



## JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

### NOTICE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 16 APRIL 2024 COMMENCING AT 4:30PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

#### OUR VISION

*“Junee will be a great place to live, with a healthy civic pride. That will come about because the amenity of the Shire – social, recreational, cultural, environmental and visual – is the best quality possible given our circumstances. There will be an increase in population because of this, with the increase made up of people who are net contributors to the community.*

*“Junee will be prosperous and existing services and businesses will have been preserved and grown. The Shire will have economic development strategies recognising the different circumstances of urban and rural areas.*

*“Junee will be a place where innovative, responsive leadership and management occurs in all facets of community life.*

*“It will be an independent Local Government area with a strong sense of identity.”*

#### OUR MISSION

The community and Junee Shire Council are to **Make Tracks** systematically and with determination towards the Shire **Vision.**”

#### OUR COMMUNITY VALUES

Proud and welcoming – we are proud of our Shire and as a friendly community we encourage and support new residents and business owners.

Innovative and progressive – we welcome new ideas and we seek to make changes that will improve the lifestyle of our community.

Inclusive – we have a perspective broader than the Shire boundary; our regional focus means we are tuned to the opportunities available through co-operation and partnerships.

Leadership and wisdom – we listen and act; we are prepared to take tough decisions in the best interests of the future of our people, our place and our economy.

#### HOW CAN A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC SPEAK AT A COUNCIL MEETING?

Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings and address the Council. Registration to speak must be made by making application by 10:00am on the day of the meeting by filling out the Public Address Application Form found on the following link: [Public-Address-Application-Form-Council-Meetings](#)

# **AGENDA – 16 APRIL 2024**

## **COUNCIL MEETING OPENS**

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

**APOLOGIES** – Cr N Smith

## **PRESENTATIONS**

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES** – 19 March 2024

## **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

## **MAYORAL MINUTE**

1. MAYORAL MINUTE

## **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

2. COUNCILLOR EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY
3. SUPPORT FOR APPLICATION UNDER THE COMMUNITY ENERGY UPGRADE FUND (CEUF)
4. FEDERAL PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY - INQUIRY INTO AND REPORT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICE DELIVERY
5. NSW LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO THE ASSETS, PREMISES AND FUNDING OF THE NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE
6. COUNCIL INVESTMENTS AND BANK BALANCES
7. JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL DEFERRED PAYMENT AGREEMENT FOR SEWERAGE HEADWORKS CHARGES
8. JUNEE LOCAL COMPANION ANIMALS MANAGEMENT PLAN
9. TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING
10. PLAN OF MANAGEMENT FOR BETHUNGRA DAM RESERVE
11. DUKE STREET EXPENDITURE OF S7.12 CONTRIBUTIONS

**CORRESPONDENCE** – Nil

## **COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Junee Shire Advisory Committee – 28 February 2024

## **DELEGATES REPORTS**

- Sports Committee – 14 March 2024

## **NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

**LATE BUSINESS (MATTERS OF URGENCY)** - Nil

## **QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS WITH NOTICE**

## **INFORMATION BOOKLET**

## **GENERAL MANAGER'S CONFIDENTIAL REPORT – RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE OF A WHOLE MEETING**

12. DISCHARGE OF SPECIAL LEASE ON CROWN LAND
13. PURCHASE OF LOT 5, DP 848629

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY** *(Mayor)*

I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of this land. I would also like to pay respect to Elders both past and present and extend that respect to other community members present.

## **COUNCIL MEETING AUDIO RECORDINGS** *(Mayor)*

In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice, this Council meeting is being recorded and will be placed on Council's webpage for public information.

All present at the meeting are reminded that by speaking you are agreeing to your view and comments being recorded and published.

I would also like to remind Councillors and staff that during all our discussions and deliberations, we should be respectful and mindful of others present. We should at all times listen without interrupting and use words that do not personalise an individual, nor should they be offensive in any way. Whilst discussion, debate and an open mind is encouraged, please let us all keep our discussions productive, civil and inclusive.

Junee Shire Council accepts no liability for any defamatory or offensive remarks or gestures during this Council Meeting.

## **OATH**

I swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of Junee and the Junee Shire Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

## **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

**Pecuniary** – An interest that a person has in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to the person or another person with whom the person is associated.

*(Local Government Act, 1993 section 442 and 443)*

A Councillor or other member of a Council Committee who is present at a meeting and has a pecuniary interest in any matter which is being considered must disclose the nature of that interest to the meeting as soon as practicable.

The Councillor or other member must not take part in the consideration or discussion on the matter and must not vote on any question relating to that matter. *(Section 451)*.

**Non-pecuniary** – A private or personal interest the council official has that does not amount to a pecuniary interest as defined in the Act. These commonly arise out of family or personal relationships, or out of involvement in sporting, social, religious or other cultural groups and associations, and may include an interest of a financial nature.

A non-pecuniary conflict of interest exists where a reasonable and informed person would perceive that you could be influenced by a private interest when carrying out your official functions in relation to a matter.

If you have declared a non-pecuniary conflict of interest, you have a broad range of options for managing the conflict. The option you choose will depend on an assessment of the circumstances of the matter, the nature of your interest and the significance of the issue being dealt with. You must deal with a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in at least one of these ways.

- It may be appropriate that no action is taken where the potential for conflict is minimal. However, council officials should consider providing an explanation of why they consider a conflict does not exist.
- Limit involvement if practical (for example, participate in discussion but not in decision making or visa-versa). Care needs to be taken when exercising this option.
- Remove the source of the conflict (for example, relinquishing or divesting the personal interest that creates the conflict or reallocating the conflicting duties to another officer).
- Have no involvement by absenting yourself from and not taking part in any debate or voting on the issue as if the provisions in section 451(2) of the Act apply (particularly if you have a significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest).



## JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

### DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST AT MEETINGS

Name of Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Item/Report Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Item/Report Title: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ declare the following interest:  
(name)

**Pecuniary** – Must leave Chamber, take no part in discussion and voting.

**Non-Pecuniary – Significant Conflict** – Recommended that Councillor/Member leaves Chamber, takes no part in discussion or voting.

**Non-Pecuniary – Less than Significant Conflict** – Councillor/Member may choose to remain in Chamber and participate in discussion and voting.

For the reason that:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Council's Email Address – [jsc@junees.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jsc@junees.nsw.gov.au)



# **JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL**

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING**



# MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON TUESDAY, 19 MARCH 2024.

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## **PRESENT**

Councillors R Asmus, M Austin, R Callow, A Clinton, M Cook, D Carter, P Halliburton and N Smith.

## **STAFF**

Acting General Manager, Director Engineering Services, Director Corporate and Community Development and Executive Assistant.

The meeting opened at 4.30pm.

## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**01.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr M Austin seconded Cr N Smith that the General Manager, Mr James Davis, be granted a leave of absence from the 19 March 2024 Ordinary Council meeting.

Councillor Marie Knight has previously been granted a leave of absence from the 19 March 2024 Ordinary Council meeting.

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – ORDINARY MEETING HELD 20 FEBRUARY 2024**

**02.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr P Halliburton seconded Cr N Smith that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 20 February 2024, copies of which had been supplied to each Councillor, be confirmed.

## **BUSINESS ARISING**

Nil

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors were invited to disclose any Declarations of Interest related to the items of business in the report.

None were received.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

Nil

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CHAIRPERSON: \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL MANAGER: \_\_\_\_\_

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON TUESDAY, 19 MARCH 2024.**

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**CONFIDENTIAL ITEM**

**03.03.24** At 4.32pm, Council **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr M Austin seconded Cr D Carter to go into Closed Committee of the Whole under Section 10A (2):

- (d) *commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.*

**ADDRESS BY ANDY FINDLAY, FINDLAY MANAGEMENT CONSULTING PTY LTD**

Mr Andy Findlay from Findlay Management Consulting Pty Ltd addressed the Council via Zoom and gave an overview of the Athenium Theatre rear extension project.

**04.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr A Clinton seconded Cr R Asmus that the Council note the address by Mr Andy Findlay from Findlay Management Consulting Pty Ltd.

**05.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr P Halliburton seconded Cr M Austin that the Council suspend Standing Orders and bring Confidential Item 7 forward; the time being 5.01pm.

**7[DES] RFT2024/03 - ATHENIUM THEATRE**

**06.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr A Clinton seconded Cr R Asmus that:

1. *Council acknowledges that tenders have been invited for the construction of the Athenium Theatre Rear Extension project in accordance with the Local Government Act 193, Section 55 through VendorPanel and five successful tenders were presented.*
2. *Council resolve in accordance with Section 55 of the NSW Local Government Act 1993 to accept the tender of Colin Joss & Co. Pty Ltd for Construction of the Athenium Theatre Rear Extension.*
3. *Advise the unsuccessful tenderers in writing.*
4. *Authorise the General Manager to enter into a contract with Colin Joss & Co. Pty Ltd for the Construction of the Athenium Theatre Rear Extension project.*

**REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL**

**07.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr N Smith seconded Cr M Cook that Council move out of Committee and revert to an open meeting of the Council, the time being 5.05pm.

**08.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr N Smith seconded Cr M Austin that Council adopt the resolutions made in Closed Committee.

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CHAIRPERSON: \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL MANAGER: \_\_\_\_\_



**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON TUESDAY, 19 MARCH 2024.**

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**09.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr N Smith seconded Cr P Halliburton that Standing Orders be resumed; the time being 5.08pm.

**1(MAYOR) MAYORAL MINUTE**

**10.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr R Callow that the Mayoral Minute, as tabled at the meeting, be noted.

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

The General Manager presented a report which dealt with Items 2 to 7.

**2[AGM] REGIONAL RESILIENCE PLAN**

**11.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr P Halliburton seconded Cr N Smith that Council endorse the Regional Drought Resilience Plan for Junee and Coolamon.

**3[DCCD] COUNCIL INVESTMENTS AND BANK BALANCES**

**12.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr N Smith seconded Cr M Cook that Council notes the Investment Report as of 29 February 2024, including the certification by the Responsible Accounting Officer.

**4[DES] LOCAL ROADS CONGRESS 2024**

**13.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr N Smith seconded Cr M Austin that:

1. Council endorse the nomination of the Director Engineering Services and Council's Traffic Committee Delegate, Cr Mark Cook to represent Council at the NSW Local Roads Congress on Monday, 3 June 2024.
2. Council endorse expenditure on registration, travel and accommodation for the 2024 NSW Local Roads Congress.

**5[DES] COURSING PARK TENNIS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE (CPT&CC)**

**14.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr P Halliburton seconded Cr N Smith that:

1. Council receive and note the two attached letters from Coursing Park Tennis Club and Community Centre.
2. Council endorses immediate budget expenditure of \$25,000 from the Special Rate Variation for Building Renewal to remove asbestos from the Coursing Park Tennis and Community Centre building, as detailed in the report, in line with Councils Environmental Fact Sheet for Asbestos Removal.

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CHAIRPERSON: \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL MANAGER: \_\_\_\_\_

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON TUESDAY, 19 MARCH 2024.**

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3. Council endorses the actions proposed by the Coursing Park Tennis and Community Centre, under the Grant Funding, for lights in the clubhouse and toilet block along with the installation of a kitchen facility, provided they are completed in compliance with the Native Title Act 1993 and the Crown Land Management Act 2016, at completion of the Asbestos removal.
4. Council endorses the Director Engineering Services enter into negotiations to establish a maintenance agreement between Coursing Park Tennis and Community Centre and Council, with the agreement to be returned for consideration at a future meeting.

**6[DES] PLAN OF MANAGEMENT (POM) FOR BETHUNGRA DAM RESERVE**

**15.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr D Carter seconded Cr P Halliburton that the inconsistencies within Agenda Item 6, Bethungra Dam Plan of Management, be rectified and resubmitted to the next Council meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**16.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr A Clinton seconded Cr R Asmus that the minutes of the Junee Shire Council Audit Risk and Improvement Committee meeting, held on 7 March 2024, be received.

**DELEGATES REPORTS**

**17.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr M Cook seconded Cr N Smith that the Draft minutes of the Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) Board meeting held 23 February 2024, be noted.

Senior Citizens Week – Cr A Clinton – verbal.

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

Nil

**LATE BUSINESS**

**18.03.24** **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr M Austin seconded Cr M Cook that Councillor Neil Smith be granted a leave of absence from the 16 April 2024 Ordinary Council meeting.

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Nil

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CHAIRPERSON: \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL MANAGER: \_\_\_\_\_

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON TUESDAY, 19 MARCH 2024.**

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**INFORMATION BOOKLET**

The information booklet was received and noted.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.35pm.

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CHAIRPERSON: \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL MANAGER: \_\_\_\_\_



# **JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL**

## **MAYORAL MINUTE**



**ITEM I            MAYORAL MINUTE**

Author            Mayor

Attachments     No

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

***That the Mayoral Minute, as presented to the 16 April 2024 Ordinary Council meeting, be noted.***

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Good evening fellow Councillors,

An up and down month, with many highs, yet a few lows.

The member for Cootamundra, Steph Cooke recently presented Mr Peter Commens, a well-known local identity and former Mayor, with the NSW Community Service award, for his considerable and continuing contribution to the community. A tremendous accolade for this very community minded individual. Congratulations Peter.

Another Peter (Pickles) and his brother Ron were also acknowledged for their contribution to Junee's development with a plaque erected in Memorial Park recognising the planting of the English Oak tree in 1943. Attended by their families and friends, several Councillors and many community members, the unveiling was a highlight for the Pickles twins, now 94, and appropriate recognition of the contributions of our local heroes.

The Junee Poker Run had an extraordinary turn out this year and recently presented CanAssist with a cheque for \$27,500 dollars. A fantastic effort from a very committed band of people. Congratulations to all involved and thank you.

You may also have read the press release from Steph regarding the takeover from GEO of the Junee Correctional Facility. I didn't read much in there of any good news, only confirming that any community contributions will no longer occur under State Government control.

The General Manager, Mr Hart, Mr Taberner and I met with Isabella McIntyre and Nick Abraham from the CBA for our quarterly briefing. They indicated that two substantial businesses and several smaller had moved their accounts across to the CBA and the general trends for banking activity increases were encouraging. After our success in keeping the bank, several internal policies have been reviewed and a Project Team has been developed which will look at baseline data for ALL LGA's including postcodes, home loans and which branch they are allocated to, in order to see what the actual lay of the land is. This ultimately, when the data is shared, will provide a better understanding of who is banking in Junee and across the state eventually. This is on the back of your good work Junee - Bravo.

There may also be the opportunity for our staff to provide input to the Project Team to develop these data sets. Sponsorship opportunities were also discussed and we will be sharing that information with the community. A very constructive and positive meeting.

**MAYORAL MINUTE REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 16 APRIL 2024.**

Our best wishes have been sent to Councillor Smith who recently underwent surgery in Sydney. After a harrowing event, he now appears to be doing very well and improving daily.

Our sincere condolences are with the Eisenhower and Macaulay families after the passing recently of two elder stalwarts; Margaret Eisenhower and Brendon Macaulay.

Flowers have been sent to both families on behalf of Council.

Regards'

Cr Bob Callow  
Mayor



**JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL**

**GENERAL MANAGER'S**

**REPORT**



## ITEM 2            COUNCILLOR EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

Author            General Manager

Attachments     Councillor Expenses

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

***That Council note the six-month report on the provision of expenses and facilities to Councillors as required under the Sec. 252 of the Local Government Act 1993.***

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Junees Shire Council's *Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy* was prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.

The Policy requires reports on the provision of expenses and facilities to Councillors to be tabled at a Council meeting every six months and published on Council's website. The report includes expenses related to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and individual Councillors.

This report tables Councillor related expenses for the first half of this financial year. This report does not deal with matters associated with the setting and payment of Councillors' annual fees, which are a separate matter.

### **BACKGROUND**

The expenses incurred by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors has historically been minimal. It should also be noted that Councillors attend numerous workshops, meetings, seminars and events related to their civic duty throughout the year where there is no expense incurred. This report only deals with expenses.

The objectives of this Policy are to:

- Enable the reasonable and appropriate reimbursement of expenses incurred by Councillors while undertaking their civic duties.
- Enable facilities of a reasonable and appropriate standard to be provided to Councillors to support them in undertaking their civic duties.
- Ensure accountability and transparency in reimbursement of expenses and provision of facilities to Councillors.
- Ensure facilities and expenses provided to Councillors meet community expectations.
- Support a diversity of representation.
- Fulfil the Council's statutory responsibilities.

The majority of expenditure is associated with Councillors attendance at the LGNSW Annual Conference each year and the Mayor's attendance at meetings associated with that office.



## **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 16 APRIL 2024.**

Conferences, seminars and events are routinely distributed to all Councillors. Councillors can also make application to attend professional development and training opportunities under the Policy.

### **CONSIDERATIONS**

#### **Legislation**

It is a legislative requirement to report on this item.

#### **Risk Assessment**

Reputation and Financial - The Policy introduces a level of accountability and transparency and seeks to align Councillor expenses and facilities with community expectations. Councillors must not obtain private or political benefit from any expense or facility provided under this policy.

#### **Financial**

The budget allocation for the provision of Councillor expenses and facilities adequately covers the actual expenditure for the period.

### **CONCLUSION**

The report is for information.



# **JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL**

## **ATTACHMENT TO ITEM 2**

**16 APRIL 2024**

<b>Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy Expenditure Report June/December 2023</b>	<b>Mayor Cr Callow</b>	<b>Deputy Mayor Cr Austin</b>	<b>Cr Asmus</b>	<b>Cr Clinton</b>	<b>Cr Cook</b>	<b>Cr Carter</b>	<b>Cr Halliburton</b>	<b>Cr Knight</b>	<b>Cr Smith</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
General travel expenses	\$22.00	\$22.00				\$210.00				<b>\$254.00</b>
Interstate, overseas and long distance intrastate travel expenses										
Accommodation and meals	\$1,188.66	\$633.56								<b>\$1,822.22</b>
Training and Professional Development	\$321.00									<b>\$321.00</b>
Conferences and Seminars	\$1,505.10	\$1,155.00						\$282.00		<b>\$2,942.10</b>
ICT facilities										
Stationery										
Carer expenses										
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,036.76</b>	<b>\$1,810.56</b>				<b>\$210.00</b>		<b>\$282.00</b>		<b>\$5,339.32</b>

**ITEM 3                    SUPPORT FOR APPLICATION UNDER THE COMMUNITY ENERGY UPGRADE FUND (CEUF)**

Author                    Chief Financial Officer

Attachments            Nil

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

***That Council support the application for funding under the Community Energy Upgrade Fund (CEUF) program for solar panels at the Junee Junction Recreation & Aquatic Centre (JJRAC).***

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**SUMMARY**

Council is being requested to support an application for the part funding of a capital program which would see solar panels and a battery installed at the Junee Junction Recreation & Aquatic Centre (JJRAC).

The total project is expected to cost approx. \$294,000 of which Council would contribute \$121,000, a grant from the *Community Energy Upgrade Fund* (CEUF) would contribute \$130,000 and a state grant for EV charging stations would contribute \$43,000.

The CEUF is a Federal Government grant fund that will subsidise up to 50% of eligible expenditure. Its goal is to encourage projects that will reduce Australia's carbon footprint by encouraging organisations to use renewal energy. Round one applications are due by 30 April 2024.

The EV charging grant is guaranteed through the Cootamundra State Electorate and is being used to part fund this project because it makes sense to join both projects and Council is permitted to do so.

**BACKGROUND**

The Australian Government has announced a total of \$100 million over two funding rounds from 2024-25 to 2026-27 for the CEUF program. Up to \$50 million is available for this round.

The objectives of the program are to support:

- The Government's broader efforts to reduce emissions and improve energy performance and contribute to Australia meeting its emission reduction targets of 43 percent by 2030, Net-Zero emissions by 2050 and 82% renewable electricity generation by 2030.
- Local governments to decarbonise their operations and reduce energy bills through energy efficiency and load flexibility upgrades and electrification of their facilities.
- The improvement in energy performance necessary to more easily utilise renewable electricity and improve system reliability.

## GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 16 APRIL 2024.

The maximum grant amount is \$2,500,000 and the minimum is \$25,000. The closing date for this round is 30 April 2024.

The needs of JJRAC match the goals of this grant. JJRAC is owned by Council and is the premier aquatic and sporting facility in the surrounding area.

A considerable amount of the annual JJRAC budget is spent on electricity and gas. These costs are expected to increase in future as fossil fuel generated power and gas charges rise.

### CONSIDERATIONS

The major consideration for Council is committing funds of \$121,000 to the project and staff time.

About \$65,000 per year is spent on electricity and \$85,000 on gas at JJRAC.

Modelling indicates that installing solar panels and battery would cut electricity costs by at least \$16,830 per year. The battery contributes to savings in part through supplying energy during peak evening periods when charges are higher. A control device also controls the pumps to reduce demand during peak time charges. Additionally, electricity sold through the EV charger would generate an income, estimated conservatively as \$6,900 per year.

JJRAC is well suited to a 99kW solar PV system which is recommended by Charge-works, who are the energy consultant who has assessed the site. With this installed, 73% of the 138.3MWh electricity generated will be consumed immediately by pool operations, with the remainder charging an on-site battery, supplying EV charging, and/or exporting to the grid. The battery is an important part of this solution as it allows for power generated during peak generation times to be stored and used at times when power generation is low.


The project also reduces emissions by 43 tonnes due to the replacing of fossil fuel generated power with power that is generated from renewable sources.

This funding opportunity will help Council fulfill the recommendations contained in its *Renewal Energy Action Plan (REAP)*, which have largely been unfulfilled due to a lack of funds available.

### RISK ASSESSMENT

As with most capital projects there is a financial risk here that initial costs may be more than intended or that the expected savings may not eventuate.

Council's adopted risk appetite for projects is Accept; meaning that Council is willing to accept a level of risk on projects and focus on likely beneficial outcomes.

Projects		
	Level	Risk Appetite Statement
 <p>Projects</p>	<p><b>Accept</b></p>	<p>Many of Council's strategic outcomes are reliant on the performance and ultimate delivery of projects. Council recognises that these projects can vary in their scale, timelines and investment value. As such, it is willing to <b>Accept</b> a medium amount of risk regarding their performance in terms of time, cost and quality. Council will focus on the outcomes of projects but insists on a reasonable degree of protection in their performance and delivery.</p> <p>▲ Council does consider that in certain circumstances it can be more Receptive to risk and focus on outcome benefits more than exposure.</p>

## **FINANCIAL**

If the funding application successful, essentially Council is investing about \$121,000 up front to gain about \$24,000 per annum (\$17,000 electricity savings and about \$7,000 income from the EV charger). This equates to a payback period of about five years.

More income is possible through participation in a Virtual Power Plant, through which a Small Generation Aggregator (or other authorised company) sells output from the battery and solar into the market during periods of extreme prices.

## **CONCLUSION**

The benefits of this project are considerable from both a financial and environmental perspective.

It is therefore recommended that Council support the grant application and commit to its portion of funding of \$121,000 in the 2024/25 budget.

**ITEM 4            FEDERAL PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY - INQUIRY INTO AND REPORT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICE DELIVERY**

Author            Chief Financial Officer

Attachments     Nil

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That Council support the preparation of a submission to the Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport in relation to Local Government Sustainability.*

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**SUMMARY**

The Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport is conducting an inquiry into Australia's local government sustainability.

There is considerable concern in Local Government circles, and at Federal and State levels, about several issues that threaten the sustainability of local councils.

REROC will be completing a submission to the committee on behalf of its member councils.

**BACKGROUND**

There have long been concerns about several issues like cost-shifting, employment, rate capping, high cost indexes and other items that affect the on-going viability of local councils.

**Terms of Reference**

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport will inquire into and report on local government matters, with a particular focus on:

1. The financial sustainability and funding of local government.
2. The changing infrastructure and service delivery obligations of local government.
3. Any structural impediments to security for local government workers and infrastructure and service delivery.
4. Trends in the attraction and retention of a skilled workforce in the local government sector, including impacts of labour hire practices.
5. The role of the Australian Government in addressing issues raised in relation to the above.
6. Other relevant issues.

## **CONSIDERATIONS**

Local government sustainability is essential to supporting Australian communities through the provision of vital infrastructure and related services.

The Committee is seeking to understand the challenges faced by local governments in servicing infrastructure requirements across Australia's regional, rural, and remote locations.

The Committee has prioritised to gain a deeper understanding of local government financial sustainability and funding frameworks, alongside the changing infrastructure requirements and service delivery obligations.

Junee, like several smaller local councils faces many challenges around issues like financial sustainability and delivery of services and infrastructure. As REROC is the peak body which represents several small councils, Junee believes that it is the organisation which is best placed to lodge the submission on behalf of its members, all of which have similar issues.

It is interesting that the community expectations of small local councils are as high or higher than larger councils. However, these councils operate on smaller budgets due to lower rate bases and user charges.

## **CONCLUSION**

It is a positive step that the Federal Government is conducting this inquiry. Once completed, local governments may not get another chance to voice their opinions on these matters concerning continued viability for quite a while.

It is therefore recommended that Council contribute to and support the REROC submission to the Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport in relation to Local Government sustainability. Council will lodge the REROC submission and if necessary raise additional items that may not be covered by the REROC submission.



**ITEM 5            NSW LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO THE ASSETS, PREMISES AND FUNDING OF THE NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE**

Author            Chief Financial Officer

Attachments     Nil

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

*That Council support the preparation of a submission to the Public Accounts Committee in relation to the recognition of Rural Fire Service assets in Council's Statutory Financial Statements.*

---

**SUMMARY**

The Public Accounts Committee is holding an inquiry into the Rural Fire Services (RFS) Assets and Operations.

There is considerable angst in Local Government circles about the requirement to recognise Rural Fire Service (RFS) equipment in its Financial Statements and the increasing contributions.

REROC will be completing a submission to the committee on behalf of its member councils.

**BACKGROUND**

The inquiry is looking at the funding, maintenance, accounting and operational management of the NSW Rural Fire Service assets and premises. The Inquiry will consider arrangements between the RFS and Councils. It will also consider the appropriate role of local councils in providing emergency services and the sustainability of contributions to emergency service provision.

Council has resolved not to include RFS assets in its financial statements as it has no control over these assets. This has resulted in the statements being qualified.

**CONSIDERATIONS**

The Terms of Reference for the Inquiry are shown below:

That the Public Accounts Committee inquire into and report on:

- I.     The mechanisms for:
  - a)     Funding Rural Fire Service assets and premises.
  - b)     Maintaining Rural Fire Service assets and premises.
  - c)     Accounting for the ownership of Rural Fire Service assets and premises.
  - d)     Operational management, including the control of assets and premises, risks, and impacts to local government and the ability to effect a response to emergencies.

## GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 16 APRIL 2024.

2. Whether the following arrangements between Councils and the Rural Fire Service are fit for purpose:
  - a) Service agreements.
  - b) The division of responsibilities for bushfire management and hazard reduction.
  - c) Upkeep of assets.
  - d) The provision of insurance.
  - e) Provision of land and construction management for RFS premises.
  - f) Bushfire Management Committees.
3. The appropriate role for local authorities in the provision of emergency services.
4. The sustainability of local government contributions to emergency service provision.
5. Any other related matters.

The items of particular interest to Councils are items 1(c) and 4. These issues have created a lot of turbulence in the Local Government Industry. REROC has undertaken to make a submission on behalf of its member councils.

Given the importance of these issues to Council it would be good for Council to contribute to and support REROC's submission to the committee.

### **CONCLUSION**

It is a positive step that the NSW Government is conducting this inquiry. Once completed, local governments may not get another chance to voice their opinions on these matters concerning the Rural Fire Service. Council will lodge the REROC submission and if necessary, raise additional items that may not be covered by the REROC submission.

## **ITEM 6 COUNCIL INVESTMENTS AND BANK BALANCES**

Author Director Corporate and Community Development

Attachment Nil

---

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

***That Council notes the Investment Report as of 31 March 2024, including the certification by the Responsible Accounting Officer.***

---

### **PURPOSE**

To provide a report setting out all money that the Council has invested under Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In accordance with Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, a report stating the details of money invested must be presented to the Council monthly.

The report must include certification as to whether the investments have been made in accordance with the Act, Regulations, and Council's Investment Policy.

The Investment Report shows that Council has total cash and investments of \$9,542,059 comprising:

Trading Accounts -	\$192,059
At Call Accounts -	\$350,000
Investments -	\$9,000,000

### **Certification – Responsible Accounting Officer**

I, Lloyd Hart, hereby certify that the investments listed in the attached reports have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, and existing Investment Policies.

### **BACKGROUND**

In accordance with Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, a report stating the details of money invested must be presented to the Council monthly.

The report must also include certification as to whether the investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulations, and Council's Investment Policy.

### **LINK TO STRATEGY**

The report relates to the Community Strategic Plan Outcome of:

- Sustainable – Strategy 6.1 – Council is accountable and financially sustainable.
-

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEES SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 16 APRIL 2024.

## FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Actual investment income for the period from 1 July 2023 to date was \$275,476.47.

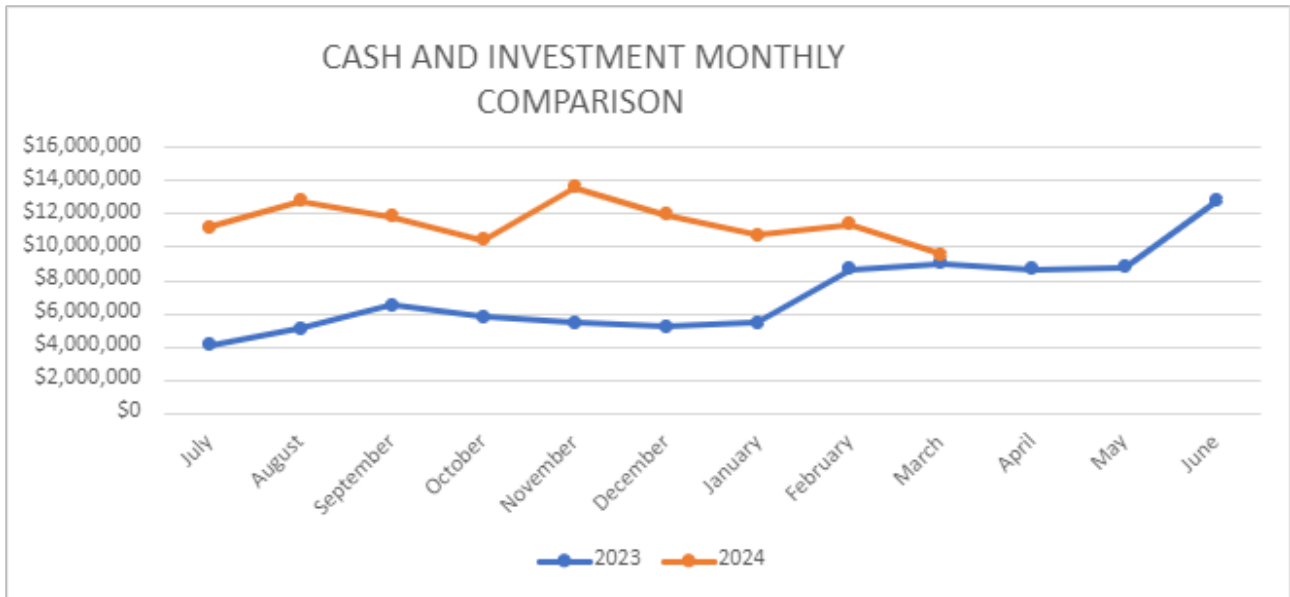
## SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Council's investments are managed in accordance with Council's Investment Policy. Council's Investment Policy requires consideration of social responsibility when making investment decisions.

