

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 16 June 2026 at 3:00 PM.



Kent Boyd PSM
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 19 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.**Annexures:** **A. Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes - 19 May 2026****RECOMMENDATION**

That Ordinary Council Meeting:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 19 May 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

Ordinary Council Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday 19 May 2026



Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday, 19 May 2026 at the
Parkes Council Chamber, 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 Logan Hignett	Acting General Manager
Mr Andrew Francis	Director Infrastructure and Sustainability
Mr Michael O'Shannessy	Acting Director Operations
Mr Anthony McGrath	Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy
Mrs Annalise Teale	Director Planning and Community Services
Mr Jaco Barnard	Chief Financial Officer
Mr Luke Nash	Executive Manager Finance
Mrs Nikki Bevan	Procurement, Contracts and Insurance Coordinator (Minute Secretary)
Mrs Veronica Shaw	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance

NOTES

The meeting commenced at 3.00pm and concluded at 6.15pm.

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor declared the Ordinary Council Meeting of Tuesday 19 May 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 Acting General Manager read the Prayer:

O God,
Grant to Council the special enabling,
To equitably govern and rule,
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 21 APRIL 2026
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RESOLVED OCM 088/26

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Ordinary Council Meeting receive and confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21 April 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 no urgent items of business had been submitted to the meeting.

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 089/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

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:

Open Business

- 10.5 Country Mayors Association: Minutes from the Meeting held on 27 March 2026
- 13.1 Minutes of the Arts Advisory Council Meeting held on 21 April 2026
- 13.2 Minutes of the Community, Liveability and Access Advisory Committee Meeting held on 21 April 2026
- 13.3 Minutes of the Waste Advisory Committee Meeting held on 21 April 2026
- 15.5 Community Financial Assistance Program Evaluation Panel - 2025-2026 Round Two
- 15.6 Outcome of 2026 Round 2 – Parkes Shire Events Financial Assistance Program (EFAP) Grants
- 15.7 Adoption of Council Policy - Procurement (Update)
- 15.8 Endorsement of Operational Policy - Community Use of Temporary Signage Infrastructure
- 15.9 Re-Appointment of Councillor Delegates for 2026 Conferences
- 17.3 Peak Hill Golf Club – Lease Proposal & Fee Waiver Request (Lots, 497 and 499 DP 755113)
- 17.4 Proposed Closure of Existing Sealed Lagoon Street, Bogan Gate
- 18.2 April 2026 Building Statistics Update

Closed Business

- 19.3 Reappointment of Independent Prequalified Chair to Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee

CARRIED**10 MAYORAL MINUTE(S)****10.1 MEETINGS, FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS ATTENDED BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS****RESOLVED OCM 090/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr George Pratt

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 16 April 2026 to 13 May 2026.

CARRIED

10.2 COMING KNOWN EVENTS FOR MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS**RESOLVED OCM 091/26**

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 14 May 2026 through to 10 June 2026:

CARRIED

10.3 DISAPPOINTING FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DECISION TO "CONSOLIDATE" THE INLAND RAIL PROJECT TO PARKES.**RESOLVED OCM 092/26**

Moved: Cr Neil Westcott
Seconded: Cr Marg Applebee

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.

CARRIED

10.4 LATE MOTIONS TO AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE**RESOLVED OCM 093/26**

Moved: Cr Neil Westcott
Seconded: Cr William Jayet

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*.

CARRIED

10.5 COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION: MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 27 MARCH 2026**RESOLVED OCM 094/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

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

CARRIED**11 NOTICES OF MOTION/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE****11.1 ENDORSEMENT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW'S CARING FOR OUR REGIONS ACTION PLAN****RESOLVED OCM 095/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

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.

CARRIED

11.2 PARKES WAR GRAVES RECOGNITION AND COMMEMORATION**RESOLVED OCM 096/26**

Moved: Cr Doug Pout
Seconded: Cr William Jayet

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.

CARRIED

11.3 RETURN AND EARN FACILITIES**RESOLVED OCM 097/26**

Moved: Cr Doug Pout
Seconded: Cr George Pratt

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.

CARRIED

11.4 WYATTS LANE RAILWAY CROSSING DRAINAGE

RESOLVED OCM 098/26

Moved: Cr Matthew Scherer

Seconded: Cr Ken McGrath

That Council:

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

CARRIED

12 COUNCILLOR REPORT(S)

Nil

13 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

13.1 MINUTES OF THE ARTS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21 APRIL 2026

RESOLVED OCM 099/26

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

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

CARRIED

13.2 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY, LIVEABILITY AND ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21 APRIL 2026**RESOLVED OCM 100/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

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*.

CARRIED**13.3 MINUTES OF THE WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21 APRIL 2026****RESOLVED OCM 101/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

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

CARRIED**13.4 MINUTES OF THE PARKES SPORTS COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12 MAY 2026****RESOLVED OCM 102/26**

Moved: Cr Doug Pout

Seconded: Cr Louise O'Leary

That Council:

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

CARRIED

At 4.01pm, Andrew Francis Joined the meeting.

13.5 MINUTES OF THE LOCAL TRAFFIC FORUM MEETING HELD ON 13 MAY 2026**RESOLVED OCM 103/26**

Moved: Cr Ken McGrath

Seconded: Cr William Jayet

That Council:

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

CARRIED

At 4:05 pm, Cr George Pratt left the meeting.

At 4:07 pm, Cr George Pratt rejoined the meeting.

14 REPORTS OF THE GENERAL MANAGER**14.1 INVESTMENTS AND BORROWINGS REPORT AS AT 30 APRIL 2026****RESOLVED OCM 104/26**

Moved: Cr Louise O'Leary

Seconded: Cr Marg Applebee

That Council:

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

CARRIED**14.2 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS AT 31 MARCH 2026****RESOLVED OCM 105/26**

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

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

CARRIED

14.3 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 30 APRIL 2026**RESOLVED OCM 106/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

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

CARRIED**14.4 SUNRISE MINE PROJECT VOLUNTARY PLANNING AGREEMENT (VPA) VARIATION****RESOLVED OCM 107/26**

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

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.

In Favour: Crs Neil Westcott, Marg Applebee, William Jayet, Ken McGrath, Louise O'Leary, Doug Pout, George Pratt, Matthew Scherer and Glenn Wilson

Against: Cr Joy Paddison

Cr Joy Paddison indicated they wished to abstain from voting, however in accordance with the Code of Meeting Practice, their vote is recorded as against the motion.

CARRIED 9/1

15 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR CUSTOMER, CORPORATE SERVICES AND ECONOMY**15.1 MAJOR PROJECTS AND CURRENT WORKS - CUSTOMER, CORPORATE SERVICES AND ECONOMY - APRIL 2026****RESOLVED OCM 108/26**

Moved: Cr William Jayet
Seconded: Cr Marg Applebee

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 4:24 pm, Cr Doug Pout left the meeting.

At 4:26 pm, Cr Doug Pout rejoined the meeting.

At 4:28 pm, Jaco Barnard left the meeting.

15.2 INTERNAL COMMITTEE CHANGES - NEW EFW COMMUNITY WORKING PARTY**RESOLVED OCM 109/26**

Moved: Cr Neil Westcott
Seconded: Cr Joy Paddison

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.

CARRIED

At 4:31 pm, Jaco Barnard rejoined the meeting.

15.3 PARKES ELVIS FESTIVAL 2026 - POST EVENT REPORT**RESOLVED OCM 110/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr William Jayet

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Parkes Elvis Festival 2026 Post Event Report, appended at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED

At 4:38 pm, Logan Hignett left the meeting.

At 4:41 pm, Logan Hignett rejoined the meeting.

At 4:41 pm, Michael O'Shannessy left the meeting.

At 4:42 pm, Michael O'Shannessy rejoined the meeting

15.4 LIGHT UP PARKES - POST EVENT REPORT**RESOLVED OCM 111/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Post Event Report for the Light Up Parkes event held on 18 April 2026, appended at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED**15.5 COMMUNITY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EVALUATION PANEL - 2025-2026 ROUND TWO****RESOLVED OCM 112/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

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.

CARRIED

15.6 OUTCOME OF 2026 ROUND 2 – PARKES SHIRE EVENTS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EFAP) GRANTS**RESOLVED OCM 113/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

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.

CARRIED**15.7 ADOPTION OF COUNCIL POLICY - PROCUREMENT (UPDATE)****RESOLVED OCM 114/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

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.

CARRIED**15.8 ENDORSEMENT OF OPERATIONAL POLICY - COMMUNITY USE OF TEMPORARY SIGNAGE INFRASTRUCTURE****RESOLVED OCM 115/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

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.

CARRIED

15.9 RE-APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLOR DELEGATES FOR 2026 CONFERENCES**RESOLVED OCM 116/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

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.

CARRIED**16 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY****16.1 MAJOR PROJECTS AND CURRENT WORKS - INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY - APRIL 2026****RESOLVED OCM 117/26**

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

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

CARRIED**17 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR OPERATIONS****17.1 MAJOR PROJECTS AND CURRENT WORKS - OPERATIONS - APRIL 2026****RESOLVED OCM 118/26**

Moved: Cr George Pratt

Seconded: Cr Marg Applebee

That Council:

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

CARRIED

At 5:07 pm, Andrew Francis left the meeting.

At 5:10 pm, Andrew Francis rejoined the meeting.

At 5:13 pm, Cr Louise O'Leary left the meeting.

At 5:14 pm, Cr Louise O'Leary rejoined the meeting.

**17.2 TEMPORARY CLOSURE PROPOSAL – TRUNDLE VILLAGE POOL 2026/27
SEASON AND PLANT ROOM REFURBISHMENT WORKS****RESOLVED OCM 119/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr William Jayet

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.

CARRIED**17.3 PEAK HILL GOLF CLUB – LEASE PROPOSAL & FEE WAIVER REQUEST (LOTS,
497 AND 499 DP 755113)****RESOLVED OCM 120/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

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.

CARRIED

17.4 PROPOSED CLOSURE OF EXISTING SEALED LAGOON STREET, BOGAN GATE**RESOLVED OCM 121/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

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.

CARRIED**18 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES****18.1 (DCPS) QUARTERLY RANGERS REPORT JANUARY TO MARCH 2026****RESOLVED OCM 122/26**

Moved: Cr George Pratt

Seconded: Cr William Jayet

That Council:

1. Receive and note the quarterly rangers report for the period from January to March 2026.

CARRIED**18.2 APRIL 2026 BUILDING STATISTICS UPDATE****RESOLVED OCM 123/26**

Moved: Cr Neil Westcott

Seconded: Cr William Jayet

That Council:

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

CARRIED

At 5:27 pm, Cr Doug Pout left the meeting.

At 5:28 pm, Cr Doug Pout rejoined the meeting.

19 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**RESOLVED OCM 124/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr George Pratt

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.

CARRIED

At 5.29pm, the Meeting went into Closed Session.

19.1 PSC2025/002 - FACILITY MANAGEMENT PARKES AQUATIC FACILITIES - VARIATION 10 - PAYMENT SCHEDULE

RESOLVED OCM 125/26

Moved: Cr William Jayet

Seconded: Cr Joy Paddison

That:

1. Approves an amended payment schedule for Contract PSC2025/002 that varies payment timing from a strictly arrears based model, in accordance with the schedule attached as Annexure A.
2. Resolves that the approved amended payment schedule apply for the duration of the contract term, including the exercise of any extension options, unless otherwise resolved by Council.
3. Notes that the amended payment schedule does not alter the total contract value, scope of services, or performance obligations under the contract.

In Favour: Crs Neil Westcott, William Jayet, Ken McGrath, Louise O'Leary, Joy Paddison, Doug Pout, George Pratt, Matthew Scherer and Glenn Wilson

Against: Cr Marg Applebee

CARRIED 9/1

At 5:41 pm, Cr Louise O'Leary left the meeting.

At 5:42 pm, Cr Louise O'Leary rejoined the meeting.

At 5:46 pm, Cr George Pratt left the meeting.

At 5:48 pm, Cr George Pratt rejoined the meeting.

19.2 PSC2025/002 - FACILITY MANAGEMENT PARKES AQUATIC FACILITIES - VARIATION 11 - REMOVAL OF WATER UTILITIES**RESOLVED OCM 126/26**

Moved: Cr Neil Westcott

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Will assume the responsibility for water utility costs up to the agreed baseline (2025/2026 usage), with the contractor required to pay for any water usage that exceeds that baseline at each facility.

CARRIED**19.3 REAPPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PREQUALIFIED CHAIR TO AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE****RESOLVED OCM 127/26**

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Council:

1. Confirm the reappointment of Mr Stephen Horne as the Independent Prequalified Voting Chair of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee for a term of four (4) years, commencing 01 June 2026 and concluding 31 May 2030 subject to continuing to meet eligibility requirements prescribed under the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

CARRIED

At 6.12pm, the Council in Closed Session returned to Open Session.

RESOLVED OCM 128/26

Moved: Cr Marg Applebee

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That Ordinary Council Meeting:

1. Resume in Open Session and note the Mayor's report on Confidential Resolutions.

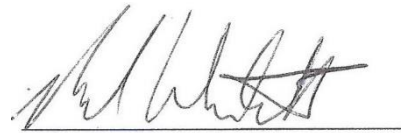
CARRIED**20 REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS**

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.

21 CONCLUSION OF MEETING

The meeting concluded at 6.15pm.

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 24 pages numbered 1 to 24 of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 19 May 2026 and confirmed on Tuesday, 16 June 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 14 May 2026 to 10 June 2026.

REPORT

Table 1: lists the Meetings, functions and events attended by the Mayor and Councillors during the period 14 May 2026 to 10 June 2026:

Table 1: Meetings, Functions and Events attended by Mayor and Councillors	
Date	Function
Saturday 16 May	Golden Years, Bright Futures Fundraising Ball, Trundle Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee Royal Far West Charity, Ride for Country Kids Mayor Neil Westcott and Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee
Monday 18 May	LGNSW Domestic Violence training (Week 3 of 3) Cr Louise O’Leary
Tuesday 19 May	PSC Economy, Destination and Events Advisory Committee Meeting Mayor Neil Westcott, Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee and Cr Bill Jayet Ordinary Council Meeting, Council Chambers All Councillors and Directors
Saturday 23 May	SES New Facility Official Opening, Parkes Mayor Neil Westcott, Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee, Cr Joy Paddison, Cr Doug Poutt and Cr Matthew Scherer. Acting General Manager Logan Hignett, Facilities Manager Sharon Ross and Project Manager Duncan Blair

Table 1: Meetings, Functions and Events attended by Mayor and Councillors	
Date	Function
	<p>Apologies: Cr Bill Jayet, Cr Ken McGrath, Cr Louise O’Leary and General Manager Kent Boyd</p> <p>Waste 2 Art Opening and Announcement of Winners Cr Bill Jayet Apology: Mayor Neil Westcott</p>
Monday 25 May	<p>Peak Hill Community Consultative Committee Meeting Cr Louise O’Leary</p>
Wednesday 27 May	<p>CNSWJO Board Meeting, Sydney Mayor Neil Westcott and General Manager Kent Boyd</p> <p>LGNSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference, Welcome Function, Maitland Cr Joy Paddison, Tourism & Visitor Services Coordinator Lisa Moon and Events Officer (Major Events) Bronte Thompson</p> <p>National Simultaneous Storytime 2026, Parkes Library Cr Bill Jayet Apology: Mayor Neil Westcott</p>
Thursday 28 May	<p>CNSWJO NSW Parliament Visit Schedule, Sydney Mayor Neil Westcott and General Manager Kent Boyd</p> <p>LGNSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference, Day 2, Maitland Cr Joy Paddison, Tourism & Visitor Services Coordinator Lisa Moon and Events Officer (Major Events) Bronte Thompson</p> <p>Trundle Community Consultative Committee meeting Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee</p>
Friday 29 May	<p>LGNSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference, Day 3, Maitland Cr Joy Paddison, Tourism & Visitor Services Coordinator Lisa Moon and Events Officer (Major Events) Bronte Thompson</p>
Saturday 30 May	<p>Official Opening of NSW Women’s Masters State Championships Mayor Neil Westcott and Cr Louise O’Leary</p>
Monday 1 June	<p>Local Roads Congress 2026, NSW Parliament House Sydney Mayor Neil Westcott and Director Operations Logan Hignett</p>

<p>Tuesday 2 June</p>	<p>EfW Community Working Party, Committee Room Mayor Neil Westcott, Cr Joy Paddison, Cr Doug Pout, Cr Ken McGrath, Cr Matthew Scherer and General Manager Kent Boyd</p> <p>Road and Place Naming Advisory Committee Meeting, Committee Room Mayor Neil Westcott, Cr Bill Jayet, Cr Ken McGrath, Cr Louise O’Leary, Cr Joy Paddison and Cr Doug Pout</p> <p>Branding Presentation, Council Chambers All Councillors and Directors</p>
<p>Wednesday 3 June</p>	<p>Barry Harmer Morning Tea, Trundle CWA Room Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee</p>
<p>Friday 5 June</p>	<p>Nathan Lyon, The Business and Community Leaders Round Table Breakfast Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee Apology: Cr Joy Paddison</p> <p>Official Opening Night, Peak Hill Arts & Craft Annual Exhibition Mayor Neil Westcott, Cr Bill Jayet and Cr Louise O’Leary Apologies: Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee and Cr Joy Paddison</p>
<p>Saturday & Sunday 6 June to 7 June</p>	<p>Peak Hill Arts & Craft Annual Exhibition (& continues on through to Sunday) Cr Louise O’Leary</p>
<p>Saturday 6 June</p>	<p>Parkes Picnic Races 2026 Mayor Neil Westcott and Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee Apologies: Cr Louise O’Leary and Cr Bill Jayet</p>
<p>Monday 8 June</p>	<p>Bogan Gate Community Memorial Hall Inc. Committee Meeting Cr George Pratt</p>
<p>Wednesday 10 June</p>	<p>Tullamore Community Consultative Committee meeting Apology: Cr George Pratt</p>



Picture: Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee with husband Luke Clyne at the Golden Years, Bright Futures Fundraising Ball Trundle, Saturday 16th May



Top Picture: Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee, Mayor Neil Westcott with the Royal Far West Charity Organiser at the Royal Far West Charity, Ride for Country Kids on Saturday 16th May 2026

Bottom Picture: All the riders who participated for the Royal Far West Charity, Ride for Country Kids on Saturday 16th May 2026



Top Picture: Cr Doug Pout, SES Official, Cr Joy Paddison, SES Official, SES Official, Mr Philip Donato MP (State Member for Orange), Cr Matthew Scherer, Mayor Neil Westcott, Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee and Logan Hignett (Acting General Manager) at SES New Facility Official Opening, Parkes on Saturday 23rd May 2026

Bottom Picture: Neil Parker pictured with the SES volunteers, a surviving member of the tragic Billabong Creek 1968 flood rescue) at SES New Facility Official Opening, Parkes on Saturday 23rd May 2026



Picture: Some photos of the Waste to Art Exhibition Opening, on Saturday 23rd May 2026



Picture: Cr Joy Paddison (pink and white flora top) and Bronte Thompson with all the NSW Tourism & Destination Conference attendees for the NSW Tourism & Destination Conference in Maitland on Wednesday 27th May 2026



Picture: Mayor Neil Westcott with Richard Rice (PHI President) and Denise Gersbach (HNSW Women's Masters Committee Member and Parkes player) at the NSW Hockey Masters Official opening on Saturday to Sunday, 29-30 May 2026



Top Picture: Mayor Neil Westcott and Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee at the Parkes Picnic Races 2026 on Saturday 6th June 2026

Below Picture: Fashion show at the Parkes Picnic Races 2026 on Saturday 6th June 2026




Top Picture: Volunteers at the Barry Harmer's Senior Volunteer Morning Tea at Trundle on Wednesday 3rd June 2026.

Below Picture: Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee with Barry Harmer at the Barry Harmer's Senior Volunteer Morning Tea at Trundle on Wednesday 3rd June 2026 to celebrate his recent Award in Orange when he received a Local Senior of the Year Award as part of this year's NSW Seniors Festival.



Picture: Kent Boyd (General Manager), Kyle Trueber, Ella Ross, Adebayo Akidele, Cr George Pratt, Sharon Ware, Peter Bennetts, Logan Hignett, Charlene Kaden and Ben Coultas at National Road Safety Week 2026 17 to 24 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 11 June 2026 through to 15 July 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 11 June 2026 through to 15 July 2026:

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

Date	Function
Tuesday 16 June	Citizenship Ceremony, Cooke Park Pavillion Invited: All Councillors and Directors and Invited Guests Ordinary Council Meeting Invited: All Councillors and Directors
Wednesday 17 June	Civic Reception for NSW PSSA 12yrs Rugby League Invited: All Councillors and Directors and Invited Guests
Monday to Friday 22 June to 26 June	NGA & ALGA Conference, Canberra Mayor Neil Westcott, General Manager Kent Boyd and Cr Bill Jayet
Monday 22 June	Peak Hill Community Consultative Committee Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee and Cr Louise O'Leary

Date	Function
Wednesday 24 June	NAIDOC Assembly Cr Ken McGrath and Cr Joy Paddison Apology Mayor Neil Westcott and Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee
Thursday 25 June	Southern Cross Village Visit Cr George Pratt
Thursday 25 June	Trundle Community Consultative Committee meeting Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee
Saturday 27 June	Rotary Changeover Dinner, Parkes Rotary Club Mayor Neil Westcott Apology: Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee
Tuesday 30 June	EFAP Winners Presentation Mayor Neil Westcott
Friday 3 July	Term 2 Parkes High School Recognition Assembly Cr Bill Jayet
Sunday 5 July	Red Bend Catholic College's 100 years of Marist Education Celebration Invited: Mayor Neil Westcott
Wednesday 8 July	Councillors: Training - Social Media Self-Defence Webinars, Committee Room Invited: All Councillors Apology: Deputy Mayor Marg Applebee Tullamore Community Consultative Committee meeting Invited: Cr George Pratt



Cr Neil Westcott
 MAYOR

**10.3 CENTRAL NSW JOINT ORGANISATION (CNSWJO) BOARD MEETING IN SYDNEY
27-28 MAY 2026**

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

Goal: Strong relationships

Strategy: Work in partnership with other Councils, regional organisations and State and Federal Governments.

Author: **Cr Neil Westcott**

Annexures: **A. CNSWJO Draft Board Minutes from 27 May 2026** [↓](#)
B. CNSWJO Quarterly Newsletter: Edition 7 - June 2026 [↓](#)

MOTION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the information about the CNSWJO Board meeting.
2. Receive and note the information contained in the CNSWJO Quarterly Newsletter: Edition 7 – June 2026.

REPORT

The General Manager Kent Boyd and I attended the Central New South Wales Joint Organisation (CNSWJO) Board meeting and Parliamentary visits in Sydney on 27-28 May 2026.

See attached the draft Minutes from the meeting along with a copy of the Quarterly Newsletter, Edition 7 from Central NSW Joint Organisation for June 2026.



Cr Neil Westcott

MAYOR

Minutes of the CNSWJO Board Meeting on 27 May 2026 held in Sydney
Voting delegates

Cr R Taylor	Bathurst Regional Council	Cr C Coleman	Lithgow City Council
Cr B Reynolds	Blayney Shire Council	Cr A McKibbin	Oberon Council
Cr K Beatty	Cabonne Council	Cr T Mileto	Orange City Council
Cr P Smith	Cowra Shire Council	Cr N Westcott	Parkes Shire Council
Cr P Miller OAM	Forbes Shire Council	Cr P Best	Weddin Shire Council
Cr J Medcalf OAM	Lachlan Shire Council		

Associate Member delegates and others attending

Ms K Brock	Bathurst Regional Council	Cr A Rawson	Central Tablelands Water
Mr M Dicker	Blayney Shire Council	Mr C Harris	Central Tablelands Water
Mr B Byrnes	Cabonne Council	Cr B Fry	Central Tablelands Weeds
Mr P Devery	Cowra Shire Council	Mr M Jones	Central Tablelands Weeds
Mr S Dunshea	Forbes Shire Council	Mr J Gordon	RDACW
Mr I Greenham	Lachlan Shire Council	Mr Reg Kidd	RDACW
Mr R Gurney	Lithgow City Council	Ms K Annis-Brown	NSW OLG
Mr G Wallace	Oberon Council	Ms K Barker	CNSWJO
Mr S Maunder	Orange City Council	Ms M Macpherson	CNSWJO
Mr M Sykes	Weddin Shire Council	Ms C Griffin	CNSWJO
		Ms J Webber	CNSWJO

 Voting members in **bold**

- 1 **Meeting opened** at 11.02am, Chaired by Cr K Beatty
- 2 **Acknowledgement of Country**
- 3 **Apologies** – Mr D Sherley, Ms G Collins, Cr Ruth Fagan

<p>RESOLUTION 26/05- 3 Moved: Cr Andrew McKibbin Seconded: Cr Cass Coleman</p> <p>That the apologies for the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board meeting 27 May 2026 be accepted.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

4 Conflicts of Interest

<p>RESOLUTION 26/05- 4 Moved: Cr Andrew McKibbin Seconded: Cr John Medcalf</p> <p>No conflicts of interest were declared.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
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5 Speakers

- Overview and update on Western Sydney Airport and opportunities for the region to leverage in relation to freight, produce and economic development
 - Mr Ricky Puata- A/Director, Regional Economic Development – Strategic Initiatives,

- NSW Dept of Primary Industries and Regional Development
- Ms Julie Scott- Head of Economic Development & Strategy, Liverpool City Council
- Gaya Arasaratnam – Coordinator Business Development, Liverpool City Council
- **Action:** coordinate a tour for the Board to the Business Park
- Transport for NSW – Update on Great Western Highway
 - Mr Damien Pfeiffer- Executive Director Partnership & Integration
 - Ms Lisa Anderson – Executive Director Road Asset and Program Services
- Penrith City Council – Progress on the Castlereagh Corridor Business Case
 - Cr Todd Carney, Mayor
 - Mr Andrew Moore, General Manager

6 Minutes**6a Confirmation of the Minutes of the CNSWJO Board Meeting dated 26 February 2026 held in Grenfell****RESOLUTION 26/05 – 6a**

Moved: Cr Phyllis Miller

Seconded: Cr Neil Westcott

That the minutes of the CNSWJO Board Meeting held 26 February 2026 held in Grenfell be confirmed.

CARRIED

6b Noting the Minutes of the CNSWJO GMAC Meeting held on 30 April 2026 in Cowra**RESOLUTION 26/05 – 6b**

Moved: Cr Phyllis Miller

Seconded: Cr Neil Westcott

That the minutes of the CNSWJO GMAC Meeting held 30 April 2026 in Cowra be noted.

CARRIED

7 Business Arising from the Minutes- Matters in Progress**RESOLUTION 26/05– 7**

Moved: Cr John Medcalf

Seconded: Cr Paul Smith

That the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board note the Matters in Progress, making deletions as suggested.

CARRIED

8 Correspondence**RESOLUTION 26/05– 8**

Moved: Cr Phyllis Miller

Seconded: Cr Tony Mileto

That the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board note the outgoing and incoming correspondence.

CARRIED

9a Financial Report**RESOLUTION 26/05 – 9a**

Moved: Cr Robert Taylor

Seconded: Cr John Medcalf

That the Board note the Financial Report and

1. an investment strategy be prepared for the Board's consideration.

CARRIED

9b 2026/2027 Statement of Budget and Revenue Report**RESOLUTION 26/05 – 9b**

Moved: Cr Bruce Reynolds

Seconded: Cr Phyllis Miller

That the Board note the 2026/2027 Budget Report and

1. note the 4% increase to fees, along with the \$500 per member council flat increase to the operational program fees,
2. note that no submissions were lodged in relation to the draft budget during the exhibition period,
3. adopt the 2026/2027 Statement of Budget and Revenue, and
4. that GMAC monitor the resourcing impact of the budget cuts on the operation of the CNSWJO.

CARRIED

9c Executive Officer Recruitment Outcome Report**RESOLUTION 26/05 – 9c**

Moved: Cr John Medcalf

Seconded: Cr Phyllis Miller

That the Board note the Executive Officer Recruitment Outcome Report and

1. note that the recruitment process for the Executive Officer position was undertaken and concluded in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and relevant organisational requirements,
2. note that contractual arrangements with the successful candidate have been finalised, and
3. note and congratulate Kate Barker on the appointment as Executive Officer.

CARRIED

9d Governance and Policy Report**RESOLUTION 26/05 – 9d**

Moved: Cr Bruce Reynolds

Seconded: Cr Andrew McKibbin

That the Governance and Policy Report be deferred pending clarification of the impact of the successful disallowance motion relating to the Code of Meeting Practice.

CARRIED

9e Shared ARIC Report**RESOLUTION 26/05- 9e**

Moved: Cr Robert Taylor

Seconded: Cr Andrew McKibbin

That the Board note the Shared ARIC Report and

1. endorse the appointment of the following to the Shared ARIC with Hunter HO and Illawarra Shoalhaven JO:
 - Chair: Dianne Allen
 - Independent member: Rhonda Wheatley
 - Independent member: Emma Pryor

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2. note that Cr Bruce Reynolds has been accepted as the Non-Voting Member of the Shared ARIC on behalf of CNSWJO.

CARRIED

9f Procurement Report

RESOLUTION 26/05 – 9f

Moved: Cr Paul Smith

Seconded: Cr Andrew McKibbin

That the Board note the Regional Procurement and Contracts Report and approves the updates to the procurement plan.

CARRIED

9g Advocacy Report

RESOLUTION 26/05 – 9g

Moved: Cr Neil Westcott

Seconded: Cr Andrew McKibbin

That the Board note the Advocacy Report and

1. endorse the advocacy position statement for Priority 3: Health and ageing,
2. write to Dr Joe McGirr MP in support of the *Better Care, Closer to Home Alliance* campaign and *Rural Health Action Plan*,
3. write to LGNSW in support of the “*Caring for our regions*” *Action Plan on for Rural and Regional Health*,
4. endorse the revised version of the advocacy position statements for Priority 5: Regional transport planning and infrastructure prioritisation to include additional wording around:
 - strengthening the Board’s position on Inland Rail, supporting reinstatement of funding for the full Melbourne to Brisbane corridor,
 - reaffirming the need for increased passenger rail connectivity between Sydney and the Central West,
5. write to the Prime Minister and the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, expressing disappointment and concern in relation to the cancellation of the Inland Rail north of Parkes and seeking the reinstatement of funding to complete the Parkes to Brisbane sections of the Inland Rail project as originally committed,
6. endorse the following submissions:
 - a) Submission to the Department of Housing Planning and Infrastructure (DPHI) New Approach to Strategic Planning,
 - b) Submission to the Department of Housing Planning and Infrastructure (DPHI) on the Climate Change and Natural Hazards State Environmental Planning Policy (Explanation of Intended Effect),
 - c) Submission to the Federal Productivity Commission on National Water Reform 2026, and
 - d) Submission to the Murray Darling Basin Plan Review 2026

CARRIED

9h Great Western Highway Detour Collaborative Response Report

RESOLUTION 26/05 – 9h

Moved: Cr Cass Coleman

Seconded: Cr Andrew McKibbin

That the Board note the Great Western Highway Detour Response Report and the value of CNSWJO-led collaboration with Regional Development Australia Central West, Business NSW and Destination Central West, and

1. CNSWJO's continued advocacy for NSW Government funding to extend the *Other Ways to the West* campaign to mitigate ongoing economic and visitor economy impacts arising from the prolonged detour of the Great Western Highway at Victoria Pass, and
2. that CNSWJO provide a report to the next Board meeting on the analytics of the Other Ways to the West campaign

CARRIED

9i Regional Prosperity Report**RESOLUTION 26/05 – 9i**

Moved: Cr Phyllis Miller

Seconded: Cr Bruce Reynolds

That the Board note the Regional Prosperity Report and

1. endorse the development of submissions under the hand of the executive on:
 - a. Proposed statewide Community Participation Plan,
 - b. Explanation of Intended Effect (EIE) on Variations and changes to complying development; and
 - c. Discussion paper on Low-rise housing reforms and targeted assessment.

CARRIED

9j Renewable Energy Community Benefit Sharing Report**RESOLUTION 26/05 – 9j**

Moved: Cr Andrew McKibbin

Seconded: Cr Bruce Reynolds

That the Board note the Renewable Energy Community Benefit Sharing Report and

1. endorse the *New Horizons* Workshop Event Report,
2. endorse the final version of the *Discussion Paper: Lessons learned on renewable energy projects in the region and Voluntary Planning Agreements*

CARRIED

9k Regional Health Report**RESOLUTION 26/05 – 9k**

Moved: Cr John Medcalf

Seconded: Cr Bruce Reynolds

That the Board note the Health Report and

1. endorse the CSU Policy Lab event report including progressing the 4 key actions:
 - join Dr Joe McGirr MP's "Better Care, Closer to Home" Alliance,
 - collaborate with other Joint Organisations and other regional local government bodies, and councils to align regional initiatives and messaging,
 - work with key stakeholders to clarify roles and responsibilities between council, health services and partners at the local level by undertaking a mapping exercise with key stakeholders, and
 - work with key stakeholders to develop a graphic showing local governments role vs what local governments are delivering in relation to health services
2. send a letter of congratulations on behalf of the Board to the three CSU medical school scholarship recipients for 2026.

CARRIED

9l Regional Telecommunications Report**RESOLUTION 26/05 – 9l**

Moved: Cr Phyllis Miller

Seconded: Cr Neil Westcott

That the Board note the Telecommunications Report and progress on the development of a Regional Digital Plan including separate LGA plans.

CARRIED

9m Regional Transport Report**RESOLUTION 26/05 – 9m**

Moved: Cr Andrew McKibbin

Seconded: Cr Paul Smith

That the Board note the Regional Transport Report.

CARRIED

9n Regional Water Report**RESOLUTION 26/05 – 9n**

Moved: Cr Paul Best

Seconded: Cr Phyllis Miller

That the Board note the Regional Water Report and

1. endorse the quarterly report to Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment Water for the Water Loss Management and Efficiency Program.

CARRIED

9o Regional Energy Report**RESOLUTION 26/05 – 9o**

Moved: Cr Bruce Reynolds

Seconded: Cr Andrew McKibbin

That the Board note the Regional Net Zero Report and

1. endorse the JONZA Round 3 Mid-Term Report
2. endorse the JONZA Round 3 Project Tracker
3. endorse the Landfill Emissions Abatement Knowledge (LEAKS) *Mid-term Activity* Report dated 30 March 2026
4. endorse the *Lessons from regional NSW councils: Existing waste-related Clean Energy Regulator projects and active landfill gas management* Report.

CARRIED

9p Regional Resilience Program Report**RESOLUTION 26/05 – 9p**

Moved: Cr Bruce Reynolds

Seconded: Cr Tony Mileto

That the Board note the Regional Resilience Program Report.

CARRIED

10 Quarterly Review of the Central NSW JO Strategic Plan and Statement of Regional Strategic Priority 2025-2029**RESOLUTION 26/05 – 10**

Moved: Cr Phyllis Miller
Seconded: Cr Bruce Reynolds

That the Board note the Quarterly Review of the Central NSW JO Strategic Plan and Statement of Regional Strategic Priority 2025-2029 report.

CARRIED

11a RDA Central West Update Report

The Board noted the RDA Central West Update.

11b NSW Premier's Department Update

The Board noted the NSW Premier's Department Report.

11c OLG Update Report

The Board noted the OLG Update Report.

12 Confidential Session

Resolution 26/05 – 12

Moved: Cr Cass Coleman
Seconded: Cr Neil Westcott

That the Board

1. resolve into closed session to consider business identified, together with any late reports tabled at the meeting.
2. Pursuant to section 10A(f) of the Local Government Act 1993, the media and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business to be considered is classified confidential under the provisions of section 10A(2)(f) as outlined above.
3. Correspondence and reports relevant to the subject business be withheld from access.

CARRIED

12a Regional Cyber Security Program Report- Confidential

RESOLUTION 26/05 – 12a

Moved: Cr Bruce Reynolds
Seconded: Cr Robert Taylor

That the Board note the Regional Cyber Security Program Report and

1. note the transition of the Regional Cyber Security Program from strategy development into accelerated operational delivery, supported by council specific Annual Operating Plans and governance dashboards now in effect across all member councils, and
2. note the ISSC and GMAC's endorsement of a regional Top 5 Strategic Risk Framework and the introduction of a structured quarterly governance pack with operational metrics.

CARRIED

12b Confidential Session

RESOLUTION 26/05- 12b

Moved: Cr Andrew McKibbin
Seconded: Cr Cass Coleman

That the Board resolve out of closed session.

CARRIED

13 **Late Reports – Nil.**

14 **Matters Raised by Members**

RESOLUTION 26/05 – 14

That the Board note the matters raised by members and

1. that CNSWJO develop a strategy for advocacy in relation to the Great Western Highway, including coordinating a delegation of regional, rural and remote council Mayors and General Managers to Parliament to highlight the GWH strategic importance and advocate for ongoing investment,
2. write to the Country Mayors Association of NSW seeking advocacy support regarding the Great Western Highway closure, and
3. seek information from member councils in relation to a possible change of date for regular Board meetings, noting the request from a member to move meetings from Thursdays to Wednesdays.

15 **General business**

16 **Speakers to the next meeting**

- National Water Grid
- NSW DPIRD, NBNC Co and Telstra – Regional Digital Plan

17 **Next meetings:**

Board Meeting dates:

12+13 August – Federal Parliament House visit in Canberra (note date and location change)

November – Federal Parliament House visit in Sydney (date TBC)

GMAC Meeting dates:

30 July 2026 – Orange

22 October 2026 – Forbes

Meeting closed at 4.45 pm

Page 8 is the last page of the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board meeting minutes of meeting of 27 May 2026 held in Sydney.



Photo: CNSWJO Board meeting in Sydney on 27 May 2026

CENTRAL NSW JOINT ORGANISATION

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

EDITION 7, JUNE 2026



Meet our new EO

Congratulations to Kate Barker on her appointment as the Executive Officer of the Central NSW Joint Organisation.

Kate brings extensive experience in regional collaboration, program delivery, advocacy and strategic leadership, with a strong understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing councils across Central NSW.

Kate is already known to many council staff having held various roles in the organisation since 2010.

Kate officially commenced in the role of Executive Officer on 30 March 2026.

The General Managers Advisory Committee (GMAC) met in Cowra on 30 April for its quarterly meeting. During the session, GMAC received presentations from Local Land Services on the issue of unattended livestock on public and private lands, as well as from a University of Sydney Major Industry Project placement student, who shared insights from his work on water and energy management.

In late May, the Board convened in Sydney for its quarterly meeting. Presentations were delivered by the NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Liverpool City Council, and Western Sydney Airport. Discussions focused on the development of the Western Sydney Airport and the opportunities it presents for Central NSW, particularly in relation to freight, agricultural produce, and broader economic development.

The Board also heard from Transport for NSW and Penrith City Council on the progress of the Castlereagh Corridor project.

On the following day, the Board met with a line-up of NSW Ministers. Further details on this engagement are provided on the next page.

This newsletter provides an update on a wide range of activities and initiatives currently underway through the Joint Organisation.

MEETINGS WITH NSW MINISTERS - 28 MAY 2026

The Board attended State Parliament in Sydney on 28 May 2026 and met with a great line-up of local Members, State Ministers and MLCs.

