



AGENDA

CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE

10 NOVEMBER 2022

MEMBERSHIP: Councillors J Black, L Burns, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, V Etheridge, J Gough, R Ivey, D Mahon, P Wells and M Wright.

The meeting is scheduled to commence at .

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CSC22/52 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID22/2254)	
CSC22/53 CONFLICT OF INTEREST (ID22/2257)	
CSC22/54 INVESTMENT UNDER SECTION 625 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT - OCTOBER 2022 (ID22/2286)	2
The Committee had before it the report dated 1 November 2022 from the Chief Financial Officer regarding Investment Under Section 625 of the Local Government Act - October 2022.	
CSC22/55 E-SCOOTER SHARED SCHEME TRIAL (ID22/2321)	9
The Committee had before it the report dated 2 November 2022 from the Economic Development Team Leader regarding E-scooter Shared Scheme Trial.	



REPORT: Investment Under Section 625 of the Local Government Act - October 2022

DIVISION: Organisational Performance
REPORT DATE: 1 November 2022
TRIM REFERENCE: ID22/2286

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	Provide review or update	Fulfil legislative requirement/compliance
Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Investment Under Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993	
Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Section 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993Council's Investment Policy and Strategy	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Organisational Performance
	Funding Source	Interest Earned on Investment
Policy Implications	Policy Title	Investment Policy 2022
	Impact on Policy	There are no policy implications arising from this report

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan is a vision for the development of the region out to the year 2040. The Plan includes six principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 4 Leadership
CSP Objective: 4.2 The resources of Council are sustainably managed
Delivery Program Strategy: 4.2.1 The system of raising revenue is equitable and revenue from grants and other income sources is maximised

RECOMMENDATION

That the information contained within the Investment under Section 625 of the Local Government Act Report, dated 1 November 2022, be noted.

Dean Frost
Director Organisational Performance

MH
Chief Financial Officer

BACKGROUND

As required by Section 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, set out below, are the details of all monies that Council has invested under Section 625 of the Local Government Act as at 31 October 2022.

In accordance with the Investment Ministerial Order dated 12 January 2011, Dubbo Regional Council may only invest money (on the basis that all investments must be denominated in Australian Dollars) in the following forms of investment:

- a. any public funds or securities issued by or guaranteed by or guaranteed by the Commonwealth, any State of the Commonwealth or a Territory;
- b. any debentures or securities issued by a council (within the meaning of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW));
- c. interest bearing deposits with, or any debentures or bonds issued by, an authorised deposit taking institution (as defined in the Banking Act 1959 (Cwth)), but excluding subordinated debt obligations;
- d. any bill of exchange which has a maturity date of not more the 200 days; and if purchased for value confers on the holder in due course a right of recourse against a bank which has been designated as an authorised deposit-taking institution by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority;
- e. a deposit with the New South Wales Treasury Corporation on investment in an Hour-Glass investment facility of the New South Wales Treasury Corporation.

Investments, when placed, have been done so in accordance with the Local Government Act, Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 and Council's Investment Policy and Strategy. Interest on investments for the month of October 2022 has been accounted for on an accrual basis. This report details investments and annualised returns for the month of October 2022.

Interest earned on investments has been included within Council's 2022/2023 Operational Plan, with total income generated from the Investment Portfolio forecast to be in excess of \$1,620,552.00

REPORT

Consultation

- Laminar Capital Pty Ltd appointed on 11 January 2021 provides advisory services to Council on any investment related decision.

Resourcing Implications

- The management of Council's investment portfolio is a primary activity of a staff member within Council's Financial Operations branch.

