

REPORT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 23 SEPTEMBER 2025

PRESENT: Councillors J Black, L Butler, S Chowdhury, J Cowley, 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 Corporate Governance, the Governance Officer, the Director Strategy, Partnerships and Engagement, the Manager Arts and Culture, the Communications Partner, the IT Support Officer, the Director Development and Environment, the Director Infrastructure, the Manager Building Assets, the Director Community, Culture and Places and the Aboriginal Liaison Officer.

Councillor J Black assumed the Chair of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 5:30pm at the Dubbo Civic Administration Building, Council Chamber, with a prayer for Divine Guidance to the Council in its deliberations and activities by Councillor K Richardson. The Acknowledgement of Country was also read by Councillor P Wells.

CCL25/234 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID25/1672)

There were no requests for leave of absence.

Councillor J Cowley and the Director Organisational Performance attended via audio visual link.

CCL25/235 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID25/1674)

The following conflicts of interest were declared:

Councillor L Butler CCL25/258 – Appointments to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee – Non-pecuniary, significant.

CCL25/236 PUBLIC FORUM (ID25/1844)

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

Lucy Samuels CCL25/250 - Naming of the New Dubbo Bridge
Michael Sutherland CCL25/250 - Naming of the New Dubbo Bridge

Errin Williamson	CCL25/248 - DRTCC Closure Period Christmas-New Year 2025/2026
Shane Butcher	CCL25/248 - DRTCC Closure Period Christmas-New Year 2025/2026
Martin Simmons	CCL25/247 – Establishment of a Dubbo Regional Livestock Markets Committee
James Bunting	CCL25/250 - Naming of the New Dubbo Bridge
Ellen Mortimore	CCL25/250 - Naming of the New Dubbo Bridge

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

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

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

MOTION

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.

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

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

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

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

MOTION

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.

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

INFORMATION ONLY MATTERS:

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.

Moved by Councillor J Black and seconded by Councillor A Ryan.

MOTION

That the information contained within the report be noted.

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

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.

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

MOTION

That the information contained within the report be noted.

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

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 2025 from the Revenue Accountant regarding Investment Under Section 625 of the Local Government Act – August 2025

Moved by Councillor S Chowdhury and seconded by Councillor R Ivey.

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, J Cowley, M Dickerson, R Ivey, K Richardson, A Ryan, P Toynton, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Nil

MATTERS CONSIDERED BY COMMITTEES:

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.

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 9 September 2025, be adopted.

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

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.

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

MOTION

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

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

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.

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

MOTION

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

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

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.

Moved by Councillor R Ivey and seconded by Councillor S Chowdhury.

MOTION

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

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

NOTICES OF MOTION:

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.

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

MOTION

- 1. That the CEO provide a report that outlines how council arrived at the prices charged for the disposal of waste.**
- 2. That the CEO negotiate with the EPA/relevant agencies, for the provision of free licenced waste cells at Whylandra landfill for asbestos in order to eliminate illegal dumping of this hazardous waste, rather than council having to pay for these cells and recover the cost by fees associated with the disposal of asbestos.**
- 3. That provisions are made for volunteer groups to be able to dispose of illegally dumped rubbish free of charge.**

4. That state and federal grants/programs are pursued to allow for the collection of costly waste items such as mattresses and tyres, so that these items can be disposed of properly, and with minimal to no cost.

CARRIED

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

Against: Councillors M Dickerson.

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.

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

MOTION

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.

CARRIED

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

Against: Councillors S Chowdhury, J Cowley, M Dickerson, R Ivey and M Wright.

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.

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

MOTION

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.

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.

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.

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

MOTION

- 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 build up of material in Spicers Creek, near the Forestvale Road Creek Crossing, so as to lower the water level across the Crossing, when conditions allow.**

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

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

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.

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

MOTION

That the New Dubbo Bridge Naming Community Consultation Summary Report (August 2025) prepared by Transport for NSW be noted.

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

AMENDMENT

- 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 The James Samuels Bridge.**

CARRIED

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

Against: Councillor J Black, P Toynton and P Wells.

The amendment on being put to the meeting was carried.

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

CARRIED

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

Against: Councillor J Black, P Toynton and P Wells.

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.

Moved by Councillor R Ivey and seconded by Councillor K Richardson.

MOTION

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).

