

AGENDA CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE 9 MAY 2024

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 5.30 pm.

		Page
CSC24/15	LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID24/817)	
CSC24/16	CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID24/819) In accordance with their Oath/Affirmation under the Act, and Council's Code of Conduct, Councillors must disclose the nature of any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest which may arise during the meeting, and manage such interests accordingly.	
CSC24/17	REPORT OF THE VILLAGES COMMITTEE - MEETING 27 MARCH 2024 (ID24/618) The Committee had before it the report of the Villages Committee meeting held 27 March 2024.	3
CSC24/18	MONTHLY REPORTING SNAPSHOT FOR COUNCILLORS - APRIL 2024 (ID23/2980) The Committee had before it the report dated 1 May 2024 from the Corporate Strategy Performance Coordinator regarding Monthly Reporting Snapshot for Councillors - April 2024.	7
CSC24/19	UPDATE - NOTICE OF MOTION CALLING FOR ACTION TO REDUCE RATES OF CRIME IN THE DUBBO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA (ID24/654) The Committee had before it the report dated 8 April 2024 from the Chief Executive Officer regarding Update - Notice of Motion Calling for Action to Reduce Rates of Crime in the Dubbo Local Government Area.	19

CSC24/20 DEDICATION OF PUBLIC ROAD AND REGISTRATION OF LEASE - RIVER STREET, DUBBO (ID24/206)

50

The Committee had before it the report dated 16 April 2024 from the Manager Property and Land Development regarding Dedication of Public Road and registration of Lease - River Street, Dubbo.



Report of the Villages Committee - meeting 27 March 2024

AUTHOR: Admistration Officer

REPORT DATE: 2 April 2024

The Council had before it the report of the Villages Committee meeting held 27 March 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Villages Committee meeting held on 27 March 2024, be noted.



PRESENT: Councillor R Ivey, the Chief Executive Officer, the Acting Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement, L Hennessy (Community Representative), F Doughty (Community Representative), R Wykes (Community Representative), K Charlton (Community Representative), V Parkes (Community Representative), S O'Leary (Community Representative), B Lesslie (Community Representative), E Walker-Manson (Community Representative) and M Cox (Community Representative).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

The Director Infrastructure, the Manager Strategic Partnerships and Investment, the Corporate Strategy and Performance Coordinator, the Development Contributions Planner and the Industry Development Partner.

Councillor Ivey assumed the Chair of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 3pm.

VC24/1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY (ID24/510)

The Acting Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement delivered an Acknowledgement of Country.

VC24/2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID24/511)

Requests for leave of absence were received from Councillor S Chowdhury, M Hanney and P Wykes who were absent from the meeting due to personal reasons.

L Hennessy, K Charlton, F Doughty and R Wykes attended via Audio-Visual link.

VC24/3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID24/512)

There were no Conflicts of Interest declared.

VC24/4 REPORT OF THE VILLAGES COMMITTEE - MEETING 6 DECEMBER 2023 (ID24/513)

The Committee had before it the report of the Villages Committee meeting held 6 December

2023.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Villages Committee meeting held on 6 December 2023, be noted.

VC24/5 CENTRAL WEST RENEWABLE ENERGY ZONE (ID24/534)

The Committee received a presentation from the Acting Director Strategy Partnerships and Engagement. Discussion was held regarding projects specifics, proponent led community engagement and community benefit opportunities.

OUTCOME

- 1. That the presentation by the Acting Director Strategy Partnerships and Engagement be noted.
- 2. That the presentation be shared with the Committee members.

VC24/6 REGIONAL DROUGHT RESILIENCE PLAN (ID24/535)

The Committee received a presentation from the Manager Strategic Partnerships and Investment.

OUTCOME

- That the presentation by the Manager Strategic Partnerships and Investment be noted.
- 2. That, once available, a link to the Your Say project page be shared with Committee members.
- 3. That the presentation be shared with the Committee members

At this juncture, the Chief Executive Officer joined the meeting, time being 4.05pm.

VC24/7 UPDATE ON THE NORTH YEOVAL BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT (ID24/536)

The Committee were addressed by the Acting Director Strategy Partnerships and Engagement.

OUTCOME

That the address by the Acting Director Strategy Partnerships and Engagement be noted.

At this juncture, the Manager Strategic Partnerships and Investment and the Industry Development Partner left the meeting, the time being 4.14pm.

VC24/8 UPDATE ON OPERATIONAL PLAN ACTIONS (ID24/542)

The Committee were addressed by the Corporate Strategy and Performance Coordinator.

OUTCOME

- 1. That the address by the Corporate Strategy and Performance Coordinator be noted.
- 2. That, once available, a link to the Your Say project page be shared with Committee members.
- 3. That the presentation be shared with the Committee members

At this juncture the Corporate Strategy and Performance Coordinator left the meeting at 4.28pm.

VC24/9 GENERAL BUSINESS, CORRESPONDENCE AND QUESTIONS ON NOTICE (ID24/537)

At the commencement of the meeting community representatives were asked, by the Chair, to share points of interest from their respective communities.

Discussion was held on a number of topics including;

- Council's Customer Management System, lodgement of service requests for operational matters
- Public art in Geurie
- Mowing in Eumungerie
- Contour banks and 'washaway' in Euchareena
- Outcomes of the Service Review Community Committees

OUTCOME

- 1. That a standing agenda item named Further Matters and Questions on Notice be included in all future meetings.
- That the Committee note the actions as discussed and advised by staff;
 - a) Director Infrastructure a report to Council addressing 'community owned lawn mowers'.
 - b) Director Infrastructure Geurie flood map.
 - c) Executive Officer Strategy Partnerships and Engagement review status updates on matters previously raised.
- That the Committee are supportive of amendments to the Terms of Reference that will permit members to share non-confidential information from meetings with their respective communities/groups.

The meeting closed at 5.04pm .
CHAIRPERSON



REPORT: Monthly Reporting Snapshot for Councillors - April 2024

DIVISION: Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement

REPORT DATE: 1 May 2024 TRIM REFERENCE: ID23/2980

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	Provide review or update		
Issue	 Provide high level report snapshots for Councillors regarding Council's Financial Performance, Facility Performance and Customer Experience. 		
Reasoning	Councillors are provided high level data and reporting on a monthly basis for visibility and oversight on performance trends.		
Financial	Budget Area	Various	
Implications	Funding Source	Various	
	Proposed Cost	N/A	
	Ongoing Costs	N/A	
Policy Implications	Policy Title	There are no policy implications arising from	
		this report	
	Impact on Policy	N/A	

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: 4.1 Council provides transparent, fair and accountable

leadership and governance

Delivery Program Strategy: 4.1.2 Council's decision-making processes are open,

transparent and accountable

Theme: 4 Leadership

CSP Objective: 4.1 Council provides transparent, fair and accountable

leadership and governance

Delivery Program Strategy: 4.1.3 Council provides quality customer service

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the information contained within the report of the Corporate Strategy and Performance Coordinator, dated 1 May 2024, be noted.

Steven Jennings Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement

Corporate

ΖJ

Strategy Performance Coordinator

BACKGROUND

Previous Resolutions of Council

11 May 2023	1.	That the report from the Chief Executive Officer dated 11 April 2023, be noted.
CSC23/19	2.	That the report in the current format continue to be produced monthly until the end of the current Council term.
	3.	That upon election of a new Council in September 2024, a review of the Monthly Report for Councillors be undertaken in consideration of the new Councillor's priorities.
24 August 2023	1.	That the information contained within the report of the Chief Executive Officer dated 1 July 2023, be noted.
CCL23/212	2.	That the proposed changes to the presentation of Major Capital Projects dashboard, as outlined in the report, be endorsed.

REPORT

This report is a standing monthly report for Councillors and provides high level data, statistics and commentary for Councillors from the Financial Performance and Services and Facility Performance and Customer Experience dashboards. It should be noted that select data is public facing, data that is not public facing is not provided within the monthly report and is provided to Councillors via other methods.

Data collected at the time of the reporting may not have been validated/audited and numbers are subject to change pending published annual reports.

April 2024 data has been provided within **Appendix 1** under the relevant charts, with the exception of the following, due to the publication time of the report and the availability of end of month data.

- Financial Performance Dashboard
- Domestic Waste
- Dubbo Regional Airport
- Aquatic Leisure Centres
- Wellington Caves

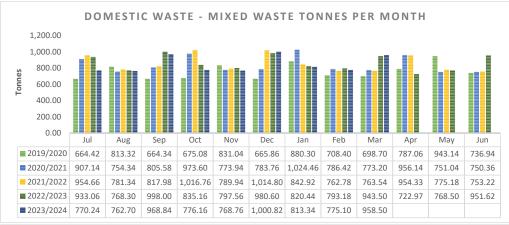
Major Projects: As at the end of April 2024, Council's Your Say platform was showcasing 62 Community consultation or engagement projects, with 20 of these being active capital works projects.