## INVESTMENT BALANCES

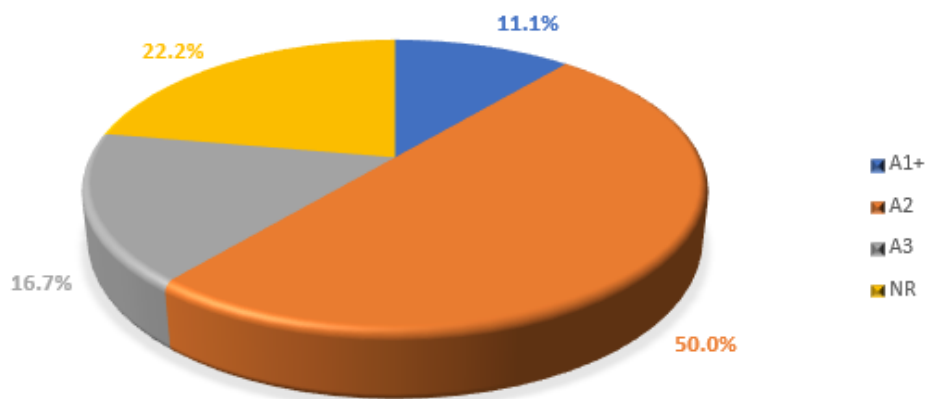
INVESTMENT BALANCES						
As of 31 March 2024						
INSTITUTION	RATING	AMOUNT (\$)	MATURITY DATE	INTEREST RATE	INTEREST AT MATURITY (\$)	BENCHMARK - AusBond
<b>Trading Accounts</b>						
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	A1+	192,059	-	-	-	-
		<b>192,059</b>			-	
<b>At Call Accounts</b>						
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	A1+	350,000	At Call	4.35%	39,060.72	4.13%
		<b>350,000</b>			<b>39,060.72</b>	
<b>Term Deposits</b>						
National Australia Bank	A1+	-	Matured	-	18,000.00	-
National Australia Bank	A1+	-	Matured	-	15,904.11	-
National Australia Bank	A1+	-	Matured	-	10,969.86	-
AMP Bank	A2	-	Matured	-	23,058.90	-
Judo Bank	A3	-	Matured	-	6,669.18	-
AMP Bank	A2	-	Matured	-	11,842.47	-
AMP Bank	A2	-	Matured	-	12,397.26	-
MyState Bank	A2	-	Matured	-	12,328.77	-
AMP Bank	A2	-	Matured	-	11,376.71	-
AMP Bank	A2	-	Matured	-	12,821.92	-
AMP Bank	A2	-	Matured	-	3,773.97	-
Judo Bank	A3	-	Matured	-	13,068.49	-
Judo Bank	A3	-	Matured	-	27,484.93	-
National Australia bank	A1+	-	Matured	-	26,136.99	-
Bank of Queensland	A2	-	Matured	-	18,006.85	-
Bank of Queensland	A2	-	Matured	-	12,575.34	-
National Australia Bank	A1+	1,000,000	08-Apr-24	5.05%	29,054.79	4.32%
Mystate Bank	A2	750,000	09-Apr-24	5.10%	22,740.41	4.32%
AMP Bank	A2	500,000	01-May-24	5.15%	12,910.27	4.32%
Mystate Bank	A2	500,000	06-May-24	5.25%	12,945.21	4.32%
AMP Bank	A2	500,000	24-May-24	5.70%	25,767.12	4.32%
AMP Bank	A2	500,000	27-May-24	5.20%	12,964.38	4.32%
Australian Unity Bank	A2	500,000	27-May-24	5.40%	13,315.07	4.32%
Judo Bank	A3	1,000,000	19-Jun-24	5.20%	25,643.84	4.32%
Australian Unity Bank	A2	500,000	19-Jun-24	5.55%	27,750.00	4.32%
Heritage and People's Choice	A2	750,000	04-Jul-24	5.30%	35,938.36	4.32%
Judo Bank	A3	500,000	07-Aug-24	5.33%	17,523.29	4.32%
Arab Bank Australia	NR	2,000,000	03-Sep-24	5.50%	82,273.97	4.32%
		<b>9,000,000</b>			<b>555,242.46</b>	
<b>Total Cash and Investment</b>		<b>9,542,059</b>				

### Cash Comparative Analysis



### Portfolio Analysis

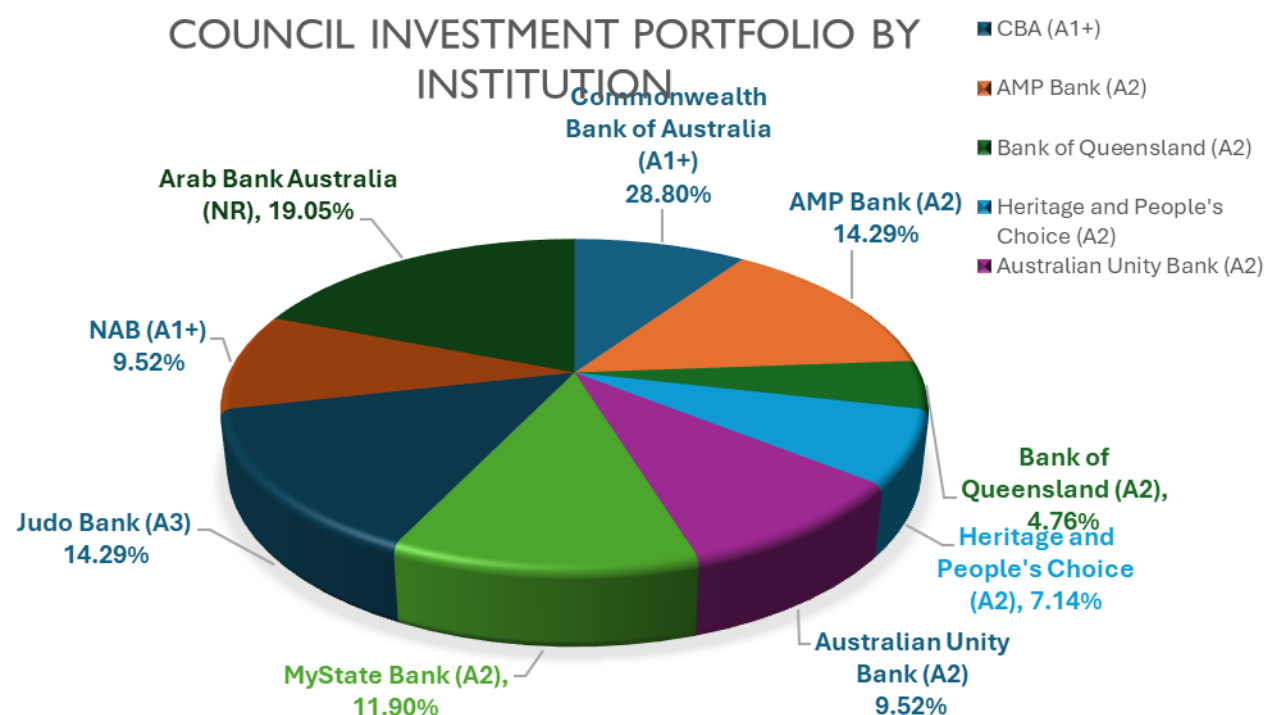
COUNCIL INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO BY INSTITUTION RATING



### Portfolio Credit Framework – Compliance with Investment Policy Requirements

Clause 9a of the Council’s Investment Policy requires that the total percentage exposure within the market to any particular credit rating category be limited, as detailed in the table below:

S&P Long Term Rating	S&P Short Term Rating	Maximum %	Portfolio Complies with Policy?
AAA	A1+	100%	Yes
AA+	A1	100%	Yes
AA			
AA-			
A+	A2	75%	Yes
A			
A-			
BBB+	A3	40%	Yes
BBB			
BBB-			
Unrated	Unrated	25%	Yes



#### Overall Portfolio Credit Framework – Compliance with Investment Policy Requirements

Clause 9b of the Council’s Investment Policy requires that exposure to an individual institution be restricted by their credit rating so that single entity exposure is limited, as detailed in the table below:

S&P Long Term Rating	S&P Short Term Rating	Maximum %	Portfolio Complies with Policy?
AAA	A1+	50%	Yes
AA+	A1	50%	Yes
AA			
AA-			
A+	A2	35%	Yes
A			
A-			
BBB+	A3	20%	Yes
BBB			
BBB-			
Unrated	Unrated	20%	No (21.39%)

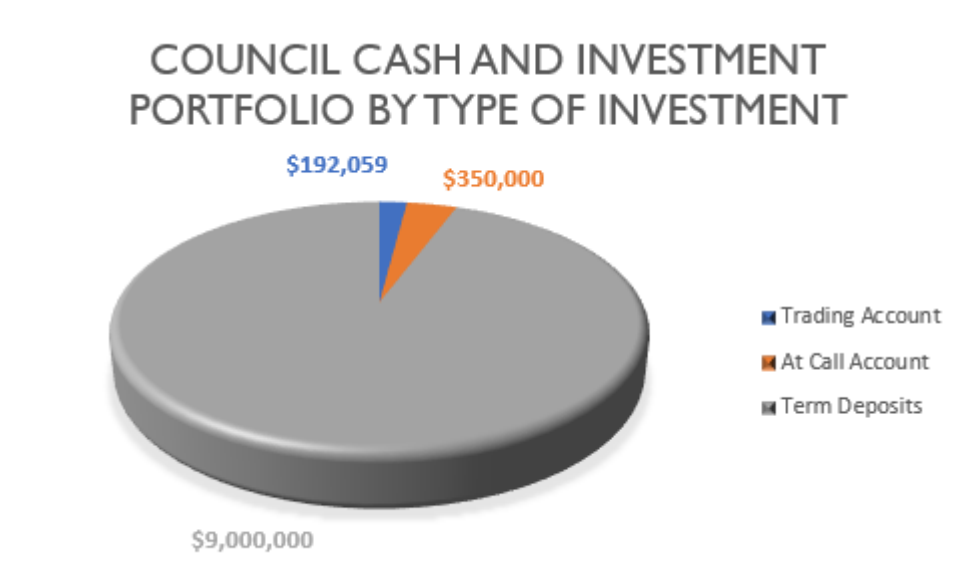
In the latest review of Junees Shire Council's investment portfolio, it has come to our attention that there is a minor breach in our investment policy regarding exposure to a single financial institution. While this breach does not pose an immediate threat, we acknowledge the importance of adhering to our investment policy guidelines to mitigate risk and safeguard Council's financial interests.

Moving forward, we will continue to closely monitor our exposure to this financial institution. If deemed necessary to maintain compliance with our investment policy and ensure prudent financial management, we are prepared to consider divesting from this investment. This approach reflects our commitment to responsible financial stewardship of Junees Shire Council’s financial asset position.

**Term to Maturity Framework – Compliance with Investment Policy Requirements**

Clause 9c of the Council’s Investment Policy requires Council’s investment portfolio is to be invested within the following maturity constraints:

Overall Portfolio Term to Maturity Limited			Portfolio Complies with Policy?
Portfolio % < 1 year	Min 65%	Max 100%	Yes
Portfolio % > 1 year < 3 years	Min 0%	Max 20%	Yes
Portfolio % > 3 years < 5 years	Min 0%	Max 15%	Yes
Portfolio % > 5 years	Min 0%	Max 0%	Yes



**Statement of Investment Policy Compliance**

Legislative Requirements		Compliant
Institutional Exposure Limits	Yes	Not compliant
Portfolio Credit Rating Limits	Yes	Fully compliant
Term to Maturity Limits	Yes	Fully compliant

**ITEM 7                    JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL DEFERRED PAYMENT AGREEMENT FOR SEWERAGE HEADWORKS CHARGES**

Author                    Director Corporate and Community Development

Attachments            Deferred Sewerage Headworks Charges Policy

---

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1.     ***That Council advertise the Draft Deferred Payment Agreement for Sewerage Headworks Charges for public exhibition and comments for a period of 28-days.***
  2.     ***That the Draft Deferred Payment Agreement for Sewerage Headworks Charges be adopted unless a submission is received, then a further report will be bought back to Council.***
- 

**SUMMARY**

This report offers a summary of the proposed draft policy on the *Deferred Payment Agreement (DPA) for Sewerage Headworks Charges*. Its primary objectives are to promote procedural fairness, encourage investment and ensure adherence to legislative mandates. Focused on future residential land projects, particularly those undertaken by multi-lot residential developers, the draft policy is designed to aid financial flexibility while ensuring that new developments make their fair contribution to sewerage infrastructure.

Council can proceed to determine if the policy should be adopted or not.

**BACKGROUND**

Revenue for sewer services is sustained through existing consumers' charges. New infrastructure required for development is primarily funded by developers through direct expenses and headworks charges. Junee Shire Council levies these charges in compliance with relevant legislation.

**CONSIDERATIONS**

**Policy**

The policy targets proposed residential land developments within Junee Shire, particularly multi-lot residential developers. It allows for the deferral of sewerage headworks charges through DPAs, subject to criteria and evaluation by the Council. Council reserves the right to decline DPAs to protect its legal and financial interests.

Considerations include fairness, compliance with legislative requirements, and ensuring the financial viability of the Council and the community. Each DPA application will be evaluated individually to mitigate risks and safeguard interests.



## **Risk Assessment**

Risks associated with DPAs include potential non-payment by developers, which could impact the Council's finances and service provision. The policy includes eligibility criteria and security measures to mitigate these risks.

## **Governance**

The governance framework ensures transparency and accountability in the DPA process. Council officers evaluate applications and decisions are made by the Council. Legal and financial considerations are utmost in safeguarding the Council's interests.

## **FINANCIAL**

Financial implications include the impact of deferred payments on Council's cash flow and potential penalty fees for outstanding debts. The policy ensures that developers bear legal costs and comply with payment terms to mitigate financial risks.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Deferred Payment Agreement for Sewerage Headworks Charges policy aims to balance the interests of developers, the Council and the community. By facilitating investment while ensuring compliance and financial sustainability, the policy supports responsible development within Junees Shire.



# **JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL**

## **ATTACHMENT TO ITEM 7**

**16 APRIL 2024**

A decorative graphic on the right side of the page, consisting of a blue curved shape with a white outline and a gold curved line, extending from the bottom towards the top.



**JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL**

**DEFERRED PAYMENT  
AGREEMENT FOR  
SEWERAGE HEADWORKS  
CHARGES**

Adopted by Council:  
Minute No:

## PART A – OUTLINE

### 1. OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this policy is to achieve the following objectives:

- Ensure consistency and fairness in Council’s dealings with developers and ratepayers.
- Facilitate investment by allowing for the staged deferral of sewerage headworks charges, thereby assisting cash flow.
- Ensure that new developments contribute to the necessary additional infrastructure required for community growth.
- Ensure compliance with legislative requirements under *Local Government Act 1993*.
- Make the Council’s policies and requirements for sewer headworks charges readily accessible and understandable to the public.

### 2. BACKGROUND

The provision of sewer services, encompassing operations and maintenance activities, asset renewals and level of service upgrades is sustained through revenue generated from existing consumers through sewer availability and usage charges.

The financing of new infrastructure necessitated by development is primarily borne by the developer through direct construction expenses and headworks charges. The developer funds the development of new assets required to provide service to their development and *contributes to enhancing the capacity of the existing sewerage network to accommodate the increased demand resulting from the project.*

Junee Shire Council levies sewerage headworks charges in accordance with Section 64 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and Division 5 of Part 2 of Chapter 6 of the *Water Management Act 2000*. *Developer contributions to the construction of works (sections 305, 306 and 307).*

### 3. APPLICATION

This policy is designed for proposed new residential land developments within Junee Shire, specifically targeting multi-lot residential developers (five or more lots, excluding Strata or Community Title Lots).

A Deferred Payment Agreement (DPA) will set out the terms for the postponed payment of sewer headworks charges. Each application will be evaluated individually.

Council reserves the right to decline entering into a DPA to safeguard its legal and financial position. Council will only enter into a deferred payment arrangement, where the legal and financial risks are appropriately mitigated that protect Council’s and the community’s interests.

The applicant must agree in writing to statutory or legal controls that are specified in any deferred payment arrangement.

## PART B – PROCEDURES

### 4. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

For proposals to defer payment of levied headworks charges, Council will only consider a DPA where all of the following criteria are established:

- An invoice (debt) has been raised for the headworks charge.
- An application for a DPA is made in the Approved Form and made prior to the due date for payment.
- The applicant meets the following eligibility criteria:
  - The Applicant must submit evidence of the individual's or entity's credit worthiness including disclosure of information that a reasonable person or entity has that may prevent the individual or entity from meeting the financial obligations under the deferred payment agreement (e.g. CreditWatch Report, Bankruptcy check).
- If required, the Applicant has provided Council with appropriate 'security' in the form of an irrevocable and unconditional bank guarantee or insurance bond:
  - Upon which Council will be entitled to rely upon in order to recover the levied sewerage headwork charges; and
  - At least the amount of the levied charge.
- The Applicant / Developer acknowledges that, until the sewerage headworks charges are paid to Council, the Council may exercise the bank guarantee or insurance bond if required.
- Council officers have considered the availability of Council funds to support a DPA.

When Council officers deem a request to have reasonable merit, they will forward it to the Council for their deliberation and decision-making.

### 5. OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

If a development involves the subdivision of land into more than five lots, Junee Shire Council may allow a developer to defer payment of the sewerage headworks charge applicable to each subdivided lot for up to five years.

Deferred sewerage headworks charges work as follows:

- The Applicant will be responsible for payment of the sewerage headworks charges to Council for the first five lots.
- The life of the agreement is limited to the sale of the individual lots specified, or five years, whichever is lesser. Any debts outstanding beyond the life of the agreement shall attract a penalty fee equal to the T-Corp five-year borrowing rate, plus 0.5% and be subject to such other recovery action as Junee Shire Council may determine (eg. exercise of bank guarantee).
- It shall be the responsibility of the property developer to ensure that full payment is made to Junee Shire Council for the outstanding debt for that lot at the time of settlement of the individual lots.

- Any further subdivision of a lot will require the payment of the additional sewerage headworks charge for any useable lots created.
- Only one DPA will be granted per applicant, irrespective of whether the residential development is staged or not.
- The penalty fee will be calculated daily and invoiced monthly to the applicant, commencing on the day of settlement of a lot or five years, whichever is lesser.
- The applicant will cover all legal costs incurred by Council in discharging responsibilities under this policy.

The DPA agreement will remain confidential between Council and the applicant. No details of the agreement will be disclosed by the applicant to another party without the written authorisation of Council.

# APPLICATION FOR DEFERRED PAYMENT OF SEWERAGE HEADWORKS CHARGES

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this form is to assist applicants in providing sufficient information and justification for a request for an Infrastructure Payment Agreement (IPA) for the Deferred Payment of Sewerage Headwork Charges under Council's General Policy for Deferred Payment of Sewerage Headwork Charges.

**Note:** Applicants must be made within the approved form and prior to the due date of payment.

Council manages requests for Deferred Payment of Sewerage Headworks Charges under its General Policy for the Deferred Payment of Sewerage Headworks Charges.

Applicants are required to meet the condition for Deferred Payment of Sewerage Headworks Charges as set out in the Policy and this Approved Form.

The recipient of a sewerage headworks charge may approach Council to enter into a deferred payment arrangement. Council is not obliged to enter into a deferred payment arrangement and is entitled to protect its legal and financial position. Council will only enter into a deferred payment arrangement, where the legal and financial risks are appropriately mitigated that protect Council's and the community's interests.

<b>1.</b>	<b>Applicant Details</b>			
	Name of Applicant			
	Name of Company			
	Phone Numbers			
	Postal Address			
	Email Address			
	Applicant Reference			
<b>2.</b>	<b>Property Details</b>			
	Property Address			
	Lot and Plan			
<b>3.</b>	<b>Landowner Details</b>			
	Landowner Name/s			
<b>4.</b>	<b>Development Approval Details</b>			
	Application:	Number:	Date:	
	Invoice Notice:	Number:	Date:	
	Levied Charges Amount:			

	Payment Date:	Date:		
<b>5.</b>	<p>Complete this section for proposal to defer payment of levied sewerage headworks charges for up to five years from the due payment date.</p> <p><i>Note: Council will only consider the deferred payment of sewerage headworks charges where all of the following criteria are established.</i></p>			
	<b>Condition</b>	<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
	1	Has a development approval taken effect?		
	2	Has a sewerage headworks charge		
	3	<p>Has the applicant submitted evidence of the individuals or entity's credit worthiness including disclosure of information that a reasonable person or entity has that may prevent the individual or entity from meeting the financial obligations under the IPA.</p> <p><b>Example: Current CreditWatch Report for companies or public register of bankruptcy search for individuals.</b></p> <p><b>Note: Council may take reasonable steps to verify the consumer's financial situation.</b></p>		
	4	Has the Application been made prior to the date of due payment?		
	5	Does the Applicant agree to the terms of the Council's Infrastructure Payment Agreement for Deferred Sewerage Headworks Charges?		
	6	<p>The Applicant confirms that appropriate 'security' will be provided in the form of an irrevocable and unconditional bank guarantee or insurance bond:</p> <p>i. Upon which Council will be entitled to reply upon in order to cover the sewerage headworks charge; and</p> <p>ii. To at least the amount of the levied charge.</p>		
	7	Is the Applicant and/or Owner of the land the subject of the development approval, willing to enter into an IPA reflecting Council's agreement to apply this policy and defer the payment of the sewerage headworks charges?		
<b>6.</b>	<b>Supporting Information</b>			
	Insert listing of supporting information			



<b>7. Applicant Declaration</b>		
I, the Applicant listed below confirm that the above information is true and correct.		
Name of Applicant:		
Name of Company:		
Phone Numbers:		
Date:		
Signature:		
Submit the form	Mail	<p>Junee Shire Council  Att: Director of Corporate and Community Development  PO Box 93, JUNEE NSW 2663</p>
	In Person	<p>Present your application at Council Chambers located at:  29 Belmore Street, Junee.  This office is open from 9.00am to 5.00pm weekdays (excluding public holidays)</p>
	Email	<p>You may email your documentation to <a href="mailto:jsc@junee.nsw.gov.au">jsc@junee.nsw.gov.au</a></p>

**ITEM 8            JUNEES LOCAL COMPANION ANIMALS MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Author            Director Corporate and Community Development

Attachments     Junees Local Companion Animals Management Plan

---

**RECOMMENDATION:**

***That Council adopts the Junees Local Companion Animals Management Plan, following a 28-day period of public exhibition during which no comments or feedback were received.***

---

**SUMMARY**

Following the Council's prior recommendations, the *Draft Junees Local Companion Animals Management Plan* has undergone a 28-day period of public exhibition. During this time, no comments or feedback have been received.

It is advised that the Council proceed with the adoption of the *Junees Local Companion Animals Management Plan (LCAMP)*.

**BACKGROUND**

The *Junees Local Companion Animals Management Plan* was developed to improve outcomes around companion animals' management with the introduction of the *NSW Companion Animals Act 1998 (CAA)*.

The objective of the plan is to foster behavioural change within our community by implementing educational initiatives, raising awareness through campaigns and enforcing stringent measures. These efforts are directed towards maintaining community safety and improving overall liveability standards.

**CONSIDERATIONS**

**Policy**

Junees Shire Council's existing *LCAMP* will be repealed by the revised plan, which serves the same function. It facilitates the management of fostering behavioural change and aids in raising responsibility pet ownership within our community.

**Risk Assessment**

The plan retains its current guidance on management, with only slight modifications implemented to ensure its continued relevance in the present context.

**Financial**

There are minimal financial implications resulting from the revision and subsequent implementation of the plan.

**CONCLUSION**

Considering the absence of comments or feedback from the public, it is recommended that the Council proceed with the adopting of the *Junee Local Companion Animals Management Plan*.



# **JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL**

## **ATTACHMENT TO ITEM 8**

**16 APRIL 2024**





**JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL**

**LOCAL COMPANION**

**ANIMALS MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**ADOPTED:  
MINUTE NO:**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The objective of this plan is to drive positive long-term behaviour change within our community. This will be achieved through educational initiatives, heightened awareness campaigns, and stringent enforcement measures, all aimed at upholding community safety and enhancing overall liveability standards.

Relying solely on enforcement measures is inadequate; additional methods are necessary to encourage responsible pet ownership. Although our current animal control measures are limited, they adequately meet the needs of both the community and the Council. The plan is imperative to meet current standards, ensuring proper pet care while maintaining compliance with regulations.

Investigations include an examination of the issues (Section 2) and an analysis of the current situation within the Junee Council area (Section 3). Part 1 concludes with a description of the Strategic Framework, encompassing the goal and aims. The Action Plans, located in Part 2, have been categorised into twelve key issue areas for clarity and organization.

- Identification and registration
- Dogs in public areas
- Faeces management
- Wandering dogs
- Excessive barking
- Dangerous dogs and restricted breeds
- Cat management
- Animal welfare and safety
- Recognising the benefits of pet ownership
- Enforcement
- Education and dissemination, and
- Funding and review

It is emphasised that certain strategic actions outlined in the Action Plans within Part 2 of this Plan will be pursued only within the constraints of available resources.

## **PART I: STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

#### **I.1 Local Companion Animals Management Plan**

The implementation of the Companion Animals Act 1998 brought about alterations in the management of dogs by local authorities and, notably, imposed regulations on domestic cats for the first time.

A *Local Companion Animals Management Plan* (LCAMP) serves as a document enabling the Council to fulfill its obligations under the Animal Companions Act 1998. It outlines pertinent objectives, priorities, and a coherent implementation strategy.

#### **I.2 Outline of this Plan**

The LCAMP is divided into two parts:

Part 1 (Sections 1-4) is entitled *Strategic Framework*. It examines relevant issues and responsibilities in relation to companion animal management. It culminates in a goal and aims of the LCAMP.

Part 2 (Section 5) is entitled *Action Plans*. It outlines the actions necessary for the Council to reach and achieve the goal and aims as outlined in the Strategic Framework.

#### **I.3 Scope of the Plan**

This Plan integrates the developing of expertise in companion animal management across Australia, to create a set of actions for Council consideration and implementation, contingent upon available resources.

Relevant issues include those prescribed under relevant legislation as well as the generally understood notion of socially responsible pet ownership. The study is confined to an examination of domestic dogs and cats.

## **2. COMPANION ANIMALS' MANAGEMENT: A NEW AGENDA FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

The *Companion Animals Act 1998* (the Act) heralded a new era for Council's management of domestic cats and dogs. The days when animal control consisted largely of dog registrations and pound management have ceased. Today's management environment consists of both dogs and cats and includes a wider range of issues including the environment, animal welfare, removal of dog faeces, the question of on- and off-leash areas, and an apparently higher incidence of barking dog complaints. What was once a relatively straightforward part of Council activity is now highly emotive, attracting interest from both pet owners and non-pet owners alike.

Reliance on laws will probably always be the backbone of companion animal management, however, there is now more emphasis on the development of non-regulatory approaches such as public education. The NSW State Government has developed Statewide education campaigns; however Council can develop its own education programs if it has different priorities or if it wishes to supplement the work of the State Government.



There is also a role for the use of design of both domestic dwellings and public open space to help people to be responsible pet owners and to reduce the incidence of conflict. This implies a role for Council in disseminating appropriate design guidelines but also in modifying the planning and design of public parks.

The following section examines key issues in greater depth:

## **2.1 Registration and Identification of Companion Animals (Companion Animals Act 1998, Sections 8 and 9)**

Registration and identification are crucial components of animal management because they provide:

- A database for returning lost pets,
- A method of identifying offending animals,
- A way to communicate with pet owners, and
- A source of funds for education and enforcement.

Under the *Act*, a companion animal must be microchipped from 12 weeks of age (Section 8). A companion animal must be registered from six months of age (Section 9). An early priority of the Plan should be a focus on raising the level of both dog and cat registrations.

## **2.2 Dogs**

### 2.2.1 Off-Leash Areas (Companion Animals Act 1998, Section 13)

A Council can declare a public place to be an off-leash area. Such a declaration can be limited so as to apply during a particular period or periods of the day or to different periods of different days. However, there must at all times be at least one public place in any Local Government Area that is an off-leash area.

The Council has previously resolved that the following areas be 'off-leash' areas (Refer to Appendix I – Off-leash areas). Dogs in these areas must be under the effective control of their owner:

- a) the grassed area along the Olympic Highway between DeSalis Drive and Monte Cristo Road and
- b) the grassed area on both sides of Park Lane near the Junee Tourist Park.

The popularity of dog ownership in Australia has resulted in the following issues:

- Dogs need to be socialised around other dogs and humans,
- Exercise and outings play a part in alleviating unwanted behaviours in the home such as excessive barking and some forms of aggression,
- There are benefits for humans – exercise, socialising with other dog owners (this is well documented) and the fact that for some people a dog is their main form of recreation,

- The avoidance of concentration of off-leash activity in one or a small number of areas, and
- The expectation that in return for provision of reasonable off-leash areas, there will be compliance with leash requirements in other areas.

However, concerns have been expressed about risks from dog attacks and Council's exposure to an unreasonable level of public liability claims. It is important to understand the reason why dogs won't necessarily behave in the same way in the neutral territory of a public park. Attacks on private property frequently occur when a dominant, protective or injured dog is not adequately supervised with children and visitors. These triggers are rarely present in the neutral territory of a public park when a dog is with its owner. Most data collected on this issue suggests that dog attacks are more likely to occur in and around the family home or another home.

Preliminary advice from the Local Government NSW suggests that:

- Providing proper consideration is paid to siting issues (including signage), a Council which complies with a statutory requirement to provide a facility is less likely to be exposed to liability risk than a Council which provides such facilities of its own initiative,
- The Act places liability for such claims with the offending dog owner, and
- Section 731 of the Local Government Act gives protection to Councils and their officers for acts done in good faith for the purpose of executing the or any other Act.

The publication 'Public Open Space and Dogs' makes suggestions for planning parks and dogs in mind. Water for swimming, earth mounds, hills and gullies are ideal for free running dogs and can be created artificially if not occurring naturally. Other design features could include ramps, hurdles, tyres, tipped logs, boulders, and other agility equipment. Sandpits, while ideal for dogs, are not recommended because of their inevitable attraction to children. Some councils in Australia have developed formal dog agility courses.

The off-leash parks could be provided on a time-share-arrangement (ie. dogs are allowed off-leash at certain times of the day – usually early morning and evening).

However, Council must, at all times, provide at least one off-leash area within its Local Government Area. Time-share works well, however it is important to recognise its advantages, as follows:

- It concentrates potential problems into a restricted number of hours,
- Unremoved dog faeces may be a problem at other times, and
- Some dog owners may be disadvantaged if they work irregular hours or have small children. Timeshare may also not suit the elderly who wish to use time available during the day.

