

Business Paper

Council Meeting

21 October 2025

OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES



CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Meeting Dates	Time	Meeting	Location
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October 2025			
Tuesday, 7	6.00pm	Council Workshop	Council Chambers
Tuesday, 21	6.30pm	Council Meeting	Council Chambers
Thursday, 23	10:00am	Goldenfields Water County Council	Temora

November 2025			
Tuesday, 4	6.00pm	Council Workshop	Council Chambers
Thursday, 13	10:00am	Mining and Energy Related Councils	Sydney
Friday, 14	8:00am	Country Mayors Association	Sydney
Tuesday, 18	6.30pm	Council Meeting	Council Chambers

December 2025			
Tuesday, 2	6.00pm	Council Workshop	Council Chambers
Tuesday, 16	6.30pm	Council Meeting	Council Chambers

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. RECORDING OF MEETING STATEMENT

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

3. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16 September 2025

5.2 Matters arising from Minutes

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7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

8. CONFIDENTIAL REPORT

8.1 GENERAL MANAGERS PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Local Government Act 1993 (Section 10A(2))

The matters and information are the following:

(a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Section 1 – Executive Services

6.1 Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions: September 2025

CSP Theme: Growth 1 - Good Governance is integral to Council's operations and management of community resources.

Department: Executive Services

Author: Acting Executive Assistant

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the Monthly Status Report - Council Meeting Actions: September 2025.

Report

Purpose

The General Manager is responsible for ensuring that Council's policies, decisions and priorities are implemented in a timely and efficient manner, consistent with the goals and objectives of Council. The General Manager provides the management oversight in relation to all information progressing from appropriate staff to Council for consideration via the Business Paper.

Background

After a Council meeting, each resolution is allocated to the General Manager or responsible officer to action in accordance with the intent of the Council decision. Directors then provide feedback to the General Manager as to the progress of these resolutions monthly through the Manex meeting.

Discussion

The Monthly Status Report - Council Meeting Actions includes Council Resolutions up to and including the previous Council Meeting. A note in the status section has been completed by the relevant responsible officer with a reason if available.

Financial Implications

Nil

Enclosures

Monthly Status Report – September 2025

Attachments (As separate attachment)

Nil

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions

Resolution	Responsible Person	Progress Update
MARCH 2024		
Proposed Road Closure – Gordons Lane RESOLVED that Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> endorse the closure of the public road known as Gordons Lane between Clear Ridge Road and Blands Lane that the closure be subject to all parties along the road agreeing to the closure and funding Council's Road closure application fees and all other associated fees including, advertising, survey, legal and land purchasing costs receive a further report to consider any submissions lodged during the notification period to determine the approval for the proposal receive a further report to consider the property valuers report and determination of any sale price. 	Director Technical Services	Letters sent to adjoining landowners. Council continues to seek written acceptance from all parties. 08/25: No responses received to date, decision made to resend letter before final decision
AUGUST 2024		
Sealing Central Road – Funding Contribution 13082024 RESOLVED that Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Accept the contribution of \$100,000 (inc GST) from Graincorp towards the sealing of Boundary Street from the Graincorp exit to Compton Road. That Council fund the remainder of the works from the Roads to Recover allocation in the 2025/2026 financial year. 	Director Technical Services	Design work to commence in 2025. Letter sent to Grain Corp to clarify expectations. 10/25 Discussion with Councillors resolved that existing road be gazetted and appropriate NHVR permit issued COMPLETED
Strengthening Communities Grant Policy 19082024 RESOLVED that Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review the strengthening community grant policy to include a maximum per annum funding of \$5000 per group. Any in kind support be included in this allocation. Any joint ventures be approved by a majority of Councillors. Any funding greater than that allowed in the strengthening community fund must be included in the approved budget set for the year. 	Director Corporate & Community Services	09/24 - Further discussions and review of the policy to be undertaken with new Council to determine a consistent approach to requests for funding. 03/25 - Workshop scheduled for 22/4/25 to establish grant areas and limits. 03/25 - Workshop to be held 29/4/25 to establish grant areas and limits. 05/25 – Revised Grant Policy to be finalised and presented to July Council meeting for endorsement. 07/25 – Policy updated and to be presented at August Council Meeting.09/25 – Policy currently on exhibition. 10/25 – Refer to minute number 11082025 COMPLETED
MARCH 2025		
Employee Council Agreement 2024-2027 06032025 RESOLVED that Council endorse the revised Employee's Council Agreement for the period from 1 December 2024 to 30 November 2027 covering all	General Manager	03/25: Agreement issued to Unions for execution. 06/25: Council has made further request to Unions.

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions

Resolution	Responsible Person	Progress Update
Bland Shire Council staff employed under the Local Government (State) Award and that the Agreement be submitted to the relevant unions for execution.		
Parking & Enforcement 13032025 RESOLVED that further information in relation to a parking education program be presented to Council ahead of re-endorsement of the enforcement of existing parking signage.	Manager Development & Regulatory Services	05/25: Road Safety Officer liaising with TNSW and other stakeholders to develop further ideas. 09/25: Further report presented to September Meeting 10/25: Refer to minutes no 11092025 COMPLETED
APRIL 2025		
Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates 20042025 RESOLVED that Council agrees to: 1. Sell the 10 properties as listed in the Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates report and detailed in the General Manager's certificates for the sale of land for unpaid rates in accordance with Section 713 of the Local Government Act 1993. 2. Authorise the public auction to be held, at a date to be decided, in the Council Chambers. 3. Authorise the General Manager to determine and appoint an auctioneer in line with Council's procurement policy. 4. Utilise the services of GP Evans & Englert for the provision of contracts for the sale. 5. The preparation of a schedule nominating a reserve price for each parcel (having regard to each parcel's valuation, the amount of debt outstanding to Council and the prevailing market prices) to be presented at the May 2025 Council meeting. 6. Authorise the General Manager, or the Director Corporate and Community Services, delegation to accept any reasonable offer on the day of the auction and to complete the contract of sale on behalf of Council.	Manager Finance and Customer Services	Recoupa are expecting quotes from auctioneers by Friday 13 th June. Following the appointment of the auctioneer, the date for the sale will be set. Sale to be advertised before 30 th June 2025. 06/25: Item added to agenda for the July workshop to provide further information. 07/25: Council meeting report to delegate authority to the GM to set reserve prices. 08/25: Quade Moncrieff Livestock & Property Pty Ltd have been appointed as the auctioneers. Auction will be held at 10am on 13 th November 2025. 09/25: Council will be withdrawing the two Quillies Cnr Road properties due to identified ambiguities in the underlying property information. Updated amounts outstanding for these two properties are \$1,796.94 and \$1,307.53.

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions

Resolution	Responsible Person	Progress Update
JUNE 2025		
DCP Amendment – Active Street Frontage 09062025 RESOLVED: 1. That Council endorse the amendment to the current Bland Development Control Plan (DCP) in accordance with the Manager of Development and Regulatory Services Report and places the DCP on public exhibition for a period of 28 days commencing 18 June 2025. 2. Should there be comments received from the community on the proposed amendments to the current DCP, a further report be prepared and presented to Council. 3. That should no submissions on the proposed amendments to the current DCP be received during the Public Exhibition Period, that Council adopts the proposed amendments to the current DCP.	Director Technical Services	08/25: Public Exhibition complete. Submissions, if any being reviewed by Development & Regulatory Services team. 10/25 DCP Amendment active street frontage now in force. COMPLETED
JULY 2025		
Endorsement of Community Engagement Strategy 05072025 RESOLVED: 1. Endorse the Draft 2025 Community Engagement Strategy and place it on public exhibition for a period of 28 days. 2. Following the period of exhibition and submission period to allow for written submissions to be made, any suggested amendments to the plan be made and a further report be presented to Council prior to its formal adoption.	Media and Communications Officer	07/25: Strategy placed on public exhibition. 09/25: Final document to be presented to September meeting. 10/25: Report presented to September meeting. Refer Minute No. 03092025 COMPLETED
Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates 10072025 RESOLVED that Council authorise the General Manager, or in their absence the Director Corporate and Community Services, to determine the reserve prices for the properties listed for sale for unpaid rates, in accordance with Section 713 of the Local Government Act 1993.	Manager Customer & Financial Services	08/25: Reserve prices to be set closer to auction date. Refer to April 2025 action updates for further information. 09/25: Council will be withdrawing the two Quilties Cnr Road properties due to identified ambiguities in the underlying property information. Updated amounts outstanding for these two properties are \$1,796.94 and \$1,307.53.
Bland Shire Council Onsite Sewage Management Strategy 2025-2030 12072025 RESOLVED 1. That Council endorse the draft Bland Shire Council Onsite Sewage Management Strategy 2025-2030 and place it on public exhibition for a period of twenty-eight (28) days from 16 July 2025. 2. Should there be comments received from the community on the draft Bland Shire Council Onsite Sewage Management Strategy 2025-2030, a further report be prepared and presented to Council.	Environmental Health Officer	07/25: On Public Exhibition 10/25 No submission received COMPLETED

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions

Resolution	Responsible Person	Progress Update
3. Should there be no comment from the community within the 42-day commentary period, Council formally adopt the Bland Shire Council Onsite Sewage Management Strategy 2025-2030.		
DA2024/0058 - Multi Dwelling Housing (9 dwellings) and Consolidation of 2 lots into 1 lot 13072025 RESOLVED that Council approve DA2024/0058 - Multi Dwelling Housing (9 dwellings) and Consolidation of 2 into 1 lots, subject to development consent conditions contained within the Town Planners report.	Manager Development & Regulatory Services	08/25: Consent issued with special condition regarding subsidence and legacy mine shafts. 10/25 DA determined by way of approval by Council. COMPLETED
Co-funding Proposed Saloon Car Drag Strip in West Wyalong 14072025 RESOLVED that Council approve the allocation of \$1.5m from unrestricted cash (invested funds) toward the development of the Saloon Car Drag Strip in West Wyalong and be included in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for Q1 2025/26.	Director Technical Services	08/25: Preparation of Documents & Bill of Quantities for Construction Certificate and Final Project determination. 10/25 Project to start in coming months.
August 2025		
Bland Shire Community Funding Program 11082025 RESOLVED that Council: 1. endorse the Bland Shire Community Funding Program 2025 and place the funding guidelines on public exhibition for a period of 28 days from 21 August 2025 inviting comment from the community up to 2 October 2025. 2. Following the period for the lodgement of submissions, present a further report to adopt the guidelines incorporating any relevant submissions received should they be received. 3. Should there be no submissions on Bland Shire Community Funding Program prior to 2 October 2025 that the Guidelines be considered formally adopted and promotion of the program commence	Director Corporate and Community Services	09/25 – Draft document placed on exhibition. Community Information session to be held 23 September to allow for feedback from community.
September 2025		
Endorsement of Motions for LGNSW 2025 Conference 04092025 RESOLVED that Bland Shire Councils a) submits the following Notice of Motion for consideration at the LGNSW Conference scheduled for 23-25 November: Mining Royalties for Host Councils That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to establish a dedicated funding program for local councils in which mining operations are located, to be funded directly from a proportion of the mining royalties collected by the State. The program should:	General Manager	10/25: Motion submitted to LGNSW Conference Secretariat, and attendance registration completed. COMPLETED

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions

Resolution	Responsible Person	Progress Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace the now defunct Resources for Regions program, Provide a fair and transparent mechanism for returning a share of mining-derived revenue to host communities, Support investment in essential infrastructure, community services, and environmental management to offset the social, economic and environmental impacts of mining, and Recognise the contribution made by mining-affected councils and communities to the State's economy. <p>b) nominates the following Councillors to attend the LGNSW Conference: Cr Lord and Cr Minogue</p>		
<p>Bland Shire Australia Day Awards Committee 05092025 RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> That the minutes of the Australia Day Awards Committee meeting held on 2 September 2025, be received and noted. That Council:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Include an Arts and Culture Award category in the Australia Day Awards. Include an Achievement in Sports category in the Australia Day Awards. Remove the Community Service Award category from the Australia Day Awards. And amend the Terms of Reference accordingly. 	General Manager	10/25: Terms of Reference amended accordingly for presentation at next meeting. COMPLETE
<p>Draft Financial Statements 2024-25 Referral for Audit 07092025 RESOLVED that Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Notes the preparation of the Draft General Purpose and Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Australian Accounting Standards, and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting. Refers the Draft Financial Statements to Council's external auditor for audit, in accordance with section 413(1) of the Local Government Act 1993. Authorises the Mayor, a Councillor, the General Manager and the Responsible Accounting Officer to sign the Statement by Councillors and Management, as required under section 413(2)(c) of the Act. 	Manager Customer & Financial Services	10/25: External auditors commenced audit 7 October 2025 and will continue until 17 October 2025.
<p>Public Exhibition of Code of Meeting Practice 08092025 RESOLVED that Council:</p>	Coordinator Internal Audit, Governance & Risk	10/25: Draft Model Code placed on public exhibition. Item presented to Councillors at October workshop. OLG is holding a briefing session in the week of 13 October for staff to provide further detail.

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions

Resolution	Responsible Person	Progress Update
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Determine that councillors may only be expelled by resolution of the council or the committee of the council in accordance with clause 15.16 of the Model Code of Meeting Practice. Endorse the amended Bland Shire Council Code of Meeting Practice attached to this report for public exhibition for a period of 28 days inviting comment from the community for up to 42 days. Following the period for the lodgement of submissions, that the General Manager present a further report to adopt the amended Code of Meeting Practice, with detail and responses to any submissions received. 		
Bland Shire Council Draft 2025-2029 Disability Inclusion Action Plan 09/09/2025 RESOLVED that Council adopt the DRAFT 2025-2029 Bland Shire Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) and place on public exhibition for a period of 28 days commencing Thursday 18 September 2025.	Community Development Officer	10/25: Draft 2025-2029 DIAP placed on public exhibition, submissions closing 30 October 2025.
Parking and Enforcement 11/09/2025 RESOLVED that Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> endorse the proposed community education program for parking regulation, and re-endorse the historic parking regulation recommendations of the Local Area Traffic Committee and determinations of Council. 	Ranger	10/25: Education program to commence. COMPLETED
Road Safety Action Plan 2025-2029 12/09/2025 RESOLVED that Council endorse the Road Safety Action Plan 2025-2039 and support the Road Safety Officer in their endeavours to improve safety on our road network	Development Services Officer	COMPLETED
Draft Development Contributions Plan 13/07/2025 RESOLVED that Council resolve to exhibit the Draft Section 7.12 Development Contributions Plan.	Development Services Officer	10/25 On Exhibition
Bush Fire Prone Land Mapping 14/09/2025 RESOLVED that Council make a submission to the Commissioner of NSW Rural Fire Service to reinstate the Bland Shire Council's bushfire mapping prior to the NSW Bush Fire Prone Land Mapping Guidelines being published.	Development Services Officer	09/25 DTS to make submission to NSW RFS Commissioner.
Grant Match Funding for Mirrool Playground Upgrade Project 15/09/2025 RESOLVED that Council approve the allocation of \$50,000.00 from the Grant Matching Reserve Fund to facilitate the delivery of the Mirrool Playground Upgrade Project and be included in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for Q1 2025-26.	Director Technical Services	10/25 Playground consultant selected, and project commenced.

6.2 Risk, Work Health and Safety Quarterly Report

CSP Theme: Growth 1- Good Governance is integral to Council's operations and management of community resources.

Department: Executive Services

Author: WHS Officer, Risk and Insurance Officer

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the Risk, Work Health and Safety Report for the quarter ending September 2025

Report:

Purpose

This report has been prepared to update Council on Risk, Work Health and Safety activities and performance for the quarter ending September 2025

Statewide Mutual update

The Risk and Insurance Officer attended the annual Statewide Mutual Risk Management Conference. The Risk and Insurance Officer accepted the award for the REROC Internal Audit Alliance Risk Management Excellence Award - Regional and Rural and County Councils.

CIP Workbooks

The Statewide Mutual Risk Management Team has launched the annual Continuous Improvement Program (CIP).

Now in its eighth consecutive year, members are invited to participate in the industry's leading self-assessment and risk improvement program. It allows the Statewide Mutual Board to provide insurers and reinsurers with a level of confidence that local government authorities are proactive in managing their risks. This helps in ensuring members' contributions remain as low as possible.

The topics to be covered this year are

- Bridge asset management
- Trees within the urban environment
- Incident investigation from a liability outlook

The Risk and Insurance Officer has undertaken consultation with risk owners and the Statewide Mutual Risk Manager and draft workbooks have been completed.

Statewide Mutual Meetings

Statewide Mutual invited Councils Roads and Parks & Gardens, Managers and Supervisors to a Mock Trial held in Leeton in July.

This is the third in the series that has been delivered by Statewide Mutual liability lawyers from Mills Oakley .