Portfolio Overview

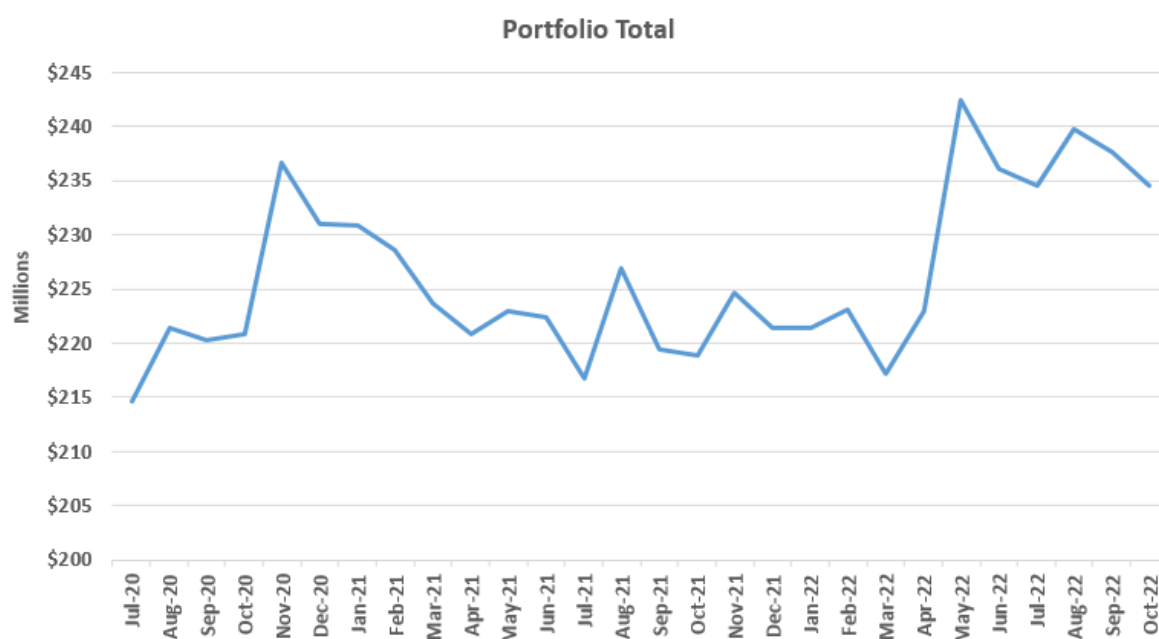
The below table details Council's current investment portfolio:

Issuer	Market Value	% Total Value
AMP Bank Ltd	25,349,314.95	10.81%
Australian Unity Bank	15,166,087.68	6.46%
Auswide Bank Limited	12,044,297.26	5.13%
Bank of China (Australia) Limited	4,516,020.00	1.92%
Bank of China Limited, Sydney Branch	2,976,240.00	1.27%
Bank of Communications Co. Ltd. Sydney Branch	3,757,462.50	1.60%
Bank of Queensland Ltd	25,010,382.75	10.66%
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank Ltd	3,070,442.46	1.31%
Illawarra Credit Union Ltd	3,025,602.75	1.29%
Judo Bank	17,133,239.47	7.30%
Macquarie Bank	7,475,600.00	3.19%
Macquarie Credit Union Limited	2,012,575.34	0.86%
Members Equity Bank Ltd	21,265,043.86	9.06%
MyState Bank Ltd	15,976,960.00	6.81%
National Australia Bank Ltd	40,574,701.08	17.30%
Northern Territory Treasury Corporation	13,043,060.00	5.56%
Rabobank Nederland Australia Branch	5,010,350.00	2.14%
Suncorp-Metway Ltd	4,738,800.00	2.02%
UBS Australia Ltd	4,438,530.00	1.89%
Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	8,014,449.30	3.42%
Portfolio Total	234,599,159.40	100.00%

^Portfolio overview represents total market value. Investment face value is \$234,457,358.52

^ NAB is inclusive of Councils cash account.

