

Ordinary Council Meeting

Business Paper

Pursuant to section 9 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Council Meeting of Parkes Shire Council will be held in the Parkes Council Chambers, 2 Cecile Street, Parkes on Tuesday 19 May 2026 at 3:00 PM.



Logan Hignett

ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

Governing Body

Composition:	Ten (10) Councillors
Membership:	Councillor WP Jayet, Councillor KM McGrath, Councillor LA O'Leary, Councillor J Paddison, Councillor DJA Pout, Councillor GW Pratt, Councillor MK Scherer, Councillor GS Wilson
Quorum:	6 Councillors
Chairperson:	Chairperson, Councillor NC Westcott
Deputy Chairperson:	Deputy Chair, Councillor MA Applebee

Pursuant to section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the role of Parkes Shire Council's governing body is:

- To direct and control the affairs of Parkes Shire Council in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, in consultation with the General Manager.
- To provide effective civic leadership to the local community.
- To ensure as far as practicable the financial sustainability of the Council.
- To ensure as far as practicable that the Council acts in accordance with the principles set out in Chapter 3 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and other strategic plans, programs, strategies and policies of the Council.
- To determine and adopt a rating and revenue policy and Operational Plans that support the optimal allocation of the Council's resources to implement the strategic plans (including the Community Strategic Plan) of the Council and for the benefit of the local area.
- To keep under review the performance of the Council, including service delivery.
- To make decisions necessary for the proper exercise of the Council's regulatory functions.
- To determine the process for appointment of the General Manager by the Council and to monitor the General Manager's performance.
- To determine the senior staff positions within the organisation structure of the Council, following consultation with the General Manager.
- To consult regularly with community organisations and other key stakeholders and keep them informed of the Council's decisions and activities.
- To be responsible for ensuring that the Council acts honestly, efficiently and appropriately.

Matters determined by meetings of Parkes Shire Council's governing body will include all those non-delegable functions identified in section 377 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Council Chambers

Seating Plan

ANNALISE TEALE

Director Planning
and Community
Services

ANTHONY MCGRATH

Director Customer,
Corporate Services
and Economy

KENT BOYD PSM

General Manager

NEIL WESTCOTT

Mayor

LOGAN HIGNETT

Director
Operations

ANDREW FRANCIS

Director
Infrastructure and
Sustainability

COUNCILLOR
George Pratt

COUNCILLOR
Doug Pout

COUNCILLOR
Matthew Scherer



COUNCILLOR
Kenny McGrath

COUNCILLOR
Joy Poddison

COUNCILLOR
Glenn Wilson

COUNCILLOR
Bill Joyet

DEPUTY MAYOR
Marg Applebee

COUNCILLOR
Louise O'Leary

PUBLIC GALLERY

Guiding Principles

In accordance with section 8A of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Councillors are reminded of the guiding principles applicable to decision-making by local councils:

Councils should recognise diverse local community needs and interests.

Councils should consider social justice principles.

Councils should consider the long-term and cumulative effects of actions on future generations.

Councils should consider the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

Council decision-making should be transparent and decision-makers are to be accountable for decisions and omissions.

Statement of Ethical Obligations

In accordance with clause 3.22 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, Councillors are reminded of their Oath or Affirmation of Office made under section 233A of the Act and their obligations under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.

Oath or Affirmation of Office

The Oath or Affirmation is taken by each Councillor whereby they swear or declare to undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of the Parkes Shire and Parkes Shire Council and that they will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act to the best of their ability and judgment.

Conflicts of Interest

All Councillors must declare and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at Council meetings in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct. All declarations of conflicts of interest and how the conflict of interest was managed will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the declaration was made.

Councillors attending a meeting by audio-visual link must declare and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at the meeting in accordance with Council's Code of Conduct. Where a Councillor has declared a pecuniary or significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter being discussed at the meeting, the Councillor's audio-visual link to the meeting will be suspended or terminated for the time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by Council, or at any time during which Council is voting on the matter.

Councillors should ensure that they are familiar with Parts 4 and 5 of Council's Code of Conduct in relation to their obligations to declare and manage conflicts of interests.

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

In the spirit of open, accessible and transparent government, meetings of Parkes Shire Council are video recorded and webcast, consistent with Council's Code of Meeting Practice and the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Council accepts no liability for any defamatory, discriminatory or offensive remarks or gestures made during the course of meetings. Opinions expressed or statements made by individual participants are the opinions or statements of those individuals, and do not imply any form of endorsement by Council.

Closed sessions of Council meetings are not video recorded or webcast.

Recordings and webcasts are protected by copyright and owned by Council, and published to Council's website. No part may be copied, recorded, reproduced or transmitted without the prior written consent of the General Manager. Any recording or webcast is not, and shall not, be taken to be an official record of Council or discussion depicted therein. Only the official minutes may be relied upon as an official record of the meeting.

Authorised media representatives are permitted to record meetings provided written notice has been lodged. A person may be expelled from a meeting for recording without notice. Recordings may only be used for the purpose of accuracy of reporting and are not for broadcast, or to be shared publicly. No recordings of any private third-party conversations or comments of anyone within the Chamber are permitted.

Please ensure that mobile phones and other electronic devices are turned off or are in silent mode for the duration of the meeting.

Under Council's Code of Meeting Practice, individuals acting in a disorderly manner can be asked by the Chairperson to leave the meeting.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Parkes Shire Council acknowledges the Wiradjuri People who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. We would also like to pay respect to the Elders past, present and emerging of the Wiradjuri Nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginal peoples from other nations who are present.

3 PRAYER

4 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE

In accordance with clauses 5.3, 5.5 and 5.7 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, apologies must be received and accepted from absent Councillors and a leave of absence from the Council Meeting may be granted.

5 APPLICATIONS TO ATTEND BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK

In accordance with clauses 5.19 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, Councillors may attend and participate in meetings by audio-visual link with the approval of the Council where they are prevented from attending the meeting in person because of ill-health or other medical reasons or because of unforeseen caring responsibilities.

Requests by Councillors for approval to attend a meeting by audio-visual link must be made in writing to the General Manager prior to the meeting in question and provide reasons why the Councillor will be prevented from attending the meeting in person.

Councillors attending a meeting by audio-visual link are reminded that they must ensure that no other person is within sight or hearing of the meeting at any time that the meeting is closed to the public under section 10A of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Note: Consistent with clause 5.45 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, attendance by Council staff at meetings of the Council by audio-visual link shall be with the approval of the General Manager.

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**6.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21 APRIL 2026****IP&R Linkage:** **Pillar:** Leadership**Goal:** Our local government is open, accountable and transparent.**Strategy:** Provide open and transparent decision-making and undertake the civic duties of Council with professionalism and integrity.**Annexures:** **A. Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes - 21 April 2026****RECOMMENDATION**

That Ordinary Council Meeting:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21 April 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

Ordinary Council Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday 21 April 2026



Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday, 21 April 2026 at the
Parkes Council Chambers, 2 Cecile Street, Parkes

Present:

Cr Neil Westcott	Councillor (Chairperson)
Cr Marg Applebee	Councillor (Deputy Chair)
Cr William Jayet	Councillor
Cr Ken McGrath	Councillor
Cr Louise O'Leary	Councillor
Cr Joy Paddison	Councillor
Cr Doug Pout	Councillor
Cr George Pratt	Councillor
Cr Matthew Scherer	Councillor
Cr Glenn Wilson	Councillor

Council Officers in Attendance:

Mr Kent Boyd PSM	General Manager
Mr Andrew Francis	Director Infrastructure and Sustainability
Mr Logan Hignett	Director Operations
Mr Anthony McGrath	Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy
Mrs Annalise Teale	Director Planning and Community Services
Mr Luke Nash	Acting Chief Financial Officer
Mrs Veronica Shaw	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance (Minute Secretary)
Mrs Dorothy Bables	Business Support Officer

NOTES

The meeting commenced at 3:03 and concluded at 5:33pm.

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor declared the Ordinary Council Meeting of Tuesday 21 April 2026 open and welcomed Councillors, Council Officers and members of the public attending and listening to the meeting.

The Mayor advised attendees that the meeting was being recorded and streamed live on the internet, to enhance the accessibility of Council meetings to the broader Parkes Shire community, and that the recording will be archived and made available on Council's website.

The Mayor asked that attendees ensure that mobile phones and other electronic devices were turned off or in silent mode for the duration of the meeting.

The Mayor further advised that all care would be taken to maintain privacy, however, as a visitor in the public gallery, members of the public should be aware that their presence may be recorded.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor read the following Acknowledgement of Country:

Parkes Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Wiradjuri Country and recognises and respects their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing connection with the lands and rivers of the Parkes Shire.

Council pays its respects to Elders past, present and emerging and extends this respect to all First Nations peoples in the Parkes Shire.

3 PRAYER

The General Manager read the Prayer:

O God,
Inspire Council to make wise decisions,
Grant Integrity to face the truth,
Courage to make difficult choices,
And compassion for the needs of others,
We pray through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

AMEN

4 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

5 APPLICATIONS TO ATTEND BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK

Nil

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17 MARCH 2026

RESOLVED OCM 056/26

Moved: Cr Doug Pout
Seconded: Cr Marg Applebee

That Ordinary Council Meeting receive and confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 17 March 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED

7 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

The Mayor reminded Councillors and Council Officers of their obligation under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at the meeting, and invited Councillors and Council Officers to disclose any such interests.

Nil interests were disclosed.

8 URGENT BUSINESS

The Mayor advised that the following late items of business had been submitted by Council Officers, and invited a motion to enable the addition of the late items to the meeting agenda.

9 ADOPTION OF MULTIPLE ITEMS OF BUSINESS

The Council may, at any time, resolve to adopt multiple items of business, as recommended in the report, byway of a single resolution. The Chairperson must list the items of business to be adopted and ask Councillors to identify any individual items of business listed by the Chairperson that they intend to vote against the recommendation made in the Business Paper, or that they wish to speak on (13.2).

9.1 ADOPTION OF MULTIPLE ITEMS OF BUSINESS

RESOLVED OCM 057/26

Moved: Cr William Jayet
Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council adopt the recommendations as listed in the Agenda for the following items and that the order of business be adjusted accordingly:

- 10.1 Meetings, Functions and Events Attended by Mayor and Councillors.
- 12.1 International Women's Day (IWD) Luncheon held in Sydney on 6 March 2026.
- 12.2 ALGWA Conference NSW held in Blacktown on 26 – 28 March 2026.
- 13.1 Minutes of the Rural Roads Advisory Committee Meeting held on 26 March 2026.
- 13.2 Minutes of the Extraordinary Local Traffic Forum Meeting held on 31 March 2026.

-
- 13.3 Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 7 April 2026.
 - 13.4 Minutes of the Parkes Sports Council Meeting held on 9 April 2026.
 - 15.3 Civic Reception – NSW PSSA U12 Boys Rugby League State Championships
 - 15.5 Adoption of Council Policy – Procurement and Contracts Management Framework.
 - 17.2 Road Closure and Sale to Adjoining Owner – Council Road between Andrew Stewart Road and Emerton Road.
 - 18.1 March 2026 Building Statistics Update.

CARRIED

10 MAYORAL MINUTE(S)

10.1 MEETINGS, FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS ATTENDED BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

RESOLVED OCM 058/26

Moved: Cr William Jayet
Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Note the report on the Meetings functions and events attended in an official capacity, by the Mayor and Councillors during the period 12 March to 15 April 2026.

CARRIED

10.2 COMING KNOWN EVENTS FOR MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

RESOLVED OCM 059/26

Moved: Cr George Pratt
Seconded: Cr Marg Applebee

That Council:

1. Note the known upcoming meetings, functions and events for the Mayor and Councillors for the period 16 April 2026 through to 13 May 2026:

CARRIED

10.3 ENERGY FROM WASTE (EFW) - OPPOSITION ACTION PLAN

RESOLVED OCM 060/26

Moved: Cr Neil Westcott
Seconded: Cr William Jayet

That Council:

1. Adopt the Energy from Waste (EfW) Opposition Action plan in principle as a guide for Councils actions opposing the EfW facility.
-

CARRIED

10.4 SUPPORT FOR CAMPAIGN TO INCREASE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT**RESOLVED OCM 061/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Notes the Country Mayors Association of NSW "Invest in Us" campaign advocating for increased Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants to Local Governments. The campaign seeks to restore at least 1% of total Commonwealth taxation revenue for local Councils across Australia
2. Recognises the critical role Local Government plays in delivering essential services and infrastructure that underpin community wellbeing, economic vitality, and national resilience.
3. Supports the campaign's core message: 'Invest in us so we can invest in them.'
4. Commits to participating in the campaign by:
 - a. Sharing campaign materials through Council communication channels
 - b. Engaging with local media and community stakeholders to raise awareness.
 - c. Lobbying Federal representatives to support the funding increase.
5. Requests the Mayor to write to the relevant Prime Minister, Treasurer, Federal Minister for Local Government, the Shadow Minister for Local Government, our local Member of Parliament and Senator expressing Council's support for the campaign and urging their commitment to the proposed funding increase.

CARRIED

10.5 NSW COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION HONOUR PAST LEADERS**RESOLVED OCM 062/26**

Moved: Cr Neil Westcott

Seconded: Cr Marg Applebee

That Council:

1. Note the information in the report.
2. Write a letter to Emeritus Mayor Ken Keith OAM congratulating him on receiving the honour of Patron of the Country Mayors Association.

CARRIED

11 NOTICES OF MOTION/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

12 COUNCILLOR REPORT(S)**12.1 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY (IWD) LUNCHEON HELD IN SYDNEY ON 6 MARCH 2026****RESOLVED OCM 063/26**

Moved: Cr William Jayet
Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Note the information provided by Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee following her attendance at the LGNSW International Women's Day (IWD) Luncheon in Sydney on 6 March 2026 representing the Parkes Shire Community.

CARRIED**12.2 ALGWA CONFERENCE NSW HELD IN BLACKTOWN ON 26 - 28 MARCH 2026****RESOLVED OCM 064/26**

Moved: Cr William Jayet
Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Note the information provided by Cr Paddison following her attendance at the ALGWA Conference in Blacktown on 26 – 28 March 2026 representing the Parkes Shire Community.

CARRIED**13 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES****13.1 MINUTES OF THE RURAL ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26 MARCH 2026****RESOLVED OCM 065/26**

Moved: Cr William Jayet
Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Rural Roads Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday 26 March 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED**13.2 MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY LOCAL TRAFFIC FORUM MEETING HELD ON 31 MARCH 2026****RESOLVED OCM 066/26**

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Extraordinary Local Traffic Forum Meeting held on Tuesday 31 March 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED

13.3 MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7 APRIL 2026

RESOLVED OCM 067/26

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 7 April 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED

13.4 MINUTES OF THE PARKES SPORTS COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9 APRIL 2026

RESOLVED OCM 068/26

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Parkes Sports Council Meeting held on Thursday 9 April 2026 (Sports Grants Selection Sub-Committee) appended at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED

13.5 MINUTES OF THE PARKES SPORTS COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14 APRIL 2026

RESOLVED OCM 069/26

Moved: Cr Louise O'Leary

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Parkes Sports Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14 April 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.
2. Review the situation with lack of suitable public toilets at Woodward Oval and advise whether there is funding for temporary facilities until a new facility can be built and that a new facility be prioritised.

CARRIED

Director Operations left the meeting at 3:42pm.

Director Operations returned to the meeting at 3:44pm.

14 REPORTS OF THE GENERAL MANAGER**14.1 FUEL SECURITY – BUSINESS CONTINUITY PREPAREDNESS****RESOLVED OCM 070/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Joy Paddison

That Council:

1. Notes the national fuel security context and associated risks to local government operations.
2. Notes that Council has developed a Fuel Disruption Action Plan as part of its Business Continuity Planning framework.
3. Notes the financial and operational impacts associated with rising fuel costs and potential fuel supply disruption.
4. Acknowledges that Council is prepared to implement fuel reduction and continuity measures should fuel availability or supply reliability deteriorate.

CARRIED**14.2 INVESTMENTS AND BORROWINGS REPORT AS AT 31 MARCH 2026****RESOLVED OCM 071/26**

Moved: Cr Doug Pout

Seconded: Cr George Pratt

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Statement of Investments and Borrowings as at 31 March 2026.

CARRIED**14.3 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 31 MARCH 2026****RESOLVED OCM 072/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Ken McGrath

That Council:

1. Receive and note the year-to-date financial reports for the period up to 31 March 2026.

CARRIED**15 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR CUSTOMER, CORPORATE SERVICES AND ECONOMY****15.1 MAJOR PROJECTS AND CURRENT WORKS - CUSTOMER, CORPORATE**

SERVICES AND ECONOMY - MARCH 2026**RESOLVED OCM 073/26**

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Receive and note the status report of Major Projects within Parkes Shire Council's Customer, Corporate Services and Economy Directorate.

CARRIED

At 3:58 pm, Cr Doug Pout left the meeting.

At 4:00 pm, Cr Doug Pout rejoined the meeting.

15.2 DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN AND BUDGET 2026-2027 FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION**RESOLVED OCM 074/26**

Moved: Cr Doug Pout

Seconded: Cr Marg Applebee

That Council:

1. Endorse the [Draft Operational Plan and Budget 2026-2027](#) for public exhibition, pursuant to section 4.9 of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines.
2. Place the [Draft Operational Plan and Budget 2026-2027](#) on public exhibition for 28-days.
3. Report to Council after the public exhibition period advising any submissions received, including a recommended response, before the report is finally adopted by Council.

CARRIED

At 4:09 pm, Cr George Pratt left the meeting.

At 4:15 pm, Cr George Pratt rejoined the meeting.

15.3 CIVIC RECEPTION - NSW PSSA U12 BOYS RUGBY LEAGUE STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS**RESOLVED OCM 075/26**

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. That Council approve the hosting of a Civic Reception on Wednesday 17 June 2026 to welcome the captains and coaches attending the NSW Primary School Sports Association (PSSA) U12 Boys Rugby League State Championships to be held in Parkes from 15–18 June 2026.

CARRIED**15.4 INTERNAL COMMITTEE CHANGES - SPORT AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND SPORTS COUNCIL**

RESOLVED OCM 076/26

Moved: Cr William Jayet
Seconded: Cr Marg Applebee

That Council:

1. Adopt the Internal Committee delegates and amendments in the Internal Committee Details document attached at Annexure A.
2. Approve the removal of the Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee and that its functions be incorporated into the Sport Council as set out in the Internal Committees at Annexure A.
3. Communicate the Internal Committee changes to relevant parties.
4. Advertise to seek community representatives for appointment to the various advisory committees as required.

CARRIED**15.5 ADOPTION OF COUNCIL POLICY - PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTS MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK****RESOLVED OCM 077/26**

Moved: Cr William Jayet
Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Adopt the Procurement and Contracts Management Framework included as *Annexure A* to this report.
2. Publish the adopted policy on Council's Website and intranet if required.

CARRIED**16 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY****16.1 MAJOR PROJECTS AND CURRENT WORKS - INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY - MARCH 2026****RESOLVED OCM 078/26**

Moved: Cr Doug Pout
Seconded: Cr William Jayet

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Infrastructure and Sustainability Major Projects and Current Works Report for March 2026, appended at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED

At 4:27 pm, Cr Louise O'Leary left the meeting.

16.2 WASTE EDUCATION UPDATE OCTOBER 25 TO MARCH 26

RESOLVED OCM 079/26

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr William Jayet

That Council:

1. Note and receive the information contained within the report.

CARRIED

At 4:28 pm, Cr Louise O'Leary rejoined the meeting.

17 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR OPERATIONS**17.1 MAJOR PROJECTS AND CURRENT WORKS - OPERATIONS - MARCH 2026****RESOLVED OCM 080/26**

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Operations Major Projects and Current Works Report for March 2026, appended at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED**17.2 ROAD CLOSURE AND SALE TO ADJOINING OWNER - COUNCIL ROAD BETWEEN ANDREW STEWART ROAD AND EMERTON ROAD****RESOLVED OCM 081/26**

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Approve the closure and sale of the unformed road reserve between Emerton Road and Andrew Stewart Road.
2. Require a four (4)-metre-wide easement for stormwater along the full length of the road reserve, adjacent to Lots 123 and 21 DP 750179.

CARRIED**17.3 OPEN SPACE STRATEGY - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT****RESOLVED OCM 082/26**

Moved: Cr Ken McGrath

Seconded: Cr William Jayet

That:

1. Council notes the [Parkes Shire Open Spaces Review of Submissions Report 2026](#) and the finalised [Parkes Shire Open Spaces Strategy 2026](#).

2. Council resolves to adopt the finalised Parkes Shire Open Spaces Strategy 2026, including the changes to Section 13.2 Reclassification of Open Space that removes Ken Turner Park and includes the statement 'Any proceeds from Reclassification of Open Space is to be reinvested in open spaces and initiatives in the Parkes Shire.'
3. Council publishes notice of its adoption of the Parkes Shire Open Spaces Strategy 2026, along with a link to the adopted Strategy and the Parkes Shire Open Spaces Review of Submissions Report 2026.
4. Council supports the reuse of the name 'Beryl Logan' at an appropriate open space location within the Parkes Shire at a future time, subject to the relevant naming processes.

CARRIED

17.4 NATIONAL HEAVY VEHICLE REGULATOR (NHVR) CONDITIONS 3 MONTH TRIAL UPDATE

RESOLVED OCM 083/26

Moved: Cr Ken McGrath

Seconded: Cr Marg Applebee

That Council:

1. Receive and note the information contained in this report; and
2. Endorse the amendment to the time-of-day operating condition applied to NHVR permits for Class 2 vehicles on Council roads; and
3. Note that Council will continue to monitor heavy vehicle operations and may review conditions if required.

CARRIED

17.5 BUSHMAN'S DAM FLOOD REPAIR PROJECT - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

RESOLVED OCM 084/26

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Cr George Pratt

That:

1. Council note the outcomes of the community consultation process for the Bushman's Dam Flood Repair Project and endorse the revised design approach, including modification to excavation depth and retention of the existing island, to balance flood mitigation outcomes with visual amenity and environmental considerations.

CARRIED

At 5:10 pm, Cr Ken McGrath left the meeting.

At 5:13 pm, Cr Ken McGrath rejoined the meeting.

18 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

18.1 MARCH 2026 BUILDING STATISTICS UPDATE

RESOLVED OCM 085/26

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Receive and note the March 2026 Building Statistics Report.

CARRIED

18.2 PEAK HILL PRESCHOOL - EXEMPTION OF 7.12 DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS**RESOLVED OCM 086/26**

Moved: Cr Louise O'Leary

Seconded: Cr Joy Paddison

That:

1. That Council support request from the Peak Hill Preschool Kindergarten Incorporated to waive the 7.12 Developer Contributions.

CARRIED

18.3 SHOPPING TROLLEYS- TOWN PRESENTATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY**RESOLVED OCM 087/26**

Moved: Cr Ken McGrath

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Receive and note the information contained within the report.

CARRIED

At 5:30 pm, Cr George Pratt left the meeting.

At 5:32 pm, Cr George Pratt rejoined the meeting.

19 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil

20 REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS

In accordance with clauses 14.22 and 14.23 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting that is closed to the public must be made public by the Chairperson as soon as practicable. Such resolutions must be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.

Nil

21 CONCLUSION OF MEETING

The meeting concluded at 5:33pm.

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 17 pages numbered 1 to 17 of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 21 April 2026 and confirmed on Tuesday, 19 May 2026.



MAYOR

7 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

In accordance with Part 16 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, all Councillors must disclose and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at the meeting.

Council's Code of Conduct deals with pecuniary and non-pecuniary conflicts of interest and political donations, and provides guidance on how these issues should be managed.

Councillors, and where applicable, other Council Officials, must be familiar with Council's Code of Conduct and their obligations to disclose and manage any conflicts of interest that they may have in matters being considered at this Council Meeting.

Note: Councillors and staff who declare an Interest at the Council Meeting are also required to complete a Declaration of Interest form.

Obligations	
Pecuniary Interests	<p>A Councillor who has a pecuniary interest in any matter with which the Council is concerned, and who is present at a meeting of the Council at which the matter is being considered, must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting.</p> <p>The Councillor must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) At any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed, or (b) At any time during which the Council is voting on any question in relation to the matter.
Non-Pecuniary Conflicts of Interest	<p>A Councillor who has a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter, must disclose the relevant private interest in relation to the matter fully and on each occasion on which the non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises in relation to the matter.</p>
Significant Non-Pecuniary Conflicts of Interest	<p>A Councillor who has a significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest in relation to a matter under consideration at a Council meeting, must manage the conflict of interest as if they had a pecuniary interest in the matter.</p>
Less than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests	<p>A Councillor who determines that they have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter that is not significant and does not require further action, when disclosing the interest must also explain why conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances.</p>

8 URGENT BUSINESS**9 ADOPTION OF MULTIPLE ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

The Council may, at any time, resolve to adopt multiple items of business, as recommended in the report, byway of a single resolution. The Chairperson must list the items of business to be adopted and ask Councillors to identify any individual items of business listed by the Chairperson that they intend to vote against the recommendation made in the Business Paper, or that they wish to speak on (13.2).

10 MAYORAL MINUTE(S)

10.1 MEETINGS, FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS ATTENDED BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

IP&R Linkage: Pillar: Leadership

Goal: Our Local Government is open, accountable and representative.

Strategy: Advocate and provide strong representation for our community at the regional, state, and federal levels.

Author: Cr Neil Westcott

Annexures: Nil

MOTION

That Council:

- Note the report on the Meetings functions and events attended in an official capacity, by the Mayor and Councillors during the period 16 April 2026 to 13 May 2026.

REPORT

Table 1: lists the Meetings, functions and events attended by the Mayor and Councillors during the period 16 April 2026 to 13 May 2026:

Table 1: Meetings, Functions and Events attended by Mayor and Councillors	
Date	Function
Saturday 18 April	Light up Parkes Event Mayor Neil Westcott, Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee, Cr Bill Jayet and Cr Doug Pout
Monday 20 April	Peak Hill Community Consultative Committee Meeting Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee, Cr Louise O’Leary Alectown Community Consultative Committee Meeting Mayor Neil Westcott
Tuesday 21 April	Waste Advisory Committee Meeting, Committee Room Mayor Neil Westcott, Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee, Cr George Pratt, Cr Glen Wilson and Cr Louise O’Leary Apology: Cr Doug Pout Presentation by FitMann on Pool update, Council Chambers All Councillors and Directors Ordinary Council Meeting, Council Chambers All Councillors and Directors
Thursday	Trundle Community Consultative Committee meeting

Table 1: Meetings, Functions and Events attended by Mayor and Councillors	
Date	Function
23 April	Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee
Friday 24 April	Meeting with the NSW Agriculture Commissioner, Alectown Mayor Neil Westcott Apology: Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee
Saturday 25 April	ANZAC Day Services around the Shire <u>Alectown:</u> Dawn Service - Soldiers Memorial Hall Cr Louise O’Leary <u>Bogan Gate:</u> Dawn Service - Hutton Street Cr George Pratt <u>Parkes</u> Dawn service - Memorial Hill Mayor Neil Westcott, Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee, and Cr Doug Pout Apologies: Cr Bill Jayet Commemorative Service - Cooke Park Cenotaph Mayor Neil Westcott, Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee, Cr Louise O’Leary and Cr Doug Pout Apologies: Cr Bill Jayet ANZAC Day Luncheon Mayor Neil Westcott and Mrs Alison Westcott Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee and Mr Luke Clyne Cr Doug Pout and Mrs Courtney Pout <u>Peak Hill:</u> Civic Ceremony - AIF School of Arts Memorial Gates Cr Louise O’Leary <u>Trundle:</u> March and Memorial Service - Trundle War Memorial Hall Cr Joy Paddison <u>Tullamore:</u> Commemorative Service - Tullamore Memorial Park Cr Kenny McGrath
Tuesday 28 April	Orange Conservatorium meeting with Parkes music community and Council Mayor Neil Westcott, and Cr Bill Jayet Apologies: Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee, Cr Joy Paddison and Cr Louise O’Leary
Saturday 2 May	Trundle ABBA Festival

Table 1: Meetings, Functions and Events attended by Mayor and Councillors	
Date	Function
	Mayor Neil Westcott and Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee Apologies: General Manager Kent Boyd and Cr Bill Jayet
Monday 4 May	Community Financial Assistance Grants Committee Mayor Neil Westcott, Cr Doug Pout, Cr Bill Jayet and Cr Kenny McGrath LGNSW Domestic Violence Training (Week 1 of 3) Cr Louise O’Leary
Tuesday 5 May	Goonumbla Solar Farm Update Mayor Neil Westcott, Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee and Directors
Thursday 7 May	Kumanjayi Little Baby Vigil Mayor Neil Westcott and Cr Joy Paddison Apologies: Cr Bill Jayet
Thursday and Friday 7 May and 8 May	Rural & Regional Summit, Sydney Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee Country Mayors Association (CMA), Sydney Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee and Former Mayor Ken Keith Apologies: Mayor Neil Westcott
Monday 11 May	LGNSW Domestic Violence training (Week 2 of 3) Cr Louise O’Leary
Tuesday 12 May	Working Group meeting, Council Chambers Mayor Neil Westcott, Cr Joy Paddison, Cr Doug Pout, Cr Kenny McGrath and Cr Matthew Scherer
Wednesday 13 May	MLVT BFMC Meeting, Forbes Cr George Pratt and Acting Director Operations Michael O’Shannessy Parliament meeting – “Rescue the Inland Rail Campaign”, Parliament Meeting, Canberra with Mr Jamie Chaffey (Federal Member for Parkes) Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee Apology: Mayor Neil Westcott Tullamore Community Consultative Committee Meeting, Bowling Club Cr George Pratt Apology: Cr Louise O’Leary



Picture 1: Kerry Jones, Mayor Neil Westcott and Cr Bill Jayeyt with the crowd at Light up Parkes Event on Saturday 18th April.



Picture 2: Entertainment throughout the night, people on stilts, at Light up Parkes Event on Saturday 18th April.

Photo courtesy of Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee



Picture 1: ANZAC Dawn Service at Parkes Memorial Hill, on Saturday 25th April, photo courtesy of Mayor Neil Westcott.



Picture 2: The attendance at Cooke Park for the ANZAC Day Service on Saturday 25th April.



Picture 1: ANZAC Soldier at Parkes ANZAC Day Parade on Saturday 25th April

Picture 2: Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee, Mayor Neil Westcott, Cr Doug Pout and Cr George Pratt at Parkes ANZAC Day Parade on Saturday 25th April. Photo courtesy of Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee



Picture 1: Cr Joy Paddison & Col Wheeler – Past President Trundle RSL Sub-Branch, on ANZAC Saturday 26th April



Picture 1: Mayor Neil Westcott and Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee at Trundle ABBA Festival, Saturday 2nd May.

Picture 2: The crowd at Trundle ABBA Festival, Saturday 2nd May. Photos courtesy of Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee.



Picture: James Baillee, Irene Ridgeway, Mayor Neil Westcott, Mandy Brown, Cr Joy Paddison, Cr Matthew Scherer, Wayne Bloomfield, and Michael James at Kumanjayi Little Baby Vigil on Thursday 7th May.



Picture: Former Parkes Shire Mayor Ken Keith, Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee and Former Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, General Sir Peter Cosgrove AK, CVO, MC. at the Country Mayors Association Reception when Ken Keith was recognised as the Inaugural Patron of the Country Mayors Association on Thursday 7th May.



Cr Neil Westcott

MAYOR

10.2 COMING KNOWN EVENTS FOR MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

IP&R Linkage: **Pillar:** Leadership

Goal: Our Local Government is open, accountable and representative.

Strategy: Advocate and provide strong representation for our community at the regional, state, and federal levels.

Author: **Cr Neil Westcott**

Annexures: **Nil**

MOTION

That Council:

- Note the known upcoming meetings, functions and events for the Mayor and Councillors for the period 14 May 2026 through to 10 June 2026:

REPORT

Table 1 below, lists the upcoming meetings, functions and events requiring the attendance of the Mayor or Councillors in relation to community or civic matters during the period 14 May 2026 through to 10 June 2026:

Table 1: Known upcoming Meetings, Functions and Events for Mayor and Councillors

Date	Function
Saturday 16 May	Travel to Trundle & Golden Years, Bright Futures Fundraising Ball Invited: Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee Ride for Country Kids Invited: Mayor Neil Westcott
Monday 18 May	LGNSW Domestic Violence training (Week 3 of 3) Invited: Cr Louise O'Leary
Tuesday 19 May	PSC Economy, Destination and Events Advisory Committee Meeting Invited: Mayor Neil Westcott, Cr Marg Applebee, Cr Bill Jayet, Cr Doug Pout, Cr Glenn Wilson, Cr Joy Paddison Ordinary Council Meeting Invited: All Councillors and Directors

Date	Function
Thursday 21 May	Welcome to Parkes Shire Event 2026, Service Club Invited: All Councillors, Directors and new residents in the Parkes Shire
Saturday 23 May	SES new facility official opening at Parkes Invited: All Councillors
Monday 25 May	Peak Hill Community Consultative Committee Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee and Cr Louise O’Leary
Thursday 28 May	Trundle Community Consultative Committee meeting Invited: Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee
Friday to Sunday 5 June to 7 June	Official Opening Night of the Peak Hill Arts & Crafts Exhibition (& continues through to Sunday) Invited: All Councillors and Directors



Cr Neil Westcott
 MAYOR

10.3 DISAPPOINTING FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DECISION TO "CONSOLIDATE" THE INLAND RAIL PROJECT TO PARKES.**IP&R Linkage:** Pillar: Leadership**Goal:** Our Local Government is open, accountable and representative.**Strategy:** Advocate and provide strong representation for our community at the regional, state, and federal levels.**Author:** Cr Neil Westcott**Annexures:** Nil

MOTION

That Council:

1. Receive and note my report on the decision by the Federal Government to consolidate the Inland Rail project north of Parkes.
2. Continue to raise its strong concerns and disappointment with the appropriate ministers on the Federal Government's decision to consolidate the Inland Rail Project north of Parkes.

REPORT

The decision announced by the Federal Government to "consolidate" the Melbourne-Brisbane Inland Rail north of Parkes is a shock and profoundly disappointing for our community and for the nation.

For decades, Parkes has advocated for Inland Rail in good faith. We have hosted symposiums, led national conversations, mobilised industry, and built our regional future around the promise that Australia would finally commit to long-term nation-building infrastructure, first espoused by Sir Henry Parkes over 130 years ago.

To see such a strategically vital project abandoned at the stroke of a political pen sends a chilling message: that Australia has become a nation where major infrastructure start and stop at political whim. That is not how serious countries build prosperity.

The Inland Rail is critical national infrastructure. For freight and agriculture, it offers a faster, higher-capacity alternative to an already constrained and weather-exposed coastal route, giving inland producers reliable access to ports and international markets.

From a defence and national resilience perspective, a second north-south rail spine is essential, providing redundancy if coastal corridors are disrupted by natural disasters or strategic shocks. It also supports future inland fuel storage and distribution, strengthening energy security.

Together, these outcomes lift national productivity by reducing transit times, freight costs and supply-chain vulnerabilities, benefits the country in current circumstances can ill afford to abandon.

This decision reflects a troubling lack of long-term vision for our nation. Productivity does not improve by accident. It improves when governments commit to infrastructure that unlocks regional capacity, strengthens supply chains, and produces benefits for generations, not just electoral cycles.

I am deeply worried about what this says for the future of Australia. We have recently seen the Blue Mountains tunnel project cancelled, despite it being designed to bypass a 200-year-old convict-built bridge. The result? Our main transport artery west of Sydney is now closed, with serious economic consequences.

At the same time, we see post offices, banks and government agencies closing across regional Australia, lifelines for many communities. And now Inland Rail. These decisions are not isolated. They point to a growing divide between policy ambition and regional reality.

As a nation, we must work out where we are going. That requires long-term investment strategies that endure governments, not vanish when political priorities shift. Projects like the Pacific Highway, Western Sydney Airport, the M12, now open, and the planned Newcastle rail show what is possible when commitment is sustained.

But unfortunately, if you live on the western side of the Blue Mountains, the pattern is clear. We have less voting power, and increasingly, we are treated accordingly.

If intergenerational equity is the justification being used today, then I urge decision-makers to also consider across-mountain equity. Regional Australia should not be asked to consistently carry the cost of short-term thinking.

Parkes will not stop advocating for infrastructure that serves the whole nation. But today's decision makes one thing painfully clear: Australia must decide whether it truly believes in national productivity and regional development, or whether it is prepared to walk away from them.

At the same time, this community is not interested in simply criticising government for the sake of it. We want to work constructively with decision-makers. We want to understand the basis for this decision, to test it rigorously against the national interest, and to contribute our regional knowledge to better outcomes.

Parkes has always been prepared to engage in sensible, evidence-based discussions that benefit the whole country, but engagement does not mean capitulation. Nation-building infrastructure requires resolve, transparency, and a willingness to reconsider decisions when the long-term consequences for productivity, resilience and equity are so significant.

Whatever the political decision of the day, Parkes' fundamentals are unshaken. Parkes remains at the crossroads of the nation's railways and at the heart of a globally competitive agricultural region exporting more than 70 per cent of its produce, unfortunately, with little or no value adding.

The Parkes Special Activation Precinct, strongly supported by the NSW Government, is a serious, future-focused platform to change that and unlock national productivity.

Other advanced economies actively back inland logistics and value-adding precincts because they understand the strategic return on that investment, and Australia should be no different.

Regardless of this decision, Parkes will continue to forge ahead with confidence, resilience and a clear national purpose.



Cr Neil Westcott

MAYOR

10.4 LATE MOTIONS TO AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE**IP&R Linkage:** Pillar: Leadership**Goal:** Our Local Government is open, accountable and representative.**Strategy:** Advocate and provide strong representation for our community at the regional, state, and federal levels.**Author:** Cr Neil Westcott**Annexures:** A. **Urgent Late Motion to the ALGA National General Assembly** [↓](#)**MOTION**

That Council:

1. Receive and note this report on the Federal Government's announcement to consolidate the Inland Rail only to Parkes.
2. Endorse the Urgent Late Motion to the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly as detailed in *Annexure A*.

REPORT

As Mayor, I wish to formally express my profound disappointment at the Commonwealth's recent announcement to "consolidate" Inland Rail only to Parkes, with no articulated commitment or pathway for the nationally planned corridor beyond this point. This announcement is deeply unsettling for regional communities and genuinely saddening for the long-term productivity of the nation. Infrastructure of this scale and significance is fundamental to Australia's economic resilience, supply-chain security and national competitiveness, and uncertainty at this level risks undermining confidence in the country's capacity to plan and deliver long-term, nation-building projects. The Mayoral media release on this matter is attached.

Parkes Council has been a diligent and responsible steward of Inland Rail for decades. We have acted in good faith and in the national interest at every stage, hosting nationally recognised Inland Rail symposiums, convening industry, governments and experts to advance evidence-based discussion, and undertaking sustained advocacy across multiple Commonwealth governments. Parkes Council was also a founding member of the Melbourne–Brisbane Inland Rail Alliance (MBIRA), which itself emerged directly from those symposiums, to ensure coordinated advocacy grounded in productivity, freight efficiency and national resilience rather than parochial interest.

I recommend Council support the Urgent Late Motion to the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly, which is attached. This motion provides a constructive and authoritative mechanism for local government to speak with one voice, calling for transparency, certainty and a credible pathway forward for Inland Rail beyond Parkes. It appropriately recognises the productivity, resilience and investment confidence at stake, while affirming that nationally significant infrastructure must be progressed through complexity, not diminished by it.

Importantly, regardless of the political decision of the day, the fundamentals of Parkes remain as strong as ever. Parkes continues to sit at the crossroads of the nation's rail network, at the heart of a globally competitive agricultural region, and is well positioned for continued growth through the Parkes Special Activation Precinct and related investments. This community has demonstrated resilience, foresight and national purpose over many decades, and it will continue to do so, confident

in its future and steadfast in advocating for infrastructure that supports the prosperity and productivity of Australia as a whole.



Cr Neil Westcott

MAYOR

Urgent Late Motion to Australian Local Government – National General Assembly**Supporting Statement – Inland Rail North of Parkes**

The Australian Government's recent announcement to "consolidate" the Inland Rail project by completing construction only to Parkes, without clarity on progression beyond that point, represents a significant departure from long-standing national infrastructure policy and raises serious concerns for Australia's productivity, resilience and investment confidence.

For clarity, Inland Rail infrastructure is already operational north of Parkes to Narromine, while there may be sound rationale in progressing additional sections to optimise what has already been built, there is no articulated commitment or pathway to complete the nationally planned corridor toward Brisbane.

Inland Rail was conceived, assessed and announced as infrastructure of national significance. Its purpose was not regional development in isolation, but the creation of a second inland north-south freight spine to support the nation's growing freight task, protect metropolitan supply chains, reduce congestion and emissions, and strengthen Australia's resilience to climate, fuel and network disruptions. These objectives remain valid and increasingly urgent.

While the Government has not explicitly described the project as cancelled, the absence of a clear commitment or pathway to progress Inland Rail beyond Parkes creates uncertainty that has the same practical effect. Without a defined mechanism to advance the remaining sections, the nationally forecast productivity gains, supply-chain efficiencies and congestion-reduction benefits associated with the full Melbourne-Brisbane corridor are placed at risk.

Large, complex infrastructure projects inevitably encounter challenges, including cost escalation, scope refinement and delivery risk. Those challenges do not diminish national significance; rather, they are precisely why such projects require sustained commitment, disciplined governance and long-term problem-solving. Nation-building infrastructure has never been delivered by avoiding difficulty, but by working through it in the national interest.

The current lack of clarity crystallises a deeper and more consequential issue: investment certainty and sovereign risk. Over many years, governments at all levels, businesses, ports, logistics operators and communities made decisions in good faith on the basis of repeated and unequivocal Commonwealth commitments that Inland Rail would be delivered as a Melbourne-Brisbane corridor. Planning systems were aligned, land preserved, capital allocated and private investment mobilised in reliance on those decisions.

When nationally announced infrastructure projects can be left unresolved through ambiguity rather than resolved through governance and planning, it undermines confidence not only in this project, but in the reliability of government decision-making more broadly. If investors, councils and communities cannot rely on formal Commonwealth commitments when making long-term investment decisions, the question arises: on what basis can national infrastructure confidence be sustained at all? This has implications well beyond Inland Rail, affecting Australia's credibility as a place to invest, plan and build for the long term.

This motion does not dismiss the importance of cost discipline or robust governance. Rather, it asserts that projects of genuine national significance must be progressed through complexity, not diminished by it. Preserving corridors may be prudent, but it is not a substitute for delivering outcomes.

The National General Assembly has an obligation to speak collectively on matters that affect Australia's long-term productivity, infrastructure integrity and investment confidence. Inland Rail meets that threshold. Clarity, commitment and a credible pathway forward are now required so the project's national purpose is not quietly diminished by uncertainty.

The motion**This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:**

1. Provide clarity on its long-term intentions for Inland Rail beyond Parkes, noting that the current "consolidation" decision does not articulate a pathway for completing the nationally planned Melbourne–Brisbane railway;
2. Recognise Inland Rail as infrastructure of national significance whose productivity, congestion-reduction and resilience benefits depend on full delivery, and that prolonged uncertainty places those benefits at risk;
3. Affirm that commitments made to local governments, landholders and communities as part of Inland Rail planning, acquisition and construction processes form part of the project's social licence and call on the Australian Government to ensure all genuine and recorded commitments are honoured in full, regardless of staging or sequencing decisions.
4. Commit to progressing Inland Rail beyond Parkes (Narromine) by working through identified cost, scope and delivery challenges, consistent with the treatment of other nationally significant, complex infrastructure projects; and
5. Ensure this approach is underpinned by transparency, including releasing the supporting cost, cost-benefit and productivity analyses and engaging with local governments to advance the project in the national interest.
6. Affirm that, in the national interest, infrastructure deemed nationally significant through an agreed and transparent methodology requires enduring commitment, long-term planning horizons, and perseverance through complexity.

10.5 COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION: MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 27 MARCH 2026**IP&R Linkage:** **Pillar:** Leadership**Goal:** Our Local Government is open, accountable and representative.**Strategy:** Advocate and provide strong representation for our community at the regional, state, and federal levels.**Author:** **Cr Neil Westcott****Annexures:** **A. [CMA Minutes for meeting held on 27 March 2026](#)** ↓

MOTION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Minutes from the Country Mayors Association meeting held on 27 March 2026.

REPORT

I attended the Country Mayors Association meeting in Sydney on 27 March 2026 which was strongly supported by various Departments including Parliamentarian Ministers and with representatives of Country NSW Councils and associated organisations in attendance. The Agenda Theme was: Financial Sustainability (inclusive of Economic Development, Infrastructure).

The meeting was held in the Theatre at Parliament House, Sydney and the agenda was full of guest presenters, these included:

- * The CMA Tribute to Bondi Massacre Victims
 - NSW Minister for Regional Transport & Roads: The Hon. Jenny Aitchison MP
 - NSW Opposition Leader: Mrs Kellie Sloan MP
 - Waverley Council Mayor: Mayor Will Nemesh

This included a Minute's Silence in honour of the Bondi Massacre Victims.

- * Launch of:
 - "Invest in Us" Campaign
 - Rural Health Access Survey Results

- * Presentations:
 - NSW Grants Commission Chairman, Mrs Linda Scott.
 - NSW Shadow Treasurer, The Hon. Scott Farlow MLC.
 - NSW Shadow Local Government Minister, Mr Tim James MP.
 - Valuer General of NSW, Mrs Sally Dale.
 - Auditor-General for NSW, Mr Bola Oyetunji.
 - NSW Minister for Roads and Minister for Regional Transport, The Hon. Jenny Aitchison MP.

- Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Minister for Natural Resources, The Hon. Courtney Houssos MLC.
- IPART Chairman, Ms Carmel Donnelly PSM.
- CEO Regional Australia Institute, Ms Liz Ritchie

A copy of the Minutes are attached.



Cr Neil Westcott

MAYOR



THE COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC

"What we want is nothing more than equity"

MINUTES

27th March 2026

A General Meeting of the Country Mayors Association of NSW Inc was held in the Theatrette, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney from 8:20 am until 12:38pm pm. The meeting had a Financial Sustainability theme.

PRESENTATIONS

1. The meeting commenced with a welcome from CMA Chairman Mayor Rick Firman OAM.

2. CMA Memorial for the Bondi Massacre Victims, with four special guests:

- NSW Minister for Regional Transport & Roads: The Hon Jenny Aitchison MP
- NSW Opposition Leader: Ms Kellie Sloane MP (Member for Vacluse)
- President of LGNSW Mayor Darcy Byrne
- Waverley Council Mayor Will Nemesh

Board and Members stood for a Minute's Silence in Honour of Bondi Massacre Victims

3. Launch of the CMA's Invest in Us campaign and the Rural Health Access Survey Results

CMA Policy Advisor Mrs Julie Briggs and Secretary Ms Melissa Boxall went through the material created for the Invest in Us campaign. They advised that that the material would be available digitally, for Councils to use in social media.

Mrs. Briggs highlighted that the 2025 Auditor General Report was quoted.

Mayor Darcy Byrne said Financial Sustainability is a priority concern for all Councils in NSW. "I appreciate the positive messaging of this campaign but the Federal Government has been dismissive. We need to flip the Government and all Federal Parliamentarians."

"LGNSW will be working with CMA hand in hand on the issue."

Mrs Briggs went through the data from the rural health access survey. She outlined how the data can be pulled out by individual Council or JO or Health District. She explained that logins will be arranged, so members can use that software that the data is organised in.

4. Chairman of the NSW Grants Commission Ms. Linda Scott

Ms Scott introduced her fellow Commission members (pictured on the screen). She paid tribute to the late Mayor Jenny Dowall OAM (Lismore City Council).

"When I arrived in the role (of NSW Grants Commission Chairman) and asked to see the formula, I cannot tell you

how many tabs were in the spreadsheet – it is so complex, it’s ridiculous. We are going to improve the formula, transparency and simplicity”

She noted that 25% goes to non-metro councils, based on operational expenditure.

The review will not apply to the next funding round.

Presentation supplied.

4. NSW Shadow Treasurer, The Hon. Scott Farlow MLC

“I sat on the financial sustainability inquiry and I am with you in your fight for more funding/the return to 1%.

There is so much more expected from Local Government in country areas. It is the only visible form of Government in the country. The expectations regarding roads are much greater in the country. The money you need has to come from somewhere and just asking communities for high rates is not the answer.

Depreciation of assets is something we were mindful of the inquiry.”

5. NSW Shadow Local Government Minister, Mr Tim James MP

Mr. James began by commending the passion of Mayor Firman.

“Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Local Government Richie Williamson and I are happy for you to reach out to us.

I believe in a decentralised role for Local Government and that Local decisions should be made Locally.

City Councils do not stick to their focus like Country Councils. There are *3,630 kilometres of roads and 671 bridges* connecting MidCoast Council communities mid-coast Council, while North Sydney has 100-150km of roads and a small fraction of the bridges.

Mr James also criticised the OLG, which he said has gone from 45 to 120 staff. What more do they do?

I applaud your (Invest in Us) Campaign.

The Auditor General’s 11 high-risk Councils are all regional.

Over a billion dollars is required to update your water infrastructure.

6. Valuer General of NSW, Ms Sally Dale

The NSW Valuer General emphasized that her role (and office) is independent. Ms Dale said that she was a valuer for 30 years and has been in the role for nearly three years. She is happy to visit and talk to Councils. Value NSW has over 300 staff.

There are over 2.7 land values per year. They use a mass-valuation method. It was received objections to valuations are all considered seriously and close to 20 percent do result in re-valuation.

Presentation supplied.

7. Auditor-General for NSW, Mr Bola Oyetunji

Mr Oyetunji said independence allows us to make discoveries.

He reflected on the recent intensive efforts to address the financial sustainability pressures on Local Government in NSW. The Red Fleet, two parliamentary inquiries, we’ve done what we can.

Audit fees, we’re not there yet (as low as desired) but we have capped the fees. Regarding timeliness, we are improving. We are centralising and not waiting until the end of the year for valuations.

Liquidity performance measures – we’re working with panel members who know the real world experiences, such as Mayor Phyllis Miller.

We are linking guidelines / reports of best practice with the OLG.

Water is the next crisis. It is important that the financial challenge be addressed holistically.

Presentation supplied.

8. NSW Minister for Roads and Minister for Regional Transport, The Hon Jenny Aitchison MP

The Minister said that she is grateful for the respect and commitment we share for improving the lives of country NSW.

“Mayor Cassandra Coleman (Lithgow City Council) has been a massive champion for that community with the Great Western Highway.

Mayor Steve Allen (Bellingen Shire Council) led a Local Government collaboration with Waterfall Way and Michael Kemp MP and Mayor Nikki Williams from Coffs Harbour also championed that cause – working together on the fragility of the Waterfall Way. Decades of maintenance was not done. Investigations into a permanent fix are ongoing but is a complex location Simply moving Waterfall Way down (as was done in the past) is not possible – we would be in the river. The detour route is funded.”

The Auditor General’s report gave us a bit of a smack.

We have fuel reserves in Australia, not in the US.

Thanks to Councils who have not been panic buying.

We are meeting regularly for practical solutions – other shortages, like bitumen will impact Councils.”

Craig Carmody from the Port of Newcastle was in the room, as the Minister announced \$183mil for upgrading roads from the Port of Newcastle to REZs. East to West roads need to be focused on / reinforced.

“CMA helped me to get the disaster recovery funding claims that were bogged down flowing.”

There are 19 applications so far for road recategorisation.

“You are the pulse of NSW. I can’t always give you what you want but I will be honest.”

9. Morning Tea

Morning Tea was held in a section of the Strangers Dining Room (due to attendance). More than a needed break, cup of coffee and snack, this was a valued networking session between members, as well as a broad cross-section of NSW Parliamentarians. Due to time constraints (resulting from the Bondi memorial) Q&A was not included for the morning speakers but they were available at morning tea.

10. NSW Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Minister for Natural Resources, The Hon Courtney Houssos MLC

“We appreciate the opportunity to engage with you. I pay tribute to you for the influence you have had in shaping NSW Government Policy. We were on track to return the budget to surplus in two years.

We don’t have unlimited funds but by driving savings across the budget can target project spending where it’s needed most. We saved \$450mil one year and \$270mil the next by reducing our contractor costs and doing more in-house.

We continue to reduce red tape with procurement and small business processes.

Communities will need to be supported as coal jobs reduce. The Future Jobs and Investment Authority is being created to assist those communities. We appreciate your input.

Mayor Ndiaye asked about fuel.

Close to 150 petrol stations with dry bowsers.

Mayor Sue Moore asked about Mapping and the Minister promised to get back to her on that.

11. IPART Chairman, Ms Carmel Donnelly PSM

The rate peg updated methodology tailors to each Council. I'm pleased to welcome Julie Briggs representing CMA within IPART's Reference Group.

Current SRV's were covered in her presentation. Thousands of submissions are received regarding SRVs.

There are lots of ways you can get contributions from assessors. We welcome you getting in touch with us, even if you are in early stages of a developer contributions plan. We can recommend in terms of sources of revenue.

Draft review of bulk water services to be released next week. Submissions accepted until May. We have selected Tamworth to do a model for determining per capita costs for water access and waste water.

Presentation supplied.

12. CEO Regional Australia Institute, Ms Liz Ritchie

RAI is there to help you to get the funding investment you need. Regionalisation Ambition 2032 is (as the name of campaign indicates) ambitious. We have to unite as a voice for regional Australia. We are not heard enough at a national level. Less than 20% of migrants reside in rural and regional Australia. We need to get skills into our regions. We need 47% of investment in regional Australia. Toward Net Zero – Energy Co has a plan but it's not quite right. You must be in the driver's seat.

Mayor Julia Ham (Snowy Valleys Council) asked: Sydney waste in a cool climate wine region. How do we push back?

A: It is a vexing issue. Continue to come together, like with CMA, keep the information coming to us. We look at all issues across regional Australia and we can draw our bank of big picture knowledge. Highlight the broader, interconnected impacts.

Presentation supplied.

GENERAL MEETING

1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Attendance

Cr. Bruce Reynolds	Mayor	Blayney Shire Council
Mark Dicker	GM	Blayney Shire Council
David Webb	GM	Hay Shire Council
Cr. Carol Oataway	Mayor	Hay Shire Council
Cr. John Medcalf OAM	Mayor	Lachlan Shire Council
Ian Greenham	GM	Lachlan Shire Council
Cr. Kenrick Winchester	Mayor	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
Rebecca Ryan	GM	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
Stephen Dunshea	Interim GM	Forbes Shire Council
Cr. Phyllis Miller OAM	Mayor	Forbes Shire Council
Kate Barker	Interim EO	Central NSW JO
Meredith Macpherson		Central NSW JO
Cr. Darrell Tiemens	Mayor	Narrabri Shire Council
John Scarce	GM	Murrumbidgee Council
Cr. Susannah Pearse	Mayor	Moree Plains Shire Council
Natalia Cowley	GM	Moree Plains Shire Council
Cr. Paul Culhane	Mayor	Upper Lachlan Shire Council
Alex Waldron	CEO	Upper Lachlan Shire Council
Leagh-Anne Cosgrove	CMA Scholarship recipient	Upper Lachlan Shire Council
Cr. Daniel Keady	Mayor	Coonamble Shire Council
Greg Hill	GM	Coonamble Shire Council
Cr. Greg Whitely	Mayor	Warren Shire Council
Gary Woodman	GM	Warren Shire Council
Cr. Adam Roberts	Mayor	Port Macquarie Hastings Council
Lisa Miscamble	GM	Wingecarribee Shire Council
Cr. Jesse Fitzpatrick	Mayor	Wingecarribee Shire Council
Cr. Daniel Linklater	Mayor	Wentworth Shire Council
Ken Ross	GM	Wentworth Shire Council
Cr. Julia Ham	Mayor	Snowy Valleys Council
Jessica Quilty	GM	Snowy Valleys Council
Cr. John Harvie	Mayor	Murray River Council
Stacy Williams	CEO	Murray River Council
Linda Scott	Chair	Local Government Grants Commission
Sarah Gubb	Executive Officer	Local Government Grants Commission
Cathy Andre	Commission Assistant	Local Government Grants Commission
Cr. Sharon Cadwallader	Mayor	Ballina Shire Council
Cr. Sue Moore	Mayor	Singleton Council
Justin Fitzpatrick-Barr	GM	Singleton Council
Cr. Melissa Matters	Deputy Mayor	Kiama Council

Jane Stroud	CEO	Kiama Council
Bernard Smith	GM	Glen Innes Severn Council
Cr. Rick Firman OAM	Mayor	Temora Shire Council
Melissa Boxall	GM	Temora Shire Council
Megan Mulrooney	CEO	REROC
Cr. Ray Smith	Mayor	Clarence Valley Council
Cr. Steve Allan	Mayor	Bellingen Shire Council
Mark Griffioen	GM	Bellingen Shire Council
Cr. Kinne Ring	Mayor	Kempsey Shire Council
Andrew Meddle	CEO	Kempsey Shire Council
Cr. Kate Dight	Mayor	Inverell Shire Council
Brett McInnes	GM	Inverell Shire Council
Cr. Jo Williams	Deputy Mayor	Inverell Shire Council
Cr. Nina Dillon	Mayor	Goulburn Mulwaree Council
Scott Gallacher	GM	Goulburn Mulwaree Council
Cr. Nikki Williams	Mayor	Coffs Harbour City Council
Adrian Panuccio	GM	Midcoast Council
Cr. Claire Pontin	Mayor	Midcoast Council
Eric Groth	GM	Gunnedah Shire Council
Laura Black	GM	Clarence Valley Council
Cr. Ewen Jones	Mayor	Narromine Shire Council
Jane Redden	GM	Narromine Shire Council
Julie Briggs	Policy Advisor	CMA
Gary Fry	Secretariat	CMA
Cr. Abb McAlister	Mayor	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council
Roger Bailey	Interim GM	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council
Cr. Lachlan Ford	Mayor	Bourke Shire Council
Leonie Brown	GM	Bourke Shire Council
Cr. Daniel Keady	Mayor	Coonamble Shire Council
Greg Hill	GM	Coonamble Shire Council
Cr. Liam Ley	Deputy Mayor	Dungog Shire Council
Gareth Curtis	GM	Dungog Shire Council
Cr. Russell Fitzpatrick	Mayor	Bega Valley Shire Council
Anthony McMahon	CEO	Bega Valley Shire Council
Cr. Sarah Ndiaye	Mayor	Byron Shire Council
Mark Arnold	GM	Byron Shire Council
Gavin Rhodes	GM	Lockhart Shire Council
Cr. Robert Bell	Mayor	Uralla Shire Council
Toni Averay	GM	Uralla Shire Council
Blake Dyer	Group Manager Community Services	Uralla Shire Council
Cr. Maurice Collison	Mayor	Upper Hunter Shire Council
Greg McDonald	GM	Upper Hunter Shire Council
Ross Gurney	GM	Lithgow City Council
Cr. Cassandra Coleman	Mayor	Lithgow City Council
Cr. Jasmin Jones	Mayor	Yass Valley Council
Peta Gardiner	Acting CEO	Yass Valley Council
Cr. Jarrod Marsden	Mayor	Cobar Shire Council
Cr. Louie Zaffina	Mayor	Balranald Shire Council
Terry Dodds	CEO	Balranald Shire Council

Cr. Lachlan Ford	Mayor	Bourke Shire Council
Leonie Brown	GM	Bourke Shire Council
Luke Ryan	GM	Dubbo Regional Council
Cr. Josh Black	Mayor	Dubbo Regional Council
Cr. Ken Cudmore	Mayor	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Cian Middleton	GM	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Cr. Kathryn Rindfleish	Mayor	Warrumbungle Shire Council
Lindsay Mason	General Manager	Warrumbungle Shire Council
Cr. Ashley Hall	Mayor	Edward River Council
Jack Bond	CEO	Edward River Council
Cr. George Weston	Mayor	Leeton Shire Council
Jackie Kruger	GM	Leeton Shire Council
Cr. Lea Parker	Mayor	Greater Hume Council
Dena Vlekkert	GM	Greater Hume Council
Anthony O'Reilly	GM	Hilltops Council
Cr. Claire Pontin	Mayor	Midcoast Council
Brett Stonestreet	Interim CEO	RAMJO
Cr. Cheryl Cook	Mayor	Federation Council
Adrian Butler	GM	Federation Council
Cr. Robert Taylor	Mayor	Bathurst Regional Council
	Director Rating & Taxing In House	
Rachel Anderson	Valuations	Value NSW
Cr. Eric Noakes	Mayor	Walcha Council
Stephen Parry	GM	Walcha Council
Cr. Lisa Minogue	Deputy Mayor	Bland Shire Council
Grant Baker	GM	Bland Shire Council
Danielle Aspery	Senior Manager	TCorp
Craig Selvage	Senior Analyst	TCorp
Tom Threlkeld	Senior Analyst	TCorp
Alina Tee	Analyst	TCorp
Cr. Steve Krieg	Mayor	Lismore City Council
Eber Butron	GM	Lismore City Council
Cr. Russell Webb	Mayor	Tamworth Regional Council
Paul Bennett	GM	Tamworth Regional Council
Cr. Neil Westcott	Mayor	Parkes Shire Council
Cr. Andrew McKibbin	Mayor	Oberon Council
Cr. Katie Graham	Deputy Mayor	Oberon Council
Cr. Darcy Byrne	President	LGNSW
David Reynolds	CEO	LGNSW
David Neeves	GM	Gilgandra Shire Council
Cr. Danielle Mulholland	Mayor	Kyogle Council
Cr. Mathew Hatcher	Mayor	Eurobodalla Shire Council
Mark Ferguson	GM	Eurobodalla Shire Council
Joyce Tapper	Senior Analyst, Local Government.	IPART
Bronwen Sandland	Principal Analyst, Local Government	IPART
Cr. Sam Coupland	Mayor	Armidale Regional Council
Claudia Migotto	Deputy Auditor-General	NSW Audit Office
Cr. Gary Lee	Mayor	Nambucca Valley Council
Bede Spannagle	GM	Nambucca Valley Council
Brad Medina	Assistant Auditor General	NSW Audit Office

Renee O'Kane	Chief of Staff to the Auditor-General - Corporate, Experience and Strategy	NSW Audit Office
John Sevil	GM	Central Darling Shire Council
Cr. Bob Stewart	Chairperson	Central Darling Shire Council
Kate Alberry	Director of Development and Compliance	Narrabri Shire Council
Jonathan Malota	Policy Advisor – Transport & Data	NRMA
Cr. Tricia Hopkins	Deputy Mayor	Snowy Monaro Regional Council
Cr. Chris Hanna	Mayor	Snowy Monaro Regional Council
James Roncon	GM	Armidale Regional Council
Cr. Kevin Beatty	Mayor	Cabonne Shire Council
Cr. Matthew Christenson	Deputy Mayor	Cabonne Shire Council
Murray Wood	GM	Coffs Harbour City Council
Cr. Doug Curran	Mayor	Griffith City Council
Cr. Shari Blumer	Councillor	Griffith City Council
Scott Grant	GM	Griffith City Council
Cr. Tony Mileto	Mayor	Orange City Council
Scott Maunder	CEO	Orange City Council
Cr. Bronwyn Petrie	Mayor	Tenterfield Shire Council
Steph Cooke MP	Member for Cootamundra	NSW Opposition

Apologies

Cr. Neville Kschenka	Mayor	Narrandera Shire Council
Brett Whitworth PSM	Deputy Secretary, Local Government	OLG
Cr. Tiffany Galvin	Mayor	Gwydir Shire Council
Leeah Daley	GM	Gwydir Shire Council
Cr. Paul Smith	Mayor	Cowra Council
Paul Devery	GM	Cowra Council
Cr. Mayor Matt Gould	Mayor	Wollondilly Shire Council
Ben Taylor	CEO	Wollondilly Shire Council
Cr. Ruth McRae OAM	Mayor	Murrumbidgee Council
Cr. Colleen Fuller	Mayor	Gunnedah Shire Council
Cr. Mathew Hatcher	Mayor	Eurobodalla Shire Council
Cr. Adam Shultz	Mayor	Lake Macquarie City Council
Tony Farrell	CEO	Lake Macquarie City Council
Cr. Peter Sharp	Mayor	Lockhart Shire Council
Murray Wood	GM	Coffs Harbour City Council
Jay Nankivell	GM	Broken Hill City Council
Cr. Jim Hickey	Deputy Mayor	Broken Hill City Council
Cr. Julia Cornwell McKean	Mayor	Berrigan Shire Council

Mark Dupé	Interim CEO	Berrigan Shire Council
Cr. Dave McCann	Mayor	Coolamon Shire Council
Tony Donoghue	GM	Coolamon Shire Council
Cr. Kevin Mack	Mayor	Albury City Council
Steve McGrath	Interim CEO	Albury City Council
Gary Wallace	GM	Oberon Council
		Wagga Wagga City Council
Cr. Dallas Tout	Mayor	Weddin Shire Council
Cr. Paul Best	Mayor	Weddin Shire Council
Matthew Sykes	GM	Weddin Shire Council
Eloise Chaplain	GM	Narrabri Shire Council
Cr. Bob Callow	Mayor	Junee Shire Council

Recommendation: That the apologies be accepted and noted.

Moved by: Mayor Sharon Cadwallader (Ballina Shire)
 Seconded by: Mayor John Medcalf OAM (Lachlan Shire)
 – carried unanimously.

2. Adoption of Minutes from the 14 November 2025 meeting

Recommendation: That the 14 November 2025 Minutes be accepted as a true record.
 Moved by: Mayor Sharon Cadwallader (Ballina Shire).
 Seconded by: Mayor Kenrick Winchester (Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council)
 – carried unanimously.

3. Matters arising from 8 August 2025 Minutes

Nil

4. CORRESPONDENCE - Since 14 November 2025

Outward

To	Subject
Hon Chris Minns MP, Premier	Lack of Councillor representation on Local Planning Panels
Hon Kristy Mc Bain, Federal Minister for Local Government	Welcoming the recommencement of the Inquiry into Local Government Financial Sustainability.
Hon Chris Minns MP, Premier	Productivity Commission's Review of GST Distributions
Hon Ryan Park MP, Minister for Health	Letter of Support for Better Care, Closer to Home Alliance's Rural Health Action Plan
Hon Jihad Dib MP Minister for Emergency Services	NSW Government Response to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Assets, premises and funding of the NSW Rural Fire Service

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	(RFS)
Hon Tara Moriarty MLC Minister for Agriculture	Expanded Drought Support measures and request for additional measures
Mr. Daniel Cram, Chairman – Little Wings	Invitation to present to CMA members
Ms. Cath Bowtell, Chair – Jobs and Skills Australia’s Ministerial Advisory Board	Skill Shortage clarifications
The Hon Andrew Giles MP Federal Minister for Skills and Training	Lack of rural, regional or remote Council representation on the Jobs and Skills Australia’s Ministerial Advisory Board
Waverley Council Mayor Will Nemesh	Expressing Bondi condolences from the CMA Board and Members
Waverley Council Mayor Will Nemesh	Invitation to the March 2026 CMA meeting
NSW Deputy Nationals Leader Kevin Anderson MP	CMA congratulating him for his election to Deputy Nationals Leader
Infrastructure NSW CEO Mr. Tom Gellibrand	Invitation to speak at March 2026 meeting
NSW Treasurer the Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC	Invitation to speak at March 2026 meeting
NSW Shadow Treasurer Scott Farlow	Invitation to speak at March 2026 meeting
NSW Emergency Services Minister the Hon Jihad Dib MP	Invitation to speak at March 2026 meeting
NSW Nationals Leader Mr. Gurmeh Singh MP	Gun Law Reforms
NSW Premier the Hon Chris Minns MP	Gun Law Reforms
NSW Opposition Leader Mrs. Kellie Sloane MP	Gun Law Reforms
NSW Opposition Leader Mrs. Kellie Sloane MP	Shadow Cabinet
Shadow Local Government Minister Tim James MP	CMA meeting invitations and issues intro.
Deputy NSW Nationals Leader Mr. Kevin Anderson MP	Condolences for the passing of his wife.
NSW Nationals Leader Gurmeh Singh MP	Invitation to speak at March 2026 meeting
NSW Liberal Leader Kellie Sloane MP	Invitation to speak at March 2026 meeting
NSW Finance Minister Courtney Houssos MLC	Invitation to speak at March 2026 meeting
NSW Shadow Local Government Minister Tim James MP	Invitation to speak at March 2026 meeting
IPART Chair Carmel Donnelly	Invitation to speak at March 2026 meeting
Federal Local Government Minister the Hon Catherine King	Invitation to speak at March 2026 meeting
Regional Australia Institute CEO Liz Ritchie	Invitation to speak at March 2026 meeting
NSW Opposition Leader Mrs. Kellie Sloane MP	Shadow Parliamentary Secretaries
NSW Nationals Leader Mr. Gurmeh Singh MP	Shadow Parliamentary Secretaries
NSW Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Local Government, Mr. Richie Williamson	Shadow Parliamentary Secretaries
NSW Premier the Hon Chris Minns MP	Emergency Services Levy
NSW Treasurer the Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC	Emergency Services Levy
NSW Emergency Services Minister the Hon Jihad Dib MP	Emergency Services Levy
Minister for Agriculture The Hon Tara Moriarty MLC	NSW Government Drought response
IPART CEO Mr Andrew Nicholls <i>PSM</i>	CMA representation on IPART’s Council Reference Group (CRG) - agreed
NSW Premier the Hon Chris Minns MP	Waterfall Way lasting fix needed

NSW Minister for Roads and Minister for Regional Transport, the Hon. Jenny Aitchison MP	Waterfall Way lasting fix needed
NSW Minister for Small Business, Minister for Recovery, and Minister for the North Coast, the Hon. Janelle Saffin MP	Waterfall Way lasting fix needed
NSW Shadow Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, the Hon. Paul Toole MP	Waterfall Way lasting fix needed
Director of the Stable Group, Mr. Ken Gillespie AC, DSC, CSM	Advising that the CMA cannot promote one consultancy over others
IPART CEO Mr. Andrew Nicholls	Appreciation for CMA inclusion in the IPART the Council Reference Group, acceptance of the CMA Policy Advisor for that and for agreeing to notify each Council in writing of their rate peg figure.
Dolly Parton Imagination Library	Letter of Support
Cowra Shire Mayor Paul Smith	Responding to objections to the planning reforms and outlining the CMAs advocacy on the matter.

Inwards

From	Note / Action
Greater Hume Council	Code of Meeting Practice
Glen Innes Severn Council Mayor Margot Davis	Planning Reforms
Central Darling Council	Notification of CMA contact updates
Mr. Alex Dahlenburg, A/ General Manager	Reactions to PFAS Inquiry recommendations
Albury City Council	Notification of CMA contact updates
Cr. Rob Amos Chairman – Rural Councils Victoria	Thanking CMA for its' support
NSW Opposition Leader Mrs. Kellie Sloane MP	The Shadow Cabinet reshuffle and CMA's disappointment that Local Government is not a stand-alone port folio.
NSW Nationals Leader Mr. Gurmeh Singh MP	The Shadow Cabinet reshuffle and CMA's disappointment that Local Government is not a stand-alone port folio.
Waverley Council Mayor Will Nemesh	Thanking the CMA for its' support
Acting GM, Temora Shire Council, Elizabeth Smith	Advocacy request regarding M&F funding delay
NSW Farmers President Xavior Martin	Primary Production Land Tax Exemptions – NSW Farmers position
Prime Minister the Hon Anthony Albanese MP	Update that they are still considering which CMA event to attend.
Mid North Coast and New England Mayors	Joint Statement regarding Waterfall Way

Australian Minister for Skills and Training the Hon Andrew Giles MP	Jobs and Skills Australia Board and CMA engagement
Glen Innes Severn Council Mayor Margot Davis	Advocacy for Sustainable Funding for Rural and Regional Water Supplies
Bourke Shire Council Mayor Lachlan Ford	CMA-National Parks MoU proposal
IPART CEO Mr Andrew Nicholls <i>PSM</i>	CMA representation on IPART's Council Reference Group (CRG) – Request approved
NSW Premier the Hon Chris Minns MP	PRRRAC additional members
President of the Murray Darling Association Cr. Shari Blumer	Seeking to speak to the CMA. Recommendation in General Business.
Minister for Agriculture The Hon Tara Moriarty MLC	NSW Government Drought response
Prime Minister the Hon. Anthony Albanese	Confirmation that they are still working on getting to a CMA event in 2026
NSW Minister for Roads and Minister for Regional Transport, the Hon. Jenny Aitchison MP	Response re Regional and Local Roads Repair Program. Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund expanded.
Cowra Shire Council Mayor Paul Smith	Requesting CMA advocacy against the NSW Government Planning reforms. Refer to Policy Advisor report.
REROC CEO Megan Mulrooney	Response to House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development - LG Funding and Fiscal Sustainability.
Byron Shire Mayor Sarah Ndiaye	Letter to Minister Hoenig re Remote Participation in Council Meetings. CMA working with Minister Hoenig on this.
NSW Health Minister the Hon. Ryan Park	Response to CMA letter of support for Dr. McGirr's Rural Health Action Plan
Cobar Shire Mayor and Chair of the Western Alliance of Councils, Cr. Jarrod Marsden	The need for western / remote Council representation on the Local Government Expert Advisory Panel Recommendation in General Business.
Peter McKechnie AFSM Deputy Commissioner Strategic Capability NSW Rural Fire Service	Inviting the CMA Executive &/or Board to meet with the RFS on the outcomes of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) Inquiry into the assets, premises and funding of the RFS. Recommendation in General Business.
Head of Policy & Government Relations for Royal Far West, Jenny Stevenson	Royal Far West 2030 strategy
NSW Emergency Services Minister the Hon Jihad Dib MP	Responding to CMA correspondence re the Red Fleet. Audit now to be completed by end of 2026.
NSW Planning Minister the Hon Paul Scully	Responding to CMA advocacy regarding the planning reforms

Recommendation: **That the correspondence be received and noted.**
 Moved by: Mayor Danielle Mulholland (Kyogle Council).
 Seconded by: Mayor Cheryl Cook (Federation Council)
 – carried unanimously.

5. MEDIA RELEASES

[NSW Country Mayors congratulate new Nationals leadership team](#)

[Country Mayors draw out political big guns](#)

[NSW Country Mayors Welcome Reopening of Inquiry](#)

[Country Mayors renew vows with LGNSW](#)

[Eugowra people, Cabonne Council honoured for Inland Tsunami response](#)

[COUNTRY MAYORS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW – A BIG WEEK OF COLLABORATION](#)

[CMA backs Dr. McGirr’s Rural Health Action Plan](#)

[No quick fix for NSW Red Fleet Ownership](#)

[NSW Country Mayors react to Bondi shooting](#)

[Legislation on Guns and Public Assembly too Rushed](#)

[NSW Country Mayors react to new look State Shadow Ministry](#)

[VALE DAME MARIE BASHIR](#)

[CMA discusses GST Review with NSW Premier and Treasurer](#)

[Welcome recognition for country NSW Council luminaries](#)

[CMA and NSW Emergency Services Minister progress Red Fleet issue](#)

[Emergency Services Levy a NSW Government responsibility](#)

[NSW Government drought response a good start](#)

[NSW Country Mayors welcome LG Expert Advisory Panel](#)

[NSW Premier and Country Mayors brainstorm](#)

[NSW COUNTRY MAYORS: TIME FOR NSW TO GET ITS’ FAIR SHARE OF THE GST](#)

[NSW Country Mayors mourn Ray Donald OAM](#)

Recommendation:	That the media releases be received and noted.
Moved by:	Mayor John Harvie (Murray River Council)
Seconded by:	Mayor Danielle Mulholland (Kyogle Council).
– carried unanimously.	

6. REPORTS

Report from CMA Chairman Mayor Rick Firman OAM

Recommendation: **That the Report be received and noted.**
Moved by: Mayor Danielle Mulholland (Kyogle Council).
Seconded by: Mayor Sharon Cadwallader (Ballina Shire)
– carried unanimously.

Finance Report – Ms. Melissa Boxall (CMA Secretary)

Recommendation: **That the Report be received and noted, as read.**
Moved by: Mayor Paul Culhane (Upper Lachlan Shire).
Seconded by: Mayor Kenrick Winchester (QPRC)
– carried unanimously

Report from the President of ALGA, Mayor Matt Burnett

Recommendation: **That the Report be received and noted, as read.**
Moved by: Mayor Paul Culhane (Upper Lachlan Shire).
Seconded by: Mayor Cheryl Cook (Federation Council)
– carried unanimously.

Report from President of LGNSW – Mayor Darcy Byrne

Mayor Byrne spoke to his report:

Mayor Byrne advised of a Webinar on Wednesday 1 April regarding Fuel supply. He encourage members to register.

I had a meeting with Minister Hoenig about the Code of Meeting Practice and he accepts that there may be need for some improvements but he wants proposals, not complaints. It does seem to be excessive to be banning remote participation , especially for remote Councils.

Recommendation: **That the Report be received and noted.**
Moved by: Mayor John Medcalf OAM (Lachlan Shire Council).
Seconded by: Mayor Danielle Mulholland (Kyogle Council).
– carried unanimously.

Policy Advisor's Report – Mrs. Julie Briggs

Recommendation: **That the Report be received and noted and that the recommendations therein be endorsed.**
Moved by: Mayor Paul Culhane (Upper Lachlan Shire).
Seconded by: Mayor Danielle Mulholland (Kyogle Council).
– carried unanimously.

Business with Notice

a) Patrons of the Country Mayors Association of NSW

CMA Board Recommendation: that the following three former CMA Chairmen be endorsed as inaugural Patrons of the Country Mayors Association of NSW

- ***Emeritus Mayor Ken Keith OAM (Parkes Shire)***
- ***Emeritus Mrs Katrina Humphries (Moree Plains Shire)***
- ***Emeritus Mayor Jaime Chaffey MP (Gunnedah Shire)***

And further that a suitable presentation be made to each.

Moved by: Mayor Sharon Cadwallader (Ballina Shire).

Seconded by: Mayor John Medcalf OAM (Lachlan Shire Council)

– carried unanimously.

Mayor Mulholland asked if there will be a cap on Patron numbers.

Mayor Firman that that can be teased out in future reviews of the Constitution.

b) CMA Board is seeking formal endorsement of the Members for the following adopted Board resolutions:

i) *Taxi Services*

That given the impracticality of Uber in rural and remote communities, the lack of taxis and their importance to those communities, that the CMA Board advocates to the NSW Regional Transport and Roads Minister for substantially decreased costs for taxi operators in rural and remote NSW. (Narromine Shire)

ii) *Local Government Expert Advisory Panel*

That the CMA Board write to NSW Local Government Minister, the Hon Ron Hoenig MP, requesting that he consider a position for the Chairman of the Western Division of Councils to sit on the Minister Expert Advisory Panel. (Cobar Shire)

iii) *Engagement and Consultation during Policy Development by NSW Government*

That the CMA Board write to the NSW Premier, the Hon Chris Minns MP, respectfully requesting that enhanced levels of engagement/consultation by the NSW Government occur during policy development, which is specific to our rural, remote and regional Member Councils. (CMA Board)

iv) *Local Government – Stand Alone Minister*

That the CMA Board write to both the NSW Premier and the NSW Opposition Leader, requesting a commitment to a stand-alone Local Government portfolio.

v) *Financial Sustainability*

That the CMA Board write to the NSW Premier, NSW Opposition Leader, NSW Minister and Shadow Ministers for Local Government, requesting details on what is being done to address the financial sustainability crisis impacting rural, remote and regional NSW Councils.

and further

That the CMA Chairman and LGNSW President seek an urgent meeting with the NSW Minister for Local Government and the Shadow Minister for Local Government, to amplify the seriousness of the situation confronting the CMA Member Councils.

Recommendation: That the CMA Members endorse the Board resolutions listed above.

Mayor Winchester suggested that we only need to write to the Opposition Leader but Mayor Firman clarified that we still want the Premier to confirm a stand alone port folio will continue.

Moved by: Mayor Jarrod Marsden (Cobar Shire).
Seconded by: Mayor Nina Dillon (Goulburn Mulwaree Council)
– carried unanimously.

Urgent business without notice

Nil

Without any further business, Chairman, Mayor Firman declared the CMA General Meeting closed at 12:38 pm

The next CMA meeting will be **8 May 2026**, in the NSW Parliament House Theatre – 8:20am-1:45pm.

Theme: Skill Shortages, Labour Solutions

A tutorial on accessing the data from the CMA-RDN Rural Health Access Survey will be the final session of the meeting, for those who can stay on.

11 NOTICES OF MOTION/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

11.1 ENDORSEMENT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW'S CARING FOR OUR REGIONS ACTION PLAN

Councillor: Cr Marg Applebee

Annexures: A. "Caring for Our Regions" - LGNSW's Six Point Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health [↓](#)

MOTION

That Council:

1. Notes the release of the LGNSW's "Caring for our Regions" Six Point Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health (included as *Annexure A*), which outlines coordinated advocacy priorities to address critical gaps in healthcare access and outcomes for rural, regional and remote communities;
2. Recognises that people living in rural, regional and remote areas experience poorer health outcomes, reduced access to primary and specialist care, and shorter life expectancy compared to metropolitan communities, and that these inequities are unacceptable;
3. Adopts the "Caring for our Regions" Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health as a formal advocacy position of Council;
4. Undertakes appropriate media and communications opportunities to publicly support the "Caring for our Regions" Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health and strengthen coordinated advocacy with other councils.
5. Writes to the NSW Minister for Regional Health, Ryan Park MP; the Commonwealth Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health, Emma McBride MP; and the local Member(s) of Parliament (State and Commonwealth), seeking their support for the "Caring for our Regions" Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health and calling for coordinated State and Commonwealth action to improve rural and regional health outcomes.
6. Notify LGNSW of this notice of motion.

BACKGROUND

Communities in rural, regional and remote NSW face persistent and systemic challenges in accessing essential healthcare services. These challenges include chronic workforce shortages across general practice, nursing, allied health and mental health, the closure or bypass of rural maternity services, limited access to patient transport, and inadequate availability of aged care and ageing-in-place supports.

For Parkes Shire Council, insufficient State and Commonwealth investment in our local rural and regional health services means that:

- Expectant mothers and their babies are at significant risk. Maternity services are not available in Parkes and the ongoing closure and prolonged bypass of birthing units continues to undermine local care.
- When local birthing facilities close, rural women and their families are often forced to travel long distances or permanently relocate to other towns to start or grow their families.

This not only increases financial, social and emotional strain on families, but also contributes to the long term social and economic decline of rural communities as families move to regions with better services.

Over recent years, these issues right across NSW have been examined through multiple parliamentary inquiries into rural and regional health. Councils across NSW have actively engaged in these processes, providing submissions, evidence and case studies that highlight the real-world impacts on communities and the growing pressure on councils to intervene where other services are unavailable.

Despite the volume of inquiries and recommendations, many of the underlying challenges remain unresolved. The Six Point Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health builds on this extensive body of inquiry and advocacy work.

LGNSW's "*Caring for our Regions*" Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health, which is included as *Annexure A*, identifies six priority areas requiring urgent government action:

1. Strengthening the regional health workforce;
2. Establishing a GP guarantee for rural and regional communities;
3. Reimbursing councils for filling health service gaps;
4. Funding patient transport as core health infrastructure;
5. Restoring safe, local maternity care; and
6. Investing in community-based aged care and ageing in place.

The plan is designed to support coordinated advocacy by the local government sector and to seek meaningful, sustained investment from the NSW and Commonwealth Governments. This Notice of Motion provides a mechanism for Council to formally support the plan and advocate for improved healthcare access and outcomes for its community.

OFFICER'S COMMENT

Author: Logan Hignett, General Manager (Acting)

Commentary:

The birthing unit at Parkes hospital has been closed since 2019 as it was unable to secure staff. The town's sole obstetrician resigned in January 2025 leaving Parkes without obstetric services. The community is constantly reassured that Parkes maternity reinstatement is high on the agenda of NSW Health, but a solution does not appear to be any closer.

Parkes Council's role in supporting the LSNSW's "*Caring for our Regions*" Six Point Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health includes to undertake appropriate media and communications opportunities to publicly support the *plan* and to strengthen coordinated advocacy with other councils. In addition, Council will write to the NSW Minister for Regional Health, Ryan Park MP; the Commonwealth Assistant Minister for Rural and Regional Health, Emma McBride MP; and the local Member(s) of Parliament (State and Commonwealth), seeking their support for the "*Caring for our Regions*" Action Plan on Rural and Regional Health and calling for coordinated State and Commonwealth action to improve rural and regional health outcomes

These actions support Council's IP&R strategic objective to "advocate for improved medical, health and wellbeing, allied services, programs, and initiatives in Parkes Shire."



“Caring for our regions”

A Six Point Action Plan on **RURAL & REGIONAL HEALTH**

PRESIDENT’S FOREWORD

Communities in rural, regional and remote NSW are facing a crisis in the provision of essential healthcare services. Residents in these areas have poorer health outcomes and face significant challenges in accessing health and hospital services compared to people living in metropolitan areas.¹

Shamefully, life expectancy for people living in the bush is about 3 years less than those in the city².

It is completely unacceptable that someone’s postcode will determine their access to essential healthcare services.

For too long, councils have been stepping in to fill the void for their communities.

**ONE VOICE
FOR COUNCILS**

As the peak body representing the local government sector, LGNSW is advocating for the meaningful implementation of all [44 recommendations](#) from the 2022 report of the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into rural and regional healthcare. But the time for inquiries and reports is over. Our communities need and deserve real action to address this crisis.

That is why LGNSW is fighting hard for this six point action plan and stands ready to work with the State and Federal Governments to deliver better health outcomes for our communities.

Mayor Darcy Byrne
President LGNSW

¹ NSW Ministry of Health. (2023). NSW Regional Health Strategic Plan 2022-2032

² NSW Ministry of Health. (n.d.). Regional health. HealthStats NSW. Retrieved April 30, 2026

LGNSW'S SIX POINT ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS THE RURAL AND REGIONAL HEALTHCARE CRISIS



1. Strengthen the regional health workforce

The NSW Government must establish a Regional Health Workforce Investment Package, with \$440 million over four years, to address systemic workforce shortages across general practice, specialist care, nursing, allied health and particularly mental health services in rural, regional and remote NSW.



2. A GP guarantee

In a country as wealthy as ours, it is unacceptable that in parts of rural, regional and remote NSW accessing a GP is nearly impossible. A GP guarantee is needed, requiring targeted investment in regional training pathways and recruitment and retention incentives, and long-term workforce sustainability. LGNSW calls for a \$200 million investment over four years to expand regional GP training, support recruitment in hard-to-fill locations, and ensure consistent access to primary care in under-served communities.



3. Reimburse councils for filling the health gaps

The NSW Government must establish a rural, regional and remote health reimbursement scheme to compensate councils for costs incurred in supporting access to local healthcare. LGNSW calls for a \$20 million program over four years to reimburse councils that are forced to redirect funding from core infrastructure and community services to support access to local healthcare.



4. Fund patient transport as core health infrastructure

The NSW Government must recognise patient transport as core health infrastructure. LGNSW calls for a \$150 million investment over four years to provide sustainable funding for community transport services and integrated health and transport planning to improve access to care across rural, regional and remote NSW.



5. Safe, local maternity care

The NSW Government must reverse the decline in rural birthing services and restore safe, local maternity care. This requires targeted investment of \$120 million over four years to protect and rebuild rural birthing units and expand midwife-led continuity of care and culturally safe maternity models, including for Aboriginal women and communities.



6. Invest in community-based aged care and ageing in place

The NSW Government needs to work with the Commonwealth to establish a Rural and Regional Aged Care Transition Fund, with \$250 million over four years, to:

- expand council-delivered supports for ageing in-place, including in-home care and community-based services in under-served regions;
- support transitional care models that reduce hospital discharge blockages; and
- enable faster delivery of residential aged care infrastructure in high-need communities.



#1 STRENGTHEN THE REGIONAL HEALTH WORKFORCE

PROBLEM

Access to health care in rural, regional and remote NSW is fundamentally constrained by a persistent shortage of health professionals. Workforce gaps extend across general practice, specialist care, nursing, allied health and mental health, limiting service availability and placing unsustainable pressure on existing staff.

Health worker attraction and retention is hindered by a combination of structural and lifestyle barriers. These include a shortage of affordable housing, limited access to childcare, and a lack of employment opportunities for partners.

Geographic isolation, limited transport connectivity and professional isolation further reduce the attractiveness of regional practice. At the same time, heavy workloads, reliance on locums and limited career pathways contribute to burnout and high turnover.

While targeted incentives have delivered some improvement, the need for a more sustained and systemic response is needed.

SOLUTION

The NSW Government should establish a Regional Health Workforce Investment Package with additional dedicated investment of \$440 million over four years, reflecting the scale and complexity of workforce shortages across rural and regional NSW.

Without this investment, workforce constraints will continue to limit access to care, exacerbate health inequities, and drive avoidable demand across the broader health system.

CASE STUDY



Coolamon Shire Council – health workforce crisis

In 2023, Coolamon Shire Council reported that chronic workforce shortages meant only 22 of its 33 residential aged care beds were operational, despite more than 70 people being on a waiting list for care. After seven years of unsuccessful attempts to recruit registered nurses locally, including offering HECS debt support, council was forced to seek innovative and alternative solutions to keep its aged care facility viable.

To maintain this essential service, council committed over \$1M

to sponsor 4 overseas nurses and 14 Care service employees, provide training, cover visa and legal costs and construct workforce accommodation. This financial support is continuing with an intended transition into permanent residencies for the overseas workforce and the associated ongoing costs. This case highlights both the severity of regional health workforce shortages and the unsustainable expectation that councils will fund and deliver solutions well beyond their formal responsibilities.



#2 A GP GUARANTEE

PROBLEM

People in rural, regional and remote NSW are being denied the most basic element of the health system: access to a General Practitioner close to home. Up to one in five people in some regions are unable to access a GP when they need one. A NSW parliamentary inquiry has heard that more than 40 towns could lose their only GP by the end of the decade.

It is completely unacceptable that communities face weeks-long wait times, are forced to travel hours for primary care, or are left to go without it altogether.

Councils report that GP shortages are a significant and growing challenge in their communities, alongside broader shortages in mental health, nursing and allied health workforces.

GP workforce growth is bypassing the communities that need it most. Training numbers in regional and rural NSW have increased by just 4 per cent in 2025, compared to 17 per cent nationally³, widening an already unacceptable gap in access

to care. In some communities, GPs are continuing to practice well beyond typical retirement age due to the absence of successors.

SOLUTION

A GP guarantee, backed by targeted investment in regional training pathways and incentives, would ensure doctors are trained and retained in the communities that need them most. This requires a dedicated investment of \$200 million over four years to expand regional GP training, support recruitment and retention in hard-to-fill locations, and sustain primary care services in under-served communities.

