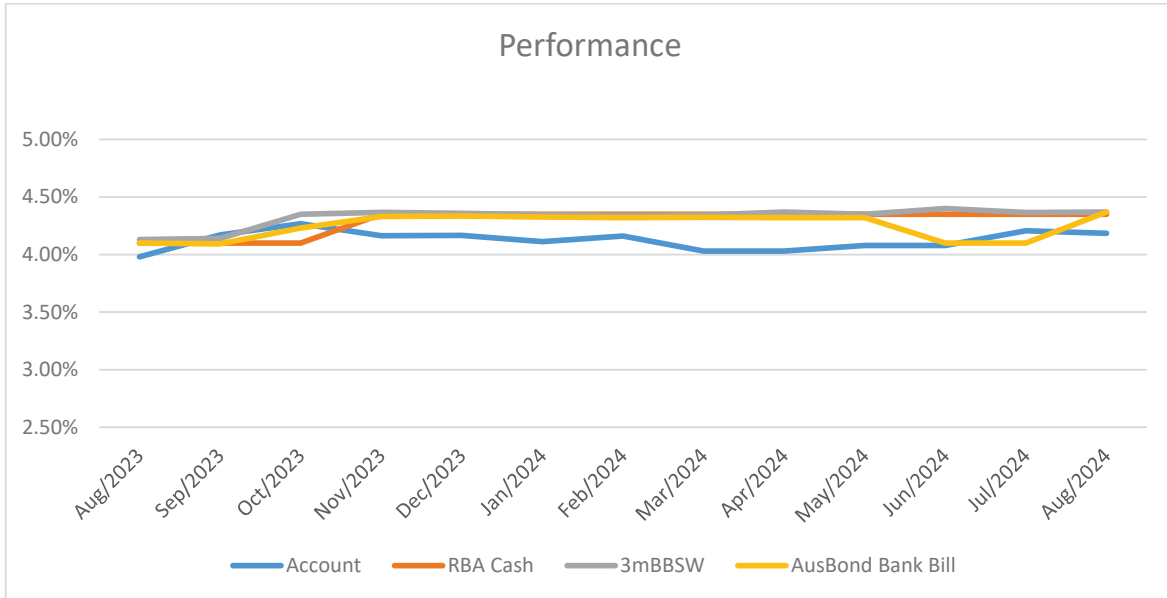
COMBINED INVESTMENT ACCOUNT – MONTH ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024 (CONT)

Greater Hume’s overall investment portfolio

Term Deposits and Treasury Bonds		
Balance held as at 31 July 2024	25	\$20,044,854.06
Add: New Investments this month	4	\$2,900,000.00
		\$22,944,854.06
Less: Matured Investments this month	5	\$3,400,000.00
Balance held as at 31 August 2024	24	\$19,544,854.06
At Call Account		
Account balance as at 31 July 2024		\$5,331,986.12
Add: Net movement to/from At Call account		\$6,315,272.80
Account balance as at 31 August 2024		\$11,647,258.92
Total Portfolio Value as at 31 August 2024		
		\$31,192,112.98
Investment Yield		
Weighted Average Yield (rolling 13 months)		3.98%
Reserve Bank Cash Rate (remained unchanged)		4.35%
Notes:		

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COMBINED INVESTMENT ACCOUNT – MONTH ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024 (CONT)