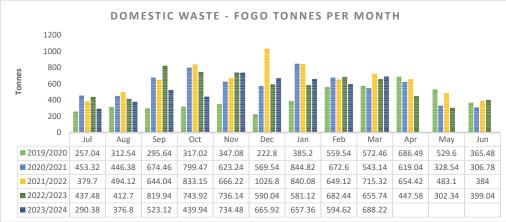
APPENDICES:

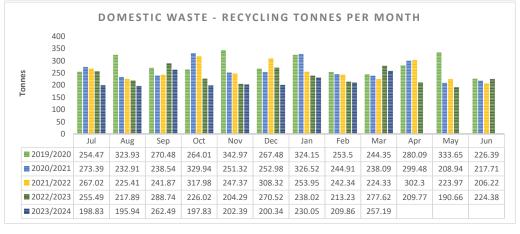
1 Dashboard Snapshots - April 2024



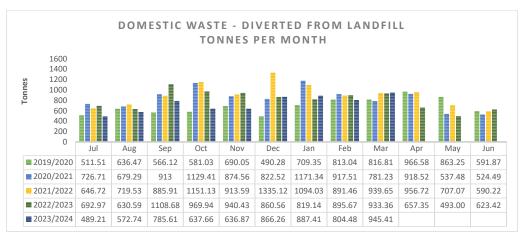
SERVICES PERFORMANCE



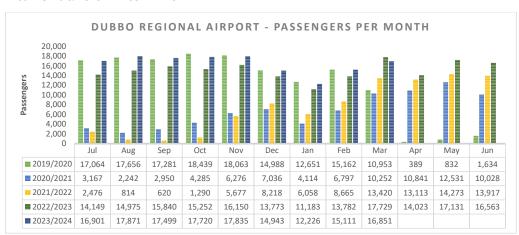


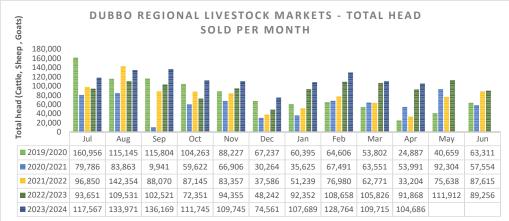






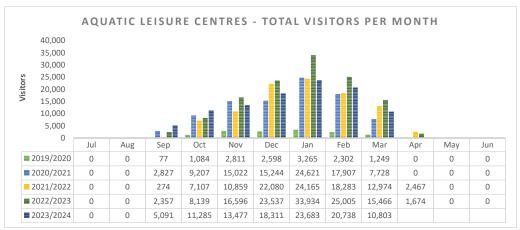
PASSENGERS & VOLUME - COMMERCIAL

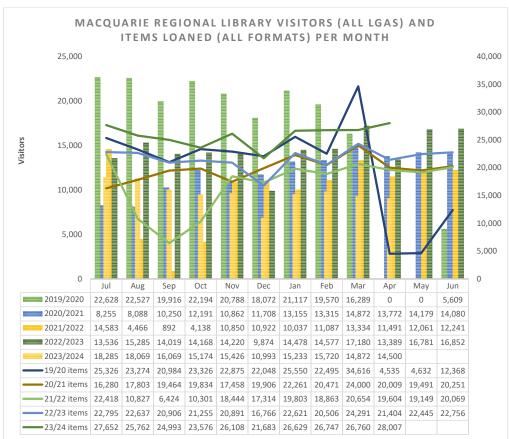






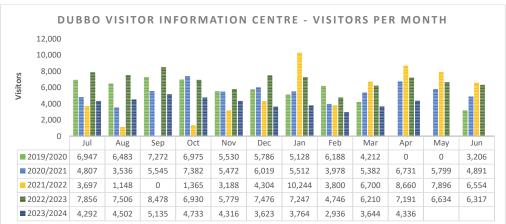
VISITORS & CUSTOMERS – COMMUNITY

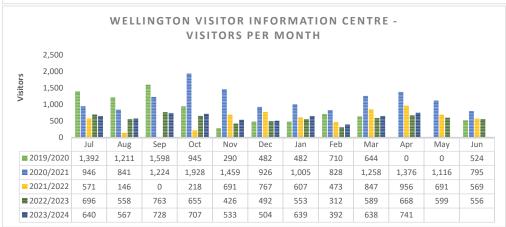


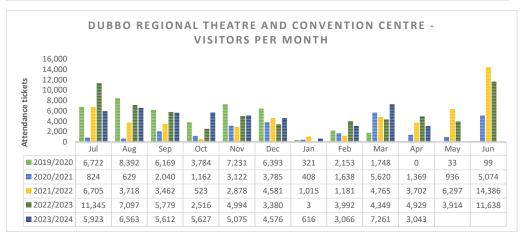




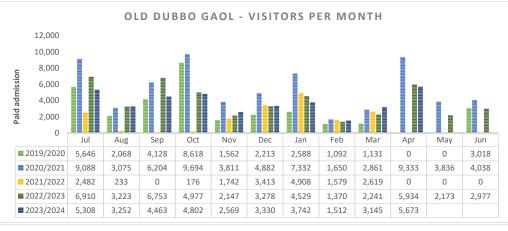
VISITORS & CUSTOMERS - TOURISM & CULTURAL

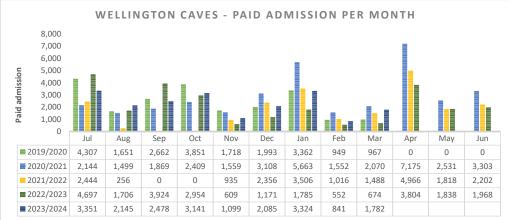


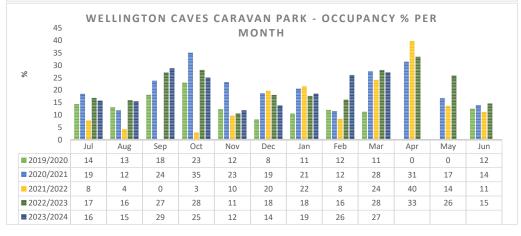


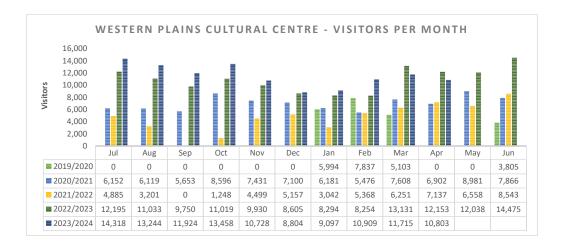




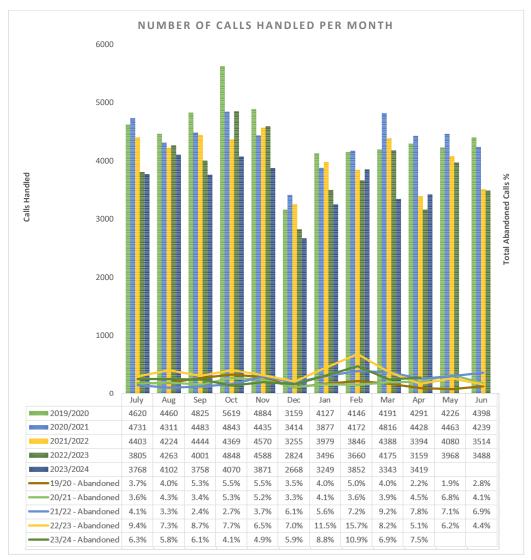




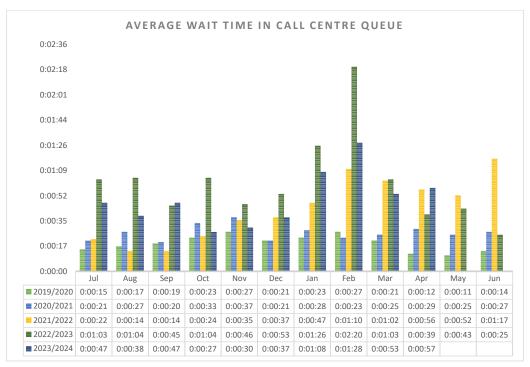


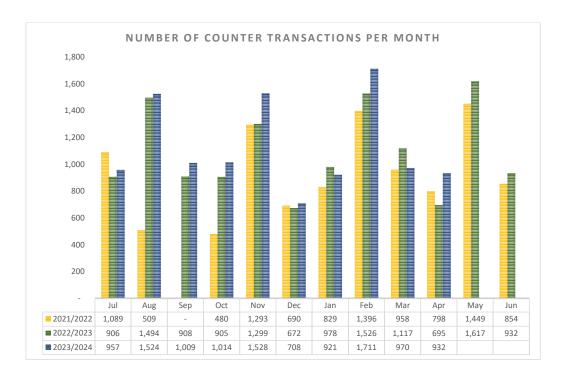




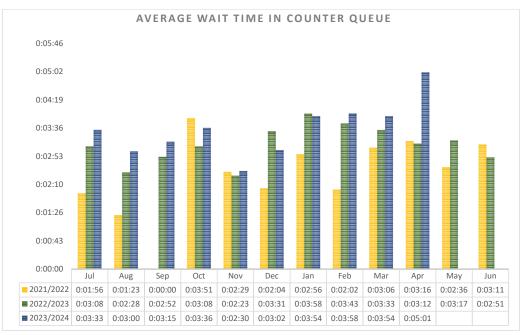
















REPORT: Update - Notice of Motion Calling for Action to Reduce Rates of Crime in the Dubbo Local Government Area

DIVISION: Chief Executive Officer

REPORT DATE: 8 April 2024 TRIM REFERENCE: ID24/654

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	Addressing Council resolution		
Issue	Community concern regarding crime and youth crime		
Reasoning	Update required by resolution		
Financial	Budget Area	Corporate Governance	
Implications	Funding Source	Budget allocation	
	Proposed Cost	N/A	
	Ongoing Costs	N/A	
Policy Implications	Policy Title	Collective Impact for Social Change	
	Impact on Policy	Consistent	

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: 5 Liveability

CSP Objective: 5.1 The health and safety of the community is improved

Delivery Program Strategy: 5.1.3 There is an appropriate level of policing in our region

RECOMMENDATION

That the correspondence from Council to NSW Government regarding community concern, as detailed in this report, be noted.