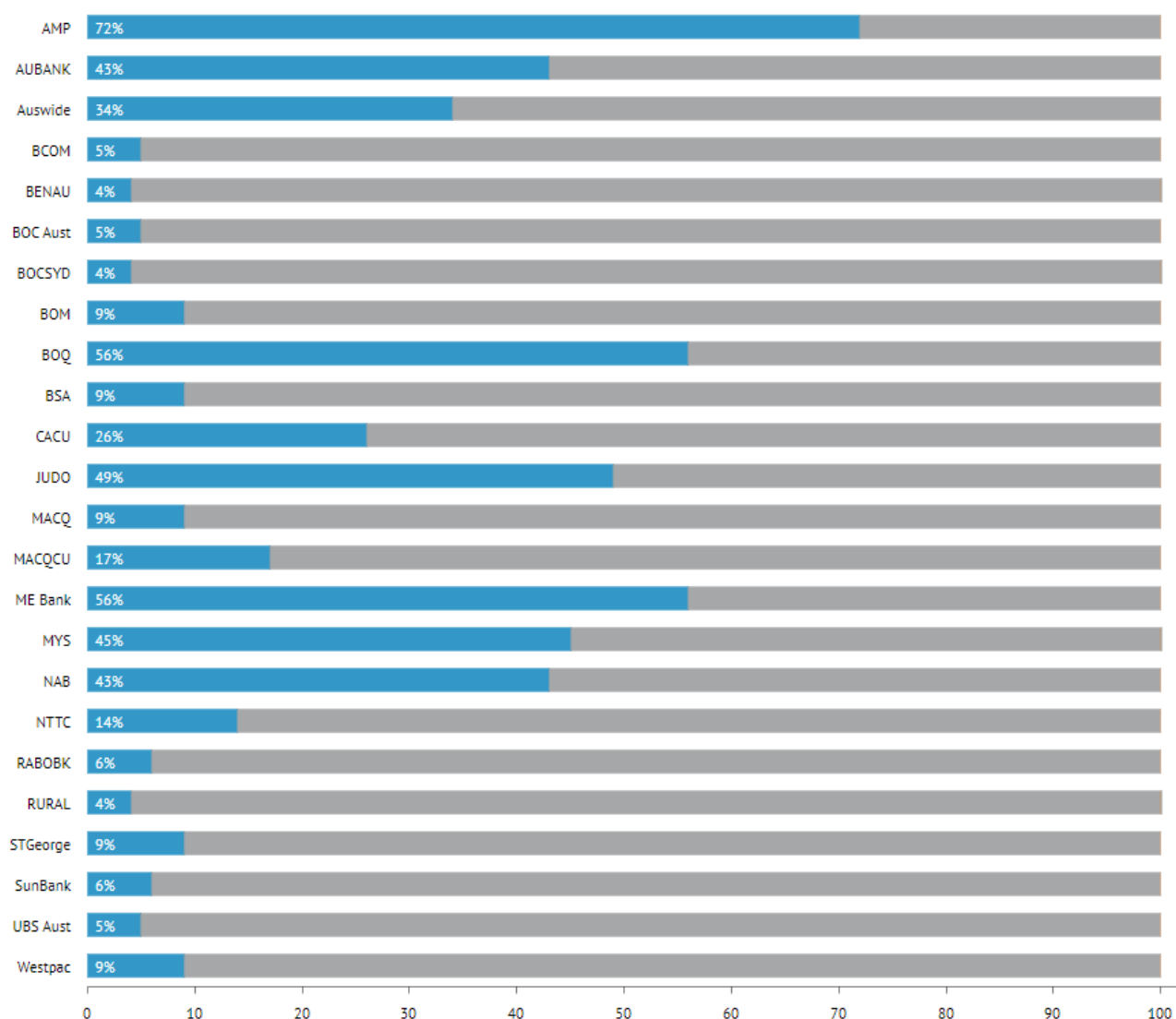
^AMP is inclusive of Councils 31 day notice saver account.



Investment Compliance

The following table shows that Councils investments are compliant with the revised Investment Policy that was adopted at the Ordinary Council meeting held 24 March 2022.

Issuer Limits As At Monday, 31 October 2022



Interest Income

The below table details payments of interest paid to Council between 1 October 2022 to 31 October 2022.

Security ISIN	Security	Issuer	Income Expense Code	Settlement Date	Face Value (Basis of Interest Calculation)	Consideration Notional
	Westpac 1.61 21 Oct 2022 1096DAY TD	Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	IEI254744	21 Oct 2022	20,000,000.00	81,161.64
	Westpac 4.05 25 Jul 2023 365DAY TD	Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	IEI237383	25 Oct 2022	5,000,000.00	51,041.10
AU3FN0059895	BOCSYD 0.57 28 Apr 2024 FRN	Bank of China Limited, Sydney Branch	IEI256236	28 Oct 2022	3,000,000.00	20,553.00
	NAB At Call In	National Australia Bank Ltd	IEI256391	31 Oct 2022		78,649.14
						231,404.88

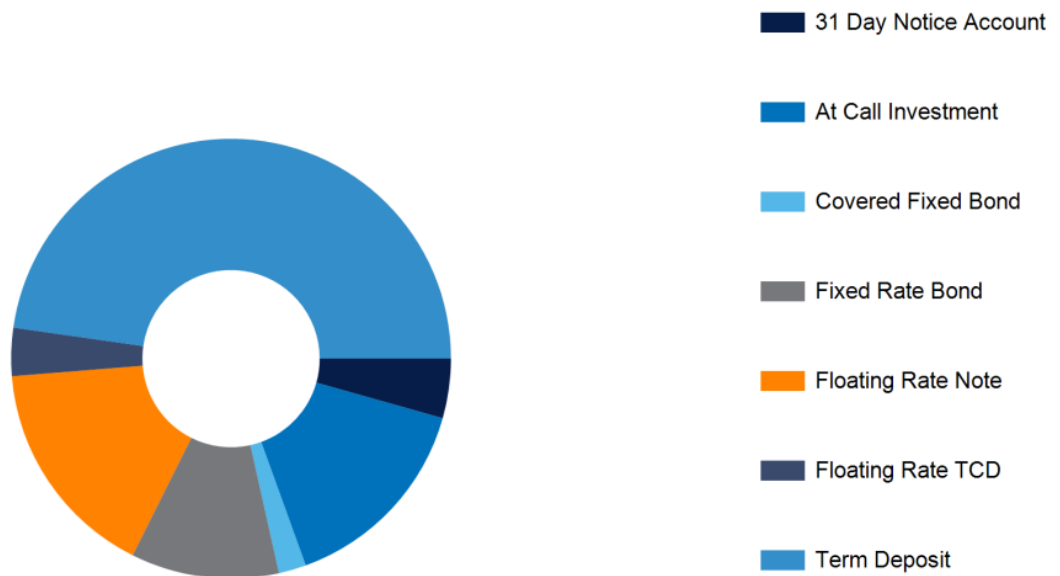
[^] Interest received consists of payments made to Council's allocated bank account and are exclusive of accruing interest.

