



AGENDA

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

23 SEPTEMBER 2025

MEMBERSHIP: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, J Cowley, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

The meeting is scheduled to commence at 5:30 PM.

PRAYER:

O God, Grant that by the knowledge of thy will, all we may resolve shall work together for good, we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY:

"I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri People who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. I would also like to pay respect to the Elders past and present of the Wiradjuri Nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginal peoples from other nations who are present".

Page

CCL25/234 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID25/1672)

CCL25/235 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID25/1674)

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.

CCL25/236 PUBLIC FORUM (ID25/1844)

CCL25/237 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025 (ID25/1803)

Confirmation of the minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 26 August 2025.

6

CCL25/238 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 9 SEPTEMBER 2025 (ID25/1822)

Confirmation of the minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 9 September 2025.

23

INFORMATION ONLY MATTERS:

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| CCL25/239 | MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS AND MEETINGS (ID25/1792)
The Council had before it the report dated 3 September 2025 from the Chief Executive Officer regarding Mayoral Appointments and Meetings. | 30 |
| CCL25/240 | MAYORAL EXPENSES - AUGUST 2025 (ID25/1815)
The Council had before it the report dated 9 September 2025 from the Chief Executive Officer regarding Mayoral Expenses - August 2025. | 35 |
| CCL25/241 | INVESTMENT UNDER SECTION 625 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT - AUGUST 2025 (ID25/1774)
The Council had before it the report dated 8 September from the Revenue Accountant regarding Investment Under Section 625 of the Local Government Act – August 2025 | 38 |

MATTERS CONSIDERED BY COMMITTEES:

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| CCL25/242 | REPORT OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE - MEETING 9 SEPTEMBER 2025 (ID25/1804)
The Council had before it the report of the Infrastructure, Planning and Environment Committee meeting held 9 September 2025. | 59 |
| CCL25/243 | REPORT OF THE CULTURE AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE - MEETING 9 SEPTEMBER 2025 (ID25/1805)
The Council had before it the report of the Culture and Community Committee meeting held 9 September 2025. | 64 |
| CCL25/244 | REPORT OF THE CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE - MEETING 9 SEPTEMBER 2025 (ID25/1806)
The Council had before it the report of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held 9 September 2025. | 68 |
| CCL25/245 | REPORT OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE - MEETING 15 SEPTEMBER 2025 (ID25/1855)
The Council had before it the report of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held 15 September 2025. | 75 |

NOTICES OF MOTION:

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|------------------|--|----|
| CCL25/246 | FEES AND CHARGES - TIPS AND TRANSFER STATIONS (ID25/1768)
Council had before it a Notice of Motion dated 1 September 2025 from Councillor P Toynton regarding the Fees and Charges - Tips and Transfer Stations. | 78 |
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| CCL25/247 | ESTABLISHMENT OF A DUBBO REGIONAL LIVESTOCK MARKETS COMMITTEE (ID25/1773)
Council had before it a Notice of Motion dated 29 August 2025 from Councillor P Toynton regarding the Establishment of a Dubbo Regional Livestock Markets Committee. | 80 |
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| CCL25/248 | DRTCC CLOSURE PERIOD CHRISTMAS NEW YEAR 2025/2026 (ID25/1850)
Council had before it a Notice of Motion dated 14 September 2025 from Councillor M Dickerson regarding the DRTCC Closure Period Christmas New Year 2025/2026. | 82 |
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| CCL25/249 | FORESTVALE ROAD CREEK CROSSING (ID25/1851)
Council had before it a Notice of Motion dated 15 September 2025 from Councillor P Toynton regarding the Forestvale Road Creek Crossing. | 85 |

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

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| CCL25/250 | NAMING OF THE NEW DUBBO BRIDGE (ID25/1820)
The Council had before it the report dated 10 September 2025 from the Director Infrastructure regarding Naming of the New Dubbo Bridge. | 87 |
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| CCL25/252 | STATE SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT 90792956 - BOREE SOLAR FARM - COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY'S ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS (ID25/1791)
The Council had before it the report dated 3 September 2025 from the Manager Building and Development Services regarding State Significant Development 90792956 - Boree Solar Farm - Council's response to the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements. | 149 |

- CCL25/253 DUBBO REGIONAL SPORTS COUNCIL - PLAYING FIELD IMPROVEMENT FUND 2025/2026 (ID25/1798)** 214
The Council had before it the report dated 4 September 2025 from the Recreation Coordinator regarding Dubbo Regional Sports Council - Playing Field Improvement Fund 2025/2026.
- CCL25/254 DRAFT NEW DUBBO CEMETERY AND WELLINGTON CEMETERY MASTER PLANS (ID25/1760)** 218
The Council had before it the report dated 29 August 2025 from the Executive Officer Community, Culture and Places regarding Draft New Dubbo Cemetery and Wellington Cemetery Master Plans.
- CCL25/255 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST RETURNS (ID25/1567)** 239
The Council had before it the report dated 16 September 2025 from the Manager Corporate Governance regarding Disclosure of Interest Returns.
- CCL25/256 OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES (ID25/1796)** 243
The Council had before it the report dated 4 September 2025 from the Governance Team Leader regarding Outstanding Actions from Council and Committees.
- CCL25/257 COMMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY (ID25/1845)**

CONFIDENTIAL

- CCL25/258 APPOINTMENTS TO THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE (ID25/1811)**
The Council had before it the report dated 8 September 2025 from the Manager Corporate Governance regarding Appointments to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.
- In accordance with the provisions of Section 9 (2A) of the Local Government Act 1993 the Chief Executive Officer is of the opinion that consideration of this item is likely to take place when the meeting is closed to the public for the following reason: personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors) (Section 10A(2)(a)).*

CCL25/259 FUNDING OPTIONS - WIRADJURI TOURISM CENTRE (ID25/1680)

The Council had before it the report dated 21 August 2025 from the Cultural Development Coordinator regarding Funding Options - Wiradjuri Tourism Centre.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 9 (2A) of the Local Government Act 1993 the Chief Executive Officer is of the opinion that consideration of this item is likely to take place when the meeting is closed to the public for the following reason: information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business (Section 10A(2)(c)).

CCL25/260 PROPOSAL LAND ACQUISITION - LOT 11 DP 785559, MACQUARIE STREET, DUBBO (ID25/1785)

The Council had before it the report dated 4 September 2025 from the Manager Strategy Water Supply and Sewerage regarding Proposal Land Acquisition - Lot 11 DP 785559, Macquarie Street, Dubbo.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 9 (2A) of the Local Government Act 1993 the Chief Executive Officer is of the opinion that consideration of this item is likely to take place when the meeting is closed to the public for the following reason: information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business (Section 10A(2)(c)).



Confirmation of Minutes - Ordinary Council Meeting - 26 August 2025

The Council had before it the report of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 26 August 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Dubbo Regional Council Ordinary Council meeting held on 26 August 2025 (as attached) be taken as read, confirmed as correct minutes and signed by the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer.

APPENDICES:

- 1** [1](#) Minutes - Ordinary Council Meeting - 26/08/2025



REPORT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 26 AUGUST 2025

PRESENT: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: The Chief Executive Officer, the Director Organisational Performance, the Acting Manager Corporate Governance, the Governance Officers, the Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement, the Communications Team Leader, the IT Infrastructure Specialist, the IT Support Officer, the Manager Customer Experience and Engagement, the Customer Experience Team Leader, the Director Development and Environment, the Manager Growth Planning, the Director Infrastructure and the Director Community, Culture and Places.

Councillor J Black assumed the Chair of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 5:30pm at the Wellington Chambers, with a prayer for the Divine Guidance to the Council in its deliberations and activities by Councillor L Butler. The Acknowledgement of Country was also read by Councillor P Wells.

CCL25/200 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID25/461)

A request for leave of absence was received from Councillor J Cowley who was absent from the meeting due to personal reasons.

Councillors S Chowdhury and M Dickerson attended via audio visual link.

Moved by Councillor A Ryan and seconded by Councillor P Wells.

MOTION

That such request for Leave of Absence be accepted and Councillor J Cowley be granted leave of absence from this meeting.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025
REPORT**CCL25/201 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID25/462)**

The following conflicts of interest were declared:

Councillor M Wright – CCL25/222 – Solar Car Park with Battery & EV Charging Tender – Dubbo Regional Airport.

Councillor M Wright – CCL25/223 – Outcome of Simplified Tender for Real Estate Agency Services for the Sale of Unsold Lots at Keswick Estate, Stage 5 Release 2.

Councillor P Toynton – CCL25/226 – Code of Conduct Matter.

CCL25/202 PUBLIC FORUM (ID25/1424)

The Council reports having met with the following persons during Public Forum:

- Jada Parsons – Urban Tree Canopy
- Clare Pearson – Little Wings
- Margaret McDonald – Pest Bird Management
- Grant Roberts – Pest Bird Management

CCL25/203 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 22 JULY 2025 (ID25/1622)

The Council had before it the report of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 22 July 2025.

Moved by Councillor K Richardson and seconded by Councillor M Wright.

MOTION

That the minutes of the Dubbo Regional Council Ordinary Council meeting held on 22 July 2025 (as attached) be taken as read, confirmed as correct minutes and signed by the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

At this junction Councillor S Chowdhury left the meeting, and did not vote on this item, the time being 5:54pm.

INFORMATION ONLY MATTERS:

At this junction Councillor S Chowdhury rejoined the meeting, the time being 5:54pm.

CCL25/204 MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS AND MEETINGS (ID25/1573)

The Council had before it the report dated 5 August 2025 from the Chief Executive Officer regarding Mayoral Appointments and Meetings.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025
REPORT

Moved by Councillor J Black and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

That the information contained within the report be noted.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

CCL25/205 MAYORAL EXPENSES - JULY 2025 (ID25/1623)

The Council had before it the report dated 11 August 2025 from the Chief Executive Officer regarding Mayoral Expenses - July 2025.

Moved by Councillor J Black and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

That the information contained within the report be noted.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

CCL25/206 INVESTMENT UNDER SECTION 625 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT - JULY 2025 (ID25/1568)

The Council had before it the report dated 11 August 2025 from the Revenue Accountant regarding Investment Under Section 625 of the Local Government Act – July 2025.

Moved by Councillor P Toynton and seconded by Councillor M Wright.

MOTION

That the information contained within the Investment under Section 625 of the Local Government Act Report be noted.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025
REPORT

MATTERS CONSIDERED BY COMMITTEES:**CCL25/207 REPORT OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE - MEETING 12 AUGUST 2025 (ID25/1650)**

The Council had before it the report of the Infrastructure, Planning and Environment Committee meeting held 12 August 2025.

Moved by Councillor L Butler and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

That the report of the Infrastructure, Planning and Environment Committee meeting held on 12 August 2025, be adopted.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

**CCL25/208 REPORT OF THE CULTURE AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE - MEETING 12
AUGUST 2025 (ID25/1648)**

The Council had before it the report of the Culture and Community Committee meeting held 12 August 2025.

Moved by Councillor P Wells and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

That the report of the Culture and Community Committee meeting held on 12 August 2025, be adopted.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

**CCL25/209 REPORT OF THE CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE - MEETING 12 AUGUST
2025 (ID25/1649)**

The Council had before it the report of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held 12 August 2025.

Moved by Councillor K Richardson and seconded by Councillor P Wells.

MOTION

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025

REPORT

That the report of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on 12 August 2025, be adopted.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

NOTICES OF MOTION:

CCL25/210 RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS (ID25/1621)

Council had before it a Notice of Motion dated 11 August 2025 from Councillor P Toynton regarding the Renewable Energy Projects.

Moved by Councillor P Toynton and seconded by Councillor L Butler.

MOTION

1. That the CEO write to the local MP The Hon. Dugald Saunders and the Duty MLC for Dubbo The Hon. Stephen Lawrence, asking what has been done to address the concerns of residents impacted by the REZ in our LGA and specifically solar projects at Boree and Hampton Park?
2. To set a timeframe of six weeks maximum, for a response from the above mentioned.
3. That upon receipt of a response from both, that this response be included at the first Council meeting after receiving the response.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Councillor M Dickerson.

CCL25/211 COUNCIL'S ROLE IN GRANTS (ID25/1654)

Council had before it a Notice of Motion dated 18 August 2025 from Councillor K Richardson regarding the Council's Role in Grants.

Moved by Councillor K Richardson and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

That the CEO provide a report to the 28 October 2025 Ordinary Council meeting outlining Council's role in grants:

1. Outlining the support Council provides to promote available grants to businesses and community groups across the Dubbo Local Government Area.
2. Outlining the grants that Council applies for to assist with Council assets and services, including numbers, total value and success rate.

CARRIED

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025
REPORT**

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Councillors S Chowdhury and M Dickerson.

CCL25/212 COUNCIL RESPONSES TO RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS (ID25/1655)

Council had before it a Notice of Motion dated 18 August 2025 from Mayor J Black regarding the Council Responses to Renewable Energy Projects.

Moved by Councillor J Black and seconded by Councillor L Butler.

MOTION

1. That Council's draft responses to the State Government Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for any individual State Significant Development Project be provided to Council for consideration at a Council meeting if written request is made by two or more Councillors.
2. That draft responses to be provided to Council for consideration at a Council meeting as referred to in (1) above are at the following stages:
 - At the scoping stage with input into the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements.
 - At the Planning Assessment stage when the Environmental Impact Statement is placed on public display.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

NOTICES OF RESCISSION:

CCL25/213 AUSTRALIA DAY EVENTS - DUBBO AND WELLINGTON (ID25/1619)

Council had before it a Notice of Motion of Rescission dated 8 August 2025 from Councillors P Toynton, S Chowdhury and L Butler regarding Australia Day Events – Dubbo and Wellington.

Moved by Councillor P Toynton and seconded by Councillor S Chowdhury.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council determine this Notice of Motion Rescission.

LOST

For: Councillors L Butler, S Chowdhury, K Richardson, and P Toynton.

Against: Councillors R Ivey, P Wells, M Wright, J Black, M Dickerson and A Ryan.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025
REPORT

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

At this juncture the Chief Executive Officer entered the meeting, the time being 6:21pm.

CCL25/214 DRAFT DUBBO REGIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY (ID25/702)

The Council had before it the report dated 29 July 2025 from the Manager Growth Planning regarding Draft Dubbo Regional Housing Strategy.

Moved by Councillor M Wright and seconded by Councillor L Butler.

MOTION

1. That the draft Dubbo Regional Housing Strategy (attached in Appendices 1 and 2) be adopted for the purpose of public exhibition.
2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to approve any minor administrative corrections prior to the public exhibition publication and authorise the relevant staff to implement any such corrections.
3. That the draft Dubbo Regional Housing Strategy be placed on public exhibition from Monday 1 September 2025 until 9am, Monday 27 October 2025.
4. That community and stakeholder engagement be undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Strategy (including Community Participation Plan).
5. That following completion of the public exhibition period, a further report be presented to Council for consideration, including the results of public exhibition.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

CCL25/215 ACTION PLAN REVIEW CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE STRATEGY 2021-2027 (ID25/1395)

The Council had before it the report dated 14 July 2025 from the Manager Customer Experience and Engagement regarding Action Plan Review Customer Experience Strategy 2021-2027.

Moved by Councillor A Ryan and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

1. That Draft Customer Experience Strategy 2021-2027 and Draft Customer Experience Charter go on public exhibition for community feedback, for a period of not less than 28 days.
2. That a report of the public exhibition outcomes be prepared for Council.

CARRIED

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025
REPORT

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

CCL25/216 RENAMING OF LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE TO LOCAL TRAFFIC FORUM DUE TO DELEGATION CHANGES (ID25/1629)

The Council had before it the report dated 13 August 2025 from the Governance Team Leader regarding Renaming of Local Traffic Committee to Local Traffic Forum due to Delegation changes.

Moved by Councillor P Wells and seconded by Councillor K Richardson.

MOTION

1. That the rebranding of Local Traffic Committee to Local Traffic Forum be noted.
2. That the updated Terms of Reference be adopted.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

CCL25/217 WELLINGTON REZ TRAINING CENTRE - PROGRESS AND LOCAL BENEFITS (ID25/1632)

The Council had before it the Question on Notice dated 14 August 2025 from Councillor S Chowdhury.

CCL25/218 OPERATING LOSSES OF THE DRC AQUATIC LEISURE CENTRES (ID25/1659)

The Council had before it the Question on Notice dated 18 August 2025 from Councillor M Dickerson.

CCL25/219 WOOD HEATERS IN NEW RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS (ID25/1660)

The Council had before it the Question on Notice dated 18 November 2025 from Councillor M Dickerson.

CCL25/220 COMMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY (ID25/1425)

There were no matters recorded under this clause.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025
REPORT**CONFIDENTIAL**

In accordance with Section 9(2A) Local Government Act 1993, in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer, the following business is of a kind as referred to in Section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a Confidential Session of the Council meeting closed to the press and public.

The items listed come within the following provisions of the Act:

CCL25/221 - Tender – Victoria Park Amenity Block, Design and Construct - that the matter concerned information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business (Section 10A(2)(c)).

CCL25/222 – Solar Car Park with Battery & EV Charging Tender – Dubbo Regional Airport - the matter concerned information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it (Section 10A(2)(d)(i)).

CCL25/223 – Outcome of Simplified Tender for Real Estate Agency Services for the Sale of Unsold Lots at Keswick Estate, Stage 5 Release 2 - the matter concerned information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it (Section 10A(2)(d)(i)).

CCL25/224 – Update to Proposed Sale of, and Creation of Easement Over, Lot 131 on DP1277458 - the matter concerned information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business (Section 10A(2)(c)).

CCL25/225 – People Culture and Safety Quarterly Metrics Report - the matter concerned information that would, if disclosed, reveal personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors) (Section 10A(2)(a)).

CCL25/226 – Code of Conduct Matter - the matter concerned information that would, if disclosed, reveal alleged contraventions of any code of conduct requirements applicable under Section 440 (Section 10A(2)(i)).

There were no submissions as to whether the meeting should be closed for this item.

At this juncture it was moved by Councillor L Butler and seconded by Councillor P Wells that the Council resolves into closed session, the time being 6:59pm.

The open session resumed at 9:28pm.

The Resolutions of the Closed session of Council were displayed on the screen on recommencement of live stream.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025

REPORT

CCL25/221 TENDER - VICTORIA PARK AMENITY BLOCK, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT (ID25/1664)

The Council had before it the report dated 18 August 2025 from the Manager Recreation and Open Spaces regarding Tender - Victoria Park Amenity Block, Design and Construct.

Moved by Councillor L Butler and seconded by Councillor P Wells.

MOTION

The Council recommends that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of this item, the reason being that the matter concerned information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business (Section 10A(2)(c)).

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor P Wells and seconded by Councillor L Butler.

MOTION

1. That the tender be awarded to BLD Constructions Pty Ltd for \$548,634.31 inc gst for the design and construction of the Victoria Park amenity block.
2. That the proceeds received from the sale of 93L Railway Lane be utilised to help fund the shortfall of approximately \$171,114 inc gst, with any remaining proceeds going towards other capital renewal or embellishment projects within the public open space network.
3. That Council delegate the Chief Executive Officer to approve variations for any changes in scope with a view to reduce the cost to Council.
4. That Council delegates the Chief Executive Officer to award tender to other tenderer if the engagement with preferred tenderer fails.
5. That all documentation in relation to this matter be executed under Power of Attorney.
6. That all documentation in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Councillor P Toynnton.

CCL25/222 SOLAR CAR PARK WITH BATTERY & EV CHARGING TENDER - DUBBO REGIONAL AIRPORT (ID25/1633)

The Council had before it the report dated 14 August 2025 from the Manager Airport Strategy and Operations regarding Solar Car Park with Battery & EV Charging Tender - Dubbo Regional Airport.

Moved by Councillor L Butler and seconded by Councillor P Wells.

MOTION

DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Page 10

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025
REPORT

The Council recommends that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of this item, the reason being that the matter concerned information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it (Section 10A(2)(d)(i)).

CARRIED

That we have had two speakers for and two speakers against this item, Councillor M Dickerson moved that the motion be put.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Councillors L Butler.

Moved by Councillor K Richardson and seconded by Councillor P Wells.

MOTION

1. That Council directly engage Iberdrola Australia Limited under the pre-qualified panel contract LGP319 for an amount of \$2,628,787.58 (incl. GST)
2. That Council delegate the Chief Executive Officer to approve contract variations for this contract subject to budget limitations.
3. That all documentation relating to this matter be executed under Power of Attorney.
4. That all information contained in this report remain confidential.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Councillors L Butler, P Toynton.

Councillor M Wright declared a non-pecuniary, less than significant interest in the matter now before the Council and remained during the Council's consideration of this matter. The reason for such interest is that Councillor M Wright has a family member who is employed by Dubbo Regional Council at the Airport.

CCL25/223 OUTCOME OF SIMPLIFIED TENDER FOR REAL ESTATE AGENCY SERVICES FOR THE SALE OF UNSOLD LOTS AT KESWICK ESTATE, STAGE 5 RELEASE 2 (ID25/1415)

The Council had before it the report dated 21 July 2025 from the Manager Property and Land Development regarding Outcome of Simplified Tender for Real Estate Agency Services for the Sale of Unsold Lots at Keswick Estate, Stage 5 Release 2.

Moved by Councillor L Butler and seconded by Councillor P Wells.

MOTION

The Council recommends that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of this item, the reason being that the matter concerned

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025

REPORT

information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it (Section 10A(2)(d)(i)).

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor M Dickerson and seconded by Councillor S Chowdhury.

Recommendation

1. That Council engage Branri Pty Ltd trading as Ray White Dubbo (Ray White), on the terms as detailed in this report, to sell the unsold lots within Keswick Estate, Stage 5 Release 2.
2. That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to execute any documentation in relation to recommendation no. 1 (above) under Power of Attorney.
3. That the considerations in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.

LOST

For: Councillors S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, P Wells.

Against: Councillors L Butler, K Richardson, A Ryan, J Black and P Toynton.

Moved by Councillor L Butler and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

1. That Council decline to accept any of the submissions relating to the simplified tender for real estate agency services to sell land within Keswick Estate, Stage 5 Release 2.
2. That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to execute any documentation in relation to recommendation no. 1 (above) under Power of Attorney.
3. That Council proceed with the sale of lots within Keswick Estate, Stage 5 Release 2 as per Option 2 outlined within the body of this report.
4. That the considerations in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.

CARRIED

For: Councillors L Butler, K Richardson, A Ryan, J Black and P Toynton.

Against: Councillors S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, P Wells.

Councillor M Wright declared a non-pecuniary, significant interest in the matter now before the Council and left the room and was out of sight during the Council's consideration of this matter. The reason for such interest is that Councillor M Wright has a personal friend and business acquaintance who is part owner of a business which has submitted a tender.

CCL25/224 UPDATE TO PROPOSED SALE OF, AND CREATION OF EASEMENT OVER, LOT 131 ON DP1277458 (ID25/392)

The Council had before it the report dated 13 March 2025 from the Property and Land Officer regarding Update to Proposed Sale of, and Creation of Easement Over, Lot 131 on DP1277458.

Moved by Councillor L Butler and seconded by Councillor P Wells.

MOTION

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025
REPORT

The Council recommends that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of this item, the reason being that the matter concerned information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business (Section 10A(2)(c)).

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor M Dickerson and seconded by Councillor P Wells.

MOTION

1. That Council agree to the sale of Lot 131 on DP1277458 (Property) on the terms contained within this report.
2. That if a contract for the sale of the Property:
 - (a) is not exchanged by 12 September 2025; or
 - (b) is rescinded or terminated,
 then Council to:
 - (c) terminate any lease tenures over the Property; and
 - (d) undertake an expression of interest for the sale of the Property.
3. That Council delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to negotiate, finalise and execute any documents relating to:
 - (a) an agreement for the sale of the Property;
 - (b) termination of lease over the Property; and
 - (c) any other documentation to finalise the sale and/ or termination of lease relating to the Property, including any NSW Land Registry Services documentation.
4. That all documentation in relation to this matter be executed under Power of Attorney.
5. That all considerations in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

CCL25/225 PEOPLE CULTURE AND SAFETY QUARTERLY METRICS REPORT (ID25/1561)

The Council had before it the report dated 31 July 2025 from the Manager People Culture and Safety regarding People Culture and Safety Quarterly Metrics Report.

Moved by Councillor L Butler and seconded by Councillor P Wells.

MOTION

The Council recommends that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of this item, the reason being that the matter concerned personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors) (Section 10A(2)(a)).

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025
REPORT

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor P Wells and seconded by Councillor L Butler.

MOTION

1. That the information contained within the report of the Manager People Culture and Safety dated 31 July 2025 be noted.
2. That this report be provided quarterly to the relevant Ordinary meeting of Council.
3. That all documentation in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

At this juncture the Director Infrastructure, Development and Environment, Community, Culture and Places, Strategy Partnerships and Engagement, the Governance Officers, the Communication Services Team Leader, the IT Infrastructure Specialist and the IT Support Officer left the room, the time being 7.59 pm.

CCL25/226 CODE OF CONDUCT MATTER (ID25/1570)

The Council had before it the report dated 4 August 2025 from the Manager Corporate Governance regarding Code of Conduct Matter.

Moved by Councillor L Butler and seconded by Councillor P Wells.

MOTION

The Council recommends that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of this item, the reason being that the matter concerned alleged contraventions of any code of conduct requirements applicable under Section 440 (Section 10A(2)(i)).

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor K Richardson and seconded by Councillor M Dickerson.

MOTION

That Council determine the code of conduct matter.

Moved by Councillor K Richardson and seconded by Councillor L Butler

AMENDMENT

1. That Council determine the code of conduct matter.
2. That Council notes the Investigation Report dated 24 July 2025 into a Code of Conduct complaint. against Councillor Toynton, raising concerns about videos published on

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025

REPORT

social media in April and May 2025, which contained misleading comments that have the potential to erode public confidence in Council.

3. That it be noted that the maximum penalty that Council can impose is Censure.
4. That Council defer this matter to obtain comments from the Office of Local Government regarding permission to access the complaint under the new Code of Conduct that are to be enacted imminently.
5. That the documents and considerations with regard to this matter remain confidential to the Council.

LOST

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler and K Richardson.

Against: Councillors M Dickerson, R Ivey, M Wright, S Chowdhury, A Ryan and P Wells.

Moved by Councillor M Dickerson and seconded by Councillor M Wright.

AMENDMENT

1. That Council determine the code of conduct matter.
2. That Council notes the Investigation Report dated 24 July 2025 into a Code of Conduct complaint against Councillor Toynton, raising concerns about videos published on social media in April and May 2025, which contained misleading comments that have the potential to erode public confidence in Council.
3. That it be noted that the maximum penalty that Council can impose is Censure.
4. That Councillor Toynton be formally censured for breaches of the Code of Conduct as outlined in the Investigation Report dated 24 July 2024 under the following:
 Clause 3.1
 You must not conduct yourself in a manner that:
 - a. is likely to bring the Council or other Council officials into disrepute; and
 - b. is contrary to statutory requirements or the Council's administrative requirements or policies.
 Clause 3.2
 c. You must act lawfully and honestly and exercise a reasonable degree of care and diligence in carrying out your functions under the LGA or any other Act.
5. That the documents and considerations with regard to this matter remain confidential to the Council.

CARRIED

The amendment on being put to the meeting was carried.

CARRIED

For: Councillors S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, A Ryan, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: J Black, L Butler and K Richardson.

The amendment then became the motion and on being put to the meeting was carried.

CARRIED

For: Councillors S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, A Ryan, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Councillors J Black, L Butler and K Richardson.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 AUGUST 2025
REPORT

Councillor P Toynton declared a non-pecuniary, significant interest in the matter now before the Council and left the room and was out of sight during the Council's consideration of this matter. The reason for such interest is that Councillor P Toynton is the subject of the item as it pertains to himself.

The meeting closed at 9:30pm.

.....
CHAIRPERSON



Confirmation of Minutes - Extraordinary Council Meeting - 9 September 2025

The Council had before it the report of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 9 September 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the proceedings of the Dubbo Regional Council Extraordinary Council meeting held on 9 September 2025 (as attached) be taken as read, confirmed as correct minutes and signed by the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer.

APPENDICES:

- 1** [↓](#) Minutes - Ordinary Council Meeting - 09/09/2025 - Special



REPORT EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 9 SEPTEMBER 2025

PRESENT: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: The Chief Executive Officer, the Director Organisational Performance, the Manager Airport Strategy and Operations, the Manager Corporate Governance, the Governance Officers, the Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement, the Chief Information Officer, the IT Support Officer, the Corporate Strategy and Performance Coordinator, the Communications Partner, the Director Development and Environment, the Manager Growth Planning, the Director Infrastructure, the Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Design, the Infrastructure Strategy Team Leader, the Director Community, Culture and Places and the Manager Arts and Culture.

Councillor J Black assumed the Chair of the meeting.

Prayer delivered by Councillor K Richardson and an Acknowledgement of Country was delivered by Councillor P Toynton.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 5:32pm at the Dubbo Civic Administration Building, Council Chamber, with a prayer for Divine Guidance to the Council in its deliberations and activities read by Councillor K Richardson, and the Acknowledgement of Country read by Councillor P Toynton.

CCL25/227 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID25/1763)

A request for leave of absence was received from Councillor J Cowley who was absent from the meeting due to personal reasons.

Moved by Councillor K Richardson and seconded by Councillor P Wells.

MOTION

That such request for Leave of Absence be accepted and Councillor J Cowley be granted leave of absence from this meeting.

Councillors L Butler and S Chowdhury attended the meeting via audio-visual link.

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 9 SEPTEMBER 2025
REPORT

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

CCL25/228 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID25/1764)

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

CCL25/229 PUBLIC FORUM (ID25/1765)

The Council reports having met with the following persons during Public Forum:

- Roland Samuels – Naming of the New Dubbo Bridge.
- Jacob Perry – Naming of the New Dubbo Bridge and Noting the Outgoing CEO.

MAYORAL MINUTES:

CCL25/230 RECRUITMENT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER (ID25/1772)

The Council had before it the Mayoral Minute regarding Recruitment of the General Manager.

Moved by Councillor J Black.

MOTION

1. That the formal resignation of Murray Wood (attached as Appendix 1) as Chief Executive Officer from Dubbo Regional Council, effective 28 November 2025, be noted.
2. That Council acknowledge the contribution of and convey sincere thanks to Mr Wood for his leadership and achievements during his tenure with Dubbo Regional Council and wish him all the best in his new role as General Manager at Coffs Harbour City Council.
3. That the title of Chief Executive Officer be amended to General Manager to align to the Local Government Act, 1993.
4. That, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 1993, Council convene a Recruitment Selection Panel for the purpose of recruitment of an Interim General Manager and the vacant position of General Manager, and delegate the Recruitment Selection Panel the responsibility of:
Interim General Manager:
 - a. Undertaking an internal Expression of Interest for the position of Interim General Manager with the assistance of the People, Culture and Safety Branch.
 - b. Preparation of a report to Council in November 2025 to determine the appointment of the Interim General Manager, including the Selection Panel's recommendation.

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 9 SEPTEMBER 2025
REPORT

Vacant Position of General Manager:

- a. Evaluation of the General Manager's position description to ensure it is current and salary reflects the responsibilities and duties of the position, utilising salary benchmarking data.
 - b. Advertisement of the position in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 1993.
 - c. Development of recruitment information packages.
 - d. Determination of a shortlist of candidates for initial round of face to face interviews.
 - e. Conducting initial round of face to face interviews.
 - f. Determination of a shortlist of candidates for the final round of interviews.
 - g. Notifying all applicants accordingly.
 - h. Preparation of a report for an Ordinary Council meeting to determine the appointment of the General Manager, including the Selection Panel's recommendation.
5. That the Recruitment Selection Panel composition be the Mayor, three Councillors and a suitably qualified person independent of the Council (determined by the Recruitment Selection Panel).
 6. That the Recruitment Selection Panel declare any conflicts of interest and maintain confidentiality throughout the recruitment process.
 7. That the Council determine the successful recruitment provider.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, J Cowley, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

RECRUITMENT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER – DETERMINATION OF RECRUITMENT PROVIDER

Moved by Councillor M Dickerson and seconded by Councillor P Wells.

That the Council appoint LG Management Solutions as the successful recruitment provider.
(No vote recorded at this point)

Moved by Councillor K Richardson and seconded by Councillor P Wells

MOTION

That Council move into Confidential Committee of the Whole to determine the recruitment provider.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Councillor M Dickerson

At this juncture the meeting moved into Closed session, the time being 5:47pm.

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 9 SEPTEMBER 2025
REPORT

RECRUITMENT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER – DETERMINATION OF RECRUITMENT PROVIDER

Moved by Councillor M Dickerson and seconded by Councillor P Wells.

Motion

That the Council appoint LG Management Solutions as the successful recruitment provider.

LOST

For: Councillors S Chowdhury and M Dickerson.

Against: Councillors J Black, L Butler, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

RECRUITMENT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER – DETERMINATION OF RECRUITMENT PROVIDER

Moved by Councillor R Ivey and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

That the Council appoint Leading Roles as the successful recruitment provider.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

At this juncture the meeting moved out of closed session the time being 6:14pm.

Voting Method

Moved by Councillor M Dickerson and seconded by Councillor J Black.

That voting for membership of the recruitment panel members be conducted by each Councillor naming three Councillors, and those three with the highest votes are selected.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

**EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 9 SEPTEMBER 2025
REPORT**

That the Recruitment Selection Panel composition be the Mayor, three Councillors, being Councillor P Wells, M Wright and K Richardson.

Councillor	Butler	Ivey	Richardson	Toynton	Wells	Wright
J Black			1		1	1
L Butler	1		1	1		
S Chowdhury		1			1	1
M Dickerson		1			1	1
R Ivey		1			1	1
K Richardson			1		1	1
A Ryan			1		1	1
P Toynton			1	1	1	
P Wells			1		1	1
M Wright		1			1	1
Total	1	4	6	2	9	8

INFORMATION ONLY MATTERS:

Point of Order raised by Councillor M Dickerson as the Notice of Motion of Rescission is unlawful.

The Mayor ruled the Point of Order as being upheld and therefore the Rescission Motion will not be brought forward to Council on the basis that it is unlawful.

CCL25/231 PROCEDURAL MATTERS: NOTICE OF MOTION OF RESCISSION URGENCY (ID25/1797)

The Council had before it the report dated 4 September 2025 from the Chief Executive Officer regarding Procedural Matters: Notice of Motion of Rescission Urgency.

This matter was not put before Council following the above ruling that the Notice of Motion of Rescission was unlawful. This applies to clause CCL25/232.

NOTICES OF MOTION:

At this juncture, the time being 6:28pm, Councillor M Dickerson formally withdrew his Notice of Motion as the matter had been dealt with under CCL25/230.

CCL25/233 RECRUITMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO) (ID25/1778)

Council had before it a Notice of Motion dated 2 September 2025 from Councillor M Dickerson regarding the Recruitment of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) as follows:

**EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 9 SEPTEMBER 2025
REPORT**

That Council:

1. Commence the recruitment process for a new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) as soon as possible.
2. Establish a selection panel comprising the Mayor, three councillors and an independent panel member, to be appointed at this meeting, to oversee the recruitment process.
3. Engage a suitably qualified company, with demonstrated expertise in local government executive recruitment, to conduct the recruitment process on behalf of Council.
4. Target the appointment of the new Chief Executive Officer by no later than 1 January 2026.
5. Request the recruitment company to provide Council with a proposed recruitment timeline to achieve the target date.
6. Confirm that the current Chief Executive Officer will remain in place until 8 December 2025.
7. At the November Ordinary Meeting of Council, determine any acting arrangement for the Chief Executive Officer role, if required, for any interim period between the departure of the current Chief Executive Officer and the commencement of the new Chief Executive Officer, with all delegations and responsibilities of the role.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Commence the recruitment process for a new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) as soon as possible.
2. Establish a selection panel comprising the Mayor, three councillors and an independent panel member, to be appointed at this meeting, to oversee the recruitment process.
3. Engage a suitably qualified company, with demonstrated expertise in local government executive recruitment, to conduct the recruitment process on behalf of Council.
4. Target the appointment of the new Chief Executive Officer by no later than 1 January 2026.
5. Request the recruitment company to provide Council with a proposed recruitment timeline to achieve the target date.
6. Confirm that the current Chief Executive Officer will remain in place until 8 December 2025.
7. At the November Ordinary Meeting of Council, determine any acting arrangement for the Chief Executive Officer role, if required, for any interim period between the departure of the current Chief Executive Officer and the commencement of the new Chief Executive Officer, with all delegations and responsibilities of the role.

The meeting closed at 6:28pm.

.....CHAIRPERSON



REPORT: Mayoral Appointments and Meetings

DIVISION: Chief Executive Officer
REPORT DATE: 3 September 2025
TRIM REFERENCE: ID25/1792

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	• Provide review or update	
Issue	• Details of Mayoral appointments and meetings for the period 11 August 2025 through to 7 September 2025.	
Reasoning	• To ensure transparency of Mayoral appointments and meetings.	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	There are no financial implications arising from this report.
Policy Implications	Policy Title	There are no policy implications arising from this report.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

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

Theme: 3 Working Together for the Region

CSP Objective: 3.1 Our Council is open, fair, and accountable in its decision-making.

Delivery Program Strategy: 3.1.5 Operate with transparency, accountability, and integrity in all governance and decision-making processes.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information contained within the report be noted.

MW
Chief Executive Officer

REPORT

Consultation

Details follow in the body of the report regarding all meetings and appointments of the Mayor for the given period. These meetings and appointments are representative of community, business, political and Council consultation.

Resourcing Implications

Nil

For the information of Councillors, the following details of mayoral appointments and attendances are provided:

Monday, 11 August 2025

- Attended radio interview with 2BS.
- *Councillor Pam Wells attended the Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant sod turn event with Squadron Energy in lieu of the Mayor.*
- Submitted Mayoral column to the Wellington and District Leader.
- Attended radio interview with 2BS.

Tuesday, 12 August 2025

- Attended the Infrastructure Planning and Environment, Culture and Community and Corporate Services Standing Committee briefing.
- Attended the Infrastructure Planning and Environment, Culture and Community and Corporate Services Standing Committee meetings.

Wednesday, 13 August 2025

- Attended radio interview with Triple M.
- Attended radio interview with 2WEB.
- Attended radio interview with DC FM.

Thursday, 14 August 2025

- Attended the Dubbo Regional Council Victor Chang Institute School Science Awards Presentation event.

Friday, 15 August 2025

- Attended radio interview with 2DU.
- Attended the 2025 Skillset Awards Presentation.
- Attended the Dinawans Connection Launch at Sandy Beach.

Monday, 18 August 2025

- Attended radio interview with 2BS.
- Attended radio interview with Zoo FM.
- Attended the Murray Darling Basin Region 10 Ordinary meeting via videoconference.
- Submitted Mayoral column to the Wellington and District Leader.
- Attended a meeting along with Council's Director Development and Environment, Steven Jennings with representatives from Voice for Cabonne in Wellington.
- Attended a meeting with Council's Chief Executive Officer, Murray Wood and Manager Corporate Governance, Abbey Rouse.
- Attended a meeting with Karen Deutscher.

Tuesday, 19 August 2025

- Attended the Village Roadshow event for Wongarbron and Geurie at Wongarbron.

Wednesday, 20 August 2025

- Attended radio interview with 2WEB.
- Attended a Councillor Workshop – Victoria Park Amenity Block.

Thursday, 21 August 2025

- Attended the Dubbo Public School Book Parade.
- Attended the Renewable Energy Zone Benefit Committee meeting via videoconference.

Friday, 22 August 2025

- Attended radio interview with 2DU.
- Attended a meeting with Paul Carr and Shane Riley from Three Rivers Regional Assembly.

Monday, 25 August 2025

- Attended radio interview with 2BS.
- Attended radio interview with 2DU.
- Attended the Wellington Domestic and Family Violence Accommodation Workshop at the Wellington Aboriginal Health Service.
- Submitted Mayoral column to the Wellington and District Leader.
- Attended an interview with the Daily Liberal.
- Attended the DNCO Networking Mixer at The Exchange.

Tuesday, 26 August 2025

- Attended the 2025 Orana Youth Forum.
- Attended the Community Consultative Meeting at the Wellington Correctional Centre
- Attended the Council Meeting Briefing in Wellington.
- Attended the Ordinary Council Meeting in Wellington.

Wednesday, 27 August 2025

- Attended radio interview with 2WEB.
- Attended radio interview with DC FM.
- Attended the 2025 Dubbo West Public Book Week Celebrations as a Guest Reader.
- Attended the DAMA feasibility Study – Final Report meeting via videoconference.
- Attended a meeting with Robert Samuels.

Thursday, 28 August 2025

- Attended the Drought Preparedness Roadshow in Wellington to give a welcome address.
- Attended a U3A meeting as a guest speaker.
- Recorded on the road Video – Promoting New Residents Night.

Friday, 29 August 2025

- Attended radio interview with 2DU.
- Attended the Drought Preparedness Roadshow in Dubbo to give a welcome address.
- Attended the Vinnies Sleepout.

Saturday, 31 August 2025

- Attended the Dubbo MotorFest.

Monday, 1 September 2025

- Attended radio interview with 2BS.
- Attending radio interview with Zoo FM.
- Submitted Mayoral column to the Wellington and District Leader.
- Attended a meeting with Desmond Leighton.
- Attended an interview with the Daily Liberal.

Tuesday, 2 September 2025

- Attended along with Council's Chief Executive Officer, Murray Wood a meeting with Dubbo RSL Club CEO, Rebecca Zaia.
- Attended interview with Hamish Southwell from Prime News.
- Attended interview with ABC Western Plains.

- Attended interview with WIN News.
- Attended Councillor Workshop – Belgravia Briefing and CEO Recruitment.

Wednesday, 3 September 2025

- Attended radio interview with Triple M.
- Attended radio interview with 2WEB.
- Attended a meeting with Council's Chief Executive Officer, Murray Wood and Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement, Jessica Brown.

Thursday, 4 September 2025

- Attended the Australasian Caves and Karst Managers Association Guide school and conference to deliver a welcome address at the Wellington Caves.
- Attended the Youth Council Meeting.

Friday, 5 September 2025

- Attended the Launch of the Wheelchair Basketball in Dubbo at the PCYC with cross overs on the Today Show.
- Attended radio interview with 2DU.
- Attended interview with Dubbo Photo News.

Saturday, 6 September 2025

- Attended the 2025 Wellington NAIDOC Ball.
- Attended the ORISCON DJ Suketu event.



REPORT: Mayoral Expenses - August 2025

DIVISION: Chief Executive Officer
REPORT DATE: 9 September 2025
TRIM REFERENCE: ID25/1815

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	• Provide review or update	
Issue	• Details of Mayoral expenses for the period 1 August through to 31 August 2025.	
Reasoning	• To ensure transparency of Mayoral expenditure.	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Corporate Governance
	Funding Source	Members Expenses
Policy Implications	Policy Title	Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for the Mayor and Councillors.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

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

Theme: 3 Working Together for the Region
CSP Objective: 3.1 Our Council is open, fair, and accountable in its decision-making.
Delivery Program Strategy: 3.1.5 Operate with transparency, accountability, and integrity in all governance and decision-making processes.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information contained within the report be noted.

Jane Bassingthwaight
Director Organisational Performance

MW
Chief Executive Officer

BACKGROUND

The Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for the Mayor and Councillors policy is prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) and *Local Government Regulation (General) Regulation 2021* (The Regulation) and complies with the Office of Local Government's Guidelines for the payment of expenses and provision of facilities for the Mayor and Councillors in NSW.

This policy enables the reasonable and appropriate reimbursement of expenses and provision of facilities to Councillors to help them undertake their civic duties. It ensures accountability and transparency.

The policy sets out the maximum amounts Council will pay for specific expenses and facilities. Expenses not explicitly addressed in this policy will not be paid or reimbursed.

- Local Government Act 1993, Sections 252 and 253
- Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, sections 217 and 403
- Guidelines for the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities for Mayors and Councillors in NSW, 2009

REPORT

The Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for the Mayor and Councillors was last adopted by council on 25 February 2025.

Council will report the mayor's expenditure monthly for notation. Attached as **Appendix 1** is the expenditure for the month.

APPENDICES:

- [1](#) Mayor Expenses - August 2025

Councillor Josh Black - Mayoral Monthly Expenditure Report 2025-2026

Account Description	Annual Allocation for Mayor	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	YTD
Travel and Subsistence (NSW/Interstate)	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 118.38	\$ 463.45											\$ 581.83
Conferences	\$ 1,405.64		\$ 1,359.09											\$ 1,359.09
Phone/Data Charges	\$ 197.00	\$ 16.36	\$ 16.36											\$ 32.72
Professional Development	\$ 3,000.00													\$ -
Fleet Vehicle Hire Charges*	\$ 14,813.52	\$ 1,234.46	\$ 1,234.46											\$ 2,468.92

* The Mayor is provided with a vehicle in accordance with the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for the Mayor and Councillors Policy.

Note (1) all amounts shown are GST exclusive.

Note (2) General expenses are reported in the month in which they occur.



Investment Under Section 625 of the Local Government Act - August 2025

DIVISION: Organisational Performance
REPORT DATE: 8 September 2025
TRIM REFERENCE: ID25/1774

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	• Provide review or update • Fulfil legislated requirement/Compliance	
Issue	• Investment under Section 625 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>.	
Reasoning	• Section 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021. • Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993. • Council's Investment Policy and Strategy.	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Organisational Performance
	Funding Source	Interest Earned on Investment
Policy Implications	Policy Title	Investment Policy 2025
	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 four principal themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 3 Working Together for the Region

CSP Objective: 3.1 Our Council is open, fair, and accountable in its decision-making.

Delivery Program Strategy: 3.1.4 Maximise revenue opportunities from grants and other funding sources to enhance services for the community.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information contained within the Investment under Section 625 of the Local Government Act Report be noted.

Jane Bassingthwaighe
Director Organisational Performance

BM
Revenue Accountant

BACKGROUND

As required by Section 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, this report contains the details of all monies that Council has invested under Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993* dated as at the last day of the reporting month.

In accordance with the *Investment Ministerial Order* dated 12 January 2011, Dubbo Regional Council (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 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 or investment in an Hour-Glass investment facility of the New South Wales Treasury Corporation.

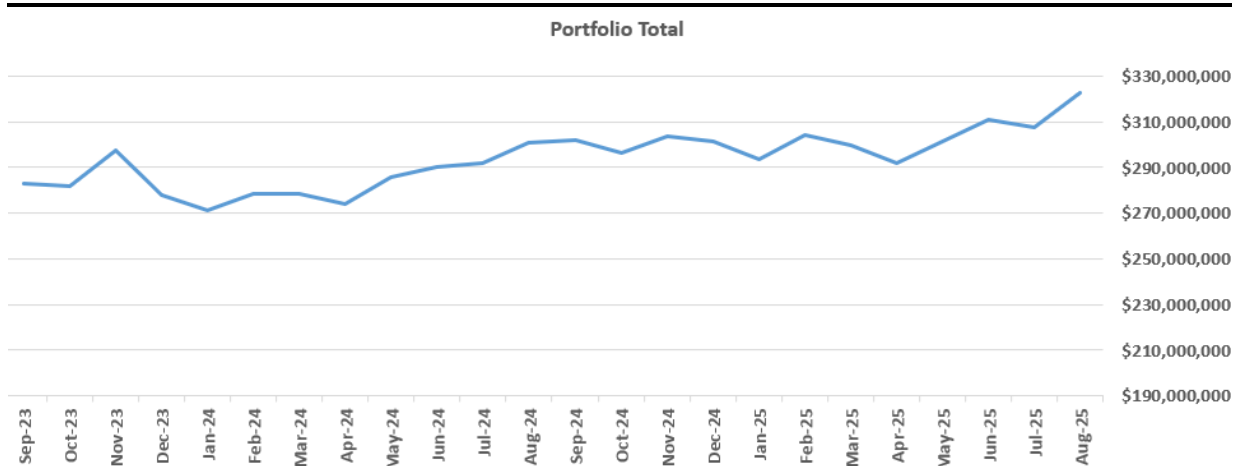
Investments, when placed, have been done so in accordance with the *Local Government Act, Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* and Council's Investment Policy and Strategy. Interest on investment has been accounted for on an accrual basis. This report details investments and annualised returns for the reporting month. Attachment 1 provides more detailed information on Council's investment portfolio for this period.

Note: As per Councils Investment Policy - Hour-Glass Investments is the former name of New South Wales Treasury Corporation (NSW TCorp) including the TCorp Investment Management arm which manages the TCorpIM funds.

REPORT

Portfolio Overview

As of 31 August 2025, Council had a total investment Portfolio Face Value of \$322,695,068.49. This is inclusive of Councils Cash at bank consisting of General Funds, Sewer Funds, Water Funds, and restricted Grant Funding. Arlo Advisory Pty Ltd have provided a Capital Value of \$322,693,337.99 for Council's Total Investment Portfolio.



Portfolio Fund Breakdown - Face Value

Portfolio Breakdown – Current Month			
Fund	Total Amount Invested	PFA Bank Account Balance	Total
General	\$134,000,000.00	\$26,471,255.44	\$160,471,255.44
Water	\$62,000,000.00	\$5,741,813.22	\$67,741,813.22
Sewer	\$87,000,000.00	\$7,481,999.83	\$94,481,999.83
Total	\$283,000,000.00	\$39,695,068.49	\$322,695,068.49

Portfolio Breakdown – Previous Month			
Fund	Total Amount Invested	PFA Bank Account Balance	Total
General	\$125,000,000.00	\$24,315,604.60	\$149,315,604.60
Water	\$58,000,000.00	\$8,019,482.01	\$66,019,482.01
Sewer	\$80,000,000.00	\$12,338,210.64	\$92,338,210.64
Total	\$263,000,000.00	\$44,673,297.25	\$307,673,297.25

Key Movements

Investment Activity during the month was as follows:

- Investment Maturities – funds returned to Council:

ADI	Instrument	Amount	Funded by
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	\$2,000,000.00	General
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	\$2,000,000.00	General
Suncorp Bank	Term Deposit	\$5,000,000.00	Water

- New Investments Purchased – funds paid out by Council:

ADI	Instrument	Amount	Funded by
Bank Of Queensland	Term Deposit	\$5,000,000.00	General
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	\$2,000,000.00	Sewer
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	\$3,000,000.00	Sewer
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	\$2,000,000.00	Water
Westpac Bank	Term Deposit	\$2,000,000.00	Water
Westpac Bank	Term Deposit	\$3,000,000.00	General
Westpac Bank	Term Deposit	\$5,000,000.00	General
Westpac Bank	Term Deposit	\$5,000,000.00	Water
Westpac Bank	Term Deposit	\$2,000,000.00	Sewer

Notable Bank Account activity during the month was as follows:

- Notable Extraordinary Income – funds received by Council of an extraordinary nature:

Government Grant	\$1,882,607.00	General
Government Grant	\$2,809,619.21	General
Government Grant	\$1,049,500.00	General

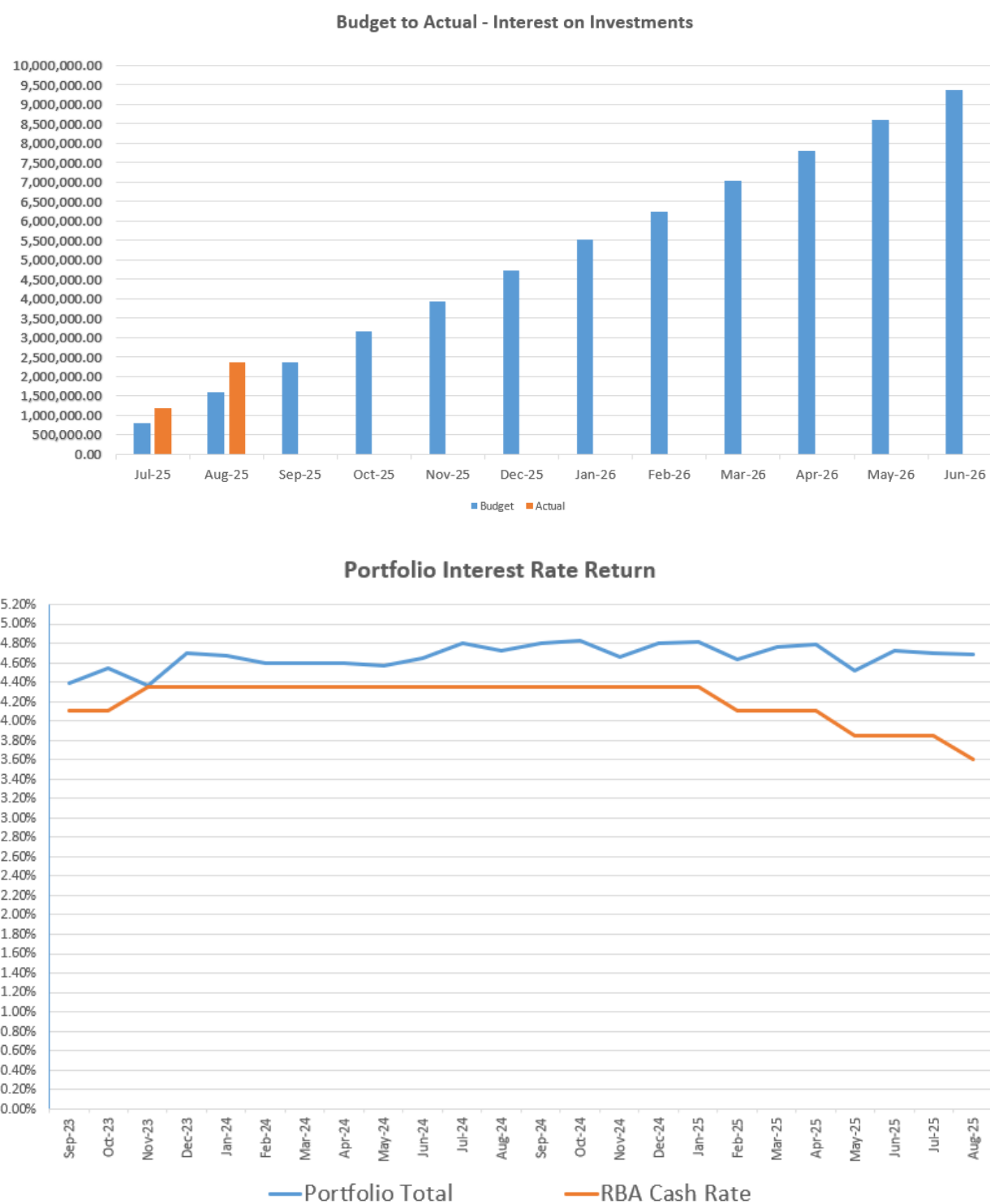
It is to be noted that the quarterly instalment of Council rates was due at the end of August, resulting in an increase in the total portfolio value.

- Notable Expenditure – funds paid out by Council:

CivicRisk Mutual Contribution	\$2,960,551.00	General
Workers Compensation	\$1,194,853.30	General

Investment Interest Overview:

Interest earned on investments has been included within Council's 2025/2026 Operational Plan, with total income generated from the Investment Portfolio forecast to be in excess of \$9,367,444.00.



Council has investments totalling \$8,000,000.00 Face Value which were invested with fixed interest rates below the current Official Cash Rate of 3.60%. These investments were invested with interest rates ranging from 1.70% to 3.25% that will mature after 30 June 2026. These investments were placed with competitive interest rates at the time the investments were made.

Summary

Cash Account

Council outperformed the 11.00 am Official Cash Rate market benchmark for one month return of 3.60%, achieving a return of 4.00% for its At Call investments.

Investment Portfolio

Council outperformed the twelve-month Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Performance Index of 4.25%, with an average return of 4.68% for its overall portfolio return.

Consultation

Arlo Advisory Pty Ltd provides investment advisory services to Council on investment related decisions.

Resourcing Implications

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

APPENDICES:

[**1**](#)  Investment Report - Arlo Advisory Pty Ltd - August 2025 - Attachment



Monthly Investment Report



August 2025

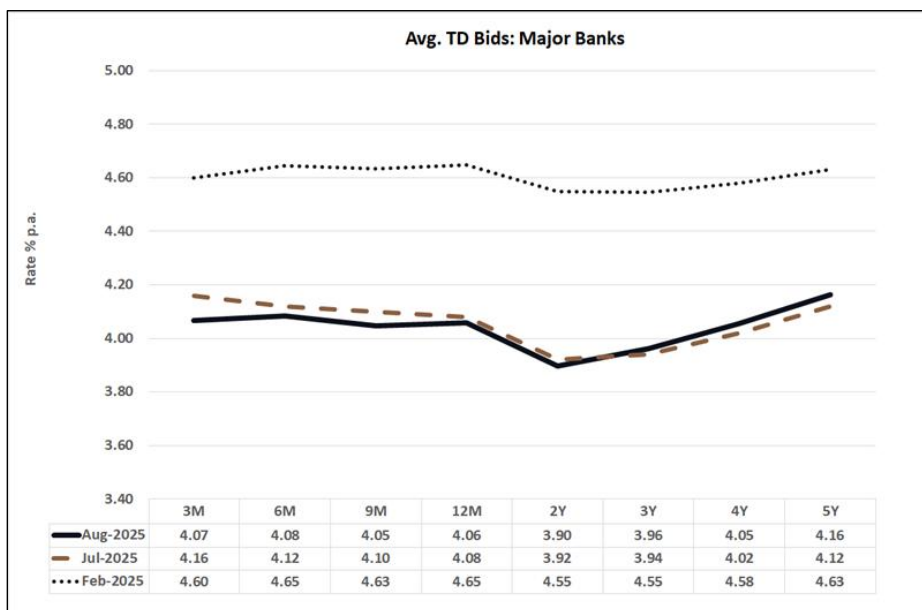
Arlo Advisory Pty Ltd
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Market Update Summary

Global equity markets continued to reach new highs over August, despite the ongoing uncertainty with regards to global tariffs and geopolitics. Markets appear to be buoyed by further central bank rate cuts, or expectations of additional cuts in the short-term. Although the risks to growth remain material, the prospect of further policy support (both monetary and fiscal) is likely to provide support to the medium-term growth outlook and valuations.

In the deposit market, over August, at the short-end of the curve (under 9 months), the average deposit rates offered by the domestic major banks fell ~5bp compared to the previous month (July) after the RBA cut official interest rates. At the longer-end of the curve (1-5 years), the average deposit rates remained relatively flat with the market already largely pricing in additional two rate cuts over the next 6-12 months.



Source: Imperium Markets

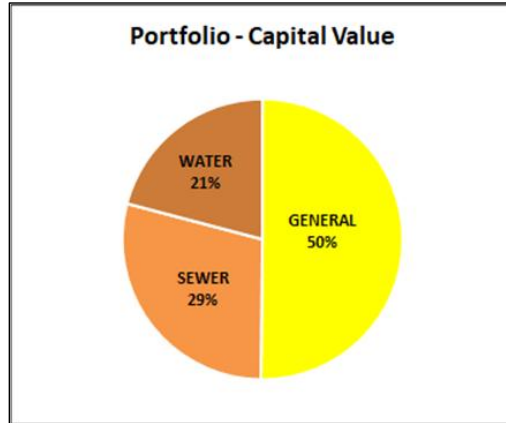
With additional rate cuts and a global economic downturn priced in over the next 6-12 months, investors should consider diversifying and taking an 'insurance policy' against a potentially lower rate environment by investing across 1-5 year fixed deposits and locking in rates close to or above 4% p.a. (small allocation only).



Dubbo Regional Council's Portfolio & Compliance

Portfolio Allocation

The majority of the portfolio is directed to General Funds (~50%). The remainder of the portfolio is held in Sewer (~29%) and Water Funds (~21%), which is ideal for slightly longer-term investments.

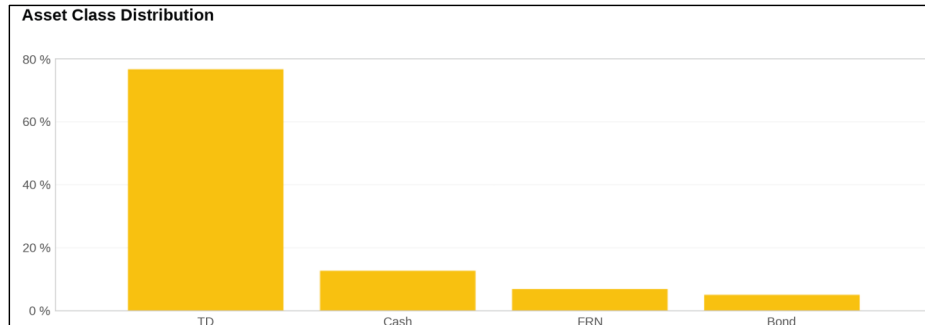


Allocation	Capital Value	% Total Value
GENERAL	\$160,492,491	49.74%
SEWER	\$94,455,273	29.27%
WATER	\$67,745,573	20.99%
TOTAL	\$322,693,338	100.00%



Asset Allocation

The majority of the portfolio is directed to term deposits (~76%). The remainder of the portfolio is held in senior FRNs (~7%), fixed bonds (~5%) and overnight cash accounts (~12%).