This is a great opportunity to involve key staff within the organisation who may be required to perform actions and make decisions that could ultimately be tested in the courts.

Roles of witnesses are portrayed by Council staff to enhance the program in a real-life experience. This was very informative

Insurance update

Council has one claim currently being managed by our insurers and trying to get a resolution.

Risk Register

The Risk and Insurance Officer commenced reviewing our risk registers with Statewide Mutual Risk Manager and updated HR, Engineering, Crown Lands and BSC contracted sites

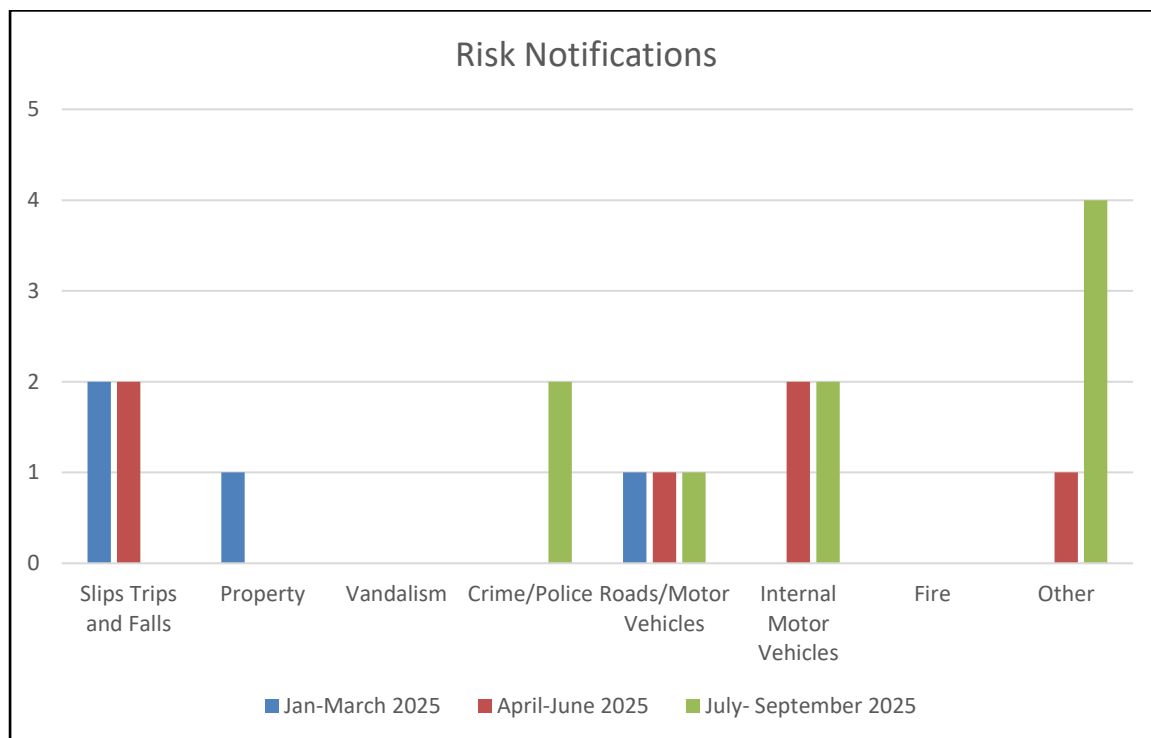
Contractor Data Base.

The contractors are all in BeSafe and the system is working well

Notifications

Risk Notifications submitted July 2025 – September 2025

The following graph identifies the number of Risk notifications over the period July 2025 – September 2025.



Staff have promptly actioned complaints and incidents.

Contractors Database

Contractor's details have been migrated to the BeSafe system and will be maintained largely by the Contractors but managed by WHS and Risk Staff.

StateCover

Council received the General Manager's Report outlining Bland Shire Council's performance in Return to Work and incident management (**attached**). The report highlights that Bland Shire Council outperforms comparable councils, as well as regional and state benchmarks in these areas.

The StateCover self-audit was completed in September. Key improvement areas were identified and submitted to StateCover as priority actions. These actions will contribute to the 2025–2026 Continuous Improvement Plan. The completion of the self-audit is part of the requirements to receive the WHS Incentive rebate from StateCover.

Work Health and Safety meetings are held quarterly, with a meeting held in August, the next Work Health and Safety Meeting to be held in November 2025. Actions arising from meetings continue to be addressed and completed.

WHS Wellbeing Initiatives

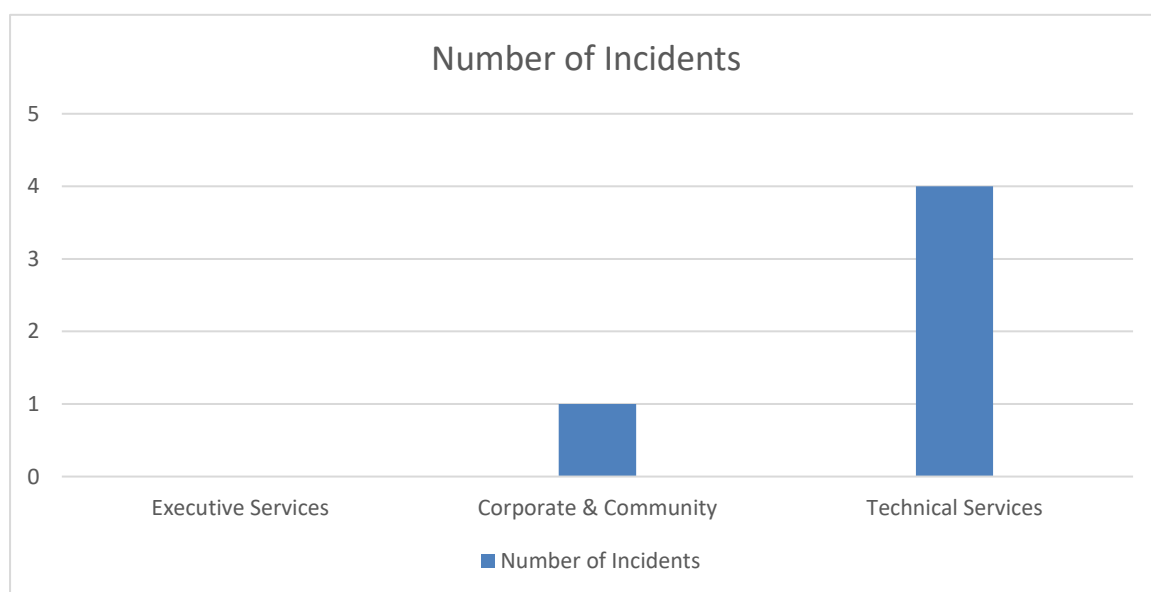
Staff continued to take the opportunity for a Flu shot to reduce the risk of contracting the flu and to reduce the amount of potential of sick leave required over the Flu season.

WHS Incident Notifications

There were no Notifiable Incidents to be reported to Safework NSW in Quarter 3 2025. There are currently no WHS liability matters.

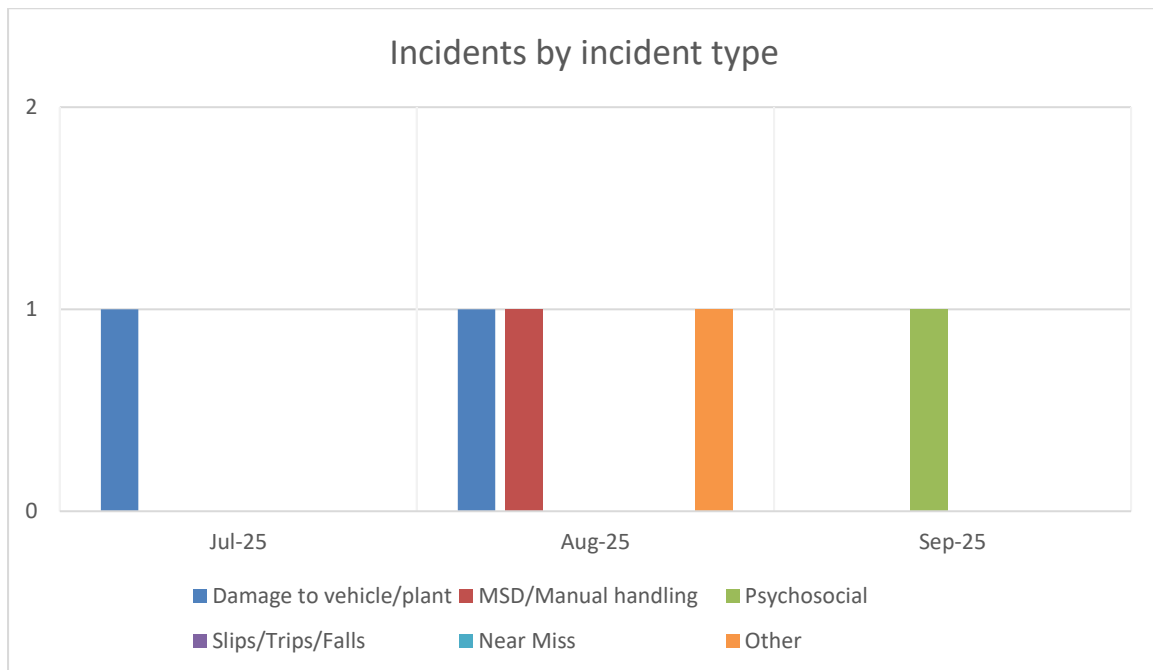
WHS Incident Notifications by Directorate submitted 1 July – 30 September 2025

The following graph identifies the source directorate where WHS incidents occurred over the period July 2025 – September 2025.



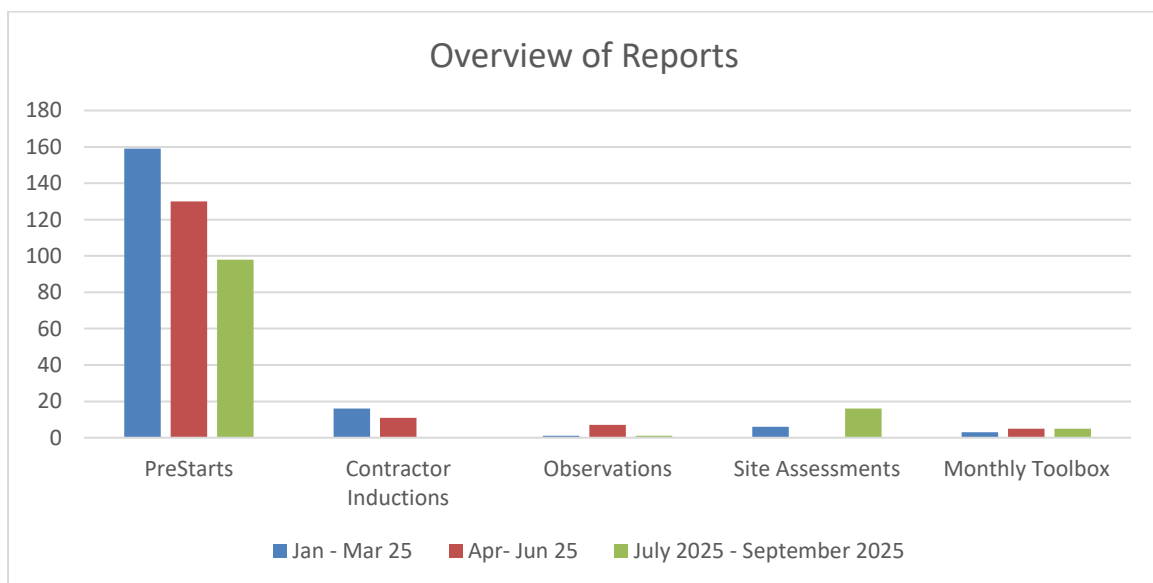
WHS Incident Notifications submitted 1 July – 30 September 2025

The following graph identifies the type of WHS incidents over the period July 2025 – September 2025.



Internal WHS Documents 1 July – 30 September 2025

The following graph identifies the number of internally generated WHS documents over the period July 2025 – September 2025, and the previous period also.



Financial Implications

There are no identified financial implications currently. All regular insurances have been accounted for in the annual budget process. One insurance claim pending.

Enclosures

Nil

Attachments (As separate attachment)

Nil



2024-2025 GM REPORT

BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL



Contents

Safety Performance

Claims

- Cause of Injury
- Type of Injury
- Claim Frequency Comparison
- Injury Reporting
- Return to Work Performance
- Average Claims Cost

Premium

Member Services

- Safety Services
- Return to Work Services
- Wellbeing Services

Stay in Touch



Safety Performance





Safety performance

Your dedicated safety specialist is partnering with your team to understand your safety performance, goals, and improvement opportunities

WHS self-audit progress

- WHS self-audit status: Not yet complete
- Verification: 2027
- Priority action plan: Not yet complete

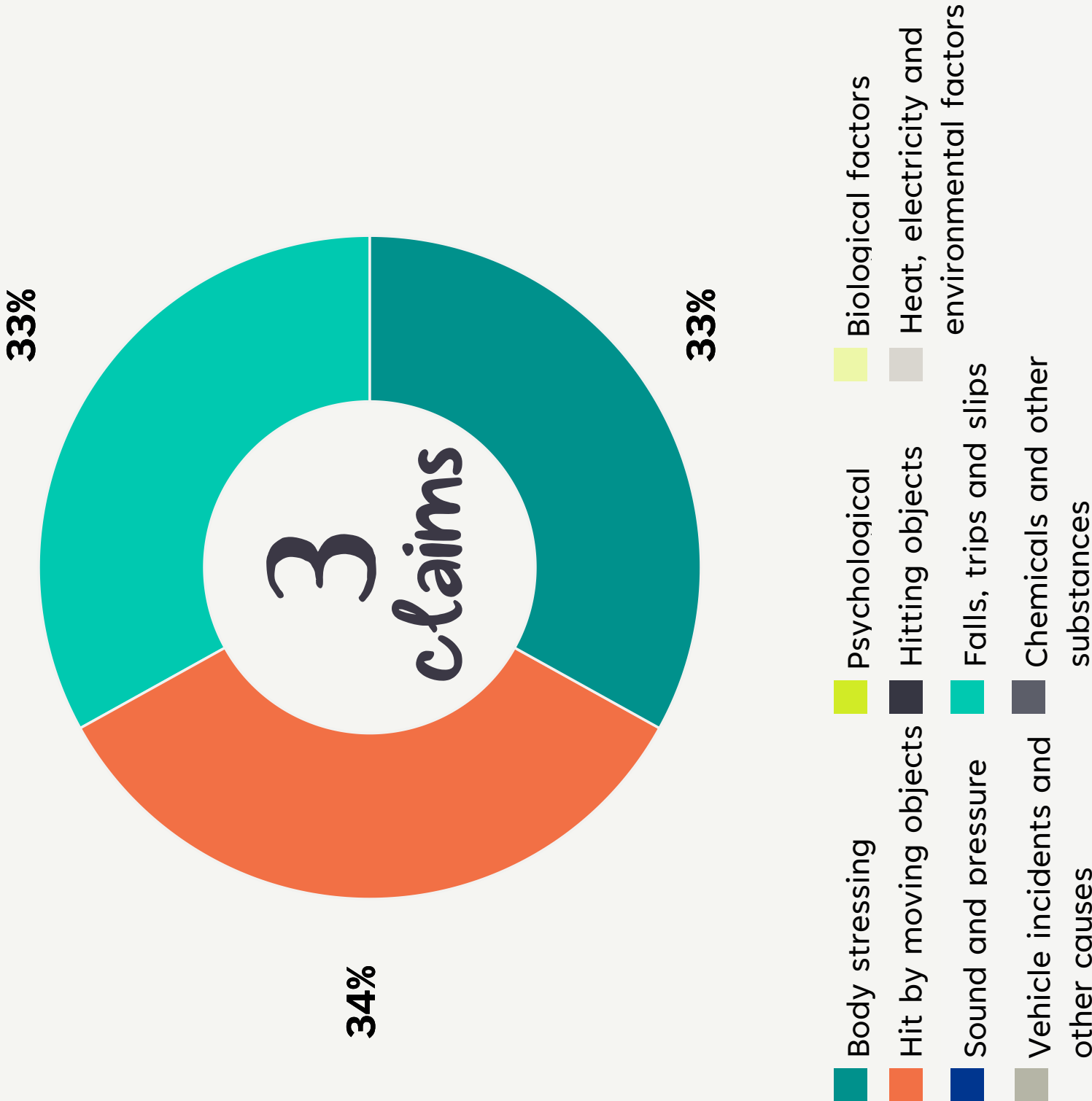


Claims

Cause of Injury

Physical injuries resulted in 3 claims during 2024/2025.

This accounts for 100% of your total claims.