The Board met with:

- **The Hon. Courtney Houssos MLC** - Minister for Domestic, Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and for Natural Resources
- **The Hon. Jihad Dib MP** - Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government and for Emergency Services
- **The Hon. Penny Sharpe MLC** - Minister for Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Heritage
- **The Hon. Paul Scully MP** - Minister for Planning and Public Spaces
- **The Hon. Ryan Park MP** - NSW Minister for Health and for Regional Health
- **The Hon. Jenny Aitchison MP** - Minister for Roads and Regional Transport
- **The Hon. Ron Hoenig MP** - Minister for Local Government
- **The Hon. Tara Moriarty MLC** - Minister for Agriculture, and for Regional NSW and Western NSW
- **Mr Roy Butler MP** - Member for Barwon
- **Mr Phil Donato, MP** - Member for Orange
- **The Hon Paul Toole, MP** - Member for Bathurst
- **Mr Scott Barrett, MLC**

The Mayors of the CNSWJO region have been meeting in Parliament House in Sydney for the past decade. It's a very important opportunity for the region to hear the vision of the NSW Government, for Ministers to receive feedback from this region and to discuss the priorities of the communities.



COLLABORATION ON THE GREAT WESTERN HIGHWAY ISSUE

Working in partnership with RDA Central West, Business NSW (Western) and Destination Central West, the O has provided regional leadership through its coordinating role in the collaborative response to the Great Western Highway disruption.

This collaboration has delivered clear value by enabling a coordinated, whole-of-region approach that aligns local government priorities with business, tourism and regional development perspectives. Impacts arising from the closure have been consistently identified and articulated across affected local government areas, strengthening regional coherence and reducing fragmented advocacy. This collective approach elevated the issue from a transport disruption to a broader regional economic and resilience matter requiring coordinated policy and funding responses.

The unified advocacy position has strengthened engagement with the NSW Government, TfNSW and other key agencies. CNSWJO's leadership has ensured council perspectives are integrated into broader advocacy initiatives, including Other Ways to the West, and that consistent messaging is maintained across government, industry and community stakeholders. Overall, the response demonstrates the tangible benefits of collaboration in supporting recovery and longer-term regional resilience.



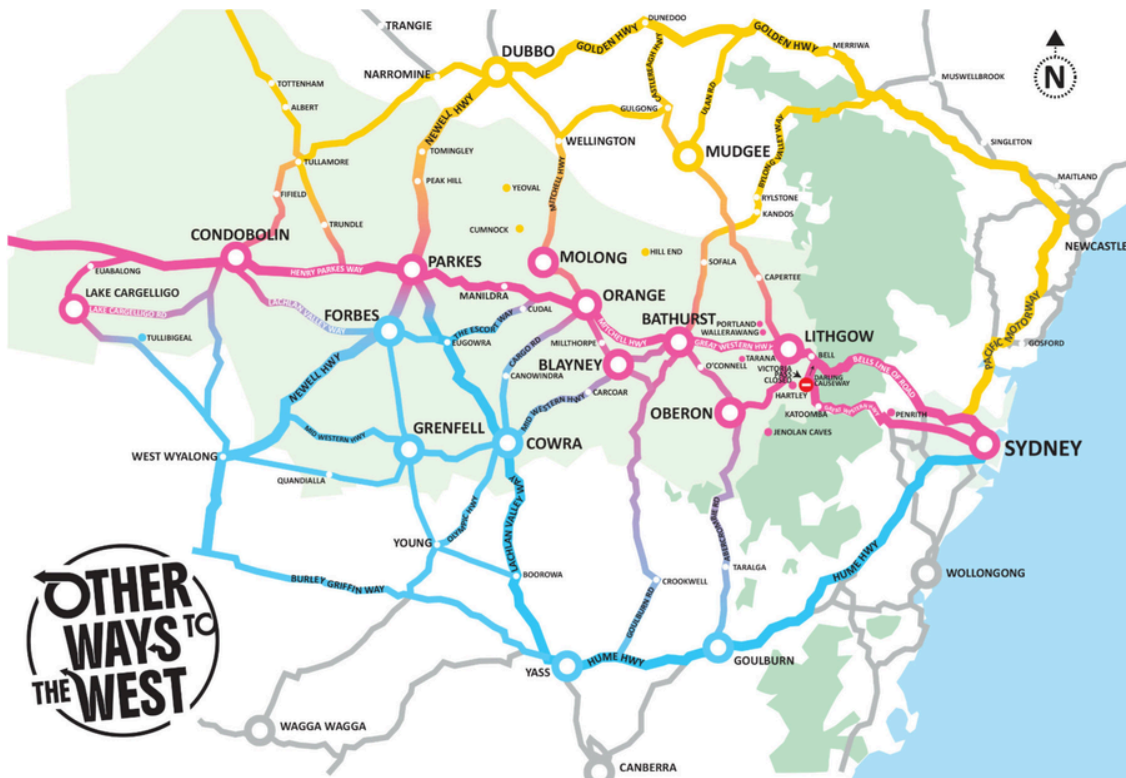
OTHER WAYS TO THE WEST CAMPAIGN

Launched on 20 March, the *Other Ways to the West* campaign aims to reassure travellers that the region is **accessible, open and ready to welcome visitors** - despite a road detour on the Great Western Highway at Victoria Pass. It directly addresses community and visitor confusion about ways to get to the region and reframes the routes as a scenic road trip opportunity.

The campaign, led by CNSWJO, was established in collaboration with member councils, Destination Network Central West, Business NSW (Western) and RDA Central West to respond to the significant and ongoing regional impacts of the detour.

CNSWJO and member councils committed \$50k in seed funding to develop the first stage of the *Other Ways to the West* campaign, which enabled the creation and launch of foundational campaign assets, including a dedicated website, early digital and social media activity and supporting marketing collateral. Funding is being sought to continue the campaign.

Visit: www.otherwaystothewest.com.au to discover the great ways to travel to Central NSW via the Bells Line of Road, the Great Western Highway and the Darling Causeway, the Golden Highway, the Hume Highway, and the Lachlan Valley Way & Mid-Western Highways.



AWA NSW WATER AWARDS

The Water Loss Management and Efficiency Hub Project won the Organisational Excellence Award at the Australian Water Association’s NSW Heads of Water Gala Dinner on 13 March 2026. The award recognises outstanding leadership, collaboration and innovation in the NSW water sector.

This award reflects a decade of work that has shaped the current WLME project, supported by strong relationships, trust, and collaboration between the Water Utilities Alliance and NSW DCCEEW. These long-standing partnerships have enabled the delivery of meaningful outcomes and continue to innovate.



LAUNCH OF EVENTUREMAP

Last year the CNSWJO received funding through NSW DCCEEW’s Joint Organisation Net Zero Accelerator Program to support councils with a range of EV-related initiatives. One of the major projects delivered through this program is the development of the Eventuremap.

The Eventuremap is a simple digital tool designed to encourage EV drivers (and other visitors) to explore and spend time in our towns:

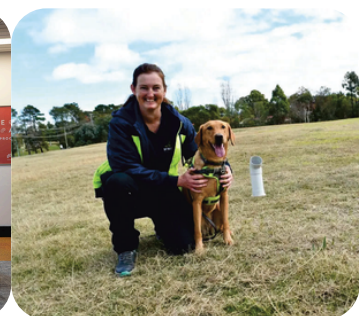
- An EV driver (or other visitor) arrives at a charger and scans a QR code
- Geo-location identifies where they are and allows them to select a 5, 10, 15 or 20-minute walking radius
- A curated list of nearby shops, cafés, public amenities and attractions is displayed

Importantly, the map is not limited to EV drivers – it can be used by anyone. Explore and plan your EV journey at www.eventuremap.nsw.gov.au



LEAK DETECTION DOGGIES

In May, four member councils - Bathurst, Cabonne, CTW and Lithgow, took part in a canine leak detection initiative delivered through the Water Loss Management and Efficiency Hub (WLME) project. In addition to identifying leaks, the initiative aimed to promote water efficiency, encourage community engagement, and showcase councils’ proactive efforts to reduce water loss and improve network management.



CSU MEDICAL SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

Following the success of the initial scholarships awarded to three CSU medical students, the CNSWJO Board resolved at its May 2025 meeting to fund scholarships for an additional three students. To maintain a steady pipeline of graduating recipients, the scholarships have been staggered across future years, enabling one graduate to receive a scholarship each year.

A scholarship ceremony was held in Orange on 19 May 2026, where Mr Joseph Peace and Ms Tabitha Jones received their scholarships. Unfortunately, Mr Brett Causer was unable to attend the event.

Tabitha and Joseph expressed their sincere appreciation to the CNSWJO and member councils for the scholarships and advised they would be keen to meet the Board in the future.

The recipients of the 3 scholarships in 2026 include:

- Brett Causer - 1st year student / 5 year scholarship
- Joseph Pearce - 4th year student / 2 year scholarship
- Tabitha Jones - 5th year student / 1 year scholarship



Image: Cr Bruce Reynolds, Mayor of Blayney, scholarship recipients Joseph Pearce and Tabitha Jones, and Ms Kate Barker, CNSWJO Executive Officer at the scholarship ceremony.

SITE TOUR: FLYERS CREEK WIND FARM

In May, CNSWJO coordinated a site tour of the Flyers Creek Wind Farm, hosted by Iberdrola Australia, giving member councils a valuable opportunity to experience a large-scale renewable energy project firsthand.

Participants gained insight into wind farm infrastructure, project delivery, and the importance of community engagement and environmental management. The tour also highlighted Iberdrola's biodiversity initiatives, including the Squirrel Glider Habitat Improvement Project delivered in late 2024 in partnership with ecologists.

Now operational, the wind farm represents a significant regional investment, with more than 30 turbines generating renewable energy.



CSU POLICY LAB ON HEALTH WORKFORCE

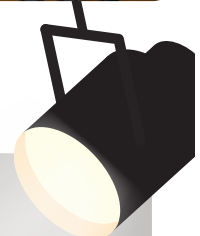
At the request of the CNSWJO Board, and in collaboration with Charles Strurt University (CSU), a Policy Lab on Regional Health Workforce was held in Orange on 5 March 2026.

The Policy Lab provided Councillors and staff from member councils across the region with an opportunity to collaboratively discuss the challenges and opportunities for regional communities in relation to health workforce.

This was the third Policy Lab facilitated collaboratively by CNSWJO and CSU and the purpose of the day was to collectively identify roles and actions for councils in regional NSW to address the regional health workforce crisis, noting that the provision and coordination of health services is outside of councils' formal remit.



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: DISASTER READINESS ACTION PLAN (DRAP) TEMPLATE



What is the DRAP?

The DRAP is a practical tool for councils which moves beyond response and recovery, focusing on risk reduction and resilience. It supports long-term adaptation by planning for future risk, not just recovering from past events.

The DRAP template is funded by the Australian Government under the Disaster Ready Fund.

What will councils use it for?

- Reducing exposure and vulnerability
- Embedding disaster risk in planning and asset decisions
- Coordinating action across councils and agencies
- Strengthening long-term community resilience

Current status

The DRAP template is currently under development, and is being piloted across three member councils.

The DRAP will be available for all councils from late July 2026



Since 2018, the Central NSW region has had 35 natural declared disasters

Through the development of the DRAP, we are building a shared regional framework to actively reduce future disaster risk
While we can't prevent natural hazards, with proper planning we can reduce the impact of disasters.

UNPACKING THE PLANNING REFORMS WORKSHOP

On 17 March, the CNSWJO facilitated a session in Bathurst attended by 29 representatives from 10 member councils to examine the NSW Planning Reforms.

The session provided elected representatives, general managers and planners with clear insights into the proposed reforms and their implications for regional councils. It was led by planning specialist Mr Paul Crennan OAM, with input from Cr Phyllis Miller, Regional NSW representative on the Planning Minister's Planning Systems Reform Reference Group. The session was well received and generated constructive discussion. CNSWJO will continue to support regional planners through further engagement as the reforms progress.



RENEWABLE ENERGY - COMMUNITY BENEFIT SHARING

As a precursor to the SEGRA 2026 Summit in Lithgow, an invite-only workshop ("New Horizons") was held on Tuesday 24 March for councils and stakeholders across the CNSWJO region.

The workshop aimed to develop shared principles to guide community and social benefit expectations for renewable energy projects (typically State Significant Developments) outside Renewable Energy Zones. It brought together elected representatives, council staff, and regional leaders to strengthen collective bargaining and reduce fragmented, project-by-project VPA negotiations.

Building on work from organisations such as CRJO, CNSWJO, the Regional Australia Institute, RE-Alliance, Toowoomba Regional Council, and the Clean Energy Council, the workshop supports the creation of a unified, regionally tailored community benefit-sharing framework for regional NSW. Outcomes will inform further testing, refinement, and endorsement through the Joint Organisation network.

The workshop outcomes will provide a foundation for further testing, refinement and regional endorsement of such a framework - primarily through the JO network and a draft set of 10 shared principles were identified by workshop participants.



SOUTHERN LIGHTS AND NETWORKS GROUP

The Southern Lights Group advocates for councils within the Essential Energy footprint, addressing complex regulatory and pricing frameworks managed by the Australian Energy Regulator (AER). The group has achieved significant wins, including making the NSW Public Lighting Code mandatory, which now acts as a Service Level Agreement between councils and DNSPs and is enforced by IPART.



Key Achievements and Activities:

- 1. AER Pricing Determination (FY24–FY29):** Southern Lights played a critical role in achieving a 16.9% reduction in streetlighting charges, saving councils approximately \$10.1 million over five years. This outcome avoided a potential 60% price increase that would have cost councils an additional \$37.8 million.
- 2. NSW Public Lighting Code:** After a decade of advocacy, the Code is now mandatory and tied to DNSP licensing conditions. Southern Lights continues to participate in annual and triennial reviews to ensure compliance and service standards.
- 3. Smart Innovation and Technology Adoption:** The group is addressing resistance from DNSPs to adopt new technologies and advocating for a whole-of-state approach to reduce duplication of effort by councils.
- 4. Quality Assurance in Billing:** Southern Lights has identified discrepancies in billing and is working toward a statewide approach to improve efficiency and accuracy, which is now linked to IPART reporting requirements.

The group is now expanding its remit beyond streetlighting to include broader energy network advocacy, aligning with the Joint Organisation Net Zero Accelerator (JONZA) program. This expansion aims to address network tariff changes introduced during the 2024–2029 AER Pricing Determination, which impact councils and businesses.

CNSWJO is the project manager for the Southern Lights and Networks Group, supporting its 30+ regional NSW council members.

UPDATE ON CYBER SECURITY

During FYQ3, the Program completed its transition from strategy establishment into operational delivery. All Member Councils now have council specific Annual Operating Plans in effect.

The ISSC has met twice during the quarter, expanded its membership to ensure all councils are represented, endorsed a regional Top 5 Strategic Risk Framework, and received its first operational metrics pack. Three structured communication streams have been launched to support operational, governance and learning audiences across the region.

The Regional CISO will present operational metrics data and regional maturity posture findings at relevant governance meetings in due course.




Upcoming procurements:

- Traffic Control Services
- Tourism Public Relations
- Solar Asset Audits
- Project Management Services
- Bitumen emulsion
- Restocking of first aid kits



Together with Regional Development Australia Central West, nbnLocal and Telstra, CNSWJO is working on the development of a Regional Digital Plan. The purpose of the Plan is to provide baseline digital connectivity information for the region, determine priorities and set a platform to support and advocate on behalf of the community for digital connectivity improvements.



Recent online workshops to develop the regional Disaster Readiness Action Plan (DRAP) template brought great energy and collaboration! On 11 May, we welcomed 51 participants, followed by another 42 on 14 May.

Together, representatives from all 11 member councils joined with the NSW Reconstruction Authority, DCCEEW, NSW Police, Regional Development Australia Central West, SES, RFS, and the Illawarra Shoalhaven, Hunter, and Mid North Coast Joint Organisation making for two collaborative, well-attended sessions.



Through the NSW Office of Local Government's Fresh Start program, over \$4.8m was received by CNSWJO member councils for training for staff. This included training in:

- water operations
- admin/customer service
- school-based traineeships
- cadet and apprenticeships



At its May meeting, the Board resolved to support:

- Dr Joe McGirr MP's *Better Care, Closer to Home Alliance* campaign and the Rural Health Action Plan, and
- LCNSW's "Caring for our regions" Action Plan for Rural and Regional Health.

Improving healthcare across the region is a key strategic priority of the Board.

Submissions lodged since March include:


- Submission to the Department of Housing Planning and Infrastructure (DPHI) New Approach to Strategic Planning,
- Submission to the Department of Housing Planning and Infrastructure (DPHI) on the Climate Change and Natural Hazards State Environmental Planning Policy (Explanation of Intended Effect),
- Submission to the Federal Productivity Commission on National Water Reform 2026, and
- Submission to the Murray Darling Basin Plan Review 2026

All of our submissions can be found on the website:

www.centraljo.nsw.gov.au/submissions


Upcoming events:

- Thursday 11 June - **Water Utilities Alliance Meeting**
- Wednesday, 17 June - **Regional Resilience Group Meeting**
- Thursday 18 June - **Building Surveyors Networking Group Meeting - online**
- Wednesday 24 June - **Active Leak Detection Training in Molong**
- Monday 29 July - **DRAP Template Pilot - Lithgow**
- Wednesday 1 July - **Disaster Readiness Action Plan Pilot Workshop - Parkes**
- Thursday 2 July - **Disaster Readiness Action Plan Pilot Workshop - Cabonne**
- Wednesday 15 July - **Training, Learning & Development Group Meeting**
- Wednesday 15 July - **Regional Resilience Group Meeting**
- Tuesday 21 July - **WHS/Risk Management Group Meeting**
- Tuesday 21 July - **Transport Technical Committee / Quarterly Meeting**
- Tuesday 28 July - **Landfill Emissions Working Group Meeting in Cowra**
- Thursday 30 July - **GMAC Meeting in Orange**
- Tuesday 4 August - **Regional Net Zero Group Meeting**
- Thursday 6 August - **Water Utilities Alliance Meeting**
- Wednesday 12 August - **CNSWJO Board Meeting in Canberra**
- Thursday, 13 August - **CNSWJO Meeting with Federal Ministers in Canberra**

OUR REGION



**CENTRAL NSW
JOINT ORGANISATION**

Central NSW Joint Organisation provides strong cohesive leadership that aligns all tiers of government to deliver our region's community derived strategic priorities.

Read more about Joint Organisations [here](#)

YOUR REGIONAL GROUPS AND TEAMS

Able led by the General Managers' Advisory Committee (GMAC), value is delivered primarily through various operational teams across the region. These include:

- General Managers' Advisory Committee
- Water Utilities' Alliance
- Transport Technical Committee
- Tourism Managers' Group
- Planners' Group
- Human Resources Managers' Group
- WHS/Risk Management Group
- Training, Learning and Development Group
- Net Zero Group
- Regional IT Group
- Building Surveyor/Skills Shortages Group
- Building Surveyors Networking Group
- Fleet Managers Group
- IP&R Group
- Regional Resilience Group
- Regional Procurement Working Group
- Regional Water Loss and Efficiency Group
- Information Security Steering Committee

ADVOCACY

Looking for recent submissions from the JO?
Please go to
www.centraljo.nsw.gov.au/submissions

There has been significant recent submission work undertaken by the CNSWJO team in energy, regional development, transport, and water.

Please feel welcome to ask for support for submissions if Council has directed you to respond.

PROCUREMENT

Did you know that CNSWJO facilitates many regional contracts for member councils, such as bulk fuel, bitumen, linemarking, pipe relining, dam surveillance, electricity, Employee Assistance Program, and so many more. Go to the [CNSWJO website](#) to find out more.

If you know of a procurement activity that would benefit from a regional approach, please reach out to the team!

In 2024/2025, CNSWJO regional contracts saved member councils over \$2.5m!

For more information on any item in this newsletter, please reach out to the relevant program manager or email admin@centraljo.nsw.gov.au
www.centraljo.nsw.gov.au

10.4 2026 LOCAL ROADS CONGRESS - 1 JUNE 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. 2026 Local Roads Congress Communiqué** [↓](#)

MOTION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the information about the Local Road Congress on 1 June 2026.

REPORT

I had the pleasure of representing Council, along with Director Operations Logan Hignett at the 2026 Local Roads Congress held at the NSW Parliament House in Sydney.

This year's theme focused on "Shaping Policies for Stronger Communities" which focuses on:

- Reflecting on past experiences
- Embracing innovation and new approaches
- Developing practical, forward-thinking solutions
- Building more resilient road infrastructure and transport networks
- Strengthening and connecting communities across NSW

A full overview of what was discussed is included in the 2026 Local Roads Congress Communiqué is attached at *Annexure A*.



Cr Neil Westcott

MAYOR



The NSW Roads and Transport Directorate (RTD), a joint initiative between Local Government NSW (LGNSW) and the NSW Division of the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA NSW and ACT), is pleased to present the 2026 Local Roads Congress Communique.

Over 120 delegates, encompassing mayors, elected council officials and council executive staff gathered with State Government Ministers and Shadow Ministers at NSW Parliament House on 1st June 2026 to attend the 2026 Local Roads Congress. The discussions and presentations from the Congress inform the advocacy focus of the Roads & Transport Directorate over the next 12 months which is outlined in this communique.

Under the theme of 'Shaping Policies for Stronger Communities', congress delegates identified the following list of recommendations as key priorities for Local, State and Federal governments to improve the NSW local road network.

NSW Local Government

The Congress supports a commitment from NSW Local Government to:

- i. Prioritise funding of local road infrastructure to address the current annual shortfall and improve the condition of road assets.
- ii. Investigate AI technology solutions, as a means of improving the efficiency of road maintenance, road safety and natural disaster assessment activities.
- iii. Recognise that rural and regional councils maintain extensive road networks that support state and national economic activity and require a funding model that reflects road length, freight task and economic importance, not simply population.
- iv. Develop and implement integrated local road network plans aligned with federal, state and regional plans, considering critical infrastructure, resilience, local transport needs, asset and risk management, road safety, freight, delivery and operation.
- v. Develop and align Asset Management Plans and Long-Term Financial Plans that fully incorporate service levels, lifecycle costs, and risk.

NSW Government

The Congress calls on the NSW Government to:

- i. Review the Fixing Local Roads Program with an annual allocation aligned to the Roads to Recovery distribution formula to provide greater certainty and allow improved short-medium term infrastructure planning by NSW Local Government.

- ii. Ensure natural disaster funding arrangements allow resilience improvements to be included as a part of restoration works and provide dedicated funding for proactive betterment works to improve the overall resilience of the network.
- iii. Explore funding options to support councils in replacing ageing causeways and concrete, steel and composite bridges.
- iv. Support implementation of integrated local road network plans aligned to federal, state and regional plans, considering critical infrastructure, resilience, local transport needs, asset and risk management, road safety, freight, delivery and operation.
- v. Partner with councils to deliver and fund supporting transport infrastructure in areas where the NSW Government has rezoned for higher housing density. This includes road maintenance, traffic and parking management, and upgrades to the local road network to meet demand.

Australian and NSW Government

The Congress calls on the Australian and NSW Governments to work together with NSW Local Governments to address the following:

- i. An increase in base funding support for Local Government to address the current funding shortfall of road assets, and a corresponding reduction in individual competitive grants.
- ii. Reduce cost shifting to local governments, particularly those associated with the provision and ongoing care of local road assets servicing large-scale economic generators and state significant developments.
- iii. The NSW Reconstruction Authority (RA) and National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) collaborate to streamline natural disaster funding and assessment requirements, including a maximum limit of 6 months to finalise agreements or claims from councils.
- iv. Restore the Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund (RERRF) to address roads maintenance and defect backlogs.

Australian Government

The Congress calls on the Australian Governments to:

- i. Increase Financial Assistance Grants to 1% of Commonwealth Tax Revenue and review the funding allocation to ensure an equitable distribution.
- ii. Increase the annual Roads to Recovery Program allocations to align with the construction cost index and the growth in the road asset base, ensuring funding levels are maintained in real terms.
- iii. Provide increased, long-term and predictable funding for local and regional roads, prioritising safety, congestion reduction, freight resilience, and growing communities. This also includes simplifying grant application and reporting processes to reduce administrative burdens on councils.

11 NOTICES OF MOTION/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

11.1 RECOGNITION OF HISTORICAL TRAGEDY AT BILLABONG CREEK, PARKES

Councillor: Cr Ken McGrath

Annexures: Nil

MOTION

That Council:

1. Acknowledge the historical tragedy that occurred at Billabong Creek, near the creek crossing between Eugowra Road and Kelly Road, where three persons lost their lives.
2. Support the installation of a commemorative plaque at or near the Billabong Creek crossing site, subject to site assessment and approvals under Council's Public Memorials Policy.
3. Authorise Council staff to progress the investigation, design and wording of a historical marker or commemorative plaque in accordance with section 4.3 of the Public Memorials Policy.
4. Consider the inclusion of a QR code on the plaque to link to detailed historical information about the incident.
5. Note that Councillor Kenny McGrath has indicated a willingness to assist in facilitating access to historical information, including consultation with the family of the deceased and those present at the time of the rescue.
6. Receive a further report to Council once investigations are complete, including site suitability, final wording, costs and implementation arrangements.

BACKGROUND

A historical tragedy occurred at Billabong Creek at the Eugowra Road crossing, in which three people lost their lives. The incident is recognised locally as a significant and solemn part of Parkes Shire's history and has been documented in local media as an event that also contributed to awareness around water safety and was the catalyst for the formation of the Parkes & Districts Rescue Squad, now, the State Emergency Service.

Councillor Kenny McGrath has submitted this Notice of Motion to formally recognise the event through the installation of a memorial plaque at the site. The proposed plaque would serve as a historical marker, providing respectful acknowledgement of the lives lost and the significance of the event in the Shire's history.

The proposal includes the use of a QR code on the plaque to link to further information about the incident, allowing broader historical context to be provided without overloading the physical marker.

Council's **Public Memorials Policy** provides for the installation of **historical markers and commemorative plaques** under section 4.3, including for significant events unique to the Shire's local history. The proposed memorial would be subject to assessment under this policy framework.

OFFICER'S COMMENT

Author: Kent Boyd PSM, General Manager

Commentary:

The installation of a historical marker at Billabong Creek is consistent with Council's ability, under its Public Memorials Policy, to acknowledge significant events that are strongly linked to a specific location and are part of the Shire's history. The use of a plaque with a QR code allows for interpretive and educational outcomes while keeping the physical infrastructure discreet and appropriate for the setting.

The proposed location near a creek crossing will require assessment to ensure:

- The plaque does not pose safety risks or interfere with road, bridge or flood infrastructure;
- The location is suitable from an asset management, maintenance and environmental perspective; and
- Any required approvals (including land ownership and consent from relevant road or asset authorities) are obtained.

The involvement of the families of the deceased and those involved in the rescue is an important consideration to ensure accuracy, sensitivity and community support for the memorial.

Financial Implications

Final costs are not yet known and would need to be confirmed through design, material selection and site assessment. A further report would outline final costs and budget implications prior to implementation.

Policy and Legislative Context

The proposal aligns with Council's **Public Memorials Policy**, specifically **section 4.3 – Historical Markers and Commemorative Plaques**, which allows Council to install plaques to recognise significant events unique to the Shire's local history, subject to assessment and Council approval.

This report has been prepared using AI-assisted drafting tools. The content has been reviewed for accuracy and relevance by Council staff prior to submission.

12 COUNCILLOR REPORT(S)**12.1 COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION: MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 8 MAY 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:** Marg Applebee, Deputy Mayor**Authoriser:** Kent Boyd PSM, General Manager**Annexures:** A. **CMA Minutes for 8 May 2026** [↓](#)**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Minutes from the Country Mayors Association meeting held on 8 May 2026.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

As Mayor Neil Westcott was unavailable, I attended the Country Mayors Association meeting on his behalf in Sydney on 8 May 2026, which was strongly supported by various Departments including Parliamentary Ministers and with representatives of Country NSW Councils and associated organisations in attendance. The Agenda Theme was: Skills Shortages, Labour Solutions.

The meeting was held in the Theatrette at Parliament House, Sydney and the agenda was full with the following guests providing presentations to the meeting:

- NSW Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education: The Hon. Steve Whan MP.
- NSW Shadow Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education: Mr Justin Clancy MP.
- Acting Executive Director, Regional Economic Delivery, DPIRD: Mr Craig Jenkins on “The Welcome Experience”.
- CEO, Royal Flying Doctors Service (RFDS), South-Eastern Section: Mr Greg Sam.
- CSU Vice-Chancellor and President: Professor Renee Leon on the “Importance of Regional Universities in NSW”.
- Office of Local Government Deputy Secretary: Mr Brett Whitworth PSM
- The Premier: The Hon. Chris Minns MP.

A copy of the Minutes are attached.

Marg Applebee

DEPUTY MAYOR



THE COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC

"What we want is nothing more than equity"

MINUTES

Friday 8th May 2026

A General Meeting of the Country Mayors Association of NSW Inc was held in the Theatrette, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney from 8:20am. The meeting had a 'Skill Shortages, Labour Solutions' theme.

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

Mayor Firman opened the General meeting to allow for an urgent motion in response to the cessation of the Inland Rail Project by the Federal Government. Motion listed.

Attendance

Cr. John Medcalf OAM	Mayor	Lachlan Shire Council
Ian Greenham	GM	Lachlan Shire Council
Cr. Liam Ley	Deputy Mayor	Dungog Shire Council
Cr. Chris Hanna	Mayor	Snowy Monaro Regional Council
Noreen Vu	GM	Snowy Monaro Regional Council
Cr. Brian Ingram	Mayor	Hilltops Council
Anthony O'Reilly	GM	Hilltops Council
Cr. Kinne Ring	Mayor	Kempsey Shire Council
Andrew Meddle	CEO	Kempsey Shire Council
Cr. Daniel Keady	Mayor	Coonamble Shire Council
Greg Hill	GM	Coonamble Shire Council
Mick Raby	Acting General Manager	Uralla Shire Council
Cr. Kath Arnold	Deputy Mayor	Uralla Shire Council
Cr. Claire Pontin	Mayor	MidCoast Council
Cr. Margot Davis	Mayor	Glen Innes Severn Council
Bernard Smith	GM	Glen Innes Severn Council
Cr. George Weston	Mayor	Leeton Shire Council
Jackie Kruger	GM	Leeton Shire Council
Cr. Ruth McRae OAM	Mayor	Murrumbidgee Council
John Scarce	GM	Murrumbidgee Council
Cr. Rick Firman OAM	Mayor	Temora Shire Council
Melissa Boxall	GM	Temora Shire Council
Megan Mulrooney	CEO	REROC
Gary Fry	Secretariat	CMA
Cr. Russell Webb	Mayor	Tamworth Regional Council
Paul Bennett	GM	Tamworth Regional Council
Cr. Jeff Budd	Deputy Mayor	Tamworth Regional Council
Cr. Kathryn Rindfleish	Mayor	Warrumbungle Shire Council
Lindsay Mason	GM	Warrumbungle Shire Council

Cr. Louie Zaffina	Mayor	Balranald Shire Council
Terry Dodds	CEO	Balranald Shire Council
Cr. Kate Dight	Mayor	Inverell Shire Council
Brett McInnes	GM	Inverell Shire Council
Cr. Wendy Wilks	Councillor	Inverell Shire Council
Cr. Jarrod Marsden	Mayor	Cobar Shire Council
Peter Vlatko	GM	Cobar Shire Council
Cr. Greg Whitely	Mayor	Warren Shire Council
Gary Woodman	GM	Warren Shire Council
Cr. Alan White	Deputy Mayor	Coolamon Shire Council
Tony Donoghue	GM	Coolamon Shire Council
Cr. Ashley Hall	Mayor	Edward River Council
Jack Bond	CEO	Edward River Council
Cr. Jasmin Jones	Mayor	Yass Valley Council
Gayleen Burley	CEO	Yass Valley Council
Ross Gurney	GM	Lithgow City Council
Cr. Cassandra Coleman	Mayor	Lithgow City Council
Brett Stonestreet PSM	EO	Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation
Cr. Ewen Jones	Mayor	Narromine Shire Council
Jane Redden	GM	Narromine Shire Council
Cr. Tiffany Galvin	Mayor	Gwydir Shire Council
Leeah Daley	GM	Gwydir Shire Council
Cr. Cheryl Cook	Mayor	Federation Council
Jo Shannon	Deputy GM	Federation Council
Cr. Colleen Fuller OAM	Mayor	Gunnedah Shire Council
Kelly Stidworthy	Director Corporate Services	Gunnedah Shire Council
Cr. Nina Dillon	Mayor	Goulburn Mulwaree Council
Scott Gallacher	GM	Goulburn Mulwaree Council
Cr. Sarah Ndiaye	Mayor	Byron Shire Council
Mark Arnold	GM	Byron Shire Council
Cr. Neville Kschenka OAM	Mayor	Narrandera Shire Council
Tim Coote	GM	Narrandera Shire Council
Cr. Adam Roberts	Mayor	Port Macquarie Hastings Council
Cr. Jim Hickey	Deputy Mayor	Broken Hill City Council
Laura Black	GM	Clarence Valley Council
Cr. Ray Smith	Mayor	Clarence Valley Council
Stephen Dunshea	GM	Forbes Shire Council
Cr. Chris Roylance	Deputy Mayor	Forbes Shire Council
Cr. Phyllis Miller OAM	Mayor	Forbes Shire Council
Cr. Lea Parker	Mayor	Greater Hume Council
Dena Vlekkert	GM	Greater Hume Council
Cr. Paul Best	Mayor	Weddin Shire Council
Matthew Sykes	GM	Weddin Shire Council
Cr. Paul Culhane	Mayor	Upper Lachlan Shire Council
Alex Waldron	CEO	Upper Lachlan Shire Council
Cr. Tony Mileto	Mayor	Orange City Council
Scott Maunder	CEO	Orange City Council
Cr. Marg Applebee	Deputy Mayor	Parkes Shire Council
Cr. Julia Cornwall McKean	Mayor	Berrigan Shire Council
Cr Catherine Healy	Councillor	Berrigan Shire Council

Cameron Boardman	CEO	Berrigan Shire Council
Cr. Dallas Tout	Mayor	Wagga Wagga City Council
Jonathan Malota	Policy Advisor – Transport & Data	NRMA
Brad Byrnes	GM	Cabonne Council
Cr. Jamie Jones	Deputy Mayor	Cabonne Council
Stephen Gardiner	Advocacy Manager	Wollondilly Shire Council
Cr. Mayor Gould	Mayor	Wollondilly Shire Council
Cr. Darrell Tiemens	Mayor	Narrabri Shire Council
Eloise Chaplain	GM	Narrabri Shire Council
Cr. Russell Fitzpatrick	Mayor	Bega Valley Shire Council
Anthony McMahon	CEO	Bega Valley Shire Council
Cr. Melissa Matters	Deputy Mayor	Kiama Municipal Council
Jane Stroud	CEO	Kiama Municipal Council
Cr. Paul Smith	Mayor	Cowra Council
Paul Devery	GM	Cowra Council
Cr. Peter Sharp	Mayor	Lockhart Shire Council
Cr. Sue Moore	Mayor	Singleton Council
Justin Fitzpatrick-Barr	GM	Singleton Council
Roger Bailey	Interim GM	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council
Cr. Bruce Reynolds	Mayor	Blayney Shire Council
Mark Dicker	GM	Blayney Shire Council
Cr. John Harvie	Mayor	Murray River Council
Stacy Williams	CEO	Murray River Council
Grant Baker	GM	Bland Shire Council
Cr. Lisa Minogue	Deputy Mayor	Bland Shire Council
Cr. Nick White	Deputy Mayor	Gilgandra Shire Council
David Neeves	GM	Gilgandra Shire Council
Cr. Jesse Fitzpatrick	Mayor	Wingecarribee Shire Council
Lisa Miscamble	GM	Wingecarribee Shire Council
Mark Griffioen	GM	Bellingen Shire Council
Cr. Leah Anderson	Mayor	Port Stephens Council
Cr. Eric Noakes	Mayor	Walcha Council
Stephen Parry	GM	Walcha Council
Cr. Des Kennedy	Mayor	Mid-Western Regional Council
Cr. Sharon Cadwallader	Mayor	Ballina Shire Council
Cr. Mathew Hatcher	Mayor	Eurobodalla Shire Mayor
Cr. Patricia White	Mayor	Shoalhaven City Council
Andrew Constance	CEO	Shoalhaven City Council
Cr. Julia Ham	Mayor	Snowy Valleys Council
Jessica Quilty	GM	Snowy Valleys Council
Cr. Trina Thomson	Councillor	Snowy Valleys Council
Cr. Robert Taylor	Mayor	Bathurst Regional Council
Robert Fish	GM	Port Macquarie Hastings Council
Cr. Robert Mustow	Mayor	Richmond Valley Council
Vaughan Macdonald	GM	Richmond Valley Council
Kate Barker	EO	Central NSW JO
	Manager of Water & Regional	
Meredith Macpherson	Development	Central NSW JO
Katie McDonell	Community Solutions Manager	RDN
Hamdy Amrizal	Program Lead, Knowledge Mobilisation	RDN

Zoe Honeysett	Director, Apprentices & Trainees Program	OLG
Louise Taylor	Council Engagement Manager	OLG
Katrina Annis-Brown	Council Engagement Manager	OLG
Cr. Susannah Pearse	Mayor	Moree Plains Shire Council
Natasha Cowley	GM	Moree Plains Shire Council
Cr. Lachlan Ford	Mayor	Bourke Shire Council
Leonie Brown	GM	Bourke Shire Council
Cr. Josh Black	Mayor	Dubbo Regional Council
Cr. Steve Krieg	Mayor	Lismore City Council
Cr. Jeri Hall	Deputy Mayor	Lismore City Council
Cr. Katie Graham	Deputy Mayor	Oberon Council
Gary Wallace	GM	Oberon Council
Cr. Bronwyn Petrie	Mayor	Tenterfield Shire Council
Cr. Darcy Byrne	President	LGNSW
David Reynolds	CEO	LGNSW
Bronwen Regan		LGNSW

Apologies

Cr. Digby Rayward	Mayor	Dungog Shire Council
Gareth Curtis	GM	Dungog Shire Council
David Webb	GM	Hay Shire Council
Cr. Carol Oataway	Mayor	Hay Shire Council
Cr. Kenrick Winchester	Mayor	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
Rebecca Ryan	GM	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
Luke Ryan	GM	Dubbo Regional Council
Eric Groth	GM	Gunnedah Shire Council
Cr. Sam Coupland	Mayor	Armidale Regional Council
Cr. Adam Shultz	Mayor	Lake Macquarie City Council
Tony Farrell	CEO	Lake Macquarie City Council
Cr. Danielle Mulholland OAM	Mayor	Kyogle Council
Cr. Abb McCalister	Mayor	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council
Cr. Cameron McDonald	Mayor	Kiama Municipal Council
Adrian Butler	GM	Federation Council
Brad Cam	GM	Mid-Western Regional Council
Cr. Maurice Collison		Upper Hunter Shire Council
Greg McDonald	GM	Upper Hunter Shire Council
Ken Cudmore	Mayor	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Cian Middleton	GM	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Cr. Daniel Linklater	Mayor	Wentworth Shire Council
Ken Ross	GM	Wentworth Shire Council
Cr. Bob Callow	Mayor	Junee Shire Council
Jay Nankivell	GM	Broken Hill City Council
Cr. Brian Monaghan	Mayor	Bland Shire Council
Cr. Steve Allan	Mayor	Bellingen Shire Council
Cr. Kevin Beatty	Mayor	Cabonne Council
Cr. Dave McCann OAM	Mayor	Coolamon Shire Council

Recommendation: that the apologies be accepted and noted.