Investment by Asset Class

The following table details Councils investment holdings by investment type:

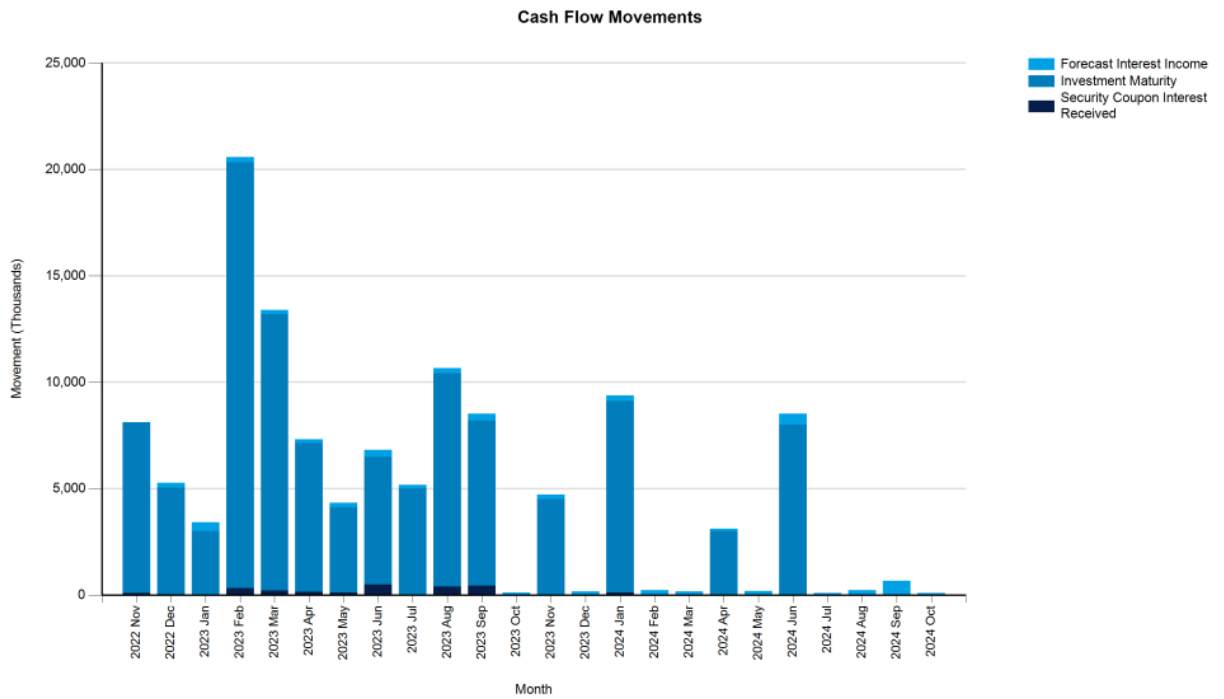
Security Type	Market Value	% Total Value
31 Day Notice Account	10,251,986.19	4.37%
At Call Investment	35,455,372.33	15.11%
Covered Fixed Bond	4,738,800.00	2.02%
Fixed Rate Bond	25,529,010.00	10.88%
Floating Rate Note	38,341,730.00	16.34%
Floating Rate TCD	8,273,482.50	3.53%
Term Deposit	112,008,778.38	47.74%
Portfolio Total	234,599,159.40	100.00%