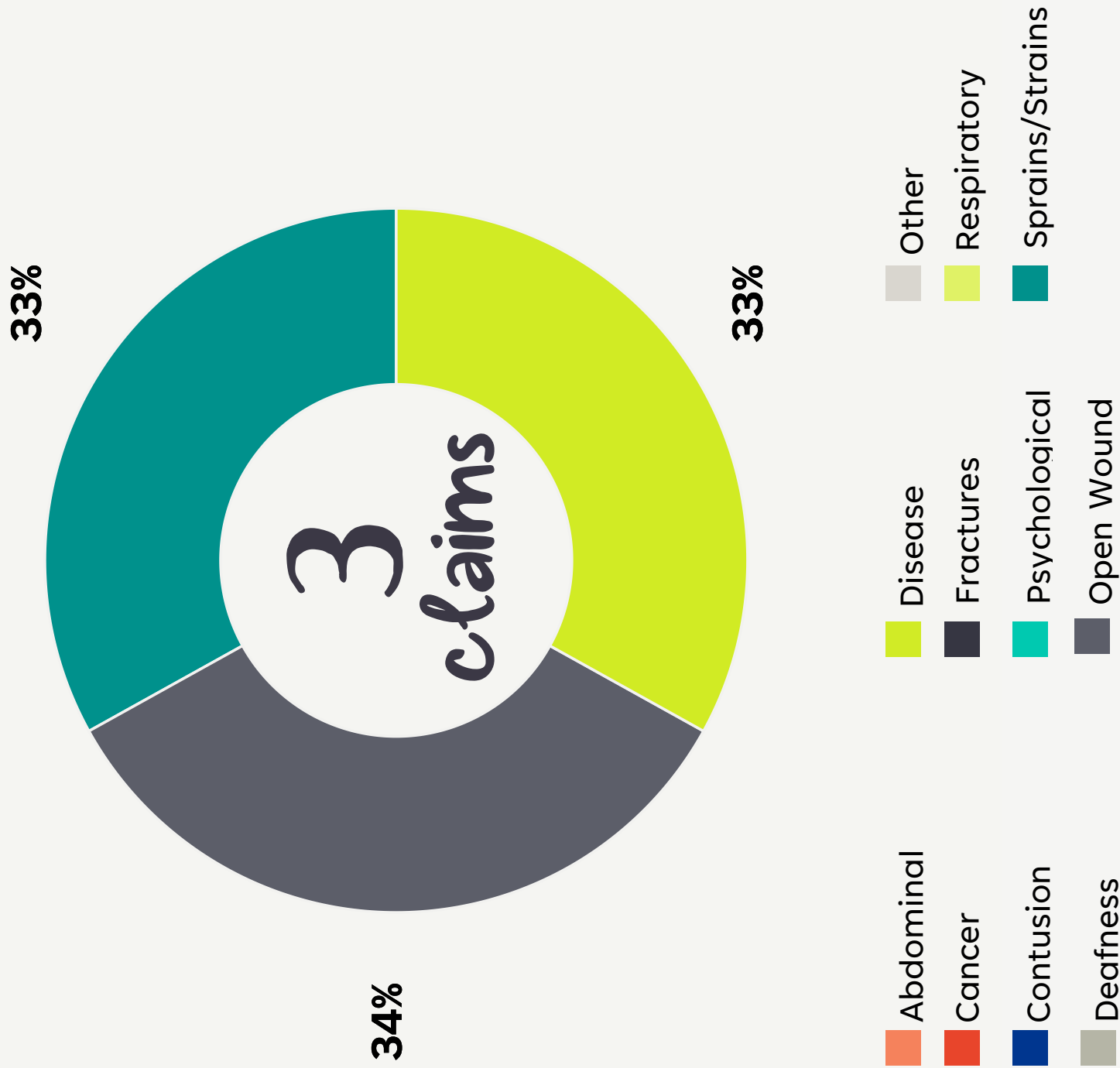


Type of Injury

Understanding the type and proportion of injuries occurring will assist you to target your WHS efforts.

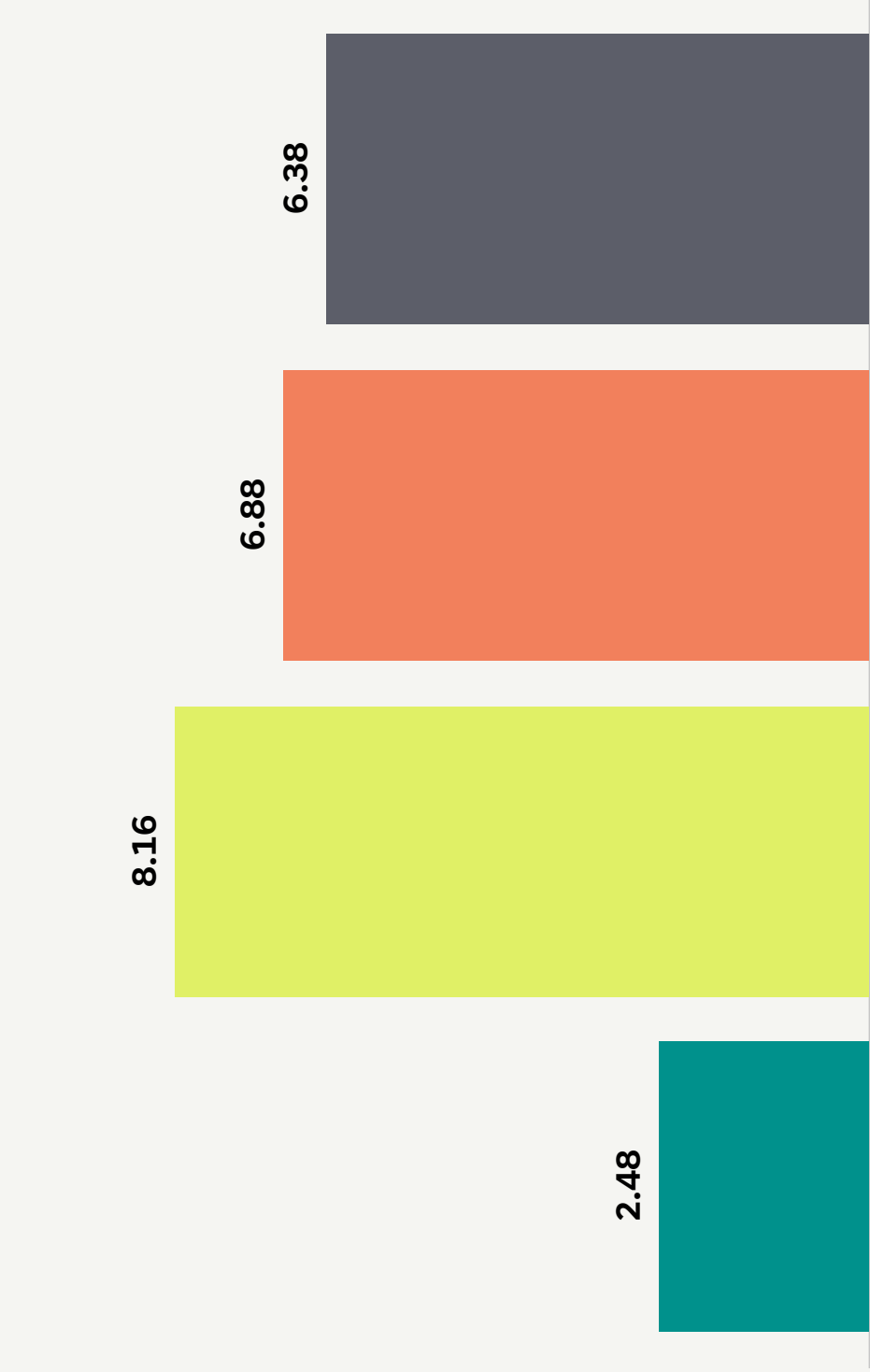
Typically, sprains and strains represent the highest proportion of claims for most Members.

Psychological injuries are the fastest growing cohort of claims across the mutual.

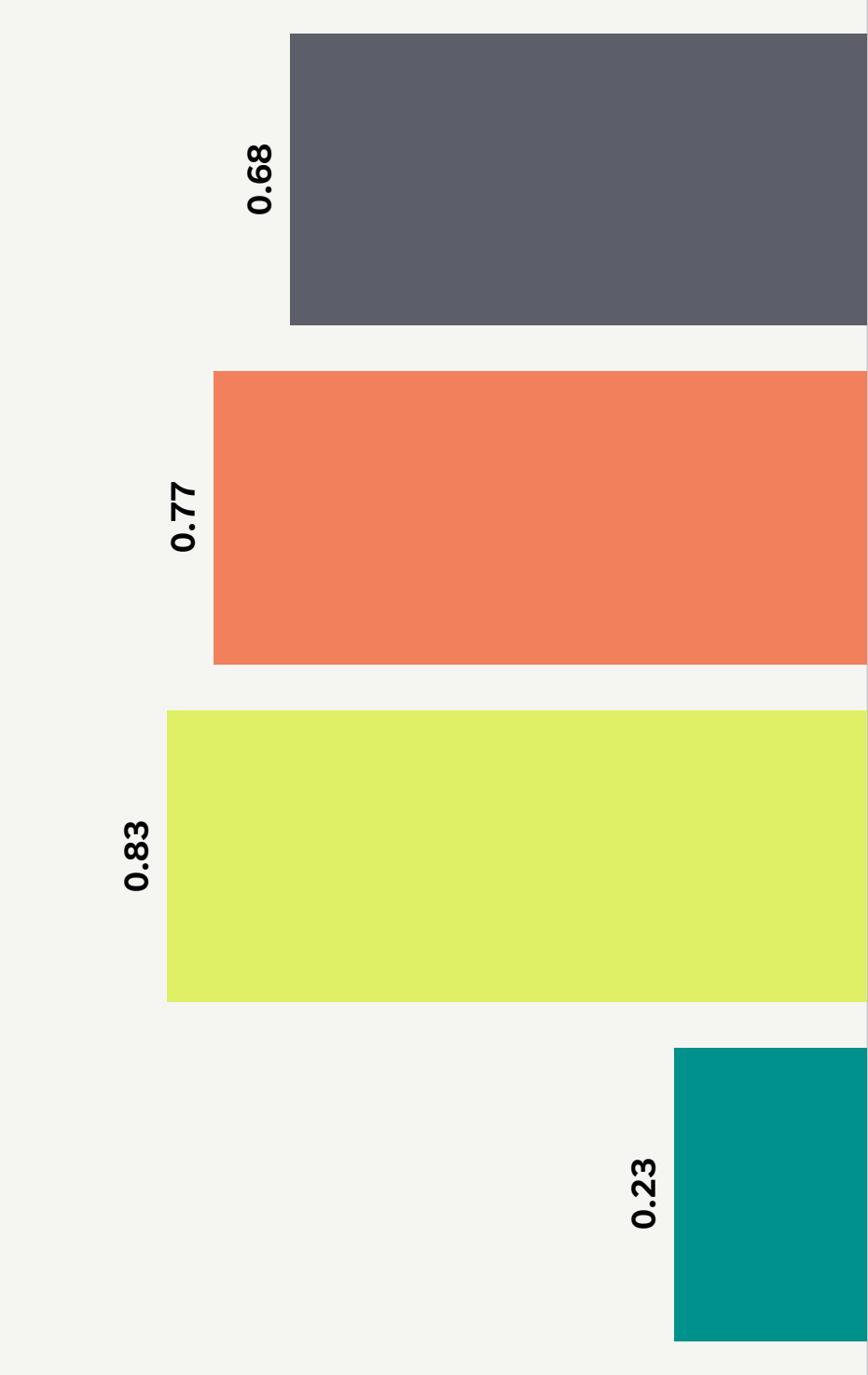


Claim Frequency Comparison

Monitoring claim frequency using employee numbers*



Monitoring claim frequency using Council wages*

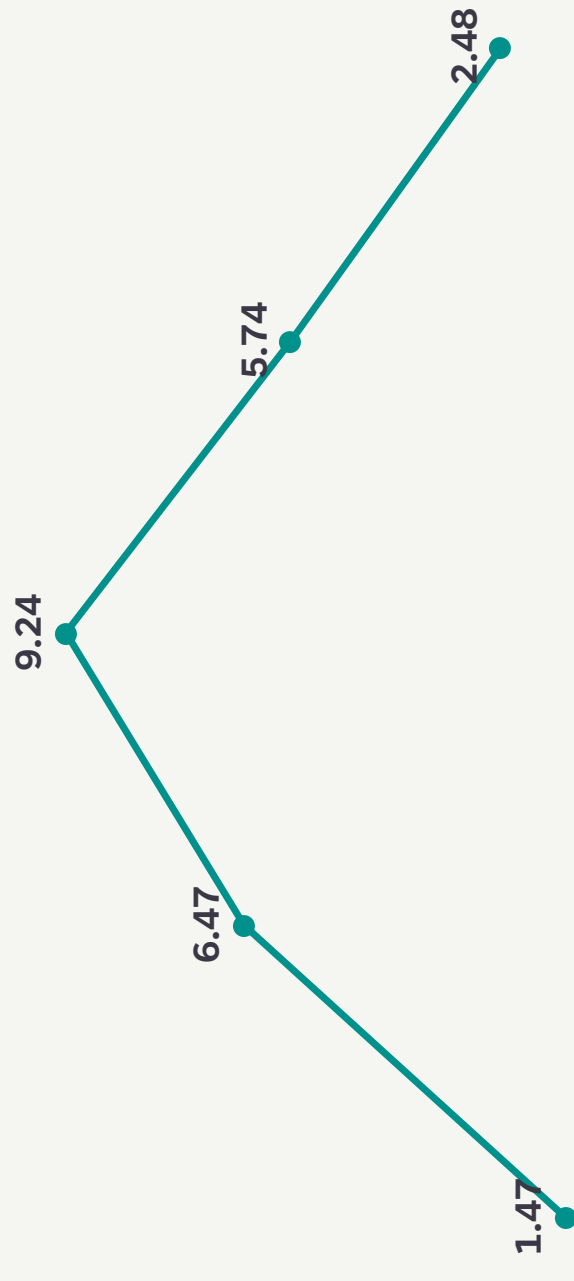


*Claim frequency is calculated as the number of claims lodged relating to injuries in 24/25 per 100 employees and per \$1million of Council wages as declared to StateCover.

Claim Frequency Trend

Impact of WHS efforts over time: 2021 - 2025

Monitoring claim frequency using employee numbers*



Monitoring claim frequency using Council wages*



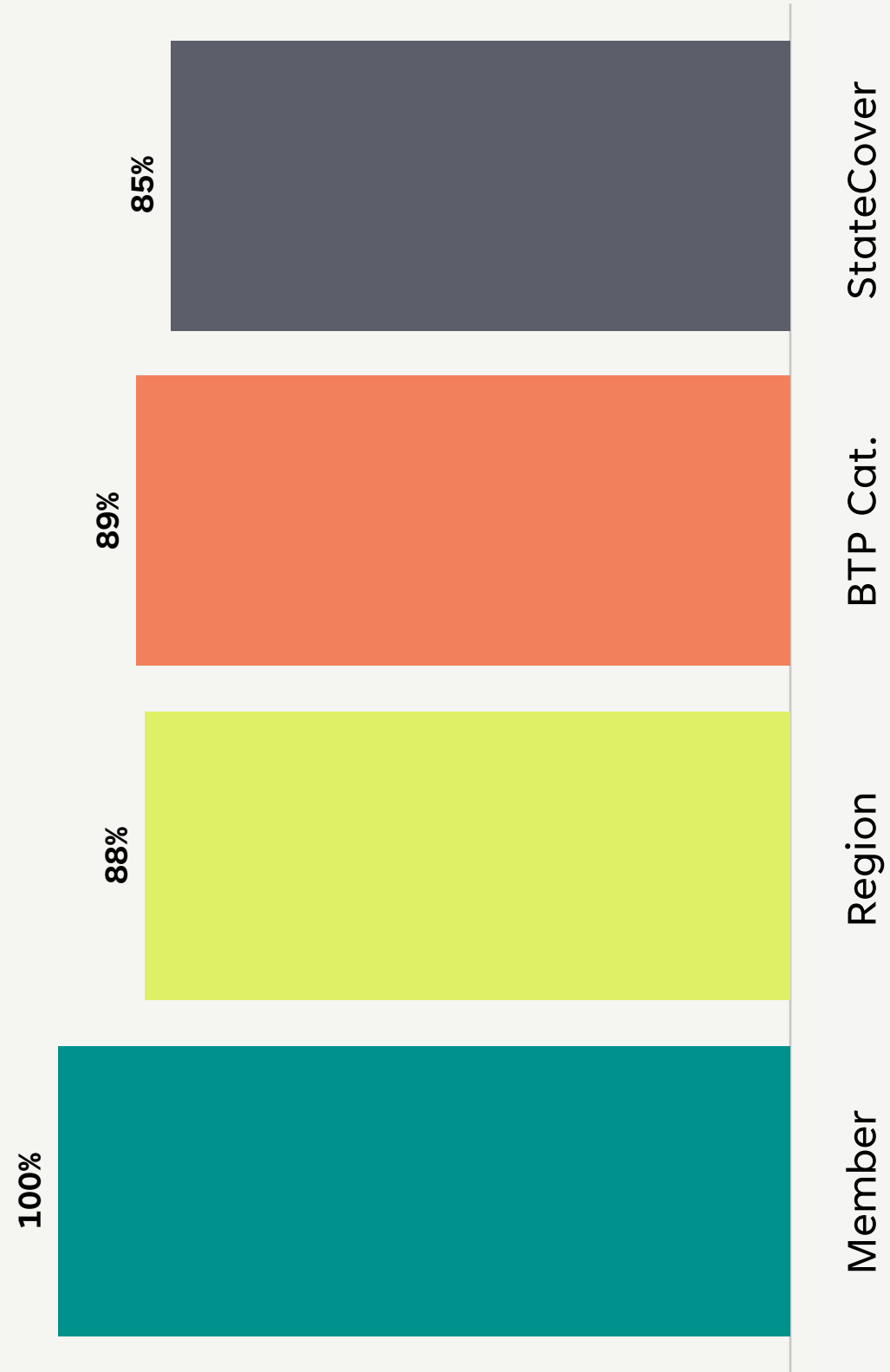
*Claim frequency is calculated as the number of claims lodged relating to injuries in 24/25 per 100 employees and per \$1million of Council wages as declared to StateCover.