Without this investment, communities will continue to lose access to primary care, driving avoidable pressure onto hospitals and deepening health inequities across NSW.

CASE STUDY



Mid-Western Regional Council – Gulgong GP Services

The community of Gulgong was without GPs for 18 months following the closure of its only practice. The return of GP services was the direct result of financial incentives and assistance being provided by the [Doctors 4 Mudgee Region](#) initiative. The initiative is backed by Mid-Western Regional Council and three local mining companies.

³ Royal Australian College of General Practitioners. (2025, January 21). [More GPs training in NSW, but rural GP shortfalls show state investment needed.](#)



#3 REIMBURSE COUNCILS FOR FILLING THE HEALTH GAPS

PROBLEM

More than 20 percent of regional and rural councils are stepping in and funding health services where state and federal governments are neglecting their obligation. This includes subsidising running costs of medical facilities, providing health infrastructure, supporting workforce housing and delivering transport assistance.

While councils are not responsible for funding health services, they have little choice if they want to ensure their communities can access critical care. This diverts limited resources away from essential local infrastructure and services.

Often, these are the smallest and most remote councils, least able to afford these additional costs. Yet without council intervention, communities would go without basic health services. This cost-shift embeds structural inequity in both local government finances and regional access to health services.

SOLUTION

The NSW Government must establish a rural and regional health reimbursement scheme to compensate councils for this expenditure. LGNSW advocates for a \$20 million program over four years to reimburse councils that are forced to redirect funding from core infrastructure and community services to support local health access.

Without appropriate reimbursement, funds that are desperately needed for libraries, roads, playgrounds and sports fields will continue to be diverted to fund medical services that are the responsibility of State and Federal Governments.

CASE STUDY



Bogan Shire Council – Medical Centre in Nyngan

Bogan Shire Council has taken on the responsibility for establishing, operating, and funding the only Medical Centre in Nyngan for the last nine years.

Recognising market failure and with an impending crisis in local primary healthcare on the retirement of existing doctors, the accredited practice was established to avoid a critical lack of locally accessible primary, allied and specialist healthcare services.

The services offered have grown since 2017, with two building

extensions and the practice now has 3,400 active patients, with a local population of around 2,400, indicating that it services the regional community beyond Bogan Shire LGA.

The practice is well managed and operational costs are contained. However, annual expenditure increasingly outweighs income from patient fees, meaning that the practice is considerably subsidised by over \$600,000 per year from Council's other revenue including property rates. The main item of expenditure is fees associated with securing locum doctors, including housing, vehicles and travel.



Without adequate and well-funded patient transport, Councils will be forced to continue to cover these costs or patients will face expensive round trips for consultations or forego critical and necessary treatments.



#4 FUND PATIENT TRANSPORT AS CORE HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

PROBLEM

In rural, regional and remote NSW, access to health care is determined by access to transport. For many residents, particularly older people, people with disability and those on low incomes, the absence of reliable transport makes timely care effectively unreachable. This means missed appointments, delayed treatment, and avoidable pressure on hospitals, emergency departments and ambulance services.

The scale of this challenge is significant. In 2023–24, more than 99,000 travel assistance claims were approved under the Isolated Patients Travel and Accommodation Assistance Scheme (IPTAAS), an increase of 21% from the previous year⁴. While IPTAAS provides partial reimbursement for travel, it does not provide transport. For residents without access to a vehicle or driver, the scheme is effectively inaccessible. Transport barriers lead people in rural and remote areas to delay primary care and rely more heavily on hospital services, contributing to avoidable pressure on the health system.

Councils are stepping in to fill this gap, operating community transport services that are often the only way residents can attend essential medical appointments. Yet the NSW Government does not fund these services as core health infrastructure. Instead, community transport providers rely on fragmented Commonwealth and State programs that fail to meet the true cost of delivery and restrict services through inflexible eligibility rules.

SOLUTION

The NSW Government must:

- recognise and fund patient transport as core health infrastructure in rural, regional and remote NSW. This requires a dedicated investment of \$150 million over four years to provide sustainable, index-linked funding for community transport in regional and rural areas; and
- integrate transport and health planning to improve coordination and access.

CASE STUDY



Narrandera Shire Council – Community Transport service

Narrandera Shire Council provides [community transport](#) to residents of the Narrandera and Leeton Shires, funded through the Commonwealth Home Support Programmes (Department of Health and Ageing) and the Community Transport Program (Transport for NSW) and supported by both councils. This service is provided to residents aged 65 years and over (or 50 years and over who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander), or those who are transport disadvantaged to attend

medical appointments, shopping and social events, both locally and out of town. In 2024–25 the Narrandera Leeton Community Transport service provided 15,171 trips to residents and travelled over 356,455 kilometres, providing services to over 700 active clients. Many of the passengers used the service on a regular basis as their sole means of transport. The service relies heavily on the incredible generosity of 29 volunteer drivers who worked a staggering 7500 hours within the reporting period.

⁴ NSW Government. (2024, October 8). [Making it easier for regional patients who need to travel for healthcare.](#)



#5 SAFE, LOCAL MATERNITY CARE

PROBLEM

Reduced access to rural maternity services places expectant mothers and their babies at significant risk. Maternity services are not routinely available in rural hospitals, and the ongoing closure and prolonged bypass of birthing units continues to undermine local care. Nationally, Australia lost 41 per cent of its maternity units between 1992 and 2011⁵, with closures disproportionately affecting small rural and regional services.

When local birthing facilities close, rural women and their families are often forced to travel long distances or permanently relocate to other towns to start or grow their families. This not only increases financial, social and emotional strain on families, but also contributes to the long term social and economic decline of rural communities as families move to regions with better services.

SOLUTION

The NSW Government must act to reverse the decline in rural birthing units and restore access to safe, local maternity care. This requires targeted investment of at least \$120 million over four years to protect and rebuild local services, alongside the expansion of midwife-led, continuity-of-care and culturally safe maternity models, including for Aboriginal women and communities.

Without decisive action, rural families will continue to be denied the right to give birth safely, close to home.

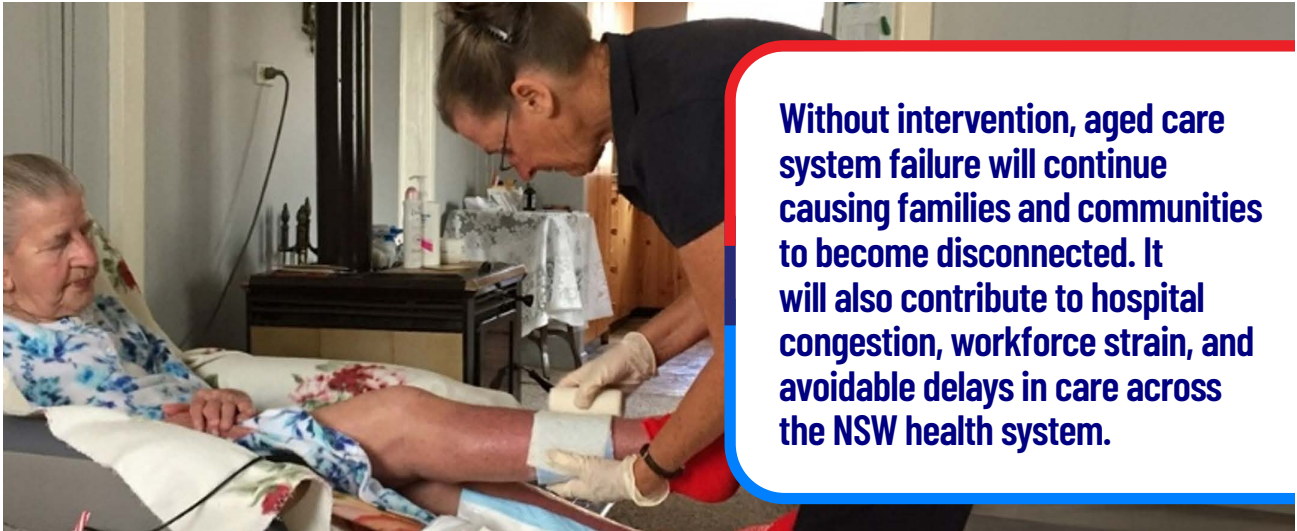
CASE STUDY



Parkes Shire Council - Local Birthing Unit

The birthing unit at Parkes hospital has been closed since 2019 as it was unable to secure staff. The town's sole obstetrician resigned in January 2025 leaving Parkes without obstetric services. Mayor Neil Westcott reports the community is constantly reassured that Parkes maternity reinstatement is high on the agenda of NSW Health, but a solution does not appear to be any closer.

⁵National Rural Health Alliance. (2025, June 23). Second edition national consensus framework for rural maternity services.



Without intervention, aged care system failure will continue causing families and communities to become disconnected. It will also contribute to hospital congestion, workforce strain, and avoidable delays in care across the NSW health system.



#6 INVEST IN COMMUNITY-BASED AGED CARE AND AGEING IN PLACE

PROBLEM

In around one third of rural and regional communities, local government is the primary or sole provider of a broad range of aged care and community-based services including domestic assistance, community transport, meals, social support programs, respite, home modifications, nursing, personal care and allied health. In some areas councils are even running residential aged care facilities.

Councils are particularly involved where there is a scarcity of service providers and workforce constraints.

Supporting older people to age in place enables older residents to stay connected to established social networks, informal supports, and local services, all of which are critical to wellbeing and independence of the individual but also to the connectedness and wellbeing of the community.

Aging in place also reduces demand on residential aged care and the acute hospital system by enabling earlier and

more appropriate support pathways. The lack of access to appropriate aged care in rural, regional and remote communities is placing pressure on the NSW public hospital system, particularly through “bed block” when patients remain in hospital after they are medically cleared for discharge because no appropriate aged care placement or in-home support is available.

SOLUTION

The NSW Government should work with the Commonwealth to establish a Rural and Regional Aged Care Transition Fund, with an investment of \$250 million over four years to:

- expand council-delivered ageing in place supports, including in-home care and community-based services in underserved regions
- support transitional care models that reduce hospital discharge blockages
- enable faster delivery of residential aged care infrastructure in high-need communities.

CASE STUDY



Uralla Shire Council – Providing Aged Care

Uralla Shire Council delivers a range of services for older people and people with disability, spanning entry level support through to more intensive care options. Through [Tablelands Community Support](#), the Council delivers government funded aged care services, including the CHSP, NDIS, and the Support at Home program, and along with Tablelands Community Transport runs a dedicated community transport service that supports many

frail aged, disabled and transport disadvantaged residents. The Council's services extend beyond domestic assistance and meals to include personal care, allied health, mobility equipment, home maintenance, in-home respite care, nursing and social support, such as a weekly Elders Aboriginal group. In addition, the council provides short term reablement and facility-based respite and offers access to higher level aged care through its McMaugh Gardens residential aged care facility.

11.2 PARKES WAR GRAVES RECOGNITION AND COMMEMORATION**Councillor:** Cr Doug Pout**Annexures:** Nil

MOTION

That Council:

1. Acknowledge the historical significance of the Parkes War Graves within Parkes Cemetery, including servicemen who lost their lives during World War II training operations associated with RAAF Station Parkes, and other Australian servicemen interred at the site.
2. Acknowledge and commend Parkes Shire Council staff for the respectful and immaculate maintenance of the site.
3. Work collaboratively with the Parkes RSL Sub-Branch to explore commemorative and interpretive improvements for the Parkes War Graves area, including respectful signage, historical interpretation, memorial plaques, or other suitable recognition measures that preserve the dignity of the site.
4. Investigate suitable grant opportunities and consider what financial or in-kind assistance Council may be able to provide to support future commemorative works or interpretive projects.
5. Receive an update on discussions and opportunities identified through this process at a future Council meeting.

BACKGROUND

At this year's ANZAC Day service at the Parkes War Graves, I was struck by both the significance of the site and the respectful way it is maintained. Like many people in our community, I did not fully appreciate the history of the servicemen buried there, particularly those connected to the wartime operations at RAAF Station Parkes.

This motion is simply about working collaboratively with the Parkes RSL Sub-Branch to explore respectful ways we can better recognise and share that history while preserving the dignity of the site.

OFFICER'S COMMENT**Author:** Logan Hignett, General Manager (Acting)**Commentary:**

Council already maintains the Parkes War Graves area to a high standard and acknowledges the historical significance of the site to the Parkes community, the RSL Sub-Branch and the families of service personnel interred there.

The motion provides an opportunity for Council to work collaboratively with the Parkes RSL Sub-Branch to investigate appropriate commemorative and interpretive opportunities, such as signage, plaques or other respectful recognition measures, while ensuring the dignity of the site is preserved.

Any future proposal involving new infrastructure, interpretive material, grant applications, financial contributions or in-kind works would need to be considered in the context of Council's operational and capital budget commitments, relevant approvals, cemetery management requirements and any further report to Council where required.

11.3 RETURN AND EARN FACILITIES**Councillor:** Cr Doug Pout**Annexures:** Nil**MOTION**

That Council:

1. Acknowledge the environmental and recycling benefits of the NSW Return and Earn scheme and note that many residents actively support and utilise the program.
2. Note community concerns regarding the management and condition of some Return and Earn facilities within the Parkes Shire, including overflowing bins, litter, broken glass, abandoned shopping trolleys, odour, vermin, and impacts on public safety and town amenity, with concerns also raised where Council staff may be left dealing with issues that should properly sit with facility operators.
3. Note that councils and communities across NSW have, in some cases, raised concerns regarding the location, servicing, and amenity impacts of Return and Earn facilities, resulting in reviews, modifications, or consideration of alternative locations.
4. Request a report to Council outlining:
 - current management and servicing arrangements for Return and Earn facilities within the Shire,
 - any complaints, compliance concerns, or operational issues raised with Council,
 - Council's role, powers, and regulatory limitations regarding such facilities,
 - whether any Council resources or staff time are being utilised responding to amenity or clean-up concerns associated with Return and Earn facilities,
 - and potential measures to improve cleanliness, servicing, public safety, litter control, trolley management, pest control, and overall amenity outcomes, including whether alternative locations may better minimise impacts on surrounding businesses, residents, and public spaces.
5. Request that Council write to the relevant operators and NSW Government agencies seeking improved servicing, maintenance, litter and glass clean-up, trolley retrieval, pest management, and review of site suitability where ongoing amenity concerns exist.

BACKGROUND

No background provided.

OFFICER'S COMMENT**Author:** Logan Hignett, General Manager (Acting)**Commentary:**

Council acknowledges the environmental benefits of the NSW Return and Earn scheme and recognises that appropriate site management is important to ensure facilities do not adversely impact public amenity, safety, surrounding businesses or nearby residents.

The matters raised in the motion are appropriate to be reviewed through a further report to Council. That report can outline the current location and management arrangements for Return and Earn

facilities within the Shire, any complaints or operational issues known to Council, Council's regulatory role and limitations, and whether Council resources have been required to respond to amenity, litter, broken glass, trolley, pest or servicing issues.

It is important that any review is undertaken on a factual basis and does not presume non-compliance or operator failure prior to investigation. Council's role may vary depending on whether a facility is located on Council owned land, private land, or land subject to separate NSW Government or scheme operator arrangements.

Subject to Council's resolution, officers can also engage with relevant operators and NSW Government agencies to seek improved servicing, maintenance and amenity outcomes where issues are identified.

11.4 WYATTS LANE RAILWAY CROSSING DRAINAGE

Author: Matthew Scherer, Councillor
Authoriser: Logan Hignett, General Manager (Acting)
Annexures: A. Advice received from ARTC - Confidential

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the response to the Question with Notice submitted by Cr Matthew Scherer, as detailed in this report.

QUESTION

The following Questions with Notice was received from Councillor Matthew Scherer.

Background

Following the Inland Rail project works at the Wyatts Lane crossing in Goonumbla, the rail line height was increased by approximately 900mm. The subsequent elevation of the road approaches has acted as a levee, obstructing historical drainage lines that previously directed water from the north into a local creek. Long-term residents report that even minor rainfall (e.g., 50mm) now causes significant flooding on the lane, creating a safety hazard for motorists and causing ongoing damage to Council's road asset. Despite previous verbal agreements between residents, Council staff, and Inland Rail management to install culverts or a causeway, no remedial action has been taken.



Questions

- 1. Current Project Status and Inter-Agency Agreement** What is the current status of the negotiations between Parkes Shire Council and the ARTC/Inland Rail regarding the rectification of drainage at the Wyatts Lane crossing, and which party is currently responsible for the delay in implementing the agreed-upon drainage solution?
- 2. Safety and Priority Classification** Given that the increased road height has created a new flooding hazard on a public thoroughfare, has a formal safety risk assessment been conducted on this site since the track elevation? Why has this work not been prioritized as an urgent safety rectification rather than a standard maintenance item?
- 3. Engineering and Financial Implications** Has Council's engineering department reviewed the proposed "causeway" solution suggested by local stakeholders? Furthermore, what is the estimated annual cost to Council for the ongoing repair of Wyatts Lane due to this localized flooding, compared to the one-off cost of installing proper drainage?
- 4. Timeline for Completion** Can the General Manager provide a definitive timeline for when the drainage works at Wyatts Lane will be scheduled for completion to ensure the road remains trafficable during common rainfall events?

RESPONSE:

Council is aware of ongoing local concerns regarding drainage behaviour, nuisance water at Wyatts Lane following the Inland Rail works in the Goonumbla area.

Council previously engaged with Inland Rail regarding a practical drainage treatment at Wyatts Lane, including a concrete causeway and culvert arrangement intended to improve local drainage behaviour and road serviceability. As part of those discussions, Council assisted by identifying a potential treatment and providing indicative pricing information for consideration by Inland Rail. At that stage, Council understood that the proposed approach was being considered favourably and may proceed, subject to Inland Rail's internal approvals and formal confirmation.

However, no formal written agreement, executed funding arrangement, purchase order, works authorisation or other binding commitment was ultimately issued by Inland Rail for Council to deliver the works. Inland Rail subsequently provided Council with a technical assessment which concluded that the as-constructed works complied with the adopted Inland Rail flood impact criteria and that additional drainage works were not required from Inland Rail's perspective.

In December 2024, Inland Rail provided Council with a technical memorandum titled Wyatts Lane level crossing roadworks assessment. That memorandum assessed the as-constructed drainage works against the flood impact criteria adopted for the Parkes to Narromine Inland Rail project. The memorandum confirms that rail cross-drainage culverts were provided north and south of the Wyatts Lane level crossing, but that longitudinal drainage was not provided under the raised sections of road east and west of the rail line.

The Inland Rail assessment classified Wyatts Lane as an "other road" under the project flood impact criteria. Under those criteria, the allowable change in flood level, or afflux, was 100 mm. The memorandum concluded that the as-constructed works complied with the relevant criteria, with the highest modelled afflux being 80 mm in the 1% Annual Exceedance Probability event.

The memorandum also tested additional longitudinal culverts under the raised sections of road at the level crossing. Inland Rail's assessment concluded that these additional culverts would produce minimal change in flood level around the crossing and on Wyatts Lane.

On that basis, Inland Rail advised that no further drainage or road improvement works were required to mitigate the impacts of the Inland Rail project at this location. The memorandum concluded that the works caused minimal change in flow velocities across the road and would not increase the susceptibility of Wyatts Lane to erosion.

Council notes that this assessment addresses compliance with Inland Rail's adopted project flood impact criteria. Council also acknowledges that local nuisance flooding, road serviceability impacts and community concerns can still arise even where a project is assessed as meeting formal flood impact criteria.

1. Current Project Status and Inter-Agency Agreement

There are currently no active negotiations with Inland Rail or ARTC for the delivery of additional drainage works at Wyatts Lane.

Following previous engagement, Inland Rail provided Council with its technical assessment and advised that further drainage works were not required under the project's adopted flood impact criteria. Council is not aware of a formal written agreement requiring Inland Rail to construct a culvert, causeway or other additional drainage treatment at this location.

Accordingly, it would not be appropriate to characterise the current position as a delay to an agreed drainage solution. Rather, the current position is that Inland Rail has advised that no further works

are required from its perspective, and Council does not currently have an adopted capital allocation to independently deliver additional drainage works at this location.

The recent Australian Government announcement to consolidate Inland Rail by completing the Beveridge to Parkes section by the end of 2027 further reduces the likelihood of discretionary additional works being funded by Inland Rail outside its committed scope. The Australian Government has confirmed that the project is being consolidated to complete construction between Beveridge and Parkes, while Inland Rail has separately stated that it remains focused on completing the Beveridge to Parkes section by 2027.

2. Safety and Priority Classification

Council acknowledges that Wyatts Lane has experienced historical flooding and drainage issues for some time, including prior to the Inland Rail works. The technical memorandum provided by Inland Rail also identifies that, under pre-construction flood conditions, sections of Wyatts Lane were already prone to flooding and washout during flood events.

Based on the information currently available, including Inland Rail's technical assessment, the residual drainage issues appear to be primarily associated with localised ponding and nuisance water rather than a demonstrated non-compliance with Inland Rail's adopted flood impact criteria.

Council will continue to monitor Wyatts Lane through its normal road inspection, maintenance and response processes. Where flooding, pavement damage or trafficability issues are identified, Council may undertake maintenance, install temporary warning signage, restrict access, or close the road if required to protect public safety.

At this stage, the matter has not been classified as an urgent capital safety rectification. However, Council will review the matter if additional or different information becomes available, including observed flood behaviour, maintenance records, safety concerns, or technical information that indicates the impacts are materially different from those assessed in the Inland Rail report.

3. Engineering and Financial Implications

Council officers have considered the general concept of a local drainage treatment, including culvert and causeway-style options. However, a detailed design, options assessment, hydraulic assessment and construction estimate would be required before Council could confirm the preferred treatment, scope, approvals pathway, constructability and cost.

Council does not currently have a separately quantified annual cost for flood-related repairs at Wyatts Lane. Maintenance costs are generally captured through Council's broader road maintenance activities and are not always separately attributed to a specific rainfall event, flood mechanism or location-specific drainage issue.

4. Timeline for Completion

There is currently no confirmed timeline for completion of drainage works at Wyatts Lane, as the works are not included in Council's adopted capital works program and no external funding commitment is currently in place. Council will continue to manage the road through normal inspection and maintenance processes.

Based on the information currently available, Wyatts Lane continues to perform generally as expected under common rainfall events, noting that the location has a history of localised drainage

constraints. During more significant rainfall or storm events, temporary nuisance water, ponding or reduced trafficability may occur, consistent with the nature of the local drainage environment.

Any future capital drainage upgrade would need to be considered through Council's normal budget process, asset prioritisation framework, or through an appropriate external funding opportunity.

If future observed flood events demonstrate impacts that materially differ from the outcomes identified in Inland Rail's technical assessment, Council may use that information to re-engage with Inland Rail, ARTC or relevant government agencies. However, based on the current position, Council is unable to provide a definitive construction timeframe for additional drainage works at Wyatts Lane.

12 COUNCILLOR REPORT(S)

Nil

13 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**13.1 MINUTES OF THE ARTS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21 APRIL 2026****IP&R Linkage:** **Pillar:** Leadership**Goal:** Our local government is open, accountable and transparent.**Strategy:** Provide open and transparent decision-making and undertake the civic duties of Council with professionalism and integrity.**Author:** **Tiffany Prout, Administration Officer****Authoriser:** **Annalise Teale, Director Planning and Community Services****Annexures:** **A. Arts Advisory Council Meeting Minutes - 21 April 2026**

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Arts Advisory Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21 April 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

Arts Advisory Council Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday 21 April 2026



Minutes of the Arts Advisory Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday, 21 April 2026 at the
Parkes Council Committee Room, 2 Cecile Street, Parkes

Present:

Cr Neil Westcott	Mayor (Chair)
Cr Bill Jayet	Councillor
Cr Joy Paddison	Councillor
Mrs Annette Witherow	Parkes Painting Group
Mrs Elly Tom	Parkes Shire Concert Band
Mrs Ronda Sharpe	Artist
Mrs Janelle Faunt	Parkes Potters Group

Council Officers in Attendance:

Mrs Annalise Teale	Director Planning and Community Services
Mrs Kerry Jones	Cultural, Education and Library Services Manager
Mrs Sharon Degeling	Creative Learning Coordinator
Mrs Tiffany Prout	Administration Officer (Minutes)

NOTES

Cr Joy Paddison attended via audio-visual link.

The meeting commenced at 9:35am and concluded at 10:28.

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	7.9 The Carrington Peak Hill	8
8	REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS	9
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1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Chairperson declared the Arts Advisory Council Meeting of Tuesday, 21 April 2026 open and welcomed Council Officials in attendance.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chairperson read the following Acknowledgement of Country:

Parkes Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Wiradjuri Country and recognises and respects their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing connection with the lands and rivers of the Parkes Shire.

Council pays its respects to Elders past, present and emerging and extends this respect to all First Nations peoples in the Parkes Shire.

3 APOLOGIES

Cr Doug Pout

Cr Louise O'Leary

Mrs Margot Jolly

Mr Duncan Clements

Mrs Rhonda Redenbach

Mrs Judith Unger

APOLOGY

RESOLVED AAC 001/26

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Mrs Kerryn Jones

That the apology submitted by Councillor Pout and Councillor O'Leary be received and leave of absence be granted.

CARRIED

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 MINUTES OF THE ARTS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 4 NOVEMBER 2025

RESOLVED AAC 002/26

Moved: Mrs Kerry Jones

Seconded: Cr William Jayet

That:

1. The Arts Advisory Council receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4 November 2025.

CARRIED

4.2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLVED AAC 003/26

Moved: Mrs Kerry Jones

Seconded: Cr William Jayet

That business arising from the Minutes of 4 November 2025 be noted as follows:

1. Mrs Annalise Teale gave an update on ongoing discussion with Orange Regional Conservatorium Music and their desired presence in Parkes.
2. Cr Bill Jayet asked Mrs Kerry Jones how the Parkes Community Arts project is progressing on the old camera house building. - Parkes community arts meeting with signs you see 21 April 2026.

CARRIED

5 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

The Chairperson reminded Council Officials of their obligation under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at the meeting, and invited Council Officials present to disclose any such interests.

Nil

6 LATE BUSINESS

The Chairperson advised that no late items of business had been submitted to the meeting.

7 OFFICERS' REPORTS**7.1 PARKES SHIRE COUNCIL CULTURAL CENTRE REPORT****RESOLVED AAC 004/26**

That:

1. The Arts Advisory Council note and accept this report.

CARRIED**7.2 PARKES COMMUNITY ARTS INC REPORT****RESOLVED AAC 005/26**

Moved: Mrs Kerry Jones

Seconded: Cr William Jayet

That:

1. The Arts Advisory Council note this report as received.

CARRIED**7.3 PARKES PAINTING GROUP****RESOLVED AAC 006/26**

Moved: Mrs Kerry Jones

Seconded: Cr William Jayet

That:

1. The Arts Advisory Council note receipt of this report.

CARRIED

7.4 STRATEGIC PLANNING CONSULTATION**RESOLVED AAC 007/26****DISCUSSION**

- The committee supported the vision and mission written in the survey
- Suggest that mission and vision are used as introductory information
- Cr Bill Jayet recommended a media release be prepared to promote Strategic Planning workshop and survey
- Consider ways to increase public awareness, e.g. presence at Welcome to Parkes event in May.
- Include an age range and gender in the survey
- Include an overview of achievements since 2019
- Question 4 - Community priorities – list examples of arts programs and events
- Provide online and Hard copy surveys
- Two additional questions (any other comments or suggestions, identifying people to facilitate workshops)

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. The Arts Advisory Council note this report.
2. Arts OutWest amend the Survey with the AAC Suggestions.

CARRIED**7.5 PARKES POTTERY GROUP****RESOLVED AAC 008/26**

That:

1. The Arts Advisory Council note this report as received.

CARRIED

7.6 ARTS OUTWEST ADVISORY MEETING**RESOLVED AAC 009/26**

That:

1. The Arts Advisory Council note this report as received.

CARRIED**7.7 RONDA SHARPE ARTIST REPORT****RESOLVED AAC 010/26**

That:

1. The Arts Advisory Council note this report as received.

CARRIED**7.8 PARKES SHIRE CONCERT BAND REPORT****RESOLVED AAC 011/26**

That:

1. The Arts Advisory Council note this report as received.

CARRIED**7.9 THE CARRINGTON PEAK HILL****RESOLVED AAC 012/26****DISCUSSION**

- Mrs Annalise Teale spoke about works to be done with the grant.
- Mrs Kerryn Jones, suggest we have a future meeting out there.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. That the information in the report is received and noted.

CARRIED

8 REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS

In accordance with clauses 14.22 and 14.23 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting that is closed to the public must be made public by the Chairperson as soon as practicable. Such resolutions must be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.

9 CONCLUSION OF MEETING

The meeting concluded at 10:28am.

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 9 pages numbered 1 to 9 of the Arts Advisory Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 21 April 2026 and confirmed on 19 May 2026.

Mayor Neil Westcott
CHAIRPERSON

13.2 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY, LIVEABILITY AND ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21 APRIL 2026

IP&R Linkage: **Pillar:** Leadership

Goal: Our local government is open, accountable and transparent.

Strategy: Provide open and transparent decision-making and undertake the civic duties of Council with professionalism and integrity.

Author: **Tiffany Prout, Administration Officer**

Authoriser: **Annalise Teale, Director Planning and Community Services**

Annexures: **A. Community, Liveability and Access Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - 21 April 2026**

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Community, Liveability and Access Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 21 April 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

Community, Liveability and Access Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday 21 April 2026



Minutes of the Community, Liveability and Access Advisory Committee Meeting**Held on Tuesday, 21 April 2026 at the****Parkes Council Committee Room, 2 Cecile Street, Parkes****Present:**

Cr Marg Applebee	Councillor (Chair)
Cr Neil Westcott	Mayor
Cr Louise O'Leary	Councillor
Cr Bill Jayet	Councillor
Cr George Pratt	Councillor
Cr Glenn Wilson	Councillor (Attended 11:15am)
Mr Jeff Evans	Currajong Disability
Ms Lyn McLeod	Community Member
Ms Jess McDonald	Community Member

Council Officers in Attendance:

Mrs Annalise Teale	Director Planning and Community Services
Mrs Kerryn Jones	Cultural, Education and Library Services Manager
Mrs Ann-Marie Winters	Central West Childcare Services Manager
Mrs Tiffany Prout	Administration Officer (Minutes)

NOTES

Ms Jess McDonald attended via audio-visual link.

The meeting commenced at 10:36am and concluded at 11:29am.

Order Of Business

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4	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	4
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4.2	Business Arising from Previous Minutes.....	5
5	DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS	5
6	LATE BUSINESS	5
7	OFFICERS' REPORTS.....	5
7.1	Culture, Education & Library Services Report	5
7.2	Carrington Hotel Peak Hill	6
7.3	Community Survey to Seek Feedback on Accessibility and Inclusion.....	6
7.4	NSW Seniors Festival in the Parkes Shire 2026.....	7
7.5	Central West Children's Services Report.....	7
8	REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS	7
9	CONCLUSION OF MEETING.....	8

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Chairperson declared the Community, Liveability and Access Advisory Committee Meeting of Tuesday, 21 April 2026 open and welcomed Council Officials in attendance.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chairperson read the following Acknowledgement of Country:

Parkes Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Wiradjuri Country and recognises and respects their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing connection with the lands and rivers of the Parkes Shire.

Council pays its respects to Elders past, present and emerging and extends this respect to all First Nations peoples in the Parkes Shire.

3 APOLOGIES

Cr Doug Pout

Moved Cr Jayet

Seconded Ms Lynn McLeod

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY, LIVEABILITY AND ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 4 NOVEMBER 2025
--

RESOLVED CLA 001/26

Moved: Cr Bill Jayet

Seconded: Ms Lyn McLeod

1. That the Community, Liveability and Access Advisory Committee receive and confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4 November 2025.

CARRIED

4.2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**RESOLVED CLA 002/26**

Moved: Cr Bill Jayet

Seconded: Ms Lyn McLeod

That business arising from the Minutes of 4 November 2025 be noted as follows:

1. Noted the representatives of the CLAAC that assessed the Australia Day Cultural Awards were Cr Bill Jayet, Mayor Neil Westcott and Mrs Annalise Teale.
2. Noted the representatives of the CLAAC that assessed the Jack Scoble Scholarship applications were Cr Bill Jayet, Mr Jeff Evans and Ms Lyn McLeod.

CARRIED**5 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS**

The Chairperson reminded Council Officials of their obligation under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at the meeting, and invited Council Officials present to disclose any such interests.

Nil

6 LATE BUSINESS

The Chairperson advised that no late items of business had been submitted to the meeting.

7 OFFICERS' REPORTS**7.1 CULTURE, EDUCATION & LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT****RESOLVED CLA 003/26****DISCUSSION:**

- Mrs Kerryn Jones advised that the Trundle Library is currently in poor condition, and that planning and preliminary investigations for a potential new facility have commenced.
- Cultural Awards assessments will be conducted by Ms Lyn McLeod, Cr Bill Jayet, and Mr Jeff Evans on Friday, 15 May 2026 at 11:00am.
- Kerryn highlighted the need to increase library membership in order to meet Public Library objectives and standards.
- Cr O'Leary suggested targeting new Australian Citizens and recently arrived residents as part of efforts to grow library membership.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. The report is received and noted.

CARRIED

7.2 CARRINGTON HOTEL PEAK HILL**RESOLVED CLA 004/26****DISCUSSION:**

- Council has been invited to submit a grant application for upgrades to achieve building compliance.
- Ms Lyn McLeod queried whether there are any restrictions relating to the mezzanine area. Mrs Annalise Teale took the question on notice.
- Cr O'Leary raised a question regarding the first floor balustrade. Mrs Annalise Teale also took this question on notice.

ACTION:

- An update will be provided at the next meeting regarding The Carrington mezzanine area.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. That the information in the report is received and noted.

CARRIED**7.3 COMMUNITY SURVEY TO SEEK FEEDBACK ON ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION****RESOLVED CLA 005/26****DISCUSSION:**

- The survey will be reviewed to ensure it focuses on individuals experiencing accessibility challenges or impairments, rather than specifically referencing disability.
- Cr O'Leary requested that the survey be distributed via the Sports Council.
- The Committee discussed additional distribution methods, including circulation through nursing homes and having Council representatives attend in person to support engagement.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. The report is received and noted.

CARRIED

7.4 NSW SENIORS FESTIVAL IN THE PARKES SHIRE 2026**RESOLVED CLA 006/26****DISCUSSION:**

- Positive feedback was received from both the committee and event attendees.
- An application for grant funding will be submitted for Senior's Week 2027, with planning to commence earlier to support improved delivery.
- Feedback will also be sought from CCC villages.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. The report is received and noted.

CARRIED**7.5 CENTRAL WEST CHILDREN'S SERVICES REPORT****RESOLVED CLA 007/26****DISCUSSION:**

- Mrs Ann-Marie Winters presented her report to the committee.
- It was noted that the service is currently operating at full capacity.
- An open day is planned to support and encourage enrolments.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. The report is received and noted.

CARRIED**8 REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS**

In accordance with clauses 14.22 and 14.23 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting that is closed to the public must be made public by the Chairperson as soon as practicable. Such resolutions must be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.

9 CONCLUSION OF MEETING

The meeting concluded at 11:29pm.

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 8 pages numbered 1 to 8 of the Community, Liveability and Access Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 21 April 2026 and confirmed on 19 May 2026.

Cr Marg Applebee
CHAIRPERSON

13.3 MINUTES OF THE WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21 APRIL 2026

IP&R Linkage: **Pillar:** Leadership

Goal: Our local government is open, accountable and transparent.

Strategy: Provide open and transparent decision-making and undertake the civic duties of Council with professionalism and integrity.

Author: **Sharyn Ware, Waste Management Coordinator**

Authoriser: **Andrew Francis, Director Infrastructure and Sustainability**

Annexures:

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Waste Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 21 April 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

Waste Advisory Committee

Minutes

Tuesday 21 April 2026



Minutes of the Waste Advisory Committee**Held on Tuesday, 21 April 2026 at the****Parkes Council Chamber, 2 Cecile Street, Parkes at 11.35am****Present:**

Cr Marg Applebee	Deputy Chair
Cr Neil Westcott	Mayor
Cr Louise O'Leary	Councillor
Cr George Pratt	Councillor
Cr Glenn Wilson	Councillor

Council Officers in Attendance:

Andrew Francis, Director Environment & Sustainability
Michael Chambers, Manager Environment, Waste & Sustainability
Sharyn Ware, Waste Management Coordinator (Minutes)

Order Of Business

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4	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	4
	4.1 Minutes of the Waste Advisory Committee held on 18 November 2025	4
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	7.1 Proposed Waste Fees & Charges 2026-27	5
	7.2 Alectown Closure and Establish Transfer Station - Current Progress	5
	7.3 RFT Concrete Crushing Parkes Waste Facility.....	6
	7.4 Lockable Bin Cages for Sporting Fields.....	6
	7.5 bagMUSTER for Parkes, Peak Hill and Alectown Transfer Stations.....	6
8	REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS	7
9	CONCLUSION OF MEETING.....	7

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Chairperson declared the Waste Advisory Committee of Tuesday, 21 April 2026 open and welcomed Council Officials in attendance.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chairperson read the following Acknowledgement of Country:

Parkes Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Wiradjuri Country and recognises and respects their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing connection with the lands and rivers of the Parkes Shire.

Council pays its respects to Elders past, present and emerging and extends this respect to all First Nations peoples in the Parkes Shire.

3 APOLOGIES

Cr Doug Pout, Councillor

APOLOGY

RESOLVED WAC 001/26

Moved: Cr George Pratt

Seconded: Cr Louise O'Leary

That the apology submitted by Councillor Pout be received and leave of absence be granted.

CARRIED

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 MINUTES OF THE WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 4 NOVEMBER 2025
--

RECOMMENDATION

That the receive and confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4 November 2025 appended at *Annexure A*.

RESOLVED WAC 002/26

Moved: Cr George Pratt
Seconded: Cr Neil Westcott

That the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 4 November, 2025, be confirmed.

CARRIED

5 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

The Chairperson reminded Council Officials of their obligation under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at the meeting, and invited Council Officials present to disclose any such interests.

Nil

6 LATE BUSINESS

The Chairperson advised that no late items of business had been submitted to the meeting.

7 OFFICERS' REPORTS

7.1 PROPOSED WASTE FEES & CHARGES 2026-27

RESOLVED WAC 003/26

Moved: Cr George Pratt
Seconded: Cr Louise O'Leary

That:

1. The Fees and Charges for Waste Functions be developed to provide the necessary increase in accordance with the report as set out below and be presented to Council in the draft Operational Plan.
 - Domestic Waste Charges levied against residential properties be increased by 4.5% for 2026/27.
 - Commercial Waste charges levied against commercial and industrial properties be increased by 4.5% for 2026/27.
 - Waste Facility tipping charges be adjusted according to volume to provide a fair and logical fee structure.
 - Garbage and Waste Facility tipping charges (Parkes, Peak Hill and Alectown Transfer Stations) will be increased by 4.5% for 2026/27, excluding 240L Bin and Car Boot. Rounding will occur for ease of use to customers.
2. That both the Water and Sewer Funds provide a \$7,500.00 contribution to waste management to cover cost of waste delivered by these functions in 2026/27.

CARRIED

7.2 ALECTOWN CLOSURE AND ESTABLISH TRANSFER STATION - CURRENT PROGRESS

RESOLVED WAC 004/26

Moved: Cr Neil Westcott
Seconded: Cr Louise O'Leary

That:

1. For Council's information

CARRIED**7.3 RFT CONCRETE CRUSHING PARKES WASTE FACILITY****RESOLVED WAC 005/26**

Moved: Cr George Pratt
Seconded: Cr Louise O'Leary

That:

1. Council approve the RFT for concrete crushing at Parkes Waste Facility for publication

CARRIED**7.4 LOCKABLE BIN CAGES FOR SPORTING FIELDS****RESOLVED WAC 006/26**

Moved: Cr Louise O'Leary
Seconded: Cr George Pratt

That:

1. Approval be given to erecting bin cages at Cheney and Harrison Park in the first instance, followed by other high-use parks in future if successful. Design and quotes to be sought.

CARRIED**7.5 BAGMUSTER FOR PARKES, PEAK HILL AND ALECTOWN TRANSFER STATIONS****RESOLVED WAC 007/26**

Moved: Cr Louise O'Leary
Seconded: Cr George Pratt

That:

1. For Council's information

CARRIED

8 REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS

In accordance with clauses 14.22 and 14.23 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting that is closed to the public must be made public by the Chairperson as soon as practicable. Such resolutions must be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.

9 CONCLUSION OF MEETING

The meeting concluded at 12.30.

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 7 pages numbered 1 to 7 of the Waste Advisory Committee held on Tuesday, 21 April 2026.

Marg Applebee
CHAIRPERSON

13.4 MINUTES OF THE PARKES SPORTS COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12 MAY 2026

IP&R Linkage: **Pillar:** Leadership

Goal: Our local government is open, accountable and transparent.

Strategy: Provide open and transparent decision-making and undertake the civic duties of Council with professionalism and integrity.

Author: **Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy**

Authoriser: **Logan Hignett, General Manager (Acting)**

Annexures: **A. Minutes of the Parkes Sports Council Meeting held on 12 May 2026.**



RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Parkes Sports Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12 May 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

12 May 2026 Sports Council Minutes

Tuesday, 12 May 2026 7:04 PM

Welcome

Al Gersbach welcomed all to the meeting.

Attendance

Al Gersbach (Chair), Luke Nash (Finances), Anthony McGrath (Secretary), Richard Rice (Hockey), Ken Keith (Golf), Greg Morrissey (Mr Cricket),

Online

Cr Doug Pout (Council Representative)

Guests

Geoff Finn (Parkes Shire Council)

Apologies

Linda Snyman (Dragon Boating), Louise O'Leary (Councillor Representative), Andrew Daley (Hockey), Michael Greenwood (Community Representative), Doug Moore (Little Athletics), Wilbur Harris (Netball), Andrew Thomas (Senior Rugby League), Wayne Osbourne (Soccer), Gail Richardson (Community Representative), Kerrie Edwards (Parkes Little As, Peak Hill sport),

Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The previous minutes were distributed with the agenda, moved by Anthony by seconded by Luke Nash that they are a true and correct record. Carried

General Meeting

Notable Sporting Performances or Events

Athletics

- Kim Robinson has been selected to officiate the upcoming 2026 u16's Oceana Games in Darwin
- Vashti Williams has been selected to represent Australia in Javelin at the 2026 u16's Oceana Games in Darwin (youngest age group where this is possible in athletics)

Hockey

- Toby Collins in U21 Australian Burras side.
- Jet Johnstone U18 Australian side.

Review of Outstanding Actions

13/8/2019	1	Sports Legends Board at Parkes Leagues Club to be reviewed and alternatives considered.	Alan Macdonald
14/10/2020	2	Dedication ceremony for the Cheney family trophy to be conducted before the first Grinsted Cup match this season	Luke Nash
12/03/2024	3	Investigate switchboard upgrade at SDF. Also lights out on Miriah Williams field (SW)	Geoff
10/02/2026	4	Seek approval from Scott Westcot to name the park run track in his honour	Anthony

11/03/2026	5	Peak Hill would like the Long Jump pits at Lindner Oval in Peak Hill reviewed for possible upgrade. Would like a quote.	Tim
11/03/2026	6	Determine what the Services Club's intentions are for the Sporting Life Members board located upstairs at the Club	Anthony
14/04/2026	7	Eastern soccer goal post at Woodward oval needs repair.	Geoff
14/04/2026	8	Investigate installation of a sign at Lake Endeavour to advise of Use of Wi-Fi to call emergency services, also add what three words to communicate location.	Tim
14/04/2026	9	Access from Pioneer to Spicer remains a problem as users are ignoring the ramp closure. League are willing to install pipes at their own cost to improve access.	Tim
14/04/2026	10	Netball request repair of cracks that have reappeared on McGlynn court surface.	Geoff
14/04/2026	11	Investigate use of a temporary banner on Wholesome Blend corner of Bushman Street roundabout to advise of upcoming events, similar Elvis and Christmas signage.	Anthony / Tim
14/04/2026	12	League would like to know when does Pioneer Grandstand and Amenities DA expire?	Anthony
14/04/2026	13	Investigate what a new sports field sign might look like based on the new brand and signage strategy.	Anthony

Discussion / Action Taken

Update provided on the outstanding tasks as follows:

- 3, \$35k quote received for Stephen Davies field switchboard upgrade. Switchboard is functional but will required some work in the future.
- 4, contact made with Glenn Westcott seeking Scott's concurrence for Park Run track to be named in his honour.
- 5, quote received, passed on to Peak Hill CCC
- 6, Services club General Manager advised that the Club had no plans to remove the Life Member honour board, she would prefer it in a more prominent location. Greg Morrissey suggested that another location could be the Spicer Oval club house.
- 7, Woodward soccer goal post repaired.
8. There are existing signs at Lake Endeavour advising of location and to use the Wi-Fi for calling. Google maps has been advised to update the routing from Parkes to Lake Endeavour. A sign on Bindogundra Road is planned to advise that there is no access to Lake Endeavour.
9. Council has installed a pipe and culvert to restore access to Spicer from Pioneer Oval.
- 10 New policy to be approved by Council at May meeting on the use of the signage infrastructure at Bushman St roundabout for community event banners.
- 11, A new operational policy has been developed to provide guidance on the use of the existing signage infrastructure for community event banners.
- 12, advice received from Planning Department - see General Business for more details.
- 13, request placed with comms team to design an updated place sign for sporting fields using the new Signage Guide.

Correspondence

The following items of correspondence was received or sent

1. Advice of meeting and minutes sent out to groups.

Action

1, For information.