Senior FRNs are currently considered 'expensive' on a historical basis but new issuances should continue to be considered on a case by case scenario. In the interim, staggering a mix of fixed deposits and fixed bonds between 12 months to 5 years remains a more optimal strategy to maximise returns over a longer-term cycle.

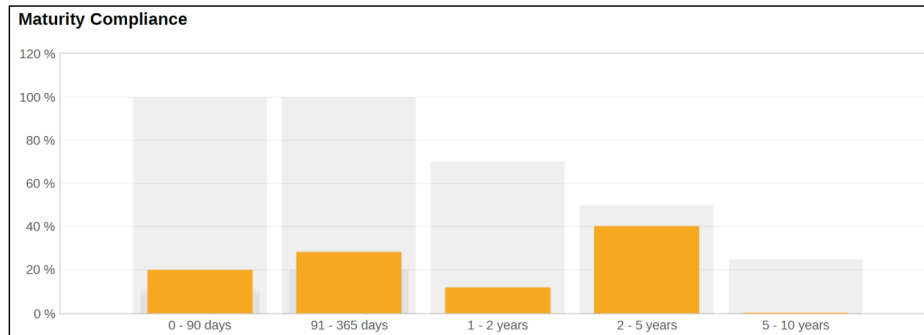
With additional interest rate cuts and a global economic downturn being priced in 2025, investors can choose to allocate a small proportion of longer-term funds and undertake an insurance policy against additional rate cuts by investing across 1-5 year fixed assets, locking in and targeting yields above 4% p.a. Should inflation be within the RBA's target band of 2-3% over the longer-term, returns around 4% p.a. or higher should outperform benchmark.



Term to Maturity

The investment portfolio remains diversified from a maturity perspective with assets maturing out to 5 years. We recommend surplus funds excess to liquidity requirements be allocated to fixed assets across 1-5 year horizons, as well as any attractive primary FRNs between 3-5 years (refer to respective sections below).

Compliant	Horizon	Capital Value	% Total Value	Min. Limit (%)	Max. Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	0 – 3 months	\$64,205,884	19.90%	10%	100%	\$258,487,454
✓	3 – 12 months	\$90,987,454	28.20%	20%	100%	\$231,705,884
✓	1 – 2 years	\$38,000,000	11.78%	0%	70%	\$187,885,337
✓	2 – 5 years	\$129,500,000	40.13%	0%	50%	\$31,846,669
✓	5 – 10 years	\$0	0.00%	0%	25%	\$80,673,335
		\$322,693,338	100.00%			



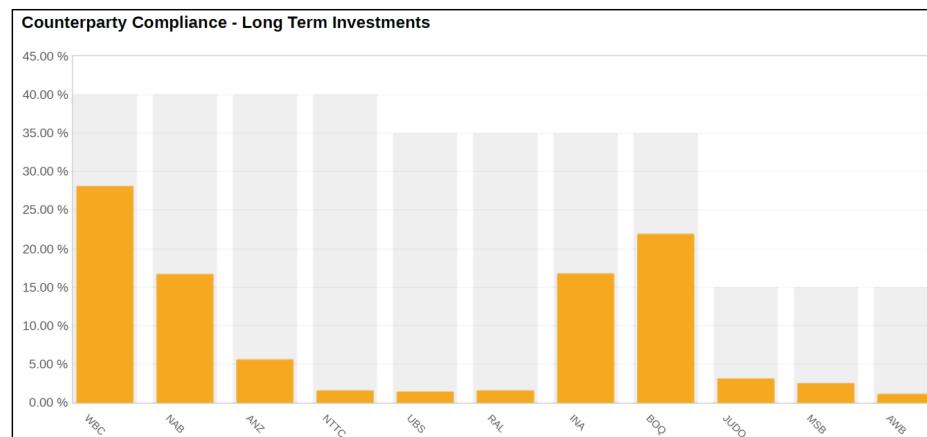


Counterparty

As at the end of August 2025, Council was within Policy limits with every single ADI. Overall, the portfolio is well diversified, with the majority considered investment grade (rated BBB- or higher).

Compliant	Issuer	Rating	Capital Value^	% Total Value	Max. Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	ANZ (Suncorp) Covered	AAA	\$4,972,765	1.54%	100%	\$317,720,573
✓	ANZ	AA-	\$13,000,000	4.03%	40%	\$116,077,335
✓	NAB	AA-	\$53,695,068	16.64%	40%	\$75,382,267
✓	Northern Territory	AA-	\$5,000,000	1.55%	40%	\$124,077,335
✓	WBC	AA-	\$90,500,000	28.05%	40%	\$38,577,335
✓	Rabobank Aus.	A+	\$5,010,420	1.55%	35%	\$107,932,248
✓	UBS AG	A+	\$4,500,509	1.39%	35%	\$108,442,160
✓	ING Bank Australia	A	\$54,000,000	16.73%	35%	\$58,942,668
✓	BoQ	A-	\$70,503,760	21.85%	35%	\$42,438,908
✓	Auswide	BBB	\$3,505,208	1.09%	15%	\$44,898,793
✓	Judo	BBB	\$10,000,000	3.10%	15%	\$38,404,001
✓	MyState	BBB	\$8,005,608	2.48%	15%	\$40,398,393
			\$322,693,338	100.00%		

^Note valuations of Council's securities on the Imperium Markets platform are marked-to-market and priced on a daily basis from an independent third party provider.



On 31st July 2024, ANZ's takeover of Suncorp Bank was formalised, and ratings agency S&P upgraded Suncorp's long-term credit rating to that of its parent company immediately (now rated AA-). Investor's exposure to Suncorp is now reflected under the parent company being ANZ.

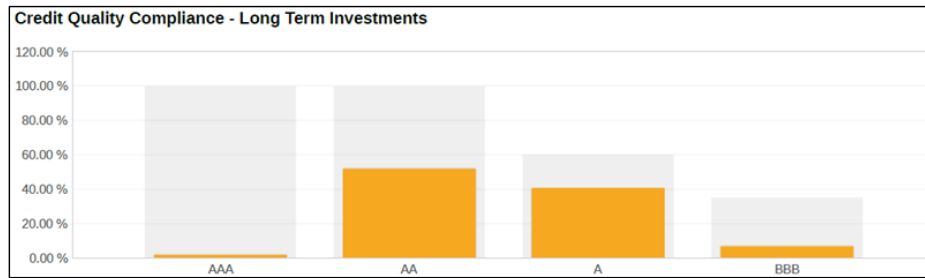


Credit Quality

The portfolio remains well diversified from a credit ratings perspective with the portfolio spread across the investment grade spectrum. All aggregate ratings categories are within the Policy limits.

Compliant	Credit Rating	Capital Value^	% Total Value	Max Limit*	Available
✓	AAA Category	\$4,972,765	1.54%	100%	\$317,720,573
✓	AA Category	\$162,195,068	50.26%	100%	\$160,498,270
✓	A Category	\$134,014,689	41.53%	60%	\$59,601,314
✓	BBB Category	\$21,510,816	6.67%	35%	\$91,431,852
✓	Unrated ADI	\$0	0.00%	10%	\$32,269,334
		\$322,693,338	100.00%		

[^]Note valuations of Council's securities on the Imperium Markets platform are marked-to-market and priced on a daily basis from an independent third-party provider.





Performance

Council's performance for the month ending August 2025 (excluding cash accounts) is summarised as follows:

Performance (Actual)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	0.30%	0.94%	1.94%	0.62%	4.10%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	0.32%	0.94%	2.00%	0.62%	4.25%
T/D Portfolio	0.39%	1.17%	2.41%	0.78%	4.92%
FRN Portfolio	0.40%	1.17%	2.38%	0.79%	4.81%
Bond Portfolio	0.35%	0.97%	1.68%	0.70%	2.96%
Council's Total Portfolio[^]	0.39%	1.16%	2.34%	0.78%	4.68%
Relative (to Bank Bills)	0.07%	0.21%	0.34%	0.15%	0.43%

[^]Council's total portfolio returns excludes Council's cash account holdings.

Performance (Annualised)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	3.60%	3.77%	3.89%	3.72%	4.10%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	3.84%	3.79%	4.00%	3.72%	4.25%
T/D Portfolio	4.71%	4.73%	4.83%	4.67%	4.92%
FRN Portfolio	4.82%	4.74%	4.77%	4.74%	4.81%
Bond Portfolio	4.24%	3.90%	3.35%	4.17%	2.96%
Council's Total Portfolio[^]	4.69%	4.67%	4.69%	4.65%	4.68%
Relative (to Bank Bills)	0.85%	0.87%	0.68%	0.93%	0.43%

[^]Council's total portfolio returns excludes Council's cash account holdings.

For the month of August 2025, the portfolio (excluding cash) provided a solid return of +0.39% (actual) or +4.69% p.a. (annualised), outperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.32% (actual) or +3.84% p.a. (annualised).



Portfolio Valuation as at 31/08/2025

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
NAB	AA-	TD	WATER	At Maturity	10/09/2024	10/09/2025	4.9000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	95,583.56	8,323.29
NAB	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	24/05/2024	24/09/2025	5.2000	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	69,808.22	22,082.19
MyState Bank	BBB	FRN	GENERAL	Quarterly	13/10/2022	13/10/2025	5.0168	8,005,608.00	8,000,000.00	53,879.06	34,086.75
Westpac	AA-	TD	WATER	Quarterly	26/07/2024	27/10/2025	5.1500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	9,876.71	8,747.95
Westpac	AA-	TD	SEWER	Quarterly	26/07/2024	27/10/2025	5.1500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	9,876.71	8,747.95
Auswide Bank	BBB	FRN	GENERAL	Quarterly	07/11/2022	07/11/2025	5.1906	3,505,208.00	3,500,000.00	12,443.22	12,443.22
NAB	AA-	TD	SEWER	At Maturity	29/08/2025	28/11/2025	4.1100	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	675.62	675.62
JUDO BANK	BBB	TD	WATER	At Maturity	14/06/2024	16/12/2025	5.1300	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	249,613.15	17,427.95
JUDO BANK	BBB	TD	SEWER	At Maturity	14/06/2024	16/12/2025	5.1300	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	187,209.86	13,070.96
Westpac	AA-	TD	WATER	Quarterly	08/07/2024	08/01/2026	5.2000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	15,671.23	8,832.88
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	08/07/2024	08/01/2026	5.2000	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	31,342.47	17,665.75
Westpac	AA-	TD	SEWER	Quarterly	08/07/2024	08/01/2026	5.2000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	15,671.23	8,832.88
BOQ	A-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	02/08/2024	02/02/2026	4.8000	5,500,000.00	5,500,000.00	19,528.77	19,528.77
UBS AG	A+	FRN	SEWER	Quarterly	26/02/2021	26/02/2026	4.0481	4,500,508.50	4,500,000.00	2,994.48	2,994.48
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Semi-Annual	28/02/2025	16/03/2026	4.6500	6,000,000.00	6,000,000.00	3,057.53	3,057.53
Westpac	AA-	TD	SEWER	Semi-Annual	28/02/2025	16/03/2026	4.6500	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	1,528.77	1,528.77
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Semi-Annual	03/03/2025	15/04/2026	4.5700	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	45,574.79	7,762.74
Westpac	AA-	TD	SEWER	Semi-Annual	03/03/2025	15/04/2026	4.5700	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	45,574.79	7,762.74



Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
Westpac	AA-	TD	WATER	Semi-Annual	28/02/2025	22/04/2026	4.6500	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	70,705.48	11,847.95
BOQ	A-	FRN	WATER	Quarterly	06/05/2021	06/05/2026	4.2961	5,003,760.00	5,000,000.00	15,301.18	15,301.18
Rabobank Australia Branch	A+	BOND	GENERAL	Semi-Annual	12/05/2021	12/05/2026	4.2500	5,010,420.00	5,000,000.00	65,205.48	18,047.95
BOQ	A-	TD	WATER	At Maturity	05/03/2025	10/06/2026	4.6700	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	46,060.27	7,932.60
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Semi-Annual	17/03/2025	17/06/2026	4.5700	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	63,103.56	11,644.11
Suncorp Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	30/06/2025	23/06/2026	4.1200	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	35,556.16	17,495.89
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Semi-Annual	04/07/2025	06/07/2026	4.1000	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	33,136.99	17,410.96
Westpac	AA-	TD	WATER	Semi-Annual	17/03/2025	16/07/2026	4.5700	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	84,138.08	15,525.48
Westpac	AA-	TD	SEWER	Semi-Annual	17/03/2025	23/07/2026	4.5700	6,000,000.00	6,000,000.00	126,207.12	23,288.22
NAB	AA-	TD	SEWER	Annual	14/08/2025	14/08/2026	4.1000	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	6,065.75	6,065.75
Suncorp Bank	AAA	BOND	SEWER	Semi-Annual	24/08/2021	24/08/2026	3.2500	4,972,765.00	5,000,000.00	3,116.44	3,116.44
Westpac	AA-	TD	WATER	Annual	29/08/2025	31/08/2026	4.1200	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	677.26	677.26
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Semi-Annual	29/08/2025	31/08/2026	4.1200	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	1,693.15	1,693.15
JUDO BANK	BBB	TD	SEWER	Annual	16/09/2021	16/09/2026	1.7000	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	48,904.11	4,331.51
BOQ	A-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	21/09/2022	21/09/2026	4.7600	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	223,654.79	20,213.70
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Semi-Annual	29/08/2025	16/10/2026	4.0900	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	1,008.49	1,008.49
BOQ	A-	TD	SEWER	Annual	03/12/2024	11/12/2026	4.8500	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	180,712.33	20,595.89
ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	A	TD	GENERAL	Annual	16/06/2025	16/06/2027	4.0000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	16,876.71	6,794.52
Suncorp Bank	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	30/06/2025	23/06/2027	3.8800	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	33,484.93	16,476.71



Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	A	TD	GENERAL	Semi-Annual	04/07/2025	05/07/2027	3.9700	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	32,086.30	16,858.90
ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	A	TD	SEWER	Semi-Annual	04/07/2025	05/07/2027	3.9700	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	19,251.78	10,115.34
Westpac	AA-	TD	WATER	Semi-Annual	12/08/2025	12/08/2027	3.9000	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	10,684.93	10,684.93
Westpac	AA-	TD	SEWER	Semi-Annual	12/08/2025	12/08/2027	3.9000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	4,273.97	4,273.97
BOQ	A-	TD	SEWER	Annual	23/09/2022	23/09/2027	4.9100	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	184,562.19	16,680.55
BOQ	A-	TD	SEWER	Annual	03/03/2023	03/03/2028	5.1500	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	77,038.36	13,121.92
BOQ	A-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	03/03/2023	03/03/2028	5.1500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	51,358.90	8,747.95
BOQ	A-	TD	WATER	Annual	03/03/2023	03/03/2028	5.1500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	51,358.90	8,747.95
BOQ	A-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	22/05/2024	23/05/2028	5.0000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	27,945.21	8,493.15
ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	A	TD	SEWER	Annual	16/06/2025	16/06/2028	4.0800	7,000,000.00	7,000,000.00	60,249.86	24,256.44
Suncorp Bank	AA-	TD	WATER	Annual	30/06/2025	23/06/2028	3.9200	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	20,298.08	9,987.95
ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	A	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	04/07/2025	04/07/2028	4.0400	6,000,000.00	6,000,000.00	39,182.47	20,587.40
NAB	AA-	TD	WATER	Annual	06/08/2025	08/08/2028	3.9500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	5,627.40	5,627.40
BOQ	A-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	07/08/2025	08/08/2028	3.9400	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	13,493.15	13,493.15
Northern Territory Treasury	AA-	BOND	GENERAL	Semi-Annual	30/08/2024	15/12/2028	4.8000	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	170,958.90	20,383.56
Westpac	AA-	TD	SEWER	Quarterly	30/04/2024	30/04/2029	5.1700	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	18,696.99	17,563.84
ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	A	TD	SEWER	Annual	16/06/2025	18/06/2029	4.2400	6,000,000.00	6,000,000.00	53,667.95	21,606.58
ING Bank (Australia)	A	TD	GENERAL	Annual	16/06/2025	18/06/2029	4.2200	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	44,512.33	17,920.55



Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
Ltd											
ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	A	TD	WATER	Annual	16/06/2025	18/06/2029	4.2400	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	35,778.63	14,404.38
ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	A	TD	GENERAL	Annual	18/07/2025	18/07/2029	4.3100	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	15,941.10	10,981.64
BOQ	A-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	02/08/2024	02/08/2029	4.7500	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	14,054.79	14,054.79
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Quarterly	14/08/2024	14/08/2029	4.5000	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	8,876.71	8,876.71
Westpac	AA-	TD	WATER	Quarterly	04/10/2024	04/10/2029	4.5600	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	22,112.88	11,618.63
BOQ	A-	TD	SEWER	Annual	27/11/2024	27/11/2029	5.0700	6,000,000.00	6,000,000.00	231,692.05	25,836.16
BOQ	A-	TD	WATER	Annual	29/11/2024	06/12/2029	5.0500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	76,372.60	8,578.08
BOQ	A-	TD	SEWER	Annual	29/11/2024	06/12/2029	5.0500	7,000,000.00	7,000,000.00	267,304.11	30,023.29
BOQ	A-	TD	WATER	Annual	03/12/2024	11/12/2029	5.0000	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	186,301.37	21,232.88
Westpac	AA-	TD	SEWER	Semi-Annual	05/02/2025	05/02/2030	4.7500	1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00	5,270.55	5,270.55
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Semi-Annual	12/02/2025	14/02/2030	4.8000	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	13,150.68	13,150.68
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Semi-Annual	12/02/2025	14/02/2030	4.8000	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	13,150.68	13,150.68
Westpac	AA-	TD	WATER	Semi-Annual	18/02/2025	18/02/2030	4.7600	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	3,651.51	3,651.51
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Semi-Annual	18/02/2025	18/02/2030	4.7600	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	5,477.26	5,477.26
BOQ	A-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	10/04/2025	10/04/2030	4.4500	6,000,000.00	6,000,000.00	105,336.99	22,676.71
ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	A	TD	WATER	Annual	07/05/2025	07/05/2030	4.3200	5,000,000.00	5,000,000.00	69,238.36	18,345.21
ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	A	TD	SEWER	Annual	22/05/2025	22/05/2030	4.6200	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	38,732.05	11,771.51
ING Bank (Australia)	A	TD	WATER	Annual	25/07/2025	25/07/2030	4.4900	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	14,023.56	11,440.27

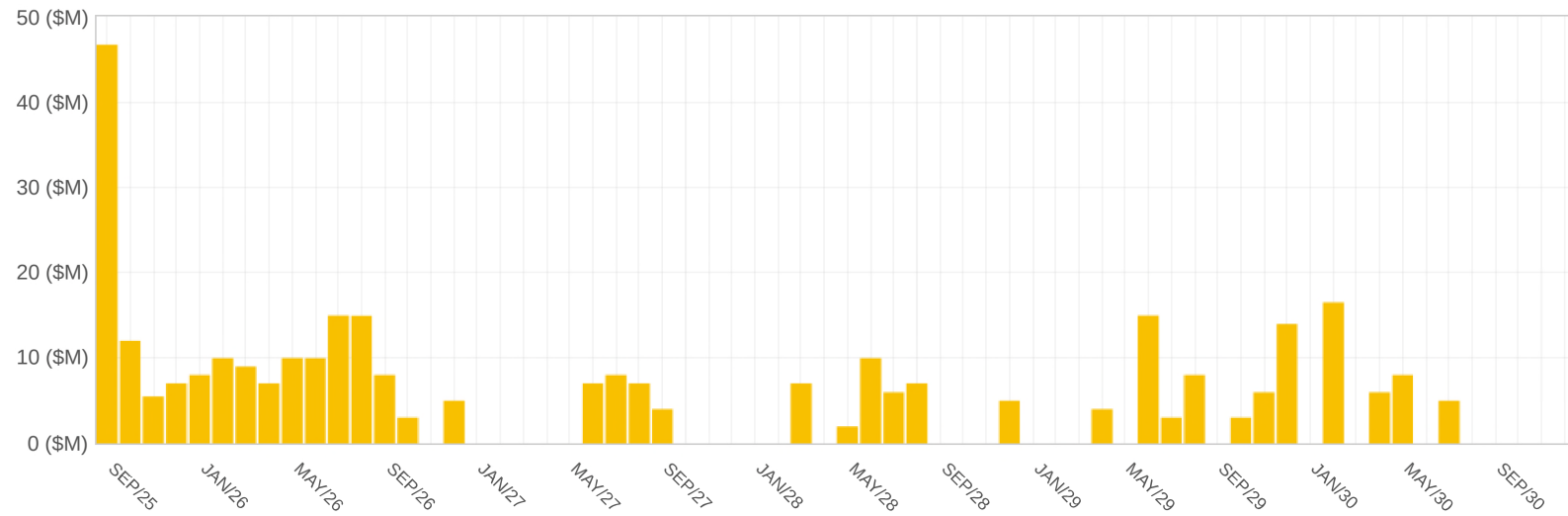


Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)	Accrued (\$)	Accrued MTD (\$)
Ltd											
ING Bank (Australia) Ltd	A	TD	GENERAL	Annual	25/07/2025	25/07/2030	4.4900	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	9,349.04	7,626.85
NAB	AA-	CASH	SEWER	Monthly	31/08/2025	31/08/2025	4.0000	7,481,999.83	7,481,999.83	2,459.84	2,459.84
NAB	AA-	CASH	WATER	Monthly	31/08/2025	31/08/2025	4.0000	5,741,813.22	5,741,813.22	1,887.72	1,887.72
NAB	AA-	CASH	GENERAL	Monthly	31/08/2025	31/08/2025	4.0000	26,471,255.44	26,471,255.44	8,702.88	8,702.88
TOTALS								322,693,337.99	322,695,068.49	3,959,631.52	943,409.90

Maturity Cash Flow as at 31/08/2025

Year	Jan (\$)	Feb (\$)	Mar (\$)	Apr (\$)	May (\$)	Jun (\$)	Jul (\$)	Aug (\$)	Sep (\$)	Oct (\$)	Nov (\$)	Dec (\$)	Total (\$)
2025	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46,695,068	12,005,608	5,505,208	7,000,000	71,205,884.49
2026	8,000,000	10,000,508	9,000,000	7,000,000	10,014,180	10,000,000	15,000,000	14,972,765	8,000,000	3,000,000	-	5,000,000	99,987,453.50
2027	-	-	-	-	-	7,000,000	8,000,000	7,000,000	4,000,000	-	-	-	26,000,000.00
2028	-	-	7,000,000	-	2,000,000	10,000,000	6,000,000	7,000,000	-	-	-	5,000,000	37,000,000.00
2029	-	-	-	4,000,000	-	15,000,000	3,000,000	8,000,000	-	3,000,000	6,000,000	14,000,000	53,000,000.00
2030	-	16,500,000	-	6,000,000	8,000,000	-	5,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	35,500,000.00
TOTALS													322,693,337.99

Maturity Cash Flow Distribution





**DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL**

Report of the Infrastructure, Planning and Environment Committee - meeting 9 September 2025

AUTHOR: Governance Officer
REPORT DATE: 4 September 2025

The Council had before it the report of the Infrastructure, Planning and Environment Committee meeting held 9 September 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Infrastructure, Planning and Environment Committee meeting held on 9 September 2025, be adopted.



REPORT INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE 9 SEPTEMBER 2025

PRESENT: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: The Chief Executive Officer, the Director Organisational Performance, the Manager Airport Strategy and Operations, the Manager Corporate Governance, the Governance Officers, the Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement, the Chief Information Officer, the IT Support Officer, the Corporate Strategy and Performance Coordinator, the Communications Partner, the Director Development and Environment, the Manager Growth Planning, the Director Infrastructure, the Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Design, the Infrastructure Strategy Team Leader, the Director Community, Culture and Places and the Manager Arts and Culture.

Councillor J Black assumed the Chair of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 6:29pm at the Dubbo Civic Administration Building, Council Chamber.

IPEC25/59 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID25/487)

A request for leave of absence was received from Councillor J Cowley who was absent from the meeting due to personal reasons.

Moved by Councillor A Ryan and seconded by Councillor M Wright.

MOTION

That such request for Leave of Absence be accepted and Councillor J Cowley be granted leave of absence from this meeting.

Councillors L Butler and S Chowdhury attended the meeting via audio visual link.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

IPEC25/60 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID25/488)

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

IPEC25/61 DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY SUMMARY (ID25/1717)

The Committee had before it the report dated 26 August 2025 from the Manager Building and Development Services regarding Development Activity Summary.

Moved by Councillor K Richardson and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

That the report of the Manager Building and Development Services dated 26 August 2025 be noted.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

IPEC25/62 PLANNING PROPOSAL R25-001 - IRONBARK ESTATE (ID25/1571)

The Committee had before it the report dated 22 August 2025 from the Manager Growth Planning regarding Planning Proposal R25-001 - Ironbark Estate.

Moved by Councillor M Wright and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

1. That Council note the summarised Planning Proposal (attached in Appendix 1).
2. That Council endorse the Planning Proposal (attached in Appendix 2) to amend the Dubbo Regional Local Environmental Plan 2022 at Lot 101 DP1280301), by changing the zoning and minimum lot size area and to introduce dwelling density controls.
3. That Council submit the Planning Proposal to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for a Gateway Determination, and request it include conditions that:
 - a. 180 Boundary Road, Dubbo (Lot 102 DP1301426) be excluded.
 - b. An updated Acoustic Assessment Report be prepared to identify how acoustic matters can be addressed during the Planning Proposal rather than deferred to the Development Application stage.
 - c. Council's Section 7.11 Open Space and Stormwater Development Contributions Plans be updated prior to finalisation.
4. That Council request the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure be the Local Plan Making Authority under Section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 as the Planning Proposal is on Council-owned land.

5. That following the completion of the public exhibition period, a further report be presented to Council for consideration, including the results of public exhibition.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

IPEC25/63 RESULTS OF PUBLIC EXHIBITION - FOREST GLEN SOLAR FARM - COMMUNITY HOUSING FUND GUIDELINES (ID25/1569)

The Committee had before it the report dated 22 August 2025 from the Team Leader Growth Planning Projects regarding Results of Public Exhibition - Forest Glen Solar Farm - Community Housing Fund Guidelines.

Moved by Councillor M Wright and seconded by Councillor R Ivey.

MOTION

That Council adopt the Forest Glen Solar Farm Community Housing Fund Guidelines (attached in Appendix 1).

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Councillor P Toynton.

IPEC25/64 NAMING OF THE NEW DUBBO BRIDGE (ID25/710)

The Committee had before it the report dated 6 August 2025 from the Director Infrastructure regarding Naming of the New Dubbo Bridge.

Moved by Councillor P Wells and seconded by Councillor M Wright.

MOTION

That Council defer this matter to the Ordinary Council meeting, 23 September 2023.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

**IPEC25/65 PEDESTRIAN ACCESS AND MOBILITY PLAN (PAMP) - PUBLIC EXHIBITION
(ID25/964)**

The Committee had before it the report dated 29 August 2025 from the Traffic Engineer regarding Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) - Public Exhibition.

Moved by Councillor P Wells and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

That Council endorse the draft Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan to be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

The meeting closed at 6:40pm.

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CHAIRPERSON



**DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL**

Report of the Culture and Community Committee - meeting 9 September 2025

AUTHOR: Governance Officer
REPORT DATE: 4 September 2025

The Council had before it the report of the Culture and Community Committee meeting held 9 September 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Culture and Community Committee meeting held on 9 September 2025, be adopted.



REPORT CULTURE AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE 9 SEPTEMBER 2025

PRESENT: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: The Chief Executive Officer, the Director Organisational Performance, the Manager Airport Strategy and Operations, the Manager Corporate Governance, the Governance Officers, the Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement, the Chief Information Officer, the IT Support Officer, the Corporate Strategy and Performance Coordinator, the Communications Partner, the Director Development and Environment, the Manager Growth Planning, the Director Infrastructure, the Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Design, the Infrastructure Strategy Team Leader, the Director Community, Culture and Places and the Manager Arts and Culture.

Councillor P Wells assumed the chair of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 6:42pm, at the Dubbo Civic Administration Building, Council Chamber.

CCC25/42 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID25/489)

A request for leave of absence was received from Councillor J Cowley who was absent from the meeting due to personal reasons.

Moved by Councillor A Ryan and seconded by Councillor K Richardson.

MOTION

That such request for Leave of Absence be accepted and Councillor J Cowley be granted leave of absence from this meeting.

Councillors L Butler and S Chowdhury attended the meeting via audio visual link.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

CCC25/43 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID25/490)

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

**CCC25/44 REPORT OF THE MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MEETING 4
AUGUST 2025 (ID25/1624)**

The Committee had before it the report of the Multicultural Advisory Committee meeting held 4 August 2025.

Moved by Councillor M Wright and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

That the report of the Multicultural Advisory Committee meeting held on 4 August 2025, be noted.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

CCC25/45 REPORT OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL - MEETING 7 AUGUST 2025 (ID25/1625)

The Committee had before it the report of the Youth Council meeting held 7 August 2025.

Moved by Councillor J Black and seconded by Councillor K Richardson.

MOTION

That the report of the Youth Council meeting held on 7 August 2025, be noted.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

**CCC25/46 MACQUARIE REGIONAL LIBRARY OPERATIONAL REPORT JANUARY 2025 TO
JUNE 2025 (ID25/1121)**

The Committee had before it the report dated 15 August 2025 from the Manager Macquarie Regional Library regarding Macquarie Regional Library Operational Report January 2025 to June 2025.

Moved by Councillor R Ivey and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

That the Macquarie Regional Library Six-monthly Performance Report, January 2025 to June 2025 be noted.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

CCC25/47 PRESENTATION - UPDATE ON WIRADJURI TOURISM CENTRE (ID25/1788)

The Committee will receive a Presentation – Update on Wiradjuri Tourism Centre.

Moved by Councillor K Richardson and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

That this item be deferred to be dealt with in confidential session at the conclusion of the Corporate Services Committee.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

The meeting closed at 6:53.

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CHAIRPERSON



**DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL**

Report of the Corporate Services Committee - meeting 9 September 2025

AUTHOR: Governance Officer
REPORT DATE: 4 September 2025

The Council had before it the report of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held 9 September 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on 9 September 2025, be adopted.



REPORT CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE 9 SEPTEMBER 2025

PRESENT: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: The Chief Executive Officer, the Director Organisational Performance, the Manager Airport Strategy and Operations, the Manager Corporate Governance, the Governance Officers, the Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement, the Chief Information Officer, the IT Support Officer, the Corporate Strategy and Performance Coordinator, the Communications Partner, the Director Development and Environment, the Manager Growth Planning, the Director Infrastructure, the Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Design, the Infrastructure Strategy Team Leader, the Director Community, Culture and Places and the Manager Arts and Culture.

Councillor K Richardson assumed the chair of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 6:53pm. at the Dubbo Civic Administration Building, Council Chamber.

CSC25/55 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID25/491)

A request for leave of absence was received from Councillor J Cowley who was absent from the meeting due to personal reasons.

Moved by Councillor A Ryan and seconded by Councillor M Wright.

MOTION

That such request for Leave of Absence be accepted and Councillor J Cowley be granted leave of absence from this meeting.

Councillors L Butler and S Chowdhury attended via audio visual link.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

CSC25/56 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID25/492)

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

CSC25/57 MONTHLY REPORTING SNAPSHOT FOR COUNCILLORS (ID25/1699)

The Committee had before it the report dated 25 August 2025 from the Corporate Strategy Performance Coordinator regarding Monthly Reporting Snapshot for Councillors.

Moved by Councillor J Black and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

That the information contained within the report of the Corporate Strategy and Performance Coordinator, dated 1 September 2025, be noted.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

CSC25/58 2024/2025 DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN - FINAL PROGRESS REPORT (ID25/1601)

The Committee had before it the report dated 13 August 2025 from the Corporate Strategy Performance Coordinator regarding 2024/2025 Delivery Program and Operational Plan - Final Progress Report.

Moved by Councillor P Toynton and seconded by Councillor J Black.

MOTION

That the report of the Corporate Strategy and Performance Coordinator, dated 13 August 2025, be noted.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

CSC25/59 RE-PUBLICATION OF THE TOWARDS 2040 COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN (ID25/1698)

The Committee had before it the report dated 25 August 2025 from the Corporate Strategy Performance Coordinator regarding Re-Publication of the Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan.

Moved by Councillor M Wright and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

That the Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan (Appendix 1) be adopted.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

**CSC25/60 DRAFT COUNCIL POLICY - TECHNOLOGY PROVISIONS FOR COUNCILLORS
(ID25/1403)**

The Committee had before it the report dated 16 July 2025 from the Chief Information Officer regarding Draft Council Policy - Technology Provisions for Councillors.

Moved by Councillor M Dickerson and seconded by Councillor P Wells.

MOTION

- 1. That Council endorse Option 1: Personal Devices Permitted of the Technology Provisions for Councillors Policy and update the policy wording accordingly.**
- 2. That the Technology Provisions for Councillors Policy replaces the former Council Policy; Access to Councillor Email Messages, as attached as Appendix 2.**
- 3. That the Technology Provisions for Councillors Policy replaces the former Council Policy; Provision, Operation and Management of Corporate devices for Councillors, as attached as Appendix 3.**

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

**CSC25/61 OUTCOME OF PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY
(ID25/1631)**

The Committee had before it the report dated 13 August 2025 from the Director Organisational Performance regarding Outcome of Public Exhibition of Asset Management Policy.

Moved by Councillor P Toynton and seconded by Councillor J Black.

MOTION

That the draft Asset Management Policy, as attached as Appendix 1, be adopted.

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

CONFIDENTIAL

In accordance with Section 9(2A) Local Government Act 1993, in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer, the following business is of a kind as referred to in Section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a Confidential Session of the Committee meeting closed to the press and public.

The item listed below come within the following provisions of the Act:

- *CSC25/62 – CD25-668 – Project Management Tender – Dubbo Airport Runway Asphalt Works* – That the information that would, if disclosed, reveal a trade secret (Section 10A(2)(d)(iii)).
- *CCC25/47 – Presentation – Update on Wiradjuri Tourism Centre* - That the information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it (Section 10A(2)(d)(i)).

There were no submissions as to whether the meeting should be closed for a particular item.

At this junction it was moved by Councillor A Ryan and seconded by Councillor M Wright that the Committee resolves into Closed Session, the time being 7:17pm.

The Open Session resumed at 7:59pm.

The following resolutions made in the closed session were displayed on the screen.

**CSC25/62 CD25-668 - PROJECT MANAGEMENT TENDER - DUBBO AIRPORT RUNWAY
ASPHALT WORKS (ID25/1758)**

The Committee had before it the report dated 28 August 2025 from the Manager Airport Strategy and Operations regarding CD25-668 - Project Management Tender - Dubbo Airport Runway Asphalt Works.

Moved by Councillor A Ryan and seconded by Councillor M Wright.

MOTION

That members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of this item, the reason being that the matter concerned commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, reveal a trade secret (Section 10A(2)(d)(iii)).

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor M Wright and seconded by Councillor P Toynton.

MOTION

- 1. That a contract for the Supply of Project Management and Supervision Services for the Dubbo Regional Airport Runway Sustainability Project be awarded to RP Infrastructure in accordance with Clause 178 (3) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 for the price of \$763,275.00 (incl. GST)**
- 2. That Council delegate the Chief Executive Officer to approve contract variations for this contract subject to budget limitations.**
- 3. That all documentation relating to this matter be executed under Power of Attorney.**
- 4. That all information contained in this report remain confidential.**

CARRIED

For: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

CCC25/47 PRESENTATION - UPDATE ON WIRADJURI TOURISM CENTRE (ID25/1788)

The Committee will receive a presentation on this item.

Moved by Councillor A Ryan and seconded by Councillor M Wright.

MOTION

That members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of this item, the reason being that the matter concerned information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it (Section 10A(2)(d)(i)).

CARRIED

The Committee received a Presentation – Update on Wiradjuri Tourism Centre

The meeting closed at 8:00

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CHAIRPERSON



**DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL**

Report of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee - meeting 15 September 2025

AUTHOR: Governance Officer
REPORT DATE: 16 September 2025

The Council had before it the report of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held 15 September 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 15 September 2025, be adopted.



**REPORT
AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT
COMMITTEE
15 SEPTEMBER 2025**

PRESENT: Councillors J Black and R Ivey (non voting Councillor Member), T Breen (Independent Member), G Matthews (Independent Member) and J Walkom (Independent Member and Council Appointed Chair).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

The Chief Executive Officer, the Director Organisational Performance, the Chief Financial Officer, the Governance Team Leader, the Governance Officer and Hong Wee Soh (NSW Audit Office).

Mr J Walkom assumed the Chair of the meeting.

An Acknowledgement of Country was delivered by Mr J Walkom.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 4:00 PM.

ARIC25/29 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID25/445)

A request for leave of absence was received from D Daniels (NSW Audit Office)

RECCOMENDATION

That the leave of absence from D Daniels be noted.

ARIC25/30 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID25/446)

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

ARIC25/31 REFERRAL OF 2024/2025 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR AUDIT (ID25/1808)

The Committee had before it the report dated 5 September 2025 from the Chief Financial Officer regarding Referral of 2024/2025 Financial Statements for Audit.

The Committee received a presentation from the Chief Financial Officer regarding this item.

Moved by J Walkom and seconded by G Matthews.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends:

That the Draft 2024/2025 Financial Statements be noted and referred to audit.

CARRIED

At this juncture, the time being 4:25pm, Clr S Chowdhury joined the meeting.

ARIC25/32 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER UPDATE (ID25/448)

The Committee received a verbal update from the Chief Executive Officer including the following:

- SafeWork update and response to recent incident
- Smart Water Meters

ARIC25/33 DIRECTOR ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE UPDATE (ID25/449)

The Committee received a verbal update from the Director Organisational Performance including the following:

- Financial Statements
- Quarterly Review
- Asset Management Plan
- Contract Review
- CEO Resignation and Recruitment for General Manager

ARIC25/34 GENERAL BUSINESS (ID25/447)

There were no items of General Business.

The meeting closed at 5:23pm.

.....
CHAIRPERSON



DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MOTION: Fees and Charges - Tips and Transfer Stations

REPORT DATE: 1 September 2025
FILE: ID25/1768

Council had before it a Notice of Motion dated 1 September 2025 from Councillor P Toynton regarding the Fees and Charges - Tips and Transfer Stations as follows:

I would like to place the following notice of motion on the agenda for the May Ordinary meeting of Council.

1. *That the CEO provide a report to Council reviewing the fees and charges associated with tips and transfer stations.*

RECOMMENDATION

That the CEO provide a report to Council reviewing the fees and charges associated with tips and transfer stations.

PT
Councillor

APPENDICES:

- 1 [↓](#) Fees and Charges - Tips and Transfer Stations

Councillor Phillip Toynton
PO Box 81
DUBBO NSW 2830

19 May 2025

The Chief Executive Officer
Dubbo Regional Council
PO Box 81
DUBBO NSW 2830

Dear Murray

NOTICE OF MOTION – FEES AND CHARGES – TIPS AND TRANSFER STATIONS

I would like to place the following notice of motion on the agenda for the May Ordinary meeting of Council.

1. *That the CEO provide a report to Council reviewing the fees and charges associated with tips and transfer stations.*

Yours faithfully



Phillip Toynton
Councillor



NOTICE OF MOTION: Establishment of a Dubbo Regional Livestock Markets Committee

REPORT DATE: 29 August 2025
FILE: ID25/1773

Council had before it a Notice of Motion dated 29 August 2025 from Councillor P Toynton regarding the Establishment of a Dubbo Regional Livestock Markets Committee as follows:

That the Director Organisational Performance prepare a report for presentation at the October 2025 Ordinary Council meeting, detailing the proposed establishment of a Dubbo Regional Livestock Markets (DRLM) Committee. The report is to include:

- 1. Recommended representation from key stakeholder groups, including livestock agents, transport operators, produces, animal welfare representatives, Councillor representatives, and relevant Council staff; and*
- 2. A draft Terms of Reference outlining the Committee's purpose, membership, meeting schedule, and reporting framework.*

RECOMMENDATION

That the Director Organisational Performance prepare a report for presentation at the October 2025 Ordinary Council meeting, detailing the proposed establishment of a Dubbo Regional Livestock Markets (DRLM) Committee. The report is to include:

- 1. Recommended representation from key stakeholder groups, including livestock agents, transport operators, produces, animal welfare representatives, Councillor representatives, and relevant Council staff; and**
- 2. A draft Terms of Reference outlining the Committee's purpose, membership, meeting schedule, and reporting framework.**

PT
Councillor

APPENDICES:

- [1](#) Ordinary Council Meeting - September 2025 - Notice of Motion - DRLM Committee - Cllr P Toynton

Councillor Phillip Toynton

PO Box 81

DUBBO NSW 2830

29 August 2025

The Chief Executive Officer

Dubbo Regional Council

PO Box 81

DUBBO NSW 2830

Dear Murray

BACKGROUND

The Dubbo Regional Livestock Markets (DRLM) are a critical asset to our region, supporting agricultural trade, employment, and community wellbeing. The facility is used extensively by a diverse group of stakeholders who possess firsthand knowledge of its operation, challenges, and opportunities.

Establishing a dedicated Committee will provide a structured forum for users to contribute to the ongoing maintenance, operational improvements, and strategic planning of the DRLM. These stakeholders are uniquely positioned to identify issues, suggest practical enhancements, and ensure that animal health and welfare standards are upheld.

This initiative aims to foster collaboration, transparency, and continuous improvement in the management of the DRLM, ensuring it remains a leading livestock facility in New South Wales.

NOTICE OF MOTION – ESTABLISHMENT OF A DRLM COMMITTEE

I would like to place the following notice of motion on the agenda for the 23 September 2025 Ordinary meeting of Council.

That the Director Organisational Performance prepare a report for presentation at the October 2025 Ordinary Council meeting, detailing the proposed establishment of a Dubbo Regional Livestock Markets (DRLM) Committee. The report is to include:

- 1. Recommended representation from key stakeholder groups, including livestock agents, transport operators, producers, animal welfare representatives, Councillor representatives, and relevant Council staff; and*
- 2. A draft Terms of Reference outlining the Committee's purpose, membership, meeting schedule, and reporting framework.*

Yours faithfully



Phillip Toynton

Councillor



DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MOTION: DRTCC Closure Period Christmas New Year 2025/2026

REPORT DATE: 14 September 2025

FILE: ID25/1850

Council had before it a Notice of Motion dated 14 September 2025 from Councillor M Dickerson regarding the DRTCC Closure Period Christmas New Year 2025/2026 as follows:

That Council:

- 1. Amend the 2025 annual closure period of the Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre (DRTCC) to commence from Monday 22 December 2025 and conclude on Sunday 4 January 2026 (both dates inclusive), in line with Council's resolution of 25 February 2025.*
- 2. Note that this change maintains the resolved two-week closure period, while allowing community access to the venue on 19-20 December 2025.*

Rationale:

The Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre (DRTCC) is an important community facility. It exists to serve the residents of Dubbo and surrounding areas by providing access to arts, cultural and community events. Council's February 2025 resolution provided for a two-week closure over the Christmas-New Year period without specifying the exact dates.

It has since come to light that this year's scheduled closure will prevent community concerts, originally seeking to use the facility on 19-20 December 2025, from proceeding. While the intent of Council's resolution was to provide a standard closure period, it is essential that such arrangements do not unnecessarily limit community access to this vital venue.

To balance the need for staff rest and recovery with the community's right to use its theatre, this motion proposes that the annual two-week closure period for DRTCC commence from Monday 22 December 2025 and conclude on Sunday 4 January 2026. This approach maintained the two-week closure as resolved, while ensuring community events in the lead-up to Christmas can still be supported, subject to any other confirmed bookings.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Amend the 2025 annual closure period of the Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre (DRTCC) to commence from Monday 22 December 2025 and conclude on Sunday 4 January 2026 (both dates inclusive), in line with Council's resolution of 25 February 2025.
2. Note that this change maintains the resolved two-week closure period, while allowing community access to the venue on 19-20 December 2025.

MD
Councillor

APPENDICES:

- 1 [!\[\]\(f2fdbbba686c1099e6b2b8779766e2d3_img.jpg\)](#) Notice of Motion - DRTCC Closure - Cllr Mathew Dickerson - 23 September 2025

14 September 2025

The Chief Executive Officer
Dubbo Regional Council
PO Box 81
Dubbo NSW 2830

Please place the following Notice of Motion on the agenda for the September 2025 Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 23 September 2025.

NOTICE OF MOTION: DRTCC CLOSURE PERIOD CHRISTMAS-NEW YEAR 2025/2026

That Council:

1. Amend the 2025 annual closure period of the Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre (DRTCC) to commence from Monday 22 December 2025 and conclude on Sunday 4 January 2026 (both dates inclusive), in line with Council's resolution of 25 February 2025.
2. Note that this change maintains the resolved two-week closure period, while allowing community access to the venue on 19–20 December 2025.

Rationale:

The Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre (DRTCC) is an important community facility. It exists to serve the residents of Dubbo and surrounding areas by providing access to arts, cultural and community events. Council's February 2025 resolution provided for a two-week closure over the Christmas–New Year period without specifying the exact dates.

It has since come to light that this year's scheduled closure will prevent community concerts, originally seeking to use the facility on 19–20 December 2025, from proceeding. While the intent of Council's resolution was to provide a standard closure period, it is essential that such arrangements do not unnecessarily limit community access to this vital venue.

To balance the need for staff rest and recovery with the community's right to use its theatre, this motion proposes that the annual two-week closure period for DRTCC commence from Monday 22 December 2025 and conclude on Sunday 4 January 2026. This approach maintains the two-week closure as resolved, while ensuring community events in the lead-up to Christmas can still be supported, subject to any other confirmed bookings.



Councillor Mathew Dickerson



DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MOTION: Forestvale Road Creek Crossing

REPORT DATE: 15 September 2025
FILE: ID25/1851

Council had before it a Notice of Motion dated 15 September 2025 from Councillor P Toynton regarding the Forestvale Road Creek Crossing as follows:

Following on from the Questions on Notice in relation to the Forestvale Road creek crossing that was provided at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 24 June 2025, I am requesting the following:

- 1. That Council staff arrange for the appropriate approvals to be obtained for works to clear the buildup of material in Spicers Creek near the Forestvale Road creek crossing.*
- 2. That works be undertaken to remove the buildup of material in Spicers Creek near the Forestvale Road creek crossing when conditions allow.*

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council staff arrange for the appropriate approvals to be obtained for works to clear the buildup of material in Spicers Creek near the Forestvale Road creek crossing.**
- 2. That works be undertaken to remove the buildup of material in Spicers Creek near the Forestvale Road creek crossing when conditions allow.**

PT
Councillor

APPENDICES:

- [1↓](#) Notice of Motion - Clr P Toynton - Forestvale Road Creek Crossing

Councillor Phillip Toynton
PO Box 81
DUBBO NSW 2830

15 September 2025

The Chief Executive Officer
Dubbo Regional Council
PO Box 81
DUBBO NSW 2830

Dear Murray

NOTICE OF MOTION – FORESTVALE ROAD CREEK CROSSING

I would like to place the following notice of motion on the agenda for the 23 September 2025 Ordinary meeting of Council.

Following on from the Questions on Notice in relation to the Forestvale Road creek crossing that was provided at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 24 June 2025, I am requesting the following:

- 1. That Council staff arrange for the appropriate approvals to be obtained for works to clear the buildup of material in Spicers Creek near the Forestvale Road creek crossing*
- 2. That works be undertaken to remove the buildup of material in Spicers Creek near the Forestvale Road creek crossing when conditions allow.*

Yours faithfully



Phillip Toynton
Councillor



REPORT: Naming of the New Dubbo Bridge

DIVISION: Infrastructure
REPORT DATE: 10 September 2025
TRIM REFERENCE: ID25/1820

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	Seek direction or decision	
Issue	The naming of the new bridge constructed as part of the Newell Highway works undertaken by Transport for NSW.	
Reasoning	- Council resolved to partner with Transport for NSW on the naming of the bridge which was ratified at the Council meeting held on 23 November 2023. - The naming of the bridge requires Council to provide a recommendation to Transport for NSW for consideration.	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	There are no funding implications arising from this report.
Policy Implications	Policy Title	There are no policy implications arising from this report.
	Impact on Policy	Not applicable
Consultation	Community	Consultation process involving targeted engagement with the First Nations' community followed by broader community consultation.

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 four principal themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme:	2 Thriving and Inclusive Communities'
CSP Objective:	2.5 The voices, cultures, and contributions of our First Nations community are recognised and strengthened.
Delivery Program Strategy:	2.5.1 Recognise, celebrate, and protect the culture and heritage of our First Nations communities.
Theme:	3 Working Together for the Region
CSP Objective:	3.1 Our Council is open, fair, and accountable in its decision-making.
Delivery Program Strategy:	3.1.5 Operate with transparency, accountability, and integrity in all governance and decision-making processes.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the New Dubbo Bridge Naming Community Consultation Summary Report (August 2025) prepared by Transport for NSW be noted.
2. That the recommended name for the bridge to be considered for approval by Transport for NSW be *(insert Council's decision here)*

Murray Wood
Chief Executive Officer

LR
Director Infrastructure

BACKGROUND

Transport for NSW (TfNSW) is currently constructing a bridge over the Macquarie-Wambuul River as part of the construction of the new alignment of the Newell Highway. The location of the bridge is shown in Image 1 below:



Image 1. New Newell Highway alignment with the bridge crossing the Macquarie-Wambuul River

When a new bridge is constructed, a name is usually determined for the bridge. There are a number of considerations when naming a bridge including the recommendation of a name by the road authority, which is Dubbo Regional Council in this instance, TfNSW as the approving authority and consideration of the Place Naming Policy published by the Geographical Names Board (GNB) of NSW.

It should be noted that the GNB does not play a role in the naming of bridges, however the GNB encourages the naming of bridges to follow the Place Naming Policy published by the GNB. A copy of the policy can be accessed from the link below:

https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/noindex/2024-10/GNB_Place_Naming_Policy.pdf

In line with the Place Naming Policy, local government initiate the naming of bridges, other than on a freeway, and TfNSW approve these proposals. TfNSW consider the following in approving the name of a bridge:

- The name has wide community support
- An Aboriginal name has the support of local Aboriginal groups
- Consideration has been given to National and State commemorative initiatives involving the naming of new of key road infrastructure
- The name is consistent with GNB place name criteria
- The design of the name plaque accords with TfNSW requirements.

A request was received from TfNSW to partner with Council on the naming of the New Dubbo Bridge and this was accepted through the resolution of item CCL23/312 at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 23 November 2023.

The approach to the naming process is outlined below:

Steps in naming the New Dubbo Bridge

- Step 1:** Transport for NSW will engage with the local First Nations community to seek suggestions of appropriate First Nations (Wiradjuri) names for the New Dubbo Bridge (phase one consultation).
- Step 2:** A panel of representatives from the local First Nations community will determine a shortlist of Wiradjuri names through a fair and transparent assessment process.
- Step 3:** Transport will invite the wider community to provide feedback on the Wiradjuri names shortlisted by the local First Nations community and/or make other suggestions, which can include suggestions other than First Nations names (phase two consultation).
- Step 4:** Transport will ask representatives from the local First Nations community to assess any further First Nations names suggested during the wider community consultation.
- Step 5:** Transport will collate all bridge name suggestions and a summary of the feedback from the First Nations (phase one) and wider community (phase two) consultation including preferred names into a consultation report for Dubbo Regional Council's consideration.
- Step 6:** Council will review the consultation report, endorse a proposed name for the bridge, and then recommend that bridge name to Transport.
- Step 7:** Transport will approve the name recommended by Council provided that it has community support, is consistent with the NSW Geographical Names Board naming guidelines, and complies with Transport's signage requirements.
- Step 8:** The approved bridge name will be jointly announced.

Figure 1. Steps in naming the New Dubbo Bridge (source TfNSW website: Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge naming)

Steps 1 through to 5 have been completed and this report is part of Step 6 in the bridge naming process.

Previous Resolutions of Council

23 November 2023 (CCL23/312)	1. <i>That Council endorse the reclassification of Bourke Street from River Street to Erskine Street, from a State road to a Regional road, following the completion of the bridge and associated works; and the acceptable condition of the road prior to the formalisation of the reclassification.</i> 2. <i>That Council partner with Transport for NSW on the consultation process for the naming of the new bridge as detailed in the report.</i> 3. <i>That Council's preferred name for the new Dubbo Bridge shall be a First Nations name relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge such as a crossing place on a river.</i> 4. <i>That this resolution of Council be the focus of the community consultation undertaken by Transport for NSW.</i>
---------------------------------	---

REPORT

The purpose of this report is for Council to resolve a name for the bridge to be provided to TfNSW for approval.

Based on the resolution of Council at the ordinary Council meeting held on 23 November 2023, the consultation process was tailored to explore a First Nations name for the bridge. The consultation process was split into two phases with the first phase being the exploration of First Nations names developed through consultation with the Aboriginal community.

The first phase of consultation was open from 13 May 2024 until 31 July 2024 with four names developed through the first phase which included:

- Aunty Pearl Gibbs – Aboriginal activist and leader who fought for Aboriginal rights for 50 years. She is remembered for her work with the Aborigines Progressive Association, her involvement in the 1938 Day of Mourning, and her community work in Dubbo, NSW.
- Wambuul – Macquarie River.
- Bunglegumbie – One of the clans of Dubbo.
- Nguluway – Meeting each other.

There were a total of 34 submissions in Phase 1 of the consultation process resulting in 24 unique name suggestions. The full list of suggested names from Phase 1 of the consultation phase can be found in Table 5.2.1 of the New Dubbo Bridge naming community consultation summary report (August 2025). A summary of the Wiradjuri names from Phase 1 is also provided below in Table 1:

Bridge name suggestion	Meets naming criteria for Wiradjuri names
Aunty Pearl Gibbs Bridge	Yes
Bunglegumbie	Yes
Nguluway	Yes
Wambuul	Yes
Bulgan Bridge	No
Buraay Gulaay	No
Captain Adam Dunbar	No
Dubbo	No
Goo Garr, Bunyip	No
Goorialla	No
Gulaay	No
GULAAY	No
Gulaay Wambuul	No
Gunhingbang Johnny Hill Snr Bridge	No
James Samuels Bridge over Wambuul River on Wiradjuri Country	No
MAWANG	No
Murrudha Gulaay	No

Bridge name suggestion	Meets naming criteria for Wiradjuri names
Ngunggadhaany	No
Old Dubbo Bridge	No
Oogabooga	No
Waygiwinya	No
Windradyne	No
Windradyne Bridge	No
Yuri	No

Table 1. Full list of Wiradjuri bridge naming suggestions from Phase 1 of the consultation process

The second phase of consultation was open from 27 March 2025 to 4 May 2025 and involved wider community involvement. This phase included the voting on the four First Nations names as well as other suggestions for the name of the bridge. There were a total of 440 submissions in Phase 2 of the consultation process.

The community consultation has been completed and a report has been prepared by TfNSW on the naming of the bridge which is include as **Appendix 1** of this report. From the consultation report, the following percentages of votes received for the four First Nations names from Phase 1 of the consultation process is shown in Table 2 below:

Name	Voting percentage
Aunty Pearl Gibbs	35% (102 submissions)
Wambuul	31% (91 submissions)
Bunglegumbie	23% (67 submissions)
Nguluway	11% (34 submissions)

Table 2. Percentages of votes received for the four nominated First Nations names

There were an additional 40 First Nations name nominations resulting in 30 unique names in the Phase 2 consultation with a summary of these names provided in Table 3 below:

Bridge name suggestion	Nominations	Meets naming criteria for Wiradjuri names
Tubba-gah Bridge	3	Yes
Wiradjuri	2	Yes
Aunty Lorni Hyland	1	Yes
Bila Bridge	1	Yes
Biladurang Bila Bridge	1	Yes
Grace Toomey (dec.)	1	Yes
Wilay Waters	1	Yes
Wiradjuri Gulaay	1	Yes
Yanhagi	1	Yes
Riverbank Frank Bridge	6	No
Frank Doolan	3	No
Alexander "Tracker" Riley	1	No
Bunglegumbie Crossing	1	No

Bridge name suggestion	Nominations	Meets naming criteria for Wiradjuri names
David Peachey Bridge Way	1	No
Frank 'Riverbank' Doolan	1	No
Frank Doolan Drive Bridge	1	No
Frank's Bridge	1	No
Gugaa Bridge	1	No
Gulaay	1	No
Its not my country	1	No
Juanita Lake Bridge	1	No
Mayiny Gulaay Bridge	1	No
Mganga River Bridge	1	No
North Nguluway Bridge	1	No
Red Ochre Bridge	1	No
Riverbank's Crossing	1	No
Tracker Riley Bridge	1	No
Walanbangan or Walanbang	1	No
Wambuul Galaay	1	No
Yarra Thubbo	1	No

Table 3. Additional Wiradjuri bridge name suggestions received through Phase 2 of the consultation process

Also, as part of the Phase 2 consultation process, 171 nominations for other names were submitted resulting in 54 unique other names, these are summarised in Table 4 below:

Bridge name suggestion	Nominations
James Samuels	86*
Samuels Bridge	15
River Street Bridge	10
Bridgey McBridgeface	4
Glenn McGrath Bridge	2
North Bridge	2
North Dubbo Bridge	2
Robert Dulhunty Bridge	2
Sir James Samuels Bridge	2
Tony McGrane Bridge	2
All Nations Bridge	1
Barry 'Jack' Weighton	1
Blue River Bridge	1
Boland Bridge	1
Brendan Saul Bridge	1
C H Massart Bridge	1
Curtin Crossing	1
Devils Hollow/Terra Rossa	1
Dubbo Bridge	1
Dubvagas Bridge	1

Bridge name suggestion	Nominations
Fanman Bridge	1
Hugh Hamilton Bridge	1
James Samuels Gulaay	1
Letroy Bridge	1
Long Bridge	1
Macquarie Bridge	1
Macquarie River Bridge	1
Mick Wilson Bridge	1
New Bridge	1
New Dubbo Bridge	1
North Weir Bridge	1
North West Dubbo Bridge	1
Northbound Bridge	1
Orana Gateway Bridge	1
Orana Viaduct	1
Rhino Bridge	1
River Bridge	1
Roland Samuels Bridge	1
Royal Carriage Bridge	1
Samuels (Wambuul) Bridge	1
Samuels River Street Bridge	1
Selah	1
The Big Flood Bridge	1
The Dr Bob North Bridge	1
The Great Rhino Bridge	1
The Jim Higgins Bridge	1
The Northern Line	1
The Yella Bridge	1
Tom Nelson Bridge	1
Troy Bridge	1
Waste of money Bridge	1
Western Pearl Bridge	1
Western Plains Bridge	1
William Gordon Bridge	1

Table 4. Summary of other bridge name suggestions received through Phase 2 of the consultation process

**Note that there were 2,500 signatures on a petition which accounts for one submission for the James Samuels' nomination.*

Of note from the Phase 2 of the consultation process, there were 106 nominations with James Samuels named or mentioned in the nomination.

Given the direction from Council that there is a preference for a First Nations name relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge such as a crossing place on a river, the four shortlisted First Nations' names have been vetted with checks made in accordance with TfNSW's Asset Naming Evaluation Criteria which includes elements such as cultural significance, validity, regulatory and community support.

Should a name, other than the four names provided in Phase 1 of the community consultation be recommended, then this name would need to be assessed against the Transport Asset Naming Toolkit developed by TfNSW which assesses against criteria including cultural significance, validity, regulatory and community support. A summary of the criteria is provided in Table 5 below:

Risk criteria	Control
Culturally significant #	The name is validated by relevant experts (external)
	There is evidence to support the name
	Risk assessment has been completed
Validity	The name is not disrespectful, discriminatory or derogatory
	There is written endorsement of the name by the relevant authority
	It is a legitimate submission e.g. valid name, email address, contact number
Regulatory	The name complies with the Transport Asset Naming Toolkit
	The name complies with the Geographical Names Board Guidelines
	Transport for NSW Subject Matter Experts have been engaged and endorse
	The name complies with Transport Signage Requirements
Community Support	The name is supported by the local community
	There is substantial evidence to support the name

Table 5. Transport Asset Naming Toolkit criteria (source Transport for NSW)

Applies to both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal name options e.g. Aboriginal, heritage, arts, social value, etc.