Injury Reporting

Percentage of claims reported to StateCover within 48 hours

Reporting injuries to StateCover within 48 hours of Council becoming aware of the injury is a legislative requirement.

Prompt reporting allows for early intervention and assists with swift recovery and return to work.



Return to Work Performance

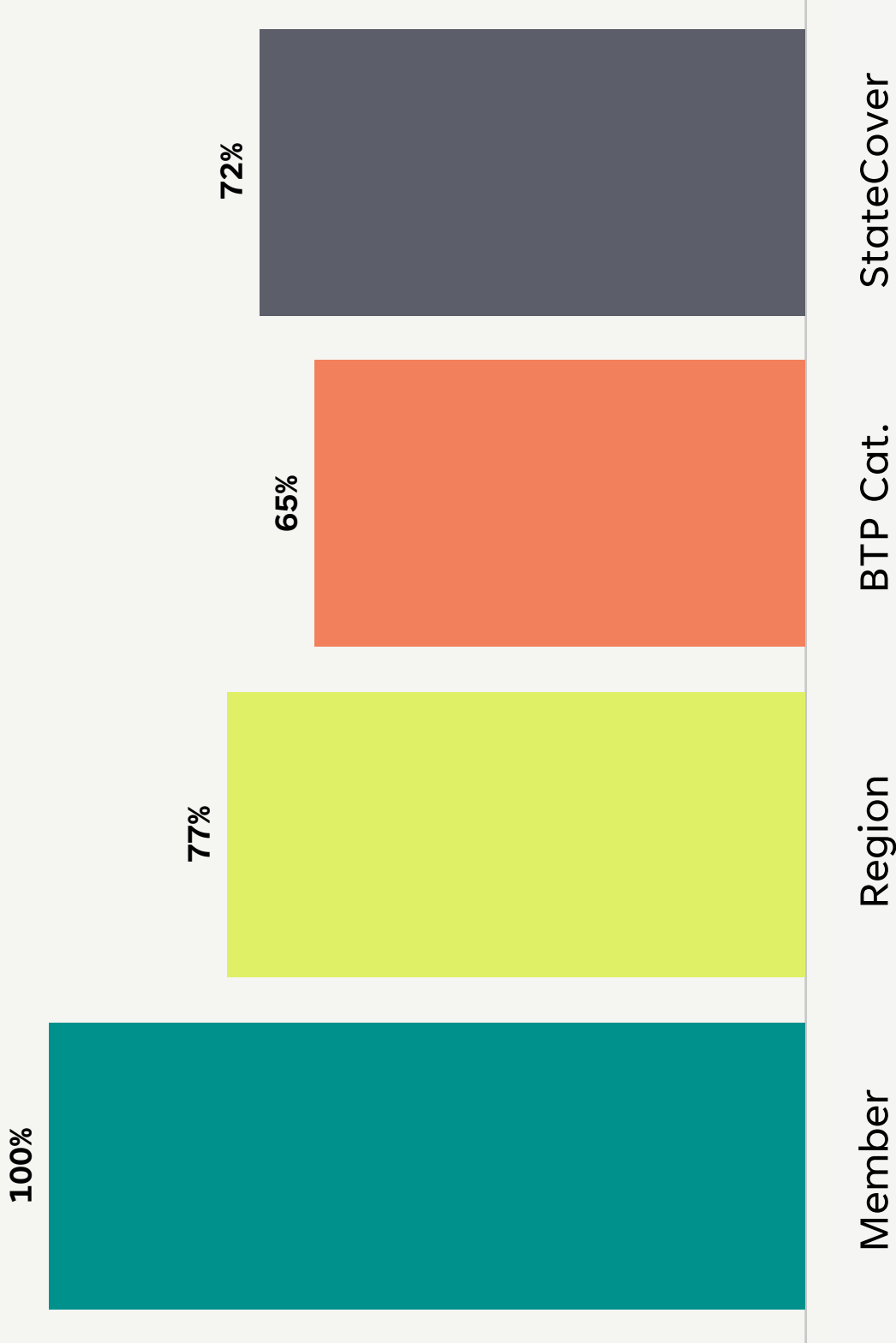
Your Council’s average four-week RTW performance in 2024/2025

Number of claims: 3

Number of time lost claims: 2

The return to work (RTW) rate measures the proportion of injured workers who have experienced time loss due to their injury, and have resumed work in any capacity within four weeks from the date the claim was entered into StateCover's system.

The measure is used to demonstrate the overall injury management effectiveness. StateCover adopts a collaborative approach to RTW and understands the mutual benefits that early intervention and returning to work have on a worker's recover and wellbeing, as well as on Council's efficacy.



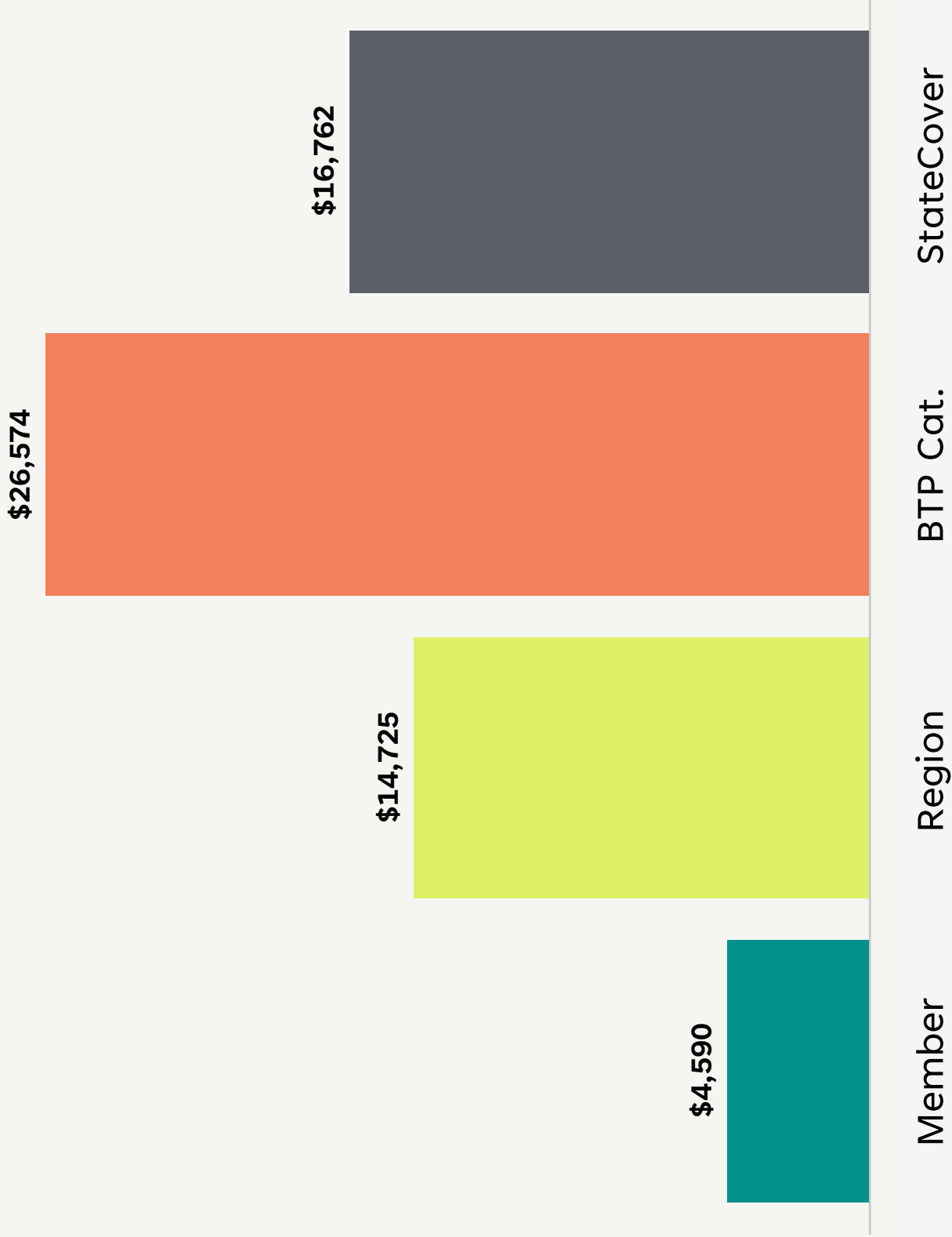
Average Claims Cost

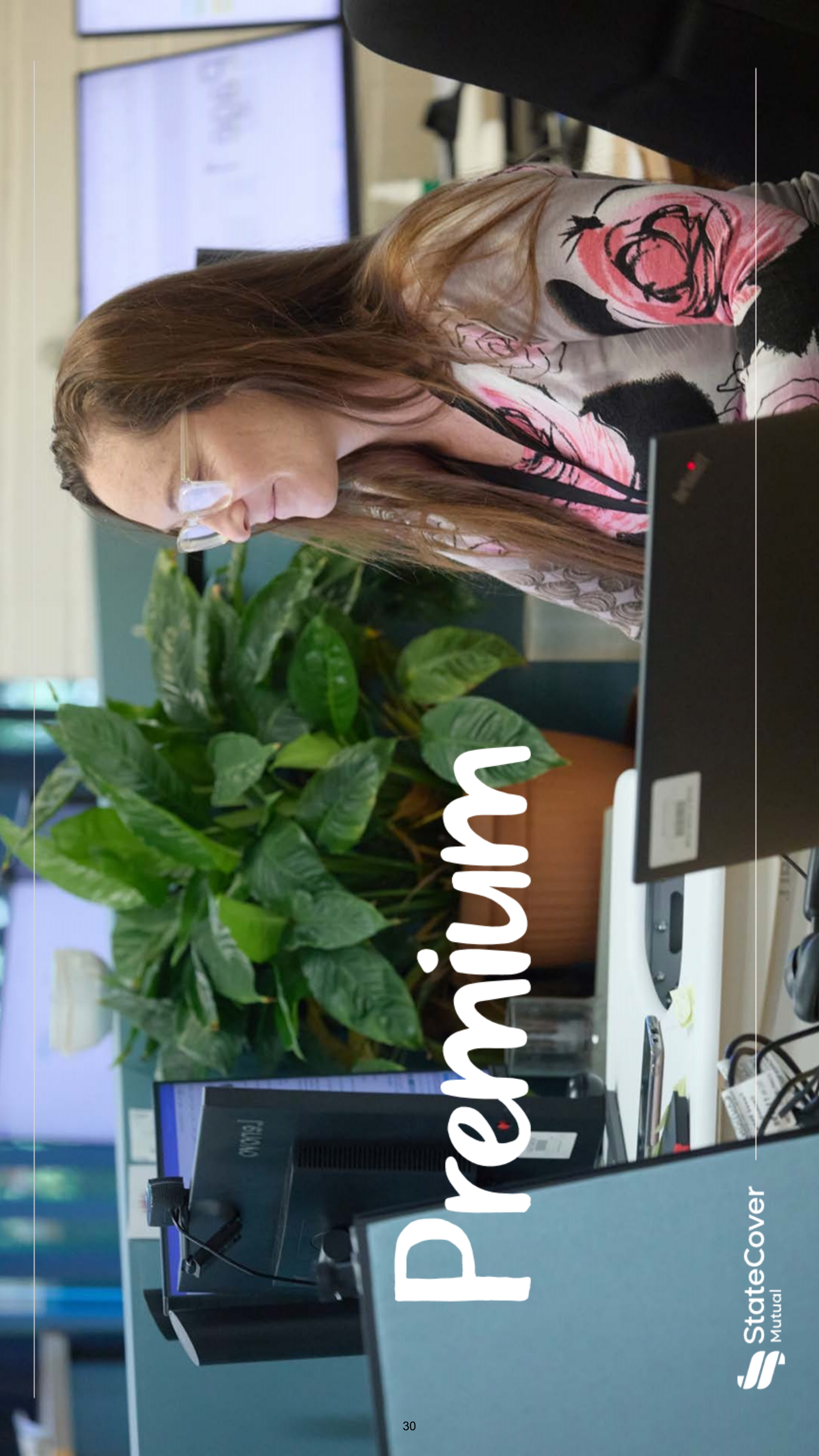
Comparison of your average incurred claims costs in 2024/2025

Claims costs may increase over time as further entitlements are paid, e.g. whole person impairment lump sums or workplace injury damages.

The amount paid on a claim will either directly or indirectly impact Council's premium.

The most effective way to minimise either type of impact is to return the injured worker to work in suitable employment.