Grants Received

This item on the Agenda is for sporting groups to report any other grants they may have received.

- Nil

Sports Projects Update

Geoff provided the following update at the meeting.

- Cheney park goal posts up and 4 fields marked - 2 full size and 2 mod size
- Culvert over detention basin ingress point at Croaker oval complete. Access to Spicer from Pioneer restored.
- Dredging at Lake Endeavour complete. Al Gersbach raised concerns about the finish of the job - lack of compaction of rocks - online photo appeared to show job incomplete.
- AFL installing some posts with a net to stop balls running down on to Pioneer from Northparkes
- 2 new storage sheds to be installed - Spicer and Cheney park - concrete slabs will be installed first in this financial year. Richard Rice asked about access for hockey to the shed. Geoff advised that the shed would be in next year's budget and more planning would be done then.

Al asked about brown patches which are on Cheney Park. Geoff said that there was some spots that weren't included in the drainage works. Soil testing to be carried out this week.

Luke asked about the bare patches at Northparkes. Geoff said that there was also patches on Cheney, Spicer and McGlynn. He said that they would spray in spring for ground pearl and include a fertilising program.

Geoff again reminded groups to ensure fields are booked so staff can plan irrigation and spaying around use of grounds.

Around the Grounds**Little Athletics**

- AGM scheduled for 17 May
- We will work with AFL and Council to alter the Elvis camping layout for next year
- Schools Athletics Carnival season is underway
- Excess fridge from Northparkes Mines has been donated to us and likely to be moved to Northparkes clubhouse canteen
- Looking at replacing the deep fryer at Northparkes canteen
- Has the water bubbler at Northparkes been fixed?
- How are the grass repairs going at discus and main oval? (see comments from Geoff regarding bare patches and other sports fields).

Netball

- The Tuesday night comp is in its third week, consisting of both Juniors & Seniors, with all "senior" teams now graded & in full swing.
- The Rep teams have been busily training & playing around the district gaining much needed court time in preparation for State Cup in June. So far they have played at, Cowra, Bathurst, Dubbo, Young, Forbes & West Wyalong.
- State Cup will be held at Penrith & Baulkham Hills.

Golf

- Hosted Parkes Vets week with 90 participants

- Club championships run and done. Aron Wilkie took out A Grade. Ron Hetherington took out the Nett.
- Ladies Anita Medcalf, nett Kay Jones.
- Approval for driving range has been received.

Hockey

- U14 championships was a great success - thanks to Parkes sport team
- CHS boys started today
- Masters is on at the end of the month will need more toilets. Assistance required for additional grass fields
- Midway through representative season.
- Rice family would like to thank the Council and Northparkes for Rising Star award for Daisy
- Baker street remains incomplete - would like to see something done with this area.
- Entry and exits at the car park need work and line marking would help with parking. Parkes Hockey have placed some lines on Cheney Park car park to guide parking for the series of 3 state level carnivals in May. Anthony will follow up with design team on whether formal marking will be done.
- Applying for \$150k grants through state government.

Cricket

- End of season presentation held
- Funds distributed from the Duncan Macdonald foundation to some junior players.
- Nathan Lyons coming to Parkes on 4 June 2026 - will hold coaching sessions in the afternoon and will be at the Parkes Leagues Club that evening.

Dragon Boating

- Linda Synman, Dave Potts, Dave Pelkham attended Australian national championships at the sunshine coast.

Soccer

- Season started last weekend with 470 participants
- Hosting western youth league round in two weeks
- Cobras on the board with a draw against Bathurst.
- 30 kids in U5 Mini Roos squad.

Financial Report - Operational and Capital Works Projects

Luke presented the financial report and asked that the committee accept the report, which was seconded by Richard Rice and carried.

Next meeting will include the project to erect two storage sheds at Cheney and Spicer Ovals.

Sports Council (Sporting Grounds) Overview - Month Ending - 30 April 2026						
Sporting Grounds - Operational Revenue						
	Budget	Actual	% Budget Received			
Sports Council -Levies/Usage Charges	\$51,731	\$50,333	97%			
Sports Council - SMS Lighting	\$16,210	\$6,752	42%			
	\$67,941	\$57,086	84%			
Sporting Grounds - Operational Expenditure						
	Budget	Actual	Committed	A + C	% Spent	Budget Remaining
Sporting Grounds Operating	\$293,701	\$278,393	\$0	\$278,393	95%	\$15,308
	\$293,701	\$278,393	\$0	\$278,393	95%	\$15,308
Sporting Grounds - Capital Expenditure						
Capital Expenditure Projects	Budget	Actual	Committed	A + C	% Spent	Budget Remaining
Berryman Oval - Trundle (Flood Repairs) - Carpark, Tennis Courts & Pool Pump Shed (NSW Govt)	\$636,300	\$417,660	\$60,710	\$478,370	75%	\$157,930
Lindner Oval Irrigation	\$56,000	\$55,188	\$0	\$55,188	99%	\$812
Cheney Park Clubhouse Capital Improvements	\$10,913	\$10,913	\$0	\$10,913	100%	\$0
Cheney Park - Lighting Upgrade (Clubs Grant \$210.5k & PMJRL \$75k)	\$285,580	\$295,465	\$0	\$295,465	103%	-\$9,885
	\$921,880	\$713,125	\$60,710	\$773,835	84%	\$148,045

General Business

Passing of Danny O'Leary.

Those present stopped to acknowledge the passing of Danny O'Leary who was a well-known sports person, particularly in Peak Hill.

Elvis Temporary Camping - Parkes Cricket Association Request

Parkes Cricket has written to Council (attached below) seeking to take on the management of temporary camping at Keast Park. This site was under the management of the Parkes Railway Bowling Club, which has since been taken over by the Parkes Services Club. The proceeds from the temporary camping was paid to Parkes Services Club.

Moved by Ken Keith, seconded by Richard Rice that the sports council support the proposal from Parkes Cricket to assume management of the Keast Park temporary site.

Community Use of Signage Infrastructure for a Temporary Banner

Last meeting Andrew Thomas put forward the idea of using a temporary "home game street banner". Cr O'Leary raised the matter at the April Council meeting where Councillors were supportive of the idea provided it was available to all community groups. An operational policy will be tabled at the May meeting to place some guidelines around the use of the signage infrastructure around the Bushman Street Roundabout to display temporary banners. Key points are that groups apply to place a banner in Bushman St. The sign must

- Meet the size guide.
- Be brief and not display commercial logos, political messages, etc
- Max 14 days.

Pioneer Oval Grandstand DA - Update

Following a question from last meeting about the DA for the Pioneer Oval Redevelopment, the PSC planning department advised that:

The WRPP approved DA for the demolition and erection of the grandstand at Pioneer Oval. This consent (DA2024/0025) **will lapse on 17/07/2029**. The consent still has plenty of time to be 'activated'. It is recommended that they consider submitting a staged construction certificate to undertake earthworks associated with the car parking. The proposal includes notable earthworks which can be considered to be sufficient to activate the consent.

Woodward Oval Public Toilets - Update

Council's Building Services has reviewed the toilet and will complete some repairs to enable the existing public toilet to reopen. Plans to develop a carpark with new toilet on the Cnr of Bushman and Phillips streets are to be further developed. There was concern raised that if a new block is placed at the corner it would only suite passing travellers and not the users of Tennis, Croquet, Cricket and Soccer. Those present suggested a site closer to the Pavilion, as submitted to Council during the Master plan exhibition by Parkes Cricket, would be best to suit all users.

Masters Games

Cr Louise has sent an email to all sporting groups seeking expressions of interest to participate in the 2027 games. Groups are requested to review the email and respond to Louise or Anthony. Al concerned that it hasn't really taken off - he asked groups to respond. Ken Keith mentioned the format of the BP festival of sport which may be a better way to run it.

Next Meeting

9 June 2026 at 7pm.

Meeting Close 8:15pm

Meeting Actions

12/05/2026	1	Enquire about the final quality of the dredging project at Lake Endeavour, which was raised by Al Gersbach.	Tim Ger
12/05/2026	2	Parkes Little Athletics asked if the water bubbler at Northparkes been fixed.	Ge
12/05/2026	3	Parkes Hockey have placed some lines on Cheney Park car park to guide parking for the series of 3 state level carnivals in May. Requests for Council to mark the carpark and review the ingress and egress points had not been acted on.	Ant ny

Attachments

Letter - Parkes Cricket Association

Dear Anthony,

We are writing to you in your capacity as Secretary of Parkes Sports Council and as the Director responsible for the delivery of the annual Parkes Elvis Festival.

For many years, Parkes Cricket Association has expressed a strong desire to be allocated a facility or venue to coordinate caravanning and camping during the Elvis Festival. Despite a number of requests over this time, our association has not been allocated a venue. This is disappointing for our association, which, like many community sporting organisations, is facing financial challenges and actively exploring opportunities to diversify income streams.

A number of cricket grounds used by our association throughout the summer season, including Keast Park, Northparkes Oval, Harrison Park and Greg Morrissey Field at McGlynn Park, are utilised as temporary camping venues during the Festival. Given our long-standing use and stewardship of these facilities for local cricket competitions, we believe it is reasonable that Parkes Cricket Association be given the opportunity to coordinate one of these sites.

Over the years, our association has worked cooperatively with Council by postponing all cricket fixtures during the Festival weekend to ensure our activities do not impact visitors or campers. We have demonstrated our flexibility and support for the success of the Festival.

Parkes Cricket Association formally requests that the Keast Park temporary camping facility be allocated to our association for management during the 2027 Parkes Elvis Festival. We have a committed group of committee members and volunteers who are willing and capable of coordinating the facility, including site allocation, amenities cleaning, and assisting with check-in and check-out processes.

It is our understanding that this facility was previously allocated to the Parkes Railway Bowling Club without consultation with Parkes Cricket Association. Now that the venue is owned and managed by Parkes Services Club, we note that the Club has a number of other established opportunities to generate revenue during the Festival through bar, dining and gaming operations.

As a local not-for-profit sporting organisation focused on junior development and providing opportunities for local residents, we believe Parkes Cricket Association should be given fair consideration and priority for access to this important fundraising opportunity.

We also note that a number of other sporting associations generate significant revenue through temporary camping operations, which assists them in meeting

ongoing operational costs, including sporting levies payable to Parkes Shire Council. Should our association continue to be excluded from similar opportunities, we may need to seek alternative forms of support from Council, including consideration of relief from sporting levies for the 2026/27 financial year.

We respectfully request that this letter be tabled as correspondence at the Sports Council meeting scheduled for tonight.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with yourself and members of our executive committee within the coming week to discuss this request further.

Kind Regards,

Parkes Cricket Association, Executive Committee

Peter Yelland – President

Brent Tucker – Vice President

Paul Dunford – Treasurer

Luke Nash - Secretary

13.5 MINUTES OF THE LOCAL TRAFFIC FORUM MEETING HELD ON 13 MAY 2026

IP&R Linkage: **Pillar:** Leadership

Goal: Our local government is open, accountable and transparent.

Strategy: Provide open and transparent decision-making and undertake the civic duties of Council with professionalism and integrity.

Author: **Sue McGrath, Business Support Coordinator**

Authoriser: **Michael O'Shannessy, Acting Director Operations**

Annexures:

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Local Traffic Forum Meeting held on Wednesday 13 May 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

Local Traffic Forum Committee

Minutes

Wednesday 13 May 2026



Minutes of the Local Traffic Forum Committee

**Held on Wednesday, 13 May 2026 at the
Committee Room, 2 Cecile Street, Parkes**

Present:

Cr Ken McGrath	Councillor
Mr Jason Nicholson	Transport for NSW
Mr Mitchell Gage	NSW Police

Council Officers in Attendance:

Ben Coultas	Senior Design Engineer
Melanie Sutor	Road Safety Prevention Officer

NOTES

The meeting commenced at 09:15am and concluded at 09:40am.

Order Of Business

1	OPENING OF MEETING	4
2	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY.....	4
3	APOLOGIES	4
4	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	4
4.1	Minutes of the Extraordinary Local Traffic Forum Meeting held on 31 March 2026.....	4
5	DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS	4
6	LATE BUSINESS	4
7	OFFICERS' REPORTS.....	5
7.1	2026 Parkes Picnic Races	5
8	REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS	5
9	CONCLUSION OF MEETING.....	6

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Chairperson declared the Local Traffic Forum Committee of Wednesday, 13 May 2026 open and welcomed Council Officials in attendance.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chairperson read the following Acknowledgement of Country:

Parkes Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Wiradjuri Country and recognises and respects their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing connection with the lands and rivers of the Parkes Shire.

Council pays its respects to Elders past, present and emerging and extends this respect to all First Nations peoples in the Parkes Shire.

3 APOLOGIES

Mr Chris McQuie Western Road Liners

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY LOCAL TRAFFIC FORUM MEETING HELD ON 31 MARCH 2026

RECOMMENDATION

That the Extraordinary Local Traffic Forum Meeting receive and confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 31 March 2026.

5 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

The Chairperson reminded Council Officials of their obligation under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at the meeting, and invited Council Officials present to disclose any such interests.

Nil interests were disclosed.

6 LATE BUSINESS

The Chairperson advised that no late items of business had been submitted to the meeting.

7 OFFICERS' REPORTS

7.1 2026 PARKES PICNIC RACES

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Council Responsibilities:

That:

1. The approval is subject to Council complying with the following conditions:
 - (a) Notify Emergency services of and proposed road closure or detours.
 - (b) Allow for emergency vehicle access.
 - (c) Council reserves the right to cancel the approval at any time.
 - (d) This recommendation does not commit Council to providing further assistance or provision of equipment for the event.
 - (e) Update the TGS as per TfNSW comments:
 - (i) Adjust the TGS to provide the required speed reduction between the 100 km/h and 60 km/h speed zones for northbound traffic in accordance with TCAWS requirements
 - (ii) Amend the TGS speed zone transition from 80 km/h to 70 km/h.
 - (iii) Update the revision dates on the TGS above the comments section accordingly

2. Events/Applicants Responsibilities:

That:

1. The approval is subject to the applicants complying with the following conditions:
 - (a) Provide Council with evidence of Current Public Liability Insurance. Insurance is to note to interests of Parkes Shire Council, NSW Police, State Emergency Services and Transport for NSW (TfNSW) (*to be provided prior to the event taking place*).
 - (b) Control noise as required under the Protection of the Environment Operations (Noise Control) Regulation 2008.
 - (c) The organiser of the event to be responsible for and reimburse Council for cost of damage repairs, cleaning etc of the street if required.
 - (d) Comply with Council Officer's reasonable directives.
 - (e) The organiser is to maintain the area in clean and tidy condition.
 - (f) That the organisers receive approval from the Police for holding a Public Assembly and relevant road closures.

8 GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 ASSET HANDOVER STATUS – FORMER NEWELL HIGHWAY

RAISED

Cr McGrath raised the 'No Stopping' signs along the Forbes Road, requesting the signs be removed.

FORUM RESONSE

1. The asset handover of the former Newell Highway from Transport for NSW to Parkes Shire Council is still under negotiation and is expected to remain ongoing for approximately another 12 months. Council officers can investigate this matter further if and when Council becomes the road authority for this section of road. Until such time, TfNSW remains the road authority and is responsible for making the final determination regarding traffic and parking matters within this area.

9 REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS

In accordance with clauses 14.22 and 14.23 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting that is closed to the public must be made public by the Chairperson as soon as practicable. Such resolutions must be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.

10 CONCLUSION OF MEETING

The meeting concluded at 9:40am.

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 6 pages numbered 1 to 6 of the Local Traffic Forum Committee held on Wednesday, 13 May 2026.

Cr Ken McGrath

Cr Ken McGrath

CHAIRPERSON

14 REPORTS OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

14.1 INVESTMENTS AND BORROWINGS REPORT AS AT 30 APRIL 2026

IP&R Linkage: **Pillar:** Leadership

Goal: Our Local Government is sustainable and plans for the future.

Strategy: Operate in a financially sustainable and responsible manner.

Author: **Luke Nash, Executive Manager Finance**

Authoriser: **Jaco Barnard, Chief Financial Officer**

Annexures: **A. Investment Register - 30 April 2026** [↓](#)
B. Loans Register - 30 April 2026 [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Statement of Investments and Borrowings as at 30 April 2026.
-

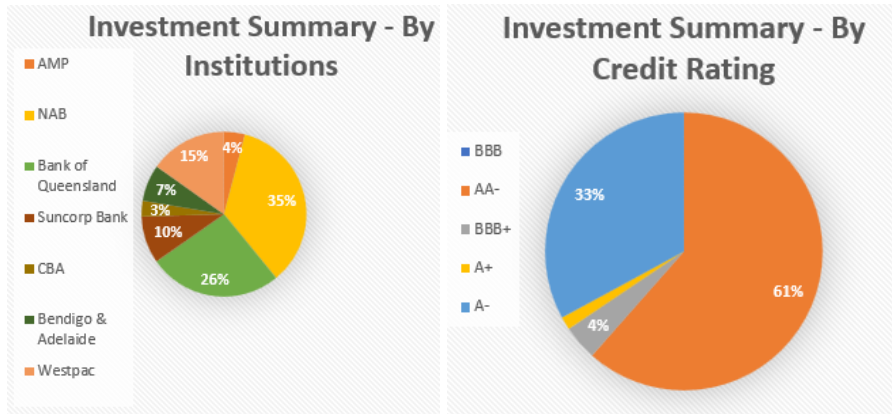
BACKGROUND

In accordance with clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 ("the Regulations"), the Responsible Accounting Officer must provide Parkes Shire Council ("Council") with a monthly written report setting out details of Council's investments under section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993 ("the Act"). The report must also include certification that these investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The balance of Council's investments as of 30 April 2026 stands at \$49,382,872 and the principal outstanding on council's borrowings at \$17,143,714. Investment holdings decreased by \$5.13 million during April following substantial outflows associated with capital works and the repayment of the \$2.22m loan to NSW Treasury Corporation.

On 30 April 2026, Council's investment portfolio continued to yield 4.45 per cent per annum. The strong performance over longer-term timeframes continues to be driven by the handful of the longer-dated deposits that were originally invested beyond 9-12 months, as well as the FRN portfolio. Council's investments cover externally restricted cash reserves and internal restricted cash reserves. The following charts depict a summary of the investments held by Council based on the individual institutional exposure and credit rating of the institutions with which they are held.



LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

Council's investments are held in accordance with Council's Investment Policy which accords with the requirements of the:

- Local Government Act 1993 ("the Act") - Section 625
- Local Government Act 1993 - Order (of Minister) dated 16 November 2020
- The Trustee Amendment (Discretionary Investments) Act 1997 - Sections 14A(2), 14C(1) and (2); and
- Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 ("the Regulation") - Clauses 212 and 215.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All returns on investments are included in Council's Operating Budget. Any amendment to budgeted interest income is affected through the Quarterly Budget Review process. Both the average level of funds invested, and the rate of return determine returns. In accordance with the Australian equivalent of International Accounting Standards, securities that are classified as held for trading are required to be valued at market value at each balance date. Investments in the form of cash or cash equivalents and held to maturity investments are valued at cost. Floating Rate Notes acquired on the secondary market are valued at cost. Where the purchase consideration is different to face value, the resulting premium or discount are amortised on a straight-line basis over the life of the Note.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Council's investments are managed in accordance with Council's Investment Policy. As at the end of April all counterparties were within the Policy limits. Overall, the portfolio is diversified amongst the investment grade spectrum with no exposure to unrated ADI's.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

The Chief Financial Officer has certified that the investments listed in the Investment Summary have been made in accordance with section 625 of the Act, clause 212 of the Regulation and Council's Investment Policy. Council's investments continue to focus on capital protection, as well as compliance with the Investment Policy, whilst actively seeking the best return allowable within these parameters. It is recommended that Council receive and note the Statement of Investments and Borrowings as on 30 April 2026.

Parkes Shire Council Investment Register as at 30 April 2026						
ADI/Issuer	Rating	Investment Type	Principal	Yield	Settlement Date	Maturity Date
Bendigo & Adelaide	A-	Term Deposit	1,500,000	4.24	19/01/2026	19/05/2026
NAB	AA-	Term Deposit	2,000,000	4.05	28/08/2025	28/05/2026
NAB	AA-	Term Deposit	3,000,000	4.10	30/06/2025	29/05/2026
Bank of Queensland	A-	Term Deposit	2,000,000	4.34	17/11/2025	17/06/2026
Bank of Queensland	A-	Term Deposit	1,000,000	4.34	24/11/2025	24/06/2026
Bendigo & Adelaide	A-	Term Deposit	2,000,000	3.89	29/08/2025	29/06/2026
AMP	BBB+	Term Deposit	2,000,000	4.40	15/01/2026	14/07/2026
Bank of Queensland	A-	Term Deposit	1,500,000	4.49	20/01/2026	20/07/2026
Suncorp Bank	AA-	Term Deposit	1,000,000	4.67	19/02/2026	19/08/2026
NAB	AA-	Term Deposit	1,000,000	4.10	21/08/2025	21/08/2026
Suncorp Bank	AA-	Term Deposit	500,000	4.67	19/02/2026	21/09/2026
Suncorp Bank	AA-	Term Deposit	1,500,000	4.67	19/02/2026	21/09/2026
Bank of Queensland	A-	Term Deposit	1,500,000	5.34	9/04/2026	9/10/2026
NAB	AA-	Term Deposit	1,500,000	5.23	19/03/2026	19/10/2026
Bank of Queensland	A-	Term Deposit	2,220,000	4.29	28/11/2025	28/10/2026
NAB	AA-	Term Deposit	1,500,000	4.15	29/10/2025	29/10/2026
NAB	AA-	Term Deposit	1,500,000	5.24	19/03/2026	19/11/2026
NAB	AA-	Term Deposit	1,500,000	4.25	27/11/2025	27/11/2026
Bank of Queensland	A-	Term Deposit	2,000,000	4.84	27/02/2026	27/11/2026
NAB	AA-	Term Deposit	500,000	4.48	19/12/2025	18/12/2026
NAB	AA-	Term Deposit	2,000,000	4.75	27/02/2026	29/12/2026
NAB	AA-	Term Deposit	1,500,000	4.60	9/01/2026	11/01/2027
CBA	AA-	Floating Rate Note	1,507,650	5.04	11/01/2022	14/01/2027
Suncorp Bank	AA-	Term Deposit	1,500,000	4.45	19/01/2026	19/01/2027
NAB	AA-	Term Deposit	1,000,000	4.77	16/02/2026	16/02/2027
Bank of Queensland	A-	Floating Rate Note	2,524,875	4.76	12/11/2025	20/11/2028
UBS AG	A+	Floating Rate Note	754,560	5.20	14/04/2026	15/04/2023
Westpac	AA-	Cash at Call - Main	640,782		At Call	
Westpac	AA-	Cash at Call - Maxi	6,735,005		At Call	
Total			49,382,872			

Investment Balances by Type		
Term Deposit	37,220,000	
Floating Rate Note	4,787,085	42,007,085 <i>Investments</i>
Cash at Call - Main	640,782	
Cash at Call - Maxi	6,735,005	7,375,787 <i>Cash</i>
Total Balance - 30/04/2026	49,382,872	

I, Jaco Barnard, Parkes Shire Council Chief Financial Officer, certify as required under Section 212 of the Local Government Regulations 2021, that Council's investments have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and Parkes Shire Council Investment Policy.

Signed: *Jaco Barnard*

Parkes Shire Council Loan Register as at 30 April 2026							
Borrower (by Purpose)	Lender	System Loan No.	Loan Term Years	Date of Maturity	Interest Rate	Original Amount Borrowed \$	Principal Outstanding as 30 April 2026
General Fund							
Airport Runway Rehabilitation	NAB	1	20	2030	8.21%	\$ 2,000,000	688,216.91
30 Welcome Street	NAB	3	20	2030	8.21%	\$ 500,000	172,054.23
Henry Parkes Centre	NAB	4	20	2030	8.01%	\$ 950,000	357,199.12
Community Infrastructure, Drainage Projects and IT	TCorp	10	10	2026	3.485%	\$ 2,220,000	-
Transport Infrastructure	TCorp	11	10	2028	3.670%	\$ 3,000,000	3,000,000.00
Land Development	TCorp	12	10	2044	5.730%	\$ 4,000,000	3,831,174.08
Total General Fund						\$ 12,670,000	8,048,644.34
Sewer Fund							
Parkes Sewer Treatment Plant	TCorp	7	10	2026	2.90	\$ 4,000,000	4,000,000.00
Total Sewer Fund						\$ 4,000,000	4,000,000.00
Water Fund							
Parkes Water Treatment Plant	TCorp	9	20	2036	3.045	\$ 8,500,000	5,095,069.19
Total Water Fund						\$ 8,500,000	5,095,069.19
Total All Funds						\$ 25,170,000	17,143,713.53

14.2 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2026**IP&R Linkage:** **Pillar:** Leadership**Goal:** Our Local Government is sustainable and plans for the future.**Strategy:** Operate in a financially sustainable and responsible manner.**Author:** **Luke Nash, Executive Manager Finance****Authoriser:** **Jaco Barnard, Chief Financial Officer****Annexures:** **A. PSC - Quarterly Budget Review - 31 March 2026** [↓](#)**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Receive and note the budget review report to 31 March 2026
2. Adopt the budget variations proposed in the quarterly budget review to 31 March 2026

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Clause 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 not later than two months after the end of each quarter (except the June Quarter), the Responsible Accounting Officer must submit to Council a statement that shows by reference to the estimate of income and expenditure set out in the management plan that Council has adopted for the current year, a revised estimate of the income and expenditure for that year. The Office of Local Government (OLG) has updated its guidelines and provided a standardised reporting format in the August 2025 issue.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Council's original net operating budget for the year ending 30 June 2026 forecast a deficit of (\$2.97 million). This comprised an operating loss of (\$3.99 million) in the General Fund, partially offset by operating surpluses of \$0.93 million in the Water Fund and \$0.09 million in the Sewer Fund.

During the third quarter, further budget variations were identified. As a result, Council is now projecting a revised net operating deficit of (\$5.24 million) for the year ending 30 June 2026, despite some favourable movements recorded during the quarter.

As previously reported, the primary driver of the significant variance from the original budget is an increase in depreciation expense of \$6.35 million. While depreciation is a non-cash expense, it has a material impact on Council's operating result from continuing operations. No further adjustments to depreciation expense were recorded during this quarterly budget review period.

A range of favourable and unfavourable variations were identified during the third quarter (January to March 2026). Collectively, these variations have resulted in a net improvement of \$3.1 million to the consolidated operating result before capital grants and contributions.

The most significant favourable variation relates to user fees and charges within the Water Fund, which are projected to increase by \$1.45 million. This increase is primarily attributable to higher water consumption resulting from the hot and dry summer period.

User fees and charges within the General Fund have also increased by \$1.6 million due to a larger-than-planned RMCC (Road Maintenance Council Contract) program. This favourable income

variation has been partially offset by corresponding increases in materials and services expenditure associated with delivering the additional works.

Council has also received \$3.0 million in operating grants to undertake restoration works relating to previous natural disaster events. This funding includes an advance payment for works to be undertaken over the next six months, with approximately \$1.5 million expected to be expended in the 2026–27 financial year. As this income is recognised upon receipt, it has improved the current year operating result but will have the reverse effect in 2026–27 as the associated expenditure is incurred.

Delays in the delivery of capital works have reduced the level of employee costs able to be capitalised, resulting in an increase in employee costs of \$1.05 million across all funds. Grants and contributions used for capital purposes have also been adjusted across all funds, decreasing by \$10.9 million in the General Fund, \$19.4 million in the Water Fund, and \$3.6 million in the Sewer Fund.

These variations are primarily due to delays in the delivery of several capital works projects and the timing of external funding. Several grant applications budgeted to be received during the current financial year have not yet been finalised. Council is still awaiting the outcome of the National Water Grid application relating to the water pipeline duplication project.

The table below summarises the proposed budget variations for inclusion in the Quarterly Budget Review for the quarter ended 31 March 2026.

Fund	Reporting Category	Budget Variation Amount	Reason for Proposed Variation
General	Income – User Fees & Charges	1,600,000	The increase in user fees and charges reflects a larger than budgeted RMCC works program.
Water	Income – User Fees & Charges	1,450,000	Water consumption is higher than budget projections due to extended periods of below-average rainfall and hotter-than-average summer conditions, which have increased demand across the network
General	Income – Grants and Contributions provided for Operating Purposes	3,000,000	The recognition of income relating to Asset Restoration Works from previous natural disaster events. Funding received through NSW Reconstruction Authority
General	Income – Grants and Contributions provided for Capital Purposes	(10,900,000)	Delays in capital works delivery, together with pending outcomes of grant funding applications, will result in Council not receiving capital grant funding as originally budgeted for the current financial year. The revised timing of project delivery is expected to result in funding for some projects being received in the 2026–27 financial year instead
Water	Income – Grants and Contributions provided for Capital Purposes	(19,400,000)	
Sewer	Income – Grants and Contributions provided for Capital Purposes	(3,600,000)	

General	Employee benefits and on costs	700,000	Employee costs have increased due to a reduction in capitalised salaries, reflecting a change in the allocation of staff costs from capital projects to operating activities. This increase does not represent additional staffing levels or higher wage rates
Water	Employee benefits and on costs	150,000	
Sewer	Employee benefits and on costs	200,000	
General	Materials & Services	2,300,000	The increase in materials and services associated with the delivery of RMCC works and asset reconstruction works. These costs are fully funded through user charges income and operating grants
Water	Materials & Services	310,000	The increase in maintenance costs reflects higher operational activity, together with additional costs incurred for the purchase of water from Forbes Shire Council to meet increased demand during the summer period.
Sewer	Materials & Services	(500,000)	The decrease in materials and services expenditure reflects lower-than-budgeted operational and maintenance activity across the sewer treatment plant and associated network assets

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 Clause 203. The quarterly budget review monitors the progress of the 2025/26 operational budget, which programs the plan to achieve the actions, and strategic objectives set within Council's progressive delivery plan.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The quarterly budget review for has been presented from a comparison between actuals vs. budget and budget forecast for each fund across council to 31 March 2026.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Council's budgets are monitored in accordance with the adopted operational plan and long-term financial plan. It is essential for council to monitor programs against budget to avoid depending on savings from other programs and to utilise reserves that had been set aside for other specific purposes.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

The following statement is made in accordance with Clause 203(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005:

It is my opinion that the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for Parkes Shire Council for the quarter ended 31 March 2026 still indicates that Council's projected financial position at 30 June 2026 will be unsatisfactory at year end at a consolidated level and across general fund operations.

Quarterly Budget Review

31 March 2026



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Income and Expenses Budget Review Statement										
Parkes Shire Council										
Budget review for the quarter ended 31/03/2026										
Consolidated Fund										
Description	Previous Year	Current Year	Approved	Approved	Approved	Revised	Recommended	Projected	VARIANCE	ACTUAL
	Actual	Original	Changes	Changes	Changes	Budget	changes	Year End		YTD
	2024/25 \$000's	2025/26 \$000's	Review Q 1 \$000's	Review Q 2 \$000's	Review Q 3 \$000's	Budget \$000's	for council resolution \$000's	(PYE) Result 2025/26 \$000's	ORIGINAL budget v PYE 2025/26 \$000's	2025/26 \$000's
INCOME										
Rates and Annual Charges	30,886	32,557	0	0		32,557	0	32,557	0	29,339
User Charges and Fees	14,202	11,267	663	1,050		12,980	3,050	16,030	4,763	12,634
Other Revenue	1,600	717	380	0		1,097	0	1,097	380	1,202
Grants and Contributions - Operating	13,955	15,569	350	75		15,994	3,000	18,994	3,425	12,422
Grants and Contributions - Capital	36,334	51,600	0	15		51,615	-33,900	17,715	-33,885	10,760
Interest and Investment Income	2,147	1,087	300	670		2,057	0	2,057	970	1,232
Other Income	670	589	0	0		589	0	589	0	529
Net gain from disposal of assets	1,489	764	0	200		964	0	964	200	402
Total Income from continuing operations	101,283	114,150	1,693	2,010	0	117,853	-27,850	90,003	-24,147	68,520
EXPENSES										
Employee benefits and on-costs	21,610	20,641	0	600		21,241	1,050	22,291	1,650	16,750
Materials & Services	23,802	22,887	1,607	300		24,794	2,110	26,904	4,017	19,140
Borrowing Costs	1,046	800	0	0		800	0	800	0	598
Other Expenses	1,024	780	0	0		780	0	780	0	741
Net Loss from Disposal of Assets	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	47,482	45,108	1,607	900	0	47,615	3,160	50,775	5,667	37,229
Operating Result from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	53,801	69,042	86	1,110	0	70,238	-31,010	39,228	-29,814	31,291
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	20,469	20,410	6,345	0		26,755	0	26,755	6,345	20,122
Operating result from continuing Operations	33,332	48,632	-6,259	1,110	0	43,483	-31,010	12,473	-36,159	11,169
Net Operating Result before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	-3,002	-2,968	-6,259	1,095	0	-8,132	2,890	-5,242	-2,274	409

Income and Expenses Budget Review Statement										
Parkes Shire Council										
Budget review for the quarter ended 31/03/2026										
General Fund										
Description	Previous Year	Current Year Original	Approved Changes	Approved Changes	Approved Changes	Revised	Recommended changes	Projected Year End (PYE)	VARIANCE	ACTUAL YTD
	Actual	Budget	Review	Review	Review	Budget	for council resolution	Result	ORIGINAL budget v PYE	
	2024/25 \$000's	2025/26 \$000's	Q 1 \$000's	Q 2 \$000's	Q 3 \$000's	\$000's	\$000's	2025/26 \$000's	2025/26 \$000's	2025/26 \$000's
INCOME										
Rates and Annual Charges	19,524	20,803	0	0		20,803	0	20,803	0	20,613
User Charges and Fees	6,882	4,324	663	500		5,487	1,600	7,087	2,763	5,605
Other Revenue	1,294	816	380	0		1,196	0	1,196	380	1,202
Grants and Contributions - Operating	13,902	15,569	350	75		15,994	3,000	18,994	3,425	12,394
Grants and Contributions - Capital	20,835	24,252	0	15		24,267	-10,900	13,367	-10,885	7,585
Interest and Investment Income	1,355	550	180	620		1,350	0	1,350	800	767
Other Income	670	490	0	0		490	0	490	0	476
Net gain from disposal of assets	1,447	764	0	200		964	0	964	200	370
Total Income from continuing operations	65,909	67,568	1,573	1,410	0	70,551	-6,300	64,251	-3,317	49,012
EXPENSES										
Employee benefits and on-costs	18,550	17,581	0	600		18,181	700	18,881	1,300	14,150
Materials & Services	16,741	14,497	1,360	300		16,157	2,300	18,457	3,960	12,855
Borrowing Costs	622	520	0	0		520	0	520	0	387
Other Expenses	987	780	0	0		780	0	780	0	741
Net Loss from Disposal of Assets	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	36,900	33,378	1,360	900	0	35,638	3,000	38,638	5,260	28,133
Operating Result from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	29,009	34,190	213	510	0	34,913	-9,300	25,613	-8,577	20,879
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	13,780	13,928	5,835	0		19,763	0	19,763	5,835	14,786
Operating result from continuing Operations	15,229	20,262	-5,622	510	0	15,150	-9,300	5,850	-14,412	6,093
Net Operating Result before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	-5,606	-3,990	-5,622	495	0	-9,117	1,600	-7,517	-3,527	-1,492

Income and Expenses Budget Review Statement										
Parkes Shire Council										
Budget review for the quarter ended 31/03/2026										
Water Fund										
Description	Previous Year	Current Year	Approved	Approved	Approved	Revised	Recommended	Projected	VARIANCE	ACTUAL
	Actual	Original	Changes	Changes	Changes	Budget	changes	Year End	ORIGINAL	YTD
	2024/25 \$000 's	2025/26 \$000 's	Review	Review	Review	Budget	for council resolution	(P/E)	budget v P/E	2025/26 \$000 's
			Q 1 \$000 's	Q 2 \$000 's	Q 3 \$000 's	\$000 's	\$000 's	2025/26 \$000 's	2025/26 \$000 's	2025/26 \$000 's
INCOME										
Access Charges	6,572	6,829	0	0		6,829	0	6,829	0	5,044
User Charges	6,531	6,241	0	550		6,791	1,450	8,241	2,000	6,346
Fees	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Grants & Contributions - Operating	53	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	28
Interest and Investment Income	554	358	90	50		498	0	498	140	323
Other Income	228	80	0	0		80	0	80	0	33
Net gain from disposal of assets	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	32
Total Income from continuing operations	13,938	13,508	90	600	0	14,198	1,450	15,648	2,140	11,806
EXPENSES										
Employee benefits and on-costs	1,538	1,651	0	0		1,651	150	1,801	150	1,384
Materials & Services	4,936	5,544	132	0		5,676	170	5,846	302	4,415
Borrowing Costs	231	164	0	0		164	0	164	0	123
Water purchase charges	423	490	0	0		490	140	630	140	471
Calculated taxation equivalents	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Debt guarantee fee	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	21	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Net Loss from Disposal of Assets	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	7,149	7,849	132	0	0	7,981	460	8,441	592	6,393
Operating Result from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	6,789	5,659	-42	600	0	6,217	990	7,207	1,548	5,413
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	4,880	4,729	395	0		5,124	0	5,124	395	3,947
Surplus / (Deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	1,909	930	-437	600	0	1,093	990	2,083	1,153	1,466
Grants and Contributions - Capital	12,893	22,738	0	0		22,738	-19,400	3,338	-19,400	2,527
Surplus / (Deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	14,802	23,668	-437	600	0	23,831	-18,410	5,421	-18,247	3,993

Income and Expenses Budget Review Statement										
Parkes Shire Council										
Budget review for the quarter ended 31/03/2026										
Sewer Fund										
Description	Previous Year	Current Year	Approved	Approved	Approved	Revised	Recommended	Projected	VARIANCE	ACTUAL
	Actual	Original	Changes	Changes	Changes	Budget	changes	Year End	ORIGINAL	YTD
	2024/25 \$000's	2025/26 \$000's	Review Q 1 \$000's	Review Q 2 \$000's	Review Q 3 \$000's	Budget \$000's	for council resolution \$000's	Result 2025/26 \$000's	budget v PYE 2025/26 \$000's	2025/26 \$000's
INCOME										
Access charges	4,790	4,925	0	0		4,925	0	4,925	0	3,682
User charges	704	614	0	0		614	0	614	0	570
Liquid trade-waste charges	85	88	0	0		88	0	88	0	113
Fees	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Grants and contributions - Operating	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Interest and Investment Income	238	179	30	0		209	0	209	30	142
Other Income	78	37	0	0		37	0	37	0	20
Net gain from disposal of assets	42	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Total Income from continuing operations	5,937	5,843	30	0	0	5,873	0	5,873	30	4,527
EXPENSES										
Employee benefits and on-costs	1,522	1,409	0	0		1,409	200	1,609	200	1,216
Materials & Services	1,702	2,473	115	0		2,588	-500	2,088	-385	1,399
Borrowing Costs	193	116	0	0		116	0	116	0	88
Calculated taxation equivalents	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Debt Guarantee fee	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	16	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Net Loss from Disposal of Assets	.	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	3,433	3,998	115	0	0	4,113	-300	3,813	-185	2,703
Operating Result from continuing operations excluding depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	2,504	1,845	-85	0	0	1,760	300	2,060	215	1,824
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non financial assets	1,809	1,753	115	0		1,868	0	1,868	115	1,389
Surplus / (Deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	695	92	-200	0	0	-108	300	192	100	435
Grants and Contributions - Capital	2,606	4,610	0	0		4,610	-3,600	1,010	-3,600	648
Surplus / (Deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	3,301	4,702	-200	0	0	4,502	-3,300	1,202	-3,500	1,083

14.3 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 30 APRIL 2026**IP&R Linkage:** **Pillar:** Leadership**Goal:** Our Local Government is sustainable and plans for the future.**Strategy:** Operate in a financially sustainable and responsible manner.**Author:** **Luke Nash, Executive Manager Finance****Authoriser:** **Jaco Barnard, Chief Financial Officer****Annexures:** **A. Director's Report April 2026** [↓](#)**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Receive and note the year-to-date financial reports for the period up to 30 April 2026.

BACKGROUND

The NSW Local Government Act section 8B establishes principles of sound financial management as follows:

- a) Council spending should be responsible and sustainable, aligning general revenue and expenses.
- b) Councils should invest in responsible and sustainable infrastructure for the benefit of the local community.
- c) Councils should have effective financial and asset management, including sound policies and processes for the following:
 - (i) performance management and reporting,
 - (ii) asset maintenance and enhancement,
 - (iii) funding decisions,
 - (iv) risk management practices.
- d) Councils should have regard to achieving intergenerational equity, including ensuring the following:
 - (i) policy decisions are made after considering their financial effects on future generations,
 - (ii) the current generation funds the cost of its services (which also means the current generation should not bear costs for benefit of future generations)

This report monitors the progress of the 2025-26 operational budget, which programs the plan to achieve the actions, and strategic objectives set within Council's delivery plan.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Council has achieved an unfavourable consolidated net operating result of \$4m at the end of April which is \$2.8m under budget. The general fund reflected a loss of \$5.1m, the water fund reflected a profit of \$1.1m while the sewer fund reflected a profit of \$25k. The year-to-date income was \$11.9m more than budgeted, while the cash expenses were \$3.3m more than budgeted.

Depreciation was \$5.3m more than budget mainly due to the road assets revaluation which was done in the 2024/25 financial year.

Annexure A provides more detailed commentary into the financial performance of the organisation for the period ending 30 April 2026 compared to the adopted budget.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

Local Government Act (section 8B)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The monthly financial report presented a comparison between actuals vs. budget for the period ending 30 April 2026.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Council's budgets are monitored in accordance with the adopted operational plan and long-term financial plan. It is essential for council to monitor programs against budget to avoid depending on savings from other programs and to utilise reserves that had been set aside for other specific purposes.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report.

PSC Income Statement 2025/2026
April Year to Date

	Consolidated			General Fund			Water Fund			Sewer Fund			Financial Commentary
	Act \$'000	Budget \$'000	Variance \$'000	Act \$'000	Budget \$'000	Variance \$'000	Act \$'000	Budget \$'000	Variance \$'000	Act \$'000	Budget \$'000	Variance \$'000	
Rates and annual charges	29,695	29,764	(70)	20,617	20,661	(44)	5,405	5,440	(36)	3,673	3,663	11	Pension Rebate (-\$124k), Waste (+\$58k), Water Access (-\$36k)
User charges and fees	13,146	9,100	4,046	5,766	3,629	2,137	6,696	4,941	1,756	684	530	154	RMCC (+\$1.2m), Waste (+\$469k) Asbestos and Inland rail, FDCare (+\$537k), Water NPM (+\$863k), Water Other (+\$893k)
Interest and investment revenue	1,886	905	981	1,222	458	764	489	298	190	175	149	27	Higher cash balance due to grants and increase in interest rates.
Other revenues	1,943	1,118	824	1,883	1,044	839	39	55	(16)	21	19	2	Elvis sponsorship (+\$330k), Legal Fees (+\$93k), Workers Comp (+\$75k), Fuel Rebate (-\$92k), Insurance (+\$31k), Legal Recoveries (+\$100k), Rent Gas (+\$120k).
Grants and contributions provided for opex	12,923	6,798	6,125	12,895	6,798	6,097	28	0	28	0	0	0	Fresh Start (+\$179k), FAGs (+\$2.3m), RTR (+\$235k), Storm Damage (+\$3m), FDC (+\$388k)
Income	59,593	47,686	11,907	42,383	32,591	9,792	12,657	10,735	1,922	4,553	4,361	193	
Employee Cost	18,347	17,201	(1,146)	15,475	14,651	(824)	1,534	1,376	(159)	1,337	1,174	(163)	Works & Services (-\$635k), Water (-\$159k), Sewer (-\$163k)
Materials & Consumables	2,175	3,222	1,046	1,511	2,446	936	489	417	(72)	176	358	182	Road maintenance (+\$989k), Pool (-\$102k), Water (-\$72k) Sewer (+\$182k)
External Services	13,961	11,025	(2,936)	12,437	9,251	(3,186)	1,166	1,027	(138)	358	747	389	Econ Dev (-\$241k), Events (-\$114k), Road maintenance (-\$1.8m), Storm water (-\$131k), Caravan (+\$150k), FDCare (-\$750k), Water (-\$138k), Sewer (+\$389k)
Water, Electricity & Statutory	3,164	2,917	(247)	1,105	899	(206)	1,932	1,818	(114)	126	200	74	Rates (-\$332k)
IT & Communications	175	260	85	168	256	88	0	4	4	5	0	(5)	
Insurance	731	775	44	731	775	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Administration	3,471	2,808	(663)	2,984	2,455	(529)	442	327	(114)	45	25	(20)	Governance (-\$91k), Timing of IT subscriptions (-\$316k), Fleet & Depot (-\$68k), WF Licences (-\$60k), Software (-\$15k)
Travel & Entertainment	281	214	(67)	251	197	(54)	28	13	(16)	1	5	3	Events (-\$77k)
Financials	344	436	92	237	436	199	48	0	(48)	59	0	(59)	Audit (+\$73k)
Internal Charges	(1,662)	(1,765)	(103)	(3,861)	(3,913)	(52)	1,417	1,422	5	781	726	(55)	Events (-\$34k)
Interest Paid	663	667	4	429	433	5	136	137	1	98	97	(2)	
Cost of Assets Sold	478	600	122	448	600	152	31	0	(31)	0	0	0	Profit due to vehicle sales
Sale Proceeds of Assets	(888)	(903)	(16)	(825)	(903)	(78)	(63)	0	63	0	0	0	
Expenses	41,240	37,456	(3,784)	31,090	27,584	(3,506)	7,159	6,541	(619)	2,988	3,331	343	
Cash profit for the year	18,353	10,230	8,123	11,292	5,007	6,285	5,497	4,194	1,303	1,565	1,029	536	
Depreciation	22,330	17,008	(5,323)	16,412	11,606	(4,805)	4,378	3,941	(438)	1,540	1,461	(80)	Increase due to revaluation of roads assets
Net Operation result as at April	(3,977)	(6,778)	2,800	(5,119)	(6,599)	1,480	1,119	253	866	25	(431)	456	

14.4 SUNRISE MINE PROJECT VOLUNTARY PLANNING AGREEMENT (VPA) VARIATION**IP&R Linkage:** **Pillar:** Leadership**Goal:** Our Local Government is open, accountable and representative.**Strategy:** Provide open and transparent decision-making and undertake the civic duties of Council with professionalism and integrity.**Author:** **Annalise Teale, Director Planning and Community Services****Authoriser:** **Logan Hignett, General Manager (Acting)****Annexures:** **Nil****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Receives the report and notes that no submissions were received during the public exhibition period.
2. Adopt the Draft Deed of Variation.
3. Authorises the Mayor and General Manager to execute the Deed upon completion of exhibition after confirmation that Lachlan Shire Council (LSC) and Forbes Shire Council (FSC) have also adopted the Deed.