Investment Register

Contract Number	ADI/Security Name	Amount	Settlement Date	Maturity Date	Term in Days	Yield	Monthly Accrued Interest
69111	Bank Of Queensland	\$500,000	13/12/2023	9/09/2024	271	5.25%	\$2,229.45
67183	NAB	\$2,000,000	13/09/2023	12/09/2024	365	5.15%	\$8,747.95
67414	NAB	\$500,000	20/09/2023	19/09/2024	365	5.20%	\$2,208.22
70501	NAB	\$1,000,000	4/03/2024	1/10/2024	211	5.05%	\$4,289.04
70985	NAB	\$500,000	2/04/2024	1/10/2024	182	5.00%	\$2,123.29
78320	NAB	\$500,000	24/07/2024	23/10/2024	91	5.10%	\$2,165.75
72256	NAB	\$500,000	12/06/2024	11/11/2024	152	5.00%	\$2,123.29
72233	Beyond Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	18/06/2024	18/11/2024	153	5.15%	\$4,373.97
69094	NAB	\$1,000,000	12/12/2023	11/12/2024	365	5.20%	\$4,416.44
78830	NAB	\$500,000	26/08/2024	20/12/2024	116	4.90%	\$402.74
76029	Bank Of Queensland	\$500,000	3/07/2024	3/01/2025	184	5.20%	\$2,208.22
76030	Bendigo And Adelaide Bank	\$1,000,000	3/07/2024	3/01/2025	184	5.15%	\$4,373.97
72363	Bank Of Queensland	\$500,000	18/06/2024	14/01/2025	210	5.15%	\$2,186.99
78907	WAW Credit Union	\$400,000	7/08/2024	9/02/2025	186	4.50%	\$1,232.88
78613	Bank Of Queensland	\$1,000,000	14/08/2024	10/02/2025	180	4.95%	\$2,441.10
70654	Hume Bank	\$71,245.02	1/03/2024	1/03/2025	365	5.10%	\$308.60
76031	Bank Of Queensland	\$1,000,000	3/07/2024	31/03/2025	271	5.20%	\$4,416.44
72064	Hume Bank	\$46,751.06	2/05/2024	2/05/2025	365	5.20%	\$206.47
72069	Hume Bank	\$1,000,000	10/05/2024	10/05/2025	365	5.20%	\$4,416.44
78549	AMP Bank	\$1,000,000	8/08/2024	4/06/2025	300	5.20%	\$3,419.18

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56079	Northern Territory Treasury Corp	\$1,000,000	14/01/2022	15/06/2025	1,248	1.40%	\$1,189.04
52490	Northern Territory Treasury Corp	\$1,500,000	27/05/2021	16/06/2025	1,481	1.10%	\$1,401.37
75895	Hume Bank	\$26,857.98	27/06/2024	27/06/2025	365	5.00%	\$114.05
51782	Northern Territory Treasury Corp	\$2,500,000	15/04/2021	15/06/2026	1,887	1.30%	\$2,760.27
49570	NAB	\$11,647,258.92	31/08/2024	1/09/2024	1	4.40%	\$1,404.05
Total		\$31,192,112.98					\$65,159.21

Declaration

I, Dean Hart, as the Responsible Accounting Officer of Greater Hume Shire Council, hereby certify the investments listed in the attached reports have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 and Council's Investment Policy.

All investments have been appropriately recorded in Council's financial records and reconciled monthly.

CONCLUSION

As at 31 August, 2024 total Investments held were \$31,192,112.98. The year to date accrued investment earnings for 2024/2025 was \$184,238.37. The rolling 13 month average investment yield is 3.98%.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Investment Balances Report for the month of August 2024

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ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

Nil

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ENGINEERING

1. UPDATE ON CLEAN UP NOTICE ISSUED ON COUNCIL

Report prepared by Director Engineering – Greg Blackie

REASON FOR REPORT

To provide an update on a Clean-up notice (“Notice”) issued to Council relating to the rehabilitation of an old gravel pit “Funks Pit” on Red Hill Road Tabletop.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

CSP Strategy N2 Our road and transport network is maintained and accessible

Initiative N2.1.1. Implement asset management and renewal programs in accordance with adopted budgets and capital works programs.

DISCUSSION

As Councillors would be aware Council received an initial clean-up notice on the 28 May 2024 regarding an existing gravel pit that is currently being rehabilitated by Council. This notice is attached in **(ANNEXURE 3)**. The rehabilitation is being carried out to the requirements of a legal agreement made with the current landowner and to the requirements of Albury City (to meet the Development Approval rehabilitation requirements of the gravel pit with Albury City). This pit was originally in Hume Shire but did become part of Albury City when amalgamations were undertaken some 20 years ago.

The rehabilitation plan for the pit involves slope management, filling, soil/water management and vegetation planting. The amount of fill involved is approximately 7000m³.

Following discussions with the EPA prior to the issuance of the initial clean up notice, they permitted Council to undertake a process to see if screening of the material onsite could remove the foreign/waste material out of the supplied material to make it “compliant”. To prove this was an option for consideration Council was required to undertake a trial on some of the material that had been delivered and test the outcome against the relative regulations

Due to delays in accessing the site the Clean-up notice was varied twice further with time extensions to allow Council to obtain the samples.

The screening was then undertaken in early July with all test results showing it to be fully successful in removing all off the foreign material, however following further advice from the EPA that was received on the 14 August **(ENCLOSED SEPARATELY 1)** this was not considered adequate enough due to fleabane also being present at the site, and causing an undue risk to the landowner and his land which was believed to be imported in the material delivered.