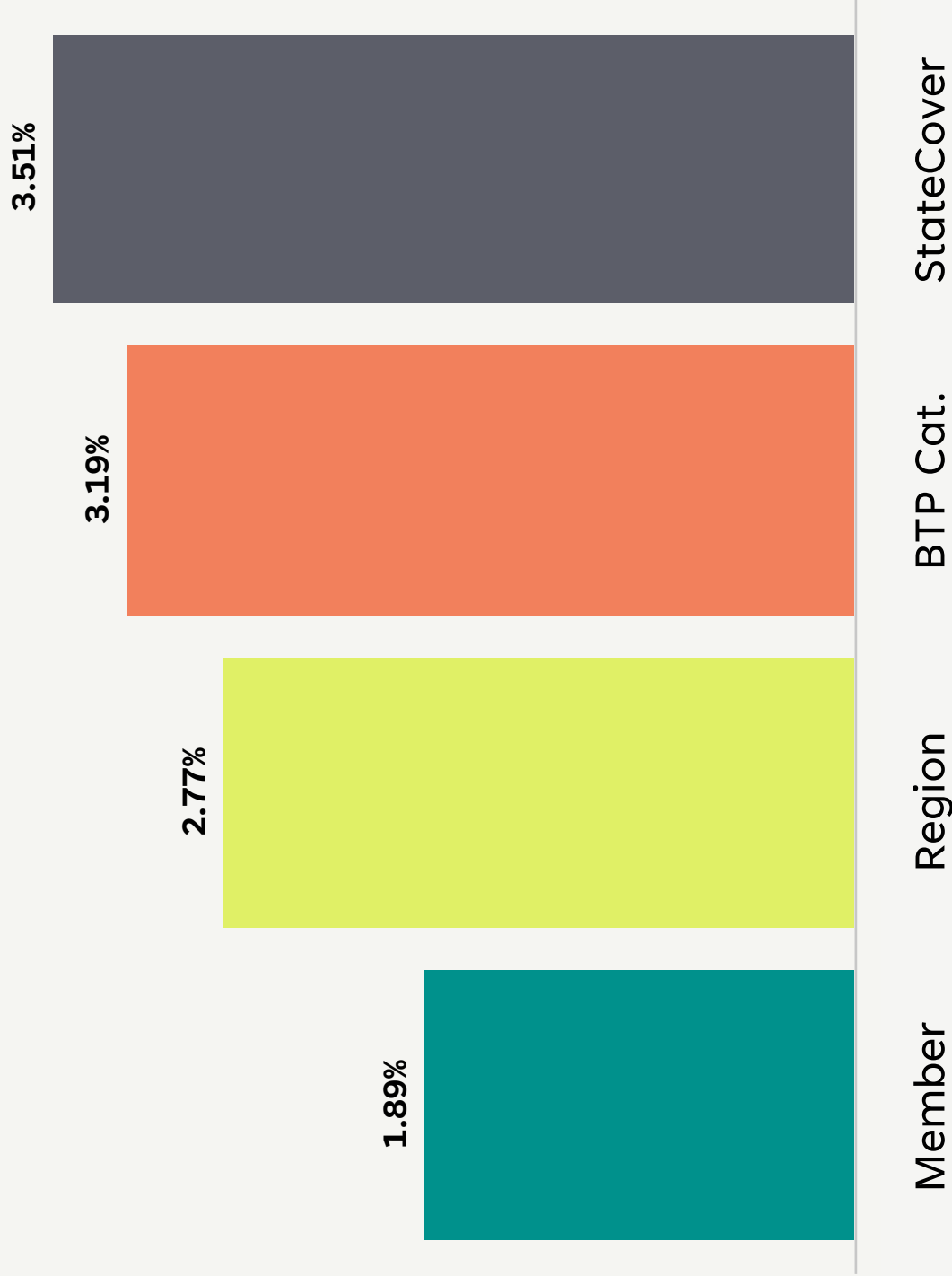
Premium

Your Premium

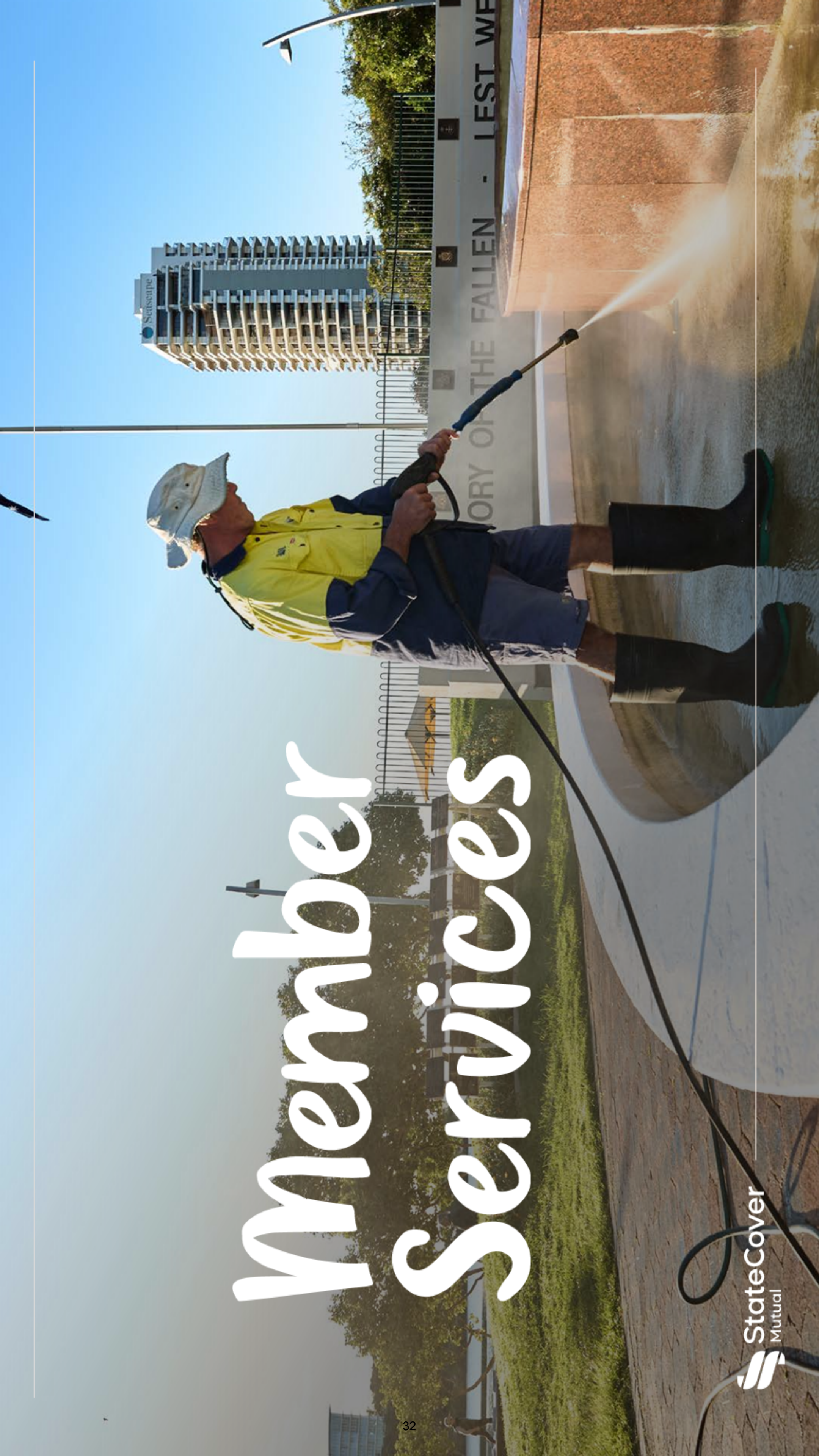
Your premium rate is a blended measure of the risk profile of the Local Government industry, the broader scheme and Council's WHS and return to work performance.

Members can influence their premium through providing a safe workplace and, when a worker is injured, proactively assisting them to recover at work.

Your premium is "experience-rated," with the past three years of specific claim costs impacting the premium payable – the better the experience, the lower the premium.



Member Services



Safety Services

We know that approximately 60% of claims are caused by hazardous manual tasks, resulting in musculoskeletal injury. We also understand the significant human and financial impact of psychological injury. Our safety specialists are here to help.



Safety Services and programs

StateCover's new safety services and programs focus on addressing injury and claims trends.

- Psychosocial Hazard Management Program
- Hazardous Manual Tasks Program
- WHS Planning and Review Service
- WHS Mentoring Program



Training and resources

A comprehensive range of training programs and resources are available face-to-face or virtually.

- Due Diligence
- Incident Investigation
- WHS Roles and Responsibilities
- WHS Committee
- Contractor Management
- Respect at Work

Return to Work Services

Your dedicated return to work coordinator (RTWC) is uniquely placed to drive RTW performance. StateCover has developed support and training to help them achieve the best possible outcomes.



Job demands analysis (JDA) library

Physical, cognitive, psychological, sensory, and communication demands of specific roles to support return to work.



RTW self audit

A deep understanding of your RTW compliance that supports the development of action plans for identified improvement opportunities.



RTWC training

New training and communities of practice to support Members are coming in 2025-2026.

Wellbeing Services

StateCover’s wellbeing services can help your team to develop a strategic approach to wellbeing, promote good health practices, and much more.



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Taylor Hender

MEMBER SERVICES MANAGER

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Keeping your people Safe, Well and Working



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Section 2 – Corporate & Community Services

6.3 Finance and Investment Report for September 2025

CSP Theme: Growth 1- Good Governance is integral to Council’s operations and management of community resources.

Department: Corporate & Community Services

Author: Manager Customer & Financial Services

Recommendation:

That Council:

- a) Receive and note the information contained within the Finance and Investment Report for the month of September 2025.
 - b) Confirms the payment of accounts, for the period 01 September to 30 September 2025, totalling \$4,442,245.75.
-

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an overview of its current investment portfolio and account payments for the reporting period. It provides transparency, supports informed decision-making and confirms that investments and payments have been made in accordance with legislative requirements, Council's Investment Policy and the adopted budget.

Background:

The Finance and Investment Report is provided to Council for information and prepared in accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (NSW).

Financial Implications:

Council’s investment portfolio continues to generate interest income, contributing to the overall financial sustainability of Council's operations.

The certification of monthly payments confirms that all expenditures have been incurred in accordance with Council’s adopted budget, relevant policies, and statutory obligations. This warrants ongoing financial accountability, transparency, and the prudent use of public funds.

Risk:

Council’s investment activities carry inherent risks, including:

- Market risk (interest rate fluctuations)
- Liquidity risk (access to funds when needed)
- Credit risk (counterparty default)
- Compliance risk (adherence to legislation and policy)
- Operational risk, including human error in the execution, recording or reporting of transactions.

These risks are managed through strong internal controls, staff training, policy compliance and regular oversight.

Council has a low to moderate risk appetite for investments. The current portfolio and investment practices align with this risk appetite, with no breaches reported during the period.

Policy:

The report has been prepared in accordance with the following Council policies:

- Investment Policy
- Procurement Policy
- Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- Delivery program – The long term financial sustainability of Council is supported through effective and prudent financial and asset management.

Legislative:

The report has been prepared in accordance with the following relevant Legislation and Guidelines:

Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

- Section 625 – Relates to the investment of Council funds.
- Section 611 – Relates to the payment and certification of accounts.

Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (NSW)

- Clause 212 – Requires monthly reporting of Council's financial position, including a statement of bank balances and a schedule of investments.
- Clause 215 – Relates to the certification of payments and the requirement for proper authorisation.

Ministerial Investment Order (Issued under Section 625 of the Act)

- Specifies the types of investments permitted for councils.

STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES, RATES COLLECTIONS AND INVESTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2025.

BANK BALANCES AS AT 30TH SEPTMEBER 2025

ACCOUNT	BALANCE
General Fund	\$2,530,435.11
Business Card	\$40,000.00
	\$2,570,435.11
<i>Invested Funds</i>	
Fixed Deposits	\$81,200,000.00
Deposits at Call	\$4,158,689.99
	\$85,358,689.99
Net Balance	\$87,929,125.10
Percentage of Invested Funds to Net Balance	97.08%

STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS AT 30.9.25

SUBMITTED TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OCTOBER 21, 2025

Balance as at 01 September 2025	\$2,569,323.18
<i>Plus Receipts for September 2025</i>	<i>\$4,403,357.68</i>
<i>Less Payments for September 2025</i>	<i>-\$4,442,245.75</i>
CASH BALANCE	\$2,530,435.11

Limit of Overdraft Arranged with Bank

\$ 350,000.00

ACCOUNTS CERTIFICATION

I CERTIFY,

That the accounts totalling \$4,442,245.75

1. Are fully supported by vouchers and invoices and have been fully registered.
2. The responsible officer concerned has certified that the goods for which respective accounts are submitted have been rendered to order and/or that the services for which respective accounts are submitted have been rendered according to order.
3. Official orders have been issued for the supply of such goods and services. The goods for which respective accounts are submitted have been checked with the entries in the goods order book.
4. The prices and computations of every account are correct.
5. The prices for the goods supplied or services rendered under the contract or quotation in accordance therewith and in all cases the prices charged are according to order and as far as I am able to ascertain fair and reasonable.
6. The provisions of the Local Government Act, 1993 and Regulations in connection therewith have been complied with.

Further I also certify that the Ledger has been reconciled with the bank statements for the preceding monthly period.

.....
Manager Customer and Financial
Services Responsible Accounting Officer

CERTIFICATE OF GENERAL MANAGER

This accounts summary, a copy of which was submitted to each member of Council on the 21st October 2025, has been checked and is fully supported by vouchers and invoices. These vouchers have been duly certified as to receipt of goods, the rendition of services, to prices and computations, and to costings.

.....
General Manager

CERTIFICATE OF CHAIRMAN OF ORDINARY MEETING

I certify that this accounts summary, covering amounts totalling **\$4,442,245.75** was submitted to the Ordinary Meeting on the 21st October 2025 and that the amounts are presented to Council for confirmation of payment.

.....
Chairman of Ordinary Meeting

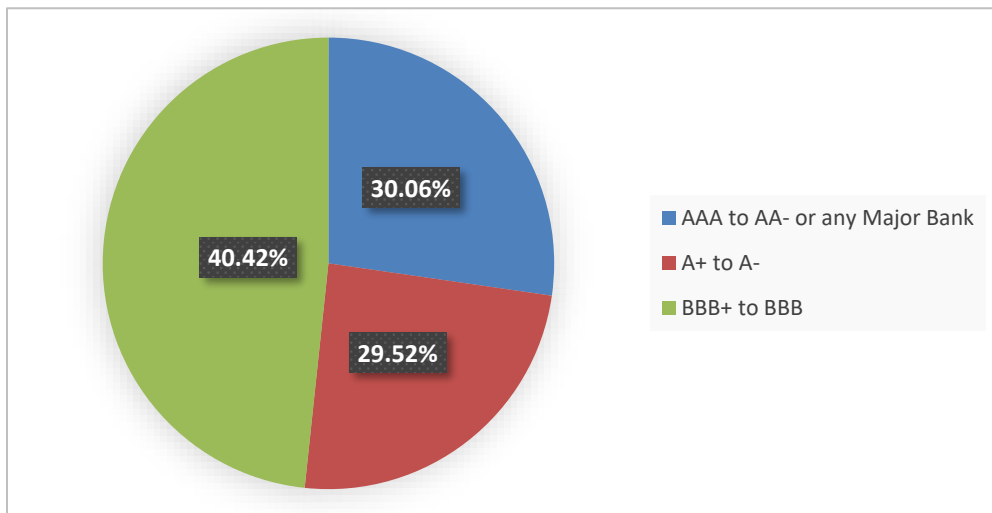
INVESTMENTS

The following table gives details of Council's Funds invested at 30th September 2025. The funds consist of monies from the Bank Accounts of the Trust Funds, Reserve Accounts, Sewerage Fund and Combined General Account.

INSTITUTION	RATING	DATE	DATE DUE	TERM	YIELD	INVESTED AMOUNT
Northern Territory Treasury	AA-	30/09/2020	15/12/2025	1902	1.20%	2,000,000.00
NAB	AA-	9/10/2024	8/10/2025	364	4.95%	2,000,000.00
ING Bank	A	17/10/2024	15/10/2025	363	5.03%	2,000,000.00
Police Bank	BBB+	24/10/2024	21/10/2025	362	5.00%	2,000,000.00
ING Bank	A	8/11/2024	4/11/2025	361	5.09%	1,000,000.00
BankVic	BBB+	14/11/2024	15/10/2025	335	5.10%	1,000,000.00
Auswide Bank	BBB+	21/11/2024	20/11/2025	364	5.00%	2,000,000.00
MyState Bank	BBB+	28/11/2024	28/10/2025	334	5.00%	2,000,000.00
MyState Bank	BBB+	3/12/2024	3/12/2025	365	5.10%	1,000,000.00
Beyond Bank	BBB+	10/12/2024	10/12/2025	365	5.10%	1,000,000.00
Defence Bank	BBB+	9/01/2025	8/01/2026	364	4.95%	1,000,000.00
AMP	BBB+	21/01/2025	21/01/2026	365	4.95%	1,000,000.00
ING Bank	A	6/02/2025	4/02/2026	363	4.75%	1,000,000.00
NAB	AA-	12/02/2025	12/11/2025	273	4.80%	1,000,000.00
ING Bank	A	18/02/2025	18/02/2026	365	4.81%	1,000,000.00
ING Bank	A	26/02/2025	25/02/2026	364	4.80%	1,000,000.00
ING Bank	A	5/03/2025	4/03/2026	364	4.68%	1,000,000.00
Defence Bank	BBB+	6/03/2025	4/03/2026	363	4.65%	1,000,000.00
Bank of QLD	A-	18/03/2025	12/03/2026	359	4.55%	2,000,000.00
ING Bank	A	20/03/2025	19/03/2026	364	4.65%	1,000,000.00
Bank of QLD	A-	20/03/2025	17/12/2025	272	4.65%	1,000,000.00
Auswide Bank	BBB+	26/03/2025	25/03/2026	364	4.65%	1,000,000.00
Auswide Bank	BBB+	2/04/2025	1/04/2026	364	4.65%	1,000,000.00
Australian Unity	BBB+	1/05/2025	5/05/2026	369	4.30%	1,000,000.00
Heartland Bank	BBB	2/05/2025	15/04/2026	348	4.40%	1,000,000.00
ING Bank	A	6/05/2025	30/04/2026	359	4.15%	1,000,000.00
Defence Bank	BBB+	21/05/2025	21/05/2026	365	4.35%	2,000,000.00
MyState Bank	BBB+	27/05/2025	23/04/2026	331	4.30%	1,000,000.00
NAB	AA-	4/06/2025	4/06/2026	365	4.10%	1,000,000.00
AMP	BBB+	5/06/2025	4/11/2025	152	4.50%	1,000,000.00
Auswide Bank	BBB+	11/06/2025	11/06/2026	365	4.25%	1,000,000.00
Defence Bank	BBB+	18/06/2025	18/06/2026	365	4.25%	2,000,000.00
Bank of QLD	A-	25/06/2025	28/01/2026	217	4.30%	2,000,000.00
ING Bank	A	25/06/2025	25/06/2026	365	4.00%	2,000,000.00
Heartland Bank	BBB	2/07/2025	2/07/2026	365	4.20%	2,000,000.00
NAB	AA-	8/07/2025	8/07/2026	365	4.05%	1,500,000.00
NAB	AA-	8/07/2025	8/07/2026	365	4.03%	2,000,000.00
Rabobank	A+	10/07/2025	14/01/2026	188	4.35%	1,000,000.00
Rabobank	A+	10/07/2025	12/02/2026	217	4.35%	1,000,000.00