### 2.2.2 Public Places where Dogs would be Excluded (Companion Animals Act 1998, Section 14)

Under the *Act*, dogs are also prohibited in the following public places:

- In or within 10m of any children's play areas,
- Food preparation and/or consumption areas (unless it is a public thoroughfare such as a road, footpath or pathway),
- Recreation areas where dogs are declared prohibited,
- Public bathing areas where dogs are declared prohibited,
- School grounds (unless with the permission of the person controlling the grounds),
- Child Care centres (unless with the permission of the person controlling the centre),
- Shopping areas where dogs are prohibited (unless secured in a vehicle, with the permission of the person controlling the place or going to or from a vet or pet shop), and
- Wildlife protection areas.

Thus the Council can prohibit dogs from particular recreation areas, public bathing areas, shopping centres and wildlife protection areas.

### 2.2.3 Dog Faeces (Companion Animals Act 1998, Section 20)

Unretrieved dog faeces present problems for health, environmental and amenity reasons. Under the *Act*, owners are required to remove their dogs' faeces immediately and properly dispose of them. In practice, this is extremely difficult to enforce and may need to be an early priority for any public education activities.

Council are required to provide sufficient rubbish receptacles for owners to dispose of their dogs' faeces in areas that are commonly used for exercising dogs.

### 2.2.4 Nuisance Dogs (Companion Animals Act 1998, Section 21)

Under Section 21 of the *Act* a dog is a nuisance if it:

- Is habitually at large,
- Makes a noise by barking or otherwise, that persistently occurs or continues to such a degree or extent that it unreasonably interferes with the peace, comfort or convenience of any person in any other premises,
- Repeatedly defecates on another person's property,
- Repeatedly chases any person, animal or vehicle,
- Endangers the health of any person or animal, or

- Repeatedly causes substantial damage to anything outside the property on which it is ordinarily kept.

Inadequate fencing in rural and semi-rural areas makes it difficult for owners to responsibly confine their dogs. In urban areas, no or low front fence requirements make it difficult for owners to confine their dogs to their property.

Complaints relating to barking dogs are often not easy to resolve and consume large amounts of Council officers' time.

Since nuisance problems are often difficult to define and measure, they can prove difficult to enforce. The words 'repeatedly' and 'habitually' are important in determining if a nuisance exists.

### 2.2.5 Dangerous Dogs

*(Companion Animals Act 1998, Sections 34 and 51)*

An authorised officer of a Council may declare a dog kept in the area as dangerous. Once a dog is declared dangerous, the owner must comply with specified conditions including keeping the dog in a childproof enclosure.

### 2.2.6 Restricted Dogs

*(Companion Animals Act 1998, Sections 55 and 56)*

The Act states that the following are restricted dogs:

- Pit bull terriers
- American Pit Bull Terriers
- Japanese Tosas
- Argentinian fighting dogs
- Brazilian fighting dogs, and
- Any other dog of a breed, kind or description prescribed by the regulations as restricted for the purposes of this Division (eg. dogs used as guard dogs by security personnel could be prescribed as restricted dogs).

The owner of a restricted dog must also comply with specified conditions including keeping the dog in a childproof enclosure.

- Any other dog of a breed, kind or description whose importation into Australia is prohibited by or under the Customs Act 1901.
- Any other dog declared by an authorised officer of a Council under Division 6 of Part 5 of the Act.

## 2.3 Cats

The issues of cat management relate predominantly to the impact of cats on wildlife. Cats can also be a nuisance to surrounding neighbours. A distinction needs to be made between feral cats and owned domestic cats.

The Council can prohibit cats from entering public places. Other options for protection of wildlife include:

- Cat curfews,
- Education to encourage people to keep their cat indoors,
- Cat proof fences and enclosures, and
- Use of housing design to help owners to responsibly confine their cat.

### 2.3.1 Areas Where Cats Would Be Prohibited (Companion Animals Act 1998, Section 30)

Under the Act, owned domestic cats are prohibited in the following public places:

- Food preparation or consumption areas, and
- Wildlife protection areas (unless it is a public thoroughfare such as a road, footpath or pathway)

A wildlife protection area is a public place that has been declared by the Council for the protection of wildlife.

### 2.3.2 Nuisance Cats (Companion Animals Act 1998, Section 31)

A cat is a nuisance if it:

- Makes a persistent noise or
- Repeatedly damages anything outside the property on which it is ordinarily kept.

This will be similar to handling nuisance dog complaints, although cats are more difficult to confine to a property than dogs. Each complaint will need to be examined on a case by case basis.

## 2.4 Enforcement or Education

An ongoing debate in animal management is the relative merits of enforcement versus education. Laws will probably always be the backbone of the management task. However, the advantages of taking a legal approach should not blind us to its shortcomings. The legal approach is sometimes inefficient and apart from consuming resources in maintaining an enforcement presence it may only achieve compliance for a short period of time.

By contrast, voluntary compliance, if it can be achieved, will just about always provide more

meaningful, lasting changes in behaviour. It depends more on overcoming ignorance, indifference and incompetence than in prescribing concrete forms of acceptable behaviour. However education changes behaviour slowly, can be expensive and is hard to evaluate.

Neither approach should be regarded as a panacea. A combination will just about always be appropriate. The secret is to understand the strengths and weaknesses of each and how they operate in different policy contexts.

The Act anticipates that the State Government will undertake community education from the money allocated to the Companion Animals Fund. The Council may also wish to undertake its own education programs either to augment the message of the statewide campaign or where its priorities vary from those of the State Government.

## **2.5 Recognising the Benefits of Pet Ownership**

The health and social benefits of owning pets are now well understood and have been documented in numerous scientific studies. At one level this means a balanced approach to managing domestic pets.

At another more implicit level, there is an emerging understanding that pets contribute to quality of life, a positive that could perhaps be fostered by Local Government.

At this stage, fostering the positives in an explicit way would still be something of a quantum leap, focused as Local Government is on handling complaints. However, over time the Plan could be adjusted to integrate an explicit consideration of the benefits of owning pets.

Part of the challenge involves removing barriers to owning pets. The Petcare Information and Advisory Service has published brochures for landlords and tenants outlining rights and responsibilities of people wishing to own pets in rental accommodation. As an early initiative, the Council could make these brochures available for the local community.

Other initiatives could be explored in the development of local public health initiatives.

## **3. THE LOCAL CONTEXT**

### **3.1 Junee Shire Council**

The Junee Local Government Area (LGA) covers 2,031 square kilometres. The LGA has a population of approximately 6,450 with the township of Junee having a population of 4,800.

### **3.2 Animal Management in the Junee Shire Council Area**

The Community Development function of the Council implements animal management in the Junee Council area.

Council operates an animal facility, off Old Junee Road, Junee. Impounded dogs are either released to the owner, sold, destroyed, or released to registered charities for re-homing. The Council does not sell large hunting or savage stray dogs from the pound.

### **3.3 Relevant Policies and Plans**

The Council's Local Companion Animal Management Plan (LCAMP) outlines the actions required by the Council to fulfil and implement the requirements of the Companion Animals Act 1998. Part 2 of the LCAMP details the actions required to fulfil the aims of the plan. All actions are prioritised and responsibility for their implementation are assigned. It also recognises that it is a continuing process and the plan allows for amendment through reviews by the Council and the community. Other relevant policies and plans in the Junee Council area are:

- Local Environment Plan 2012
- Development Control Plans 2021

## **4. GOAL AND AIMS**

**The goal for the *Junee Shire Local Companion Animals Management Plan* is:**

- To promote and facilitate responsible ownership of dogs and cats, animal welfare, and the benefits of animal companionship.

**The aims of the Plan are:**

- To ensure the Council meets its obligations under the *Companion Animals Act 1998*
- To investigate the best mix of regulatory and non-regulatory approaches to achieving responsible pet ownership in the Junee LGA
- To establish priorities for companion animals' management for the next three to five years, and
- To consider ways the Council could harness the benefits of owning pets.

The Action Plans are practical actions that the Council can undertake to ensure these aims materialise. These are set out in Part 2 and have been grouped into twelve key issue areas.

## **PART 2: ACTION PLANS**

### **5. KEY ISSUE AREAS**

The key issue areas include:

- Identification and registration,
- Dogs in public places,
- Faeces management,
- Wandering dogs,
- Excessive barking,
- Dangerous dogs and restricted breeds,
- Cat management,
- Animal welfare and safety,
- Recognising the benefits of pet ownership,
- Enforcement,
- Education and dissemination, and
- Funding and review.

#### **5.1 Identification and Registration**

Identification and registration is important for reunion of lost pets with their owners and as a source of funding for animal management programs. It also provides a database for the Council to communicate with its pet owning population.

<b>STRATEGIC ACTION</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>TARGET/PERFORMANCE</b>
Educate the community about the importance and need for micro chipping and registering dogs and cats.	High	Junee Shire Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Issue two newspaper articles regarding animal registration and identification in the local newspapers per year.</li><li>• Continue to boost registrations through enforcement and other animal management activities as staffing resources allow.</li></ul>

#### **5.2 Dogs in Public Places**

Dogs and their owners are significant users of public open space, however some dogs cause problems for other park users and the environment.

The Council needs to decide if additional off leash areas should be provided and if so, how many and where. There may be a case to prohibit dogs from some public places. These issues need to be decided in consultation with the local community.



The provisions relating to dogs' access to public open space need to be disseminated widely to the community. Appropriate signage is essential.

Off-leash areas need to be protected from conflicting uses or development. This is best done by integrating the provisions into relevant plans of management.

Over time, improved planning and design can be used to reduce conflicts between different public open space users and resources.

<b>STRATEGIC ACTION</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>TARGET/PERFORMANCE</b>
Undertake a review of on and off leash provisions and areas from which dogs (and cats) might be prohibited.	Low	Junee Shire Council	Review completed following consultation with the community.  Appropriate declarations and orders made under S13 (6) and S 14 (1) of the Companion Animals Act, 1998 resulting in two declared off-leash areas.
Seek advice on appropriate risk management strategies in public places.	Low	Junee Shire Council	Relevant advice is sought, if needed.
Disseminate leash provisions and publish prohibited areas.	Low	Junee Shire Council	Dissemination of leash provisions and the publishing of prohibited areas are to be refreshed as part of a public education campaign. to
In order to optimise the dissemination and enforcement effort, hold a training seminar to brief relevant staff	Medium	Junee Shire Council	Seminar to be held.
Advise relevant Council departments and other relevant stakeholders of the leash provisions.	Low	Junee Shire Council	Advice forwarded.
Consider leash provisions in the development of Plans of Management for public open space.	Low	Junee Shire Council	Draft Plans of Management to be referred for comment to part-time Animal Control Officer.

### **5.3 Faeces Management**

Removal and disposal of dog faeces by dog owners is required under Section 20 of the *Companion Animals Act 1998*. It is important for environmental, health and amenity reasons. However, it is recognised that this requirement is difficult to enforce. Encouraging owners to pick up and remove their dog's faeces could be an early priority for public education.

The Council has provided sufficient rubbish receptacles for the disposal of dog faeces in the two 'off-leash' areas and throughout the town.

<b>STRATEGIC ACTION</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>TARGET/PERFORMANCE</b>
Install sufficient rubbish receptacles for the disposal of dog faeces should any Village areas be declared as “off-leash” areas.	Low	Junee Shire Council	Options for disposal of dog faeces to be reviewed.
Decide on procedures for enforcing the requirement for people to remove and dispose of their dogs’ faeces.	Medium	Junee Shire Council	Enforcement procedures created and adopted.
Educate the community about the importance of removing and disposing of dog faeces and options available.	High	Junee Shire Council	Input into the public education campaign as an early priority.

#### **5.4 Wandering Dogs**

Dogs wandering at large contribute significantly to the dog management task.

Identification and registration are central to management of wandering dogs.

Housing and boundary design may also have a role to play in helping owners to properly confine their dogs on their property.

<b>STRATEGIC ACTION</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>TARGET/PERFORMANCE</b>
Educate the community about the importance of properly confining their dogs.	High	Junee Shire Council	Input into education campaign as an early priority. Promote and enforce identification and state registration of dogs (and cats) to enable safe return of companion animals.

#### **5.5 Excessive Barking**

Barking complaints are problematic due to their inherent subjectivity and the fact that they are not easily resolved.

Options for improvement include use of a diary system by complainants, staff training in negotiations and the introduction of a referral system to a specialist animal behaviourist.

<b>STRATEGIC ACTION</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>TARGET/PERFORMANCE</b>
Review procedures for dealing with barking complaints.	Medium	Junee Shire Council	All barking dog complaints dealt with in accordance with standard operating procedure.

## 5.6 Dangerous Dogs and Restricted Breeds

The *Companion Animals Act 1998* provides special procedures for dealing with dangerous dogs and restricted breeds.

Both categories of dog are required to be kept in a child-proof enclosure. Council needs to determine appropriate specifications for a child-proof enclosure. A suggested definition is an enclosure which is sufficient to restrain the dog and will prevent a child from having access to the dog.

<b>STRATEGIC ACTION</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>TARGET/PERFORMANCE</b>
Review procedures for dealing with dangerous dogs and restricted breeds.	Medium-High	Junee Shire Council	In accordance with standard operating procedures.
Facilitate the design of a suitable child-proof enclosure.	Medium-High	Junee Shire Council	Prototype design approved and develop pamphlet to disseminate to public.

## 5.7 Cat Management

Newborn cats are required to be identified and registered under the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.

Council can prohibit cats from entering specified public places. There are also procedures for dealing with nuisance cats.

Some of the options proposed in other areas (eg, cat bans, cat curfews, etc.) are extremely difficult and expensive to enforce. Public education is required to increase awareness of the need to identify and register cats and about responsible cat ownership.

<b>STRATEGIC ACTION</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>TARGET/PERFORMANCE</b>
Establish procedures for dealing with nuisance cats and where applicable for dealing with cats entering wildlife protection areas.	Low	Junee Shire Council	Procedures established in accordance with standard operating procedures.
Educate the community about responsible pet ownership and the need to identify and register their cats.	High	Junee Shire Council	Input into education program as an early priority

## 5.8 Animal Welfare and Safety

Animal management needs to ensure appropriate animal welfare and safety.

Of particular importance is to promote de-sexing of non-breeding pets.

<b>STRATEGIC ACTION</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>TARGET/PERFORMANCE</b>
Promote de-sexing of companion animals.	High	Junee Shire Council	Input into education program
Promote and enforce identification and registration of dogs and cats to enable safe return of companion animals	High	Junee Shire Council	Input into education program
Review existing animal holding facility arrangements for compatibility with new responsibilities.	Medium	Junee Shire Council	Animal facility review to be completed.

## 5.9 Recognising the Benefits of Pet Ownership

Local Government could have a role to play in promoting the health and social benefits of owning domestic pets.

<b>STRATEGIC ACTION</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>TARGET/PERFORMANCE</b>
Consider the health benefits of owning pets in the local community	Low	Junee Shire Council	Health benefits of pet ownership included in brochures to the local community.
Assist tenants and landlords with queries about owning pets in rental accommodation	Low	Junee Shire Council	Distribute literature on keeping pets in rental accommodation to the local community

## 5.10 Enforcement

While the Council already has enforcement procedures in place, these should be subject to ongoing review as circumstances change and better approaches become evident.

<b>STRATEGIC ACTION</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>TARGET/PERFORMANCE</b>
Review all enforcement procedures and protocols for operational improvements and gaps.	Low	Junee Shire Council	Annual Review

## 5.11 Education and Dissemination

Education is the key to voluntary changes in human behaviour. It involves education of animals, their owners and prospective owners. It also involves showing non-pet owners, especially children, how to behave around animals. To be effective, education needs to be designed and implemented with great care, taking into account identified priorities and programs being implemented by the State Government. Developing a comprehensive education program should be an early priority if staffing resources allow.

The education program should consider educational courses, brochures, communication in media and may require staff training in dealing with the community during their irregular patrols of known 'hot-spot' areas of Junee.

<b>STRATEGIC ACTION</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>TARGET/PERFORMANCE</b>
Plan a comprehensive campaign involving all stakeholders to identify education priorities and appropriate action.	Low	Junee Shire Council	Education campaign to be refreshed.

## 5.12 Funding and Review

Once adopted, the LCAMP needs to be subject to ongoing review as new issues and priorities emerge.

A detailed record system is important to ensure the Council can accurately track trends in registrations, complaints, infringements, orders and pound activity.

Animal management activities will not be funded from registrations and fines alone. The Council needs to consider other possible sources of revenue to help fund animal management. The LCAMP should be completely reviewed within three to five years.

<b>STRATEGIC ACTION</b>	<b>PRIORITY</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>TARGET/PERFORMANCE</b>
Ensure the LCAMP is implemented and reviewed.	Medium	Junee Shire Council	LCAMP completely reviewed within three to five years.
Review records system.	Medium	Junee Shire Council	Audit record system to ensure detailed records are kept on all animal management activities.



Figure 1: Dog off Leash Areas

## **ITEM 9            TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING**

Author            Director Engineering Services

Attachment       Traffic Committee Minutes 21 March 2024.

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### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1.     *That Council receive and note the Traffic Committee meeting minutes attached to the report.***
  
  - 2.     *Council endorse the three recommendations in the Local Traffic Committee Minutes:***
    - a)     *The Committee endorse the Special Event applications.***
    - b)     *That the Traffic Committee endorse the Give Way sign at the intersection of Brabins Road and Eurongilly Road.***
    - c)     *That the Traffic Committee endorse the recommendation to erect the nine one hour parking signs.***
  
  - 3.     *Council resolved for the existing Give Way sign to be replaced with a Stop sign on the exit from the southern end of the upper section of Main Street, at the intersection with Cedric Street, in line with the Traffic Committee resolution.***
  
  - 4.     *Council receives notice of the approval from Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) to install a 60km/hr speed zone on Canola Way at Rock view Crossing.***
- 

### **SUMMARY**

The Local Traffic Committee meeting was held on 21 March 2024 at Junee Shire Council Chambers. The Committee has made recommendations on a number of key traffic related issues to Council. These recommendations include:

- Approval of special event applications.
- Resolving to add a Stop Sign on the exit from Waterworks Road onto Main Street.
- Resolving to add a Give Way sign at the intersection of Brabins Road and Eurongilly Road.
- Resolving to erect nine one hour parking signs on Humphrey and Lorne Streets.

Additionally, TfNSW notified Council they have approved the speed reduction at Rockview Crossing on Canola Way. This speed zone is to be installed at the end of the *Level Crossing Awareness and Enforcement* campaign being undertaken by NSW Police in the Junee region.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Local Traffic Committee is primarily a technical review committee, considering the technical and engineering matters related to traffic and road related activities in the Council area, against current standards and guidelines. They are an advisory committee to Council and provide recommendations for Council to consider.

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The Local Traffic Committee meeting had all required attendees, however, did not have full attendance, due to some agencies and delegates not being available. The meeting went ahead and other agencies and delegates were invited to comment on the recommendations pre and post meeting.

### SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATIONS

A total of four events were approved by the Traffic Committee.

**Anzac Day March – 25 April 2024:** Commencing in Peel Street and finishing at the Cenotaph in Broadway Junee. Approval was provided by TfNSW and Council with the Traffic Guidance Schemes being prepared by Council.

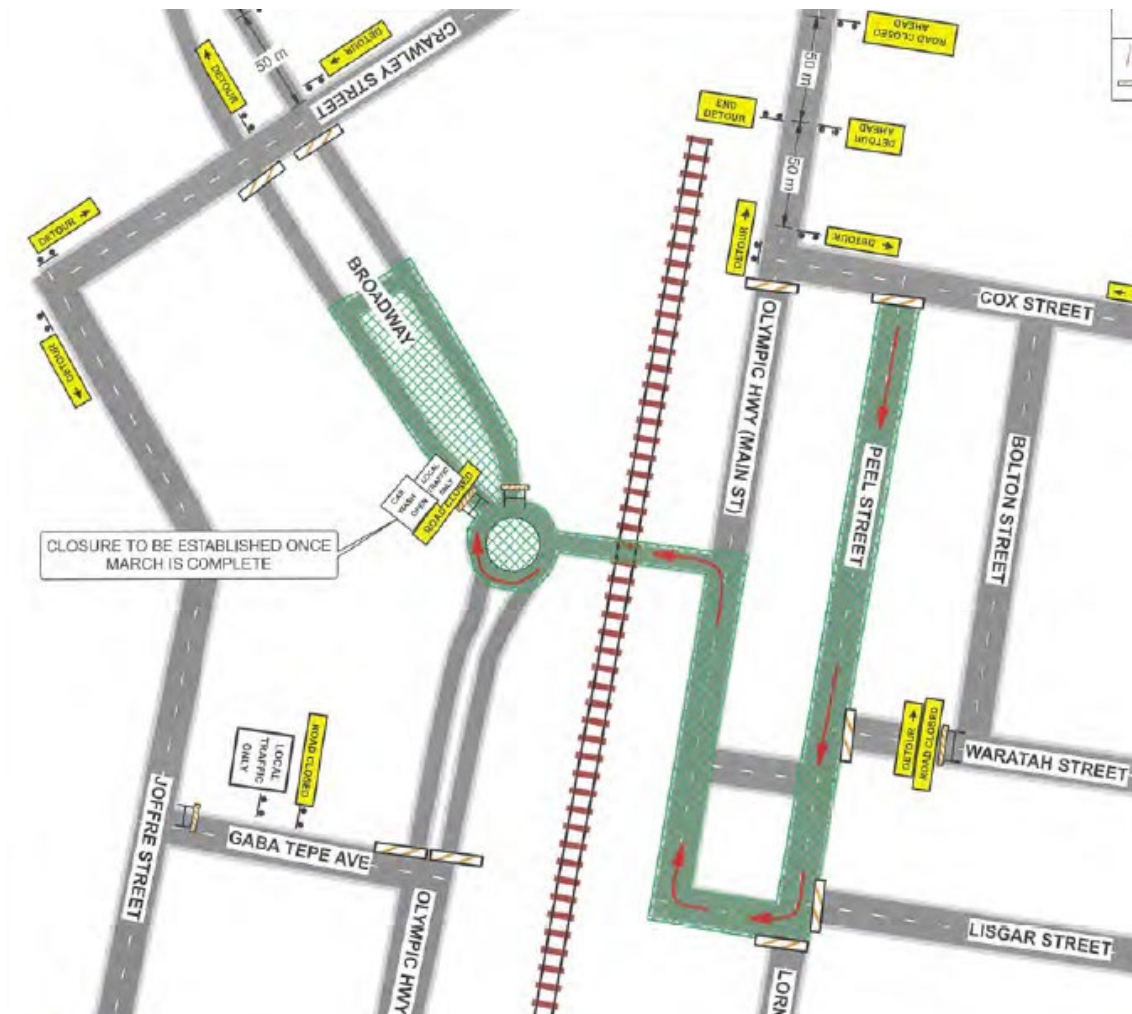


Figure 1: Anzac Day March Road Closure

### Southern Sports Academy Regional Games 2024 Wantabadgery, 13 April 2024.

### Wagga Cycling Club Race Tour de Riverina, 15 June 2024

The Southern Sports Academy Regional Games and Wagga Cycling Club Tour de Riverina commence in Wantabadgery and primarily ride on River Road and Wantabadgery Road as shown in Figure 2.



GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 16 APRIL 2024.

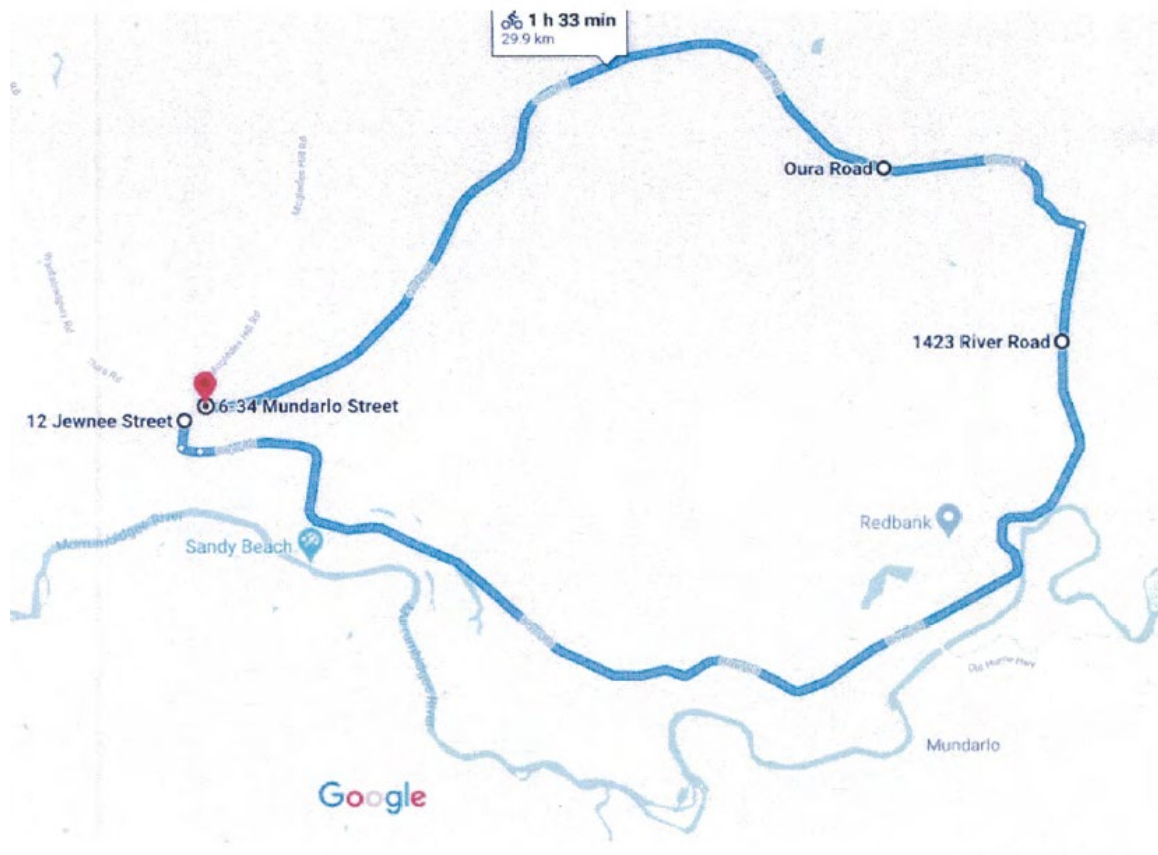


Figure 2: Southern Sports Academy/Wagga Cycling Club – Wantabadgery Route

The Southern Sports Academy Regional Games have submitted a second application for a reserve route on Eurongilly Road, as shown in Figure 3.

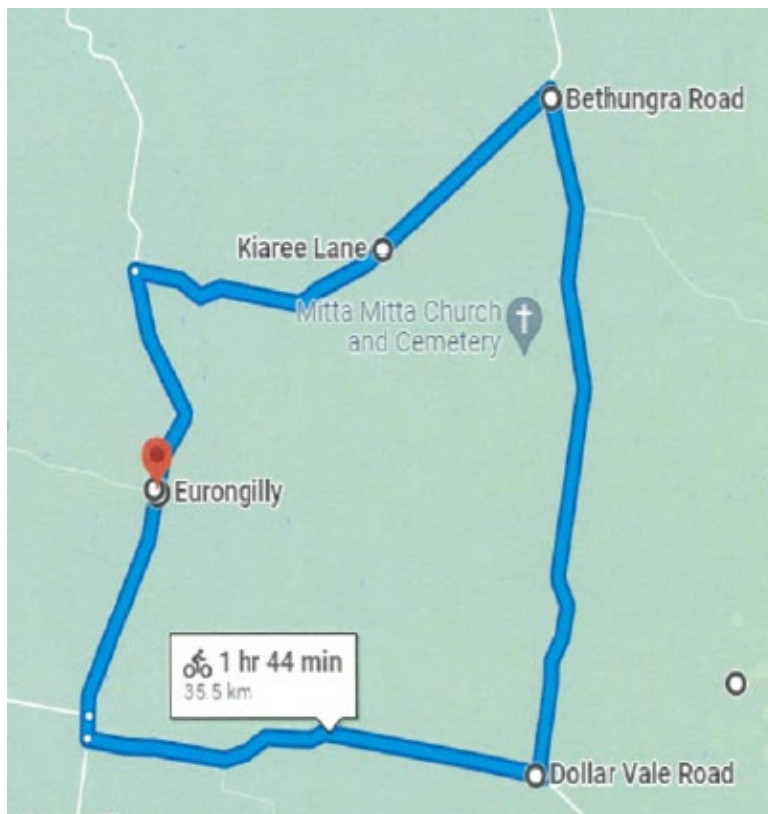


Figure 3: Southern Sports Academy– Eurongilly Route

## WATERWORKS ROAD-MAIN STREET INTERSECTION

A stop sign has been approved at the exit to Waterworks Road onto Main Street (near Cedric Street) as shown in Figure 4 below. This will also have an early warning sign for the impending stop placed at the start of the barrier on Waterworks Road.

The Committee had a long discussion regarding the risks of undertaking any further signage changes or closures in the short term. It was determined further design for the intersection, to reduce safety risks, is to be considered by both TfNSW and Council to be returned at a later meeting.



Figure 4: Stop Sign Location Waterworks Road.

## BRABINS-EURONGILLY ROAD INTERSECTION

A give way sign was approved on Eurongilly Road and Brabins Road intersection. It was noted during the meeting that due to the T-intersection treatment, installation of a give way sign was not mandatory at this location from TfNSW's perspective, however, could be added as an additional safety measure at Councils cost.



Figure 5: Give way Sign Eurongilly-Brabins Road intersection

## JUNEE CBD - ONE HOUR PARKING

The Traffic Committee recommended nine one hour parking signs be installed on Humphrey Street and Lorne Street within the Junee CBD, as shown in Figure 6 and Figure 7. This recommendation was consistent with urban areas in surrounding Councils, to ensure the parking is available for local businesses owners. Consultation with the community in advance was advised.

Additionally, the Committee discussed the inclusion of signage for the carparks in railway square. Transport for New South Wales indicated some further investigation should be completed into the options for signage in railway square, due to the complexities of traffic interactions in the square, including no stopping, bus zones and additional signage. If Council wanted to proceed with this, it would be returned to the Traffic Committee at a future meeting.