It is noted that the name to be nominated by Council does not have to be the most popular name contained in the New Dubbo Bridge Naming Community consultation summary report (August 2025).

Advice has also been sought from TfNSW on the dual naming of the bridge with both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal names. It is noted in the report that TfNSW: *"does not support dual naming, as Aboriginal naming should not be considered secondary or an afterthought. Additionally, dual naming would complicate navigation and wayfinding, especially for emergency services that rely on clear and consistent place names to respond quickly and effectively."*

Consultation

- Consultation for the naming of the bridge was undertaken over a period of 12 months and this report is the subject of the consultation process.
- **Appendix 1** contains the consultation that was undertaken for this bridge naming project.

Resourcing Implications

- Staff time will be required for the preparation of the letter to TfNSW with a recommended name.

Planned Communications

- Updates will be provided through the Your Say page for this project.

Next Steps

- Following the resolution of Council to nominate a name for the bridge, a letter will be sent to TfNSW for their consideration.
- TfNSW will approve the name should it have community support, is consistent with the GNB naming guidelines and complies with TfNSW's signage requirements. If the name is not approved, Council will be required to submit another name for consideration.
- Upon approval, the bridge name will be jointly announced by Dubbo Regional Council and TfNSW.

APPENDICES:

- 1 [!\[\]\(c33cb967c8fc4f5e27188a389b621c8e_img.jpg\)](#) New Dubbo Bridge Naming Consultation Report

Transport
for NSW

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Community consultation summary report
August 2025



New Dubbo Bridge project team at the 2024 NAIDOC Family Fun Day



transport.nsw.gov.au

Transport
for NSW

Acknowledgement of Country

Transport for NSW acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we work and live.

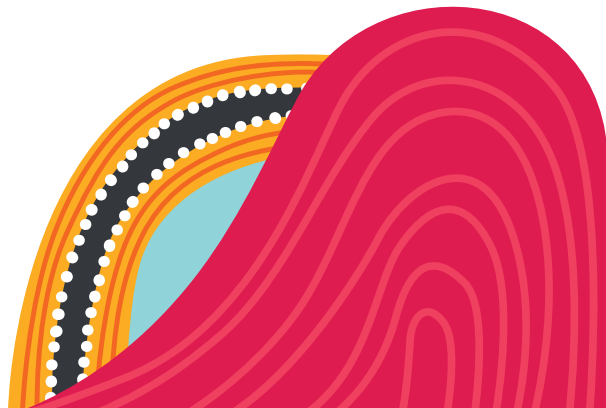
We pay our respects to Elders past and present and celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal people and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of NSW.

Many of the transport routes we use today – from rail lines, to roads, to water crossings – follow the traditional Songlines, trade routes and ceremonial paths in Country that our nation's First Peoples followed for tens of thousands of years.

Transport for NSW is committed to honouring Aboriginal peoples' cultural and spiritual connections to the lands, waters and seas and their rich contribution to society.

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

B



OFFICIAL

Transport
for NSW

Contents

1. Introduction	2
1.1 Purpose of this report	2
1.2 Background	3
2. Consultation approach	5
2.1 Values	5
2.2 Consultation objectives	5
2.3 Roles and Responsibilities:	5
2.4 Extensive planning and community consultation	5
2.5 Development and implementation of the process	6
2.6 Assessment tool for bridge naming	7
2.7 Consultation methods	10
3. Submissions summary	15
4. Next steps	19
5. Appendices	20
5.1 Collateral	20
5.2 Nominations received	37

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this report

This report outlines the public consultation process carried out by Transport for NSW (Transport) for naming the bridge as part of the Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge project. Throughout the process, Transport collaborated with key internal and external stakeholders, including community and Dubbo Regional Council.

Feedback was gathered from residents, businesses, and stakeholders in the Dubbo Regional Local Government Areas (LGA).

The report summarises the community and stakeholder engagement activities and the feedback received, which will assist Dubbo Regional Council in recommending a name for the bridge to Transport.

Figure 1. Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge naming stages



Transport for NSW

1.2 Background

The Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge project is jointly funded by the Australian and NSW Governments. Transport, in partnership with Dubbo Regional Council (Council) and the Dubbo community, will name

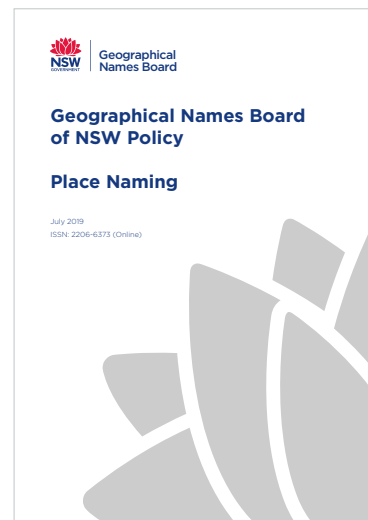
the New Dubbo Bridge. Naming major bridges provides a useful navigational reference for motorists and allows the community to recognise and celebrate cultural, historical, and social connections in the region.

Figure 2. Aerial photo of the New Dubbo Bridge nearing completion



Naming a Transport asset is a significant and important opportunity, leaving a legacy for generations to come. Transport is guided by the Geographical Names Board (GNB), which ensures that names are consistent, culturally sensitive, and reflective of the community's heritage and values. This collaborative effort aims to honour the region's identity and history while providing practical benefits for navigation and community pride.

Figure 3. Place Naming Policy (NSW Geographical Names Board, 2019, p11)



Transport for NSW

At the Council Ordinary meeting held on Thursday, 23 November 2023, they resolved:

- that Council's preferred name for the New Dubbo Bridge would be a First Nations name relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge, such as a crossing place on a river.
- that this resolution of Council would be the focus of the community consultation undertaken by Transport for NSW.

Transport supports Council's resolution to recognise the significance of First Nations heritage in the project footprint and to celebrate the considerable First Nations participation on the project.

Transport believes that Council, as elected representatives of the community they serve, is best placed to recommend a suitable name from the suggestions received during community consultation.

Transport does not support dual naming, as Aboriginal naming should not be considered secondary or an afterthought. Additionally, dual naming would complicate navigation and wayfinding, especially for emergency services that rely on clear and consistent place names to respond quickly and effectively.

Given the significant public interest in this bridge, Transport carried out an extensive consultation process to select a name for the bridge, engaging both external and internal stakeholders, and in consultation with Council and the Aboriginal community.

Celebrating Aboriginal participation: building a legacy of diversity in Dubbo



5%

of total
project spend



23%

Aboriginal people
employed



11

Aboriginal businesses
engaged



Final girder lift underway on the New Dubbo Bridge project

OFFICIAL

2. Consultation approach

2.1 Values

Transport's values underpin our decisions and behaviours when working with colleagues, customers, communities, stakeholders, and partners.

- **Customer focus** – We place the customer at the centre of everything we do
- **Collaboration** – We value each other and create better outcomes by working together
- **Solutions** – We deliver sustainable and innovative solutions to NSW's transport needs
- **Integrity** – We take responsibility and communicate openly
- **Safety** – We prioritise safety for our people and our customers.

2.2 Consultation objectives

Transport consulted with the community and key stakeholders in Dubbo Regional Local Government Areas (LGA) during the consultation period with the aim to:

- gather community feedback on the naming of the New Dubbo Bridge, with a focus on selecting a First Nations name relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge
- ensure inclusivity and representation by engaging a diverse range of community members, including First Nations people, local residents, and other stakeholders
- educate and inform the community about the cultural, historical, and social significance of the bridge naming process
- foster community ownership and pride in the new bridge and its name
- ensure transparency and fairness in the consultation process
- comply with the NSW Geographical Names Board (GNB) Place Naming Policy and other relevant guidelines

- document and report all feedback and suggestions received during the consultation process for consideration by Dubbo Regional Council and Transport for NSW.

2.3 Roles and Responsibilities:

Transport worked closely with Council in planning the consultation process to identify clear roles and responsibilities which are outlined below:

- **Transport will:**
 - conduct community consultation and prepare a comprehensive engagement report for Council's consideration
 - approve the name recommended by Council, provided it aligns with the NSW Geographical Names Board naming guidelines, has been reviewed and meets the requirements of Transport's bridge naming assessment tool and complies with Transport's signage requirements.
- **Council will:**
 - review the consultation report, endorse a proposed name for the bridge, and recommend that name to Transport.

2.4 Extensive planning and community consultation

Transport undertook a comprehensive and collaborative approach to develop the consultation process for naming the bridge. This involved extensive planning, research, and engagement with key stakeholders to ensure a thorough and inclusive process. The goal was to develop a naming framework that respected local traditions, particularly those of the Aboriginal community, and reflected the community's preferences.

Transport for NSW

2.5 Development and implementation of the process

1. Initial research and planning June/ July 2023:

- **Research:** Transport carried out initial research on previous bridge naming processes to understand best practices and potential challenges.
- **Internal meetings:** Meetings were held with key internal stakeholders to discuss the process and establish guidelines, including a preference for an Aboriginal name in line with Council's resolution and the Geographical Names Board (GNB) policy.
- **Engagement design insights from local First Nation's representatives:** Transport met with representatives from the Dubbo Aboriginal Working Party committee to brief them on the proposed consultation approach and seek early endorsement and feedback. Their insights and suggestions are invaluable as we move forward with the planning and development of the bridge naming process.

2. Engagement with Council August 2023 – Early 2024:

- **Proposal letter:** Transport sent a letter to Council outlining the proposed bridge naming process, including advice on engaging with Aboriginal communities.
- **Council agreement:** Council agreed to follow Transport for NSW's bridge naming policy, and the use of local Aboriginal language groups.
- **Council resolution:** Council passed a naming resolution at an Ordinary Meeting on the 23 November 2023, preferring a First Nations name relevant to the location.
- **Process presentation:** Transport presented the proposed process to the Council's Customer Experience and Engagement team, leading to an agreement on the process and timeline for further community engagement.

- **Communication collateral:** Transport drafted and circulated a communication collateral pack for internal review, incorporating feedback and providing it to Council for review and discussion. Council approved the content with minor layout changes.
- **Bridge naming assessment tool:** In consultation with Council and the Dubbo Aboriginal Community Working party, Transport developed an assessment tool to support the First Nations assessment panel and Council to assess the bridge names proposed by the community.

3. Community consultation March 2024 – May 2025:

- **First Nations engagement:** Transport engaged the First Nations community, seeking suggestions for appropriate Wiradjuri names.
- **Shortlisting names:** A panel of representatives from the local First Nations community used the bridge naming assessment tool to create a shortlist of Wiradjuri names.
- **Wider community feedback:** The wider community was invited to provide feedback on the shortlisted Wiradjuri names and/or suggest other names.

4. Final review and announcement May 2025 – Bridge opening:

- **Compilation of suggestions (we are here):** Transport compiled all naming suggestions into this Community Consultation Report for the Council's consideration.
- **Council review:** Council will review this report, endorse a proposed name, and recommend it to Transport.
- **Approval and announcement:** Transport will approve the recommended name if it has community support, is aligned with the naming guidelines and meets the signage requirements. Transport and Council will jointly announce the approved bridge name when the bridge is open.

Transport for NSW

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

2.6 Assessment tool for bridge naming

The assessment tool for naming the New Dubbo Bridge outlines the evaluation criteria for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal name options suggested during consultation. The tool was developed in consultation with the Dubbo Aboriginal Community Working Party and Council, the criteria in the assessment tool ensures that names are culturally significant, validated by relevant experts, and supported by substantial evidence.

Criteria for Aboriginal Names:

- **Consultation with experts:** Names must be reviewed by Aboriginal cultural/language experts, Elders, Custodians and local Aboriginal businesses.
- **Cultural Significance:** Names should reflect the cultural heritage and historical significance of the local Aboriginal community.

Criteria for non-Aboriginal names:

- **Validation:** Names must be validated by relevant associations and Government agencies.
- **Risk Assessment:** The tool includes a risk assessment to avoid conflicts with existing names, ensuring names are respectful and non-discriminatory.

Compliance and Support

- **Guidelines compliance:** Names must comply with the Transport Asset Naming Toolkit, Geographical Names Board Guidelines and Transport signage requirements.
- **Community support:** Names must have endorsement from Council and substantial evidence of community support.



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New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Figure 4. New Dubbo Bridge naming assessment tool

Risk Criteria	Control	Control – detail	Compliance
Culturally significant Applies to both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal name options e.g. Aboriginal, heritage, arts, social value, etc.	The name is validated by relevant experts (external)	• <u>Aboriginal</u> – Aboriginal Cultural/ Language experts (with validated credentials), Elders, Custodians, Local Aboriginal Businesses, local council(s), federal/state agencies if relevant. • <u>Non-Aboriginal</u> – relevant associations, local councils(s), federal/state agencies if relevant.	Essential
	There is evidence to support the name	Name options (Cultural significance) assessment completed. For, commemorative naming, evidence showing significant contribution to State is required (as per the GNB Guidelines for the Determination of Place Names 'Commemorative Naming' principle).	Essential
	Risk assessment has been completed	Included researching conflicts e.g. similar names, precedents exist, names that are registered or trademarked and relevant impact. If naming after an individual or group of people, at least one year, ideally up to 10 years, since they have deceased, and a police check clearance or independent historian assessment depending on time period.	Essential
Validity	The name is not disrespectful, discriminatory or derogatory	Review completed	Essential
	There is written endorsement of the name by the relevant authority	Formal internal/external approval has been granted and recorded.	Essential
	It is a legitimate submission e.g. valid name, email address, contact number	Review completed	Essential

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New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Risk Criteria	Control	Control – detail	Compliance
Regulatory	The name complies with the Transport Asset Naming Toolkit	- Do we have the right to name? - If yes, should it be given a distinctive name? - Have we consulted the relevant SMEs? - Has the relevant process been followed? - Have we factored in the associated steps and time required? - Have we reviewed Key Learnings?	Essential
	The name complies with the Geographical Names Board Guidelines	Please review the broader GNB Guidelines for completeness as Transport is not fully aligned with some of the principles in the GNB's Guidelines for the Determination of Place Names (see p42-45 of the Transport Asset Naming Toolkit).	Essential
	Transport for NSW Subject Matter Experts have been engaged and endorse	- Aboriginal Engagement - Wayfinding - Brand - Comms and Stakeholder Engagement	Essential
	The name complies with Transport Signage Requirements	Does it meet the technical criteria?	Essential
Community support	The name is supported by the local community	Needs more than individual support from immediate family, must seek local council support and advocacy. Transport is the final approver.	Essential
	There is substantial evidence to support the name	Name options (Community support) assessment completed.	Essential

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2.7 Consultation methods

To ensure a thorough and inclusive consultation process for naming the bridge, and in line with Council's resolution, Transport implemented a phased community engagement approach.

The first phase involved targeted engagement with the First Nations communities followed by second phase which involved wider community consultation.

Various engagement methods were used to gather feedback and suggestions, ensuring diverse participation and comprehensive input from all stakeholders.

To support the consultation process, several tools and resources were developed:

- **Have Your Say online engagement portal:** a dedicated webpage (www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/new-dubbo-bridge) where all engagement materials were hosted. This page served as the central hub for information and participation
- **Fact Sheet and FAQ documents:** created to educate the community about the bridge naming process and provide reference points for conversations. These documents were distributed both online and in print.

Key contact points were established to facilitate communication throughout the consultation period. These included:

- **Project website:** provided comprehensive information and updates
- **Phone and email:** project 1800 number and email for enquiries and feedback, listed on all engagement materials.

To ensure widespread awareness and participation, various promotional activities were undertaken:

- **Media releases:** regular updates sent to local media outlets to keep the community informed
- **Community Updates and flyers:** distributed throughout the community to promote engagement opportunities
- **Social media campaigns:** utilised to reach a broader audience and encourage online participation.

A full list of communication and engagement materials is provided in Appendix 5.1.

Transport for NSW

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Table 1: Communication and media tools used through phase 1

Tool/activity	Outcome
Have Your Say online engagement portal www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/new-dubbo-bridge See Appendix 5.1.1	The community was invited to participate in naming the bridge via a 'Have Your Say' form on the engagement portal which launched on Monday 13 May 2024 and stayed open during consultation period and remains open until the naming process is complete. A total of 1,106 unique visitors accessed at least one page. Online surveys were hosted on the portal for the duration of the engagement. The survey was open for 79 days, from 13 May – 31 July 2024.
Media release See Appendix 5.1.1	Two media releases were distributed during the first phase via the project website and through engagement with local media. The media releases are available at Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge project Transport for NSW
Paid social media posts See Appendix 5.1.1	Total reach 81,833 people with 1,610 engagements: Three social media posts supporting the first phase of consultation.
Fact Sheet – Bridge naming process See Appendix 5.1.1	A fact sheet was distributed via the project website to key stakeholders including Council and local MPs as well as available at the street stalls and events.
FAQs – Bridge naming process See Appendix 5.1.1	FAQs were distributed via the project website to key stakeholders including Council and local MPs as well as available at the street stalls and events.
A3 flyer See Appendix 5.1.1	Flyers promoting the consultation were provided to Council, the library, PCYC, TAFE, medical centres and other key community locations in Dubbo.
Project webpage	The project webpage at nswroads.work/ndb was updated with the latest project information, including the project update, FAQs, Fact Sheet and a link to the online Have Your Say engagement portal.
Phone	The project hotline was publicised for the community to contact the project team with queries and to book phone consultations. The project number is 1800 803 818.
Email	The project email address was publicised for the community to contact the project team with queries and to book phone consultations. The project email address is dubboprojects@transport.nsw.gov.au.

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Phase 1: Targeted First Nations consultation (May – July 2024)

To start the naming process, Transport worked closely with the local First Nations community to gather suggestions for appropriate Wiradjuri names for the bridge.

Transport held several meetings with a local working group composed of Wiradjuri elders and community leaders. These meetings provided a platform for in depth discussions about the cultural and historical importance of potential names. The working group played a key role in guiding the consultation process and ensuring that the names suggested were culturally appropriate and meaningful.

In line with Council's resolution, Transport also engaged with the wider First Nations community to seek other suggestions. This included a targeted communications campaign encouraging members of the local First Nations Community to have their say. Activities included distribution of the engagement collateral to key community hubs, attending events where this target audience would be reached and paid social media campaign with a curated video targeting the First Nation members of the community.

The below table outlines the engagement methods and communication tools utilised during the Phase 1 consultation.

Table 2. Phase 1 Communication and engagement methods

Tool/activity	Outcomes
Have Your Say Survey See Appendix 5.1.1	Online survey which was open for a total for 79 days , from 13 May – 31 July 2024: • 1,341 views • 1,106 visitors • 32 contributions • 32 surveys completed • 77 downloads • 2.8% engagement.
Wiradjuri name nomination form See Appendix 5.1.1	A Wiradjuri name nomination form was made available during the first phase of targeted consultation where we were seeking members of the First Nations community to suggest appropriate Wiradjuri names for the bridge. We received 40 hard copy nominations throughout this phase.
Targeted stakeholder meetings	Engagement through Local Networks (TAFE, AECG).
Distribution of collateral to key community hubs	Specific key community hubs were identified for the distribution of collateral to ensure effective engagement with the First Nations community. These hubs were chosen based on their significance and accessibility to the local First Nations population and included PCYC, schools and local health clinics.

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Transport for NSW

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Tool/activity	Outcomes
Community Update	The March 2024 update outlined that Transport for NSW would work closely with Dubbo Regional Council to name the bridge, and find a name that will reflect its location and cultural significance. Transport for NSW will lead the consultation process, starting with suggestions from the local Wiradjuri community. After gathering input, Transport will compile a report for Dubbo Regional Council, which will make the final naming decision. More details are available on the project website at nswroads.work/ndb. Copies were distributed to Council, The Hon Stephen Lawrence, MLC, Dugald Saunders, MP Dubbo, and The Hon Mark Coulton, Federal Member for Parkes. Hard copies were also available at face-to-face consultation sessions and provided to the library.
NAIDOC Day stall	The Transport Aboriginal Engagement team, supported by the Community and Customer Engagement team, attended the NAIDOC day stall on 8 July 2024 to promote the bridge naming consultation. 95 people engaged with us at the event.
Digital advertisement Facebook See Appendix 5.1	A social media campaign published on the Transport Facebook page was staggered over six weeks to promote the targeted consultation, with the First Nations community in Dubbo LGA geotargeted as the audience segment: Post 1: 13 to 19 May 2024 and Post 3: 25 to 31 July 2024. The posts were shared by Dubbo Regional Council, businesses in Dubbo and local community groups.
Video	We created a call-to-action video featuring Ike Gordon from our Transport Aboriginal Engagement team. The video reached 19,905 people and had an engagement of 412.

Following the close of the first phase of consultation, Transport met with a panel of local First Nations representatives to determine a shortlist of Wiradjuri names through a fair and transparent assessment process. This shortlist of Wiradjuri names was then used as part of the next phase of consultation – phase 2.

A list of the names nominated and how the panel assessed each nomination can be viewed in Appendix 5.2.

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Phase 2: Wider community consultation (March – May 2025)

During this phase, the wider community was invited to provide suggestions for the bridge name, including the Wiradjuri names shortlisted by the local First Nations community. Suggestions other than First Nations names were also welcomed.

The consultation was promoted via a range of communication channels to target key stakeholder groups and individuals, as well as promoting the opportunity for the wider community to provide feedback via the online channels and street stalls in Dubbo.

Table 3. Phase 2 Communication and engagement methods

Tool/activity	Outcomes
Have Your Say Survey See Appendix 5.1.2	Online survey which was open for a total for 70 days, from 27 March 2025 – 4 May 2025: • 3,189 views • 2,709 visitors • 396 surveys completed • 58 downloads • 3.8% engagement rate.
Bridge naming feedback form hard copy See Appendix 5.1.2	A hard copy nomination form was made available during the wider community consultation where we invited feedback on the Aboriginal names suggested and/or provide other suggestions. We received a total of five hard copy nomination forms during this phase.
Targeted stakeholder meetings	We met with Council staff to gather input and feedback on the proposed names for the new Dubbo Bridge and to understand their perspectives on how the bridge naming could impact the local community and regional development.
Pop up street stalls	Council street stands were booked on Thursday 1 May and Friday 2 May, from 11am to 1pm at the Dubbo Rotunda. 90 community members attended.
Community update See Appendix 5.1.2	A total 55,000 community updates were distributed to all residents in the Dubbo Regional Council LGA and surrounds. The community update provided project information and invited community and stakeholder feedback to help inform the naming of the bridge. The nomination form replicated the online survey questions in a format that could be completed by hand and mailed back to the project team using the provided reply-paid address. Both the community update and nomination form were also accessible on the project portal at www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/ndb and the project webpage at nswroads.work/ndb . Copies were distributed to Council, The Hon Stephen Lawrence, MLC, Dugald Saunders, MP Dubbo, and The Hon Mark Coulton, Federal Member for Parkes. Hard copies were also available at face-to-face consultation sessions and provided to the library.
Newspaper advertisement See Appendix 5.1.2	Newspaper advertisements were published advising the Have Your Say website consultation was open. Two advertisements in the Dubbo Liberal.
Targeted Social Media Post See Appendix 5.1.2	A social media campaign was published on the Transport Facebook page was staggered over six weeks to promote the targeted consultation, with the First Nations community in Dubbo LGA geotargeted as the audience segment: Post 1: 21 to 28 March 2025 and Post 2: 6 to 13 April 2025. The posts were shared by Council, businesses in Dubbo, and local community groups.

3. Submissions summary

Overall nominations across the consultation in 2024 and 2025:

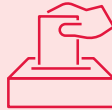
A total of **474** nominations were received between May – July 2024 and March – May 2025:

- **Phase 1** (May to July 2024):
34 name nominations
- **Phase 2** (March to May 2025):
440 submissions

Nominations can be viewed in Appendix 5.2.

**Total nominations received
between May – July 2024
and March – May 2025**

474



Have Your Say online engagement portal

- **Unique visitors:** A total of 2,723 unique visitors accessed at least one page.
- **Submissions:** 29 submissions were received in the first phase of consultation and 400 submissions were received in the second phase.

Hard copy nomination forms

- **Submissions:** A total of five hard copy submissions were received in the first phase and 40 hard copy submissions were received in the second phase.

**Total unique visitors
accessed at least
one page**

2,723



Transport for NSW

Phase 1: First Nations consultation summary (13 May to 31 July 2024)

During the First Nations consultation period, Transport received a total of 34 nominations. This phase was crucial in gathering valuable feedback and name suggestions from a diverse range of stakeholders, ensuring that the names considered reflect the cultural significance and preferences of the local First Nations community. A copy of the nomination records and the Wiradjuri Name nomination form are provided in Appendix 5.1.

Summary of phase 1 nominations

- Total Phase 1 nominations: 34
 - Online submissions: 29
 - Hard copy submissions: 5
- Unique name suggestions: 24
 - Wiradjuri names: 23
 - Non-Wiradjuri names: 1

First phase consultation:
Total online submissions
received

29



First phase consultation:
Total hard copy
submissions received

5



Assessment Process

A panel of local First Nations representatives conducted a fair and transparent assessment process to determine a shortlist of Wiradjuri names. The panel consisted of representatives from the local Aboriginal Working Party, experts in Aboriginal language, spelling and meanings, Council, Dubbo Historical Society and Transport.

The panel reviewed all suggested Wiradjuri names in Phase 1 and in agreement identified four shortlisted names as listed below:

Shortlisted Wiradjuri names

Name suggestion	Comment/Meaning
Aunty Pearl Gibbs	Aboriginal activist and leader who fought for Aboriginal rights for 50 years. She is remembered for her work with the Aborigines Progressive Association, her involvement in the 1938 Day of Mourning, and her community work in Dubbo, NSW.
Wambuul	Macquarie River
Bunglegumbie	One of the clans of Dubbo
Nguluway	Meeting each other

To review the full list of nominated names please refer to appendix 5.2

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Signage concept designs

Below are signage concepts illustrating how the shortlisted Wiradjuri names would appear on Transport signage



Transport for NSW

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Phase 2: Wider community consultation summary – 27 March – 4 May 2025

During this wider community consultation period, Transport for NSW received a total of 440 submissions. This phase aimed to gather broader community input and ensure that the final name choice reflects the preferences of the wider community. A copy of the submission records and the feedback form are provided in Appendix 5.1 and 5.2

Summary of submissions in phase 2

- **Total submissions received:** 440
- **Online submissions:** 400
- **Hard copy submissions:** 40

Voting preferences on shortlisted Wiradjuri names

As part of the wider community consultation, respondents were invited to provide their feedback on the Wiradjuri names shortlisted by the local First Nations community and/or make other name suggestions. The voting preferences were as follows:

Aunty Pearl Gibbs: 102 submissions	35%
Wambuul: 91 submissions	31%
Bunglegumbie: 67 submissions	23%
Nguluway: 34 submissions	11%

Second phase consultation:
Total hard copy
submissions received

40



Alternative bridge name suggestions

In addition to voting on the shortlisted Wiradjuri names, respondents had the option to suggest other bridge names.

- **Total alternative suggestions:** 213

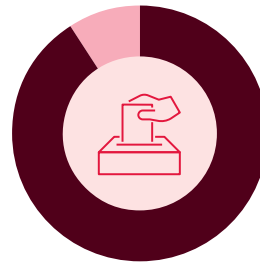
Key highlights from the alternative name suggestions include:

- James Samuels and variations (106 nominations, including a petition with 2,500 signatures and variations of the use of James Samuels)
- Frank Doolan, River Street Bridge, North Dubbo Bridge and more. A full list is provided in Appendix 5.2.
- 40 additional First Nations name suggestions as detailed in Appendix 5.2.

Assessment of additional First Nations names

Representatives from the local First Nations community assessed the appropriateness of any additional First Nations names suggested during this wider consultation. Refer to appendix 5.2

Phase 2 nominations received



Hard copy submissions	40
Online submissions	400

**Total submissions
received in phase 2**

440



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for NSW

4. Next steps

- **Review by Council:** Transport will hand over this Community Consultation Report to Council for review. Council will recommend a bridge name to Transport based on the submissions. If Council wishes to recommend a non-Aboriginal name, both Council and Transport will need to regroup and assess the suggested name against the naming criteria.
- **Approval by Transport:** Transport will approve the name recommended by Council if it has community support, aligns with the NSW Geographical Names Board naming guidelines and complies with Transport's signage requirements.
- **Joint announcement:** The approved bridge name will be jointly announced by Transport and the Council when the bridge opens.

Additional information

- For any questions, community members can reach out to the project team at dubboprojects@transport.nsw.gov.au or call **1800 803 818**.
- **Privacy:** Transport for NSW is committed to protecting personal information in accordance with the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*.

5.1 Collateral

5.1.1 Phase one

Fact Sheet

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

[illegible]

Steps in naming the New Dubbo Bridge

Step 1: Transport for NSW will engage with the local First Nations community to seek suggestions of appropriate First Nations (Worindji) names for the New Dubbo Bridge (once consultation).

Step 2: A panel of representatives from the local First Nations community will deliberate a shortlist of names and recommend a list and transportation for the New Dubbo Bridge (once consultation).

Step 3: Transport will invite the wider community to provide feedback on the WiriWiri names shortlisted for the local First Nations community and/or make other suggestions, which can include suggestions other than First Nations names.

Step 4: Transport will ask representatives from the local First Nations community to assess any further First Nations names suggested during the wider community consultation.

Step 5: Transport will collate all names and suggestions and a summary of the feedback from the First Nations people and wider community (phase final consultation including preferred names) and consultation report will be made available to the community.

Step 6: Council will review the consultation responses, and endorse a proposed name for the bridge, and then recommend that it sign name to Transport.

Step 7: Transport will approve the name recommendation. Council provided that it has community support, is consistent with the NSW Geographical Names Board naming guidelines, and complies with Transport's signage requirements.

Step 8: The approved bridge name will be jointly announced.

Further Information

Our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document has been developed to answer the questions you may have about the naming process. Please reach out to the project team for more information on the naming process or the FAQs. The FAQs are available on our website at <https://www.dubbo.nsw.gov.au/transport-for-nsw>

Contact us

1800 803 818

dubbo@transportfor-nsw.gov.au

nswroads.works

**5/5-56 Cammerlang Street
Parramatta NSW 2150**

Pressing Transport for NSW's subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) which requires that we respond and/or release information requested under the Act. This includes information held by Transport for NSW in the delivery of public services. The information requested, including names and details of respondents, may be published in accordance with the Act. If you are not happy with the way we have handled your request, please contact the Freedom of Information Commissioner (FOIC) on 1300 301 303 or visit www.oaic.gov.au. We will continue to work in partnership with the community to deliver the New Dubbo Bridge.

New Dubbo Bridge - Drive - Bridge naming process Page 2 of 2

FAOs

Transport for NSW

FAQs – Bridge naming process

Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge

July 2014

Transport for NSW acknowledges the Wiradjuri people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pay respect to Elders past and present.




Artist's impression of the New Dubbo Bridge design for the Newell Highway Upgrade

The New Dubbo Bridge project is jointly funded by the Australian and NSW Governments. Transport for NSW, in partnership with Dubbo Regional Council and the Dubbo community, will name the New Dubbo Bridge.

Naming new bridges provides a useful nomenclature reference for motorists and allows the community to recognise and celebrate cultural, historical and social connections in the region.

Please reach out to the project team by calling **1800 802 818** or emailing bridgenaming@transport.nsw.gov.au if you have any questions about the bridge naming process and will not be concerned if this Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document.

How Dubbo Bridge (FAQ) – bridge naming process

What are Transport and Council's roles in the bridge naming process?

Transport for NSW (Transport) and Dubbo Regional Council (Council) will have distinct roles in the bridge naming process:

- Transport will undertake community consultation and prepare a comprehensive consultation report for Council's consideration.
- Council will review the consultation report, approve a proposed name for the bridge, and then recommend that bridge name to Transport.
- Transport will approve the name recommended by Council provided that it has community support. It is consistent with the NSW Transport's Name Branding guidelines, and complete NSW Transport's signage requirements.

New Dubbo Bridge (FAQ) – bridge naming process Page 1 of 4

Is a First Nations name preferred for the bridge?

At the Ordinary Council meeting held on Thursday 29 November 2020, Council resolved that the Council's preference for the Dubbo Bridge shall be a First Nations name relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge such as a crossing place or a river crossing.

The 1st resolution of Council is for the focus of the community consultation exercise to be the impact of the bridge name on the First Nations community.

Transport supports Council's resolution in arranging a First Nations name to recognize the significance of First Nations heritage in Dubbo and encourages it to collaborate the coordinator First Nations participation on the Dubbo Bridge project.

How will Transport undertake community consultation?

Transport can't wait the community consultation in two phases.

A series of meetings to consult with First Nations members to suggest appropriate Wharfedale names for the bridge to take forward for further consideration.

2. Meeting the wider community to provide feedback on the Wharfedale names selected by the local First Nations community and/or make other suggestions.

Phase one: First Nations consultation

In keeping with Council's resolution, Transport will firstly engage with the local First Nations community to seek suggestions of appropriate First Nations (Wharfedale) names for the Dubbo Bridge.

Transport will send out the suggestions received during the First Nations consultation and then follow up with the local First Nations community. The First Nations community will determine a shortlist of Wharfedale names for Transport to consider for assessment purposes. This process will be followed by a final consultation by Transport.

Phase two: Wider community consultation

Transport will invite the wider community to provide feedback on the Wharfedale names abbreviated by the First Nations community.

Suggestions other than First Nations names will be invited from the wider community to provide feedback on the Wharfedale names abbreviated by the First Nations community (phase two). All suggestions should note the naming criteria on the DND.

[Guidelines for the abbreviation of place names](#)

Transport will ask representatives from the local First Nations community to assess the appropriateness of any further First Nations names suggested during the wider community consultation.

All naming suggestions received as a summary of the feedback from the First Nations (phase one and wider community) phase two consultation including preferred names will be collated into the consultation report Transport prepares for Council's consideration.

New Dubbo Bridge - DND - bridge naming process

Page 4 of 4

Transport for NSW

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Nomination form

Transport for NSW

Wiradjuri name nomination form

Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge
July 2024

Transport for NSW acknowledges the Wiradjuri people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pays respect to Elders past and present.

Transport for NSW, in partnership with Dubbo Regional Council and the Dubbo community, will name the New Dubbo Bridge.

We have extended our first phase of consultation. We are asking members of the local First Nations community to suggest appropriate Wiradjuri names for the bridge to take forward for further consideration by Wednesday 31 July 2024.

How to nominate a name
You can scan the QR code to complete this form and upload an attachment on our online engagement portal at www.transport.nsw.gov.au/new-dubbo-bridge. If you prefer, you can email the form to dubboproject@transport.nsw.gov.au or post it to us using the **reply paid** details provided.

What happens next?
After this phase of consultation closes, Transport for NSW (TfNSW) will collate all the suggestions received and then a panel of representatives from the local First Nations community will determine a shortlist of Wiradjuri names through a fair and transparent assessment process. This process will be overseen by a facilitator appointed by Transport. We will then invite the wider Dubbo community to provide feedback on the shortlisted Wiradjuri names and/or make other suggestions, which can include suggestions other than First Nations names (please see consultation).

Keep in mind:

- The Council's preferred name for the new Dubbo Bridge shall be a First Nations name relevant to the location and function of the bridge such as a crossing place on a river (Dubbo Regional Council resolution at the Ordinary Council meeting held on Thursday 23 November 2023).
- Names should be able to be pronounced, spell and write, and should not exceed three words (including the term 'bridge' or '2nd structure'). An exception to this is in the use of Aboriginal names where it is accepted that a traditional name may at first appear to be complex but will, over time, become more familiar and accepted by the community.
- All suggestions should meet the naming criteria in the NSW Geographical Names Board (GNB) <https://www.gnb.nsw.gov.au/gnb-act> fact sheet.
- Discriminatory or derogatory names are not acceptable.

We will ask representatives from the local First Nations community to assess the appropriateness of any further First Nations names suggested during the wider community consultation.

Our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document has more information about the bridge naming process. Please reach out to the project team if you have any questions that are not covered in the FAQs. The FAQs are available on our website at wwwroads.works/nsw.

New Dubbo Bridge – Wiradjuri name nomination form Page 1 of 4

Do you have a great idea for a Wiradjuri name for the New Dubbo Bridge?
Please share with us your bridge name suggestion (in language and in English) and the reason behind your idea. You might have a story, cultural teaching or picture to share on why you'd like your idea used.

1. Your bridge name suggestion (in Wiradjuri):

2. What your name suggestion means (in English):

3. Why do you think the bridge should be named this? You can share a drawing or picture to explain your bridge name suggestion if you'd like.

New Dubbo Bridge – Wiradjuri name nomination form Page 2 of 4

4. Is there any other feedback about the naming of the New Dubbo Bridge that you would like to provide?

Name:

Email address:

Address (optional):

Phone number (optional):

☐ I am a member of the First Nations community residing in the Dubbo local government area.

Would you like to be added to our newsletter list to receive project updates?
☐ Yes – I understand my details will be held only for the purposes of providing information on this project.
☐ No

Contact us

1800 803 818
dubboproject@transport.nsw.gov.au
wwwroads.works/nsw
SI-55 Cunningham Street
Parkes NSW 2870

Interpreter service
If you need an interpreter, please contact the project team at dubboproject@transport.nsw.gov.au or call 1800 803 818.

Privacy Transport for NSW is committed to protecting your personal information. Information collected will be used for the purposes of public consultation on the Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge project (Project). We may share your personal information with community feedback on the project has been considered but will not disclose any personal information provided in these reports. We will not disclose your personal information to third parties unless you consent or as authorised by law. Providing personal information is voluntary. If you do not provide it, we may not be able to communicate with you about the Newell Highway Upgrade. Your information will be managed by Transport for NSW in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998. For further information, please visit wwwroads.works/nsw or contact the project team. If you wish to review, amend or remove the personal information we have collected, you can email dubboproject@transport.nsw.gov.au.

New Dubbo Bridge – Wiradjuri name nomination form Page 3 of 4

To mail this nomination form, fold along the dotted line and seal with clear tape. Mail your completed form for stamp required to the address below.

Fold here first

Seal here

Address: Dubbo Regional Council
Postcode: 2870

Postage stamp

111

Transport for NSW
New Dubbo Bridge
Wiradjuri nomination
Reply Paid 310170
PARKES NSW 2870

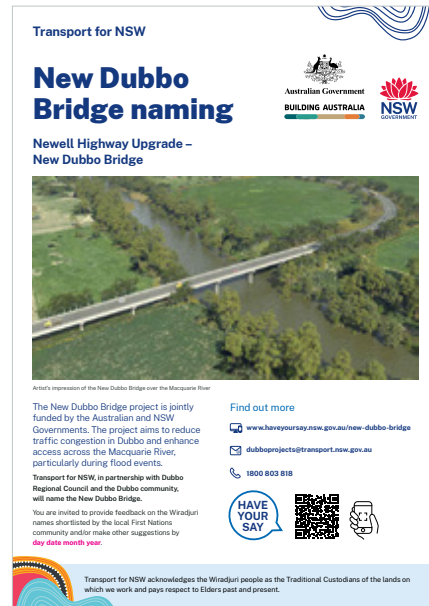
Fold here second

New Dubbo Bridge – Wiradjuri name nomination form Page 4 of 4

Transport for NSW

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

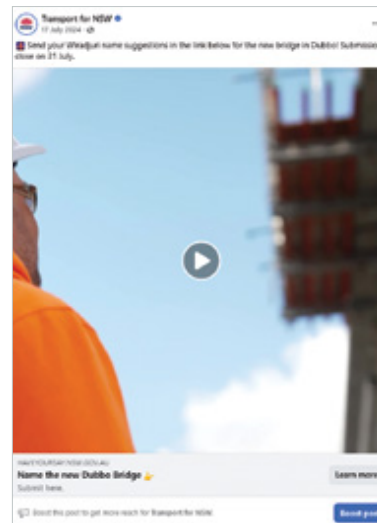
Poster



Video



Social posts



[illegible]

Empowering communities: Infrastructure Skills Legacy Program

The Infrastructure Skills Legacy Program, an initiative of the Infrastructure Development Corporation, is dedicated to providing training and employment opportunities for disadvantaged youth and women. The program has been instrumental in training 1,500 youth and women, who have gone on to secure employment with the private sector.

We're pleased to recognize significant progress:

- 10% of total beneficiaries are women
- 25% completion of 100-day training
- 10% within the wage of \$10
- 40% become participants in the Infrastructure Skills Legacy Program
- 10% of beneficiaries are employed
- 10% of beneficiaries are employed in the private sector

Celebrating Aboriginal participation: building a legacy of diversity in Dubbo



1.5% of total employment



23% Aboriginal employed



8 Aboriginal engaged

The Dubbo Bridge project is a testament of diversity in Aboriginal participation. The project has been a significant milestone for the community, as it has provided employment opportunities for Aboriginal people. The project has also been a source of pride for the community, as it has demonstrated the ability of Aboriginal people to contribute to the local economy.

Since the project start, Transport and Aboriginal have provided training and employment opportunities for Aboriginal people. The project has also been a source of pride for the community, as it has demonstrated the ability of Aboriginal people to contribute to the local economy.

The project has also been a source of pride for the community, as it has demonstrated the ability of Aboriginal people to contribute to the local economy. The project has also been a source of pride for the community, as it has demonstrated the ability of Aboriginal people to contribute to the local economy.



Did you know?

More than half of the **650** workers on the Dubbo Bridge project are **Aboriginal**

The new bridge will happen **10 intersections** in the **largest bridge** in the Central West

[illegible]

Transport for NSW

Have Your Say survey

www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/new-dubbo-bridge

New Dubbo Bridge-naming



July 21, 2025

Do you have a great idea for a Wiradjuri name for the new Dubbo Bridge?

This consultation has closed. Thank you for your contribution.

Please share with us your bridge name suggestion (in language and in English) and the reason behind your idea. You might have a story, cultural teaching or picture to share on why you'd like your idea used.

Keep in mind:

- That Council's preferred name for the new Dubbo Bridge shall be a First Nations name relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge such as a crossing place on a river. (Dubbo Regional Council resolution at the Ordinary Council meeting held on Thursday 23 November 2023).
- Names should be easy to pronounce, spell and write, and should not exceed three words (including the term 'bridge') or 25 characters. An exception to this is in the use of Aboriginal names when it is accepted that a traditional name may at first appear to be complex but will, over time, become more familiar and accepted by the community.
- All suggestions should meet the naming criteria in the NSW Geographical Names Board (GNB) [Guidelines for the determination of place names](#) (2018) fact sheet.
- Discriminatory or derogatory names are not acceptable.

01. Your bridge name suggestion (in Wiradjuri):

02. What your name suggestion means (in English):

03. Why do you think the bridge should be named this?

Do you have a great idea for a Wiradjuri name for the new Dubbo Bridge? Page 1 of 3



July 21, 2025

04. You can share a drawing or picture to explain your bridge name suggestion if you'd like.

Attach and submit documents with this form - You can provide a maximum of 3 documents

05. Is there any other feedback about the naming of the New Dubbo Bridge that you would like to provide?

06. Name: *Required*

07. Email address: *Required*

08. Address (optional)

09. Phone number (optional):

10. I am a member of the First Nations community residing in the Dubbo local government area. *Required*

Select one answer only

☐ Yes

☐ No

11. Would you like to be added to our eNewsletter list to receive project updates?

Do you have a great idea for a Wiradjuri name for the new Dubbo Bridge? Page 2 of 3



July 21, 2025

Select one answer only

☐ Yes - I understand my details will be held only for the purposes of providing information on this project

☐ No

Do you have a great idea for a Wiradjuri name for the new Dubbo Bridge? Page 3 of 3

Transport for NSW

Media releases

New Dubbo Bridge-naming



Transport for NSW

Media article

AUTHOR: Otlander Running SECTION: GENERAL NEWS ARTICLE TYPE: NEWS ITEM AUDIENCE: 5,000
PAGE: 2 PRINTED SIZE: 426.00cm² REGION: NSW MARKET: Australia ASR: AUD 2.264 WORDS: 307
ITEM ID: 207026666

14 NOV 2024
New River Street bridge name to celebrate cultural connections
Daily Liberal, Dubbo

Page 1 of 2

New River Street bridge name to celebrate cultural connections

CONSTRUCTION

Otlander Running

A WIRADJERI name will be chosen for the River Street bridge in consultation with the Indigenous community. Construction is currently under way on the River Street bridge, officially known as the New Dubbo Bridge. But Transport for NSW and Dubbo Regional Council want the \$202 million piece of infrastructure to have a name that reflects the city's culture and history.

In November, the council resolved it needed a First Nations name to name that was relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge such as a crossing place on a river.

Transport for NSW regional director Noel O'Leary said:

"We want to start the naming process. Transport would work closely with the local First Nations community to gather suggestions for appropriate Wiradjuri names for the bridge."

A panel of First Nations representatives will then determine a shortlist of names, and that shortlist will be taken to the Dubbo community for consideration, feedback and other suggestions.

The final name from that shortlist will then be determined by the council.

Mr O'Leary said naming a key piece of infrastructure such as the New Dubbo Bridge provided a once-in-a-generation opportunity to honor an unforgettable legacy on Dubbo and surrounds.

"The opportunity to name a new bridge such as this not only provides a useful navigational reference for motorists but also allows the community to recognise and celebrate cultural, historical and social connections in the region," he said.

Dubbo mayor Matthew Decker said a suitable and appropriate name was out there and he was personally looking forward to hearing what ideas the community came up with for naming the bridge.

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PAGE: 2 PRINTED SIZE: 426.00cm² REGION: NSW MARKET: Australia ASR: AUD 2.264 WORDS: 307
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Daily Liberal, Dubbo

Page 2 of 2



Audrey Hurrell, Dubbo Aboriginal senior project manager Brent Knight and Dubbo MP David Samuels, with Transport for NSW's Noel O'Leary and senior project manager Craig Williams at the start of the project's construction Phase 1B, before the bridge is built.

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Naidoc Day event 2024



Transport for NSW

5.1.2 Phase two

Fact Sheet

Transport for NSW

Fact Sheet – Bridge naming process

Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge

March 2025

Transport for NSW acknowledges the Wiradjuri people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pays respect to Elders past and present.

The New Dubbo Bridge project is jointly funded by the Australian and NSW Governments. Transport for NSW, in partnership with Dubbo Regional Council and the Dubbo community, is progressing plans to name the New Dubbo Bridge.

Naming major bridges provides a useful navigational reference for motorists and allows the community to recognise and celebrate cultural, historical and social connections in the region.

Transport and Council roles

Transport for NSW (Transport) and Dubbo Regional Council (Council) will have distinct roles in the bridge naming process:

- Transport will undertake community consultation and prepare a comprehensive consultation report for Council's consideration.
- Council will review the consultation report, endorse a proposed name for the bridge, and then recommend that bridge name to Transport.
- Transport will approve the name recommended by Council provided that it has community support, is consistent with the NSW Geographical Names Board naming guidelines, and complies with Transport's signage requirements.

Community consultation

At the Ordinary Council meeting held on Thursday 23 November 2023, Council resolved:

- That Council's preferred name for the New Dubbo Bridge shall be a First Nations name relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge such as a crossing place or a river.
- That this resolution of Council be the focus of the community consultation undertaken by Transport for NSW.

It is Transport's position that Council, as elected representatives of the community they serve, is best placed to recommend a suitable name from the suggestions received during community consultation.

Transport will ask representatives from the local First Nations community to assist the appropriateness of any further First Nations names suggested during the wider community consultation.

All naming suggestions received and a summary of the feedback from the First Nations (phase one) and wider community (phase two) consultation including preferred names will be collated into the consultation report. Transport prepares for Council's consideration.

New Dubbo Bridge - Fact Sheet - Bridge naming process Page 1 of 2

Steps in naming the New Dubbo Bridge

Step 1: Transport for NSW will engage with the local First Nations community to seek suggestions of appropriate First Nations (Wiradjuri) names for the New Dubbo Bridge (phase one consultation).

Step 2: A panel of representatives from the local First Nations community will determine a shortlist of Wiradjuri names through a fair and transparent assessment process.

Step 3: Transport will invite the wider community to provide feedback on the Wiradjuri names shortlisted by the local First Nations community and/or make other suggestions, which can include suggestions other than First Nations names (phase two consultation).

Step 4: Transport will ask representatives from the local First Nations community to assess any further First Nations names suggested during the wider community consultation.

Step 5: Transport will collate all bridge name suggestions and a summary of the feedback from the First Nations (phase one) and wider community (phase two) consultation including preferred names into a consultation report for Dubbo Regional Council's consideration.

Step 6: Council will review the consultation report, endorse a proposed name for the bridge, and then recommend that bridge name to Transport.

Step 7: Transport will approve the name recommended by Council provided that it has community support, is consistent with the NSW Geographical Names Board naming guidelines, and complies with Transport's signage requirements.

Step 8: The approved bridge name will be jointly announced.

Further information

Our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document has further information about the bridge naming process. Please reach out to the project team if you have any questions that are not covered in the FAQs. The FAQs are available on our website at newroads.work.nsw.gov.au

Contact us

1800 803 818
dubbo-naming@transport.nsw.gov.au
 25-55 Cunningham Street
 Dubbo NSW 2830

Interpretation service

We will keep you updated on the progress of the naming process for the New Dubbo Bridge through our community updates, newsletters and website. We look forward to working collaboratively with Council and the community in naming this significant infrastructure asset in Dubbo.

Please Transport for NSW (TfNSW) is subject to the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (PPPI Act) which requires that we collect and store information from individuals and use it in accordance with the PPPI Act. The information we collect is for the purpose of undertaking the bridge naming process and is not to be used for any other purpose. We will not disclose your personal information to any third party without your consent. If you have any questions about the PPPI Act or our privacy policy, please contact us at 1800 803 818.

New Dubbo Bridge - FAQs - Bridge naming process Page 2 of 2

FAQs

Transport for NSW

FAQs – Bridge naming process

Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge

March 2025

Transport for NSW acknowledges the Wiradjuri people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pays respect to Elders past and present.

What are Transport and Council's roles in the bridge naming process?

Transport for NSW (Transport) and Dubbo Regional Council (Council) will have distinct roles in the bridge naming process:

- Transport will undertake community consultation and prepare a comprehensive consultation report for Council's consideration.
- Council will review the consultation report, endorse a proposed name for the bridge, and then recommend that bridge name to Transport.
- Transport will approve the name recommended by Council provided that it has community support, is consistent with the NSW Geographical Names Board naming guidelines, and complies with Transport's signage requirements.

Is a First Nations name preferred for the bridge?

At the Ordinary Council meeting held on Thursday 23 November 2023, Council resolved:

- That Council's preferred name for the New Dubbo Bridge shall be a First Nations name relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge such as a crossing place or a river.
- That this resolution of Council be the focus of the community consultation undertaken by Transport for NSW.

In bridge naming, Transport is guided by the NSW Geographical Names Board (GNB) <https://www.gnb.nsw.gov.au>. This policy encourages the use of Aboriginal names for new bridges.

Transport supports Council's resolution in preferring a First Nations name to recognise the significance of First Nations heritage in Dubbo and surrounds and to celebrate the considerable First Nations participation in the New Dubbo Bridge project.

How will Transport undertake community consultation?

Transport will carry out the community consultation in two phases:

- Asking members of the local First Nations community to suggest appropriate Wiradjuri names for the bridge to take forward for further consideration.
- Inviting the wider community to provide feedback on the Wiradjuri names shortlisted by the local First Nations community and/or make other suggestions.

First Nations consultation completed July - December 2024

In keeping with Council's resolution, Transport engaged with the local First Nations community to seek suggestions of appropriate First Nations (Wiradjuri) names for the New Dubbo Bridge. A panel of representatives from the local First Nations community reviewed the Wiradjuri names and shortlisted them through a fair and transparent assessment process.

Phase two: Wider community consultation

In March 2025, Transport will invite the wider community to provide feedback on the Wiradjuri names shortlisted by the local First Nations community and/or make other suggestions. Suggestions other than First Nations names can be provided during the wider community consultation (phase two). All suggestions should meet the naming criteria in the GNB [Guidelines for the determination of place names](https://www.gnb.nsw.gov.au) (GNB Fact sheet).

Transport will ask representatives from the local First Nations community to assess the appropriateness of any further First Nations names suggested during the wider community consultation.

All naming suggestions received and a summary of the feedback from the First Nations (phase one) and wider community (phase two) consultation including preferred names will be collated into the consultation report. Transport prepares for Council's consideration.

New Dubbo Bridge - FAQs - Bridge naming process Page 1 of 4

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Transport will ask representatives from the local First Nations community to assess the appropriateness of any further First Nations names suggested during the wider community consultation.

All naming suggestions received and a summary of the feedback from the First Nations (phase one) and wider community (phase two) consultation including preferred names will be collated into the consultation report. Transport prepares for Council's consideration.

New Dubbo Bridge - FAQs - Bridge naming process Page 2 of 4

Transport for NSW

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Poster

Transport for NSW

New Dubbo Bridge naming

Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge



Artist's impression of the New Dubbo Bridge over the Macquarie River

The New Dubbo Bridge project is jointly funded by the Australian and NSW Governments. The project aims to reduce traffic congestion in Dubbo and enhance access across the Macquarie River, particularly during flood events.

Transport for NSW, in partnership with Dubbo Regional Council and the Dubbo community, is progressing plans to name the New Dubbo Bridge. You are invited to provide feedback on the Wiradjuri names shortlisted by the local First Nations community and/or make other suggestions by **Sunday 4 May 2025**.

Find out more

- www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/new-dubbo-bridge
- dubboprojects@transport.nsw.gov.au
- 1800 803 818




Transport for NSW acknowledges the Wiradjuri people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pays respect to Elders past and present.

Australian Government
BUILDING AUSTRALIA

NSW
GOVERNMENT

Quarter page ad

Transport for NSW

New Dubbo Bridge naming

Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge

Transport for NSW, in partnership with Dubbo Regional Council and the Dubbo community, is progressing plans to name the New Dubbo Bridge.

You are invited to provide feedback on the Wiradjuri names shortlisted by the local First Nations community and/or make other suggestions by **Sunday 4 May 2025**.

Find out more

- www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/new-dubbo-bridge
- dubboprojects@transport.nsw.gov.au
- 1800 803 818




HAVE YOUR SAY

Australian Government
BUILDING AUSTRALIA

NSW
GOVERNMENT

Half page ad

Transport for NSW

New Dubbo Bridge naming

Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge

Transport for NSW, in partnership with Dubbo Regional Council and the Dubbo community, is progressing plans to name the New Dubbo Bridge.

You are invited to provide feedback on the Wiradjuri names shortlisted by the local First Nations community and/or make other suggestions by **Sunday 4 May 2025**.

Find out more

- www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/new-dubbo-bridge
- dubboprojects@transport.nsw.gov.au
- 1800 803 818




HAVE YOUR SAY

Australian Government
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NSW
GOVERNMENT

Transport for NSW

Bridge naming feedback form



Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge

Transport for NSW acknowledges the Traditional Owners as the Traditional Custodians of Country across New South Wales and pays respect to Elders past and present.

Transport for NSW, in partnership with Dubbo Regional Council and the Dubbo Community is proud to announce the start of the Newell Highway Upgrade project.

We are seeking residents in the Dubbo local government area to provide feedback on the proposed Newell Highway Upgrade by the local First Nations community and/or make other comments on the project by 30 September 2023.

How to provide feedback

You can scan the QR code to access the online feedback form or download the feedback form and return it by email or post.

If you prefer, you can email the form to dubbo@transport.nsw.gov.au or post it to using the reply@transport.nsw.gov.au email address.

Keep in mind:

- The Council's preferred name for the new Dubbo Bridge and the First Nations name relevant to the location and/or history of the bridge such as a crossing name or a local First Nations name will be considered at the Dubbo Council meeting held on 24 September 2023.
- Names should be easy to pronounce, spell and write, and not exceed 30 characters.
- Names should be unique and not already in use (including the term 'bridge') or 25 characters.
- Names should be appropriate to the location, as in that it accepted that a traditional First Nations name for a place may be different to the name used by the general public, so, over time, becoming more familiar and accepted.
- All suggestions should meet the naming guidelines set out in the [Dubbo Council's Naming Guidelines 2019](#) (<https://www.dubbo.nsw.gov.au/Document%20Library/2019%20Naming%20Guidelines>).
- Grammatical or derogatory names will not be acceptable.

What happens next?

Transport for NSW (Transport) will ask representatives from the local First Nations community to assess the appropriateness of any further First Nations names suggested during the wider community consultation.

Transport will also receive and consider all of the feedback from the First Nations and wider community. The feedback received (including preferred names) will be collated into the consultation report. Transport for NSW will then recommend the preferred name to Dubbo Regional Council.

Dubbo Regional Council will review the consultation report, endorse a proposed name for the bridge, and then recommend that bridge name to the State Government.

Our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) contain more information about the bridge naming process. Please reach out to the project team if you have any questions that are not covered in the FAQs. The FAQs are available on our website at www.transport.nsw.gov.au.

New Dubbo Bridge – Bridge naming feedback form

Page 4 of 4

Please provide your feedback on the Wiradjuri names shortlisted by the local First Nations community and/or make other suggestions.

The following 4 Wiradjuri names have been shortlisted by the local First Nations community. Please tick to indicate your preferred name.

- ☐ **Wambaw** (Meaning: Marjorie River.
- ☐ **Ngalyaw** (Meaning: Meeting each other.
- ☐ **Bungaramba** (Meaning: One of the eight clans of Dubbo.
- ☐ **Aunty Pearl Gibbs** (Meaning: Aboriginal activist and leader who fought for Aboriginal rights for 50 years. She is remembered for her work with the Aborigines Progressive Association, her involvement in the 1926 Day of Mourning, and her community work in Dubbo, NSW.

Do you have another bridge name suggestion? If yes please complete the following fields. Or if no, please quote over the page to finalise your preference nomination.

Your bridge name suggestion (no more than 25 characters including the term bridge):

Why do you think the bridge should be named this?

New South Bridge – Bridge naming feedback form

Page 2 of 4

[illegible]

To mail this nomination form, fold along the dotted line and seal with clear tape. Mail your completed form (the stamp required) to the address below.

Fold here first

Attention: Ballot
Public Office
 10000 Highway 100
 Suite 100
 San Francisco, CA 94134





**Seal of the
State of California**




Enrollment for 2022
New Public Bridge
Naming Feedback Form
Peoples Post 2021/7
PROPOSED: 2020/1

Fold here's second

Transport for NSW

Social posts



New Dubbo Bridge-naming

30

OFFICIAL

Transport
for NSW

Community update

Transport for NSW
Newell Highway Upgrade – New Dubbo Bridge

Community Update
March 2025



Help us see the new place of infrastructure – details inside.

The \$263.2 million New Dubbo Bridge project, jointly funded by the Australian and NSW Governments, is well underway.

The New Dubbo Bridge will ease traffic congestion and provide a safer route for drivers, including for emergency services, once completed in late 2026.

The New Dubbo Bridge project is being completed with local residents to keep them informed throughout.

Transport for NSW acknowledges the Wiradjuri people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pay respect to Elders past and present.

Bridge naming feedback can be provided until Sunday 4 May 2025. Read more in this update.

Construction progress

The project continues to make steady progress, including on track for completion by late 2026. Key milestones in the project include the completion of the bridge deck and the installation of the bridge piers.

The project team is progressing with the installation of the bridge deck and the installation of the bridge piers.

Bridge deck – The bridge deck is being poured in concrete. The concrete is being poured in a continuous process, ensuring a strong and durable bridge deck.

Bridge piers – The bridge piers are being installed in the ground. The piers are being installed in a continuous process, ensuring a strong and durable bridge piers.

Bridge deck – The bridge deck is being poured in concrete. The concrete is being poured in a continuous process, ensuring a strong and durable bridge deck.

Bridge piers – The bridge piers are being installed in the ground. The piers are being installed in a continuous process, ensuring a strong and durable bridge piers.

What are we doing now?

- Designing the bridge deck and the bridge piers.
- Installing the bridge deck and the bridge piers.
- Installing the bridge deck and the bridge piers.

Upcoming work

- Completing the bridge deck and the bridge piers.
- Installing the bridge deck and the bridge piers.
- Installing the bridge deck and the bridge piers.

Construction progress

The project continues to make steady progress, including on track for completion by late 2026. Key milestones in the project include the completion of the bridge deck and the installation of the bridge piers.

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What are we doing now?

- Designing the bridge deck and the bridge piers.
- Installing the bridge deck and the bridge piers.
- Installing the bridge deck and the bridge piers.

Upcoming work

- Completing the bridge deck and the bridge piers.
- Installing the bridge deck and the bridge piers.
- Installing the bridge deck and the bridge piers.