Murray Wood MW

Chief Executive Officer Chief Executive Officer

BACKGROUND

Previous Resolutions of Council

26 October 2023	1	That Dubbo Regional Council acknowledges that the Dubbo
CCL23/283		Regional Council LGA has levels of crime in numerous
,		categories that are well above the NSW State average as
		recorded by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
		(BOCSAR), and that this is a completely unsatisfactory
		situation which requires immediate government action.
	2	•
	2	That the Mayor write to relevant Federal and State
		Government Ministers on the following matters:
		a. the need to address the underlying causes of these high
		crime rates.
		b. requesting funding for Justice Reinvestment pilot
		projects, and other initiatives, to be implemented in the
		Dubbo LGA with a focus on reducing the underlying
		factors which lead to engagement with the criminal
		justice system.
	3	That the Mayor write to the NSW Minister for Police and
		Counter-terrorism on the following matters
		a. to request an audit of police numbers across the Dubbo
		LGA, and for all vacant positions that service the Dubbo
		LGA to be filled immediately.
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		Wellington, which includes a 24-hour police presence
		(meaning on-duty police) and a 24 hour police station.
	4	That the CEO provide a report back to Council updating on
		responses received.

REPORT

There has been various correspondence sent to relevant ministers and agencies regarding crime and opportunities for better allocation of resources to address the root causes of crime. It should be noted that this report also includes correspondence sent separately to the direction of the resolution of Council (CCL23/283) but is relevant to the intent of the resolution. This correspondence was included as it gives a more rounded view as to Council's correspondence on matters related to criminal behaviour in the Local Government Area and/or seeking solutions.

Date	Appendix	Details
8 November 2023	Appendix 1	Letter from Mayor to the Hon Amanda Rishworth, MP, Minister for Social Services. Copy to The Hon Mark Dreyfus, Attorney General. Regarding Council's resolution dated 26 October 2023 formally requesting that Minister Rishworth give consideration to the underlying causes of high crime rates as recorded by the BOCSAR and request funding for the Justice Reinvestment Pilot Project and other initiatives to be implemented in the Dubbo LGA with a focus on reducing the underlying factors which lead to engagement with the criminal justice system.
26 January 2024	Appendix 2	Response received from The Hon Mark Dreyfus, Attorney General. Advising that the Government is supporting community led applications through the National Justice Reinvestment Program, which can be lodged all year round.
8 November 2023	Appendix 3	Letter from Mayor to the Hon Kate Washington, MP, Minister for Families and Communities. Copy to The Hon Jodie Harrison, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. Regarding Council's resolution dated 26 October 2023 formally requesting that Minister Rishworth give consideration to the underlying causes of high crime rates as recorded by the BOCSAR and request funding for the Justice Reinvestment Pilot Project and other initiatives to be implemented in the Dubbo LGA with a focus on reducing the underlying factors which lead to engagement with the criminal justice system.

Date	Appendix	Details
6 February 2024	Appendix 4	Response received from Hugh McDermott, MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General. Advising of Youth Justice NSW partnering with various service providers, programs available to respond to youth crime and anti-social behaviour and to prevent reoffending, such as Safe Aboriginal Youth (SAY) Program, Youth on Track and Youth Justice delivering custodial programs to young people at Orana Youth Justice Centre in Dubbo. Also regarding the Justice Reinvestment program funding, the various funding initiatives and announcements, and that government will maintain their commitment to tackling crime.
29 November 2023	Appendix 5 -	Letter from Mayor to The Hon Yasmin Catley, MP, Minister for Police and Counter-Terrorism. Copy to The Hon Michael Daley, MP, Attorney General. Regarding Council's resolution on 26 October 2023 and a formal request to audit police numbers across the LGA and for all vacant positions that service the LGA to be filled immediately, including the immediate implementation of 24 hour policing in Wellington comprising of 24 hour police presence (on-duty police) and police station. To date, no response has been received from the Minister for Police and Counter-Terrorism.
25 January 2024	Appendix 6	Submission from Chief Executive Officer to Department of Regional NSW – Regional Development Act (page 3 of the submission).
23 August 2023	Appendix 7	Letter from Mayor to The Hon Yasmin Cately, MP, Minister for Police and Counter-Terrorism. Copy to The Hon Jihad Dib, MP, Minister for Youth Justice; and The Hon Kate Washington, MP, Minister for Families and Communities Request for Collaboration and Support in Addressing Vehicle Theft and Other Crime in Regional NSW.

Date	Appendix	Details
October 2023	Appendix 8	Response from The Hon Yasmin Cately, MP, Minister for Police and Counter-Terrorism to the Mayor. Copy to The Hon Jihad Dib, MP, Minister for Youth Justice; and The Hon Kate Washington, MP, Minister for Families and Communities. Advising of a number of initiatives undertaken my NSW Police to address this issue including Operation Rhino in May 2023. Providing assurance that regular meetings have been established to ensure ongoing communication with NSW Police.
9 October 2023	Appendix 9	Letter from Mayor to The Hon Yasmin Cately, MP, Minister for Police and Counter-Terrorism. Crime Reports – Dubbo Regional Council LGA – requesting confidential monthly crime reports to allow more timely data on the nature and background of the antisocial and criminal occurrences in the LGA, to assist with effective lobbying for a solution to these issues.
November 2023		Response from The Hon Yasmin Cately, MP, Minister for Police and Counter-Terrorism. Advising that the NSW Police Force provide official and reconciled crime statistics to the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOSCAR). This is quarterly and annually and is published on the BOSCAR Website. If Council has any further concerns contact the Crime Prevention Manager at the Orana Mid-Western Police District (it is noted that this is 'business as usual' for Council).

Date		Appendix	Details
19 2024	March	Appendix 11	Letter from Mayor to The Hon Chris Minns, MP, Premier. Copy to The Hon Michael Daley, MP, Attorney General; and The Hon Yasmin Catley, MP, Minister for Police and Counter-Terrorism. Congratulating NSW Government on their Policy announcement regarding youth crime in NSW. Asking for any enforcement, including bail conditions and associated support programs, be delivered in the DRC Local Government Area in the short term and welcoming the opportunity to discuss DRC concerns.
26 2024	March	Appendix 12	Letter from Mayor to The Hon Michelle Rowland, MP, Minister for Communications. Requesting Australian Government to create legislation that penalises social media platforms such as Tik Tok for publishing criminal behaviour.
26 2024	March	Appendix 13	Letter from Mayor to The Hon Kate Washington, MP, Minister for Families and Communities and Minister for Disability Inclusion. Seeking data on levels of funding being allocated to organisations dedicated to improving youth outcomes in the Dubbo Regional LGA, particularly for at-risk Aboriginal people.

Next Steps

- Ongoing meetings, which is 'business as usual', with Orana Mid-Western Police Command.
- Seeking a meeting with Magistrates to discuss resources already available in Dubbo to bail youth away from family circumstances leading to criminal behaviour.
- Ongoing staff collaboration with non-government organisations such as but not limited to Leader Life, ICAN and Orana Support Services to facilitate locally driven solutions for youth at risk.
- Development of dataset that allows Council to understand the current investment by Governments and non-government organisations into the community to address root causes of social dysfunction that leads to criminal behaviour.
- Ongoing bodies of work being undertaken with regard to the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan.

APPENDICES:

- 8 November 2023 Letter from Mayor to the Hon Amanda Rishworth, MP, Minister for Social Services (copy to The Hon. Mark Dreyfus, Attorney General)
- 26 January 2024 Response received from The Hon Mark Dreyfus, Attorney General
- 8 November 2023 Letter from Mayor to the Hon Kate Washington, MP, Minister for Families and Communities (copy to The Hon. Jodie Harrison, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault)
- **4** 6 February 2024 Response received from Hugh McDermott, MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General
- 29 November 2023 Letter from Mayor to The Hon Yasmin Catley, MP, Minister for Police and Counter-Terrorism (copy to The Hon. Michael Daley, MP, Attorney General)
- **6** 25 January 2024 Submission to Department of Regional NSW Regional Development Act
- 23 August 2023 (emailed) Letter from Mayor to The Hon Yasmin Catley, MP, Minister for Police and Counter Terrorism (copy to The Hon Jihad Dib, MP, Minister for Youth Justice; and The Hon Kate Washington, MP, Minister for Families and Communities)
- October 2023 Response from The Hon Yasmin Catley, MP, Minister or Police and Counter-Terrorism (copy to The HOn Jihad Dib, MP, Minister for Youth Justice; and The Hon Kate Washington, MP, Minister for Families and Communities
- 9 October 2023 Letter from Mayor to The Hon Yasmin Catley, MP, Minister for Police and Counter-Terrorism
- **10** November 2023 Response from the Hon Yasmin Catley, MP, Minister for Police and Counter-Terrorism
- 11 March 2024 Letter from Mayor to The Hon Chris Minns, MP, Premier (copy to The Hon Michael Daley, MP, Attorney General; and The Hon Yasmin Catley, MP, Minister for Police and Counter-Terrorism
- 26 March 2024 (emailed) Letter from Mayor to The Hon Michelle Rowland, MP, Minister for Communications
- 26 March 2024 Letter from Mayor to The Hon Kate Washington, MP, Minister for Families and Communities and Minister for Disability Inclusion

AMANDA

HON. MAI

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8 November 2023

The Hon. Amanda Rishworth, MP Minister for Social Services PO Box 6022 House of Representatives Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister Rishworth

Council, at its Ordinary meeting held on 26 October 2023, resolved as follows:

- 1 That Dubbo Regional Council acknowledges that the Dubbo Regional Council LGA has levels of crime in numerous categories that are well above the NSW State average as recorded by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR), and that this is a completely unsatisfactory situation which requires immediate government action.
- 2 That the Mayor write to relevant Federal and State Government Ministers on the following matters:
 - a. the need to address the underlying causes of these high crime rates.
 - requesting funding for Justice Reinvestment pilot projects, and other initiatives, to be implemented in the Dubbo LGA with a focus on reducing the underlying factors which lead to engagement with the criminal justice system.
- 3 That the Mayor write to the NSW Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism on the following matters
 - a. to request an audit of police numbers across the Dubbo LGA, and for all vacant positions that service the Dubbo LGA to be filled immediately.
 - b. to immediately implement 24-hour policing in Wellington, which includes a 24-hour police presence (meaning on-duty police) and a 24-hour police station.
- 4 That the CEO provide a report back to Council updating on responses received.