Whist disappointing and following a meeting with the EPA on the 26 August Council has enacted processes to commence the removal of the material offsite to Landfills within the shire. Before removing

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the material, a weed treatment program is being developed to ensure the fleabane is nullified prior to transporting to ensure there is no risk to the landowner in this process.

UPDATE ON CLEAN UP NOTICE ISSUED ON COUNCIL (CONT)

Prior to any removal commencing the EPA has now advised that a work plan be developed to show how the material is to be removed including details of the weed management program.

Council staff will now finalise the weed management plan and material removal plan, and forward to the EPA for approval. Once approved Council will then commence work to meet the requirements of the notice.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

Council is currently determining the costs associated with the clean-up notice, and the requirements associated with it.

Council has a reserve fund for the rehabilitation of existing Council quarries and gravel pits from which the cost of the required work will be funded from. As such there will be no impact on Councils current delivery program and operational plan.

CONCLUSION

Council has received a clean-up notice which requires work to be undertaken involving the implementation of a weed management program and material removal program. Subject to approval by the EPA Council will commence with these as soon as possible

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report

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2. 2024 – 2027 VP418597 SPRAYED SEALING WORKS GREATER HUME

Report prepared by Manager Works – Ken Thompson

REASON FOR REPORT

To inform Councillors on the selection of a contractor for the provision of spray sealing works for Greater Hume 2024 – 2027 financial years.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTION

Objective Our development and maintenance is sustainable, environmentally responsible, accessible and enjoyed by our community

Outcome 4.1 Infrastructure and facilities meets the needs of our communities.

DISCUSSION

The provision of spray sealing (including resealing of roads, primer sealing of new roads and associated works) is a major expense to Council but is required to provide and maintain a quality and safe road network throughout the shire. Due to its nature, this work is mostly completed by specialist contractors. Council's normal process is to prepare a one year contract for the provision of such services. This year a three-year contract has been viewed as a preferable option. Council utilises Local Government Procurement (LGP) to undertake a tender process.

Following the RFQ process for this year six tenders were received (including one non-conforming tender) for the works. From the six tenders received LFT Bitumen Pty Ltd have been accessed as the most competitive for Greater Hume Council. They have the cheapest of the submitted prices, their establishment costs for smaller works (heavy patching and construction works) are comparative to other tenders, and, they have consistent for smaller works as per the supplied unit rates. The tender assessment is **(ENCLOSED SEPERATELY 2)** for councillors' information.

This process has provided Greater Hume Council with competitive price for the works to be completed.

Total value for 2024/2025 of the works is estimated to be \$2,159,271.95 exclusive of GST.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

Council's current budget provides for the resealing and primer sealing of the Council Road network including the completion of resealing and sealing of heavy patching works conducted under the Road Maintenance Council Contract with Transport for New South Wales on the State Road Network. The pricing proposed by the successful tender is comparative to the previous year's pricing.

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2024 – 2027 VP418597 SPRAYED SEALING WORKS GREATER HUME (CONT)

CONCLUSION

The tender received from LFT Bitumen Pty Ltd as shown is competitively priced from the six tenders received. LFT Bitumen Pty Ltd has been operating for many years and is a well-respected company within the border region. They have a history of high performing works and have been sealing contractors for many of the councils in the border region. Council has utilised this contractor in the past and not had any issues with their work or work practices, being a company from within the border region they are well placed to respond to Council's requirements. Council's participation in the LGP contract provides savings to Councils.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

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PART C - ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

GOVERNANCE

1. **2021/2024 END OF TERM REPORT**

Report prepared by General Manager – Evelyn Arnold

REASON FOR REPORT

To present the 2021/2024 End of Term Report.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTIONS

Nil

DISCUSSION

Council is required to prepare an End of Term Report to present Council's progress in implementing the key strategies from the Community Strategic Plan during the period 2021/2024. A copy of the End of Term Report is also **(ENCLOSED SEPARATELY 3)** for the information of Councillors.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Greater Hume Council 2021/2024 End of Term Report be received and noted.

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2. TOURISM AND PROMOTIONS REPORT – JULY 2024

Prepared by: Emily Jones, Tourism and Communication Coordinator

Greater Hume Council Websites

Outcome 4.2 - Our communication is open, effective and purposeful to connect and educate our community.

Continued implementation of the GHC Communication Plan. Maintain and manage the Greater Hume Council suite of websites which are compliant with accessibility standards. Seamless CMS(OpenCities) is the provider of Council's websites – Greater Hume Council, Visit Greater Hume, Greater Hume Children Services and Town and Village websites.