Market Value by Security Type

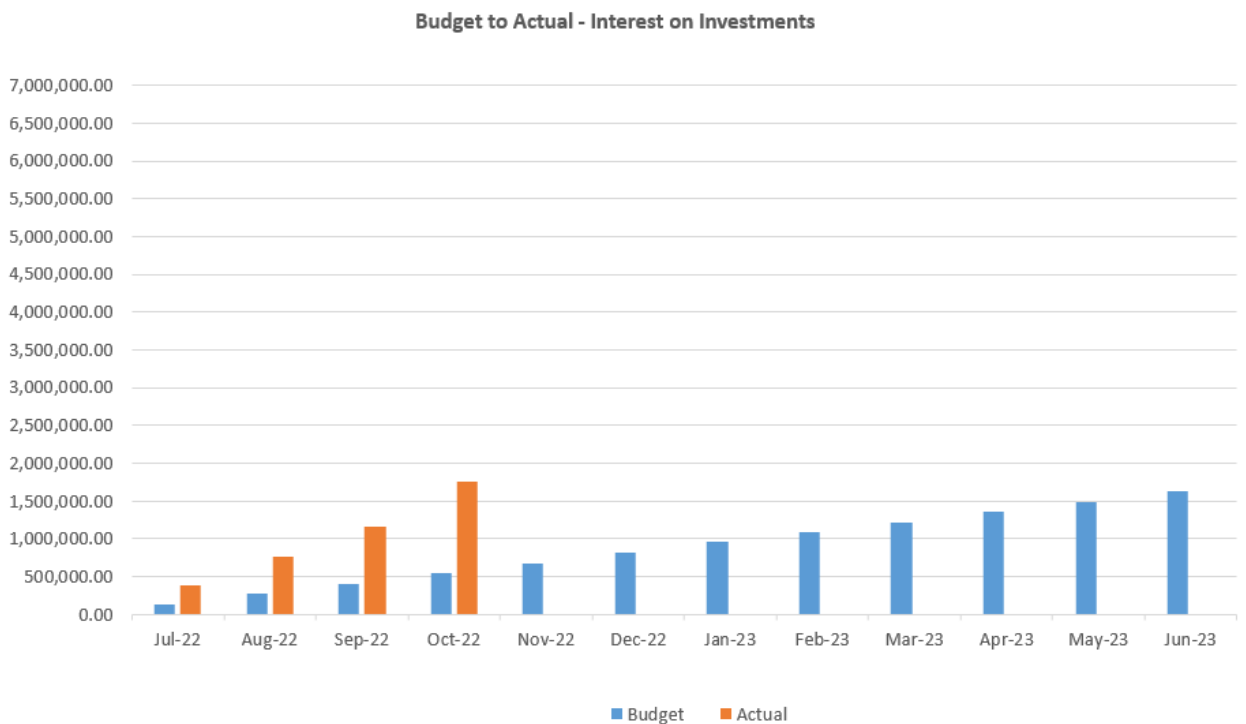


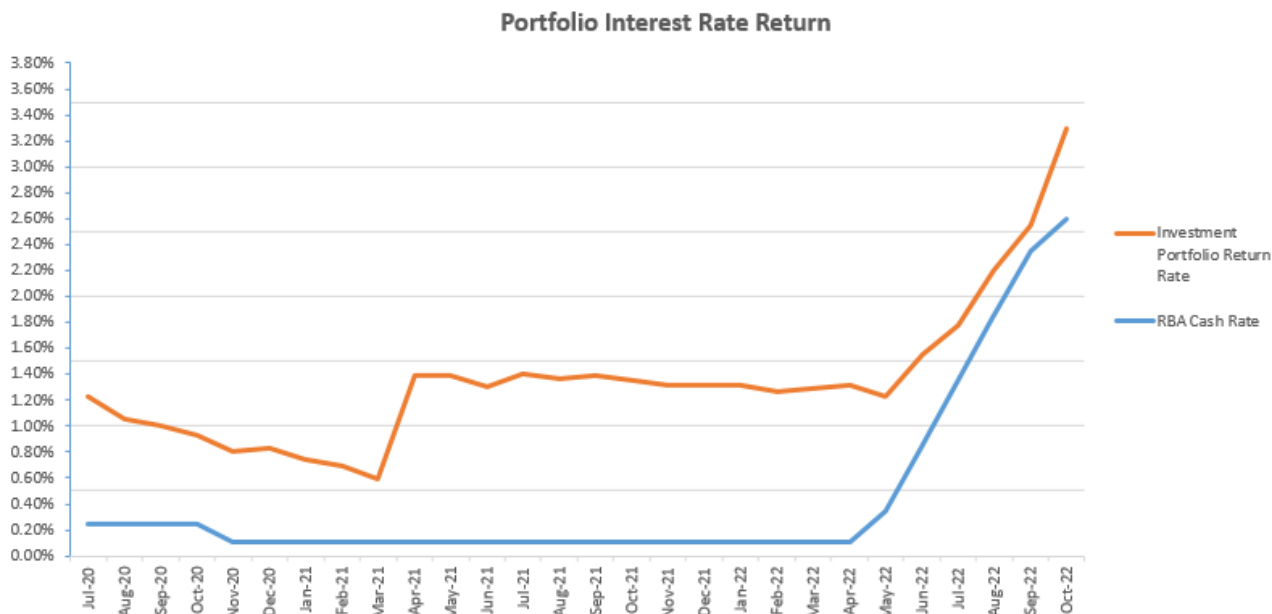
Future Maturity Cash flow

The below table details the expected cash flow of future investment maturity:



Budget to Actual – Total Accumulated Interest on Investments – Year to Date





The investment limit parameters prior to March 2021 were aligned to Tcorp’s investment guidelines, which are very restrictive and therefore reduced the opportunity to maximise investment returns for Council.

Summary

Cash Account

Council outperformed the 11.00am Official Cash Rate market benchmark for one month return of 2.60%, achieving a return of 3.00% for its At Call investments for the month of October 2022.

Investment Portfolio

Council outperformed the one month Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index of 0.24%, with an average return of 3.30% for its overall portfolio return.



REPORT: E-scooter Shared Scheme Trial

DIVISION: Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement
REPORT DATE: 2 November 2022
TRIM REFERENCE: ID22/2321

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	Seek direction or decision	
Issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indication EOI for E-Scooter Shared Scheme Trial has been successful. Some project details still remain unknown, there are no identified resources to deliver project, no consultation with community to undertake the trial as proposed, limited time to build community awareness and engagement. 	
Reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision required regarding participation in E-Scooter trial if EOI is accepted. Deadline to commence any trials as provided by NSW Government is 22 January 2023. Request for a potential trial later in 2023 has not been supported due to the related agency, Transport for NSW internal delivery requirements so there no guarantee of the option to do a trail if Council misses the a trial due date. 	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Economic Development
	Funding Source	Economic Development Projects
	Proposed Cost	\$18,433
	Ongoing Costs	TBC
Policy Implications	Policy Title	NA
	Impact on Policy	NA
Consultation	<p>There was advice provided to community through local media that Council was submitting an EOI for an E-Scooter Trial.</p> <p>Communications included references to further community consultation if the EOI was successful.</p>	

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan is a vision for the development of the region out to the year 2040. The Plan includes six principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme:	2 Infrastructure
CSP Objective:	2.3 Transportation systems support connections within and outside the region
Delivery Program Strategy:	2.3.2 A network of cycleways and pedestrian facilities is provided and maintained

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council withdraw its Expression of Interest for the current E-scooter trial, due to the proposed January 2022 time frame impacting on Council's ability to implement a meaningful community consultation program and subsequent trial.**
- 2. That Council provides further requests to the NSW Government to consider extending the opportunity to participate in an E-Scooter trial later in 2023, following appropriate community consultation period and finalising project details.**
- 3. That the Chief Executive Officer undertake further investigations of a potential E-bike trial, with a future report to be provided to Council.**

Natasha Comber
Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement

TN
Economic Development
Team Leader

BACKGROUND

This report provides an overview and background into the proposed NSW E-scooter Shared Scheme Trial (the E-scooter trial).

In July 2022, the NSW Government – Transport for NSW (TfNSW) invited all NSW Councils to an E-scooter trial expo, held in Sydney. The expo showcased five pre-approved E-scooter providers and provided further details on the parameters of the E-scooter trial.

Council was represented at the Expo by the Mayor, Councillor Mathew Dickerson and Council's Destination Development Program Coordinator.

Post the expo, Council submitted an Expression of Interest for Dubbo to be among the E-scooter trial sites. The EOI was submitted on 29 September 2022.

In recent weeks staff have been in communications with Transport NSW (TfNSW). TfNSW could not make any commitment that a Trial would be supported by them in 2023. The Agency is focused on a deadline of trials commencing in December 2022. There is understanding that this is likely linked with internal targets and potentially impact of caretaker mode in January 2023.

REPORT

An EOI to participate in an E-Scooter trial was submitted to TfNSW on 29 September 2022. In consultation with Council's Manager Procurement, a decision was made to proceed with the EOI submission in partnership with "Bird Rides Australia Pty Ltd" (Bird). Bird is one of the five pre-approved E-scooter providers.

Bird was chosen as Council's partner based on:

- Council's Expo representatives' view that it offered a superior user experience; and
- a desktop evaluation which compared the pre-approved provider offerings. The evaluation was broad in its scope and considered: service delivery arrangements; rider safety; user experience (including, for example, ease of app use); cost to user, financial implications to Council; and provider business processes.