BACKGROUND

The Sunrise Project was originally conceived and approved as a large-scale, integrated Nickel-Cobalt-Scandium mining and processing operation, now referred to as Phase 2. This development involved a major open-cut mine and hydrometallurgical processing facility designed to produce battery-grade nickel and cobalt sulphates, supported by extensive enabling infrastructure including a limestone quarry, accommodation camp, sulphuric acid plant, gas-fired power station, rail siding and upgrades, bore fields, water pipelines, and significant regional road upgrades. The project reflected Sunrise Energy Metals' strategy to establish one of the world's largest and most cobalt-rich nickel laterite operations, with over 900,000 tonnes of nickel and 170,000 tonnes of cobalt contained in the resource, positioning the site as a major long-life supplier for global battery and strategic metals markets.

The existing VPA was executed on 18 December 2018 between SRL Ops and Lachlan (LSC), Parkes (PSC) and Forbes Shire Councils (FSC). As the Developer now proposes a two-phase structure (Phase 1 – Scandium Project, Phase 2 – Nickel-Cobalt Project), an amendment is required because the current agreement does not contemplate staged development.

In March 2026, Council endorsed the Draft Deed of Variation for public exhibition. It was publicly notified and exhibited between 8 April 2026 to 7 May 2026. No submissions were received during the public exhibition period.

Prior to execution, Council previously resolved that it agrees that Lachlan Shire Council and Forbes Shire Council must also have resolved to adopt and sign the same Deed before it is executed.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

This revised first-stage development significantly reduces the scope and impact of the project, with provisional estimates suggesting reductions of ~95% in heavy vehicle movements, ~95% in construction workforce, ~80% in operational workforce, and ~75% in total operational vehicle movements when compared to the original multi-metal concept. The Phase 1 project requires far

fewer road upgrades and relies primarily on core mine, water supply, and transport infrastructure. Phase 2—the larger Nickel-Cobalt Project, remains an option for future development should market conditions. Key comparisons between Phase 1 and Phase 2 are shown in *Figure 1* below, noting these are provisional at this stage.

Figure 1: Comparison of Phase 1 & Phase 2, (figures are preliminary).

Scandium Project Comparison

Project Component	Phase 1 Scandium Project	Scandium-Nickel-Cobalt Project
Production Rate	60 tpa	~140,000 tpa
Mine Life	21 years	21 years
Construction Workforce	105 ¹	1,900
Operational Workforce	60 ¹	350
Heavy Vehicles (Operations)	10 movements/day ¹	172 movements/day
Total Vehicles (Operations)	42 movements/day ¹	270 movements/day
Water Demand	~220 ML/year ¹	~2,800 ML/year
Supporting Infrastructure	Borefield, Surface Water Extraction Infrastructure and Water Pipeline ¹	Rail Siding (and Rail Upgrade), Limestone Quarry, Accommodation Camp, Sulphuric Acid Plant, Gas-fired Power Plant, Gas Pipeline, Borefield, Surface Water Extraction Infrastructure and Water Pipeline, Fifiel Bypass
Capital Cost (AUD)	~\$200 M ¹	~\$2,400 M

This report seeks Council’s consideration of the Draft Deed of Variation (*Annexure A*) to the Sunrise Mine Project Planning Agreement. The variation relates to the Developer, SRL Ops Pty Ltd (formerly known as Clean TeQ Sunrise Pty Ltd), progressing with the revised Phase 1 – Scandium Project, separate from the Phase 2 Nickel-Cobalt Project. The proposed VPA is attached.

Key features of the Phase 1 VPA include:

- Community Enhancement Contributions of \$200,000/year (shared 50% LSC, 25% PSC, 25% FSC).
- Road Maintenance Contributions of \$106,000/year (shared 50% LSC, 44% PSC, 6% FSC)
- Project Facilitation Contribution at \$90,000/year (shared equally between the 3 councils for 2 years)

REVISED ROAD SAFETY AUDIT REQUIREMENTS LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

Under section 7.5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and section 205 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021, a Draft Planning Agreement (including any variation) must be publicly notified and exhibited for a minimum of 28 days before it can be entered into. An explanatory note must accompany the Draft VPA during exhibition. This requirement applies equally to amendments of existing VPAs.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Subject to the Mine proceeding, PSC will receive:

- 25% share of \$200,000/year Community Enhancement Contribution (\$50k).
- 44% share of \$106,000/year Road Maintenance Contribution (46,640).
- \$30,000/year Project Facilitation Contribution (for 2 years).

In summary, the total proposed to PSC for the first two years is \$126,640 and then \$96,640 per year after that until the end of the agreement for Phase 1.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risks include premature signing before partner councils, potential traffic impact changes, and project timing pressures.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The Draft Deed of Variation (amended Voluntary Planning Agreement) was publicly notified and exhibited between 8 April 2026 to 7 May 2026. No submissions were received during the public exhibition period.

15 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR CUSTOMER, CORPORATE SERVICES AND ECONOMY

15.1 MAJOR PROJECTS AND CURRENT WORKS - CUSTOMER, CORPORATE SERVICES AND ECONOMY - APRIL 2026

IP&R Linkage: Pillar: Leadership

Goal: Our Local Government is open, accountable and representative.

Strategy: Effectively collaborate, engage, and communicate with our community to inform decision making and promote services, projects and initiatives.

Author: Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy

Authoriser: Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy

Annexures: A. [DCCSE Major Projects Update - April 2026](#) 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the status report of Major Projects within Parkes Shire Council's Customer, Corporate Services and Economy Directorate.

BACKGROUND

A monthly status report of Major Projects within Parkes Shire Council's Customer, Corporate Services and Economy Department is tabled to keep Council abreast of projects being undertaken across the Parkes Shire.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

This report presents an update on the current major projects within the Parkes Shire being managed or undertaken by Council's Customer, Corporate Services and Economy Directorate. The report outlines work that has been carried out over the past month, together with work to be done in the next month and is provided for the information of Councillors.

The Directorate Major Projects and Current Works Report is appended at *Annexure A*.

Projects listed include:

Project	Status	Comment
Parkes Elvis Festival (PEF) 2027		<i>Event planning underway, rising costs for key elements.</i>
The Community Improvement District (CID) Pilot Program		<i>The community event has been held. Work continues with the new Brand and installation of HVM measures at Cooke Park.</i>
Fresh Start Program – New Cadets, Apprentices and Trainees		<i>8 of the 18 new positions approved remain filled. Last grant round is early 2027.</i>
CiA Live Corporate Software System Upgrade.		<i>Initial planning has commenced meeting with internal stakeholders held.</i>

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

There are no legislative or policy considerations for Council associated with this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Projects have been allocated funding either from grants or Council funds as provided in the Operational Budget and indicated in the report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

The Project risk status is indicated by the RAG (Red, Amber, Green) indicators as shown against each project in the report.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Each project may have its own requirements for community consultation or notification in relation to the delivery of the project works.

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Customer Corporate Services and Economy
 Major Projects & Current Works - April 2026

1. Parkes Elvis Festival (PEF) 2027

Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)					
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks	Benefits

	Total to date ^	Income Pipeline / Expense Commitments	Actual + Commitments	^ Grant Funding Adjustment for PEF 2027 ^	Totals	Estimated total when works complete *
Income	0	392,222	392,222	266,111	658,333	1,575,989
Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	1,999,543
Totals (Loss)	0	392,222	392,222	266,111	658,333	(423,554)

^ Note that part of the DNSW partnership funding (\$155,000) and the Open Streets program (\$111,111) was received during the 2025-26 financial year. An adjustment has been made to show the prepaid portion attributable to the 2027 event.

* Estimated totals are draft budget figures pending budget approval.

Project Details

The Parkes Elvis Festival 2027 is a major cultural celebration that honours Elvis Presley's legacy while delivering substantial economic and community benefits to the region. Drawing thousands of visitors annually, the festival boosts local tourism and business activity through a diverse program of performances, competitions, workshops, and community events. Its success relies on strong stakeholder engagement, including sponsors, local businesses, artists, and government bodies, alongside a strategic marketing plan aimed at maximizing audience reach through digital and media channels.

Task Completed

- Strategic Theme Selected: "Evis on Tour" confirmed as the official 2027 Festival theme, guiding program, brand, and marketing development.
- Secured Feature Artists
- Dean Z Venue DA - Submitted

Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 3 months)

- Venues Finalised (Leagues Club, Spicer Oval)
- Tickets for Dean Z to go on sale once DA has been approved.
- Secure Wall of Fame artist and concert

Current Works

While planning is progressing as expected, the project is being delivered in a constrained environment, with workforce capacity limitations and increasing cost pressures—particularly related to fuel, logistics and supplier availability—posing ongoing risks. These challenges are being actively managed through early procurement, stakeholder engagement and financial oversight. Overall, the project remains on track at this stage to deliver the anticipated economic and community benefits, subject to effective management of these risks..

Progress Photos

No further photos available.

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Customer Corporate Services and Economy
Major Projects & Current Works - April 2026

2. The Community Improvement District (CID) Pilot Program

Project Status (RAG - Report):		Critical (Red)/ At Risk (Amber) /On Track (Green)				
		Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
<i>Approved Budget</i>	<i>Expenditure this month</i>	<i>Total Expenditure to date</i>	<i>Outstanding Commitments</i>	<i>Actual + Commitments</i>	<i>Estimated total when works complete</i>	
300,000 (Ops)	\$37,769.86	\$244,078.27	\$41,348.59	\$288,426.90	300,000	
60,000 (Cap)	30,501.32	\$30,711.23	\$14,906.00	\$45,617.23	60,000	
				334,044.13	360,000.00	

Project Details

The Parkes Community Improvement District (CID) Pilot Program is a NSW Government-funded initiative aimed at testing business-led, place-based revitalisation in the Parkes CBD. Parkes Shire Council is one of a limited number of participants across NSW, with \$360,000 in funding to deliver a comprehensive two-year pilot exploring governance, engagement, planning, branding, and activation.

Scope and Deliverables

The program delivers a blend of non-physical and physical interventions:

Non-Physical Deliverables include

- the development of a **CBD Vibrancy Strategy** (via an external consultant),
- creation of a **governance model**,
- a suite of training and development **workshops for local businesses**, and
- accessible **branding assets** that businesses can adopt and adapt.

Physical Deliverables include

- a **temporary lighting** installation,
- delivery of a **place-based community event**, and
- both **temporary and permanent street closures** assets with vehicle management to support safe, welcoming activations.

Tasks Completed

- Agreement executed by the Recipient and provided to the Agency
- An agreed draft Project Plan (Annexure A) including a list of anticipate expenditures budget.
- Release of RFQ for Strategic Place Plan for Parkes CBD Vibrancy Strategy (non-physical intervention stream).
- Comms Plan Created (relative to upcoming deliverables)
- Milestone 1 data compiled
- Parkes: Small Business Edition's bookings confirmed.
- Evaluation of RFQ completed
- Strategic Planner engaged for CBD Vibrancy Strategy
- Various engagement activities including NAIDOC and Homegrown
- Small business workshop marketing
- Initial event planning completed including stage and layout
- Milestone Report 1 data compiled
- Business workshops delivered
- Branding consultant appointed
- Type of temporary bollards determined for street closures
- Preliminary findings report about the CBD Vibrancy strategy completed.
- Completion of Clarinda St and Cooke Park lighting.
- Branding workshops held with Council and the reference group.

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Customer Corporate Services and Economy
Major Projects & Current Works - April 2026

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event stage and layout established. • Lighting Installation complete • Draft Vibrancy Strategy to Council • Draft Vibrancy Strategy open to public feedback • February branding workshop – consultation 2 held • Branding reference group consultation held • Branding reference group meeting held
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Event planning and delivery within the Parkes CBD and Cooke Park - 18 April • First draft on the redesign of business engagement (Governance) • Purchase of street closure bollards • Brand preferred design selected
<p>Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps 1-3 months)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery and installation of street barriers • Governance model document review • Brand design guidelines and assets review and consultation • Grant Milestone reporting • Elvis 2027 Business Activation Kit development
<p>Current Works</p>
<p>Grant related milestone reporting was underway, along with a Governance document, Elvis Event Activation Kit and the new Branding guidelines and assets.</p>

Progress Photos



Network: 18 Apr 2026 at 4:30:48 pm AEST
Local: 18 Apr 2026 at 4:30:48 pm AEST
S 33° 8' 15.628", E 148° 10' 29.129"
230 Clarinda St
Parkes NSW 2870
Australia



Network: 18 Apr 2026 at 8:33:21 pm AEST
Local: 18 Apr 2026 at 8:33:21 pm AEST
S 33° 8' 23.184", E 148° 10' 26.837"
158-176 Clarinda St
Parkes NSW 2870
Australia

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Customer Corporate Services and Economy
Major Projects & Current Works - April 2026

3. Fresh Start Program – New Cadets, Apprentices and Trainees (CATs)

Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)				
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
	<i>Approved Budget</i>	<i>This month</i>	<i>Total to date</i>	<i>Outstanding</i>	<i>Estimated total when complete</i>
Expenditure	359,189	31,855	241,366	117,823	359,189
Income	359,189	56,868	173,099	186,090	359,189

Project Details

The Fresh Start Program (the Program) funding is part of a commitment from the NSW government that was negotiated by the Unions to increase the NSW local government workforce by 15%. Under the Program, \$252.2 million is being invested over six years to provide direct support to local councils across the state in wage support for 1,300 new apprentices, trainees and cadets.

There are four rounds of funding:

- 1 - January 2025
- 2 - July 2025
- 3 - January 2026
- 4 - January 2027

Note that the project budget will vary depending on the number of new trainees, cadets and apprentices continue in the programme.

Task Completed

- Round 1 Submission
- Council received provisional approval for 8 positions:
 - Apprentice Plumber - Appointed
 - Apprentice Electrician – On hold
 - Small Plant Apprentice - Appointed
 - Parks and Gardens Apprentice - Appointed
 - Work Health and Safety Trainee - Appointed
 - Concrete Trainee - Appointed
 - Cadet Planner - Appointed
 - Civil Engineer Cadet – On hold
- Round 1 progress report completed 30/3/2025
- Round 2 funding submission completed 31/03/2025
- Council received approval for 3 positions under Round 2:
 - Finance Trainee - Appointed
 - Works Coordinator Trainee - Appointed
 - Heavy Vehicle Mechanic Apprentice – Appointed – Employee resigned
- Round 1 progress report 2 completed 30/04/2025
- Round 3 funding submission submitted on 31 July 2025 for:
 - 7 x Civil Construction Apprentices – Cert 3 (Plant Operator)
 - 1 x Appointed
- Invoices sent in for grant payment for roles that have been recruited.
- Provisional approval for seven (7) Civil Construction Apprentices received under Round 3.
- Recruitment for the Civil Construction apprentices - complete.
- Quarterly claim report completed
- Round 2 recruitment forms due – recruitment update
- Round 3 commencement forms due 28/02/2026 – Recruitment update
- Quarterly Claim Report – 31 March 2026

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Customer Corporate Services and Economy
Major Projects & Current Works - April 2026

Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1 month)

- Quarterly Claim Report Due – 30 June 2026

Current Works

No major updates for this project in April.

So far, Council has received approval for 18 new trainees, apprentices and cadets. To date:

- 11 roles have been appointed
- 5 civil apprentices could not be filled and have now been withdrawn.
- 2 roles could not be supported (electrician and civil engineer) so have been withdrawn.
- 2 resigned (Heavy Vehicle Apprentice and Trainee Works Coordinator). Funding withdrawn.
- 1 resigned (Finance Trainee) to take a role in the Events team. Funding withdrawn.

This leaves 8 new trainees, apprentices and cadets with Council. Council will reapply for further funding in Round 4 later in the year.

Progress Photos

Nil

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Customer Corporate Services and Economy
Major Projects & Current Works - April 2026

4. CiA Live - Corporate Software System Upgrade – Stage 2B Property

Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)					
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks	Benefits
Due Date	Approved Budget	Expenditure this Month	Total Expenditure to Date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated Total when Works Complete	
30 June 2027	52,000	0	0	0	52,000	

Project Details

Technology One has introduced an upgrade program, called CiA Live, to move all its existing customers from the older Ci system interface to the newer CiAnywhere browser-based system interface. Technology One is putting most of its R & D effort into the CiA product and sees no future in developing two interfaces. Moving to the CiAnywhere system has provided end users a more user-friendly experience of TechnologyOne products with enhanced performance, a simplified interface, and capability to streamline business processes.

Budget is based on fixed price contract over 5 years, payable annually. Adjustments may be made to the budget for workforce costs once scoping has been completed.

The first part of the project included the upgrade of the Financial based systems and has been completed.

The next stage has been rescope to run stages 2, 3, and 4 concurrently. This avoids staff having to jump between Ci in the Cloud and Ci Anywhere for Property & Rating functions.

Task Completed

- Financial Systems
- Stage 2A of the Property Systems (including customer requests and management)
- High level resourcing plan completed
- Project SharePoint site with Task Board created.
- A high-level resourcing plan has been developed
- Schedule project introductions and kick off meeting for P&R transitions

Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1 month)

- Confirm Readiness Assessment start date with TechnologyOne
- Schedule kick-off and readiness workshops
- Finalise internal subject matter expert nominations for readiness assessment participation
- Develop and refine testing and migration test checklists

Current Works

The TechnologyOne AMS proposal for the Property & Rating CiA Transition Readiness Assessment has been formally accepted. At the time of reporting, no commencement date has been confirmed, with Council still awaiting scheduling confirmation from TechnologyOne.

An internal briefing session has been held with key Property, Rating, ICT, and business stakeholders. This session walked through the *Internal Overview of P&R Transitions – March 2026* presentation and covered transition stages, resourcing expectations, data readiness considerations, training approach, and known system differences between Ci and CiAnywhere.

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Customer Corporate Services and Economy
Major Projects & Current Works - April 2026



No external project activity or budget expenditure has occurred to date. Project progress remains dependent on TechnologyOne availability and confirmation of start dates.

Progress Photos

There are no photos available currently.

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15.2 INTERNAL COMMITTEE CHANGES - NEW EFW COMMUNITY WORKING PARTY

IP&R Linkage: Pillar: Leadership

Goal: Our Local Government is open, accountable and representative.

Strategy: Effectively collaborate, engage, and communicate with our community to inform decision making and promote services, projects and initiatives.

Author: Veronica Shaw, Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance

Authoriser: Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy

Annexures: A. Minutes of the Meeting held to discuss the Formation of the EfW Working Party. [↓](#)

B. Terms of Reference - EfW Community Working Party [↓](#)

C. Committee Framework - Internal Committee Details [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the minutes of the meeting held on 12 May 2026 to discuss the formation of an Energy from Waste (EfW) Community Working Party, included as *Annexure A*.
2. Note the draft Terms of Reference document for the Working Party included as *Annexure B*.
3. Adopt the Energy from Waste (EfW) Community Working Party as a new Advisory Committee, as detailed in the report and set out in the Internal Committee Details appended at *Annexure C*.
4. Communicate the Internal Committee changes to relevant parties.
5. Seek expressions of interest from community representatives for selection and appointment to the Working Party.

BACKGROUND

The Local Government Act 1993 ("the Act") provides that Parkes Shire Council ("Council") may establish committees to inform its strategy-setting and decision-making processes and provide a mechanism for community involvement in the provision of Council facilities and services.

Council traditionally reviews the appointment of Councillors to its Internal and External committees annually with the Committee Framework Policy reviewed each council term or as required by legislative or Council changes.

As noted above, the Act provides that Council may establish committees to support its decision-making processes and involve community members in the management of Council facilities and provision of Council services. Committees operated by Council can broadly be grouped into the four (4) following categories:

Committee	Purpose
Standing	Established under Clause 20 of the Model Code of Meeting Practice, comprising the Mayor and Councillors, for a specific purpose. Such committees are comprised entirely of Councillors.

Committee	Purpose
Statutory	Established to achieve compliance with Council's legislative obligations under an Act of Parliament (e.g., Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee; Local Traffic Committee). Such committees may comprise Councillors, as well as community representatives and other stakeholders, depending on the applicable legislation.
Advisory	Established to provide specialist advice to Council with respect to opportunities and challenges pertaining to a certain issue or oversee the implementation of a strategy or major plan of Council. Such committees may include community representatives, Councillors and/or members of Council staff.
Section 355	Established under section 355 of the Act to exercise a function of the Council (e.g., management of a Council facility or service). Such committees may include community representatives, Councillors and/or members of Council staff.

Parkes Shire Council's Code of Meeting Practice provides that Council may appoint or elect Committees as it considers necessary with Council reviewing all appointments annually.

Council must specify the functions of each of its committees when the Committee is appointed or elected but may from time to time amend those functions.

Committees are an important part of community engagement and in executing a Councillors' responsibility.

The Internal Committees attached at *Annexure A* were last amended at the May 2026 Council meeting in to dissolve the Sport and Recreation Committee and have its functions be incorporated within the Sports Council.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

At its Ordinary Council Meeting on 17th February 2026 Council resolved to formally reject and object in the strongest possible terms to the proposed Energy-from-Waste (EfW) displaying clear opposition to any Energy-from-Waste (EfW) within the Parkes Shire [OCM 027/26].

Following this resolution council are establishing this EfW Community Working Group to provide an **advisory forum** to facilitate structured information exchange, identify community concerns, and develop informed recommendations to Council in relation to the proposed Energy from Waste (EfW) facility.

Proposed Committee

The below table reflects the composition for the proposed EfW Community Working Group. The below additional is reflected in the Internal Committee document attached at *Annexure C*.

Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 19 May 2026 [OCM1])						
Advisory Committees engage with community representatives to seek advice and provide guidance on the development and implementation of Council's strategic plans, priorities and programs.						
Committee	Objective	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party Terms of Reference:	The Committee is established to provide an advisory forum to facilitate structured information exchange, identify community concerns, and develop informed recommendations to Council in relation to the proposed Energy from Waste (EFW) facility. The Working Party will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a structured forum for information sharing and community views Consider independent expert advice commissioned by Council (if required) Identify environmental, health, infrastructure and emergency preparedness issues Make recommendations to Council for formal consideration 	Councillor Delegates: Mayor Interested Councillors (At least 3)	Councillor Delegates: Cr Neil Westcott Cr Joy Paddison Cr Doug Pout Cr Ken McGrath Cr Matthew Scherer		General Manager	Monthly or as required Dates to be confirmed
		Community Representatives of: (At least 3, no more than 10) Traditional owners Neighbouring landholders Local business and industry Agricultural stakeholders, including NSW farmers and other relevant bodies Recognised community groups	Community Representatives			
		Council Representatives: Director of Infrastructure and Sustainability Director Planning and Community Services	Council Representatives:			

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

Council Advisory Committees are established under section 355 of the Local Government Act 1993, which enables Council to appoint committees and determine their functions, membership and terms of reference. Council may also amend or dissolve such committees by resolution, provided governance arrangements remain consistent with the Act and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021. Advisory committees operate in an advisory capacity only unless specific delegations are provided, with Council retaining ultimate decision-making responsibility.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for Council associated with this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Endorsement of the Committee Structure and appointment of Councillor Committee members, as recommended, ensures compliance with legislative requirements under section 355 of the Act.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report. However, committees are an important way of consulting with the community and fostering participation in Council activities. The Act provides that Council may establish committees to support its decision-making processes and involve community members in the management of Council facilities and provision of Council services.

Formation of an Energy from Waste Community Working Party

Meeting Minutes

Date	12 May 2026
Time	4:00pm
Location	Committee Room
Chair	Mayor
Attendees	Frances Robinson, Cr Joy Paddison, Cr Pout, Cr McGrath, Cr Scherer

Began at 4:05pm and ended at 5:20pm

Purpose of Meeting

To commence the formation of the Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party, confirm its advisory role, consider membership principles, and agree next steps for the Expression of Interest process, Council appointment of members, Terms of Reference and meeting arrangements.

Attachments

- Attachment 1: Draft Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party Terms of Reference.

Agenda

Item	Matter	Minutes
1	Welcome and opening remarks	The Mayor welcomed attendees and outlined the purpose of the meeting and confirmed the meeting is focused on establishing the Working Party.
2	Council resolution and background	The Mayor provided context around the meeting that the party is being formed in response to a Council resolution and councillor/community interest.
3	Local Aboriginal representation	<p>The Mayor then invited Frances Robinson from Peak Hill NSW Aboriginal Land Council to speak.</p> <p>Frances provided background on local Aboriginal representation, including Parkes and Peak Hill considerations and who should be invited to speak for relevant communities.</p> <p>Frances spoke about the issue around lack of consultation in general noting the by-pass, Energy-from-Waste and Inland Rail.</p> <p>Frances noted that the first they knew of the Energy-from-Waste facility was a meeting with Council last year.</p> <p>Frances also noted that the Peak Hill Land Council requested a seat with the EPA about the location of the facility but that no one had gotten back to them from the department. She did note a representative has been trying to call or email them individually which they are redirecting to the land council.</p> <p>Frances noted that the Peak Hill Land Council has strong opposition to the project which she has been appointed to represent them throughout.</p> <p>Frances said she will be sending out 4-8 emails to relevant government departments to put a consent caveat over the development and noted that they are getting government advice from environmental department and lawyers to stop the project and the impact it will have on country and water. One sick elderly, baby or person is too many.</p> <p>The Mayor gave a quick overview of the timeline from the 2019 enquiry by design where the state government came to Parkes to discuss the SAP where the Energy from Waste was first discussed, over COVID and then up to April last year when Council were first proposed the project and brought it straight to the Peak Hill Land Council.</p> <p>The Mayor noted that Council and the Land Council are on the same side as neither of them want the project to go ahead.</p>



		<p>The Mayor stressed that Council have zero control over the NSW government decision.</p> <p>Frances put herself forward to represent the Peak Hill community and Michael James as the Parkes representative with strong opposition to non-Yuradjuri representatives.</p>
4	Role of the Working Party	<p>The Working Party confirmed that the Working Party is advisory only and will make recommendations to Council. It does not replace Council, the planning process or regulatory authorities.</p> <p>Councillors noted it was like a CCC but that there would be no representatives from the proponent</p>
5	Scope of matters for consideration	<p>Councillors identified key matters the Working Party may consider, including health, environment, infrastructure, emergency management, agriculture, landholder, Aboriginal cultural and community impacts.</p> <p>Cr McGrath noted it will need a comprehensive scope and that what Neil has stated is.</p>
6	Membership principles and size	<p>Councillors discussed membership categories and proposed group size. The group discussed Aiming for broad, credible and manageable representation.</p> <p>Councillors agreed on 12-16 members for the Working Group excluding council staff support.</p> <p>Cr Paddison asked if one representative in the neighbouring landholders, agricultural stakeholders or community groups with an opposing, Energy from Waste positive, view could be accepted.</p> <p>The Mayor agreed that this could create a balanced discussion but did note that Council opposes it.</p> <p>The Mayor noted that the advertisement should indicate that the Working Group is seeking people with an 'open-mind' and Cr Paddison suggested the wording 'interested'.</p> <p>Councillors noted that experts would be invited as need be.</p> <p>Cr Paddison asked if Jane Brimmer could be an expert but acknowledged it could be controversial.</p> <p>Neil noted he didn't want it to be talking focused as the group needed to be advising council and wanted it to be able to respond as things happen and noted the \$50,000 they have to review the DA. Noted the group needs to be in a position to respond to those things.</p> <p>Cr Paddison noted her initial idea of this group was to work with RGDC to plan all future projects in the SAP, if only quarterly, and that someone from RGDC should be involved.</p> <p>The Mayor noted he wrote to the RGDC minister and asked if we could consider committee with them but note they are two separate groups and do say we are bound by the resolution.</p> <p>Councillors noted that a separate CCC with RGDC might be something to consider separately.</p> <p>Cr Paddison asked if lobbying RGDC for a CCC be part of the terms of reference.</p>
7	Member conduct and constructive participation	<p>Councillors confirmed that members may hold views but must participate respectfully, constructively and within the Terms of Reference.</p> <p>Neil said he understands people will have a view but that they must participate respectfully, constructively and in an evidence informed manner which the committee can respond to.</p>
8	Appointment of non-Council members	<p>Councillors discussed the Expression of Interest (EOI) process, organisational nominations and Council endorsement of appointments.</p>



		<p>Councillors confirmed an EOI would take place.</p> <p>Councillors confirmed their commitment but noted that Cr Wilson was yet to respond but may wish to be involved.</p> <p>Councillors agreed that EOIs would come to the Councillor representatives to review first before being recommended to Council.</p> <p>Councillors agreed that all representation would require an EOI.</p>
9	Draft Terms of Reference	<p>Councillors discussed the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) requesting Councillors review and send through comments to the Executive and Councillor Support Coordinator.</p> <p>The Mayor noted that the committee will need to be disciplined to take advantage of opportunities as they arise.</p> <p>The Mayor noted to add information to the ToR which referenced the history of the foundation of the Committee, including the original resolution.</p> <p>Cr Pout noted he wanted the ToR to be clear to people externally on what their purpose is. He said council is set to be opposed but that the terms of reference needs to be clear of what the Committee can look into it and delineation of what their roles are.</p>
10	Chairing arrangements	Councillors agreed on the Mayor chairing the initial formation phase, with the arrangement reviewed once membership and Terms of Reference are adopted.
11	Meeting frequency	Councillors agreed on monthly meetings, with additional meetings if required by project milestones or Council reporting timeframes.
12	Reporting back to Council	Councillors confirmed meeting notes, action items and recommendations are to be formally reported back to Council as required.
13	Next steps and close	<p>The Mayor noted the following next steps to be completed before the next meeting suggested for 2nd June sometime between 12pm-3pm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalise Terms of Reference - EOI advertising drafted <p>The next meeting would focus on finalising what will be sent out to the community for EOIs and finalising the ToR.</p> <p>Cr McGrath said that he attended the state government information session last week and noted that the planning process was extensive and went through many different departments to get approval.</p> <p>Cr McGrath also noted that Council can contact any of the departments at any time and they are quite happy to meet with Council. Cr McGrath noted he would share the information with Councillors.</p>

Terms of Reference

Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party

Date Adopted by Council 19th May 2026

Resolution No. [TBC]

Next Scheduled Review [Insert Date]

Facilitator [Insert Facilitator]

1. Establishment and Term

- 1.1. The Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party (hereafter "the Committee") is established by Parkes Shire Council under the *Local Government Act 1993* (hereafter "the Act") pursuant to Resolution [Resolution Number] made 19th May 2026.
- 1.2. The Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party was established as part of Parkes Shire Council's resolution at its Ordinary Council Meeting on 17 February 2026 to formally reject and object in the strongest possible terms to the proposed Energy-from-Waste (EfW) displaying clear opposition to any Energy-from-Waste (EfW) within the Parkes Shire [OCM 027/26].
- 1.3. The Committee shall operate from the date Council establishes the committee and will conclude three (3) months after the date of the next Local Government ordinary elections, unless extended by resolution of the new Council or terminated earlier in accordance with these Terms of Reference.

2. Role and Purpose

- 2.1. The Committee is established to provide an advisory forum to facilitate structured information exchange, identify community concerns, and develop informed recommendations to Council in relation to the proposed Energy from Waste (EfW) facility.
- 2.2. The Committee will:
 - Provide a structured forum for information sharing and community views
 - Consider independent expert advice commissioned by Council (if required)
 - Identify environmental, health, infrastructure and emergency preparedness issues
 - Make recommendations to Council for formal consideration
- 2.3. The Committee operates in "an advisory capacity only" and does not replace or duplicate, elected councillors, statutory planning, regulatory, or decision-making processes.
- 2.4. The role and purpose of the Committee may be varied by resolution of Council.

3. Authority and Delegations

- 3.1. In carrying out its responsibilities, the Committee must at all times recognise that primary responsibility for management of Council rests with the Council and the General Manager, as provided in the Act.

Terms of Reference: Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party

- 3.2. Neither the Committee nor any of its Members may direct any Council staff member in his or her duties.
- 3.3. The Committee has no executive powers and cannot make decisions on behalf of Council. Furthermore, the Committee is not a committee delegated authority, and therefore cannot exercise powers under section 355 of the Act.
- 3.4. The Committee may make recommendations to Council on all relevant business presented before it. Such recommendations will be presented to Council in a report prepared by nominated Council Officers. Recommendations made by the Committee may or may not be adopted by Council.
- 3.5. The Committee does not have the authority to incur expenditure.
- 3.6. The Chairperson of the Committee may, if considered reasonably necessary and with the approval of the General Manager, request external professional advice to allow the Committee to meet its responsibilities. The General Manager may facilitate, and provide the necessary financial resources, to engage the provision of any such external professional advice required.
- 3.7. The Committee is not permitted to forward official correspondence to government officials, representatives, departments or agencies. All correspondence issued by Council must only be signed and issued by those Council staff with delegation to do so.
- 3.8. Committee members are not authorised to speak to the media or make public comment on any matters before the Committee. Consistent with the Act and the Communications Policy, the Mayor and General Manager are Council's authorised spokespeople.

4. Membership

- 4.1. The Committee is a Council established committee. Council retains absolute discretion in the appointment of members and is not obliged to appoint any nominee. Council may accept, reject, or limit nominations, and may remove or replace members at any time by resolution.
- 4.2. Membership of the Committee shall comprise:
 - (a) The Mayor
 - (b) Interested Councillors (hereafter "Councillor Members"), and
 - (c) Traditional Owners, including, but not limited to, Parkes and Peak Hill representatives, as nominated by the respective Aboriginal communities.
 - (d) Representatives of directly affected neighbouring landholders.
 - (e) Representatives of local business and industry.
 - (f) Representatives of agricultural stakeholders, including NSW Farmers and other relevant bodies.
 - (g) Representatives of recognised community groups.
 - (h) At least three (3) members of the Parkes Shire community appointed by Council resolution (hereafter "Community Members").
 - (i) No more than 16 persons total, excluding expert speakers as required and council staff.
- 4.3. In appointing Community Members, Council will seek to achieve a mix of skills and experiences to facilitate the sound functioning of the Committee, and seek to represent the diversity within and interests of the Parkes Shire community.

Terms of Reference: Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party

- 4.4 Council will undertake a public “call for expressions of interest”, seeking nominations from individuals and organisations consistent with the membership categories set out in these Terms of Reference.
- 4.5 Nominations must be made in the form and by the closing date determined by Council.
- 4.6 All nominations will be considered by the Mayor and interested Councillors, who will recommend appointments for Council endorsement.
- 4.7 In making appointments, regard may be had to:
- achieving a balanced representation of relevant stakeholder groups
 - geographic proximity and degree of potential impact
 - relevant skills, experience or local knowledge
 - the effective and manageable operation of the Committee
 - A demonstrated history of conduct consistent with respectful and constructive engagement with Council, Councillors, Council staff and other members, and commitment to comply with Council adopted codes, meeting procedures and directions of the Chair.
 - Where a nominee seeks to represent an organisation, they must be formally nominated or endorsed by that organisation and have authority to represent its views.
- 4.6. Each Member shall remain a member of the Committee until:
- (a) The Member resigns, or
 - (b) The Member's membership is terminated.
- 4.7. Membership of any Member of the Committee may be terminated by resolution of the Council due to:
- (a) The Member's non-attendance at three (3) consecutive Committee members without prior notification of their non-attendance and the granting of leave by resolution of the Committee, or
 - (b) The Member's conduct being inconsistent with these Terms of Reference or Council's Code of Conduct.
- 4.8. Councillor membership terminates immediately upon a Councillor Member ceasing to be a Councillor.
- 4.9. If the membership of a Community Member is terminated, the vacancy will either
- (a) be filled if the committee recommends to Council that it be filled or
 - (b) be filled if total community membership falls below the minimum at 4.2(h)
 - (c) remain unfilled if the term is less than three (3) months.
- 4.10 To fill a vacant Community Member role, the Committee may recommend that
- (a) it be filled from a pool of eligible candidates from the original EOI process, or
 - (b) seek candidates from a fresh EOI process.

5. Responsibilities of Members

- 5.1. Members are expected to:
- (a) Understand the relevant legislative and regulatory requirements applicable to Council,
 - (b) Be able to contribute the time needed to understand the Committee's business papers and to attend Committee meetings, and
 - (c) Provide advice and feedback on matters brought before the Committee.

Terms of Reference: Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party

- 5.2. Members must conduct themselves in accordance with Council's Code of Conduct.
- 5.3. Conflicts of interest must be declared and managed in accordance with the Code of Conduct. A record of a declared conflict of interest in the minutes is sufficient.
- 5.4. Pecuniary or significant, non-pecuniary conflicts of interest must be managed by the Member excluding themselves from the meeting during the discussion of the relevant agenda item. Such exclusion should be recorded in the minutes.

6. Responsibilities of Chairperson

- 6.1. The Chairperson shall be elected by the Committee from among the three (3) Councillor members.
- 6.2. The Chairperson will remain until the dissolution date, unless the Chairperson resigns and in this case, a new Chairperson should be appointed in accordance with this clause.
- 6.3. If the Chairperson is absent from a Committee meeting, a Member of the Committee will be nominated by the Committee to chair the meeting.

7. Responsibilities of Facilitator

- 7.1. The Committee Facilitator shall be a suitably qualified Council Officer appointed by the General Manager with functional responsibilities for the Committee, who will undertake the following functions:
 - (a) Provide secretariat support to the Committee, including preparing, circulating and publishing meeting agendas and minutes,
 - (b) Accept or reject (in consultation with the General Manager) items of business,
 - (c) Ensure Members are familiar with the Committee Terms of Reference and Council's Code of Conduct,
 - (d) Facilitate discussion at Committee meetings, provide input to meetings and be an active (non-voting) Member of the Committee,
 - (e) Focus the Committee on its responsibilities as outlined in these Terms of Reference and the meeting agenda items,
 - (f) Act as the principal communication link between the Committee and Council,
 - (g) Manage the resources available to the Committee,
 - (h) Manage the performance of the Committee,
 - (i) Where appropriate, liaise with the Facilitators of Council's other Committees to assist with the collaboration between Committees, the sharing of information and the efficient and effective use of Council and Committee resources; and
 - (j) Working closely with the Chairperson to administer the Committee and its meetings.

8. Meetings, Quorum and Voting

- 8.1. Meetings of the Committee shall be held monthly ~~with additional meetings~~ or as required.
- 8.2. Members may attend and participate at Meetings either in-person or via audio-visual link.
- 8.3. At all meetings of the Committee, the Chairperson shall occupy the Chair and preside. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Committee shall elect one of its number to preside at the meeting.
- 8.4. A meeting shall not proceed unless a quorum of at least 50% of appointed members are present, including at least one (1) Councillor (Mayor or nominee), and one (1) community (non-council) representative.

Terms of Reference: Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party

- 8.5. In addition to Members, the following may be in attendance at any meeting of the Committee as non-voting observers:
- (a) Councillors not appointed as Members of the Committee,
 - (b) Council staff, and
 - (c) External personnel by invitation of the Committee.
- 8.6. Each Committee Member shall be entitled to one (1) vote in respect to any matters before the Committee. The Committee shall aim to make decisions by consensus where possible, and otherwise the decision of the Committee shall be by the majority of votes cast in favour. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.

9. Business Papers, Minutes and Resolutions

- 9.1. The Facilitator will ensure that notice of meetings, including the agenda and business papers, are provided to the Committee and published to Council's website at least five (5) business days prior to the day of the meeting. These may be transmitted electronically.
- 8.7. The Committee's resolutions shall be clearly recorded in the Minutes of its meetings.
- 8.8. Draft Minutes will be distributed to the Committee and published to Council's website no later than five (5) business days after the meeting.
- 8.9. Draft Minutes of the previous meeting are to be adopted by resolution of the Committee at the following meeting.
- 9.3. The General Manager (or delegate) may action resolutions as they deem appropriate in accordance with their individual delegations and authorisations.
- 9.4. A report to the Council for a decision will be required where resolutions fall outside the functions delegated to the General Manager.

10. Procedural Matters

- 10.1. The Committee shall operate in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice and these Terms of Reference. In relation to any procedural matter, the ruling of the Chair shall be final.

11. Amendment

- 11.1. These Terms of Reference may be added to, amended or repealed by resolution of the Council in consultation with, or upon the recommendation of, the Committee.

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Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details

This Annexure provides details about the current Council committees. See also the [Council Policy - Committee Framework](#).

Statutory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])						
Statutory committees are prescribed by NSW legislation, and their functions are prescribed by guidelines or frameworks.						
Committee	Legislation & Guidelines	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of Reference: 1904317	Local Government Act 1993, Section 428A OLG: Risk Management and Internal Audit Framework	Representatives include: One (1) Councillor Non-Voting Delegate	Councillor Delegates: Cr Marg Applebee (<i>Deputy Mayor</i>) Cr Joy Paddison (<i>Alternate</i>)	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance	Director Customer, Corporate Services & Economy	Meeting dates are scheduled bi-monthly 25 February 2026 29 April 2026 29 July 2026 August 2026 (TBC) 23 September 2026 25 November 2026
		Independent Members: One (1) Independent Prequalified Chair Two (2) Independent Voting Members	Independent Members: Stephen Horne (<i>Chair</i>) Tony Harb (<i>Independent Member</i>) Dr Meredith Caelli (<i>Independent Member</i>)			
		Council Representatives: General Manager, Director Infrastructure Sustainability Director Operations Chief Financial Officer Executive Manager Finance	Council Representatives: Kent Boyd (<i>General Manager</i>) Andrew Francis (<i>Director Infrastructure Sustainability</i>) Logan Hignett (<i>Director Operations</i>) Jaco Barnard (<i>Chief Financial Officer</i>) Luke Nash (<i>Executive Manager Finance</i>)			

Notes: Council's one (1) Councillor Non-Voting Delegate is appointed for the duration of the Council term, not on an annual basis.