Rabobank	A+	10/07/2025	13/05/2026	307	4.25%	1,000,000.00
ING Bank	A	15/07/2025	15/07/2026	365	4.13%	1,000,000.00
AMP	BBB+	15/07/2025	17/12/2025	155	4.30%	1,000,000.00
NAB	AA-	22/07/2025	22/07/2026	365	4.05%	1,000,000.00
Police Bank	BBB+	31/07/2025	30/07/2026	365	5.25%	2,000,000.00
AMP	BBB+	6/08/2025	11/02/2026	189	4.25%	1,000,000.00
NAB	AA-	15/08/2025	12/08/2026	365	4.05%	1,000,000.00
NAB	AA-	19/08/2025	19/08/2026	365	4.08%	1,000,000.00
Rabobank	A+	20/08/2025	27/05/2026	280	4.12%	1,000,000.00
Heartland Bank	BBB	20/08/2025	5/08/2026	350	4.20%	1,000,000.00
NAB	AA-	26/08/2025	26/08/2026	365	4.03%	2,000,000.00
ING Bank	A	2/09/2025	2/09/2026	365	3.93%	1,000,000.00
Rabobank	A+	2/09/2025	4/06/2026	275	4.08%	2,000,000.00
NAB	AA-	4/09/2025	3/09/2026	364	4.13%	1,000,000.00
Bendigo Bank	A-	8/09/2025	8/09/2026	365	3.60%	400,000.00
Bendigo Bank	A-	8/09/2025	8/09/2026	365	3.60%	400,000.00
Bendigo Bank	A-	8/09/2025	8/09/2026	365	3.60%	400,000.00
NAB	AA-	10/09/2025	10/09/2026	365	4.18%	2,000,000.00
Judo Bank	BBB	10/09/2025	12/03/2026	183	4.20%	2,000,000.00
NAB	AA-	17/09/2025	17/09/2026	365	4.20%	1,000,000.00
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	24/09/2025	24/09/2026	365	3.98%	2,000,000.00
NAB	AA-	25/09/2025	24/09/2026	364	4.28%	1,000,000.00
Great Southern Bank	BBB+	30/09/2025	30/09/2026	365	4.14%	2,500,000.00
ANZ Deposit at Call	AA-					50,969.85
CBA Deposit at Call	AA-					4,107,720.14
TOTAL:						85,358,689.99

Long Term Credit Rating	Policy Maximum (%)	Current Holding (%)	Current Holding (\$)
AAA to AA- or any Major Bank	100	30.06	25,658,689.99
A+ to A-	80	29.52	25,200,000.00
BBB+ to BBB	70	40.42	34,500,000.00
BBB- and Unrated	10	-	-
			85,358,689.99



Individual Institution Limit	Rating	Policy Maximum (%)	Current Holding (%)	Current Holding (\$)
AMP	BBB+	25%	4.69	\$4,000,000.00
ANZ	AA-	40%	0.06	\$50,969.85
Australian Unity	BBB+	25%	1.17	\$1,000,000.00
Auswide Bank	BBB+	25%	5.86	\$5,000,000.00
Bank of QLD	A-	30%	5.86	\$5,000,000.00
BankVic	BBB+	25%	1.17	\$1,000,000.00
Bendigo Bank	A-	30%	1.41	\$1,200,000.00
Beyond Bank	BBB+	25%	1.17	\$1,000,000.00
Commonwealth Bank	AA-	40%	7.16	\$6,107,720.14
Defence Bank	BBB+	25%	7.03	\$6,000,000.00
Great Southern Bank	BBB+	25%	2.93	\$2,500,000.00
ING Bank	A	30%	15.23	\$13,000,000.00
Judo Bank	BBB	25%	2.34	\$2,000,000.00
MyState Bank	BBB+	25%	4.69	\$4,000,000.00
NAB	AA-	40%	20.50	\$17,500,000.00
Northern Territory	AA-	40%	2.34	\$2,000,000.00
Police Bank	BBB+	25%	4.69	\$4,000,000.00
Rabobank	A+	30%	7.03	\$6,000,000.00
Heartland Bank	BBB	25%	4.69	\$4,000,000.00
				\$85,358,689.99

I certify that the above investment has been reconciled with Council's General Ledger Accounts.

I certify that the above investments have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, the Regulation and Council's Investment Policies.

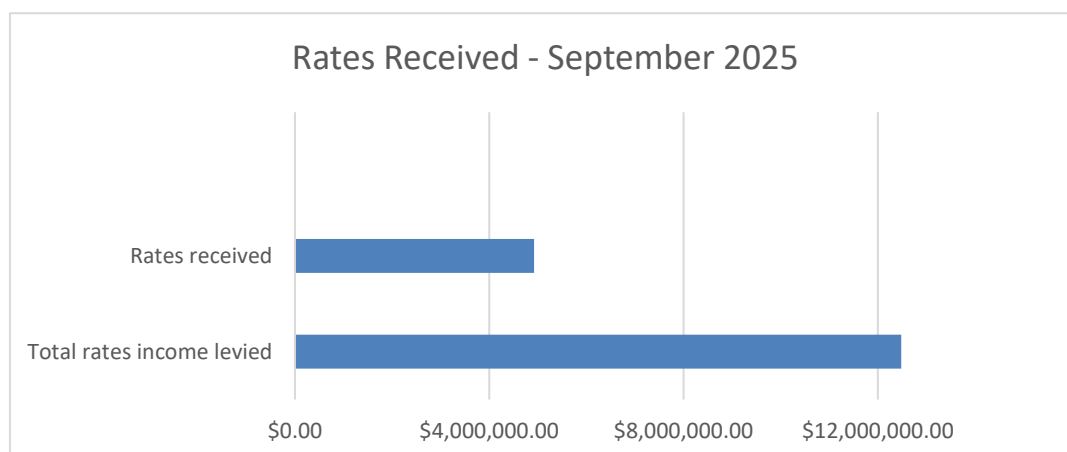
GENERAL MANAGER

RATES REPORT

Below is a summary of outstanding rates

	2025/26	Previous Year Period
Total rates income levied	\$12,478,787.58	\$11,984,086.11
Rates received as at 30/9/2025	\$4,920,405.20	\$4,705,142.61
% of rates received to date	39.43%	39.26%

The total rates income includes rates in arrears and accumulated interest.



Summary

The information provided within this Finance and Investment Report has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 as well as Council's financial management policies and procedures. Further, the financial position of Council is satisfactory and the external investments are held in accordance with section 625 of the Local Government act 1993.

6.4 Execution of s713 Sale of Land Contracts

GROWTH 1 – Good Governance is integral to Council's operations and management of community resources

Department: Corporate & Community Services

Author: Manager Customer & Financial Services

Recommendation:

That Council authorise the Common Seal of the Council to be affixed to the Contracts for Sale of Land and Transfer documents for the sale of the properties listed below, with the affixing of the seal to be attested in accordance with clause 400 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

Purpose:

To seek Council approval to execute the sale contracts for the following properties under the Common Seal of Council, in accordance with section 400 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021

Property ID (Assessment number)	Lot(s) and DP(s)
127690	L14 SEC 1 DP758684
141490	L9 SEC C DP8548 & L10 SEC C DP8548
103790	L4 SEC C DP7832
103560	L4 DP11806
103330	L42 DP607473

Background:

Council previously resolved to proceed with the sale of the above properties. In accordance with clause 400 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, a resolution of Council is required to authorise execution of the sale contracts under the Common Seal.

Financial Implications:

There are no additional financial implications arising from this resolution beyond those already considered as part of the sale process.

Risk:

Failure to authorise the execution of the sale contracts under seal prior to auction may delay settlement or invalidate contractual documentation. Adoption of the recommendation mitigates this risk.

Policy:

The report has been prepared in accordance with the following Council policies:

- Investment Policy
- Procurement Policy
- Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- Delivery program – The long-term financial sustainability of Council is supported through effective and prudent financial and asset management.

Legislative:

The report has been prepared in accordance with the following relevant Legislation and Guidelines:
Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

- Section 377 - Outlines the functions that may or may not be delegated by Council, including the execution of certain documents.
- Section 681 – Provides for the use and custody of the Council's Common Seal.

Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (NSW)

- Clause 400 - Specifies that the Common Seal may only be affixed to a document following a resolution of Council authorising the action.

Office of Local Government Guidelines

- Code of Meeting Practice - Provides guidance on the process for Council resolutions and authorisation of decisions.

6.5 Disclosure of Interest Returns

CSP Theme: Growth 1 - Good Governance is integral to Council's operations and management of community resources

Department: Corporate and Community Services

Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Recommendation:

That Council note the Disclosure of Interest return requirements and accept the Disclosure of Interest Register as tabled.

Report

There is a statutory requirement for Councillors and Designated Persons who held office at 30 June 2025 to lodge a written return of interest with the General Manager. The register of returns is tabled at the first meeting of the Council after the last day for the lodgment of returns.

Disclosure of Interest Returns for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 have been issued and returned to Council for Councillors and Designated Persons who held office at 30 June 2025. The due date for returns was 30 September 2025, and returns have been received.

Under the *Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW* (the Model Code of Conduct), certain council officials are required to disclose their personal interests in publicly available returns of interests. Failure to comply with the requirement to lodge a return can be considered misconduct and lead to disciplinary action.

Councils must make all returns of interests publicly available in accordance with the requirements of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*, the *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009* and any guidelines issued by the NSW Information Commissioner. To comply with these requirements, redacted returns will be published on Councils website.

It is open to councils to redact information from returns of interests (eg a person's signature and residential address) when publishing returns on their websites where there is an overriding public interest against the disclosure that information. The Disclosure of Interest Register is tabled at this meeting for Council's information.

Consultation

All Designated persons as identified at the August meeting of Bland Shire Council were provided with advice and support for the completion of their returns to meet the 30 September deadline. Returns have been checked and receipts issued to staff and Councillors along with a copy of the return for future reference.

Financial Implications

While there are no specific financial implications in relation to the submission of Disclosure of Interest Returns, there may be penalties imposed for those who fail to submit a return or fail to include any relevant information in the return.

Council Policy/Risk/Legislation Considerations

Policy – Publication of the Disclosure of Interest Returns on Bland Shire Council's website is governed by Council's Information Guide. This document stipulates the requirements of Open Access information as set out in the Government Information (Public Access) Act.

Enclosures

Nil

Attachments (As separate attachment)

Nil – a copy of the Disclosure of Interest Register will be available for inspection at the Council Meeting.

6.6 Bland Shire Community Funding Program

CSP Theme: Family 4 - Inclusive activities are available across the shire.

Department: Corporate and Community Services

Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Recommendation:

That Council endorse the Bland Shire Community Funding Program 2025.

Report

Bland Shire Council has a long history of supporting local community organisations and individuals through a range of grant programs. The most recent iteration of Council's benevolence is the Strengthening Communities Grant. This report seeks Council's endorsement of the revised program to provide funds to local community groups through a Bland Shire Community Funding Program.

Background

At the Ordinary Meeting of Bland Shire Council on 19 August 2025, the following resolution was passed:

Resolution 11082025 That Council

- a) *endorse the Bland Shire Community Funding Program 2025 and place the funding guidelines on public exhibition for a period of 28 days from 21 August 2025 inviting comment from the community up to 2 October 2025.*
- b) *Following the period for the lodgement of submissions, present a further report to adopt the guidelines incorporating any relevant submissions received should they be received.*
- c) *Should there be no submissions on Bland Shire Community Funding Program prior to 2 October 2025 that the Guidelines be considered formally adopted and promotion of the program commence.*

Lord/Funnell

CARRIED

(Unanimously: Crs Brooks, Carnegie, Crowe, Funnell, Henderson, Lord, McGlynn, Minogue and Monaghan voting for)

Discussion

Following the above resolution, the Draft Community Funding Program Guidelines were placed on Public Exhibition to allow for comment from the community. The information was also distributed electronically to all those individuals on Bland Shire's Stakeholder Register and an Information Session was held on Tuesday, 23 September for any final feedback on the document.

During the exhibition period, two written submissions were received, one fully supportive of the proposed changes and the other supportive but requesting that consideration be given to smaller community organisations which may have difficulty securing several quotes for projects. These factors will be taken into account by staff in the initial assessments of any applications received and advice provided to Councillors prior to them making a determination.

The Bland Shire Community Funding Program 2025 includes three specific funding sources for community organisations. They are:

- Strengthening Community Fund
- Community Activity Grant
- Community Support donations

Each of the three streams will have different requirements and limits to available funding but the purpose of the program is to allow local community groups to gain some surety as to the financial support they will receive during the term of the current Council.

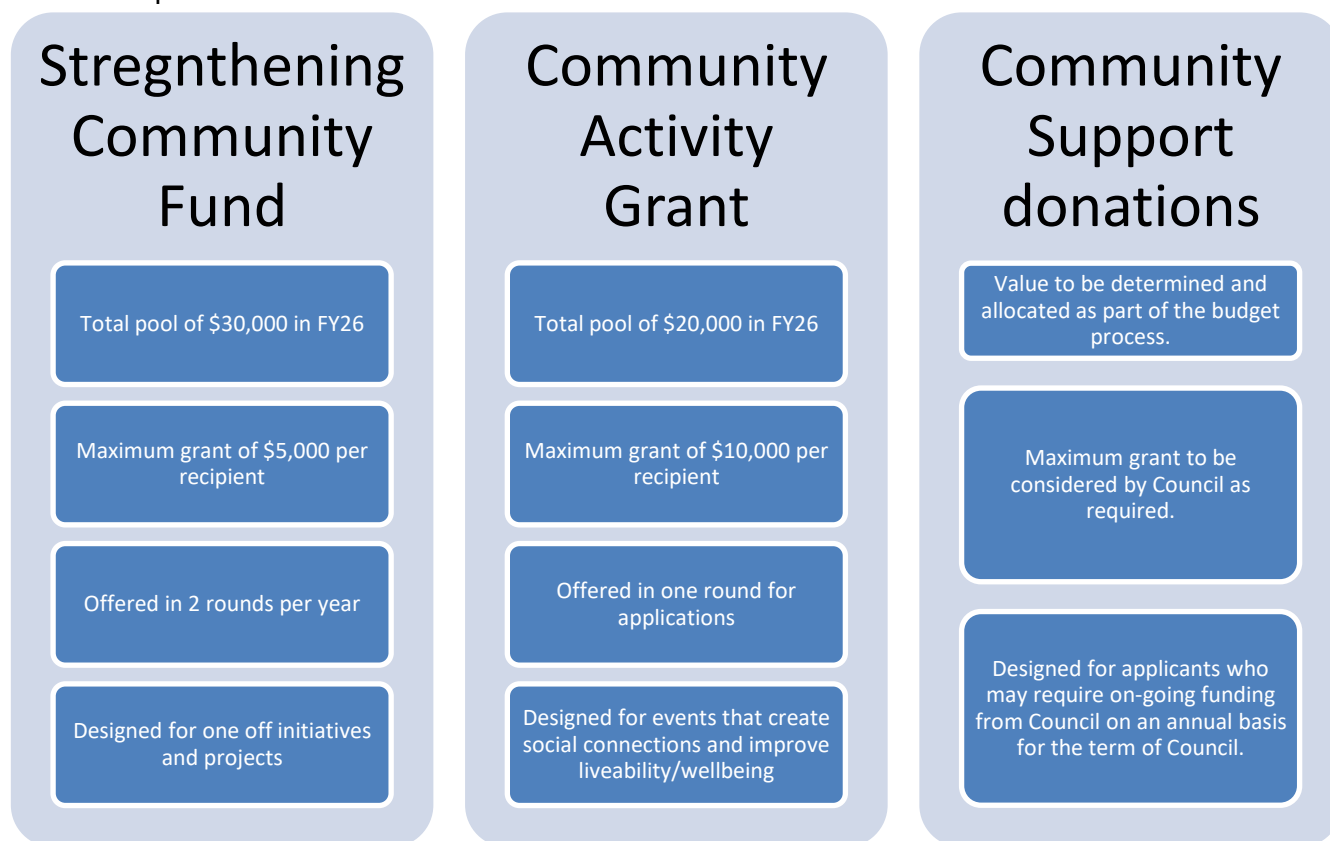
The Strengthening Community Fund will be offered twice each year with a total funding pool of \$30,000 available. Groups will be able to apply for funds up to \$5,000 to deliver community-driven programs and initiatives.