Moved by Mayor Phyllis Miller OAM (Forbes Shire). Seconded by Mayor John Medcalf OAM (Lachlan Shire).
Carried unanimously.

3. Adoption of Minutes from 27 March 2026 meeting**Recommendation: that the 27 March 2026 Minutes be accepted as a true record**

Moved by Mayor Kate Dight (Inverell Shire). Seconded by Mayor Jasmin Jones (Yass Valley Council). Carried
unanimously.

4. Matters arising from 27 March 2026 Minutes

Nil

5. Urgent Inland Rail Motion

That the CMA Board make urgent representations to the Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Local Government, The Hon Catherine King MP:

1. To express NSW CMA's disappointment in the cessation of the Inland Rail Project.
2. To seek urgent clarification on the next steps in relation to the scaling back of the project.
3. To seek appropriate compensation and support measures for contractors, businesses and councils that have incurred significant sunk costs and undertaken substantial planning and investment in preparation for the project.
4. To seek clarification on how impacted rural, remote and regional communities in NSW, and associated planned infrastructure and economic development opportunities, will be supported moving forward.
5. That a delegation of affected NSW Country Mayors Association Mayors seek an urgent meeting with Minister King to discuss the impacts of the project's cessation on regional communities, councils and local economies.

Moved by Mayor Ewen Jones (Narromine Shire). Seconded by Mayor Darrell Tiemens (Narrabri Shire).
Carried unanimously.

General Meeting Suspended

Presentations

CMA Chairman Mayor Firman presented immediate past Chairman, Emeritus Mayor Mr. Jamie Chaffey MP with a badge, honouring him as a CMA Patron.
Mayor Firman said that the CMA is a strong and politically influential representative body because of the work of our recent leaders and it's important to acknowledge that.
Mr Chaffey said this honour and role is a privilege he is proud of, "as is representing your interests in Canberra".

Presentation: NSW Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education, the Hon. Steve Whan MP

We have worked hard to put TAFE back in the heart of the skills sector of NSW. There has been a 23% increase to TAFE's budget since we came into Government. Importantly, 87% of TAFE teachers are now permanent, which is a big increase and a real positive. I am proud that there is about \$23Bil in the skills budget. The NSW State nominated skilled migration programs continue to bring much needed skills into our regions from overseas.

A thank-you gift was presented to Minister Whan by CMA Deputy Chairman, Mayor Russell Fitzpatrick (Bega Valley Shire).

Presentation: NSW Shadow Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education, Mr. Justin Clancy MP

Young people are lacking career confidence. Our apprentice numbers are at their lowest since 2020. Only about half of our apprentices complete their training. It is not just a funding issue; it's a system design issue.

A thank-you gift was presented to Mr. Clancy by CMA Board Member, Mayor Russell Webb (Tamworth Regional Council).

Presentation: The Welcome Experience**Mr. Craig Jenkins (Acting Executive Director, Regional Economic Delivery), DPIRD**

The Welcome Experience is a free personalised settlement support program, established in 2023, in response to essential worker shortages. Local connectors help individuals and their families with holistic settlement, including housing, partner employment and education. 88 LGAs are now included and funding has been extended for a further 12 months. 3,400 essential workers have been supported as of this week. Over 6,000 people in total supported in regional NSW.

[Presentation supplied to members]

A thank-you gift was presented to Mr. Jenkins by CMA Board Member, Mayor Sue Moore (Singleton Council).

Presentation: Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) South Eastern Section CEO Mr. Greg Sam

There are 1.8mil people in the RFDS safety net. The 90th anniversary is occurring later in May.

Community interest is at our core, as should be the case for any charity. Not just emergency but also, dental and mental health services.

RFDS has a training role.

Value of the Service is calculated at \$11 Billion over 10 years.

We continue to advocate for core funding. I ask for your help and support, calling on the NSW Government for \$15mil in funding. Your valuable contribution will make a difference.

A thank-you gift was presented to Mr. Sam by CMA Board Member, Mayor John Medcalf OAM (Lachlan Shire).

**Presentation: CSU Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Renée Leon
- on the importance of Regional Universities in NSW**

What keeps you up at night is what to do if you lose your last doctor or nurse. Regional universities are key to addressing those challenges. It's a deliberate pipeline. Regional NSW is expected to grow by 600,000 by 2045. Nearly 80% of our graduates go on work and live in regional – about 7,500 in the last year. It costs more to run a regional university. The regional loading does not cover it. Cost of delivery is 12-25% higher but regional loading is about 3%. Our struggles are your struggles. We seek your support.

A thank-you gift was presented to Prof. Leon by CMA Board Member, Mayor Josh Black (Dubbo Regional Council).

MORNING TEA in Fountain Courtyard – this valued networking opportunity had a colour boost, thanks to RFDS photo booths.

Before proceedings recommenced, Members held up signs of support for the RFDS for photo.

Presentation: Office of Local Government Deputy Secretary, Mr. Brett Whitworth PSM

Over 1,000 people into the Local Government sector thanks to the \$252mil Fresh Start for Local Government program. Funding 1,300 cadetships, apprenticeships and trainees. Also to fund workforce capacity and capabilities. 15% / 100 Aboriginal people employed through the program. 91% of NSW Councils have said they experience skill shortages.

Talk to Zoe Honeysett - Director, Apprentices & Trainees Program, about the Fresh Start program.

Supervisor workshops are coming up.
Electric vehicle upskilling, including Council mechanics – important, given the fuel price crisis.
Grant apps round 4 open mid-year.

A thank-you gift was presented to Mr. Whitworth by CMA Board Member, Mayor Phyllis Miller (Dubbo Regional Council).

Chairman of the NSW Grants Commission Ms Linda Scott gave an impromptu talk, with which she foreshadowed visits to the regions to gather input on a new formula for FAGs distribution. Initial dates:

- 6 August - Queanbeyan
- 14 August – Coffs Harbour
- 13 September - Maitland
- 14 September - Griffith
- 15 September - Dubbo
- 16 September - Webinar

Members requested further visits to the west of the Newell Highway, such as Cobar and it was taken on notice.

Chairman, Mayor Firman asked Mayor Colleen Fuller (Gunnedah Shire) what her OAM meant to her. Speaking from the heart, Mayor Fuller said 'It is about a team, our community.'

LGNSW President Darcy Byrne commended Mayors who presented at the summit and requested suggestion for the next summit.

Presentation: NSW Premier, The Hon Chris Minns MP

I appreciate the opportunity to address this conference. Thanks to Rick and all of you. I am indebted to you for the local expertise you provide, especially through the Premier's Rural, Remote and Regional Advisory Council (PRRRAC).

It is a steep learning curve after 12 years out of Government and we genuinely appreciate the guidance from Rick and the CMA.

I only received the drought resilience report from Dr. Colbran yesterday, so I haven't read it yet. We are going to digest that report. With over 60% of the State in drought, it is timely.

In emergencies, politics takes a back seat, especially in country Council areas. You do it for the love of your community. It's genuine civic leadership.

Mayor Firman: Invest in Us - your position?

A: I'm in favour of the 1% and always have been. It is/would be money well spent.

We need your help re GST distribution. We need a statewide campaign.

We (in NSW) now receive 83c for every dollar we send to Canberra. Victoria receives \$1.07. - an additional \$1.5bil. plus. The WA Government is rolling cash. They just gave everyone there \$700.

GENERAL MEETING RESUMES

Correspondence (since 26 March, 2026)

Outwards

To	Subject
The Hon. Anthony Albanese MP Prime Minister of Australia	Inequitable GST Distribution
The Hon. Steve Whan MP Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education Parliament of NSW	Invitation to Speak at the 8 May Meeting
Mr. Brett Whitworth PSM Deputy Secretary, Local Government NSW Office of Local Government	Invitation to Speak at the 8 May Meeting
Mr. Justin Clancy MP NSW Shadow Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education	Invitation to Speak at the 8 May Meeting
Mr Ron Dowell	Condolences for the passing of his late wife, former NSW Local Government icon, Jenny Dowell OAM

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The Hon. Yasmin Catley MP, NSW Police Minister	Gun law reforms – CMA consultation
NSW Premier, The Hon Chris Minns MP	PFAS costs
NSW Premier, The Hon Chris Minns MP	The need for State and Federal Governments to appreciate the Local Government Financial Sustainability struggle
NSW Treasurer, The Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC	PFAS costs
NSW Treasurer, The Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC	The need for State and Federal Governments to appreciate the Local Government Financial Sustainability struggle
NSW Treasurer, The Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC	GST Distribution and the CMA Federal Submission
NSW Premier, The Hon Chris Minns MP	GST Distribution and the CMA Federal Submission
NSW Minister for Local Government, The Hon Ron Hoenig MP	The need for State and Federal Governments to appreciate the Local Government Financial Sustainability struggle
NSW Minister for Water, The Hon Rose Jackson MLC	PFAS costs
NSW Planning Minister, The Hon Paul Scully MP	Councillor Representation on Local Planning Panels
Emeritus Mayor Ken Keith Emeritus Mayor Jamie Chaffey MP Emeritus Mayor Katrina Humphries	Notification of their CMA Patron status
Newcastle Lord Mayor Gavin Morris	Congratulating him on his election
Federal Minister for the Arts, The Hon Tony Burke MP	National Cultural Policy: Representation from Regional Australia and Local Government
NSW Minister for Local Government, The Hon Ron Hoenig MP	Advocating for the inclusion of a member of the Western Division of Councils in his Expert Advisory Panel.

Inwards

From	Note / Action
Byron Shire Mayor Sarah Ndiaye	Request for urgent lobbying to oppose the current version of the Crown Land Management Amendment (Statutory Review) Bill
Bourke Shire Council Mayor Lachlan Ford	CC'd Ministerial request for small business assistance due to the fuel crisis impacts.
Mr. Jamie Chaffey Shadow Assistant Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories. Shadow Assistant Minister for Resources	Introducing himself in his latest roles.
Mr. Luke Sloane, Deputy Secretary, Rural and Regional Health	Thanking the CMA for input into the NSW Health Multipurpose Health Service Strategy
NSW Planning Minister the Hon Paul Scully	Response to CMA planning reforms correspondence.
NSW Emergency Services Minister the Hon Jihad Dib MP	Response to CMA correspondence re the Government's response to the Red Fleet Inquiry
Gabby Taylor RBIA Coordinator Registered Lobbyist	Regional Banking Investment Alliance update re campaign - a cost sharing model, where big banks whose branch investment in regional areas falls short continue to support regional communities, either directly by opening branches, or through funding.
Waverley Council Mayor Will Nemesh	Notifying CMA of his Council's position re the Code of Meeting Practice and the rules against remote participation.
NSW Treasurer, The Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC	Thanking CMA for our letter and collaboration re GST Distribution and the Federal Review.

Recommendation: That the correspondence be received and noted.

Moved by Mayor John Medcalf OAM (Lachlan Shire). Seconded by Mayor Colleen Fuller. (Gunnedah Shire). Carried unanimously.

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 Sarah Ndiaye (Byron Shire). Seconded by Mayor Cheryl Cook (Federation Council).

Carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Report from CMA Chairman Mayor Rick Firman OAM

The Chairman thanked members for their support of the Invest In Us campaign. He also discussed the Mayor Julia Ham said she would like the PRRRAC report to advocate that drought be considered a natural disaster.

Recommendation: **That the Report be received and noted.**
Moved by: Mayor Phyllis Miller OAM (Forbes Shire Council).
Seconded by: Mayor John Harvie (Murray River Council)
– carried unanimously.

Finance Report – Ms. Melissa Boxall (CMA Secretary)

Recommendation: **That the Report be received and noted, as read.**
Moved by: Mayor Paul Smith (Cowra Council).
Seconded by: Mayor Nina Dillon (Goulburn Mulwaree Council)
– carried unanimously

Report from the President of ALGA, Mayor Matt Burnett

Recommendation: **That the Report be received and noted, as read.**
Moved by: Mayor Phyllis Miller OAM (Forbes Shire Council).
Seconded by: Mayor Sarah Ndiaye (Byron Shire)
– carried unanimously.

Report from President of LGNSW – Mayor Darcy Byrne

Mayor Byrne spoke to his report:

Recommendation: **That the Report be received and noted.**
Moved by: Mayor Louie Zaffina (Balranald Shire).
Seconded by: Mayor Nina Dillon (Goulburn Mulwaree 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 Sue Moore (Singleton Council).
Seconded by: Mayor Russell Webb (Tamworth Regional Council).
– carried unanimously.

Recommendation: That the recommendations contained in the Policy Advisor’s Report be adopted.

Moved by: Mayor Cheryl Cook (Federation Council).
Seconded by: Mayor Julia Ham (Snowy Valleys Council).
– carried unanimously.

Business with Notice

CMA Board Recommendations:

That the CMA have a position of support and welcoming hospitality for people of all faiths and different cultural backgrounds in rural, remote and regional NSW. Further, that this position be promoted.

Moved by: Mayor Sarah Ndiaye (Byron Shire)
Seconded by: Mayor Paul Culhane (Upper Lachlan Shire)
– carried unanimously.

That the CMA Members endorse the Board's motions of support for the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS)

Moved by: Mayor Phyllis Miller OAM (Forbes Shire)
Seconded by: Mayor John Medcalf OAM (Lachlan Shire)
– carried unanimously.

Urgent business without notice

Nil

Without any further business, Chairman, Mayor Firman declared the CMA General Meeting closed at 12:50 pm

A tutorial on accessing the data from the CMA-RDN Rural Health Access Survey for those who can stay on was conducted by CMA Policy Advisor Mrs Julie Briggs, RDN Community Solutions Manager Mrs Katie McDonnell and RDN Health Data Analyst and Program Lead Mr Hamdy Amrizal.

The next CMA meeting will be in Ballina on 2 July 2026.

Theme: Roads, Transport and Disaster Recovery

12.2 PARKES HOCKEY INC (PHI) RECOGNITION OF HOSTING THREE STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS IN MAY 2026**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:** Louise O'Leary, Councillor**Authoriser:** Kent Boyd PSM, General Manager**Annexures:** Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the information about the recent Hockey State Championships held in Parkes during May.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Parkes Hockey Inc. (PHI) hosted three State Championships during May, and I would like to recognise and acknowledge the sporting commitment and volunteer hours put in by the PHI Committee and its members for Parkes to be a Hockey Destination.

I also declare that I am a financial playing member of PHI and very proud of the dedication to hockey that this committee instils in its community, through junior, local, representative, Masters, State and National levels.

The NSW under 14 Girls State Championship was held from the 1st-3rd May comprising of 34 teams from all over the state, playing in 3 divisions.

As this is the first State Championship for many young players, it is estimated that 1700 people attended, made up by players, officials, parents, families and grandparents.

The NSW CHS Open Boys State Championships were held from 12th-14th May with 10 teams attending. After running a very successful event last year, Parkes was awarded the event again for a 2nd year with approx. 500 people attending over the 3 days.

PHI then hosted the NSW Women's Masters half State Championships from 29th-31st May with 54 teams attending. Masters' players range from 34 years up from Southern NSW, with Parkes fielding 5 teams. The oldest player at the Parkes Championships was from Orange and aged 85yrs.

Again, estimations of approximately 1,500 people attended the 3-day event.

With rain forecast over the week before and during this event, there was concern play on the grass fields would damage the surface especially on Cheney which is also used by Junior Rugby League. In consultation with PHI, the Women's Masters Committee and Council staff, changes were made to reduce grass surface damage. The carnival was a huge success thanks to the support of Council staff and PHI volunteers.

This was a massive month for PHI and Parkes Shire Council.

PHI Executive Director Richard Rice estimates over 500 hours of voluntary labour just from the small PHI Committee together with a further 510 hours from the local hockey community. Local clubs provided 6 volunteers per club to help run the canteen, BBQ, cleaning, etc on a roster system, equalling 30 hours for each weekend, combining in over 1,000 hours of voluntary labour.

The PHI Committee would like to thank the hard work of all Council staff to help assist in running the three Championships with a special mention and thank you to Tim Gillogly, Geoff Finn and their teams.

The Parkes Business economy also benefited from these three events with accommodation, meals, tourism and local food supermarkets/wholesalers and butcher supplies feeding the hungry crowds.

Richard also advised that PHI values the huge amount of volunteer hours given and was happy to see at the Hockey NSW Awards night held in Wollongong last month, 2 members of Parkes Hockey Inc took out Major Awards:

PHI Junior Director Sally McPherson was awarded the Hockey NSW Community Volunteer of the Year Award. Sally has demonstrated outstanding commitment to junior hockey through her leadership of junior programs, representative teams and community initiatives. Her dedication to participation growth, volunteer coordination, sponsorship and innovative competition delivery has had a significant and lasting impact on hockey in Parkes. Richard estimated Sally would have put in over 150 volunteer hours to set up and run these three championships.

Jack Elliot was awarded the Hockey NSW Community Coach of the Year Award for demonstrated extraordinary commitment to coaching across all levels of the game, from junior development programs through to senior representative and premier league teams. His passion for player development, inclusive coaching approach and ability to create positive, supportive environments have had a profound impact on players throughout the Parkes hockey community. Jack's commitment to mentoring emerging athletes and fellow coaches alike reflects the very best qualities of community coaching.

PHI are so lucky to have people like Sally and Jack in our hockey community.

Richard added that he attended the Opens Star Hockey Championship at Narellan over the week and was stopped by several Hockey NSW Officials to express that PHI run the best Championships they have attended.

The facilities are so clean, the food is the best they have seen, and our steak sandwiches were amazing. They also commented on how friendly and welcoming Parkes was. Richard was also stopped by representatives from other associations that had attended one or more of the Championships with similar comments.

This makes PHI as a committee very proud to have organised and hosted such an amazing Championships that show case what Parkes can do as a community.

Report by Cr. Louise O'Leary with information from PHI Executive Director, Richard Rice.



Sally McPherson (Parkes), Hockey NSW official, Rodney Collier (Manning Valley) both receiving Community Volunteer of the Year Award at the 2025 Hockey NSW Community Awards and Presentations night



Hockey NSW official and Jack Elliot (Parkes) receiving the Community Coach of the Year Award at the 2025 Hockey NSW Community Awards and Presentations night

Louise O'Leary
COUNCILLOR

13 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**13.1 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 29 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:** **Veronica Shaw, Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance****Authoriser:** **Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy****Annexures:** **A. Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting Minutes - 29 April 2026**

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 29 April 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.
-

Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting

Minutes

Wednesday 29 April 2026



Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting
Held on Wednesday, 29 April 2026 Online and at the
Parkes Council Chamber, 2 Cecile Street, Parkes

Present:

Mr Stephen Horne	Councillor (Chairperson)
Mr Tony Harb	Member
Dr Meredith Caelli	Member
Cr Marg Applebee	Non-Voting Member

Council Officers in Attendance:

Mr Kent Boyd PSM	General Manager
Mr Anthony McGrath	Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy
Mr Luke Nash	Executive Manager Finance
Mrs Annalise Teale	Director Planning & Community Services
Mr Scott Brakenridge	Executive Manager Planning & Certification
Mrs Bianca Hinton	Manager Customer and Information Services
Mrs Sharon Ross	Manager Facilities
Mrs Nikki Bevan	Procurement, Contracts and Insurance Coordinator

Guests:

Paul Quealey	Lambourne Partners (<i>Internal Auditor</i>)
Cassie Malone	Audit Office (<i>External Auditor</i>)

NOTES

The meeting commenced at 9.00am with a 15-minute in-camera session involving the Committee and the General Manager to discuss Item 8.1, followed by a 15-minute session with the Audit Office and Lambourne.

The Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy, Executive Manager Finance, and Procurement, Contracts and Insurance Coordinator entered the meeting at 9.33am. Remaining participants attended for the discussion of matters relevant to their areas.

The meeting concluded at 12.04pm.

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Chairperson declared the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting of Wednesday, 29 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

Mr Jaco Barnard	Chief Financial Officer
Mrs Veronica Shaw	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Planning
Mrs Joy Paddison	Councillor Non-Voting Member

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25 FEBRUARY 2026
--

RECOMMENDATION

That the receive and confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 25 February 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

Discussion:

Nil, Draft Minutes confirmed and adopted.

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.

Discussion:

Tony Harb - An interest was declared in relation to Item 7.13 – Risk Management: Enterprise Risk Management Progress Update. The declaration related to the company in which the individual is employed having completed the attached CRIP Audit; however, the individual was not involved in the audit process.

The Committee did not consider it necessary for the individual to be excluded from the discussion on this item.

6 LATE BUSINESS

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

7 OFFICERS' REPORTS

7.1 PERFORMANCE AND REVIEW - ARIC MEETING ACTIONS

RECOMMENDATION

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. Note the progress toward previous meeting action items.

Discussion:

The committee discussed the following:

- The Chair spoke to the report and noted that discussions had been held with the Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Planning regarding the timeframes for the associated tasks. As a result of these discussions, a decision was made to defer some due dates until the June meeting.
- The Committee discussed Council's decision not to develop a Financial Improvement Plan, noting that while it was considered this would have been beneficial, members were comfortable with Council's decision not to proceed with the plan at this time.

7.2 INTERNAL AUDIT - PROGRAM UPDATE WITH INTERNAL AUDITOR

RECOMMENDATION

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. Receive and note the update provided on the Internal Audit Program.

Discussion:

The committee discussed the following:

- The Internal Auditor spoke to the report, noting that the Building Maintenance Audit report had been completed and issued to Council Management for feedback. It was further noted that the Privacy Management Audit was progressing, with completion anticipated in May.
- The Internal Auditor also spoke to the one-page Audit Strategy, which had been prepared and included as part of the papers for the meeting.
- The Internal Auditor noted that Council is currently undertaking a Request for Quotation (RFQ) process to engage a service provider once the current engagement term concludes.

The Manager Facilities attended the meeting for the Internal Audit Item 7.3

7.3 INTERNAL AUDIT - BUILDING MAINTENANCE - FINAL REPORT**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. Receive and note the final Building Maintenance Internal Audit Report attached at *Annexure A*.

Discussion:

The internal Auditor noted the following regarding the Building Maintenance Final report:

- The overall control Framework and processes in place are considered adequate.
- There were several positive aspects, including the Building and Structures Register and the building maintenance processes currently in place.
- It was noted that 220 maintenance requests were recorded during the period July 2025 to December 2025, with only 38 requests remaining open at the time of the audit, indicating that requests are being actioned and closed in a timely manner.
- Key focus areas identified for Building Services, included fire safety checks, electrical safety inspections, and pest control management.
- Succession planning within the department was raised, noting that several key staff members are expected to transition towards retirement in the near future, presenting a potential workforce risk that may require planning and mitigation.
- The first moderate risk related to asbestos management. Noting there is currently no formal register to track properties containing asbestos, with reliance placed on the maintenance teams knowledge. This presents a risk, particularly for buildings used by community groups and the public. To address this, recommendations include installing signage to inform patrons of the presence of asbestos and advising them to report any damage to Council, as well as developing a formal asbestos management plan.
- While not legislation, there was a number of council sites that didn't include automated external defibrillators accessible on sites.
- The department relies heavily on staff knowledge; therefore, formal policies and procedures should be developed, particularly as key staff transition toward retirement.

Manager Facilities spoke to the following:

- The team welcomed the audit, as Building Facilities had not previously been reviewed, and found it to be a valuable learning exercise.
- It was acknowledged that some properties not currently in use have not been inspected recently, and an assessment is required to determine whether the addition of emergency equipment would be beneficial.
- Following identification by the audit team, an AED was promptly ordered for the Airport.
- The retiring team member has been instructed to begin documenting procedures to support effective handover.
- Test and Tagging arrangements were noted, with further discussions to be undertaken with other teams to explore the establishment of a central register.

The committee noted the following:

- The Chair spoke to the report findings and responded to comments from the Manager of Facilities, noting that the audits are intended to be supportive and constructive. All matters raised in the report were risk-based and informed by input from the Manager of Facilities.
- The Committee discussed asbestos management in particular and asked whether the recommended timeframes were achievable. The Manager of Facilities confirmed that they were achievable and advised that plans had already been implemented with the team.

- It was noted that audit findings should be considered in a whole-of-Council context to avoid repeating similar audits across individual units. Recurring themes, particularly workforce transition and retirement risk, should be addressed proactively. The discussion highlighted the importance of reviewing how these issues apply across service areas (such as water and sewer), ensuring critical knowledge is documented through clear policies and procedures so that legacy knowledge is retained as staff take long service leave or retire.

7.4 INTERNAL AUDIT - INTERNAL AUDIT STRATEGY

RECOMMENDATION

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. Review and provide feedback on the DRAFT Internal Audit Strategy attached at *Annexure A*.

Discussion:

The internal Auditor noted the following:

- Spoke to the report and the attached one-page strategy, outlining a high-level approach to internal audit activity.
- The introduction of requirements under the International Internal Audit Standards was noted, particularly the proposal to adopt a simple, high-level internal audit strategy to act as a governance guide for Council, with audit activity driven by a strategic internal audit plan and supported by an annual work program.

The committee discussed the following:

- The chair noted that ARIC has a four-year Audit Committee Strategic Plan, of which internal audit forms one component. In addition, internal audit is required to maintain its own internal audit strategy, in accordance with the requirements of the internal auditing standards.
- Discussion on content of the documents, to ensure no duplication between the documents.

7.5 INTERNAL AUDIT - INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:

1. Endorse the updated Internal Audit Charter attached at *Annexure A*.

Discussion:

- The Chair spoke to the Charter, noting that there were no major changes, only minor amendments to ensure alignment with OLG guidance, noting that the document needs to be reviewed annually.
- The Committee noted one minor amendment to section 9. Internal Audit Team, and recommended the following revised wording: "Council will determine the most appropriate method for resourcing the audit function."
- The Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Planning is to follow up on the recommended changes to section 9 and, if required, progress the document to Council for approval.

**7.6 INTERNAL AUDIT - PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRAM ACTIONS****RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee:

1. Receive and note the update provided on the implementation of consolidated Internal Audit Program agreed actions.

Discussion:

- The Chair discussed the report and the information presented regarding the status of Internal Audit Program actions.
- The committee noted that 18 outstanding actions represent approximately 75% of total actions, meaning the majority remain incomplete.
- The committee noted the actions are low to medium risk but raised concerns when reviewing the detail, particularly comments indicating ongoing attempts to engage with other areas (e.g. HR) without progress and difficulty gaining traction.
- Committee Members noted that responsible officers may not have sufficient authority to progress actions requiring cross-functional input and emphasised the importance of escalation to Executive level to address barriers and support timely completion of actions.
- A Committee Member raised concern regarding an action outstanding since 2020, noting the length of time, potential lack of accountability, and that it may have been lost or passively managed, along with concern regarding its medium risk rating.
- The Committee agreed that actions older than 12 months should be reviewed to determine why they are not progressing and whether they remain relevant, should be redefined, or closed and replaced, with focus on the underlying risk.
- Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy agreed to follow up and review the allocation and progress of outstanding actions.

**7.7 EXTERNAL AUDIT - PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
EXTERNAL AUDIT PROGRAM ACTIONS****RECOMMENDATION**

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. Receive and note the update provided on the implementation of consolidated External Audit actions.

Discussion:

- The Chair spoke to the report and noted that external audit actions are generally cleared more quickly due to ongoing follow-up through the annual financial audit cycle.
- The Chair noted that repeat findings are avoided, as unresolved items may be escalated and reported externally if identified again.
- Executive Manager Finance advised that there were nine actions from the previous external audit, with eight completed and one remaining in progress. The outstanding action relates to a completeness review of Crown land assets and is expected to be completed prior to the end of the financial year.
- Executive Manager Finance noted that completed actions will be reviewed by External Audit as part of the upcoming interim and final audit processes.
- The Committee noted that progress is tracking well and raised no concerns with the status of actions.

- External Audit confirmed that audit progress is tracking well, with upcoming work to focus on valuations, fair value assessments, and draft financial statements ahead of year end.
- Executive Manager Finance advised that asset revaluations are underway and progressing in line with the audit timeline.
- The Chair noted that a performance audit is expected to commence in the near future.

7.8 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT - INVESTMENTS AND BORROWINGS AS AT 31 MARCH 2026**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

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

Discussion:

- Executive Manager Finance provided an update on investments and borrowings as at 31 March.
- Investments were reported at approximately \$54.5 million, with loan principal outstanding of \$19.3 million.
- The Committee was advised of two loan maturities, including a \$2.2 million loan repaid and a further \$4 million loan scheduled for repayment in June.
- It was noted that approximately \$6.2 million will be cleared from the loan portfolio this financial year.
- Executive Manager Finance advised that investment returns remain favourable, with rates just under 4.5% and trending upward. Increased interest revenue was noted as a result of higher investment rates.

7.9 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT - MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 31 MARCH 2026**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

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

Discussion:

- Executive Manager Finance provided a summary of the financial position as at 31 March.
- The General Fund is reporting a deficit of \$1.63 million, representing a \$2.44 million improvement on the adopted budget, largely due to recognition of approximately \$3 million in natural disaster funding, noting \$750,000 is an advance payment which will be recognised this financial year which will go into reserves and will incur expenditure next financial year.
- Employee costs are above budget due to reduction in our capitalised salaries.
- Depreciation is above budget due to asset revaluations.
- The Water Fund is reporting a surplus of \$1.5 million due to increased consumption during a dry period and is projected to remain in surplus.
- The Sewer Fund is reporting a surplus of \$113,000, slightly ahead of budget, and is also expected to finish the year in surplus.
- A Committee Member queried employee and consultant costs being over budget despite vacancy levels.

- Executive Manager Finance advised this is due to budgeting assumptions, including higher expected capitalisation of salaries, with current results tracking over budget as a result.
- Executive Manager Finance noted that a review of capitalisation assumptions has been undertaken for the 2026–27 budget, with a 10% vacancy rate to be incorporated.
- The Chair noted that budget outcomes are dependent on underlying assumptions, which can be difficult to predict.
- A Committee Member queried stress testing of the upcoming budget, Executive Manager Finance Management advised that reviews have been undertaken; however, there is uncertainty regarding future cost escalations and inflation impacts.
- It was noted that rates income is constrained by the rate peg (3.1%), while cost increases are expected to exceed this, creating ongoing financial pressure.

7.10 RISK - FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT - DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN 2026-27

RECOMMENDATION

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. Receive and note the [Draft Operational Plan and Budget 2026-27](#).

Discussion:

- The Chair introduced the Draft Operational Plan and Budget and noted the risk implications section as being clear and concise.
- The Chair noted the importance of robust IP&R frameworks in bringing together multiple components, including the delivery program, resource strategy and community strategic plan. It was highlighted that aligning these elements into an operational plan and supporting budget is complex but critical.
- The Chair noted that failure to adopt the plan and budget could have significant risk implications and that any deviation from the plan should be considered from a risk perspective.
- The Chair observed a shift from activity-based reporting to a stronger focus on risk.
- Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy spoke to the plan noting there were over 400 items contained in this plan, with considerable time spend reviewing actions to make them more concise and reportable.
- Executive Manager Finance spoke to the Financial budget for 26-27 which currently shows an operating deficit. The water fund showing a surplus of \$2.3m with cash reserves continuing to grow. It was noted that there are significant capital projects which would utilise some of the surplus. The sewer fund showing a deficit of \$107k.
- It was noted that depreciation impacts reported results and may not be well understood externally, noting its link to the capital works program.
- Executive Manager Finance advised that adjustments have been made to the capital works program to maintain a cash positive position.
- The Chair highlighted the importance of aligning workforce planning with service delivery, noting it is a significant component of the budget.
- The Chair noted that budget outcomes are dependent on underlying assumptions and the robustness of the planning process.
- The Committee discussed the complexity of the IP&R process and the importance of ensuring all elements align effectively.
- The Chair noted that the process is complex and requires significant effort, and that ensuring alignment across all components is critical.

7.11 IMPROVEMENT - STRATEGIC PLANNING - INTEGRATE PLANNING AND REPORTING UPDATE**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. Receive and note the update on the 2026 Integrated Planning and Reporting Program.

Discussion:

- The Chair spoke to the report and the IP&R one a page community facing document.
- Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy noted the complexity of the IP&R framework and that the information provided aims to assist understanding for the community.

The Director Planning & Community Services and Executive Manager Planning & Certification attended the meeting for 7.12.

7.12 SERVICE REVIEWS - MONTHLY AREA REVIEWS - CERTIFICATION AND REGULATION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. Receive and note the summarised service reviews from the Certification and Regulation and Emergency Services attached at *Annexure A and B* respectively.

Discussion:

- Director Planning & Community Services spoke to the Certification and Regulation Service Review, advising the report relates to the service review of Certification and Regulation, covering planning, development assessment, certification, environmental health and ranger services.
- The Director Planning & Community Services outlined key activities including strategic planning, development assessments, building inspections, certifications, and environmental compliance and community support services.
- It was noted that performance in development assessment is strong, with timeframes below the regional average, and key strategic planning documents are up to date or in progress.
- The Director Planning & Community Services advised that certification and regulatory functions are being delivered in accordance with legislative requirements.
- Key risks identified include pressures on animal management facilities due to legislative changes, gaps in monitoring processes for septic and underground storage systems, and opportunities to strengthen food compliance through increased inspections and education.
- Workforce challenges were noted, including difficulty attracting and retaining qualified staff and ensuring ongoing training to meet legislative requirements.
- The Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy noted that service reviews focus on delivering services efficiently within available resources, with risks identified in relation to delivery of the operational plan, and that further work is required to assess controls and determine appropriate risk treatments.
- The Chair discussed the Emergency Services component and noted the absence of detailed risk information in the report.

- The Committee noted that many Emergency Services functions are legislated, which may explain the limited risk detail, and highlighted the role of Council in supporting planning, mitigation and community education.

7.13 RISK MANAGEMENT - ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRESS UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. Note the Council's progress toward Enterprise Risk Management.

Discussion:

- The Chair introduced the report and noted it provides useful insights and a large number of actions.
- Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy spoke to the Continuous Risk Improvement Program (CRIP) report, advising the report was a detailed process involving multiple staff and was considered a positive exercise.
- The Committee noted that assigning responsibility alone is not sufficient, and that officers must have access to appropriate forums and authority to progress actions.
- The Chair noted the importance of risk management as a central focus, including the maturity and progression of the organisation's risk framework.
- The Chair advised that assessing whether sufficient resources are allocated to risk management can be difficult, and reports such as this assist in understanding progress and maturity.
- It was noted that risk management requires ongoing development and cannot be addressed in a single step, but requires a staged approach and a clear roadmap.
- The Committee discussed the importance of focusing not only on individual actions but on overall progress and risk maturity.
- The committee asked if there was plan in place to allocate additional resources to risk management.
- Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy advised that additional resources are being considered and that improvements are expected over coming reporting periods.
- The Chair noted that risk management is complex and a key component of organisational capability, and that progress should be viewed as part of an ongoing process.

7.14 RISK MANAGEMENT - BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLAN

RECOMMENDATION

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. Note the progress undertaken to review the Council's Business Continuity Plan and develop sub-plans.

Discussion:

- The Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy spoke to the report, noting the policy had previously been presented with only minor changes, and advised that the Sub Plan was developed in response to the current fuel shortage in Australia.
- In relation to the Draft BCP Sub Plan, the Committee suggested inclusion of reference to the National Security Plan produced by the Government.

- The Committee noted the document is comprehensive and includes relevant information and supporting templates.
- The Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy advised that the Executive had been meeting regularly in response to the fuel situation; however, as situation reports are no longer being issued, those meetings have ceased.
- The Committee highlighted the importance of “redesign” as part of the response approach, noting this involves delivering services differently rather than ceasing them, with examples such as adjusting service delivery models.
- The Committee discussed opportunities to implement alternative approaches, including flexible work arrangements and prioritisation of critical services.
- The Committee suggested consideration be given to gradual electrification of plant and equipment to support business continuity, noting this could provide resilience in the event of fuel shortages and support delivery of essential services.

Manager Customer and Information Services attended the meeting for items 7.15, 7.16 and 7.17.

7.15 RISK MANAGEMENT - CORPORATE PERFORMANCE DASHBOARDS

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:

1. Receive and note the information provided on Corporate Performance Dashboard progress.

Discussion:

- The Chair noted that a previous Committee request was to gain an understanding of how dashboards are being used across the organisation.
- The Chair clarified that dashboards are not an end in themselves, but a tool to support risk management by providing timely and relevant information to assist decision-making.
- It was noted that dashboards are intended to present information in a format that can be easily interpreted by managers to support oversight and response.
- Manager Customer and Information Services advised that dashboard development forms part of the RIMI project, aimed at improving the organisation’s information ecosystem and access to information across teams.
- It was noted that dashboards and information hubs are being developed to provide managers with direct access to relevant data, documentation and insights.
- The Committee highlighted the importance of exception reporting and alerts to identify issues such as overdue actions or KPI breaches, and queried whether higher-level dashboards showing trends over time were available.
- Manager Customer and Information Services advised this is the next stage of development, with current work focused on consolidating data and establishing metrics and KPIs.

7.16 RISK MANAGEMENT - INFORMATION MANAGEMENT, PRIVACY AND RECORDS

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:

1. Receive and note the update on risk management activities for Information Management, Privacy and Records.

Discussion:

- Manager Customer and Information Services spoke to the report noting there was 2 incidents since the last report. First one was classed as medium, which was a system error and the second was classed low which was human error.
- Manager Customer and Information Services advised that the organisation is progressing the use of AI with request for meeting minutes and agenda preparation, noting that a preliminary assessment identified risks relating to privacy, records management and human oversight.
- It was noted that these findings will inform a broader report to the Executive, including consideration of cyber security implications.
- Manager Customer and Information Services advised that improvements will continue as capability develops and lessons are learned. Ongoing work under the RIMI project was noted, including dashboard development and implementation of information hubs and ECM Connect.
- It was reported that over 3,000 high-value and high-risk State archive records were captured in March, representing a significant achievement.
- Manager Customer and Information Services noted that key projects, including major events, are being incorporated into records systems, with collaboration across project management and events teams supporting improved outcomes.
- It was noted that Elvis Festival records are classified as State archives.

7.17 RISK MANAGEMENT - CYBER SECURITY AND INCIDENT REPORT**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. Receive and note the information provided in the report and at the meeting.

Discussion:

- Manager Customer and Information Services spoke to the report, noting one incident recorded over the past two months relating to a CCTV server outage.
- It was noted that the issue was identified through regular health checks, resulting in minimal disruption.
- It was noted that Council is aware of ageing infrastructure and is prioritising upgrades in line with budget constraints and emerging technologies.
- The Manager Customer and Information Services noted that changes to some systems have required additional staff training.
- Manager Customer and Information Services provided an update on current projects, including works at the water treatment plant, which were completed with no downtime, and server upgrades, with 11 of 12 completed. The remaining server requires additional planning prior to implementation.
- The Committee enquired about the use of Starlink, Manager Customer and Information Services advising that it is not currently utilised but is being considered for mobile infrastructure.
- The Committee enquired about the AI policy, Manager Customer and Information Services advising that an AI governance policy has been presented to ARIC but is not yet fully approved. It was noted that AI use is currently permitted provided no confidential data is entered.
- The Committee enquired about realised budget savings and how these are being utilised, with Management advising that savings are reinvested into enhancing equipment and services.