Accordingly, I am writing to you to formally request that you give consideration to addressing the underlying causes of high crime rates as recorded by the BOCSAR and further request that funding for Justice Reinvestment pilot project, and other initiatives, be implemented in the Dubbo LGA with a focus on reducing the underlying factors which lead to engagement with the criminal justice system.

Unfortunately, this matter also relates to the majority of the Closing the Gap targets whereby young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are overrepresented in juvenile crime as a proportion of population.

CORRESPONDENCE TO BE ADDRESSED TO:



T [02] 6801 4101 M 0418 639 053 E mayor@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Civic Administration Building Church St Dubbo NSW 2830

W dubbo.nsw.gov.au W mayorofdubbo.com.au



APPENDIX NO: 1 - 8 NOVEMBER 2023 - LETTER FROM MAYOR TO THE HON AMANDA RISHWORTH, MP, MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SERVICES (COPY TO THE HON. MARK DREYFUS, ATTORNEY GENERAL)

ITEM NO: CSC24/19

This arises from social disadvantage with relevant Closing the Gap Targets being:

- 5: Students achieve their full learning potential.
- 6: Students reach their full potential through further education pathways.
- 7: Youth are engaged in employment or education.
- 10: Adults are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system.
- 11: Young people are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system.
- 13: Families and households are safe.

Our community showed what it can do during COVID-19 lockdowns whereby all parties and community stakeholders focused on the outcome of keeping communities safe and particularly vulnerable sections of our community. Only by a similar commitment from all parties over a sustained period can we directly address the fundamental causes of crime arising from social disadvantage.

I look forward to your response and please do not hesitate to contact me on 0418 639 053 if you would like to discuss further.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Mathew Dickerson
Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council

CC: The Hon. Mark Dreyfus – Attorney General



Attorney-General

By email: Sonia.Fernando@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Reference: MC23-040646

Councillor Mathew Dickerson Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council PO Box 81 DUBBO NSW 2830

Dear Mayor

Thank you for your correspondence of 8 November 2023 to the Hon Amanda Rishworth MP, Minister for Social Services. I was copied into the response. Your letter raised issues regarding high crime rates in Dubbo and measures to address the drives to crime including a request for a justice reinvestment pilot project in the Dubbo region. As justice reinvestment falls within my portfolio responsibilities as Attorney-General, I am replying on behalf of the Australian Government.

The Government is committed to pursuing meaningful, systems change through its commitment to funding justice reinvestment in First Nations communities. Justice reinvestment is a long-term, community-led approach that aims to improve justice outcomes for First Nations people in a particular place or community focusing on early prevention and intervention. Justice reinvestment empowers communities to address the drivers of contact with the criminal justice system and reduce high crime and incarceration rates.

In the 2022-23 budget, the Government committed \$69 million over four years for the National Justice Reinvestment Program including an ongoing investment of \$20 million per year from 2026-27, and \$12.5 million to design and establish an independent National Justice Reinvestment Unit to coordinate and support justice reinvestment initiatives at a national level.

The Government is supporting community-led applications through the National Justice Reinvestment Program, which can be lodged year-round. First Nations communities across Australia, including from the Dubbo region, are encouraged to apply for funding through this open, non-competitive grant process.

Applications can be submitted via GrantConnect at: https://www.grants.gov.au/Go/Show?goUuid=8645f34e-8ea4-4164-99eb-4e549dad3d3d. I have enclosed a factsheet that provides further information.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours faithfully

THE HON MARK DREYFUS KC MP

26 / 01 / 2024

Encl. Factsheet

CC. The Hon Amanda Rishworth MP, Minister for Social Services

OFFICIAL

Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 • Telephone: (02) 6277 7300

KATE WAS TO THE HO DOMESTION

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8 November 2023

The Hon. Kate Washington, MP Minister for Families and Communities GPO Box 5341 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Minister Washington

Council, at its Ordinary meeting held on 26 October 2023, resolved as follows:

- 1 That Dubbo Regional Council acknowledges that the Dubbo Regional Council LGA has levels of crime in numerous categories that are well above the NSW State average as recorded by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR), and that this is a completely unsatisfactory situation which requires immediate government action.
- 2 That the Mayor write to relevant Federal and State Government Ministers on the following matters:
 - a. the need to address the underlying causes of these high crime rates.
 - requesting funding for Justice Reinvestment pilot projects, and other initiatives, to be implemented in the Dubbo LGA with a focus on reducing the underlying factors which lead to engagement with the criminal justice system.
- 3 That the Mayor write to the NSW Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism on the following matters
 - a. to request an audit of police numbers across the Dubbo LGA, and for all vacant positions that service the Dubbo LGA to be filled immediately.
 - to immediately implement 24-hour policing in Wellington, which includes a 24-hour police presence (meaning on-duty police) and a 24-hour police station.
- 4 That the CEO provide a report back to Council updating on responses received.

Accordingly, I am writing to you to formally request that you give consideration to addressing the underlying causes of high crime rates as reported by BOCSAR and further request that funding for a Justice Reinvestment pilot project, and other initiatives, be implemented in the Dubbo LGA with a focus on reducing the underlying factors which lead to engagement with the criminal justice system.

Unfortunately, this matter also relates to the majority of the Closing the Gap targets whereby young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are overrepresented in juvenile crime as a proportion of population.

CORRESPONDENCE TO BE ADDRESSED TO:

PO Box 81 Dubbo NSW 2830



T (02) 6801 4101 M 0418 639 053 E mayor@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Civic Administration Building Church St Dubbo NSW 2830

W dubbo.nsw.gov.au W mayorofdubbo.com.au



APPENDIX NO: 3 - 8 NOVEMBER 2023 - LETTER FROM MAYOR TO THE HON KATE WASHINGTON, MP, MINISTER FOR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES (COPY TO THE HON. JODIE HARRISON, MINISTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT)

ITEM NO: CSC24/19

This arises from social disadvantage with relevant Closing the Gap Targets being:

- 5: Students achieve their full learning potential.
- 6: Students reach their full potential through further education pathways.
- 7: Youth are engaged in employment or education.
- 10: Adults are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system.
- 11: Young people are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system.
- 13: Families and households are safe.

Our community showed what it can do during COVID-19 lockdowns whereby all parties and community stakeholders focused on the outcome of keeping communities safe and particularly vulnerable sections of our community. Only by a similar commitment from all parties over a sustained period can we directly address the fundamental causes of crime arising from social disadvantage.

I look forward to your response and please do not hesitate to contact me on 0418 639 053 if you would like to discuss further.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Mathew Dickerson Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council

CC: The Hon. Jodie Harrison – Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

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Hugh McDermott MP

Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General



Ref: EAP23/16356

Councillor Mathew Dickerson Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council PO Box 81 DUBBO NSW 2830

By email: mayor@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Dear Councillor,

Crime and Policing Issues in Dubbo Regional Council LGA

Thank you for your correspondence to the Hon Kate Washington MP, Minister for Families and Communities, Minister for Disability Inclusion dated 8 November 2023 about the crime and policing issues discussed at the Dubbo Regional Council meeting on 26 October 2023. Your letter was referred to the Attorney General as the issues raised fall within his portfolio of responsibilities. The Attorney General has asked me to respond to you on his behalf. I have also partially referred your letter to the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, the Hon Yasmin Catley MP, for consideration of issues within her portfolio.

I note the concerns you have raised about crime levels in the Dubbo Regional Council Local Government Area (LGA) and the need to address the underlying causes of criminal offending. The NSW Government is committed to tackling crime and keeping the community safe through the delivery of programs that address factors leading to contact with the criminal justice system.

From February 2023, eligible adults living in the Dubbo Regional LGA who are dependent on the use of illicit drugs and have been charged with certain criminal offences, may be referred to the NSW Drug Court. This Court provides a tailored intensive community-based program over a minimum period of 12 months designed by a multidisciplinary team to address the root cause of offending.

To reduce engagement with the criminal justice system among young people, Youth Justice NSW (YJNSW) works with key service partners including the NSW Police Force, the Children's Court of NSW, NSW Department of Education, NSW Health and other stakeholders, to design and deliver a range of programs that respond to youth crime and anti-social behaviour to prevent reoffending. In the Dubbo Regional LGA, these YJNSW funded services include:

 Safe Aboriginal Youth (SAY) Program, which provides a safe transport and outreach service for young Aboriginal people who are on the streets late at night, to ensure they return home safely or are participating in a safe activity;

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Youth on Track, which provides intensive case management, tailored behaviour and family interventions to meet the needs of young people who are at risk of long-term involvement in the criminal justice system; and

 Rural Residential Rehabilitation Adolescent Alcohol and Other Drugs Services at Mac River, which is staffed 24 hours a day, to support young people with alcohol and other drug related issues.

YJNSW also delivers custodial programs for young people at the Orana Youth Justice Centre in Dubbo. These programs include support to access ongoing educational and vocational training opportunities in construction, automotive, hospitality, agriculture and horticulture sectors coordinated with TAFE and other community-based providers.

In relation to your request for funding of Justice Reinvestment programs, I note that the NSW Government has announced funding of \$9.8 million over four years for new Justice Reinvestment expansion initiatives. The NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) is currently scoping appropriate funding avenues for Justice Reinvestment in NSW. You may also be aware of Justice Reinvestment funding available from the Australian Government, following the announcement of \$81.5 million for Justice Reinvestment initiatives as part of its First Nations package, including \$69 million for Commonwealth Justice Reinvestment funding for three years. The current assessment cycle opened on 5 January 2024 and closes on 9 May 2024, with priority given to applications from Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations.

The NSW Government will continue to maintain our commitment to tackling crime and to review and build on the success of these programs with a focus on meeting the specific needs of Aboriginal people.