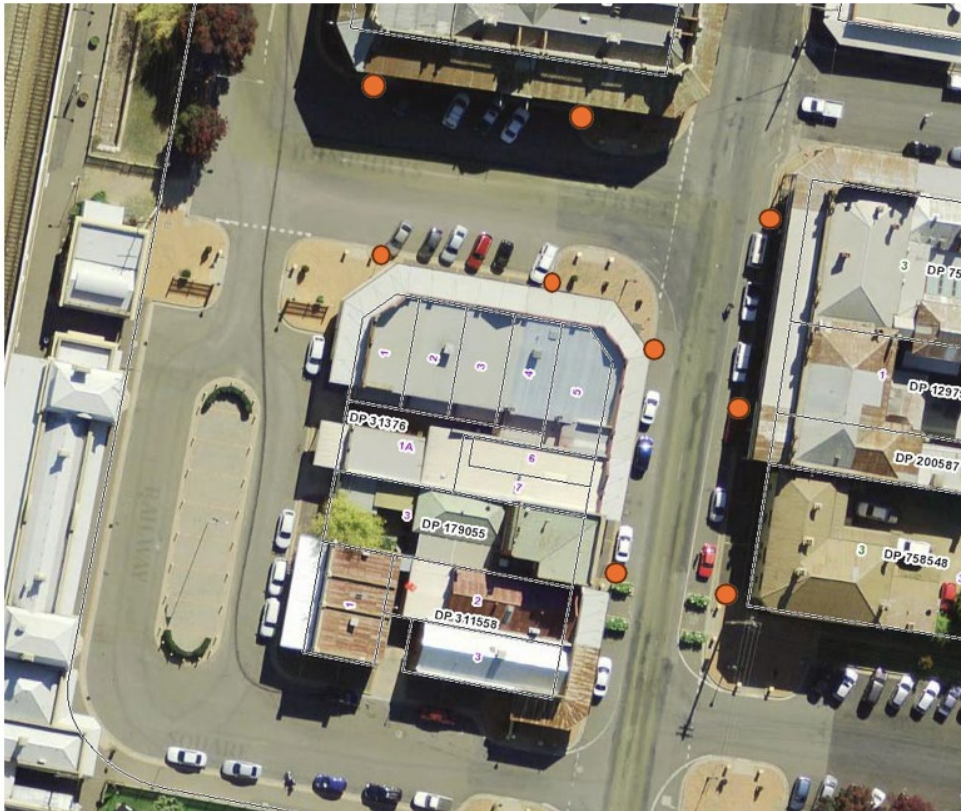


Figure 6: One Hour Parking Signs



Figure 7: One Hour Parking Sign

## **CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Policy**

All proposed signage is compliant with relevant Australian Standards and Design Guidelines and consistent with Councils Road Safety Strategy.

### **Risk Assessment**

Enterprise risks are not anticipated based on the Traffic Committees' recommendations. The measures proposed should reduce the risk of traffic incidents and therefore community impacts and litigation due to them being improvements to the traffic environment on Junee Shire Councils Road networks, being in line with current legislation and being endorsed by the traffic committee and other relevant agencies.

The mitigations in the report will result in a very low likelihood and very low consequence of increased enterprise risk.

### **Financial**

All costs associated with the Traffic Committee recommendations can be completed using operational staff and funding. The signage costs, including install, will be in the order of \$6,000 to purchase and install. The speed zone signage is fully funded by TfNSW.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Local Traffic Committee has made valid safety recommendations on a number of key traffic related issues which Council should endorse. The special events being held to boost sporting and commemorative events in the area and should be supported. The intersection signage supports road safety and reduced parking time in the CBD should increase visitor turnover for local businesses.



# **JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL**

## **ATTACHMENT TO ITEM 9**

**16 APRIL 2024**



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**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY,  
21 MARCH 2024 IN THE JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 10:00AM**

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**PRESENT:**

Stephen Targett (Director of Engineering Services – JSC)  
Sherri Longmore (Executive Assistant – JSC)  
Greg Minehan (Lead Community & Safety Partner - TfNSW)  
Julie-Anne Coomer (Project Services South – TfNSW)  
Tom Walker (Road Safety Officer)

**1. Apologies**

Mark Cook (Councillor – Junee Shire Council)

**2. Special event applications**

- Anzac Day March – Chase up insurance
- Southern Sports Academy Regional Games 2024 (Wantabadgery + Eurongilly)
- Wagga Cycling Club Race Tour de Riverina

**Recommendation:**

*The Committee endorse the abovementioned Special Event applications.*

Moved: Greg

Seconded: Tom

**3. Waterworks Road/Main Street – Intersection Safety Risk Assessment**

Report was presented to the meeting showing the dangers of the intersection.

Greg to speak with Paul Moriarty regarding options for the intersection. There has been a number of crashes however it was noted that the crash data has not been recorded due to the limitations of when and how they are recorded. It was still noted by the Committee that it is a dangerous intersection especially with the path for pedestrians and that heavy vehicles have to take a wider berth to navigate the road.

Stephen to provide draft designs of what changes Council would like to propose.

**Recommendation:**

*Traffic Committee resolve to remove the existing give way sign and replace with a stop sign on the exit from Waterworks Road onto Main Street.*

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**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY,  
21 MARCH 2024 IN THE JUNE SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 10:00AM**

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**4. June disabled carpark audit**

Report was tabled in regard to whether existing disabled carparks are adequate and what would be required to bring them up to standard.

Greg advised that to bring the existing carparks up to an adequate standard it does not need approval and the carpark has already previously been approved, however if Council would like to add any new carparks approval would need to be sought by the Traffic Committee.

Another report will be presented to the Traffic Committee detailing any new disabled carparks when identified.

**5. Brabins Road, Eurongilly – Intersection Safety Risk Assessment**

A report was tabled requesting that a give way sign be installed at the intersection of Eurongilly Road and Brabins Road. Greg advised that a give way sign would not generally be approved as the road rules still apply and must be adhered to, and therefore anyone turning from Eurongilly Road onto Brabins Road must give way. He explained that it would be additional costs to Council for upkeep of the signage and line marking. Stephen advised that Council was willing to accept the additional costs as he felt it was a dangerous section and would benefit from the additional signage.

**Recommendation:**

*That the Traffic Committee endorse the give way sign at the intersection of Brabins Road and Eurongilly Road.*

**6. Late Report**

Report was tabled showing locations of 1hr parking signage to be erected in Humphry and Lorne Street. Nine signs to be erected with 9.00am – 5.30pm being the limited timeframe. Community Consultation to follow, the Ranger enforcing the time limits.

**Recommendation:**

*That the Traffic Committee endorse the recommendation to erect the nine one hour parking signs.*

**7. Informal Business**

Rockview Crossing – speed signs installed, Greg approved the offset of the signage. When erecting the signage make sure that signage does not impede the properties sight distance which is located on the Marrar side of the crossing.

**8. Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held 27 June 2024.

**9. Close:** There being no further business the meeting closed at 11:30am.

**ITEM 10          PLAN OF MANAGEMENT FOR BETHUNGRA DAM RESERVE**

Author            Director of Engineering Services

Attachments      Plan of Management for Bethungra Dam Reserve (Site Specific)

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1.    ***That Council note the report titled Plan of Management for Bethungra Dam Reserve.***
  2.    ***That Council adopt the Plan of Management for Bethungra Dam Reserve with updates detailed in the report pursuant to Section 40 of the Local Government Act 1993 in accordance with 3.23(6) of the Crown Land Management Act 2016.***
- 

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an updated Plan of Management (PoM) for Bethungra Dam Reserve to Council. The PoM has been approved for public exhibition and comment by Department of Planning and Environment – Crown Lands. A number of submissions were received which are summarised in the body of this report.

The purpose of this report is to adopt the PoM and commence operating under it.

**BACKGROUND**

The PoM for Bethungra Dam Reserve has been presented to Council on several occasions. There was an initial draft detailing legislative changes that resulted in the development of the PoM, and at the end of the community consultation period, a further draft that included community input.

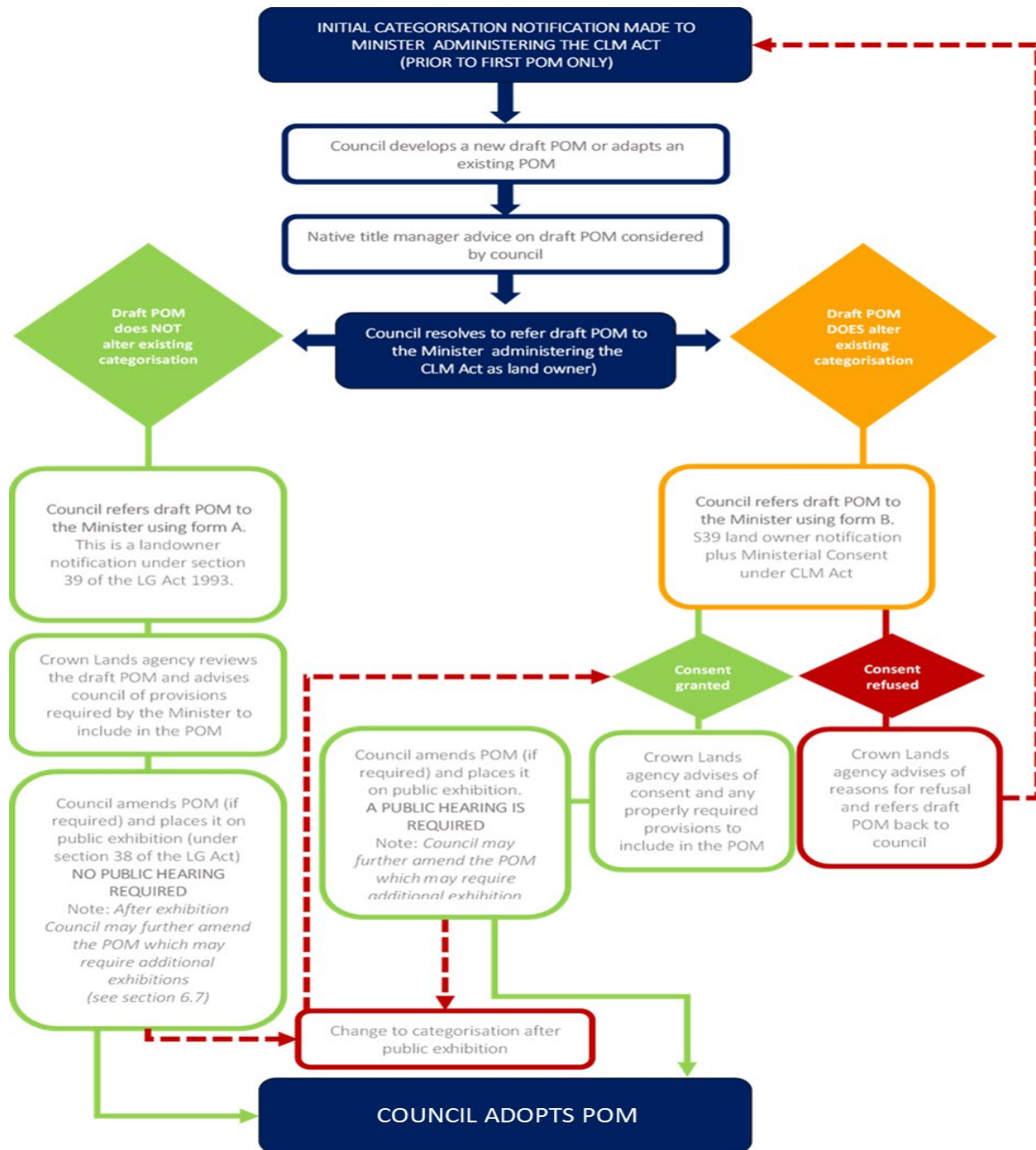
A report was provided to Council in December detailing the legislative changes that have resulted in the need for a Plan of Management for all reserves, including Bethungra Dam Reserve. This is summarised below:

- The *Crown Land Management Act 2016* came into force on 1 July 2018 and changed the way in which Councils manage and operate Crown Land.
- The *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (the CLM Act) authorises local councils that are appointed to manage dedicated or reserved Crown land (Council Managers) to manage that land as if it were public land under the Local Government Act 1993 (LG Act).
- Council manages this land as if it were community land. Under the LG Act, a 'plan of management' must be adopted for all community land. The plan categorises the land and governs its use and management.



**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 16 APRIL 2024.**

Community consultation was undertaken during development of the PoM, and the following flowchart details the process that was followed.



**COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

Council staff attended the Junee Shire Council Advisory Committee meeting and a public meeting at Bethungra Dam, to present the PoM. A copy of the plan was exhibited on Council’s website and paper copies have been made available to residents in the Bethungra area.

The public exhibition period of 42 days under Section 38 of the LG Act 1993 has been completed. The PoM has used the category assigned under the Act without change and thus there is no requirement for a public hearing.

## GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEES SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 16 APRIL 2024.

Comments on the PoM were received by Council from the Bethungra On the Up Committee, Councillors and two Bethungra residents.

The changes to the PoM based on community consultation and Councillor concerns were:

1. Weeds - Specific weeds references have been removed and the *Riverina Regional Strategic Management Plan* and the *Biosecurity and Weeds Policy* have been referenced. With this, Council has included a commitment to manage weeds within the reserve in line with our policies.
2. Community Consultation - In regard to ongoing development of the reserve, the report elaborates on the extent of community consultation, including specific methods for community consultation and allowing the community to review and update the plan on an annual basis.
3. First Nations History – Further information on the movements of First Nations people through the area has been included.
4. European History – Further information on European settlement of the area has been included.
5. Emergency Use – Further provisions for emergency use have been included.
6. Petrol Motors - Small petrol motors are permissible on the dam.
7. Access - Access path areas have been expanded and a commitment to provide DDA compliant paths has been incorporated where practical.
8. Fire Breaks – Updated provisions for fire breaks have been included.
9. Identifying the Reserve Area on each Figure contained in the PoM.
10. Clearly identifying the Concept Plan included in the report as a Draft Concept Master Plan which will be developed over time.
11. Minor corrections have been made to improve the reporting quality.

### CONSIDERATIONS

Under the *Local Government Act*, a 'plan of management' (PoM) must be adopted by Council for all community land.

The draft PoM for Bethungra Dam Reserve was submitted to the Department of Planning and Environment – Crown Lands for comment in May last year. The Minister went ahead and approved the draft PoM and consented to Council adopting the PoM under clause 70B of the *Crown Land Management Regulation 2018*, provided there were no major amendments to it following exhibition for public comment. None of the changes resulting from the community consultation phase are considered major amendments to the PoM.

## **Native Title Assessment**

The PoM provides strict guidelines for activities that require a Native Title Assessment and validation under the *Native Title Act 1993* to be carried out by Council's Native Title Manager prior to the commencement of any of those activities outlined in the PoM.

The PoM is clear that the management of those activities that could be considered to be future acts, must take into account the reserve purpose for the land.

Council's Native Title Manager has undertaken an assessment in accordance with the Crown Land Management Act and the Native Title Act.

## **Financial**

There are no adverse financial implications resulting from this report. All further work at Bethungra Dam is to be approved through the budget process independent of this report.

## **Connection with IPR**

5.3.1 Review Crown Reserve Plans of Management.

## **CONCLUSION**

It is recommended that Council adopt the PoM under Section 40 of the Local Government Act 1993 in accordance with 3.23(6) of the Crown Land Management Act 2016. The plan has been amended but the changes are considered to be minor editorial changes and do not change the intent of the report.



# **JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL**

## **ATTACHMENT TO ITEM 10**

**16 APRIL 2024**





**Junee Shire Council  
Plan of Management for  
Bethungra Dam Reserve  
(Site Specific)**

**PoM**

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## Acknowledgement of Country

Junee Shire Council acknowledges the Wiradjuri people who are the traditional custodians of this land. The Council pays respect to the Elders both past and present of the Wiradjuri Nation and extends that respect to other community members.

## Document Details

**Name:** Plan of Management for Bethungra Dam Reserve (Site Specific)

**Author:** Narelle Hobson

**Council:** Junee Shire Council

**Adoption Date:** XXXX

## Table of Versions

Version	Description	Date
1	Draft Submitted to Crown Land	
2	Draft (for Council Comment)	
3	Version for Public Exhibition	
4	Version for Council Endorsement	



# 1. Introduction

The Crown Land Management Act 2016 (CLM Act) commenced on 1 July 2018, introducing legislation to govern the management of Crown land in NSW. Councils now manage Crown reserve land as if it were “community land” under the Local Government Act 1993 (LG Act).

Under the LG Act, Council is required to have Plans of Management (PoM) in place for all land that it manages, in accordance with Section 3.23 of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 and Section 36 of the Local Government Act 1993.

This PoM specifically addresses the management of Bethungra Dam Reserve which is classified as “community land” under the LG Act. It outlines the way in which the land will be used. It also provides the framework to guide Council in relation to the authorisation of licences over the land.

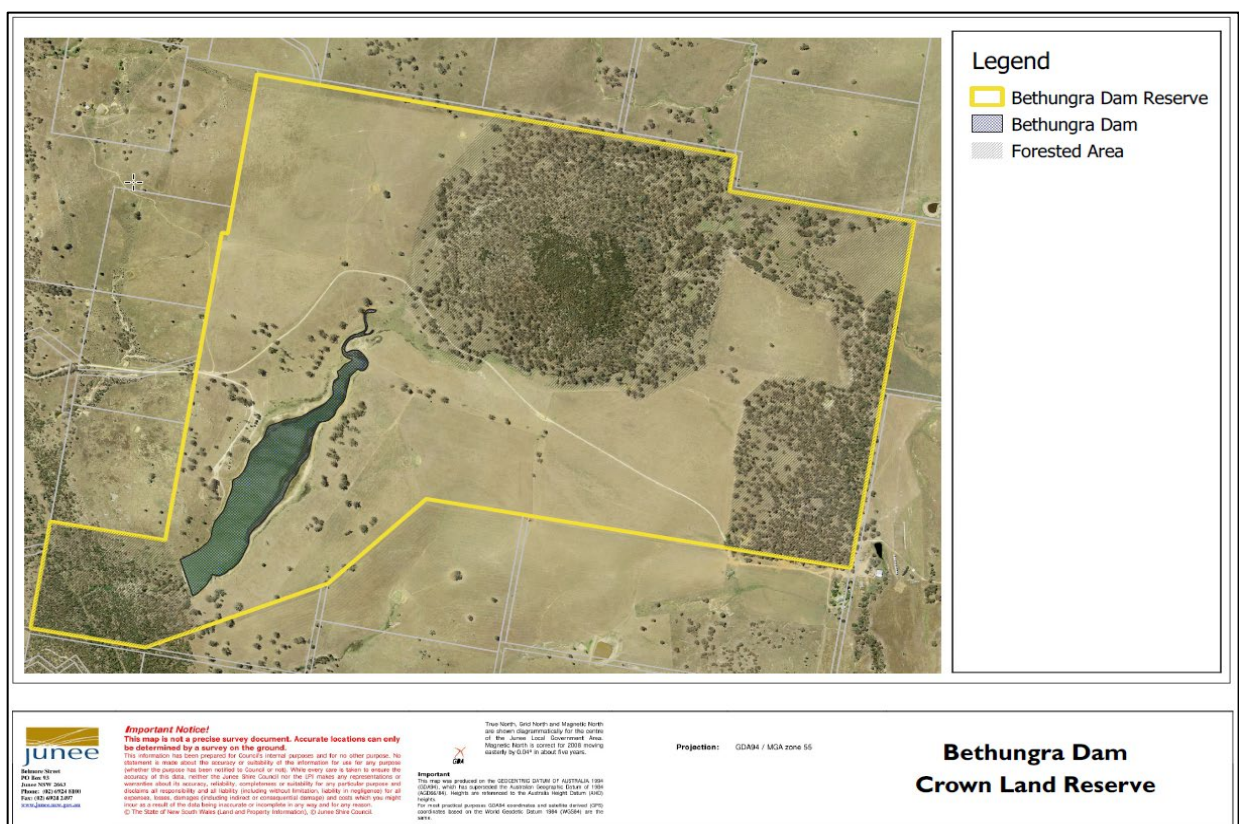


Figure 1: Bethungra Dam Reserve location and features.

# 2. Purpose of this Plan of Management

The Purpose of this PoM is to:

- Contribute to Junee Shire Council’s broader strategic goals and vision set out in the Junee Community Strategic Plan, adopted in 2017.
- Ensure compliance with the Local Government Act 1993.
- Ensure compliance with the Crown Land Management Act 2016.
- Provide clarity for future development, land use and management of the reserve.

### 3. Process of Preparing this Plan of Management

Division 2 of Part 2 of Chapter 6 of the Local Government Act sets out the process for the preparation of a PoM. Figure 2 illustrates the process undertaken by Council in preparing this PoM.

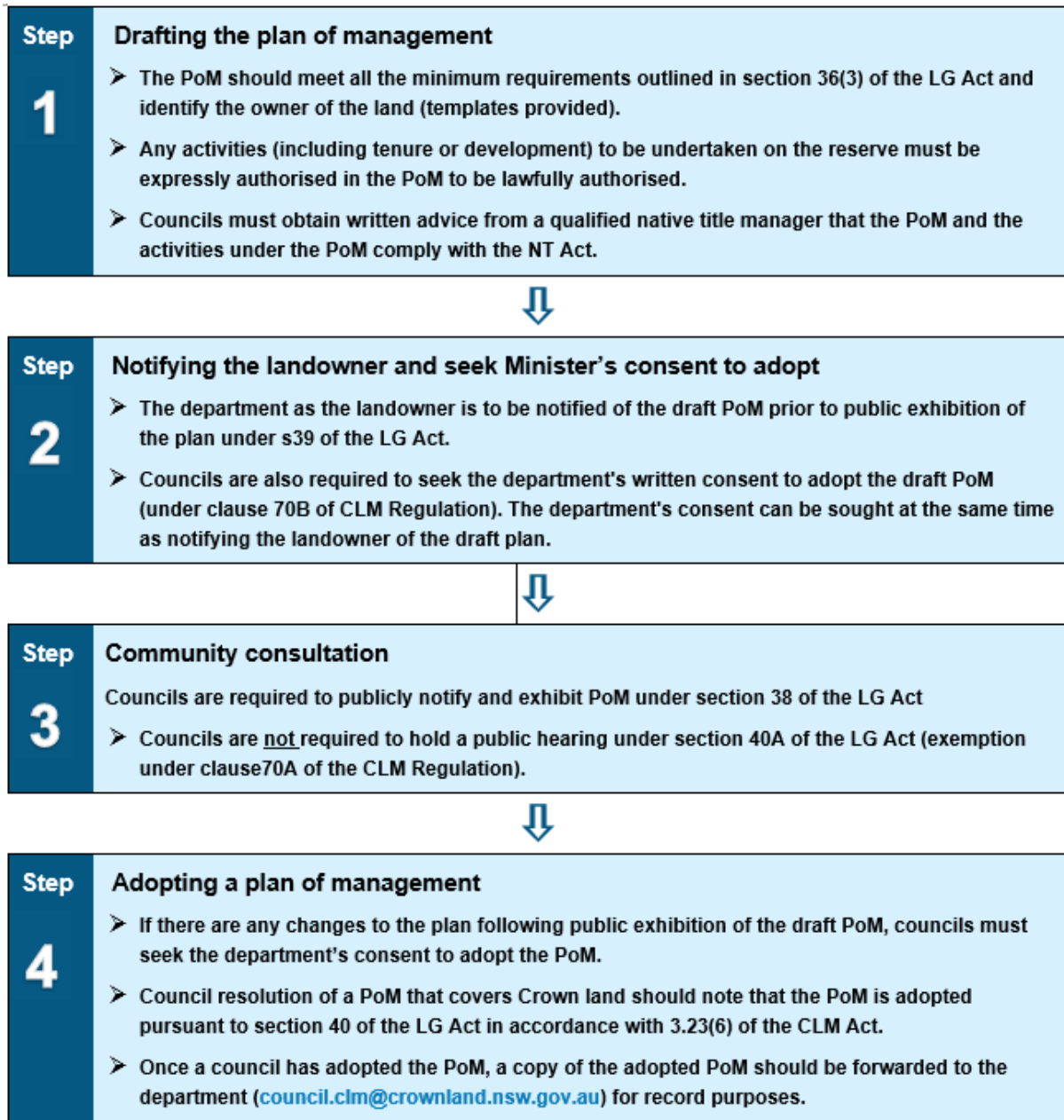


Figure 2: Process of Preparing a Plan of Management for Council managed Crown Reserves

## 4. Review of this Plan of Management

### 4.1 Methodology

This PoM will require regular review to ensure that it aligns with community values and changing community needs, and to reflect changes in Council's priorities. Ongoing community consultation will result in the opportunity to review the document components annually and for the plan to be re-adopted with any changes. If no changes are warranted, the PoM will still need to be updated and re-adopted to reflect changes at least every five years.

The performance of this PoM will be reviewed annually to ensure that the Reserve is being managed in accordance with the PoM, is well maintained and provides a safe environment for public enjoyment.

The appendices to this PoM may be updated from time to time, reflecting significant changes to the condition of the land.

A draft Concept Master Plan has been developed for future improvement of the reserve (Appendix A). The community will have opportunity to comment on the draft Concept Master Plan and to participate in reviews of this PoM. The draft will be finalised and adopted along with a future re-adoption of the PoM.

### 4.2 Legislative Framework

Legislative framework and requirements regarding Crown land plans of management are provided in Appendix B.

### 4.3 Community Consultation

Before Council can adopt this PoM, it must be placed on public exhibition for at least 28 days in accordance with the LG Act. The period in which written submissions can be received is not less than 42 days from the first day of public exhibition.

Council has a sound understanding of local issues developed through consultation with all stakeholders, including people who are familiar with and use the Bethungra Dam Reserve. Council will undertake on-going community consultation to assist in providing facilities that are relevant to the needs of the community.

Significantly, the future development of the reserve is based on the views expressed by users through public consultation. This public consultation guides and informs Council's land management aims. The co-operation of the users of the Bethungra Dam Reserve in the development of this PoM assists in achieving the management goals and objectives, and ensures that the needs of the community and environment are met.

On-going community consultation will be undertaken to inform any works which occur under this PoM. Consultation will be in the form of presentations at community meetings and letter drops regarding works being undertaken.

## 5. Reserve Background and Context

### 5.1 Land Description

This PoM applies to the whole of the Bethungra Dam Reserve, 567 Waterworks Road, Bethungra.

Table 1: Information about the Reserve covered by this Plan of Management.

<b>Reserve Number</b>	<b>220036</b>
<b>Gazettal Date</b>	17/1/1992
<b>Reserve Purpose</b>	Public Recreation
<b>Land Parcel</b>	Lot 84 DP 726196 Parish of Ulandra County Clarendon
<b>Area (Hectares)</b>	386.615
<b>LEP Zoning</b>	RUI Primary Production
<b>Assigned Category</b>	Park
<b>Native Title Claim/ Determination</b>	Not applicable

### 5.2 Vegetation Context

Approximately 40% of the reserve remains uncleared with remnant vegetation comprised of low to open woodland, with a highly disturbed understory in the sections which have been actively grazed in the past.

The unnamed granite hill located near the northern boundary of the reserve is well covered with native low-open woodland. This vegetation is predominately comprised of White Box (*Eucalyptus albens*), Red Ironbark (*E. sideroxylon*), Native pine (*Callitris columellaris*), Kurrajong (*Brachychiton populneus*) and Dropping She Oak (*Allocasuarina verticillate*), covering the hill to its lower slopes. Grazing and resampling by cattle and sheep have moderately disturbed the understory of this community.

A stand of White Box Savannah Woodland is situated on the gently undulating lower slopes of the eastern corner of the parcel. This community is in good condition, but less regeneration is evident. A narrow partially cleared corridor of trees along Billabong Creek in the north-eastern part of the parcel links this remnant vegetation with that on the hill. This corridor is a vital link for dispersion and the movement of fauna. A few other White Box are sparsely scattered along the slopes adjoining the Bethungra Dam.

Below the dam wall, in the far south-western corner is the only other substantial patch of remnant vegetation. This combines with the Ulandra Nature Reserve, adjoining the area to the south, to form part of the corridor along Wandalybingle Creek.

### 5.3 Geology

The area is an underlying large, localised granite intrusion. This is quite close to the surface. Soils are derived by weathering of the parent rock to form a shallow mantle. Coarse grains of quartz and a high percentage of the sand fraction dominates soil composition near the crests. These are progressively replaced downslope and in gullies by an increasing percentage of finer soil fractions. An increase in soil depth is also evident downhill.

Granite soils are typically erodible, being prone to most forms of wind and water activated erosion. It is therefore essential to maintain a ground cover on the Bethungra Dam soils. At its current level for grazing and light recreational activities this is being achieved, however elevated levels of grazing can cause land degradation to occur over time.