Help name the new bridge

The New Dubbo Bridge naming process is now in the second phase of consultation.

The community is invited to provide feedback on the bridge name suggestions. The feedback will be used to inform the final bridge name.

Bridge name suggestions

- Weekend** – Hearing the bridge name.
- Monday** – Hearing the bridge name.
- Tuesday** – Hearing the bridge name.
- Wednesday** – Hearing the bridge name.
- Thursday** – Hearing the bridge name.
- Friday** – Hearing the bridge name.
- Saturday** – Hearing the bridge name.
- Sunday** – Hearing the bridge name.

Next steps in naming the New Dubbo Bridge

- The community can now provide feedback on shortlisted bridge names, as well as suggest alternative options that reflect the local area, until Sunday 4 May.
- All bridge name suggestions will be collated in a report and provided to Dubbo Regional Council for consideration.
- Council will review the submissions against the naming criteria and recommend a bridge name to Transport.
- Transport will approve the name recommended by Council if it has community support, is consistent with the NSW Geographic Names Board naming guidelines, and complies with Transport's signage requirements.
- The approved bridge name will be jointly announced.

Take a look at some of the recent images we've captured of the bridge during construction



Staff spotlight:
Meet Jane Sullivan, Communications Advisor

Jane has been the community liaison officer for the project, ensuring that the community is kept up to date on the latest developments. She has been instrumental in the naming process, ensuring that the community's voice is heard.

Take a look at some of the recent images we've captured of the bridge during construction



Fast facts as of March 2025

2,200 metres of concrete pipes installed	86,000 tonnes of completed earthworks	1,400 m³ of concrete for the deck
995 tonnes of steel reinforcement	89 bridge piers installed	105 girders installed
25,880 tonnes of gravel received	500 metres of concrete parapet	515,876 hours of work

Contact us

1800 800 808
dubbo@transport.nsw.gov.au

Website: dubbo.tnsw.gov.au

On-site: 555 Campbell Street, Dubbo NSW 2880

Interpretation service

1800 800 808
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Transport for NSW

Have Your Say survey www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/new-dubbo-bridge

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

societypoint July 21, 2025

Complete a survey

This consultation is now closed. Thank you for your contributions.

Please provide your feedback on the Wiradjuri names shortlisted by the local First Nations community and/or make other suggestions.

01. The following 4 Wiradjuri names have been shortlisted by the local First Nations community. Please tick to indicate your preferred name.

Select one answer only

☐ Wambuu I Meaning: Macquarie River

☐ Nguluwai I Meaning: Meeting each other

☐ Bunglegumbe I Meaning: One of the eight clans of Dubbo

☐ Auntie Pearl Gibbs I Meaning: Aboriginal activist and leader who fought for Aboriginal rights for 50 years. She is remembered for her work with the Aborigines Progressive Association, her involvement in the 1938 Day of Mourning, and her community work

02. Do you have another bridge name suggestion? (no more than 25 characters including the term bridge)

Maximum of 25 characters

03. Why do you think the bridge should be named this?

04. Is there any other feedback about the naming of the New Dubbo Bridge that you would like to provide?

Complete a survey Page 1 of 3

societypoint July 21, 2025

05. Name **Required**

06. Email address **Required**

07. Phone number **Required**

08. Are you a member of the First Nations community residing in the Dubbo local government area?

Select one answer only

☐ Yes

☐ No

09. Would you like to be added to our eNewsletter list to receive project updates?

Select one answer only

☐ Yes – I understand my details will be held only for the purposes of providing information on this project

☐ No

10. Was it easy to give your feedback today?

Select one answer only

☐ Yes

☐ No

11. Survey experience **Required**

Complete a survey Page 2 of 3

societypoint July 21, 2025

Skip this question if

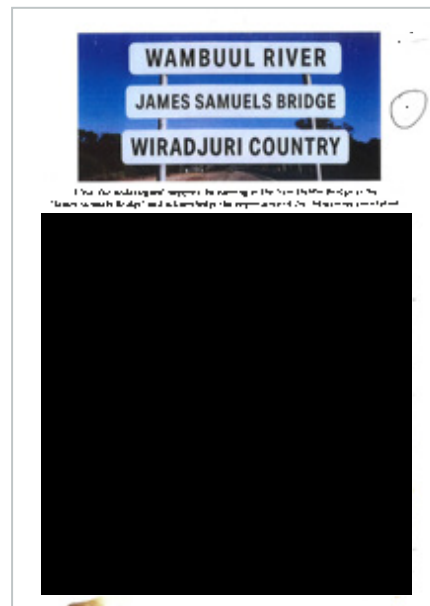
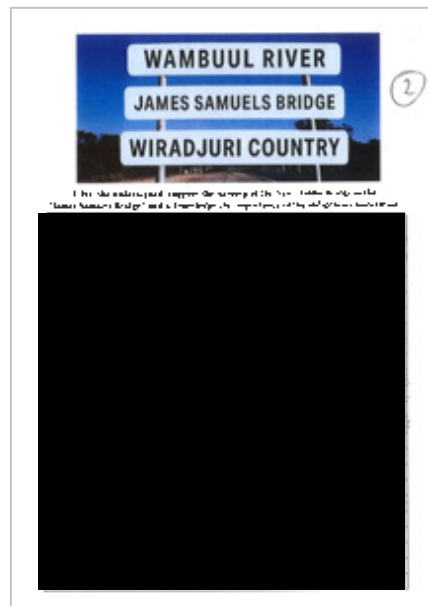
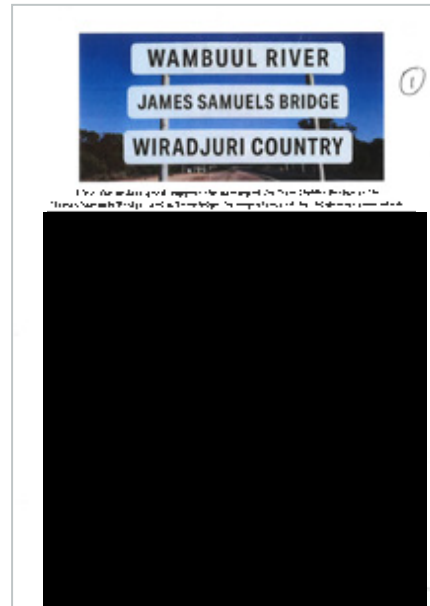
- your answer to question Was it easy to give your feedback today? is not "No"

How can we improve your survey experience?

Complete a survey Page 3 of 3

Transport
for NSW

Petition



New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Transport for NSW

Media releases



Media articles



New Dubbo Bridge inches closer to reality

Carla Bostow

RESIDENTS can expect to see some big changes to the New Dubbo Bridge over the next couple of weeks.

A Transport for NSW spokesperson said they will be completing the girder installation work and will continue pouring concrete to form the bridge deck.

"Crews will also be placing asphalt on the new road embankment," they said.

Current ongoing work at the site includes electrical relocations, construction of road embankment, drainage and bridge construction work.

"Over the coming months, work to install parapets, and traffic railings will be carried out," they said. "Work on the New Dubbo Bridge is progressing well and is on track for completion by late 2026."

The bridge - which hasn't been without controversy - is being built north of Dubbo's CBD and will form part of a re-routed Newell Highway.

When complete, it will span 660 metres and connect to River Street at its inter-

section with Bourke Street, which will also be upgraded.

The NSW Government promises the bridge will ease traffic congestion in Dubbo and enhance access across the Macquarie River during flood events.

"One of the key features is the east-west connectivity... As Dubbo residents know, when the Emile Serisier bridge is closed the city risks to a halt," Transport for NSW Regional Director West Alistair Lunn said.

"And that's both not great for the community but it's also a risk for people who need emergency services to get across town or need to get to vital appointments."

"We're also bypassing 12 intersections on Erskine and Bourke Street with local roads. So that makes a big difference from a safety point of view and removes a lot of that heavy freight traffic from that Erskine Street area near the bowling club."

Work on the bridge started in March 2022 and has gotten

many local schools involved with the design.

About 20 students from five Dubbo schools had the opportunity to leave handprints on the huge stormwater pipes being installed as part of the project. Mr Lunn said the painting session was the first of many and a celebration of Aboriginal culture.

"We see this as a really good way of getting school children really engaged in a major piece of infrastructure that we're building here in Dubbo," he said. "To recognise the heritage of our First Nations people in Dubbo, the kids used Aboriginal paint colours of red, yellow and black to imprint handprints on the outside of the pipe creating a colourful mural."

A Wiradjuri name will be chosen for the \$302 million piece of infrastructure, in consultation with the Indigenous community. Transport for NSW and Dubbo Regional Council want it to have a name that reflects the city's culture and history.

Transport
for NSW

Media articles



Picture by Transport for NSW

What should new bridge be called?

One vision

AS CONSTRUCTION of the New Dubbo Bridge enters the home stretch, residents are being asked: what do you think it should be called?

After further discussion with an Indigenous panel, it was determined that a shortlist of names was:

1. Wamboul, "Macquarie River"
2. Ngulaway, "meeting each other"
3. Bunglegumbie, one of the clans of Dubbo
4. Aunty Pearl Gibbs, a First Nations activist

and leader who fought for Indigenous rights for 50 years, including with community work in Dubbo. Residents are being polled on this shortlist, and are also invited to provide their suggestions that demonstrate a connection to the location, including those names not Indigenous in origin.

Polling and alternative suggestions will be considered after the May 4 deadline. The last of the 120 pre-stressed concrete girders was craned onto the structure recently.

Officials have confirmed that the \$20m, 660-metre bridge will open come 2026.



Picture by Transport for NSW

07:30 Local News at 07:31 a.m.

2DU, 28 Mar 2025 07:31, R00119844234

Download

Meat and Seafood Centre, stocking fresh meats, vegetables and sauces daily. cheque out the range at Dubbo Meat Centre or drop into 55 Wheelers Lane, Dubbo.

Good morning, I'm Michael Thurlow. Dubbo locals have until May 4th to show their support for one of four shortlisted Wiradjuri names, or an alternative for the **new Dubbo Bridge**. The four shortlisted names include Wamboul, which means Macquarie River and Gallaway or meeting each other. The other two options are Bunglegumby after one of the Dubbo clans, and aunty Pearl Gibbs, which recognises the prominent Aboriginal activist of the same name.



A HILTON FOR MOGGIES AND DOGGIES AS NEW ANIMAL SHELTER OPENS

REGIONAL COUNCIL UPDATE

By DAVID DIXON

STATE-OF-THE-ART facilities will now better serve our lost, abandoned, and impounded pets after recent opening of the new Dubbo Regional Animal Shelter.

Following 10 months of painstaking construction, the moggie and pooch home-away-from-home features 100 dog pens - including isolation and dangerous dog areas - as well as enclosures for 50 cats.

The shelter has been built to safely contain and control transmissible diseases, Dubbo Mayor Councillor Josh Black said.

"It's one thing to see this shelter in its design phase, but to be standing next to the fully-realised building is something else," our excited local leader said. "It is an incredibly impressive piece of infrastructure and is really class-leading in terms of NSW animal facilities."

A community open day will also be held for the public on Saturday, May 17, from 10am-2pm.

Indigenous-only names - or alternative - for new bridge

A HIGH-PROFILE petition from a well-known local family is seeking to overturn recent history where almost all new government infrastructure, seems to be the re-

recipient of Indigenous names.

With a major milestone reached on Dubbo's biggest project, with the final bridge girder craned into place for the new Macquarie River crossing, what to call it is again in focus with the community offered four shortlisted Wiradjuri names.

For the record, names selected by a panel of local First Nations representatives, were:

- Wamboul, "Macquarie River"
- Ngulaway, meaning "meeting each other"
- Bunglegumbie, one of the clans of Dubbo
- Aunty Pearl Gibbs, an Aboriginal activist and leader.

However, the recently-finished community consultation also offered locals the opportunity to "suggest an alternative bridge name that demonstrates a connection to the location, but is not necessarily Aboriginal in origin".

The petition and recent news stories, have urged locals to support another option, naming the \$20.2 million structure after local philanthropist, founder of the local Agricultural Society, and the individual who was also central to bringing tap water and gas power to Dubbo, local pioneer James Samuels.

"Transport for NSW last year, started the process of finding a name that celebrates the city's

culture and history and is working closely with Dubbo Regional Council, which will have the final say on the bridge name."

Transport for NSW Acting Director (West) Katrina Dwyer said.

Bring out your rubbish! Garbage pick-up trial extended

All bridge name suggestions will be provided to Dubbo Regional Council for consideration.

COUNCIL is extending the trial of the pre-booked bulky rubbish collection service until the end of June next year. This follows a decision at the April Ordinary Council meeting to give the pilot scheme another year.

"The pre-booked bulky rubbish collection service provides residents with the flexibility to book the service throughout the year," Mayor Cr Josh Black said.

"During the trial, the pre-booked service has been relatively well utilized and positively received by residents who used the service."

The extension of the service would allow council to be able to collect and compare the data from the service year on year," he concluded.

Transport for NSW

Dubbo Street Stall April 2025



Dubbo Street Stall May 2025



New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Transport for NSW

5.2 Nominations received

Nominations received during Community and Stakeholder Engagement March 2024 – May 2025

34 names were nominated in Phase 1. Nine of these names were double-ups or variations of the same name and one offensive name has been excluded. As a result, **24 names listed in Table 5.2.1** were assessed by the panel.

213 additional names were submitted during Phase 2. Two of these names were excluded as they were offensive. As a result **211 names are shown across Tables 5.2.2 and 5.2.3.**

Table 5.2.1. Wiradjuri name suggestions – Phase 1

Bridge name suggestion	What the name suggestion means	Why do you think it should be named this?	Does it meet the naming criteria for Wiradjuri Names?
Wambuul	Macquarie River	The students and I collaborated and decided on this name as the bridge crosses the Macquarie River. We thought Wambuul Gulaay sounded the best out of our ideas after a vote.	Yes
Nguluway	Meeting each other	Because a bridge is a place where 2 sides meet. The meeting of 2 different peoples and the water and the land. It is a representative of the multiple cultures in the Dubbo area meeting.	Yes
Bunglegumbie	North Dubbo	Up the North part of town and Bunglegumbie isn't so far off.	Yes
Aunty Pearl Gibbs Bridge	Aboriginal activist and leader who fought for Aboriginal rights for 50 years.		Yes
Gulaay	A crossing place or a bridge	Simple and easy to pronounce.	No – does not comply with Transport for NSW's signage requirements as Gulaay Bridge translates to Bridge Bridge. Bridge must be in English.
Buraay Gulaay	Children crossing	Years ago the old north weir was a crossing the aboriginal children used to get from west to north school. And unfortunately two of my cousin's Drown there while crossing with their bikes.	No – the name is not relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge
Murrudha Gulaay	Murrudha = On track / Gulaay = crossing place, bridge (On track crossing place	These are Wiradjuri words that are connected to country and belong to the Tubbagah songlines of our land and people.	No – the name is not relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge

Transport
for NSW

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Bridge name suggestion	What the name suggestion means	Why do you think it should be named this?	Does it meet the naming criteria for Wiradjuri Names?
Gulaay Wambuul	Bridge crossing Macquarie river	I think it's great you are including the Indigenous community.	No – does not comply with Transport for NSW's signage requirements as Gulaay Bridge translates to Bridge Bridge. Bridge must be in English.
Oogabooga	Word that means a collective of people that come together	Because it incorporates the needs of all and it will be such an effective name that the community will love.	No – the name is derogatory
Goo Garr, Bunyip	Goanna – water beast		No – the name is not supported
Yuri	Emu	Because it stands up tall like an emu's long legs.	No – the name is not a correct Wiradjuri word
Gunhingbang Johnny Hill Snr Bridge	Uncle Johnny Hill Snr Bridge	The unspoken history of the vast lands surrounding the Bridge and how many stories our old fulla's would have if they were here with us today. A new Bridge that leads over land rich in culture that is screaming with local Aboriginal history that sadly gets lost every time we lose an Elder like Uncle Johnny.	No – the name does not comply with the NSW Geographical Names Board guidelines as it exceed the total character count
Captain Adam Dunbar	Persons name	Proud Dubbo boy who served his country for 20 years to rank of captain in multiple conflicts to only take his life due to ptsd. Honour a fallen hero, a Dubbo boy.	No – the name is not validated
Windradyne	He was a Wilshire leader and warrior	The wiradjuri people form a big part of our region.	No – the name is not relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge
Old Dubbo Bridge		Old Dubbo was the name of the first Aboriginal Traditional Wiradjuri man who was here when Robert Venour Dulhunty settled in the location now known as Dubbo, the first white man here in 1839. Old Dubbo became a great friend of R V Dulhunty. I believe that the new Dubbo Bridge should be named to honour and respect the old man and all Wiradjuri people before and to date. If the name is chosen we could organise a plaque showing his connection to R V Dulhunty. I am a Wiradjuri man 78 now.	No – the name is not relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge

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New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Bridge name suggestion	What the name suggestion means	Why do you think it should be named this?	Does it meet the naming criteria for Wiradjuri Names?
Bulgan Bridge	Boomerang	My great-grandfather David Baird and his brother Thomas Baird had a deep connection with the early Aboriginal people, learning their language and traditions, which they passed down through generations. I suggest naming the new bridge "Bulgan," meaning boomerang in the Wiradjuri language, symbolizing the blend of cultures and the connection between old and new. The name reflects the boomerang bends in the nearby Macquarie River and the new road, emphasizing the intertwined nature of our lives and cultures. I hope this name will be considered for the shortlist.	No – the name is not relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge
GULAAY	Bridge	THIS IS THE WIRADJURI WORD FOR BRIDGE DISCRIPTION – a crossing – place, or a bridge.	No – does not comply with Transport for NSW's signage requirements as Gulaay Bridge translates to Bridge Bridge. Bridge must be in English.
Dubbo	Red Ochre (see p 36 "Dubbo to the turn of the century" by the late Marion Dormer	The name "Dubbo" is historically significant and well-documented in Marion's book. As the premier bridge in the district, it should reflect its geographical location and honor the original inhabitants. Explorer Oxley often used Aboriginal words, naming places like "pipeclay gulley" near Narromine. Both Oxley and Sturt had good relations with the Wiradjuri during their explorations in the early 19th century. The name "Dubbo" is derived from the Wiradjuri word "THUBBO," meaning "red earth" or "head covering." This name would continue the tradition of using Aboriginal words and acknowledge the area's heritage.	No – the name is not supported

Transport for NSW

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Bridge name suggestion	What the name suggestion means	Why do you think it should be named this?	Does it meet the naming criteria for Wiradjuri Names?
MAWANG	All Together	Brings both sides of Dubbo and its people all together!!	No – the name is not supported
Ngunggadhaany	Carrier	The new bridge will carry many things to and from our city. People, produce and resources.	No – not relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge
Waygiwinya	Travel, go around or about	Given the locality and the fact that this bridge will be linking people travelling I think is a perfect choice. Travel about is also perfect for a bypass bridge.	No – the name is not relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge
Goorialla	Rainbow Serpent	The Rainbow Serpent made all the rivers.	No – the name is not a correct Wiradjuri word
Windradyne Bridge	He was a Wilshire leader and warrior	The wiradjuri people form a big part of our region.	No – the name is not relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge
James Samuels Bridge over Wambuul River on Wiradjuri Country	James Samuels	James Samuels (1835–1927) was Dubbo's first mayor and a prominent leader, whose contributions to the development and prosperity of Dubbo have left an indelible mark on the town's history	No – the name is not a correct Wiradjuri word

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for NSW

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Table 5.2.2. Wiradjuri name suggestions – Phase 2

Bridge name suggestion	# nominations	Why do you think the bridge should be named this?	Does it meet the naming criteria for Wiradjuri Names?
Grace Toomey	1	Grace was an Elder from the Dubbo area	Yes
Tracker Riley Bridge	1	He is a local legend and does not receive the recognition he deserves.	No – the name is not supported as the walking track near the bridge is already named after Tracker Riley
Juanita Lake Bridge	1	She is the oldest Elder in Dubbo; her grandmother is the name of the bridge in Coonabarabran (Mary Jane Cain Bridge).	No – does not comply with the NSW Geographical Names Board guidelines as a person must be deceased to be commemorated
Walanbangan or Walanbang	1	Walanbangan means “strong, having authority, mighty”. Obviously, this relates to the bridge itself but reflects also the Aboriginal people themselves and their culture. They have lasted 65,000+ years (let's hope the bridge does) as they are a strong, mighty people and culture. The bridge stands strong and mighty as the Aboriginal people of the Wiradjuri Nation do.	No – the name is not supported as it is not relevant to the function of the bridge
Riverbank Frank Bridge	6	Riverbank Frank: renowned and respected Dubbo elder. Riverbank says it all! Just a great name!! Riverbank Frank is a much loved and respected man Although the community will 100% call it the River St bridge. He is a well known local elder, who is known for his efforts for reconciliation. A man of ideals which are worthy of being immortalised, though his humility may be against such a naming. His local and trying to bring the community together I've seen his poems on FB and we all know him his humble and a beautiful person. Frank is a wonderful and remarkable Wiradjuri man.	No – does not comply with the NSW Geographical Names Board guidelines as a person must be deceased to be commemorated
Frank Doolan	3	Respected local. Local aboriginal elder affectionately known as 'Riverbank Frank'. Riverbank Frank is an iconic character who has not only lived on the banks of the Macquarie River but walked more kms of the Newell highway than any man. He is a valued and loved member of Dubbo who deserves our recognition!	No – does not comply with the NSW Geographical Names Board guidelines as a person must be deceased to be commemorated

41

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New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Bridge name suggestion	# nominations	Why do you think the bridge should be named this?	Does it meet the naming criteria for Wiradjuri Names?
Riverbank's Crossing	1	The alternative name I mentioned to honour Riverbank Frank, a local elder who wrote a wonderful poem The Bridge, and what a symbolic icon this would be for his feeling and thoughts about Dubbo's and Australia's future.	No –does not comply with the NSW Geographical Names Board guidelines as a person must be deceased to be commemorated
Frank 'Riverbank' Doolan	1	Aboriginal and community activist, who has fought for the rights of all people of the human race. He is a modern day hero of Dubbo and his passion, knowledge and wisdom is like no other.	No –does not comply with the NSW Geographical Names Board guidelines as a person must be deceased to be commemorated
Frank's Bridge	1	Riverbank Frank has done many great things for Dubbo's Community –he definitely deserves something that honours him.	No –does not comply with the NSW Geographical Names Board guidelines as a person must be deceased to be commemorated
Frank Doolan Drive Bridge	1	Because frank Doolan is alive and a well known and respected member of the wiradjuri Community he is also a great role model for the youth. Why does someone have to be dead to get recognition for their service to the community.	No –does not comply with the NSW Geographical Names Board guidelines as a person must be deceased to be commemorated
Tubba-gah Bridge	3	The bridge is close to the Devil's Elbow where the Tubba-gah aboriginal people lived. They were the first residents of the area where the bridge crosses the river at Dubbo. Tubba-Gah meaning Red Ochre People which we all are as we live in the city of Dubbo meaning Red Earth. The Tubba-Gah people used to cross the river near where this new bridge is located. Brings awareness to the clan of Dubbo.	Yes
Wiradjuri	2	Because Dubbo is apart of Wiradjuri land. Was in Sydney a few weeks ago and saw a new metro station was called Gadigal, so I thought perhaps the bridge could be called Wiradjuri.	Yes

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New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Bridge name suggestion	# nominations	Why do you think the bridge should be named this?	Does it meet the naming criteria for Wiradjuri Names?
Bila Bridge	1	Bila means river in Wiradjuri Traditional Language. It gives acknowledgement to our First Nations Community and is a short catchy name. In fairness we already have 2 of our city's bridges named after former prominent citizens, (with white ethnicity), neither of which are short or catchy!	Yes
Aunty Lorni Hyland	1	My Mother was an activist with a fiery nature who fought hard for her community and especially the then Gordon Estate. Council was going to honor my mother's community achievements and commitment to community after her death but instead chose something else. Maybe this is one way of honoring her and joining the North with the West where her family have resided for 50 years and still work hard in the community. Her family being employed by DJJ, DCJ, NNPWS, Dept. Ed, and TAFE ... doing their bit for community and walking in the footsteps of a women who had a massive impact in her community and deserves the recognition. Many dignitaries honored her at her memorial service with past Mayor Allan Smith speaking at her service. My Mother was also instrumental in helping form the Victorian Aboriginal Advancement League VAAL in the 50s and 60s along working behind the scenes with the Late Sir Douglas Nicholls. This tidbit not known to the Dubbo community. She deserves this.	Yes
Red Ochre Bridge	1	The main source of trade from the local area with other traditional Aboriginal nations prior to 1788.	No – the name is not supported

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for NSW

New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Bridge name suggestion	# nominations	Why do you think the bridge should be named this?	Does it meet the naming criteria for Wiradjuri Names?
Biladurang Bila Bridge	1	This means 'Platypus river' bridge in Wiradjuri. I think the bridge should be named this to acknowledge and raise awareness of this important and unique threatened species totem animal the platypus in honour of all the habitat destruction and damage and potential displacement from their homes that the local platypus in this area have suffered due to the bridge being built in their river causing significant environmental destruction. Threatened species should be acknowledged more than people – they will probably soon become extinct so naming the bridge after then will raise awareness and be a permanent reminder that platypus used to live in this river.	Yes
Yarra Thubbo	1	This is the Wiradjuri words meaning North Dubbo. The compass direction of the new bridge.	No – the name is not a correct Wiradjuri word
Gugaa Bridge	1	Gugaa (Goanna) is a totem of the Wiradjuri people. It symbolizes the connection of all people, past and present, to the Wiradjuri land. The bridge represents connection. It also connects us to (and over) the Macquarie River.	No – the name is not supported
Wilay Waters	1	Wilay Aboriginal Name for Possum.	Yes
Alexander "Tracker" Riley	1	Alexander Riley (1884–1970) was an Australian Aboriginal tracker from the Dubbo area and the first Aboriginal person to gain the rank of sergeant in the New South Wales Police Force.	No – the name is not supported as the walking track near the bridge is already named after Tracker Riley
Mganga River Bridge	1	It's a beautiful name for an old aboriginal crew back in 1700's	No – the name is not supported
Mayiny Gulaay Bridge	1	Pronounced Main Gooleye (Mayiny Gulaay) Mayiny means people and Gulaay means bridge in Wiradjuri... It would be representative of all people.... Of all races...	No – the name is not relevant to the location and/or function of the bridge
Bunglegumbie Crossing	1	I think "Byngkegumbie Crossing" sounds better than Bridge" and close proximity to the area crossing the Macquarie River.	No – does not comply with Transport for NSW's signage requirements
Wambuul Galaay	1	Wambuul being the Traditional name of our river and Galaay meaning a crossing-place or bridge.	No – does not comply with Transport for NSW's signage requirements as Galaay Bridge translates to Bridge Bridge. Bridge must be in English.

44

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New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Bridge name suggestion	# nominations	Why do you think the bridge should be named this?	Does it meet the naming criteria for Wiradjuri Names?
North Nguluway Bridge	1	North Dubbo "Nguluway" meaning meeting Bridge because it's a bridge.	No – the name is not supported
David Peachey Bridge Way	1	David has just been inducted into the Cronulla Sharks Hall of Fame in which is a huge honour for an indigenous boy from the bush. David's family has been involved in sports around the central west for many years especially with Rugby League. David had moved back to Dubbo after his football career and has been mentoring young indigenous kids and encouraging them to pursue their dreams and stressing the importance of education and how it lays a foundation for reconciliation between indigenous and non indigenous peoples. I believe David has earned the right to finally be acknowledged of his achievements through his own community the same way Cronulla Sharks has recognised him.	No – does not comply with the NSW Geographical Names Board guidelines as a person must be deceased to be commemorated
Yanhagi	1	It comes from the word Giliyanhagingigi that means (lets go together) but is not the same as its full meaning. Yanhagi is a name, a way and a being, together in all ways.	Yes
Wiradjuri Gulaay	1	This is the wiradjuri word for crossing over, or bridge. So it will also teach people the real wiradjuri name meaning bridge. It seems to be more fitting for a bridge for many people, and not down to a certain specific group of people, which could then cause more drama than satisfaction.	Yes (without Gulaay as the word bridge must be in English)
Its not my country	1	Because it restores language of the area which is a commitment of CTG in the National Partnership Agreement. I vote because not one Clan group should be recognised in the name as the Bridge is on Tubbagah Country the boundary from Bunglegumbie is crossed by the time you reach the bridge. I also believe if this is a First Nation naming then the decision should have been left to Traditional Owners to decide. This is Lore and protocol.	No – the name is not supported
Gulaay	1	It is a Wiradjuri word meaning Bridge or crossing place	No – does not comply with Transport for NSW's signage requirements as Gulaay Bridge translates to Bridge Bridge. Bridge must be in English.

45

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New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Table 5.2.3. Other names suggested – Phase 2 (not assessed against naming criteria)

Bridge name suggestion	# nominations	Why do you think the bridge should be named this?
James Samuels	85 + 1 nomination supported by a petition with 2500 signatures	Because he was a great man who did so much for the growth and development of Dubbo. One of the founders of Dubbo. First Mayor of Dubbo.
Sir James Samuels Bridge	2	James Samuels was a key founder of Dubbo. He helped our town become a municipality and served as its first mayor from 1872 to 1874. He also played a major role in establishing the Dubbo Hospital. His lifelong dedication to our community earned him great respect. Baking this bridge after James would honour this dedication.
Samuels River Street Bridge	1	
Samuels Bridge	15	Obviously: Benefactor DBH... Founder of Dubbo Municipality. Founder of Agricultural Society. Founder Holy Trinity Anglican Church. Water in Dubbo. Dubbo Gas Company. Dubbo Public School Board. And much more... Obviously from above and many more achievements. James Samuels is the VERY BEST. Sir James Samuels was Dubbo's first mayor and also inaugurated the Dubbo Show Society. Recognising one of our founding business families the First Nations had contributed very little to early settlement and very little since. This First Nations propaganda is racist and divisive what has been achieved over the years that has actually deserved recognition over a family that really contributed to our early business progress.
James Samuels Gulaay	1	Addresses Indigenous concerns and respects the cultural heritage of Wiradjuri people.
Samuels (Wambuul) Bridge	1	It reflects a significant historical person and identifies the Aboriginal name of the bridges location.
Dubvagas Bridge	1	Because dunno has the much name "dubvagas"
The Great Rhino Bridge	1	Dubbo Zoo has put Dubbo on the map in a big way and the rhino is a big part of this.
Long Bridge	1	
Mick Wilson Bridge	1	After everything he did for Dubbo as a town and for the council. The standard he set for this town.
Dubbo Bridge	1	Its a bridge, in Dubbo.
Glenn McGrath Bridge	2	He's a famous cricketer and the CEO of the McGrath Foundation (which has support thousands of women with breast cancer). He's a local legend, born and bred in Dubbo. Famous Australian born in Dubbo & huge contribution to sport & community through breast cancer –even better call it Jane McGrath bridge after Glenn's wife.
Selah	1	Means, Stop and Pause.

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New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Bridge name suggestion	# nominations	Why do you think the bridge should be named this?
Tony McGrane Bridge	2	He was a great mayor for Dubbo and should be remembered this way. A former Mayor of Dubbo, Member for Dubbo in NSW Parliament, long time President Gilgandra shire council. gave the better part of his life for the Dubbo/ Gilgandra communities.
Blue River Bridge	1	Because there is the blue River underneath the bridge.
C H Massart Bridge	1	Charles Henry Massart Dubbo's first policeman.
Letroy Bridge	1	To show respect for Letroy and his family.
Rhino Bridge	1	Rhino is symbol of Dubbo.
The Dr Bob North Bridge	1	Google him. Research him. He did so much for Dubbo and health related services. He was so much more than an excellent doctor and surgeon. He was a modern day leader in his field, and in Dubbo.
William Gordon Bridge	1	Christian community leader and philanthropist connected to Dubbo's development.
Devils Hollow/Terra Rossa	1	Very close to the Dubbo famous location of devils elbow Everyone in Dubbo has heard of or been to devils hollow. Terra Rosa is Latin for red earth.
River Street Bridge	10	Neutral name. Suits it. I don't think the existing 2 Dubbo bridges should have been named after people, as it has potential to cause division. At least 2 local groups are proposing the name of a person related to a member of their group for the new bridge. To avoid conflict, I would like the new bridge to have a neutral name that is easy to say. "River Street Bridge" gives the location if tourists are looking for it, it contains the word "river" and it easily rolls off the tongue. My social group have been calling it by this name since the proposal was announced over 10 years ago. So, we are already used to it. Because we don't need to name everything after an aboriginal name. This bridge is nothing to do with Aboriginals, it has been designed and built by white people. Stop pandering to them, it achieves nothing. No one can pronounce any of the indigenous names and if it's called River St Bridge at least everyone will know where it is and be able to pronounce it. Residents have referred to it as River Street Bridge since construction. Because it's a bridge on river street. No matter what it's officially named, it will always be known as the 'River Street Bridge'. Easy for anyone to understand where it is.
North Weir Bridge	1	Because that's the actual location of the bridge.
Fanman Bridge	1	No reason other than it's catchy. Dubbo doesn't need to take itself too seriously.

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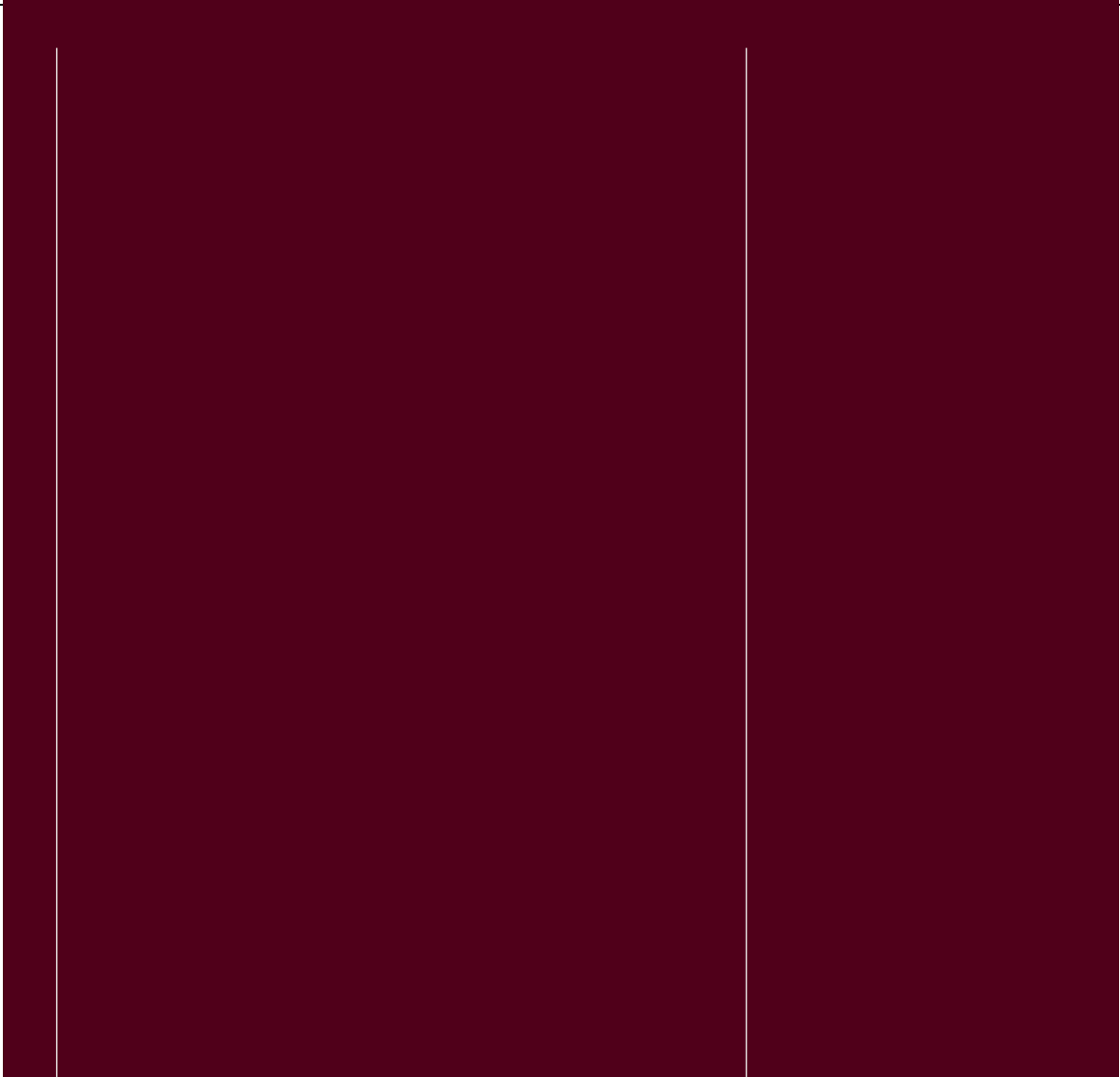
New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Bridge name suggestion	# nominations	Why do you think the bridge should be named this?
Macquarie River Bridge	1	Because it goes over the Macquarie river it goes over the Macquarie river this is what the river is referred to by 90% of Dubbo.
Western Pearl Bridge	1	It's iconic.
Orana Viaduct	1	
North Dubbo Bridge	2	Because it's already called the North Dubbo bridge. I like North Dubbo Bridge as I believe the name 'Dubbo' has indigenous origins (red ochre / headdress), so it fits with the brief to use a First Nations name AND is also relevant to the location 'North' and function of the structure 'Bridge'.
The Big Flood Bridge	1	Apparently, the reason for this river crossing was, primarily, to overcome big flood closures of the Erskine Street bridge river crossing and, secondarily, to support a bypass of local traffic areas. Whether it will achieve these stated purposes remains to be seen. If it does, isn't my suggestion very descriptive of at least its main purpose? None of the shortlisted names achieve a description of its real purpose. After all, shouldn't we name it for its purpose rather than some unrelated nomenclature? The decision is yours, but please think this through properly and without wokeness before making a choice.
New Dubbo Bridge	1	Simple, effective, and not tied to anything PC.
River Bridge	1	You need something short and simple...not a name that people can't pronounce. By a simple name like River Bridge you are being objectivenot siding with First Nations and not siding with non First Nations. There is enough negativity as to the location of the Bridge...with an Aboriginal name you are only creating more negativity.
Orana Gateway Bridge	1	The Orana region is associated with Dubbo as its capital with three major highway merging in Dubbo, it is recognised throughout NSW and Australia as the gateway. The Indigenous word 'Orana' means welcome.
North Bridge	2	Practical, easy to pronounce. Just makes sense. Is location. Also unbiased.
Northbound Bridge	1	It is our north side of Dubbo.
Boland Bridge	1	The Boland family had a wonderful business in Dubbo and around the country region.
New Bridge	1	Because it's a new bridge.
All Nations Bridge	1	Signifies a bringing together of all Aboriginal communities (local or otherwise) and all white communities. A bridge to reconciliation and understanding.
Royal Carriage Bridge	1	As the bridge is built very near to the workshop that built the last royal carriage gifted the Queen Elizabeth by the Australian Government and made in Dubbo a street over from the bridge.
Western Plains Bridge	1	Aboriginals were around the western plains – it doesn't necessarily need to have an aboriginal name.

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New Dubbo Bridge-naming

Bridge name suggestion	# nominations	Why do you think the bridge should be named this?
The Yella bridge	1	I have caught a lot of nice yellowbelly down there and it's a native fish and the murray cod always gets things give a yellowbelly something to be named after they are such a beautiful native fish.
Hugh Hamilton Bridge	1	Reflects the first name of the Newell Highway namesake.
Tom Nelson Bridge	1	Tom was a CYMS rugby league player, secretary of Group 11 Rugby League, CYMS Old Boys, Coach Western Division Junior Rugby League, Coaching and Selector and Administrator.
Robert Dulhunty Bridge	2	He was 1 of the 1st settlers and named Dubbo and was a huge reason it's the city it is today. Robert Dulhunty was the first permanent British settler, establishing Dubbo Station (a property) in the early 1830s.
Curtin Crossing	1	Because it honours the PM of Australia during the Second World War, who is debatably very under recognised.
The Jim Higgins Bridge	1	Cause people wouldn't know who Jim Higgins is.
North West Dubbo Bridge	1	Western North part of town.
Macquarie Bridge	1	Our river is the Macquarie river and the bridge crosses this river. It already has strong links to our area, and everyone understands the name.
Brendan Saul Bridge	1	First person in Westminster system of government to have a Law named after him.
The Northern Line	1	Because it's not racist. It's a bridge in the Northern Part of town.
Barry 'Jack' Weighton	1	Barry was a Bridge Carpenter for TfNSW for approx 50 yrs.
Troy Bridge	1	Keep it simple for all!
Bridgey McBridgeface	4	Because why not? we need more whimsy in this world, people take things too seriously these days. Cause it's funny. Need more hilarity. Because it's funny.
Waste of money Bridge	1	Because it was a complete stuff up not wanting to put a proper logical bypass in.
Roland Samuels Bridge	1	The First Mayor of Dubbo and was instrumental in building of the hospital and infrastructure in Dubbo.



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REPORT: State Significant Development 90792956 - Boree Solar Farm - Council's response to the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements

DIVISION: Development and Environment
REPORT DATE: 3 September 2025
TRIM REFERENCE: ID25/1791

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	• Address Council resolution • Provide review and update for consideration		
Issue	• Council's technical response to the draft Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for State Significant Development SSD-90792956 – Boree Solar Farm has been prepared to be provided to the State Government Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.		
Reasoning	• In accordance with Council's resolution at the August 2025 Ordinary Meeting for State Significant Development projects, Council's responses for the proposed Boree Solar Farm development have been requested to be provided to Council for consideration at a Council meeting. • The proposed Boree Solar Farm is a State Significant Development project, which has been proposed by the Proponent Venn Energy. • The project is currently at the Scoping Stage in the NSW State Significant Development pathway with the State Government Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure. • The role of the Scoping Stage is to identify and detail the studies and assessments that would be required for the project to proceed to the Environmental Impact Statement stage, this is provided to the Proponent in the form of Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs). • SEARs identify what information needs to be included in the Environmental Impact Statement. • Council's draft technical submission is provided for consideration, in addition to public submissions, which have been prepared by the Stop the Boree Solar Farm Community Group. These submissions, in addition to Council's resolution will be provided to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.		
Financial	<table><tr><td>Budget Area</td><td>There are no financial implications arising from</td></tr></table>	Budget Area	There are no financial implications arising from
Budget Area	There are no financial implications arising from		

Implications		this report.
Policy Implications	Policy Title	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 four principal themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 3 Working Together for the Region
CSP Objective: 3.1 Our Council is open, fair, and accountable in its decision-making.
Delivery Program Strategy: 3.1.5 Operate with transparency, accountability, and integrity in all governance and decision-making processes.

Theme: 3 Working Together for the Region
CSP Objective: 3.2 Our local economy grows through diverse traditional and emerging industries.
Delivery Program Strategy: 3.2.1 Support a diverse and resilient economy through innovation, new industries, and commercial activation programs.

Theme: 3 Working Together for the Region
CSP Objective: 3.4 We proactively embrace opportunities to drive economic growth, create jobs, and support lasting prosperity for our community.
Delivery Program Strategy: 3.4.1 Actively participate in the Renewable Energy Zone to drive economic growth, attract investment, and create targeted jobs.

RECOMMENDATION

That the following submissions be provided to the State Government Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for the proposed Boree Solar Farm development:

- 1. Dubbo Regional Council submission, Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements, Boree Solar Farm (Appendix 2).**
- 2. Public submissions from the Stop the Boree Solar Farm Community Group (Appendix 3 and 4).**

Steven Jennings
Director Development and Environment

DQ
Manager Building and
Development Services

BACKGROUND

1. Previous Resolutions of Council

26 August 2025 CCL25/212	1. <i>That Council's draft responses to the State Government Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for any individual State Significant Development Project be provided to Council for consideration at a Council meeting if written request is made by two or more Councillors.</i> 2. <i>That draft responses to be provided to Council for consideration at a Council meeting as referred to in (1) above are at the following stages:</i> • <i>At the scoping stage with input into the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements.</i> • <i>At the Planning Assessment stage when the Environmental Impact Statement is placed on public display.</i>
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REPORT

1. Proposed Boree Solar Farm State Significant Development

The proposed Boree Solar Farm is a 250 megawatt solar farm with 200 megawatt/800 megawatt hour battery energy storage system and associated infrastructure. The Scoping Report for the proposed Boree Solar Farm project indicates the main components as the following:

- Photovoltaic Arrays - including the siting of up to 600,000 PV modules on housing arrays;
- Transmission Works – including direct connection into the existing Essential Energy 132kV network which traverses the Project site and the construction of a new 132kV collector substation;
- Ancillary infrastructure – including internal access roads, utilities and communications infrastructure, operation and maintenance compounds, hardstands, switchyard;
- Temporary facilities – including site construction compounds and construction power supply.

A copy of the Scoping Report can be found here from the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure: [Boree Solar Farm | Planning Portal - Department of Planning and Environment](#)

A general locality plan, which shows the proposed location of the development is shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Locality Plan

2. Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements

Council received correspondence from the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (Department) dated 14 August 2025 regarding the preparation of Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements for the development.

Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) identify what information needs to be included in the Environmental Impact Statement and the studies and reports required.

Council was notified on 9 September 2025 that the Department had issued the SEARs for the Boree Solar Farm project. This is because the Department has a requirement for SEARs to be provided to a development proponent within 28 days of the acceptance of a Scoping Report for a project. A copy of the issued SEARs is provided here in **Appendix 1**.

Following issuing of the SEARs, further consultation has been undertaken with the Department. The Department provided information that Council's submission will be provided to Venn Energy as the development proponent to address as part of the Environmental Impact Statement. In addition, Council's submission will also appear on the NSW Planning Portal as an Agency submission at the SEARs stage of the project.

Internal Council Departments have undertaken a review of the Scoping Report for the project. Council's draft submission for the current SEARs stage of the project is provided here in **Appendix 2**.

In addition, submissions from the Stop the Boree Solar Farm Community Group are provided here in **Appendix 3 and Appendix 4**. In undertaking consultation with community through the project, Council made a commitment to the community group for their submission to be provided with Council's SEARs submission. This is because there is no clear step for a community group to have input into a project at the SEARs stage.

3. Next Steps

Council's submission in **Appendix 2**, the submission from the Stop the Boree Solar Farm Community Group in **Appendix 3 and Appendix 4**, in addition to the resolutions of Council will be provided to the Department and the Proponent.

If the project continues through to the Environmental Impact Statement stage, Council's draft submission will also be provided to a Council meeting for consideration. At the Environmental Impact Statement stage, the project effectively becomes an application for development. At this stage, Council will be able to determine an organisation response in respect of the project, in addition to any issues of concern or otherwise with the Environmental Impact Statement.

APPENDICES:

- 1 [↗](#) Boree Solar Farm Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements
- 2 [↗](#) Council's submission
- 3 [↗](#) Stop the Boree Solar Farm Community Group submission
- 4 [↗](#) Stop the Boree Solar Farm Community Group objection to Scoping Report



Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements

Section 4.12(8) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

Part 8 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*

Application Number	SSD-90792956
Project	Boree Solar Farm Construction, operation and decommissioning of a solar farm with a capacity of approximately 200 MW, a 200 MW / 800 MWh battery energy storage system (BESS) and ancillary infrastructure.
Location	4km north of Geurie within Dubbo Regional Council Local Government Area
Proponent	VENN ENERGY PTY LTD
Date of Issue	9 September 2025
General Requirements	The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the development must comply with the requirements in Part 8, of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021</i> (the EP&A Regulation) and must have regard to the Department's: <i>State Significant Development Guidelines</i> (SSD Guidelines); and <i>Renewable Energy Planning Framework</i>, including the [the <i>Large-Scale Solar Energy Guideline</i> (DPHI, 2022) (the Large-Scale Solar Guideline) and its supporting <i>Technical Supplement for Landscape Character and Visual Impact Assessment</i> and the <i>Benefit Sharing Guideline</i>] (most recent version as updated from time to time). In particular, the EIS must include: - a stand-alone executive summary; - a full description of the development, including: - details of construction, operation and decommissioning, including any staging of the development; - a description of the physical elements of the development including the form, maximum height and materials (including ancillary infrastructure); - a high quality site plan at an adequate scale showing all infrastructure and facilities (including any infrastructure, and accommodation camps, that would be required for the development, but the subject of a separate approvals process); - the Project Area (as per Table 1 of the <i>SSD guidelines – preparing an environmental impact statement</i>) and Development Footprint (disturbance area including but not limited to areas for infrastructure, road works, access tracks, defensible space, fencing and temporary laydown);

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	- a high quality detailed constraints map identifying the key environmental and other land use constraints that have informed the final design of the development; and - confirmation if the project is designated development in accordance with the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> (EP&A Act) and the EP&A Regulation; • consistency in information presented in the EIS and all technical reports, including distances, development footprint, project design and infrastructure proposed, construction timeframes and receiver numbers; • a strategic justification of the development focusing on site selection and the suitability of the proposed site with respect to potential land use conflicts with existing and future surrounding land uses (including existing land use, other proposed or approved energy facilities, major projects, rural/residential development, Crown lands within and adjacent to the project site and subdivision potential) having regard to the Large-Scale Solar Guideline; • a risk assessment of the potential impacts of the development, identifying the key issues for further assessment; • an assessment of the likely impacts of the development on the environment, and any other significant issues identified in the above risk assessment, focusing on the specific issues identified below, including: - a description of the existing environment likely to be affected by the development using sufficient baseline data; - an assessment of the likely impacts of all stages of the development (which is commensurate with the level of impact), including any cumulative impacts of the site and existing, approved or proposed developments in the region and impacts on the site and any road upgrades, taking into consideration any relevant legislation, environmental planning instruments, guidelines, policies, plans and industry codes of practice including the Large-Scale Solar Guideline and the <i>Cumulative Impact Assessment Guideline</i> (DPE, 2022); - a description and assessment if staging of the project is proposed including any site mobilisation or pre-construction works; - a description of the measures that would be implemented to avoid, mitigate and/or offset the impacts of the development; and - a description of the measures that would be implemented to monitor and report on the environmental performance of the development; • a model for community benefit-sharing, prepared in accordance with the <i>Benefit-Sharing Guideline</i>, including the terms of any proposed voluntary planning agreement with the relevant local council; • a consolidated summary table of all the proposed environmental mitigation, management and monitoring measures, identifying all the commitments in the EIS; and • a detailed evaluation of the merits of the project as a whole, having regard to: - the requirements in Section 4.15 of the EP&A Act, including the objects of the Act and how the principles of ecologically sustainable development have been incorporated in the design, construction and ongoing operations of the development;
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	– the suitability of the site with respect to potential land use conflicts with existing and future surrounding land uses; – feasible alternatives to the development and its key components, including siting and project design alternatives to avoid areas of biodiversity value and high archaeological sensitivity, opportunities for shared infrastructure with proposed developments in the region, and the consequences of not carrying out the development; and – a detailed consideration of the capability of the project to contribute to the security and reliability of the electricity system in the National Electricity Market, having regard to local system conditions and the Department's guidance on the matter. Estimated Development Cost and Employment • Provide the estimated development cost (EDC) of the development prepared in accordance with the relevant planning circular using the Standard Form of EDC Report; and • Provide an estimate of the retained and new jobs that would be created during the construction and operational phases of the development, including details of the methodology to determine the figures provided. The development application must also be accompanied by: – the consent of the owner/s of the land (as required in Section 23(1) of the EP&A Regulation); and – a declaration from a Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner that the EIS includes the information specified in the <i>Department's Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner Guidelines</i>.
Key issues	The EIS must address the following specific matters: Biodiversity – including: • an assessment of the biodiversity values and the likely biodiversity impacts of the project in accordance with Section 7.9 of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (NSW) (BC Act), having regard to the <i>Biodiversity Assessment Method</i> (BAM) 2020 and documented in a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR). The BDAR must: - be prepared using the approved BDAR template; - document the application of the avoid, minimise and offset framework including assessing all direct, indirect and prescribed impacts in accordance with the BAM; - provide appropriate justification for any proposed Category 1 – Exempt land in accordance with the BAM; - assess the impacts associated with all ancillary infrastructure, including the transport route road upgrades; - include an assessment for serious and irreversible impacts (SAIL) in accordance with Section 9.1 of the BAM; - include a strategy to offset any residual impacts of the development in accordance with the BC Act; and - be finalised by an accredited assessor as BAM-compliant within 14 days of submission;

	unless Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation Group (CPHR) and the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) determine the proposed development is not likely to have any significant impacts on biodiversity values; • an assessment of the likely impacts on listed aquatic threatened species, populations or ecological communities, scheduled under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i>, and a description of the measures to minimise and rehabilitate impacts; • a cumulative impact assessment of biodiversity values in the region from nearby developments; and • if an offset is required, details of the measures proposed to address the offset obligations. Heritage – including: • An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR) prepared in accordance with the <i>Guide to Investigating, Assessing and Reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW</i> (OEH, 2011) and the <i>Code of Practice for the Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW</i> (DECCW, 2010), identifying, describing, and assessing any impacts to any Aboriginal cultural heritage sites or values associated with the site (including impacts from any proposed earth works, construction works and road upgrades), including results of archaeological test excavations (where required), undertaken in accordance with the relevant standards and requirements; • evidence of adequate consultation with Aboriginal communities in determining and assessing impacts, identifying and selecting options for avoidance of Aboriginal cultural heritage and identifying appropriate mitigation measures (including the final proposed measures), having regard to the <i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents</i> (DECCW, 2010); and • Assess the impact to historic heritage having regard to the <i>Guidelines for Preparing a Statement of Heritage Impact</i>, in consultation with Council. Land – including: • a detailed justification of the suitability of the site and that the site can accommodate the proposed development having regard to its potential environmental impacts, land contamination, permissibility, strategic context and existing site constraints having regard to the Large-Scale Solar Guideline; • an assessment of the potential impacts of the development on existing land uses on the site and adjacent land, including: - agricultural land, flood prone land, nearby drinking water catchments, Crown lands, mining, quarries, mineral or petroleum rights (including Exploration Licence Application 6951, Exploration Lease 9652 and Exploration Lease 9109); - a soil survey to determine the soil characteristics and consider the potential for salinity, acid sulfate soils, and erosion to occur; - a cumulative impact assessment of nearby developments; and - the development potential of that land, in accordance with the
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	<i>Large-Scale Solar Guideline</i>; and - an assessment of the compatibility of the development with existing land uses, during construction, operation and after decommissioning, including: - consideration of the zoning provisions applying to the land, including subdivision (if required); - completion of a Land Use Conflict Risk Assessment in accordance with the Department of Industries <i>Land Use Conflict Risk Assessment Guide</i> (if required); - an assessment of impact on agricultural resources and agricultural production on the site and region; - details of how the proposed development would implement and achieve agrisolar activities on the site; and - a preliminary investigation into potential contamination across the site, in accordance with the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021</i> (Hazards SEPP) (as required). Landscape and Visual – including: - a landscape and visual impact assessment, prepared in accordance with the Large-Scale Solar Guideline and the <i>Technical Supplement – Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment</i>; - a detailed assessment of the likely visual impacts of all components of the project on surrounding residences (including approved developments, lodged development applications and dwelling entitlements), and key locations, scenic of significant vistas and road corridors in the public domain; - details of measures to mitigate and/or manage potential impacts (including a draft landscaping plan for on-site perimeter planting, with evidence it has been developed in consultation with affected landowners); and - detailed consideration on the Siding Spring Observatory in accordance with the <i>Dark Sky Planning Guideline</i> (2023). Glint and Glare – provide a glint and glare assessment prepared in accordance with the <i>Large-Scale Solar Guideline</i> and supporting <i>Technical Supplement – Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment</i> Noise – including: - an assessment of the construction noise impacts (including impacts from proposed road upgrades) of the development in accordance with the <i>Interim Construction Noise Guideline</i> (ICNG), operational noise impacts in accordance with the <i>NSW Noise Policy for Industry</i> (2017), assess traffic noise having regard to the <i>NSW Road Noise Policy</i> (DECCW, 2011) and cumulative noise impacts (considering other developments in the area), including (where appropriate): - identification of impacts associated with construction, site emission and traffic generation at noise affected sensitive receivers, including the provision of operational noise contours; - details of noise monitoring survey, background noise levels and
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	amenity noise levels at the most-affected residential receivers; - details of likely daily charging/discharging load profile, manufacturer specifications for plant and equipment and noise source inventory (including intensity, quantity, location, directivity and frequency information); - an assessment of 'worst case' noise emission scenarios during periods of discharging and charging; - consideration of annoying characteristics of noise and prevailing meteorological conditions in the study area; and - details and analysis of the effectiveness of proposed management and mitigation measures to adequately manage identified impacts, including a clear identification of residual noise and vibration impacts following application of these mitigation measures and details of any proposed compliance monitoring programs. Transport – including: • an assessment of the peak and average traffic generation, including light vehicles (including shuttle buses), heavy vehicles, heavy vehicles requiring escort, high risk heavy vehicles requiring escort (noting Table 1 in TfNSW Fact Sheet - <i>Transport Management Plans for Over Size and/or Overmass Movements in NSW</i>) and construction worker transportation; • an assessment of the likely transport impacts of the project, particularly in relation to the capacity and condition of public roads (including site access(es)), road safety, intersection performance and impacts to rail infrastructure (with consideration of rail safety); • a concept Level Route Analysis required for heavy vehicles requiring escort and high-risk heavy vehicles requiring escort; • a cumulative traffic impact assessment of traffic from nearby developments; and • provide details of measures to mitigate and / or manage potential impacts and consultation with the relevant road authorities including: - a schedule of required road upgrades (including resulting from heavy vehicle and heavy vehicles requiring escort and high-risk heavy vehicles requiring escort haulage routes where relevant); - strategic concept designs of proposed road upgrades (including the site access point) prepared in accordance with TfNSW's <i>Strategic-Design-requirements-for-DA-Factsheet</i> where relevant; and - road maintenance, and any other traffic control measures. Water and Soils – including: • an assessment of the likely impacts of the development (including flooding and pre and post development flood modelling) on surrounding watercourses (including their Strahler Stream Order), groundwater resources and surface water movements, and measures proposed to monitor, reduce and mitigate these impacts including water management having regard to the Large-Scale Solar Guideline; • a site water balance for the development; • details of water requirements and supply arrangements for construction and operation (including consultation with suppliers);
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	• a description of the erosion and sediment control measures that would be implemented to mitigate any impacts in accordance with <i>Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils & Construction</i> (Landcom, 2004) and <i>Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and construction – Volume 2A manual</i> (Landcom, 2008); • assessment of the impacts of the development on hydrology and groundwater (if extraction or interference is proposed), including any changes to overland flows and groundwater levels on-site or off-site, and detail design solutions and operational procedures to manage impacts; • where the project involves works within 40 metres of any river, lake or wetlands (collectively waterfront land), identify likely impacts to the waterfront land, and how the activities are to be designed and implemented in accordance with the <i>DPI Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land</i> (2018) and (if necessary) <i>Why Do Fish Need to Cross the Road? Fish Passage Requirements for Waterway Crossings</i> (DPI 2003), and <i>Policy & Guidelines for Fish Habitat Conservation & Management</i> (DPE, 2013); and • identification of any flood risk on site having regard to adopted flood studies, the potential effects of climate change and any relevant provisions of the <i>NSW Flood Risk Management Manual</i>; - where the development could alter flood behaviour, affect flood risk to the existing community or expose its users to flood risk, provide a flood impact and risk assessment (FIRA) prepared in accordance with the <i>Flood Impact and Risk Assessment – Flood Risk Management Guide LU01</i>; and - detailed design solutions and operational procedures to mitigate flood risk where required. Hazards – including: • <i>Health</i> - an assessment of potential hazards and risks including but not limited to fires, spontaneous ignition, electromagnetic fields or the proposed grid connection infrastructure against the <i>International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) Guidelines for limiting exposure to Time-varying Electric, Magnetic and Electromagnetic Fields</i>; • <i>Bushfire</i> – a bush fire hazard assessment completed by a suitably qualified consultant and identify potential hazards and risks associated with bushfires / use of bushfire prone land including the risks that a solar farm and BESS would cause a bush fire and demonstrate compliance with <i>Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019</i>; • <i>Dangerous Goods</i> - a preliminary risk screening completed in accordance with the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021</i>; and • <i>Battery Energy Storage System</i> - a Preliminary Hazard Analysis (PHA) prepared in accordance with <i>Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 6 – Guideline for Hazard Analysis</i> (DoP, 2011) and <i>Multi-Level Risk Assessment</i>. The PHA must consider all recent standards and codes and verify separation distances to on-site and off-site receptors to prevent fire propagation and compliance with <i>Hazardous Industry Advisory Paper</i>
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	<i>No. 4, Risk Criteria for Land Use Safety Planning.</i> The PHA must consider the effect of bushfires on batteries or other components of the BESS. Social – including an assessment of the social impacts or benefits of the project for the region and the State as a whole in accordance with the <i>Social Impact Assessment Guideline</i> (DPE, 2023), including consideration of any increase in demand for community infrastructure services, and consideration of construction workforce accommodation. Economic and Benefit-Sharing – including an assessment of the economic impacts or benefits of the project for the region and the State as a whole and provide details of any proposed voluntary benefit sharing, having regard for the <i>Benefit-Sharing Guideline 2024</i> and <i>Private Agreement Guideline 2024</i>. Waste – including: Identify, quantify and classify the likely waste stream to be generated during construction, operation, and decommissioning, and describe the measures to be implemented to manage, reuse, recycle and safely dispose of this waste (in consultation with waste facilities, including Council) in accordance with the Large-Scale Solar Guideline.
Plans and Documents	The EIS must include all relevant plans, diagrams and relevant documentation required in accordance with the SSD Guidelines and under Part 3 of the EP&A Regulation. Provide these as part of the EIS rather than as separate documents. In addition, the EIS must include high quality files of maps and figures of the subject site and proposal.
Engagement	During the preparation of the EIS, you should consult with the relevant local, State or Commonwealth Government authorities, infrastructure and service providers, community groups, affected landowners and any exploration licence and/or mineral title holders. In particular, you must undertake detailed consultation with affected landowners surrounding the development, the owners of all exploration licences (including Exploration Licence Application 6951, Exploration Lease 9652 and Exploration Lease 9109); across the proposed development site, the operator of any pipelines on or adjacent to the site, Essential Energy, and all relevant government agencies including the relevant local Council. The EIS must: - detail how engagement undertaken was consistent with the <i>Undertaking Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects</i> (DPHI, 2024); and - describe the consultation process and the issues raised, and identify where the design of the development has been amended in response to these issues. Where amendments have not been made to address an issue, an explanation should be provided.
Expiry Date	If you do not lodge a Development Application and EIS for the development within 2 years of the issue date of these SEARs, your SEARs will expire. If an extension to these SEARs will be required, please consult with the Planning

	Secretary 3 months prior to the expiry date.
References	The assessment of the key issues listed above must take into account relevant guidelines, policies, and plans as identified. A list of some of the legislation, policies and guidelines that may be relevant to the assessment of the project can be found at: • https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/Planning-reforms/Rapid-Assessment-Framework/Improving-assessment-guidance; • https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/assessment/policies-and-guidelines; and • http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/publications#assessments.