If you would like more information, please contact Natascha Rohr, Director Criminal Justice System, DCJ at Natascha.Rohr@dcj.nsw.gov.au.

Thank you for taking the time to write to raise these important issues.

Sincerely,

Hugh McDermott MP

Parlamentary Secretary to the Attorney General

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YASMIN C (COPY TO

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29 November 2023

The Hon. Yasmin Catley, MP Minister for Police and Counter-Terrorism GPO Box 5341 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Minister Catley

Council, at its Ordinary meeting held on 26 October 2023, resolved as follows:

- 1 That Dubbo Regional Council acknowledges that the Dubbo Regional Council LGA has levels of crime in numerous categories that are well above the NSW State average as recorded by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR), and that this is a completely unsatisfactory situation which requires immediate government action.
- 2 That the Mayor write to relevant Federal and State Government Ministers on the following matters:
 - a. the need to address the underlying causes of these high crime rates.
 - requesting funding for Justice Reinvestment pilot projects, and other initiatives, to be implemented in the Dubbo LGA with a focus on reducing the underlying factors which lead to engagement with the criminal justice system.
- 3 That the Mayor write to the NSW Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism on the following matters
 - a. to request an audit of police numbers across the Dubbo LGA, and for all vacant positions that service the Dubbo LGA to be filled immediately.
 - to immediately implement 24-hour policing in Wellington, which includes a 24-hour police presence (meaning on-duty police) and a 24-hour police station.
- That the CEO provide a report back to Council updating on responses received.

As part of Dubbo Regional Council's Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan, "objectives and strategies", it states that the health and safety of the community is improved and that there is an appropriate level of policing in our region.

This letter is a formal request for an audit of police numbers across the LGA to be conducted, and all vacant positions that service the Dubbo LGA be filled immediately. This would also include the immediate implementation of 24-hour policing in Wellington comprising of a 24-hour police presence (on-duty police) and a 24-hour police station.

CORRESPONDENCE TO BE ADDRESSED TO:



T [02] 6801 4101 M 0418 639 053 E mayor@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Civic Administration Building Church St Dubbo NSW 2830

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APPENDIX NO: 5 - 29 NOVEMBER 2023 - LETTER FROM MAYOR TO THE HON YASMIN CATLEY, MP, MINISTER FOR POLICE AND COUNTER-TERRORISM (COPY TO THE HON. MICHAEL DALEY, MP, ATTORNEY GENERAL)

ITEM NO: CSC24/19

I look forward to your response and please do not hesitate to contact me on 0418 639 053 if you would like to discuss further.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Mathew Dickerson Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council

CC: The Hon. Michael Daley, MP - Attorney General

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25 January 2024



Regional Development Act Submissions Department of Regional NSW Via Email: regionaldevelopmentroadmap@regional.nsw.gov.au

To Whom it May Concern

SUBMISSION - REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Review of the Regional Development Act 2004.

It is pleasing the Issues Paper (p.9) calls out the Commonwealth Regional Investment Framework and particularly the "place-based decision-making that draws on the experience of local Government alongside regional bodies must guide investment in our regions." This focus is strongly supported for a NSW Government approach and should be an adopted policy setting.

The commentary around the energy transition calls out the Department of Regional NSW "to work across all levels of government....and that regional communities can benefit from the growth of new industry sectors." This has proven challenging to date and the deployment of large-scale renewables is happening at pace in the regions without necessary coordination across all Government agencies. It is noted this has recently become a whole of NSW Government priority and Council is anticipating better alignment within government as a result.

To date, the focus on taking advantage of new industries is very much sector led within Government. The Act should identify transitioning regional economies as a focus area. By keeping the definition of 'transitioning' broad it can include coal communities that are transitioning away from a carbon economy or, like the Dubbo Regional Council LGA, transitioning to a renewable energy hub that has less ongoing jobs than the mining sector. Indeed "transitioning" can cater for economic opportunities or challenges that can't be foreseen to date so the Act would remain relevant with that focus into the future.

The Future Jobs and Investment Authorities (p 15) will need to have a focus on training and skills development before industries seek to establish. In the case of Dubbo Regional Council, being part of the Central West Orana REZ, it has become obvious there has not been a focus in the previous years on developing the institutions such as TAFE/regional universities and an associated capability to train local people in key opportunities such as wind turbine installation

All communications to: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ABN 53 539 070 928

PO Box 81 Dubbo NSW 2830

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Page 2

and maintenance. Ideally, the Act or associated regulations could be amended to call out more strongly the need for a focus on a region's specialisations (even in the context of diversifying the economic mix). This does not necessarily mean allocating funds from the proposed Trust but driving better focused use of existing monies.

Highlight a correction required on page 17 of the Issues Paper. The central west, noting there has been a subsequent internal change in administration of regions in DRNSW, is listed as being a designated Renewable Energy Zone. That is incorrect. Mid-Western, Warrumbungle and Dubbo LGAs are of the Orana Region, outside of the DRNSW administrative context. Such an important engine industry and opportunity should be represented accurately.

The payroll rebate as expressed in the Act should remain. It should be considered as a tool for step change industries at vulnerable stages of their development. Think circular economy opportunities with renewables as an industry that does not yet exist at scale or the ability to attract onshore manufacturing of wind turbine steel elements in a highly competitive global market. A time limited payroll rebate could assist in attracting innovative businesses into regions such as those hosting a REZ or where market forces are failing to support investment in a particular region (for example, Western NSW).

Q3 What else should the Government consider when making investment decisions to support regional communities and industries?

There should be better alignment with other government investment such as Renewable Energy Zones that are driven by a reasoning outside of just 'regional development'. The energy transition is a nation building task, should be the focus of all agencies, and it should be more than just construction. Constraints to realising broader economic opportunity and how to overcome that efficiently should be the focus of government funding. That could be provision of essential infrastructure to an industrial area or workers accommodation, it could be establishing a skills and training capability for a new industry in a region (or NSW) for example.

Take the Special Activation Precinct program. A constraint to development is often access to appropriately zoned industrial land and even before that step, some regional councils don't have capacity to do the detailed analysis to inform land use planning and associated zoning. Even in the Dubbo Regional Council LGA where appropriate and viable industrial zoned land has been determined by Council, there is still the market constraint being the need for individual proponents to undertake a raft of environmental studies. This need for detailed analysis by every proponent creates uncertainty. Ideally what has been done for a small number of communities in the NSW Government's SAP program, should also be open to other communities to access funding for precinct scale environmental analysis. This could include the proactive addressing at the earliest planning stage the presence of endangered ecological communities and the identification of associated affordable biodiversity offsets.

Community development is more than economic development, with many legacy issues from earlier government policies still impacting communities today. In the Western NSW region there is an over representation of Aboriginal peoples in crime and there are also crime rates much higher than the NSW average in a number of categories. The solutions are arguably known by Government being education, targeted and consistent assistance to address dysfunctional households, and access to employment. As Covid19 was experienced in Dubbo Regional Council as a hotspot, our success as a region resulted from:

- A lead 'combat' agency with an ability to direct other agencies and collaborate with Council
 and other NGOs. This should be an agency like Regional NSW, given authority and a focus
 on driving action.
- Empowering engagement with community leaders by including the Koori Covid Yarning Circle into the Local Emergency Management Committee.

It also doesn't necessarily need more funding allocated by Government but better allocation to drive outcomes, with focused coordination and utilisation of funding already in the system. This should be considered a key feature of regional development, not reliant on the new Trust fund monies.

Q4 What factors should drive investment in each region?

Government and the Regional Development Act can't be all things to all communities. There will need to be a form of triage to provide focus and achieve lasting sustainable positive outcomes. The focus on place based (be it an LGA or a region) framework that includes Aboriginal community leaders, industry, agencies, community and NGOs is recommended.

The engine industry approach, ie a specialisation or multiple specialisations including emerging industries, should be the focus on investment with its greater likelihood of new and sustainable economic activity.

Also ensuring there is an alignment with other government priorities. This includes waste reduction, energy transition, First Nation outcomes, Net Zero and so on.

Investment should also be considered over more than an initial one-year funding pulse. Ideally, some programs will need multi years to generate the sustainable change aimed for with funding. Destination NSW's event marketing fund works well in this regard. It works by:

- An organisation applies each year for \$20K.
- Once you receive three years then you can apply for \$30K (three-year deal) and after this is completed you are eligible for a one off \$50K development fund.
- This means that once you have shown success, you can effectively have 7+ years' worth of
 investment. This would work well for program style investment (for capacity building in
 communities.

Assets should be funded with operational costs in mind. That is, create an incentive in any funding program to design out operational inefficiencies and incorporate within the design solution the ability for local communities, including councils, to service and maintain the asset.

Data should be used to identify the need for investment and should also be used measuring the outcomes. How well is the funded project/body of work performing against its stated outcome. That discipline for the Department of Regional NSW and councils will ensure better decision making. The analysis should also be multi-year in its assessment - the lasting legacy - to inform the structures of future funding programs.

Q5 What are the most important areas to you for investment over the next 1-2 years?

This necessarily relates to the point in the Australian Government Framework being "place-based decision-making that draws on the experience of local Government alongside regional bodies must guide investment in our regions."

For Dubbo Regional Council, the priorities are as follows (note: for Aboriginal business and partnerships, this should be a part of the proceeding priorities rather than an either/or choice):

- Local and regional infrastructure support housing, new industries with essential services, training facilities for new industries and new skill requirements.
- Growth of new industries in the context of the REZ in terms of inputs (manufacturing), operations-maintenance and circular economy opportunities with renewables. In addition, critical minerals including copper and associated higher value processing.
- Improving community services the better targeting of existing investment to address multi-generational trauma, associated dysfunction and subsequent crime and under employment in some parts of the community.
- Supporting regional supply chains.
- 5. Sustainable food and fibre industries this is more important in the eastern part of the Dubbo Regional Council LGA. As a mature sector, if including food manufacturing such as Fletchers International Exports, it requires less intervention by the Trust. Rather it has the relevant agencies such as Transport and DPI to assist. It is also understood that this is a key specialisation for a number of LGAs in Regional NSW whilst the Dubbo Regional Council LGA has a broader economic base.