Within the EOI, the shared path known as "Tracker Riley" was proposed for the trial approved pathway. The Tracker Riley shared pathway highlighted in yellow in the below image was chosen based on:

- Its existing status as a shared path where users include bicycle riders, scooter riders, joggers and walkers.
- The opportunity provided to showcase the Macquarie River Open Space and River corridor to more tourists – with the E-scooters adding a new 'tourism product' and potentially increasing the length of visitor stays as a result of the additional activity enabled as a result.
- The track connecting the Dubbo CBD to the Taronga Western Plains Zoo.

- Minimal interaction with vehicles/cars/trucks on this track.
- To have this proposed circuit align to the requirements of E-Scooter trials, the section of Macquarie Street (identified below) would need to be altered from 60km/hr to 50km/hr as there is no shared pathway access. This process would need involvement from the Local Traffic Committee and would likely take more time than TfNSW have allowed to start the trial and would need community feedback.
- An alternative (shorter circuit) has also been proposed, to cross at the Tamworth St pedestrian bridge, however this is currently not viable due to flooding. This issue also needs to be discussed and negotiated with the selected E-Scooter supplier.



A Road Safety Audit was completed on the proposed route by Waysafe, which included a comprehensive safety analysis report (TRIM REF: ED22/194471). TfNSW subsequently offered potential reimbursement to a number of Councils for this cost if the E-Scooter trial proceeds in their Region, with details yet to be finalised (as at Nov 2nd 2022).

TfNSW and Bird have suggested alternative routes that included parts of the CBD and Hospital Precinct and also travel along Wheelers lane, as that route was aligning to their objectives of the trial as “last mile transport”, however this route was deemed unworkable from Council staff based on traffic volumes, speed limits and pathway and road infrastructure along the pathway. A wider roll-out of E-scooters may be possible once the community feedback and appetite for such a service/product has been assessed (post the trial).

More information about the TfNSW E-Scooter Shared Scheme Trial is available at [NSW E-scooter Shared Scheme Trial | Transport for NSW](#).

Consultation

- Consulted with internal stakeholders as follows:
 - Traffic and E-Scooter interaction and safety advice. Input to design and informed response to TfNSW proposed route. Identification of WAYSAFE as a local supplier who was willing and able to assist with the Road Safety Audit as required by TfNSW. Provision of information on process and advice on altering speed limit along Macquarie Street (if required).
 - Assistance with the decision making process on potential Trial Partner/Supplier of E-Scooters.
 - Assistance with negotiating the Operating Agreement as proposed by Bird Rides Australia Pty Ltd.
 - Liaison with Council's insurance provider.
 - Advice on potential need to work with TfNSW to support the community communication and education component if the trial were to proceed. Concerns raised around the TfNSW deadline of December with the education campaign in market during middle of December and high competition for attention during the build up to Christmas.
 - Risk and benefit profile of proposed options outlined in this report.
- Dantia - the Lake Macquarie Economic Development entity that operates as a partner of Lake Macquarie Council. Dantia were instrumental in the launch of an E-Bike offering around Lake Macquarie. Discussed their BEAM E-Scooter and E-bike offering, and the experience in Lake Macquarie. There are approximately 18 known EOI's submitted to TfNSW, Lake Macquarie is currently the only known location to staff that is looking to proceed with an E-Scooter trial in 2022 – who are proceeding with Beam as their supplier.
- BIRD – deep consultation has been undertaken with this service provider. The EOI was submitted in partnership with Bird and a thorough investigation of their service offering has been completed.
- TfNSW – Council staff consulted with TfNSW on proposed route design, and further information was sought from TfNSW regard expectations of Council and Council resources in implementing a trial, TfNSW presented to staff their proposed 4 week lead-up engagement and education campaign that required to be undertaken for locations participating in an E-Scooter Trial
- Taronga Western Plains Zoo – were involved in discussions on the proposed trial but were unable to commit to supporting the trial within their facility at this time.

Resourcing Implications

- Council is required under the Trial parameters, to establish a working group with membership of local stakeholders such as Local Police Area Command, Local Health District, E-Scooter Provider, Council, and Transport for NSW.
- Transport NSW requires Council and the nominated provider to engage in the management of media in relation to the trial.