AD25/81525
Parcel 18542
DTQ:DQ



Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
4 Parramatta Square
12 Darcy Street
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

[REDACTED]

Dear Gracie

**SSD-90792956 – BOREE SOLAR FARM
SECRETARY'S ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS**

I refer to your correspondence dated 14 August 2025 regarding the preparation of SEARs for the abovementioned project and the opportunity for Council to provide input into the project.

Council provides the following information in respect of the project:

1. Consideration by Council

Council at its meeting on 23 September 2025 considered this response in respect of the proposed Boree Solar Farm and resolved as follows:

COUNCIL RESOLUTION TO BE INSERTED HERE

All communications to: Chief Executive Officer
Dubbo Regional Council
PO Box 81
Dubbo NSW 2830
T (02) 6801 4000 E council@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
ABN 53 539 070 928

W dubbo.nsw.gov.au

2. Community and stakeholder consultation

Council prioritises transparent communication, regular engagement, and ensuring that community voices are heard early in the planning process. We are advocating to the NSW Government for a more coordinated approach to project rollouts to avoid overwhelming local capacity and ensuring community fatigue and growing resistance to projects is managed in a holistic manner.

Council had an introductory meeting with the proponent in April 2025 where they were encouraged to have a community meeting/s to allow our community to seek information around both the project and the State Significant Development process. Council has also advocated that the Proponent should have a local presence on the ground or a structured local attendance regime. This would enable more effective communication with our community, which should be via face to face means and not electronic or video conferencing methods.

The NSW State Significant Development system and process is complex and community members need access to easy to understand information on the role of a project proponent, State Government and Council in the State Significant Development process.

Once a project has been announced by a Proponent, community turn to local government for guidance on the process and importantly, how to actively and productively participate in the planning process.

Council conducted a community information session in July 2025 to provide information on the following:

- The Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone;
- What is a Renewable Energy Zone project;
- The State Significant Development process;
- How and when a submission can be made and to what body; and
- Council's role in the process.

Council's expectation for this project is for the developer Venn Energy to prioritise structured face to face consultation with potentially impacted residents in a meaningful and direct way, in addition to ensuring project information is available in a timely fashion in locations where all members of the community can access.

I can also advise that in this regard, Council is currently preparing a dedicated page on Council's YourSay engagement platform for renewable energy projects, in addition to providing information in Customer Service Centres. The aim of this information is also to further educate our community on being active participants in the planning process for such projects.

3. The proposed development

The Scoping Report indicates that the following buildings, structures and facilities will be provided for the initial construction and future operation of the development:

- Up to 600,000 solar PV panels mounted on tracking systems.
- A BESS with an indicative capacity of up to 200 MW 4-hours.
- Operation and maintenance compounds which will include offices and equipment storage facilities.
- Control building.
- Transmission cables/powerlines, inverter stations and associated facilities.
- High voltage substation.

In regard to the above buildings, structures and facilities, there are no site plan(s) indicating set-out and the distances from the allotment boundaries, site plan(s) of the proposed office and storage shed compounds and floor plans and elevations for the proposed permanent buildings and facilities.

On previous occasions with proposed SSD's, Council has identified the lack of detail associated with the permanent buildings associated with the development, particularly the operations and maintenance buildings. No floor plans, elevation and site plans are provided.

The construction of such buildings or structures will likely require the approval of a construction certificate, and for Council or a private certifier to issue a construction certificate, the approval needs to include concept plans as a minimum.

As such, it is recommended that the *General Requirements* of the SEARs be embellished to specifically require the submission of such plans, diagrams and relevant documentation.

4. Crown building work

The Scoping Report identifies that the development will require the installation of an electrical substation with HV transformer, switchgear, switch room and control room. These works would presumably become assets of either Essential Energy or TransGrid. Under the EP&A Act, Essential Energy and TransGrid would both constitute the Crown and their work would be Crown building work and would not require a construction certificate. Further, their work would generally be 'Development without Consent' under State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport & Infrastructure).

The EIS is required to address the requirements of the various applicable statutes, the required EIS should identify the works associated with the development that will be undertaken as Crown building work for the purposes of section 6.28 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979.

It would be beneficial for all parties involved (i.e. the proponent, contractors, utility providers and Council), that the EIS identifies works in the development which will constitute Crown building work and those that must be the subject of a construction certificate.

5. Social impacts

A Social Impact Assessment must be prepared for the development in accordance with applicable guidelines of the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.

The Social Impact Assessment must ensure social equity of the community effected by the proposed development is maintained or enhanced, both now and into the future. It should identify and address a range of social issues, including population change, provision of facilities and services (including recreation, cultural and social), the increased need for essential workers to accommodate the additional population (including healthcare, educational and childcare professionals), local economic impacts, the needs of particular groups and people, and displacement of particular groups.

As part of the Social Impact Assessment, the required community and stakeholder consultation should be in accordance with applicable Guidelines and not be a 'tick a box' approach.

6. Planning Agreement

Council's [Renewable Energy Benefit Framework](#) provides guidance to proponents about Council's requirements to deliver benefits to our community through planning agreements. It provides a clear and transparent way to govern the negotiation, assessment and use of planning agreements, and ensures they are applied in a consistent, efficient, fair and accountable way. It requires proponents of solar development to provide \$850 per megawatt per annum to Council, with payment of funds as annual payments from the commencement of construction.

Any planning agreement would need to ensure the funding and benefits are directed towards villages surrounding the project, and the broader Dubbo urban area. Council will utilise funds received to benefit the community in one or more of the following ways (but may not be limited to):

- Road infrastructure provision and maintenance;
- Housing opportunities and initiatives;
- Strategic planning;
- Economic development and investment attraction opportunities and initiatives;
- Skills development;
- Community facilities and recreation opportunities;
- Youth welfare and support;
- Town centre development and maintenance in Wellington; or

- Other infrastructure provision that provides for the continued health, wellbeing and development of the community.

The proponent should identify a range of public purposes that align with our Framework and could be considered for inclusion in a planning agreement. It is important that specific organisations/entities aren't identified or given favourable treatment as Council needs to act fairly, ethically and without bias in the interests of the local community.

The Planning Agreement must also not be used to offset the primary development impacts.

7. Workforce accommodation

Accommodation and employment impacts need to be considered and addressed early and ongoing throughout the project planning process. This issue cannot be left to preparation of a Construction Workforce and Accommodation Strategy post-approval.

There are currently 23 renewable energy projects either proposed, in the planning process or in operation in the Dubbo Regional Local Government Area. We need to ensure that appropriate accommodation solutions are examined and planned as part of this project. This must include an analysis of multiple accommodation options, with an analysis of why these options were or weren't pursued further. Proponents must not rely entirely on motels, hotels or Airbnb accommodation, as this may negatively impact tourism and existing rental markets.

Council has an established policy setting for workforce accommodation to be provided within or in close proximity to existing urban areas and villages to ensure they have a positive and long-lasting legacy for these communities. This approach would allow:

- Infrastructure to be appropriately converted and used for future and permanent residential accommodation
- Allow for the natural expansion of urban areas and villages after decommissioning of accommodation
- Ensure there are no unreasonable impacts to Council on extending infrastructure to service new development in unserviced areas
- Allow workers to integrate into the community rather than being isolated in a rural area, which provides appropriate structures to allow the Region to capture a percentage of the temporary workforce as permanent residents in the future.

8. Infrastructure and traffic

In respect of the traffic and infrastructure impacts, the EIS is required to include the following:

- A detailed Traffic Impact Assessment for the project, which is prepared in close consultation with Dubbo Regional Council and Transport for NSW.

-
- In consultation with Council, the Traffic Impact Assessment needs to identify the overall transport route from port to the project. This should include one clear option and not a number or range of options.
 - Council's preference for the project is for State and Regional classified roads be utilised for the transport route where possible and for use of local roads to be minimised.
 - The Traffic Impact Assessment needs to adequately consider the function and safety of local roads for all road users. This includes ensuring school bus routes are adequately considered in the assessment.
 - The Traffic Impact Assessment needs to clearly indicate proposed site access locations and articulate why these locations were chosen, in addition to a technical and safety assessment of these locations.
 - Details of all road and intersection upgrades need to be included for the overall route to site access locations.
 - The Traffic Impact Assessment should also clearly delineate what route/s to the site will be used for light vehicles through to oversize and over mass vehicles, including projected traffic volumes.
 - The Traffic Impact Assessment should also include measures that will be undertaken to improve the safety of all road users.

8. Flooding and overland flow impacts

Given the undulating nature of the project site, Council has received concerns from community that runoff from the development will enter local watercourse system (creeks) and create downstream flooding impacts in Geurie and Wongarbon.

Council has prepared detailed flood studies for both Geurie and Wongarbon. As part of the EIS, the proponent needs to undertake a detailed assessment of the project on the integrity of the flood studies and if required in consultation with Council, undertake new studies, which include any impacts from the proposed development.

9. Visual impact assessment

The Proponent will be required to prepare a Visual Impact Assessment in accordance with the requirements of the Department. This assessment should be prepared to provide the visual perspective/s of the project from each sensitive receiver to the project and included in the assessment. This information should also be made publicly available as part of the EIS.

As part of the Visual Impact Assessment, any vegetation screening areas must be clearly articulated, including species and the management regime for the vegetation. Any vegetation should be planted early and be maintained in perpetuity.

10. Agri-solar report

The land is currently zoned RU1 Primary Production under the provisions of the Dubbo Regional Local Environmental Plan 2022 and is used for agricultural purposes. Council has an expectation with solar farm developments that some agricultural use can continue on the land in conjunction with the proposed solar farm.

In this regard, Council requires an Agri-Solar Assessment Report to be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced professional. Council also has an expectation that the agricultural use activities included in the report will be undertaken on the land.

If you have any enquiries in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on 6801 4000.

Yours faithfully

Steven Jennings
Director Development and Environment

The Hon. Paul Scully MP

Minister for Planning and Public Spaces

GPO Box 5341

SYDNEY NSW 2001

04 September 2025

Re: Objection to Venn Energy Boree Solar Project Scoping Report (SSD-90792956)

Dear Minister Scully

We write to formally lodge our objections to the Boree Solar Project Scoping Report, prepared for Venn Energy Pty Ltd by Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd¹. After carefully reviewing the document, we have identified significant deficiencies, inconsistencies, and omissions that render the report inadequate as a basis for progressing to the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) stage.

Our objections are outlined in two separate reports (1) this document; and (2) a separate, more detailed report on the less than adequate engagement, consultation and communication practices of Venn Energy.

Disclaimer (Page i)

The disclaimer states the report was prepared under “time and budgetary constraints imposed by the client.” This raises serious concerns about the adequacy of the assessments, given that such limitations may compromise quality, rigour, and compliance with NSW Government expectations for SSD projects.

Overview (Page 1)

- **Exclusion of Wongarbron:** Wongarbron, a village located just 4.8 km from the project site, is not included in the overview. This is misleading, as residents were issued project introduction letters in April, and Wongarbron is referenced elsewhere in the report.
- **Collector Substation:** The 132 kV collector substation is identified here and on the Venn Energy Boree Solar Project website (<https://boreesolarproject.com.au/the-project/>) but was not disclosed to landholders at the April project briefing sessions, nor was it communicated by other means.
- **Battery Energy Storage System (BESS):** The overview refers to a “DC coupled decentralised BESS,” yet no explanation of this technology is included in the abbreviations (pages ii and iii). At briefings, this was not explained. Since then, BESS capacity has increased, and notification was limited to an autogenerated email titled “project website live,” which is wholly inadequate.
- **Inverters:** The overview omits inverters from the listed “main components,” even though 54 inverters are identified later in the report (Page 22). This internal inconsistency undermines confidence in the document’s accuracy.

Regional Context of the Project (Page 4)

The map (Figure 1-1 Regional Context of the Project) is identical to that provided in the April introductory letter. Map is small and provides insufficient context for affected landholders, communities and decision-makers.

Project Location Context (Page 13)

Wongarbron is again omitted, despite its clear proximity and the project’s potential impacts on the village and its residents.

¹ ‘Eco Logical Australia 2025, Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report, Prepared for Venn Energy Pty Ltd.’

Mapping and Site Data (Pages 4, 5, 15 and Page 9 in Preliminary Social Impact Assessment)

- **Outdated mapping:** Figure 2-2 (Page 15) is based on 2017 data and omits current residential and farm infrastructure.
- **Poor clarity:** Maps are small and use colour schemes that obscure information (Figure 1-2: Project Layout page 5).
- **Waterways:** First- and second-order streams are not identified, despite feeding third- and fourth-order streams.
- **Dams and bores:** Several dams, contour banks, and bores are missing or misrepresented.
- **Subterranean water:** Soaks and springs, including those identified by local irrigation specialists, are not acknowledged.
- **Ethos Urban Preliminary Social Impact Assessment – Boree Solar Farm Figure 3 – Social Locality** has the township of Geurie located in the project site, and the township of Wongarbron directly north of the project site. This is completely inaccurate.

Key Risks and Hazards (Page 16)

- The report states that the project site has a reduced flooding risk due to no “major watercourses.” However, site maps clearly show 1st–3rd order streams and flow lines.
- No assessment is provided of increased runoff from impermeable solar panels into downstream flood-prone areas such as Geurie, despite Dubbo Regional Council investing heavily in a flood study for Geurie.

Project Description (Pages 22–23)

- The project description is inconsistent with the Overview section, undermining clarity and transparency.
- Local roads around the site (Albion Hills Road, Firkbank Road, and Westella Road) deteriorate rapidly in wet weather. This is not acknowledged despite foreseeable heavy construction traffic.
- No assessment is made of traffic interactions with school buses, cyclists, or local road users, or how conflicts will be managed to an acceptable safety standard.

Rehabilitation and Decommissioning (Page 23)

- The scoping report provides an inadequate rehabilitation proposal. The suggestion to place a layer of topsoil over retained or cut-off piles is a cosmetic fix, not a functional restoration. It does not rebuild the original soil profile or land capability: the subsoil which governs root penetration, drainage and machinery traffic remains compacted and obstructed (by piles, conduits, footings), leaving infiltration, plant establishment and cultivation impaired. Without removing sub-surface obstructions and restoring subsoil structure and hydrology, the land cannot credibly be said to be returned to its former agricultural capability or productivity.
- Only above-ground infrastructure is mentioned as part of being decommissioned, yet underground transmission lines are acknowledged elsewhere.
- No mention of waste management, spoil disposal, or who bears the financial burden.
- Key concerns include:
 - Ambiguity around “plough depth”: What does this mean, and how deep is it?
 - Does “plough depth” allow for deep ripping, poly pipe installation, or cropping practices?
 - Risk of leaving contaminants (concrete, wiring, steel) that may sterilise land for future use.
 - No clarity on rehabilitation of shallow soils, crests, or erosion-prone areas.
 - Unclear responsibility for stump holes, waste removal, or cost recovery.

In addition, there is a **serious inconsistency between the public-facing website and the statutory scoping report.**

On the website, Venn Energy promotes an “industry-leading decommissioning regime,” describing it as a core principle of responsible stewardship. The website promises that:

- The project owner is legally obligated to fully decommission the project and return the land to its original condition.
- A dedicated decommissioning fund will be established during the project’s operational life, based on a third-party independent cost assessment.
- The fund will be accessible to host landowners if the project owner fails to decommission, ensuring landholders and the community never bear the cost.
- Recycling will be prioritised, with confidence expressed in advancing technologies that allow most materials to be reused.
- These commitments provide “peace of mind” to landholders and the surrounding community that decommissioning will always occur.
- When asked, Venn Energy was unable to provide details on its “core environmental values” or what “best practice” decommissioning would look like.

By contrast, the Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report reduces decommissioning to vague statements that:

- All above-ground infrastructure will be dismantled and removed “if the project is approved.”
- PV piles would be cut back below ploughing depth or buried under topsoil.
- Compressors and rock crushers may be needed to cut piles.
- Internal roads would only be removed if not needed for fire or farming access.
- A Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Management Plan will be prepared later, with no mention of funding, independent oversight, or binding guarantees.

This divergence between the promotional material and the statutory planning document is misleading. The website language is designed to reassure landholders, yet the formal scoping report omits or weakens these very commitments. Such inconsistency undermines transparency, raises doubt about enforceability, and places landholders at risk of being left with remediation costs if the proponent fails to act.

Until the Scoping Report explicitly incorporates the same binding decommissioning commitments as those promoted on the website — including the independent fund, clear recycling obligations, and enforceable responsibilities — it cannot be considered adequate or compliant with NSW planning requirements.

Site Access (Page 23)

The statement that only “minor road upgrades” may be required is unsupported and inconsistent with on-ground constraints. The proposed access points are narrow, timbered rural roads that function as biodiversity/wildlife corridors and are not adequate for heavy construction traffic and OSOM deliveries without substantial widening, tree removal, verge excavation and intersection works. Labelling these impacts as “minor” masks the real scale of clearing and habitat fragmentation that would result; such works would also trigger additional environmental assessment and approvals that have not been addressed. The claim that all candidate approaches are “approved NSW OSOM roads” does not resolve local-road constraints, which govern the last kilometres into the site. Any modifications to these local roadways and timbered corridors also changes the “sense of place” for residents whom travel and use these roads on a daily basis.

Workforce and Accommodation (Page 24)

The report estimates 350 workers but provides no details of housing, transport, or workforce impacts on the local community (e.g., rental availability, worker transport arrangements, traffic peaks, parking, amenity).

Project Design Development and Alternatives (pages 26 & 27)

The Scoping Report's own tables and figures show the Development Footprint (981 ha) set within a Project Site (1,322 ha)—i.e., roughly three-quarters of the entire site—yet no maps reserve or depict separation areas (riparian corridors, APZ/defendable space, setbacks to dwellings/roads, or boundary standoffs). The “preliminary layout” is explicitly described as indicative and subject to change, but with a footprint this large and no dimensioned buffers shown, the report does not demonstrate how impacts are being avoided rather than deferred to the EIS.

Accordingly, we refute the statements that the design has “located infrastructure away from sensitive areas and receivers” and that it “responds to identified environmental impacts and constraints,” because the documentation provides no visible buffer framework to substantiate those claims. The report cites design principles (p. 27) but does not translate them into mapped, measurable buffers; it lists only broad avoidances (e.g., “large watercourses” and AHIMS sites) and says any interference with watercourses will merely “consider” NSW riparian-corridor guidance without applying the required corridor widths on the layout.

Noise and Vibration (Page 67)

Construction methods and feasibility: Construction activities such as pile driving must be assessed with activity-specific studies. Given the site's slopes, shallow rock and hidden rock shelves near watercourses, conventional pile driving is likely impracticable in many areas and may require pre-drilling, rock drilling or drill-and-blast, with corresponding design modifications. Piling into rock will transmit higher noise and ground-borne vibration over greater distances to sensitive receptors; the proponent must either avoid these areas or adopt low-impact foundation methods with verified noise/vibration limits and mitigation.

Traffic and Cumulative Transport Impacts (Page 87; see also Page 17)

The Scoping Report states that “traffic volume data suggests that both the Mitchell Highway and Golden Highway currently carry a low to medium level and traffic in line with their function and classification as state roads.” This is misleading, incomplete, and inconsistent with parliamentary evidence presented to the NSW Legislative Council Inquiry into the Impact of REZ (16 May 2025).

Key evidence:

- Current Golden Highway volumes: approximately 1,600 vehicle movements/day (west of Merriwa).
- Transmission project alone: approximately 2,000 vehicle movements/day.
- Each renewable project: up to 200 vehicle movements/day.
- With about 50 projects: cumulative increase of up to 10,000 vehicles/day, a 500% increase on current traffic.

The Committee Chair noted this would overwhelm crash response capacity. Witnesses highlighted that the Golden Highway has no turning lanes, no overtaking lanes, poor pavement, and inadequate rest areas, making it unsuitable to absorb such growth.

The Scoping Report fails to consider cumulative transport demand from concurrent projects. For example, more than 3,000 turbine parts are already moving from the Port of Newcastle to Squadron Energy projects, with additional heavy traffic expected along Merotherie Road, Elong and other renewable corridors.

Further, within 100 km of the Boree site there are at least 41 other major renewable projects (solar, wind, hydro and BESS) at various stages of approval, construction or operation. Even if each contributes an average of 150–200 vehicle movements per day, the cumulative impact across dozens of projects becomes extreme. By ignoring this full regional pipeline, the Scoping Report grossly underestimates traffic volumes and associated safety risks. A cluster of 10–12 projects lies within ~25 km of the site, including:

- Geurie Solar Farm (Approved, 6.6 km)
- Maryvale Solar Farm (Approved, 10.7 km)
- Wellington North Solar Farm (Under Construction, 13.5 km)

- Dubbo Solar Hub (Operational, 13.7 km)
- South Keswick Solar Farm (Operating, 15 km)
- Wellington Solar Farm (Operational, 15.8 km)
- Bodangora Wind Farm (Operational, 18.4 km)
- Wellington Town BESS (In Planning, 22.5 km)
- Suntop Solar Farm (Operational, 22.5 km)
- Spicers Creek Wind Farm (In Planning, 23.6 km)

These projects concentrate heavy construction schedules, major deliveries and commuting workforces onto the Mitchell Highway, Golden Highway and connecting rural roads, creating intense local congestion. The claim of “low to medium” traffic is grossly inaccurate.

There is inadequate baseline data on traffic movements for the A32 (Mitchell Highway): the report relies on counts from locations not proximate to the project and lacks up-to-date, site-specific surveys, so comprehensive counts, turning-movement surveys, and peak-period modelling are required for the A32 and all surrounding access and haulage routes.

Hazards and Risks (Pages 89–90)

- Bushfire and electrical hazards appear duplicated, suggesting poor editing.
- Cumulative impacts are described only in vague terms; for a project of this size, measurable local and regional cumulative analysis is required but absent.

Engagement (Section 5)

- The claim that Venn Energy is “committed to ensuring local community and other stakeholder concerns are considered” is not supported by the evidence. Refer to our separate full report on Engagement.
- Material concerns are deferred or omitted: no mapped buffer/separation framework (including riparian corridors); inadequate and non-proximate traffic data for the A32 and local approaches while “minor upgrades” are asserted on narrow, timbered wildlife-corridor roads; a biased and under-powered survey that failed to segment directly impacted landholders; limited engagement (including exclusion of nearby villages and refusal to meet a landholder’s nominated representative); and key risks (bushfire, dust, BESS safety, decommissioning/soil rehabilitation) addressed only at a high level with no measurable or enforceable commitments.
- Further key objection themes
 - Misrepresentation of engagement: directly affected communities (Geurie and Wongarbron; total population around 1,600) were excluded; formal objections were mischaracterised as “concerns”; reliance on biased industry material.
 - The Ethos Urban Preliminary Social Impact Assessment Section 4.1.1 – Letter Mailout to Surrounding Residents claims that the 488 letters sent within a 5 km buffer provided information on “opportunities for community consultation including project briefings” is misleading. Residents between 2 km and 5 km were **not offered project briefing sessions** – only a generic letter and survey. This social impact assessment fails to make this distinction, creating a false impression that all residents within the 5 km zone had equal access to consultation. This omission downplays the exclusion of highly impacted residents and demonstrates inadequate, selective engagement that does not meet NSW Government standards for transparency and fairness.
 - Failure to meet government standards: engagement activities inadequate for a high-impact SSD; no clear evidence that community feedback shaped project design.

- Poor communication materials: the project-introduction letter resembled junk mail; maps were unclear; renters and adjoining residents were excluded from notification.
- Deficient community survey and briefings: the survey exhibited framing bias and was poorly promoted; landholder briefings were dismissive and evasive; the community was left without meaningful answers.
- Inadequate channels: the project email and enquiry line were ineffective; the website was non-functional or misleading; over-reliance on digital tools excluded rural and older residents.
- Withholding of critical information: significant changes (battery expansion, 132 kV substation) were not disclosed; an arbitrary cut-off date for feedback into the scoping report was not communicated.
- Unprofessional behaviour: reports of rude and insulting conduct by the engagement manager; commitments to landholders not honoured.
- Ongoing regulatory oversight: an active case with the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner was ignored in the Scoping Report and misrepresented as routine liaison.
- Section 5.1.3 of the Scoping Report (p.31) proposes ten forms of engagement that will be used to inform the EIS (which will include the SIA). Further detail is provided in Table 5.5 (pp.56-58). A review of the list shows that the proposed techniques fall short of offering the appropriate range of participation types, in accordance with the SIA guideline Appendix A. Specifically
 - a. Six of the ten techniques are 'informing' i.e. the least participatory form of engagement – newsletters, website updates, correspondence, factsheets, information sessions, and webinars.
 - b. One is not engagement at all (Project enquiry phone line and email).
 - c. One is consultation with public authorities (i.e. not community engagement).
 - d. Two are potentially more participatory (meetings and briefings) – however these have been less than adequate as per separate report on engagement and active case with AEIC.
- We refute any suggestion that meaningful engagement, consultation or communication has taken place in relation to this project. Genuine consultation is a two-way process that must be early, inclusive, transparent, and responsive, with feedback from affected residents clearly influencing project design and outcomes. What has occurred instead is tokenistic notification, Venn Energy telling us about the project (and that is going ahead whether we like it or not) – briefings limited to select landholders, exclusion of nearby villages, vague letters, and no genuine opportunity for residents to shape the proposal. This cannot be described as engagement, consultation or communication under any NSW Government standard.
- The project site is now almost completely covered with infrastructure, often across areas that are impracticable such as waterways / deep erosion gullies, demonstrating that any feedback provided by affected neighbours has been ignored and overlooked.
- Please refer to the additional objection letter specific to the engagement practices of Venn Energy and less than adequate allowance for social impact assessment

Incomplete and Misleading Site Suitability Assessment (Page 27)

The Scoping Report claims that “the site suitability assessment identified the Project Site location. As such a Development Footprint has been developed which is informed by the results of the desktop assessments and biodiversity ground truthing surveys. The Development Footprint will continue to evolve through the EIS process.” (Page 27)

- The project layout map (“Figure 1-2”, Page 5) shows the majority of the site covered in solar panels, BESS and supporting infrastructure, with little evidence of genuine avoidance of constraints.

- The site maps fail to identify or overlay gullies, existing dams, hill systems, slopes and drainage lines, which are essential for assessing flood risk, erosion, bushfire behaviour and biodiversity corridors.
- This omission breaches the NSW SSD Scoping Report Guidelines (2022), Section 2.5 – Maps and Figures, which require maps to show topography, hydrology (including watercourses, dams, drainage lines and flood-prone land), vegetation, land use and other environmental constraints relevant to the site.
- The avoid–minimise–mitigate hierarchy is not applied at scoping; impacts are deferred to the EIS. This defeats the purpose of scoping and undermines transparency.

Unacceptable Water-Related Impacts (Section 6.2.9.2)

The Report itself admits potential impacts to surface water, groundwater, flooding and aquatic ecology, especially during construction, including risks of sediment/erosion, dust deposition, spills and contamination, groundwater infiltration, aquifer intersection, drawdown/reduced streamflow, and altered overland flow from access tracks traversing creeks and riparian corridors.

However:

- There is no baseline hydrology mapping (gullies, dams, slopes, drainage lines), no groundwater baseline and no modelling, preventing a meaningful assessment of risk to aquifers, licensed users, downstream communities, fauna and riparian vegetation.
- The connectivity of riparian corridors — and the ability of aquatic species to move upstream and downstream — is acknowledged as at risk but not assessed.
- Without early avoidance commitments, key receptors (aquifers, streams, licensed water users, aquatic fauna, riparian vegetation, downstream users, the community) remain exposed.

EIS Assessment Approach (Page 104):

It is not universally true that solar farms exert “low to negligible” flood impacts. Effects are context-sensitive, depending on ground cover (vegetated vs gravel/bare), soil permeability, topography/slope, presence of natural drainage and flood flows, and stormwater measures. Poorly designed or managed arrays can increase runoff, erosion and localised flood risk. Any claim of negligible impact is conditional, not universal. The proposed project area is not considered flat. It has areas associated with slopes and erosion due to the topography and soil types. Removal of contour banks to install solar panels will significantly increase erosion impacts.

Air Quality and Dust Risks (Section 6.2.11)

- The Scoping Report proposes only a qualitative air quality assessment and asserts operational impacts will be minimal (maintenance vehicles, occasional deliveries).
- Elsewhere it contemplates onsite batching plants and a rock crusher — both major dust sources.
- There is no mention of respirable crystalline silica (RCS), a Group 1 carcinogen typically generated by batching/crushing activities.
- No quantitative air modelling is proposed to test compliance with exposure standards, including for RCS (0.05 mg/m³ TWA).
- No typical dust controls are listed (e.g., water sprays/mist cannons, enclosed conveyors, sealed hoppers, wheel-wash facilities, vegetative buffers, continuous monitoring, exclusion zones).

This approach is inconsistent with:

- Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017 (NSW), clause 49 (duty to manage airborne contaminants and ensure exposure standards are not exceeded); and
- SafeWork NSW Code of Practice: Managing the Risk of Respirable Crystalline Silica at Work (2020) (identifies batching/crushing as high-risk tasks requiring strict controls).

Until quantitative assessment and clear dust control measures are specified, the project cannot demonstrate that it will safeguard the health and safety of workers, neighbours and the wider community.

ADDITIONAL MATTERS

- **Social Impact**

The following information on social impact was prepared by Dr Richard Parsons, CEnvP (SIA). Social Research Services.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dr Parsons has been engaged by The Save Geurie – Stop Boree Solar Project

- Overall: The main part of the Report presents social impacts, and how the Preliminary Social Impact Assessment (PSIA) presents these impacts. Broadly speaking, the PSIA is more upfront about the level of community opposition and the scale of impacts, whereas the main report downplays or glosses over these. The Scoping Report (p.21) notes there are six host landholders and an unspecified number of neighbouring landholders. In SIA terms, both groups would be considered 'directly affected', since they can expect to experience impacts directly as a result of the project, during both construction and operation. It is critical, therefore, that SIA analysis and engagement focus primarily on these residents.
- 1. It is reasonable to expect that SIA engagement for these groups (host and neighbouring landholders) should comprise a range of different techniques to ensure their participation in the SIA process, to suit different needs and levels of interest.
- 2. SIA engagement techniques should range from:
 - a. providing information that people need to understand the project,
 - b. to seeking their feedback on project-related matters,
 - c. to deliberative forums where they can directly influence project design and decision-making.
- 3. An underlying principle in SIA is that directly-affected people should have collective agency over decisions that affect their lives. This does not mean that individuals have a veto, but a fair process is one where the community has a reasonable level of collective self-determination.
- 4. The purpose of engaging with these groups is not only as a matter of courtesy, or a matter of meeting requirements under the Undertaking Engagement Guidelines (2024), but also to inform:
 - a. identification and characterisation of social impacts,
 - b. evaluation of their significance for affected people, and
 - c. design of mitigation and enhancement measures.
- 5. In addition, there should be broad engagement with the local community (not just Dubbo Regional Council) to inform any benefit-sharing scheme.
- 6. Section 5.1.3 of the Scoping Report (p.31) proposes ten forms of engagement that will be used to inform the EIS (which will include the SIA). Further detail is provided in Table 5.5 (pp.56-58). A review of the list shows that **the proposed techniques fall short of offering the appropriate range of participation types**, in accordance with the SIA guideline Appendix A. Specifically:
 - a. Six of the ten techniques are 'informing' i.e. the least participatory form of engagement – newsletters, website updates, correspondence, factsheets, information sessions, and webinars.
 - b. One is not engagement at all (Project enquiry phone line and email).
 - c. One is consultation with public authorities (i.e. not community engagement).
 - d. Two are potentially more participatory, depending on how they are designed and conducted (meetings and briefings).
- 7. Section 5.3 suggests that the boundary for designating local residents and businesses as 'stakeholders' is 5km from the project boundary (p.32). This is reiterated in Section 6.2.10.1 (p.105). This is too restrictive, since it is reasonable to expect that people outside this boundary will have an interest in the project, and therefore should be included in SIA engagement. It is noted that those beyond this 5km boundary may be considered as within a 'secondary social

locality', but a more precautionary and inclusive approach is warranted. A 5km boundary is arbitrary, and instead the identification and classification of stakeholders should be made on a contextual basis, proportionate to the likely degree of impact (including perceived impacts).

8. Table 5.4 (pp.48-53) summarises some community views and issues, noting where these will be addressed in the EIS. According to this table, the only issues that will be addressed in the SIA are:
- property values
 - construction
 - insurance

This position overlooks the social dimensions (or indirect social impacts) that may be primarily biophysical, technical or procedural but which have social flow-on effects. Additionally, some issues clearly are principally social in nature, and must be assessed in the SIA, not just the overarching EIS document (e.g. Community cohesion and wellbeing).

The Scoping Report (p.106) notes the importance of assessing cumulative social impacts. This is appropriate, as long as it includes assessment from the perspectives of local affected people and communities.

9. Section 3.0 Social locality and baseline confirms the 5km boundary for the 'primary social locality', and the PSIA suggests that the SIA process will consider a broader range of impacts than suggested in the Scoping Report. It is not clear whether this boundary actually reflects the locations where impacts will be experienced. For example, topography may mean that some residents beyond this boundary experience visual and noise impacts, with flow-on social consequences.
10. Additionally, this primary social locality overlooks potential locations of social impacts that may be experienced during construction. For example, those living near haulage routes should be included in the primary social locality, and impacts on them given commensurate weighting.
11. Nevertheless, the inclusion of certain themes in Table 3 (pp.12-13), which conveys the gravity of community sentiment more clearly than in the main Scoping Report, points to a clear need for the SIA to:
- be conducted impartially, preferably by an independent SIA practitioner who has no vested interest in the assessment outcome;
 - assess intangible impacts on First Nations culture, not just cultural heritage artefacts;
 - assess impacts on 'decision-making systems', with particular focus on community experiences with project information and engagement practices;
 - assess impacts on community character and people's sense of place;
 - assess impacts on people's livelihoods, especially for those working in agricultural operations;
 - assess impacts on people's health and wellbeing deriving from project-induced uncertainty.
12. Table 4 (pp.18-23) proposes the level of assessment required for each scoped social impact. However, for some impacts, there is some discrepancy between the apparent magnitude of likely impacts and the proposed level of assessment. The following impacts appear to warrant a 'detailed' assessment, rather than 'standard':
- Labour force challenges
 - Impacts to agricultural land use
 - Lack of trust and transparency
 - Workforce accommodation
 - Demand on social infrastructure and services

The practical effects of elevating these impacts to a detailed assessment would be a requirement for engagement to be broad rather than targeted, and for targeted primary research to be included in the SIA methodology (as per SIA Guideline Technical Supplement, p.13).

Inadequate Fire Risk Assessment – BESS, Inverter, and Substation Hazards

The Scoping Report only acknowledges bushfire risks in general terms and overlooks major hazards specific to large-scale solar and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). These include thermal runaway in lithium-ion batteries, arc flash, and the release of flammable and toxic gases during battery fires.

Toxic and flammable gases released during thermal runaway include:

- Hydrogen
- Methane
- Ethane and other hydrocarbons
- Carbon monoxide
- Carbon dioxide
- Hydrogen fluoride
- Hydrogen chloride
- Hydrogen cyanide
- Sulphur dioxide
- Nitrogen oxides

These gases pose severe risks to human health, emergency responders, and nearby communities.

The report also fails to consider the potential for inverter and substation fires, despite recent incidents including the Victorian Big Battery fire (2021), the Moss Landing BESS fire (2025), and the Hayes substation fire in London (2025). These events demonstrate the difficulty of extinguishing such fires, their potential to reignite, and the cascading impacts on communities and electricity networks.

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) must therefore include a detailed Fire and Explosion Risk Study, toxic gas dispersion modelling, and a robust Emergency Response Plan that covers suppression, evacuation, and first responder safety. Without this, the project's fire risks are dangerously underestimated.

- **Fire Safety, Vegetation Corridors, and Fencing**
 - The site is Bushfire Prone Land (Category 3 – medium risk) with grassland and semi-arid woodland. The report acknowledges a Bushfire Risk Assessment will be prepared, but there is no commitment to a minimum 50 m firebreak around the entire perimeter.
 - Given slope, dry grass fuels and adjacent forestry, a 50 m perimeter firebreak is essential to protect neighbouring landholders, allow emergency vehicle access and reduce catastrophic fire spread.
 - Asset Protection Zone width requirements (NSW RFS PBP 2019): examples include 20 m for grassland on flat ground; 40–50 m for woodland on 5–10° upslope; and 50–65 m for forest on >10° upslope. These standards show a 50 m firebreak is not arbitrary but consistent with RFS expectations for sloping, bushfire-prone sites.
 - Elevated landholder risk: Mr Peter Reardon of Beldara is located on a hill adjoining the project. Fire runs upslope with increased intensity and speed; a 10° upslope can double the rate of spread; 20° can quadruple it. Infrastructure and batteries below or adjacent to this hill increase entrapment risk for his residence and farmland without wide, well-maintained firebreaks, safe access/egress routes and open escape corridors. (Note: Beldara (Reardon) has three sides adjoining the facility so is entrapped).

- Historic laneways and old growth vegetation are ignored especially on the western boundary between Beldara (Reardon) and the project area. These should be retained and extended from the gazetted boundary to include (1) vegetation screening corridors, (2) access to maintain the rural fencing on the outside boundary, and (3) allowance for adequate firebreak corridors providing defensible space and access for fire control – especially around the margins of heavily timbered areas on neighbours properties. High security fences are then placed further from the neighbours boundaries (ie) the inner boundary within the project area when these corridors are put in place. This will provide more adequate “immediate border” buffer zones.
- Perimeter high-security fencing is not limited to electrical installations (substations, BESS, O&M compounds). Full-boundary fencing would fragment wildlife habitat, block laneways, and create entrapment risks for both wildlife and people during fire events. The report does not provide for open wildlife corridors or fire escape routes. Therefore it is important to limit security fencing to actual electrical infrastructure (substation, BESS, inverters, switchyard) and do not perimeter-fence the entire site. Retain and map continuous, adequately wide wildlife corridors so fauna can traverse the area—especially between old-growth/timbered hills and established biodiversity corridors such as vegetated laneways. Any fencing outside electrical compounds must be fauna-permeable and must not obstruct these corridors.
- The size and shape of the project area, and stated locations of high security fencing will significantly change the flow of wildlife around the facility. This flow of wildlife, particularly kangaroos, will increase interactions between trains on the main rail line, and vehicles on the Mitchell Highway as the kangaroos attempt to get around the facility. Refer to the Appendix for diagrams and more information. The subsequent studies on wildlife needs to consider detailed assessment and data collection of the following:
 - migration routes of types and quantities of kangaroos and other species (eg) between Burrendong Dam and the Macquarie Marshes;
 - the impact of high security fencing driving kangaroos towards and over the main rail line and the Mitchell Highway as they attempt to get around the facility. There are two key exposure points (refer to the Appendix) on the highway where there will be significantly increased potential for fatal accidents.
 - The studies need to consider change to the design to allow for wildlife corridors through the project area. The location and width of the wildlife corridors should consider and address other impacts such as (but not necessarily limited to):
 - Emergency egress / escape for neighbours entrapped by the facility on three sides (aka Beldara / Reardon)
 - Access for bushfire prevention and control
 - Limit solar panels and infrastructure on very high impact visual amenity zones on sensitive receptors (ie) the corridors are placed in sight of nearby neighbour homes to address visual amenity issues
 - Limit solar panels and infrastructure on SSAL (ie) the corridors can be placed where there is SSAL
 - Place corridors along waterways and areas of potential significant erosion
- **Water Resources and Hydrology**
 - The development footprint overlaps with surface water management structures (dams, gullies, contour banks).
 - Subterranean watercourses and natural springs are not identified or assessed.
 - Potential alteration of stream flows, groundwater recharge, and flood pathways (Boree Creek, Geurie Creek, Plain Creek, Long Gully, and Mitchell Creek) has not been adequately considered.
 - A detailed hydrology study over a minimum 12-month cycle is required before EIS submission.

- **Dust Impacts**
 - Construction and haulage on unsealed roads, earthworks, and foundation works are likely to generate dust that can settle on pastures and crops, reducing palatability and yield and posing respiratory/eye health risks to livestock; reduce visibility and create safety hazards for local traffic, including school bus routes; impair visibility for low-flying aircraft (e.g., RFS aerial firefighting or agricultural operators that routinely pass over the project area); and mobilise as sediment into nearby waterways, increasing turbidity and degrading aquatic habitat and downstream water quality. Unsuppressed dust therefore presents material risks to agricultural productivity, road and aviation safety, and environmental values.
- **Negative Effects on Local Residents**
 - Properties surrounded on multiple sides by solar panels and fencing will face substantial loss of amenity and wellbeing.
 - Wildlife movement will be blocked by security fencing, yet the barrier effect is not addressed.
 - Property value impacts (including for Self-Managed Superannuation Funds) are acknowledged in passing but no valuation study or mitigation is proposed (note : Beldara and the planned eco- retreat is part of Peter Reardon SMSF. Venn Energy were notified of this but it has not been considered adequately)
 - Eco-tourism and local business reliant on rural amenity, wildlife and tranquillity are not considered.
 - Construction noise risks are conceded but deferred to the EIS, despite an anticipated 24-month construction period.
 - Not all sensitive receptors have been included on Beldara eco-retreat
- **Planning – Restriction of Growth of Geurie and Adverse Impact on “Sense of Place”**
 - The scoping report identifies a 5km “buffer zone” around the project area (see above regarding buffer zones in general) but does not adequately detail a plan to address the siting so close to the towns of Geurie and Wongarbron.
 - The size and shape of the proposed project area wraps around the top of the environs within 5km of Geurie potentially restricting growth of the town. The Dubbo Regional Council only recently announced its report *“Draft_Dubbo_Regional_Housing_Strategy”* which is open for comment. The Desired Future Character in the report states *“Geurie’s village will continue to be a valued location for rural lifestyle living close to the jobs and amenity of Dubbo City. The village atmosphere and scale will be maintained, with infill development occurring on constraint-free land in line with Geurie’s rural character”*.
 - The Boree Solar project contradicts the DRC strategy. The Boree Project will:
 - Adversely impact the “sense of place” of Geurie and residents; and
 - Restrict growth and reduce “sense of place” as the township attempts to expand over the next 25+ years. Due to constraints of flooding, the river to the south and other infrastructure, the targeted growth area in the DRC report for Geurie is to the north – **towards** the proposed Boree Solar Facility.
 - Please refer to the Appendix for more information on our recommendation regarding town planning and the restrictive impacts on Geurie by the proposed project. Geurie is a rapidly growing centre supporting the major regional city of Dubbo so needs room to grow whilst not degrading the sense of place by a major industrial facility on the outskirts of the town
 - This should be considered in further studies and input from key stakeholders such as the Dubbo Regional Council.

- **Consideration of Emerging Findings or Potential Changes to Legislation or Policy**

- (1) State Significant Agricultural Land (SSAL)

- The report identifies current legal requirements and guidelines, however, does not consider short to medium term changes in planning policy that may impact the project. The key example is for the protection of State Significant Agricultural Land (SSAL). The scoping report does refer to the guideline for further consideration of SSAL which is identified across the project area. However, the Agricultural Minister recommended in July 2021 that *"The NSW Government should take a phased approach to adopting a statutory State Significant Agricultural Land Use Planning Policy (SSALUP Policy)"*. This recommendation was endorsed by the NSW Government in March 2023. The SSAL maps have since been updated through an exhaustive consultation process. There is now limited impediment for the NSW Government to formalise legal protection for SSAL similar to what is in place for mining.
 - Please refer to the Appendix for more information on our recommendation regarding legal protection of SSAL.
 - This should be considered in further studies.

- (2) Consideration of the findings from the *Parliamentary Inquiry into the impact of Renewable Energy Zones (REZ) on rural and regional communities and industries in NSW* (Portfolio Committee No.4)

- The EIS should consider emerging information regarding the impact of renewable projects on rural communities. A detailed assessment should be conducted to analyse how the project addresses the issues identified and recommendations from this Inquiry.

- **Buffer Zones**

- There remains ambiguity around the definition and location of buffer zones for this Project. The Scoping Report does not provide a clear map identifying where buffers will be situated, nor does it explain how they will be established or maintained. Without this information, it is difficult for the community to understand whether buffers are being applied consistently across the site or how they will function in practice.
 - The only map provided to the community as part of site visit literature appears to show buffer areas located on neighbouring landholders' properties rather than within the Project boundary. This has created concern and uncertainty, as it gives the impression that private land may be relied upon for landscaping or vegetative screening. Notably, the preliminary scoping consultation identified a clear request from directly affected landholders for more information about project details including traffic access routes and movements, location of panels and other infrastructure, offsets and buffers, decommissioning and remediation, and future community engagement. This reinforces the need for further clarification to ensure buffers are properly defined within the Project site and that landholders are not left carrying unintended obligations.

- **Errors, Typos and Incorrect Agency References**

- AEIC misnamed: listed as "Australian Energy Independent Commission" instead of Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner.
 - "predominate land use" (Page 13) should be "predominant."
 - "lasted checked 18 June 2025" (Page 16) should be "last checked."
 - "Australis energy network" (Table 2-1, Page 11) should be "Australia's energy network."
 - Hazards section duplication: bushfire and electrical hazards repeated almost verbatim in Section 6.2.5.
 - Terminology inconsistency: Section 3.1.1.4 states no new transmission infrastructure required, yet elsewhere new underground/overhead lines and a 132 kV substation are listed.

Recommendations for EIS Stage – Boree Solar Project (SSD-90792956)

1. Mapping, Site Data, and Suitability

- Update and expand mapping using current (post-2017) datasets, including dams, bores, contour banks, gullies, slopes, and residential/farm infrastructure.
- Correct errors in social locality mapping (e.g., Geurie and Wongarbon incorrectly placed).
- Apply the avoid–minimise–mitigate hierarchy at EIS stage with measurable mapped buffers (riparian corridors, dwellings, roads, biodiversity corridors) rather than deferring to later stages.

2. Flooding, Hydrology, and Water Resources

- Undertake a 12-month hydrology study to establish baseline surface and groundwater conditions.
- Model altered overland flows from solar arrays, haul roads, and removal of contour banks.
- Assess impacts on Boree Creek, Geurie Creek, Plain Creek, Long Gully, and Mitchell Creek, including downstream flood-prone areas especially the township of Geurie with a high Population At Risk (PAR).
- Assess connectivity of riparian corridors and aquatic species movement.

3. Fire, BESS, Inverter, and Substation Hazards

- Undertake a full **Fire and Explosion Risk Study** addressing:
 - Thermal runaway in lithium batteries.
 - Arc flash risks.
 - Inverter and substation fire risks (drawing on incidents such as Moss Landing, Victorian Big Battery, Hayes Substation).
- Model toxic and flammable gas emissions from battery failure, including: hydrogen, methane, ethane, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, hydrogen fluoride, hydrogen chloride, hydrogen cyanide, sulphur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides.
- Require a robust Emergency Response Plan including automatic fire detection and suppression systems on electrical equipment and batteries (given the site is not supervised once in operation and fires could start at any time of day and night), on-site equipment and firefighting resources including adequately sized water tanks, evacuation procedures, and first responder training.
- Commit to firebreaks consistent with NSW RFS Planning for Bushfire Protection (2019), e.g. 50 m perimeter firebreaks on bushfire-prone sloping sites. Placement of these fire breaks are placed inside of other buffer corridors such as historical laneways, access for the maintenance of rural boundary fences, existing vegetation on the boundary, surface water management structures such as contour banks near boundaries and additional screening for visual amenity.

4. Decommissioning and Rehabilitation

- Align decommissioning commitments in the statutory EIS with the public website's promises:
 - Independent third-party costed decommissioning fund accessible to landholders.
 - Binding recycling obligations.
 - Full removal of underground infrastructure, footings, and piles to restore agricultural capability.
- Provide enforceable, independently overseen Rehabilitation and Decommissioning Management Plan.
- Clarify responsibilities for waste removal, soil remediation, and long-term land capability restoration.

5. Traffic and Cumulative Transport

- Conduct up-to-date site-specific traffic counts and turning-movement surveys on the Mitchell Highway, Golden Highway, and local approach roads.
- Assess haulage conflicts with school buses, cyclists, and local traffic.
- Quantify and address **cumulative traffic impacts** from at least 40+ renewable projects in the Central-West Orana REZ.
- Identify safety upgrades (turning lanes, overtaking lanes, pavement strengthening) to mitigate crash and congestion risks.

6. Dust, Air Quality, and Worker/Community Health

- Undertake **quantitative dust and air quality modelling** including respirable crystalline silica (RCS) from batching, crushing, and construction activities.
- Identify and commit to best-practice dust controls: water cannons, sealed conveyors, wheel-wash facilities, vegetative buffers, and continuous monitoring.
- Demonstrate compliance with WHS Regulation 2017 and SafeWork NSW RCS Code of Practice (2020).

7. Social Impact Assessment (SIA)

- Expand SIA engagement beyond the arbitrary 5 km boundary, including haulage route communities and sensitive receptors.
- Commission an independent SIA practitioner with no vested interest.
- Elevate key issues to “detailed” assessment level, including:
 - Agricultural land use impacts
 - Labour force challenges
 - Workforce accommodation pressures
 - Demand on local infrastructure/services
 - Community trust and transparency
- Assess social impacts such as community cohesion, wellbeing, livelihoods, mental health, decision-making systems, and cultural values (First Nations).

8. Wildlife Corridors, Vegetation, and Fencing

- Prohibit full perimeter high-security fencing
- Restrict high security fencing to electrical compounds
- Design and map wide, permeable wildlife corridors across the project site (200 m recommended).
- Model impacts of fencing on kangaroo migration and road/train collisions (Mitchell Highway, main rail line).
- Retain historic laneways and vegetation corridors for biodiversity and bushfire management.

9. Impacts on Local Communities and Town Planning

- Assess restrictions on the growth of Geurie and Wongarbron, consistent with Dubbo Regional Council's Housing Strategy.
- Consider the "sense of place" impacts on small villages within 5 km of the site.
- Require statutory protections: 10 km buffer zones around Geurie and Wongarbron; expansion of Dubbo's REZ exclusion zone from 10 km to 15 km.

10. Protection of State Significant Agricultural Land (SSAL)

- Apply mandatory protection mechanisms for SSAL consistent with protections already in place for mining/petroleum under SEPP (Resources and Energy) 2021.
- Update and integrate the latest SSAL maps into the EIS assessment.
- Prioritise siting of renewable projects outside mapped SSAL areas.

11. Engagement and Consultation²

- Require genuine, two-way engagement processes: open community meetings, clear maps, transparent consultation with both landholders and renters.
- Address procedural fairness failures identified by AEIC and NSW REZ Inquiry.
- Ensure survey design and reporting meet NSW Social Impact Assessment Guideline standards.

Final Conclusion

The Boree Solar Project Scoping Report is inadequate. Despite assurances at the project briefing session that additional information would be provided, the report does not deliver that detail or clarity and has left highly impacted adjacent landholders with more questions than answers.

I respectfully request that the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure reject this Scoping Report in its current form and require Venn Energy to resubmit a comprehensive, transparent, community-informed document that provides the promised information and meets NSW standards for State Significant Development assessment.

Yours faithfully

Peter Reardon
Chair of the Save Geurie – Stop Boree Solar Project
Directly affected landholder

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Renee Harrison
Secretary of the Save Geurie – Stop Boree Solar Project

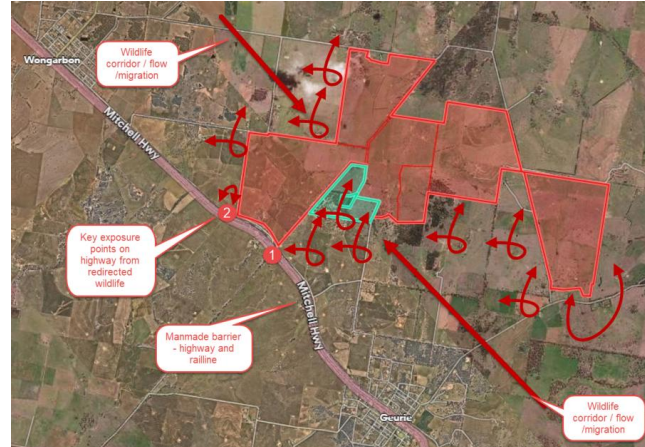
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² Refer also to our separate report and objection on Engagement practices

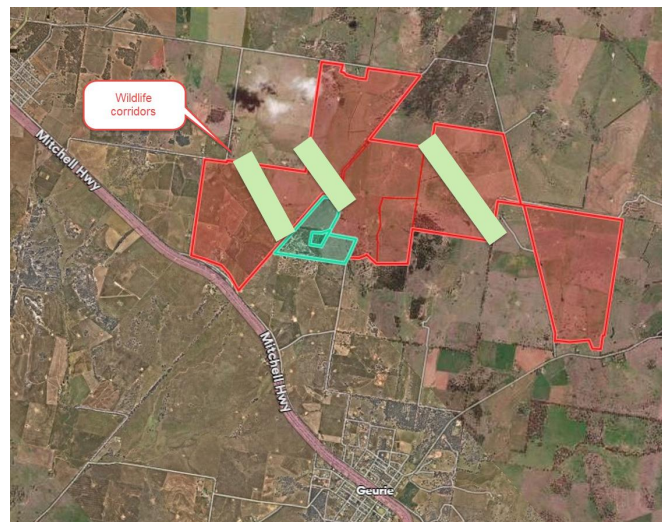
Appendices

1. Wildlife Corridors - impact on landholders and increasing traffic accidents on Mitchell Highway

Potential Impacts of wildlife flows not considered – high fencing not allowing passage but also (1) redirecting kangaroos across the highway leading to more potentially fatal accident in sections of a major National highway A32 (Locations 1 to 2 below); (2) Increased flows of wildlife into urban areas (Geurie); and (3) entrapped on neighbours properties (eg) Beldara / Reardon (green farm depicted below)



Potential Mitigation – allowance for open corridors that also address other factors such as SSAL, visual amenity, access for bushfire prevention and management, emergency egress / escape from trapped landholders and surface water management (i.e.) place wide (200m) corridors across the project area to allow for wildlife flow through the project area but place the corridors to address high impact visual amenity areas (no solar panels) especially for highly impacted landholders with the project on three sides (Beldara/Reardon) where there is also SSAL, avoiding areas of high surface water runoff and slopes causing erosion etc. That is, have a holistic approach to risk mitigation that addresses multiple impacts with a carefully designed control (corridors).



2. **Design and implement mandatory (legal) protections of small rural communities by enhancing existing planning policy to include a 10km buffer zone around gazetted rural towns and villages to exclude SSD Renewable Energy projects. The renewable Zone (Exclusion) around Dubbo would also need to be increased from approx. 10km to 15km to allow for future growth.**

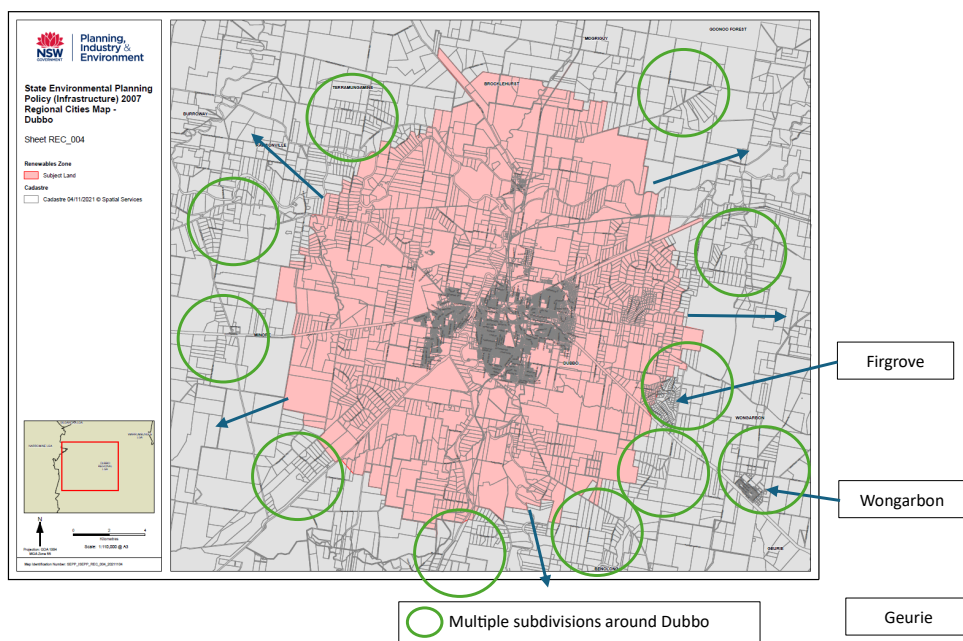
Comments

This would require recognition of small towns similar to “regional cities” within the [State Environmental Planning Policy \(Transport and Infrastructure\) 2021, Section 2.42 Determination of development applications for solar or wind electricity generating works on certain land](#) (includes a reference to the Regional Cities Map).

This statutory map includes Dubbo (Figure 1). This exclusion zone is currently approx. 10km. However, this is now inadequate for protecting future growth. Examples include new sub-divisions of Firgrove and the small lots as indicated on the map in Figure 1 outside the pink exclusion zone. Therefore the Dubbo exclusion zone would also need to be increased to at least 15km. Towns such as Wongarbron, Geurie and similar townships need to be now considered with the rapid expansion of the Dubbo Regional Area. Townships within 30km of large regional cities are akin to Parramatta or major outlying suburbs of Sydney. Small rural townships are suburbs of the city and require area for future growth. Imagine placing 3200 acres of solar panels around Parramatta 60 years ago restricting urban development? These renewable energy SSD projects are expected to be in operation for many decades so their future, restrictive impact on rural towns must be taken into consideration. Geurie and Wongarbron are growing and need the same protections as the existing, recognised Regional Cities – as Dubbo grows, so do they as a linked rural “suburbs” of the main centre.

This ensures the current planning policy³ is enhanced and updated rather than requiring new policy.