Q6 How can Government, through the Trust, help encourage and support investment from other sources (including outside Government) to maximise outcomes for regional communities?

Not developing programs in isolation from other Government priorities and business investment. The REZ is going to realise billions of investments in transmission and infrastructure by government and the private sector — this could be leveraged to the advantage of regional development. There is a risk without a focus on legacies and new sustainable industries, the

construction pulse will happen and the region is left with relatively few newer employment opportunities.

Better understanding across government agencies and with Australian Government. Use the Golden Highway as an example – it is the critical path for billions of renewable infrastructure that is over size and over mass yet this constraint has not been factored into any significant transport funding for the Golden Highway related to this task by the Australian Government.

This needed upgrade of a significant constraint to the energy transition has other cross regional benefits. An upgrade would also be a significant improvement for the ease of skilled workers and associated services to move between the transitioning coal economies of the upper Hunter and the metalliferous mining of the Orana and Far West Regions. This goes to the longer-term productivity of NSW in terms of royalty income as coal diminishes and the transition of mining skilled workers to the next tranche of mining projects. The Trust and through the agency it has the key relationship with, Dept of Regional NSW at this time, should take the lead to coordinate agencies of NSW to target the Australian Government for collaborative funding, particularly with multiple lasting benefits to community.

To continue using the REZ as an example about integrating with other agency focus areas, take the waste minimisation strategic focus of the EPA against REZ related matters. Waste generation during construction phase of renewables has already emerged as a key concern of proponents and some councils in the Central West Orana REZ. Dubbo Regional Council considers this an opportunity given the existing and potential scale of its own waste management operations. This can only be realised regionally with significant advanced planning and support from the EPA to maximise circular waste management opportunities. The EPA often has significant funding available from the income stream from waste levies. These types of opportunities should and can be considered earlier within Government when key policies are being developed (ie the wider opportunity analysis).

A similar issue and opportunity exists for water infrastructure needed for construction and workers accommodation with agencies such as the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water. It is not the responsibility of the Trust but access to something as fundamental as water in a highly regulated environment can be a significant constraint, but also an opportunity.

Q7 Should investment through the Trust allow for a range of approaches to support regional communities (e.g., joint partnerships, funding agreements, service delivery)?

The Trust should have a flexible investment remit to ensure in can take advantage of unforeseen opportunities that could leverage other investments by Government or non-government actors in a region.

That flexibility has the associated responsibility to have high levels of probity and good governance. In that regard, the flexibility needs to be underpinned by data-based decision making and transparency to the wider public and stakeholders such as Council.

There should be capability to have rolling access to funds for critical infrastructure. Too often in the Local Government sector there are opportunities that become apparent between funding rounds, and with a seemingly significantly reduced grant funding pool available this issue will become more apparent. Like the private sector can put forward an unsolicited bid to the NSW Government, there should also be an opportunity under the Trust, informed by sufficient governance rigour, for a Local Government body to understand the thresholds required and if meeting them, put forward a bid outside of funding rounds.

Yours faithfully

Murray Wood

Chief Executive Officer

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22 August 2023

The Hon. Yasmin Catley, MP Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism GPO Box 5341 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Via email: office@catley.minister.nsw.gov.au

Dear Yasmin,

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COLLABORATION AND SUPPORT IN ADDRESSING VEHICLE THEFT AND OTHER CRIME IN REGIONAL NSW

I am writing to you as the Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council, in response to the alarming data recently released by the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR), highlighting the surge in vehicle theft across New South Wales. The Bureau's findings have shed light on a growing concern in various regional areas of NSW, including Dubbo.

Key features of the report include:

- 1. Vehicle theft in regional NSW locations is now substantially above pre-pandemic levels.
- 2. Although Greater Sydney has seen an increase in vehicle theft, it remains lower than prior to the pandemic.
- 3. Stolen vehicles in regional NSW are more likely to be recovered, suggesting usage for joyriding and transport.
- 4. A relatively small cohort of young individuals appears responsible for the increase in vehicle theft in regional NSW.

This is congruent with our community's experiences in Dubbo, where young individuals have been stealing cars after breaking into homes, engaging in police pursuits, and sharing their escapades on social media.

While these incidents are particularly prominent in Dubbo, they are part of a broader trend affecting communities across regional NSW and Australia. Our Council is actively working on Community Safety Strategic planning, involving local stakeholders, including Police, NGOs, and Government agencies. We are committed to collaboration and seek your support and guidance to engage agencies funded by your department in this effort.

CORRESPONDENCE TO BE ADDRESSED TO:



PO Box 81 Dubbo NSW 2830

T (02) 6801 4101 M 0418 639 053 E mayor@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Civic Administration Building Church St Dubbo NSW 2830

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APPENDIX NO: 7 - 23 AUGUST 2023 (EMAILED) - LETTER FROM MAYOR TO THE HON YASMIN CATLEY, MP, MINISTER FOR POLICE AND COUNTER TERRORISM (COPY TO THE HON JIHAD DIB, MP, MINISTER FOR YOUTH JUSTICE; AND THE HON KATE WASHINGTON, MP, MINISTER FOR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES)

ITEM NO: CSC24/19

I must also draw attention to the Gunnedah Shire Council's Crime Prevention and Community Safety Summit, to be held in November 2023 with ticket prices up to \$900, illustrating the necessity for Councils to coordinate efforts with NSW Government agencies and Government-funded NGOs. This collaboration, while vital, could be viewed as cost shifting, given the Council's limited powers and funds.

Councils, being the grassroots level of Government, are constantly exposed to community concerns about crime. The expectation to "control crime" falls on Councils and Mayors, though policing and sentencing laws are beyond our jurisdiction.

We believe that a joint approach to policing, justice, and diversionary activities led by the NSW Government is urgently needed. It's not merely about policing ourselves out of this situation, but addressing the long-term and entrenched disadvantage that contributes to these crimes.

I technically represent Dubbo Regional Council in this plea but I am certain that I also echo the sentiments of many other Councils I liaise with across the state. Your department's active engagement and steps to tackle these concerns would provide much-needed reassurance to our communities.

I appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to hearing from you soon. Please feel free to contact me directly via return email or on 0418 639 053 should you wish to discuss this further.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Mathew Dickerson

Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council

CC: The Hon. Jihad Dib, MP – Minister for Youth Justice
The Hon. Kate Washington, MP – Minister for Families and Communities

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The Hon Yasmin Catley MP

Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism Minister for the Hunter



Ref: MINS-522608304-2868 F/2023/52105

Councillor Mathew Dickerson Mayor Dubbo Regional Council PO Box 81 DUBBO NSW 2830

mayor@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Dear Cr Dickerson.

Thank you for your correspondence regarding vehicle theft and other crime in Regional NSW.

I am advised that the NSW Police Force has undertaken a number of initiatives to address this issue, including the launch of Operation Rhino in May 2023, which was undertaken over a four-month period. Operation Rhino saw a reduction in property offences and the arrest of 65 offenders, both adult and juvenile, resulting in a total of 125 charges.

I understand that on 22 August 2023, Superintendent Timothy Chinn, Commander of the Orana Mid-Western Police District, met with yourself and the General Manager of Dubbo Regional Council, Mr Murray Wood to further discuss these issues.

Please be assured that regular meetings have been established to ensure ongoing communication with the NSW Police Force is maintained and issues of concern are discussed.

I look forward to meeting you at the Gunnedah Crime Prevention and Community Safety Conference in November.

Thank you for writing about this matter.

Sincerely,

Yasmin Catley MP

Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism

Minister for the Hunter

cc: The Hon Kate Washington MP via office@washington.minister.nsw.gov.au

cc: The Hon Jihad Dib MP via office@dib.minister.nsw.gov.au

52 Martin Place Sydney NSW 2000 GPO Box 5341 Sydney NSW 2001

02 7225 6100 nsw.gov.au/ministercatley

APPENDIX NO: 9 - 9 OCTOBER 2023 - LETTER FROM MAYOR TO THE HON YASMIN C

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9 October 2023

The Hon. Yasmin Catley, MP Minister for Police and Counter-Terrorism GPO Box 5341 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Minister Catley

CRIME REPORTS - DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

There has been much conversation amongst the community and in the media for some months regarding crime in the Dubbo Regional Council Local Government Area (LGA), specifically Dubbo and Wellington.

The purpose of this letter is to request confidential monthly crime reports to allow for more timely data on the nature and background of antisocial/criminal occurrences in the LGA. This would allow for further understanding and more informed and effective lobbying for a solution to these issues.

I look forward to a favourable response.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Mathew Dickerson Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council



CORRESPONDENCE TO BE ADDRESSED TO:

PO Box 81 Dubbo NSW 2830

T (02) 6801 4101 M 0418 639 053 E mayor@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Civic Administration Building Church St Dubbo NSW 2830

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The Hon Yasmin Catley MP

Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism Minister for the Hunter



Ref: MINS-522608304-3864 F/2023/61806

Councillor Mathew Dickerson Mayor Dubbo Regional Council PO Box 81 DUBBO NSW 2830

mayor@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Dear Cr Dickerson,

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of Dubbo Regional Council seeking access to crime related data by the NSW Police Force (NSWPF).

The NSWPF provides official and reconciled crime statistics to the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR). Data is provided quarterly and annually to BOCSAR, and the information also includes trend periods. This data is published on the BOCSAR website at: https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Pages/bocsar_crime_stats/bocsar_crime_stats.aspx.

If Council has concerns about any local crime trends or matters relating to Police, members of Council can also contact the Crime Prevention Manager at the Orana Mid-Western Police District on (02) 6883 1599 to discuss any relevant issues.