## 6. Threatened Habitat and Ecological Communities

### 6.1 Fauna

The Bethungra Dam Reserve provides habitat for threatened species in its vicinity. Some of these species include:

- Black-breasted Buzzard
- Blue-billed Duck
- Speckled Warbler
- Flame Robin

The recorded locations of these and other species are displayed in Figures 2 to 5/

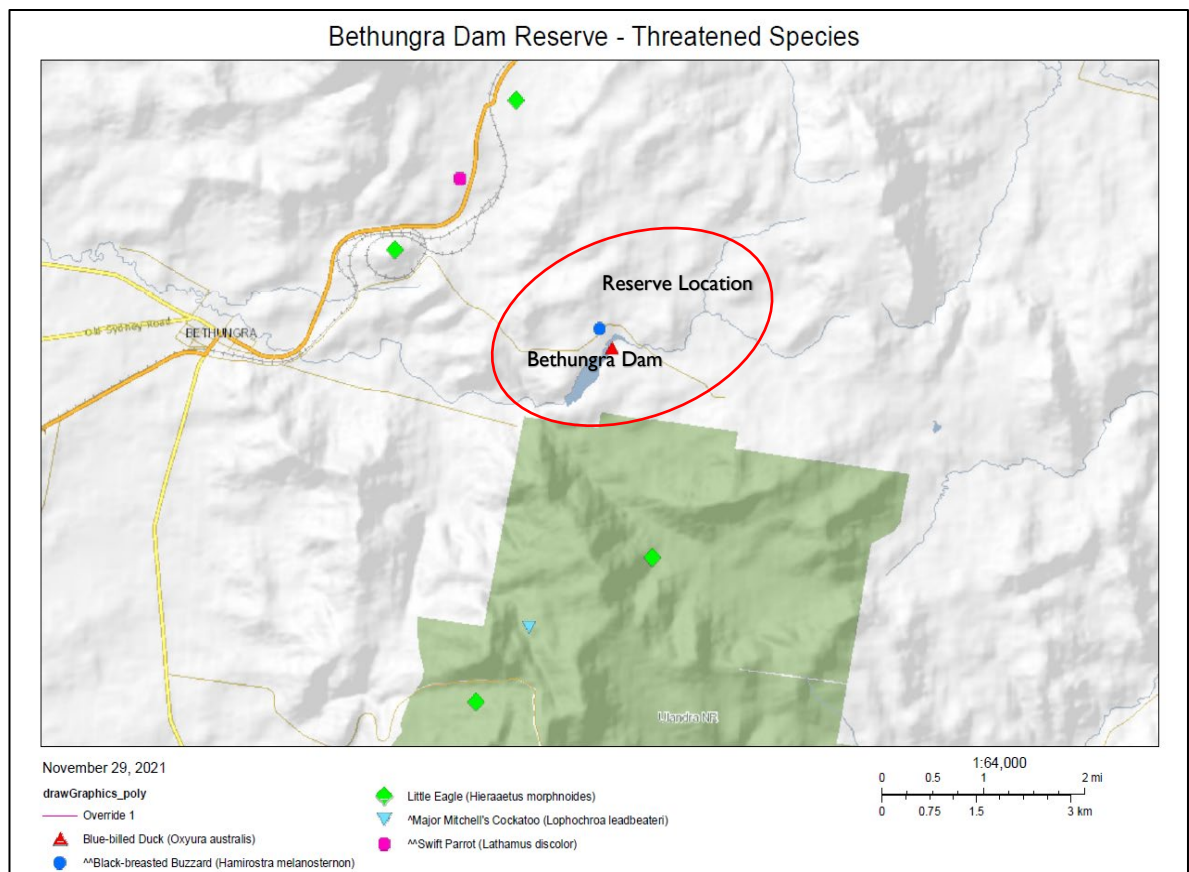


Figure 2: Bethungra Dam Reserve Threatened Species - Map 1

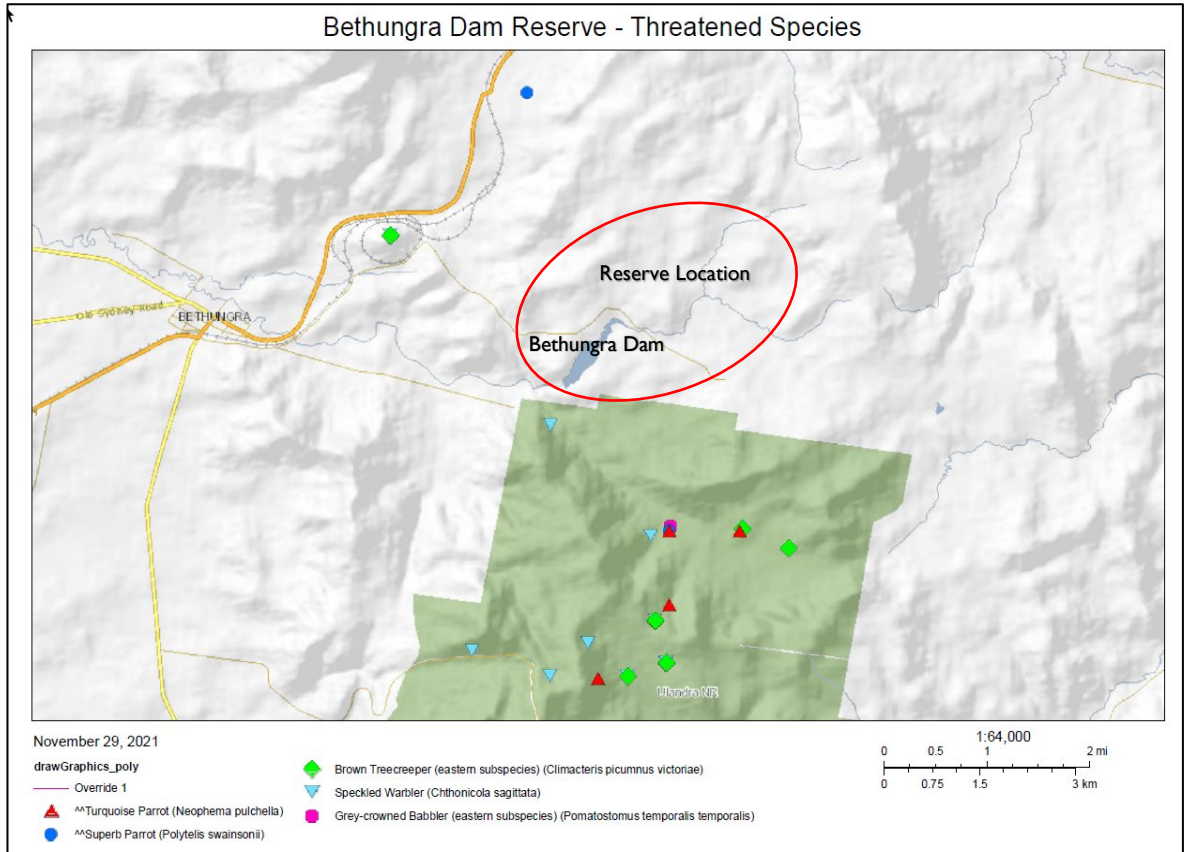


Figure 3: Bethungra Dam Reserve Threatened Species - Map 2

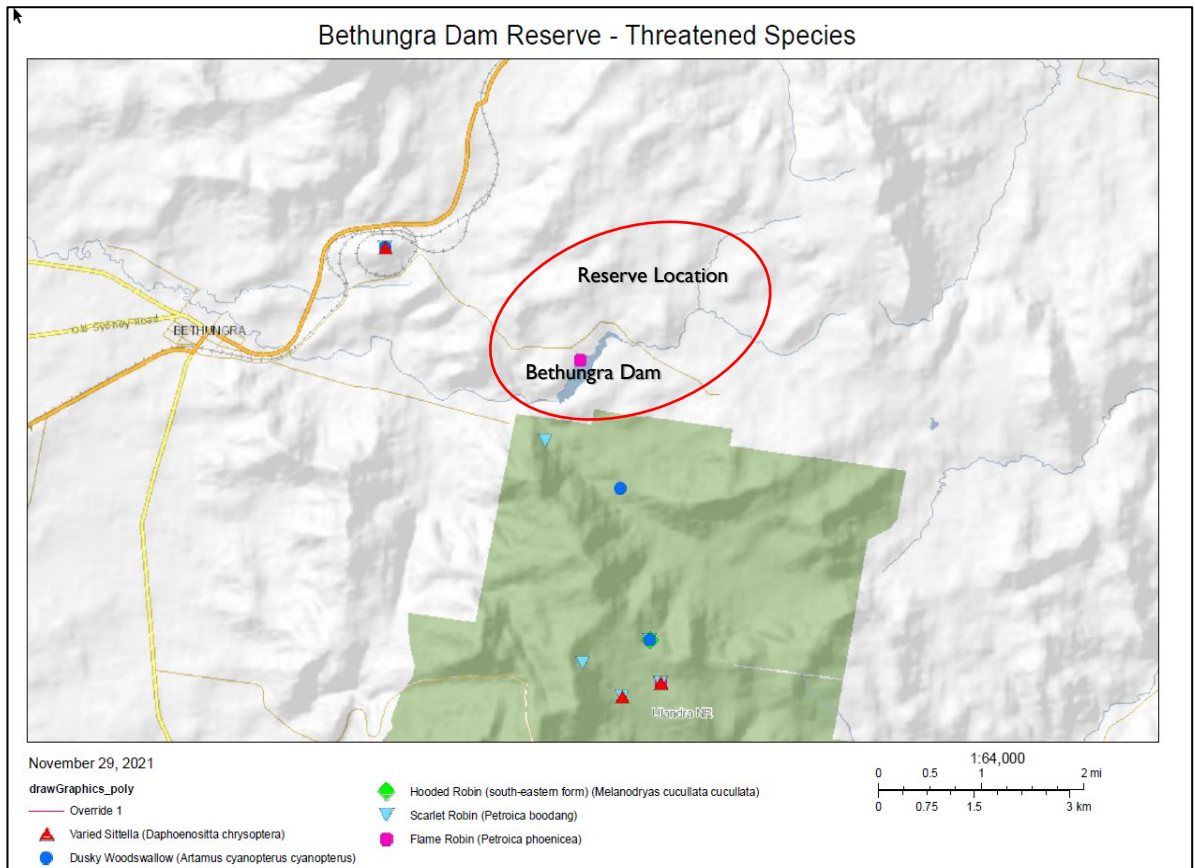


Figure 4: Bethungra Dam Reserve Threatened Species - Map 3

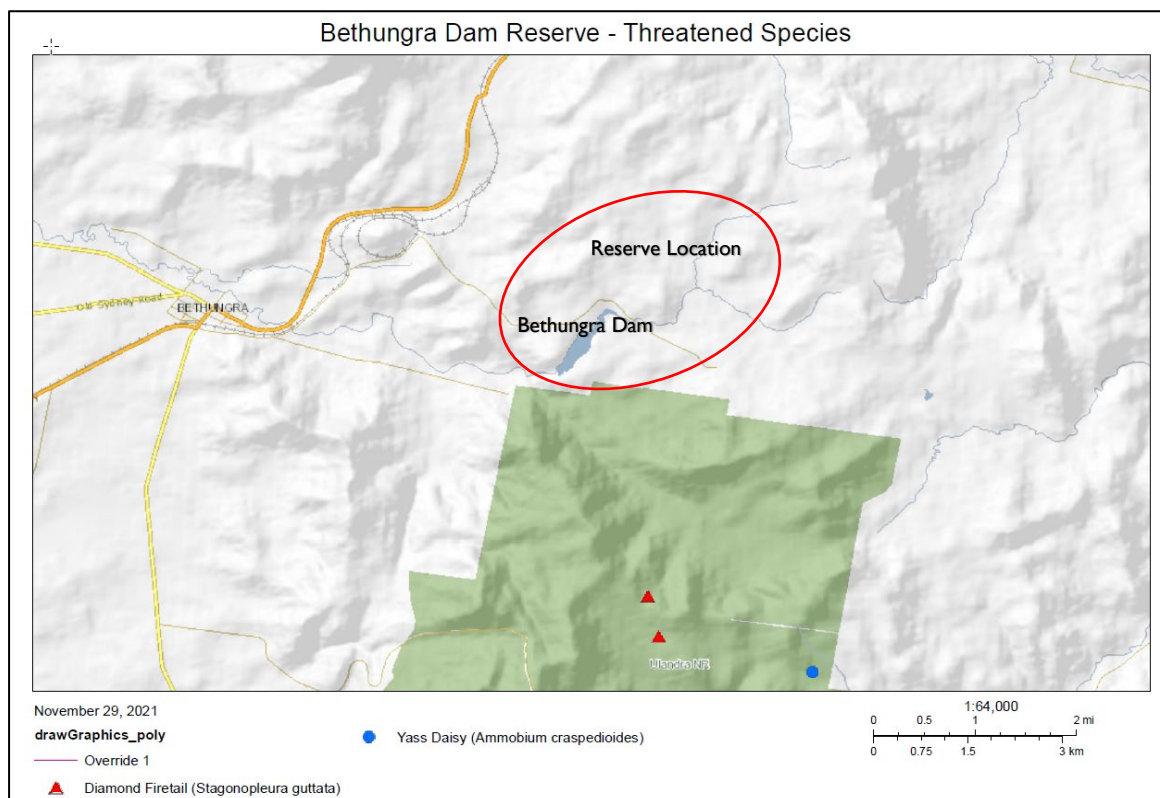


Figure 5: Bethungra Dam Reserve Threatened Species - Map 4

Although there are other threatened species recorded in the surrounding area but not specifically in the Bethungra Dam Reserve, it is not to say that it does not provide habitat and is still used by them.

Figures 2 and 4 show recorded sightings of three threatened species, providing an indication that the dam provides good habitat for some bird species. Outside of the reserve itself, in the adjacent Ulandra Nature Reserve, there is a higher concentration of recorded threatened species however these species, if the habitat is suitable, may still use the Bethungra Dam Reserve.

The dam itself also provides habitat for a number of aquatic species. Two thousand Golden Perch (Yellow Belly) and 2,000 Murray Cod were released into the dam over a two-year period. These species have potential to increase biodiversity of the dam and to mitigate the breeding and effects of European Perch (Redfin) which are prevalent in large schools.

## 6.2 Flora

Flora in the Reserve consists of Inland Rocky Hill Woodlands, Western Slopes Dry Sclerophyll Forests and Western Slopes Grassy Woodlands (Figure 7). These vegetation classes are considered Critically Endangered (Figure 8) under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. Preservation and protection of these species needs to be considered. Some of the significant native species that are present on the reserve include:

- White Box (*Eucalyptus albens*)
- Red Ironbark (*E. sideroxylon*)
- Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*)
- Blakely's Red Gum (*Eucalyptus blakelyi*)

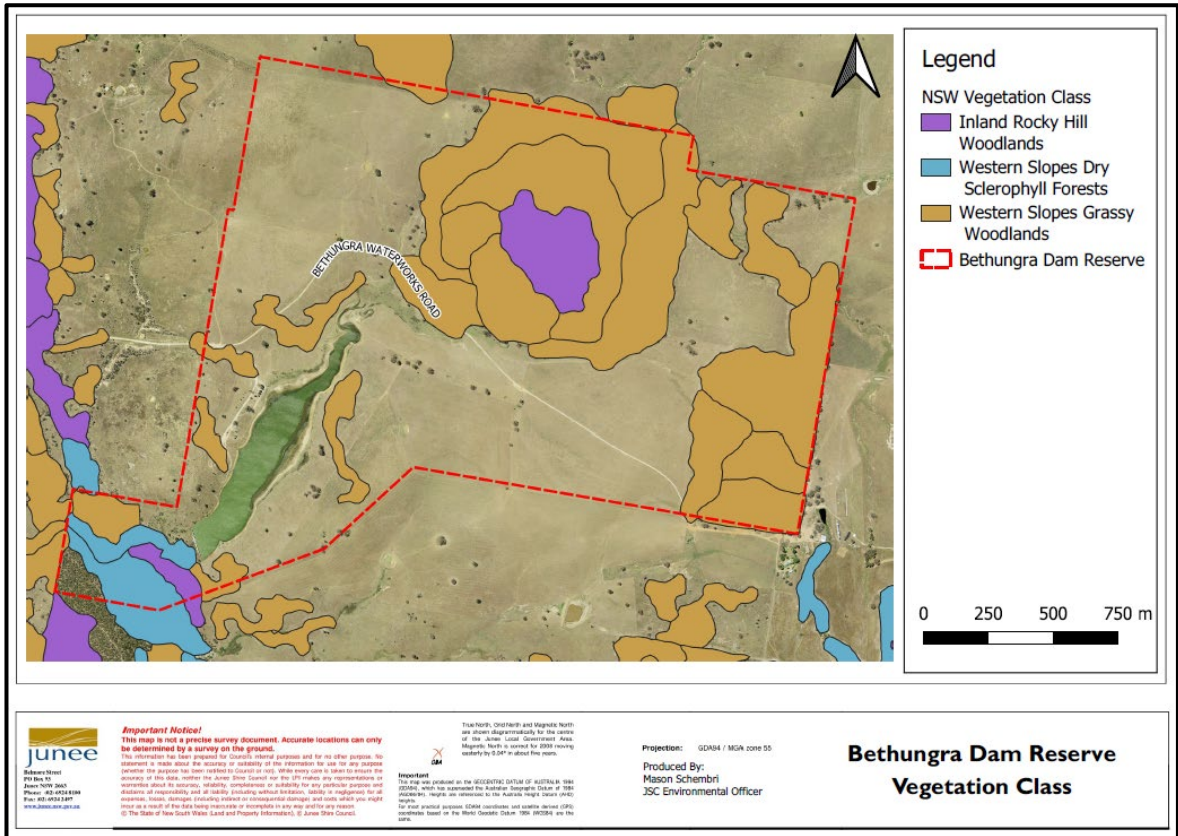


Figure 6: Bethungra Dam NSW Vegetation Class

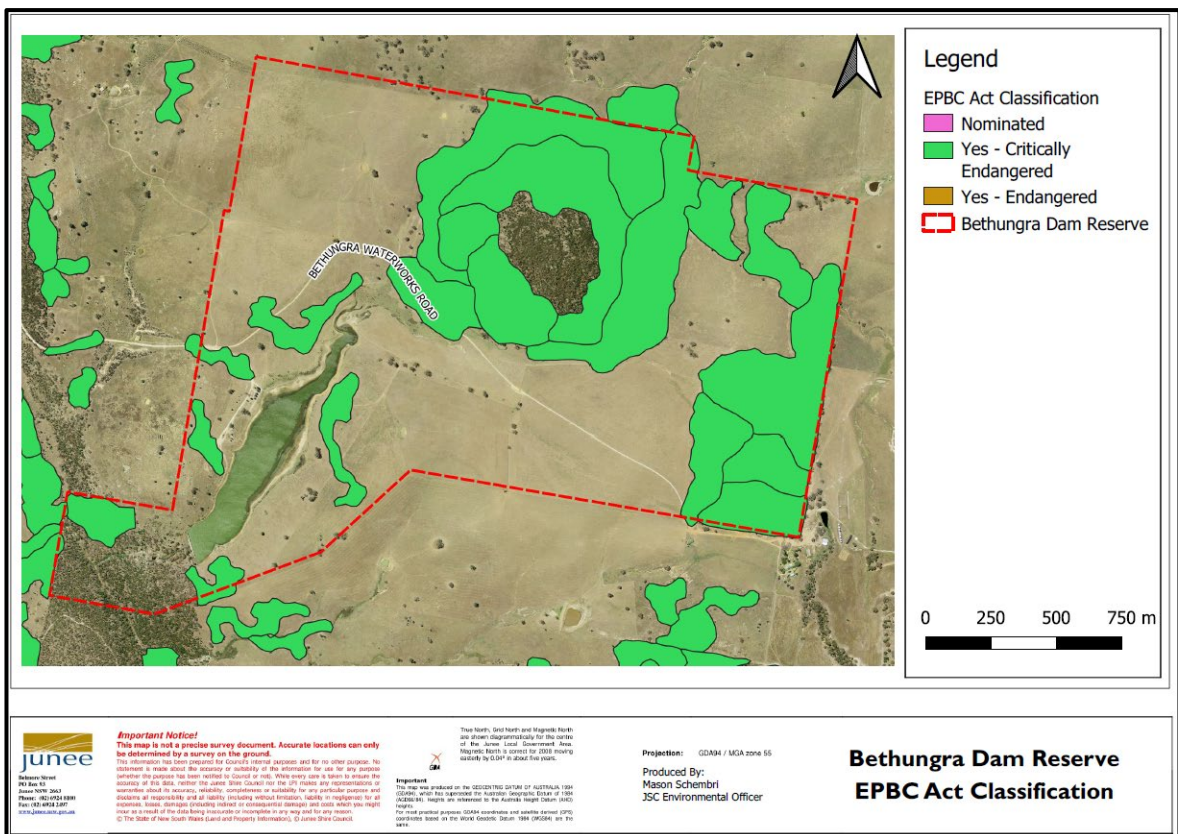


Figure 7: Bethungra Dam EPBC Act Vegetation Classification

Weeds are also prevalent on the reserve though not at unmanageable levels. All weeds on the reserve are managed in accordance with the Riverina Regional Strategic Management Plan, Council's Biosecurity – Weeds Policy, and the relevant legislation referenced in these documents.



A variety of native grasses are present on the reserve spanning to all sections. The restriction of grazing to the Licensed area (Appendix C) and the incorporation of slashing/cultural burning in times when the grasses have seed heads, will help regenerate the area and increase the quantity and cover of native grasses while reducing competition from weeds.

## 6.3 Weed Management

Junee Shire Council will control and manage all weeds on the section of reserve identified in Appendix C as “Recreational Area”. With regard to the “Licensed Area” also shown in Appendix C, weeds will be controlled and managed by the Licensee.

Herbicides and manual removal will be used for weed management according to the management treatment required for the specific weeds in the area.

## 7. Cultural Heritage

### 7.1 First Nations Heritage

Prior to European occupation, the area was part of the extensive tribal lands of the Wiradjuri First Nations peoples. A shield tree has been identified within the reserve, indicating First Nations occupation or movement on or through the area.

Through further investigation, using an Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) search (Appendix E), heritage items are recorded around the reserve which also indicates First Nations peoples use of and movement through the reserve.

Among other movements, the Wiradjuri First Nations people travelled from the Murrumbidgee River to higher country, like the country around the Bethungra Dam Reserve, to seek a cooler climate before returning to the river and creeks to find a better source of food and water.

### 7.2 European Heritage

European activity in the area commenced in the 1850s with good grazing country in the area and later, the establishment of the railway in the 1880s provided the catalyst for the establishment of a village at Bethungra.

The Bethungra Dam is located 4km east of the village and was chosen as a suitable location for a dam to be built. This water was used by the Railways as extra locomotives were needed to help counter the steeper gradients between Bethungra and Frampton. For a time, the Dam also supplied water to the fledgling village at Junee.

Construction of Bethungra Dam commenced in August 1894 under contract by Messrs Love, McCormick and Dwyer. It was completed in December 1895 by Mr H A Bloomfield after the original contractors abandoned work in July of 1895 due to bankruptcy.

Due to its construction prior to 1900 the dam is automatically classified under the Heritage Act 1977 and is a valuable and significant heritage item in the region.

## 8. Current Land Use and Condition

### 8.1 Land Use

Bethungra Dam Reserve is mainly used for recreation purposes with camping facilities readily available to the public. Water sports, bushwalking and fishing are popular in and around the dam, making it a popular tourist attraction.

The larger part of the reserve is under licence for the purposes of grazing. The maximum carrying capacity on this section of reserve is 2.5dse to prevent adverse impact on the local environment. All fences on the part of the reserve under Licence (Appendix C) are to be maintained by the Licensee. All fences in the Recreational Area (Appendix C) are to be maintained by Council, excluding boundary fences.

### 8.2 Assets

The reserve contains walkways leading from the camping and caravanning area. The Bethungra Dam walking track leads to a viewpoint and a small seat with shading has been placed at the head of the dam. Along this walking path a series of metal scaffolding walkways/bridges have been constructed to provide a safe walking path for tourists. It also assists minimisation of erosion and land degradation.

Other infrastructure assets across the reserve include:

- Toilet amenities (self-composting).
- Covered picnic tables.
- Compacted hard stand areas for caravan and car parking.
- Designated campfire areas.
- Large shade structure with 2 gas barbeques.

## 9. Condition of Land on Adoption of the Plan

Grass cover is good with a variety of native and exotic grasses present. Invasive weeds are also present and identified throughout the reserve, and they are competing with the native grass species. There is re-growth of Eucalypts in some areas of the reserve, mainly along rock placements that define the carparks. Stock is restricted to the licensed area of the reserve, which will assist with tree re-growth.

There is a lack of understorey vegetation, the large Eucalypts and other trees are spread out in some areas and concentrated/densely populated in others. Planting in the areas lacking understorey may help promote wildlife corridors. Land degradation is present around the dam due to grazing of cattle in the past.

## 10. Land Management

### 10.1 Overview of Future Development and Management

Bethungra Dam Reserve has been grazed by stock in the past to maintain the levels of grass and assist in the control of some weeds.

This PoM restricts grazing to the Licence Area (shown in Appendix C) to restore biodiversity, particularly at the dam water interface.

A draft Concept Master Plan (Appendix A) is being prepared which will identify areas within the Recreational Area for improvement, revegetation and development in terms of increasing native species in the area and reducing the quantity of exotic species.

Management and development of the reserve in the future will also include increased biodiversity of the aquatic species in the dam to mitigate the effects of pest species such as European Perch (Redfin). This will include increasing fish habitat within the dam.

## 10.2 Land Classification

Bethungra Dam Reserve is classified as 'community land' under the Local Government Act and its initial categorisation of "Park" will not be altered by this PoM.

## 10.3 Land Categorisation

A "Park" is defined in clause 104 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 as land which is improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities, and for uses which are mainly passive or active recreational, social, educational, and cultural pursuits that do not intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others.

The core objectives for parks, as outlined in Section 36G of the Local Government Act, are to:

- Encourage, promote, and facilitate recreational, cultural, social, and educational pastimes and activities;
- Provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games;
- Improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.

## 10.4 Permissible Uses

- Active and passive recreation including children's play.
- Recreational fishing.
- Swimming.
- Eating and drinking in a relaxed setting.
- Short term camping and caravanning.
- Use of established fire pits.
- Group recreational use, such as picnics and private celebrations.
- Filming and photographic projects.
- Publicly accessible ancillary areas, such as toilet facilities.
- Restricted access ancillary areas (eg. storage areas associated with functions, gardening equipment).

- Service areas ancillary to the use of land (eg. loading areas, carparking spaces, bicycle racks).
- Low intensity commercial activities (eg. recreational equipment hire).
- Public address (speeches).

Some of the uses listed above require the prior approval of Council.

## 10.5 Permissible/Future Development

- Development for the purposes of improving access, amenity, and the visual character of the Reserve.
- Development or activity that promotes the restoration and regeneration of the land.
- Amenities to facilitate the safety, use and enjoyment of the park and natural environment (eg. children's play equipment).
- Heritage and cultural interpretation signage.
- Location, direction and regulatory signage.
- Lighting, seating, toilet facilities, shade structures and marked areas (eg. access paths and activity trails) that will not adversely affect the environment or setting of the area.
- Hard and soft landscaped areas that will not adversely affect the natural state or setting of the area.
- Designated fire pits, BBQ facilities and sheltered seating areas that will not adversely affect the natural state or setting of the area.
- Ancillary service, transport or loading areas that will not adversely affect the natural state or setting of the area.
- Commercial development which is sympathetic to and supports use in the area, and which will not adversely affect the natural state or setting of the area (eg. cafe, kiosk, recreation hire and equipment areas).

## 10.6 Express Authorisation of Licences and Other Estates

This PoM expressly authorises the issue of licences and other estates over the land covered by the PoM, provided that:

- The purpose is consistent with the purpose for which it was reserved.
- The purpose is consistent with the core objectives for the category of the land.
- The licence is for a permitted purpose listed in the *Local Government Act 1993* or the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.
- The issue of the licence or other estate and the provisions of the licence or other estates can be validated by the provisions of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*.
- Where the land is subject to a claim under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* the issue of any licence or other estate will not prevent the land from being transferred in the event the claim is granted.
- The licence or other estate is granted and notified in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993* or the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

- The issue of a licence or other estate will not materially harm the use of the land for the purpose for which it was dedicated or reserved.
- This PoM expressly authorises the issue of licences and other estates over the land categorised as “Park” listed in Table 1.
- Any licence for grazing will be limited to the “Licence Area” shown in Appendix C, having an area of approximately 246.05 hectares.
- The “Licence Area” will be licensed for the grazing of stock only and will be maintained by the Licensee in relation to grazing activities. All access roads and facilities used in the “Licence Area” will be maintained by the Licensee and this requirement will be incorporated into any licence issued.
- Revenue from any occupancy of the reserve in terms of a licence will be expended for the development, maintenance and management of the Bethungra Dam Reserve.
- Any licence proposal within the “Recreation Area” shown in Appendix C will be individually assessed and considered, including the community benefit, compatibility with this PoM and the capacity of the area to support the activity.

Table 2: Licences and purposes for which they may be granted for community land categorised as Park.

<b>Type of tenure arrangement</b>	<b>Maximum term</b>	<b>Purpose for which tenure may be granted</b>
Short Term Licence issued under s2.20 of the Crown Land Management Act 2016	1 Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grazing of stock.</li> </ul>
Licence	5 Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Café/kiosk area, including seating and tables.</li> <li>• Mobile food trucks.</li> <li>• Hire or sale of recreational equipment.</li> <li>• Educational sessions/workshops.</li> </ul>
Other Estates		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This PoM allows Council to grant ‘an estate’ over community land for the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993.</li> <li>• Estates may also be granted across community land for the provision of pipes, conduits, or other connections under the surface of the ground for the connection of premises adjoining the community land to a facility of the Council or other public utility provider that is situated on community land.</li> </ul>

## 11. Objectives and Performance Targets

### 11.1 Recreational Opportunities

s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets	s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives	s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance
Provide opportunities for recreation, scientific and educational use of the natural and historical features on the reserve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development and implementation of draft Concept Master Plan (Annexure C).</li> <li>• Installation of appropriate facilities for day use and camping.</li> <li>• Encourage scientific and educational use of the dam and surrounds, and other resources on the reserve by schools and other user groups.</li> </ul>	Survey of reserve users/user groups, Monitoring of complaints/suggestions. community and authority consultation.

### 11.2 Public Safety and Recreation

s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets	s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives	s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance
Promotion of public safety and responsible on-water recreational use of the dam.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electric motors are preferred but small petrol motors are permissible.</li> <li>• Zone an area in the lake for swimming.</li> <li>• Standard nautical navigation rules will apply to the use of watercraft on the dam.</li> <li>• Discourage access to the dam wall (by water).</li> </ul>	Survey, observation, recorded complaints and community and authority consultation.
Avoidance of user conflict and congestion within the recreation area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategically locate facilities and installations to separate groups of users.</li> <li>• Ensure that all facilities and parking availability cater for the maximum recreational carrying capacity of the reserve.</li> </ul>	Observation, user survey, complaints monitoring.
Minimising the danger to users of the recreational area from venomous fauna, particularly snakes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the height of grass during the spring and summer periods in the recreational area by management of slashing.</li> </ul>	Survey, observation and monitoring by Council staff and of complaints from users.

### 11.3 Public Access Beyond the Recreational Area

s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets	s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives	s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance
Discourage public access beyond the recreation area boundaries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signposts at strategic positions along the boundary of the recreation area.</li> <li>• Maintain periodic authoritative presence during appropriate seasons.</li> </ul>	Survey, observation, records, and community consultation.

### 11.4 Licence Conditions

s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets	s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives	s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance
Ensure that the terms of the licence are being met in relation to the maintenance and management of the area of the reserve identified in this PoM as the "Licence Area".	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure all licence conditions are being met.</li> </ul>	Observation and monitoring by Council Officers, monitoring of complaints.
Restriction of grazing in areas of the Bethungra Dam Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of a "recreational area" to the reserve that restricts all grazing in that area.</li> </ul>	Survey, observation, record, and community and authority consultation on the performance of the set-out objectives and targets of the Bethungra Dam Reserve management and development.
Management of firebreaks in licence area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Firebreaks will be created where possible and observed during fire seasons within the licence area.</li> </ul>	Observation and monitoring by Council Officers, consultation with the Licensee.
Management of weeds in licence area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weeds will be controlled and managed by the Licensee in the "Licence Area".</li> </ul>	Number of weed species observed during inspection.

## 11.5 Natural Resource Protection

s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets	s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives	s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance
<p>Reduce land degradation in the reserve, particularly around the dam.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategically locate facilities and installations to minimise the concentration of user impacts.</li> <li>• Minimise user activity on the reserve during peak periods by imposing an entrance toll to the reserve. Revenue collected from this will accrue to the management of the park. (This strategy may only be implemented if user congestion is causing degradation of the physical and natural environment or danger to reserve users).</li> <li>• If necessary, close the reserve to the public for a notified period of time and carry out rehabilitation works. This will be notified to the public in local papers, social media and announced over district radio.</li> </ul>	<p>Survey, observation and community and authority consultation.</p>
<p>Prevent wilful damage to natural features and facilities. This may include recreation structures, facilities or vegetation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain periodic authoritative presence during appropriate seasons.</li> <li>• Signpost penalties for lighting of fires outside of designated areas and wilful damage to the physical and biological resources of the reserve.</li> <li>• Implement penalties for wilful damage to physical and biological resources and features.</li> </ul>	<p>Survey, observation, record, and community and authority consultation.</p>
<p>Maintain and increase the ecological diversity of aquatic life in the Dam.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase aquatic habitat in the dam to provide cover for native fish.</li> <li>• Increase in native fish stocking to increase native fish biodiversity in the dam.</li> <li>• Provide and develop areas of more fish habitat eg. Logs (snags).</li> <li>• Monitor chemical and bacterial concentrations in the dam. If these exceed tolerable levels, investigate, and control the cause of excess influx.</li> <li>• Maintain a trophic structure in the dam capable of supporting low order carnivores.</li> </ul>	<p>Survey, observation, record, and community and authority consultation.</p>



s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets	s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives	s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance
Minimise negative user Impacts on Biological Resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure all fishing laws are being enforced at the dam in relation to breeding periods of native fish.</li> <li>• Install a string of floating buoys across the dam near the reedbeds to protect the habitat and provide sanctuary to avifauna from on-water recreational users.</li> <li>• Provide adequate supplies of firewood to prevent 'wood stripping' from trees on the reserve.</li> <li>• Implement penalties for unlawful removal of timber resources from the reserve.</li> <li>• Prohibit shooting and trapping of native fauna.</li> </ul>	Survey, observation, record, and community and authority consultation.
Protect wetland and reedbed areas from degradation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discourage access to the northern part of the dam by recreational users, by the use of appropriate signage and a floating barricade.</li> <li>• Prevent stock access to the dam.</li> <li>• Minimise the influx of undesirable chemicals and sediments to Bethungra Dam.</li> <li>• Prevent the dumping of agricultural or household chemicals or chemical containers in drainage liners.</li> </ul>	Survey, observation, record, and community and authority consultation.
Rehabilitate degraded areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Erect temporary fencing around degraded areas to prevent further damage.</li> <li>• Grade batter slopes into steep, unstable creek banks and lake foreshore areas.</li> <li>• Plant appropriate vegetation on degraded land and encourage natural regeneration.</li> </ul>	Survey, observation, record, and community and authority consultation.
Encourage natural regeneration of native tree species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Erect temporary and/or permanent fencing to exclude the public and pest herbivores from specified areas on the reserve.</li> <li>• Manage stock types, stocking rates and stock rotations such that natural regeneration can occur.</li> <li>• Manage vegetation levels through selective grazing.</li> </ul>	Survey, observation, record, and community and authority consultation.

s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets	s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives	s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance
Prevent resource degradation by rural use beyond the land's capability of supporting such use in perpetuity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out periodic assessment of the area's stock carrying capacity and prescribe maximum stocking rates in licence conditions.</li> <li>• No cropping is to occur on the reserve.</li> </ul>	Survey, observation, record, and community and authority consultation.
Safety of fauna.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The increase of natural vegetation and other revegetation/ regeneration activities in the reserve may influence increased use of the reserve by native fauna. The implementation of hollows and offset schemes to Bethungra Dam may also increase levels of habitat for fauna in the area.</li> <li>• Continue stocking fish in the dam.</li> </ul>	Survey, observation, record, and community and authority consultation on the performance of the set-out objectives and targets of the Bethungra Dam Reserve management and development.