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

AMENDMENT

1. That the following submissions be provided to the State Government Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for the proposed Boree Solar Farm development:
 - a. Dubbo Regional Council submission, Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements, Boree Solar Farm (Appendix 2).
 - b. Public submissions from the Stop the Boree Solar Farm Community Group (Appendix 3 and 4).
2. That the Proponent, as part of the Environmental Impact Statement, provide a detailed decommissioning and land rehabilitation plan.

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

The amendment on being put to the meeting was carried.

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

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

CCL25/253 DUBBO REGIONAL SPORTS COUNCIL - PLAYING FIELD IMPROVEMENT FUND 2025/2026 (ID25/1798)

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.

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

MOTION

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.

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

CCL25/254 DRAFT NEW DUBBO CEMETERY AND WELLINGTON CEMETERY MASTER PLANS (ID25/1760)

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.

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

MOTION

- 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.**

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

CCL25/255 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST RETURNS (ID25/1567)

The Council had before it the report dated 16 September 2025 from the Manager Corporate Governance regarding Disclosure of Interest Returns.

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

MOTION

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.

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

CCL25/256 OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES (ID25/1796)

The Council had before it the report dated 4 September 2025 from the Governance Team Leader regarding Outstanding Actions from Council and Committees.

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

MOTION

That the quarterly update on Outstanding Actions be noted.

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

CCL25/257 COMMENTS AND MATTERS OF URGENCY (ID25/1845)

There were no matters recorded under this clause.

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:

CCL25/258 - Appointments to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee - that the matter concerned information that would, if disclosed, reveal personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors) (Section 10A(2)(a)).

CCL25/259 – Funding Options – Wiradjuri Tourism Centre - 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)).

CCL25/260 – Proposal Land Acquisition – Lot 11 DP 785559, Macquarie Street, Dubbo - 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)).

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

At this juncture it was moved by Councillor A Ryan and seconded by Councillor P Wells that the Council resolves into closed session, the time being 8:42pm.

The open session resumed at 10:02pm. Moved by Councillor S Chowdhury and seconded by Councillor K Richardson.

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

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.

Moved by Councillor A Ryan 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)).

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

MOTION

1. That Council interview Applicant 2, Applicant 7, Applicant 8, Applicant 9, Applicant 14 and Applicant 15 for the Independent Representative roles on the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.
2. That the interview panel be comprised of the Chief Executive Officer, the Mayor, Councillors S Chowdhury, R Ivey and P Toynton.
3. That the interview panel, after the interview process, make a recommendation to the October Council meeting for the appointment of the Chairperson and the Independent Representatives on the ARIC.
4. That the fees payable to the Chairperson be \$2,000 per meeting, and Independent Members be \$1,500 per meeting.
5. That the information contained within this report remain confidential to the Council.

CARRIED

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

Against: Nil

Councillor L Butler 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 L Butler knows two of the candidates personally and he believes this would influence his decisions.

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.

Moved by Councillor A Ryan 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)).

Moved by Councillor P Wells and seconded by Councillor S Chowdhury

MOTION

That Council contribute an additional \$8.33M to deliver the full \$22.7M proposal (option 4 as outlined in the report).

CARRIED

For: Councillors S Chowdhury, J Cowley, M Dickerson, A Ryan, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Councillors J Black, L Butler, R Ivey, K Richardson and P Toynton.

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

MOTION

That council consider, as part of the funding model, the potential sale of financially underperforming assets to help fund the shortfall.

CARRIED

For: Councillors L Butler, J Cowley, M Dickerson, R Ivey, A Ryan, P Wells and M Wright.

Against: Councillors J Black, S Chowdhury, K Richardson and P Toynton.

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.

Moved by Councillor A Ryan 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)).

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

MOTION

- 1. That Council pursue the purchase of Lot 11 DP 785559.**
- 2. That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate the terms of the purchase of Lot 11 DP 785559 up to 20% less than the staff recommendation as outlined in this report.**
- 3. That upon acquisition, and completing requirements under the *Local Government Act 1993*, Lot 11 DP 785559 be classified as 'Operational' land.**
- 4. That any document relating to this matter be signed by the Chief Executive Officer under Power of Attorney.**
- 5. That all considerations and documentation in relation to this matter remain confidential to Council.**

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

The meeting closed at 10:03pm.

.....
CHAIRPERSON