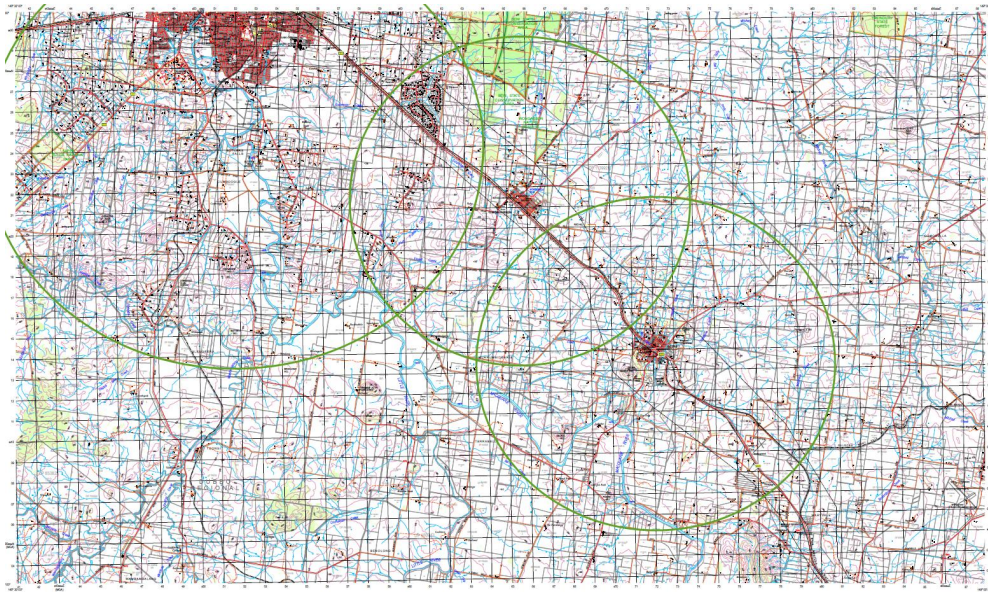
Figure 1 : NSW Government Exclusion Zone Around Dubbo⁴ - Renewables



³ State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021, Section 2.42

⁴ As required by the State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021, Section 2.42

The following image demonstrates the intensity of, and potential for, population growth in and around Dubbo along the A32 corridor. Towns such as Wongarbron and Geurie within 30km of major regional cities such as Dubbo are akin to the Parramatta's of Sydney. Very large tracts of land taken up by renewable energy projects restricting growth for decades is not sustainable.



It should also be noted that south of Geurie is constrained by the proximity to the river, flooding, topography and existing infrastructure hence growth will be mainly to the north of town (where the Boree Project is situated within 5km).

3. *Design and implement mandatory (legal) protections of agricultural land by enhancing existing planning policy to include mandatory protection mechanisms for State Significant Agricultural Land (SSAL) similar to existing protections from mining and petroleum development.*

Comments

Following a review by the NSW Department of Primary Industries in 2021⁵, it has been recognised by the NSW Government there is a need for the phased approach for statutory implementation of a State Significant Agricultural Land Use Policy to strengthen planning for agriculture⁶. Table 1 provides a summary of these reports and a comment on status.

The Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (CWO REZ) was formally declared on November 5, 2021, by the NSW Minister for Energy and Environment. The capacity was initially 3 gigawatts but subsequently increased to 7.7 gigawatts. The increases in capacity declared are expected to increase further.

The significant pace of the transition in conjunction with no statutory policy for the protection of agricultural land, especially SSAL, is of concern. Especially since the requirement for legal protection of SSAL was recognised and endorsed by the government over 4 years ago.

We acknowledge that the [Large Scale Solar Energy Guideline](#) details the key principles required for the assessment of projects, including consideration of agricultural land and BSAL. This guideline refers to the agricultural land maps available on [SEED](#) of Important Agricultural Land (IAL) and biophysical strategic agricultural land (BSAL) now called State Significant Agricultural Land (SSAL). This however is only a guideline.

There already exists mandatory protection mechanisms for State Significant Agricultural Land (SSAL) from mining and petroleum development within the [State Environmental Planning Policy \(Resources and Energy\) 2021, Part 2.4 Mining and petroleum development on strategic agricultural land](#) (includes a reference to the Government Strategic Agricultural Land Map - SEED). Significant resources may also be found on the [NSW Planning - Safeguarding our agricultural land \(Mining and resources\) web site](#). This information can be used as an input to the proposed legislative changes to protect agricultural land from other forms of development such as SSD renewable energy projects.

This preliminary review demonstrates that:

1. the NSW Government has already endorsed the need for legal protection of SSAL;
2. Systems and processes are already in place for the legal protection of SSAL from mining and petroleum activities;
3. Supporting guidelines and tools such as maps are already available to support the legislative requirements;
4. There have been delays in progressing the endorsed recommendations since they were made over 4 years ago;
5. Many renewable energy projects are placed on prime agricultural land and SSAL causing considerable angst in the community; and
6. There has been a rapid implementation of the renewable transition to meet targets often with ever increasing objections from rural communities and no social licence obtained by the renewable energy proponents.

There is **existing** planning policy that recognises the need to **protect** SSAL; there is the draft SSAL map which has been updated after an extensive consultation process; and the government has already **endorsed** the requirement for **statutory protection** of SSAL.

It is therefore recommended that the government:

1. Expedite the government endorsed development of legal protection for SSAL and agricultural land;
2. Review and update the existing guideline requirements to support the new legal protections; and
3. In principle, apply mandatory protections for SSAL concurrently with all existing and new SSD assessment.

⁵ [Agriculture Commissioner - Improving the Prospects for Agriculture and Regional Australia in the NSW Planning System, July 2021](#)

⁶ [NSW Government response to the NSW Agriculture Commissioner's Reports, 1 March 2023](#)

Objection to Eco Logical Australia 2025, Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report, Prepared for Venn Energy Pty Ltd.
SSD-90792956

Table 1 : Summary of Agriculture Commissioner's Recommendations, Government Response and Current Status

Recommendations (July 2021) ⁷	Government Response (March 2023) ⁸	Comment (July 2025)
The NSW Government should take a phased approach to adopting a statutory State Significant Agricultural Land Use Planning Policy (SSALUP Policy).	Supported The NSW Government supports a phased approach for statutory implementation of a State Significant Agricultural Land Use Policy to strengthen planning for agriculture. The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) is developing a draft policy that will be exhibited for public comment. Once it is finalised, the policy will focus on implementation through the strategic planning framework.	No draft policy from the DPI has been discovered. There is still no legal protection of SSAL and agricultural land other than from mining. See below regarding DPI updating the SSAL Map 4 years from the recommendations Over 2 years since the Government Response
The objectives, permitted land uses and application of the RU1, RU2 and RU4 zone should be reviewed by DPE and DPI to ensure there is a clear determination of priority for agriculture (and therefore other permitted uses) in these zones.	Supported in part The NSW Government recognises that each rural land use zone must be uniquely structured to achieve its strategic intent to deliver the diverse range of local, regional, and state priorities. The Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) will work with DPI to review the RU1 and RU4 zones to ensure they can be used to prioritise agricultural land uses.	Unknown status of the work between DPE and DPI No discoverable evidence of progress to date 4 years from the recommendations Over 2 years since the Government Response

⁷ Agriculture Commissioner - Improving the Prospects for Agriculture and Regional Australia in the NSW Planning System, July 2021

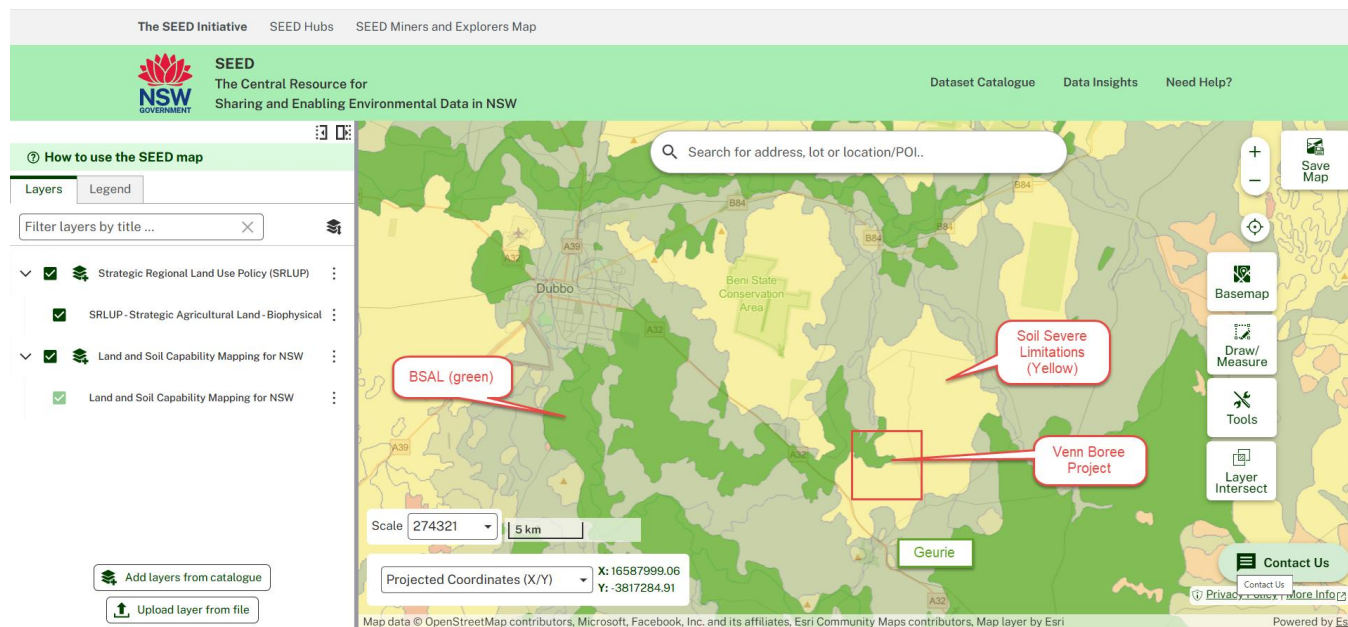
⁸ NSW Government response to the NSW Agriculture Commissioner's Reports, 1 March 2023

Objection to Eco Logical Australia 2025, Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report, Prepared for Venn Energy Pty Ltd.
SSD-90792956

Recommendations (July 2021) ⁷	Government Response (March 2023) ⁸	Comment (July 2025)
The statutory SSALUP Policy should be supported by a map of State Significant Agricultural Land (SSAL).	Supported The NSW Government recognises that maps are a useful resource to inform planning and that identification of SSAL is needed so that it can be better catered for in the planning framework. DPI has undertaken the first round of consultation of a draft map and will continue to refine based on stakeholder feedback and data improvements.	DPI commissioned the development and consultation of an updated SSAL map (Agricultural Mapping). A draft SSAL map was completed and consultation closed 21 Jan 2022. The previously existing Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land (BSAL) land map by the NSW Government was used in the update. This data has been in existence for some time. Example map in Figure 2. No further updates or status can be found since Jan 2022 – 3 and half years ago. NSW DPI State Significant Agricultural Land Mapping Data Summary Statement provides a good summary of SSAL. Figure 2 – representative of BSAL near the Boree Project Figure 3 – Latest SSAL (updated in 2021 with consultation for the draft closed Jan 2022) Both Figures 2 and 3 indicate that there will be BSAL/SSAL on the proposed Boree Solar Project Area. Not displayed but the Hampton Park project is also mostly on the updated SSAL. Figure 4 shows the latest draft of the SSAL update by the DPI. This indicates significant areas outside of the SSAL that could be utilised for SSD renewable energy projects without impacting progress.

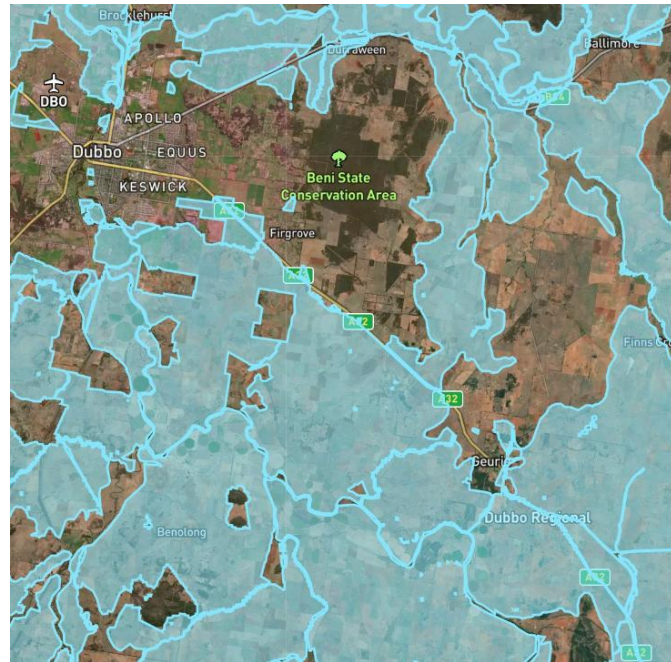
Objection to Eco Logical Australia 2025, Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report, Prepared for Venn Energy Pty Ltd.
SSD-90792956

Figure 2 : BSAL (Green) in Geurie Area using NSW Government SEED



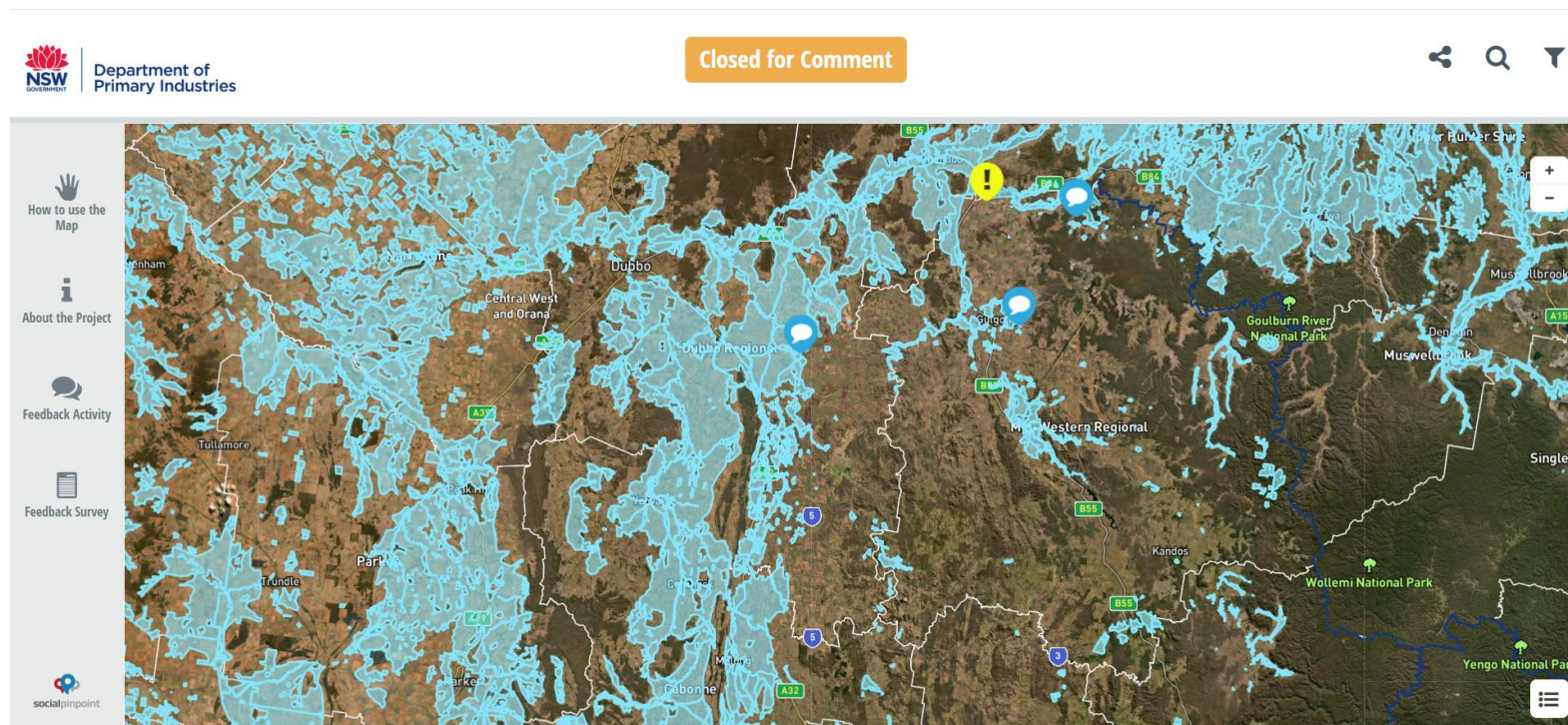
Objection to Eco Logical Australia 2025, Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report, Prepared for Venn Energy Pty Ltd.
SSD-90792956

Figure 3 : SSAL (Blue) Around Geurie from latest Draft SSAL Map completed in 2022



Objection to Eco Logical Australia 2025, Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report, Prepared for Venn Energy Pty Ltd.
SSD-90792956

Figure 4 : Dubbo Regional View of Draft SSAL Map

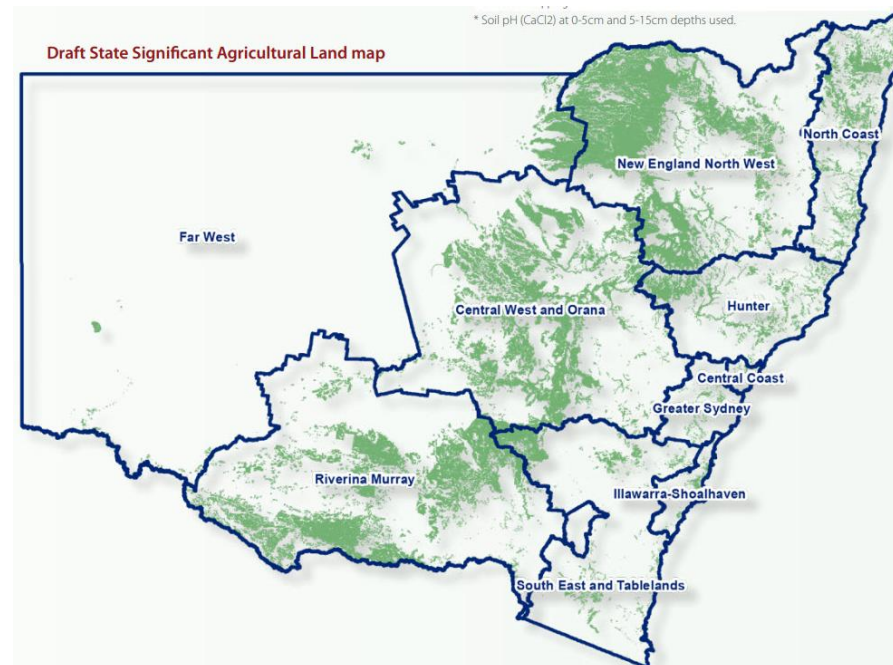


The light blue areas indicate latest (draft) mapping of SSAL. This indicates significant areas outside of the SSAL that could be utilised for SSD renewable energy projects without impacting on the energy transition.

Source : [Draft SSAL Map](#)

Figure 5 : Draft Summary of SSAL in NSW From latest Update

Objection to Eco Logical Australia 2025, Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report, Prepared for Venn Energy Pty Ltd.
SSD-90792956



The green areas indicate SSAL. This indicates significant areas outside of the SSAL that could be utilised for SSD renewable energy projects without impacting on the energy transition.

Source : [NSW DPI State Significant Agricultural Land Mapping Data Summary Statement](#)

Objection to the Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report (SSD-90792956) Engagement Practices

Prepared by
Peter Reardon
Renee Harrison
On behalf of the Save Geurie – Stop Boree Solar Project

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

Contents

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
2. PURPOSE	4
3. SCOPE	4
4. CONTEXT	4
5. SCOPING DOCUMENTS	4
6. SUMMARY OF OBJECTIONS	5
7. ENGAGEMENT PRACTICES	6
7.1 OVERVIEW	6
Objection 1 – Misrepresentation of Engagement Practices	6
7.2 ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVES	7
Objection 2 – Failure to Meet Stated Engagement Objectives	7
7.3 PHASE ONE – SCOPING PHASE ENGAGEMENT (ENGAGEMENT TO DATE)	7
Objection 3 – Misrepresentation in Section 5.1.2 (“Phase One – Scoping Phase Engagement”)	7
Objection 4 – Deficiencies in Project Introduction Letters to the Community within 5 km	8
Objection 5 – Deficiencies in Project Introduction to Stakeholders	9
Objection 6 – Deficiencies in the Community Survey	10
Objection 7 – Deficiencies in Adjacent Landowner Initial Project Briefings	11
Objection 8 – Ineffective Dedicated Project Email and Enquiry Line	11
Objection 9 – Deficiencies in Project Website	12
7.4 PHASE TWO – CONTINUED COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT TO INFORM THE PREPARATION OF THE EIS	12
Objection 10 - General objection – Phase Two consultation	13
7.5 COMMUNITY LEAD ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	13
Objection 11 – Misrepresentation of Community-led Engagement Activities	13
7.6 GOVERNMENT AT OTHER STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT	14
Objection 12 – Less than adequate government and stakeholder engagement	14
Objection 13 – Misrepresentation of AEIC involvement and ongoing complaints case	14
7.7 OTHER COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION CONCERNS	15
Objection 14 – Expanded BESS Capacity and New Infrastructure Not Properly Communicated	15
Objection 15 - Incomplete Capture of Community Complaints in Scoping Report	15
Objection 16 - Unprofessional Conduct of Community Engagement Manager	16
Objection 17 - Failure to Honour Commitments to Affected Landholders	16
Objection 18 – General objections to the Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan	17
Objection 19 - Misrepresentation of community objections as “concerns”	17
8. CONCLUSION	18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report sets out the objections raised by the Save Geurie – Stop Boree Solar Project group and affected landholders regarding the Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report (SSD-90792956). It highlights serious deficiencies in Venn Energy's consultation and engagement practices, which fall well short of NSW Government requirements for State Significant Development (SSD) projects.

The objections demonstrate that the Scoping Report does not accurately reflect the extent or seriousness of community opposition, and that the engagement process has been misleading, selective, and procedurally unfair.

Key Objection Themes

- Misrepresentation of Engagement – Excluded directly affected communities (both Geurie and Wongarbron – total population 1600); mischaracterised formal objections as "concerns"; reliance on biased industry material.
- Failure to Meet Government Standards – Engagement activities inadequate for a high-impact SSD; failure to show how community feedback shaped project design.
- Poor Communication Materials – Project introduction letter resembled junk mail; unclear maps; renters and adjoining residents excluded from notification.
- Deficient Community Survey and Briefings – The community survey had a framing bias and was poorly promoted; landholder briefings dismissive and evasive; community left without meaningful answers.
- Inadequate Channels – Project email and enquiry line ineffective; website non-functional and misleading; over-reliance on digital tools that excluded rural/older residents.
- Withholding of Critical Information – Significant project changes (battery expansion, 132 kV substation) not disclosed; arbitrary cut-off date for submissions for feedback into scoping report not communicated.
- Unprofessional Behaviour – Reports of rude and insulting conduct by the Engagement Manager; commitments to landholders not honoured.
- Ongoing Regulatory Oversight – Active case with the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner (AEIC) ignored in the Scoping Report and misrepresented as routine liaison.

The Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report (SSD-90792956) presents an unreliable and misleading account of community engagement. The process has failed to meet NSW Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects (2022), excluded key stakeholders, misrepresented objections, and demonstrated poor transparency and accountability.

On this basis, the Scoping Report cannot be accepted as an accurate reflection of consultation. The Department must require Venn Energy to correct the record, re-engage with the community transparently, and properly account for the breadth and seriousness of objections before this project proceeds any further.

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 3 of 18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to object to the narrative on Engagement Practices outlined by Eco Logical on behalf of Venn Energy in the Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report (SSD-90792956). This report will highlight the failings and deficiencies in the engagement practices undertaken by Venn Energy and Ethos Urban with highly impacted adjoining neighbours and other stakeholders. The report will also demonstrate that engagement has been inadequate against requirements for projects with high impact and high significance for the community.

Specifically, the objection seeks to:

1. correct omissions and inaccuracies in Venn Energy's description of engagement to date
2. prevent premature reliance by Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) on the current scoping narrative until the failings and deficiencies are documented accurately by Venn Energy.
3. Encourage the DPIE to take into consideration all objections listed before issuing the SEARS.

3. SCOPE

This objection report has been prepared in response to Section 5 – Engagement within the Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report¹, and the associated Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan². The scope of this objection is limited to examining the adequacy, accuracy, and fairness of the community and stakeholder engagement processes described by the proponent, and whether these processes meet the expectations and requirements set out under the State Significant Development (SSD) framework.

4. CONTEXT

Venn Energy currently has an active case with the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commission (AEIC) for less than adequate inadequate practices³.

The AEIC is an independent body that investigates complaints about large-scale energy projects such as wind farms, solar farms, and transmission lines. It helps communities and landholders raise concerns, identifies systemic issues, and makes recommendations to government and industry to improve consultation and project practices.

In addition, the Conciliations / Investigations Officer - Energy Transition Energy & Water Ombudsman NSW wrote to Venn Energy about the concerns the Geurie community raised regarding engagement.

5. SCOPING DOCUMENTS

1. 'Eco Logical Australia 2025, Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report, Prepared for Venn Energy Pty Ltd.'
2. Ethos Urban Pty Ltd 2025, Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan – Boree Solar Farm (3240314)

¹ 'Eco Logical Australia 2025, Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report, Prepared for Venn Energy Pty Ltd.'

² Ethos Urban Pty Ltd 2025, Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan – Boree Solar Farm (3240314)

³ Refer 20250627 Letter to Save Geurie Group

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 4 of 18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

6. SUMMARY OF OBJECTIONS

The Save Geurie – Stop Boree Solar Project group object to the information on Engagement in the scoping report due to the following reasons outlined below (in no particular order). Each of these objections are explained in depth in part 6 of this report:

1. Venn Energy has an active case with the AEIC for less than adequate communication and consultation practices, and this has not been acknowledged in the scoping report. Instead, the Scoping Report states the proposed engagement tools with the AEIC are "direct liaison, meetings and correspondence as required"⁴. This is misleading.
2. Engagement practices are inadequate against NSW Government requirements for SSD projects with high impacts and significance for the community.
3. Inadequate or misleading consultation practices, including failure to engage meaningfully with directly affected residents and highly impacted adjoining landholders. This included excluding affected communities (such as Geurie and Wongarbon) from early engagement activities.
4. Long-term residents renting homes within 2 km of the project site were not included in the project briefings and did not receive any formal notification letter, despite being directly affected by the development.
5. Lack of meaningful engagement or slow / non-existent responses from the proponent, even after multiple contact attempts by highly impacted adjoining neighbours.
6. Poor quality or poorly presented communication materials, such as letters that resembled junk mail and failed to clearly identify the project's location and scale.
7. Community surveys that were poorly designed, biased, or failed to reach or reflect the views of the most affected residents.
8. The community survey (which informed the scoping report) was not adequately promoted and therefore could not be considered a genuine engagement activity. Promotion was limited and failed to ensure that all potentially affected residents and stakeholders were aware of the survey. For a project of this scale, surveys should have been widely advertised through local media, council channels, social media, noticeboards, and in-person sessions to ensure meaningful and inclusive participation.
9. Vague, evasive, or opaque answers to questions, whether in person, via email, or through published FAQs.
10. Community engagement team were unable to provide any information or explanation about the solar farm at initial project briefing session. Vague statements such as "still to be determined" and "will be in the scoping report" were standard responses to questions.
11. Misleading, selective, or unsupported claims on the project website (e.g. on property values, insurance and decommissioning)
12. Over-reliance on digital surveys or online-only channels that exclude many rural residents or older community members.
13. Failure to properly explain significant project changes, such as increases in larger battery storage and the inclusion of a 132KV collector substation.
14. Failure to demonstrate how community feedback has influenced project design or mitigation strategies.

⁴ Refer page 34 'Eco Logical Australia 2025, Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report, Prepared for Venn Energy Pty Ltd.'

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 5 of 18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

15. Unclear or inaccessible complaints and feedback processes, with no visible escalation pathway or independent oversight.
16. Rude and insulting behaviour by the Venn Energy Community Stakeholder Engagement Manager to an affected landholder at the initial project briefing session⁵.
17. Nonfunctioning website, despite landholders being told at project briefing sessions in April that all information about the project can be found on the website.
18. Use of biased industry materials, such as promotional fact sheets from the Clean Energy Council, rather than independent evidence.
19. Failure to honor commitments to affected landholders (promised a face to face meeting, but did not provide one even though engagement team were in Dubbo / Geurie).
20. Critical information, including the arbitrary cut-off date of 9 May for community feedback (to be included in scoping report), was not proactively communicated.
21. Consultation and communication fatigue, where the community is repeatedly asking for information or feedback without any visible outcomes or accountability.
22. The Scoping Report deliberately downplays and misrepresents formal community objections by labelling them as mere "concerns," a tactic that diminishes their procedural weight, breaches the NSW Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects (2022), and fundamentally undermines the integrity and fairness of the assessment of SSD-90792956.

7. ENGAGEMENT PRACTICES⁶

7.1 OVERVIEW

Statement 1: Venn Energy is committed to ensuring local community and other stakeholder concerns and interests are considered throughout the development of the Project. Engagement has been and will continue to be undertaken with a range of stakeholders throughout the Project's development, including various government agencies, service providers, the local community, First Nations organisations and people, special interest groups, and neighbouring and adjacent landowners.

Objection 1 – Misrepresentation of Engagement Practices

1. The statement provided by Venn Energy significantly overstates the quality and inclusiveness of engagement undertaken to date. Contrary to the proponent's claim of commitment to considering community and stakeholder concerns, affected residents of Geurie and Wongarbron were excluded from genuine consultation opportunities. Geurie and Wongarbron residents were not included in face-to-face project briefing sessions.⁷
2. No open community meetings were convened, a large proportion of neighbouring and adjacent landholders were not engaged, and initial notification materials were presented in a manner that could easily be mistaken for unsolicited mail.⁸
3. Assurances given to landholders regarding priority engagement were not honoured.

⁵ Refer BOREE SOLAR - COMPLAINT ABOUT PROJECT BRIEFING SESSION APRIL 2025

⁶ Refer page 30 Eco Logical Australia 2025, Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report, Prepared for Venn Energy Pty Ltd.'

⁷ Refer to Project Notification Letters – one included project briefing session and the other did not

⁸ Refer "envelope" "Unclear map"; "project briefing not included" "project briefing included"

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 6 of 18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

4. It is also of particular concern that a key stakeholder, Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council, first became aware of the project through a community Facebook group (Save Geurie – Stop Boree Solar Project) rather than from the proponent directly⁹.
5. The project description provided to residents in March 2025 differs materially from the current scoping report, with the Battery Energy Storage System expanded from 150 MW / 600 MWh to 200 MW / 800 MWh, and the addition of a new 132 kV collector substation. These changes increase potential impacts yet were not transparently communicated to the community, raising concerns about accuracy, transparency, and procedural fairness in the consultation process.
6. The engagement process described in the Scoping Report does not accurately reflect the experiences of the community and fails to demonstrate compliance with the Department of Planning and Environment's Community and Stakeholder Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects (2022), which emphasise transparency, inclusivity, early engagement and procedural fairness.

7.2 ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Statement 2: The engagement objectives for this Project are to: Consult proactively with the local community and stakeholders using clear, consistent and up-to date Project information; continue to engage with the local community and stakeholders to identify potential issues, opportunities and mitigation measures; communicate the progress of the Project; enable the local community and stakeholders to have input into the preparation of the EIS and future stages; and implement response and feedback strategies to address stakeholder questions and concerns, and where possible, use these to inform the development and refinement of the Project.

Objection 2 – Failure to Meet Stated Engagement Objectives

1. The engagement objectives outlined by Venn Energy are aspirational in nature but have not been demonstrated in practice. The proponent has not engaged, consulted or communicated proactively with the local community.

7.3 PHASE ONE – SCOPING PHASE ENGAGEMENT (ENGAGEMENT TO DATE)¹⁰

Statement 3: Phase One engagement has included the following elements: Project introduction letters - community within 5km of the Project site; Project introduction letters – stakeholders; Community survey; Adjacent landowner initial Project briefings; Government agency, Council and service provider initial Project briefings and consultation; Establishment of dedicated Project email and enquiry line; Publication of Project website – later in consultation process

Objection 3 – Misrepresentation in Section 5.1.2 ("Phase One – Scoping Phase Engagement")

Section 5.1.2 ("Phase One – Scoping Phase engagement") is materially understated and does not accurately reflect what occurred within each listed element nor does it reflect the behaviour of the engagement team.

⁹ Refer <https://doi.ly/x9iqpbq> "Landholders fear solar farm proposal as council finds out via Facebook" and Boree solar farm proposal blindsides angered Geurie landholders _ The Land _ NSW; and Venn Energy's proposed solar farms face landowner opposition _ The Land _ NSW

¹⁰ Section 5.1.2 ("Phase One – Scoping Phase engagement")

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 7 of 18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

The description is confined to generic activity labels and omits essential particulars while overlooking material shortcomings observed in practice, including selective outreach, ineffective notification, inconsistent information, less than adequate community survey, poor quality website (public facing information) unfulfilled commitments to landholders, and inadequate responsiveness to enquiries and complaints.

As presented, the summary creates a misleading impression of early, inclusive, and proactive engagement and cannot be relied upon as an accurate record of engagement to date

Objection 4 – Deficiencies in Project Introduction Letters to the Community within 5 km

1. Format, coverage and timing

- Resembled unsolicited junk mail, with residents saying they discarded the letter.
- Generic "Dear resident" letter. Weak evidence of direct notification, poor auditability of who was reached and when.
- Two different versions mailed (one with a "Project briefing" section offering 8–9 April meetings and an RSVP by 2 April, one without that section). Inconsistent opportunities across households; undermines fairness and transparency
- 5 km mail-out radius only: Ignores likely impact corridors outside 5 km (e.g., haul routes, fire/evacuation, noise/visual catchments). SSD guidance expects methods proportionate to impact, not distance alone.
- Letter was mailed in 27 March, around School Holidays, Easter and Anzac Day.

2. Unrealistic RSVP window for project briefings

- One letter dated 27 March but asks for availability to book a project briefing session by 2 April.
- Many directly impacted landholders received letter after the RSVP date due to postal delays as residents and landholders do not receive mail daily, Wongarbron does not have a mail service at all – with residents having to collect their mail. Some residents also have PO Boxes in Dubbo.

3. Accessibility and inclusivity

- Survey promoted primarily via QR code (phone option mentioned but passive). This excludes or deters residents with limited digital access/skills. No hard-copy survey enclosed, and no reply-paid return offered.
- Business-hours phone only, no after-hours/voice-mail service standards. This reduces accessibility for working residents.
- No translation/interpretation or accessibility offer (e.g., large print, Easy English). This does not meet inclusive practice expectations.
- No explicit privacy statement for survey data or complaints/enquiries. Residents not provided information on how their information was to be used or stored.

4. Content sufficiency and clarity

- Map is unclear for decision-use: low resolution, no 5 km buffer, no nearest receptors, no haul routes or sensitive sites (schools, RFS sheds, health facilities), and no scale bar

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 8 of 18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

adjacent to the red outline. It states "shown in red" but doesn't enable a resident to understand proximity or likely exposure pathways.

- Maps for SSD projects must follow NSW Planning's minimum standards: use a standard base map, include a north arrow and scale, provide a clear legend for boundaries/infrastructure, and state the source of mapping data.
- Capacity details are technical and potentially confusing (e.g., "250 MW DC/150 MW AC; BESS 150 MW/4-hour = 600 MWh) without plain-English explanation of AC vs DC or what 600 MWh means in practice (traffic, fire load, noise, hazard scenarios).
- No plain-English impact summary (traffic, noise, visual, glare, fire, biodiversity, flooding, workforce housing) or "how these will be assessed," which SSD guidance encourages at scoping-stage notifications.
- Website listed is the corporate site, not a dedicated project page with an update log, document library, or subscription function; "later in consultation process" is vague.

5. Process transparency and accountability

- No open public meetings offered (Geurie/Wongarbon) in the "no-briefing" version; in the "briefing" version, the offer is **one-to-one** by appointment only. This does not provide equitable, transparent Q&A for all residents.
- No Community Reference Group (CRG) or independent facilitation/audit commitment identified.
- No complaints process outlined (categories, response times, escalation paths) and no commitment to publish a de-identified issues register.
- No "you said, we did" mechanism. No pathway showing how input will influence layout, traffic management, noise controls, or workforce accommodation and other SSD issues.

6. Consistency and completeness

- **Inconsistent collateral** (briefing vs no-briefing versions). Different households received materially different engagement opportunities at the same stage.
- **Short survey window** (closing 28 April) with no disclosure of method, response-rate targets, demographic balancing, or how results will be published and used. This increases risks of biased "sentiment" reporting. Timing was around Easter, School Holidays and Anzac Day.
- **No reference to First Nations-specific engagement pathway** (separate from general mail-outs). The letter does not demonstrate culturally appropriate early engagement alongside technical heritage studies.

Objection 5 – Deficiencies in Project Introduction to Stakeholders

1. Table 5.1 Stakeholder identification and issues mapping outlines stakeholders and proposed engagement tools for scoping and EIS stages.
2. A proportion of the engagement tools listed were project notification via email / letter. A simple notification email is inadequate for a project of this scale as it only provides one-way information, lacks genuine dialogue, and therefore cannot be considered a valid engagement method.

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 9 of 18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

3. Of particular concern is that Dubbo Regional Council, a primary stakeholder, first became aware of the project through the community Facebook group *Save Geurie – Stop Boree Solar Project* despite Venn Energy stating otherwise.^{11,12}
4. It is stated that communities within a 5k radius of the project site, including members of the Geurie and Wongarbon Communities were offered initial project briefing (face to face, on line or via phone)¹³. This is not true – only residents within a 2-kilometre radius of the project were offered a project briefing session.
5. Community groups and businesses within 5k radius have not been listed at all, but the scoping report states that they received an initial project notification letter, initial project briefing session (face to face, online or via phone), access to community hotline, project website and community survey.

Objection 6 – Deficiencies in the Community Survey

1. A deficient and flawed community survey is a serious problem in the context of a State Significant Development (SSD) because it directly informs the Scoping Report, which in turn forms the basis of the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs). If the survey is biased, selectively distributed, or fails to capture the views of those most affected, the resulting data gives a misleading picture of community attitudes and priorities. This can lead to critical issues such as traffic, noise, fire risk, visual impact, or cumulative effects being understated or overlooked in the SEARs. Once embedded, these deficiencies flow through the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process, constraining assessment, skewing mitigation measures, and ultimately undermining the integrity of decision-making. Inaccurate or incomplete community input at the scoping stage therefore compromises procedural fairness, weakens public trust, and risks approvals being granted without a proper understanding of the project's true impacts.
2. The survey's language was promotional and biased, implying the project was advancing ("as we move into the next stage of planning"), discouraging critical feedback.
3. Key questions used leading language (e.g., "enhancing sustainability") and offered restricted answer options (e.g., three-point scales).
4. Critical issues were omitted, including:
 - o Agricultural productivity loss
 - o Property devaluation
 - o Water contamination
 - o Fire and insurance risks (including BESS)
 - o Mental health impacts
 - o Panel toxicity and decommissioning
 - o Emergency access restrictions

¹¹ Refer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fsUY7fiVS6Y>;

<https://dai.ly/x9iqpbq> "Landholders fear solar farm proposal as council finds out via Facebook" and Boree solar farm proposal blindsides angered Geurie landholders _ The Land _ NSW; and Venn Energy's proposed solar farms face landowner opposition _ The Land _ NSW

¹² Gmail - Clarification on points regarding DRC being notified of the Boree Solar Project

¹³ Refer page 38 Eco Logical Australia 2025, Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report, Prepared for Venn Energy Pty Ltd.'

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 10 of 18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

- Compulsory land access
 - Cultural heritage concerns
5. Access to the survey was distributed via the project (junk mail) letter and could be accessed via QR code or community members had to proactively phone the Engagement Team to request a link to be emailed or complete the survey over the phone. The survey was not promoted by any other means (ie. Media, social media, website, etc)
 6. The Geurie community was forced to replicate the survey in hard copy and collected 39 handwritten responses - highlighting the proponent's failure in inclusive engagement.

Refusal to Re-Issue Survey

1. On 6 May 2025, Venn Energy formally refused to reissue the community survey.
2. This refusal, despite multiple formal requests and clearly documented deficiencies in the original survey, is both dismissive and unjustified.
3. Venn Energy provided no adequate rationale for declining to revise the survey, and this decision appears to disregard the obligation to engage in genuine, good faith consultation as required under New South Wales SSD policy.

Objection 7 – Deficiencies in Adjacent Landowner Initial Project Briefings

1. We strongly object to the quality of the initial project briefing sessions, which were time-boxed to 45 minutes and later capped at only one hour. This was an inadequate window for affected landholders to understand impacts, ask questions, or obtain answers.
2. The definition of "adjacent" landowners was drawn too narrowly. Residents within 2–5 km of the site—approximately 1,600 people—were excluded (by Venn Energy) from face-to-face engagement despite likely traffic, noise, visual and fire impacts.
3. Residents renting homes within 2 km of the project site were not included in the project briefings and did not receive any formal notification letter, despite being directly affected by the development.
4. No open community forums were convened, limiting broader community participation.
5. The briefing sessions themselves were inadequate. Venn Energy representatives were unable to answer fundamental questions regarding project scale, footprint, buffer zones, fencing, and mitigation strategies. Responses were vague or dismissive, no follow-up was offered, and unprofessional comments were directed at a visibly distressed landholder, demonstrating a lack of empathy and respect.
6. Transparency was also lacking. Records of the meeting were not intended to be shared with landholders and were only provided after repeated requests.
7. Critical project information was not available on the proponent's website, and the short timeframe between notification and the session left residents without reasonable access to information.

Objection 8 – Ineffective Dedicated Project Email and Enquiry Line

1. The enquiry line and dedicated email did not provide timely or transparent responses to landholder questions and concerns. Enquiries were either left unanswered, responded to with vague or generic statements, or redirected back to the website. Compounding this, the

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 11 of 18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

enquiry phone line was only available between 9 am and 5 pm on weekdays, which excluded many working residents from being able to access it.

2. This lack of responsiveness undermines the purpose of establishing such communication channels and demonstrates a failure to meet the requirements of the *Community and Stakeholder Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects (DPE, 2022)*, which emphasise open, accessible, and responsive engagement processes.
3. As a result, the dedicated project contact points have not served their intended purpose of enabling clear communication with the community and stakeholders, and instead further eroded trust in the engagement process.

Objection 9 – Deficiencies in Project Website

1. Highly impacted adjoining landholders were told at the project briefing sessions that information about the project was available on the website.
2. The Boree Solar Project website was non-operational at the time of the project briefing sessions, displaying firstly information from the Lumbruk Solar Project, then followed by a blank screen for a number of weeks; then a project website holding page was implemented.
3. The project website holding page consisted of only high-level text and a general project description. Critically, it failed to provide basic engagement tools such as a labelled site map, a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section, and a formal complaint handling process. For a project of this scale and classification under the NSW planning system, these omissions significantly undermined transparency, accessibility, and public trust particularly during the early stages of community consultation.
4. This meant that affected residents and stakeholders who were directed to the site for further information could not access any project details.
5. The Venn Energy corporate website contained only four short lines of generic technical information, which did not provide adequate context or address specific community concerns.
6. Relying on a non-functional or incomplete website as a primary information source falls well short of the *Community and Stakeholder Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects (DPE, 2022)*, which require accessible, accurate, and timely information to be made available. The absence of a working website denied the community an essential channel for obtaining reliable information, reviewing materials in advance of consultation sessions, or tracking project updates. This deficiency significantly undermines the credibility and transparency of the engagement process.

7.4 PHASE TWO – CONTINUED COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT TO INFORM THE PREPARATION OF THE EIS

Statement 4: Phase Two engagement will be agreed as part of the Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan and be informed by the SEARs and early engagement, but is likely to include the following: Regular Project newsletters; Regular website updates, including updates to general Project FAQs; Community and stakeholder correspondence at key Project milestones; Project fact sheets available at key Project milestones; Community drop-in information session/s; Community information webinar; Adjacent landowner briefings; Stakeholder meetings and briefings; Continued Project enquiry phone line and email and Government agency, Council and Service provider consultation.

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 12 of 18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

Objection 10 - General objection – Phase Two consultation

We wish to register our objection to the conduct of Phase Two consultation to date. Although Phase Two has only just commenced, several concerns have already emerged:

1. The community newsletter contained no meaningful updates or substantive information. It consisted primarily of:
 - o A summary of the project that simply repeated information already on the website.
 - o A project location map that was identical to the map included in the initial notification letter (a letter many residents mistook for junk mail).
 - o A brief note about a meeting with Dubbo Regional Council.
 - o Notification that the scoping report is now available.
 - o Introduction of a new community engagement manager, Bree Williams. Affected landholders had been liaising with Bree a month prior to the newsletter being published.
 - o An infographic about the planning process, identical to the one previously provided at the project briefing session.
2. The newsletter also claimed the community had been advised of an increase in BESS capacity. In reality, this advice was only sent to those who had subscribed to the newsletter, and it was contained within an email titled "project website now live". This selective notification practice excludes many affected stakeholders and demonstrates poor transparency.
3. The newsletter was released without including the dates when the engagement team would be in the area, despite the fact those dates were already known at the time. Withholding this information significantly limited the opportunity for landholders and residents to prepare or participate.
4. Consultation continues to be narrowly targeted, with proponents phoning selected landholders to arrange private meetings rather than providing open and transparent engagement opportunities.
5. A request to meet with the representative of an affected landholder (while the landholder was on annual leave) was refused. This demonstrates a lack of flexibility and good faith, and further undermines procedural fairness by excluding legitimate representation.

These practices indicate that Phase Two is already repeating the same patterns of selective, inadequate, and opaque engagement seen during Phase One, rather than addressing the significant deficiencies previously raised.

7.5 COMMUNITY LEAD ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Objection 11 – Misrepresentation of Community-led Engagement Activities

1. Section 5.5 of the Scoping Report outlines community-led engagement activities, including the formation of the STOP BOREE SOLAR FARM AT GEURIE action group and Facebook page, the

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 13 of 18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

community information session at Geurie Racecourse Recreation Ground, and several petitions opposing the project.

2. While these activities are genuine and reflect the strength of community concern, they are not evidence of the proponent undertaking meaningful engagement. Instead, they arose as a direct response to the lack of transparency, inclusivity, and proactive consultation by Venn Energy.
3. The STOP BOREE SOLAR FARM AT GEURIE action group and Facebook page is the community objecting to the project.
4. By presenting these community-led initiatives within the Scoping Report, the proponent risks creating a misleading impression that broad engagement was facilitated or supported by the project team.
5. Under the Community and Stakeholder Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects (DPE, 2022), the responsibility for early and genuine consultation rests with the applicant, not the community. Reliance on community-led activities to demonstrate engagement is therefore inappropriate and does not satisfy the requirements of the SSD framework.

7.6 GOVERNMENT AT OTHER STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Objection 12 – Less than adequate government and stakeholder engagement

1. The stakeholder engagement outlined in the scoping report is inadequate, selective, and fails to demonstrate genuine consultation as required under the NSW Department of Planning's Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects (2022).
2. The majority of the recorded engagement consisted of sending project introduction emails to various stakeholders, including Dubbo Regional Council, the Local Aboriginal Land Council, federal and state members of parliament and other government agencies.
3. Such one-way communication does not provide meaningful two-way engagement or opportunities for affected communities to participate in discussions.
4. This approach is inconsistent with the requirement for early, inclusive, and transparent engagement under the SEARs and undermines the principles of fairness and accessibility in the planning process.

Objection 13 – Misrepresentation of AEIC involvement and ongoing complaints case¹⁴

1. The scoping report's statements that project briefings were held with the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner (AEIC) are misleading and incomplete.
2. Venn Energy frames the Commissioner's involvement as routine consultation about project details, timeframes, engagement processes, and complaints management. However, this presentation omits the critical fact that Venn Energy currently has an active case before the AEIC, arising from multiple community complaints regarding poor consultation, inadequate information provision, and lack of responsiveness to affected landholders.

¹⁴ Refer page 46 'Eco Logical Australia 2025, Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report, Prepared for Venn Energy Pty Ltd

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 14 of 18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

3. As confirmed in the AEIC's open letter dated 3 July 2025, the Commissioner is actively engaged with both the proponent and community representatives in direct response to these complaints and continues to monitor the project closely.
4. By characterising these briefings as voluntary updates, the proponent downplays the seriousness of the complaints and misrepresents the true nature of the AEIC's role, which is not incidental but rather a direct result of significant community concern and regulatory intervention.
5. The selective description misleads decision-makers and the public by portraying a complaints process as though it were evidence of good engagement practice. This mischaracterisation undermines transparency and accuracy in the scoping report and must be formally recognised as a deficiency in the consultation record.

7.7 OTHER COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION CONCERNS

Objection 14 – Expanded BESS Capacity and New Infrastructure Not Properly Communicated

1. The project description has materially changed between the initial notification letter (27 March 2025) and the scoping report now on exhibition.
2. The letter advised residents that the Boree Solar Project would include a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with an indicative capacity of 150 MW / 600 MWh, whereas the scoping report identifies a significantly larger 200 MW / 800 MWh BESS, together with a new 132 kV collector substation and connection to the existing 132 kV network.
3. These changes represent a substantial increase in infrastructure and potential impacts, yet the community was not transparently notified of these alterations through a dedicated update or community meeting.
4. Instead, the changes have only become evident through the scoping documentation, which undermines the principle of early and transparent engagement required under the Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects (2022).
5. This inconsistency raises concerns about the accuracy and reliability of the proponent's consultation material and demonstrates a lack of procedural fairness in informing the community about the scale and nature of the development.
6. Highly impacted adjoining neighbours have not had any input into the layout of the infrastructure.

Objection 15 - Incomplete Capture of Community Complaints in Scoping Report

1. The reliance on an inconsistent auto-generated email response system highlighted a serious failure in communication by Venn Energy.
2. Critical information, including the arbitrary cut-off date of 9 May for community feedback (to be included in scoping report), was not proactively communicated to the broader Geurie and Wongaroon communities, nor published on the project website.
3. Instead, residents were only made aware of this deadline if they happened to email the "Community Consultation Team" and, even then, the auto-response was not consistently issued.
4. This ad hoc approach created a situation where many residents remained uninformed unless they initiated contact, which undermined the principles of accessibility, transparency, and procedural fairness required under the NSW Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects (2022).

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 15 of 18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

5. Furthermore, the auto-response failed to clarify how feedback submitted after 9 May would be treated, leaving uncertainty about whether late submissions would be disregarded.
6. As a result, not all community complaints and sentiment were captured in the scoping report, meaning the consultation record presented is incomplete and does not accurately reflect the breadth of community concern.
7. This lack of clarity and inconsistency in communication practices eroded trust and demonstrated a failure to provide the community with reliable and timely information.

Objection 16 - Unprofessional Conduct of Community Engagement Manager

1. The conduct of the Community Stakeholder Engagement Manager during Peter Reardon's Boree Solar Project briefing demonstrated unprofessional and inappropriate behaviour.¹⁵
2. When landholder Peter Reardon, who was visibly distressed, raised questions about the project, the manager responded by saying, *"I don't like the way you look at me, and what you do with your mouth,"* and accused him of being aggressive.
3. These comments were directed at a landholder who was upset about the impact of thousands of solar panels surrounding his property, not at the individuals present.
4. Rather than showing empathy or professionalism, the manager reacted defensively and dismissively, displaying a lack of emotional intelligence and maturity expected of someone leading a consultation process.
5. This behaviour compounded the stress of the meeting, discouraged open dialogue, and undermined trust in the engagement process. SSD guidelines require proponents to ensure the community are provided with safe, respectful, and inclusive opportunities to express views.

Objection 17 - Failure to Honour Commitments to Affected Landholders

1. Venn Energy failed to uphold commitments made to affected landholders, including Mr. Peter Reardon and Ms Robyn Hicks.
2. In correspondence dated 12 June 2025, the engagement team had assured Mr Reardon that he would be prioritised for an in-person meeting during the next site visit.
3. Despite Mr Reardon's written request to confirm dates, and further assurances provided on 19 June 2025, the team subsequently visited the local area without notifying him or arranging the promised meeting.
4. This demonstrated a clear disregard for commitments given and undermined trust in the consultation process.
5. Similarly, Ms Hicks, an affected landholder who had openly raised her declining mental health and PTSD related to the project, was only contacted by phone and was not proactively offered a face-to-face meeting. This was a missed opportunity to show care and respect for a vulnerable resident.

¹⁵ Refer BOREE SOLAR - COMPLAINT ABOUT PROJECT BRIEFING SESSION APRIL 2025

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 16 of 18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

6. The conduct of the proponent contradicted its assurances of improving consultation practices, demonstrated a lack of compassion towards directly affected residents, and reflected poorly on its commitment to transparent and respectful community engagement.

Objection 18 – General objections to the Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan

The Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan mirrors the information contained in the Eco Logical Australia 2025, Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report, prepared for Venn Energy Pty Ltd; however, the following objections are lodged:

1. The report states that Dubbo Regional Council (DRC) received an introductory letter/email and a copy of the community survey, yet Mayor Josh Black has confirmed that he did not receive such correspondence. Regardless of the reason, Venn Energy failed to follow up with Council to ensure that critical stakeholders were properly informed.
2. The potential interests identified for DRC omit key issues such as social impact, housing, road infrastructure, and the mental health and wellbeing of the community.
3. The scoping documentation claims that maps were provided to affected landholders as part of project notification. In reality, only one unclear map was distributed, and residents were required to telephone the proponent to request clearer mapping, which is inadequate for a project of this scale.

Objection 19 - Misrepresentation of community objections as "concerns"

The Scoping Report repeatedly refers to issues raised by the community as "concerns." This choice of language is not neutral — it serves to downplay the seriousness and formal standing of the matters raised by residents, landholders, and stakeholders.

There is an important distinction between **concerns** and **objections** within planning processes. "Concerns" suggests a softer, less formal expression of unease or opinion. By contrast, "objections" are clear, direct statements of opposition that carry procedural weight and require proper consideration under NSW planning law and the State Significant Development (SSD) framework.

Community members have not merely expressed "concerns." They have submitted written objections, raised strong opposition during briefing sessions, escalated matters to the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner, and voiced objections in the media. These actions constitute formal objections to the project — not simply "concerns." To reframe these objections as "concerns" is misleading and inconsistent with the Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects (2022), which require that proponents record and present stakeholder input in their own words, and demonstrate how that input has influenced project design.

By substituting the word "concerns" for "objections," Venn Energy has attempted to soften the record of community opposition. This undermines the transparency and integrity of the scoping process and has the effect of minimising the extent of resistance to the project. It also denies the community's right to have its opposition accurately acknowledged in planning documentation.

This approach is particularly problematic because objections to SSDs carry substantive implications:

- they can trigger further environmental assessment requirements,
- they must be considered by the consent authority (the Department or, in some cases, the IPC), and

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 17 of 18

Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices

- they can influence whether a project is approved, modified, or refused.

The deliberate choice to present community opposition as "concerns" therefore dilutes the procedural force of those objections and prejudices fair assessment.

For this reason, the Scoping Report should be corrected to accurately reflect that the issues raised by the community are formal objections, not merely "concerns." Failure to do so constitutes a misrepresentation of the consultation record and breaches the requirements of NSW planning and engagement guidelines.

8. CONCLUSION

The engagement practices undertaken by Venn Energy and described in the Boree Solar Farm Scoping Report are inadequate, misleading, and inconsistent with the NSW Department of Planning's *Community and Stakeholder Engagement Guidelines for State Significant Projects (2022)*. The evidence presented demonstrates a pattern of selective outreach, poor communication, and misrepresentation of community and stakeholder involvement. Directly affected residents and neighbouring communities were excluded from genuine consultation opportunities, while Dubbo Regional Council and other key stakeholders were not properly informed or engaged.

The deficiencies identified including misleading use of community-led activities, inadequate surveys, inaccessible or incomplete communication channels, unprofessional conduct, and failure to honour commitments to landholders have eroded trust and credibility in the proponent's consultation process.

For these reasons, the Save Geurie – Stop Boree Solar Project group respectfully requests that the DPIE not rely on the current engagement narrative in its assessment of the scoping report. The Department must require Venn Energy to correct omissions and inaccuracies, re-engage with affected stakeholders through transparent and inclusive processes, and ensure that the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) are informed by a complete and accurate account of community concerns.

Title: Objection to Scoping Report for Boree Solar Farm SSD- 90792956: Engagement Practices	Version: 2
Proponent : Venn Energy	Page: 18 of 18



REPORT: Dubbo Regional Sports Council - Playing Field Improvement Fund 2025/2026

DIVISION: Community, Culture and Places
REPORT DATE: 4 September 2025
TRIM REFERENCE: ID25/1798

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	Seek endorsement	
Issue	Consider Sports Council recommendation to provide funding assistance to Dubbo District Cricket Association to refurbish and expand the Lady Cutler West Cricket Nets - \$20,000 (GST exclusive)	
Reasoning	Council has a \$20,000 (excluding GST) allocation under the Playing Field Improvement Fund in the 2025/2026 budget to support worthy sporting infrastructure projects.	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Community Culture and Places / Recreation and Open Spaces / Sport and Recreation
	Funding Source	Adopted Sport and Recreation Operational Budget: Playing Field Improvement Fund
	Proposed Cost	\$20,000 (GST exclusive)
	Ongoing Costs	Negligible
Policy Implications	Policy Title	Financial Assistance Policy
	Impact on Policy	Aligned
Consultation	Sport and Recreation	Targeted communication of the opportunity to apply for funding.

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 four principal themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 2 Thriving and Inclusive Communities'
CSP Objective: 2.3 Our community enjoys diverse sports, recreation, and social activities.
Delivery Program Strategy: 2.3.5 Maintain and enhance passive and active open spaces for community use.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council award Dubbo District Cricket Association the sum of \$20,000 (GST exclusive) from the Sports Council Playing Field Improvement Fund towards the cost of refurbishment of the Lady Cutler West cricket nets project.

Craig Arms
Director Community, Culture and Places

TW
Recreation Coordinator

BACKGROUND

The Dubbo Regional Sports Council Playing Field Improvement Fund is outlined in Council's Financial Assistance Policy. The Fund supports local sporting clubs/associations in undertaking continued improvement projects at Council Sporting Facilities. Applications for funding are assessed by the Dubbo Regional Sports Council.

The Dubbo Regional Sports Council is a committee comprised of representatives from various sporting clubs and associated within the LGA. It promotes communication between stakeholders and has been operating for decades.

Dubbo Regional Council 2025/2026 budget has \$20,000 (GST exclusive) allocated to the Fund. The allocation may be offered over multiple rounds until it is exhausted or the financial year closes. Unspent funds are returned to Council.

Sporting clubs and associations may apply to the Dubbo Regional Sports Council for a co-contribution of up to 50% of eligible project costs, capped at \$20,000 (GST exclusive), to support the development of sporting facilities. Once completed, the facility becomes an asset owned by Dubbo Regional Council.

Since 2017, the Fund has assisted sporting facility projects totalling \$508,193 (GST Inclusive). It has contributed \$152,376 (GST Inclusive) while sporting clubs/associations have contributed \$196,817 (GST Inclusive). The remaining balance has been funded through successful grant applications.

REPORT

The funding round was open for applications with two applications received one from Dubbo Touch Association and one from Dubbo District Cricket Association. The assessment panel involving the Dubbo Regional Sports Council Executive Committee assessed each application in line with the Fund's terms, conditions and guidelines.

2025/2026 Playing Field Improvement Fund [Budget available \$20,000] (all amounts are ex GST)				
Organisation	Project	Total Project Cost	Funding Request	Recommendation
Dubbo District Cricket Association	Refurbishment of the Lady Cutler West Cricket Nets	\$72,500	\$20,000	\$20,000
Dubbo Touch Association	Katrina Gibbs Oval Drinking Fountain and Water Bubbler	\$12,380	\$6,190	\$0

Table 1: Applications - 2025/2026 Playing Field Improvement Fund

Lady Cutler Oval

The existing west cricket nets at Lady Cutler Oval are nearing the end of their usable life and no longer meet Australian Cricket standards. While they remain adequate for junior training, a refurbishment would enhance the facility to support senior cricket programs. The proposed upgrade includes the addition of two new nets, enabling senior teams to conduct extra training sessions and improving overall capacity.