Thank you for writing about this matter.

Sincerely,

Yasmin Catley MP

Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism

Minister for the Hunter

52 Martin Place Sydney NSW 2000 GPO Box 5341 Sydney NSW 2001 02 7225 6100 nsw.gov.au/ministercatley

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19 March 2024

The Hon. Chris Minns, MP Premier GPO Box 5341 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Via email – <u>premier@dpc.nsw.gov.au</u>

Dear Premier

I am writing to congratulate the NSW Government on the new policy announcements regarding youth crime in regional NSW. The cycle of crime and bail for young offenders has provided no deterrent since COVID-19 lockdowns. This harms other young people who are in the same cohort and being led towards crime. The opportunity to remove serial offenders allows diversionary programs to target those who have less exposure to the criminal justice system and are more readily able to make better choices in the short term.

Council has a strong working relationship with local police and with other local communitybased stakeholders who are on the frontlines delivering for youth at risk. I congratulate the NSW Police on their proactive approach in our community and know they want to work with community to get better outcomes for all.

There is a concern that when a particular locality such as Moree becomes a focus of law enforcement, the relevant young people move towns to carry out their activity. We have local evidence with Dubbo/Wellington receiving young people from Bourke and Moree, Orange receiving young people from Dubbo and so on. With this fluidity of movement in mind I would ask that any enforcement including bail conditions and associated support programs be delivered in places such as Dubbo Regional LGA in the short term. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss our concerns at your convenience.

I would also advise that I will be writing to the Minister for Communities and Justice seeking data on the levels of funding going to organisations to deliver positive youth outcomes in the Dubbo Regional LGA and particularly for Aboriginal people at risk. Anecdotally we hear from community that the system does not need new monies but a more targeted focus of existing funding. What we have been doing for many years has not created change yet there has been significant expenditure during that time. The community concerns are often expressed as "we need services between 9pm and 5am not between 9am and 5pm". Such data will help Council and stakeholders build our Youth Strategy that will be focused on holding all of us to account to deliver outcomes.

CORRESPONDENCE TO BE ADDRESSED TO:



T [02] 6801 4101 M 0418 639 053 E mayor@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Civic Administration Building Church St Dubbo NSW 2830

W dubbo.nsw.gov.au W mayorofdubbo.com.au



APPENDIX NO: 11 - 19 MARCH 2024 - LETTER FROM MAYOR TO THE HON CHRIS MINNS, MP, PREMIER (COPY TO THE HON MICHAEL DALEY, MP, ATTORNEY GENERAL; AND THE HON YASMIN CATLEY, MP, MINISTER FOR POLICE AND COUNTER-TERRORISM

ITEM NO: CSC24/19

As a region we have a once in a generation economic opportunity from the energy transition and it is beholden on us all as government (all levels) to enable all parts of our community to participate and be a part of this legacy. This includes youth currently undertaking criminal behaviour and their families who are at risk of missing out.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Mathew Dickerson

Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council

Cc: The Hon. Michael Daley, MP – Attorney General
The Hon. Yasmin Catley, MP – Minister for Police and Counter-Terrorism

THE HON

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19 March 2024

The Hon. Michelle Rowland, MP Minister for Communications PO Box 6022 House of Representative Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Via email -

Dear Minister Rowland

As Minister for Communications, you would know doubt be aware of concerns in regional NSW including our Dubbo Regional LGA communities, whereby young people typically from disadvantaged families are inducing each other to commit criminal behaviour through posting on social media.

The posting as boasting includes purposely seeking pursuit by the Police. Given this is enabled by social media companies the Dubbo Regional Council requests the Australian Government create legislation that penalises social media platforms such as Tik Tok for publishing criminal behaviour. The licence to operate in Australia should be at risk at a certain threshold of noncompliance and any financial penalties should be substantial to create the corporate appetite for change.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss our community's concerns with you.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Mathew Dickerson
Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council



CORRESPONDENCE TO BE ADDRESSED TO:

PO Box 81 Dubbo NSW 2830

T (02) 6801 4101 M 0418 639 053 E mayor@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Civic Administration Building Church St Dubbo NSW 2830 W dubbo.nsw.gov.au W mayorofdubbo.com.au



WASHING MINISTER

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26 March 2024

The Hon. Kate Washington, MP Minister for Families and Communities Minister for Disability Inclusion GPO Box 5341 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Via email - office@washington.nsw.gov.au

Dear Minister Washington

I am writing to seek data on the levels of funding being allocated to organisations dedicated to improving youth outcomes in the Dubbo Regional LGA, particularly for at-risk Aboriginal people.

There is a common sentiment within the community that rather than introducing new funds, there should be a more strategic allocation of existing resources. Despite significant investments over the years, there has been little tangible progress. Community feedback often highlights the need for services outside of traditional business hours, emphasising the importance of addressing issues during atypical times. At the March Country Mayors meeting at NSW Parliament it was pleasing to hear the Police Minister also call out this as a focus for the trials in Moree.

Obtaining this data would greatly assist the Council and stakeholders in developing a Youth Strategy that prioritises accountability and tangible results. With the current economic opportunities in the region, it is crucial for all levels of government to ensure that every member of the community, including troubled youth and their families, can partake in and benefit from this growth.

Our Council is collaborating with non-government organisations, and we kindly request your department's support in shaping our Youth Strategy. Your assistance in this endeavour would be greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Mathew Dickerson Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council

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REPORT: Dedication of Public Road and registration of Lease - River Street, Dubbo

DIVISION: Organisational Performance

REPORT DATE: 16 April 2024 TRIM REFERENCE: ID24/206

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	Seek endorsement			
Issue	 Execution of Plan of Subdivision of Lot 114 in DP103259 under Common Seal of Council 			
	Dedicate ext Road	ension of River Street 20 wide to the public as		
		new Lease Agreement with Playmates Childcare		
		bo Incorporated on proposed Lot 101 DP same terms as existing lease.		
Reasoning	Delivering on adopted Dubbo Transport Strategy 2020: Project 13 River Street East to extend River Street to Tony McGrane Place.			
	 Assisting Dedication of Public Road for North Dubbo Sports Hub development on adjoining Charles Sturt University land (Lot 902 DP1033617) approved under D2021/569 Recreation Facility (Indoor) & D2021/555 Recreation facility (Early Works) Assisting NSW Health to continue to develop Dubbo Hospital land (Lot 10 in DP1278447) by replacing right of carriageway with more functional public road dedication, and a road constructed by NSW Public Works. 			
	 Reducing Playmates Cottage Lease to be registered on proposed Lot 101 in DP 1298069, that matches the fenced boundary the childcare centre, to allow the dedication of the road by council and the construction of the road for the Dubbo Sports Hub facility by NSW Public Works. 			
Financial	Budget Area	Community Culture & Places Division		
Implications	Funding Source	Infrastructure Division Community Leases Urban Roads Land Acquisition		
	Proposed Cost	\$8,195.00 excluding GST		
	Ongoing Costs	Nil		
Policy Implications	Policy Title	NIL		
	Impact on Policy	NIL		
Consultation	NSW Public	Various telephone attendances, meetings and		
	Works,	emails.		

Playmates
Cottage
Committee,
Essential Energy,
NSW Health
Infrastructure

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: 2.1 The road transportation network is safe, convenient and

efficient

Delivery Program Strategy: 2.1.2 The road network meets the needs of the community

in terms of traffic capacity, functionality and economic and

social connectivity

Theme: 2 Infrastructure

CSP Objective: 2.1 The road transportation network is safe, convenient and

efficient

Delivery Program Strategy: 2.1.5 Council works collaboratively with the government and

stakeholders on transport-related issues

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council execute the Plan of Subdivision of Lot 114 in DP 1032596, being unregistered Deposited Plan 1298069, to dedicate the extension of River Street 20 wide to the public as public road under the common seal of council.
- 2. That Council enter into a new Lease with Playmates Childcare Centre Dubbo Incorporated (ABN 47 134 008 984) on unregistered lot 101 in DP 1298069, on the same terms as their current Lease on existing Lot 114 in DP 1032596 as outlined in this body of this report, and execute the lease under the common seal of council.
- 3. That Council resolve to adopt the agreement with Playmates Cottage, as outlined within the body of this report, to allow the Dedication of the Public Road and assist the construction of the Dubbo Sports Hub.
- 4. That council delegate to the Chief Executive officer the power to negotiate, finalise and execute any other agreements and documents needed to finalise this matter.

Jane Bassingthwaighte CP

Director Organisational Performance Manager Property and

Land Development

BACKGROUND

Council staff have been working with NSW Public Works to dedicate an extension of River Street 20 wide to the public as road from Council's Lot 114 DP1032596. The dedication is required to facilitate the construction of the Dubbo Sports Hub on adjoining Charles Sturt University land (Lot 902 in DP 1033617) in North Dubbo.

The Dubbo Sports Hub was approved under Development Consent D2021-569 Recreation Facility (Indoor) and Development Consent D2021-555 Recreation Facility (Early Works). The development consents conditioned the extension (dedication) of River Street as public road to ensure that the Sports Hub gained legal access over Council's Lot 114 DP 1032596.

Council's Lot 114 DP 1032596 is a 'battle axe' shaped lot of 5582m² as shown in **Figure 1**. It contains Playmates Cottage Childcare Centre in its southern portion of 2617m²; and a handle that obstructs the natural road corridor for River Street to be extended through to Tony McGrane Place in accordance with 'Project 13 River Street East' of Council's adopted Dubbo Transportation Strategy 2020 (DTS).



Figure 1: Dubbo Regional Council Lot 114 DP1032596 (2 Moran Drive, Dubbo), containing Playmates Cottage Childcare Centre.