Comments

		greaterhume.nsw.gov.au		ghchildren.com.au		visitgreaterhume.com.au	
August 2024		Previous	Current	Previous	Current	Previous	Current
Website Traffic	New	13687	7949	670	1639	1510	660
	Returning	13096	3928	659	1448	1495	542
Traffic Source	Organic	5453	6022	497	871	809	466
	Direct	10442	1362	152	460	481	171
	Referral	237	207	3	286	206	5
	Social	388	331	7	18	20	17
Device Paths	Desktop	11083	2179	239	765	755	231
	Mobile	2538	2892	431	655	715	302
	Tablet	104	116	1	27	40	9

www.greaterhume.nsw.gov.au - top pages:

1. Your Greater Hume Council – NSW Local Government Elections
2. Your Greater Hume Council – Council Meetings
3. Living in Greater Hume – Waste and Recycling
4. Contact Us
5. Living in Greater Hume – Rates

www.visitgreaterhume.com.au – top pages:

1. Natural Wonders – Wymah Ferry
2. Culcairn – Culcairn Caravan Park
3. Natural Wonders – Morgan's Lookout
4. Henty – Accommodation

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TOURISM AND PROMOTIONS REPORT – JULY 2024 (CONT)

www.ghchildren.com.au – top pages:

1. Contact Us
2. Changes to Child Care Subsidy
3. Enrol Your Child – Family Day Care
4. A Higher Rate of Childcare Subsidy
5. Holbrook Centre

Social Media

Outcome 4.2 - Our communication is open, effective and purposeful to connect and educate our community.

Continued implementation of the GHC Communication Plan. Expand the information available to the community online and encourage online collaboration and self-serve service platforms

Comments

Instagram, #visitgreaterhume – 1161 followers

Individual Facebook pages:

- Greater Hume Council – 3949 followers
- Visit Greater Hume – 822 followers
- Holbrook Submarine Museum – 1302 followers
- Greater Hume Children's Services – 1100 followers
- Greater Hume Youth Advisory Committee – 486 followers
- Buy Local in Greater Hume – 672 followers

Greater Hume Council Newsletters

Outcome 4.2 - Our communication is open, effective and purposeful to connect and educate our community.

Develop quarterly Council newsletters and rates notice insert whilst ensuring effective and targeted content

Comments

Council Spring newsletter will be released on the First week of September. This editions features events, Library and Children Services updates and important information regarding the 2024 NSW Local Government Elections.

Grants and Funding

Outcome 1.2 - Our infrastructure and services are aligned to the health, wellbeing and safety needs of the community

Comments

Greater Hume has now partnered with Grant Guru to provide is the most comprehensive grants database in Australia that includes grants and assistance across all levels of government and the private sector (philanthropic grants), each summarised into a one-page template for easy comparison. This grant portal is available to Council staff, local businesses, community and sporting groups throughout Greater Hume. Grant applications managed by writer are:

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TOURISM AND PROMOTIONS REPORT – JULY 2024 (CONT)

Name	About	Current
Maritime Museum	Submarine Museum Holbrook – Restoration and Framing of WWII Jolly Roger Flag \$1350.00	Successful - Work in Progress

Greater Hume Tourism and Promotions

Outcome 2.3 - Our region's highlights are celebrated, maintained and promoted to enhance our visitor experience

Comments

- Monthly newsletters are sent to all Greater Hume Tourism Operators, providing latest information on tourism opportunities, marketing, social media and promotional campaigns as well as relevant contacts and statistics.
- Managing over 180 Greater Hume ATDW Listings. The Australian Tourism Data Warehouse (ATDW) is Australia's national platform for digital tourism marketing in Australia. ATDW distributes information to over 60 partners' websites to support local tourism businesses in expanding their on line exposure, bookings and marketing.
- Submitted visitor and What's On advertising in Eat Play Winter Edition 2024. The print run is 24,000, 14,000 are inserted into The Border Mail and the additional 10,000 distributed. Distribution is to all Visitor Information Centres through NE Victoria and South West NSW/Riverina plus Canberra and Melbourne. Other business (inc motels) and advertisers.
- Emailed (over 600) 'What's On in September' to Visitor Information Centres in NSW and VIC, coach/bus/tour companies, tourism operators within shire and regional, media, visitor information points and to interested residents in shire.
- Henty Machinery Field Day display for 2024 is currently being developed. This year each Council department will be featured for a day along with a tourism display that will be static for the three days.