Katrina Gibbs Oval

The installation of a water bubbler and refill station at Katrina Gibbs Oval will provide essential access to clean drinking water for both the public and participants in sporting activities, particularly during the warmer months. A similar facility is already in place at John McGrath Oval within the Riverbank Sporting Precinct, demonstrating the value and practicality of such infrastructure.

Outcome

The Dubbo Regional Sports Council Executive Committee reviewed applications from both the Dubbo Touch Association and the Dubbo District Cricket Association, determining that each met the essential eligibility criteria. Following this, the Committee evaluated the proposals based on factors such as value for money, overall merit, and alignment with future master planning.

After careful consideration, the Committee resolved to endorse the Dubbo District Cricket Association's proposal for the refurbishment of the Lady Cutler West cricket nets.

In accordance with this assessment and the formal motion passed by the Sports Council, the Dubbo District Cricket Association will be awarded \$20,000 (GST exclusive) from the Sports Council Playing Field Improvement Fund to support the refurbishment project.

Consultation

The opportunity to apply for funding was communicated directly to all members of the Dubbo Regional Sports Council members via email and at the March General meeting.

Planned Communications

- The applicant will be contacted via email and advised of the outcome of their application.
- Council staff will liaise with the applicant to manage the project.



REPORT: Draft New Dubbo Cemetery and Wellington Cemetery Master Plans

DIVISION: Community, Culture and Places
REPORT DATE: 29 August 2025
TRIM REFERENCE: ID25/1760

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	Seek endorsement	
Issue	The master plans have been developed to guide the long-term planning and development of Dubbo Regional Council's two most utilised cemeteries.	
Reasoning	The masterplans require public exhibition, an activity that must be resolved by Council.	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Cemeteries
	Funding Source	Cemeteries Operational Budget
	Proposed Cost	\$40,000
	Ongoing Costs	There are no immediate financial impacts. Future implementation will be subject to budget planning and capital works programming.
Policy Implications	Policy Title	There are no policy implications arising from this report.
	Impact on Policy	Not Applicable
Consultation	Broad and targeted consultation with external and internal stakeholders.	

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 four principal themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 2 Thriving and Inclusive Communities'

CSP Objective: 2.4 People feel safe, respected and empowered to authentically express their identity.

Delivery Program Strategy: 2.4.1 Facilitate access to a range of diverse funeral approaches that respect community traditions and memorial practices.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council endorse the New Dubbo Cemetery master plan and the Wellington Cemetery master plan for public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days.**
- 2. That the Chief Executive Officer provide a report detailing feedback received during the public exhibition period.**

Craig Arms
Director Community, Culture and Places

EH
Executive Officer
Community, Culture and
Places

BACKGROUND

Dubbo Regional Council (DRC) operates 22 cemeteries across the region, including those in Dubbo, Wellington, and surrounding villages. These cemeteries serve not only as operational spaces for interment but also as places of cultural, historical, and community significance.

The master plans provide a practical long-term vision for the two most utilised Council-managed cemeteries, New Dubbo and Wellington. Each plan identifies and prioritises both immediate and future needs, guiding the sustainable expansion and lifespan of these important community assets.

Their development is closely aligned with Council's strategic direction as outlined in the 2025–2030 Cemeteries Action Plan, which sets out four key priorities:

- Governance and Compliance
- Improved Information and Connectivity
- Strategic Engagement
- Sustainable Growth

These priorities aim to ensure that cemetery services remain financially sustainable, compliant with legislation, and responsive to the evolving needs of the community.

REPORT

The New Dubbo and Wellington Cemetery master plans have been developed by Locale Consulting to address the long-term interment needs of their respective communities. They incorporate:

- Expansion areas for future burial plots
- Enhanced landscaping and environmental features.
- Improved signage and wayfinding.
- Infrastructure upgrades including amenities and memorial gardens.

The master plans were developed as part of Council's Cemetery Improvement Project. This initiative aimed to foster community awareness and engagement around cemetery planning and management. Key objectives included:

- Aligning cemetery operations with legislation and best practice.
- Promoting cemeteries as public spaces that reflect community values.
- Gathering feedback to inform long-term planning.

Community input has been gathered through surveys, drop-in sessions, and stakeholder workshops. The 'YourSay' page served as a central hub for updates, resources, and public contributions, helping inform the final masterplan designs.

Consultation

The development of the New Dubbo and Wellington Cemetery master plans was informed by a comprehensive community and stakeholder engagement process conducted in June 2025. The consultation aimed to involve the community meaningfully in shaping the future of these important public spaces.

Engagement Activities

- 24-day consultation period via Council's YourSay platform (6–30 June 2025).
- 213 visits to the project page and 380 social media engagements.
- Traditional media coverage including 1 media release, 2 newspaper ads, and 12 radio mentions.
- Industry workshop and public drop-in session held in Dubbo.
- Council staff session.
- Two email campaigns sent to project followers.

Survey Participation

- 56 total survey responses: 31 for Wellington Cemetery and 25 for New Dubbo Cemetery.
- Respondents included residents, former residents, and individuals with family interred in the cemeteries.
- Age range of participants spanned from under 22 to over 85.

Key Themes from Community Feedback

Wellington Cemetery

- Strong support for naturalised memorial areas and bushwalk-style features.
- High priority placed on flood safety, amenities, shade trees, and seating.
- Mixed views on natural burials, with 46.67% not interested and concerns about tree root impacts.
- Preferred cremation memorials included semi-formal gardens and memorial walls.
- Suggestions included rural-style fencing, levee for flood mitigation, and improved signage.

New Dubbo Cemetery

- Support for dispersed native trees and formal tree planting layouts.
- Emphasis on amenities, water access, bins, and seating.
- 36% of respondents not interested in natural burials; some support for future consideration.
- Bushwalk-style memorials and semi-formal gardens were the most preferred cremation options.
- Feedback led to adjustments such as overflow parking, improved access to depot areas, and enhanced landscaping.

Stakeholder Feedback

- Input was received from funeral directors, Council staff, and industry representatives.

- Consultant review highlighted strong alignment with community preferences.
- Minor revisions were made to masterplans based on feedback, including:
 - Redistribution of parking
 - Adjustments to entry points and depot locations
 - Consideration of long-term natural burial options without immediate implementation.

Resourcing Implications

The implementation of the master plans will require a staged and coordinated allocation of resources across operational, capital, and strategic planning areas. While the masterplans themselves do not commit Council to immediate expenditure, they establish a framework for future investment aligned with community needs.

Council has already allocated \$150,000 per cemetery in the 2025/2026 budget to support the construction of amenities, which is a key priority. Additional capital works will include:

- Additional memorial infrastructure and signage upgrades.
- Environmental improvements, such as flood mitigation.
- Road upgrades and formalised parking.

Timeframe

Key Date	Explanation
23 September 2025	September Ordinary Meeting.
29 September – 29 October 2025	Public exhibition period.
18 November 2025	Report to November Ordinary Council meeting on feedback received via the public exhibition period with the intent of seeking adoption.

APPENDICES:

- 1 [DRAFT New Dubbo Cemetery Master Plan](#)
- 2 [DRAFT Wellington Cemetery Master Plan](#)



New Dubbo Cemetery

Master Plan

DRAWING SCHEDULE

01 Title Sheet	06 Detail Plan 2
02 Overview	07 Detail Plan 3
03 Existing Site Plan	08 Schedule and Images
04 Master Plan	09 Signage Plan
05 Detail Plan 1	

August 2025



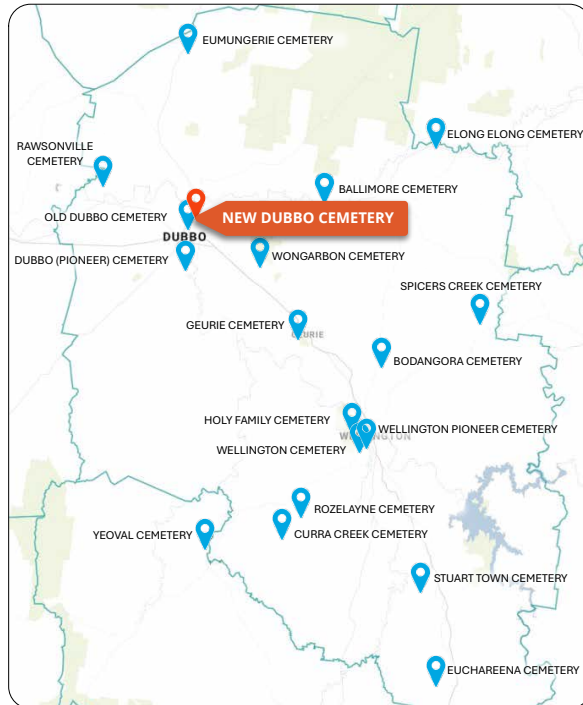
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PROJECT CONTEXT

This Master Plan builds on previous engagement and planning for Dubbo Regional Council's cemeteries, seeking to provide a long-term approach to future development and use of the New Dubbo Cemetery.

New Dubbo Cemetery is located on Golden Highway/ Cobboro Road in East Dubbo, to the immediate east of the Dubbo Racecourse and Turf Club. The cemetery in the context of all of Council's cemeteries is shown below.



CEMETERY INFORMATION

CEMETERY SIZE:
11.3 hectares (approx)

LAND USE ZONE:
RE1 – Public Recreation

BURIAL SITES EXISTING:
Approx. 3,200

MASTER PLAN BURIAL SITES REMAINING:
Approx. 4,200

LOT DESCRIPTION:
Lot 7017 DP1020032

MASTER PLAN VISION

“

To provide for the long-term interment needs of the Dubbo community through sustainable and thoughtful forward planning.

”

OBJECTIVES

Previous strategic planning, alongside more recent community and industry consultation, have informed the development of this Master Plan. The Master Plan addresses a series of issues and opportunities based on the following objectives:

- 1 Working to improve the visual context and setting of the cemetery, both internally and when viewed from the Golden Highway
- 2 Respecting and building on the existing layout and use of the cemetery whilst seeking to provide improved internal connections
- 3 Planning for a range of burial and ashes interment opportunities that meet diverse community desires
- 4 Improving the visual appeal of the cemetery entry, including rationalising access points and providing improved signage and information
- 5 Integrating additional trees and natural elements, as well as infrastructure for practical use, comfort and reflection
- 6 Providing for logical long-term staging that enables careful and dedicated maintenance to be undertaken in areas of most need
- 7 Recognising the resource constraints of Council to implement capital works and ongoing maintenance in an efficient and effective way

SUPPORTING DIRECTIONS

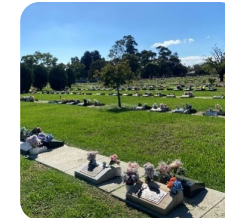
Signage and wayfinding

Information and wayfinding signage enables visitors to readily locate areas and highlight key information about the cemetery. The Master Plan identifies key locations for site and directional signage, including at the site entry and main internal intersections. In addition to these, more specific directional signage will be provided to enable visitors to locate specific sites. Examples of these are provided below.



Maintenance

Outcomes of this Master Plan recognise that the cemetery is a 'forever' space. Decisions about infrastructure and planting that are taken now will strongly influence Council's ongoing perpetual maintenance costs. Minimising these costs through the use of robust, natural and native materials and plantings will assist in reducing these long-term costs, meaning more effective maintenance and a lower-cost service.



Environmental enhancement

Consistent with overarching community sentiment, the protection of existing trees and the integration of more natural elements into the site is central to the Master Plan. This includes the provision of consistent native species planting selections, increasing tree planting to create shade and a more natural setting and the integration of interment opportunities that connect to these spaces.



Master Plan Overview



August 2025



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New Dubbo Cemetery
Master Plan

02

CEMETERY AREA OVERVIEW

- A. Cemetery Entry / Exits**
Multiple entry and exit points to the adjoining service road and Cobbora Road / Golden Highway.
- B. Main Parking Area**
Access from Cobbora Road connecting into the cemetery with treed avenue and semi-formalised parking areas.
- C. Memorial Section**
Previously Uniting Church section.
- D. Tranquility Section**
Previously Baptist, Independent, Jehovah's Witness, Baha'i faith, Salvation Army and Seventh Day Adventist sections.
- E. Remembrance Sections**
Previously Presbyterian, Assemblies of God and Greek Orthodox sections. Includes area orientated for Muslim burials.
- F. Ashes Interment Area**
Area with landscaped gardens for the interment of cremated remains.
- G. Serenity Section**
Previously Church of England section.
- H. Peace Section**
Previously Roman Catholic section.
- I. Works sheds**
Area for storage of on-site works equipment. Potential to formalise as a well landscaped/screened 'back of house' activities area including stockpiling etc.
- J. Open Area**
Open expansion area with various informal tracks and apparent stockpiling of soil. Electricity transmission lines located in western extents.



Existing Plan



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Scale 1:2000@A3



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Master Plan

03



OVERVIEW

- A. Central Entry / Exit**
Simplify vehicle entry and exit to one intersection off Cobbora Road. This central entry allows multiple access points to be rationalised and for the service road to be replaced with any future Cobbora Road widening in the long term. Features signage and landscaping at site boundary.
- B. Western Entry**
Retained in the short / medium term as an exit only point.
- C. Eastern Entry**
Retained in the short / medium term as an exit only point.
- D. New Central Entry Road**
Entry road sets up symmetry of new radial road layout and incorporates connections with existing roads. Includes avenue planting and paths.
- E. Memorial Garden**
New memorial plant beds with connecting paths and furniture. Incorporates columbarium walls, memorial edging, and other memorialisation elements. This area also includes new lawn beam burial space (approx. 250 plots) and a basic accessible amenities as a central facility.
- F. Car Parking**
New car park incorporating existing roadway to service western portions.
- G. Future Cemetery Expansion Area and Road Layout**
Radial layout of non-denominational concrete lawn beam burials with associated road layout and on-street parking. Also includes central path network, street trees, gardens, furniture and shade structures. (Potential for approx. 3000 plots).
- H. Stage 2 Memorial Gathering Space and Western Buffer**
Native planting buffer defines a central gathering space. Includes memorial pathways, memorial gardens, reflective seating areas, bush trail, relocated amenities, and a significant shelter / outdoor chapel located as a centre piece for the long-term cemetery expansion.
- I. Existing Avenue and Parking Area**
Trees and roadway retained with additional parking on western side and connections to the radial road layout at both ends.
- J. Stage 1 Native Memorial Area and Outdoor Chapel**
Native planting buffer to eastern corner of site incorporating a memorial loop walk and bush trail. Also provides ceremony use with an outdoor shelter/ open chapel and accessible toilets.
- K. Peace Section** (Previously Roman Catholic)
Potential additional 286 plots.
- L. Serenity Section** (Previously Church of England).
Potential additional 90 plots.
- M. Memorial Section** (Previously Uniting Church)
Potential additional 93 plots.
- N. Ashes Section**
Potential to replace adjoining road with two more memorial beds with new path access.
- O. Tranquility Section** (Previous Baptist Church, Independent, Jehovah's Witness, Baha'i faith, Salvation Army and Seventh Day Adventist). Potential additional 116 plots.
- P. Remembrance Sections** (Previous Presbyterian, Assemblies of God and Greek Orthodox). Potential additional 418 plots.
- Q. Back of House Area**
Allowance for a discrete area for storage of on-site works equipment and materials such as soil stockpiling. Includes controlled access to Merrilea Road.
- R. Muslim Expansion Area**
Potential additional 60 plots.
- S. Overflow Parking**
Turf parking along external side of perimeter fence.



Master Plan



August 2025
Scale 1:2000@A3



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New Dubbo Cemetery
Master Plan

04

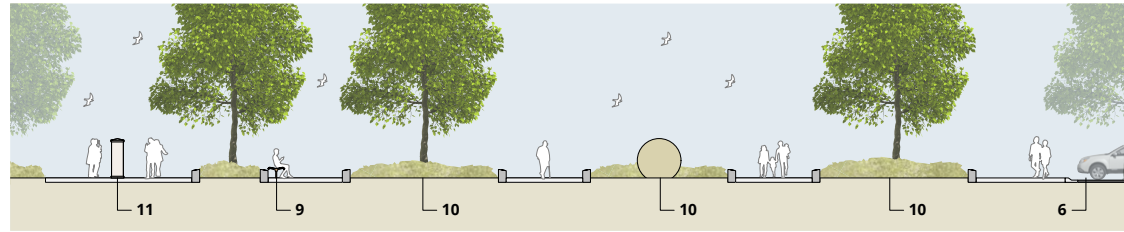
DETAIL PLAN 1: ENTRY & MEMORIAL GARDEN AREA scale 1:500

SECTION A scale 1:200



NOTES

- CENTRAL ENTRY**
Simplified vehicle access off Cobbora Rd.
- OVERFLOW PARKING**
Turf parking along external side of perimeter fence.
- ENTRY SIGNAGE WALL**
Entry wall with cemetery name and capacity for locatable gates.
- NEW CENTRAL ENTRY ROAD**
Axis of new radial layout. Includes paths and shade trees.
- CONNECTIONS TO EXISTING ROADS**
- EXISTING AVENUE AND PARKING**
Road and trees retained with additional parking on western side.
- EXISTING LAWN BEAM BURIALS**
- PROPOSED LAWN BEAM BURIALS**
- SEATING**
- MEMORIAL GARDEN BEDS**
Formally arranged gardens with memorial edging and feature focal element.
- COLUMBARIUM WALLS**
Six memorial walls installed incrementally as required.
- AMENITY BUILDING**
Simple structure with 2 x unisex cubicles.
- NEW ACCESSIBLE PATH NETWORK**
- FEATURE ENTRY GARDEN BED**
- PEDESTRIAN ENTRY PATH AND CROSSING**



CHARACTER IMAGES

ACCESSIBLE SEATING & PATHS



COLUMBARIUM WALL



MEMORIAL GARDEN BEDS



NATIVE PLANTING



AMENITY BUILDING



ENTRY SIGNAGE WALL



Detail Plan 1

0 1 5 10 20m



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Scale 1:500@A3



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New Dubbo Cemetery
Master Plan

05



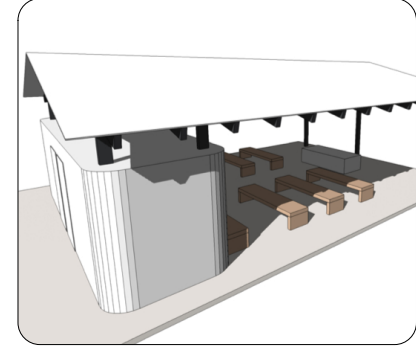
DETAIL PLAN 2: EASTERN PRECINCT scale 1:500

NOTES

1. CONTROLLED MERRILEA RD ACCESS
For service vehicles and as an occasional secondary exit point for large on-site funeral services.
2. BACK OF HOUSE AREA
Screened area for storage of on-site works equipment and materials. Includes small storage shed and soil stockpiling bays.
3. FORMALISED CAR PARKING.
4. WAYFINDING SIGN
5. AMENITY CUBICLES
Two unisex cubicles as part of bush chapel structure.
6. OPEN BUSH CHAPEL SHELTER
Open shelter for gatherings and small ceremonies as feature of native memorial area.
7. MEMORIAL BUSH WALK LOOP
Concrete path loop.
8. NATIVE TREES AND UNDERSTOREY
Feature plant mix within native memorial area.
9. MEMORIAL BUSH WALK TRAIL
10. MEMORIAL ELEMENTS WITHIN GARDEN
11. SEATING
12. PERIMETER PLANTING ALONG FENCE LINE
13. EASTERN SIGNAGE WALL
14. EXISTING TREES TO BE RETAINED

CHARACTER IMAGES

OPEN BUSH CHAPEL SHELTER & AMENITIES



NATURAL MEMORIAL ELEMENTS



HIGHWAY SIGN



MEMORIAL BUSHWALK LOOP



SECTION B scale 1:200



Detail Plan 2



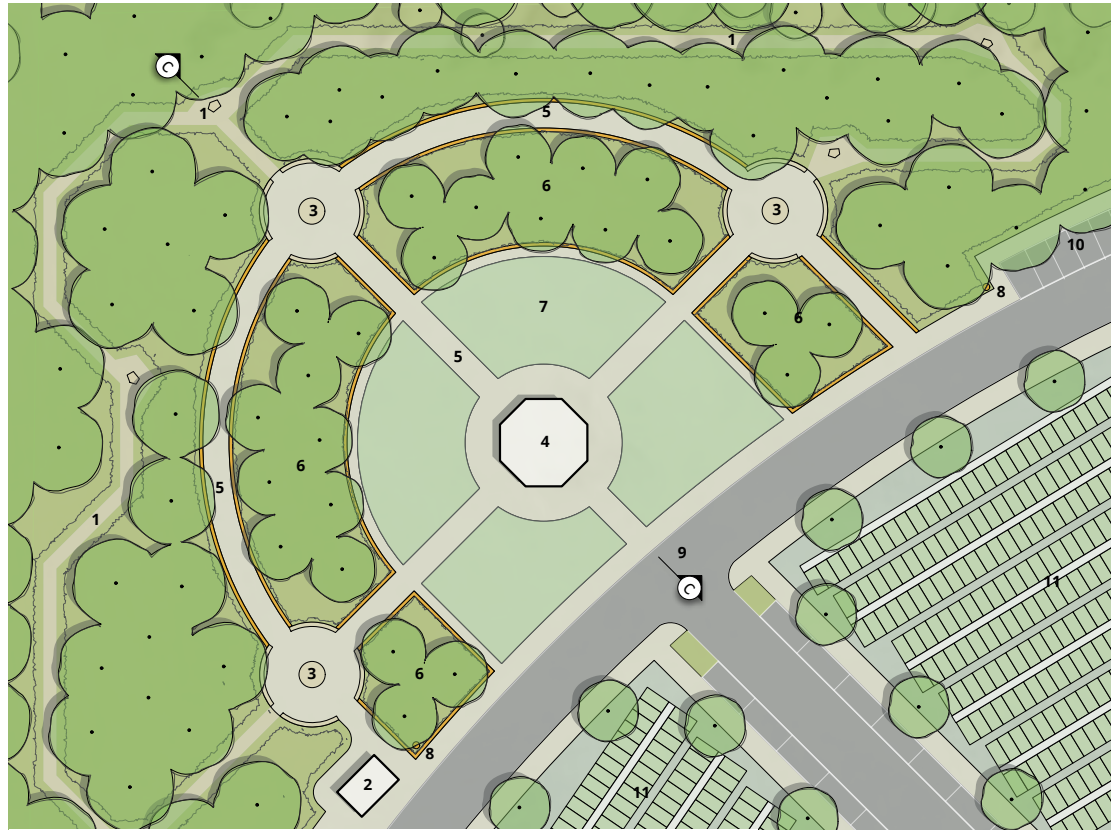
August 2025
Scale 1:500@A3



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New Dubbo Cemetery
Master Plan

06



DETAIL PLAN 3: WESTERN PRECINCT (LONG TERM) scale 1:500

NOTES

1. NATIVE PLANTING BUFFER AND MEMORIAL BUSH WALK
Compacted gravel paths with native planting and natural memorial elements.
2. AMENITY BUILDING
Simple structure with 2 x unisex cubicles.
3. MEMORIAL FEATURE AREAS
Circular seating area with central contemplative focal point.
4. CENTRE PIECE STRUCTURE / OUTDOOR CHAPEL
Shaded gathering area with seating. Visual focal point of main cemetery axis.
5. ACCESSIBLE CONCRETE PATHWAYS
Linking main features.
6. MEMORIAL GARDEN BEDS
Formally arranged gardens with memorial edging and feature native planting.
7. TURF AREA
With more informal style bush walk through area.
8. WAYFINDING SIGNAGE
9. STAGE 2 RADIAL ROAD LAYOUT
10. ON STREET CAR PARKING
11. STAGE 2 LAWN BEAM AREA

CHARACTER IMAGES

CENTRE PIECE STRUCTURE



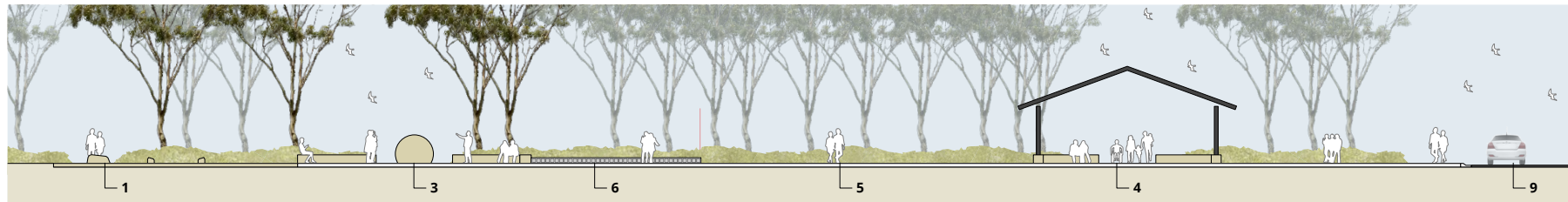
MEMORIAL FEATURE AREA



MEMORIAL BUSH WALK



MEMORIAL EDGING



SECTION C scale 1:200



Detail Plan 3



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Scale 1:2000@A3



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New Dubbo Cemetery
Master Plan

07

SECTION B scale 1:200

SUGGESTED PLANT SPECIES

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	SIZE (H x W)
TREES		
Angophora floribunda	Rough Bark Apple	25 x 15
Corymbia exima	Yellow Bloodwood	15 x 7
Eleocarpus eumundi	Eumundi Quandong	12 x 8
Flindersia australis	Crows Ash	12 x 7
Fraxinus pennsylvanica 'Urbanite'	Urbanite Ash	11 x 8
Lagerstroemia indica 'Natchez'	Crepe Myrtle	6 x 4
Lagerstroemia indica 'Sioux'	Crepe Myrtle	4 x 4
Lophostemon confertus	Brushbox	25 x 15
Melaleuca quinquenervia	Paperbark	20 x 8
Tristanopsis laurina 'Luscious'	Water Gum	12 x 6
Waterhousea 'Green Avenue'	Weeping Lily Pilly	8 x 5
SHRUBS		
Acacia buxifolia	Box Leaf Wattle	3 x 2.5
Acmena smithii 'Firescreen'	Lilly Pilly	2.5 x 1.5
Callistemon viminalis 'Better John'	Bottlebrush	1 x 1.5
Correa alba	White Correa	1.2 x 1.2
Grevillea 'Moonlight'	Grevillea	4 x 3
Grevillea sericea	Silky Grevillea	1.5 x 1.5
Hakea 'Burrendong Beauty'	Hakea	1 x 2
Indigofera australis	Australian Indigo	1.5 x 1.5
Leptospermum 'Pink Cascade'	Pink Cascade	0.8 x 1.5
Melaleuca 'Claret Tops'	Honey Myrtle	1.5 x 1
Westringia fruticosa 'Jervis Gem'	Coastal Rosemary	1 x 1.2
Westringia 'Mundi'	Coastal Rosemary	0.5 x 1.5
GROUNDCOVERS		
Actinotus helianthi	Flannel Flower	0.5 x 0.4
Brachyscome multifida 'Break O Day'	Native Daisy	0.2 x 0.4
Banksia spinulosa 'Bush Candles'	Banksia Bush Candles	0.5 x 1.2
Carpobrotus glaucescens	Pigface	0.2 x 2
Grevillea juniperina	Juniper-leaved Grevillea	1 x 4
Hardenbergia violacea 'Meema'	False Sarsaparilla	0.5 x 2
Myoporum parvifolium 'Yareena'	Yareena Myoporum	0.1 x 1
Philodendron 'Xanadu'	Xanadu	1 x 1
Scaevola humilis	Purple fusion	0.2 x 1.5
GRASSES		
Anigozanthos 'Bush Blitz'	Kangaroo Paw	0.8 x 0.5
Dianella 'Little Jess'	Blue Flax Lily	0.4 x 0.4
Dianella caerulea 'Breeze'	Dianella 'Breeze'	0.6 x 0.6
Doryanthes excelsa	Gymea Lily	3 x 2.5
Lomandra 'Tanika'	Tanika Mat Rush	0.6 x 0.6
Poa labillardieri 'Eskdale'	Tussock Grass	0.6 x 0.6

NOTE: ALL SPECIES SELECTIONS TO BE CONFIRMED WITH RELEVANT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES PRIOR TO INSTALLATION

TREE IMAGES



Angophora floribunda



Corymbia exima



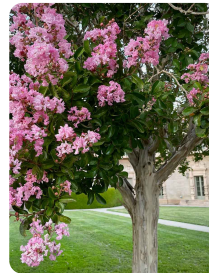
Eleocarpus eumundi



Flindersia australis



Fraxinus pennsylvanica 'Urbanite'



Lagerstroemia indica



Lophostemon confertus



Melaleuca quinquenervia



Tristanopsis laurina 'Luscious'



Waterhousea 'Green Avenue'

UNDERSTOREY IMAGES



Acacia buxifolia



Callistemon viminalis 'Better John'



Correa alba



Grevillea 'Moonlight'



Indigofera australis



Melaleuca 'Claret Tops'



Westringia 'Mundi'



Brachyscome multifida 'Break O Day'



Banksia spinulosa 'Bush Candles'



Grevillea juniperina



Myoporum parvifolium



Scaevola humilis



Anigozanthos 'Bush Blitz'



Doryanthes excelsa



Poa labillardieri 'Eskdale'



DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Plant Schedule & Images



August 2025

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New Dubbo Cemetery
Master Plan

08



LEGEND

- A MAJOR ENTRY SIGN**
New signage mounted on walls



- B DIRECTIONAL WAYFINDING SIGN**
Freestanding blade sign located at key locations. Includes precinct information and wayfinding map.



- C POLE TOP SIGNS**
Finger signs mounted to new poles. Located primarily at road intersections.



- D ROW INDICATORS FOR LAWN BEAMS**
Low plaque or bollard identifying lawn beam rows. Located at ends of each concrete beam.



Signage Plan



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Scale 1:2000@A3



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New Dubbo Cemetery
Master Plan

09



Wellington Cemetery

Master Plan

DRAWING SCHEDULE

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 01 Title Sheet | 05 Detail Plan 1 |
| 02 Overview | 06 Plant Schedule and Images |
| 03 Existing Site Plan | 07 Signage Plan |
| 04 Master Plan | |

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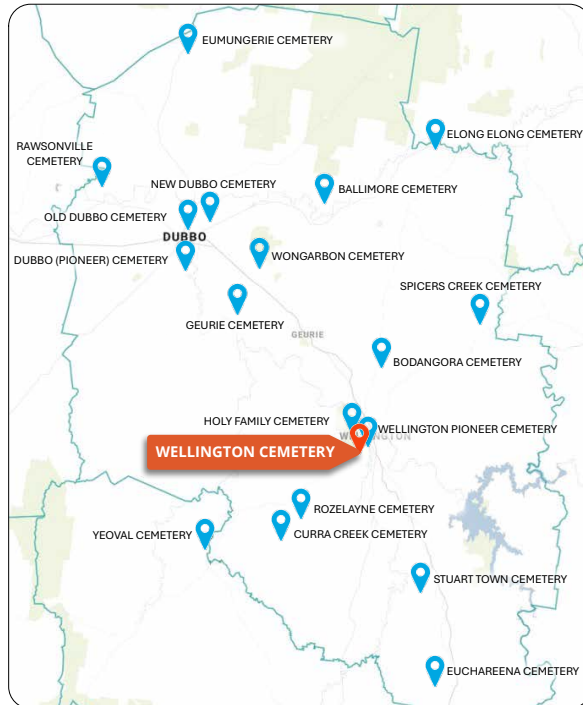
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01

PROJECT CONTEXT

This Master Plan builds on previous engagement and planning for Dubbo Regional Council's cemeteries, seeking to provide a long-term approach to future development and use of the Wellington Cemetery.

Wellington Cemetery is located between the Mitchell Highway and Old Sydney Road on the southern outskirts of the town of Wellington. The cemetery in the context of all of Council's cemeteries is shown below.



CEMETERY INFORMATION

CEMETERY SIZE (APPROX.):

Existing: 6.6 hectares
Proposed: 7.5 hectares

LAND USE ZONE:

SP2 Infrastructure - Cemetery

BURIAL SITES EXISTING:

Around 10,700 (3,000 lawn and 7,700 monumental sections)

MASTER PLAN BURIAL SITES REMAINING:

Up to 1,820

LOT DESCRIPTION:

Existing: Lot 7304-7306 DP1139087
Proposed: Above + Lot 5 DP249667,
Lot 1 DP1104493 and part Crown
Road Reserve (to be closed).

MASTER PLAN VISION

“

To provide for the long-term interment needs of the Wellington and surrounding communities through sustainable and thoughtful forward planning

”

OBJECTIVES

Previous strategic planning, alongside more recent community and industry consultation, have informed the development of this Master Plan. The Master Plan addresses a series of issues and opportunities based on the following objectives:

- 1 Respecting and building on the existing layout and use of the cemetery, including its historical sections and newer lawn cemetery areas.
- 2 Working to improve the visual context and setting of the cemetery, acknowledging the adjoining Mitchell Highway and extensive views to the west/south-west.
- 3 Planning for a range of burial and ashes interment opportunities that meet diverse community desires.
- 4 Improving the visual appeal of the cemetery entry and providing improved signage and information.
- 5 Integrating additional trees and natural elements, as well as infrastructure for practical use, comfort and reflection.
- 6 Recognising potential site barriers to use, including sub-surface rock and flood.
- 7 Recognising the resource constraints of Council to implement capital works and ongoing maintenance in an efficient and effective way.

SUPPORTING DIRECTIONS

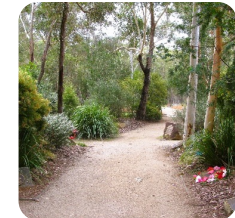
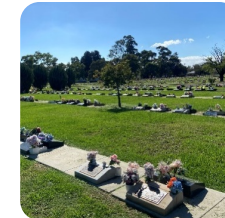
Signage and wayfinding

Information and wayfinding signage enables visitors to readily locate areas and highlight key information about the cemetery. The Master Plan identifies key locations for site and directional signage, including at the site entry and main internal intersections. In addition to these, more specific directional signage will be provided to enable visitors to locate specific sites. Examples of these are provided below.



Maintenance

Outcomes of this Master Plan recognise that the cemetery is a 'forever' space. Decisions about infrastructure and planting that are taken now will strongly influence Council's ongoing perpetual maintenance costs. Minimising these costs through the use of robust, natural and native materials and plantings will assist in reducing these long-term costs, meaning more effective maintenance and a lower-cost service.



Environmental enhancement

Consistent with overarching community sentiment, the provision of additional trees, alongside the integration of natural elements into the site is central to the Master Plan. This includes the provision of consistent native species planting selections, increasing tree planting to create shade and a more natural setting and the integration of interment opportunities that connect to spaces.



Master Plan Overview



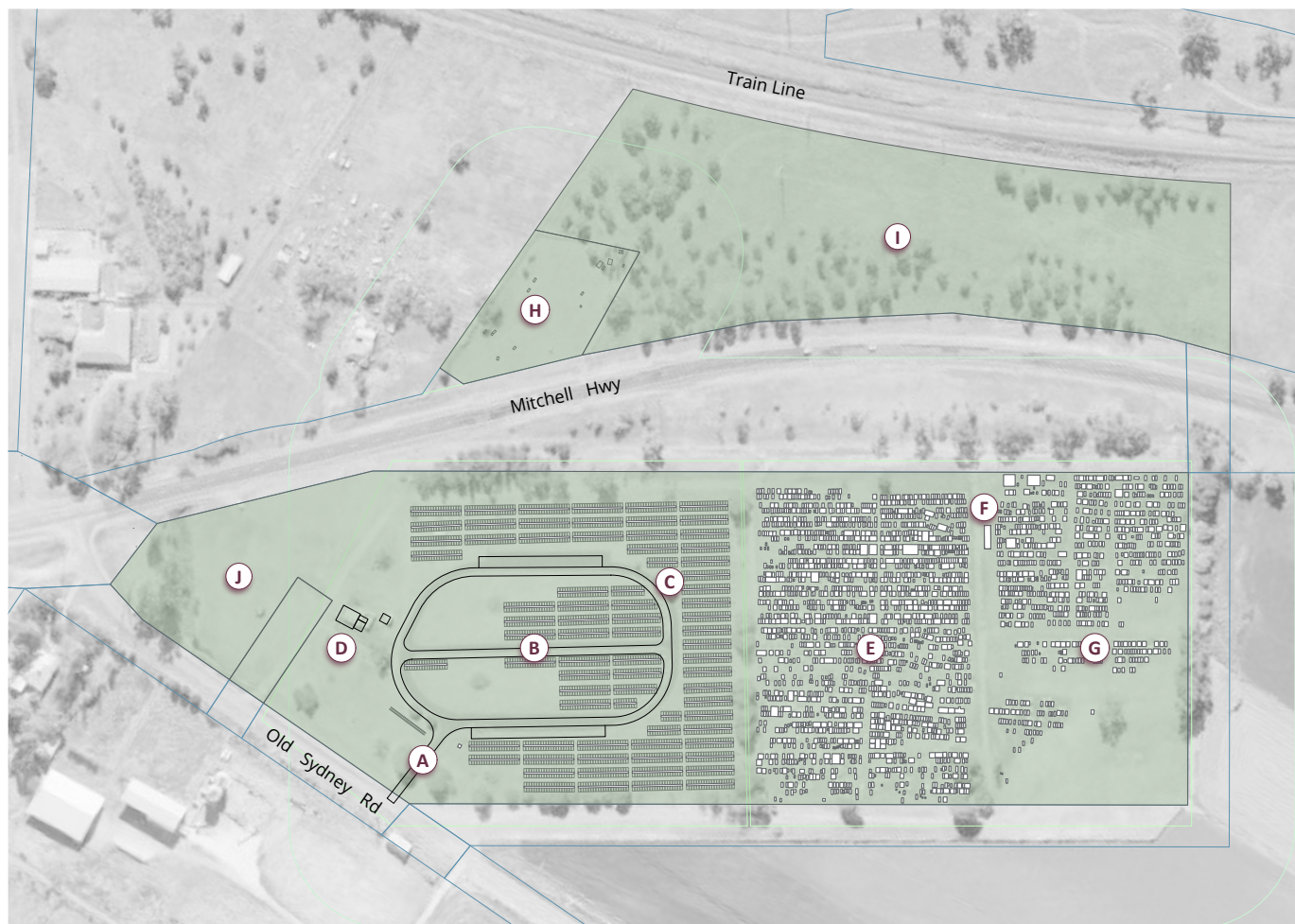
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Wellington Cemetery
Master Plan

02



CEMETERY AREA OVERVIEW

- A. Main Entry and Memorial Garden**
Main access to the lawn cemetery area from Old Sydney Road. Includes memorial garden to left of entry for interment of ashes.
- B. Lawn Cemetery Area**
Lawn cemetery section where the majority of burial activity now occurs. Includes access roads and parking areas.
- C. Memorial Garden Area**
Small memorial garden area for interment of ashes.
- D. Service and Amenities**
Council storage area and small amenities (toilet) block.
- E. Monumental Area**
Part of the original cemetery area with more substantial monuments.
- F. Memorial Wall**
Large brick memorial wall between sections of the original cemetery for the interment of ashes.
- G. Monumental Area**
Part of the original cemetery area with more substantial monuments. Area in the south-west used for soil storage.
- H. Wellington Pioneer Cemetery**
Historic cemetery area maintained for heritage purposes.
- I. Vacant Land**
Crown land reserved for cemetery use. Electrical transmission lines extend through the southern portion.
- J. Vacant land**
Potential for expansion of cemetery to adjoining land (zoned for cemetery use).



Existing Plan

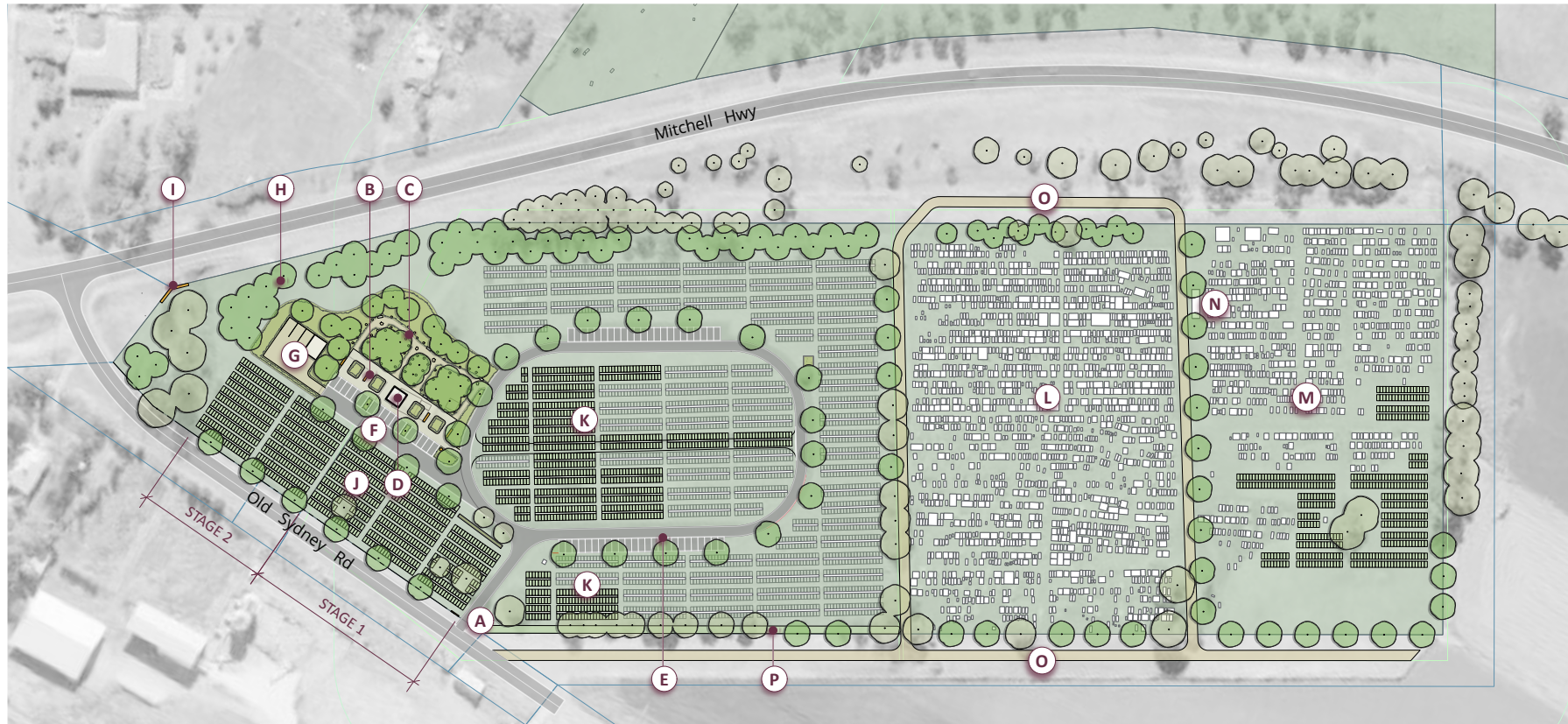
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Scale 1:2000@A3


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Wellington Cemetery
Master Plan

03



OVERVIEW

A. Main Entry / Exit

Existing entrance retained with the addition of entry signage and upgraded boundary fencing.

B. New Memorial Gardens and Walls

Includes new memorial gardens with a variety of memorial treatments, columbarium walls, furniture and paths. Refer detail plan for additional information.

C. Memorial Loop Walk

Loop walk within native trees and understory planting to form an informal memorial space with native character. Includes walking trails, memorial elements and reflective seating areas. Refer detail plan for additional information.

D. Amenities Building

New simple accessible amenities building located close to parking and centrally to future use areas.

E. Existing Loop Road

Parking bays and loop retained. Central north-south spine removed and used for lawn beam burials as indicated.

F. Road Extension

New road extended to the north from existing loop road, providing additional parking and access to cemetery expansion area. Includes shade trees.

G. Back of House Area

Screened area for storage of on-site works equipment and materials. Includes small storage shed and soil stockpiling bays.

H. Native Perimeter Planting

Native planting buffer reinforcing existing vegetation along northern and eastern boundaries and embankments. Retains existing drainage system.

I. Entry Signage Wall

Presenting to Mitchell Hwy and Old Sydney Rd intersection.

J. Future Lawn Cemetery Expansion Area

New non-denominational concrete lawn beam burials. To be developed in two stages as indicated. Includes area of Crown road reserve to be closed for cemetery use. Potential for approx 920 new plots (Stage 1: 520 and Stage 2: 400) (pending adequate soil depth).

K. Existing Lawn Cemetery Area

Retained and protected with additional infill lawn beam burials implemented. Approximately 900 new plots indicated (pending adequate soil depth).

L. Central Monumental Area

Retained and protected. Existing vehicle thoroughfare upgraded as required with additional shade trees added to perimeter.

M. Southern Monumental Area

Retained and protected. Existing vehicle thoroughfare upgraded and additional shade trees added to perimeter. New long term option for infill monumental or lawn beam burials possible at western end as indicated. Potential for 450 new plots (Note: not included in burial plot summary).

N. Existing Memorial Wall

Retained and protected with new shade trees added.

O. Perimeter Vehicle Access

Upgraded as required with turning circles and directional signage added.

P. Potential Earth Berm

Investigate low earth berm (<0.5m high) along tree line edge at western boundary to reduce flooding impacts on burials.

BURIAL PLOT SUMMARY (Depending on soil depth)

STAGE 1
Existing Lawn Cemetery: 900 plots
Expansion Lawn Cemetery: 520 plots

STAGE 2
Expansion Lawn Cemetery: 400 plots



Master Plan



August 2025
Scale 1:1500@A3



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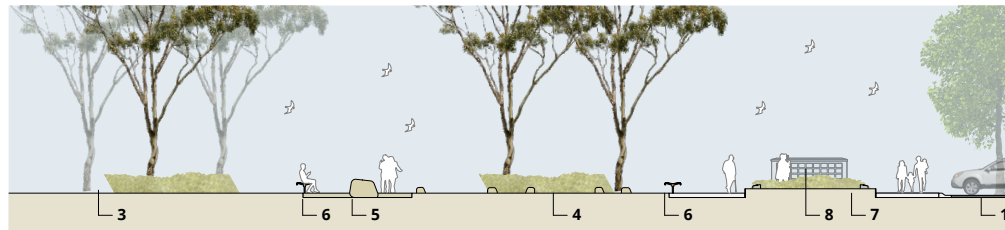
Wellington Cemetery
Master Plan

04

DETAIL PLAN: CENTRAL MEMORIAL GARDEN AREA scale 1:600



SECTION A: scale 1:200



NOTES

- 1. BACK OF HOUSE AREA**
Screened location with small storage shed and soil stockpiling bays.
- 2. AMENITY BUILDING**
Simple structure with 2 x unisex cubicles. Located within future use area. Potential to utilise external facade for signage or memorial element.
- 3. NATIVE PERIMETER PLANTING**
Creating screening between highway and cemetery.
- 4. BUSH MEMORIAL GARDEN**
Compacted gravel paths with native planting and natural memorial elements.
- 5. BUSH MEMORIAL FEATURE AREAS**
Larger memorial / contemplative focal point with associated seating.
- 6. SEATING**
- 7. MEMORIAL GARDEN BEDS**
Four formally arranged gardens with memorial edging. To be installed incrementally as required.
- 8. COLUMBARIUM WALLS**
Four memorial walls installed incrementally as required.
- 9. WAYFINDING SIGANDE**
- 10. NEW CAR PARKING**
Seventeen bays which can include accessible parking.
- 11. LAWN CEMETERY EXPANSION AREA (STAGE 1).**
Non-denominational concrete lawn beam burials. 520 plots.
- 12. LAWN CEMETERY EXPANSION AREA (STAGE 2).**
Non-denominational concrete lawn beam burials. 400 plots.
- 13. EXISTING LAWN CEMETERY**
Retained with additional infill burials implemented.

CHARACTER IMAGES

Memorial Bushwalk



Bush Memorial Feature Areas



Memorial Gardens



Amenity Building



Columbarium Walls



Detail Plan

0 5 10 20 50 100m



August 2025
Scale 1:1500@A3



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Wellington Cemetery
Master Plan

05

SUGGESTED PLANT SPECIES

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	SIZE (H x W)
TREES		
Angophora floribunda	Rough Bark Apple	25 x 15
Corymbia exima	Yellow Bloodwood	15 x 7
Eleocarpus eumundi	Eumundi Quandong	12 x 8
Flindersia australis	Crows Ash	12 x 7
Fraxinus pennsylvanica 'Urbanite'	Urbanite Ash	11 x 8
Lagerstroemia indica 'Natchez'	Crepe Myrtle	6 x 4
Lagerstroemia indica 'Sioux'	Crepe Myrtle	4 x 4
Lophostemon confertus	Brushbox	25 x 15
Melaleuca quinquenervia	Paperbark	20 x 8
Tristaniopsis laurina 'Luscious'	Water Gum	12 x 6
Waterhousea 'Green Avenue'	Weeping Lily Pilly	8 x 5
SHRUBS		
Acacia buxifolia	Box Leaf Wattle	3 x 2.5
Acmena smithii 'Firescreen'	Lilly Pilly	2.5 x 1.5
Callistemon viminalis 'Better John'	Bottlebrush	1 x 1.5
Correa alba	White Correa	1.2 x 1.2
Grevillea 'Moonlight'	Grevillea	4 x 3
Grevillea sericea	Silky Grevillea	1.5 x 1.5
Hakea 'Burrendong Beauty'	Hakea	1 x 2
Indigofera australis	Australian Indigo	1.5 x 1.5
Leptospermum 'Pink Cascade'	Pink Cascade	0.8 x 1.5
Melaleuca 'Claret Tops'	Honey Myrtle	1.5 x 1
Westringia fruticosa 'Jervis Gem'	Coastal Rosemary	1 x 1.2
Westringia 'Mundi'	Coastal Rosemary	0.5 x 1.5
GROUNDCOVERS		
Actinotus helianthi	Flannel Flower	0.5 x 0.4
Brachyscome multifida 'Break O Day'	Native Daisy	0.2 x 0.4
Banksia spinulosa 'Bush Candles'	Banksia Bush Candles	0.5 x 1.2
Carpobrotus glaucescens	Pigface	0.2 x 2
Grevillea juniperina	Juniper-leaved Grevillea	1 x 4
Hardenbergia violacea 'Meema'	False Sarsaparilla	0.5 x 2
Myoporum parvifolium 'Yareena'	Yareena Myoporum	0.1 x 1
Philodendron 'Xanadu'	Xanadu	1 x 1
Scaevola humilis	Purple fusion	0.2 x 1.5
GRASSES		
Anigozanthos 'Bush Blitz'	Kangaroo Paw	0.8 x 0.5
Dianella 'Little Jess'	Blue Flax Lily	0.4 x 0.4
Dianella caerulea 'Breeze'	Dianella 'Breeze'	0.6 x 0.6
Doryanthes excelsa	Gynea Lily	3 x 2.5
Lomandra 'Tanika'	Tanika Mat Rush	0.6 x 0.6
Poa labillardieri 'Eskdale'	Tussock Grass	0.6 x 0.6

NOTE: ALL SPECIES SELECTIONS TO BE CONFIRMED WITH RELEVANT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES PRIOR TO INSTALLATION

TREE IMAGES



Angophora floribunda



Corymbia exima



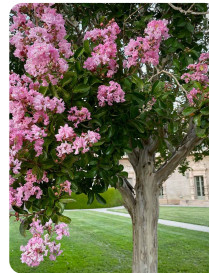
Eleocarpus eumundi



Flindersia australis



Fraxinus pennsylvanica 'Urbanite'



Lagerstroemia indica



Lophostemon confertus



Melaleuca quinquenervia



Tristaniopsis laurina 'Luscious'



Waterhousea 'Green Avenue'

UNDERSTOREY IMAGES



Acacia buxifolia



Callistemon viminalis 'Better John'



Correa alba



Grevillea 'Moonlight'



Indigofera australis



Melaleuca 'Claret Tops'



Westringia 'Mundi'



Brachyscome multifida 'Break O Day'



Banksia spinulosa 'Bush Candles'



Grevillea juniperina



Myoporum parvifolium



Scaevola humilis



Anigozanthos 'Bush Blitz'



Doryanthes excelsa



Poa labillardieri 'Eskdale'



DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Plant Schedule & Images



August 2025

ayling | drury landscape architecture

Wellington Cemetery
Master Plan

06



LEGEND



MAJOR ENTRY SIGN
New wall entry signage.



DIRECTIONAL WAYFINDING SIGN
Freestanding blade sign located at key locations. Includes precinct information and wayfinding map.



POLE TOP SIGNS
Finger signs mounted to new poles. Located primarily at road intersections.



ROW INDICATORS FOR LAWN BEAMS
Low plaque or bollard identifying lawn beam rows. Located at ends of each concrete beam.



Signage Plan



August 2025
Scale 1:2000@A3



ayling | drury landscape architecture

Wellington Cemetery
Master Plan

07



REPORT: Disclosure of Interest Returns

DIVISION: Organisational Performance
REPORT DATE: 16 September 2025
TRIM REFERENCE: ID25/1567

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	Fulfil legislated requirement/compliance	
Issue	- Notation of tabling of Disclosure of Interest Returns. - Placing of Disclosure of Interest Returns on Council's website.	
Reasoning	- Council's Code of Conduct requires Councillors and designated persons to lodge Disclosure of Interest Returns annually in accordance with clause 4.21(b). - The Office of Local Government requests Council to advise of any failures to lodge by 30 September each year.	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Corporate Governance
	Funding Source	Not applicable
	Proposed Cost	There are no financial implications arising from this report.
	Ongoing Costs	Not applicable
Policy Implications	Policy Title	Code of Conduct
	Impact on Policy	There are no policy implications arising from this report, however, this report has been provided in accordance with Clause 4.21(b) of Council's Code of Conduct.

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 four principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 3 Working Together for the Region

CSP Objective: 3.1 Our Council is open, fair, and accountable in its decision-making.

Delivery Program Strategy: 3.1.5 Operate with transparency, accountability, and integrity in all governance and decision-making processes.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the information contained within the report of the Manager Corporate Governance, dated 15 September 2025, be noted.
2. That the tabling of the Disclosure of Interest Returns, as detailed in the report, be noted.
3. That it be noted that as there were no failures to lodge Disclosure of Interest Returns for the return period, no advice is required to be provided to the Office of Local Government in this matter.
4. That the lodged Disclosure of Interest Returns for Councillors and Designated Persons be placed on Council's website no later than 30 November 2025, noting that some private information will be redacted prior to publishing online.

Jane Bassingthwaight
Director Organisational Performance

AR
Manager Corporate
Governance

BACKGROUND

On 23 May 2022, the Office of Local Government released a Circular (22-15) providing guidance for councils on the publication of disclosure of interest returns. Section 6 of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (the GIPA Act) provides for the mandatory proactive release by Council of open access information and that the information must be publicly available, free of charge, on Council's website. Disclosure of Interest Returns are prescribed as open access information for local government under Schedule 1 to the Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2018.

Accordingly, this report recommends that the lodged Returns be placed on Council's website, noting that some private information will be redacted from the Returns prior to publishing online.

REPORT

Council's Code of Conduct requires Councillors and designated persons to lodge Disclosure of Interest Returns annually in accordance with clause 4.21(b). Clause 4.24 and 4.25 requires that the Chief Executive Officer not only keep a register of the returns but also table the returns at the first meeting after the last date for their lodgement.

Additionally, the Office of Local Government requests Council to advise of any failures to lodge Disclosure of Interest Returns. It is noted that there were no failures to lodge Disclosures for this period and therefore, advice is not required to be provided to the Office of Local Government in this regard.

Copies of the Disclosures of Interest will be tabled at the Council meeting, as opposed to forming an attachment to the report.

Consultation

- Councillors received training regarding disclosure of interest returns during the induction program held in October 2024.
- All designated officers, as listed below, were requested to complete Disclosure of Interest Returns as per Council's adopted Code of Conduct.

Name	Position
Clr Josh Black	Mayor
Clr Phillip Toynton	Deputy Mayor
Clr Lukas Butler	Councillor
Clr Shibli Chowdhury	Councillor
Clr Jen Cowley OAM	Councillor

Name	Position
Clr Mathew Dickerson	Councillor
Clr Richard Ivey	Councillor
Clr Kate Richardson	Councillor
Clr Adam Ryan	Councillor
Clr Pam Wells	Councillor
Clr Matthew Wright	Councillor
Mr John Walkom	Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Voting Member
Mr Thomas Breen	Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Voting Member
Mr Greg Matthews	Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Voting Member
Murray Wood	Chief Executive Officer
Jessica Brown	Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement
Steven Jennings	Director Development and Environment
Luke Ryan	Director Infrastructure
Jane Bassingthwaighe	Director Organisational Performance
Craig Arms	Director Community, Culture and Places

Resourcing Implications

- The coordination of the Disclosure of Interest Returns is incorporated into staff roles within the Corporate Governance Branch, with no further resourcing implications.

Next Steps

- Should this report be adopted by Council, the Disclosure of Interest Returns will then be placed on the website with redactions as provided under legislation.



REPORT: Outstanding Actions from Council and Committees

DIVISION: Organisational Performance
REPORT DATE: 4 September 2025
TRIM REFERENCE: ID25/1796

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose	• Provide update.	
Issue	• Reporting the Outstanding Actions emanating from Council and Committee meetings for review by Council.	
Reasoning	• To ensure that outstanding resolutions from Council are being actioned accordingly. • To allow the elected body to review and monitor progress of the resolutions of council.	
Financial Implications	Budget Area	Various
	Ongoing Costs	There are no budget implications from this report.
Policy Implications	Policy Title	Nil
	Impact on Policy	There is no policy implications 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 four principal themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 3 Working Together for the Region

CSP Objective: 3.1 Our Council is open, fair, and accountable in its decision-making.

Delivery Program Strategy: 3.1.5 Operate with transparency, accountability, and integrity in all governance and decision-making processes.

RECOMMENDATION

That the quarterly update on Outstanding Actions be noted.

Jane Bassingthwaighe
Director Organisational Performance

SW
Governance Team Leader

BACKGROUND

Previous Resolution of Council

9/12/2024 CCL24/353	<i>1. That the report from the Governance Team Leader be noted. 2. That the reporting of the outstanding resolutions be presented to Council quarterly.</i>
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REPORT

Quarterly reporting on outstanding actions emanating from Council and Committee meetings ensures that resolutions of Council are acted upon in a timely manner.

Consultation

- Executive Leadership Team

Resourcing Implications

- No extra resourcing required, is built into governance procedures.

Next Steps

- Continue to provide an updated report to council as per resolution.

APPENDICES:

- 1 [↗](#) Outstanding Actions - Notice of Motion - September 2025
- 2 [↗](#) Outstanding Actions - Standing Committees - September 2025
- 3 [↗](#) Confidential Outstanding Actions - Standing Committees - September 2025
- 4 [↗](#) Outstanding Actions - Ordinary Council Meeting - September 2025
- 5 [↗](#) Confidential Outstanding Actions - Ordinary Council Meeting - September 2025

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL24/125 - Letters to Owners Wellington Based Solar Farms

Ordinary Council Meeting 23/05/2024		
Officer:	Manager Growth Planning Director Development and Environment	
Target Date: 6/06/2024	Action Reference: CCL24/125	Confidential: No
1. That the Chief Executive Officer write to the owners of the Suntop Solar Farm (Cal Energy Pty Ltd) and Wellington Solar Farm and Wellington North Solar Farm (Lightsource BP and the new owners Beijing Energy International Australia) in respect of the following: a. To explain Council's Policy Position in respect of community benefits from renewable energy projects, including Council's adopted Renewable Energy Benefit Framework. b. To note that the Proponents of the Suntop Solar Farm and the Wellington Solar Farms were not previously required to provide community benefits in accordance with Council's currently adopted Renewable Energy Benefits Framework through a Voluntary Planning Agreement with Council. c. That Council therefore requests each Proponent to enter into a Voluntary Planning Agreement with Council in accordance with the requirements of Council's adopted Renewable Energy Benefits Framework. 2. That Council believes the proposed Voluntary Planning Agreements negotiated in accordance with Council's Framework would be seen by the community as an act of goodwill by the project owners and thereby increase the acceptance of the shift to renewable energy in our Region. 3. That any draft Voluntary Planning Agreement be provided to Council for consideration in accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act,1979, including detailed consultation with community.		
Notes: 08 Sep 2025 The CEO wrote to the Foreign Investment Review Board to advise of this situation regarding Wellington North. A number of meetings have been held with new owners of the Suntop Solar farm. Staff currently working on a VPA proposal and associated negotiations.		