The Community Activity Grant has a smaller pool of \$20,000 which will be made available once each year. Those organisations seeking funding from this pool can apply for up to \$10,000. This allocation is designed to support the delivery of events that create social connections and improve the liveability and wellbeing of our residents or the environment.

For those organisations who require more regular financial assistance of a smaller amount of funds, Council will establish a Community Support Donation fund. This fund will be advertised once each year and applicants will be able to request ongoing funding which will be made available on an annual basis for the term of the current Council.

Funds for both the Activity Grant and Support Donation will be allocated as part of Council's budget process.

Council also currently provides a range of funding from rate rebates to sports academies to community events and provision of access.



It should also be noted that Council also has carriage of the Community Benefit Fund, a local grant program funded by the proprietors of the Wyalong Solar Farm.

The Wyalong Community Benefit Fund will see a fund of \$30,000 each year for nine (9) years made available to the Bland Shire Community to make application to for projects to be delivered locally. Promotion of this program is due to commence in the near future.

It is intended that this grant funding program by Council would be offered on an annual basis to encourage community groups to plan ahead for events as well as to streamline the process for determining which organisations are to be funded.

Consultation

Internal consultation has been undertaken in the preparation of this program including informal discussions with Councillors and Council's Executive. The draft program will be available for community organisations to review and provide further comment prior to it being formally adopted by Council.

Financial Implications

During the past seven years, Council has provided financial support to almost 60 local organisations to the amount of approximately \$380,000. In addition to this, through its rate rebate program, Bland Shire has provided approximately \$18,000 in rate relief.

Council has a current budget allocation of \$40,000 for its Strengthening Community Grants program. Should Council resolve to adopt the Community Funding Program Guidelines, there will be a requirement to include additional funding in future budgets.

Council Policy/Risk/Legislation Considerations

Risk

Council's risk in relation to funding community organisations relate to the appropriate delivery of funded projects. To mitigate this, successful applicants will have some reporting requirements as part of the grant program and dependent upon the value of the monies provided. Further risks relate to the increased expectations of the community groups around ongoing financial support. This will be addressed by clear communications as to the period of funding being limited to the current Council's term.

Policy

Providing activities to the community is not solely Council's responsibility and while it has been identified within the Community Strategic Plan, this funding program will facilitate these activities being delivered by third parties. Council's Delivery Program states this intention with the Strategy - *Support community organisations wishing to apply for funding for events and activities within the Shire.*

Legislative/Statutory

Section 356 of the NSW Local Government Act 1993 explicitly authorises local councils to, by resolution, contribute money or otherwise grant financial assistance to persons (including community organisations) for the purpose of exercising their functions. Councils are required to give at least 28 days public notice before passing a resolution to provide such assistance.

Enclosures (following report)

Community Funding Program 2025 Guidelines

Attachments (As separate attachment)

Nil

BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM 2025 GUIDELINES

PO Box 21,
West Wyalong NSW 2671
PH: 02 6972 2266 Fax: 02 6972 2145
www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au
council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au



BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Introduction

The Bland Shire Community Funding Program provides financial assistance to increase community participation and access to information, services or facilities that strengthen the social fabric of communities within the Bland Shire. Funding is also offered to assist with undertaking new or to build upon existing projects and events.

While Bland Shire Council supports community groups and local initiatives in a range of ways through various structured grant programs, Council also receives a number of unsolicited requests for donations throughout the year.

Unsolicited requests for donations which do not fall under one of Council's structured funding programs or are urgent in nature WILL NOT be considered until the next round of the funding stream.

This document has been prepared to set the guidelines for the allocation of monies to community groups through three (3) funding streams:

- Strengthening Communities - to support local groups to deliver community-driven programs and initiatives,
- Community Activity - support the delivery of events that create social connections, improve the livability and wellbeing of our residents or the environment, and
- Community Support Donations - funding for Community Groups for annual activities which Councillors wish to support for the term of this Council.

The criteria for each of the above programs is as follows:

Allocation	Funding Amount	Purpose
Strengthening Community Fund	\$30,000 - Annual Program A total of \$30,000 per annum is available with up to \$5,000 maximum per application. Applications will be sought twice each year.	This allocation aims to support local groups to deliver community-driven programs and initiatives which: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate a strong benefit to the community• Demonstrate that the project has a defined objective and outcome that will benefit the community• Complete the project within 12 months of the date of the remittance of funds (unless negotiated otherwise)• Demonstrate a financial or in-kind contribution from the applicant.
Community Activity Grant	\$20,000 - Annual Program	This allocation is designed to support the delivery of events that create social connections, improve

Allocation	Funding Amount	Purpose
	A total of \$20,000 is available, with up to \$10,000 maximum per application. Applications will be sought once each year to align with Council's budget preparation process.	the livability and wellbeing of our residents or the environment. Events should contribute to the social, historical and cultural identity of our community. This support may be financial, strategic or a combination of both. The funding stream is designed to help seed events, provide financial support and promote the long-term sustainability of community-based events
Community Support donations	Amount to be determined – - Annual Program Allocations to be incorporated into Council budget on an annual basis until the 2029 financial year. Applications will be sought once each year to align with Council's budget preparation process.	Funding for Community Groups for annual activities which Councillors wish to support for the term of this Council. Eg. Carols by Candlelight, Rodeo, Show Society, etc. Funds would be included in the budget with organisations advised on process for accessing and reporting on funds provided. This will provide a level of surety to those organisations which provide regular activities to the broader Bland Shire community and assist in the effective planning and running of events.

1.0 Eligibility

Applicants must be non profit community groups or organisations located within the Bland Shire and primarily benefiting the residents of the Bland Shire or, if situated outside the Bland Shire, provide a service that will primarily impact upon residents of Bland Shire. Commercial organisations and private individuals are not eligible for a donation under this program.

For the purpose of applying under these guidelines, the definition of a *Non Profit Community Group or Organisation* is one that provides services that benefit the broader community. Any profit made goes back into the operation of the group or organisation to carry out its purposes and is not distributed to any of its members.

The Non Profit Community Group or Organisation must:

- Be non-profit;
- Have an ABN;
- Be incorporated or be auspiced by an organisation that has an ABN and incorporation status; and
- Have insurance, including public liability cover.

Funding will NOT be provided for:

- Projects or organisations wholly outside of Bland Shire.
- Ongoing operational costs (e.g. rent, salaries, maintenance and administration);

- Requests from commercial organisations;
- Requests from individuals or groups for private functions;
- Fundraising purposes;
- Food and catering;
- Prize money;
- Debutante Balls;
- Events organised by political parties or lobby groups;
- Educational facilities;
- Non purpose cash donations to groups;
- Projects and/or organisations that have not successfully acquitted any previous grant or donation from Bland Shire Council;
- Reimbursement of expenditure already incurred;
- Projects where the purpose is considered the responsibility of state or federal government; or
- Projects that are clearly a duplication of an existing service.

Under the Strengthening Community Fund and Community Activity Grant, each organisation is limited to one Council Grant or Donation per term of Council.

Those local community organisations seeking regular financial support (Community Support Donation) from Council will be required to submit their requests as part of Council's annual budget preparation to facilitate the incorporation of those amounts into Council's budget. This process will be advertised from December to February to allow organisations to plan for and prepare their requests for financial support.

Applicants will be required to provide matching funding on a \$1:\$1 basis (this can include in kind volunteer contributions etc). There will clearly be cases where groups may wish to contribute more to the project.

2.0 Assessment Process

All requests must be lodged using a Bland Shire Council Grant Application Form with all relevant areas completed. The form is located on Council's web page at the following:

<https://www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au>

Applications for the **Strengthening Communities Funding** can be submitted to Council when the funding program opens in September and March each year.

The application is reviewed against the criteria and if it is deemed to meet the guidelines and sufficient funds are available a report is compiled for consideration by Council.

Where funding is requested for annual events or activities priority will be given to organisations that can demonstrate a level of self-sustainability.

Applications for the annual programs – Community Activity Grant or Community Support Donations – will be promoted and received from November to March each year for events to be held and funding to be distributed following July.

All Strengthening Communities Funding must be as part of a specific project, initiative or activity.

Council officers may contact applicants after receiving an application seeking further information or clarification.

All projects should align with the strategies and objectives set out in the Bland Shire Community Strategic Plan. To review the Community Strategic Plan, please follow the link below to Council's website and search for *Community Strategic Plan*:

<https://www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au>

Applicants are encouraged to discuss their proposal with Council officers prior to lodging an application to make sure all necessary information is provided and eligibility criteria is met.

Where appropriate, applicants requesting Strengthening Communities Funding may be advised by staff to instead apply for assistance through one of Council's other structured grant programs.

Assessment Criteria

To assist in prioritising, requests will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Demonstration that a donation is necessary for the project to be able to proceed;
- Demonstration that other funding sources have been investigated;
- The financial and in-kind commitment of the applicant to the project;
- Indication of plans to assist program to become self sufficient and sustainable;
- Ability to clearly address Council's strategic priorities and/or areas of need within the community, as identified in the Community Strategic Plan;
- Long-term benefits for the community;
- Opportunities created for local businesses;
- Level of innovation;
- Encourage community participation;
- Number of people who will benefit, and the
- Number of Bland Shire community groups involved. Council encourages community groups to form partnerships.

Council will give low priority to following types of requests for financial assistance:

- (a) activities/services which do not attempt to become self-supporting where the potential exists through fees or other feasible income-producing activities;
- (b) activities of a purely social nature, which do not address the needs of disadvantaged groups;
- (c) activities which are eligible for support from state-wide or regional parent bodies; and
- (d) organisations which have not observed accountability requirements for past Council assistance.

3.0 Conditions of Approval

If the application submitted is successful, grant conditions will apply.

Successful applicants will be required to submit a signed acceptance form provided by Council, agreeing to conditions applicable to the approved project, within six (6) weeks of notification.

Strengthening Communities Funding will be paid on tax invoice only, unless otherwise approved by council.

6.7 Strengthening Communities Application – West Wyalong Hospital Auxiliary

CSP Theme: Family 4 - Inclusive activities are available across the shire.

Department: Corporate and Community Services

Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Recommendation:

That Council

1. approve the application for funding of the West Wyalong Hospital Auxiliary under the Strengthening Communities Fund in the amount of \$1000 for its 2025 Carols by Candlelight event.
 2. Refer the application for consideration as part of the proposed Community Support Donation component of the Community Funding Program on its approval by Council.
-

Report

Council has received an application under the Strengthening Communities Fund (SCF) from the West Wyalong Hospital Auxiliary to assist with the Carols by Candlelight event at Barnado Park on Sunday, 14 December 2025.

The application requests amounts of \$1000 to assist with the costs associated in holding the annual event. The Auxiliary has received funds in previous years for various activities in relation to the Carols by Candlelight and in 2024, Council donated \$968 from the Strengthening Communities Fund.

The Hospital Auxiliary received \$500 from the SCF for the 2022 event with the funds used to pay for the sound engineer. A request for funding from the SCF in 2023 for the sound engineer and to purchase flameless candles in the amount of \$1,224 was refused by Council. However, a one-off amount of \$1500 was provided to the organisation from Council's Christmas Decorations budget.

Under the guidelines for the Strengthening Communities Fund, this application can be funded. However, in accordance with the current guidelines Council could reduce the grant amount requested by 25 percent.

Alternatively, Council could meet the full amount requested, given that the current balance of the Strengthening Communities Fund sits at \$28,019 and this could be the last time funds will be drawn from that Fund.

Consultation

During the community information session undertaken in conjunction with the Community Funding Program review process, this matter was discussed with the applicant who was advised that should the Auxiliary wish to seek a donation from the Council, an application under the outgoing program would be required.

Financial Implications

Approval of this application would leave a balance of \$27,019 in the Strengthening Communities Fund.

Council Policy/Risk/Legislation Considerations**Policy –**

In an earlier report, Council will be considering the Community Donation Fund. As such, it is a matter for Councillors as to how they wish to progress with the request of the West Wyalong Hospital Auxiliary. The request and funding programs fit within Council's Delivery Program 2025-2029 under Family 4c) Support community organisations wishing to apply for funding for events and activities within the Shire.

Enclosures (following report)

Strengthening Communities Fund Application – West Wyalong Hospital Auxiliary (including estimated budget).

Attachments (As separate attachment)

Nil

Bland Shire Council Grant Application Form

Submitted on	25 September 2025, 8:41AM
Receipt number	41
Related form version	0

Type of Application

Strengthening Communities Grant

Applicant Information

Organisation/Applicant Name	West Wyalong Hospital Auxiliary REVISED APPLICATION
Contact Person	Glenys HAWORTH
Position in Organisation	Treasurer
Organisation/Applicant Address	86 Park Street, WEST WYALONG NSW 2671
Contact Phone Number	0404720623
Email	haworth1@bigpond.com
Are you registered for GST	No
Does your organisation have ABN? (If you do not have an ABN you must be auspiced by another organisation)	Yes
If Yes, please provide your ABN below	99199738396
Is your organisation not for profit	Yes
Does your organisation have insurance, including public liability cover?	Yes
Is your organisation incorporated?	Yes

Project/Event Information

Project/Event Title	Carols by Candlelight
Provide a General Description of the Project/Event	Provision of sound (microphones etc) advertising and flameless candles to enhance the community Carols by Candlelight event

1 c

Grant Funding Sought	1000
Where and when will the Project/Event take place (please provide location, date and time)	Barnardo Park/McCann Park on Sunday, 14th December at 7 pm or in the S & C Club if weather is inclement
Will the Project/Event be completed in the next 12 months	Yes
What benefits will the Project/Event bring to the Bland Shire (please state the expected number of participants if relevant)?	All the local schools are involved which brings family and friends to the community event. Potentially 150-200 participants: band and school choirs and other attendees. attendees.choir as well.
Has your organisation previously received any funding from Council?	Yes
If yes, please specify when you received it and how much?	2024 \$ 968
If yes, have you submitted an acquittal form to Council?	Yes

Budget

Project/Event Budget	Carols by Candlelight Budget estimate 2025.docx Inv2416 - West Wyalong Hospital Auxiliary.pdf Use of ABN by West Wyalong Aux 9.9.25.pdf
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Applicants Signature

The information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge

Glenys Hawthorth

[Link to signature](#)

Carols by Candlelight Budget 2025

\$ 500: Simon Eyles – Sound Technician (2004
Invoice attached)

\$ 600: 300 Safeflame battery candles (discount for
bulk)

(Subsidized by “Gold Coin” donations)

\$ 40: Program printing -Bland Shire Library

\$ 150: Advertising in West Wyalong Advocate

TOTAL: \$1,290 (estimated)

6.8 Strengthening Communities Application – West Wyalong Tennis Club

CSP Theme: Family 4 - Inclusive activities are available across the shire.

Department: Corporate and Community Services

Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Recommendation:

That Council approve the application for funding of the West Wyalong Hospital Auxiliary under the Strengthening Communities Fund in the amount of \$5000 for part payment to upgrade lighting to three courts.

Report

Council has received an application under the Strengthening Communities Fund (SCF) from the West Wyalong Tennis Club to assist with the cost of upgrading lighting for the club's courts.

The application requests an amount of \$5000 to assist in meeting the costs of the upgrade. Included with this report are quotations for the upgrade of lighting for three courts at an amount of \$30,855 as well as another for 5 courts for an amount of \$46,860.

The club's preference is for the five-court lighting upgrade as it is a more economical proposition. Correspondence received from the club states that a five-court lighting upgrade would consist of the following contributions:

- Evolution Mining: \$10,000 (committed funding)
- GrainFlow: \$2,750 (committed funding)
- Tennis Club funds and loan: \$16,350.

To achieve this, Council would need to provide funding in the amount of \$13,500. However, this figure is outside the current funding limit for the Strengthening Communities Grant requests. Under the guidelines for the Strengthening Communities Fund, this application can be funded for the \$5,000 amount requested in the application.

The Tennis Club received Stronger Country Community Fund (SCCF) Round 3 funds to pay for a viewing platform at the club and SCCF Round 4 combined with Bland Shire Council Covid Boost funding of \$103,000 helped pay for the new Clubhouse plan in 2022.

Should Council wish to fund the additional \$8,500 it would need to identify from where that additional amount would be drawn such as the Community Facilities Reserve.

While there was a budget submission received to consider the lighting upgrade at the Tennis Club, the decision at the time was for this to be discussed further as part of the Quarterly Budget Review process.

Consultation

Discussions were held with representatives of the West Wyalong Tennis Club in the preparation of this report.

Financial Implications

The current balance of the Strengthening Communities Fund sits at \$27,019 and this could be the last time funds will be drawn from that Fund. Approval of this application for \$5,000 would leave a balance of \$22,019 in the Strengthening Communities Fund.