## 11.6 Cultural Heritage Resource Protection

s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets	s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives	s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance
Protect and maintain the integrity of aboriginal heritage resources on the reserve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide educational material detailing the history of Aboriginal occupation of the area, incorporating the use of artifacts on the reserve. This may be in the form of an information board or part of a brochure.</li> <li>• Clear flammable materials from the vicinity of any identified shield trees or other artifacts.</li> </ul>	Observation/monitoring by Council maintenance staff. Recorded complaints.
Prevent wilful damage to cultural or historical features. These include the dam wall and all other structures and installations associated with the dam, fences, and items of Aboriginal heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discourage vandalism to structures on the reserve.</li> <li>• Maintain periodic authoritative presence during appropriate seasons.</li> <li>• Penalties will apply for vandalism.</li> </ul>	Observation/monitoring by Council maintenance staff. Recorded complaints. Penalty Notices issued.

## 11.7 Control of Noxious Plants and Animals

s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets	s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives	s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance
Prevent the spread of weeds and pest animals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eradicate weeds by chemical and/or physical means, having regard to other organisms and environmentally sensitive areas.</li> <li>• Eradicate vertebrate pests by means of trapping and gassing.</li> <li>• Exclude external pests from the reserve using the appropriate fencing.</li> <li>• Monitor the area for reinfestations and act accordingly.</li> <li>• Weeds within the recreational area will be controlled by Council as per the Junee Shire Council Biosecurity – Weeds Policy.</li> </ul>	Presence of weeds and pest animals and community and authority consultation on the performance of the set-out objectives and targets.

## 11.8 Water Quality

s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets	s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives	s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance
Minimise the runoff of herbicides, pesticides, and fertilisers from surrounding agricultural land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with the Licensee and adjoining properties in the catchment and promote the use of natural and/or non-persistent pesticides and herbicides.</li> <li>• Construct runoff interception structures along drainage lines to dam runoff water and encourage settling of any undesirable chemicals prior to their reaching the dam. Plant vegetation around these structures which absorb and process undesirable chemicals.</li> </ul>	Survey, observation, record, and community and authority consultation on the performance of the set-out objectives and targets of the Bethungra Dam Reserve management and development.

s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets	s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives	s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance
Minimise catchment erosion and influx of sediments into the Bethungra Dam.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant trees and encourage natural regeneration of vegetation along drainage lines and foreshores of the dam.</li> <li>Restrict stock to the “Licence area.”</li> <li>Carry out rehabilitation of eroded or degraded areas.</li> </ul>	Survey, observation, record, and community and authority consultation on the performance of the set-out objectives and targets of the Bethungra Dam Reserve management and development.
Prevent dry-land salting and salinisation of water bodies on the Bethungra Reserve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage tree regeneration to maintain low groundwater levels.</li> <li>Monitor the distribution of salt-tolerant indicator species.</li> </ul>	Survey, observation, record, and community and authority consultation on the performance of the objectives and targets of the Bethungra Dam Reserve management and development.

## 11.9 Emergency and Fire Management

s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets	s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives	s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance
Minimise the hazard of uncontrolled fires on the Reserve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confine public use of fire to the designated recreation area by the strategic placement of suitable non-removeable fireplaces/pits.</li> <li>Clear all combustible fuel (except wood provided) from around fireplaces.</li> <li>Restrict fire use by the public during hot “fire hazard” days and implement fire restrictions.</li> <li>Slash the reserve in required areas to reduce the grass fuel load.</li> <li>Liaise with local fire organisations.</li> <li>Create firebreaks around the perimeter of the reserve where practical.</li> <li>Maintain periodic authoritative presence during appropriate</li> </ul>	Survey, observation, record, and community and authority consultation on the performance of the set-out objectives and targets of the Bethungra Dam Reserve management and development.

s.36(3)(b) Objectives and Performance Targets	s.36(3)(c) Means of achievement of objectives	s.36(3)(d) Manner of assessment of performance
	<p>seasons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signpost penalties for the lighting of fires outside of designated areas.</li> <li>• Implement penalties for lighting fires outside of designated areas and breach of fire regulations.</li> <li>• Allow access to water for refilling vehicles for emergency response.</li> <li>• Allow use as a refuge from fire through minimising weed and vegetation growth and preparation of an emergency vehicle parking area on the eastern side of the dam.</li> </ul>	

# 12. Appendices

## Appendix A – Bethungra Dam Reserve Draft Concept Master Plan

### Schematic Plan

L05

**AIMS**

**Celebrate** the unique natural beauty and industrial heritage at Bethungra Dam

**Welcome** visitors to Bethungra Dam

**Explore** the area through walking trails, boardwalks, picnic places and congregation spaces and **connect** to a larger bike trail network

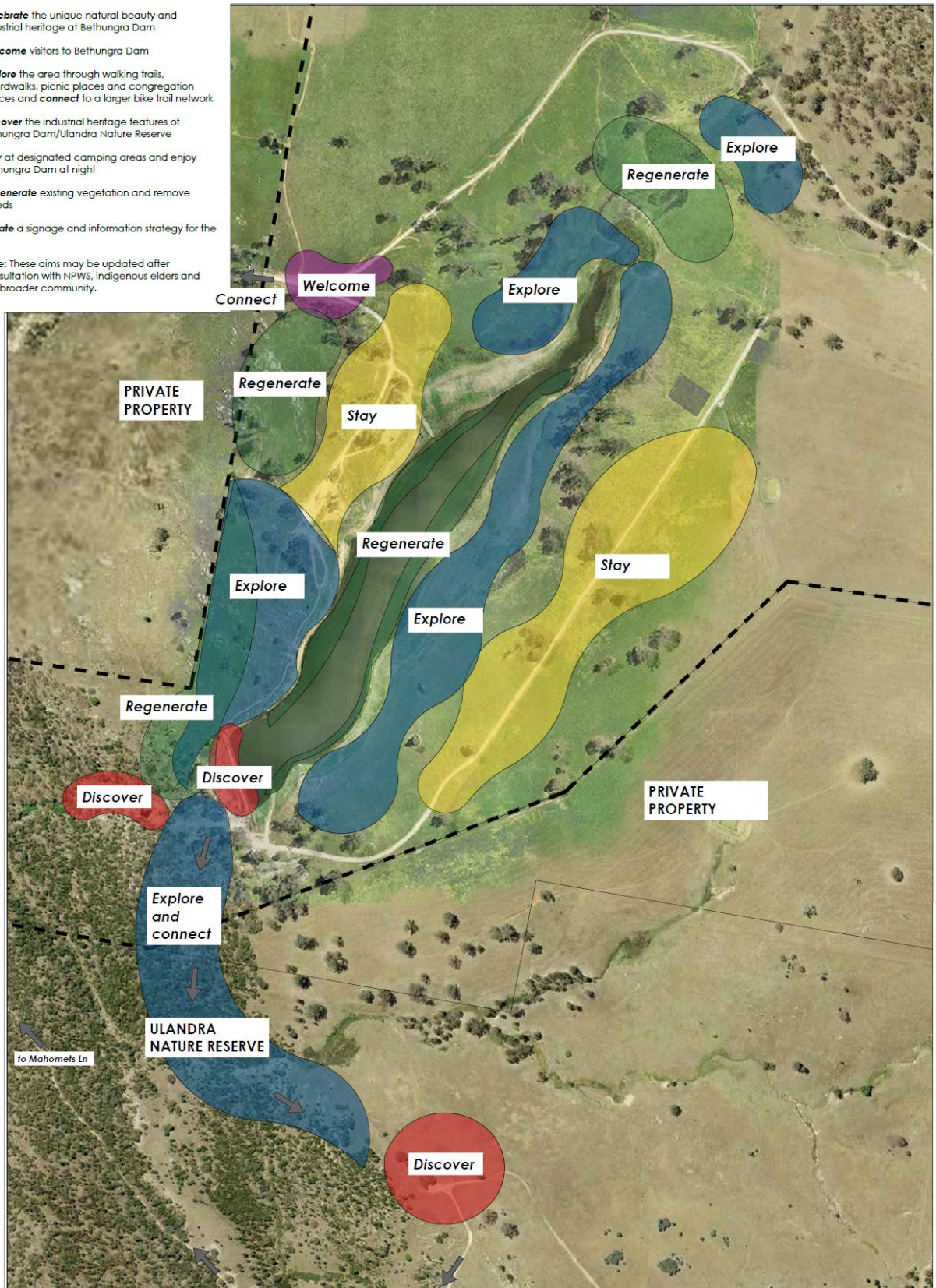
**Discover** the industrial heritage features of Bethungra Dam/Ulandra Nature Reserve

**Stay** at designated camping areas and enjoy Bethungra Dam at night

**Regenerate** existing vegetation and remove weeds

**Create** a signage and information strategy for the site

Note: These aims may be updated after consultation with NPWS, indigenous elders and the broader community.



## Appendix B - Plan of Management Legislative Framework

### Local Government Act 1993

Section 35 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act) provides that community land can only be used in accordance with:

- the plan of management applying to that area of community land, and
- any law permitting the use of the land for a specified purpose or otherwise regulating the use of the land, and
- the provisions of Division 2 of Chapter 6 of the Act.

Section 36 of the Act provides that a plan of management for community land must identify the following:

- a) the category of the land,
- b) the objectives and performance **targets** of the plan with respect to the land,
- c) the means by which the council proposes to **achieve** the plan's objectives and performance targets,
- d) the manner in which the council proposes **to assess its performance** with respect to the plan's objectives and performance targets and may require the prior approval of the council to the carrying out of any specified activity on the land.

A plan of management that applies to just one area of community land:

- a) must include a description of:
  - (i) the condition of the land, and of any buildings or other improvements on the land, as at the date of adoption of the plan of management, and
  - (ii) the use of the land and any such buildings or improvements as at that date, and
- b) must:
  - (i) specify the purposes for which the land, and any such buildings or improvements, will be permitted to be used, and
  - (ii) specify the purposes for which any further development of the land will be permitted under licence or otherwise, and
  - (iii) describe the scale and intensity of any such permitted use or development.

Land is to be categorised as one or more of the following:

- a) a natural area
- b) a sportsground
- c) a park
- d) an area of cultural significance
- e) general community use.

Land that is categorised as a natural area is to be further categorised as one or more of the following:

- a) bushland
- b) wetland
- c) escarpment

- d) watercourse
- e) foreshore
- f) a category prescribed by the regulations.

Additionally, under section 36 of the LG Act, a site-specific PoM must be made for land declared:

- as critical habitat, or directly affected by a threat abatement plan or a recovery plan under threatened species laws (sections 36A (2) and 36B (3))
- by council to contain significant natural features (section 36C (2))
- by council to be of cultural significance (section 36D (2)).

### **Classification of public land**

The LG Act requires classification of public land into either ‘community’ or ‘operational’ land (Section 26). The classification is generally made for council-owned public land by the council’s Local Environmental Plan (LEP) or in some circumstances by a resolution of the council (Section 27).

Crown reserves managed by council as Crown land manager have been classified as community land upon commencement of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (CLM Act). Councils may manage these Crown reserves as operational land if written consent is obtained from the Minister administering the CLM Act.

Classification of land has a direct effect on the council’s ability to dispose of or alienate land by sale, leasing, licensing, or some other means. Under the LG Act, community land must not be sold (except for scheduled purposes), exchanged or otherwise disposed of by the council, and the land must be used and managed in accordance with an adopted PoM. In addition, community land is subject to strict controls relating to licences (sections 45 and 46) of the LG Act.

By comparison, no such restrictions apply to operational land that is owned by councils. For example, operational land can be sold, disposed, exchanged, or leased including exclusive use over the land, unencumbered by the requirements which control the use and management of community land.

Crown reserves managed by council as operational land may generally be dealt with as other operational land but may not be sold or otherwise disposed of without the written consent of the Minister administering the CLM Act.

Operational land would usually include land held as a temporary asset or an investment, land which facilitates the council carrying out its functions or land which may not be open to the general public (for example, a works depot).

The classification or reclassification of council-owned public land will generally be achieved by a Local Environmental Plan (LEP) or by a resolution of council in accordance with sections 31, 32 and 33 of the LG Act. If land is not classified by resolution within a three-month period from acquisition it automatically becomes community land, regardless of whether it satisfies the objectives for community land as outlined in the LG Act.

For Crown land, Council cannot reclassify community land as operational land without consent of the Minister administering the CLM Act.



## **Crown Land Management Act 2016**

Crown reserves are land set aside on behalf of the community for a wide range of public purposes, including environmental and heritage protection, recreation and sport, open space, community halls, special events and government services.

Crown land is governed by the CLM Act, which provides a framework for the state government, local councils, and members of the community to work together to provide care, control, and management of Crown reserves.

Under the CLM Act, as Council Crown land managers, councils manage Crown land as if it were public land under the LG Act. However, it must still be managed in accordance with the purpose of the land and cannot be used for an activity incompatible with its purpose – for example, Crown land assigned the purpose of ‘environmental protection’ cannot be used in a way that compromises its environmental integrity.

Councils must also manage Crown land in accordance with the objects and principles of Crown land management outlined in the CLM Act. The objects and principles are the key values that guide Crown land management to benefit the community and to ensure that Crown land is managed for sustainable, multiple uses.

### ***Principles of Crown land management***

- Environmental protection principles are to be observed in the management and administration of Crown land.
- The natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna, and scenic quality) will be conserved wherever possible.
- Public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land are to be encouraged.
- Where appropriate, multiple uses of Crown land should be encouraged.
- Where appropriate, Crown land should be used and managed in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained.
- Crown land is to be occupied, used, sold, licensed, or otherwise dealt with in the best interests of the state of NSW, consistent with the above principles.

### ***Crown land management compliance***

In addition to management and use of Crown reserves which is aligned with the reserve purpose(s), there are other influences over council management of Crown reserves. For example, Crown land managers may have conditions attached to any appointment instruments, or councils may have to comply with specific or general Crown land management rules that may be published in the NSW Government Gazette. Councils must also comply with any Crown land regulations that may be made.

## **Native Title Act 1993**

The Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993* (NT Act) recognises and protects native title rights and interests. The objects of the NT Act are to:

- provide for the recognition and protection of native title.
- establish ways in which future dealings affecting native title may proceed and to set standards for those dealings.
- establish a mechanism for determining claims to native title.

- provide for, or permit, the validation of past acts invalidated because of the existence of native title.

The NT Act may affect use of Crown land, particularly development and granting of tenure.

Specifically, the CLM Act makes it mandatory for council to engage or employ a Native Title Manager. This role provides advice to council as to how the council's dealings and activities on Crown land can be valid or not valid in accordance with the NT Act.

Council must obtain the written advice from an accredited native title manager that Council complies with any applicable provisions of the native title legislation when:

- a) granting leases, licences, permits, forestry rights, easements, or rights of way over the land.
- b) mortgaging the land or allowing it to be mortgaged.
- c) imposing, requiring, or agreeing to covenants, conditions or other restrictions on use (or removing or releasing, or agreeing to remove or release, covenants, conditions, or other restrictions on use) in connection with dealings involving the land.
- d) approving (or submitting for approval) a plan of management for the land that authorises or permits any of the kinds of dealings referred to in (a), (b) or (c).

### **Council Plans and Policies Relating to this PoM**

- Junee Local Environmental Plan 2012
- Junee Development Control Plan 2015
- Inclusion Action Plan 2022-2026
- Walking and Cycling Accessibility Plan
- Local Companion Animals Management Plan
- Junee Shire Council Community Strategic Plan 2035

### **NSW State Legislation**

#### ***Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979***

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) provides the framework for planning and development across NSW and guides environmental planning instruments which provide a basis for development control.

The EP&A Act ensures that effects on the natural environment, along with social and economic factors, are considered by the council when granting approval for or undertaking works, developments, or activities.

This Act is also the enabling legislation for planning policies which may have a direct influence on open space management. On a state-wide level there are State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs). On a regional level there are Regional Environmental Plans (REPs). On a local level there are Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) as well as Development Control Plans (DCPs).

#### ***Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983***

The *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* (ALR Act) is important legislation that recognises the rights of Aboriginal peoples in NSW. It recognises the need of Aboriginal peoples for land and acknowledges that land for Aboriginal people in the past was progressively reduced

without compensation. Crown land meeting certain criteria may be granted to an Aboriginal Land Council. This Act may affect dealings with Crown land that is potentially claimable.

### ***National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974***

Statutory responsibilities on the council arising from this Act specifically relate to the protection of sites of pre- and post-European contact archaeological significance. This Act may affect community land categorised as cultural significance, natural area, or park.

### ***Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016***

**Note:** The Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 repealed several pieces of legislation including the Native Vegetation Act 2003, Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995, the Nature Conservation Trust Act 2001, and the animal and plant provisions of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

This Act covers conservation of threatened species, populations and ecological communities, the protection of native flora and fauna. This Act primarily relates to community land categorised as natural area. However, other categories may also be affected.

The *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* has been repealed and superseded by the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. However, references to the former legislation remain in the LG Act and are therefore retained in this guideline.

DPIE's Energy, Environment and Science division advises that recovery plans and threat abatement plans made under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* were repealed on the commencement of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act* in 2017. These plans have not been preserved by any savings and transitional arrangement under the Biodiversity Conservation Act or LG Act, meaning pre-existing plans have no legal effect.

For this reason, requirements relating to recovery plans and threat abatement plans for local councils preparing plans of management under section 36B of the LG Act are now redundant. Councils will be advised if future amendments are made to the LG Act to enable these mechanisms.

### ***Fisheries Management Act 1994***

The *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (FM Act) includes provisions for the management of state fisheries, including the conservation of fish habitats, threatened species, populations and ecological communities of fish and marine vegetation and management of the riparian zone, waterways and threatened marine/freshwater aquatic species. This relates to community land categorised as natural area (foreshore, watercourse, or wetland).

Where an area of community land is declared to be critical habitat, or if that area is affected by a recovery plan or threat abatement plan under Part 7A of the FM Act, a site-specific plan of management will need to be undertaken.

### ***Rural Fires Act 1997***

This Act contains provisions for bushfire risk management and the establishment of a

Bushfire Management Committee. It also includes direction on development in bushfire prone lands.

### ***Water Management Act 2000***

This Act is based on the concept of ecologically sustainable development, and its objective is to provide for the sustainable and integrated management of the water sources of the state for the benefit of both present and future generations. The Act recognises that:

- The fundamental health of our rivers and groundwater systems and associated wetlands, floodplains and estuaries is to be protected,
- The management of water must be integrated with other natural resources such as vegetation, native fauna, soils and land,
- To be properly effective, water management must be a shared responsibility between the government and the community,
- Water management decisions must involve consideration of environmental, social, economic, cultural and heritage aspects,
- social and economic benefits to the state will result from the sustainable and efficient use of water.

### ***Heritage Act 1977***

This Act contains provisions for the conservation of items of heritage and may relate to community land categorised as culturally significant or natural area.

## **Commonwealth Legislation**

### ***Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Management Act 1999***

This Act enables the Australian Government to join with the states and territories in providing a national scheme of environment and heritage protection and biodiversity conservation. It incorporates threatened species on a national level and with relevance to Matters of National Environmental Significance.

### ***Telecommunications Act 1997***

This Act provides for telecommunication facilities being permitted on community land without authorisation in a PoM.

## **State Environmental Planning Policies**

### ***State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021***

This SEPP provides planning rules and controls for the clearing of native vegetation in NSW on land zoned for urban and environmental purposes that is not linked to a development. It includes provisions which establish a consistent and co-ordinated approach to environmental planning and assessment along the Murray River and provision seeking to protect and preserve bushland within public open space zones and reservations.

### ***State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008***

The State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 (Codes SEPP) allows home owners to develop property without lodging development applications with Council where the development is classified either as exempt, requiring no consent, or complying, requiring certification from an accredited Certifier.

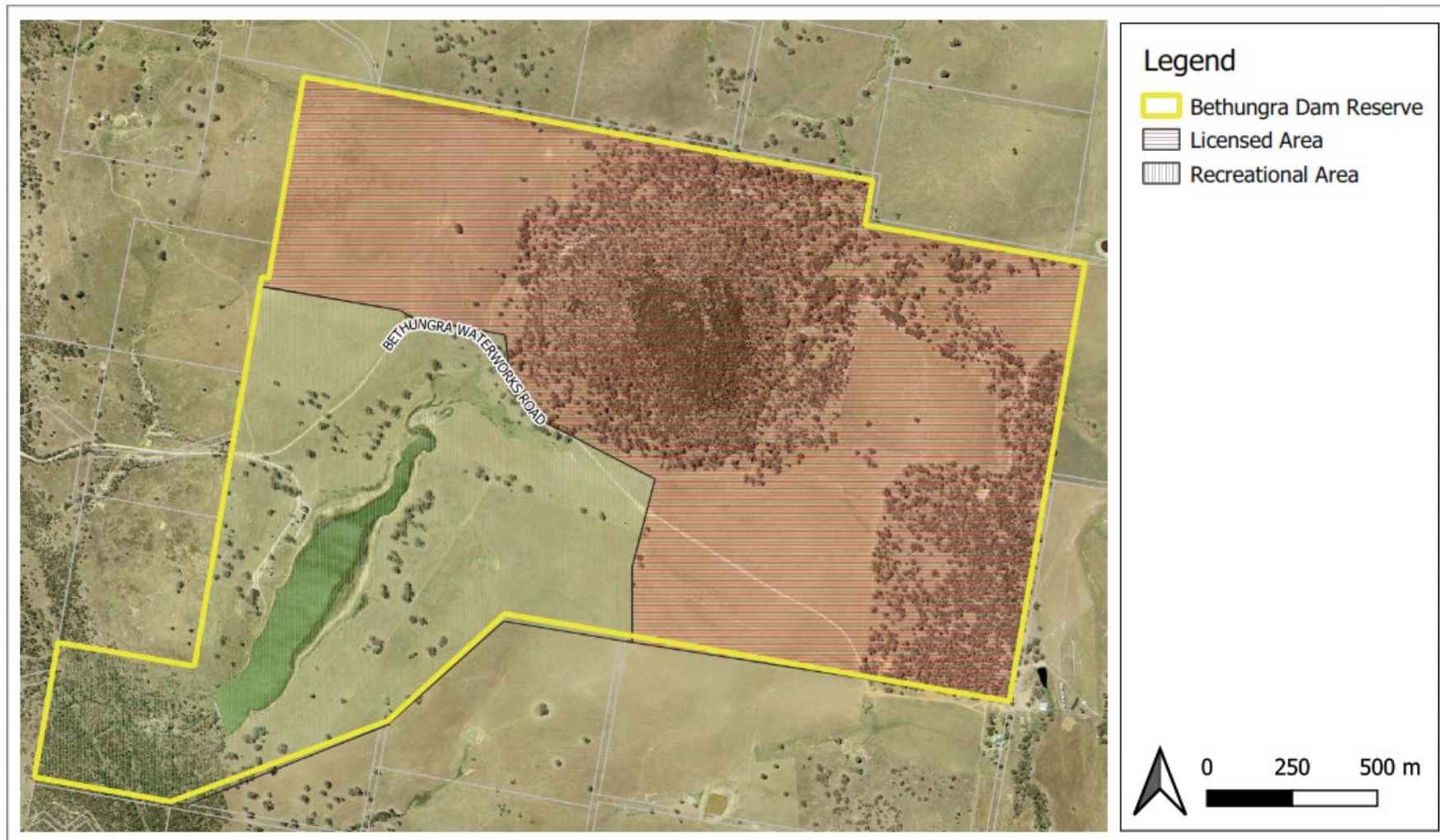
### ***State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021***

This SEPP benefits communities by providing a more efficient planning framework for infrastructure in NSW. It was introduced in 2021 as part of the NSW Department of Planning's consolidation of state environmental planning policies.

### **Other Relevant Legislation, Policies and Plans**

- Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983
- Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016
- Biosecurity Act 2015
- Companion Animals Act 1998
- Disability Inclusion Act 2014
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)
- Fisheries Management Act 1994
- Heritage Act 1977
- Local Land Services Act 2013
- Pesticides Act 1999
- Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
- Retail Leases Act 1994
- Rural Fires Act 1997
- Soil Conservation Act 1938
- Water Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001
- NSW Invasive Species Plan 2023-2028
- National Local Government Biodiversity Strategy
- NSW Biodiversity Conservation Investment Strategy 2018
- A Vegetation Management Plan for the Sydney Region (Green Web Sydney) and NSW
- Australian Natural Heritage Charter
- Riverina Murray Regional Plan 2041

# Appendix C – Bethungra Dam Reserve Licence/Recreation Area



66-666 Street  
PO Box 45  
Junee NSW 2463  
Phone: (02) 9024 8189  
Fax: (02) 9024 2497  
www.juneecouncil.nsw.gov.au

**Important Notice!**

**This map is not a precise survey document. Accurate locations can only be determined by a survey on the ground.**

This information has been prepared for Council's internal purposes and for no other purpose. No statement is made about the accuracy or availability of the information for use for any purpose (whether the purpose has been notified to Council or not). While every care is taken to ensure the accuracy of this data, neither the Junee Shire Council nor the DPI makes any representations or warranties about its accuracy, reliability, completeness or suitability for any particular purpose and disclaims all responsibility and all liability (including without limitation, liability in negligence) for all operations, losses, damages (including indirect or consequential damages) and costs which you might incur as a result of the data being inaccurate or incomplete in any way and for any reason.

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True North, Grid North and Magnetic North are shown diagrammatically for the centre of the Junee Local Government Area. Magnetic North is correct for 2006 moving eastward by 5.04° in about five years.



**Important**

This map was produced on the GEODETIC DATUM OF AUSTRALIA 1984 (GDA84), which has superseded the Australian Geodetic Datum of 1966 (AGD66). Users are referred to the State's Geomatics (MAG) pages. For more practical purposes GDA84 coordinates and sets the correct GPD coordinates based on the World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS84) and 7.0 metres.

Projection: GDA84 / MGA zone 55

Prepared by:  
Mason Schembri  
JSC Environmental Officer

## Bethungra Dam Reserve License Area

## Appendix D – Aboriginal Interests in Crown land

Crown land has significant spiritual, social, cultural and economic importance to the Aboriginal peoples of NSW. The CLM Act recognises and supports Aboriginal rights, interests and involvement in Crown land.

The management of Crown land can be impacted by the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) and the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* (NSW).

### **Native Title**

Native title describes the rights and interests that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have in land and waters according to their traditional law and customs. Native Title is governed by the *Commonwealth Native Title Act 1993* (NT Act).

Native title does not transfer the land to the native title holder, but recognises the right to land and water, by providing access to the land and if applicable, compensation for any loss, diminution, impairment or other effect of the act on their native title rights and interests.

All Crown land in NSW can be subject to a native title claim under the NT Act. A native title claim does not generally affect Crown land where native title has been extinguished or it is considered excluded land.

When preparing a PoM, Council is required to employ or engage a qualified native title manager to provide advice and validate acts (developments and tenures) over the reserve, in line with the NT Act. The most effective way to validate acts under the NT Act is to ensure all activities align with the reserve purpose.

If native title rights are found to exist on Crown land, council Crown land managers may be liable to pay compensation for acts that impact on native title rights and interests. This compensation liability arises for local councils whether or not the act was validated under the NT Act.

For further information about native title and the future acts framework see the [Crown lands website](#).

### **Aboriginal Land Rights**

The *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* (ALR Act) seeks to compensate Aboriginal peoples for past dispossession, dislocation and removal of land in NSW (who may or may not also be native title holders).

Aboriginal land claims may be placed on any Crown land in NSW. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is responsible for investigating claims as defined in the ALR Act. If a claim is established, the land is transferred to the Aboriginal Land Council as freehold land.

At the time of preparing this plan of management, the Bethungra Dam Reserve is not affected by an undetermined Aboriginal land claim. Council has considered the possibility of an Aboriginal Land Claim being lodged in the development of this PoM.