Visitor Information Centre and Submarine Museum

Outcome 2.3 - Our region's highlights are celebrated, maintained and promoted to enhance our visitor experience.

Offering visitors to Greater Hume information and advice on accommodation, places to eat, attractions, maps, tours, road conditions, events and other general information. Reception and admission to Submarine Museum.

Comments

Visitor Information Centre Statistics:

August 24 - Walk In – 949, Phone Calls - 22, Emails – 0.

August 23 - Walk In – 850, Phone Calls - 13, Emails – 0.

Submarine Museum Statistics:

August 24 - Adult - 129, Child - 26, Concession - 177, Family - 38, Group - 0, Total - 370.

August 23 - Adult - 145, Child - 39, Concession - 143, Family - 30, Group - 0, Total - 357.

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TOURISM AND PROMOTIONS REPORT – JULY 2024 (CONT)

Events

Outcome 2.3 - Our region's highlights are celebrated, maintained and promoted to enhance our visitor experience

To assist with the promotion of Greater Hume's many and varied events. Encourage more residents to be involved in Greater Hume and events.

Comments

During this period we have supported over 10 events across Greater Hume, including Henty Ag Show, Festival by the Sub, Holbrook Triathlon and Holbrook Agricultural Show, Morgan Country Car Club Show and Shine and the Lights Show at Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre. We are currently supporting events such as Dinner collaborations, Henty Machinery Field Days, Community Gatherings, Community Garage Sales and various Jindera Pioneer Museum events.

Australia Day

Outcome 1.1 - Our communities are welcoming and inclusive to support diversity and social connectedness

Comments

Meeting dates have been set with Henty Community to begin initial preparations for Australia Day 2025.

Signage

Outcome 2.3 - Our region's highlights are celebrated, maintained and promoted to enhance our visitor experience

Comments

Tourism and Village Signage is being developed in Burrumbuttock, the Submarine Precinct and Gallipoli Park, Holbrook.

Murray Regional Tourism (MRT)

Outcome 2.3 - Our region's highlights are celebrated, maintained and promoted to enhance our visitor experience

MRT is a joint venture between Albury, Balranald, Berrigan, Campaspe, Corowa, Deniliquin, Gannawarra, Greater Hume, Mildura, Moira, Murray, Swan Hill, Wakool, Wodonga, as well as Tourism Vic and Destination NSW.)

Comments

- Currently attending monthly zoom meetings with MRT and the VIC network group.
- Advocacy for current flooding crisis along the Murray and positive promotions depicting The Murray as still open for visitors with a wide range of activities still open.
- COVID Recovery Funding - A Greater Hume promotional campaign in partnership with Murray Regional Tourism and Destination NSW has now been completed with statistics to be released shortly.
- Staff are undergoing Social Media Training beginning in February, led by Murray Regional Tourism. This training includes one on one mentoring sessions.
- A photo shoot is currently being planned, showcasing new Tourism Operators and landscape locations with the West and North areas of Greater Hume.

Museums and Heritage

Outcome 1.3 - Our connection to the local culture and environment fosters positive relationships and learning for sustained health benefits.

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TOURISM AND PROMOTIONS REPORT – JULY 2024 (CONT)

GHC currently has 11 public or private museums and three historical societies. Museum Advisor (Maggi Solly) – In partnership with Albury City Council and Museums and Galleries NSW.

Comment

A full training/workshop program has been developed for 2024 by the Museum Adviser with museum volunteers, staff of Albury and Greater Hume at the new Digitisation Hub. A new Community Museum engagement, training plan has been developed by the Museum Advisor. Staff are working towards completing this plan with Community Museum volunteers.

Greater Hume Community Museums now have an extensive library of objects on eHive, with over 250 objects now listed, (eHive is a web-based collection cataloguing system used worldwide by hundreds of museums, societies and private collectors to catalogue objects, store images, manage acquisition information and publish their collections online.) for those looking to learn more about some of the region's most significant objects/artefact's.

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CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. GREATER HUME LIBRARY SERVICES

Report prepared by Acting Customer Relations Coordinator - Carly Toll

REASON FOR REPORT

To inform Council on library membership and participation in Greater Hume Council Libraries.
To inform Council on Youth Services programs and events held in Greater Hume Council.

REFERENCE TO DELIVERY PLAN ACTIONS

Theme	Healthy Communities.
Outcome	We are revitalising our communities, welcoming visitors, growing our economy and promoting the lifestyle, culture and heritage offered in our communities.