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details



Statutory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])						
<i>Statutory committees are prescribed by NSW legislation, and their functions are prescribed by guidelines or frameworks.</i>						
Committee	Legislation & Guidelines	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
General Manager Performance Review Panel	Local Government Act 1993, Section 23A Section E (2), (refer page 14) OLG Guidelines for the Appointment and Oversight of General Managers	Representatives include: Mayor Deputy Mayor One (1) Councillor selected by General Manager One (1) Councillor appointed by Council	Councillor Delegates: Cr Neil Westcott (<i>Mayor</i>) Cr Marg Applebee (<i>Deputy Mayor</i>) Cr Louise O'Leary (<i>nominated by General Manager</i>) Cr Bill Jayet	Manager People, Safety and Culture	Mayor	Meeting dates are scheduled yearly June 2026

Note: The Panel comprises three (3) Councillors, but Guidelines provide: *"Performance review panels should comprise the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, another Councillor nominated by Council and a Councillor nominated by the General Manager."*

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details



Statutory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])						
<i>Statutory committees are prescribed by NSW legislation, and their functions are prescribed by guidelines or frameworks.</i>						
Committee	Legislation & Guidelines	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Local Traffic Forum <i>The Local Traffic Forum is an advisory body only, having no decision-making powers.</i> <i>It is, primarily, a technical review committee that is required to advise the Council on traffic related matters referred to it by Council</i>	Road Transport Act 2013 Transport's Authorisation and Delegation to Councils Transport for NSW	Representatives include: Two (2) Councillors	Councillor Delegates: Cr Ken McGrath Cr George Pratt (<i>Alternate</i>)	Business Support Team	Director Operations	Meeting dates are scheduled quarterly 4 February 2026 6 May 2026 5 August 2026 4 November 2026
		Independent Members: Traffic & Highway Patrol Command Transport for NSW Local State Member of Parliament or their nominee	Independent Members: Sgt Mitchell Gage (<i>Traffic & Highway Patrol Command</i>) Jason Nicholson (<i>TfNSW</i>) Chris McQuie (<i>Nominee</i>)			
		Council Representatives: Senior Design Engineer Road Safety & Injury Prevention Officer	Council Representatives: Ben Coultas (<i>Senior Design Engineer</i>) Melanie Sutor (<i>Road Safety & Injury Prevention Officer</i>)			

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details


Section 355 Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])							
<i>Under Section 355 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council can delegate certain function to committees to provide these on behalf of Council.</i>							
Committee	Delegated Function	Strategic Oversight	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Parkes Sports Council	<p>Hire and use of sports fields and facilities, the selection of the Ron Harrison Bursary Award, management of the Sports Life Member Honour Board, the selection of the Parkes Shire Sports Awards recipients, the management of the Legends of Sport honour roll and the management and selection of projects under the Northparkes/Parkes Shire Council Sports Grants scheme.</p> <p>Provide advice and guidance on the development of strategies, and identification of challenges and opportunities, in relation to upcoming major sporting projects, sporting and recreation facilities, and the prioritisation and implementation of sporting projects and programs in the Parkes Shire.</p>	<p>Sporting Facility & Precinct Masterplan</p> <p>2025-26 Strategic Asset Management Plan</p> <p>2025-26 Operational Plan & Budget</p> <p>Open Space Strategy (<i>in draft</i>)</p>	<p>Representatives include:</p> <p>Two (2) Councillors</p> <p>One (1) delegate from each of the sporting groups that use the sports fields and facilities.</p>	<p>Councillor Delegates:</p> <p>Cr Louise O'Leary</p> <p>Cr Doug Pout</p> <p>Cr Matthew Scherer (<i>Alternate</i>)</p>	Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy	Director Operations	<p>Meeting dates are scheduled monthly</p> <p>February 2026</p> <p>March 2026</p> <p>April 2026</p> <p>May 2026</p> <p>June 2026</p> <p>August 2026</p> <p>September 2026</p> <p>October 2026</p> <p>November 2026</p> <p>December 2026</p>

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details



Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])							
<i>Advisory Committees engage with community representatives to seek advice and provide guidance on the development and implementation of Council's strategic plans, priorities and programs.</i>							
Committee	Objective	Strategic Oversight	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Airport Development Advisory Committee	Provide advice and guidance on the development of strategies, and identification of challenges and opportunities, in relation to Parkes Regional Airport, whilst enhancing and investing in the precinct with capital improvements and business opportunities	Parkes Regional Airport Master Plan	Representatives include: Five (5) Councillors Mayor (ex officio)	Councillor Delegates: Cr Marg Applebee <i>(Deputy Mayor)</i> Cr Bill Jayet Cr Joy Paddison Cr Doug Pout Cr Glenn Wilson	Business Support Team	Director Operations	Meetings scheduled on an as needed basis
			Council Representatives: Director Operations Manager Facilities Property Officer	Council Representatives: Sharon Ross (Manager Facilities) Tania Iffland (Property Officer) <i>(Alternate)</i> Logan Hignett (Director Operations) <i>(Alternate)</i>			

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details



Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])							
<i>Advisory Committees engage with community representatives to seek advice and provide guidance on the development and implementation of Council's strategic plans, priorities and programs.</i>							
Committee	Objective	Strategic Oversight	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Community, Access and Liveability Advisory Committee Terms of Reference: 1705626	Provide advice and guidance on the implementation of Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan, Cultural Services and activities, development of strategies, and identification of challenges and opportunities, in relation to urban planning, heritage, safety, affordable housing and healthy and connected urban systems within the Parkes Shire.	Disability Inclusion Action Plan Housing Strategy Middleton Master Plan Parkes Western Entry Plan Actions Liveability Strategy Actions	Councillor Delegates: Five (5) Councillors Mayor (ex officio)	Councillor Delegates: Cr Marg Applebee (<i>Deputy Mayor</i>) Cr George Pratt Cr Louise O'Leary Cr Bill Jayet Cr Doug Pout	Business Support Officer	Director Planning and Community Services	Meeting dates are scheduled quarterly. March 2026 June 2026 September 2026 December 2026
			Community Representatives: Three (3) community representatives	Community Representatives Jeff Evans Jessica Macdonald Lyn McLeod			
			CCC Representatives: One (1) representative from each Village CCC.				
			Council Representatives: Director Planning & Community Services Cultural, Education & Library Services Manager	Council Representatives: Annalise Teale (<i>Director Planning & Community Services</i>) Kerryn Jones (<i>Cultural, Education & Library Services Manager</i>) (<i>Alternate</i>)			

Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Villages: Alectown, Bogan Gate, Cookamidgera, Peak Hill, Trundle and Tullamore

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details

Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])

Advisory Committees engage with community representatives to seek advice and provide guidance on the development and implementation of Council's strategic plans, priorities and programs.

Committee	Objective	Strategic Oversight	Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Community Assistance Program Evaluation Panel	Assess Community Financial Assistance Grants against eligibility criteria.	Nil.	Councillor Delegates: Three (3) Councillors Mayor (ex officio)	Councillor Delegates: Cr Bill Jayet Cr Doug Pout Cr Ken Mcgrath Cr Marg Applebee <i>(Deputy Mayor) (Alternate)</i>	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance	Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy	Meeting dates are scheduled twice a year March 2026 August 2026
			Council Representatives Director Customer, Corporate Services & Economy Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance	Council Representatives Anthony McGrath <i>(Director Customer, Corporate Services & Economy)</i> Veronica Shaw <i>(Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance)</i>			

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details


Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])							
<i>Advisory Committees engage with community representatives to seek advice and provide guidance on the development and implementation of Council's strategic plans, priorities and programs.</i>							
Committee	Objective	Strategic Oversight	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Economy, Destination and Events Advisory Committee Terms of Reference: 2056316	Provide advice and guidance on the development of strategies, and identification of challenges and opportunities, in relation to tourism development, destination marketing, economic activation, industry development, high-value investment and major events including the Parkes Elvis Festival	Economic Development Strategy <i>(scheduled for review)</i> CBD Vibrancy Strategy Destination Management Plan Major Events and Festivals Strategy <i>(in development)</i> Henry Parkes Centre Masterplan <i>(Scheduled for review)</i> Parkes Shire Signage and Wayfinding Strategy <i>(in development)</i> .	Councillor Delegates: Four (4) Councillors Mayor (ex officio)	Councillor Delegates: Cr Bill Jayet Cr Glenn Wilson Cr Doug Pout Cr Marg Applebee <i>(Deputy Mayor)</i> Cr Joy Paddison <i>(Alternate)</i>	Economic Development Specialist or Tourism and Visitor Services Coordinator	Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy	Meeting dates are scheduled quarterly February 2026 May 2026 August 2026 November 2026 Dates to be confirmed
			Community Representatives At least three (3) community representatives or as many as required	Community Representatives <i>Andrew Hall</i> <i>Andrew Rice</i> <i>Kelly Hendry</i> <i>Kristy Berry</i> <i>Marty Sammut-Paul</i> <i>Peter Giles</i> <i>Steve Lindsay</i> <i>Tracie Robertson</i> <i>Treen Swift</i>			
			Council Representatives: Economic Development Specialist	Council Representatives: Hamish Ritchie <i>(Economic Development Specialist)</i>			

Notes: Term concludes at the date of the next ordinary elections, unless terminated earlier in accordance with these Terms of Reference

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details



Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 19 May 2026 [OCM])						
<i>Advisory Committees engage with community representatives to seek advice and provide guidance on the development and implementation of Council's strategic plans, priorities and programs.</i>						
Committee	Objective	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party Terms of Reference:	The Committee is established to provide an advisory forum to facilitate structured information exchange, identify community concerns, and develop informed recommendations to Council in relation to the proposed Energy from Waste (EfW) facility. The Working Party will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a structured forum for information sharing and community views • Consider independent expert advice commissioned by Council (if required) • Identify environmental, health, infrastructure and emergency preparedness issues • Make recommendations to Council for formal consideration 	Councillor Delegates: Mayor Interested Councillors <i>(At least 3)</i>	Councillor Delegates: Cr Neil Westcott Cr Joy Paddison Cr Doug Pout Cr Ken McGrath Cr Matthew Scherer		General Manager	Monthly or as required Dates to be confirmed
		Community Representatives of: <i>(At least 3, no more than 10)</i> Traditional owners Neighbouring landholders Local business and industry Agricultural stakeholders, including NSW farmers and other relevant bodies Recognised community groups	Community Representatives			
		Council Representatives: Director of Infrastructure and Sustainability Director Planning and Community Services	Council Representatives:			

Notes: Term concludes at the date of the next ordinary elections, unless terminated earlier in accordance with these Terms of Reference

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details


Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])							
<i>Advisory Committees engage with community representatives to seek advice and provide guidance on the development and implementation of Council's strategic plans, priorities and programs.</i>							
Committee	Objective	Strategic Oversight	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Floodplain Management Committee	Provide advice and guidance on the development and implementation of floodplain risk management studies relating to the Parkes Shire.	Flood Management Strategy	Councillor Delegates: Three (3) Councillors Mayor (ex officio)	Councillor Delegates: Cr Marg Applebee <i>(Deputy Mayor)</i> Cr George Pratt Cr Glenn Wilson Cr Matthew Scherer <i>(Alternate)</i>	Business Support Officer	Director Infrastructure Sustainability	Meeting dates are scheduled quarterly 12 February 2026 May 2026 August 2026 November 2026
			Community Representatives Three (3) community representatives	Community Representatives Clive Hawken James Buchanan Peter Kelly			
			Representatives from relevant NSW Government agencies				

Notes: No EOI required can determine Community Representatives through verbal communications.

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details


Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])							
Advisory Committees engage with community representatives to seek advice and provide guidance on the development and implementation of Council's strategic plans, priorities and programs.							
Committee	Objective	Strategic Oversight	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Parkes Shire Arts Advisory Committee Terms of Reference: 1340920	Provide advice and guidance on the development of strategies, and identification or challenges and opportunities, in relation to the arts, and serve as a forum for communication between Council and local arts stakeholders	Nil.	Councillor Delegates: Three (3) Councillors Mayor (ex officio)	Councillor Delegates: Cr Bill Jayet Cr Doug Pout Cr Joy Paddison Cr Louise O'Leary (Alternate)	Business Support Officer	Director Planning and Community Services	Meeting dates are scheduled quarterly May 2026 August 2026 November 2026
			Community Representatives Three (3) community representatives	Community Representatives Margot Jolly Duncan Clement Elly Tom Janelle Faunt Kerry Peden Lisa Ramsey Rhonda Redenbach Irene Ridgeway Ronda Sharpe			
			Council Representatives: Director Planning & Community Services Cultural, Education & Library Services Manager	Council Representatives: Annalise Teale (Director Planning & Community Services) Kerryn Jones (Cultural, Education & Library Services Manager) (Alternate)			
			Representatives from relevant arts sector stakeholders				

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details

Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])

Advisory Committees engage with community representatives to seek advice and provide guidance on the development and implementation of Council's strategic plans, priorities and programs.

Committee	Objective	Strategic Oversight	Composition	Councillor Delegates	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Plant Procurement Committee	Provide advice and guidance on Council's plant replacement program.	Nil.	Councillor Delegates: Three (3) Councillors Mayor (ex officio)	Councillor Delegates: Cr Ken McGrath Cr George Pratt Cr Glenn Wilson Cr Matthew Scherer <i>(Alternate)</i>	Business Support Coordinator	Director Operations	Meetings are scheduled as and when required. Meetings are held when plant items are over 250k
			Council Representatives Fleet and Depot Manager Director Operations Executive Manager Operations	Council Representatives Michael O'Shannessy <i>(Fleet and Depot Manager)</i> Logan Hignett <i>(Director Operations)</i> Executive Manager Operations <i>(Marisa Malherbe)</i>			

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details


Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])							
<i>Advisory Committees engage with community representatives to seek advice and provide guidance on the development and implementation of Council's strategic plans, priorities and programs.</i>							
Committee	Objective	Strategic Oversight	Composition	Councillor Delegates	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Road and Place Naming Advisory Committee	Provide advice and guidance on Road naming and Place naming process.	Nil.	Five (5) Councillors Mayor (ex officio)	Cr Bill Jayet Cr Ken McGrath Cr Louise O'Leary Cr Joy Paddison Cr Doug Pout Cr George Pratt <i>(Alternate)</i>	Business Support Coordinator	Director Operations	Meetings held as and when required
			Director Operations Executive Manager Operations	Director Operations <i>(Logan Hignett)</i> Executive Manager Operations <i>(Marisa Malherbe)</i>			

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details

Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])

Advisory Committees engage with community representatives to seek advice and provide guidance on the development and implementation of Council's strategic plans, priorities and programs.

Committee	Objective	Strategic Oversight	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Rural Roads Advisory Committee	Provide a forum for discussion on proposed programs in relation to whether they satisfactorily address the needs of the Parkes Shire on a priority basis utilising available funds. The Group would be briefed on the Transport Asset Management Plan, funding sources and availability, and the way programs are developed and prioritised.	Parkes Shire Council Transport Asset Management Plan (<i>Draft</i>) 2025-26 Strategic Asset Management Plan 2025-26 Operational Plan and Budget	Councillor Delegates: Four (3) Councillors Mayor (ex officio)	Councillor Delegates: Cr Louise O'Leary Cr Glenn Wilson Cr Ken McGrath Cr George Pratt (<i>Alternate</i>)	Business Support Coordinator	Director Operations	Meeting dates are scheduled quarterly. Dates to be confirmed March 2026 June 2026 October 2026
			Community Representatives Ten (10) Community Representatives	Community Representatives Gary Langley Graeme Hunter Peter Kelly Garry Parker Ron Umbers Robert Mortimer Andrew Field Gavin Tom Andrew Rawsthorne Owen Miller			

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details


Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24]) <i>Advisory Committees engage with community representatives to seek advice and provide guidance on the development and implementation of Council's strategic plans, priorities and programs.</i>							
Committee	Objective	Strategic Oversight	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Waste Advisory Committee Terms of Reference: 2065853	Provide advice and guidance on the development of strategies, and identification of challenges and opportunities, in relation to high-value investment in infrastructure to ensure a smart and sustainable Shire, including the operation of the Shire's landfills and other waste issues.	Parkes Shire Waste Strategy Net Zero Strategy Circular Economy Strategy	Councillor Delegates: Five (4) Councillors Mayor (ex officio)	Councillor Delegates: Cr Marg Applebee Cr Louise O'Leary Cr George Pratt Cr Glenn Wilson Cr Doug Pout (<i>Alternate</i>)	Waste Officer Business Support Officer (<i>Alternate</i>)	Director Infrastructure and Sustainability	Meetings held as and when required
			Council Representatives: Manager Environment and Sustainability Director Infrastructure and Sustainability Waste Officer	Council Representatives: Manager Environment and Sustainability (<i>Michael Chambers</i>) Director Infrastructure and Sustainability (<i>Andrew Francis</i>) Waste Officer (<i>Sharyn Ware</i>) (<i>Alternate</i>)			

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details


Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])							
<i>Advisory Committees engage with community representatives to seek advice and provide guidance on the development and implementation of Council's strategic plans, priorities and programs.</i>							
Committee	Objective	Strategic Oversight	Committee Composition	Committee	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Wiradjuri Elders Advisory Committee - Parkes	Provide advice and guidance on the development of strategies, and identification of challenges and opportunities, in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues	Nil	Councillor Delegates: Three (3) Councillors Mayor (ex officio)	Councillor Delegates: Cr Bill Jayet Cr Louise O'Leary Cr Doug Pout Cr Marg Applebee <i>(Alternate)</i>	Cultural, Education and Library Services Manager	Director Planning and Community Services	Meetings held as and when required March 2026
			Representatives of Parkes Aboriginal Project Officer (to be appointed)				

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details


Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24]) <i>Advisory Committees engage with community representatives to seek advice and provide guidance on the development and implementation of Council's strategic plans, priorities and programs.</i>							
Committee	Objective	Strategic Oversight	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Wiradjuri Elders Advisory Committee – Peak Hill	Provide advice and guidance on the development of strategies, and identification of challenges and opportunities, in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues	Nil	Councillor Delegates: Three (3) Councillors Mayor (ex officio)	Councillor Delegates: Cr Bill Jayet Cr Louise O'Leary Cr Doug Pout Cr Marg Applebee <i>(Alternate)</i>	Cultural, Education and Library Services Manager	Director Planning and Community Services	Meetings held as and when required
			Representatives of Peak Hill <i>Aboriginal Project Officer (to be appointed)</i>				

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details


Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])								
<i>Advisory Committees engage with community representatives to seek advice and provide guidance on the development and implementation of Council's strategic plans, priorities and programs.</i>								
Committee	Objective	Strategic Oversight	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates	
Youth Advisory Committee	Provide advice and guidance on the development of strategies, and identification of challenges and opportunities, in relation to issues of concern to young people living and working in the Parkes Shire	Youth Engagement Strategy <i>(to be developed)</i>	Councillor Delegates:	Councillor Delegates: Cr Louise O'Leary Cr Doug Pout Cr Marg Applebee <i>(Deputy Mayor)</i> <i>(Alternate)</i>	Business Support Officer	Director Planning and Community Services	Youth Engagement Strategy to be developed by June 2024. Dates to be supplied on development of Committee and Scope This Committee is on hold until further notice.	
			Community Stakeholders					Six (6) community stakeholders aged 12-24 years.
			One (1) representative from each school's student body)					
			Council Representatives: Director Planning & Community Services Cultural, Education & Library Services Manager	Council Representatives: Annalise Teale <i>(Director Planning & Community Services)</i> Kerryn Jones <i>(Cultural, Education & Library Services Manager)</i> <i>(Alternate)</i>				

15.3 PARKES ELVIS FESTIVAL 2026 - POST EVENT REPORT**IP&R Linkage:** **Pillar:** Community**Goal:** Our community is creative, proud and has a strong sense of belonging.**Strategy:** Support and deliver events, festivals and local celebrations that support community connectivity, citizenship and pride.**Author:** **Brendan Shipley, Manager Events and Tourism****Authoriser:** **Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy****Annexures:** **A. Parkes Elvis Festival 2026 - Post Event Report (under separate cover) [↗](#)****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Parkes Elvis Festival 2026 Post Event Report, attached to this report as *Annexure A*.

BACKGROUND

The Parkes Elvis Festival is a long-standing, flagship regional event delivered by Parkes Shire Council and recognised as one of Australia's most iconic regional festivals.

The 2026 Parkes Elvis Festival was held from 7–11 January 2026, coinciding with Elvis Presley's birthday and marking the Festival's 33rd year. The Festival is officially endorsed by Elvis Presley Enterprises and is recognised as a Destination NSW Foundation Event.

Council officers have prepared a comprehensive Post Event Report to provide Council with a detailed assessment of the Festival's performance across governance, operations, financial management, economic impact, risk management, environmental sustainability, stakeholder engagement and community feedback.

The purpose of this report is to present the Post Event Report to Council for information, transparency and governance purposes.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The Parkes Elvis Festival 2026 Post Event Report (Annexure A) provides Council with a comprehensive assessment of the delivery, performance and impacts of one of Council's largest and most complex annual events.

Key issues and considerations arising from the report are outlined below.

Event Performance and Outcomes

The 2026 Festival was delivered safely and successfully over five days, attracting an estimated 25,000 to 30,000 attendees and reinforcing the Festival's status as a nationally recognised destination event. More than 200 events were delivered across ticketed and free programming, with strong attendance at headline performances and consistently high demand for indoor and curated shows.

Visitor data confirms the Festival's importance as a tourism driver, with the majority of attendees travelling from outside the Parkes Local Government Area, including a significant interstate cohort. The Festival continues to generate high levels of repeat visitation, contributing to sustained economic and reputational benefits for the Shire.

Economic and Community Value

The report identifies a substantial economic contribution to the local economy, with conservatively estimated external income of approximately \$2.5 million and a total economic impact in the range of \$3.75 million to \$5 million. In other analysis, for every dollar council invested in the event, \$4 was spent directly with Parkes Shire businesses. This represents a strong return on Council investment and supports Council's strategic objectives relating to economic development, tourism and place activation.

In addition to direct economic impacts, the Festival delivers significant intangible benefits, including community pride, volunteer participation, regional collaboration and **national media exposure**. These outcomes reinforce the Festival's role as a flagship cultural event for Parkes.

Operational Complexity and Capacity

The scale and growth of the Festival continue to increase operational complexity. The report highlights sustained pressure on Council's Events and Tourism team, particularly during peak planning and delivery phases, and an increasing reliance on contractors and volunteers to meet operational demands.

Transport, parking, crowd movement, accommodation availability and extreme summer heat were identified as recurring challenges. While these issues were managed effectively in 2026, they represent ongoing constraints that require strategic planning, resourcing and, in some cases, policy decisions by Council.

Strategic and Governance Considerations

A key issue raised in the report is the long-term sustainability of delivering large-scale, high-cost free events. While free programming contributes strongly to community access and atmosphere, it also carries increasing financial, operational and risk management pressures.

The Post Event Report includes a clear set of recommendations for future Festivals, including workforce enhancements, transport and logistics improvements, funding and sponsorship strategies, and potential adjustments to the balance between free and ticketed programming. These recommendations are provided for Council's information and future consideration and do not require a decision as part of this report.

Overall, receiving and noting the Post Event Report supports transparency, accountability and continuous improvement in Council's delivery of major events.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

The delivery and reporting of the Parkes Elvis Festival aligns with Council's obligations under the Local Government Act 1993, Work Health and Safety Act 2011, and associated regulations governing event management, financial accountability and public safety.

This report has been drafted with the assistance of AI tools and has been reviewed and checked by a Council officer prior to submission.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The attached Post Event Report provides important context regarding the financial performance of the Parkes Elvis Festival 2026.

Key financial outcomes identified in the Post Event Report include:

- **Total Festival revenue** of approximately **\$1.11 million**, generated primarily through ticket sales, sponsorship (including significant funding from Destination NSW), merchandise and temporary camping and caravan sites.
- **Total Festival expenditure** of approximately **\$1.49 million**, reflecting the cost of artists and performers, infrastructure and production, staffing, marketing, security, waste management and compliance requirements.

- A **net operating cost to Council** of approximately **\$380,130**, representing an improved result compared with forecast and several previous years.

The report highlights that the Festival continues to deliver a strong economic return relative to Council's financial contribution, with an estimated direct community return of approximately **\$4 to the local economy for every \$1 invested by Council**.

Notwithstanding this positive outcome, the report also identifies increasing cost pressures associated with the scale of the event, particularly for staffing, security, infrastructure, compliance and the delivery of large-scale free programming. Continued reliance on external funding, particularly from Destination NSW, remains a critical factor in maintaining the Festival in its current format.

The financial information contained in the Post Event Report will inform future budget planning, funding strategies and consideration of structural changes to the Festival model to support long-term financial sustainability.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

The attached Post Event Report identifies and analyses operational, financial, workforce and safety risks associated with delivery of the Festival and outlines mitigation strategies for future events. Receiving and noting the report supports good governance, transparency and continuous improvement in Council's event management practices.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report.

15.4 LIGHT UP PARKES - POST EVENT REPORT**IP&R Linkage:** **Pillar:** Community**Goal:** Our community is creative, proud and has a strong sense of belonging.**Strategy:** Support and deliver events, festivals and local celebrations that support community connectivity, citizenship and pride.**Author:** **Brendan Shipley, Manager Events and Tourism****Authoriser:** **Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy****Annexures:** **A. Light Up Parkes - Post Event Report** [↓](#)**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Post Event Report for the Light Up Parkes event held on 18 April 2026, attached to this report as *Annexure A*.

BACKGROUND

Light Up Parkes was a community event held in Cooke Park and delivered by Parkes Shire Council with support from external partners and contractors. The event took place on 18 April 2026 between 5.00pm and 9.00pm and attracted an estimated attendance of between 1,500 and 2,500 people.

A post-event report has been prepared by Council officers to document event delivery, operational matters, attendance, safety arrangements, contractors used, and overall outcomes. The purpose of this report is to present that post-event report to Council for information and record-keeping.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The attached Post Event Report (*Annexure A*) outlines the planning, delivery and outcomes of the Light Up Parkes event and confirms that the event was delivered successfully overall. Key matters noted in the report include:

- The event operated for its scheduled duration and was supported by appropriate traffic control, security, first aid, emergency management and cleaning arrangements.
- Attendance was strong, with positive feedback reported from food vendors and market stallholders regarding patronage and site allocation.
- Minor operational issues occurred, including delays during bump-in due to access to power and a temporary audio outage during one performance; these issues were addressed promptly and did not significantly disrupt the event.
- No major safety or security incidents were recorded during the event.

The report provides useful operational insights that can inform planning and delivery of future Council-led events. No decisions are required beyond Council receiving and noting the information.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

There are no legislative or policy considerations for Council associated with this report.

This report was drafted with the assistance of artificial intelligence tools and has been reviewed and checked for accuracy and compliance by a Council officer prior to submission.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The event was funded by Transport for NSW under the Community Improvement District Pilot Project program. The actual costs plus commitments as at the date of this report was \$45,000, which is under the overall budget of \$50,000.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no material risk implications for Council associated with receiving and noting this report.

The attached Post Event Report confirms that appropriate risk controls were in place for the event, including emergency management planning, security, first aid, traffic control and contractor management. Operational issues identified during the event have been documented and can be considered in the planning of future events to further mitigate delivery and operational risks.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report.

Post Event Report – Light up Parkes



Sponsor: Transport for NSW			
EVENT DATE	18 April 2026	Event Start & Finish Times	5:00pm – 9:00pm
EVENT NAME	Light Up Parkes	Show Start & Finish Times	5:00pm – 9:00pm
EVENT LOCATION	Cooke Park	First PSC STAFF ARRIVE	8:00am
APPROX. ATTENDANCE	1500-2500	Last PSC STAFF DEPART	12:00am
FIRST AID IN ATTENDANCE	Yes	WASP COMPLETED	N/A
TRAFFIC CONTROL IN PLACE	Yes	ROAD CLOSURES	Yes
EMERGENCY MANANGMENT PLAN / SECURITY	Yes	AV/PRODUCTION	Yes – Audio Plus
CLEANING	Strike Force	CATERING	Yes – Johnson Bakery
EVENT BUDGET	50,000	EVENT ACUTALS	44,630

INTERNAL PSC Events Team (Events, Operations, Parks and Gardens, Emergency Management etc.)	
Position/Role:	Name:
Events Officer	Olivia Noakes
Events Officer	Bronte Thompson
Manager Events & Tourism	Brendan Shipley
Team Leader Arboriculture	Adam Ranger
Plant Operator Parks & Gardens	Paul Gardiner
Horticulture Trainee	Chloe Brown

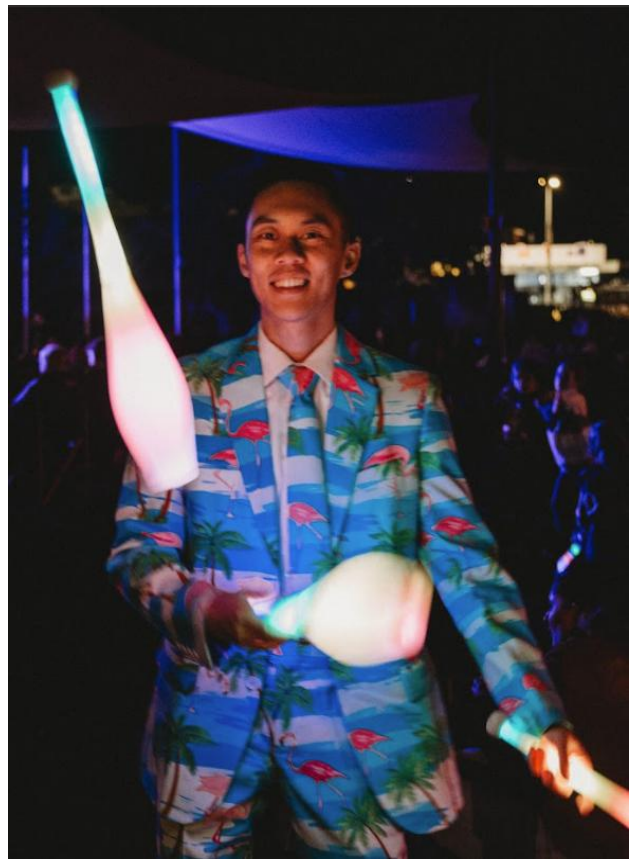
EXTERNAL Events Team (Production, Crew, First Aid, Cleaners, Food Vendors, Stall Holders, Artists, Performers etc)	
Company/Role:	Name:
Cleaners - Strikeforce	Kim Moore
Security – Talon Security	Pat Hazell
Regional Event Medics	Neil Fuller
Parkes Action Club – Supervising Jumping Castle	Tim Keith
Audio Plus – Production/Sound/Lighting	Glenn Richardson
Performer	Gracey Denham-Jones
Performer	Easy Goin'
Performer	Dirty Dark Horses
Performer	Amitie
Performer	EJ Musos'
Performer – LED Stilt Walkers	Brittini Ray
Performer – LED Juggler	Kenny Cheung
Food Vendors & Market Stalls	Mr Whippy, Taste of Greece, Brewed Shot, Teddy Goose & Co, Parkes Rotary, JAHARTe Designs, Mystics Crafts by Carly, Dippin' Dots, WishToys, Tornado Potatoes, RNR Jump N Party, Facepainting by T and FRNSW Firetrucks

Event Notes

BUMP IN	BUMP OUT
<p>Production bump-in commenced later than scheduled, as the production team arrived behind time due to their own circumstances. During the bump-in, the team attempted to access power outlets located beneath the stage and discovered they had been sealed with silicone, resulting in significant delays. Operations staff and an electrician were engaged to resolve the issue, and access was subsequently restored.</p> <p>Market stall and food vendor bump-in proceeded efficiently, with all confirmed vendors set up within the allocated timeframe. However, several vendors did not attend despite multiple contact attempts, and others advised within 24 hours of the event that they were unable to participate. These vendors were Danica Rose, Packed Cones, Parkes/Forbes Fijians, Amanda's Country Design, and Fairy Floss Kingdom.</p>	<p>Bump-out was completed efficiently and proceeded as planned, with no significant issues encountered.</p>
PERFORMANCE/SHOW/EVENT	ARTIST/CAST
<p>The event was delivered successfully and ran smoothly overall. One significant issue occurred when the music/audio system cut out during Spicy Mercury's performance; however, it was promptly identified and rectified, allowing the program to continue with minimal disruption.</p>	<p>All cast members were well coordinated, prepared, and managed effectively, contributing positively to the overall success of the event.</p>
TECH - LIGHTING & VISION	TECH - PA (AUDIO)
<p>All technical components operated smoothly and were delivered to a high standard, with only one major issue occurring during the event, as noted above.</p> <p>Due to limited access to power outlets, it was necessary to amend the original lighting plan and reduce street lighting installations. As an alternative, additional lighting was successfully redirected to illuminate trees and key infrastructure throughout the park, ensuring the overall visual impact of the event was maintained.</p>	<p>Audio and sound were delivered effectively and operated to a high standard throughout the event, with the exception of one major issue as noted above</p> <p>The fault was identified as a faulty underground cable, which is used to connect the FOH desk to the stage.</p>

FOOD VENDORS / MARKET STALLS	FIRST AID/EMERGENCY/SECURITY
<p>All 13 food vendors and market stallholders reported satisfaction with their site allocation and encountered no issues during the event. Following bump-out, a significant amount of positive feedback was received, particularly regarding event attendance and the high level of patronage experienced by each vendor.</p> <p>The only issue identified was a temporary loss of power to Taste of Greece and Mr Whippy midway through the event. This was promptly addressed and resolved within 15 minutes, minimising disruption to their operations.</p>	<p>No major incidents were recorded during the event. Minor observations included children riding scooters and bikes within the event area; however, these did not result in any significant issues or disruptions.</p>
VENUE	CLEANING
<p>The park proved to be an excellent venue for the event, offering a suitable and well-utilised space that supported both event operations and attendee experience effectively.</p>	<p>The park was well maintained prior to the event by the Parks and Gardens team. During the event, Adam, Paul, and Chloe actively managed waste by regularly collecting rubbish throughout the evening. Additionally, the Strikeforce team consistently serviced and maintained the toilets and pavilion facilities, ensuring a clean and well-presented environment for patrons.</p>

EVENT PICS x 6







15.5 COMMUNITY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EVALUATION PANEL - 2025-2026 ROUND TWO**IP&R Linkage:** Pillar: Community**Goal:** Our community is creative, proud and has a strong sense of belonging.**Strategy:** Encourage, support and recognise community participation including volunteers.**Author:** Veronica Shaw, Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance**Authoriser:** Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy**Annexures:** Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Endorse the recommendations of the Evaluation Panel for Sec.356 donations under Round 2 of the Community Financial Assistance Program 2025/2026 totalling \$2,300.00 in General Grants and waived Rates and Charges.
 2. Endorse the waiving of any fees incurred by the Parkes Antique Motor Club to rates and charges while awaiting review of their application.
-

BACKGROUND

The Parkes Shire Community Financial Assistance Program (CFAP) was established to assist Council in providing a fair, equitable and transparent process for the distribution of public money, or in-kind assistance under Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993* to local community groups and organisations in the Parkes Shire.

This assistance is limited to not-for-profit organisations who demonstrate local membership or participation and/or are undertaking a project or provide a service demonstrating significant local benefits to the Parkes Shire Community.

Community Financial Assistance Grants are offered twice each financial year, with application rounds opening in July and February. Each round is promoted through local media and Council's social media channels, and applications can be submitted online via Council's website.

To maintain a consistent, transparent, and equitable approach applications received are checked for eligibility based on the Financial Assistance Policy and assessed against four (4) criteria and their financial position. Circumstances in each application, the availability of funds in Council's adopted budget and the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993* are also considered.

The assessment criteria are:

- Aligns with one of the Community Objectives within the Community Strategic Plan.
- Amount of Resident Participation
- Level of Consultation and Collaboration with other local Groups
- Organisational Capacity to deliver the program or project

Recommended grant offerings are based on the degree that the assessment criteria score is met.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Linkage - Aligns with one of the Community Objectives within the Community Strategic Plan.

Amount of resident participation – Percentage can be linked to specific townships.

Amount of Resident Participation		
Score	Definitive Answers	Value Judgement
0	Unsatisfactory	Less than 25% would be involved
1	Poor	Between 25% - 50% would be involved
2	Satisfactory	Between 50% - 80% would be involved
3	Good	More than 80% of Residents would be involved

Level of Consultation and/or collaboration with other local groups

Level of consultation and collaboration with other local groups		
Score	Definitive Answers	Value Judgement
0	Unsatisfactory	Applicant is not a local organisation, no involvement or collaboration with local community
1	Poor	Applicant is a local organisation however does not involve other local not-for-profit groups
2	Satisfactory	Project/Event promotes benefits to up to 2 other local not-for-profit groups
3	Good	Project/Event promotes benefits to more than 2 other local not-for-profit groups

Organisational capacity to deliver the program or project

Organisational capacity to deliver the program or project		
Score	Definitive Answers	Value Judgement
0	Unsatisfactory	No previous experience with similar projects and no planning demonstrated in application
1	Poor	Limited experience with similar projects and limited planning. Demonstrated experience with similar projects however no planning.
2	Satisfactory	Demonstrated experience with similar projects and appropriate planning. If limited experience the application must show thorough planning.
3	Good	Demonstrated extensive experience with similar projects, application shows thorough planning

Acquittal and Reporting

All successful applicants will be required to provide an acquittal report within two months of completion of the sponsored event. The Grant Acquittal form can be found on Council's website.

The report must include outcomes of the event or project funded by Parkes Shire Council.

Applicants will not be considered for future funding if the report is not completed and returned.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Round 2 - General Program and Leasing and Licencing

Round 2 of the 2025/2026 Community Financial Assistance Program was advertised from 1st to 28th February 2026. A total of five (5) applications were received during this period with three (3) applications received for General and two (2) received for Leasing and Licencing. One (1) application for the general round and one (1) application for the previous rates and charges round were received before the application period which were carried forward to this round due to mitigating circumstances.

The evaluation of Round 2 of the 2025/2026 Community Financial Assistance Grants was completed on 4th May 2026 by the Community Financial Assistance Program Evaluation Panel. In attendance were Mayor Neil Westcott, Cr Bill Jayet, Cr Ken McGrath and Cr Doug Pout with Council staff. No declarations of interest were received in relation to this round of grants.

A summary of the applications received for both sections of Round 2 of the 2025/2026 Community Financial Assistance Grants and the application carried forward for rates and charges and the recommendations of the Committee are below:

General Program

Organisation/Group	Activity	Amount Requested	Recommendation
Meals on Wheels	Assistance providing meals to Ronald McDonald House.	\$1,000.00	\$800.00
Parkes Gun Club	Assistance advertising a clay target event.	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
TOTAL			\$1,300.00

Applications were also received from Mr Perfect BBQ and the St Vincent de Paul Society for this General Round which were found to be ineligible to receive grants in this instance.

Licencing and Leasing

Two (2) applications were received from Spacemen Rugby League and Parkes School of Dance to waive Licencing and Leasing fees but were found to be ineligible to receive waivers.

Rates and Charges

The following application was recommended and approved to be carried forward to this round due to confusion around application dates which has been updated on Council's website in response to this organisations feedback.

Organisation/Group	Activity	Amount Requested	Recommendation
Parkes Antique Motor Club	Preserve and celebrate local heritage through the adaptive use of the Parkes Old Fire Station as a museum.	\$1,843.28	\$1,000.00
TOTAL			\$1,000.00

A waiving of any fees incurred by Parkes Antique Motor Club while the application was being processed is also recommended.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

In accordance with Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council can provide financial assistance through a specific program, providing the details of the program have been included in Council's Operational Plan for the year in which the financial assistance is proposed to be given.

Along with the Community Financial Assistance Policy, an assessment matrix scorecard was developed to assist in maintaining consistency when assessing and scoring Applications.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of Round 2 of the Community Financial Assistance Grants to Council will total \$2,300.00 and is funded from Council's Operational Plan and Budget 2025/2026.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

If an ineligible organisation receives grant funding, it can lead to reputational damage, financial loss, and reduced public trust in the grants process. It may also divert resources from eligible organisations that could deliver genuine community benefits. Conversely, failing to fund a deserving organisation can result in missed opportunities for social, economic, or cultural improvements, undermining the effectiveness and equity of the funding program. Both scenarios highlight the importance of robust eligibility checks and transparent decision-making.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report as the financial assistance is part of a specific program.

Under Section 356 of the Local Government Act, public notice is required in the following circumstances.

15.6 OUTCOME OF 2026 ROUND 2 – PARKES SHIRE EVENTS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EFAP) GRANTS

IP&R Linkage: Pillar: Leadership

Goal: Our Local Government is open, accountable and representative.

Strategy: Provide open and transparent decision-making and undertake the civic duties of Council with professionalism and integrity.

Author: Brendan Shipley, Manager Events and Tourism

Authoriser: Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy

Annexures: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the outcome of Round 2 of the Parkes Shire Events Financial Assistance Program (EFAP) Grants as outlined in this report.

BACKGROUND

Council's Events Financial Assistance Program (EFAP) provides financial and in-kind support to community and destination events that deliver economic, social and cultural benefits to the Parkes Shire. Funding under the Program is allocated from Council's operating budget and is administered in accordance with the adopted EFAP Guidelines.

Applications for **Round 2 of the 2025/26 EFAP Grants Program** were invited from eligible organisations for events scheduled to be delivered within the Shire during the first half of 2026. Applications were assessed against the criteria outlined in the EFAP Guidelines, including event viability, community benefit, economic impact and alignment with Council priorities.

This report advises Council of the outcome of the recent grant assessment process, including successful and unsuccessful applicants.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Following assessment, two (2) applications were approved for funding under Round 2 of the EFAP Program, one as a cash contribution and one as an in-kind contribution.

Successful Applicants

Applicant	Event	Assistance Approved	Type
Parkes Que Club	International Women's Day Luncheon	\$8,500	Cash
Parkes Coradgery & Diggers Amateur Race Club	Parkes Picnic Races	\$8,500	In-kind

The funding approved reflects the scale of the events, their demonstrated community benefit, and their contribution to visitation and local economic activity.

In addition, three (3) applications were deemed unsuccessful during this round, predominantly due to their overall assessment score relative to available funding and alignment with the Program criteria.

Unsuccessful Applicants – Round 2

- Inkredible – *Annual Flash Bash* (3 May)
- Parkes Golf Club – *Week of Golf* (4–8 May)
- Parkes Services Club – *Dave Fuller Memorial Squash Tournament* (16 May)

Applicants were advised of the outcome and, where appropriate, will be offered feedback to support future applications.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

The Events Financial Assistance Program is administered in accordance with Council's **Events Financial Assistance Program (EFAP) Guidelines**, which are adopted by Council and published on Council's website.

Funding allocations are made under Council's general powers pursuant to the **Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)** and are consistent with Council's adopted Operational Plan and annual budget.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The total value of assistance approved for Round 2 of the EFAP Program is **\$17,000**, comprising:

- \$8,500 cash contribution (already paid); and
- \$8,500 provided as in-kind support.

Funding is provided within existing allocations approved in Council's 2025/26 Operating Budget. There are no additional unbudgeted financial impacts associated with this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

The key risks associated with the grant program relate to transparency, equity and compliance with adopted guidelines. These risks are mitigated using documented assessment criteria, officer review processes, and formal notification to applicants.

There are no material strategic, financial or legal risks arising from noting the outcome of this funding round.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report. Information about the grants program, including the guidelines are available on Council website.

15.7 ADOPTION OF COUNCIL POLICY - PROCUREMENT (UPDATE)**IP&R Linkage:** **Pillar:** Leadership**Goal:** Our Local Government is contemporary, effective and efficient.**Strategy:** Ensure compliance with statutory requirements and ensure Council's operations are supported by good corporate governance and effective risk management.**Author:** **Nikki Bevan, Procurement, Contracts and Insurance Coordinator****Authoriser:** **Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy****Annexures:** **A. Procurement Policy (under separate cover) [⇒](#)**

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopt the updated Operational Policy – Procurement as presented at *Annexure A*.
 2. Notes that the amendments strengthen probity, governance, and risk management controls and improve alignment with legislative and best-practice procurement requirements.
 3. Endorses the publication of the adopted Procurement Policy on Council's website.
-

BACKGROUND

As part of Council's commitment to continuous improvement, all Council policies receive minor amendments from time to time as required and are on a review schedule to ensure that they comply with current legislation and local government best practice. In addition, the Office of Local Government (OLG) recommends that council's review all relevant policies in the first twelve months of office.

Council's Procurement Policy provides the framework that governs how goods, services and works are sourced to ensure value for money, ethical conduct, probity, transparency, and legislative compliance.

A review of the Procurement Policy has been undertaken to clarify expectations, address identified gaps and strengthen governance controls across key procurement and contract management processes. The review focuses on improving probity requirements, modern slavery considerations, contract administration clarity, risk management, and transparency in decision-making.

The proposed amendments do not change Council's overall procurement approach but refine and strengthen the policy to better support officers, contractors, and Council in meeting statutory, ethical, and operational obligations.

The reviewed Operational Policy – Procurement is presented at *Annexure A* for Council's consideration and adoption.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Overview of Key Policy Amendments

The updated Procurement Policy includes the following amendments:

Section 5 – Probity

- Updated wording to strengthen probity requirements.
- Clearer expectations regarding ethical conduct, conflicts of interest, and transparent recordkeeping.
- Improved guidance to support accountable and defensible procurement decisions.

Section 6 – Modern Slavery

- Inclusion of an improved definition of modern slavery.
- Greater clarity regarding Council's commitment to ethical sourcing and compliance with modern slavery obligations.

Section 15 – Contract Number

- Clarification of contract number requirements.
- Improved guidance on post-completion documentation and recordkeeping.

Section 16 – Bank Guarantee

- Introduction of a new Bank Guarantee section.
- Inclusion of supporting tables within the Appendix to clarify requirements and application.

Section 18 – Panel Contracts

- Expansion and restructuring of panel contract guidance.
- Additional information included in the procurement threshold table for procurements valued at \$200,000 and over, including requirements for a Probity Plan.

Section 19 – Tender Process

- Addition of a pricing matrix that incorporates risk factors.

Appendices

- Appendix A: Go to Market Table moved from the body of the policy to the Appendix.
- Appendix B: End-to-End Approval Table moved to the Appendix.
- Appendix C: Addition of a Bank Guarantee Matrix.

Key Considerations for Council

- The amendments improve clarity, consistency, and governance across procurement activities.
- Strengthened probity and reporting requirements reduce compliance and reputational risk.
- Additional guidance supports officers in applying the policy consistently and defensibly.
- The changes align the policy more closely with contemporary procurement and risk management practices.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

The proposed adoption of the updated Operational Policy – Procurement is informed by, and must operate within, a comprehensive legislative and policy framework that governs procurement, governance, probity, information management, and ethical conduct in NSW local government.

The Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 establish Council's statutory responsibilities for the procurement of goods, services and works, including tendering requirements, financial management, and accountability for expenditure of public funds. The Procurement Policy supports compliance with these requirements by setting clear processes, thresholds, and approval pathways for procurement activities.

The Tendering Guidelines for NSW Local Government issued by the Office of Local Government provide best-practice guidance for fair, transparent and competitive procurement processes. The updated policy strengthens alignment with these guidelines by clarifying probity expectations, tender processes, panel contract arrangements, and documentation standards.

The Code of Conduct underpins ethical behaviour, conflict of interest management, and decision-making integrity. The revised policy reinforces these principles by strengthening probity provisions, record-keeping requirements, and expectations for ethical conduct by councillors, staff and contractors.

The Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998, and State Records Act 1998 impose obligations relating to transparency, protection of personal information, and proper records management. The updated policy supports compliance by clarifying documentation, contract numbering, and post-completion record-keeping requirements.

Work health and safety obligations under the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and associated Regulation apply to procurement activities where Council engages contractors and suppliers. The policy supports Council's duty of care by embedding risk management considerations within procurement and contract management processes.

The Modern Slavery Act 2018 (Cth) establishes reporting and due diligence expectations in relation to modern slavery risks in supply chains. The revised policy strengthens Council's commitment to ethical sourcing by improving definitions and expectations relating to modern slavery considerations in procurement decision-making.