## Appendix E – AHIMS Search Results



### AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

Search Result

Your Ref/PO Number : Bethungra Dam 1

Client Service ID : 649054

Mason Schembri

Date: 23 December 2021

29 Belmore Street

Junee New South Wales 2663

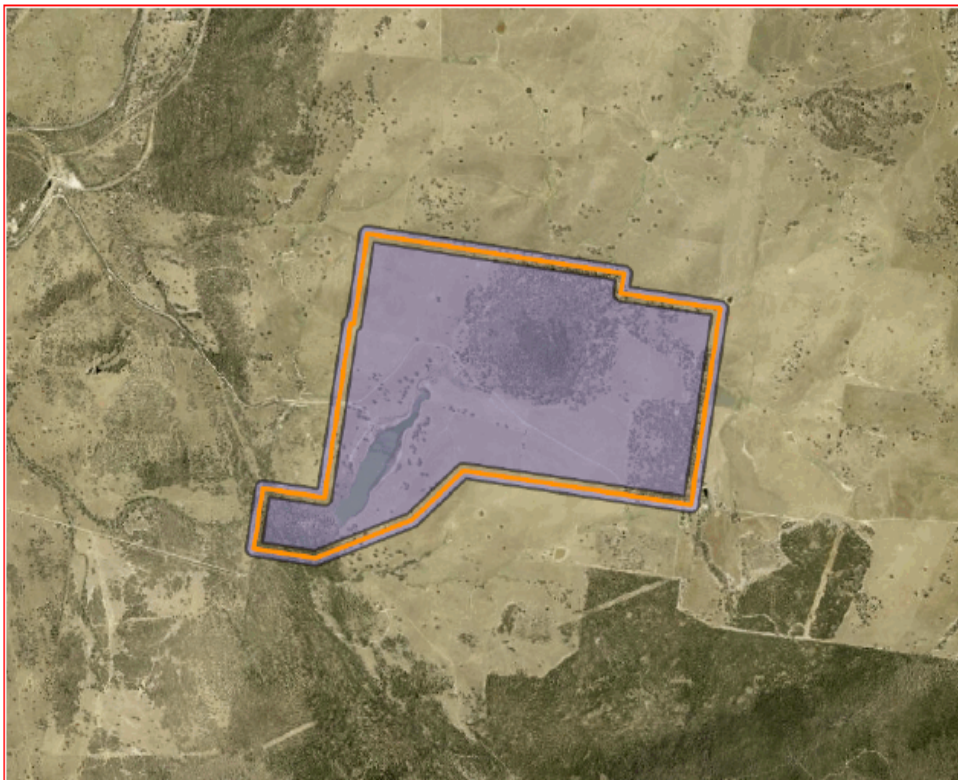
Attention: Mason Schembri

Email: mason.schembri@junee.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir or Madam:

**AHIMS Web Service search for the following area at Lot : 84, DP:DP726196, Section : - with a Buffer of 50 meters, conducted by Mason Schembri on 23 December 2021.**

The context area of your search is shown in the map below. Please note that the map does not accurately display the exact boundaries of the search as defined in the paragraph above. The map is to be used for general reference purposes only.



A search of Heritage NSW AHIMS Web Services (Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System) has shown that:

0	Aboriginal sites are recorded in or near the above location.
0	Aboriginal places have been declared in or near the above location. *





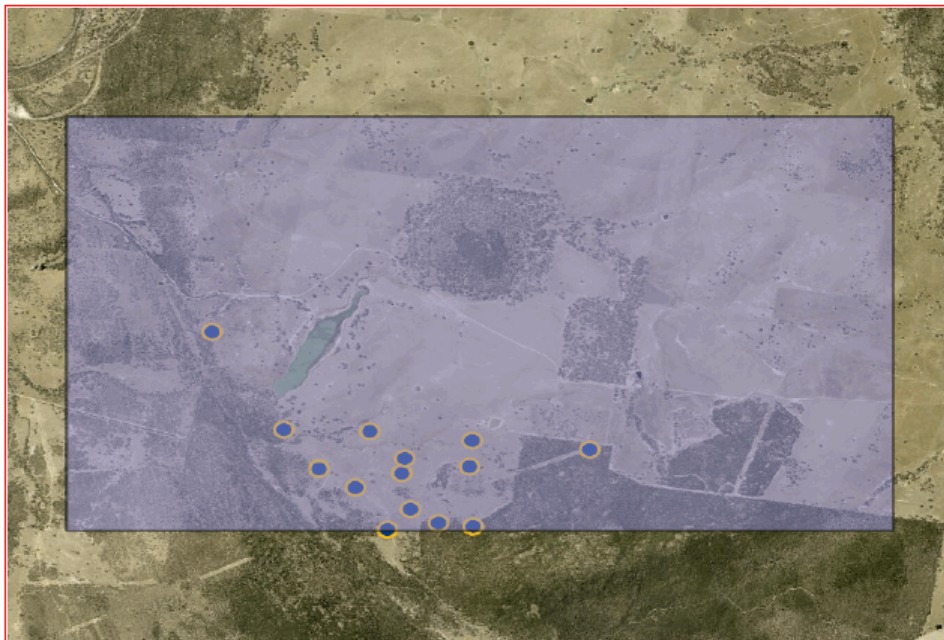
Mason Schembri  
29 Belmore Street  
Junee New South Wales 2663  
Attention: Mason Schembri  
Email: mason.schembri@junee.nsw.gov.au

Date: 23 December 2021

Dear Sir or Madam:

AHIMS Web Service search for the following area at Lat, Long From : -34.78, 147.89 - Lat, Long To : -34.75, 147.95, conducted by Mason Schembri on 23 December 2021.

The context area of your search is shown in the map below. Please note that the map does not accurately display the exact boundaries of the search as defined in the paragraph above. The map is to be used for general reference purposes only.



A search of Heritage NSW AHIMS Web Services (Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System) has shown that:

15	Aboriginal sites are recorded in or near the above location.
0	Aboriginal places have been declared in or near the above location. *

#### If your search shows Aboriginal sites or places what should you do?

- You must do an extensive search if AHIMS has shown that there are Aboriginal sites or places recorded in the search area.
- If you are checking AHIMS as a part of your due diligence, refer to the next steps of the Due Diligence Code of practice.
- You can get further information about Aboriginal places by looking at the gazettal notice that declared it. Aboriginal places gazetted after 2001 are available on the [NSW Government Gazette \(https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/gazette\)](https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/gazette) website. Gazettal notices published prior to 2001 can be obtained from Heritage NSW upon request

#### Important information about your AHIMS search

- The information derived from the AHIMS search is only to be used for the purpose for which it was requested. It is not to be made available to the public.
- AHIMS records information about Aboriginal sites that have been provided to Heritage NSW and Aboriginal places that have been declared by the Minister;
- Information recorded on AHIMS may vary in its accuracy and may not be up to date. Location details are recorded as grid references and it is important to note that there may be errors or omissions in these recordings.
- Some parts of New South Wales have not been investigated in detail and there may be fewer records of Aboriginal sites in those areas. These areas may contain Aboriginal sites which are not recorded on AHIMS.
- Aboriginal objects are protected under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 even if they are not recorded as a site on AHIMS.
- This search can form part of your due diligence and remains valid for 12 months.

**ITEM 11      DUKE STREET EXPENDITURE OF S7.12 CONTRIBUTIONS**

Author            Director Engineering Services

Attachment      Nil

---

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1.      *That Council endorses the expenditure of the S7.12 contributions totalling \$135,000 on Duke Street, Junee to maintain connectivity between the existing kerb and gutter on Duke Street, Junee and the development.***
  - 2.      *Council notes the recently approved Development Application No. 2022/42.***
- 

**SUMMARY**

Development Consent was approved by Council for 44-46 Queen Street, Junee for a five lot subdivision facing Duke Street, Junee with one conditions of consent being the installation of kerb and gutter on Duke Street.

The kerb and gutter between the development and Prince Street also should be upgraded. S7.12 contributions have been made available for this purpose; however, this report seeks endorsement by Council for the purpose of maintaining connectivity of kerb and gutter for this particular site.

**BACKGROUND**

The new kerb and gutter proposed on Duke Street as a condition of Development Application No. 2022/42 extends approximately 90m from the Queen Street intersection, directly in front of the proposed development area, shown in Figure 1. This is a standalone asset when compared to the kerb and gutter on Duke Street, which finishes just past Prince Street.

The proposed development results in a 100 linear metre gap in kerb and gutter (200m when considering both sides). To achieve best practise, this kerb and gutter should be installed, however, the developer has only committed to installing the kerb and gutter in front of their property. In this case Council has no engineering justification to enforce the developer to upgrade the kerb and gutter between Prince Street and the development.

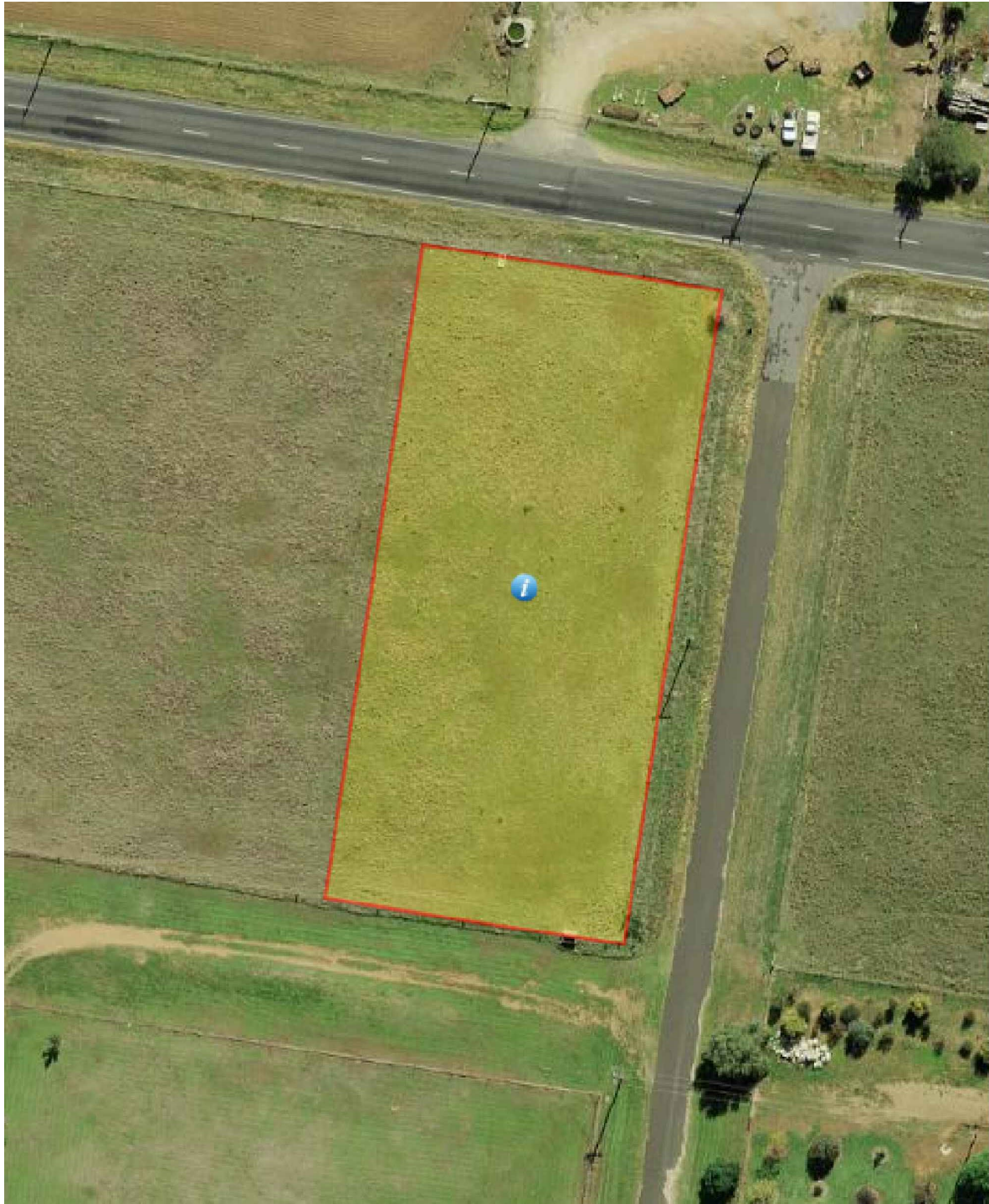


Figure 1: Site for Development Application No. 2022/42

The S7.12 Levy Contribution Plan was developed with an Infrastructure Framework focusing on supporting the relationship between continuing growth, increased population, with more houses being built and the requirement to continually improve or develop public infrastructure, be it social or utilities. A key item in the S7.12 Levy Contribution Plan Work Schedule, the installation of new kerb and gutter, which was listed as a medium-term priority. This project is an active project which has been identified as been suitable for the use of S7.12 funds. Due to the substantial development in recent years, these funds are available to spend.

## CONSIDERATIONS

### Policy

Part 7 Division 7.1 Subdivision 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) provides the legislative framework for local infrastructure contributions, which allows for use for a reasonable dedication or contribution for the provision, extension or augmentation of the public amenities and public services concerned. The extension of Councils kerb and gutter network is an appropriate use of these funds.

Councils Kerb and Gutter Construction Policy requires the developer to meet 100% of the cost of kerb and gutter provision facing their residence for multi lot subdivisions.

Councils *Kerb and Gutter Construction Policy*, in line with Section 217 of the *Roads Act 1993*, allows Council to charge up to half (50%) of the cost of new kerb and gutter to the surrounding property owners with frontage to the street and one quarter (25%) to property owners with side or rear frontage.

### Risk Assessment

Enterprise risks are not anticipated based on the proposed development. Taking a positive approach to supporting infrastructure development for the town, while at a cost to Council, will support economic development in the region and increased rate income in the long term. This work should not result in significant enterprise risk, however, does result in a reduction of cash in Councils reserves.

The actions detailed in the report will result in a very low likelihood (2) and very low consequence (2) of increased enterprise risk.

### Financial

Council has undertaken a cost estimate for the cost of replacing kerb and gutter on Duke Street, Junee to be \$135,000 from Prince Street to Queen Street, excluding the section fully funded by the developer.

The developer will be required to fund 100% of their frontage and the remainder would need to be completed by Council. The reserve balance is sufficient to fund these works.

Councils *Kerb and Gutter Construction Policy*, in line with Section 217 of the *Roads Act 1993*, allows Council to charge approximately 25% of the cost to the surrounding property owners in this case as they all have side or rear frontage. This would result in a levy income of approximately \$35,000 to offset the expenditure.



Figure 3: New Kerb and Gutter Locations

## CONCLUSION

Council should support development of appropriate infrastructure for new developments. For this reason, the kerb and gutter between Development Application No. 2022/42 and Prince Street, Junees should be upgraded, using S7.12 Contributions to maintain connectivity of infrastructure.



# **JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL**

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS/MINUTES**



**AGENDA OF THE JUNEE SHIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON THURSDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 2024.**

---

The meeting opened at 9.02am.

**PRESENT**

Annette Black, Gaylene Crabtree, Keith Griffin, Maryanne Khan, Anna Lashbrook, Maggie Salisbury and Sue Wood.

**STAFF**

Lloyd Hart, Stephen Targett and Sam Perry

**APOLOGIES**

*The Committee noted the absence of Linda Calis.*

---

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

*The Junee Shire Advisory Committee resolved to note and receive the Minutes of the meeting held 26 October 2023.*

**AGENDA ITEMS**

1. **PRESENTATION BY MURRUMBIDGEE LHD**

Melanie Fennell and Jacqueline Van Der Neut from Murrumbidgee LHD addressed the Committee via Zoom and gave an overview of processes and timelines for future health service planning for Junee.

*The Junee Shire Advisory Committee noted the presentation from Murrumbidgee LHD regarding future health service planning for Junee.*

2. **PLAN OF MANAGEMENT (POM) – BETHUNGRA DAM RESERVE**

The Director of Engineering Services formally presented the Draft Plan of Management for the Bethungra Dam Reserve. It was clarified that in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act, Council must adopt a plan of management for all community land, including

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CHAIRPERSON: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNCIL DELEGATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**AGENDA OF THE JUNEE SHIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON THURSDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 2024.**

---

Crown Land. Furthermore, a Concept Master Plan regarding future enhancements of the reserve was exhibited to the Committee. This plan identified specific areas within the reserve earmarked for development. It was emphasised that the concept plan serves as a high-level strategic document guiding the development of the reserve over the forthcoming 15-20 years. Additionally, it highlighted shorter-term objectives, focusing on the western area of the reserve, as well as the maintenance and updating of tracks and signage, which would be developed and constructed in consultation with the community.

*The Junee Shire Advisory Committee noted the presentation from the Director Engineering Services regarding the Draft Plan of Management for the Bethungra Dam Reserve.*

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Maggie Salisbury stated that weed control and long grass was an issue at Wantabadgery.
- Keith Griffin asked if Council had any rabbit baiting programs.
- Annette Black asked if Council could look into the condition of public toilets in the rural areas.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Junee Shire Advisory Committee is scheduled for 24 April 2024.

The meeting closed at 10.08am.

---

CHAIRPERSON: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNCIL DELEGATE: \_\_\_\_\_





**JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL**

**DELEGATES REPORTS**



## SPORTS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 14 MARCH 2024

### GENERAL

The Committee was able to confirm they had received a letterhead design. Notice of grant openings were provided to the Committee including the following:

- **Play our Way, Stream 1, Facilities:** This grant focusses on addressing barriers for women and girls face when participating in sport and physical activity by delivering quality facilities and sport participation experiences where the need is greatest and in a manner that is safe equitable accessible inclusive sustainable and enduring. Grants can fund up to \$1.5 million of amenities.
- **ClubGrants Category 3, Infrastructure, Sports and Recreation Stream:** This fund is managed by the Office of Responsible Gambling and funds infrastructure grants for arts and culture, community, disaster readiness, and sport and recreation. Grants can fund up to \$300,000.

### LAURIE DALEY OVAL (WILLOW PARK)

Council advised that Laurie Daley Oval would be sowed in early April and unavailable for use for the next three weeks. Pre-season training was scheduled on Loftus Oval in conjunction with the Junior training.

Council advised the building had been inspected by a plumber and jetting of downpipes was scheduled.

### LOFTUS OVAL

It was confirmed by the locals that the new junior facility and change rooms would be ready for the upcoming season.

### ALAN BURNS OVAL (BURNS PARK)

Council advised that Alan Burns Oval would be sowed in early April. This has since moved to 15 April to ensure the Soccer Club has a facility when Laurie Daley is out of service.

The Junee Jaguars Soccer Club expressed interest in submitting a grant application for lights at the soccer club in the Play our Way stream and requested a letter of support from Council.

The Junee Jaguars Soccer Club expressed concerns around the safety of the light switches. An electrician was arranged to ensure the switch remained safe.

### JUNEE TENNIS

Junee Tennis committed to providing the asbestos report for the old toilet block for Councils review within the next month. This has since been received.

Stephen Targett  
Director Engineering Services



# **JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL**

## **INFORMATION BOOKLET**





**JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL**

**INFORMATION BOOKLET**

**ORDINARY MEETING TUESDAY, 16 APRIL 2024**

- 1[GM]      COUNCILLOR DELEGATE MEETINGS**
- 2[HR]      WORKERS' COMPENSATION/REHABILITATION**
- 3[DPCD]   LIBRARY**
- 4[DES]      WORKS PROGRAM**
- 5[RSO]      ROAD SAFETY OFFICER**
- 6[DES]      SEWERAGE SYSTEM**
- 7[DPCD]   RANGER REPORT**
- 8[DES]      SOLID WASTE REPORT**
- 9[EO]       WEEDS**
- 10[DPCD]   S.10.7 CERTIFICATES**
- 11[DPCD]   DEVELOPMENT/COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT DETERMINATIONS**
- 12[DPCD]   HEALTH, BUILDING, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTIONS**
- 13[DPCD]   COMMUNITY AND RECREATION**
- 14[GM]      CUSTOMER SERVICE REQUESTS SUMMARY**

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## **1[GM] COUNCILLOR DELEGATE MEETINGS**

Notification of Council committee meetings or community meetings for which Councillors may be attending.

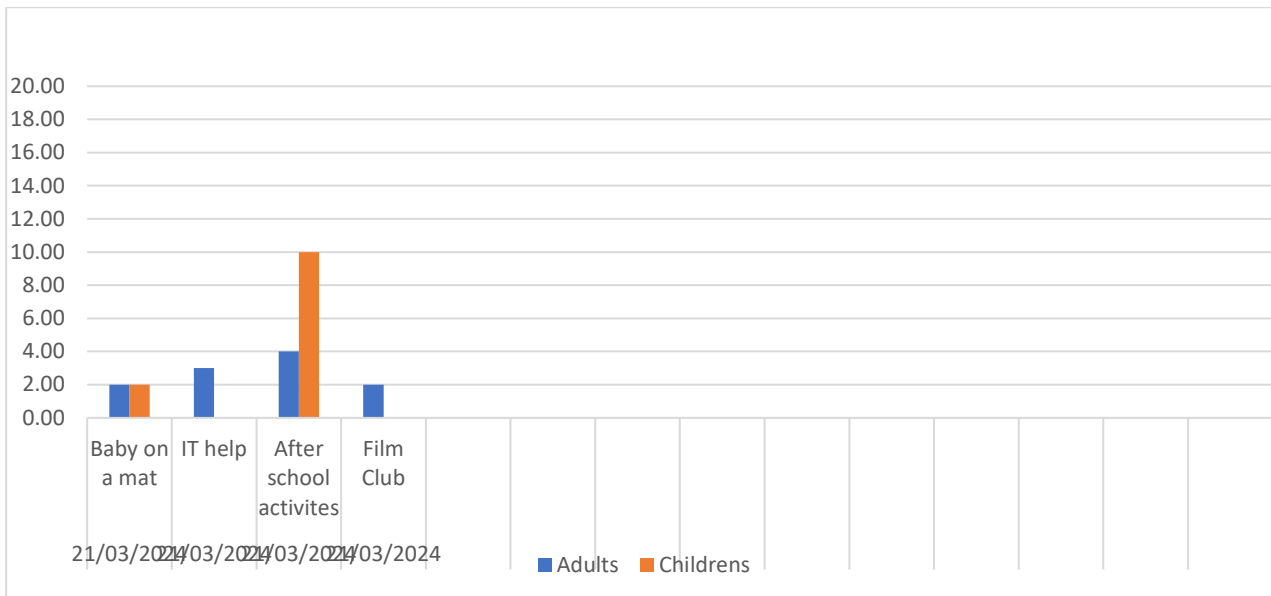
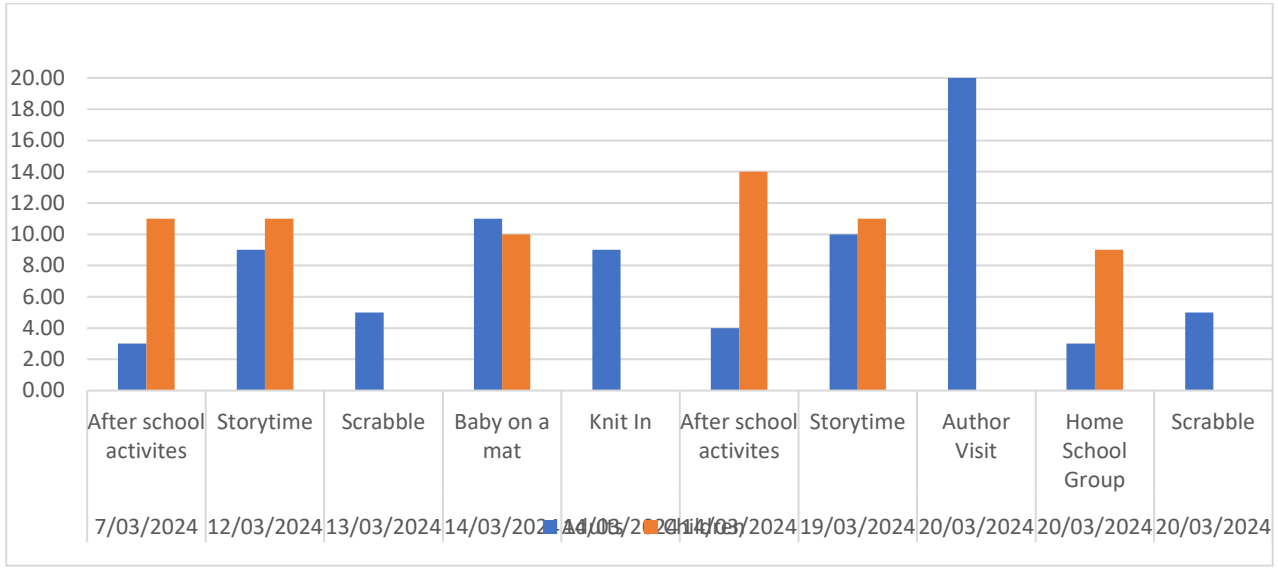
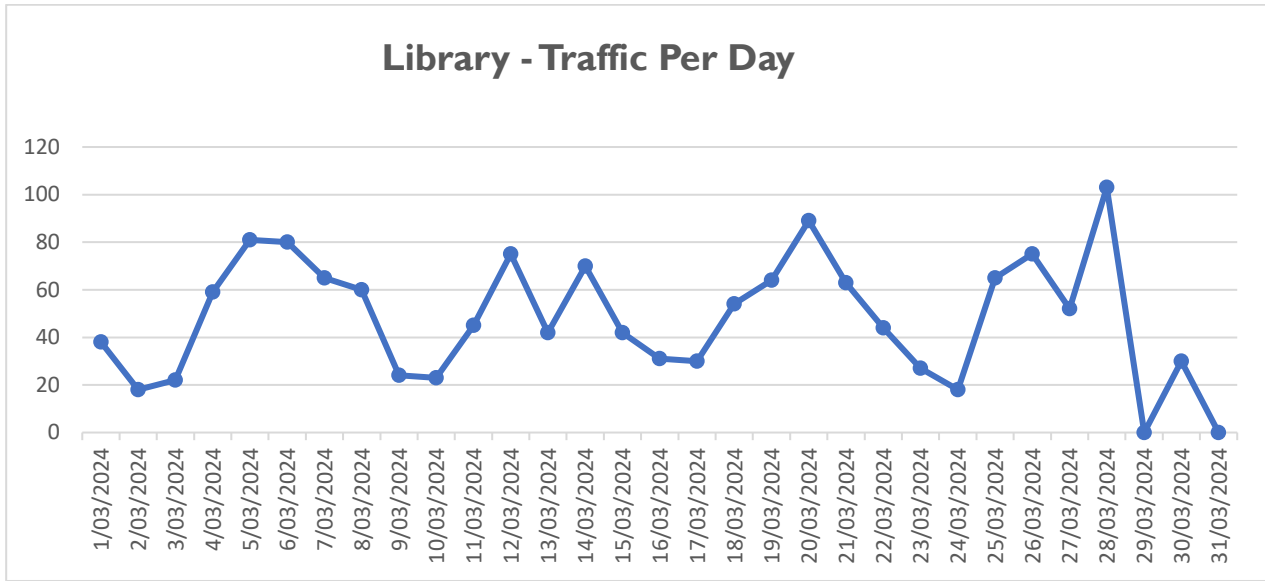
### Council Committee and Delegate Meetings

<b>Attendee</b>	<b>Delegate Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
Mayor/General Manager	REROC Board Meeting	19 April 2024
FYI	June Advisory 355 Committee	24 April 2024
General Manager	Coolamon June Local Emergency Management Committee	24 April 2024
Councillor Knight	June Sports Committee	9 May 2024
Councillor Callow	Weeds Committee	4 June 2024
Mayor/General Manager	Coolamon-June Community Safety Precinct Committee	5 June 2024
Councillor Carter	Riverina Zone, Rural Fire Service Bushfire Management Committee	July 2024
Councillor Halliburton	Riverina Regional Library Advisory Committee	23 October 2024
Councillor Clinton and Councillor Knight	Audit Risk & Improvement Committee	TBA
Councillor Cook	June Traffic Committee	TBA
Councillor Halliburton Councillor Halliburton	Inland Rail Community Consultative Committees: A2I I2S	TBA TBA
Councillor Carter	Riverina Zone Service Level Agreement Committee	TBA
Councillor Clinton and Councillor Halliburton	Senior Citizens Festival Committee	TBA
General Manager	Riverina Murray Regional Emergency Management Committee	As required

## **2[HR] WORKERS' COMPENSATION/REHABILITATION**

There were no recordable incidents for the month of March 2024.

**3[DPCD] LIBRARY**



## **4[DES] WORKS PROGRAM**

### MR78 (Olympic Highway)

- Heavy patching completed totalling 9600m<sup>2</sup>.
- Potholes patched.
- Rest areas and toilets have been maintained.
- Weekly safety inspections have been undertaken.
- Signs and guideposts have been maintained and replaced.

### MR 57 (Goldfields Way)

- Potholes patched, repaired wearing surfaces.
- Signs and guideposts maintained and replaced.
- Fortnightly safety inspections have been conducted.

### MR243 (Regional Roads - Canola Way, Old Junee Road and Gundagai Road, Byrnes Road)

- Signs and guideposts maintained.
- Potholes patched, repaired wearing surfaces.
- Fortnightly safety inspections completed.
- Byrnes Road – Tree clearing has been completed.
- Byrnes Road – Resealing preparation and table drain works have been completed.
- Byrnes Road – Heavy Patching has been completed.
- Gundagai Road – Pavement works are currently underway.

### Rural Sealed Roads

- Pikedale Road – shoulder grading.
- Marina Road – shoulder grading.
- Harefield Road – shoulder grading.
- Danswans Lane – shoulder grading and resheeting.
- Signs and guideposts maintained.
- Potholes patched, repaired wearing surfaces.

### Rural Unsealed Roads

- Signs and guideposts maintained.
- Waldon Lane – maintenance grading.
- Sheridans Lane – maintenance grading.
- Panuara Lane – maintenance grading.
- Ballengoarrah Lane – maintenance grading.
- Macaulays Lane – maintenance grading.
- Eurollie Lane – maintenance grading.
- Waterworks Road – maintenance grading.
- Loma Langi Lane – maintenance grading.
- Summer Hill Lane – maintenance grading.
- Warre Warral – gravel resheeting.

### Urban Sealed Roads

- Jet patched various town streets.
- Stormwater issues rectified and managed.
- Fallen trees removed.
- Tar patching.
- Drainage works around town.

## Junee

- General maintenance.
- Gutters/drains cleaned.
- Various merits completed.
- Footpath inspections.
- Kerb and Gutter on Crown Street.
- Kerb and Gutter on Marquis Street commenced.

## Villages

- Rest area maintenance.
- Wantabadgery village – hand vegetation control, pothole patching.
- Illabo Village – hand vegetation control, pothole patching.
- Bethungra Village - hand vegetation control, pothole patching.

## Parks And Gardens

- Mowed and whipper snipped the parks, ovals and cemeteries.
- Sowed Laurie Daley Oval.
- Installed memorial to Oak tree in Memorial Park.
- Maintained cemeteries.
- Weeded the gardens.
- Carried out other routine gardening works.

## **5[RSO] ROAD SAFETY OFFICER (RSO)**

- Created social media messaging for April.
- Created fatigue awareness editorial created for Junee Independent.
- Attended Junee Rotary Dinner on 19 March at Junee Ex-Services Memorial Club.
- Attended Junee Traffic Committee meeting on 21 March.
- TfNSW Plan B Win a Swag competition for Easter long weekend opportunity offered to local venues. The Commercial Hotel Junee was the only local JSC venue to participate.
- Organised National Road Safety Week corflute signs for Council buildings. These will be used for the week starting 5 May 2024.

## **6[DES] SEWERAGE SYSTEM**

- Over the month of March there were no chokes in the mains and four chokes in the services.
- The service to 39 Marquis St was dug up and repaired.
- A new portable manhole lid lifter was purchased.
- Total inflow to the treatment plant for the Month was 54ML with 41ML of effluent reused.
- The sludge drying beds were emptied prior to refilling from sludge lagoon 1.
- Essential Energy had a programmed power outage; a generator was hired to keep the plant running during the blackout.
- Site tests indicate the process is producing good effluent.



## **7[DPCD] RANGER REPORT**

### Abandoned/Impounded Vehicle

	Notices attached – impoundment process commenced	Vehicles impounded
July 2023	4	0
August 2023	4	0
September 2023	3	0
October 2023	3	0
November 2023	5	0
December 2023	6	0
January 2024	5	0
February 2024	4	0
March 2024	5	1

### Impounded Dog Activity

During March 2024, there were seven dogs impounded. One dog was returned to their owner, one was re-homed and five are still at the pound.