7.18 REVIEW - ANNUAL MEETING PLAN**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. Review the ARIC meeting plan 2026-27.

Discussion:

- The Chair noted that a review of the Committee's annual meeting plan is underway to refine and improve processes.
- It was noted that the intent is to ensure items are scheduled appropriately, balancing frequency to avoid duplication or gaps in coverage.
- The Chair advised that the current version remains compliant with reporting requirements and timeframes.
- It was noted that the review is focused on identifying efficiencies and improving time management within meetings.
- The Chair advised that this work is ongoing, with further refinements to be presented at a future meeting.
- The Committee noted that any proposed amendments or refinements will be forwarded to the Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance for consideration.

7.19 REVIEW - COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. Review and endorse the ARIC Terms of Reference attached at *Annexure A*.

Discussion:

- The Committee reviewed the Terms of Reference and endorsed the document.

7.20 PERFORMANCE AND REVIEW - PROGRESS TOWARD OLG GUIDELINES**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. Note the progress undertaken to implement the guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW up to April 2026.

Discussion:

- The Committee enquired about the timing for the review of the governing body (ARIC), noting it must be undertaken at least once each Council term.
- It was discussed that an appropriate time would be toward the end of the term. The Committee noted that an external provider, the Institute of Internal Auditors, could undertake the review, and recommended that contact be made later in the year to ensure availability, anticipating increased demand from other councils.

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.

8.1 RISK MANAGEMENT - GENERAL MANAGERS UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee:

1. Received and note the General Manager's Update report.

9 CONCLUSION OF MEETING

Actions from meeting	Responsible Department
Audit findings should be considered in a whole-of-Council context. Particularly workforce transition and retirement risk, should be addressed proactively, ensuring critical knowledge is documented through clear policies and procedures so that legacy knowledge is retained as staff take long service leave or retire.	All Directorates
The Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Planning is to follow up on the recommended changes to section 9, Internal Audit Team, and recommended the following revised wording: "Council will determine the most appropriate method for resourcing the audit function."	DCCSE
Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy agreed to follow up and review the allocation and progress of outstanding actions.	DCCSE
In relation to the Draft BCP Sub Plan, the Committee suggested inclusion of reference to the National Security Plan produced by the Government.	DCCSE
In relation to a term review of ARIC, it was discussed that an appropriate time to contact the Institute of Internal Auditors or another external provider would be later in the year to ensure availability, anticipating increased demand from other councils for 2028.	DCCSE

The meeting concluded at 12.04pm.

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 16 pages numbered 1 to 16 of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 29 April 2026 and confirmed on Wednesday, 29 July 2026.

Mr Stephen Horne
CHAIRPERSON

13.2 MINUTES OF THE ECONOMY, DESTINATION AND EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 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: **Hamish Ritchie, Economic Development Specialist**

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

Annexures: **A. Economy, Destination and Events Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - 19 May 2026**

RECOMMENDATION

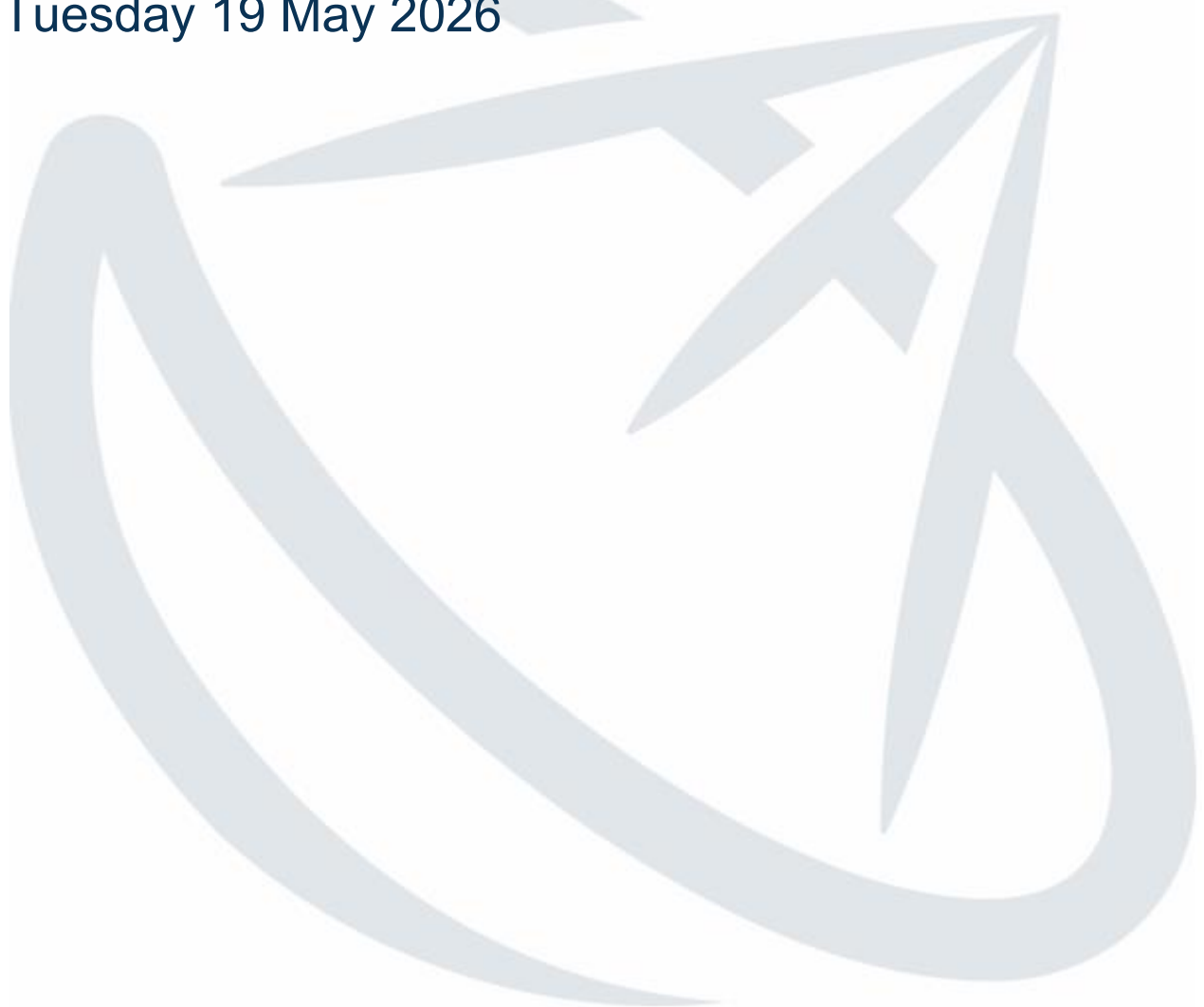
That Council:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Economy, Destination and Events Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 19 May 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

Economy, Destination and Events Advisory Committee

Minutes

Tuesday 19 May 2026



Minutes of the Economy, Destination and Events Advisory Committee

**Held on Tuesday, 19 May 2026 at the
Cooke Park Pavilion, 17 Welcome Street, Parkes**

Present:

Cr Neil Westcott	Mayor
Cr Marg Applebee	Deputy Mayor
Cr William Jayet	Councillor
Cr Glenn Wilson	Councillor

Mr Andrew Rice	Chair
Ms Kristy Berry	
Mr Peter Giles	
Ms Tracie Robertson	
Mrs Marty Sammut-Paul	

Council Officers in Attendance:

Mr Anthony McGrath	Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy
Ms Lisa Moon	Tourism and Visitor Services Coordinator
Mr Hamish Ritchie	Economic Development Specialist
Mr Brendan Shipley	Manager Events and Tourism

NOTES

Noone attended via audio-visual link.

The meeting commenced at 10:30am and concluded at 12noon.

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1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Chairperson will declare the meeting open.

Meeting of Council committees are not recorded or streamed to the internet.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Parkes Shire Council acknowledges the Wiradjuri People who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. I 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 APOLOGIES

In accordance with clauses 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5 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.

Cr Doug Pout	Councillor
Cr Joy Paddison	Councillor (alternate)
Ms Kelly Hendry	
Ms Treen Swift	
Mr Steve Lindsay	Deputy Chair

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 MINUTES OF THE ECONOMY, DESTINATION AND EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 4 MARCH 2026

RECOMMENDATION

That the receive and confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 4 March 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

Confirmation of Previous Minutes

- Previous meeting Wednesday 4 March did not meet Quorum.
 - The minutes of the 18 November meeting were presented.
 - No amendments were received.
-

-
- **Resolution:** The committee approved the minutes as a true and accurate record.
-

5 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

All Council Officials 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.

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: Council Officials who declare an Interest at the Meeting are also required to complete a Declaration of Interest form.

- Members confirmed that there were no changes to existing disclosures of interest.

Procedural Discussions

Resignation of member:

- Voluntary resignation of member Gregory Nash prior to meeting.
- Discussion on refilling of role.
- Decision made for council to look to backfill role to ensure increased representation across the community.

Chair Position

- The committee discussed succession planning for the Chair position.
- It was agreed that an election for a new Chair will be included as an action item for the next meeting.
- The role of Deputy Chair will be considered as part of a broader review of the Terms of Reference.
- 12 month cycle put forward as rotation period.

6 LATE BUSINESS

7 OFFICERS' REPORTS

7.1 LOCAL ECONOMY REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:

1. Note the update on current Economic Development activity, including progress on the CBD Vibrancy Strategy, Brightening Our Brand initiative, and related projects.

Housing Market Trends

- The committee discussed recent trends in property purchases, noting a high proportion of purchases by non-local investors.
- It was observed that many purchases appear to be investment-based rather than owner-occupied, which may influence local housing dynamics.
- Questions posed around whether set VISA types may be impacting anecdotal investment trends.

Business-to-Business Impacts

- Some committee members reported:
 - Reduced local procurement by certain businesses.
 - Increased sourcing of goods from metropolitan suppliers.
 - Challenges competing on price and procurement models.
- These factors were noted as contributing to declining local business turnover in some sectors.

Economic and Business Support Environment

- It was noted that **Regional Tech Hub funding is not continuing beyond the current financial year.**
- This follows earlier changes to other business support programs.
- The committee acknowledged a broader trend of **reduced government-funded advisory services**, which may impact regional businesses.

7.2 LOCAL TOURISM REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:

1. Note the updates provided in this report on current Tourism projects, visitor trends and strategic initiatives.

Key updates included:

- A new Visitor Guide is in development, with distribution planned across the region and visitor centres.
- Tourism activity has been negatively impacted by fuel prices, with declines observed (estimated 40–60% in some segments).
- Accreditation for the Visitor Information Centre is expected to be maintained.

7.3 LOCAL EVENTS REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee

1. Note the update on the events within the Parkes Shire.

Key updates included:

- Recent events included:
 - Light Up Parkes – reported as a strong success with high community engagement.
 - Henry Parkes Centre Open Day – well attended by local residents.
 - ANZAC Day commemorations – delivered successfully.
- Planning for future events, including the Parkes Elvis Festival, is underway.
- Progress was reported on the Henry Parkes Centre Master Plan, aiming to improve visitor experience and site functionality.

7.4 OFFER OF ENGAGEMENT: PARKES ENERGY RECOVERY

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:

1. **Note** the engagement offers made by Parkes Energy Recovery to provide information to the Committee.

2. **Note** that any engagement coordinated through EDEAC will be limited to matters within the Committee's remit of economy, destination and events.
3. **Acknowledge** that review or consideration of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) documentation is outside the role and responsibilities of the Committee.
4. **Note** that Council officers will continue to engage with Parkes Energy Recovery in a procedural and transparent manner, consistent with Council resolutions and governance obligations.

Committee Position and Constraints

- The committee reviewed an offer of engagement from the project proponent.
- It was confirmed that:
 - The committee's role is advisory and does not extend to environmental assessment.
 - Engagement must remain within the Terms of Reference.
- A separate Council working group has been established to review aspects that fall outside the scope of the committee.

Community and Economic Impacts

- Discussion highlighted:
 - Perceived negative economic impacts arising from community debate and public messaging.
 - Concerns around:
 - Property transactions being affected.
 - Business confidence and reputation.
 - Broader community sentiment.

Engagement Approach

- It was agreed:
 - The committee will not request specific engagement at this time.
 - Future engagement may occur following release of relevant project documentation.
 - Any future session could likely take the form of subcommittees.
-

7.5 BRIGHTENING OUR BRAND**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee:

1. Notes the progress of the Brightening Our Brand project and the upcoming public engagement phase; and
2. Notes the opportunity for Committee members to voluntarily support business-to-business engagement as part of the public engagement process and provide input during discussion on preferred approaches for Council to engage with interested members.

“Brightening Our Brand” Initiative

- An update was provided on the CBD branding and identity project.
- A formal community engagement process is being prepared.
- The committee indicated general support and:
 - Agreed that members may assist with business-to-business engagement when the campaign is released.

7.6 SHOP PARKES FACEBOOK PAGE**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee:

1. Consider and provide a preferred position on the future management of the “Shop Parkes” social media page.
2. Note the operational, governance and resourcing implications associated with each option outlined in this report.
3. Endorse Council officers progressing the Committee’s preferred position, together with relevant officer commentary and contextual information, to an Ordinary Council Meeting for final determination.

Committee Discussion

- Strong support was expressed for:
 - Continued operation of the platform.
 - A broader, integrated approach to local business promotion and community communication.
- Key themes included:
 - The need to rebuild positive local sentiment and engagement.

- Importance of coordinated communication across tourism, business, and community activities.
- Recognition that the platform represents more than a social media page, acting as a connector across the local economy.

9.3 Resourcing Requirement

- It was acknowledged that:
 - Effective delivery would require additional dedicated resourcing.
 - Social media management should be treated as a strategic communication function.

9.4 Outcome

- **Committee Position:**
 - Council is encouraged to:
 - Invest in a resourced, integrated communication approach.
 - Consider funding (minimum 0.5 FTE, potentially more) to support delivery.
 - Align business promotion with tourism and broader economic development messaging.

7.7 CBD VIBRANCY STRATEGY INITIATIVES

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:

1. Note the overview of the 39 initiatives contained within the Draft CBD Vibrancy Strategy.
2. Provide high-level feedback identifying up to five initiatives they believe should be considered priority actions, including rationale for each.

Context

Members were asked to place a red dot indicating what initiatives they felt should be a priority. Each participant was given 5 dots. The results of this informed the discussion minuted.

Strategies which obtained more than 3 dots

03, 09, 11, 17, 21, 26, 37

CBD Vibrancy Strategy

- The committee noted progress on initiatives focused on:
 - Visual presentation
 - Activation of vacant spaces

- Accessibility and attractiveness of the town centre

No further discussion required at this time.

7.8 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:

1. **Participate** in a facilitated discussion to identify broad strategic priority areas that should inform the future direction of the Strategy.
2. **Provide feedback** on the relative importance of different areas of focus, to guide the development of draft goals and outcomes for further consideration.

Economic Development Strategy

- Early-stage work on the **Economic Development Strategy** was noted.
- Members were invited to provide feedback outside the meeting.
- Emphasis was placed on identifying **practical, actionable initiatives** that deliver measurable outcomes.

Meeting Operations and Scheduling

- Discussion considered:
 - Flexibility of meeting times to align with Council schedules.
 - Challenges for business representatives if times change at short notice.
- General consensus:
 - Maintain consistent, predetermined meeting times where possible.
- Next scheduled meetings:
 - 18 August 2026
 - 17 November 2026

Committee Effectiveness and Future Direction

13.1 Reflections

- Members expressed a desire for:
 - Greater action-oriented outcomes.
 - Clearer follow-through between meetings.

- Opportunities for more active participation and contribution.

13.2 Key Themes Identified

- Strengthening the voice of the committee in shaping outcomes.
- Improving communication between Council and the business community.
- Addressing community sentiment and reputation challenges affecting the local economy.

13.3 Opportunities

- Potential for:
 - Stronger engagement with business stakeholders.
 - More structured pathways for translating discussion into action.
 - Better coordination with other groups and initiatives.

Key Action Items

By Next Meeting

- Prepare and conduct election of a new Chair for next meeting.
- Review and prepare proposed update for Terms of Reference
- Prepare recommendation to Council on integrated communications and required resourcing
- Coordinate committee involvement in “Brightening Our Brand” engagement once launched

Ongoing

- Monitor release of Economic Impact Statement and coordinate optional proponent briefing
- Provide updates from Council Working Group relevant to committee discussions
- Investigate funding or grant opportunities to support communications and promotion function

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.

13.3 MINUTES OF THE ROAD AND PLACE NAMING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 2 JUNE 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: **Logan Hignett, Director Operations**

Annexures: **A. Road and Place Naming Committee Meeting Minutes - 2 June 2026**

RECOMMENDATION

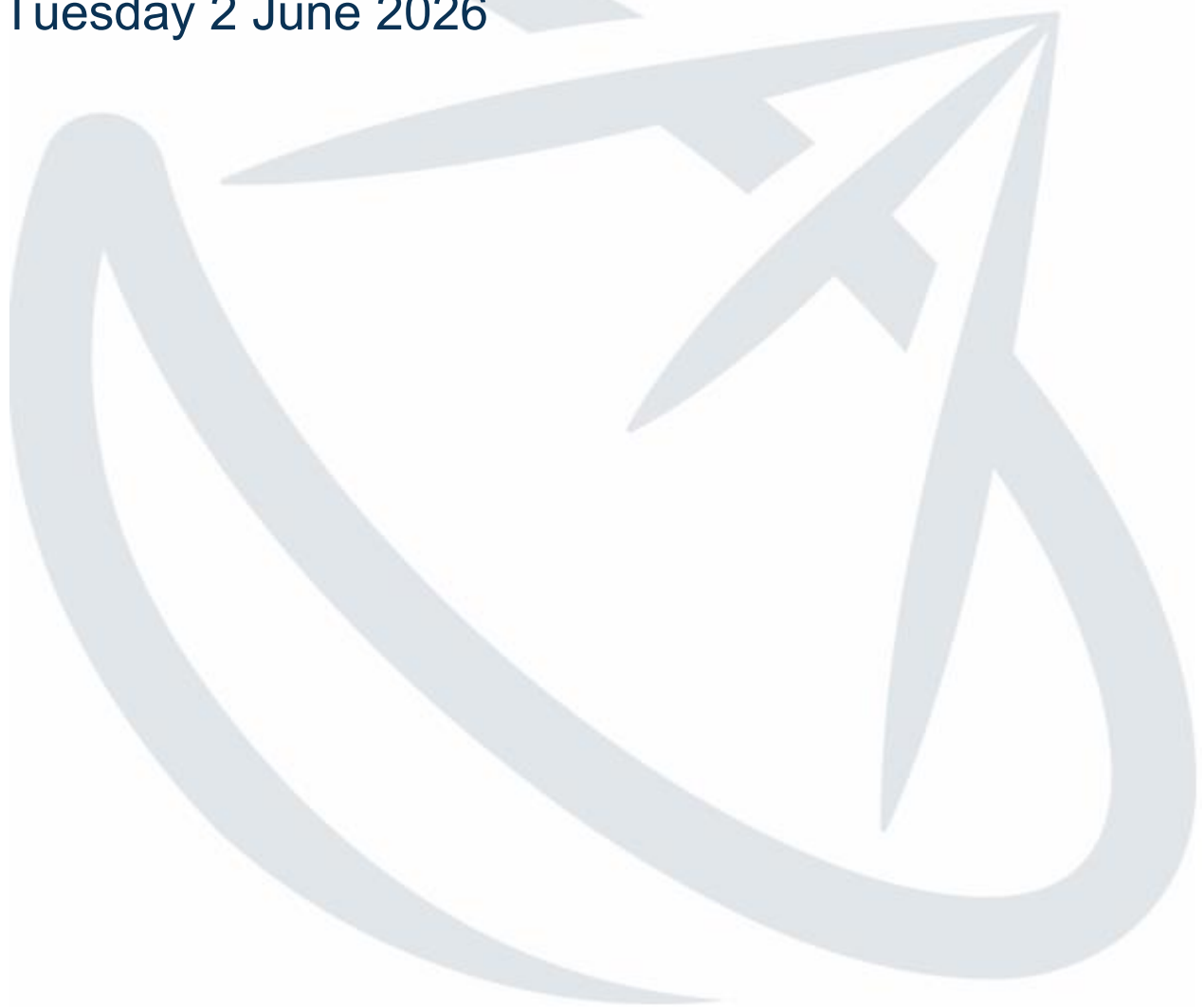
That Council:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Road and Place Naming Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 2 June 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

Road and Place Naming Advisory Committee

Minutes

Tuesday 2 June 2026



Minutes of the Road and Place Naming Advisory Committee

**Held on Tuesday, 2 June 2026 at the
Committee Room, 2 Cecile Street, Parkes**

Present:

Cr Neil Westcott	Mayor
Cr William Jayet (Chair)	Councillor
Cr Ken McGrath	Councillor
Cr Louise O'Leary	Councillor
Cr Joy Paddison	Councillor
Cr Doug Pout	Councillor
Cr Matthew Scherer	Councillor
Cr Glenn Wilson	Councillor

Council Officers in Attendance:

Logan Hignett	Director Operations
Sharon Ross	Manager Facilities
Sue McGrath	Business Support Coordinator

NOTES

The meeting commenced at 12:38pm and concluded at 1:45pm.

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7.4	Road Name Proposal - Unnamed access road to the major service centre precinct off Hartigan Avenue - ('Westlime Road')	8
7.5	Road Name Proposal - Unnamed Laneway, Alectown ('Iris Lane').....	8
7.6	Road Name Proposal - Subdivision at the old hospital site - in Honour of Dr John James Waddell ('Waddell Place').....	8
7.7	Road Name Proposal - Subdivision off Lorking Street - in Honor of Colin Francis Hendry ('Hendy Close').....	9
7.8	Culvert Name Proposal - Bogan Road - ('Carpenter Crossing')	9
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1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Chairperson declared the Road and Place Naming Advisory Committee of Tuesday, 2 June 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

Nil

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY ROAD AND PLACE NAMING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26 FEBRUARY 2026
--

RESOLVED RPN 002/26

That the Extraordinary Road and Place Naming Committee Meeting receive and confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 26 February 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 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 ROAD AND PLACE NAMING PROCESS - POLICY UPDATE****RESOLVED RPN 003/26**

Moved: Cr Doug Pout
Seconded: Cr Joy Paddison

That:

1. A road or place name will not be accepted for assessment unless the required request form has been completed and all required supporting information has been provided.
2. The requirement to provide a completed form applies to residents, developers, Council staff, Councillors, community groups and any other stakeholder.
3. Council staff will assess all proposed names against Council's policy, NSW Address Policy, Geographical Names Board requirements and any relevant statutory requirements before names are presented to the Committee.
4. Council will maintain a validated Road and Place Name Register that records the status, supporting information, suitability and outcome of each proposed name.
5. Staff reports to the Committee will include the recommended name, alternative validated names considered and the reasons for the recommendation.
6. A name raised at a Committee meeting that has not been submitted through the required form and assessed by staff will not be eligible for recommendation for the current naming opportunity. The name may be referred to staff for future assessment.
7. Where the Committee recommends a name that differs from the staff-assessed preferred name, the reasons for that recommendation must be recorded in the minutes.

CARRIED

7.2 NAMING OF THE WETLANDS**RESOLVED RPN 004/26**

Moved: Cr Joy Paddison
Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That:

1. The Road and Place Naming Advisory Committee adopts the name Wululu Wetlands as the new name for Parkes' wetland site.

CARRIED

7.3 ROAD RENAMING PROPOSAL - MARTA LANE, BOGAN GATE**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Note
 - (a) the history of the naming of Marta Lane, including previous committee decisions, community submissions, and the Australian Human Rights Commission conciliation process.
 - (b) The community consultation regarding the proposed renaming of Marta Lane to Yarramalang Lane and part of Foothills Lane to Marta Lane.
2. Determine whether to:
 - (a) Retain the name *Marta Lane*, Bogan Gate; or
 - (b) Rename Marta Lane to *Yarramalang Lane* and rename the relevant section of Foothills Lane to *Marta Lane*, subject to Geographical Names Board requirements and stakeholder notification.
3. If Marta Lane is retained:

Investigate alternative opportunities within Bogan Gate to recognise Aboriginal heritage, such as naming another road, reserve, structure, public space, or interpretive feature, in consultation with relevant Aboriginal stakeholders.

RESOLVED RPN 005/26

Moved as amended: Cr Doug Pout
Seconded as amended: Cr Louise O'Leary

1. Retain the name *Marta Lane*, Bogan Gate
2. If Marta Lane is retained:

Investigate alternative opportunities within Bogan Gate to recognise Aboriginal heritage, such as naming another road, reserve, structure, public space, or interpretive feature, in consultation with relevant Aboriginal stakeholders.

CARRIED

7.4 ROAD NAME PROPOSAL - UNNAMED ACCESS ROAD TO THE MAJOR SERVICE CENTRE PRECINCT OFF HARTIGAN AVENUE - ('WESTLIME ROAD')**RESOLVED RPN 006/26**

Moved: Cr Ken McGrath

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That:

1. Endorse the proposed naming of the new road connection between Hartigan Avenue and Condobolin Road as "Westlime Road".
2. Note that the statutory notification process will be undertaken, including notification of relevant parties and publication of the proposed road name, before the name is finalised and gazetted
3. Formal rural address numbers will need to be allocated.

CARRIED**7.5 ROAD NAME PROPOSAL - UNNAMED LANEWAY, ALECTOWN ('IRIS LANE')****RESOLVED RPN 007/26**

Moved: Cr Ken McGrath

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That:

1. Support the proposed road name "Iris Lane" for the relevant formed/navigable section of the unnamed laneway in Alectown
2. Authorise Council staff to undertake the required consultation and Geographical Names Board process, including confirmation of the appropriate naming extent.

CARRIED**7.6 ROAD NAME PROPOSAL - SUBDIVISION AT THE OLD HOSPITAL SITE - IN HONOUR OF DR JOHN JAMES WADDELL ('WADDELL PLACE')****RESOLVED RPN 008/26**

Moved: Cr Ken McGrath

Seconded: Cr Joy Paddison

That:

1. Endorse the proposed naming of the new cul-de-sac road extending east-west from Coleman Road within the former hospital site subdivision as "Waddell Place", in honour of Dr John James Waddell
2. Council staff to progress the road naming process in accordance with the Roads Act 1993, Roads Regulation 2018, NSW Address Policy and Geographical Names Board requirements.

CARRIED

7.7 ROAD NAME PROPOSAL - SUBDIVISION OFF LORKING STREET - IN HONOR OF COLIN FRANCIS HENDRY ('HENDRY CLOSE')**RESOLVED RPN 009/26**

Moved: Cr Neil Westcott

Seconded: Cr Ken McGrath

That:

1. Endorse the name *Hendry Close* for the new road off Lorking Street, Parkes, recognising Colin Francis Hendry DFC
2. Authorise officers to complete the statutory naming process, including Geographical Names Board approval, public notification, and gazettal.

CARRIED**7.8 CULVERT NAME PROPOSAL - BOGAN ROAD - ('CARPENTER CROSSING')****RESOLVED RPN 010/26**

Moved: Cr Ken McGrath

Seconded: Cr Doug Pout

That:

1. Endorse, in principle, the proposed naming of the recently completed culvert crossing on Bogan Road (SR76), north of Collingwood Lane, as "Carpenter Crossing"
2. Publicly advertise the proposed name for a period of 21 days in accordance with Council's Naming of Public Infrastructure Policy
3. Require a further report to Council only if submissions or objections are received during the advertising period

CARRIED

8 GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 PROPOSAL TO NAME CORNER BLOCK – FORBES ROAD & BUTLER LANE

DISCUSSION

Cr Joy Paddison raised a matter for consideration regarding the naming of the corner block located at the intersection of Forbes Road and Butler Lane.

It was noted during discussion that the block had previously been gifted to Council.



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 1:45pm.

This is the final page of the minutes comprising 9 pages numbered 1 to 9 of the Road and Place Naming Advisory Committee held on Tuesday, 2 June 2026 and confirmed on Tuesday, 16 June 2026.

Cr William Jayet

CHAIRPERSON

13.4 MINUTES OF THE PARKES SPORTS COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9 JUNE 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: **Kent Boyd PSM, General Manager**

Annexures: **A. Minutes of the Sports Council Meeting held on 9 June 2026** [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and confirm the Minutes of the Parkes Sports Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9 June 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.

9 June 2026 Sports Council Minutes

Tuesday, 9 June 2026 7:00 PM

Welcome

Al Gersbach welcomed all to the meeting.

Attendance

Al Gersbach (Chair), Luke Nash (Finances), Anthony McGrath (Secretary), Richard Rice (Hockey), Andrew Daley (Hockey), Louise O'Leary (Councillor Representative), Greg Morrissey (Mr Cricket).

Online

Cr Doug Pout (Council Representative), Gail Richardson (Community Representative).

Guests

Nil.

Apologies

Michael Greenwood (Community Representative), Linda Snyman (Dragon Boating), Ken Keith (Golf), Wilbur Harris (Netball), Geoff Finn (Parkes Shire Council), Doug Moore (Little Athletics), Andrew Thomas (Senior Rugby League), Wayne Osbourne (Soccer), 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

Hockey

- Sam Westcott named in all schools open team. Daisy Rice selected for U15 all schools team.
- 52 Teams participated in the Women's masters. O45s took out division 1 and O50s took out division 2.
- Jack Elliot named community coach of the year.
- Sally McPherson selected as volunteer of the year award for NSW Hockey.

Bowls

- Parkes Town Women's pennants No 3's at state championships.
- Railway Men's div 3 in state championships.
- Annabele Teague (15) named in U25 State squad.
- Cooper Fliedner selected for U21 state squad.

Cricket

- Nathan Lyon attended Parkes last week with a series leadership courses. A junior clinic was also held.

Athletics

- Vasti Williams won bronze U16 Oceania Australian championships.

Review of Outstanding Actions

13/8/2019	1	Sports Legends Board at Parkes Leagues Club to be reviewed and alternatives considered.	Alan Macdonald
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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 Steven Davies Field	Geoff
10/02/2026	4	Seek approval from Scott Westcot to name the park run track in his honour	Anthony
14/04/2026	5	Netball request repair of cracks that have reappeared on McGlynn court surface.	Geoff
14/04/2026	6	Investigate what a new sports field sign might look like based on the new brand and signage strategy.	Anthony
12/05/2026	7	Enquire about the final quality of the dredging project at Lake Endeavour, which was raised by Al Gersbach.	Tim/ Geoff
12/05/2026	8	Parkes Little Athletics asked if the water bubbler at Northparkes been fixed.	Geoff
12/05/2026	9	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.	Anthony

Discussion / Action Taken

Update provided on the outstanding tasks as follows:

7. The Lake endeavour project is not yet complete, with additional works planned to improve the launch area.
9. Drone footage was taken during the women's masters to inform plans.

Correspondence

The following items of correspondence was received or sent

1. Advice of meeting and minutes sent out to groups.
2. Advice of the Nathan Lyon visit was sent to sporting groups.

Action

1,2 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.

- Geoff was unavailable for tonight's meeting.

Around the Grounds

Netball (Submitted)

- Over 2000 players plus umpires, officials & spectators came together for this massive annual event. Parkes was represented by three senior teams comprising of U/15's, U/17's & Opens. Each team turned up each day for a minimum of six games each. After 6 months of training, playing in trials, district carnivals & local comp, all came down to this weekend. After all this amazing commitment the teams represented, themselves, their Parkes Netball Club & the Wider Parkes community exceptionally well & came away with mixed results amongst their state cup piers. The

Opens & 17,s finished in the top ten of their division & the 15's just outside of theirs. All the organising of accommodation, meals, snacks, buses, games & fun for down time, has now concluded for these teams with just the local Tuesday night comp to being played out. The Junior State Cup is being held in early July at the same venue, & we wish them well & hopefully more success. Check out the Parkes Netball Socials for some pics of all the action. A special mentions goes out to all the coaches, managers, first aiders, scorers, etc for bringing this whole season together & volunteering so much time & effort in the name of Parkes Netball.

Hockey

- 34 teams for the U14 state championships. CHS open boys with 10 teams was well run, again with good compliments for the quality of the event.
- 54 teams at the women's masters. Some changes to accommodate the weather. Grass fields were as good as they could be for the women's masters despite some rain. Compliments were received from visitors and players.
- Fears that the fuel crisis would impact the events with numbers down a little.
- Canteen was well supported, grossing \$65k for the three events, with use of local suppliers.
- Women's masters was lacking toilets despite an additional 8 port-a-loos.
- Small club house and lack of outside BBQ area were also issues.
- Great support from the sports field team as well as the community. Used grass for some matches.
- U16s tournaments to be held soon at other venues.
- Lights at Stephen Davies Field are out on the Southern End (Baker St). Geoff to investigate and arrange repair.

Soccer

- Held round of Western Youth League with region sides from U10 up.
- Premier League side struggling with the competition but nucleus of a strong future side

Peak Hill Sport

- Site meeting held at Lindner Oval with Building Services to discuss maintenance work in the amenities. Also discussed were drainage issues around the canteen area.

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.

Sports Council (Sporting Grounds) Overview - Month Ending - 31 May 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	Bud Rem
Sporting Grounds Operating	\$293,701	\$293,101	\$0	\$293,101	100%	\$600
	\$293,701	\$293,101	\$0	\$293,101	100%	\$600
Sporting Grounds - Capital Expenditure						
Capital Expenditure Projects	Budget	Actual	Committed	A + C	% Spent	Bud Rem
Berryman Oval - Trundle (Flood Repairs) - Carpark, Tennis Courts & Pool Pump Shed (NSW Govt)	\$636,300	\$481,402	\$4,714	\$486,116	76%	\$149,884
Lindner Oval Irrigation	\$56,000	\$55,188	\$0	\$55,188	99%	\$612
Cheney Park Clubhouse Capital Improvements	\$10,913	\$10,913	\$0	\$10,913	100%	\$0
Cheney Park - Lighting Upgarde (ClubsGrant \$210.5k & PMJRL \$75k)	\$285,580	\$295,663	\$0	\$295,663	104%	-\$10,083
	\$921,880	\$777,065	\$4,714	\$781,779	85%	\$140,101

General Business

Dogs on Sports Fields

Issue was discussed at recent Council workshop where all the feedback was reviewed. Louise and Doug relayed the feedback to the group. There was strong feedback that the dogs shouldn't be banned. There was suggestions for larger areas to be available for larger dogs. The off-lead area above Spicer Oval is not fenced.

Those present felt that enforcement must be carried out and at times when dogs are being run, including early mornings and evenings. If dogs are banned then enforcement is easier to manage. Louise requested that the comments received be distributed to the sporting groups.

Changes to Sports Council Scope

The old Sports Facility Advisory committee has been closed and the strategic and master planning component has been rolled into this committee. Some discussion on future development and multipurpose fields.

Masterplans

A new developer contribution infrastructure plan will be considered by Council soon. The plan lists community projects that could be funded from contributions from developers. Louise restated the importance of ensuring that the Masterplans are up-to-date.

Sports Grant

Louise will send out information on a sports grant program. Sporting groups are also reminded that Council has a subscription to Grant Guru where groups can browse for grants after a simple registration.

Elvis Event at Spicer

Luke mentioned that Spicer is being considered as a venue for the Dean-Z concert. Concern that the sporting groups (cricket) weren't consulted. Would like to ensure that the turf is well protected, including that there is provision to rehabilitate the field after the event.

Next Meeting

11 August 2026 at 7pm for AGM.

Meeting Close 8:34pm

Meeting Actions

9/06/2026	1	Lights at Stephen Davies Field are out on the Southern End (Baker St). Geoff / Tim to investigate and arrange repair	Geoff / Tim
9/06/2026	2	Distribute the anonymised comments from community feedback about dogs on sporting fields to sporting groups.	Anthony

14 REPORTS OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

14.1 INVESTMENTS AND BORROWINGS REPORT AS AT 31 MAY 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: Kent Boyd PSM, General Manager

Annexures: A. Investment Register - 31 May 2026 [↓](#)
B. Loans Register - 31 May 2026 [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

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

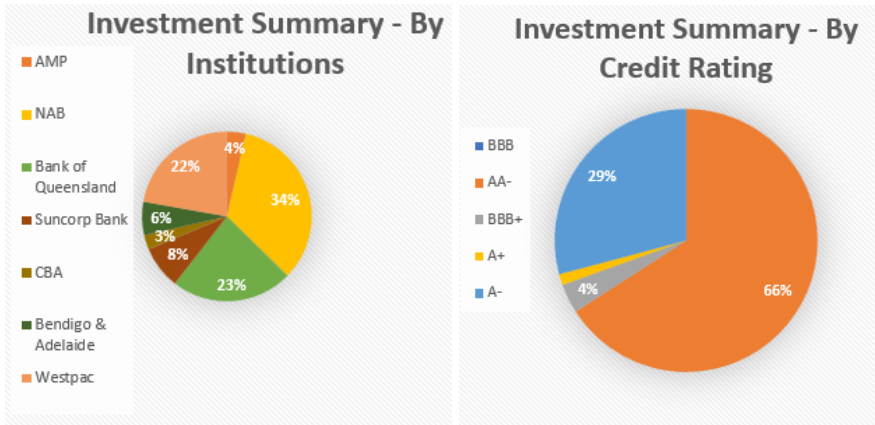
BACKGROUND

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 31 May 2026 stands at \$55,685,426 and the principal outstanding on council's borrowings at \$17,084,183. Investment holdings increased by \$6.3 million during May, primarily due to substantial inflows from grant funding milestone payments received for several major projects.

On 31 May 2026, Council's investment portfolio continued to yield 4.44 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 May 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 31 May 2026.

Parkes Shire Council Investment Register as at 31 May 2026						
ADI/Issuer	Rating	Investment Type	Principal	Yield	Settlement Date	Maturity Date
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	1,500,000	5.26	28/05/2026	30/11/2026
NAB	AA-	Term Deposit	500,000	4.48	19/12/2025	18/12/2026
Bendigo & Adelaide	A-	Term Deposit	1,500,000	5.29	19/05/2026	21/12/2026
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	1,513,635	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
NAB	AA-	Term Deposit	3,000,000	5.32	29/05/2026	30/03/2027
NAB	AA-	Term Deposit	2,000,000	5.40	28/05/2026	28/05/2027
Bank of Queensland	A-	Floating Rate Note	2,506,900	4.76	12/11/2025	20/11/2028
UBS AG	A+	Floating Rate Note	758,258	5.20	14/04/2026	15/04/2023
Westpac	AA-	Cash at Call - Main	4,411,629		At Call	
Westpac	AA-	Cash at Call - Maxi	7,775,005		At Call	
Total			55,685,426			

Investment Balances by Type		
Term Deposit	38,720,000	
Floating Rate Note	4,778,793	43,498,793 Investments
Cash at Call - Main	4,411,629	
Cash at Call - Maxi	7,775,005	12,186,634 Cash
Total Balance - 31/05/2026	55,685,426	

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 31 May 2026							
Borrower (by Purpose)	Lender	System Loan No.	Loan Term Years	Date of Maturity	Interest Rate	Original Amount Borrowed \$	Principal Outstanding as 31 May 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
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	3,771,643.84
Total General Fund						\$ 10,450,000	7,989,114.10
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						\$ 22,950,000	17,084,183.29

14.2 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 31 MAY 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:** **Kent Boyd PSM, General Manager****Annexures:** **A. Annexure A - Monthly Financial Report - Period Ending 31 May 2026** [↓](#)**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Receive and note the year-to-date financial reports for the period up to 31 May 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 recorded an unfavourable consolidated net operating result of \$6.2 million as at 31 May, which is \$4.3 million favourable to the adopted budget.