The policy also aligns with Council's adopted Procurement and Contract Management Framework, ensuring consistency across operational practices, governance controls, and risk management arrangements.

This section of the report was drafted using AI-assisted tools and has been reviewed and verified by a Council officer to ensure accuracy, relevance, and compliance with Council's legislative and governance obligations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial costs associated with the adoption of the updated Procurement Policy.

Conducting procurement activities in accordance with the policy supports Council to achieve value for money outcomes through consistent, transparent and well-governed purchasing practices. Strengthened probity requirements, clearer contract management provisions, and improved risk and pricing assessment processes assist in minimising financial risk, avoiding cost overruns, and ensuring that Council expenditure is undertaken efficiently and responsibly within approved budgets.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

The proposed policy updates present the following risk considerations:

Compliance and Governance Risk:

Strengthened probity, modern slavery definitions, and clearer contract requirements reduce the risk of non-compliance with legislation and guidelines.

Reputational Risk:

Improved transparency, ethical conduct expectations, and recordkeeping support Council's reputation for integrity and accountability.

Operational Risk:

Clearer guidance and structured appendices support consistent application of the policy, reducing errors or inconsistent practices.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report. However, following adoption, the updated Procurement Policy will be published on Council's website to ensure it is publicly accessible.

15.8 ENDORSEMENT OF OPERATIONAL POLICY - COMMUNITY USE OF TEMPORARY SIGNAGE INFRASTRUCTURE**IP&R Linkage:** Pillar: Leadership**Goal:** Our Local Government is open, accountable and representative.**Strategy:** Effectively collaborate, engage, and communicate with our community to inform decision making and promote services, projects and initiatives.**Author:** Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy**Authoriser:** Logan Hignett, General Manager (Acting)**Annexures:** A. Operation Policy - Community Use of Temporary Signage [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Endorse the Operational Policy – Temporary use of Signage Infrastructure (the Policy) to enable the temporary use of Council signage infrastructure by eligible community organisations to display event banners.
 2. Note that the endorsed Policy, which is included as Annexure A, will be published on Council's website.
-

BACKGROUND

Council owns and maintains temporary signage infrastructure, which has historically been used on an ad hoc basis for the display of its own event signage. At the April Sports Council meeting, the Parkes Spacemen Rugby League Football Club asked about the use of the location at Bushman Street Roundabout to display their own event banner.

The **Operational Policy – Temporary use of Signage Infrastructure** ("the Policy") has been developed to establish a clear, consistent and transparent framework for the temporary use of this infrastructure by eligible not-for-profit and community organisations.

The Policy provides guidance on eligibility, application processes, banner specifications, installation and removal responsibilities, and compliance requirements. Its purpose is to support community events while ensuring public safety, protecting Council assets and providing equitable access to signage locations.

The Policy has been prepared as an operational policy under the General Manager's delegation and is now presented to Council for endorsement prior to being published on Council's website and implemented operationally.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The key issue for Council is whether to endorse the proposed operational framework governing the temporary use of Council signage infrastructure for community event promotion.

The Policy delivers several operational and governance benefits, including:

- Clear eligibility criteria that limit use to not-for-profit and community-based organisations.
- Defined application and approval processes managed under delegated authority, ensuring consistency and transparency.
- Banner size, material and content controls to protect public safety, maintain traffic sightlines and uphold community standards.

- Allocation of responsibility to applicant organisations for safe installation, maintenance, removal, insurance and indemnity, reducing Council's operational exposure.

Endorsing the Policy formalises existing practices, reduces uncertainty for community groups, and provides staff with a consistent basis for decision-making. It also supports equitable access to limited signage locations by managing display periods and limiting repeated or extended use by a single organisation.

Failure to endorse the Policy would likely result in continued ad hoc decision-making, increased risk of inconsistent outcomes, and reduced clarity for community organisations seeking to promote local events.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

The Policy has been developed with regard to relevant NSW legislation governing signage, land use and public safety, including the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and the *Roads Act 1993*.

The Policy also aligns with applicable State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs) relating to signage and development control, where relevant.

No additional DA approval process is required because the temporary banners will be used on existing signage infrastructure, which was previously approved.

Internally, the Policy provides an operational framework consistent with Council's role in managing public land, infrastructure and community amenity, and supports good governance through clear roles, responsibilities and review periods.

This report was drafted with the assistance of artificial intelligence tools, and the content has been reviewed and verified by a Council officer prior to submission.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for Council associated with this report. The cost for the supply, installation and removal of banners rests with the approved community organisation.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

The endorsement and implementation of the Policy assists Council to manage a range of operational and governance risks.

From a health and safety perspective, the Policy includes controls to ensure banners do not obstruct traffic sightlines or pedestrian movement and allows Council to remove signage that presents a safety risk.

From an asset and operational risk perspective, restrictions on attachment methods and materials protect Council infrastructure from damage. Responsibility for installation, maintenance and removal rests with approved organisations, supported by insurance and indemnity requirements.

From a compliance and reputational perspective, the Policy establishes clear content controls and approval processes, reducing the risk of inappropriate, offensive or unauthorised signage being displayed on Council assets.

Overall, the Policy provides a structured risk management approach that supports community use of Council infrastructure while maintaining appropriate controls.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report, however a copy of the endorsed policy will be placed on Council's web site.

Operational Policy

Community Use of Temporary Signage



Operational Policy
 Community Use of Temporary Signage

CONTROLLED DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ECM Number	2235810
Document Owner	Director Customer, Corporate Services & Economy
Document Development Officer	Manager Events and Tourism
Risks Managed	
Consulting Stakeholders	Shire Presentation Coordinator Manager Customer & Information Services
Review Period	Four Years
Last Review Date	May 2026
Next Scheduled Review	May 2030

Document History		
Date	Resolution No.	Details/Comments
May 2026	Draft	Initial version created for ELT review, GM Approval
19 May 2026		Endorsed by Council

Further Document Information and Relationships	
Related Legislation*	Environmental Planning and Assessment Act Roads Act 1993
Related Policies	State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs)
Related Documents	Nil
<p>Note: Any reference to Legislation will be updated in this Policy as required. See website http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/ for current Acts, Regulations and Environmental Planning Instruments.</p>	

Operational Policy
 Community Use of Temporary Signage


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Operational Policy

Community Use of Temporary Signage



1. Purpose

This policy establishes a clear and consistent framework for the temporary use of existing Council-owned signage poles located on roundabouts and other approved locations for the display of community event banners by eligible not-for-profit organisations.

The Guidelines aim to:

- support community events and activities,
- ensure public safety and traffic sightlines are maintained,
- protect Council assets,
- ensure equitable access to the signage infrastructure.

2. Commencement and Review

This Operational Policy is effective from the date of endorsement by the General Manager and shall remain in force until repealed by formal revocation by the General Manager.

As part of Council's commitment to good governance and continuous improvement, this Operational Policy must be reviewed and re-endorsed by the General Manager not less than once every four years or as otherwise determined by the General Manager in line with legislative requirements and policy changes.

3. Scope and Application

These Guidelines apply to the temporary display of event-related banners on existing Council signage poles installed for temporary signage purposes (see [Appendix A](#) for a list of temporary signage locations).

They do not apply to:

- commercial advertising,
- permanent signage,
- new signage installations or structural modifications.

This Operational Policy applies to all Council staff, contractors, and volunteers.

4. Definitions

In this Operational Policy, the following terms shall be interpreted as having the following meanings:

Term	Definition
Council	Means Parkes Shire Council
Business Day	Means a day that is not a Saturday, a Sunday, 27/28/29/30/31 December, nor a public holiday in Sydney

Operational Policy

Community Use of Temporary Signage

Term	Definition
General Manager	Means the General Manager of Parkes Shire Council appointed under section 334 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>
Governing Body	Means a person elected or appointed to civic office as a member of the governing body of Council who is not suspended, including the mayor
Council Discretion	Council's authority to approve, refuse, amend, or remove signage based on safety, compliance, or operational considerations.
Eligible Organisation	Not-for-profit organisations, community groups, sporting associations, service clubs, schools, and similar entities permitted to apply for banner placement.
Ineligible Organisation	Commercial entities and political organisations that are not permitted to use the signage infrastructure.
Indemnity	The requirement for organisations to accept responsibility and protect Council against claims arising from the installation and display of banners.
Non-compliance	Failure to meet the requirements of the guidelines, which may result in removal of signage or refusal of future applications.
Permitted Content	Event-related information limited to details such as event name, date, location, and community organisation identification.
Prohibited Content	Content that includes unrelated commercial advertising, political or religious messaging, or material that is offensive, discriminatory, or defamatory.
Public Safety Requirement	The obligation to ensure signage does not obstruct traffic sightlines, regulatory signage, or pedestrian movement, and does not create hazards.
Temporary Signage	Event-specific banners displayed for a limited duration on designated Council infrastructure to promote community activities.

5. Operational Policy Statement

Council recognises the value of community events and activities in fostering social connection, participation, and local vibrancy. To support this, Council enables the temporary use of designated Council-owned signage infrastructure, including

Operational Policy

Community Use of Temporary Signage



approved pole locations on roundabouts and other sites, for the display of community event banners.

This policy supports equitable access for eligible not-for-profit organisations, community groups, sporting associations, schools, and similar entities to promote local events through temporary signage.

Council is committed to ensuring that the use of this infrastructure:

- prioritises public safety, including maintaining traffic sightlines and pedestrian movement.
- protects Council assets from damage.
- upholds community standards through appropriate and non-commercial messaging; and
- provides fair and managed access to all eligible organisations.

The placement and management of temporary signage will be governed by these approved guidelines and application processes to ensure consistency, transparency, and compliance with safety and operational requirements. Council retains the authority to approve, refuse, or amend signage use in accordance with these principles.

5.1. Responsibilities

The following table summarises the responsibilities associated with this policy.

Position	Responsibility
Customer Service Officers	Provide information and advice on the guidelines and completing the application form. Advise organisations of progress.
Manager Events and Tourism	Approve applications and advise outcome
Shire Presentation Coordinator	Monitor compliance with the guidelines
Parks and Gardens Staff	Advise of non-compliance with the guidelines. Remove non-complying signs
Approved Organisation	Install, maintain and remove the sign

5.2. Eligibility

The following organisations may apply:

- not-for-profit organisations,
- community groups,
- sporting associations,
- service clubs,
- schools and similar community-based organisations.

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Community Use of Temporary Signage

Commercial entities and political organisations are not eligible.

5.3. Application Process

i. Application Requirements

Organisations must apply using the approved application form that includes:

- organisation name and contact details,
- description of the event being promoted,
- proposed banner artwork (final or draft),
- requested display dates,
- confirmation of acceptance of these Guidelines.

ii. Conditions

- Council's events and display periods will take precedence over community events.
- Bookings are required at least seven (7) days before the intended display period and are managed on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Display periods are limited to a maximum of fourteen (14) days per event, unless otherwise approved.
- Only one banner per organisation may be displayed at any one time.
- Repeated or extended use by a single organisation may be limited to allow access by others.
- Applicant organisations must hold appropriate public liability insurance.
- Council may request evidence of insurance.
- The Organisation indemnifies Council against any claims arising from the use of the banner.

5.4. Banner Specifications and Content

The following specifications provide organisations with the relevant information to obtain a sign that will be compliant with the existing signage infrastructure.

i. Size

- See [Appendix A](#) for more information on suitable signage size and locations.
- Banners must not obscure traffic sightlines, regulatory signage, or landscaping.

ii. Materials

- Weather-resistant, lightweight materials only.
- No rigid materials, metal frames, or components that may become dislodged.

iii. Permitted Content

Banners may include:

- event name,
- date(s) and location,
- sponsoring community organisation logo,

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- brief event-related messaging.

iv. Prohibited Content

Banners **must not** include:

- commercial advertising or sponsorship messaging unrelated to the event,
- political, religious, or advocacy messaging,
- offensive, discriminatory, or defamatory content.
- Council reserves the right to require changes to content prior to approval.

5.5. Approval

- Applications are to be assessed by Manager Events and Tourism.
- Approval may be granted under delegated authority where the application meets the standard specifications and content.
- Council retains the right to refuse, revoke, or amend approvals at its discretion where safety, amenity, or operational concerns arise.

5.6. Installation, Attachment and Removal

i. Attachment Method

- Banners must use existing mounting poles and available anchor points.
- Banners must be attached using non-damaging fixings such as suitable cable ties or rope.
- No drilling, welding, or permanent fixings are permitted.
- Attachments must not damage poles, garden beds, or surrounding infrastructure.

ii. Installation Responsibility

- Installation and removal are the responsibility of the approved organisation unless otherwise agreed.
- Installation must be undertaken in a safe manner and must not interfere with traffic, pedestrians or damage any existing gardens.

iii. Maintenance and Condition

Approved organisations are responsible for:

- ensuring the banner remains secure and in good condition,
- promptly repairing or removing damaged, faded, or loose banners.

Council staff may remove banners without notice if they:

- present a safety risk,
- become damaged or unsecured,
- do not comply with these Guidelines.

iv. Removal

- The organisation must safely remove the banners by the approved end date.
- Failure to remove a banner may result in:
 - removal by Council at the organisation's cost,

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- future applications being declined.

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Appendix A: Temporary Signage Locations

The locations where temporary signage can be installed are:

Bushman and Clarinda Street Roundabout

Item	Measurement
Recommended Size:	6000mm x 750
Max Size:	6300mm x 750mm
Minimum Size:	2000mm x 600mm
Maximum Height:	1000mm from top of gutter

Example sign:



15.9 RE-APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLOR DELEGATES FOR 2026 CONFERENCES**IP&R Linkage:** **Pillar:** Leadership**Goal:** Our Local Government is open, accountable and representative.**Strategy:** Advocate and provide strong representation for our community at the regional, state, and federal levels.**Author:** **Toni Lennane, Executive and Councillor Support Officer****Authoriser:** **Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy****Annexures:** **Nil****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council approve the amended Delegates as follows:

- (a) Delegate the Mayor and Cr Bill Jayet as voting Delegates at the ALGA National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government.
- (b) Delegate the Mayor and Cr Bill Jayet as voting Delegates at the LGNSW Annual Conference and LGNSW General Election.

BACKGROUND

Parkes Shire Council ("Council") is committed to supporting the continued professional development of its Councillors and ensuring that they remain up to date with contemporary issues facing Council and the Parkes Shire community, as well as the NSW Local Government sector more broadly.

Attendance at sector conferences provides Councillors with new skills and knowledge on particular issues to ensure they can perform their duties and represent residents to the best of their ability. It also provides Councillors with the opportunity to network with elected representatives from other local government areas, as well as State and Federal parliamentarians, and advocate on issues of importance to the Parkes Shire community.

Clause 6.32 of the current *Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy* ("the Policy") provides that Council shall resolve to nominate:

- Three (3) Councillors, one of whom shall be the Mayor (or Deputy Mayor), to attend the Local Government NSW ("LGNSW") Annual Conference; and
- One (1) Councillor with the Mayor or two (2) Councillors to attend each of the following conferences and seminars:
 - International Women's Day ("IWD") Conference
 - Australian Local Government Women's Association ("ALGWA") NSW Conference
 - LGNSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference
 - Institute of Public Engineering Australasia ("IPWEA") NSW Local Roads Congress
 - Australian Local Government Association ("ALGA") National General Assembly ("NGA") of Local Government
 - LGNSW Water Management Conference
 - NSW Public Libraries Association Conference ("SWITCH")
 - Local Government NSW Annual Conference
 - ALGA National Local Roads and Transport Congress

Determining Councillor attendance at various conferences at this time enables each Councillor to plan their professional development in advance and gives them the opportunity to indicate their interest in participating in conferences that are of interest to them and which they believe will best support their individual professional development needs. This practice also ensures that the annual Councillor Conferences and Seminars Budget are distributed equitably across all Councillors.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

At the meeting held on 17 February 2026 Council appointed a number of delegates to the 2026 sector conferences as detailed in the Ordinary Council Minutes [OCM 040/26]. This report updates some changes to delegates attending conferences during 2026.

Also at the meeting held on 17 February 2026 Council resolved that appoint the following voting delegates for 2026 were as follows:

- (a) Delegate the Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor as voting Delegates at the ALGA National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government.
- (b) Delegate the Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor as voting Delegates at the LGNSW Annual Conference and LGNSW General Election.

These voting delegates now need to amended as follows:

- (a) Delegate the Mayor and Cr Bill Jayet as voting Delegates at the ALGA National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government.
- (b) Delegate the Mayor and Cr Bill Jayet as voting Delegates at the LGNSW Annual Conference and LGNSW General Election.

Updated details of the sector conferences scheduled to be held throughout 2026, including the dates and venues/locations of each conference, are outlined in *Table 1*, below, in order of when they will occur throughout the year.

Table 1: Local Government Sector Conferences 2026			
Conference	Date	Location	Delegate* (these may change throughout the year depending on Councillors availability)
International Women's Day	6 March 2026	Sydney	Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee
ALGWA State Conference	26-28 March 2026	Blacktown	Cr Joy Paddison
LGNSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference	27-29 May 2026	Maitland	Cr Bill Jayet
IPWEA NSW Local Roads Congress	1 June 2026	Parliament House Sydney	Mayor Neil Westcott
ALGA National General Assembly of Local Government	23-25 June 2026	National Convention Centre, Canberra, ACT	Mayor Neil Westcott (voting) and Cr Bill Jayet (voting)

Table 1: Local Government Sector Conferences 2026

ALGA National Local Roads, Transport & Infrastructure Congress	Late August 2026	Cairns	Cr Kenny McGrath and Mayor Neil Westcott (if available)
LGNSW Water Management Conference	2-4 September 2026	Ballina	Cr Matthew Scherer
NSW Public Libraries Association Conference	10-13 November 2026	Bathurst	Cr Bill Jayet
LGNSW Annual Conference	22-24 November 2026	Wollongong	Mayor Neil Westcott (voting), Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee & Cr Bill Jayet (voting)

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

Councillor expenses, including costs associated with conference and seminar attendance, must comply with the *Guidelines for the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Mayors and Councillors in NSW* ("the Guidelines") issued by the Office of Local Government and prescribed under section 23A of the *Local Government Act 1993* ("the Act"), as well as *Council's Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy* ("the Policy") adopted under sections 252 and 253 of the Act.

The Policy provides that attendance of Councillors at each conference shall be limited to one (1), except the LGNSW Annual Conference, which shall be limited to three (3) Councillors, including the Mayor. The principle of having one (1) Councillor attend is considered best practice for a rural council and consistent with community expectations.

Approval arrangements for Councillor attendance at conferences should occur, where possible, at a full meeting of the Council. This is reflected in clause 1.6.7 of the Guidelines as well as clause 6.32 of the Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

An annual budget for Councillor attendance at conferences and seminars, is reflected in Council's annual Operational Plan adopted each June.

Consistent with the Policy and Guidelines, Council will reimburse or pay registration fees, accommodation, meals, parking, telephone and travel expenses associated with attendance at the conference plus any other reasonable and directly related out-of-pocket expenses.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications for Council associated with this report.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report.

16 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY**16.1 MAJOR PROJECTS AND CURRENT WORKS - INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY - APRIL 2026****IP&R Linkage:** Pillar: Leadership**Goal:** Our Local Government is open, accountable and representative.**Strategy:** Effectively collaborate, engage, and communicate with our community to inform decision making and promote services, projects and initiatives.**Author:** Sue McGrath, Business Support Coordinator**Authoriser:** Andrew Francis, Director Infrastructure and Sustainability**Annexures:** A. [Infrastructure Sustainability - Major Projects Current Works - April 2026](#) ↓

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Infrastructure and Sustainability Major Projects and Current Works Report for April 2026, appended at *Annexure A*.
-

BACKGROUND

A monthly status report of Major Projects and Current Works within Parkes Shire Council's Infrastructure and Strategic Futures directorate is tabled to keep Council abreast of projects being undertaken across the Parkes Shire.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

This report presents an update on the current major projects within the Parkes Shire being managed or undertaken by Council's Infrastructure and Strategic Futures Department. The report outlines work that has been carried out over the past month and is provided for the information of Councillors. The Major Projects and Current Works Report is appended at *Annexure A*.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

There are no legislative or policy considerations for Council associated with this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Projects have been allocated funding either from grants or Council funds as provided in the 2025/2026 Operational Budget.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

The Project risk status is indicated by the RAG (Red, Amber, Green) indicators as shown against each project in the report.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Each project may have its own requirements for community consultation or notification in relation to the delivery of the project works.

CONCLUSION

The Major Projects and Current Works Report, appended at *Annexure A*, provides Council with a briefing on major projects and works underway within the organisation's Infrastructure and Strategic Futures directorate. It is recommended that Council formally resolve to receive and note the report.



New Eugowra Road Pump Station and Akuna Road Pump Station Packages (RRP-002)

Due Date	Approved Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete
31/12/2026	\$15,792,518	\$657,840.95	\$1,930,666.81	\$12,473,097	\$15,792,518
Akuna Road Pump Station	\$6,904,057	\$355,203.65	\$876,845	\$5,551,194	\$7,264,304.95
New Eugowra Road Pump Station	\$7,644,403	\$281,357.16	\$878,795	\$6,912,923	\$8,243,315.55
Akuna Road Pump Station Solar System	\$284,897.50	\$16,500	\$83,458	\$8,980	\$284,897.50
Staff costs	NA	\$4780.14	\$8110.81	NA	NA

- Staff costs are shown as separate as they are not part of the funding agreement, but to ensure the actual project costs are known they are listed (note this is from 01/09/2025)

Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)					
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risk	Benefits

Project Details

The Project Implementation Phase of Parkes Shire Council's, Parkes Water Security Program Package 2A - Regional Recovery Partnership is progressing, the scope of works includes:

- Akuna Road Pump Station
- New Eugowra Road Pump Station
- Akuna Road Pump Station Solar System
- Akuna road high voltage
- New Eugowra road high voltage package

Task Completed – Please update

- HV Tender process completed and preferred contractor engaged
- Pump Station Tender process completed and preferred contractor engaged
- Concept designs completed.
- Preliminary environmental assessments completed.
- No NWG funding is now required for the RRP project.
- Gap analysis completed on the GHD Detail Designs to be able to progress the project.
- Action Plan developed to uplift the current Detail Design to IFT / IFC.
- DGP Water has been engaged to uplift the current designs to IFT / IFC, this uplift is now completed
- Roadmaps have been refreshed for the Environmental & Planning Approvals and Access / Construction Easement Acquisitions.
- Capital Intensity process completed, including a Level 3 budget estimate review, Minimum Via Capital Cost (MVCC) process, and CAPEX planning.

Infrastructure & Sustainability
Major Projects & Current Works – April 2026



- Minor Works Review of Environmental Factors (MW REFs) based on updated designs and funding arrangements.
- Activity 7 Milestone actions.
- Design for pump station completed
- Design for the Akuna Road solar and Akuna Road & New Eugowra Road pump station high voltage (HV) complete. However, Essential Energy approval still pending for HV.
- Project Control Group (PCG) meeting with Stakeholders being completed quarterly
- Milestone Activity 8 complete
- Voltage regulator for New Eugowra Road pump station procured
- Site mobilisation completed for both ARPS and NERPS
- Milestone 9 complete

Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)

- **Solar contract to be executed**
- **Bulk earthworks at NERPS ongoing**
- **Milestone 10**
- **Slab pour at ARPS**
- **Start of pump station building**

Progress Photos

Top view of the earthworks at the NERPS





Earthworks at the ARPS



Footing for the slab at the ARPS



Infrastructure & Sustainability
Major Projects & Current Works – April 2026

Safe & Secure - Water Security Project – Please update

Due Date	Approved Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete
15/12/2027	\$39,170,000	\$17,542	\$2,813,594	\$175,404	\$61,266,245*
Eugowra Road Pump Station Pipeline	Current \$29,223,838 To be reviewed	\$16,057	\$2,186,484	\$175,404	Current \$29,223,838 To be reviewed
Akuna Road Pump Station Pipeline	Current \$6,286,713 To be reviewed	\$1,485	\$566,814	\$0	Current \$6,286,713 To be reviewed
New Eugowra Road Pump Station Solar	Current \$2,759,430 To be reviewed	\$0	\$60,296	\$0	Current \$2,759,430 To be reviewed

Project Status (RAG - Report):

Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)

Scope

Budget

Schedule

Resources

Risks

Benefits

Project Details

The Project Implementation Phase of Parkes Shire Council's, Parkes Water Security Program is progressing with the support of the SSWP426 Funding.

The scope of works includes:

- The 35km pipeline duplication from the New Eugowra Road Pump Station (NERPS) to the Raw Water Storage Lagoon (RWSL), capacity was determined at 400L/s in the 2023 IWCM.

Task Completed

- **Procurement strategy and schedule have been updated and submitted to the grant body for information**
- **Design resource has been locked in to progress the design to IFT (issued for tender)**
- Survey has been completed from the LRP to the RWSL.
- Progressing an Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) / Request for Information (RFI) process to better understand market status.
- Letters sent to Landowners providing project update.
- Specific communication with residents and landowners to address any specific enquiries and interests.
- Responses to NWG RFIs have been completed.
- Gap analysis completed on the GHD Detail Designs to be able to progress the project.
- Action Plan developed to uplift the current Detail Design to IFT / IFC.
- Roadmaps have been refreshed for the Environmental & Planning Approvals and Access / Construction Easement Acquisitions.
- Capital Intensity completed, including a Level 3 budget estimate review, Minimum Via Capital Cost (MVCC) process, and CAPEX planning.
- Request for Quotes to further the design to Issue for Tender (IFT) out to market. End date by 15th Nov, 2026
- Review of deed, milestones and key dates

Infrastructure & Sustainability
Major Projects & Current Works – April 2026



Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)

- **Engagement with mines and other stakeholders like NWG ongoing to make sure the project can be funded.**
- **Estimate of the budget required for the complete package to be revisited**
- Review of deed, milestones and key dates
- Work on procurement of material to be undertaken simultaneously with the design. This is for the pipeline between Eugowra Rd Pump Station to Akuna Rd Pump Station and Akuna Rd Pump Station to water treatment plant (WTP).
- Critical review of the budget to be done before the procurement of material.

Progress Photos

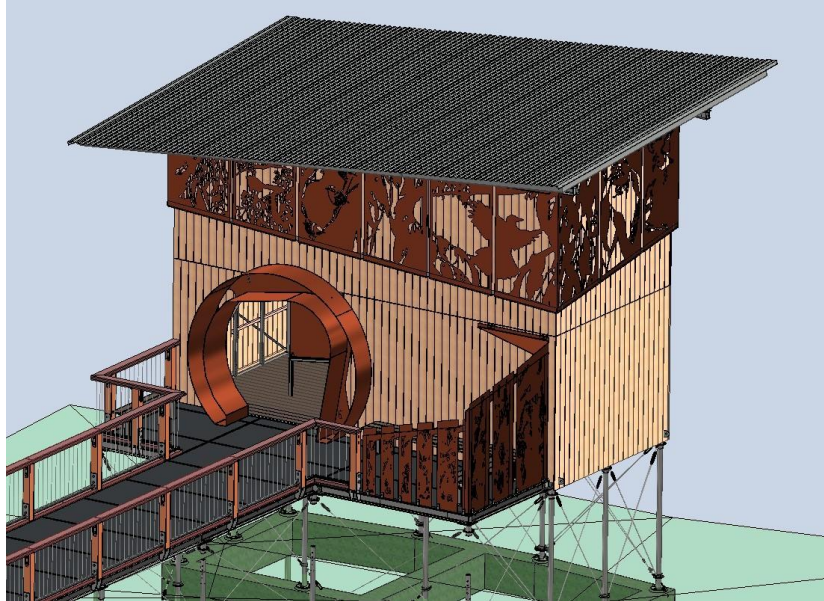
Nil

Infrastructure & Sustainability
 Major Projects & Current Works – April 2026

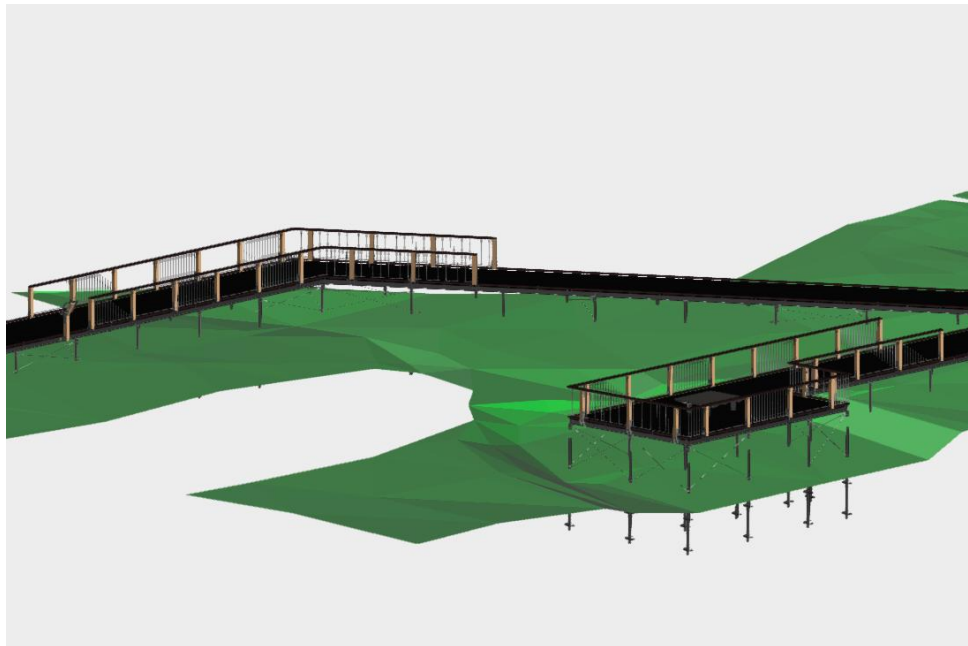

Boardwalks and Bird Hides: Elevating Parkes Wetlands						
Due Date	Approved Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete	
31/01/2027	\$1,887,476	\$142,927.5	\$290,921.58	\$884,836.29	\$1,887,476	
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)					
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks	Benefits
Project Details						
<p>This project will activate Parkes Wetlands into a vital ecological site that will also provide a new recreational and tourism offering for the Parkes community. This project will further allow the wetlands to support native wildlife, provide infrastructure for residents and visitors to enjoy the space, support local/regional/global biodiversity, and increase liveability of the region. By transforming the site into an immersive, multipurpose aquatic space, Parkes Wetlands will be ideal for birdwatching, active and passive recreation, outdoor education, citizen science, and conservation research.</p> <p>Key deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction and installation of two double-story bird-hides and an aquatic boardwalk • Habitat creation including revegetation and nesting box installation • Design and installation of interpretive signage around the wetlands • Commissioning and installation of sculptural public artwork. 						
Tasks Completed						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary site works for boardwalks and bird hides • Begin fabrication and installation of boardwalk and bird hides • Wetlands naming report drafted for Road and Place Naming Committee Meeting 						
Tasks forecast to be completed						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with artists to progress artwork installations • Develop content and artwork/imagery for interpretive signage • Preliminary works for 2026 revegetation activities 						



Progress Photos



Infrastructure & Sustainability
Major Projects & Current Works – April 2026



Infrastructure & Sustainability
 Major Projects & Current Works – April 2026


Pump Station Solar Photo Voltaic Systems (CEUF)						
Due Date	Approved Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete	
30/10/2026	\$3,510,200	\$50.72	\$2436.63	\$95,455	\$3,510,200	
Staff Cost		\$2412.91	\$3154.69	NA	NA	
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)					
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks	Benefits
Project Details						
<p>The solar photovoltaic installation at two of the large raw water pump stations to provide energy offset, will result in substantial savings and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, along with operational flexibility. Council transfers water over 35km from neighbouring LGA Forbes. This pumping is energy intensive and comes at a considerable financial cost, with significant emissions.</p> <p>In 2023 the power cost for these two sites alone was a staggering \$1.4m with a load of 914tonnes of CO2-e. This will be reduced to less than 50 with this project.</p> <p>This offset is considerable and is the largest source of power cost for Council. All ratepayers will benefit with a reduction in cost for their local council as well as the enormous savings for the environment with the reduction in emissions.</p> <p>The proposed solar installations will compliment other water security projects, including the new 20ML raw water storage lagoon. Water will be transferred into Parkes during the day using solar power, for storage within the new lagoon. This will then gravity flow to the existing water treatment facility for treatment using the existing solar power at the site.</p>						
Tasks Completed						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget review of the project is ongoing • Rehashing of the PV system on going • Funding deed signed and returned • Identify resource for design • Business Case to be progressed for project setup • Completion of Design • Completion of strategy for all the solar assets (existing and new) • Contract document received from lawyers • Specification received from the designer • Scope for the pad finalised 						
Tasks forecast to be completed						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish Tender • Evaluation of tender • Award Construction Tender • Completion of design • Procurement for the construction of the pad • Publish Tender for PV panels construction and design 						
Progress Photos						
Nil						

Infrastructure & Sustainability
 Major Projects & Current Works – April 2026


Western Parkes Sewer Augmentation						
Due Date	Approved Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete	
27/11/2025	\$1,650,000	\$0	\$916,981	\$688,703	\$1,800,000*	
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)					
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks	Benefits
Project Details						
<p>The project is to install sewer mains from the intersection of Hartigan Ave and Hooley st to the carrier main at Austral Street.</p> <p>The pipeline will cross railway track and TfNSW road.</p> <p>The project will relieve choked areas of existing sewer network and provide safe and sustainable sewage disposal to SAP.</p>						
Tasks Completed						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IFC design (90%) Completed • Technical Specification completed • Finalised CEMP • REF/ CEMP completed • Geotechnical Investigation Report completed • Tender has been awarded to Chiverton PL • Survey inside the rail corridor completed • Mobilisation 1st week of November • Prelim works 1st week of Nov • Letter drop and Facebook organised • Construction 70% complete • Work planned to be completed by March 2026 • Approval for underboring across the railway track • 80% work completed • 50% work completed • Contractor mobilized 						
Tasks forecast to be completed						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction completion • Handover 						
Progress Photos						
Nil						

Infrastructure & Sustainability
Major Projects & Current Works – April 2026


Lake Endeavour Pipeline and Lake Metcalfe Rehabilitation Project					
Due Date	Approved Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete
31/05/2028	\$22,900,000	\$2159.09	\$6901	\$66,373	\$26,122,875
Packages within the Project					
Lake Endeavour Pipeline	\$12,234,000	\$0	\$6901	\$66,373	\$15,456,875
Lake Metcalfe Rehabilitation	\$10,666,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,666,000
Staff Cost		\$2159.09	\$2838.56	NA	NA
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)				
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
Project Details					
<p>The Parkes Shire Council Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) Strategy identified future water demands impacts from proposed development of the Special Activation Precinct to the west of town, mining, and other residential and commercial growth could not be supplied by the existing pipeline infrastructure. Analysis of the future demands lead to defining the optimum sizing of the Lachlan pipeline duplication and associated pumping infrastructure.</p> <p>IWCM had identified both Lake Endeavour and Lake Metcalfe as a source when establishing the volume of water production under the sources for water.</p> <p>And, as of 2022 floods, Lake Endeavour pipeline was washed away hence making that source redundant. Also, severe structural risk rose after the flood at Lake Metcalfe which could cause the risk of catastrophic failure.</p> <p>This project aims to fix the issues above and enable the delivery of a secure water supply to residents and businesses at present and into the future.</p>					
Tasks Completed					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental walk through complete • Scope for design of the pipework • Resources for REF finalised • Project Schedule Submitted • Procurement Plan Drafted • Financials submitted • Deed Executed • Scope for the design of Lake Metcalfe complete • All the docs to be submitted to RA • Access track route finalized • Design resource for Lake Endeavour Complete 					
Tasks forecast to be completed					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design development of Lake Endeavour Pipeline • Finalise REF • Geotech of the area • Procurement for design resource for Lake Metcalfe • Prelim design complete 					
Progress Photos					
Nil					

17 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR OPERATIONS

17.1 MAJOR PROJECTS AND CURRENT WORKS - OPERATIONS - APRIL 2026

IP&R Linkage: **Pillar:** Leadership

Goal: Our Local Government is open, accountable and representative.

Strategy: Effectively collaborate, engage, and communicate with our community to inform decision making and promote services, projects and initiatives.

Author: **Sue McGrath, Business Support Coordinator**

Authoriser: **Michael O'Shannessy, Acting Director Operations**

Annexures: **A. Operations - Major Projects and Current Works - April 2026** [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Operations Major Projects and Current Works Report for April 2026, appended at *Annexure A*.

BACKGROUND

A monthly status report of Major Projects and Current Works within Parkes Shire Council's Operations Department is tabled to keep Council abreast of projects being undertaken across the Parkes Shire.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

This report presents an update on the current major projects within the Parkes Shire being managed or undertaken by Council's Operations Department. The report outlines work that has been carried out over the past month and is provided for the information of Councillors.

The Major Projects and Current Works Report is appended at *Annexure A*.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

There are no legislative or policy considerations for Council associated with this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Projects have been allocated funding either from grants or Council funds as provided in the 2025/2026 Operational Budget.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

The Project risk status is indicated by the RAG (Red, Amber, Green) indicators as shown against each project in the report.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Each project may have its own requirements for community consultation or notification in relation to the delivery of the project works.

CONCLUSION

The Major Projects and Current Works Report, appended at *Annexure A*, provides Council with a briefing on major projects and works underway within the organisation's Operations Department. It is recommended that Council formally resolve to receive and note the report.

Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – April 2026


Project # 500095

Budget as at: 12 May 2026

Peak Hill Baldry Road – Stage 2					
Due Date	Original Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete
December 2026	\$10,680,000	\$51,791	\$3,669,405	\$16,534	\$10,680,000
RAG (Red Amber Green)					
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)				
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
Description of the Project					
<p>The project involves widening and overlay of the existing unsealed pavement with bitumen sealing and improvements of longitudinal and cross drainage upgrades and other road safety related issues for approx. This is the next stage of the total project out of the original 15km we have 10.5km length remaining to provide access for Higher Productivity Vehicles.</p>					
Task Completed					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constructed Stage 1 Resubmission of detailed design, allowing causeways and a 80km/hr. Road Corridor REF is completed IFC drawings completed for Stage 2 and Stage 3. 					
Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction to start in May 2026 for Stage 2 Tree clearing as per the REF 					
Progress Photos					
Nil					

Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – April 2026


Project # 600142

Budget as at: 12 May 2026

Realignment and New Bridge at Graddle Creek, The McGrane Way					
Due Date	Approved Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete
December 2026	\$8,143,655	\$491,664	\$1,239,811	\$4,465,959.95	\$8,143,655
Red / Amber / Green (RAG)					
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)				
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
Description of the Project					
<p>The works include construction of a bridge with a length of 45m with a width of 9m. The bridge will be constructed of prefabricated concrete sections to be assembled on site.</p> <p>The bridge will remove the need to cross the creek on a low-level causeway. Road realignment on either side of the bridge will eliminate issues currently caused by the tight dog-leg turn where the crossing is currently located. Unbound granular pavement DGB 20 with 7/14mm seal will be laid 455m to the west of the bridge and 1420m to the east of the bridge. Road width will be 8.5m. AC 14 will be laid for approaches to the bridge. Bridge construction and road realignment confirmed to Australian roads guide and to bridge technology standards.</p>					
Task Completed (last month)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of piers Plank manufacture Construction of Abutments Installation of Planks 					
Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalisation of land acquisition Construction/pouring of Deck slab Construction of road and bridge approaches (currently underway) 					



Progress Photos



Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – April 2026


Project # 600277

Budget as at: 12 May 2026

New Facility for NSW SES Parkes Unit					
Due Date	Approved Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete
April 2026	\$4,810,530	\$0	3,011,559	\$925,666	\$4,810,530
Red / Amber / Green (RAG)					
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)				
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
Description of the Project					
<p>The existing SES facility in Parkes, situated on the corner of Clarke and Alluvial streets is outdated, undersized for today's demands on the services and was also flood affected in recent natural disasters. The new proposed facility to be situated at lot 4 Boyd Circuit, Parkes will provide the SES the required headquarters to respond to any natural disasters in a timely manner</p>					
Task Completed					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All final works completed 					
Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handover SES IT fit out 					
Progress Photos					

Operations
Major Project & Current Works – April 2026



Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – April 2026


Project # 600229

Budget as at: 12 May 2026

Enabling Infrastructure for New Housing Development - Stage 1 Rose Street Parkes					
Due Date	Approved Budget	Expenditure This Month	Total Expenditure To Date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated Total When Works Complete
Dec 2025	\$3,723,545	\$296,659.59	\$1,452,847.57	\$1,889,402.44	\$3,723,545
Red / Amber / Green (RAG)					
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)				
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
Description of the Project					
Stage 1 Current Project (Lots 12-15 and 26-30)					
Deliver 9 lots on the with the existing infrastructure in the area along the frontages of rose street and Ainsworth Street					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain DA mod for stage 1 of the subdivision (lots 12-15 and 26-30) Complete detailed design and obtain subdivision works certificate Construct the OSD for the full subdivision if funding permits Upgrade any sewer or potable water to services for the all the lots Construct other utilities required e.g. power, lighting, NBN and inter-allotment drainage for stage 1 Construct other retaining walls/ swales in future stages to direct flows to the OSD Construct footpaths and landscaping in accordance with urban design plan 					
Stage 2 – Future Works (Lots 1-11 and 16-21)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct the new roads and infrastructure Construct remaining utilities to service the lots e.g. power, lighting, sewer, water, NBN and inter-allotment drainage Construct remaining retaining walls for stage 2 Earthworks for remaining lots Footpaths and landscaping 					
Task Completed (Last Month)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue sewer line works Pour all retaining wall footings Mobilise and commence retaining walls Rose street closure approvals to allow sewer and stormwater crossings 					
Tasks Forecast To Be Completed (Next Steps: 1-3 Months)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete sewer pipework and connections Complete retaining wall installation Complete stormwater pipework Commence power upgrade and NBN works Commence placement of topsoil and site leveling 					



Progress Photos





Operations
Major Project & Current Works – April 2026

Project # 600461
Budget as of 12 May 2026

Final - Cheney Oval Lighting – Parkes Junior Rugby League

Due Date	Original Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete
April 2027	\$285,850	\$84,161	\$211,100	\$110.45	\$298,261

RAG (Red Amber Green)

Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)					
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks	Benefits

Description of the Project

Parkes Marist Junior Rugby League were successful in obtaining a Club grant Category 3 – Infrastructure Grants Program for the upgrade of the Cheney Oval sportsground lighting.