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL24/148 - Notice of Motion - Scabbing Flat Bridge

Ordinary Council Meeting 27/06/2024			
Officer:	Manager Infrastructure Delivery Director Infrastructure		
Target Date: 11/07/2024		Action Reference: CCL24/148	Confidential: No
That the CEO have staff prepare an initial assessment for the feasibility of a new bridge across the Macquarie River near Geurie and that this be shared with Transport for NSW. This initial assessment could include, but not necessarily limited to: i. The current state and suitability of the existing timber bridge. ii. The “ownership” and responsibility for maintenance/replacement of the bridge. iii. The historical significance of the existing bridge and the preservation benefits which would flow from early replacement of that bridge. iv. The need for a replacement bridge capable of conveying B Double trucks. This need to be demonstrated and supported by relevant statistics including the value of agricultural production and the costs to the community of not having a reliable transport corridor. v. The estimated costs of the replacement bridge.			
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Discussions ongoing with Transport for NSW representatives.			

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL24/302 - Public Toilet Strategy

Ordinary Council Meeting 26/11/2024			
Officer:	Manager Recreation and Open Spaces Director Community, Culture and Places		
Target Date: 10/12/2024		Action Reference: CCL24/302	Confidential: No
1.	In support of the draft Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan, Dubbo Regional Council develop a Public Toilet Strategy, focusing on the provision of accessible, sustainable, safe and clean public toilet network that meets the current and future needs of the community.		
2.	That, to reduce the cost of developing a policy/strategy, the CEO (or nominee) approach other councils that have an adopted public toilet policy/strategy and ask to be allowed to use parts of their document as a template for a Dubbo policy/strategy.		
Notes: 11 Sep 2025 A draft strategy has been prepared and is being reviewed by Director prior to going to Committee/Council.			

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL24/341 - Council Buildings

Ordinary Council Meeting 10/12/2024			
Officer:	Director Organisational Performance		
Target Date: 24/12/2024		Action Reference: CCL24/341	Confidential: No
That the CEO provide a report to Council listing all underutilised buildings and parcels of serviced commercial land owned by Council, including a detailed overview of potential or planned future use.			
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Minor action to date on the broader portfolio, with staff focused on existing negotiations for unused or underutilised buildings.			

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL24/340 - Local Purchasing Policy

Ordinary Council Meeting 10/12/2024		
Officer:	Procurement Business Partner Director Organisational Performance	
Target Date: 25/11/2025	Action Reference: CCL24/340	Confidential: No
That Council: 1. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report on the utilisation of local businesses in Council’s procurement activities. 2. The report is to include, at a minimum: a. An update on Council’s current initiatives to support local businesses. b. A review of the definition of “local business” as outlined in the Procurement Policy, including its application and any recommendations for improvement c. An assessment of the effectiveness of the nominal five percent price deduction applied to local businesses and local content in evaluating prices. d. Recommendations for enhancing local business outcomes through Council’s Local Procurement Policy Strategy and associated procedures, including any potential modifications to the current definition and nominal discount mechanism.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 The report is being drafted and will be submitted to October 2025 Council Meeting.		

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL24/339 - Share the Dignity

Ordinary Council Meeting 10/12/2024			
Officer:	Director Community, Culture and Places		
Target Date: 24/12/2024		Action Reference: CCL24/339	Confidential: No
That Council staff work with Share the Dignity to find an appropriate space to house a vending machine for Share the Dignity and seek external funding for the \$26,000 inc. GST cost over 4 years for the vending machine and supplies.			
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Work is ongoing. Updates provided in hot topics to Councillors.			

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL25/33 - Dubbo War Memorial Civic Hall

Ordinary Council Meeting 25/02/2025		
Officer:	Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 11/03/2025	Action Reference: CCL25/33	Confidential: No
That Council: 1. Submit an application to the relevant heritage authority for the inclusion of the Dubbo War Memorial Civic Hall (now part of the Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre) on the New South Wales War Memorials Register, given its historical significance as a war memorial and civic space. 2. Investigate and identify other historically significant buildings, sites, or structures within the Dubbo Local Government Area that may be eligible for listing on the New South Wales War Memorials Register, and report back to Council with recommendations for further submissions.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Work is continuing with updates provided in hot topics to Councillors.		

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL25/66 - Homelessness in the Dubbo LGA

Ordinary Council Meeting 25/03/2025		
Officer:	Director Community, Culture and Places Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 8/04/2025	Action Reference: CCL25/66	Confidential: No
1. That through the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Reference Group, the CEO work with agencies and Non-Government Organisations, including Councillor representation to consider the current homeless challenges in our community and develop innovative options to address the level of homelessness in the LGA and particularly rough sleepers on the central Dubbo and river corridor area. 2. That Council endorses the call by The Foyer Foundation for Government financial support to establish a Youth Foyer in Dubbo and in this regard formal correspondence be provided to parties contesting the upcoming Federal election seeking financial support commitments noting that: • Dubbo has been identified as priority location in NSW by the Foyer Foundation, • Youth Foyers provide a safe and stable home for around 40 young people, aged 16-24, with integrated education and employment supports under one roof for up to 2 years and • Within 2 years of living in a Youth Foyer, statistics show a young person has had the assistance they need to change their life trajectory whereby more than 80% of young people exit into safe and stable housing, 65% gain secure and decent employment, and they are 60% less likely to be involved in the justice system.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Report being prepared for October committees.		

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL25/65 - Street Names Wiradjuri Translations

Ordinary Council Meeting 25/03/2025			
Officer:	Director Community, Culture and Places		
Target Date: 8/04/2025		Action Reference: CCL25/65	Confidential: No
That the Chief Executive Officer: 1. Identifies any further appropriate street names in proximity to the Dubbo or Wellington CBD that have Aboriginal origins. 2. Recommends any additional signage for existing and new street names as identified. 3. Provides costing estimates for the new street signs.			
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Work being finalising with an update coming in hot topics for Councillors.			

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL25/119 - Review of Community Halls

Ordinary Council Meeting 27/05/2025			
Officer:	Director Community, Culture and Places		
Target Date: 10/06/2025		Action Reference: CCL25/119	Confidential: No
1. That the CEO provide a report to Council outlining the status of community buildings, the costs to maintain them and other elements important to understand regarding their continued sustainability and needs of the community. 2. That the report also outlines how council can make the best use of the facilities for our community and the community groups who use these facilities. 3. That the report outlines the different ways Council can offset the costs for users through external funding such as Voluntary Planning Agreements.			
Notes:			
12 Sep 2025			
Report being prepared for November committees.			

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL25/121 - Fees and Charges - Tips and Transfer Stations

Ordinary Council Meeting 27/05/2025			
Officer:	Director Development and Environment		
Target Date: 10/06/2025		Action Reference: CCL25/121	Confidential: No
That the item be deferred to a later meeting.			
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 This Notice of Motion will be presented to the September 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting.			

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL25/117 - Waste to Energy Facilities

Ordinary Council Meeting 27/05/2025

Officer: Director Development and Environment

Target Date: 10/06/2025

Action Reference: CCL25/117

Confidential: No

1. That it is acknowledged that waste to energy projects are likely to be classified as State Significant Development, which requires detailed consideration of environmental impacts as a component of the assessment process undertaken by the State Government Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.
2. That the Chief Executive Officer write to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, Mr Paul Scully to request that Dubbo Regional Council be formally notified of any waste to energy projects in nearby Local Government Areas that are classified as State Significant Development.
3. That we ask the minister to consider that contact must be made with neighbouring LGA's to notify of planned state significant infrastructure projects that are likely to have an effect on these LGA's such as noise from turbines, or smells and emissions from Waste to energy projects.

Notes:

15 Sep 2025

Notification has been provided to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces.

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL25/118 - Renewable Energy Projects

Ordinary Council Meeting 27/05/2025		
Officer:	Director Development and Environment	
Target Date: 10/06/2025	Action Reference: CCL25/118	Confidential: No
That the CEO provide a report to Council including information outlining the role of Council in the State Significant Development process for large scale renewable projects in our Local Government Area (LGA) including: • The points at which council can make input into the process. • How Council can provide conditions on a development, including types of conditions that can be reasonably sought for inclusion on a State Significant Development.		
Notes: 15 Sep 2025 A report will be provided to the Infrastructure, Planning and Environment Committee at its October 2025 Meeting.		

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL25/154 - Road Recategorisation

Ordinary Council Meeting 24/06/2025			
Officer:	Director Infrastructure		
Target Date: 8/07/2025		Action Reference: CCL25/154	Confidential: No
That Dubbo Regional Council prepare proposals and make submissions for the recategorisation of Saxa Road and Gollan Road from Regional Roads to State Roads.			
Notes: 15 Sep 2025 Target date changed from 08 July 2025 to 28 November 2025 - The road recategorisation is still in draft and awaiting the finalisation of this process by Transport for NSW			

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL25/181 - Scabbing Flat Bridge

Ordinary Council Meeting 22/07/2025			
Officer:	Director Infrastructure		
Target Date: 5/08/2025		Action Reference: CCL25/181	Confidential: No
That the CEO write to the Minister for Regional Transport and Minister for Roads, and the Regional Director West in Transport for NSW to fund repair works to the impacted local and regional road network, which are a result of prolonged load limits and closures of Scabbing Flat Bridge.			
Notes: 15 Sep 2025 No date yet shows higher rates of asset consumption for potentially affected roads.			

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL25/182 - Formation of Dubbo Regional Indoor Sports Hub and PCYC Working Party

Ordinary Council Meeting 22/07/2025		
Officer:	Director Strategy Partnerships and Engagement Director Strategy Partnerships and Engagement	
Target Date: 10/10/2025	Action Reference: CCL25/182	Confidential: No
That Dubbo Regional Council: 1. Notes the disappointing decision of the Minns NSW Government not to return funds to the Dubbo Regional Indoor Sports Hub and PCYC in the NSW Budget of 24 June 2025. 2. That Council forms a Working Party of relevant and interested stakeholders to continue to work to realise funding for the Dubbo Regional Indoor Sports Hub and PCYC.		
Notes: 09 Sep 2025 Target date changed from 05 August 2025 to 10 October 2025 - Meeting with the Mayor to discuss the establishment within the Community Engagement Committee framework.		

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL25/212 - Council Responses to Renewable Energy Projects

Ordinary Council Meeting 26/08/2025			
Officer:	Director Development and Environment		
Target Date: 9/09/2025		Action Reference: CCL25/212	Confidential: No
1. That Council’s draft responses to the State Government Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for any individual State Significant Development Project be provided to Council for consideration at a Council meeting if written request is made by two or more Councillors. 2. That draft responses to be provided to Council for consideration at a Council meeting as referred to in (1) above are at the following stages: - At the scoping stage with input into the Secretary’s Environmental Assessment Requirements. - At the Planning Assessment stage when the Environmental Impact Statement is placed on public display.			
Notes: 15 Sep 2025 Action ongoing.			

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL25/211 - Council's Role in Grants

Ordinary Council Meeting 26/08/2025			
Officer:	Director Strategy Partnerships and Engagement		
Target Date: 10/10/2025		Action Reference: CCL25/211	Confidential: No
That the CEO provide a report to the 28 October 2025 Ordinary Council meeting outlining Council’s role in grants: 1. Outlining the support Council provides to promote available grants to businesses and community groups across the Dubbo Local Government Area. 2. Outlining the grants that Council applies for to assist with Council assets and services, including numbers, total value and success rate.			
Notes: 09 Sep 2025 Target date changed from 09 September 2025 to 10 October 2025 - Report will be presented to the October 2025 Council meeting.			

Outstanding Actions – Notice of Motion

CCL25/210 - Renewable Energy Projects

Ordinary Council Meeting 26/08/2025		
Officer:	Director Development and Environment	
Target Date: 9/09/2025	Action Reference: CCL25/210	Confidential: No
1. That the CEO write to the local MP The Hon. Dugald Saunders and the Duty MLC for Dubbo The Hon. Stephen Lawrence, asking what has been done to address the concerns of residents impacted by the REZ in our LGA and specifically solar projects at Boree and Hampton Park? 2. To set a timeframe of six weeks maximum, for a response from the above mentioned. 3. That upon receipt of a response from both, that this response be included at the first Council meeting after receiving the response.		
Notes: 15 Sep 2025 Correspondence has been sent.		

Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

CSC24/49 - Future Use of 74 Wingewarra Street (The Greens)

Corporate Services Committee 12/11/2024		
Officer:	Director Organisational Performance	
Target Date: 30/04/2025	Action Reference: CSC24/49	Confidential: No
1. That Council undertakes an Expression of Interest process for a two-year Lease of The Greens. 2. That a report be provided to Council on the outcome and final endorsement.		
Notes: 15 Sep 2025 Currently negotiating with NSW Rugby on the Lease Terms. The result of the negotiation is expected to be reported to Council at the December 2025 meeting.		

Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

IPEC25/15 - Draft Planning Agreement VPA23-002 - Maryvale Solar Farm

Infrastructure, Planning and Environment Committee 11/03/2025		
Officer:	Manager Growth Planning Director Development and Environment	
Target Date: 25/03/2025	Action Reference: IPEC25/15	Confidential: No
1. That a draft Planning Agreement be prepared in accordance with the terms identified in this report. 2. That Council note the amended offer is 1.5% of the Capital Investment Value of the project. 3. That a further report be presented to Council for consideration if a Planning Agreement cannot be successfully negotiated. 4. That a draft Planning Agreement and Explanatory Note prepared in accordance with the terms identified in this report be placed on public exhibition in accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. 5. That following the conclusion of the public exhibition period, a further report be presented to Council for consideration, including any submissions received.		
Notes: 08 Sep 2025 Council is drafting the planning agreement in accordance with the resolution, and a copy will be sent to the applicant for their review		

Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

CCC25/14 - Dubbo Regional Council Sister City Relationships Status Report

Culture and Community Committee 8/04/2025		
Officer:	Cultural Development Coordinator Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 22/04/2025	Action Reference: CCC25/14	Confidential: No
1. That the Sister City relationships with Minokamo (Japan) and Wujiang (China) continue. 2. That Council write to both Minokamo and Wujiang to re-affirm DRC commitment to the relationship. 3. The CEO write to Osawano/Toyama (Japan) to determine their interest in re-invigorating the Sister City relationship with Wellington, and the Japanese Gardens. 4. That discussions continue with Cheong-ju, South Korea and report back to Council. 5. All other inactive Sister City relationships be formally concluded. 6. That the CEO explore the possibility for student exchange and enrichment relationships with the City of Newcastle Council and/or adjacent Councils, and report back to Council.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 a. A draft re-affirmation declaration has been drawn up for Minokamo and will be sent through to the Mayor's office for review and inclusion on Mayoral letterhead. b. Wujiang delegation visiting Dubbo for the 30th Anniversary of our Sister City relationship - utilise the timing to present them with an official reaffirmation letter in a more formalised manner. c. In the absence of the formal exchange program, the unit has established a film competition exchange program that is being reciprocated in Wujiang and will be open for entries in October. Information on ongoing exchange to China has been received from Department of Foreign Affairs and is being reviewed by staff. d. A letter to Toyama has been sent and conversations have begun as to mutually beneficial plan for replica programs. e. We are currently awaiting to hear back from Cheong-ju officials with more information and details regarding the MOU they sent to Dubbo seeking a formal partnership – once received this will be formally presented to Council with a report outlining options and recommendations. f. We are reaching out to various inactive Sister Cities to identify who to officially notify regarding concluding relationships with them. Warringham Council has formally accepted the conclusion of the relationship and is officially no longer a sister city partner of Dubbo Regional Council.		

Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

- g. Sister City Officer has reached out to Newcastle, Port Macquarie and Lake Macquarie Councils and have heard back from Newcastle and Port Macquarie with interest in partner relationships. Initial meetings with their respective counterparts to scope exchange and/or enrichment relationships has taken place - follow up meetings are scheduled for November 2025.

Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

CCC25/18 - Existing and Future Strategic Mechanisms to Improve the Urban Tree Canopy Cover within Dubbo Regional Council

Culture and Community Committee 13/05/2025		
Officer:	Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 27/05/2025	Action Reference: CCC25/18	Confidential: No
1. That Council consider as part of community feedback to the draft 2025/2026 budget and Delivery Program, increasing the level of funding for tree planting and maintenance programs to improve the health and canopy coverage of urban areas within the Dubbo local government area. 2. That Council actively explore external funding opportunities to increase its planting budget for urban trees, including the identified funds from the Federal Labor Government following its recent re-election, funds generated from the recycling / sale of assets, the entering into of Voluntary Planning Agreements with companies associated with Renewable Energy, and the implementation of the Public Tree Removal – Amenity Valuation Policy. 3. That Council allocate \$90,000 of the \$2million from the funds provided by the Federal Labor Government to develop and adopt a Greening Strategy for the urban areas of Dubbo Regional Council.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Work is on-going, with staff communicating with the Federal Labor Government to secure the promised funding and to develop and implement a Green Initiatives Strategy for the urban areas of Dubbo Regional Council.		

Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

CCC25/17 - Waterway Safety

Culture and Community Committee 13/05/2025		
Officer:	Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 27/05/2025	Action Reference: CCC25/17	Confidential: No
1. That the CEO seek to engage an independent third-party specialist to conduct a risk assessment of Council's formal inland waterway access points and provide recommendations to address identified issues. 2. That Council consider an allocation of \$10,000 from the proposed Community, Culture and Places budget as part of its review of public comment to the Draft 2025/2026 Operational Plan and Budget. 3. That the CEO work with an independent third-party specialist to build a proposal for an inland waterways safety program for a targeted community audience and report back to Council for consideration.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Report being prepared for October committees.		

Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

CCC25/25 - Review of the Public Tree Removal - Amenity Valuation Policy (2025)

Culture and Community Committee 10/06/2025		
Officer:	Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 24/06/2025	Action Reference: CCC25/25	Confidential: No
1. That Council resolve to place the Public Tree Removal – Amenity Valuation Policy (2025) on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days. 2. That, following the public exhibition period a report be provide back to Council for consideration of adoption of the amended policy.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Report being prepared for October committees.		

Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

CCC25/26 - Crown Lands of Management - Dubbo Riverside Reserves

Culture and Community Committee 10/06/2025		
Officer:	Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 24/06/2025	Action Reference: CCC25/26	Confidential: No
Council endorse the draft Plan of Management for Riverside Reserves to progress through to public exhibition for a period of 42 days. That following the public exhibition period, and any identified amendments, that the final version of the Riverside Reserves Plan of Management be submitted to Council for adoption.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Report is being prepared.		

Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

CCC25/28 - Dubbo Regional Sports Council - Playing Field Improvement Fund

Culture and Community Committee 10/06/2025		
Officer:	Recreation Coordinator Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 24/06/2025	Action Reference: CCC25/28	Confidential: No
1. That Council award Dubbo Athletics Club the sum of \$12,737 (GST Inclusive) from the Sports Council Playing Field Improvement Fund as a 50% contribution toward the cost of renewing the painting of the Barden Park grandstand, replacement of the noticeboards and purchase and installation of signage for the throw cages. 2. That given the timeframe of the project, the \$12,737 (GST Inclusive) be included in the 2025/2026 budget as part of the Barden Park maintenance fund allocation as detailed in the report. 3. That the project be commenced in July 2025.		
Notes: 15 Sep 2025 Dubbo Athletics Club have been notified, and the Sporting Asset Coordinator is working with the club to roll out the project.		

Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

CCC25/25 - Review of the Public Tree Removal - Amenity Valuation Policy (2025)

Culture and Community Committee 10/06/2025		
Officer:	Manager Recreation and Open Spaces Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 24/06/2025	Action Reference: CCC25/25	Confidential: No
1. That Council resolve to place the Public Tree Removal – Amenity Valuation Policy (2025) on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days. 2. That, following the public exhibition period a report be provide back to Council for consideration of adoption of the amended policy.		
Notes: 11 Sep 2025 Following public exhibition 3 submissions were received. The report is scheduled to go to October Committee Meeting.		

Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

CCC25/26 - Crown Lands of Management - Dubbo Riverside Reserves

Culture and Community Committee 10/06/2025		
Officer:	Manager Recreation and Open Spaces Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 24/06/2025	Action Reference: CCC25/26	Confidential: No
1. Council endorse the draft Plan of Management for Riverside Reserves to progress through to public exhibition for a period of 42 days. 2. That following the public exhibition period, and any identified amendments, that the final version of the Riverside Reserves Plan of Management be submitted to Council for adoption.		
Notes: 11 Sep 2025 Following public exhibition for 42 days no (0) formal submissions were received. However, following the close of public exhibition Council was advised that Devil's Hole Billabong (R97134 – Lot 376 DP 754308) was the subject of a successful Aboriginal Land Claim. Advice is being sought from Crown Land confirming this advice so that the PoM can be amended by the removal of information pertaining to this reserve.		

Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

CSC25/42 - Draft Council Policy - Communications, Media and Brand Policy

Corporate Services Committee 8/07/2025		
Officer:	Communication Services Team Leader Director Strategy Partnerships and Engagement	
Target Date: 31/10/2025	Action Reference: CSC25/42	Confidential: No
1. That the draft Communications, Media and Brand Policy, as attached at Appendix 1, be endorsed for the purpose of public exhibition for a period of 28 days. 2. That a further report be submitted to Council detailing results of public exhibition, for adoption of the final policy.		
Notes: 08 Sep 2025 Target date changed from 22 July 2025 to 31 October 2025 - Due to the draft policy being on public exhibition until the 1 September 2025, this information will now be collated with the results being submitted to council in October.		

Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

IPEC25/46 - Draft Planning Agreement VPA24-003 - Kerrs Creek Wind Farm

Infrastructure, Planning and Environment Committee 8/07/2025		
Officer:	Environmental Systems Planner Director Development and Environment	
Target Date: 22/07/2025	Action Reference: IPEC25/46	Confidential: No
1. That a draft Planning Agreement be prepared in accordance with the Letter of Offer referred to in this report (attached in Appendix 1). 2. That a further report be presented to Council for consideration if a Planning Agreement cannot be successfully negotiated. 3. That a draft Planning Agreement and Explanatory Note prepared in accordance with the terms identified in this report be placed on public exhibition in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979.		
Notes: 08 Sep 2025 Council is drafting the planning agreement in accordance with the resolution, and a copy will be sent to the applicant for their review		

Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

CCC25/38 - Draft 2025-2030 Dubbo Region Events Strategy

Culture and Community Committee 12/08/2025		
Officer:	Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 26/08/2025	Action Reference: CCC25/38	Confidential: No
1. That Council endorse the 2025-2030 Dubbo Region Events Strategy for public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days. 2. That the Chief Executive Officer provide a report detailing feedback received during the public exhibition period.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Strategy currently on public exhibition.		

Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

IPEC25/55 - Draft Planning Agreement VPA23-005 - Sandy Creek Solar Farm

Infrastructure, Planning and Environment Committee 12/08/2025		
Officer:	Environmental Systems Planner Director Development and Environment	
Target Date: 26/08/2025	Action Reference: IPEC25/55	Confidential: No
1. That a draft Planning Agreement and Explanatory Note be prepared in accordance with the terms identified in this report. 2. That a further report be presented to Council for consideration if a Planning Agreement cannot be successfully negotiated. 3. That a draft Planning Agreement and Explanatory Note prepared in accordance with the terms identified in this report be placed on public exhibition in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979. 4. That following conclusion of the public exhibition period, a further report be presented to Council for consideration, including any submissions received.		
Notes: 08 Sep 2025 Council is drafting the planning agreement in accordance with the resolution, and a copy will be sent to the applicant for their review		

Confidential Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

CSC25/33 - Troy Rail Deviation Project - Update

Corporate Services Committee 13/05/2025		
Officer:	Property Services Team Leader Director Organisational Performance	
Target Date: 30/09/2025	Action Reference: CSC25/33	Confidential: Yes
1. That Council proceed with the purchase of the following lots from the Transport Asset Manager of New South Wales, in accordance with the terms outlined within this report: a) Lot 5 in DP1241494; b) Lot 8 in DP1241494; c) Lot 9 in DP1241494; d) Lot 10 in DP1241494; and e) Lot 12 in DP1241494. 2. That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to negotiate, finalise and execute under Power of Attorney any documentation in relation to resolution no. 1 (above). 3. That any documentation that the Chief Executive Officer is unable to execute in accordance with resolution no. 2 (above) be executed under the Common Seal of Council. 4. That the matters contained within this report remain confidential to Council.		
Notes: 11 Sep 2025 Target date changed from 27 May 2025 to 30 September 2025 - Former contract did not allow for GST treatment for Land swap - negotiations with TfNSW ongoing. Exchange anticipated by end of month.		

Confidential Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

IPEC25/31 - John Gilbert Water Treatment Plant, Dubbo - Preparation of Concept Study for Replacement of Clear Water Tanks - Proposed Engagement

Infrastructure, Planning and Environment Committee 13/05/2025			
Officer:	Manager Strategy Water Supply and Sewerage Director Infrastructure		
Target Date: 27/05/2025		Action Reference: IPEC25/31	Confidential: Yes
1. That Council engage NSW Public Works under the provisions of Section 55 (3)(b) of the Local Government Act 1993 for \$255,865.50 (incl GST). 2. That Council delegate the Chief Executive Officer to approve extension options for this contract if required. 3. That Council delegate the Chief Executive Officer to approve variations for this contract subject to budget limitations. 4. That all documentation in relation to this matter be executed under Power of Attorney. 5. That all documentation in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.			
Notes: 15 Sep 2025 NSW Public Works have now been engaged by Council to undertake this project. NSW Public Works are working with Council's Water Supply and Sewerage Strategic branch to develop a detailed design.			

Confidential Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

CCC25/20 - Tender - Wayfinding and Reserve Signage

Culture and Community Committee 13/05/2025		
Officer:	Director Community, Culture and Places Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 27/05/2025	Action Reference: CCC25/20	Confidential: Yes
1. That Council, as per Clause 178(3)(e) of the Local Government Regulations does not accept any of the tenders submitted due to price. 2. That Council enter into negotiations with the preferred supplier, Yamari Ochre, to align the scope of works with the available budget of \$125,620 inc. GST. 3. That all documentation in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Staff working through procurement process.		

Confidential Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

CSC25/54 - Proposed Sale of Walkway - Laneway between Meadowbank Drive and Springfield Way, Dubbo

Corporate Services Committee 12/08/2025		
Officer:	Property Services Team Leader Director Organisational Performance	
Target Date: 31/10/2025	Action Reference: CSC25/54	Confidential: Yes
1. That Council complete the road closure process required by the <i>Roads Act 1993</i> in relation to the laneway between Meadowbank Drive and Springfield Way (Laneway). 2. That upon closure of the Laneway, that it be vested in Council as operational land. 3. That Council proceed with Option 2 as recommended in the body of this report to sell the portion of the Laneway: (a) adjoining 33 Meadowbank Drive, Dubbo, as described in the body of this report, be disposed to the owner of 33 Meadowbank Drive, Dubbo in accordance with the terms detailed in this report; and (b) adjoining 46 Springfield Way, Dubbo, as described in the body of this report, be disposed to the owner of 46 Springfield Way, Dubbo in accordance with the terms detailed in this report. 4. That the Chief Executive Officer is delegated to negotiate and finalise all documentation in relation to resolutions no. 1, 2 and 3 (above). 5. That all documentation in relation to this matter be executed under the Power of Attorney. 6. That the considerations in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.		
Notes: 11 Sep 2025 Target date changed from 26 August 2025 to 31 October 2025 - Draft documents provided to engaged legal advisor to prepare road closure notice and sale contracts.		

Confidential Outstanding Actions – Standing Committees

CSC25/53 - Outcome of Expression of Interest Process - Sale or Lease of 93L Railway Lane, Wongarbron

Corporate Services Committee 12/08/2025			
Officer:		Manager Property and Land Development Director Organisational Performance	
Target Date: 31/10/2025		Action Reference: CSC25/53	Confidential: Yes
1. That Council accept the expression of interest (EOI) submission by Harry Brown and Sophie Brown (or a related entity to Harry Brown and Sophie Brown) to purchase the premises situated at 93L Railway Lane, Wongarbron, properly described as Lot 1 on DP263339 (Property). 2. That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to negotiate and finalise contract terms with Harry Brown and Sophie Brown (or a related entity to Harry Brown and Sophie Brown), for the sale and purchase of the Property, with such contract to contain the key terms as described within this report. 3. That a sunset date of 31 October 2025 will apply to the negotiations and finalisation of contract terms as described in resolution no. 2 (above). 4. That Council enter into negotiations to sell the Property to Native Secrets Australia, if negotiations with Harry Brown and Sophie Brown (or a related entity to Harry Brown and Sophie Brown): i. are unsuccessful; or ii. are not completed by 31 October 2025. 5. That all documentation in relation to this matter be executed under Power of Attorney. 6. That the considerations in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.			
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Target date changed from 26 August 2025 to 31 October 2025 - Brown has been advised of Council resolution. Awaiting response from Brown as to whether they still wish to proceed with sale. Review at end October 2025.			

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL23/20 - Proposed Road Closures - Road Corridors Adjacent to Dubbo Regional Airport

Ordinary Council Meeting 9/02/2023		
Officer:	Manager Airport Strategy and Operations Director Organisational Performance	
Target Date: 1/02/2026	Action Reference: CCL23/20	Confidential: No
1. That Council consent to the closure of the road corridors adjacent to the Dubbo Regional Airport. 2. That Council undertake the Roads Act Council Road Closure Process: Closing of Council Public Roads by Councils, Part 4 Division 3 of Roads Act 1993. 3. That Council provide appropriate easements for all essential Energy overhead and underground assets. 4. That Council classifies the lot as operational land pursuant to s31 of the local Government Act 1993 (NSW). 5. That all documentation in relation to this matter be signed under the Common Seal of Council.		
Notes: 11 Sep 2025 Target date changed by Linsley-Noakes, Matthew from 23 February 2023 to 01 February 2026 - Significant work being undertaken regarding underground services proposed precinct developments & impacts of road closures. This will require a subsequent report to Council for determination.		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL23/319 - Planning Proposal R23-006 - North-West Urban Release Area

Ordinary Council Meeting 23/11/2023		
Officer:	Senior Growth Planner Director Development and Environment	
Target Date: 31/03/2025	Action Reference: CCL23/319	Confidential: No
1. That Council endorse the Planning Proposal (attached in Appendix 1) to amend the Dubbo Regional Local Environmental Plan 2022 for land in the North-West Urban Release Area. 2. That Council submit the Planning Proposal to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment for a Gateway Determination. 3. That Council liaise with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment and undertake minor administrative amendments to the Planning Proposal if required to ensure a Gateway Determination is issued. 4. That Council request the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) be authorised as the Local Plan Making Authority under Section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. 5. That following the completion of the public exhibition period, a further report be presented to Council for consideration, including the results of public exhibition.		
Notes: 08 Sep 2025 Council sent the updated Planning Proposal to the NSW Government Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure on 3 September 2025 so that they can approve it before proceeding to public exhibition		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL24/25 - Audit of Signs across the Urban Areas of the LGA

Ordinary Council Meeting 15/02/2024		
Officer:	Executive Officer Strategy Partnerships and Engagement Director Strategy Partnerships and Engagement	
Target Date: 3/11/2025	Action Reference: CCL24/25	Confidential: No
1. That the report of the Executive Officer Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement, dated 19 December 2023, be noted. 2. That investment in signage renewal program be considered as part of the budget development process. 3. That the Chief Executive Officer develop internal policy and guidelines to support standardised signage across the Local Government Area.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Target date set for 3 November 2025 due to staff resourcing.		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL24/153 - Proposed Amendments to the Dubbo Regional Local Environmental Plan 2022

Ordinary Council Meeting 27/06/2024		
Officer:	Environmental Systems Planner Director Development and Environment	
Target Date: 27/06/2025	Action Reference: CCL24/153	Confidential: No
1. That Council support preparation of a Planning Proposal to amend the Dubbo Regional Local Environmental Plan 2022 to include the following: (a) To permit Residential Accommodation in the E2 Commercial Centre zone; and (b) To change the minimum lot size area for Lot 103 DP 1143590, 34L Pinedale Road, Dubbo from 8 Ha to 5 Ha. 2. That Council submit the Planning Proposal to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment for a Gateway Determination. 3. That following the completion of the public exhibition period, a further report be presented to Council for consideration, including the results of public exhibition.		
Notes: 08 Sep 2025 Resolution 1 (a) - Planning proposal is on public exhibition until 29 September 2025, Resolution 1 (b) - Further information was requested from the landowner on 19 August 2025		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL24/201 - Repatriation of Axe Grinding Groove Rocks in Wiradjuri Park

Ordinary Council Meeting 15/08/2024		
Officer:	Manager Recreation and Open Spaces Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 29/08/2025	Action Reference: CCL24/201	Confidential: No
1. That it be noted that the axe grinding groove rocks located in Wiradjuri Park are required to remain in place as part of the New Dubbo Bridge and associated works undertaken by Transport for NSW. 2. That Council commence the repatriation process with the consultation and approvals to be undertaken by Council.		
Notes: 11 Sep 2025 OzArk is progressing the AHIP with the first Workshop conducted in conjunction with TfNSW. This workshop was conducted in 2 September 2025 and involved conversations around the grinding grooves and the landscaping of Wiradjuri Park prior to handover back to Council. A second workshop is to be confirmed.		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL24/206 - Planning Proposals R22-005 and R22-006 - 13L Narromine Road Dubbo - Results of Public Exhibition

Ordinary Council Meeting 15/08/2024		
Officer:	Manager Growth Planning Director Development and Environment	
Target Date: 27/06/2025	Action Reference: CCL24/206	Confidential: No
1. That Council not proceed with Planning Proposal R22-005 (attached in Appendix 1) and Planning Proposal R22-006 (attached in Appendix 2) to amend the Dubbo Regional Local Environmental Plan 2022 for 13L Narromine Road, Dubbo due to the unresolved Transport for NSW objection. 2. That Council note submissions received during the public exhibition period (attached in Appendices 3, 4 and 5). 3. That Council prepare a city-wide strategic transportation model and an infrastructure contributions plan to address the requirements of the Transport for NSW objection. 4. That following preparation of a city-wide strategic transportation model and an infrastructure contributions plan, Council resubmit the Planning Proposals to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure and undertake additional consultation with Transport for NSW. 5. That following consultation with the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, and Transport for NSW, a further report be presented to Council, including the results of consultation.		
Notes: 08 Sep 2025 Council is progressing works on the Dubbo Transportation Model before this resolution can progress.		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL24/205 - Planning Proposal R24-002 - Zoning and Minimum Lot Size Area Amendments to part of Keswick Estate

Ordinary Council Meeting 15/08/2024		
Officer:	Senior Growth Planner Director Development and Environment	
Target Date: 31/03/2025	Action Reference: CCL24/205	Confidential: No
1. That Council endorse the Planning Proposal (attached as Appendix 1) to amend the Dubbo Regional Local Environmental Plan 2022 at part of Keswick Estate (Lot 101 DP1280301) by changing the zoning from R2 Low Density Residential to R1 General Residential and removing the existing Minimum Lot Size Area provisions for approximately 10 hectares of the land. 2. That Council note the Strategic and Site-Specific Assessment (attached in Appendix 2). 3. That Council submit the Planning Proposal to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for a Gateway Determination, and request it include a condition that a Stormwater Strategy be prepared prior to undertaking public and State Agency consultation. 4. That Council request the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to be the Local Plan Making Authority under Section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 as the Planning Proposal is related to Council-owned land. 5. That Council support a minimum 20 working days public exhibition period for the Planning Proposal, subject to the conditions of a Gateway Determination. 6. That following the completion of the public exhibition period, a further report be presented to Council for consideration, including the results of public exhibition.		
Notes: 08 Sep 2025 Council's Infrastructure, Planning and Environment Committee is considering the Ironbark Estate Planning Proposal on 9 September 2025 which includes this area.		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL24/271 - Wellington Historical Society request for operating location(s) for Wellington Museum.

Ordinary Council Meeting 24/10/2024		
Officer:	Cultural Development Coordinator Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 7/11/2024	Action Reference: CCL24/271	Confidential: No
1. That, Council enter in to a peppercorn lease agreement of \$1 per annum for Lot 2, 5 Maughan Street between Dubbo Regional Council and the Wellington Historical Society for a five-year term with three five-year options. 2. That Council not enter into a lease for lot 8, 37 Warne Street or lot 9, 37 Warne Street (corner Warne and Percy Streets). 3. That Council assist the Wellington Historical Society find alternative accommodation to house their excess collection and that the Wellington Historical Society will not be required to move the collection before alternative accommodation is found.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Update to Resolutions, 1. Lease has been updated and Society is happy with lease - Meeting with Society to sign lease on 19/8/25, 2. Increase of \$8,000.00 added the DRC Contribution for Maintenance/Operation cost support for asset as per adopted budget, 3. Nil actions undertaken to date including some conversations regarding possible locations at Wellington Showground, with no firm program developed. Manager Arts and Culture to work with Wellington HS following lease completion to review options and present plan to Council.		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL24/350 - Land Acquisition - Dubbo Regional Livestock Markets - Lot 1 Deposited Plan 446390

Ordinary Council Meeting 10/12/2024		
Officer:	Property and Land Officer Director Organisational Performance	
Target Date: 24/12/2024	Action Reference: CCL24/350	Confidential: No
1. That Council proceed with the compulsory acquisition of the whole of Lot 1 Deposited Plan 446390 (Property) for the purposes as detailed in this Report. 2. That the compulsory acquisition of the Property noted in Resolution No.1 (above) is acquired: a. pursuant to s.186 of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW); and b. In accordance with the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991. 3. That upon acquisition, Council’s interests are classified as operational in accordance with Chapter 6, Part 2 of the Local Government Act 1993. 4. That Council make an application to the Minister for Local Government to issue a Proposed Acquisition Notice under the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 for Council to compulsorily acquire the Property noted in Resolution no. 1 (above). 5. That Council make an application to the Governor of NSW for the publication of an Acquisition Notice in the NSW Government Gazette under the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 for Council to compulsorily acquire the properties noted in resolution no. 1 (above). 6. That Council delegate to the Chief Executive Officer, the power to negotiate actual and reasonable costs subject to budget limitations. 7. That Council delegate to the Chief Executive Officer, the power to negotiate, finalise, and execute any applications, notices, documents, and compensation claims required to be executed as part of the process for Council to compulsorily acquire the Property. 8. That all documentation in relation to this matter be executed under Power of Attorney.		
Notes: 15 Sep 2025 Target date changed from 24 December 2024 to 31 January 2026 - Council is in discussions with TfNSW towards acquiring the site compulsorily.		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/99 - Bodangora Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund 2025

Ordinary Council Meeting 22/04/2025		
Officer:	Manager Community Services Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 28/10/2025	Action Reference: CCL25/99	Confidential: No
1. That Council allocate to the community-based organisations the total funds of \$68,890.27. 2. The following funds be allocated to the corresponding community group in accordance with the Bodangora Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund Grant Guidelines: • Wellington Warriors FC \$6,354.00 • Wellington Amateur Theatrical Society \$10,000.00 • Wellington Touch Association \$5,140.00 • Wellington Race Club \$8,000.00 • Wellington Public School P&C \$10,250.00 • Wellington Cowboys SRLC \$5,000.00 • Wellington Horse & Pony Club \$19,805.29 • Mid Macquarie Landcare \$4,340.98 3. That the CEO, in consultation with the Bodangora Wind Farm Community Consultative Committee have presented to Council prior to Round 11, 2026: i. A review of the eligibility guidelines and selection criteria for the Bodangora Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund, and ii. A 'Charter' clearly defining the roles of the Committee and Council.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Finalised the project plan for the review and will incorporate further insights and learnings from the first round of the new Community Funding Program. Secured a first intro meeting with Iberdrola which will kick off the first task. Intend to have the findings of the review put to Council for consideration in November. It will give enough time to prepare the outcomes; likely fall inline with both a normal CFP round, and what has traditionally been the Feb/Mar opening of the BWFCBF.		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/96 - Management of Pest Bird Species

Ordinary Council Meeting 22/04/2025		
Officer:	Director Development and Environment	
Target Date: 6/05/2025	Action Reference: CCL25/96	Confidential: No
1. That the report of the Director Development and Environment dated 7 April 2025, be noted. 2. That a dedicated section of Council's website be prepared to generally include the following information: (a) Describing the Indian Myna including why it is a pest bird species; (b) How to identify Indian Myna birds; (c) Things that can be done at home to help limit feeding opportunities; (d) How to report sightings of Indian Myna birds through online third party platforms; (e) How you can build your own Indian Myna trap at home; (f) How to ensure Indian Myna are humanely euthanised in accordance with the NSW Department of Primary Industries – Standard Operating Procedure for trapping of pest birds; (g) Community groups that are actively undertaking trapping programs; and (h) Where to find further information. 3. That it be noted that Community Groups and Not-For-Profit Organisations can lodge an application through the Community Services Fund and the Bodangora Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund for Indian Myna traps. 4. That businesses in the Dubbo CBD and the Wellington Town Centre be engaged through a survey as included in the report in respect of pest bird species. 5. That following completion of the survey and assessment of the results that a further report be provided to Council for consideration regarding possible options for the management of pest bird species including operational and financial implications.		
Notes: 15 Sep 2025 A further update report will be provided to Council at the October 2025 Meeting in respect of items 4 and 5 of the Resolutions.		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/126 – Draft Council Policy – Asset Management Policy

Ordinary Council Meeting 27/05/2025		
Officer:	Director Organisational Performance	
Target Date: 10/06/2025	Action Reference: CCL25/126	Confidential: No
1. That the draft Council Policy, Asset Management Policy, as attached at Appendix 1, be endorsed for the purpose of public exhibition for a period of 28 days. 2. That a further report be submitted to Council detailing results of public exhibition, for adoption of the final policy.		
Notes: Complete		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CSC25/38 – Draft 2025/2026 Budget, Operational Plan and Associated Documents – Results of Public Exhibition

Ordinary Council Meeting 24/06/2025		
Officer:	Manager Infrastructure Delivery Director Infrastructure Cultural Development Coordinator Manager Recreation and Open Spaces Director Community Culture and Places Director Development and Environment	
Target Date: 8/07/2025	Action Reference: CSC25/38	Confidential: No
1. That the following draft documents be adopted a) Draft 2025-2029 Delivery Program and 2025/2026 Operational Plan (Appendix 1) b) Draft 2025/2026 Budget and Forward Forecasts for 2026/2027, 2027/2028, 2028/2029 including Capital Expenditure c) Draft 2025/2026 Fees and Charges (Appendix 2) d) Draft 2025/2026 Statement of Revenue Policy (Appendix 3) e) Draft 2025-2029 Resourcing Strategy (including the Long-Term Financial Plan, Workforce Management Strategy and Asset Management Strategy) (Appendix 4) f) Draft 2025/2026 Macquarie Regional Library Operational Plan, Budget and Fees and Charges (Appendix 5) 2. That the finalised documents once adopted, will commence operation on 1 July 2025. 3. That it be noted that the 2025-2029 Delivery Program, 2025/2026 Operational Plan and budget do not reflect the Federal Government commitment to the Parkes Electorate of \$2M for street trees in the Dubbo CBD. 4. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to approve any minor administrative corrections prior to publication and authorise the relevant staff to implement any such corrections. 5. That those who made a submission be advised of Council's determination on this matter. 6. That a new action be added to the 2025/2026 Operational Plan as follows: Develop partnerships with businesses and community groups, using existing resources, to enhance the Christmas experience in the Dubbo CBD. 7. That a new action be added to the 2025/2026 Operational Plan as follows: Undertake preparation and implementation of a Consultation Plan to facilitate the development of a Multicultural Strategy. 8. That the 2025/2026 Fees and Charges in respect of the Cattle Feeding Fee – per head be adjusted to \$0.10 for Stock Sold in the Dubbo Regional Livestock Market Sale inclusive of GST. 9. That a report be provided to Council in April 2026 reviewing the impact, effectiveness and efficiency of the new charges for the DRLM related to Feeder Fees. 10. That a new action be added to the 2025/2026 Operational Plan; that Council develop, in consultation with key stakeholders, an adaptive reuse plan for the former animal shelter infrastructure in Dubbo.		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

11. That a new action be added to the 2025/2026 Operational Plan as follows: Work with Transport for NSW to have the NSW Government undertake and complete environmental studies that are able to inform a potential new Scabbing Flat Bridge design that meets the needs of the agricultural sector and high productivity vehicles.
12. That Council increase the 2025/2026 budget for the Old Wellington Police Station from \$17,056 to \$25,000 for repairs and maintenance and operational costs, to be funded from the Arts and Culture Branch budget. That the \$25,000 budget includes a provision of \$8,000 to cover the first-year operating expenses incurred by a lessee of Lot 2 DP 1206548 (Old Wellington Police Station).
13. That Council
 - a. allocate \$250,000 in the 2025/2026 budget to fund additional toilet facilities at Cameron Park Wellington,
 - b. That the design and specifications of the additional facilities be finalised after consideration of the Dubbo Region Public Toilet Strategy (expected in August 2025) – having regard to the \$250,000 budget allocation.
 - c. That this be a priority project to be funded in the 2025/2026 financial year Quarterly Reviews through operational or other project savings.

Notes:

12 Sep 2025 – Manager Infrastructure Delivery

An action to comply with resolution 11 will be included in the Infrastructure Delivery Operational Plan for 2025/2026

12 Sep 2025 – Cultural Development Coordinator

Increased allocation in operational budget for Wellington Museum made and implemented. Increasing budget by \$8,000

12 Sep 2025 – Director Community Culture, and Places

Concerning point 13, various options are currently under review, and a report will be provided at a future quarterly budget review.

11 Sep 2025 - Manager Recreation and Open Spaces

A revised quote from Pureable was obtained for both a matching toilet block as well as modifying the existing block to create additional facilities. Hot Topic also provided to Councillors. Funding strategy was identified, being the use of funds from the sale of surplus land.

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/156 – Consideration of Certain Development Applications by Infrastructure, Planning and Environment Committee

Ordinary Council Meeting 24/06/2025			
Officer:	Director Development and Environment		
Target Date: 8/07/2025		Action Reference: CCL25/156	Confidential: No
2. That Council Delegate to the Infrastructure, Planning and Environment Committee the consideration and determination of Development Applications that meet the following criteria: - The Development Application must be recommended for approval by Council Staff. - There has been less than eight valid planning objections to a Development Application that have been received from separate households within the notification area. - There has not been any petition received by Council in respect of a Development Application. 2. That this Delegation to the Infrastructure, Planning and Environment Committee be reviewed after a period of 12 months.			
Notes: 15 Sep 2025 Delegation now in operation.			

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/195 - Road Opening - Unnamed roads off Buljte and Gipps Street, Dubbo

Ordinary Council Meeting 22/07/2025			
Officer:	Property Services Team Leader Director Organisational Performance		
Target Date: 30/09/2025		Action Reference: CCL25/195	Confidential: No
1. That the unnamed roads, as identified in the body of this report, be dedicated as road reserve. 2. That Council consent to publish notices of the road dedications, for the unnamed roads as noted in no. 1 (above), in the NSW Government Gazette. 3. That all documentation in relation to this matter be executed under Power of Attorney.			
Notes: 11 Sep 2025 Target date changed from 05 August 2025 to 30 September 2025 - Review of draft notice being finalised with legal advisor.			

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/193 - Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee - Review and Recruitment

Ordinary Council Meeting 22/07/2025		
Officer:	Manager Corporate Governance Director Organisational Performance	
Target Date: 5/08/2025	Action Reference: CCL25/193	Confidential: No
1. That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter, as attached as Appendix 1 be adopted. 2. That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference, as attached at Appendix 2 be adopted. 3. That expressions of interest be sought for the independent positions on Council’s Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee for a two-year term, being the Chair and two independent Members. 4. That Figure 1 contains incorrect information and further information regarding fees for ARIC Members will be reported to Council.		
Notes:		
12 Sep 2025		
Review and Recruitment process is underway and report will be presented to the September 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting.		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/188 - Draft North-West Urban Release Area Residential Development Control Plan

Ordinary Council Meeting 22/07/2025		
Officer:	Senior Growth Planner Director Development and Environment	
Target Date: 5/08/2025	Action Reference: CCL25/188	Confidential: No
1. That the draft North-West Urban Release Area Residential Development Control Plan be adopted for the purpose of public exhibition only. 2. That the draft North-West Urban Release Area Residential Development Control Plan be placed on public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979. 3. That minor administrative amendments to the Development Control Plan be made prior to exhibition if required. 4. That following the completion of the public exhibition period, a further report be presented to Council for consideration, including the results of public exhibition.		
Notes: 08 Sep 2025 Council sent the updated Planning Proposal for the Urban Release Area to the NSW Government Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure on 3 September 2025 so that they can approve it before proceeding to public exhibition. The draft DCP and Planning Proposal will be placed on public exhibition at the same time.		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/215 - Action Plan Review Customer Experience Strategy 2021-2027

Ordinary Council Meeting 26/08/2025		
Officer:	Manager Customer Experience and Engagement Director Strategy Partnerships and Engagement	
Target Date: 31/10/2025	Action Reference: CCL25/215	Confidential: No
1. That Draft Customer Experience Strategy 2021-2027 and Draft Customer Experience Charter go on public exhibition for community feedback, for a period of not less than 28 days. 2. That a report of the public exhibition outcomes be prepared for Council.		
Notes: 08 Sep 2025 The Strategy is currently on public exhibition until the 25 September 2025. For the collation of community feedback for this report, the Target date is being changed to the 31 October 2025.		

Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/214 - Draft Dubbo Regional Housing Strategy

Ordinary Council Meeting 26/08/2025		
Officer:	Manager Growth Planning Director Development and Environment	
Target Date: 10/12/2025	Action Reference: CCL25/214	Confidential: No
1. That the draft Dubbo Regional Housing Strategy (attached in Appendices 1 and 2) be adopted for the purpose of public exhibition. 2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to approve any minor administrative corrections prior to the public exhibition publication and authorise the relevant staff to implement any such corrections. 3. That the draft Dubbo Regional Housing Strategy be placed on public exhibition from Monday 1 September 2025 until 9am, Monday 27 October 2025. 4. That community and stakeholder engagement be undertaken in accordance with Council’s Community Engagement Strategy (including Community Participation Plan). 5. That following completion of the public exhibition period, a further report be presented to Council for consideration, including the results of public exhibition.		
Notes: 10 Sep 2025 Target date changed from 09 September 2025 to 10 December 2025 - Public exhibition of the draft strategy finishes 27 October 2025		

Confidential Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCC24/16 - RECLASSIFICATION AND REZONING OF ALEXANDER BELL MEMORIAL PARK

Ordinary Council Meeting 21/03/2024		
Officer:	Manager Recreation and Open Spaces Director Community, Culture and Places	
Target Date: 4/04/2024	Action Reference: CCC24/16	Confidential: Yes
1. That Lot 43 DP619578 is not required for the purposes of public open space. 2. That Council prepare a Planning Proposal to undertake reclassification of Alexander Bell Memorial Park from Community Land to Operational Land under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and to rezone the land for the purposes of residential development under the provisions of the Dubbo Regional Local Environmental Plan 2022. 3. That it be noted, in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 and the Local Government Act, 1993, Council is required to undertake community consultation for a period of no less than 28 days and hold a Public Hearing. 4. That all documents in relation to this matter remain confidential to council.		
Notes: 11 Sep 2025 Discussions with Essential Energy are progressing in regards to the need for an easement for the road corridor.		

Confidential Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL24/221 - Draft Planning Agreement - Sandy Creek Solar Farm

Ordinary Council Meeting 15/08/2024			
Officer:	Director Development and Environment		
Target Date: 29/08/2024		Action Reference: CCL24/221	Confidential: Yes
1.	That Council negotiate a Voluntary Planning Agreement with Lightsource BP at 1.5% of the Capital Investment Value of the final Sandy Creek Solar Farm project.		
2.	That the Voluntary Planning Agreement to be negotiated in item 1 is for the overall project, with Dubbo Regional Council to receive funds based on pro rata of the project undertaken in the Dubbo Regional Local Government Area.		
3.	That a further report be presented to Council for consideration including the proposed terms of the draft Voluntary Planning Agreement and associated operating model.		
4.	That all documentation in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.		
Notes:			
15 Sep 2025			
Voluntary Planning Agreement currently under preparation for the project.			

Confidential Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL24/357 - Saxa Road/ Comobella Crossing Replacement Project - Land Acquisition

Ordinary Council Meeting 10/12/2024		
Officer:	Manager Infrastructure Delivery Director Infrastructure	
Target Date: 24/12/2024	Action Reference: CCL24/357	Confidential: Yes
1. That Council approve to enter into negotiations to acquire part of Lot 9 DP 754327 for the purposes as detailed in this report pursuant to s177 and s178 of the Roads Act 1993 (NSW) as described in the body of this report; and in accordance with the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991. 2. That Council register an acquisition plan against the title to Lot 9 DP 754327. 3. That upon acquisition, Council's interests are classified as operational in accordance with Chapter 6, Part 2 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> and the property be dedicated as public road reserve. 4. That Council approve the making of an application to the Minister for Local Government to issue a Proposed Acquisition Notice under the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 for Council to compulsorily acquire the property noted in recommendation 1 (above). 5. That Council make an application to the Governor of NSW for the publication of an Acquisition Notice in the NSW Government Gazette under the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 for Council to compulsorily acquire the property noted in recommendation 1 (above). 6. That Council delegate to the Chief Executive Officer, the power to negotiate actual and reasonable costs subject to budget limitations. 7. That Council delegate to the Chief Executive Officer, the power to negotiate, finalise, and execute any applications, notices, documents, and compensation claims required to be executed as part of the process for Council to compulsorily acquire Lot 9 DP 754327. 8. That any documents which may not be executed by the Chief Executive Officer under delegation be executed under the Common Seal of Council. 9. That all documentation in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 This land acquisition process has commenced. Discussions continuing between the landowner and Infrastructure Director in an effort to minimise landowner dissatisfaction.		

Confidential Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/79 - Outcome of expression of interest process - 139 Darling Street, Dubbo

Ordinary Council Meeting 25/03/2025		
Officer:	Manager Property and Land Development Director Organisational Performance	
Target Date: 31/10/2025	Action Reference: CCL25/79	Confidential: Yes
1. That Council decline to accept the expression of interest (EOI) submission by Premise Group Services Pty Ltd to lease the premises situated at 139 Darling Street, Dubbo, properly described as Lot 42 on DP632829 (Property). 2. That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to negotiate directly with Premise Group Services Pty Ltd, to lease the Property. 3. That: a. a further Council report will be submitted, if negotiations with Premise Group Services Pty Ltd are successful; and b. the Property be re-advertised for lease, if negotiations with Premise Group Services Pty Ltd are unsuccessful. 4. That the considerations in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Target date changed from 31 December 2025 to 31 October 2025 - Negotiations with Premise are ongoing, however meeting to be held with Premise in the near future to close-out expectations regarding incentives and warm-shell fit out costs. Review at end October 2025.		

Confidential Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/103 - Land Acquisition - Renewable Energy Awareness and Career Training (REACT) Centre

Ordinary Council Meeting 22/04/2025			
Officer:	Director Strategy Partnerships and Engagement		
Target Date: 30/03/2026		Action Reference: CCL25/103	Confidential: Yes
1. That Council approve and proceed with the compulsory acquisition of 93 Maughan Street, Wellington, properly described as Lots 1 and 2 on DP749328: a. pursuant to s186 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>; and b. upon acquisition and following completion of the notification provisions under s34 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>, that the land is classified as ‘operational’. 2. That Council approve the making of an application to the Minister for Local Government to issue a Proposed Acquisition Notice under the <i>Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991</i> (NSW) for Council to compulsorily acquire Lots 1 and 2 on DP749328. 3. That Council approve the making of an application to the Governor of NSW for the publication of an Acquisition Notice in the NSW Government Gazette under the <i>Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991</i> (NSW) for Council to compulsorily acquire Lots 1 and 2 on DP749328. 4. That Council delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to negotiate, finalise and execute any applications, notices, documents and compensation claims required to be executed as part of the process for Council to Lots 1 and 2 on DP749328. 5. That any documents which may not be executed by the Chief Executive Officer under delegation be executed under the Power of Attorney. 6. That all documentation in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.			
Notes:			
12 Sep 2025			
Due diligence for the land purchase is underway. Target date is set for 30 March 2026.			

Confidential Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/138 - Outcome of expression of interest process - 74 Wingewarra Street, Dubbo

Ordinary Council Meeting 27/05/2025		
Officer:	Manager Property and Land Development Director Organisational Performance	
Target Date: 30/01/2026	Action Reference: CCL25/138	Confidential: Yes
1. That Council decline the expression of interest (EOI) submission by New South Wales Rugby Union Ltd (NSWRU) to lease the premises situated at 74 Wingewarra Street, Dubbo, properly described as Lot 415 on DP754308 (Property). 2. That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate directly with NSWRU to lease the Property noting the arrangements proposed include a partnership with CrACN (Creative Assembly). 3. That: a. a further Council report be submitted, if negotiations with NSWRU are successful; and b. the Property be re-advertised for lease, if negotiations with NSWRU are unsuccessful. 4. That the considerations in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.		
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Target date changed from 31 December 2025 to 30 January 2026 - Negotiations with Rugby NSW are on-going. To review in January 2026.		

Confidential Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/135 - Expression of Interest - Victoria Park Amenity Block, Design and Construct

Ordinary Council Meeting 27/05/2025			
Officer:	Director Community, Culture and Places		
Target Date: 10/06/2025		Action Reference: CCL25/135	Confidential: Yes
1. That all companies who submitted expressions of interest for the Victoria Park Amenities be invited to a select tender process.			
2. That all documentation in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.			
Notes:			
12 Sep 2025			
Completed.			

Confidential Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/134 - John Gilbert Water Treatment Plant, Dubbo - Replacement of Clear Water Tank No. 2 High Lift Pumps - Award of Tender

Ordinary Council Meeting 27/05/2025			
Officer:	Manager Strategy Water Supply and Sewerage Director Infrastructure		
Target Date: 10/06/2025		Action Reference: CCL25/134	Confidential: Yes
1. That the tenders received for John Gilbert Water Treatment Plant (JGWTP) – Replacement of CWT02 Pumps listed in the report be noted. 2. That Council engage Murray Engineering Pty Ltd for the JGWTP – Replacement of CWT02 Pumps for \$1,267,467 (incl GST). 3. That Council delegate the Chief Executive Officer to approve extension options for this tender if required. 4. That Council delegate the Chief Executive Officer to approve variations for this contract, subject to budget limitations. 5. That all documentation in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council. 6. That all documentation in relation to this matter be signed under Power of Attorney.			
Notes: 15 Sept 2025 Murray Engineering have now been engaged by Council to undertake this project. Works are expected to be completed by end of the 2025 calendar year.			

Confidential Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/224 - Update to Proposed Sale of and Creation of Easement Over Lot 131 on DP1277458

Ordinary Council Meeting 26/08/2025		
Officer:	Property and Land Officer Director Organisational Performance	
Target Date: 17/10/2025	Action Reference: CCL25/224	Confidential: Yes
1. That Council agree to the sale of Lot 131 on DP1277458 (Property) on the terms contained within this report. 2. That if a contract for the sale of the Property: (a) is not exchanged by 12 September 2025; or (b) is rescinded or terminated, then Council to: (c) terminate any lease tenures over the Property; and (d) undertake an expression of interest for the sale of the Property. 3. That Council delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to negotiate, finalise and execute any documents relating to: (a) an agreement for the sale of the Property; (b) termination of lease over the Property; and (c) any other documentation to finalise the sale and/ or termination of lease relating to the Property, including any NSW Land Registry Services documentation. 4. That all documentation in relation to this matter be executed under Power of Attorney. 5. That all considerations in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.		
Notes:		
12 Sep 2025		
Target date changed from 09 September 2025 to 17 October 2025 - Contract for Sale exchanged with settlement scheduled for 17 October 2025.		

Confidential Outstanding Actions – Ordinary Council Meeting

CCL25/221 - Tender - Victoria Park Amenity Block, Design and Construct

Ordinary Council Meeting 26/08/2025			
Officer:	Director Community, Culture and Places		
Target Date: 9/09/2025		Action Reference: CCL25/221	Confidential: Yes
1. That the tender be awarded to BLD Constructions Pty Ltd for \$548,634.31 inc gst for the design and construction of the Victoria Park amenity block. 2. That the proceeds received from the sale of 93L Railway Lane be utilised to help fund the shortfall of approximately \$171,114 inc gst, with any remaining proceeds going towards other capital renewal or embellishment projects within the public open space network. 3. That Council delegate the Chief Executive Officer to approve variations for any changes in scope with a view to reduce the cost to Council. 4. That Council delegates the Chief Executive Officer to award tender to other tenderer if the engagement with preferred tenderer fails. 5. That all documentation in relation to this matter be executed under Power of Attorney. 6. That all documentation in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.			
Notes: 12 Sep 2025 Completed, staff negotiating with approved tenderer.			