The General Fund recorded a loss of \$6.1 million, while the Water Fund reported a profit of \$0.3 million and the Sewer Fund recorded a loss of \$0.4 million.

Year-to-date income is \$14.8 million above budget, while cash operating expenses are \$4.6 million above budget.

Depreciation expense is \$5.9 million higher than budget, primarily due to the revaluation of road assets undertaken in June 2025 as part of Council's scheduled asset revaluation program. Excluding

the impact of the additional depreciation expense, Council's underlying operating performance remains favourable and is generally tracking in line with budget expectations.

Annexure A provides more detailed commentary into the financial performance of the organisation for the period ending 31 May 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 31 May 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
May 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	30,045	30,119	(75)	20,616	20,661	(45)	5,759	5,795	(36)	3,670	3,663	7	Pensioner Rebates (-\$95k), Waste (+\$58k), Water Access (-\$36k), Sewer Access (+\$7k)
User charges and fees	15,005	9,542	5,463	7,204	3,846	3,358	7,081	5,163	1,918	720	533	187	RMCC (+\$2.28m), Waste (+\$525k) Asbestos and Inland rail, FDCare (+\$575k), Water NPM (+\$1m), Water Other (+\$920k)
Interest and investment revenue	2,088	996	1,092	1,432	504	928	479	328	151	177	164	14	The higher cash balance reflects advance grant funding receipts and increased interest earnings resulting from higher interest rates
Other revenues	2,073	1,166	907	1,978	1,090	888	71	55	16	24	21	3	Elvis sponsorship (+\$341k), Workers Comp (+\$58k), Fuel Rebate (-\$101k), Insurance (+\$78k), Legal Recoveries (+\$117k), Rentals (+\$98k), Lease - Electricity & Gas (+\$120k), Paid Parental Leave (+\$37k)
Grants and contributions provided for opex	14,614	7,212	7,401	14,482	7,212	7,269	132	0	132	0	0	0	Fresh Start (+\$179k), FAGs (+\$3.0m), RTR (+\$302k), Storm Damage (+\$3.1m), FDC (+\$409k), Development Services - Regional Housing Strategy (+\$245k)
Income	63,824	49,036	14,789	45,711	33,313	12,398	13,523	11,342	2,181	4,591	4,381	210	
Employee Cost	20,511	18,921	(1,590)	17,309	16,116	(1,193)	1,713	1,513	(199)	1,489	1,292	(198)	Works & Services (-\$692k), Water (-\$199k), Sewer (-\$198k)
Materials & Consumables	2,097	3,544	1,446	1,366	2,691	1,325	533	459	(74)	199	394	195	Road maintenance (+\$1.33m), Pool (-\$102k), Water (-\$74k) Sewer (+\$195k)
External Services	14,731	12,026	(2,705)	13,068	10,074	(2,994)	1,264	1,130	(134)	399	821	423	Econ Dev (-\$270k), Events (-\$66k), Road maintenance (-\$1.64m), Storm water (-\$127k), Caravan (+\$170k), FDCare (-\$808k), Water (-\$135k), Sewer (+\$422k)
Water, Electricity & Statutory	3,947	3,209	(739)	1,202	989	(213)	2,581	2,000	(581)	165	220	55	Rates (-\$332k), Electricity (-\$188k), Water Purchases (-\$222k)
IT & Communications	208	286	78	198	282	84	3	4	1	7	0	(7)	Actual results are consistent with budget expectations
Insurance	801	853	52	801	853	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	Actual results are consistent with budget expectations
Administration	3,813	3,088	(725)	3,294	2,701	(593)	474	360	(114)	45	28	(18)	Governance (-\$76k), Timing of IT subscriptions (-\$461k), Fleet & Depot (-\$55k), WF Licences (-\$114k), Software (-\$15k)
Travel & Entertainment	308	235	(73)	268	217	(51)	40	14	(26)	1	5	4	Costs incurred during the period relate to accommodation and travel requirements for the Elvis Festival and associated events (-\$78k)
Financials	387	480	93	270	480	210	52	0	(52)	65	0	(65)	Timing of audit fees payable (+\$73k)
Internal Charges	(1,743)	(1,941)	(199)	(4,170)	(4,304)	(134)	1,569	1,564	(5)	858	799	(59)	The variance is due to lower plant utilisation on capital works projects compared to budget assumptions
Interest Paid	722	734	11	466	477	11	148	151	3	109	106	(2)	Actual results are consistent with budget expectations
Cost of Assets Sold	833	660	(173)	761	660	(101)	72	0	(72)	0	0	0	Profit on vehicle sales (+\$164k), Profit on land sales (+\$328k), infrastructure asset disposals (-\$242k)
Sale Proceeds of Assets	(1,117)	(1,194)	(77)	(1,019)	(1,194)	(175)	(77)	0	77	(21)	0	21	
Expenses	45,500	40,900	(4,600)	33,812	30,040	(3,772)	8,372	7,195	(1,177)	3,316	3,665	349	
Cash profit for the year	18,325	8,136	10,189	11,898	3,273	8,625	5,151	4,147	1,004	1,275	716	559	
Depreciation	24,617	18,709	(5,908)	18,094	12,767	(5,327)	4,825	4,335	(490)	1,697	1,607	(91)	The increase is primarily attributable to the revaluation of road assets undertaken in June 2025 as part of Council's scheduled asset revaluation program
Net Operation result as at May	(6,292)	(10,573)	4,281	(6,196)	(9,494)	3,298	326	(188)	514	(422)	(891)	469	

14.3 MAKING OF THE RATES AND FIXING OF CHARGES 2026-2027

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: **Kent Boyd PSM, General Manager**

Annexures: **Nil**

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. In accordance with Chapter 15, Parts 4 and 5 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, make and levy the following rates and annual charges for the 2026-2027 financial year:
 - (a) In relation to the Ordinary Rates, Council applies the increase of 3.1 per cent, inclusive of the rate peg, as determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal.
 - (b) In relation to Ordinary Rates and pursuant to section 494 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, make and levy the following Ordinary Rates for the year 01 July 2026 to 30 June 2027:

Category and Sub-Category	Minimum Rate	Cents in Dollar (Ad Valorem)
Ordinary - Business Industrial	\$636.00	1.1295610
Ordinary - Business Parkes CBD	\$636.00	7.0955210
Ordinary - Business Rate	\$636.00	1.5475050
Ordinary - Business Villages	\$636.00	1.9888770
Ordinary - Farmland Rate	\$636.00	0.2810370
Ordinary - Mining Copper Producing	\$636.00	3.8786500
Ordinary - Mining Rate	\$636.00	19.1249330
Ordinary - Residential Parkes	\$636.00	1.1383540
Ordinary - Rural Residential Rate	\$636.00	0.4928670
Ordinary - Residential Rate	\$636.00	0.3749060
Ordinary - Special Activation Precinct Developed	\$636.00	1.9937520
Ordinary - Special Activation Precinct Undeveloped	\$636.00	28.4766230

- (c) In relation to waste management charges and pursuant to sections 496 and 501 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, make and levy the following annual charges on all consumers accessing the Parkes Shire waste management services for the year 01 July 2026 to 30 June 2027:

Waste Group	Charge
Domestic Waste Management Service Charge	\$560.00
Domestic Waste Management Service Charge (Vacant Land)	\$105.00
Non-Domestic Waste Management Service Charge	\$560.00
Non-Domestic Waste Management Service Charge (Vacant Land)	\$117.00

In addition to the maximum \$250 pensioner rebate jointly funded by the Council (45%) and the State Government (55%) in respect of general rates and domestic waste charges, in accordance with the Council's Pensioner Rate Rebate and Hardship Policy, Council will provide an additional pensioner rebate of \$105.00 per eligible property from 1 July 2026 for the 2026/27 rating year. This voluntary rebate will be paid pursuant to Section 582 of the Local Government Act, 1993 and only pensioners that received the rebate in 2016/17 will continue to be eligible to do so

- (d) In relation to water supply service charges and pursuant to sections 501, 502 and 552 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, make and levy the following charges on all consumers connected to, or capable of being connected to, the Parkes Shire water supply systems and water supply for the year 01 July 2026 to 30 June 2027:

Water Access Charge Type	Charge
Residential - Standard Charge	\$327.00
Non-Residential - 20mm	\$327.00
Non-Residential - 25mm	\$507.00
Non-Residential - 32mm	\$844.00
Non-Residential - 40mm	\$1,318.00
Non-Residential - 50mm	\$2,062.00
Non-Residential - 80mm	\$5,252.00
Non-Residential - 100mm	\$8,215.00
Non-Residential - Northparkes Mines	\$4,390,824.00
Un-Metered - Strata Title Units	\$327.00
Un-Metered - CBD	\$1,132.00
Un-Metered - Non-Rateable	\$327.00
Water Usage Charge	Rate per kl
Residential Rate (all consumption)	\$2.25
Business Rate (all consumption)	\$2.25
Commercial Rate (all consumption)	\$2.25
Northparkes Mines Rate	\$1.39
Trundle School - Raw Water (all consumption)	\$1.71
Raw Water - Rising Main from Dam (all consumption)	\$1.71
Standpipe Charges	\$5.80

- (e) In relation to sewerage service charges and pursuant to sections 501, 502 and 552 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, make and levy the following annual charge on all consumers connected to, or capable of being connected to, the Parkes Shire sewer systems and sewer charges for the year 01 July 2026 to 30 June 2027:

Sewer Access Charge Type	Charge
Residential - Standard Charge	\$832.00
Non-Residential - 20mm	\$467.00
Non-Residential - 25mm	\$733.00
Non-Residential - 32mm	\$1,194.00
Non-Residential - 40mm	\$1,875.00
Non-Residential - 50mm	\$2,926.00
Non-Residential - 80mm	\$7,486.00
Non-Residential - 100mm	\$11,697.00
Unmetered - Strata Title Units	\$832.00
Unmetered - CBD	\$1,155.00
Unmetered Non-Rateable	\$832.00

Trade Waste Charge Type	Fee Description	Charge
Service Fee - Category 1	Annual Trade Service & Inspection	\$325.00
Service Fee - Category 2	Annual Trade Service & Inspection	\$325.00
Service Fee - Category 3	Annual Trade Service & Inspection	\$1,148.00
Usage Fee - Category 1 & 2	Trade Waste Usage	\$3.10 per kl
Usage Fee - Category 3	Trade Waste Usage	\$22.75 per kl

- (f) In accordance with clauses 125A and 125AA of the Local Government General Regulation 2005 the following annual charges are set for stormwater management services for the 12 months commencing 1 July 2026:

Category	Charge
Residential (Not Vacant)	\$25.00
Residential strata units	\$12.50
Business non-strata properties	
0-1199 sqms	\$25.00
1200-4999 sqms	\$100.00
=> 5000 sqms	\$375.00

2. Pursuant to section 566(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, adopts the overdue rates and charges maximum interest rate of 9.5 per cent for the period 01 July 2026 to 30 June

2027 (inclusive) in accordance with the determination made by the Minister for Local Government as published in the *NSW Government Gazette*.

BACKGROUND

Section 535 of the *Local Government Act 1993* ("the Act") provides that, to levy rates and charges for the 2026-2027 year, Parkes Shire Council ("Council") must first resolve the making of all rates and fixing of annual charges. Under section 532 of the Act, this resolution cannot be made until the draft Operational Plan has been publicly exhibited and Council has considered any submissions received.

Additionally, Council is required to resolve the interest rate payable on overdue rates and charges for the 2026-2027 year. Section 566(3) of the Act provides that the interest rate set by Council cannot exceed the rate specified by the Minister for Local Government.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The Operational Plan 2026-2027 ("the Operational Plan") includes Council's Statement of Revenue Policy for the 2026-2027 year. The Revenue Policy is adopted on an annual basis and details how Council will levy ordinary rates, charges, and fees, as well as the anticipated revenue that will be derived from each rate, charge, and fee.

As detailed above, Council must formally resolve to make the rates and charges for the 2026-2027 year, as well as the interest rate payable on overdue rates and charges. On 15 May 2026, the Office of Local Government published *Circular 26-06 Information about Rating 2026-2027* ("Circular 26-06"), confirming the maximum interest rate and the methodology used. Circular 26-06 is contained at *Annexure A*.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

Chapter 15, Parts 4 and 5 of the Act concern the making and levying of rates and charges. Each clause of the Officer's Recommendation has referenced the appropriate section of the Act.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

THE ANTICIPATED REVENUES FROM RATES, FEES, AND CHARGES TO BE LEVIED BY COUNCIL IN THE 2026-2027 YEAR ARE DETAILED IN THE STATEMENT OF POLICY CONTAINED IN THE OPERATIONAL PLAN. RISK IMPLICATIONS

As detailed above, the making of the rates and fixing of charges is a statutory requirement under the Act and accompanying *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* ("the Regulation"). Resolution of the Officer's Recommendation is required to enable Council to collect revenue from rates and annual charges.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Council's Operational Plan, incorporating the draft Revenue Policy, was placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days. Details of the public exhibition period are contained in the business paper.

CONCLUSION

Consistent with Council's legislative obligations under the Act and Regulation, it is recommended that Council formally resolve to make and levy the rates and annual charges for the 2026-2027 year, as detailed in the Operational Plan and listed in the Officer's Recommendation (above). In doing so, it is recommended that Council adopt the maximum rate for the 2026-2027 year as determined by the Minister for Local Government and published in the *NSW Government Gazette*.

15 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR CUSTOMER, CORPORATE SERVICES AND ECONOMY

15.1 MAJOR PROJECTS AND CURRENT WORKS - CUSTOMER, CORPORATE SERVICES AND ECONOMY - MAY 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 Status Report - May 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 included as Annexure A.

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		Event planning underway, DA Approval for Dean-Z pending. There are rising costs for key elements.
The Community Improvement District (CID) Pilot Program		Work continues with the new Brand and installation of HVM measures at Cooke Park.
Fresh Start Program – New Cadets, Apprentices and Trainees		8 of the 18 new positions approved remain filled. Last grant round is early 2027.
CiA Live Corporate Software System Upgrade.		Readiness check with Technology One to occur in June.

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
	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)

- Destination NSW milestone reports 2026/4, 2026/5 and 2027/1 due
- 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

Council is in the final stages of a DA application to secure Dean Z to perform two shows at the 2027 festival, which is being proposed to be held at Spicer Oval. Cooke Park will remain open and free to enter during the 2027 festival. Negotiations are ongoing to secure the major festival components in an environment of escalating costs.

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	Benefits
<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	\$272,195.36	\$16,007.93	\$288,203.29	300,000	
60,000 (Cap)	30,501.32	\$30,711.23	\$14,906.00	\$45,617.27	60,000	
				333,820.5656	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.

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

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Branding workshops held with Council and the reference group. • 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 plan • 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>

<p>Progress Photos</p>	

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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	388,615	36,785	297,409	91,205	388,615
Income	388,615	-	173,099	215,516	388,615

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 May.

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
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
- Confirm Readiness Assessment start date with TechnologyOne

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

- Readiness assessment by TechnologyOne
- Finalise internal subject matter expert nominations for readiness assessment participation
- Develop and refine testing and migration test checklists

Current Works

The TechnologyOne AMS Property & Rating CiA Transition Readiness Assessment has been scheduled, with readiness scans to be conducted in Council's TechnologyOne TEST environment between 16 June and 22 June 2026.

This activity represents the first formal progression of the project following prior delays associated with early adopter dependencies and vendor scheduling. The readiness assessment will evaluate data integrity, identify transition risks, and provide recommended remediation actions to support a successful transition to CiAnywhere.

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



An internal stakeholder session has previously been completed to brief key business and ICT representatives on transition stages, resourcing expectations, and readiness requirements. Outcomes of the readiness assessment will inform detailed scoping, resource planning, and next phase scheduling. No budget expenditure has occurred to date.

Progress Photos

There are no photos available currently.

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15.2 DISALLOWANCE OF COUNCIL'S CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE AND INTERIM MEETING ARRANGEMENTS**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:** Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy**Authoriser:** Kent Boyd PSM, General Manager**Annexures:** A. Code of Meeting Practice (based on the 2021 Model Code) (under separate cover)**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council

1. Note that the Code of Meeting Practice adopted by Council at its December meeting under Resolution **443/25**, being based on the now-disallowed 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice, is no longer compliant with the prescribed legislative framework.
2. Rescind Council Resolution **443/25** (December meeting) insofar as it adopted Council's Code of Meeting Practice to align with the now-disallowed 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice, and note that any provisions of Council's current Code that rely upon or reflect the disallowed 2025 Model Code are not to be applied.
3. Resolve that, with immediate effect and until a further resolution of Council, meetings of Council and committees of Council comprising wholly of councillors will be conducted in accordance with 2021 Code of Meeting Practice, which was previously adopted by Council (*Annexure A*).
4. Note the interim meeting arrangements and key changes outlined in this report that apply during this transitional period and that information will be placed on Council's web site advising of the interim arrangements.
5. Request the General Manager to bring a further report to Council once a new Model Code of Meeting Practice is prescribed, including any required amendments and consultation processes for adoption of an updated Meeting Code.

BACKGROUND

At its Ordinary Council Meeting in December 2025, Council adopted a revised Code of Meeting Practice based on the 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice, in accordance with section 360 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. This was resolved under Council Resolution **443/25**.

In May 2026, the NSW Legislative Council passed a motion to disallow the 2025 Model Code of Meeting Practice that had been prescribed under the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*. As a result of this parliamentary disallowance, the 2025 Model Code no longer has legal effect.

The Office of Local Government has advised that, following the disallowance, the 2021 Model Code of Meeting Practice is once again the currently prescribed model code for NSW councils. Councils whose adopted codes are based on the disallowed 2025 Model Code are required to revert to arrangements consistent with the 2021 Model Code to ensure legislative compliance.

The NSW Government has indicated that work is underway to prepare and prescribe a revised Model Code of Meeting Practice, and that councils will be kept informed of further developments.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The primary issue for Council is maintaining lawful and orderly meeting practices during the transitional period between the disallowance of the 2025 Model Code and the prescription of a new model code. Conducting meetings under a code that is inconsistent with the currently prescribed model code exposes Council to governance, procedural and legal risk.

Reverting to the 2021 Model Code provides a clear, sector-wide and legally supported framework for the conduct of Council and committee meetings until updated arrangements are formally prescribed.

Interim meeting management advice

Advice available from the Office of Local Government and sector commentary indicates that councils should:

- Revert to the 2021 Model Code of Meeting Practice as the operative framework for meetings.
- Ensure that any provisions from the disallowed 2025 Model Code are not applied during this period.
- Clearly communicate interim arrangements to councillors, staff and the community to support transparency and confidence in decision-making.

Key changes applying during the interim period

Until a new Model Code is prescribed and adopted, the following key changes apply compared with the disallowed 2025 arrangements:

- **Councillor briefing sessions:** Permitted under the 2021 Code, subject to appropriate governance controls, whereas they were prohibited under the 2025 Code.
- **Attendance by audio-visual link (AVL):** The 2021 Code allows councillors to attend meetings by AVL in certain circumstances, reinstating flexibility for rural and regional councils.
- **Public forums:** Detailed procedural provisions for public forums apply as set out in the 2021 Model Code, rather than locally determined rules introduced under the 2025 Code (note that local rules closely matched the previous rules under the 2021 code).
- **Mayor's powers to manage disorder:** While still present, these revert to the scope and thresholds set out in the 2021 Code rather than the expanded powers proposed in the 2025 Code.

These changes represent a return to previously established meeting practices for councillors, staff and the community, which was in affect up until December 2025.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

- **Local Government Act 1993 (NSW):** Section 360 requires councils to adopt a code of meeting practice that incorporates the mandatory provisions of the model code prescribed by regulation.
- **Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (NSW):** Clause 232 prescribes the Model Code of Meeting Practice for the purposes of the Act.
- **Office of Local Government (OLG) advice / guidance:** OLG confirms the 2025 Model Code has been disallowed and that the currently prescribed Model Code is the 2021 Model Code of Meeting Practice, pending further Government action.

This report has been drafted with the assistance of artificial intelligence tools. The content has been reviewed and checked for accuracy and relevance by a Council officer prior to submission.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Compliance / legal / governance risk:

If Council continues to apply provisions aligned to the disallowed 2025 Model Code, there is an increased risk of procedural challenge to meeting processes and decisions and a risk of non-compliance with the prescribed model framework.

Mitigation: Rescind the December adopting resolution to the relevant extent and revert to an interim Code aligned to the 2021 Model Code.

Reputational risk:

Uncertainty about applicable meeting rules may undermine community confidence in meeting integrity and transparency.

Mitigation: Clear public messaging, updated website publication, and consistent application of the interim Code.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council to prepare a draft code of meeting practice and to give public notice and exhibit the draft for a minimum of 28 days, with a submission period of not less than 42 days, before adopting a code of meeting practice.

In this instance, Council is not introducing a new draft code for adoption. Council is reverting on an interim basis to the 2021 Code of Meeting Practice framework, which has previously been publicly exhibited and adopted in accordance with the Act, following the disallowance of the 2025 Model Code and OLG confirmation that the 2021 Model Code is currently prescribed.

Accordingly, a further statutory public exhibition process is not proposed for the interim reversion. To ensure transparency and community awareness during the transitional period, Council will place information about the interim Code (2021 version) on Council's website as a public notice, including a copy of (or link to) the interim Code and an explanation of why the interim arrangements are in place.

15.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL DETERMINATION OF COUNCILLOR ANNUAL FEES FOR 2026/27**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:** Veronica Shaw, Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance**Authoriser:** Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy**Annexures:** A. Local Government Remuneration Tribunal - Annual Determination 2026 (under separate cover)**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal Annual Determination 2026 appended at *Annexure A*.
2. Pursuant to section 248 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, fix and determine the annual fee payable to the Councillors (including the Mayor) of Parkes Shire Council for the 2026/27 financial year effective from 01 July 2026, at the upper limit of \$19,590.00 for a Rural Large Council.
3. Pursuant to section 249 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, fix and determine the annual fee payable to the Mayor of Parkes Shire Council for the 2026/27 financial year effective from 01 July 2026, at the upper limit of \$42,030.00 for a Rural Large Council.
4. Pursuant to section 249(5), Council resolve to pay the Deputy Mayor a fee for such time as the Deputy Mayor acts in the office of the Mayor for any absence of four weeks or more, which must be deducted from the Mayor's annual fee.

BACKGROUND

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal ("the Tribunal") is constituted under Chapter 9, Division 4 of the *Local Government Act 1993* ("the Act") to set the minimum and maximum fees payable to Councillors and Mayors for each category of council annually. Section 239 of the Act requires the Tribunal to determine the categories of councils and mayoral offices at least once every 3 years with the next review scheduled for 2029. The Tribunal is also charged with placing each council and Mayoral office into one of those categories. Parkes Shire Council was categorised as a Large Rural Council in 2023.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 May 2025, Council resolved to determine the annual fee payable to Councillors and the Mayor at the upper limit for a Rural Large Council for the 2025/2026 financial year as per previous practice [*OCM 154/25*]. In addition, Council previously resolved to pay superannuation on behalf of the elected members at its Ordinary Meeting held 15 March 2022 [*Res 22-083*].

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

In its 2026/27 determination, the Tribunal decided a 3.7% per annum increase in the minimum and maximum fees applicable to each category of council from 1 July 2026. This was in consideration of several determining factors, including the consumer price index (CPI), the Wage Price Index (WPI) and several submissions to reflect increases in the cost of living. It should be noted that the rate peg limit applied by the NSW Government for Parkes Shire on General Fund rates is 3.1%.

As a "Rural Large" council the range of annual fees that can be paid by Parkes Shire Council to Councillors and Mayors in 2026/27 as determined by the Tribunal, are detailed in *Table A*, below:

Table A: Rural Large Council - Councillor and Mayor Fees – 2025/26 v 2026/27						
Category	Councillor Annual Fee	Councillor/Member Annual Fee 2026/27		Mayor Additional Fee	Mayor/Chairperson Additional Fee 2026/27 *	
	2025/26	Minimum	Maximum	2025/26	Minimum	Maximum
General Purpose Councils – Non-metropolitan – Large Rural	\$18,890.00	\$10,920.00	\$19,590.00	\$40,530.00	\$17,440.00	\$42,030.00

**The fee for Mayor/Chairperson must be paid in addition to the fee paid as a Councillor (section 249(2), Local Government Act 1993). Under section 249(5), Council may resolve to pay the Deputy Mayor a fee for such time as the Deputy Mayor acts in the office of the Mayor, which must be deducted from the Mayor's annual fee. This requires a decision of Council and cannot be dictated by either the Mayor or the Deputy Mayor.*

Last year, Council resolved to fix the annual fee payable to the Councillors and Mayor at the maximum amounts for the category as determined by the Tribunal and to include provision for superannuation payments. This will ensure Councillors and Mayor are compensated fairly for their contribution to Council and help ease barriers preventing representative members of the public from standing for Council.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

Sections 248 and 249 of the Act concern the fixing and payment of annual fees for the Councillor and Mayor.

Section 248 of the Act provides that a council must pay each of its Councillors an annual fee, but if an annual fee is not fixed by the council, the appropriate minimum fee set by the Tribunal must be paid. Section 249 provides a similar provision in relation to the fixing and payment of annual fees to the Mayor. Section 249(5) provides for the payment of the mayoral fee to the Deputy Mayor when acting as Mayor.

Should the annual fees not be fixed by Council resolution; the Mayor and Councillors will be paid the minimum fees determined by the Tribunal.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Table B, below, details the total fees payable to the Mayor and Councillors in the 2026/27 year if the maximum fee is adopted:

Table B: 'Rural Large' Fees and Super Payable to Parkes Shire Council Mayor and Councillors if Maximum Fee is adopted (increase of 3.7%)				
Category	Maximum Annual Fee	Superannuation @ 12%	No.	Total Fees
Councillor	\$19,590.00	\$2,350.80	9	\$176,310.00
Mayor (Councillor Fee 19,590 + Mayoral Fee 42,030)	\$61,620.00	\$7,394.40	1	\$61,620.00
Total Fees:				\$237,930.00
Super 12%:				\$28,551.60
Total Fees + Super *:				\$266,481.60

* Note an overall increase of \$9,860 on last Financial Year.

The allocation for the annual fees for the Councillors and Mayor are provided for in the annual budget.

In addition, council previously resolved to pay superannuation guarantee payments, pursuant to section 254B of the *Local Government Act 1993* on behalf of the elected members at its Ordinary Council Meeting in March 2022 [Res 22-083]. This equates to 12% or \$28,551.60 for the 2026/27 Financial Year if the maximum fee is adopted. Superannuation contributions were included in the budget.

It must be noted that Councillors are also reimbursed their expenses, such as travel costs using a personal vehicle, on Council related business.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Consistent with sections 248(4) and 249(4) of the Act, if Council does not formally resolve to fix and determine the Councillors' and Mayor's fees for 2026/27 as recommended, the minimum fee determined by the Tribunal will be applied.

Council adopting the recommended maximum increase for Rural Large Council may pose a reputational risk, however, it is important to recognise that the category and the minimum and maximum amounts that the Tribunal provides annually have undergone several assessments which reflects the current CPI and WPI. This doesn't, however, greatly reflect the increased workload and change of scope which councils have undergone in the last decade which have increased the demands and the expectations on Councillors and Mayors throughout New South Wales.

Council has the discretion to set fees within the minimum and maximum range outlined in Table B. Selecting the maximum amount is important to ensure that Councillors receive appropriate compensation for their dedication, including the sacrifice of personal time and use of personal leave for community work, discussions with community members, and official council engagements and to also reduce barriers for prospective Councillors to ensure a more representative Council.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

A budget allocation was included in the Draft 2026-27 Operational Plan, which has been on public exhibition from 23 April 2026 to 28 May 2026 and which will be updated to reflect the adopted fees in this report.

15.4 REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - PEAK HILL TOWN IMPROVEMENT RESERVE - PEAK HILL BOWLING CLUB WATER ACCOUNT**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:** Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy**Authoriser:** Kent Boyd PSM, General Manager**Annexures:** A. Letter - Peak Hill Bowling Club - 13 May 2026 [↓](#)**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Receive and note the information from the Peak Hill CCC and Peak Hill Bowling Club.
2. Provides public notice of its intention to provide \$800 in financial assistance to the Peak Hill Bowling Club for a contribution to their water account from the Peak Hill Town Improvement Reserve.
3. Approve the allocation of \$800 from the Peak Hill Town Improvement Fund Reserve to support the Peak Hill Bowling Club in paying their water account, subject to no formal submissions being received that do not support the allocation.

BACKGROUND

Parkes Shire Council ("Council") is guided by the advice provided by the various Community Consultative Committees ("CCC") in determining the most appropriate projects to be included in their Town Improvement Allocations, however, the final decision concerning the expenditure of the funds remains with Council.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Council has received an email from the Peak Hill Community Consultative Committee ("CCC") advising that they had received a request from the Peak Hill Bowling Club for a contribution towards their water account. The CCC, in supporting the request, asked that a contribution be made from the Peak Hill Town Improvement Fund Reserve ("TIF").

The Peak Hill Bowling Club has advised that it is experiencing a period of financial hardship and has received a water account from Council (Annexure A). While payment terms have been negotiated, the Club is seeking a contribution of \$800 towards the total amount outstanding to assist in managing this liability.

There are three key issues associated with this report:

1. The project involves the use of council funds to support an asset that is not the responsibility of the Council.
2. The project involves providing funds to a third party outside the usual Community Financial Assistance Program process under the general category.
3. Council must vote to move funds from its town improvement reserves to this project as it was not included in the 2025-26 Operational Budget.

This was not specifically listed in the 2025-2026 Operational Plan and therefore the allocation of funds falls under the Financial Assistance Policy as a general request.

The following table details the assessment of the project against the Financial Assistance Grants general assessment criteria.

Criteria	Assessment	Comment
Budget Compliance: Ensure the request falls within Council's budget.	Complies	There are sufficient TI funds available.
Community Accessibility: Verify that the facility, activity or event is open to the Parkes Shire community.	Complies	The CC is the peak consultative body for the Peak Hill community and have support the request from the Bowling Club, which is open to the community.
Participation Costs: Assess whether the costs for patrons to use a facility, attend or participate are reasonable.	Complies	Any community member can attend the club to play bowls.
Local Government Area: Confirm that the activity or event takes place within the Parkes Shire Local Government Area.	Complies	Located in Peak Hill
Period: Ensure that the activity or event occurs, or the funds are spent, within 12 months of notification of approval.	Complies	For 2025-2026 period.
Community Benefit: Evaluate how any excess proceeds or project outcome will benefit the Parkes Shire community, particularly if proceeds are for charity.	Partially Complies	The use of TI funds benefits the Peak Hill Bowling Club, who support the Peak Hill community
Request-Outcome Alignment: Assess how the requested amount compares with the stated outcomes of the activity or event.	Partially Complies	Financial investment by Council will see a benefit to the Peak Hill Bowling Club.
Strategic Goal Alignment: Determine how the objectives or outcomes align with one or more of Council's strategic goals.	Complies	Council Goal: Enhance recreation and culture, provide sport, recreation and play space facilities that encourage participation, connection and support for healthy and wellbeing lifestyles.
Public Liability Insurance: Verify that public liability insurance is required and current for the activity or event.	N/A	N/A. P/L Insurance is not required.

The assessment therefore is that this project would mostly meet the guidelines for the provision of funds under the Financial Assistance Policy for general requests.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

Section 405 of the Local Government Act 1993 ("the Act") states that Council must have an Operational Plan, which includes a detailed annual budget, which details the activities to be engaged as part of the Delivery Program for that year.

Council must vote to allocate funds from its reserves for projects not listed in its Operational Plan.

Council can only approve financial assistance (cash or in-kind) in accordance with section 356 of *the Local Government Act 1993* ("the Act"). Where the proposed financial assistance has not been included in Council's adopted Operational Plan for the year; the proposed financial assistance must be publicly exhibited prior to being provided. Council must consider any public submissions received, prior to providing the assistance requested. (See the [Office of Local Government for more information relating to section 356](#)).

In November 2023, Council updated its [Financial Assistance Policy](#), incorporating a new General Assessment Criteria for evaluating requests for Financial Assistance. Under the General Assessment Criteria, where an assessment process is not indicated for an individual grant program or procedure, the assessment of requests for financial assistance should consider the general criteria in the policy where appropriate.

Any requests received that are not part of an existing grant program, must be assessed against the criteria and reported to an Ordinary Council meeting for final approval.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Peak Hill TIF had an uncommitted balance of \$131,610.48 at the end of February 2026 and can support the allocation of \$800 contribution to the Peak Hill Bowling Club.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

The adoption of the recommendations for the report will ensure that Council will comply with section 356 of the Act and allow the transfer of funds from its reserves to support the project in accord with its Financial Reserves Policy.

There is a reputational and governance risk associated with setting a precedent for Council funding of operational costs for community organisations. This risk can be mitigated by clearly identifying the one-off nature of the assistance and the specific circumstances of financial hardship outlined in the request.

There is also a positive community opportunity to support the continued operation of a local sporting and social facility during a period of financial difficulty.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The Peak Hill CCC is recognised by Council as the peak consultative body for the Peak Hill community and surrounding areas. The CCC has met and agreed to formally request the allocation of funding from the Peak Hill TIF. Council must also provide a public notice of its intention to provide funding support to the CCC for the costs and seek submissions to ensure there are no objections.

PEAK HILL BOWLING CLUB INCORPORATED

PO BOX 97

PEAK HILL NSW 2869

The Secretary
Peak Hill CCC
PEAK HILL 2869

13th May, 20

Subject: Request for Financial Assistance – Town Improvement Fund

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing on behalf of our Club to formally request financial assistance through the Town Improvement Fund.

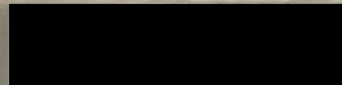
Currently, the Club is navigating a period of financial hardship. One of our primary overheads is our water utility cost, which is essential for maintaining the playing greens. Keeping these greens in professional condition is vital for retaining our members and ensuring the club remains a functional hub for local bowlers.

To manage our most recent water rates of \$2,460.76, we have coordinated with the Council to pay the balance in three interest-free instalments. We have already committed to this arrangement to show our dedication to resolving the debt.

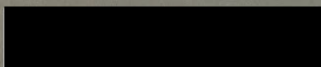
We respectfully ask the CCC to consider a contribution of \$800 to cover one of these instalments. This support would significantly ease our current burden and help ensure the long-term viability of our facilities for the community.

Thank you for your time and for considering our request.

Regards,



Ann McIntyre (Secretary)



15.5 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: Kent Boyd PSM, General Manager

Annexures:

- A. Minutes of the Meeting held to discuss the Formation of the EfW Working Party - 2 June 2026 [↓](#)
- B. Terms of Reference - EfW Community Working Party [↓](#)
- C. Committee Framework - Internal Committee Details [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Endorse the minutes of the meeting held on 2 June 2026 to discuss the formation of an Energy from Waste (EfW) Community Working Party, included as *Annexure A*.
2. Adopt the updated draft Terms of Reference document for the Working Party included as *Annexure B* with changes highlighted in yellow.
3. Adopt the Energy from Waste (EfW) Community Working Party Committee Framework as amended 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.
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	Purpose
	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 ("the Code") 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 add the Energy from Waste Community Working Party.

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 Party 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 overall structure and Terms of Reference of the new EfW Community Working Party was first adopted at the May Ordinary Council Meeting [OCM 109/26].

Following a second pre-planning meeting of the Councillor representatives of the EfW Community Working Party several amendments were proposed by the group for Council's resolution.

Proposed Terms of Reference Changes

The following changes to the Terms of Reference for the EfW Working Party intend to maintain a clear distinction between governance and support functions. The changes highlighted in yellow in *Annexure B*, include the following:

- General Manager role updated to Administrator from Facilitator throughout the document.
- 4.9 delegating the power to terminate members to the Chair and Deputy Chairs
- 4.11 added (d) As otherwise determined by the Committee
- 6.1 the Mayor ex officio be Chair with two Deputy Chairs voted on by the Councillor representatives
- 6.3 one of the Deputy Chairs steps in as Chair if the Mayor is away or delegates
- 6.4, several roles initially responsibilities of the Administrator reassigned to the Chair.

Proposed Committee Composition Changes

Proposed changes to the structure of the EfW Working Party are noted below. These changes are proposed to help ensure the committee is independent from Council and reduce risk of potential Conflicts of Interest. The changes are reflected in the Internal Committee document attached at Annexure C.

Strategic Advisory Committees (last adopted 19 May 2026 [OCM 109/26])					
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	Meeting Dates
Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party Terms of Reference: 2245910	The Committee is established to provide an advisory forum established following Council's 17 February 2026 resolution [OCM 027/26] opposing the proposed Energy-from-Waste (EfW) facility. 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 Identify community concerns 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) 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	Councillor Delegates: Cr Neil Westcott (Chair) Cr Joy Paddison (Deputy Chair) Cr Doug Pout (Deputy Chair) Cr Ken McGrath Cr Matthew Scherer Cr Glenn Wilson Community Representatives	General Manager	Monthly or as required Dates to be confirmed

Notes: Term concludes at the date of the next ordinary elections, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the Terms of Reference

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

Advisory Committees are established by Council, who determines their functions, membership and terms of reference. Council may also amend or dissolve such committees by resolution, provided governance arrangements remain consistent with Code, Act and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021. Advisory committees operate in an advisory capacity only 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 its Code and legislative requirements under the Act.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report, however the selection of the Committee members will be via a public Expression of Interest process.

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.

Energy from Waste Community Working Party

First Meeting Minutes

Date	2 June 2026
Time	12:00pm
Location	Committee Room
Chair	Mayor Neil Westcott
Attendees	Cr Joy Paddison, Cr Doug Pout, Cr Kenny McGrath, Cr Matthew Scherer, Cr Glenn Wilson, General Manager Kent Boyd, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy Anthony McGrath

Began at 12:02pm and ended at 12:35pm

Purpose of Meeting

To finalise establishment of the Working Party with final review of the Terms of Reference and review and confirmation of the draft Expression of Interest (EOI) advertising and registration form.