DISCUSSION

The Greater Hume Council Libraries and Youth Services continue to organise and facilitate programs and services that meet the needs and wants of the community.

State Library of NSW – Public Library Grant Success for Greater Hume Council

The State Government has announced \$6 million in funding for public libraries across the State as part of the Public Library Infrastructure Grant program.

NSW Minister for the Arts the Hon John Graham MLC said, “28 local councils will receive grants for projects this year to extend and improve public library buildings, spaces and information technology for NSW communities”.

Greater Hume Council has received funding of \$192,464 for the project - Culcairn Library: Refresh and Revitalise For The Future. The funding will allow for the Culcairn Library to be updated with new furniture, carpet, painting, a designated youth room and an additional meeting room.

This is the third State Library of NSW – Public Library Grant success for Greater Hume Council over four years. With the completion of Culcairn Library’s refurbishment and renovation project all libraries in Greater Hume Council will now be updated and fit for the future and the needs of the community.

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GREATER HUME LIBRARY SERVICES (CONT)

Library Programs- August 24

Library Programs	Location	Event
Book Nooks	Henty, Culcairn and Holbrook	Each month children's picture books and adult 'coffee table' nonfiction books are delivered to businesses and organisations. This continues to be popular.
Story Time	Henty, Culcairn, Holbrook and Jindera	Story time continues to be held at the libraries each month. Participants include before school aged children, preschool and school students.
Book Week	Henty	St Paul's Primary school attended for a fun morning of activities of singing, reading and making magic wands finishing with each child taking home a collection of stickers and bookmarks.
Book Week	Culcairn	St Josephs and Culcairn Public School both joined attended Book Week activities which included reading from a selection of Book Week listed books, star making and magic wand making and finished with each child taking home a collection of stickers and bookmarks.
Juvenilia Exhibition	Holbrook	August 27 seen the launch of the Juvenilia Exhibition at Holbrook which is an exhibition of the early childhood works of some of Australia's best loved kids' authors and illustrators. This will be open until 2 October before moving onto Culcairn.
Knitting Club	Culcairn/Jindera	Bi-weekly visits to knit and connect with other group members.
Billabong High School	Culcairn	Weekly volunteering from our students to assist residents with their tech needs.
Book Week Village Public School Visits	Event cancelled	Originally this event was proposed for September Book Week. After further consultation

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		with the local Village Public Schools we were advised that the Schools had their own activities planned and the events were cancelled.
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GREATER HUME LIBRARY SERVICES (CONT)

Youth Programs - August 24

Youth Programs	Location	Event
Billabong High School Tech Group	Culcairn Library	20 students from Billabong High School visit the Culcairn Library each month. Activities are undertaken in the library as well as assisting community members with technology.

Library Statistics - August 24

Library Statistics – August 24	Henty	Culcairn	Holbrook	Jindera
Issues	229	286	355	88
Online Resources	NA	NA	NA	NA
Door Count	1161	1570	NA	NA

(Please note Henty Library is only open 20 hours per week – Tuesday – Friday 12pm - 5pm. All other libraries are open Monday to Friday 8.30am – 5pm)

Due to a reporting issue with RRL the online Resources statistics were unavailable for the month of August.

Transition Programme for Mobile Library Users

Planning is underway to commence the 12-month transition Outreach Programme to the impacted towns that have been affected by the decision to cease the Mobile Library, the program is due to commence in October 2024. This will include activities associated with:

- GHC will provide a monthly service to the impacted towns of borrowing physical resources with the aim of transitioning services to online borrowing and reading and/or using our four libraries based in Jindera, Holbrook, Henty and Culcairn. GHC Customer Relation team members will be visiting the towns of: Brocklesby, Burrumbuttock, Gerogery, Walbundrie, Walla Walla and Woomargama to promote library services to assist users of the Riverina Regional Mobile Library transition from the service. Visits will be promoted on GHC socials and community newsletters.
- To support the online ability to borrow and read, GHC has 30 iPads that can be borrowed by library members with eBooks and eAudio books preloaded. These will be prioritised to users who currently use the mobile service but who cannot get to a static library. Furthermore as part of the transition, education would be provided in the use of these resources.