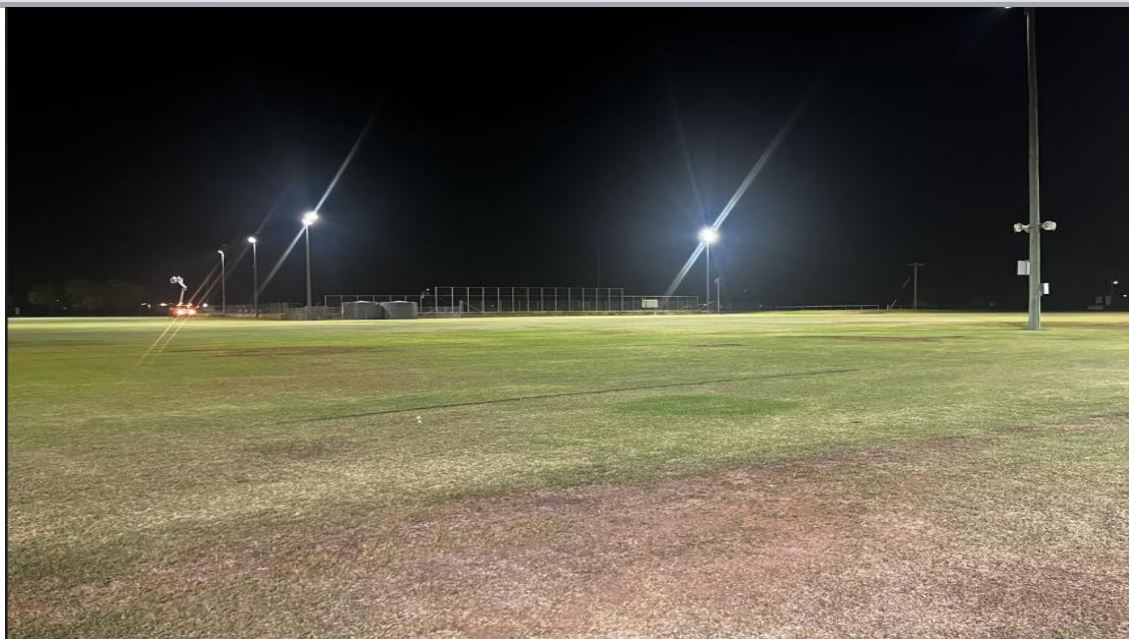
Task Completed

- Adjustment of Stage 1 lighting to comply with 100 LUX coverage
- Stage 2 remove metal halide lights
- Stage 2 Supply & fit LED Opti-vision lights
- Install of posts Nth End fields

Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)

-

Progress Photos



Operations
Major Project & Current Works – April 2026



Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – April 2026


Project # 600443

Budget as at: 12 May 2026

2024 Community Assets Program – Berryman Oval Flood Repair					
Due Date	Original Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete
June 2026	\$636,300	\$85,900	\$414,719	\$7,021	\$636,300
RAG (Red Amber Green)					
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)				
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
Description of the Project					
<p>The project involves a series of coordinated upgrades at Berryman Oval, including improvements to the car park, rehabilitation of the tennis courts, and construction of a new pool pump shed. Works will begin with site investigations, detailed surveys, and design development for the car park, followed by the removal of redundant basketball hoops. The tennis courts will be fully renewed through demolition of the existing surface and fencing, installation of a new playing surface, line marking, hardware installation, and new perimeter fencing. Subsequent stages will deliver civil construction of the car park, completing the base layer, stabilisation, and final bitumen sealing, alongside major upgrades to the pool pump shed, including service relocations, demolition, earthworks, subterranean pipework, slab construction, and commencement of the new shed structure. Final works will complete the shed build and internal fit-out, commission the pool pump system, and finish site rehabilitation. The project concludes with full completion of the car park, including line marking, wheel stops, signage installation, and final tidy-up, ensuring the facility is safe, functional, and fit for community use.</p>					
Task Completed					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concrete beams around fence Construction of Tennis Courts 3 metre chain wire fencing and gates Basketball/Netball sleeves installed Tennis posts sleeves installed Synthetic turf on tennis and multicourts including lines Basketball/Netball towers installed Tennis posts and nets installed Rehab to surrounds 					
Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detail design for carpark Detail design for pump shed Construction of carpark Surface shaping for stormwater 					
Progress Photos					

Operations
Major Project & Current Works – April 2026



Operations
Major Project & Current Works – April 2026



Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – April 2026


Project # 600444

Budget as at: 12 May 2026

2024 Community Assets Program – Bushman’s Dam Flood Repair, Parkes					
Due Date	Original Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete
June 2027	\$668,252	\$0	\$7,496	0	\$668,252
RAG (Red Amber Green)					
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)				
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
Description of the Project					
<p>The project involves bank stabilisation and reconstruction of the existing wall to improve structural integrity and long-term resilience of the site. Works will include targeted vegetation removal and dredging to restore hydraulic capacity and improve flow efficiency. These measures are intended to protect downstream assets, including the town’s main street from future flood impacts.</p>					
Task Completed					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preliminary Flood analysis Public consultation to be finalised on the 24 March 2025 Detail survey, survey and design completed 80% design completed 					
Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalisation of detailed design documentation and constructability reviews Completion of updated BOQ, revised cost estimate, and procurement documentation Refinement of excavation, spillway, and batter stabilisation design requirements Investigation and confirmation of pump, fountain, and existing service requirements Completion of REF updates and environmental management requirements Coordination of landscaping, fencing, heritage, and public interface requirements 					
Progress Photos					
Nil					

Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – April 2026


Project # 600442

Budget as at: 12 May 2026

2024 Community Assets Program – PAC Park Flood Repair, Parkes					
Due Date	Original Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete
June 2026	\$701,545	\$45,553	\$122,685.44	\$106,774.28	\$701,545
RAG (Red Amber Green)					
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)				
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
Description of the Project					
The repair to flood damaged in PAC Park will include stabilization of the damaged creek banks, removal and replacement of 2 pedestrian foot bridges and a damaged footpath. Works will be completed to ensure the park is safe for public use and connecting infrastructure.					
Task Completed					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority of park reopened to the public Restore creek banks and grind stumps 					
Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete design review of 2 new bridges Fabrication of bridges Bridge installation Installation of concrete foot paths 					

Operations
Major Project & Current Works – April 2026



Progress Photos



Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – April 2026


Project # 600194

Budget as at: 12 May 2026

Access Upgrades to Mugincoble Silos					
Due Date	Original Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete
November 2026	\$4,800,000	\$1,714	\$76,520	\$4,068	\$3,840,000
RAG (Red Amber Green)					
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)				
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
Description of the Project					
<p>This project will realign the existing Eugowra Road by offsetting the access road to the Mugincoble Silos, approximately 55 metres east. Detailed description including the scope, what will be delivered, key benefits, stakeholders, etc.</p>					
Task Completed					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreement for acquisition of land with affected landowners Boundaries marked out by surveyor 					
Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of Geotech investigation and report (upon completion of design) Removal of trees in preparation for fencing of new boundaries Completion of design. Commence Construction 					
Progress Photos					
Nil					

Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – April 2026


Project # 600153, 600506

Budget as at: 12 May 2026

AGRN 1034 - Storm Damage Essential Public Asset Restoration (EPAR)					
Due Date	Original Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete
June 2028	\$8,959,024	\$96,719	\$5,817,401	\$57,835	\$8,959,024
RAG (Red Amber Green)					
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)				
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
Description of the Project					
<p>The AGRN 1034 Project in Parkes comprises eight approved recovery packages focused on addressing the impacts of the September 2022 flood event and supporting the community's ongoing relief, recovery and resilience needs. This scope covers a range of reconstruction, rehabilitation and enhancement projects for council and community infrastructure that was damaged by the flooding and is not otherwise reimbursable under standard DRFA essential public asset programs. Works include restoration and improvement of flood-impacted assets, hazard mitigation measures to strengthen future flood resilience, and community initiatives that support social, economic and environmental recovery. All packages are being delivered within the approved program timeframe and align with the overarching objectives of facilitating recovery and promoting disaster resilience for the Parkes local government area</p>					
Task Completed					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Package 1 works completed and acquitted Damage assessments, scoping and cost validation completed for Packages 2–7 Hydrology & Hydraulic Investigation RFQ for Adavale Lane Causeway has been awarded 					
Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amelia Field Bridge Tender finalised Ongoing scheduling of works in accordance to the works program Fisheries permits are being applied for, for all the scour and waterworks to be completed 					
Progress Photos					
NIL					



Operations
Major Project & Current Works – April 2026

Project # 600477
Budget as at: 12 May 2026

Regional Transport Resilience Fund (RTRF) - Trundle to Parkes Flood Resilience

Due Date	Original Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete
June 2027	\$5,650,000	\$31,349	\$209,009	\$95,192	\$5,650,000

RAG (Red Amber Green)

Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)					
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks	Benefits

Description of the Project

This project delivers resilience upgrades on the Trundle to Parkes corridor, including replacement/upgrade of crossings to improve flood immunity and maintain access during major rainfall events. The approved scope includes a bridge on Middle Trundle Road, culvert works on The Bogan Way (varied scope), and seven (7) culvert/causeway upgrades on Middle Trundle Road.

Task Completed

- Milestone 3 – Photos of commencement provided to funding body
- Causeway at location 2 has been completed
- Engagement of Rhelm for hydraulic modelling
- Detail survey completed at Causeway location 01,02,03, 04 and bridge location

Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)

- Scope variation due to flood study findings
- Start Construction on Causeway 01
- Start Construction on Causeway 07

Progress Photos



Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – April 2026


Project # 600477

Budget as at: 12 May 2026

Regional Transport Resilience Fund (RTRF) – Parkes Causeway Improvement Program					
Due Date	Original Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete
June 2027	\$1,350,000	\$545	\$4,769	\$41,795	\$1,350,000
RAG (Red Amber Green)					
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)				
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
Description of the Project					
Upgrade culverts and causeways at the following locations: 1. Bruie Plains Road - GPS -32.808735 147.84851 2. Brolgan Road - GPS -33.143646 148.021191 3. Dwyers Road - GPS -32.963669 148.290755					
Task Completed					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Milestone 3 commencement of works submitted to funding body Engagement of Rhelm for the hydrology and hydraulic assessment 					
Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results return from Rhelm for the hydrology and hydraulic assessment for Bruie and Dwyers causeways Construction starting March Tenders to be sent for both Bruie Plains Road and Dwyers Road 					
Progress Photos					
Nil					

Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – April 2026

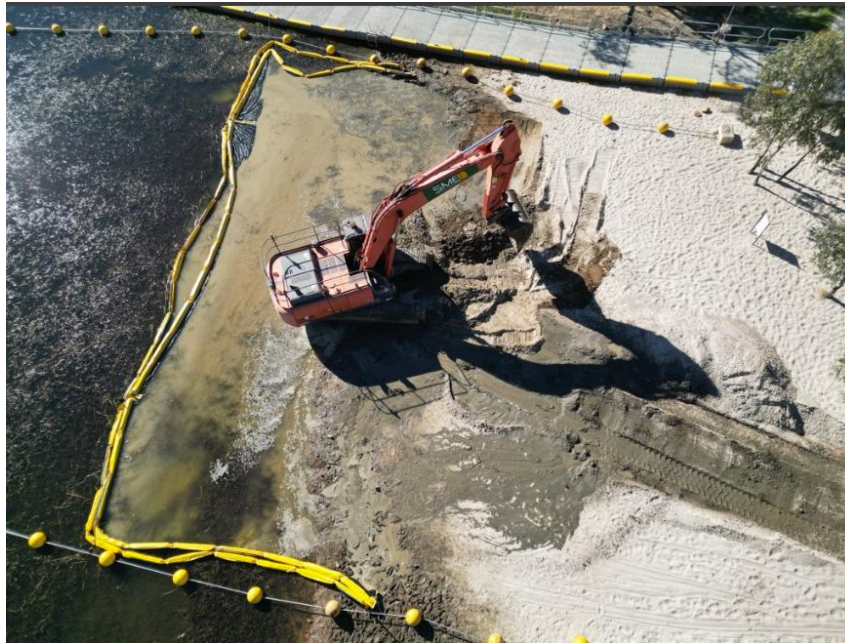

Project # 9003853

Budget as at: 12 May 2026

Dredging at Lake Endeavour					
Due Date	Original Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete
May 2026	\$185,700	\$20,245	\$38,470	\$92,435	\$185,700
RAG (Red Amber Green)					
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)				
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
Description of the Project					
<p>The project scope remains aligned with the approved funding deed and includes dredging works within the lake channel and construction of an access track. No variations to the approved scope are currently proposed.</p> <p>Additional works were completed within the swimming area, including placement of sand within the designated swimming zone and ballast within the dredged channel area. Gravel will also be placed along the access track, with construction of a turnaround bay to allow the Dragon Boat Club and other user groups to safely manoeuvre and reverse into the designated launching area.</p> <p>Associated signage requirements are currently under review to ensure appropriate safety and risk management measures are implemented</p>					
Task Completed					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept sketch completed • Site meeting scheduled with contractor engaged through Plant and Equipment hire • Set the concept design through to the Dragon Boat President to start conversation • REF has been finalised • Finalise application of Fishers permit • Detail design presented to stakeholders • Dredging of area as designed and discussed with stakeholders • Swimming area was cleaned as an additional • Sand was refilled in the swimming area 					
Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of the sediment that was cleaned out • Gravel placed on the access road and turning area • Close out the project paperwork 					



Progress Photos



Operations
Major Project & Current Works – April 2026



17.2 TEMPORARY CLOSURE PROPOSAL – TRUNDLE VILLAGE POOL 2026/27 SEASON AND PLANT ROOM REFURBISHMENT WORKS**IP&R Linkage:** Pillar: Community**Goal:** Our community is safe, active and healthy.**Strategy:** Enhance recreation and culture, provide sport, recreation and play space facilities that encourage participation, connection and support for healthy and wellbeing lifestyles.**Author:** Sue McGrath, Business Support Coordinator**Authoriser:** Logan Hignett, General Manager (Acting)**Annexures:** Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council continues planning for the Trundle Village Pool to operate during the 2026/27 swimming season, utilises Council reserves as the additional funding source to address the forecast project budget shortfall associated with the plant room refurbishment works, and requests a further report to Council once the procurement process is complete and the budget shortfall has been appropriately quantified.

BACKGROUND

Council is progressing planning for the refurbishment of the Trundle Village Pool plant room. The works are intended to address asset condition and ensure the ongoing safe and reliable operation of the facility.

Village pools ordinarily open in November each year. To maintain normal seasonal operations for the 2026/27 swimming season, the plant room refurbishment works would need to be completed by approximately October 2026 to allow sufficient time for commissioning, preparation, and handover prior to opening.

During the end-of-season presentation provided by Council's pool contractor, a temporary closure of the Trundle Village Pool for the 2026/27 season was raised as one potential option to manage construction timing and funding pressures associated with the project.

This report has been prepared to brief Council on that option and to seek direction on whether Council wishes to further investigate or consult the community on a temporary closure scenario or alternatively proceed on the basis that the pool will remain operational for the 2026/27 season..

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The proposed plant room refurbishment works are required to be delivered within a relatively constrained timeframe to avoid impacting the 2026/27 swimming season. Completing the works prior to October 2026 would allow for commissioning and operational readiness ahead of the usual November opening.

Delivering the works while maintaining normal seasonal operations may increase delivery pressure and limit flexibility in construction sequencing, particularly if unforeseen issues arise during the refurbishment process.

Temporary Closure Option

One option raised during discussions with the pool contractor is the temporary closure of the Trundle Village Pool for the 2026/27 swimming season. Subject to agreement with the contractor, this may reduce delivery pressure during the construction period and provide greater flexibility in scheduling the works.

It has also been identified that, if the pool were closed for the season, the estimated Trundle Village Pool contract management fee of \$126,753 (subject to CPI adjustment) may potentially be redirected towards addressing the forecast budget shortfall for the plant room refurbishment works.

This option is presented for Council's awareness and direction only. It is not currently identified by officers as the preferred course of action.

Community Impact Considerations

The Trundle Village Pool is an important community facility, particularly during the summer months. Any proposal to temporarily close the pool, even for a single season, would likely be of significant interest and concern to the Trundle community.

Given the potential sensitivity of the issue, it is appropriate for Council to first determine whether there is appetite to test this option with the community before any public discussion or consultation is undertaken.

Alternative Approach – Maintain Seasonal Operations

If Council does not wish to pursue the temporary closure option, the alternative approach would be to continue planning for the Trundle Village Pool to open as usual for the 2026/27 season. Under this scenario, officers would focus on identifying additional funding to meet the forecast project budget shortfall while maintaining normal pool operations where practicable.

Potential funding options may include consideration of Council reserves, budget adjustments, or other available funding sources. This approach would avoid creating unnecessary community concern regarding a closure option that Council may have no intention of pursuing and would allow officers to focus on the preferred delivery pathway.

Key Decision for Council

The key issue for Council at this stage is not whether to close the Trundle Village Pool, but whether Council wishes to further investigate and consult the community on a temporary closure option, or instead proceed directly to identifying the additional funding required to keep the facility operational for the 2026/27 swimming season.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

The following legislation and policy framework is relevant to this report:

- *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*
- Council's adopted Long Term Financial Plan and annual Operational Plan
- Council's Asset Management Planning framework

This report has been drafted using artificial intelligence tools to assist with structure and clarity. The content has been reviewed, verified, and approved by a Council officer prior to submission.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Trundle Village Pool plant room refurbishment works are forecast to have a budget shortfall that will require additional funding to be identified.

If Council were to investigate a temporary closure of the pool for the 2026/27 season, there may be an opportunity, subject to contractual arrangements, to redirect the estimated Trundle Village Pool contract management fee of \$126,753 (subject to CPI adjustment and contractor agreement) towards the refurbishment works.

If Council does not wish to pursue a temporary closure option, alternative funding sources would need to be identified to meet the forecast project budget shortfall. These may include Council reserves, budget adjustments, or other funding mechanisms.

No financial commitment arises from this report unless Council directs officers to pursue a specific option.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Temporary closure of the Trundle Village Pool may result in reduced access to aquatic facilities for the community during the 2026/27 season, with potential impacts on recreation, wellbeing, and community satisfaction.

Raising the possibility of a pool closure without clear Council intent may create unnecessary community concern or reputational impact. This risk can be mitigated by ensuring Council direction is obtained before any community engagement occurs.

Proceeding with refurbishment works while maintaining seasonal operations may increase delivery complexity and scheduling risk. Conversely, a temporary closure may reduce construction risk but introduce service delivery impacts.

If additional funding is not identified, there is a risk that the refurbishment project scope, timing, or quality may be constrained. Clear Council direction will assist in managing this risk.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report.

Should Council resolve to investigate a temporary closure option, appropriate community consultation would be undertaken prior to any decision being made.

17.3 PEAK HILL GOLF CLUB – LEASE PROPOSAL & FEE WAIVER REQUEST (LOTS, 497 AND 499 DP 755113)**IP&R Linkage:** Pillar: Leadership**Goal:** Our Local Government is open, accountable and representative.**Strategy:** Provide open and transparent decision-making and undertake the civic duties of Council with professionalism and integrity.**Author:** Taylah Burt, Business Support Officer**Authoriser:** Michael O'Shannessy, Acting Director Operations**Annexures:**
A. Request from Peak Hill Golf Club Co-Op Ltd for Lease of Lot, 497 and 499 DP 755113 [↓](#)
B. Peak Hill Landing Strip – Current Condition [↓](#)
C. Lots, 497 and 499 DP 755113 – Current State of Land [↓](#)
D. Map of Lots, 497 and 499 DP 755113 [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Approve the granting of a new 5-year lease to Peak Hill Golf Club Co-Op Ltd for Lots 497 and 499 DP 755113 for cropping and land maintenance purposes.
2. Approve a waiver of the annual lease fee of \$267.80 (2026/2027 financial year) in exchange for vegetation clearing and ongoing maintenance of the land by the lessee; and
3. Authorise staff to prepare and execute the necessary lease documentation, including appropriate conditions relating to maintenance standards, compliance, liability, and aviation safety requirements.

BACKGROUND

Peak Hill Golf Club Co-Op Ltd is a former lessee of Lots 497, 499 and DP 755113, which is located adjacent to the Peak Hill Golf Club and includes an operational airstrip area.

The Club has identified that the land is currently experiencing regrowth of trees and boxthorn, which may present a hazard to aircraft operations. Historically, the land has been used for cropping, which assisted in controlling vegetation and maintaining a safer environment around the airstrip.

On 6 May 2026, the Club wrote to Council proposing to enter into a new lease arrangement for Lots, 497 and 499 DP 755113 for a period of five (5) years for cropping purposes. In exchange for the lease, the Club has offered to undertake clearing and ongoing maintenance of regrowth vegetation in lieu of paying lease fees.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Council is being asked to consider a new lease arrangement with Peak Hill Golf Club Co-Op Ltd for Lots, 497 and 499 DP 755113, with the Club proposing to undertake vegetation maintenance in place of the already low lease fees.

The proposal will assist with managing regrowth and reducing potential hazards near the airstrip. Any lease agreement would need conditions to ensure ongoing maintenance and compliance with aviation safety requirements.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

The proposed lease arrangement will need to comply with relevant Council leasing policies and legislative requirements, including the Local Government Act 1993, Crown Lands Management Act 2016 and any applicable aviation safety requirements relating to land adjoining the airstrip.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The annual lease fee for the 2026/2027 financial year would be \$267.80.

The proposal seeks a waiver of this fee in exchange for vegetation clearing and ongoing maintenance of the land. It is considered that the cost to Council to undertake and maintain these works will exceed the annual lease fee amount.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

If vegetation on the site is not maintained, regrowth may continue to create potential hazards for aircraft using the adjacent airstrip.

A lease arrangement with defined maintenance responsibilities may assist in mitigating this risk, subject to compliance with agreed standards.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

No formal community consultation has been undertaken for this proposal.



Peak Hill Golf Club Co-Op Ltd

President: Murray Bragg

Secretary: Tim Bell

Treasurer: Di Hutchins

Email: peakhillgolfclub@gmail.com

06/05 2026

Land lease enquiry

Dear Sharon,

Peak Hill Golf Club is reviewing options for maintenance of the air strip adjacent to the golf course. Lot 499 DP 755113 is the land with the Air Strip in question which has regeneration of trees and boxthorn potentially causing a hazard for aircraft using the strip.

The golf club would like to propose leasing the airstrip lot 499 which adjoins the current leased blocks for cropping purposes. The club proposes a five (5) year lease term and offer the clearing of the regrowth in lieu of lease fees for the term of the lease.

The lot in question was successfully cropped in the past which kept the land adjacent to the airstrip free of potentially noxious weeds and trees posing as hazards for aircraft.

We would appreciate your consideration of the proposal and response in the form of a leasing agreement for the airstrip in question.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact myself or Murray Bragg.

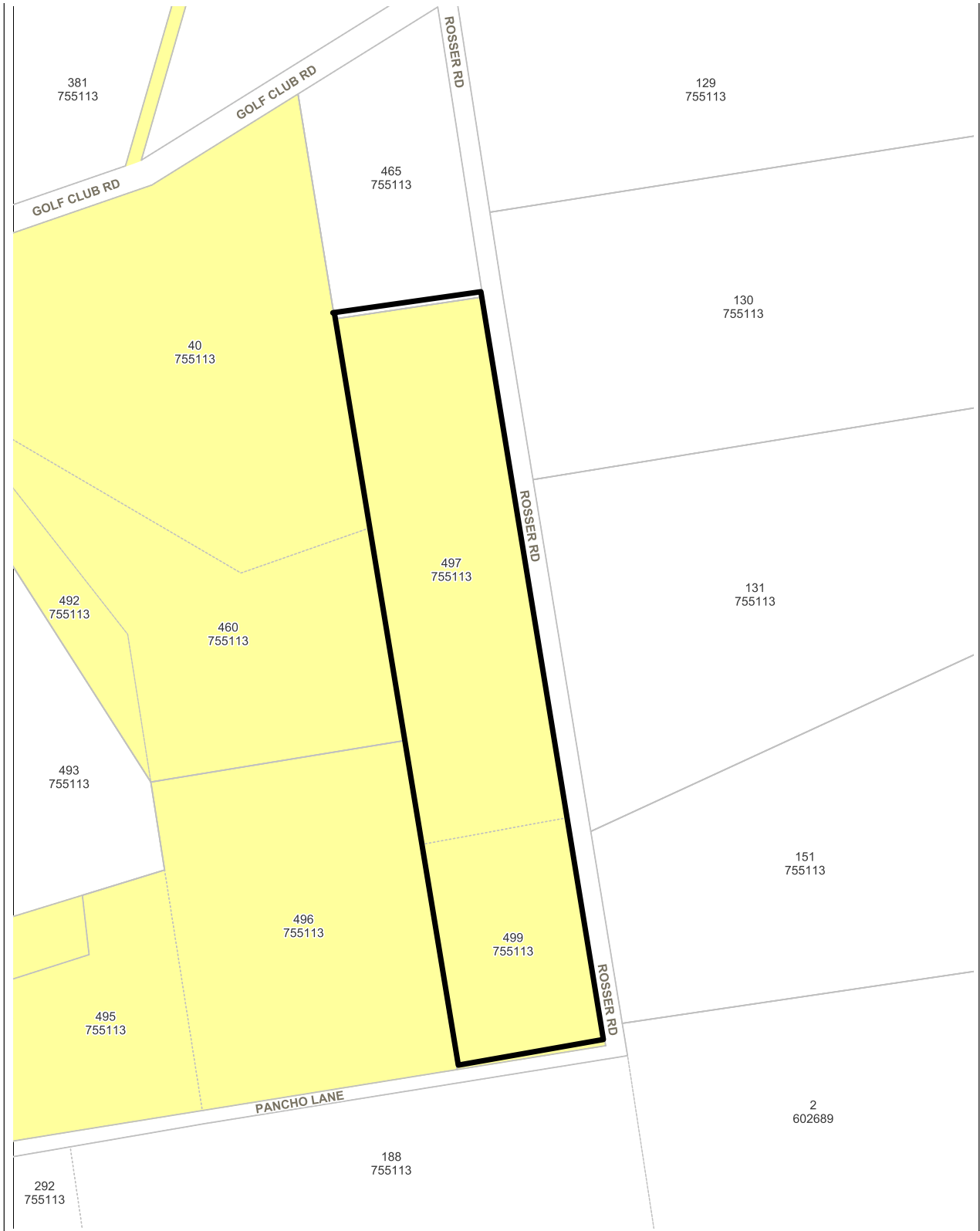
Regards Tim

Tim Bell

Secretary







17.4 PROPOSED CLOSURE OF EXISTING SEALED LAGOON STREET, BOGAN GATE**IP&R Linkage:** **Pillar:** Leadership**Goal:** Our Local Government is open, accountable and representative.**Strategy:** Effectively collaborate, engage, and communicate with our community to inform decision making and promote services, projects and initiatives.**Author:** **Taylah Burt, Business Support Officer****Authoriser:** **Michael O'Shannessy, Acting Director Operations****Annexures:**
A. Map – Lagoon Street, Bogan Gate Road Alignment and Access Arrangements [↓](#)
B. Public Submission – Proposed Closure of Lagoon Street, Bogan Gate [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATION

That council:

1. Notes one submission was received opposing the proposal and the outcome of public consultation.
 2. Proceeds with the permanent closure of the existing sealed Lagoon Street located on private land.
 3. Authorises the removal of signage and installation of fencing to prevent public access.
 4. Notes alternative access will be via Marta Lane off Edols Street.
-

BACKGROUND

Parkes Shire Council has identified that the section of road currently signposted and used as Lagoon Street, Bogan Gate, is situated on private land and does not form part of the legally recognised Lagoon Street Road corridor.

The legal crown road known as Lagoon Street is an unformed road reserve located on a different alignment to the existing sealed road currently used by the public.

Council is therefore proposing to permanently close the existing sealed Lagoon Street.

The proposal includes:

- Complete closure of the existing sealed road to all public access
- Removal of all “Lagoon Street” signage
- Installation of fencing at Lot 16 DP 75095 and Lot 18 DP 752095 to prevent access
- Formalisation of alternative access via Marta Lane off Edols Street

If approved, the existing sealed Lagoon Street will no longer be accessible to the public.

A map was provided during consultation showing:

- Legal unformed crown road alignment (red)
- Existing sealed road on private land (blue)
- Alternative access via Marta Lane (green)

Council also sought feedback on Marta Lane, as it will become the primary access route.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The sealed section of Lagoon Street, Bogan Gate is located on private land and does not align with the legal crown road corridor.

Council has proposed closure of the existing sealed road and formalisation of alternative access via Marta Lane off Edols Street.

Public consultation closed on Tuesday 5 May 2026, with one submission received opposing the proposal and raising concerns about consultation, Crown land status, and potential private benefit. Council notes these concerns and maintains the proposal is to address the road alignment issue while retaining access via Marta Lane.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

The road closure and associated land matters are governed by the *Roads Act 1993 (NSW)*. Council must ensure road reserves are correctly identified, managed, and disposed of in accordance with legislative requirements.

The existing sealed Lagoon Street is located on private land and does not align with the legal Crown Road corridor. The legal Lagoon Street remains a Crown Road reserve but is currently unformed

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications associated with this closure include, but are not limited to fencing, removal of signposts and possible removal of the bitumen seal on the affected private property.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Continued use of the sealed Lagoon Street presents risk as it is located on private land, creating potential liability and uncertainty regarding legal access.

Without formal closure, ongoing confusion regarding access arrangements may persist. The proposed closure and redirection of access via Marta Lane reduces these risks by ensuring access is provided via a recognised and managed road corridor.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Public consultation was undertaken, closing on Tuesday 5 May 2026.

One submission was received opposing the proposal, raising concerns regarding consultation, Crown land status, and potential private benefit. Council notes the feedback received.



- The legal unformed Crown Road alignment is shown in red.
- The existing sealed road located on private land is shown in blue.
- The alternative access route via Marta Lane is shown in green.

COMMS_GENERAL_FB_FORM_2026_4_30_00053

COMMS - GENERAL FEEDBACK - FORM**I. INTRODUCTION**

Parkes Shire Council invites community members to provide feedback on a range of consultations, initiatives, proposals, and other general engagement activities.

Community feedback helps inform Council's decision-making and service delivery by providing valuable insights, ideas and perspectives from residents and stakeholders.

Feedback can be provided using the form below, and unless otherwise stated, feedback may be submitted at any time during the advertised consultation period.

Please note that feedback received may be summarised or referenced in Council reports and publications in accordance with Council's transparency obligations and privacy legislation.

II. CONSULTATION DETAILS**CONSULTATION NAME**

Proposed Road Changes Lagoon Street Bogan Gate.

III. FEEDBACK DETAILS**PROVIDE DETAILS OF THE FEEDBACK**

I strongly oppose the closure of Lagoon St Bogan Gate. No information session regarding this was conveyed to residents. Who is profiting from this? Is it crown land?

FEEDBACK DETAILS PROVIDED ABOVE WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE PARKES SHIRE COUNCIL TEAM:

Operations Department

IV. PRIVACY STATEMENT

Parkes Shire Council is collecting your feedback through this form to inform public decision-making and service improvements.

While the survey does not ask for personal information, any details you voluntarily include in the comments box may be published in council reports or other public documents.

By submitting this form, you agree that any information you provide, including personal information, may be used for reporting purposes and may be publicly disclosed unless you request otherwise.

If you do not wish for your personal information to be published, please avoid including it in your comments or contact Council directly.

V. CONSENT

By completing a submission, you acknowledge you have read and understand the privacy statement, and that your submission received by Council from you containing personal information may be made public when the matter goes before Council for consideration, as it may be included in Council's Business Papers and stored on the website. Click here to view Council's Privacy Statement. <https://www.parkes.nsw.gov.au/Council/About-us/Privacy-Statement>

[Click here to view Council's Privacy Statement.](#)

18 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**18.1 (DCPS) QUARTERLY RANGERS REPORT JANUARY TO MARCH 2026****IP&R Linkage:** Pillar: Community**Goal:** Our community is safe, active and healthy.**Strategy:** Provide and support effective regulatory, compliance and enforcement services.**Author:** Tiffany Prout, Administration Officer**Authoriser:** Scott Brakenridge, Executive Manager Planning and Certification**Annexures:** Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the quarterly rangers report for the period from January to March 2026.
-

BACKGROUND

Council responsibilities carried out by Ranger staff have been discharged effectively during the quarter. An overview of the activities carried out by the Rangers is provided for Council's information.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Council's obligations under the Companion Animals Act in relation to the rehoming of impounded animals continue to place pressure on available pound capacity. Due to advertising requirements and working with rehoming organisations, collection of impounded animals is often delayed resulting in increased impounding periods for the animals.

Drop off cages located at the front of the animal shelter have been permanently locked due to capacity issues with the surrendering of animals to now be arranged with Council's Rangers.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

Ranger activities are undertaken in accordance with a range of legislative frameworks and Council adopted policies. These provide the legal authority for enforcement actions, compliance monitoring, and community education initiatives. Key legislation includes: Companions Animals Act, 1998, Local Government Act, 1993 and Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Ranger services play a critical role in protecting public safety, maintaining amenity, and ensuring compliance with legislative requirements. The following risks should be considered in relation to this report: Public Safety, Environmental, Operational and Workforce, and Legal and Compliance.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION
Companion Animals Act

The table provides a breakdown of the companion animal impounding activities over the quarter, noting that some animals seized in this quarter may be released in the following quarter.

DOGS								
	Parkes	Peak Hill	Tullamore	Trundle	Bogan Gate	Alectown	Cookamidgera	TOTAL
Seized	19	14						33
Dumped at Pound	13							13
Surrendered by owner	3							3
Released to owner	15	2		1				18
Euthanised	24	10						34
Sold								
Released for rehoming	17	3						20
Died at Pound								
Stolen/escaped								
Holding pending Court								
Still in Pound	2							2

CATS								
	Parkes	Peak Hill	Tullamore	Trundle	Bogan Gate	Alectown	Cookamidgera	TOTAL
Seized	2							2
Dumped at Pound	40							40
Surrendered by owner	3							3
Released to owner	3							3
Euthanised	24							24
Sold								
Released for rehoming	17							17
Died at Pound	1							1
Stolen/escaped								
Holding pending Court								
Still in Pound								

The table provides a breakdown of the large animal impounding activities over the quarter.

Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act

Area Impounded								
	Parkes	Peak Hill	Tullamore	Trundle	Bogan Gate	Alectown	Cookamidgera	Disposal Method
Cattle								
Sheep								
Horses								
Trolleys	7							Waste

Shire Patrols Program

Small towns are regularly patrolled including both scheduled patrols and response to complaint actions.

The table provides a breakdown of small-town patrols during the quarter.

Small Towns Patrolled								
	Yarrabandai	Peak Hill	Tullamore	Trundle	Bogan Gate	Alectown	Cookamidgera	Gunningbland
Number of Patrols	4	15	7	10	13	7	5	12
Approx. kms travelled	464	1740	1400	1660	1248	406	260	780

Parking

Parking patrols focussing on safety issue such as no stopping and school zones have been conducted during the period.

The table provides an overview of the patrols and Penalty Infringement Notices issued during the quarter.

Parking Patrol Parkes	
Full Day Patrols CBD & Disabled	
Random Number of Patrols CBD & Disabled	10
Number of Patrols School Zones	13
Number of Penalty Infringement Notices Issued	
Number of Court Appeals	

Overgrown Untidy Block Program

The table provides an overview of the complaints received during the quarter.

Overgrown/Untidy Blocks Program								
	Parkes	Peak Hill	Tullamore	Trundle	Bogan Gate	Alectown	Cookamidgera	Gunningbland
Number of Complaints Received	13	0	0	1	1	1		
Number of Patrols and Monitoring of blocks (including previous complaints)	36	15	7	10	13	7	5	12
Number of Blocks Mowed during quarter	10			1	1	1		

Attachments



Responsible Dog Ownership Promotion

Council staff have recently installed signage to Harrison Park, Woodward Oval and Keast Park advising the community that Council is currently reviewing the potential to ban dogs from these facilities.

The review period will operate from 6 April 2026 until the 17 May 2026, and feedback has been encouraged from the community on the matter. Social media advertisement and Council's website have also been updated advising of the review. Dogs are still permitted on the ovals during the review period, however Rangers have increased patrols to ensure that dogs are being kept on a leash and dog wastes collected.

18.2 APRIL 2026 BUILDING STATISTICS UPDATE**IP&R Linkage:** **Pillar:** Environment**Goal:** Our built environment is functional, sustainable and meets the needs of our growing community.**Strategy:** Manage our built environment in line with the Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and relevant legislation.**Author:** **Cordelia Moon, Development-Certificates Coordinator****Authoriser:** **Annalise Teale, Director Planning and Community Services****Annexures:** **Nil**

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the April 2026 Building Statistics Report.
-

BACKGROUND

The Building Statistics Report is furnished to Council on a monthly basis and provides a snapshot of development activity in the Shire during that period.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

During the month of April 2026 there were seven (7) Development Applications received totalling \$3,855,706.50 and six (6) consents were issued. There was one (1) Complying Development Certificates received totalling \$620,000.00, three (3) Private Certifier Complying Development Certificates received totalling \$1,205,000.00 and three (3) Private Certifier approval issued.

The figures shown Table 1 below are for Development Applications received during April 2026 with respect to the specified building types and a comparison to the April 2025 figures.

Table 1: Development Applications				
Development Category	April 2026		April 2025	
	No.	Estimated Value	No.	Estimated Value
Commercial	3	\$2,961,338.50	1	\$11,000.00
Community Facilities	-	-	-	-
Industrial	-	-	-	-
Infrastructure	-	-	-	-
Tourist Development	-	-	-	-
Single Dwelling-house	2	\$599,468.00	-	-
Residential Alterations and Additions inc. ancillary / outbuildings	2	\$294,900.00	-	-
Residential Other	-	-	-	-
Multi-Residential	-	-	-	-
Seniors Living	-	-	-	-
Subdivision only	-	-	-	-
Secondary Dwelling	-	-	1	\$443,100.00
Other inc. demolition, earthworks, advertising structure	-	-	-	-
Mixed Development	-	-	-	-
Totals	7	\$3,855,706.50	2	\$454,100.00
FYTD Totals	85	\$26,021,105.10	73	\$17,023,534.81

Table 2, below, lists the Development Consents that were issued in the month of April 2026.

Table 2: Development Consents		
Application No.	Address	Description
DA2026/0011	3 Rosary Close, PARKES NSW 2870	Erection of a New Structure - Shed
DA2026/0014	1 Yuwambi Close, PARKES NSW 2870	Erection of a New Structure - Shed
DA2026/0015	7272 Eugowra Road, PARKES NSW 2870	Subdivision - Boundary Adjustment
DA2026/0017	49 Corcoran Road, PARKES NSW 2870	Swimming Pool & Child Restraint Barrier
DA2026/0020	Cooke Park, 158-176 Clarinda Street, PARKES NSW 2870	Temporary Use of Land (Light Up Parkes in Cooke Park)
DA2026/0021	61 High Street, PARKES NSW 2870	Alterations or Additions to Dwelling - Deck

The figures shown in Table 3, below, are for Complying Development Certificates received during April 2026 with respect to the specified building types and a comparison to the April 2025 figures.

Table 3: Complying Development Certificates				
Development Category	April 2026		April 2025	
	No.	Estimated Value	No.	Estimated Value
Commercial	-	-	-	-
Community Facilities	-	-	-	-
Industrial	-	-	-	-
Infrastructure	-	-	-	-
Tourist Development	-	-	-	-
Single Dwelling-house	-	-	-	-
Residential Alterations and Additions inc. ancillary / outbuildings	4	\$1,825,000.00	2	\$220,703.64
Residential Other			-	-
Multi-Residential	-	-	-	-
Seniors Living	-	-	-	-
Subdivision only	-	-	-	-
Secondary Dwelling	-	-	-	-
Other inc. demolition, earthworks, advertising structure	-	-	-	-
Totals	4	\$1,825,000.00	2	\$220,703.64
FYTD Totals	19	\$10,949,896.90	10	\$1,622,824.96

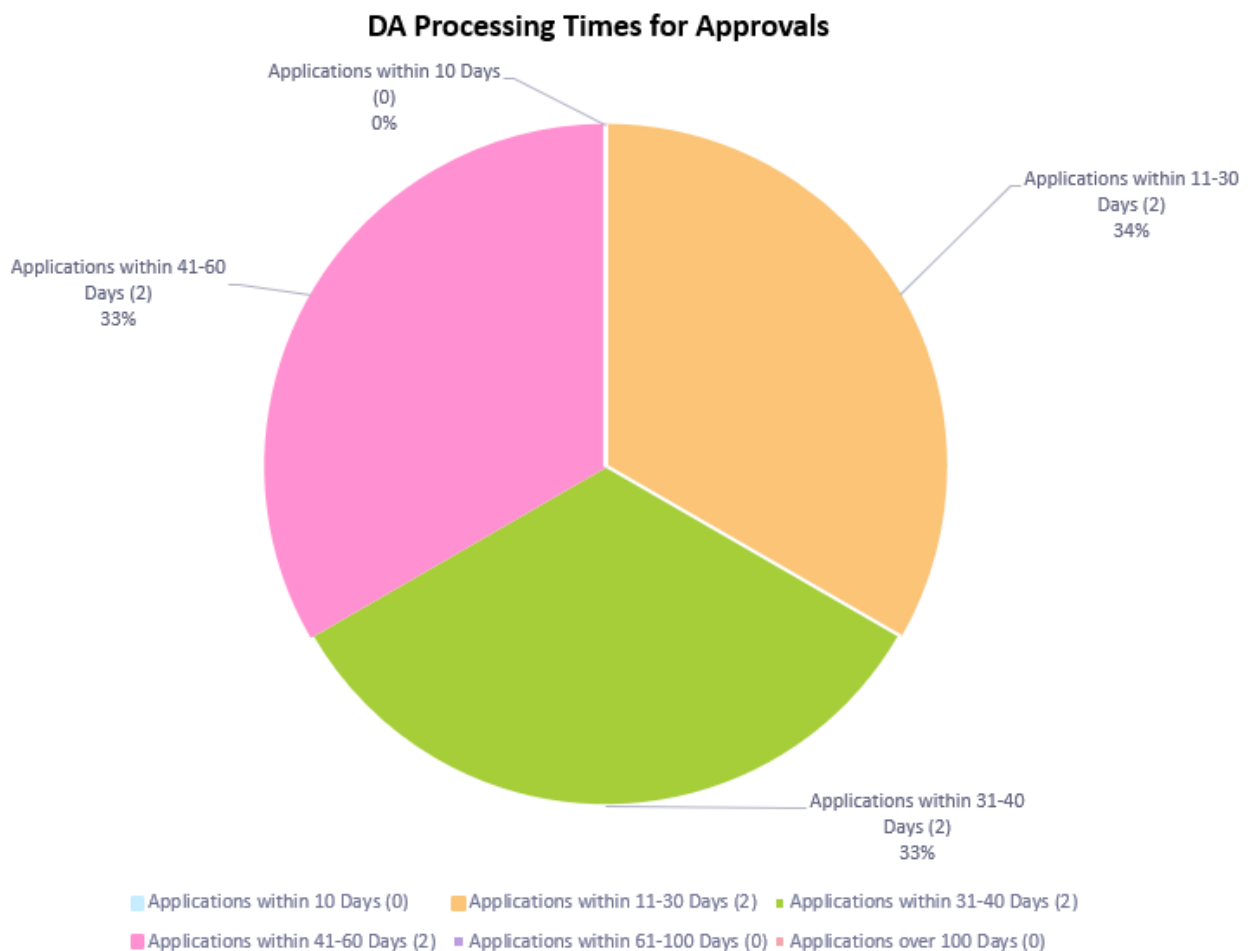
Table 4, below, provides a list of Complying Development Certificates which were issued in the month of April 2026.

Table 4: Complying Development Certificates			
Application No.	Address	Description	Certifying Authority
CDC2026/0005	22 George Field Drive, PARKES NSW 2870	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Double Garage, Alfresco & Porch	Private
CDC2026/0006	4 Fossickers Drive, PARKES NSW 2870	Single Storey Dwelling - Attached Double Garage, Alfresco & Porch	Private
CDC2026/0007	6 Fossickers Drive, PARKES NSW 2870	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Double Garage, Alfresco & Porch	Private

DA Processing Times for Determinations

The information shown in the pie chart below is Development Application determinations issued for the period 1 April 2026 to 30 April 2026. It should be noted that a total of six (6) Development Applications have been determined with an average of 37.61 days.

The average timeframe in which the internal referrals to the Technical Services and/or Infrastructure Departments were completed was 26.25 days.



Activation Precinct Certificate Determinations

There were no new Activation Precinct Certificate determinations.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

There are no legislative or policy considerations for Council associated with this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for Council associated with this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications for Council associated with this report.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Where a Development Application or Modification Development Application is required to be publicly exhibited, the application was made available for inspection at the Parkes Shire Council Administration Centre commencing from the date on which the public notice was placed in the local newspaper. The application was also included on the Parkes Shire Council website.

For Development Applications requiring neighbour notification, written notification of the proposed development was provided to the owner(s) of land immediately adjoining or adjacent to the subject land (as shown on Council's Property and Rating System at the time of notification) including land that is separated from the subject land by watercourse, road, pathway, driveway, railway or similar thoroughfare.

Where more than one person is listed as the owner, written notification to one of the owners, is taken to be a notice to all of the registered owners.

CONCLUSION

During the month of April 2026 there were seven (7) Development Applications received totalling \$3,855,706.50 and six (6) consents were issued. There was one (1) Complying Development Certificates received totalling \$620,000.00, three (3) Private Certifier Complying Development Certificates received totalling \$1,205,000.00 and three (3) Private Certifier approval issued.

Development Activity Report

April 2026

Development Applications and Complying Development Certificates lodged and approved in the Parkes Shire.



LODGED

7

Development Applications

4

Complying Development Certificates



DETERMINED

6

Development Applications

0

Complying Development Certificates

3

Private Certifier Complying Development Certificates



AVERAGE DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION PROCESSING TIME THIS MONTH

37.61

Approved Development Applications



VALUE OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED
\$5,680,706.50

19 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

RECOMMENDATION

That Ordinary Council Meeting:

1. Moves into Closed Session to deal with the matters below, which are classified as confidential under section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* for the reasons specified:

19.1 PSC2025/002 - FACILITY MANAGEMENT PARKES AQUATIC FACILITIES - VARIATION 10 - PAYMENT SCHEDULE

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - d(i) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Further it is considered that discussions of this matter in open Council would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it would prejudice Council's ability to secure the optimum outcome for the community.

19.2 PSC2025/002 - FACILITY MANAGEMENT PARKES AQUATIC FACILITIES - VARIATION 11 - REMOVAL OF WATER UTILITIES

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - d(i) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

Further it is considered that discussions of this matter in open Council would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it would prejudice Council's ability to secure the optimum outcome for the community.

19.3 REAPPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PREQUALIFIED CHAIR TO AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - a of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

Further it is considered that discussions of this matter in open Council would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it would prejudice Council's ability to secure the optimum outcome for the community.

2. Exclude the media and public from the meeting on the basis that the business to be considered is classified as confidential, pursuant to 10A(1), 10(2) and 10A(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.
 3. Withhold reports and correspondence relevant to the subject business be withheld from the media and public as provided by section 11(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.
 4. Make public resolutions made by the Council in Closed Session after the conclusion of the Closed Session, and record such resolutions in the minutes of the Council meeting.
-

BACKGROUND, ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

In accordance with section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council may close part of its meeting to deal with business of the following kind:

- (a) Personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).
- (b) Personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer.
- (c) Information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.
- (d) Commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
 - (i) Prejudice the commercial position of a person who supplied it: or
 - (ii) Confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of Council;
 - (iii) Reveal a trade secret.
- (e) Information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law.
- (f) Matters affecting the security of Council, Councillors, Council staff and Council property.
- (g) Advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege.
- (h) Information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on community land.
- (i) Alleged contraventions of any Code of Conduct requirements applicable under section 440.

It is my opinion that the business listed in the recommendation is of a kind referred to in section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and, under the provisions of the Act and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, should be dealt with in a part of the meeting that is closed to members of the public and the media.

Pursuant to section 10A(4) of the Act and clauses 14.9–14.10 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, members of the public may make representations to the meeting immediately after the motion to close part of the meeting is moved and seconded, as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed.

20 REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS

In accordance with clauses 14.22 and 14.23 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, resolutions passed during a meeting, or a part of a meeting that is closed to the public must be made public by the Chairperson as soon as practicable. Such resolutions must be recorded in the publicly available minutes of the meeting.