- Council will need to oversee the trial, capturing and reporting on E-Scooter usage, engagement, safety outcomes and overall outcomes of the trial.
- There is currently no identified resource that would be able to manage this project within TfNSW requirements of commencing in December 2022. Any staff that would be potentially identified to manage this project - be they from Road Engineering/Economic Development/Regional Experiences Staff would need to re-prioritise other existing projects and engagement to enable resourcing for this program. With a number of vacancies in particular across Economic development and Communications services this would result in the reduction and potential ceasing of standard service delivery such as daily media and communication platform management, investment enquiry management and committed support to projects across the organisation.
- It is not expected that an appropriate project contractor could be appointed in the timeframe, but regardless if this option was undertaken the project would still require resources from across the organisation.

The proposed E-Scooter provider would be responsible for running the program as such. There is a small opportunity for Council to generate income from the trial, which is \$0.20c per ride. Financial implications of undertaking the trial are difficult to estimate given there is no historical information to guide and resource requirements are still fluid however financial expenditure to date, and expected or potential expenditure includes:

Required Safety Audit (may get reimbursement from TfNSW)	\$2,783
Legal advice for Operator Agreement	\$1,650.00 plus GST
Paid media as part of community education Campaign	\$4,000 plus GST (awaiting advice from TfNSW on requirements and any contribution)
Wayfinding and safety signage requirements	Indicative \$10,000 plus GST (awaiting advice from TfNSW on requirements)

Options Considered

- 1) **Council commit to continuing on the current EOI process for an E-Scooter trial potentially starting in line with TfNSW advised deadline of 22 January 2023, with Bird as the service provider as submitted in the EOI.**

Risks

- Whilst Council communicated to the community it was going to submit and EOI for the E-Scooter Trial there has been no formal engagement process with community on their desire to have a trial if the EOI was successful. To meet the deadline of commencement in January 2023, opportunity to undertake community consultation, would be minimised to seven days. This consultation timeline from Monday 7 November to Monday 14 November would allow community consultation to take place prior to Council decision at end of November. The scale of this engagement would be minimal with an online poll, and perhaps engagement of external company or organisation to undertake community surveys along the proposed route. Council would need to consider if this is appropriate level of engagement for the project and comfortable for results to be tabled at the November 2022 Ordinary Meeting because unless restricted

to a four day survey period, results would not be available to be included in the Council business papers .

- With compressed timelines, including a two week community engagement and education awareness campaign designed by TfNSW that is required before the launch of the trial, timelines are extremely tight. The speed of this implementation may lead to negative outcomes that does not support TfNSW or Council objectives. The required two week community education component of the TfNSW plan would be undertaken in the two weeks prior to launch which may struggle to gain high engagement and therefore increase risk of a trial failure and community disengagement.
- Wayfinding and safety signage requirements would have to be rectified immediately, at cost to Council. Data sharing agreements are yet to be determined between the service provider and Council/TfNSW. With the current flooding risk, Tracker Riley is exposed to that flooding and mitigation may negate the impact of the EOI being accepted – but also the undertaking of the trial if it continues.

Benefit:

- The region will be home to an E-Scooter trial and gain valuable insight to inform NSW Government and Council future decision making regarding this mode of transport being available in our region
 - Community and visitors will be able to ride E-Scooter around the cycleway
 - E-scooters if more widely rolled out, can be marketed to encourage riding to work and alleviating pressure on car parking spaces for locals/visitors to shop locally
- 2) **Council do not continue with the E-Scooter trial in the required timeframe of January 2023 but request TfNSW give further consideration to extending timelines for trial to later in 2023, and continue to explore an E-bike trial.**

Risks:

- TfNSW do not open up any further trial opportunities to LGAs

Benefit:

- Allows more investigation to been completed on the trial set up and operational parameters, likely to see how other trials have progressed.
- If supported by TfNSW, further time to consult with community on E-scooter trial, if supported by TfNSW and Council could include appropriate time for community consultation on having a trial, and if it progresses appropriate time to undertake community education campaign outside busy Christmas period.
- Though a further business case would need to be developed for Council's consideration, including any requested community consultation, E-bikes can be rolled out relatively quickly under current legislation (as example where they are already in market is Lake Macquarie). This would potentially have to be completed with another service provider as Bird don't have a fleet of E-Bikes readily available.

3) Do not proceed with any further with the E-Scooter EOI or E-Bike opportunities.

Risks:

- Missed opportunity to explore addition modes of travel for community and visitors.

Benefit:

- Staff resources remain allocated to agreed project work in line with endorsed 2040 delivery and Operational Plan

Preferred Option

Dubbo Regional not to proceed with the trial in January 2023 until more investigation has been completed on the trial set up and operational parameters.

- Risks associated with rolling out the trial before Council and community is ready.
- Financial and resourcing implications are not in-significant, with staffing program management requirements and community engagement requirements on-going.