Attachments

- Attachment 1: Terms of Reference
- Attachment 2: Draft Registration (Membership) Form Structure EfW Community Working Party
- Attachment 3: Draft EOI for EfW Working Party

Agenda

Item	Matter	Minutes
1	Welcome and opening remarks	The Mayor gave an Acknowledgement of Country, welcomed attendees and outlined the purpose of the meeting and confirmed the meeting is focused on finalising establishing the Working Party.
2	Terms of Reference	<p>Kent Boyd spoke through several recommended changes to ensure the Committee was independent from Council with clear responsibility with the Chair and Deputy Chairs with Council only providing secretarial support. Kent Boyd stressed in particular that the planning department would be kept separate from the working group. These changes were approved by the committee and Council staff are to update the Terms of Reference accordingly.</p> <p>Councillors confirmed they want the Working Party to have actionable items.</p> <p>Councillors discussed that the Committee would be to decide on legal and ethical pathways for opposition which would then go to Council for resolution before actioning.</p> <p>Councillor Wilson officially joined the committee with the Committee Framework to be updated accordingly.</p> <p>Councillors discussed whether to allow supporters of the Energy from Waste facility or only those in opposition due to the history of the formation of the working party coming from a clear opposition. Councillors noted the resolution clearly stated Council's opposition which would not be in contention during the meetings but that they acknowledged people with differing views might have skills the working party would benefit strongly from and would review each application with a focus on skills.</p> <p>Kent Boyd noted that once the EfW company lodges their application that Council will be a referral body and can comment on it. Once the application is lodged Council will have an expert start reviewing it which the committee will have access to.</p>
3	Expressions of Interest	The Working Party requested that the history of the formal opposition to the EfW and the purpose of the Working Party to advise be added to the EOI information similar to how it is stated in the ToR for staff to action.
4	Chair and Deputy Chair	Cr Wilson moved and Cr McGrath seconded that the Mayor be ex officio Chair and that the two deputy chairs be Cr Joy Paddison and Cr Doug Pout which was fully resolved.

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Energy from Waste Community Working Party



		Fully resolved to have the EOIs go out ASAP following next council meeting. Not sure who moved and seconded. 3 weeks? Due date around 1st July.
4	Next steps and close	The Working Party confirmed for the EOI changes and ToR to be updated according to the discussion in the meeting and to go to the next council meeting. The Working Party also resolved to have the EOIs be advertised as soon as possible following the next council meeting with applications open from around 17th June for two weeks to 1st July.

Immediate Action Sheet

Action	Responsibility	Timing	Status / Notes
Refine Terms of Reference based on General Managers feedback	Council staff	Following meeting	
Finalise EOI advertisement and nomination form set up for publication after Council Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Add statement about EfW opposition 	Council staff	As soon as practicable	
Identify organisations to be directly invited to nominate	Council staff	Before or during EOI process	
Update Committee Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Add Councillor Wilson - Add opposition history 	Council staff	Following meeting	

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 Document Date: [26/07/2023]
 Review Date: [26/07/2025]

Terms of Reference

Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party

Date Adopted by Council	19 th May 2026
Resolution No.	[OCM 109/26]
Next Scheduled Review	2028 at the beginning of the new Council term
Administrator	General Manager

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 [OCM 109/26] 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.
- 4.8. Each Member shall remain a member of the Committee until:
- (a) The Member resigns, or
 - (b) The Member's membership is terminated.
- 4.9. Membership of any Member of the Committee may be terminated by resolution of the **Working Party** 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.
- 4.10. Councillor membership terminates immediately upon a Councillor Member ceasing to be a Councillor.
- 4.11. 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,
 - (b) be filled if total community membership falls below the minimum,
 - (c) remain unfilled if the term is less than three (3) months, or
 - (d) **As otherwise determined by the Committee.**
- 4.12 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

Terms of Reference: Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party

- (c) Provide advice and feedback on matters brought before the Committee.
- 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 Mayor shall be ex officio chairperson of the working group with two deputy chairs elected from the Councillor members by the Councillor members of the working party.
- 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, one of the deputy chairs will be nominated by the Committee to chair the meeting.
- 6.4. The Chairperson will undertake the following functions:
 - (a) Accept or reject (in consultation with the General Manager) items of business,
 - (b) Facilitate discussion at Committee meetings, provide input to meetings and be an active (non-voting) Member of the Committee,
 - (c) Focus the Committee on its responsibilities as outlined in these Terms of Reference and the meeting agenda items,
 - (d) Act as the principal communication link between the Committee and Council,
 - (e) Manage the performance of the Committee; and
 - (f) Where appropriate, liaise with the Chairs 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.

7. Responsibilities of Administrator

- 7.1. The Committee Administrator 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) Ensure Members are familiar with the Committee Terms of Reference and Council's Code of Conduct,
 - (c) Manage the resources available to the Committee,
 - (d) 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 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.

Terms of Reference: Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party

- 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.
- 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 **Administrator** 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.
- 9.2. The Committee's resolutions shall be clearly recorded in the Minutes of its meetings.
- 9.3. Draft Minutes will be distributed to the Committee and published to Council's website no later than five (5) business days after the meeting.
- 9.4. Draft Minutes of the previous meeting are to be adopted by resolution of the Committee at the following meeting.
- 9.5. The General Manager (or delegate) may action resolutions as they deem appropriate in accordance with their individual delegations and authorisations.
- 9.6. 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 Home (<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])						
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
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])						
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
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 Independent Members: Traffic & Highway Patrol Command Transport for NSW Local State Member of Parliament or their nominee Council Representatives: Senior Design Engineer Road Safety & Injury Prevention Officer	Councillor Delegates: Cr Ken McGrath Cr George Pratt (<i>Alternate</i>) Independent Members: Sgt Mitchell Gage (<i>Traffic & Highway Patrol Command</i>) Jason Nicholson (<i>TfNSW</i>) Chris McQuie (<i>Nominee</i>) Council Representatives: Ben Coultas (<i>Senior Design Engineer</i>) Melanie Sutor (<i>Road Safety & Injury Prevention Officer</i>)	Business Support Team	Director Operations	Meeting dates are scheduled quarterly 4 February 2026 6 May 2026 5 August 2026 4 November 2026

Committee Framework – Annexure A: Internal Committee Details


Section 355 Committees (last adopted 17 December 2024 [OCM 386-24])							
Under Section 355 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council can delegate certain function to committees to provide these on behalf of Council.							
Committee	Delegated Function	Strategic Oversight	Committee Composition	Members	Administrator	Sponsor	Meeting Dates
Parkes Sports Council	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. 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.	Sporting Facility & Precinct Masterplan 2025-26 Strategic Asset Management Plan 2025-26 Operational Plan & Budget Open Space Strategy (<i>in draft</i>)	Representatives include: Two (2) Councillors	Councillor Delegates: Cr Louise O'Leary Cr Doug Pout Cr Matthew Scherer (<i>Alternate</i>)	Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy	Director Operations	Meeting dates are scheduled monthly February 2026 March 2026 April 2026 May 2026 June 2026 August 2026 September 2026 October 2026 November 2026 December 2026
			One (1) delegate from each of the sporting groups that use the sports fields and facilities.				

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 (<i>Director Operations</i>) (<i>Alternate</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
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>) (Alternate)			

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])							
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
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 Andrew Hall Andrew Rice Kelly Hendry Kristy Berry Marty Sammut-Paul Peter Giles Steve Lindsay Tracie Robertson Treen Swift			
			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 109/26])					
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	Meeting Dates
Energy-from-Waste Community Working Party Terms of Reference: 2245910	The Committee is established to provide an advisory forum established following Council's 17 February 2026 resolution [OCM 027/26] opposing the proposed Energy-from-Waste (EfW) facility. 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 • Identify community concerns • 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 (Chair) Cr Joy Paddison (Deputy Chair) Cr Doug Pout (Deputy Chair) Cr Ken McGrath Cr Matthew Scherer Cr Glenn Wilson	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		

Notes: Term concludes at the date of the next ordinary elections, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the Terms of Reference

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
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 <i>(Alternate)</i>	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 <i>(Director Planning & Community Services)</i> Kerryn Jones <i>(Cultural, Education & Library Services Manager)</i> <i>(Alternate)</i>			
			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])							
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
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) Council Representatives: Manager Environment and Sustainability Director Infrastructure and Sustainability Waste Officer	Councillor Delegates: Cr Marg Applebee Cr Louise O'Leary Cr George Pratt Cr Glenn Wilson Cr Doug Pout (<i>Alternate</i>) 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>)	Waste Officer Business Support Officer (<i>Alternate</i>)	Director Infrastructure and Sustainability	Meetings held as and when required

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])							
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
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
			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>			

15.6 ADOPTION OF THE OPERATIONAL PLAN AND BUDGET 2026/2027**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:** Teresa Cooper, Corporate Planning and Performance Coordinator**Authoriser:** Anthony McGrath, Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy**Annexures:** A. External Submission Mr Giles [↓](#)
B. Council response to external submission Mr Giles [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Note the draft Operational Plan and Budget 2026/2027 was placed on public exhibition for 28-days between 23 April to 28 May 2026.
2. Receive and consider the two (2) submissions received in relation to the draft Operational Plan and Budget 2026/2027, attached at *Annexures A and B*, and request the General Manager respond to the external submissions received as recommended in this report.
3. Adopt the [Operational Plan and Budget 2026/2027](#) pursuant to section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, including the 2026/2027 Statement of Revenue Policy incorporating the annual Budget and Schedule of Fees and Charges and the recommended amendments provided in this report.
4. Approve expenditure and vote funds as detailed in the Operational Plan and Budget 2026/2027, pursuant to clause 211(2) of the *Local Government General Regulation 2021*.
5. Publish the Operational Plan and Budget 2026/2027 on Council's website.

BACKGROUND

Under the Integrated Planning and Reporting ("IP&R") provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993* ("the Act"), Council is required to develop and adopt an Operational Plan and Budget prior to the commencement of each financial year, detailing the activities and actions to be undertaken by Council during that year to achieve the Delivery Program commitments.

Council's Operational Plan and Budget must directly address the activities outlined in the Delivery Program and identify the services, projects, programs, and events that the organisation will undertake in the financial year towards addressing these.

Council's Operational Plan and Budget must be prepared in accordance with the various requirements outlined in the IP&R Guidelines ("the Guidelines") prescribed under section 23A of the Act.

The draft Operational Plan and Budget 2026/2027, incorporating the Schedule of Fees and Charges for 2026/2027 financial year, was endorsed for public exhibition from 23 April to 28 May 2026 [ECMCC 006/26]. This exhibition period was publicised on Council's website and social media channels, as well as by direct correspondence to Council's various Community Consultative Committees. Hard copies were made available at Council's Administration Centre, at the four Shire libraries and at Bangala-la Pre-school. Community Drop-In Sessions on IP&R and the current documents on public exhibition, including the Delivery Program was held at all Parkes Shire Library branches in May.

Submissions on the draft Operational Plan and Budget 2026/2027 could be made online via email to council@parkes.nsw.gov.au or by mail to the General Manager.

This report considers the feedback and adopts the [Operational Plan and Budget 2026/2027](#). The plan can be viewed by clicking on this link in the report.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Submissions on the draft Operational Plan and Budget 2026/2027 could be made online via email to council@parkes.nsw.gov.au or by mail to the General Manager.

Council received a total of two (2) submissions, one (1) external and one (1) internal submission. The following table is a summary of the submissions received and the recommended response and/or amendments to be made to the final 2026/2027 Operational Plan and Budget.

No.	Detail of Submission	Council Response	Amendment Details
1	<p>External Contributor:</p> <p>Mr Peter Giles</p> <p><i>Full submission attached at Annexure A</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acknowledged the amount of work involved in preparing this document and its presentation in its draft format. - Commented on how overall Council plans are heading in the right direction and focused on many matters towards the long-term success of Parkes Shire. - Acknowledged Council's focus on responsible asset management and long-term financial sustainability from a financial and business perspective - Commented on his support for Council's continued work around the East Parkes Master Plan, Harrowvale land acquisition. - Commented on housing and land availability will be critical if Parkes takes advantage of the SAP, national logistics hub, airport, mining, health, education and future industry growth. - Commented on the importance of support for local business attraction and economic development. 	<p><i>Full submission attached at Annexure B</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thanked Mr Giles for taking the time to review and provide such detailed, constructive feedback and the acknowledgement of the work involved to deliver the plan. - Acknowledged his understanding and passion to support local business. - Commented on Council's proactive engagements with the community and key areas noted from the community to prioritise, manage and nurture. - Reassured Mr Giles of Council's commitment to the principles in our documents in relation to all projects. - Provided information regarding Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) suite of documents, and their availability. 	<p>No amendments required</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommendations to introduce stronger KPIs for business attraction and investment. Clearer milestones for East Parkes Master Plan, Harrowvale Land acquisition and housing supply. Aligning infrastructure programs with freight, industrial and circular economy opportunities. Clearly measure economic returns of our tourism, events and economic development activities. - Overall support for the direction of the plan, main feedback is that Council should continue to position itself as not only a service provider, but a genuine growth enabler for the Shire. 		
2	<p>Internal Submission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final proof reading identified minor spelling and grammar edits - Updates to fees and charges from statutory to dollar amount - Events and tourism section updated actions - Executive Leadership Team updated with removal of Jaco Barnard as CFO and inserting of Luke Nash as Acting CFO. 	<p>Updates reviewed and accepted</p>	<p>Amendments made and final ready for graphic design</p>

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

[Local Government Act 1993, Section 405 - Operational Plan](#)

[Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines for Local Government in NSW \(Office of Local Government, September 2021\)](#)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report formalises and sets Council's budget for the 2026/2027 financial year.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Adoption of the Operational Plan and Budget 2026/2027, as recommended, ensures Council complies with its legislative requirements under section 405 of the Act.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Consistent with the requirements outlined in the Guidelines, the Operational Plan and Budget 2026/2027 were publicly exhibit for 28 days, and any submissions received during the exhibition period are detailed in the report for consideration of Council.

The Adopted Operational Plan and Budget will be placed on Council's web site.

From: "Peter Giles" <peter@gilesgroupaus.com.au>
Sent: Wed, 20 May 2026 22:39:18 +1000
To: "Council" <Council@parkes.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Feedback on Draft Operational Plan and Budget 2026/27
Categories: For ECM

Dear Council Team,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Operational Plan and Budget 2026/27.

I have taken the time to read through the document and would like to acknowledge the considerable work that has gone into preparing it. Overall, I believe the plan is heading in the right direction and is focused on many of the areas that truly matter to the long-term success of Parkes Shire including water security, roads, drainage, emergency services, housing growth, land development, events, tourism, and core infrastructure.

From a financial and business perspective, I strongly support the Council's focus on responsible asset management and long-term financial sustainability. A successful regional town needs strong foundations, and it is encouraging to see continued attention on roads, water, wastewater, flood resilience and strategic planning. These are the practical building blocks that allow private investment, housing, industry and community confidence to follow.

I am particularly supportive of the continued work around the East Parkes Master Plan, the Harrowvale land acquisition, and the broader planning required to support future residential growth. Housing supply and serviced land availability will be critical if Parkes is to take full advantage of the opportunities connected to the Special Activation Precinct, the National Logistics Hub, the airport business park, mining, health, education, and future industry growth.

While some major regional infrastructure programs may move through pauses, reviews or changing delivery timelines, the underlying strategic advantage of Parkes remains strong. Parkes' location, existing infrastructure base, freight potential, industrial land opportunities and regional service role should continue to guide Council's planning and investment decisions.

One area I am especially passionate about is support for local businesses.

Small businesses are the lifeblood of any regional town. They are not just employers or shopfronts, they create the feel, energy and identity of a town. When local businesses are strong, profitable and supported, the main street feels alive. People stop, spend, connect and take pride in the place. When small businesses struggle or lose confidence, that energy can disappear very quickly.

For that reason, I would encourage Council to continue strengthening its focus on local business support, business attraction and economic development. The Operational Plan identifies important actions in this space, but I believe this is an area where Parkes should be ambitious. Practical support such as business engagement, grant identification, investor facilitation, main street activation, events, tourism promotion and clear communication with local operators can have a real and compounding impact.

I also believe Council has an opportunity to more strongly connect its operational planning with a broader growth thesis for Parkes. In simple terms, Parkes succeeds when strategic infrastructure is converted into housing supply, business investment, local jobs, visitor spend and community confidence.

The Operational Plan should not only manage existing services, but actively help unlock the next stage of private investment and economic activity.

A few areas I believe could be considered further include:

- Stronger KPIs around business support, business attraction and investment facilitation.
- Clearer milestones around East Parkes, Harrowvale and future housing land supply.
- Greater alignment between the Council's infrastructure program and the opportunities connected to the SAP, logistics, circular economy, industrial growth and future freight activity.
- Continued focus on main street activation and supporting small businesses to remain visible, profitable and confident.
- Clear measurement of the return generated from events, tourism and economic development activities, including visitor spend, business participation and local economic impact.

I also note that the document is still clearly in draft format, with some formatting, bookmark and placeholder issues throughout. While these are not strategic concerns, I believe it is important that the final public document is polished and easy to navigate, as it reflects the professionalism and confidence of the Council's planning framework.

Overall, I support the direction of the plan. My main feedback is that Council should continue to position itself not only as a service provider, but as a genuine growth enabler for the Shire.

Parkes has a rare window of opportunity in front of it. With the right planning, infrastructure, business support and investment mindset, I believe the town can continue to grow into one of the strongest regional centres in inland NSW.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback.

Kind regards,
Peter Giles

(AI was used in part or in whole to generate this email)



Peter Giles
Private Market Operator
Legacy in Progress.

“We don’t wait for opportunity — we build it.”
M: 0408 115 069



From: "Teresa Cooper" <Teresa.Cooper@parkes.nsw.gov.au> on behalf of "Council" <Council@parkes.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Fri, 29 May 2026 11:36:38 +1000
To: "peter@gilesgroupaus.com.au" <peter@gilesgroupaus.com.au>
Subject: RE: Public Exhibition Feedback - Draft Operational Plan and Budget 2026-27 - 21-May-2026 - 09:48:22
Attachments: Created from template Letter - 2245955 - Peter Giles - 29 May 2026.pdf

Hi Peter,

Please see our response attached.

Kind regards,
Teresa Cooper

#RESPOND 2245955
#ECMBODY



29 May 2026

Our Reference: 2245955

Mr Peter Giles
Email: peter@gilesgroup.com.au

Dear Peter,

Response to Public Exhibition Feedback - Draft Operational Plan and Budget 2026-2027 - 21-May-2026 - 09:48:22 - Thank you for your enquiry to the Department. Your reference number for this correspondence is 2245955

Thank you for taking the time to review the draft Operational Plan and Budget 2026/2027 and for providing such detailed, constructive feedback and the acknowledgement on the work involved to deliver such a detailed document.

I appreciate your understanding, and passion to support local businesses. Council too feel the same way and behind the scenes our teams support each other across the organisation to deliver this support. We have seen our Economic Development area highly productive in planning long-term, interacting with local business members across various events held, proactive in obtaining grants and community engagement, which has also been supported by our Comms and Governance areas.

These proactive engagements have collectively told Council what makes our community great, why people live in Parkes and what they are talking about. This helps Council understand what to prioritise, manage and nurture with some key areas the community are talking about is management and safety; social facilities and services; environmental sustainability and the economy. Collaborative approaches between Council and the business community have seen and will continue to see practical support such as business engagement, grant identification, investor facilitation, main

street activation, events, tourism promotion and clear communication with local operators.



Last year, being an election year (each 4-years) ensured our entire suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting documents were reviewed, re-wrote and a whole-of-organisation approach to deliver short-term and long-term strategic goals identified. These documents are all available on our website and on-request hard copies can be provided. In addition, we keep hard copies sitting across the Shire's four libraries and in the administrative building for community to access freely. Council will continue to put out monthly social media posts out with snippets of these documents, to assist supporting the community awareness.

The Operational Plan is our annual document to ensure our four-year Delivery Program is being delivered. Each year we report our plans for the year ahead to ensure accountability, honesty and transparency is maintained as each year progresses including 6-month update reports to the community. Council strategies and plans are aligned with the Community Strategic Plan, together these can deliver some of your detailed, recommended constructive feedback.

It is appreciated that you understood the document presented for public exhibition was clearly a draft. The content is our priority during this draft period and is presented in an easy-to-read version. Whilst I would really love for the document to be graphically designed and polished for the draft, unfortunately we only have resources to complete the legislated deadlines and to avoid repeat attempts on a draft version. On closure of the public exhibition period, all feedback is considered and the final proof reading completed, the document will transition to the graphic design area for both beautification and a polish. The final graphically designed document is available on our website by 30 June each year plus hard copies available.

Thank you again for taking the opportunity to provide your feedback and I hope you continue to follow Councils Integrated Planning and Reporting suite of documents throughout the year.

If you require any further assistance, please contact Teresa Cooper, Corporate Planning and Performance Coordinator.



Yours faithfully
Anthony McGrath
Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy

16 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY**16.1 MAJOR PROJECTS AND CURRENT WORKS - INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY - MAY 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 - May 2026** [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Infrastructure and Sustainability Major Projects and Current Works Report for May 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.

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 Infrastructure & Sustainability
Major Projects & Current Works – May 2026

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	\$443,600.10	\$2,282,699	\$11,283,087	\$15,792,518
Akuna Road Pump Station	\$6,904,057	\$345,206.43	\$1,222,052	\$5,048,388	\$7,264,304.95
New Eugowra Road Pump Station	\$7,644,403	\$98,393.67	\$977,189	\$6,225,719	\$8,243,315.55
Akuna Road Pump Station Solar System	\$284,897.50	\$0	\$83,458	\$8,980	\$284,897.50
Staff costs	NA	\$3,302.83	\$11,413.64	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)

<i>Project Status (RAG - Report):</i>	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
Akuna Road Pump Station

- Building pad pre-pour inspection released – 07/05/2026HV
- Building pad poured – completed 08/05/2026
- Building pad backfill – complete 22/05/26
- Thrust blocks excavated, formed and poured – completed 13/05/2026
- Building preparation for commencement of brickwork – completed
- Termite inspection – completed 13/05/2026
- Doors stood/installed – completed 18/05/2026
- 7-day concrete test results confirmed – 18/05/2026
- Reservoir design coordination meeting held – 21/05/2026

New Eugowra Road Pump Station

- Subbase construction – ongoing (approximately 750 mm constructed by 13/05/2026)
- Delivery of steel for building pad – completed
- Proof roll of current lift undertaken – Scheduled 01/05/26
- Site mobilisation – completed

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Infrastructure & Sustainability
Major Projects & Current Works – May 2026

- ITP's review and approved – completed
 - Level 1 geotechnical engineer assigned – completed
 - Stripping of topsopil – completed
-
- 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)

Akuna Road Pump Station

- Brickwork – ongoing
- ARPS - Pipework and valving
- ARPS – Reservoir Construction
- ARPS – External pits and conduits
- ARPS – Concrete Works

New Eugowra Road Pump Station

- DGS40 subbase material construction – ongoing
- ERSED controls inspected and maintained prior to rain – Ongoing (Weekly)
- Bulk earthworks – ongoing
- Brickwork and building works
- Internal electrical conduiting, concrete foundations and pump station slab

Progress Photos



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Infrastructure & Sustainability
Major Projects & Current Works – May 2026



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Major Projects & Current Works – May 2026



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Major Projects & Current Works – May 2026


Safe & Secure - Water Security Project																	
Due Date	Approved Budget	Expenditure this month	Total Expenditure to date	Outstanding Commitments	Estimated total when works complete												
15/12/2027	\$39,170,000	\$38,834.48	\$2,871,764	\$2,544,947	\$48,000,000												
Eugowra Road Pump Station Pipeline	Current \$29,223,838 To be reviewed	\$42,112	\$2,231.432	\$165,403	To be reviewed												
Akuna Road Pump Station Pipeline	Current \$6,286,713 To be reviewed	\$0	\$566,814	\$2,379,544	To be reviewed												
New Eugowra Road Pump Station Solar	Current \$2,759,430 To be reviewed	\$0	\$76,796	\$0	To be reviewed												
Project Status (RAG - Report):	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="6">Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Scope</td> <td>Budget</td> <td>Schedule</td> <td>Resources</td> <td>Risks</td> <td>Benefits</td> </tr> </table>					Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)						Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks	Benefits
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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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																	
Detailed Design Complete Bill of Material to procure material as per deed requirement obtained Publish tender for materials between ARPS and RWSL Contract executed and PO raised Milestone variation signed by Director National Water Grid Outcome received - unsuccessful																	

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Infrastructure & Sustainability
Major Projects & Current Works – May 2026



Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)

Approval and Contract for the balance of material
PO for the balance of the material received from the supplier
Complete reporting for next milestone
Publish Tender for construction
Finalise estimate after tender for construction.

Progress Photos

Nil

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 Infrastructure & Sustainability
 Major Projects & Current Works – May 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	\$391,881.34	\$682,802.92	\$815,405.93	\$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 • Outdoor Learning Space RFT out to market 						
Tasks forecast to be completed						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award Outdoor Learning Space RFT contract • Evaluate Outdoor Learning Space RFT submissions • Continue to work with artists to progress artwork installations • Develop content and artwork/imagery for interpretive signage • Preliminary works for 2026 revegetation activities 						

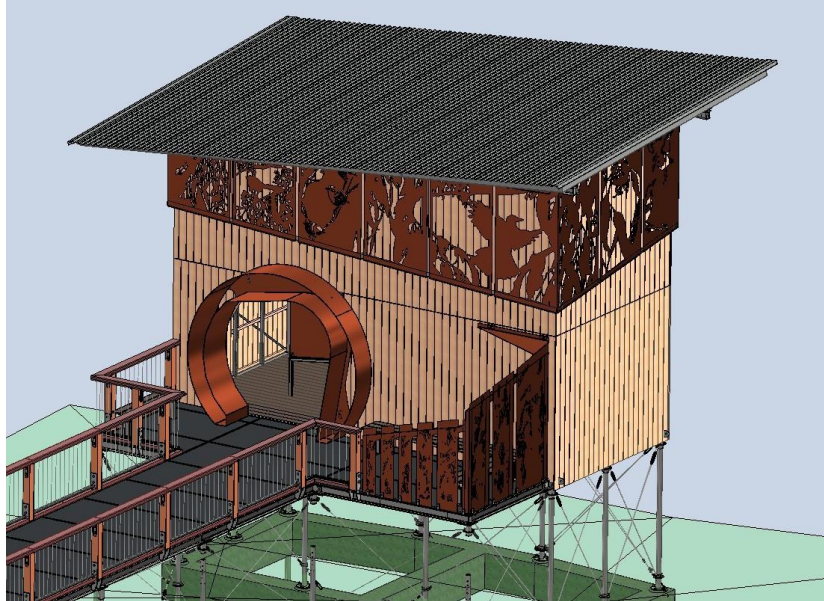
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Infrastructure & Sustainability
Major Projects & Current Works – May 2026



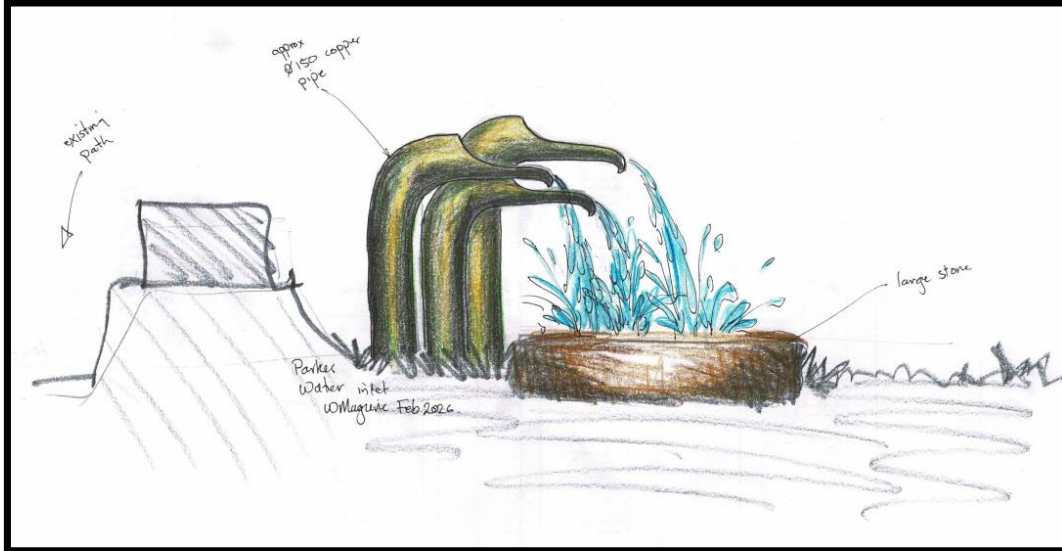
Progress Photos



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Infrastructure & Sustainability
Major Projects & Current Works – May 2026



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 Infrastructure & Sustainability
 Major Projects & Current Works – May 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	\$0	\$226	\$848,205	\$3,510,200
Staff Cost		\$2999.38	\$5475.74	NA	NA
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)				
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
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					

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 Infrastructure & Sustainability
 Major Projects & Current Works – May 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	\$920,888	\$688,703	\$1,800,000*
Project Status (RAG - Report):	Critical (Red) / At Risk (Amber) / On Track (Green)				
	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Resources	Risks
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					

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 Infrastructure & Sustainability
Major Projects & Current Works – May 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	\$2,930.26	\$9,831.28	\$142,525.05	\$26,122,875
Packages within the Project					
Lake Endeavour Pipeline	\$12,234,000	\$2930.26	\$9,831.28	\$100,543.51	\$15,456,875
Lake Metcalfe Rehabilitation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$41,981.54	\$10,666,000
Staff Cost		\$1,338.46	\$4,009.64	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 • Monthly report submitted 					
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 					

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Infrastructure & Sustainability
Major Projects & Current Works – May 2026



Progress Photos

Nil

OFFICIAL

16.2 ADOPTION OF PARKES TOWN FLOOD AND DRAINAGE STUDY**IP&R Linkage:** **Pillar:** Environment**Goal:** Our built environment is functional, sustainable and meets the needs of our growing community.**Strategy:** Improve our existing stormwater management systems with measures to reduce the impact of intense rainfall events.**Author:** **Kylie Trueber, Projects and Emergency Management Officer****Authoriser:** **Andrew Francis, Director Infrastructure and Sustainability****Annexures:** **Nil****RECOMMENDATION**

That:

1. Council adopt the [Parkes Town Flood and Drainage Study](#) and place it on Council's website.

BACKGROUND

The [Parkes Town Centre Flood and Drainage Study](#) has been prepared for Parkes Shire Council (Council) as part of the NSW Floodplain management program to gain an understanding of flood risk in the study area. It has been developed in accordance with the New South Wales (NSW) Flood Prone Land Policy and the principles of the Flood Risk Management Manual, the policy and manual for the management of flood liable land (Department of Planning and Environment, 2023).

The project was completed through funding from the NSW Floodplain and Coastal Management Grants scheme.

Prior to this study, Council prepared the Stormwater Planning and Analysis for Parkes Urban Area (Connell Wagner, 2008) which underwent numerous model updates and eventually informed the Parkes Stormwater Model Update and System Performance Re-Assessment (Aurecon, 2017).

This Parkes Town Centre Flood and Drainage Study builds upon these previous bodies of work and employs the most recent methodologies outlined in Australian Rainfall and Runoff 2019 (ARR2019) (Ball et al, 2019), including the 2022 climate updates.

The study area encompasses the town of Parkes and is a comprehensive technical investigation of flood behaviour that provides the foundation for the development of robust guidance for management of flood risk within the context of a floodplain risk management study and plan. It aims to provide a better understanding of the full range of flood behaviour and consequences. It involves consideration of the local flood history, available flood data, and the development of hydrologic and hydraulic models that are calibrated and verified against historic flood events and extended, where appropriate, to determine the full range of flood behaviour

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The Council Floodplain Management Committee, the Project Manager from Public Works and representative from the funding body DCCEEW have reviewed the Flood Study provided from the consultant and have provided concurrence that the study is acceptable to put up to Council for adoption.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

NSW Flood Prone Land Policy, Flood risk management manual: the policy and manual for the management of flood liable land (Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, 2023)

State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989, State Emergency Service Act 1989

Section 10.7 of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act, 1979 relating to councils issuing planning certificates with specified conditions for prescribed matters, which is relevant to land being subject to flood related development controls.

Section 733 of the Local Government Act, 1993, outlines the exemption from liability relating to flood liable land. This provides limited protection for councils against claims for damages resulting from advice or granting of approvals on floodplains

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for Council associated with the adoption of this report. Council has been successful in obtaining funding from the NSW Floodplain Grants scheme for the progression of the work from the Flood Study to the Risk Management Study and Plan.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Should this study not be adopted by Council, the risk of progressing with the next round of approved funding will increase. A funding deed has been signed with the Department to be able to progress the Flood Risk Management Study and Plan.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Community consultation for gathering of flood observations has been undertaken on an ongoing basis, commencing prior to the inception of this project through engagement following flood events. Flood observations have been supplied by community members through submissions to Council.

Submissions included descriptions, photographs and accounts of the community's experience with flooding. An appeal was made to the community via Council's Facebook page on the 12th of September 2024 to provide further information on their experience with flooding via the above weblink. Prior to this appeal there were 99 accounts of flooding provided to Council's platform. The appeal for information yielded an additional 29 submissions. At the time of this report, the online platform is still open for the public to provide information. The following information is relevant to the preparation of this report:

- There were 128 submissions in total,
- 34 were relevant to the November 2022 flood event and these were used to rule out the event as a potential calibration event for this study as they were specific to flooding outside of the study area,
- 25 were relevant to the January 2021 event and these were used for calibration of the hydraulic model (Section 5.1),
- 13 were relevant to the December 2017 flood event and these were used for validation of the hydraulic model (Section 5.2).
- The remainder of submissions were relevant to other storm events or could not be attached to any single storm event.

The draft Parkes Town Centre Flood and Drainage Study was presented to the community via public exhibition from 15 September to 13 October 2025. This study was jointly exhibited with the draft Parkes East Flood Study (Rhelm, 2025). A community drop-in session for both studies was held on 17 September 2025 from 12:00pm to 8:00pm at the Cooke Park Pavillion.

The digital documents were available for inspection both at the drop-in session and online through Council's Have Your Say web page.

During the exhibition period submissions were able to be provided to Council via email, in-person at Council's Administration Centre, or mailed to Council's general manager. Conversations between project staff and attendees at the drop-in session have also been recorded as submissions where appropriate.

As the two studies were jointly exhibited, general comments about modelling methodology that were provided for the draft Parkes East Flood Study (Rhelm, 2025) have also been included and responded to in the context of this study.

16.3 ADOPTION OF PARKES EAST FLOOD STUDY**IP&R Linkage:** Pillar: Environment**Goal:** Our built environment is functional, sustainable and meets the needs of our growing community.**Strategy:** Improve our existing stormwater management systems with measures to reduce the impact of intense rainfall events.**Author:** **Kylie Trueber, Projects and Emergency Management Officer****Authoriser:** **Andrew Francis, Director Infrastructure and Sustainability****Annexures:** Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council adopt [The Parkes East Flood Study - Final Report](#) and place it on Council's website.
-

BACKGROUND

The Parkes East Flood Study (the Flood Study) has been prepared for the Parkes Shire Council (Council) in accordance with the New South Wales (NSW) *Flood Prone Land Policy and the principles of the Flood Risk Management Manual, the policy and manual for the management of flood liable land* (Department of Planning and Environment, 2023) (the Manual). The Flood Study was developed to gain an understanding of flood risk in the study area. No prior flood study has been undertaken for the catchment, and as such, flood intelligence has been limited to historical observations.

The Flood Study can be located by clicking on the following link anywhere contained in this report: [The Parkes East Flood Study - Final Report](#).

The study is a comprehensive technical investigation of flood behaviour that provides the foundation for the development of robust guidance for management of flood risk within the context of a floodplain risk management study and plan. It aims to provide a better understanding of the full range of flood behaviour and consequences. It involves consideration of the local flood history, available flood data, and the development of hydrologic and hydraulic models that are calibrated and verified against historic flood events to determine the full range of flood behaviour.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The Council Floodplain Management Committee, the Project Manager from Public Works and representative from the funding body DCCEEW have reviewed the Flood Study provided from the consultant and have provided concurrence that the study is acceptable to put up to Council for adoption.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

NSW Flood Prone Land Policy, Flood risk management manual: the policy and manual for the management of flood liable land (Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, 2023)

State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989, State Emergency Service Act 1989

Section 10.7 of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act, 1979 relating to councils issuing planning certificates with specified conditions for prescribed matters, which is relevant to land being subject to flood related development controls.

Section 733 of the Local Government Act, 1993, outlines the exemption from liability relating to flood liable land. This provides limited protection for councils against claims for damages resulting from advice or granting of approvals on floodplains.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for Council associated with the adoption of this report. Council has been successful in obtaining funding from the NSW Floodplain Grants scheme for the progression of the work from the Flood Study to the Risk Management Study and Plan.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Should this study not be adopted by Council, the risk of progressing with the next round of approved funding will increase. A funding deed has been signed with the Department to be able to progress the Flood Risk Management Study and Plan.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Stakeholder engagement was undertaken throughout the flood study. This involved:

- Engaging agency and industry stakeholders to obtain details of historical flooding, survey data and other relevant data sets.
- Initial community engagement has been undertaken in the form of a community survey website across two separate occasions following events in 2016 and 2022.
- The purpose of the initial community engagement was to obtain observations and experiences of historical flooding to assist in model calibration and to seek community input on potential flood mitigation measures to be investigated in the Parkes East Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.

Further consultation with the community took place during the Public Exhibition of the Flood Study, between 15 September and 13 October 2025. Community members shared firsthand experiences and insights that helped verify the calibration event analysis. They also provided broader feedback on the draft results of the study that were considered in the final update of this report.