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GREATER HUME LIBRARY SERVICES (CONT)

Other

2. During the months of August and September, the Customer Relations team experienced a significant increase in activity, driven by several key events and ongoing initiatives which have included:
 3.
 - o Riverina Murray Youth Development Officer Network – Acting Customer Relations Coordinator attended this meeting on the 27th August 2024 which detailed previous and upcoming youth event opportunities in the community.
 - o Grand Parents Day Grant – application has been submitted to secure funding for October.
 - o 3 Bin System – We continued to receive a substantial number of calls related to the 3-bin system, with inquiries and concerns still being addressed. In July alone, the team handled an additional 300 calls compared to previous months.
 - o Pre-Poll Elections – The team has been involved in the planning and preparation for the upcoming pre-poll starting Monday 9 September 2024.

Upcoming Library Programs – September 24

Upcoming Programs	Location	Event Description
Knitting Club	Culcairn	Bi-weekly visits to knit and connect with other group members.
Billabong High School	Culcairn	Weekly volunteering from our students to assist residents with their tech needs.
Story Time	Henty, Culcairn, Holbrook and Jindera	Story time continues to be held at the libraries each month. Participants include before school aged children, preschool and school students.
Juvenilia Exhibition	Holbrook	The Juvenilia Exhibition will be on display through the month of September, it is an exhibition of the early childhood works of some of Australia's best loved kids' authors and illustrators.
Henty Machinery Field Days – Exhibition	Henty	Library services & benefits of memberships will be promoted at the HMGD on Tuesday 17 th September including Story Time which will be held at regular intervals on the day in the GHC Tent.

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GREATER HUME LIBRARY SERVICES (CONT)

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil. Works are funded from budget allocations.

CONCLUSION

Greater Hume Council continues to provide programs and services for all members of the community, a combination of events has led to an exceptionally busy period for the Customer Relations team, and they have managed the increased demand with dedication and efficiency. October will see the start of Council's outreach programme to our villages and planning will start to take place in September for the redesign of Culcairn's Library after a successful grant application has seen Council received \$192,464.

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2. **GREATER HUME CUSTOMER REQUEST MODULE – SUMMARY OF MONTHLY REQUESTS**

For Councillors information, the customer request modules are **(ENCLOSED SEPARATELY 4)**

3. **STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS AT 31ST AUGUST 2024**

The statement of bank balances as at 31st August is attached as **(ANNEXURE 4)**

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ENGINEERING

1. AUGUST REPORT OF WORKS

Grants Program

State Roads Maintenance (RMCC)

Maintenance works, inspections and sign replacement on State Roads, Olympic Highway (MR78) and Tumberumba Road (MR284) is continuing under the RMCC with Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW).

Regional Roads

General maintenance is continuing on all Regional Roads.

Culvert replacement/upgrades at Spring Creek, Scent Bottle Creek and Fish Creek on Jingellic Road (MR331) is continuing.

Widening of Wantagong Creek bridge on Jingellic Road (MR331) is progressing.

Local Roads

Sealed:

General maintenance on local roads is continuing.

Brocklesby Balldale Road (Stage 1) – Road reconstruction is complete.

Brocklesby Balldale Road (Stage 2) Road reconstruction is continuing.

Heavy maintenance has commenced on Howlong Goombargana Road.

Shoulder repairs on various local roads from natural disaster AGRN1034 are continuing.

Natural disaster heavy patching on various local roads is continuing.

Culvert extensions and guardrail installation is being undertaken on Gerogery Road, Gerogery West.

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AUGUST REPORT OF WORKS (CONT)

Unsealed:

Heavy grading is continuing on various local roads from natural disaster AGRN1034.

The installation of a floodway culvert is continuing on Galena Hills Road, Holbrook.

Maintenance grading has been carried out on the following roads during August. See Map **(ANNEXURE 5)**

Road Name	Location	Length Graded (km)
ROAD NAME	LOCATION	APPROX. LENGTH
Back Henty Road	Whole road	10.4
Bahrs Road	From Holbrook Wagga Rd (estimated from map)	6.5
Bedggood Road	Whole road	2
Burdack Road	Whole road	2.7
Clifton Road	Whole road	6.3
Courtney Lane	Whole road	3.3
Ferndale Road	Last 1.8km	1.8
Fowlers Road	Whole road	2
Iron Post Lane	Whole road	5.2
Kendalls Road	Whole road	5.6
Kenya Road	Whole road	4.5
Kreutzbergers Road	From end of seal to boundary	3.3
Maginnitys Gap Road	From Coppabella Rd end	3
Riders Road	From Gluepot Rd end	4.7
River Road	Unsealed sections starting Wymah Rd	26.7
Sherwyn Road	Shoemarks to Gluepot	3.2
Vile Lane	From Fanning Lane, northwards	4.4
Total		95.6 km

Urban Streets:

General maintenance of urban streets including signage replacement is continuing.