Pursuant to CCL17/79 Council entered into a Lease with Playmates Childcare Centre Dubbo Incorporated (ABN 47134 008 984) (Playmates) for them to occupy Council's Lot 114 DP 1032596 for a period of 25 years from 22 January 2018, expiring on 21 January 2043.

In order for River Street to be dedicated as Public Road as proposed, the lease that Council holds with Playmates needs to be surrendered and renewed in respect of a new lot that will

be created for them, being proposed Lot 101 in DP1298069, rather than being in respect of the whole of Lot 114 in DP 1032596 of 5582m² as the lease currently stands.

In addition, an easement for underground electrical 2 wide (AH199729) benefitting Essential Energy; and, a Right of Carriageway (vide DP1245490) benefitting NSW Health's Dubbo Hospital Land needed to be released.

The Right of Carriageway 8 wide (DP1245490) benefitting NSW Health Lot 10 DP 1278447 which contains the Dubbo Public Hospital, was granted to them by Council pursuant to CCL18/86.

Previous Resolutions of Council

Previous Resolutions	of Council
26 June 2017	CCL17/79 REPORT: Playmates Cottage Child Care Centre Rental
	Valuation
	 That a lease agreement be entered into with Playmates Childcare Centre Dubbo Inc. for the Playmates Child Care Centre, to be constructed on the corner of River Street and Moran Drive, Dubbo, on the basis of the terms and conditions detailed in the body of the report of the Director Community Services dated 13 June 2017. That the rent for Playmates Cottage Child Care Centre be set at \$37,000 GST inclusive per annum with an effective commencement date from the date of occupation of the Centre by Playmates Childcare Centre Dubbo Inc. with annual rent increments to be effective from 1 July each year and based on the
	Sydney All Groups CPI for the preceding 12 month period.
28 May 2018	CCL18/86 Playmates Cottage, 2 Moran Drive, Creation of Right of Way Easement
	1. That a six metre wide easement for vehicle access be created on part of Council owned Lot 114 DP 1032596, benefitting Lot 101 DP 1233482, owned by NSW Health.
	2. That costs up to \$5,000 (exc GST), including Council's legal costs in relation to the creation and registration of such easement are the responsibility of NSW Health Infrastructure.
	3. That Council invoice NSW Health Infrastructure \$20,000 for the sealing of the area relating to the easement for vehicle access and the immediate surrounding area.
	4. That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to complete any documentation under his Power of Attorney.

REPORT

NSW Public Works surveyor has prepared the Plan of Subdivision necessary to dedicate the extension of River Street and to release the electrical easement and right of carriageway (ROC) as required. The Plan of Subdivision is shown in **Figure 2** and **Attachment 1**.

Essential Energy and NSW Health have already executed the plan of subdivision to agree to the release their easement and ROC, in favour road being dedicated as proposed. The dedication of the road will render the need for their easement and ROC redundant.

In relation to Playmates, council staff have been liaising with NSW Public Works and the Playmates Cottage Committee to come to an agreement for Playmates to support the project and enter into a new lease with council.

In this regard, NSW Public Works have committed to designing and constructing the River Street Road extension to include approximately 10 parallel car parking spaces in front of Playmates Cottage, and provide ongoing communication with Playmates Committee and Centre Manager to ensure that the construction of road does not disturb the centres operations.

The parallel parking which NSW Public Works have committed to provide is shown in **Attachment 1**.

In relation to Playmates Lease, at their meeting of 10 April 2024 Playmates Committee resolved (agreed) to enter into a new lease with Council over proposed Lot 101 DP 1298069 on the same terms and conditions of the existing lease. This agreement includes maintaining the existing lease expiry date of 21 January 2024, on the following conditions:

- That Council pays all Playmates Legal costs in the matter (estimated \$3000 exc GST),
- Reconstructs an existing emergency playground egress gate onto River Street to be Building Code compliant, i.e. swing internally rather than externally (Estimated \$5000 exc GST); and,
- NSW Public Works construct the parallel parks in River Street in accordance with Attachment 1.

Herein, this agreement with Playmates to adjust their Lease is recommended to the Council for adoption to allow the dedication and extension of River Street, and the development of the Dubbo Sports facility to proceed.

Now that all interested parties in the matter have agreed to proceed with the project, it also recommended that Council Execute the Plan of Subdivision and the new Lease with under the common seal of council, and delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to negotiate, finalise and execute any other agreements and documents needed to finalise this matter.

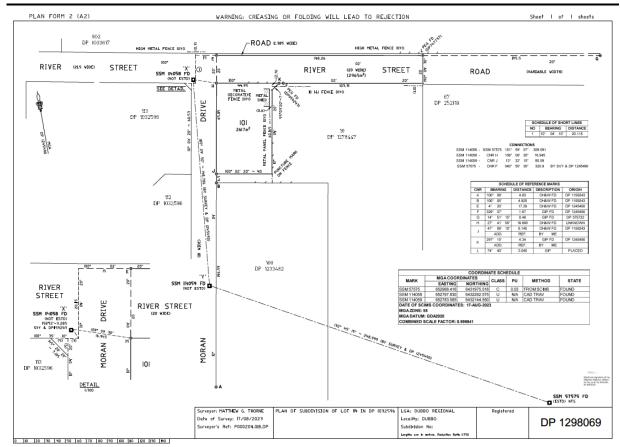


Figure 2: Subject Plan of Subdivision of Lot 114 in DP1032596

Consultation

Stakeholder	Comment
DRC Infrastructure Division	In Support
	Dedicating the public road shall facilitate the delivery of adopted Transport Strategy 2020 'Project 13: River Street East' (in part).
DRC Environment & Planning Division	In Support
Division	Strategic Planning: Dedicating the public road shall facilitate the delivery of adopted Transport Strategy 2020 'Project 13: River Street East (in part).
	Statutory Planning: Dedicating the public road shall satisfy development conditions of D2021/569 Recreation facility (Indoor) and D2021/555 (Early Works) for the development of the Dubbo Sports Hub.
DRC Community Culture & Places Division	In Support
	Dedicating the public road shall facilitate the development of

	the Dubbo Sports Hub and the Dubbo Public Hospital, and provide Playmates with an upgraded River Street frontage (kerb and gutter road) constructed by NSW Public Works for the NSW Sports Hub.
NSW Public Works	In Support
	Dedicating the public road shall satisfy development conditions of D2021/569 Recreation facility (Indoor) and D2021/555 (Early Works) for the development of the Dubbo Sports Hub.
	Dedication of the public road shall assist NSW Public Works in constructing the Dubbo Sports Hub in 2024.
	NSW Public works have committed to including approximately 10 parallel parking spaces in the design and construction of River Street to assist Playmates Child Care Centre with their need for overflow car parking.
NSW Health	In Support
	Dedicating the public road shall remove NSW Health requirement for the right of carriageway (ROC).
	It will support the release of the ROC in exchange for dedication of the road as a better outcome that supports the future development of the Dubbo Public Hospital.
Essential Energy	In Support
	Dedicating the public road shall remove Essential Energy requirement for the easement for underground powerlines. Essential Energy have already provided their execution of subject Deposited Plan DP 1298069 to release their easement in exchange for the dedication of the road as a better outcome to contain their underground electrical infrastructure.
Playmates	In Support
	Dedicating the public road will facilitate NSW Public Works construction of a road for the Dubbo Sports Hub and provide Playmates with and enhanced northern road frontage that includes upright kerb and gutter and parallel car parking.
	An emergency egress gate will also be upgraded by council,

and all playmates legal costs to adjust the lease will also be paid by Council.

Resourcing Implications

This property project has required Council staff to work with NSW Public Works to amend the proposed plan of subdivision to include the release of an easement and right of carriageway, and to work with Essential Energy, NSW Health and Playmates to secure their support for the project, execution of the Plan of Subdivision, and execution of a new lease agreement.

Total Financial Implications	Current year (\$)	Current year + 1 (\$)	Current year + 2 (\$)	Current year + 3 (\$)	Current year + 4 (\$)	Ongoing (\$)
a. Operating revenue	1,180	0	0	0	0	0
b. Operating expenses	9,375	0	0	0	0	0
c. Operating budget impact (a – b)	-8,195	0	0	0	0	0
d. Capital Expenditure	0	0	0	0	0	0
e. Total net impact (c – d)	-8,195	0	0	0	0	0

Does the proposal require ongoing funding?

What is the source of this funding?

No

NSW Public Works have funding the preparation and registration of the Plan of Subdivision, and agreed to pay PALD's Consultant fee of \$1,180 exc GST to prepare and lodge the Subdivision Certificate application for the road dedication.

DRC Infrastructure Division have funded additional survey work to include the release of the electrical easement and ROC in the plan of subdivision, being \$1,375.00 exc GST.

DRC Community Culture & Places will fund the preparation and registration of new Playmates Lease of \$3,000.00 exc GST (estimate), and reconstruction of egress gate of \$5,000 exc GST (estimate).

Table 1. Ongoing Financial Implications

Planned Communications

• Ongoing communication with the Playmates Cottage and NSW Public Works to ensure that the project is undertaken and finalised as agreed.

Timeframe

Key Date	Explanation
May 2024	 Common Seal Execution of Plan of Subdivision and registration of Plan at NSW Land registry Services Common Seal Execution of new Lease with Playmates Cottage and registration against title of newly registered Lot 101 DP1298069 Reconstruct Playmates emergency egress gate to be compliant with BCA.
2024	 Ongoing communication with Playmates Cottage and NSW Public Works to ensure that River Street is being constructed to include parallel parking as agreed, and Playmates Operations are not being unreasonably impacted by Public Works construction of the road.

Next Step

- Register Plan of Subdivision at NSW Land registry Services
- Prepare, exchange, execute and register, new lease agreement with Playmates.

APPENDICES:

1 Usubdivision Certificate - CFT-485324 - SC2024-804 - Re-Signed 9 April 2024 - Complete Plan Admin Sheet 88B