17 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR OPERATIONS

17.1 MAJOR PROJECTS AND CURRENT WORKS - OPERATIONS - MAY 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: **Logan Hignett, Director Operations**

Annexures: **A. Major Projects and Current Works - Operations - May 2026** [↓](#)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Operations Major Projects and Current Works Report for May 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 – May 2026


Project # 500095

Budget as at: 9 June 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	\$14,606	\$3,694,675	\$18,960	\$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 June 2026 for Stage 2 Tree clearing as per the REF Tender preparation for culvert installation Progress further discussions with Federal Government regarding inequitable funding split treatment across the corridor. 					
Progress Photos					
Nil					

Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – May 2026


Project # 600142

Budget as at: 9 June 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	\$1,592,715	\$2,892,273	\$1,861,770	\$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 Bulk earthworks for stages 1 & 2 					
Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction/pouring of Deck slab Construction of road and bridge approaches (currently underway) Procurement of granular material for pavement layers Commence pavement construction 					

Operations
Major Project & Current Works – May 2026



Progress Photos



Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – May 2026


Project # 600277

Budget as at: 9 June 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	\$286,488	3,304,055	\$721,818	\$4,025,873
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 Project handover completed Official Opening 23 May 2026 Delivered project under budget, with approximately \$780k returned to SES 					
Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)					
Progress Photos					

Operations
Major Project & Current Works – May 2026



Operations
Major Project & Current Works – May 2026


Project # 600229

Budget as at: 9 June 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	\$23,846	\$1,485,661	\$1,902,914	\$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 – May 2026


Project # 600443

Budget as at: 9 June 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	\$64,925	\$481,502	\$1,569	\$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 Detail design for carpark Detail design for pump shed Construction of carpark Surface shaping for stormwater 					
Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signed contract for Pool Plant room upgrade Commencement of pool plant room upgrade Installation of secure chemical storage Commission Plant room with training and working manuals of upgraded system 					
Progress Photos					

Operations
Major Project & Current Works – May 2026



Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – May 2026


Project # 600444

Budget as at: 9 June 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	\$3,282	\$13,505	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 – May 2026


Project # 600442

Budget as at: 9 June 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	\$71,208	\$203,905	\$352,117	\$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 – May 2026



Progress Photos



Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – May 2026


Project # 600194

Budget as at: 9 June 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	\$6,575	\$83,462	\$103,568	\$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 – May 2026



Project # 600153, 600506

Budget as at: 9 June 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	\$18,638	\$5,904,941	\$18,608	\$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 Causeway works including scour protection Wilandra Lane / Kramer Lane / Adavale Lane etc 					
Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heavy patching program Scour protection at drainage structures across the shire 					
Progress Photos					
NIL					

Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – May 2026


Project # 600477

Budget as at: 9 June 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	\$4,648	\$216,585	\$98,483	\$5,650,000
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 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.</p>					
Task Completed					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scope variation due to flood study findings Start Construction on Causeway 01 Start Construction on Causeway 07 					
Progress Photos					
<p>NIL photos.</p>					

Operations
 Major Project & Current Works – May 2026


Project # 600477

Budget as at: 9 June 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	\$3,255	\$8,186	\$34,794	\$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 Early construction commencement on Brolgan Causeway – March 2026 					
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 – May 2026


Project # 9003853

Budget as at: 9 June 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	\$33,202	\$72,746	\$507	\$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 • Removal of the sediment that was cleaned out • Gravel placed on the access road and turning area 					
Tasks forecast to be completed (next steps: 1-3 months)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Import additional granular material for boat ramp • Additional sanding on banks 					



Progress Photos



Operations
Major Project & Current Works – May 2026



17.2 TRANSFER OF CROWN ROADS TO COUNCIL**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:** **Logan Hignett, General Manager (Acting)****Annexures:** **A. Maps for Crown Roads to transfer to Council** [↓](#)**RECOMMENDATION**

That:

1. Endorses the inclusion of Ackroyd Street, Clarke Street, Glenhaven Avenue, Mitchell Street, Rose Street, Endicott Street, and Flinders Street into Council's road network records

BACKGROUND

Council has undertaken a review of road assets within the Parkes urban area to ensure accurate ownership, clear management responsibility, and alignment of Council records with current land tenure and existing use.

The following roads have been identified for formal inclusion into Council's road network:

- Ackroyd Street (Clarke Street to Saleyards Road intersection)
- Clarke Street (Station Street to Ackroyd Street)
- Glenhaven Avenue (whole length)
- Mitchell Street (Farrer Street to Reedsdale Lane)
- Rose Street (Farrer Street to Mitchell Street)
- Endicott Street (whole length)
- Flinders Street (whole length)

Although these roads are Crown roads, they are currently sealed, constructed, and maintained by Council in practice.

The transfer has been requested by the Planning Department to ensure Council records accurately reflect operational responsibility and land status.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Formal recognition of these roads within Council's road network will ensure consistency between infrastructure, maintenance activities, and Council records, and will confirm maintenance responsibilities. It will also support infrastructure planning, improve the accuracy of the road asset register, and streamline the development assessment process by reducing the need for ongoing tenure checks.

Overall, the transfer will improve efficiency and provide greater certainty for planning and development within the Parkes urban area.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

The transfers are governed by *Section 150 of the Roads Act 1993*, which allows Crown roads to be transferred to local councils for management and maintenance. It aligns with Council's statutory obligations and supports proper operation and maintenance of road and drainage assets.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications associated with the transfer of the roads into Council ownership or management.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

.The formal inclusion of these roads will not introduce new operational risks, as Council is already responsible for their maintenance.

Existing maintenance and safety risks will continue to be managed through Council's routine inspection regimes, scheduled maintenance programs, and asset management framework.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

No community consultation is required for this transfer, as the roads are already constructed, sealed, and maintained by Council, and the administrative change reflects formalisation of existing arrangements.

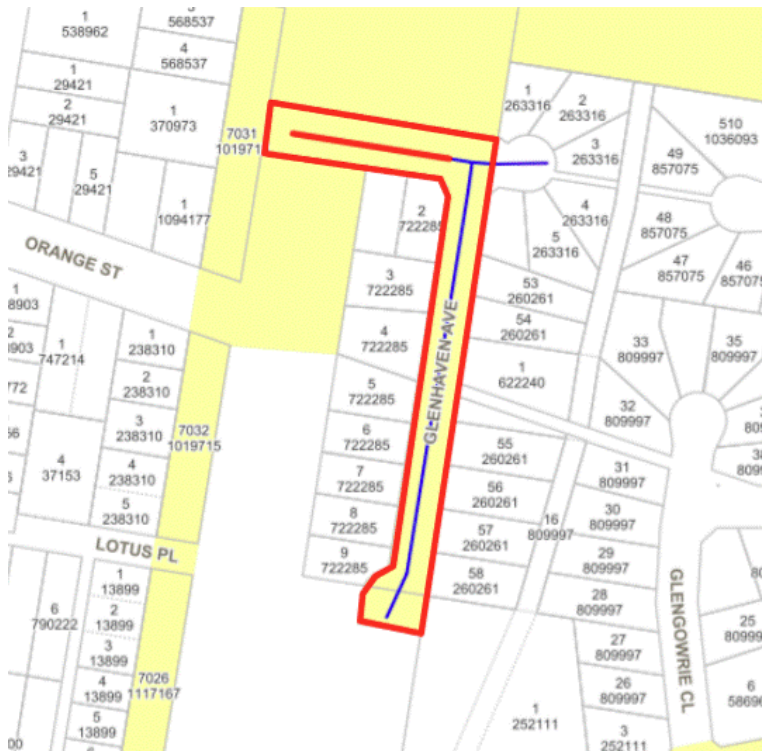


Mitchell Street (Farrer Street to Reedsdale Lane)

Rose Street (Farrer Street to Mitchell Street)



Glenhaven Avenue (whole length)





Clarke Street (Station Street to Ackroyd Street)

Ackroyd Street (Clarke Street to Saleyards Road intersection)



Flinders Street (whole length)





Endicott Street (whole length)



18 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**18.1 DA2026/0010 MULTI-DWELLING HOUSING (5 MANUFACTURED HOME UNITS), 33A ROSEWOOD AVENUE, PARKES****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:** Annalise Teale, Director Planning and Community Services**Authoriser:** Kent Boyd PSM, General Manager**Annexures:**
A. Assessment Report - DA2026/0010 - 33A Rosewood Avenue, Parkes (under separate cover)
B. Plan Set - DA2026/0010 - 33A Rosewood Avenue, Parkes (under separate cover)
C. Submissions Received - DA2026/0010 - 33A Rosewood Avenue, Parkes (under separate cover)

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council approve Development Application No. DA2026/0010 subject to the conditions contained within the report.

SUMMARY**Applicant:** Parkes Holdings (NSW) Pty Ltd, Allan Van Planning Pty Ltd**Owner:** L J Ellis, P N Ellis, Parkes Holdings (NSW) Pty Ltd**Proposal:** Multi-Dwelling Housing (5 Manufactured Home Units)**Location:** Lots 58 and 59 DP1213491, 33A and 33B Rosewood Avenue, Parkes**REPORT**Site Context

Development Application No. DA2026/0010 proposes the construction of multi-dwelling housing at 33A and 33B Rosewood Avenue, Parkes. The proposal comprises five (5) manufactured home units with associated decks, five (5) carports, provision of two (2) visitor car parking spaces and associated rainwater tanks.

The subject land is currently zoned R1 General Residential under the Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012. Surrounding sites within the locality are similarly zoned R1 General Residential and contain a variety of residential developments and associated outbuildings.

The subject site is currently vacant of all built infrastructure and contains remnant vegetation. The subject site comprises two battle-axe allotments which are proposed to be consolidated as part of the development. The land has a slope falling generally to Rosewood Avenue.

Issues

Council received two submissions during the public exhibition period (discussed below). In response to the submissions received, amended plans were provided which addressed concerns raised by the submissions.

Public Submissions and Matters Raised by Objectors

The proposed development was publicly exhibited, and adjoining owners notified, between 25 February 2026 and 11 March 2026, in accordance with the Parkes Shire Community Participation Plan 2022. Council received two (2) submissions, all presenting objections to the proposed development. The submissions raised concerns in relation to traffic, privacy, noise, stormwater management, solar access, compatibility of the development in the locality and waste management.

Following the receipt of the submissions, the applicant provided revised plans to address matters raised by the submissions. This included preliminary hydraulic plans demonstrating satisfactory management of stormwater generated from the proposal and the amendment of floor levels for units, inclusion of vegetation and privacy screens to minimise potential overlooking and privacy concerns from the proposed units.

A comprehensive review of the submissions is included in the attached assessment report, and the submissions are attached for reference.

Internal Referrals

The development application was referred to Council's Stormwater Design Engineer and Water Assets Engineer. Details of the referral comments can be found in the attached assessment report.

RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF CONSENT

General Conditions

Approved Plans and Supporting Documentation

1. Development must be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans and documents, except where the conditions of this consent expressly require otherwise.
 - 1) The stamped approved plans prepared by Luxury Homes by Brentnall, Project No: 2025-PKS002, Drawing No. V2-A100 – V2-A102, V2-A201 - V2-A203, V2-A301, V2-A302, V2-CUT01 (inclusive), Revision C, dated 2 June 2026.
 - 2) The stamped approved floor plans prepared by Luxury Homes by Brentnall, Project No: 2025-PKS002, Drawing No. V1-A401 - V1-A403 (inclusive), Revision C, dated 10 June 2026.
 - 3) The stamped approved Stormwater Concept Management Plan prepared by BMB Engineers, Dwg No. SWD 2227-1, sheets 1 – 3 (inclusive), Revision C, dated 20 May 2026.
 - 4) The preliminary Sewer Servicing Layout prepared by Heath Consulting Engineers, Job No. 20_018, drawing No. 20018C-SE02, revision A, dated 5 June 2026.
 - 5) The stamped approved Statement of Environmental Effects.
except as varied by the conditions listed herein or as marked in red on the approved plans.

A current and approved copy of the approved stamped by Parkes Shire Council is to be maintained on site for constructional and reference purposes.

In the event of any inconsistency with the approved plans and a condition of this consent, the condition prevails.

Compliance with Building Code of Australia and insurance requirements under Home Building Act 1989

2. 1) It is a condition of a development consent for development that involves building work that the work must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the

Building Code of Australia.

- 2) It is a condition of a development consent for development that involves residential building work for which a contract of insurance is required under the Home Building Act 1989, Part 6 that a contract of insurance is in force before building work authorised to be carried out by the consent commences.
- 3) It is a condition of a development consent for a temporary structure used as an entertainment venue that the temporary structure must comply with Part B1 and NSW Part H102 in Volume 1 of the Building Code of Australia.
- 4) In subsection (1), a reference to the Building Code of Australia is a reference to the Building Code of Australia as in force on the day on which the application for the construction certificate was made.
- 5) In subsection (3), a reference to the Building Code of Australia is a reference to the Building Code of Australia as in force on the day on which the application for development consent was made.
- 6) This section does not apply—
 - a) to the extent to which an exemption from a provision of the Building Code of Australia or a fire safety standard is in force under the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021, or
 - b) to the erection of a temporary building, other than a temporary structure to which subsection (3) applies.

Erection of Signs

3. 1) This section applies to a development consent for development involving building work, subdivision work or demolition work.
- 2) It is a condition of the development consent that a sign must be erected in a prominent position on a site on which building work, subdivision work or demolition work is being carried out—
 - a) showing the name, address and telephone number of the principal certifier for the work, and
 - b) showing the name of the principal contractor, if any, for the building work and a telephone number on which the principal contractor may be contacted outside working hours, and
 - c) stating that unauthorised entry to the work site is prohibited.
- 3) The sign must be—
 - a) maintained while the building work, subdivision work or demolition work is being carried out, and
 - b) removed when the work has been completed.
- 4) This section does not apply in relation to—
 - a) building work, subdivision work or demolition work carried out inside an existing building, if the work does not affect the external walls of the building, or
 - b) Crown building work certified to comply with the Building Code of Australia under the Act, Part 6.

Inspection by Council

4. Prior to occupation of the dwelling, an inspection is to be carried out by Council's Building Surveyor, verifying all relevant requirements of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and the Local Government Act 1993 have been satisfied.

Notification of Home Building Act 1989 requirements

5. 1) This section applies to a development consent for development involving residential building work if the principal certifier is not the council.

- 2) It is a condition of the development consent that residential building work must not be carried out unless the principal certifier for the development to which the work relates has given the council written notice of the following—
 - a) for work that requires a principal contractor to be appointed—
 - i) the name and licence number of the principal contractor, and
 - ii) the name of the insurer of the work under the Home Building Act 1989, Part 6,
 - b) for work to be carried out by an owner-builder—
 - i) the name of the owner-builder, and
 - ii) if the owner-builder is required to hold an owner-builder permit under the Home Building Act 1989—the number of the owner-builder permit.
- 3) If the information notified under subsection (2) is no longer correct, it is a condition of the development consent that further work must not be carried out unless the principal certifier has given the council written notice of the updated information.
- 4) This section does not apply in relation to Crown building work certified to comply with the Building Code of Australia under the Act, Part 6.

Notice of Installation of Manufactured Homes

6. The consent owner must give Council written notice within seven (7) days of the completed installation in accordance with Clause 159 of the Local Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2021.

Shoring and adequacy of adjoining property

7.
 - 1) This section applies to a development consent for development that involves excavation that extends below the level of the base of the footings of a building, structure or work on adjoining land, including a structure or work in a road or rail corridor.
 - 2) It is a condition of the development consent that the person having the benefit of the development consent must, at the person's own expense—
 - a) protect and support the building, structure or work on adjoining land from possible damage from the excavation, and
 - b) if necessary, underpin the building, structure or work on adjoining land to prevent damage from the excavation.
 - 3) This section does not apply if—
 - a) the person having the benefit of the development consent owns the adjoining land, or
 - b) the owner of the adjoining land gives written consent to the condition not applying.

Before Issue of a Construction Certificate

No additional conditions have been applied to this stage of development.

Before Works Commence

Erosion and sediment controls in place

8. Before any site work commences, the Consent Authority must be satisfied the erosion and sediment controls are in place. These controls must remain in place until any bare earth has been restabilised in accordance with the NSW Department of Housing manual 'Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction Certificate' (the Blue Book) (as amended from time to time).

Obtaining a Section 305 Certificate

9. Prior to the commencement of works, evidence of an approved Section 305 Water Management Act 2000 Application for water supply and sewerage management system works from Parkes Shire Council is to be provided to the Certifier.

Note: The applicant is advised that the development may be subject to developer charges pursuant to Division 5 of Part 2 of Chapter 6 of the Water Management Act 2000. These fees will be confirmed with the issue of a Section 306 Certificate and will be required to be paid in full prior to the issue of an occupation certificate in accordance with Section 64 of the Local Government Act 1993.

The current Section 64 developer charges per ET set out in Council's published fees and charges for 2025/26 are:

- Water = \$15,190.0
- Sewer = \$5,945.00

This charge is reviewed each financial year. The current contribution rate is to be confirmed prior to payment.

Notice of Commencement

10. The applicant is to submit to Parkes Shire Council, at least two (2) days prior to the commencement of any works, a 'Notice of Commencement of Building or Subdivision Works'.

Section 138 Approval

11. Prior to any work commencing within a public road reserve, the Applicant shall submit an Application under Section 138 of the Roads Act 1993 to carry out road works, including detailed engineering design drawings of intended works, sediment control plans, environmental management plans, work method statements and traffic control plans.

Section 68 Approval (Manufactured Homes)

12. The Applicant is to obtain all relevant approvals to install a manufactured home, carry out sewerage work, to carry out stormwater drainage work and to carry out water supply work from Parkes Shire Council prior to commencing works and comply with any conditions of that permit. All work shall be carried out by a licensed plumber and drainer and to the requirements of the Plumbing Code of Australia.

During Building Works

Cut and Fill Management

13. Any cutting and filling on the site shall be either battered at a maximum slope of one vertical to two horizontal (1V:2H) and revegetated or suitably retained by a retaining structure, designed and constructed to the appropriate engineering standards.
 - A retaining wall or structure that does not comply with State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 will require prior consent from Council.
 - Cutting and filling on the site and the erection of retaining walls may require the approval and certification of a suitably qualified structural/geotechnical engineer.

Cut and Fill Regulation

14. While building work is being carried out, the consent authority must be satisfied all soil removed from or imported to the site is managed in accordance with the following requirements:
 - 1) All excavated material removed from the site must be classified in accordance with the EPA's Waste Classification Guidelines before it is disposed of at an approved waste management facility and the classification and the volume of material removed must be reported to the consent authority.

- 2) All fill material imported to the site must be Virgin Excavated Natural Material as defined in Schedule 1 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 or a material identified as being subject to a resource recovery exemption by the NSW EPA.

Driveway Access

15. The applicant is to construct a new concrete driveway at the nominated location, from the back of existing layback to boundary in accordance with the following Parkes Shire Council minimum standards:
 1. Driveway 6.2 metres wide
 2. Concrete slab shall be 150mm thick, 32MPa GP concrete, founded on 75mm of compacted gravel.
 3. Concrete slab shall be dowelled into the existing kerb and gutter using R12 Galvanised dowels (250 grade) spaced at 300mm centres, 400mm long and centrally placed.
 4. At grade of existing verge/footway (must be between +2% and +4% grade from top of kerb to boundary)
 5. Design levels of driveway to be submitted with Section 138 Permit for approval.

All works must be completed prior to the occupation or use of the development.

Construct Internal Manoeuvring and Parking Hardstand

16. During construction, all internal driveways, hardstand areas and parking areas shall be constructed in concrete in accordance with the following:
 1. Approved engineering design plans
 2. AS 2890.1–2004 Off-Street Car ParkingThe work must be completed prior to the occupation or use of the manufactured home units.

Provision of Toilets

17. Throughout the course of building operations on the land, toilet facilities are to be provided, at or in the vicinity of the work site on which work involved in the erection or demolition of a building is being carried out. Toilet facilities are to be provided at a rate of one toilet for every 20 persons or part of 20 persons employed at the site.

Rubbish & Debris

18. All building rubbish and debris, including that which can be wind blown, shall be contained on site in a suitable container for disposal at an approved Parkes Shire Council Waste Landfill Depot. The container shall be erected on the building site prior to work commencing and shall be maintained for the term of the construction to the completion of the project.
 - No building rubbish or debris shall be placed or permitted to be placed on any adjoining public reserve, footway or road.
 - The waste container shall be regularly cleaned to ensure proper containment of the building wastes generated on the construction site.

Stormwater Connection and Disposal

19. All roofed and paved areas shall be drained so that water from those areas is conveyed to the street gutter at the front of the property in accordance with the approved stormwater management plan and Australian Standard 3500, 'National Plumbing and Drainage'. Storm water disposal drains shall be connected to all roof gutter down pipes within 14 days of installation of the down pipes and/or the construction of hard standing areas, as may be appropriate, to discharge roof water and surface drainage to the approved method of disposal.

Disposal of Waste

20. All building rubbish, demolition material and debris shall be disposed at an approved Parkes Shire Council Waste Facility.

Hours of work

21. Site work must only be carried out between the following times –
Between 7:00 am and 6:00 pm on weekdays;
Between 8:00 am and 1:00 pm on Saturdays;
No work permitted on Sundays or Public Holidays.
Site work is not to be carried out outside of these times except where there is an emergency, or for urgent work directed by a police officer or a public authority.

Manufactured Homes Regulations

22. The manufactured home and any associated structure must be designed, constructed and installed in accordance with the requirements of Subdivision 3 of Division 2 of Part 3 of the Local Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2021.

Stormwater Connection and Disposal

23. All roofed and paved areas shall be drained so that water from those areas is conveyed to street gutter in accordance with Australian Standard 3500, 'National Plumbing and Drainage'. Storm water disposal drains shall be connected to all roof gutter down pipes within 14 days of installation of the down pipes and/or the construction of hard standing areas, as may be appropriate, to discharge roof water and surface drainage to the approved method of disposal.

Work to be Within Property Confines

24. All loading, unloading and storage of goods, equipment, tools and building materials, or the carrying out of building operations related to the development proposal shall be carried out within the confines of the property. No loading, unloading and storage of goods, equipment, tools and building materials, or the carrying out of building operations related to the development proposal shall be carried out on the nature strip, footpath or public roadway system.

Issue Reticulated Sewerage and Water Compliance Certificate

25. Prior to the occupation or use of the dwelling, a Certificate of Compliance in accordance with Section 307 of the Water Management Act 2000 is to be obtained from Parkes Shire Council, certifying that all works, fees and charges, required in connection with the provision of the reticulated sewerage and water supply to the development have been undertaken and complied with in full.

Final inspection Record for Driveway Works

26. Prior to the occupation or use of the development a Certificate of Completion is to be provided to the Consent Authority confirming that all works and fees / contributions required for the provision of a layback, crossover and driveway have been completed in full to the satisfaction of Council's Director Operations.

Dwelling and Unit Address

27. The street number allocated to the dwellings/units shall be displayed so that it is clearly visible from Rosewood Avenue prior to the occupation or use of the development. The

street numbers allocated to the new dwellings/units will be as follows:

- 1) Unit 1 – 1/33 Rosewood Avenue, Parkes
- 2) Unit 2 – 2/33 Rosewood Avenue, Parkes
- 3) Unit 3 – 3/33 Rosewood Avenue, Parkes
- 4) Unit 4 – 4/33 Rosewood Avenue, Parkes
- 5) Unit 5 – 5/33 Rosewood Avenue, Parkes

Consolidation of Lots

28. Prior to the occupation or use of the manufactured units, the applicant is to provide evidence to the consent authority that Lot 58 DP1213491 and Lot 59 DP1213491 have been consolidated into a single allotment.

Landscaping to be Provided

29. Prior to the occupation or use of the manufactured units, mature landscaping in accordance with the stamped approved plans must be completed to the satisfaction of Council's Director of Planning and Community Services.

Repair of Infrastructure

30. At the completion of work
- 1) Any public infrastructure damaged as a result of the carrying out of work approved under this consent (including damage caused by, but not limited to, delivery vehicles, waste collection, contractors, sub-contractors, concreting vehicles) must be fully repaired to the written satisfaction of Council, and at no cost to Council; or
 - 2) If the works in (1) are not carried out to Council's satisfaction, Council may carry out the works required and the costs of any such works must be paid as directed by Council.

Prior to Issue of an Occupation Certificate

No additional conditions have been applied to this stage of development.

Ongoing and Operational

Landscape Management

31. Landscaping in accordance with the approved plans shall be maintained in a healthy state, and in perpetuity by the existing or future owners and occupiers of the property unless otherwise approved by Council.

Visitor Carparking

32. Visitor carparking is to be provided and maintained in perpetuity in accordance with the approved stamped plans.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the application be approved subject to the conditions contained in the report.

18.2 AMENDED VOLUNTARY PLANNING AGREEMENT - RIDGEY CREEK BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM**IP&R Linkage:** Pillar: Economy**Goal:** Our Shire is an attractive destination to live, work, visit and invest.**Strategy:** Support local agriculture, tourism, and retail sectors by promoting diversification, value-adding and capacity building.**Author:** Annalise Teale, Director Planning and Community Services**Authoriser:** Kent Boyd PSM, General Manager**Annexures:** A. VPA Amendment Letter [↓](#)**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the report.
2. Supports the Draft Deed of Variation in principle.
3. Places the Draft Deed of Variation (*Annexure A*) and the Explanatory Note on public exhibition for not less than 28 days, in accordance with the EP&A Act and Regulation.
4. Receive a future report on any public submissions before adopting the Draft Deed of Variation.
5. Authorises the Mayor and General Manager to execute the Deed upon completion of exhibition and consideration of submissions.

BACKGROUND

The Ridgely Creek Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) was approved as a State Significant Development on 23 May 2025. The approved development involves a 130-megawatt_{AC} MW_{AC} BESS with a 260-megawatt-hour_{AC} (MWh_{AC}) energy storage capacity. The approved facility also includes an operations and maintenance building, spare parts storage, internal access roads, car park, firefighting water storage and associated security and safety infrastructure. The BESS connects to the TransGrid Parkes Substation via a 132kv underground cable to be installed by horizontal directional drilling beneath Henry Parkes Wyway, with a new bay to be installed at the substation to facilitate grid connection.

The approved project has a condition of consent requiring the project to enter into a voluntary planning agreement (VPA) prior to the commencement of construction. Parkes Shire Council entered into a VPA with the proponent on 16 May 2025.

A modification application has been submitted to the NSW Department Planning, Housing and Infrastructure which seeks to increase the approved battery energy storage capacity of the Ridgely Creek Battery Energy Storage System from 260-megawatt-hour_{AC} to 520-megawatt-hour_{AC}, extending the facility's discharge duration from two hours to four hours while maintaining the approved generation output of 130-megawatt_{AC}. The increase in capacity will be achieved by installing 160 larger capacity battery units within the existing approved footprint.

Location

The Ridgely Creek BESS is located approximately 10 kilometres west of Parkes, adjacent to Henry Parkes Way.

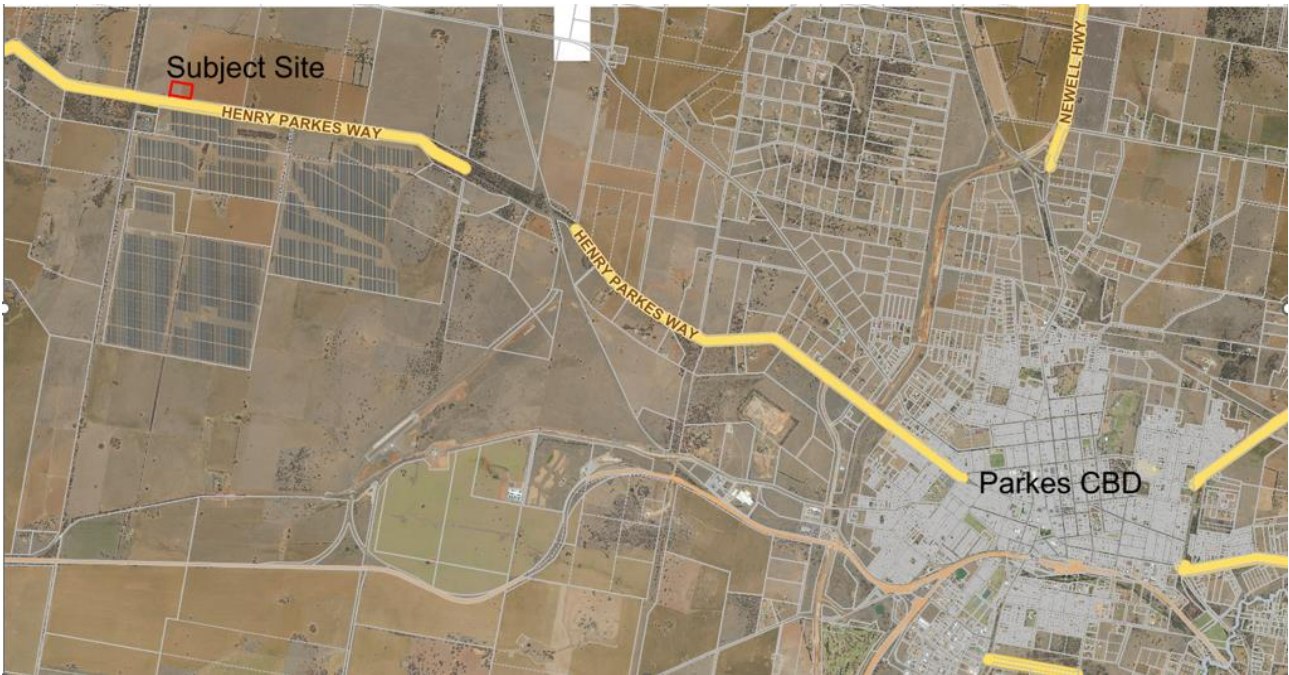


Image 1: location of site in relation to the Parkes CBD



Figure 2: Proposed development (Source: Modification Application prepared by Premise)

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

A modification application has been submitted which seeks to increase the approved battery energy storage capacity of the Ridgey Creek Battery Energy Storage System from 260-megawatt-hour_{AC} to 520-megawatt-hour_{AC}, extending the facility’s discharge duration from two hours to four hours while maintaining the approved generation output of 130-megawatt_{AC}. The increase in capacity will be achieved by installing 160 larger capacity battery units within the existing approved footprint.

Voluntary Planning Agreement

The proponent has made an updated VPA offer to Parkes Shire Council to reflect the increased size of the development. The updated offer has been made in accordance with the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure Benefit Sharing Guidelines 2024, which provide guidance for large scale renewable energy projects and expected value of benefit sharing for individual projects.

Parkes Shire Council entered into a VPA with the proponent on 16 May 2025. The original VPA includes the following terms:

Contribution Type	Amount
Upfront Contribution	\$250,000.00
Annual Contribution *	\$21,500.00
Total Annuity (real terms)	\$430,000.00
Total (Real Terms)	\$680,000.00

** Annual contributions will be indexed by CPI and multiplied by 20 years (as per the term agreed in the VPA)*

The proponent offered the following amended VPA in relation to the modified proposal:

Contribution Type	Amount
Upfront Contribution	\$500,000
Annual Contribution *	\$49,633
Total Annual Contribution (30 years)	\$1,489,000
Total Contribution Requested	\$1,989,000

** Annual contributions will be indexed by CPI and the basis of our calculation considers 85% of \$150/MWh (as per Guidelines recommendation for contributions to be delivered through VPA with Council) multiplied by 30 years (as per the term agreed in the VPA)*

Council staff reviewed the amended offer against the applicable NSW Benefit Sharing Guidelines, which states that the community benefit contribution rate of 85% of \$150/MWh should be paid.

An Amended Deed of Agreement will be prepared and formally reported to Council. A VPA (Amended Deed of Agreement) is required to be publicly exhibited before an agreement can be entered into.

CONCLUSION

A Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) is a legally binding agreement made under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* between a developer and a planning authority.

Contributions received under a VPA must be applied for the public purposes for which they were obtained and expended within a reasonable timeframe.

The Ridgely Creek VPA provides that developer contributions are to be allocated towards public purpose projects that deliver a community benefit. Accordingly, Council must ensure that any funds received under the Agreement are managed, allocated and expended in accordance with the terms of the VPA and the relevant legislative framework.



The General Manager
Parkes Shire Council
2 Cecile Street | PO Box 337
Parkes NSW 2870

Email: council@parkes.nsw.gov.au

10 June 2026

Amendment Letter – Planning Agreement

Dear General Manager

We refer to the Planning Agreement between Parkes Shire Council (**PSC**) and Ridgey Creek BESS Pty Ltd (ACN 681 401 865) as trustee for Ridgey Creek BESS Trust (ABN 96 892 029 923) (the **Company**) dated 16 May 2025 (the **Deed**).

Definitions in the Deed (including those that apply by incorporation) apply to this letter unless the context requires otherwise or the relevant term is otherwise defined in this letter.

1 Amendments

The parties agree that, on and from the date this letter is signed by both parties, the Deed is amended as follows:

- (a) recital C. of the Deed is deleted and replaced with the following:
“C. The Company commits to paying to PSC, Development Contributions in accordance with the terms set out in this Agreement.”
- (b) the definition of ‘Annual Payment’ in clause 1.1 of the Deed is deleted and replaced with the following:
*“**Annual Payment** means the annual Development Contribution of \$49,633 (in 2026 dollars), escalated by CPI annually, from the Company to PSC. For any period of less than one year, the Annual Payment amount shall be prorated.”*
[Note to PSC: Timing of payment of is already covered in clause 5(d) of the Deed, so we have removed it from this definition to remove overlap/inconsistency. Depending on the date of End of Operations of the BESS, the last Annual Payment may need to be prorated.]
- (c) the definition of ‘BESS Operations’ in clause 1.1 of the Deed is deleted; *[Note to PSC: This term is not used in the Deed.]*

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- (d) the definition of 'Development Contributions' in clause 1.1 of the Deed is deleted and replaced with the following:
- "Development Contributions means the financial contributions to be made by the Company to PSC for a 'Public Purpose' as defined herein and in accordance with clause 5, and comprises the Initial Payment and each Annual Payment."***
- (e) a new definition of 'End of Operations' is inserted following the definition of 'DPHI' as follows:
- "End of Operations means the end of operations of and revenue generation from the BESS, which for the avoidance of doubt occurs prior to the commencement of Decommissioning."***
- (f) the definition of 'Initial Payment' in clause 1.1 of the Deed is deleted and replaced with the following:
- "Initial Payment means the initial Development Contribution of \$500,000 (in 2026 dollars), escalated by CPI until Commencement of Construction, from the Company to PSC." [Note to PSC: Timing of payment of is already covered in clause 5(c) of the Deed, so we have removed it from this definition to remove overlap/inconsistency.]***
- (g) the definition of 'Proposed System Size' in clause 1.1 of the Deed is deleted and replaced with the following:
- "Proposed System Size means the system size of the BESS, which at the time of this Agreement is 130MW/260MWh and amended to 130MW/520MWh under the first Modification."***
- (h) clause 5(b) of the Deed is deleted and replaced with the following:
- "b) The Company will pay Development Contributions to PSC in accordance with the terms set out in this Agreement."***
- (i) clause 5(c) of the Deed is deleted and replaced with the following:
- "c) Upon notification by the Company to PSC of the Commencement of Construction (including public road upgrading works) of the BESS, PSC shall submit to the Company a valid tax invoice for the Initial Payment. The Initial Payment is payable within 30 days of the issuance of a valid tax invoice."***
- (j) clause 5(d) of the Deed is deleted and replaced with the following:
- "Upon notification by the Company to PSC of the Commencement of Operations, PSC shall submit to the Company a valid tax invoice for the first Annual Payment, which shall be payable within 30 days of the issuance of a valid tax invoice. Then on each anniversary of the issuance of the valid tax invoice for the first Annual Payment until the last year immediately before the End of Operations, PSC shall submit a valid tax invoice for each subsequent"***



Annual Payment, which shall be payable within 30 days of the issuance of a valid tax invoice. For the avoidance of doubt, the Annual Payment is payable only with respect to each year between Commencement of Operations and End of Operations.”

- (k) clause 5(e) of the Deed is deleted.

2 Confirmation

Each party confirms that:

- (a) this letter is intended to take effect on and from the date of this letter as a variation of the Deed; and
- (b) this letter is not, by virtue of paragraph 1 (*Amendments*) intended to take effect as a restatement, rescission, discharge or termination of the Deed.

3 Remaining Provisions Unaffected

Except as specifically amended by this letter, the provisions of the Deed remain in full force and effect. Nothing in this letter:

- (a) prejudices or adversely affects any right, power, authority, discretion or remedy arising under the Deed before the date of this letter; or
- (b) discharges, releases or otherwise affects any liability or obligation arising under the Deed before the date of this letter.

4 Acknowledgements

Please acknowledge your agreement to the terms of this letter by signing and dating this letter.

5 Miscellaneous

This letter is governed by the laws of the State of New South Wales and of the Commonwealth of Australia applying there.

6 Execution and counterparts

This letter may be executed electronically and may be executed in counterparts.



Executed and delivered as a Deed

Each person executing this letter on behalf of a party states that they have no notice of revocation or suspension of their authority.

**SIGNED, SEALED AND
DELIVERED** by **Ridgey Creek
BESS Pty Ltd (ACN 681 401 865)**
as trustee for **Ridgey Creek BESS
Trust (ABN 96 892 029 923)**:

Signature of sole director/secretary

Name

SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED by the
authorised delegate for **Parkes Shire Council
(ABN 96 299 629 630)**:

Signature of authorised delegate

Name of authorised delegate

Date:

Signature of witness

Name of witness

Date:

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18.3 2026 PARKES SHIRE COUNCIL CULTURAL GRANTS**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:** **Annalise Teale, Acting Director Planning and Community Services****Authoriser:** **Kent Boyd PSM, General Manager****Annexures:** **Nil****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Endorse the following allocation of the PSC Cultural Grants recommended by the Community, Liveability and Access Committee:
 - Central Western Lachlan Landcare (auspicing the Parkes NAIDOC Family Fun Day Organising Committee) receive \$2000 to support the 2026 Parkes NAIDOC Family Fun Day marking 50 years of NAIDOC.
 - Parkes Musical & Dramatic Society receive \$2,000 for the delivery of an ICONIC 75 exhibition as part of celebrations of 75 years of local theatre.
 - The Peak Hill Country Crafts Inc (auspicing the Peak Hill NAIDOC Committee) receive \$4,400 for the delivery of Voices of Wisdom: Peak Hill Elders Project.
 - The Parkes Show Society receive \$1,200 for a floral arrangement workshop to support entries into the 2026 Parkes Show.

BACKGROUND

Parkes Shire Council provides an annual grant of \$10,000 to encourage and support the development of local community organisations, services and strategies which make a positive contribution to the community and enrich cultural life throughout the Shire.

In 2026, 7 applications for cultural grant funding were received requesting \$18,000 worth of grant funding to support artistic and cultural activities in the Parkes Shire.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

A panel of representatives nominated by the Community, Liveability & Access Committee met on 15 May 2026 to assess the applications received. Applications were reviewed against the assessment criteria and recommend the following allocations of the grant funding:

- Central Western Lachlan Landcare (auspicing the Parkes NAIDOC Family Fun Day Organising Committee) receive \$2,000 to support the 2026 Parkes NAIDOC Family Fun Day marking 50 years of NAIDOC
- Parkes Musical & Dramatic Society receive \$2,000 for the delivery of an ICONIC 75 exhibition as part of celebrations of 75 years of local theatre.
- The Peak Hill Country Crafts Inc (auspicing the Peak Hill NAIDOC Committee) receive \$4,400 for the delivery of Voices of Wisdom: Peak Hill Elders Project

- The Parkes Show Society receive \$1,200 for a floral arrangement workshop to support entries into the 2026 Parkes Show

It was noted that some of the unsuccessful applications provided very little detail of the project they were seeking grant funding for, or were missing required documentation to enable the panel to make an informed assessment. Applicants are strongly encouraged to seek the support of the Grants Team when completing an application.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY CONTEXT

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The PSC Cultural Grants are an annual budget line. 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

Applications for the Cultural Grants were open for 6 weeks from 1 April to 13 May 2026 and widely advertised in both social and mainstream media. There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report.

18.4 MAY 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 May 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 May 2026 there were twelve (12) Development Applications received totalling \$1,050,223.80 and ten (10) consents were issued. There was one (1) Complying Development Certificates received totalling \$715,000.00 and four (4) Private Certifier Complying Development Certificates received totalling \$1,603,500.00. There was one (1) Complying Development Certificates issued and four (4) Private Certifier approval issued.

The figures shown Table 1 below are for Development Applications received during May 2026 with respect to the specified building types and a comparison to the May 2025 figures.

Table 1: Development Applications				
Development Category	May 2026		May 2025	
	No.	Estimated Value	No.	Estimated Value
Commercial	1	\$257,220.00	2	\$1,589,447.90
Community Facilities	-	-	-	-
Industrial	-	-	-	-
Infrastructure	-	-	-	-
Tourist Development	-	-	-	-
Single Dwelling-house	1	\$32,300.00	-	-
Residential Alterations and Additions inc. ancillary / outbuildings	8	\$604,703.80	7	\$376,669.91
Residential Other	-	-	-	-
Multi-Residential	-	-	-	-
Seniors Living	-	-	-	-
Subdivision only	-	-	-	-
Secondary Dwelling	2	\$138,000.00	-	-
Other inc. demolition, earthworks, advertising structure	-	-	-	-
Mixed Development	-	-	-	-
Totals	12	\$1,050,223.80	9	\$1,966,117.81
FYTD Totals	97	\$27,032,962.54	82	\$18,989,652.62

Table 2, below, lists the Development Consents that were issued in the month of May 2026.