Street Light installation in Pioneer Drive, Jindera is continuing

General:

General maintenance of public toilets and parks is continuing.

Utility installation is nearing completion and final construction works at the new Culcairn residential subdivision is being completed.

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New toilet block construction is continuing at Burrumbuttock Recreation Reserve.

AUGUST REPORT OF WORKS (CONT)

Monthly Works Maintenance Expenditure:

Local Roads Program	Current Budget	Monthly Budget to Date	YTD Expenditure	Monthly Budget Variance to Actual	Natural Disaster & Pothole Expenditure to Date	Comments
Urban Roads Maintenance	\$248,307	\$41,385	\$36,453	\$4,931	\$9,882	
Urban Roads Town Maintenance	\$439,945	\$73,324	\$58,333	\$14,992	\$0	
Rural Roads Sealed	\$1,011,459	\$168,577	\$102,600	\$65,976	\$237,707	
Rural Roads Unsealed	\$1,181,265	\$196,878	\$268,543	-\$71,665	\$322,324	Additional grading, maintenance and inspections conducted during the month.
Street Tree Maintenance	\$264,195	\$55,041	\$57,264	-\$2,223	\$0	Major pruning and planting undertaken

Regional Roads Program	Current Budget	Monthly Budget to Date	YTD Expenditure	Monthly Budget Variance to Actual	Natural Disaster & Pothole Expenditure to Date	Comments
Regional Roads Maintenance	\$1,926,000	\$321,000	\$160,991	\$160,009	\$52,380	

Sportsgrounds, Parks & Public Toilets	Current Budget	Monthly Budget to Date	YTD Expenditure	Monthly Budget Variance to Actual	Natural Disaster & Pothole Expenditure to Date	Comments
Sportsground Maintenance	\$391,477	\$65,246	\$30,157	\$35,090	\$0	
Parks & Gardens Maintenance	\$307,863	\$51,311	\$63,824	-\$12,514	\$0	Monitor future expenditure, underspend on sportsgrounds compensates for this over expenditure
Public Toilets Maintenance	\$225,404	\$37,567	\$35,946	\$1,621	\$0	

NB : Sportsground Maintenance excludes annual GHC contribution payment

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Major Projects Expenditure:

Project	Budget	YTD	Committed	Total	% Budget Expended	% Work Completed	Comments
2024-2025 Resealing Program	\$1,538,700	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%	Tender has closed and Contractors advised of decision.
2024-2025 Gravel Reheating Program	\$1,640,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	0.00%	VP's have been sent awaiting closure for awarding
Brocklesby Balldale Road Rehab - Stage 1 & 2	\$4,671,579	\$2,809,380	\$505,940	\$1,225,763	60.14%	62.00%	Stage 1 Sealing complete and works will continue on Stage 2, as soon as weather is more favourable..
Regional Emergency Road Repair Program	\$9,130,569	\$6,767,370	\$0	\$6,767,370	74.12%	74.12%	Works are Progressing as per Approved Project Plan
Jingellic Road - 5 Bridges/culverts	\$4,520,000	\$1,874,148	\$485,782	\$2,359,930	41.46%	43.00%	Serpentine Creek is complete, work is continuing on 3 other culverts and preparation works are underway on Wantagong Bridge Widening.
Jingellic Road - Hulim to Coppabella Recon	\$3,600,000	\$3,581,168	\$0	\$3,581,168	99.48%	100.00%	Project has been completed, Finalising invoices.
Culcairn Residential Subdivision	\$3,217,391	\$2,566,178	\$46,625	\$2,612,803	79.76%	83.00%	Internal roads being constructed

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ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

1. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS PROCESSED FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2024

The Schedule of development applications for the month of August 2024 is attached at **(ANNEXURE 6)**

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ON WEDNESDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

PART D

COMMUNITY MEETING- MINUTES

Attached in **(ANNEXURE 7)**, are minutes of the following items:

1. **ARIC MINUTES 12 AUGUST 2024**
2. **HOLBROOK COMMUNITY GARDENS MINUTES 29 JULY 2024**
3. **WALLA WALLA COMMUNITY HALL COMMITTEE AGM 5 AUGUST 2024**
4. **WALLA WALLA COMMUNITY HALL COMMITTEE GENERAL MEETING 5 AUGUST 2024**