## **8[DES] SOLID WASTE REPORT**

### Junee Landfill Waste Facility (JLWF)

The Junee Transfer Station is functioning well with no issues or incidents at the site.

### Rural Transfer Stations

All rural transfer stations were inspected on the 9 April 2024 and were in a good condition.

## **9[EO] WEEDS**

- Private property inspections have been carried out across the Shire.
- Coolatai has been treated.
- Euphorbia spraying undertaken; is continuing to become a species of concern.
- Road shoulder spraying to commence in the coming weeks.
- High risk roadways inspected across the Shire.
- Staff have completed roadside inspections of high risk pathways and sites.
- Preparations are underway for the Murrumbidgee Field Days at Griffith as part of our WAP commitments to public education.
- Much time has been spent on the new funding application process. Changes to NSW Government policies mean the weeds funding is now considered a grant rather than an augmentation of our own program and this is now subject to a more rigid set of probity and reporting rules. We now cannot submit applications under our cooperative arrangement with Coolamon and Temora as RENWA but submit a standalone application. This affects Council in a few ways, not only tripling office time of Weeds Contractors but also Council staff as Contractors cannot submit the applications. More to come on this.

## **10[DPCD] S.10.7 CERTIFICATES**

Average Processing time (Working Days) for last 10 Certificates	Two days
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## **11[DPCD] DEVELOPMENT/COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT DETERMINATIONS**

<b>DA/CDC No.</b>	<b>Development Type</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Determination Date</b>	<b>Determination</b>
DA 2022/84	Alterations/Additions to Existing Commercial Building	25 Joffre Street, Junee	5/03/2024	Approved By Delegation
DA 2024/9	New Shed	37 Belmore Street, Junee	5/03/2024	Approved By Delegation
DA 2024/11	Alterations/Additions to Existing Dwelling	16 De Salis Drive, Junee	12/03/2024	Approved By Delegation
DA 2024/8	New Carport	57 Lydia Street, Junee	19/03/2024	Approved By Delegation
DA 2024/1	2 Lot Subdivision	110 Waterworks Road, Junee	21/03/2024	Approved by Delegation
DA 2024/6	New Dwelling	5926 Gundagai Road, Junee	26/03/2024	Approved By Delegation

## **12(DPCD) HEALTH, BUILDING, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTIONS**

There were 18 health, building and planning inspections carried out during the month of March 2024.

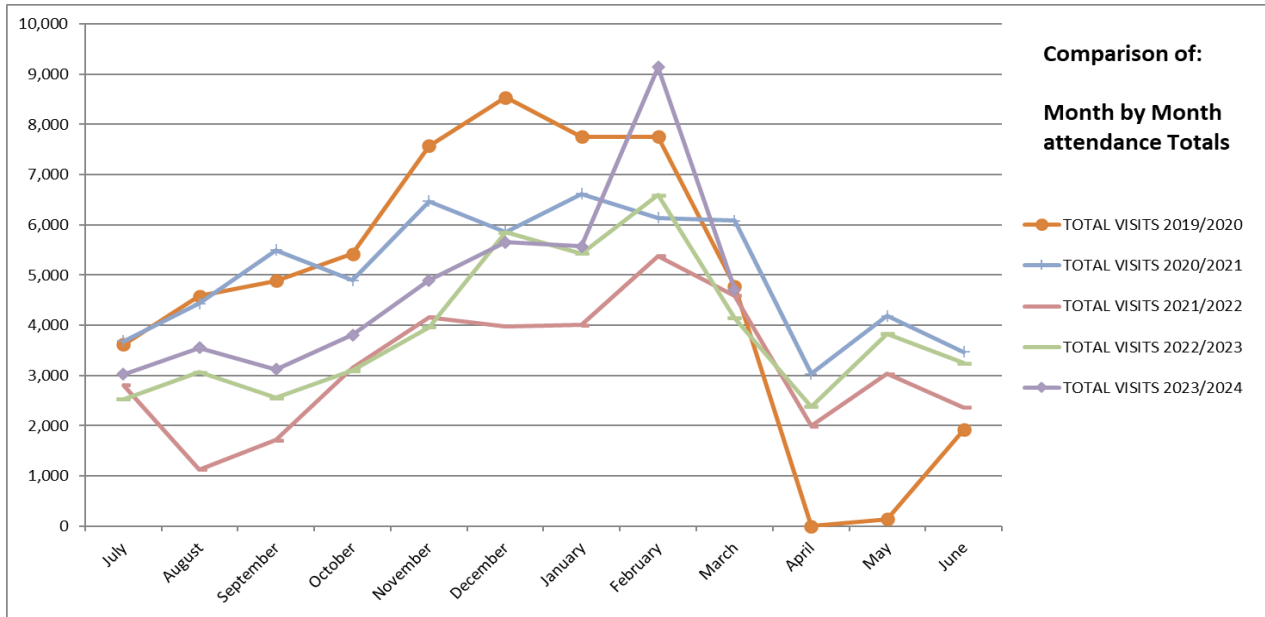
## **13[DPCD] COMMUNITY AND RECREATION**

Junee Junction Recreation and Aquatic Centre - JJRAC Statistics for March 2024

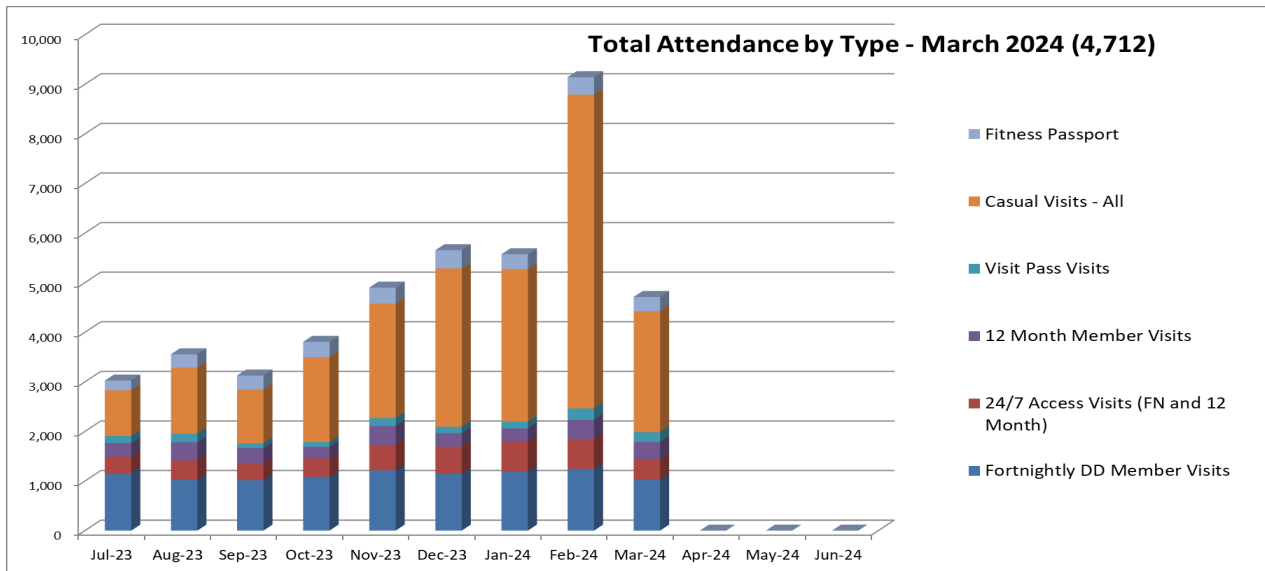
The following tables summarise the attendance and membership statistics at JJRAC for March 2024.

- Membership saw a very slight decline with the weather getting colder.
- Pool patrons decreased with only one swimming carnival and colder temperatures. We should see the numbers increase when the boom is installed.
- Stadium usage increased greatly in addition to the regular programs. We also had a netball gala day and regular netball training.

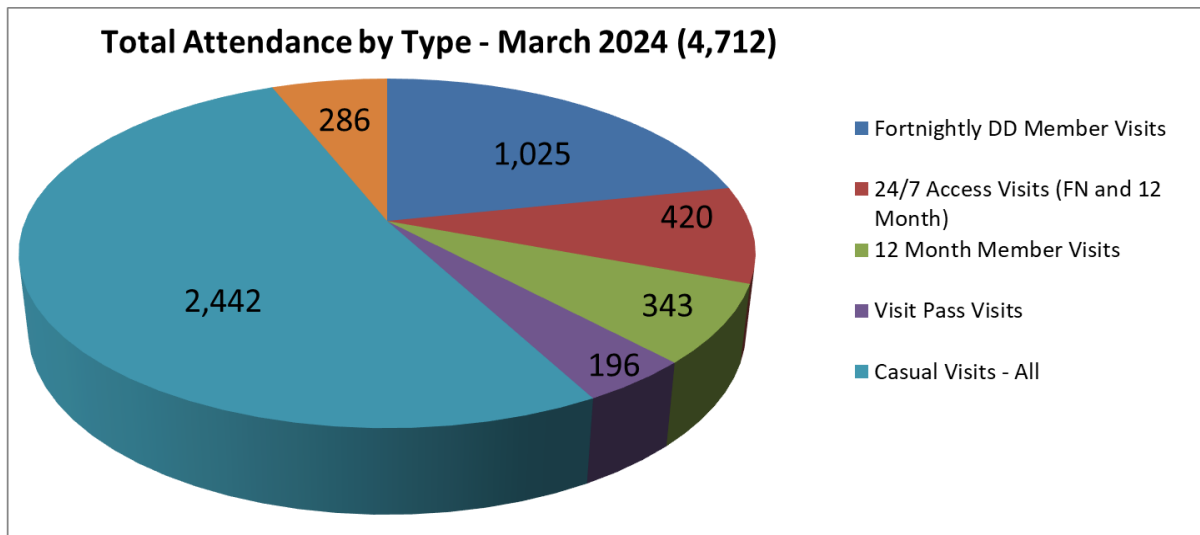
**Graph 1: Total Attendances by Month**



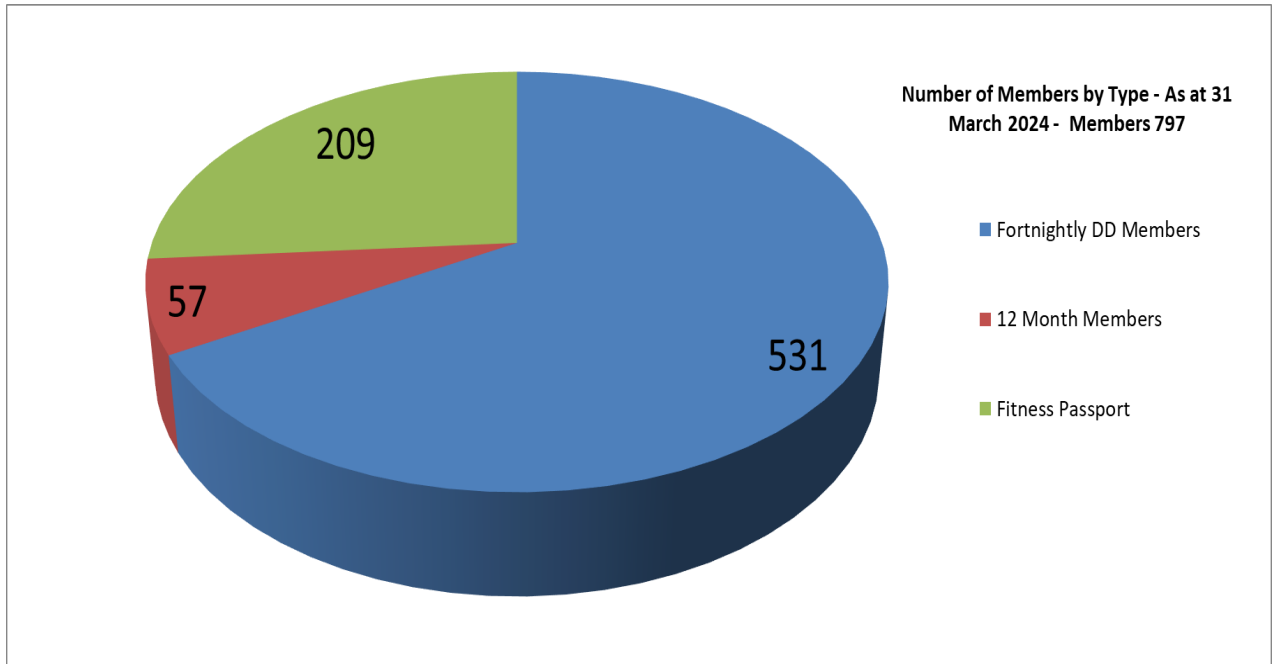
**Graph 2: Total Attendances by Month by Type of Visit**



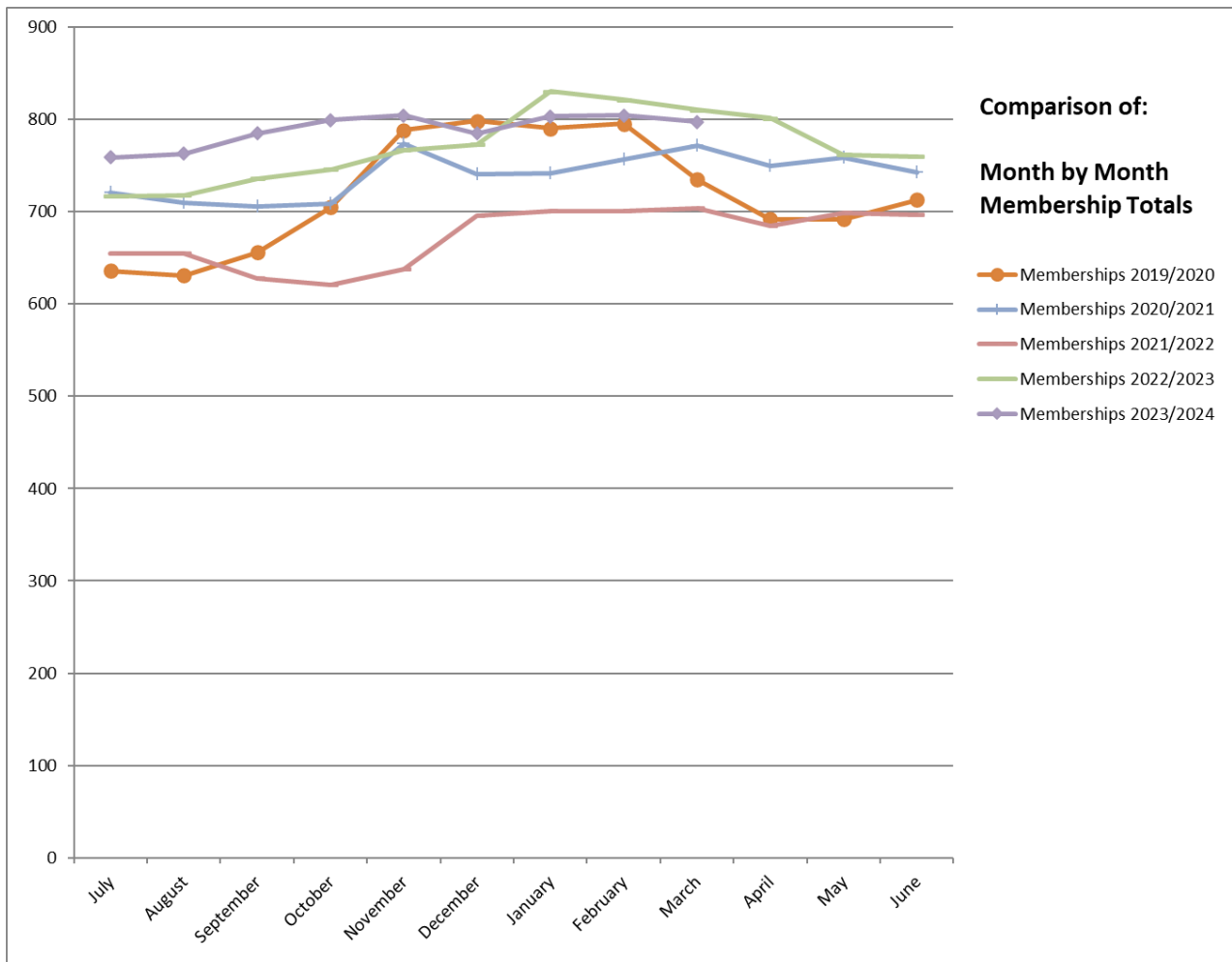
**Graph 3: Centre Attendance by Type**



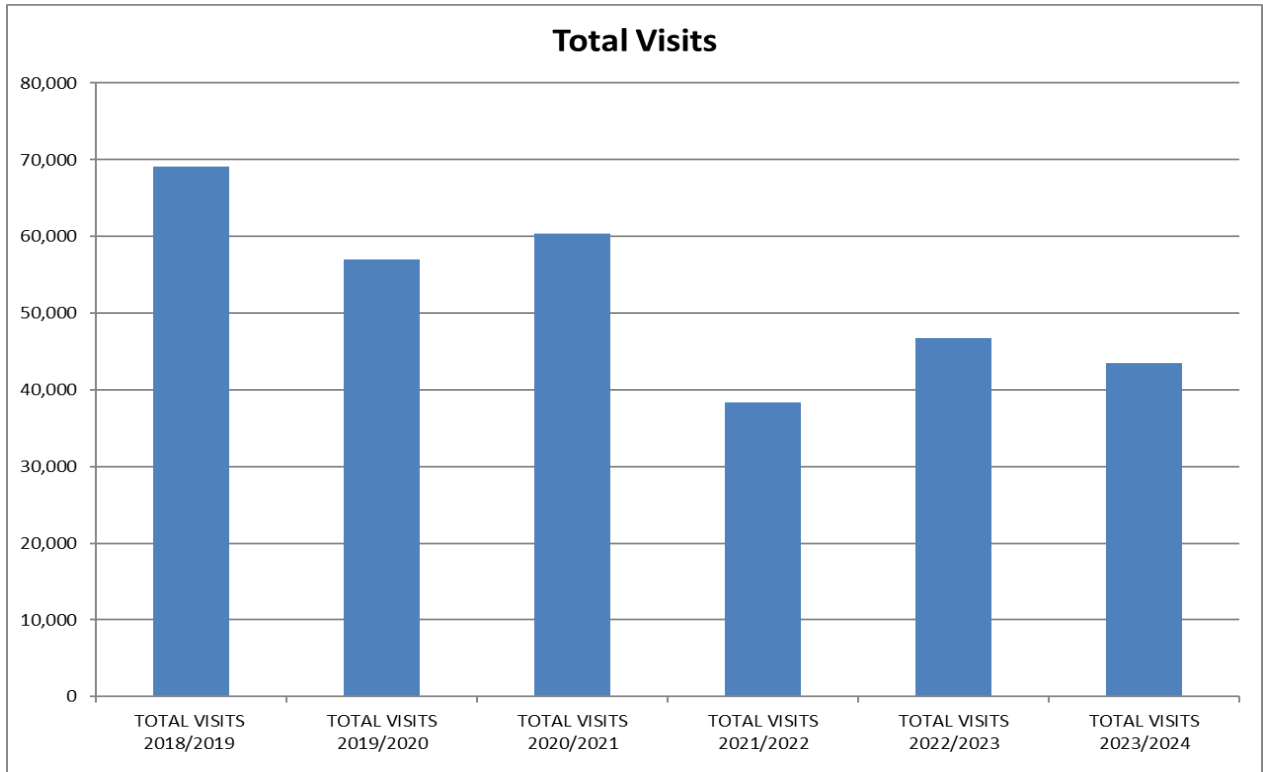
**Graph 4: Membership Numbers by Type**



**Graph 5: Yearly Comparison of Month by Month Membership Numbers**



**Graph 6: Comparison of Visits by Year**



Social Media Statistics

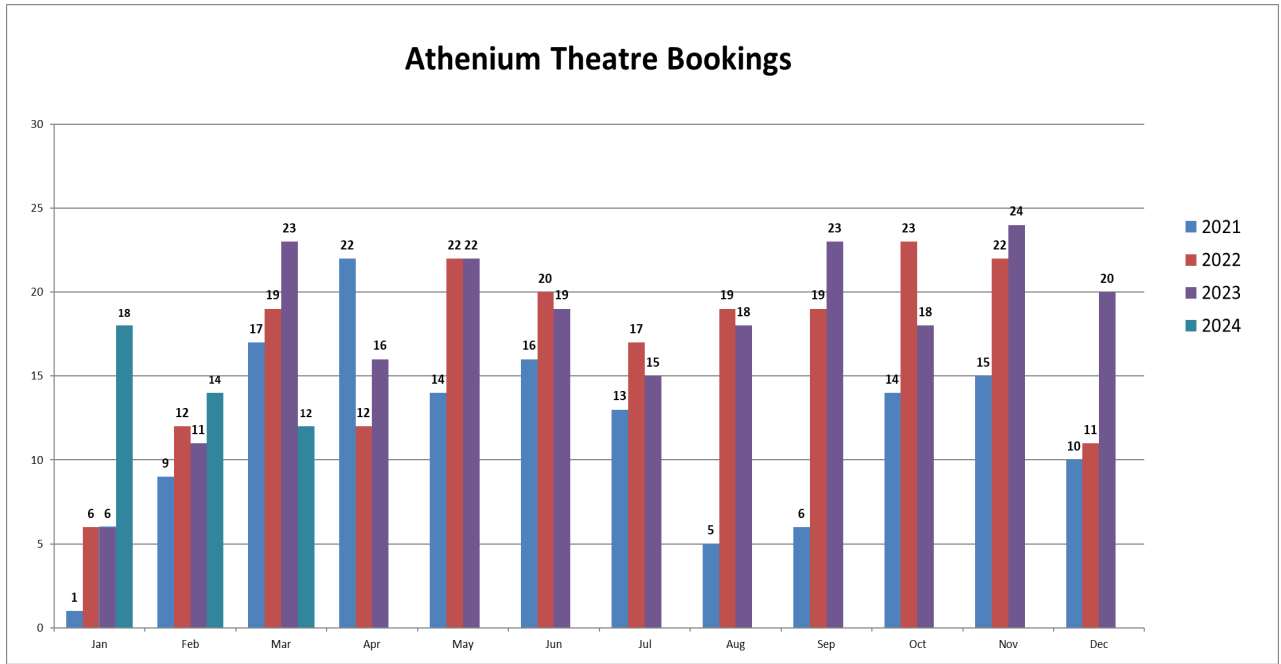
JJRAC social media data. The following statistics were recorded:

<b>MONTH</b>	<b>Facebook Page Likes</b>	<b>Facebook Page Reach</b>	<b>Instagram Page Followers</b>
January 2024	2,001	6,500	778
February 2024	2,028	2,172	781
March 2024	2,041	3,240	777

June Athenium Theatre

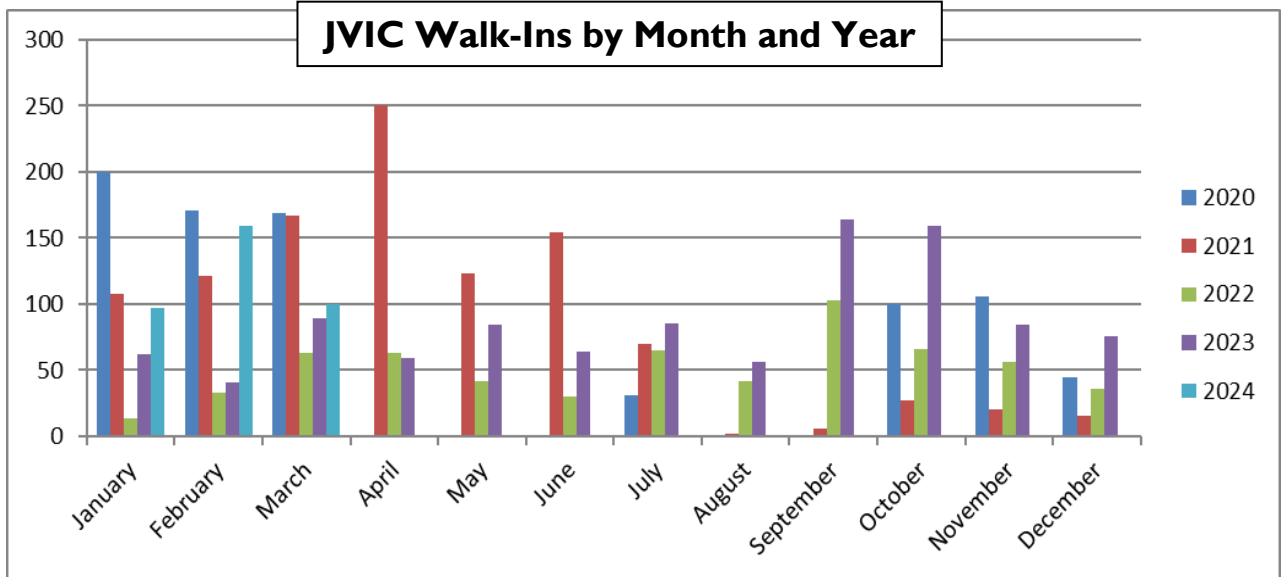
The Athenium Theatre saw a decline with the hesitance to commit to additional opportunities based on refurbishment construction start date.

### Athenium Theatre Bookings

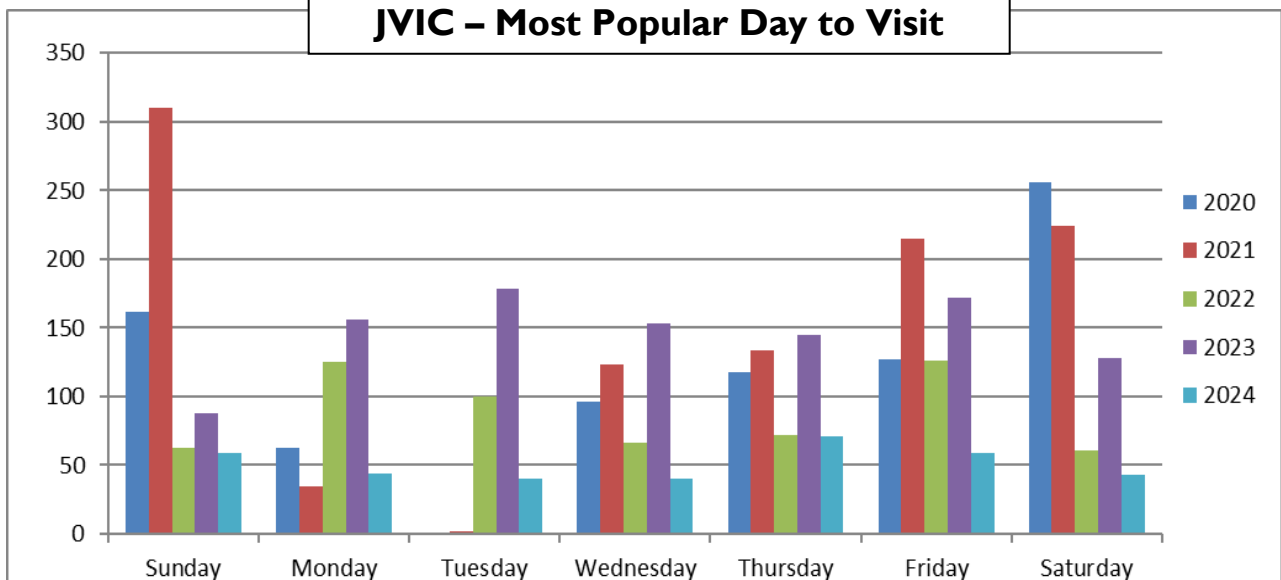


### Visitor Information Centre

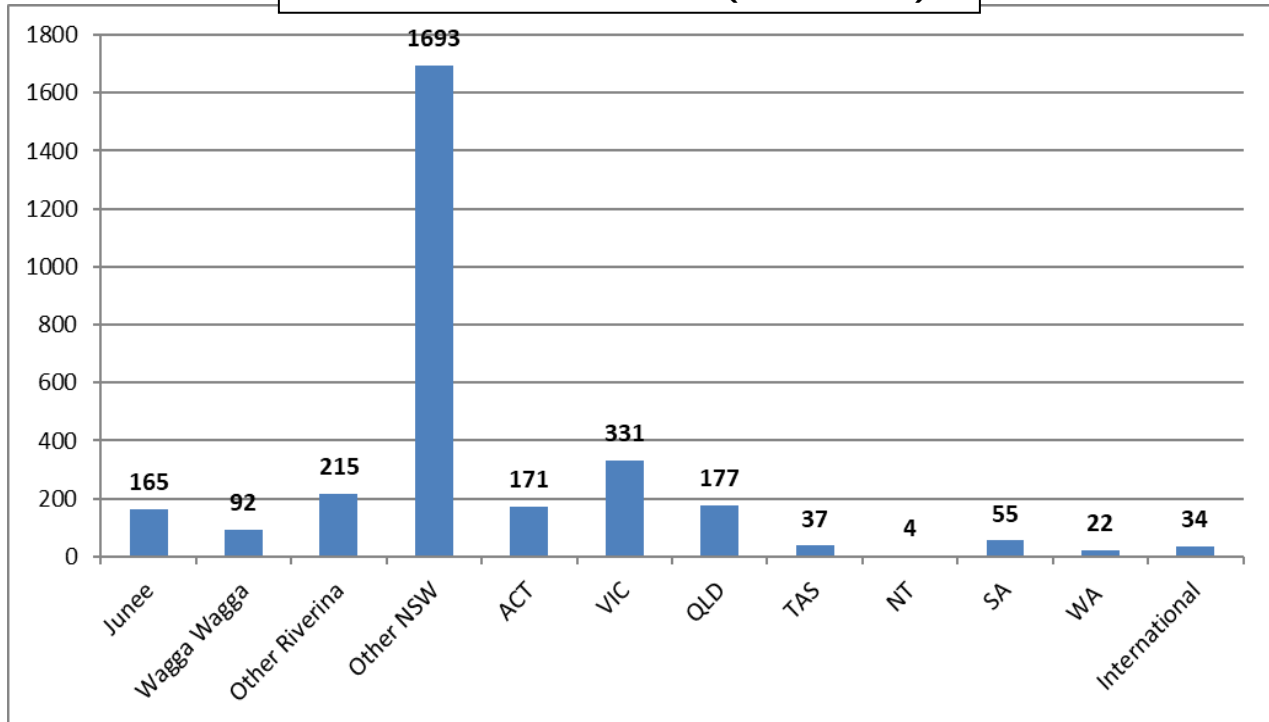
**JVIC Walk-Ins by Month and Year**



**JVIC – Most Popular Day to Visit**



### Where Visitor is from (2021-2024)



### I4[GM] CUSTOMER SERVICE REQUESTS SUMMARY

March Merit	Count of Request Name
<b>Council</b>	
Incident Resulting from Hazard	2
<b>Engineering Services Administration</b>	
Cemetery	1
Collection Service	9
Footpaths Kerb and Gutter Hazard	1
Reserves	1
Road Maintenance	6
Rural Trees	1
Sewerage	2
Stormwater Drainage	2
Township/Village	3
Trees Urban and Village	4
<b>Finance</b>	
Animals	9
Enforcement	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>44</b>