Table 2: Development Consents		
Application No.	Address	Description
DA2025/0083	100-106 Forbes Road, PARKES NSW 2870	Erection of a New Structure - Amenities Building & BBQ Area
DA2026/0007	21 Coradgery Street, ALECTOWN NSW 2870	Manufactured Home
DA2026/0013	26 Warragrah Place, PARKES NSW 2870	Erection of a New Structure - Shed
DA2026/0016	16-18 Renshaw Road, PARKES NSW 2870	Erection of a New Structure - Industrial Shed
DA2026/0019	Calm Downs, 31 Aitken Lane, PARKES NSW 2870	Erection of a New Structure - Shed
DA2026/0024	9 Hydrangea Avenue, PARKES NSW 2870	Additions to Existing Dwelling - Enclosed Patio
DA2026/0026	17 West Street, TRUNDLE NSW 2875	Manufactured Home
DA2026/0027	41 Albert Street, PARKES NSW 2870	Alterations and Additions to Existing Dwelling
DA2026/0030	15 Best Street, PARKES NSW 2870	Erection of a New Structure - Garage
DA2026/0032	52 Rose Street, PARKES NSW 2870	Manufactured Home

The figures shown in Table 3, below, are for Complying Development Certificates received during May 2026 with respect to the specified building types and a comparison to the May 2025 figures.

Table 3: Complying Development Certificates				
Development Category	May 2026		May 2025	
	No.	Estimated Value	No.	Estimated Value
Commercial	-	-	1	\$730,000.00
Community Facilities	-	-	-	-
Industrial	-	-	-	-
Infrastructure	-	-	-	-
Tourist Development	-	-	-	-
Single Dwelling-house	5	\$2,318,500.00	-	-
Residential Alterations and Additions inc. ancillary / outbuildings	-	-	-	-
Residential Other	-	-	-	-
Multi-Residential	-	-	-	-
Seniors Living	-	-	-	-
Subdivision only	-	-	-	-
Secondary Dwelling	-	-	-	-
Other inc. demolition, earthworks, advertising structure	-	-	-	-
Totals	5	\$2,318,500.00	1	\$730,000.00
FYTD Totals	24	\$13,268,396.90	11	\$2,352,824.96

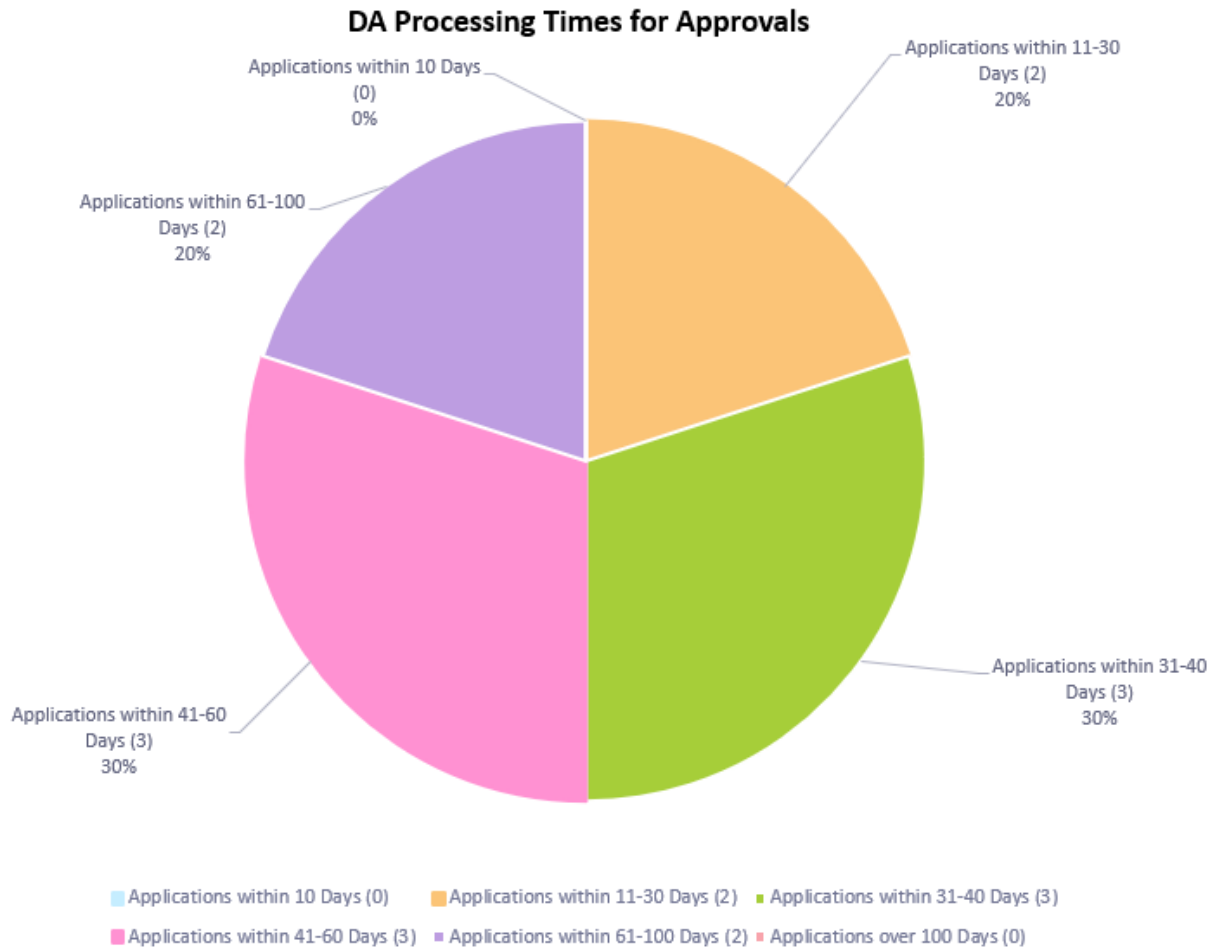
Table 4, below, provides a list of Complying Development Certificates which were issued in the month of May 2026.

Table 4: Complying Development Certificates			
Application No.	Address	Description	Certifying Authority
CDC2026/0004	3 Rosary Close, PARKES NSW 2870	Dwelling - House and Attached Garage & Retaining walls	Council
CDC2026/0008	7 John Curtin Street, PARKES NSW 2870	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Double Garage, Alfresco, Porch & Retaining Wall	Private
CDC2026/0009	9 John Curtin Street, PARKES NSW 2870	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Double Garage, Alfresco, Porch & Retaining Wall	Private
CDC2026/0010	20 George Field Drive, PARKES NSW 2870	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Double Garage, Alfresco & Porch	Private
CDC2026/0012	8 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 May 2026 to 31 May 2026. It should be noted that a total of ten (10) Development Applications have been determined with an average of 45.35 days.

The average timeframe in which the internal referrals to the Technical Services and/or Infrastructure Departments were completed was 42.00 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 May 2026 there were twelve (12) Development Applications received totalling \$1,050,223.80 and ten (10) consents were issued. There was one (1) Complying Development Certificates received totalling \$715,000.00 and three (3) Private Certifier Complying Development Certificates received totalling \$1,603,500.00. There was one (1) Complying Development Certificates issued and four (4) Private Certifier approval issued.

Development Activity Report

May 2026

Development Applications and Complying Development Certificates lodged and approved in the Parkes Shire.



LODGED

12

Development Applications

5

Complying Development Certificates



DETERMINED

10

Development Applications

1

Complying Development Certificates

4

Private Certifier Complying Development Certificates



AVERAGE DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION PROCESSING TIME THIS MONTH
45.35

Approved Development Applications



VALUE OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED
\$3,368,723.80

18.5 OUTCOME OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION - DOGS ON SPORTING FIELDS

Author: Annalise Teale, Director Planning and Community Services
Authoriser: Kent Boyd PSM, General Manager
Annexures: A. **Community Feedback about Banning Dogs on Some Sports Fields**
[↓](#)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the information as provided in the report regarding dogs on sports fields.
 2. Adopt the banning of dogs on Harrison Park, Woodward Oval and Keast Park due to ongoing concerns from sporting user groups.
 3. Continue to enforce and progress compliance action regarding dogs on sports fields.
 4. Receive a future report after an investigation of the options and costs for additional / expanded off-leash dog areas.
-

BACKGROUND

At the 17 February 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council resolved to:

2. *Provide notice of intention to close Woodward Oval, Harrison Park (including Parker-Stone Field) and Keast Park to dogs in order to seek changes from dog owners and report the results back to Council before proceeding with the closure.*

Council undertook public engagement, with the community being asked to provide feedback to the following:

Parkes Shire Council is currently reviewing the potential banning of dogs from Harrison Park, Woodward Oval and Keast Park.

This review is being undertaken due to ongoing issues with dog owners failing to collect dog waste, which poses serious health risks to users of these facilities for sporting and recreational purposes. If adopted, failure to comply with the ban may result in penalties of up to \$1,100 under the Local Government Act 1993.

Review Period: 6 April 2026 – 17 May 2026

Important Information:

- *Dogs are permitted on the sporting fields and ovals during the review period but must be kept on a leash at all times.*
- *Dog owners must collect and dispose of dog waste appropriately.*
- *Council Rangers will increase patrols during the review period to monitor compliance. Penalties may apply where offences are identified.*
- *A final decision will be made by Council following the review period, with outcomes communicated to the community.*

A total of 51 submissions were received during the engagement period. The feedback highlighted a wide range of views, with strong opinions expressed both in support of and against restrictions relating to dogs on sporting fields.

This report provides a summary of the key themes identified through the public engagement process and outlines the main arguments raised by the community.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The responses received during community engagement identified that there are mixed feelings within the community. While many respondents acknowledged concerns relating to irresponsible dog ownership and dog waste on sporting fields, there was also strong concern regarding access to suitable public open space for exercising dogs.

A consistent theme across submissions was that the behaviour of a small number of irresponsible dog owners is negatively impacting broader community perceptions. Many respondents expressed the view that enforcement and education should be prioritised over a complete ban on dogs at sporting fields.

The feedback also identified:

- Concerns regarding dog waste and hygiene on sporting fields;
- Safety concerns relating to off-leash dogs and aggressive behaviour;
- A lack of suitable and accessible dog exercise areas in Parkes;
- The importance of dogs to community wellbeing, exercise and social connection;
- Concerns regarding impacts on children and organised sport;
- Requests for improved infrastructure, signage and enforcement; and
- Support for designated on-leash areas rather than blanket prohibitions.

Overall, the majority of submissions did not support a total prohibition on dogs at sporting fields, however many respondents supported stronger regulation, enforcement and responsible pet ownership measures.

Common Arguments in Support of Restrictions on Dogs at Sporting Fields

The following themes were commonly raised by respondents supporting restrictions or stronger controls:

1. Dog Waste and Hygiene Concerns

The most common concern raised was the presence of dog waste on sporting fields and surrounding public areas. Respondents noted that dog waste creates hygiene and health concerns for children, sporting participants and families using the fields.

Specific concerns included:

- Dog faeces being left on sporting fields and spectator areas;
- Children coming into contact with dog waste during sporting activities;
- Concerns regarding disease, bacteria and contamination;
- Waste bins and bag dispensers not being adequately maintained; and
- Negative impacts on the presentation and usability of sporting facilities.

Many respondents considered sporting fields to be spaces intended primarily for organised sport and recreation, rather than dog exercise.

2. Safety and Behaviour Concerns

A number of submissions raised concerns regarding:

- Off-leash dogs approaching children and families;
- Aggressive dogs or dog attacks;

- Dogs interrupting sporting activities and training sessions;
- Fear and anxiety experienced by some users around dogs; and
- Poor owner control over dogs in shared public spaces.

Several respondents noted that even well-behaved dogs can become unpredictable in busy environments.

3. Protection of Sporting Infrastructure

Respondents also identified concerns relating to damage caused to sporting fields and infrastructure, including:

- Damage to turf and playing surfaces;
- Increased maintenance costs;
- Broken glass and litter associated with gathering areas; and
- Wear and tear on facilities intended for organised sport.

Some respondents considered that organised sporting facilities should be preserved for their primary intended use.

4. Concerns Regarding Compliance and Enforcement

Several submissions stated that existing rules relating to dogs are not consistently enforced. Respondents noted:

- A lack of compliance with leash requirements;
- Inadequate monitoring by Rangers;
- Limited penalties for irresponsible behaviour; and
- Difficulties reporting incidents.

These respondents generally supported stricter enforcement or restrictions as a way to improve compliance outcomes.

Common Arguments Against Restrictions on Dogs at Sporting Fields

The following themes were commonly raised by respondents opposing restrictions or blanket bans:

1. Lack of Suitable Dog Exercise Areas

A significant number of respondents identified a lack of safe, accessible and suitable dog exercise spaces within Parkes.

Key concerns included:

- Existing dog parks being too small or unsuitable;
- Limited fenced areas for exercising dogs safely;
- Difficulty accessing alternative exercise locations;
- Concerns regarding interactions with aggressive or uncontrolled dogs at designated dog parks; and
- Limited public open space options for larger dogs.

Many respondents stated that sporting fields provide open, safe and practical spaces for walking dogs, particularly during periods when fields are not in active use.

2. Responsible Dog Owners Should Not Be Penalised

A very common theme was that responsible dog owners felt they were being unfairly penalised due to the behaviour of a minority of irresponsible owners.

Respondents frequently stated that:

- Most dog owners pick up after their dogs;
- Most dogs are kept on leash and under effective control;
- Restrictions target compliant owners rather than offenders; and
- Enforcement should focus on irresponsible behaviour rather than blanket bans.

Many respondents expressed frustration that responsible community members may lose access to public space due to the actions of others.

3. Health, Wellbeing and Social Benefits

Many submissions highlighted the social and wellbeing benefits associated with dog walking and exercising.

Respondents noted that dog exercise:

- Encourages physical activity;
- Supports mental health and wellbeing;
- Promotes social interaction and community connection;
- Encourages outdoor recreation; and
- Supports positive relationships between community members.

Several respondents identified the sporting fields as one of the few available spaces suitable for walking larger dogs or exercising with family members.

4. Sporting Fields Are Public Open Space

A recurring argument was that sporting fields are public assets funded by the broader community and should remain accessible to all users outside organised sporting activities.

Many respondents suggested:

- Dogs should only be restricted during organised sport or active field use;
- On-leash access should continue outside booking times;
- Shared use of public open space should be encouraged; and
- Balanced solutions should be explored rather than total bans.

5. Preference for Education and Enforcement Over Prohibition

A substantial number of submissions supported:

- Increased signage;
- More waste bins and dog bag dispensers;
- Improved maintenance of dispensers;
- Increased Ranger patrols;
- Education campaigns promoting responsible ownership; and
- Enforcement targeting non-compliance.

Many respondents considered these measures to be more practical and proportionate than prohibiting dogs from sporting fields.

Additional Themes Identified

1. Need for Improved Infrastructure

Several respondents requested:

- Additional fenced dog exercise areas;
- Improved lighting and pathways;
- Additional waste bins;
- Better maintained bag dispensers;
- Clear signage outlining permitted areas and responsibilities; and
- Designated on-leash and off-leash areas.

Officer Commentary

The public engagement process demonstrates that the management of dogs within sporting fields and public open spaces is a complex issue involving competing community expectations and priorities.

The submissions indicate broad community support for responsible dog ownership, improved compliance measures and enhanced public education. There is also clear recognition that sporting fields are important community assets that must remain safe, clean and functional for organised sport and passive recreation.

At the same time, the engagement identified a strong community desire to retain reasonable access to public open space for dog exercise and walking, particularly given the perceived lack of suitable alternative facilities within Parkes.

The feedback suggests that many community members would support a balanced approach involving:

- Improved education and awareness initiatives;
- Increased Ranger patrols and enforcement;
- Improved dog waste management infrastructure;
- Additional signage and clearer rules;
- Investigation of additional dog exercise facilities.

The engagement findings indicate limited support for a blanket prohibition on dogs across all sporting fields at all times. Rather, respondents generally favoured practical management measures aimed at addressing irresponsible behaviour while maintaining reasonable access for compliant dog owners.

However, a blanket ban of dogs on Harrison Park, Woodward Oval and Keast Park would assist with enforcement and set a clear message to the community to ensure the sporting community are no longer impacted by dog faeces whilst participating in sport.

To support this ban, it is recommended that additional off-leash dog areas are investigated to ensure the ongoing needs of the community are met.

CONCLUSION

The public engagement process identified a wide range of community views regarding dogs at sporting fields and public open spaces. Key concerns related to dog waste, safety, off-leash behaviour and impacts on organised sport, while many respondents also emphasised the importance of accessible open space for dog exercise, physical activity and community wellbeing.

The feedback demonstrates that the issue is not simply about whether dogs should or should not be permitted at sporting fields, but rather how public spaces can be managed to balance the needs of sporting users, families, residents and responsible dog owners.

Overall, the findings support consideration of a balanced and evidence-based approach focused on responsible pet ownership.

PROVIDE DETAILS OF THE FEEDBACK (GENERAL FEEDBACK FORM)	
1	Allow dogs on ovals ensure access to dog bags for poo so can be responsible Health communities
2	Allow the Dogs
3	Allowing dogs on sporting fields allows people to exercise their dogs on large open space. Not all dog owners live near the dog park, please do not take open space from dog owners, the majority of us are responsible. Allowing dogs here also allows us to socialise our dogs on weekends at sporting events, this is an important part of their development.
4	Argument Against a Total Ban on Pets at the Sporting Ground I understand and support the intention behind the proposed ban on pets at the sporting ground, particularly where the focus is on safety, hygiene, and ensuring sporting activities can proceed without disruption. However, a complete ban on pets may be unnecessary and exclude families who responsibly use the space when it is not actively being used for sport. Our family owns retrievers, and my son plays soccer at the ground. Like many other families, attending games and training is a significant part of our routine, and our dog enjoys accompanying us. Pets are an important part of family life and encourage people to spend time outdoors, build community connections, and use public spaces respectfully. I strongly agree that owners must be responsible for their pets. Cleaning up after dogs, keeping them under effective control, and respecting others who use the ground is essential. Rather than a full ban, a more balanced and practical solution would be to allow dogs on a leash and restrict them to the edges of the field, especially during organised sporting activities. This approach would minimise any interference with play while still allowing families to attend together. Importantly, the sporting oval is often not in use for organised sport, particularly outside training times and games. During these periods, the space serves as a valuable community open area. Allowing dogs during these off-use times—under clear rules such as leashes, designated access points, and mandatory clean-up—ensures the ground remains a shared community asset rather than being unnecessarily underutilised. A total ban may also be difficult to enforce and could unfairly penalise responsible pet owners due to the actions of a few. Clear signage, education, and enforcement of existing rules around leashing and waste disposal would address the real issues without removing access entirely. In summary, I believe a managed and regulated approach, rather than a full ban, would better balance safety, hygiene, and inclusivity. Allowing pets on a leash, keeping them to the perimeter of the field, and restricting access during active sporting use would support responsible pet ownership while maintaining the sporting ground as a welcoming community space for everyone.
5	As a Parkes Shire Council rate payer I believe I should be able to use the facilities provided by the council as other members of the public to do. While other people of the the public use it to for ball games, running or walking I use it to walk myself and two dogs to to get exercise for myself and the animals. The sporting oval is an ideal environment to do this I am responsible and carry the green bag and pick up their droppings each time. I don't think people doing the right thing should be penalized by banning dogs from this area because of the minority who are not doing the right thing. I believe the biggest problem is when people bring their large dogs. This means the droppings are bigger and more messier to clean up. Maybe the council should consider limiting the size of the dog, maybe only as big as a terrier size and anything larger maybe banned because they make more far more mess than a small dog does. Maybe limit it to two animals at any one time and not to three, four or five likely I see some people having. People who do not have animals don't realize how these dogs enjoy getting out into this environment and away from their own backyards. Please let me continue to use these facilities as I am doing no harm to the grounds or to the public.
6	Dogs should be allowed access to sporting fields however more stringent measures should be employed to ensure owners comply with waste disposal requirements (I.e. ranger presence, greater fines)
7	Dogs should be allowed on the sporting fields. As a regular user of Keast park I can confirm the majority of people do the right thing. It is also a regular meeting place for our elderly community with dogs to meet and get out. A lot of people from this area use it and it would be devastating to ban it. I'd hate to think about the isolation these people will feel if they can't meet up here with their dogs. The dog park is too far from us for them to be able to walk there. Will you also ban cricket from Keast park? After each game there are several bottles and cans left on the field and rubbish from chip packets etc even near the rubbish bins that are provided. The bottles have been broken on the concrete near the toilet block on occasion, causing far more damage than any dog waste. The pump that is on the Grenfell st side of the park has been leaking for weeks now.
8	Dogs should be allowed on the sports grounds as long as they are on a lead and owners are picking up after them
9	Dogs should be banned when there is sport on. Children and peoples safety is more important then a dog going along with their owner.
10	Dogs should not be allowed on sporting fields at any time. Dogs should definitely not be allowed while children are playing sport as some children and adults have allergies and fears surrounding dogs.
11	First and foremost, hygiene is a major concern. Even responsible pet owners can miss waste, and any residue left behind poses a health risk especially for children who are in close contact with the ground during play. Sporting fields are not just open spaces; they're active recreation areas where cleanliness matters. There's also the issue of safety. Dogs, even well-behaved ones, are unpredictable in high energy environments. A sudden noise, fast movement, or crowd can cause them to react unexpectedly, increasing the risk of injury to players, spectators, or the animal itself. In addition, pets can cause damage to the playing surface. Digging, running, and general wear from animals can impact turf quality, leading to uneven ground and increased maintenance costs for councils or clubs. Poor field conditions can then affect gameplay and increase injury risk for athletes. Sporting fields are designed and maintained for structured use. Allowing pets blurs that purpose and can lead to conflict between users, those wanting a safe, clean space for sport, and those using it for pet recreation. There are plenty of parks and designated off-leash areas where pets can safely exercise. Sporting fields should be preserved for their intended use safe, clean, and reliable spaces for sport and community activities.
12	Fully in support of council banning dogs on sporting fields, I see far to many dogs off leashes particularly on Harrison with owners walking some distance from there dogs- the amount of dog poo on these fields at times it's disgusting. Dogs should not be allowed on fields that children participate in sport on. Plenty of areas for dogs around town eg walk them in pac park, Or along Wellington road walking path, there is a designated dog park... why do they need to shit on our kids sporting fields!
13	Heavy penalties should apply for offleash dogs, its dangerous for other people walking their dogs on leash
14	Hi In regards to the "dogs on sporting fields consultation" I have been walking my current dog and 1 other previous dog on Harrison park for 15 plus years and i have not noticed an increase in dog poo on either of the soccer fields. granted i do walk around the boundry of the park and not thru the soccer fields themselves. Just on a side note you have only posted the signs in approximatly 4 gates at Harrison park and at none of the gates adjacent to the car park which is were most people enter and leave the park . If you were to put the doggy bag dispenser(which is empty and has been for several months) In the park along the fence line i feel would reduce the amount of dog poo at the park. Unfortunatly you will always get the odd 1 or 2 who are either to lazy or dont care what there dogs are doing. i plan on continuing to walk my dogs in the park and pick up after them.
15	Hi. There are no suitable places to walk dogs. There are two dog parks however one is unfenced and the other is to small and poorly maintained and only really suitable for small dogs. There are so many dog owners in this town and nowhere to safely take them. Please consider this because trust me ppl will continue to take their dogs to the sporting fields like they do now, I see it all the time off lead especially
16	I am in support of this proposal however I will add as well that I would like council to put out a notice to some dog owners that their dogs are not welcome to urinate against the front doors of commercial establishments. Many times, at least a dozen times I have had to speak with some completely brain dead individuals who actually stop and watch their dog urinate against the door panel of our shop. Dog owners should be made to walk along the kerb side (as a requirement) where their dogs can relieve themselves against trees. Please put out some signs along the main street as it begins to stink of urine outside of eating establishments or offer a sign for purchase for establishments to place at offending locations, Thankyou for attending to this matter
17	I am much more comfortable supervising small children without strange off leash dogs to worry about
18	I am writing to oppose the notion of banning dogs from sporting fields in the Parkes area. I have lived in Parkes since 2006, and in the recent 5 years have moved from property into town. I have two small / medium sized dogs which are leashed and picked up after on our walks. I often opt to walk at the sporting fields because it feels like a safer place for me to walk my dogs due to the fact there are often other people also utilising them for exercise, and can intervene if attacked by another dog. In the 5 years of living in town I have experienced several instances of off-leash dogs approaching and being aggressive towards us. There have been times where my health and safety has been at immediate risk and I have contacted the ranger, to which I was told they could not assist. Instead having to call the police to intervene. By removing the ability to walk my dogs on sporting fields, you are removing a safe space for me to be able to exercise, due to the lack of concern of the Parkes Shire Council rangers in managing the issue of off-leash aggressive dogs. If the ban is to come into place, please review resourcing and processes for managing the aggressive off-leash dogs in Parkes. Considering they are prominent, perhaps these stay dogs which are not being dealt with by PSC are the issue for dog waste being left on the sporting fields, as opposed to responsible dog owners who do clean up after their pets. Banning dogs is just a band-aid fix which does not address the actual root cause of the issue as to why people choose to walk their dogs on sporting fields. Do better PSC to make it safe for pet owners
19	I believe dogs should be allowed on sporting ground on leash or at least when they are not being used for sporting purposes.
20	I do not believe banning dogs from sporting fields is the answer - not all dog owners are irresponsible (so why should those dog owners who do the right thing be band from walking their dog around the oval?) - shouldn't the dog owners who do the wrong thing be held accountable and penalized - not everyone. - what does this mean for young families who take their children to a sporting field to run around kicking balls and play with their family pet - the issue of dog owners not cleaning up after their pets isn't contained to sporting fields, try walking along footpaths, walking tracks and even down the main Street - I realize that Parkes has a dog park, but this is not always suitable as some dogs are not compatible or the area easily accessible for some who do not live close in the area. I also think there are more important safety issues like the number of electric scooters and bikes on main roads and footpaths - this is a higher risk to the general public that doggy doo on a sports field. Can Council ban these instead?
21	I do not like dogs at sporting venues at all. Even when on a lead, they fight with other dogs, scare children and create "messes" that are not cleaned up. My children were always scared of dogs fighting and nipping when they were on leads at Parkes Soccer on a Saturday Morning. It's not needed. Children play with balls, scooters, have equipment etc. and dogs at the events are not necessary
22	I don't believe dogs on leads should be banned from sporting events. I think most people I have seen with dogs at sporting events are very responsible with keeping dogs on leads and cleaning up any mess. I believe it is out of sporting event hours when people take dogs to the fields that I see dogs off leads and stray dogs and most probably when messes are made and not cleaned up after. I believe this is when the problems occur and when the Rangers should be patrolling. Perhaps providing dog poop bags at fields might help

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23	I don't see a problem in banning dogs if it's a health risk however as a dog owner who has moved here there is one dog park and no swimming spots in Parkes that allow dogs. Dog are apart of peoples families and should be allowed to go with families in family areas such as the lake. If u can three locations that allow dogs you need to open other areas for people to take their dogs.
24	I know you're banning dogs, but can the park still be used for dogging? I hope so
25	I support the banning of dogs from the sport fields.
26	I think dogs should be allowed on sporting fields provided they are on lead and are cleaned up after. As a dog owner it is nice to be able to have a large space to train certain commands like recall where the dog can be a long way away on a long lead. That said, I understand the problems it can cause and I'm not sure how to enforce those rules
27	I think dogs should be banned from all sporting fields in Parkes. Owners aren't picking up after their animals and it's a disgusting sight when children/anyone for that matter go to use the fields.
28	I think dogs should remain allowed at sporting fields. I believe there are many other ways to go about fining and policing the use of the sporting fields for dogs regarding their droppings etc. this remains a liability to the owners and I feel it's unfair to punish the dogs and owners who remain to do the right thing
29	I would like to oppose the banning of dogs on the listed sports field. I am a responsible dog owner and clean up after my dog. I don't think it is fair to penalise those that are doing the correct thing. I don't have an answer to make other people clean up after their dogs other than having bags and rubbish bins available for those that don't take their own bags during walks
30	<p>I write to express my opposition to the proposed ban on dogs from local sporting fields. While concerns about dog waste are valid, a blanket prohibition is a disproportionate response that unfairly penalises the majority of responsible dog owners for the actions of a few.</p> <p>Most dog owners clean up after their pets and use shared spaces respectfully. Rather than removing access for everyone, Council should focus on targeted enforcement, education, and providing adequate bins and waste bags to address the issue directly. As a ratepayer, I contribute to the maintenance of these sporting fields, which are community assets which should be available for broad public use—not just organised sport. Restricting access diminishes their value to many residents who help fund them.</p> <p>It is also important to recognise that sporting fields are only used by clubs for a relatively small portion of the week. For much of the time, they remain empty. Allowing responsible dog access during these off-peak periods is a practical and efficient use of public space, whereas a total ban results in underutilisation. The lack of accessible alternatives further highlights the issue. The designated dog park is located on the northernmost edge of town, making it difficult to access for those without a car. This also impacts the town's livability. Truly livable communities are walkable and accessible, yet this proposal would require residents to drive simply to exercise their dogs.</p> <p>Dogs are important members of many families, and regular exercise is essential for their health and behaviour, as well as for the physical and mental wellbeing of their owners. Limiting access to suitable spaces undermines these benefits. Parks and open fields are also generally safer environments for walking dogs than streets and footpaths. I have personally experienced a stray dog attack while walking on the street with one of my dogs, it was a terrifying experience, which highlights the risks of pushing dog activity out of appropriate open spaces.</p> <p>It is also likely that not all dog waste on fields comes from irresponsible owners not cleaning up after their dog. Stray or unaccompanied dogs may be significantly contributing to the problem. A ban on dog walking will not address this and risks targeting the wrong cause.</p> <p>More broadly, Australia is already less dog-friendly than many countries where dogs are better integrated into public spaces. Moving toward further restriction rather than balanced coexistence risks reducing community inclusiveness.</p> <p>In conclusion, this proposal unfairly impacts responsible residents, reduces access to publicly funded spaces, diminishes livability, and fails to address the root causes of the issue. A more balanced approach—focused on enforcement, infrastructure, and shared responsibility—would better serve the community</p>
31	Im against banning dogs from sporting fields. Families should be able to access these areas with their pets. People use these areas to exercise and also provides a place to take pets whilst families have activities in these areas
32	<p>It's so unfair that responsible owners will be affected. My suggestion is as follows.</p> <p>Employ a couple of people to patrol the grounds.....especially early morning as that's when most people walk their dogs. Those that don't pick up after their dogs, fine heavily. There is also a lot of dogs roaming free and of course noone picks up after them. My friends and myself are responsible owners and its very unfair on us.</p> <p>Please don't say to use the dog park...its full of poo and I won't run my dog with dogs I don't know....seen to many dogs get attacked</p>
33	<p>It's unfortunate that council didn't better plan the fenced off lead dog park. This space is entirely too small and an accident waiting to happen. Its also utilised to contain stray or roaming dogs as the pound drop off cages are continually closed for this reason. I live near the soccer fields and the dogs I see being exercised there are predominantly by responsible dog owners evennif they are off leash. I vote to allow this to continue with regular monitoring. And there in lies the rub. Council does not have enough rangers and does not supply the rangers it has with the tools to combat the increasing issue of roaming dogs and especially feral cats. We now have a full time vet in town and procedures should be put in place to utilise this service through whatever means or grants to provide a desxing program. Council should stop relying on Facebook to have roaming dogs returned to owners (and cats) and start with full fines on repeat offenders and there are many.</p> <p>With the lack of decent resources for off leash areas (Bushman's Dam area is just to appease the tourists) allowing the use of sporting fields should continue.</p> <p>If you are that concerned, put up a couple of cameras to catch out the people who don't follow the rules and fine them</p>
34	Mainly talking about Harrison Park.....owners constantly let their dogs off their leash & can't see where the dog leaves their waste. Calling the Park Ranger never works and probably should be signposted with a number to contact. The only real solution is to enclose the fields, especially when sporting teams use them. As there is only one dog park on the opposite side of town, Harrison Park is very popular for dog owners, both local & travellers.
35	Maybe add onto and attend properly to our dog park area. The dog park currently needs water access for the dogs on both sides not just one side. More shade would be great. Upkeep like all sporting fields get. We have it set in a fantastic area however it's not looked after at all and there has been not one extra improvement made in the 16 years of it first opening. Please consider this seriously as you do all sporting fields then owners may not use the sporting grounds as a play area for their dogs.
36	My dog loves being able to walk on the grass at the oval areas in Parkes. But we always clean up after him, but many dont. My suggestion, tho I dont know the cost, would be to provide bags for clean up, like at the dog park. Although some people dont even clean up after their dogs at the dog park either. I hope dogs wont be banned altogether on the ovals and sporting areas that would be such a shame
37	My wife and I have two commercial properties and one residential property in Parkes. Combined we pay almost \$30,000 in rates per annum. Neither of us have ever played sport on these ovals. I walk my dog and go across these ovals very regularly. We always clean up after our Dog. I find it very unfair that we pay for the upkeep of these ovals, by the way of rates but will not be able to cross them when walking our dog. May I suggest that you install dog bag dispensers at these ovals. If someone does the wrong thing then people using the oval would have an option to clean up the mess, if the owner of the dog rudely failed to do it.
38	No as most don't clean up after there dog especially older men, and not everyone wants to be around a dog even on a leash - the anxiety of being knocked over by a dog is overwhelming for some people. Even on walking tracks they do not control their dogs. And expect everyone to get out of the dogs way. I love animals but there is a place for them and they are not children
39	<p>NO dogs should NOT be allowed on sporting fields.</p> <p>At Harrison Park I have witnessed many people allow their dogs to poop and just walk away leaving it there.</p> <p>Our children should not have to dodge dogs droppings while playing or training for sports.</p> <p>There needs to be a better fenced in dog park or 2 as the one at Bushies is too small and the one off Bushman street is not fenced so barely gets used as its not safe for our animals.</p>
40	Numerous of times we have rocked up to play soccer we have had to remove dog sh** from the field so the kids could play without stepping or falling in it and time games had to be stopped when more was found. Owners of dogs on leash tend to the dogs. It would be the stray or loose dogs
41	Please stop as there are also dedicated dog areas that can be I frequently access Woodward park and some owners do not clean up and my grandchildren are always with me
42	<p>Positive:</p> <p>It has been a long term issue with some residents not complying with advertised rules to clean up dog excrement on sporting fields.</p> <p>Excluding / banning dog owners from walking their dogs on the 3 identified sporting fields is necessary to change behaviour.</p>
43	Some of the ovals don't have waste bags available for dogs, similarly the dog park is often out of them and it takes weeks before they are restocked. Owners can definitely provide their own bags, but if there were more available it could prevent people from leaving their waste. The dogs love and deserve a big open area to run around.
44	There is literally no where to take dogs in parkes.. bushmans dog park stacked with Bindis and some peoples dogs cant be around dogs?. There is multiple rubbish and plastic bottles left on the oval after soccer games that sometimes dont even get picked up. I guarantee majority of the dogs do there business in the bushes not the middle of the oval. Dogs should be allowed after/before soccer mathes, training etc. it is a public space and some people have no other option.
45	This is extremely disappointing of the Council to put this forward. For those who are doing the wrong thing and not picking up after their dogs or having them off leash, have more patrols of the area and rangers who will fine people rather than penalising everyone.
46	<p>We should allow dogs to remain on these sporting grounds.</p> <p>Walking a dog is unsafe because of the stray dog issue and the attacks as of late. Dogs need somewhere that they can access their natural instincts, sniffing and running. And we want to take away the safe place we have to do it?</p>
47	<p>While I understand Councils idea to close sporting fields to dog owners, I feel it will disadvantage many of the responsible dog owners in town. I regularly walk my dog (on a lead) and am amazed and disgusted at the amount of dog poo on the grounds.</p> <p>To me, it is the few irresponsible owners who should be targeted, not those that do the wrong thing by letting their dogs off leash and not pick up their droppings.</p> <p>The sporting fields in Parkes are generally fenced, well grassed, and are considered a safe place to walk our dog. While it is great that a dog park has been provided by Council, many times it is unsuitable to exercise a dog as other dogs arise.</p> <p>Rather than target all dog owners, please target those who do the wrong thing</p>
48	Whilst Parkes has a great sporting culture, enjoyed by many, it is also restricted to sporty people. Dog walking, a key ingredient for many in community social interactions is open to far more members of our community and as there are few and poor dog Parkes, Especially for medium to giant breeds it is vital to keep these grounds open for dogs. All community members should be considered and not just the sports hub
49	Yes dogs should be babbed they are playing fields for your young
50	yes I agree ban dogs from sporting fields,not fair to the people playing on these fields to tread or fall in dog droppings or people having to check the fields before play. But how will it be policed there are signs up now but people take no notice they let their dogs run free

51	Yes they should be allowed to use sporting fields. The amount of money spent on the grounds is large and the dog park is so small and on the other side on town for me. I'm responsible and clean up after my pet, I shouldn't be punished for someone else's laziness !!
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18.6 NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME**IP&R Linkage:** **Pillar:** Community**Goal:** Our community is creative, proud and has a strong sense of belonging.**Strategy:** Provide innovative services that support social interaction and encourage lifelong learning, building a strong community and culture.**Author:** **Kerryn Jones, Culture, Education and Library Services Manager****Authoriser:** **Annalise Teale, Director Planning and Community Services****Annexures:** **Nil**

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council accept and note this report.
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BACKGROUND

National Simultaneous Storytime is an annual event held by the Australian Library & Information Association (ALIA) that brings millions of children, parents and educators together to read the same picture book out loud at the same time. This year it was held at both Parkes and Peak Hill Libraries.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The Parkes Shire Library came to life once again for this year's National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) with the reading and live performance of *Luna Roo the Kangaroo Baller* by Adam Jackson and Adrian Lloyd with illustrations by Jake A Minton.

Parkes and Peak Hill Libraries celebrated the event with live performances of the book with regular storytime families, local preschools, children's centres and schools invited to the library to enjoy the event.

In Parkes the library and council staff performed the soccer match in costume, with Amy Butler and Rachael Westcott taking on the role of the galah commentators. This performance was attended by a crowd of more than 100 children and adults, including Councillor Jayet and Annalise Teale, Director of Planning & Community Services.

In Peak Hill, Jodi Sant presented the story in a life-sized Luna Roo costume, with a surprise appearance of a little joey named Karen completely stealing the show. Due to the popularity of the event, Jodi presented NSS twice – once at the library and once at the local school with 69 children and adults attending overall.

Parkes Shire Library has been participating in NSS for more than a decade and continues to be a highlight in the Library's calendar.



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

There are no community consultation requirements associated with this report.

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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 PSC2026/027 - ROCK, CONCRETE AND MASONRY CRUSHING AT PARKES WASTE FACILITY

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.

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.
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- (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.