As of 30 June 2025, the Community Facilities Reserve fund balance was at \$3.3Million.

Council Policy/Risk/Legislation Considerations

Policy - Elsewhere in the agenda, Council will be considering a report on the Community Donation Fund. As such, it is a matter for Councillors as to how they wish to progress with the request of the West Wyalong Tennis Club. The request and funding program fit within Council's Delivery Program 2025-2029 under Family 4c) Support community organisations wishing to apply for funding for events and activities within the Shire.

Enclosures (following report)

Enclosure 1: Strengthening Communities Fund Application – West Wyalong Tennis Club and Lighting Upgrade costings

Enclosure 2: SCA_WW Tennis Club Proposal for Led Lighting Upgrade – 3 Courts.

Enclosure 3: SCA_WW Tennis Club Proposal for Led Lighting Plan.

Enclosure 4: SCA_WW Tennis Club Proposal for Led Lighting Upgrade – 5 Courts.

Attachments (As separate attachment)

Nil

Bland Shire Council Grant Application Form

Submitted on	14 October 2025, 10:50AM
Receipt number	42
Related form version	0

Type of Application

Strengthening Communities Grant

Applicant Information

Organisation/Applicant Name	West Wyalong Tennis Club
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Contact Person	Therese MacFarlane
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Position in Organisation	Treasurer
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Organisation/Applicant Address	Creswell Street
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Contact Phone Number	
----------------------	--

Email	
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Are you registered for GST	Yes
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Does your organisation have ABN? (if you do not have an ABN you must be auspiced by another organisation)	Yes
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If Yes, please provide your ABN below	
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Is your organisation not for profit	Yes
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Does your organisation have insurance, including public liability cover?	Yes
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Is your organisation incorporated?	Yes
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Project/Event Information

Project/Event Title	Lighting Upgrade
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Provide a General Description of the Project/Event	Upgrade lighting to 3 courts.
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Grant Funding Sought	5000
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1 of 2

Where and when will the Project/Event take place (please provide location, date and time)	January 2026
Will the Project/Event be completed in the next 12 months	Yes
What benefits will the Project/Event bring to the Bland Shire (please state the expected number of participants if relevant)?	This will allow the upgrade of 3 courts to give 5 playable courts for our night tennis comp which has become very popular in the community. We are "enveloping" 2 other courts and trusting the extra lighting surrounding them will help them make those more playable, as well. The ideal would be to do the 5 at once (cheaper per court), but funds won't allow at the moment. We will look to do the other 2, and perhaps a 3rd court as well with another funding opportunity in the future.
Has your organisation previously received any funding from Council?	Yes
If yes, please specify when you received it and how much?	SCCF Rd 3 (for a viewing platform) and SCCF Rd 4, with a BSC Covid Boost funding of \$103,000 in between to get the new Clubhouse plan - 2022
If yes, have you submitted an acquittal form to Council?	Yes

Budget

Project/Event Budget

[Lighting Budget Plan.pdf](#)
[LUS Quote - West Wyalong TC, design plan - 3 Courts - Sept 2025.pdf](#)
[LUS Quote - West Wyalong TC - 3 Courts - Sept 2025.pdf](#)
[LUS Quote - West Wyalong TC - 5 Courts - Feb 20, 2025.pdf](#)

Applicants Signature

The information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge

WEST WYALONG TENNIS CLUB - LIGHTING UPGRADE

SCOPE OF WORKS • Supply and delivery of elevated work platform by others •

2 of 2

Remove and stockpile onsite of existing light fittings (x 4) • Remove and dispose of cabling from top of pole to ground in poles (x 4) • Supply and install new cross arm on southern pole between Courts 6 & 7 (x 1) • Supply and install new circuit breaker at base of pole for each new fitting (x 6) • Supply and install 6 x 1500w on existing poles including new cabling. Connect to installed circuit breakers NOTE: Lights on Court 7 will only operate when connecting courts are switched on • Aim lights according to lighting design • Test and commission

Total Cost: \$ 28,050.00

3 Courts \$ 2,805.00 GST Equals \$10,250 per court (Inc. EWP hire)

\$ 30,855.00 Total

\$2,700 + GST

additional should the EWP not be provided

5 Courts upgraded: \$42,600

Quoted \$4,260 Equals \$8,520 per court (Inc. EWP hire)

\$46,860

Our Funding to Date:

Evolution Grant 2025 \$ 10,000

GrainFlow \$ 2,750

Tennis Club Funds \$ 10,300

We will find the EWP funds if need be

Bland Shire Council \$ 5,000

\$ 28,050

Plus GST - fundable, and claimable



PO BOX 78
MOSS VALE
NSW 2577

28th FEBRUARY, 2025

Mr Andrew Bartlett
West Wyalong Tennis Club
Park St,
WEST WYALONG NSW 2671

Dear Andrew,

RE: PROPOSAL FOR LED LIGHTING UPGRADE – 3 COURTS

Thank you for inviting us to provide a quotation to upgrade the lighting at West Wyalong Tennis Club over 3 courts

SCOPE OF WORKS

- Supply and delivery of elevated work platform by others
 - Remove and stockpile onsite of existing light fittings (x 4)
 - Remove and dispose of cabling from top of pole to ground in poles (x 4)
 - Supply and install new cross arm on southern pole between Courts 6 & 7 (x 1)
 - Supply and install new circuit breaker at base of pole for each new fitting (x 6)
 - Supply and install 6 x 1500w on existing poles including new cabling. Connect to installed circuit breakers
- NOTE: Lights on Court 7 will only operate when connecting courts are switched on**
- Aim lights according to lighting design
 - Test and commission

PRICING \$ 30, 855 (INCL GST)

EXCLUSIONS

- Pricing valid for 90 days
- No allowance for replacement of existing cabling from pole to power supply
- No allowance for upgrade of power
- No allowance for switchboard works
- No allowance for supply/delivery of elevated work platform

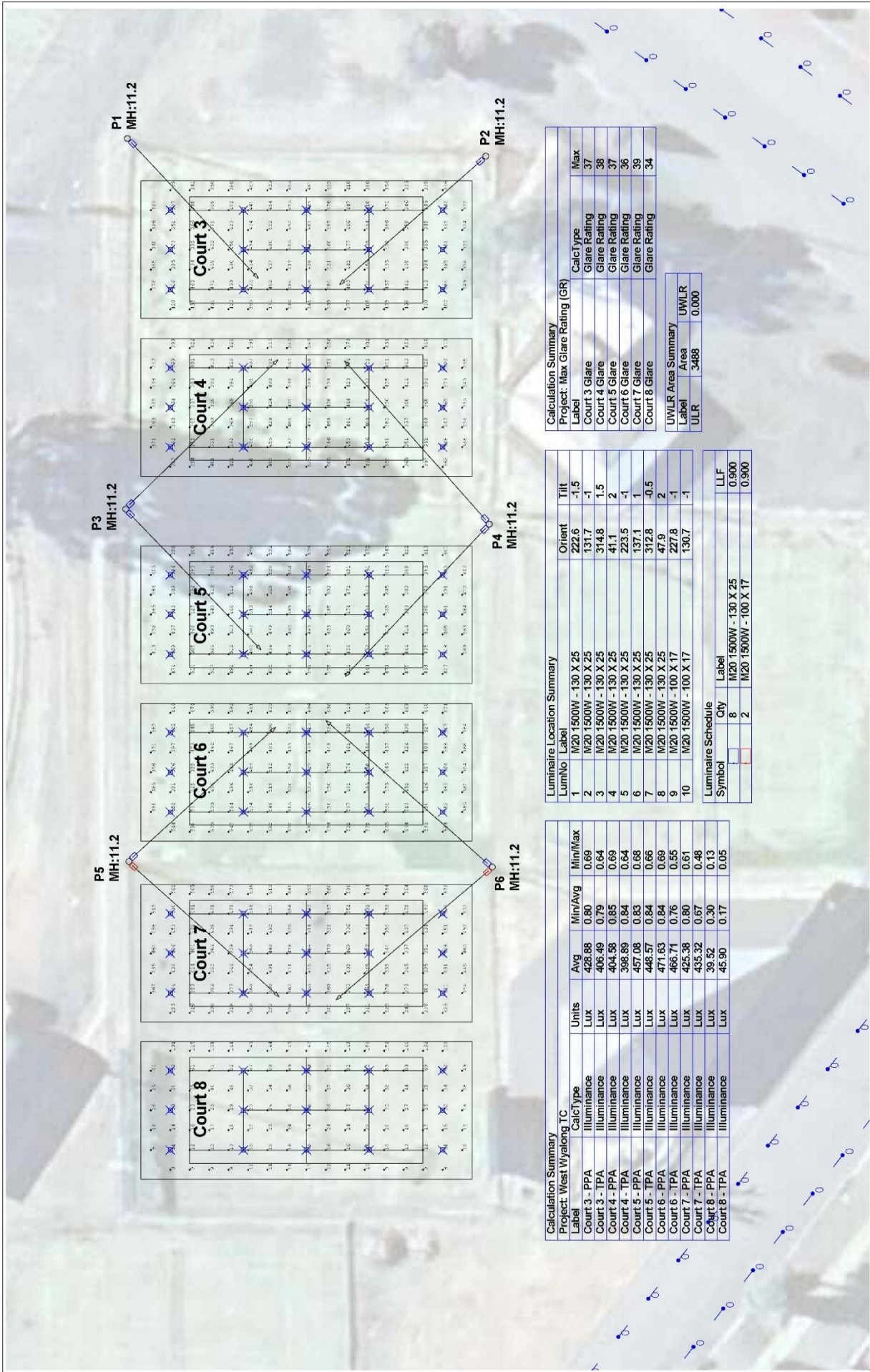
LIGHTING DESIGN

Please find attached our lighting design. See summary and comparison below.

	LUX LEVEL		UNIFORMITY			
	PPA	TPA	PPA		TPA	
			U1	U2	U1	U2
Australian Standard – Club Competition	350	250	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2
LUS Design Court 5	457	448	0.83	0.68	0.84	0.66
LUS Design Court 6	471	466	0.84	0.69	0.76	0.55
LUS Design Court 7	425	435	0.80	0.61	0.67	0.48

Kind regards,

Dan Watts
General Manager



Calculation Summary					
Project: West Wyalong TC					
Label	CalcType	Units	Avg	Min/Avg	Min/Max
Court 3 - PPA	Illuminance	Lux	428.88	0.80	0.69
Court 4 - PPA	Illuminance	Lux	406.49	0.79	0.64
Court 5 - PPA	Illuminance	Lux	404.68	0.85	0.69
Court 6 - PPA	Illuminance	Lux	398.89	0.84	0.64
Court 7 - PPA	Illuminance	Lux	457.08	0.83	0.68
Court 8 - PPA	Illuminance	Lux	448.57	0.84	0.66
Court 3 - TPA	Illuminance	Lux	471.63	0.76	0.69
Court 4 - TPA	Illuminance	Lux	466.71	0.80	0.65
Court 5 - TPA	Illuminance	Lux	425.38	0.80	0.61
Court 6 - TPA	Illuminance	Lux	435.32	0.67	0.48
Court 7 - TPA	Illuminance	Lux	39.52	0.30	0.13
Court 8 - TPA	Illuminance	Lux	45.90	0.17	0.05

Luminaire Location Summary			
LumNo	Label	Orient	Tilt
1	M20 1500W - 130 X 25	222.6	-1.5
2	M20 1500W - 130 X 25	131.7	-1
3	M20 1500W - 130 X 25	314.8	1.5
4	M20 1500W - 130 X 25	41.1	2
5	M20 1500W - 130 X 25	223.5	-1
6	M20 1500W - 130 X 25	137.1	-0.5
7	M20 1500W - 130 X 25	312.8	2
8	M20 1500W - 100 X 17	47.9	-1
9	M20 1500W - 100 X 17	227.8	-1
10	M20 1500W - 100 X 17	130.7	-1

Luminaire Schedule		
Symbol	Qty	Label
	8	M20 1500W - 130 X 25
	2	M20 1500W - 100 X 17
		LLF
		0.900
		0.900

Calculation Summary			
Project: Max Glare Rating (GR)			
Label	CalcType	Glare Rating	Max
Court 3 Glare	Glare Rating	37	38
Court 4 Glare	Glare Rating	37	37
Court 5 Glare	Glare Rating	36	36
Court 6 Glare	Glare Rating	39	39
Court 7 Glare	Glare Rating	34	34
Court 8 Glare	Glare Rating		
UWLR Area Summary			
Label	Area	UWLR	
ULR	3488	0.000	



LIGHT UP SPORTS
PO Box 78
Moss Vale NSW 2577
M: 0402 761 463
www.lightupsports.com.au
ABN: 17 632 940 722

PROJECT
West Wyalong Tennis Club
1500W

PROJ
Date: 08/11/2024
Rev #2
Page 1 of 2

Obtrusive Light - Compliance Report

AS/NZS 4282:2023, A3 - Medium District Brightness, Non-Curfew L1
Filename: West Wyalong TC - 1500W
11/8/2024 11:28:26 AM

Illuminance

Maximum Allowable Value: 10 Lux

Calculations Tested (3):

Calculation Label	Test Results	Max. Illum.
ObtrusiveLight_1_III_Seg1	PASS	PASS
ObtrusiveLight_1_III_Seg2	PASS	PASS
ObtrusiveLight_2_III_Seg1	PASS	PASS

Luminous Intensity (Cd) At Vertical Planes

Maximum Allowable Value: 12500 Cd

Calculations Tested (3):

Calculation Label	Test Results
ObtrusiveLight_1_Cd_Seg1	PASS
ObtrusiveLight_1_Cd_Seg2	PASS
ObtrusiveLight_2_Cd_Seg1	PASS

Threshold Increment (TI)

Maximum Allowable Value: 20 %

Calculations Tested (3):

Calculation Label	Adaptation Luminance	Test Results
ObtrusiveLight_TI_1	10	PASS
ObtrusiveLight_TI_2	10	PASS
ObtrusiveLight_TI_3	10	PASS

Upward Waste Light Ratio (UWLR)

Maximum Allowable Value: 2.0 %

Calculated UWLR: 0.0 %

Test Results: PASS



3
4
2

LIGHT UP SPORTS

PO Box 78
Moss Vale NSW 2577
M: 0402 761 463
www.lightupsports.com.au
ABN: 17 632 940 722



PROJECT

West Wyalong Tennis Club
1500W

Date: 08/11/2024

Rev #2

Page 2 of 2



PO BOX 78
MOSS VALE
NSW 2577

20th FEBRUARY, 2025

Mr Andrew Bartlett
West Wyalong Tennis Club
Park St,
WEST WYALONG NSW 2671

Dear Andrew,

RE: PROPOSAL FOR LED LIGHTING UPGRADE – 5 COURTS

Thank you for inviting us to provide a quotation to upgrade the lighting at West Wyalong Tennis Club over 5 courts

SCOPE OF WORKS

- Establish site, including delivery of elevated working platform
- Remove and stockpile onsite of existing light fittings (x 8)
- Remove and dispose of cabling from top of pole to ground in poles (x 8)
- Supply and install new cross arms (x 2)
- Supply and install new circuit breaker at base of pole for each new fitting (x 10)
- Supply and install 10 x 1500w on existing poles including new cabling. Connect to installed circuit breakers (4 for Courts 1|2 and 2 for Court 7)
NOTE: Lights on Court 7 will only operate when connecting courts are switched on
- Aim lights according to lighting design
- Test and commission

PRICING **\$ 46, 860 (INCL GST)**

EXCLUSIONS

- Pricing valid for 90 days
- No allowance for replacement of existing cabling from pole to power supply
- No allowance for upgrade of power
- No allowance for switchboard works

LIGHTING DESIGN

Please find attached our lighting design. See summary and comparison below.

	LUX LEVEL		UNIFORMITY			
	PPA	TPA	PPA		TPA	
			U1	U2	U1	U2
Australian Standard – Club Competition	350	250	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2
LUS Design Court 3	428	406	0.80	0.69	0.79	0.64
LUS Design Court 4	404	398	0.85	0.69	0.84	0.64
LUS Design Court 5	457	448	0.83	0.68	0.84	0.66
LUS Design Court 6	471	466	0.84	0.69	0.76	0.55
LUS Design Court 7	425	435	0.80	0.61	0.67	0.48

Kind regards,

Dan Watts
General Manager

6.9 Endorsement of the Draft Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

CSP Theme: Growth 1 - Good Governance is integral to Council's operations and management of community resources

Department: Corporate and Community Services

Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Endorse the Draft Artificial Intelligence Policy.
 2. Place the document on public exhibition from Friday 24 October for a period of 28 days for the purpose of feedback from the community with a further 14 days for written submissions to be lodged.
 3. Following the feedback period, should there be know feedback forthcoming, the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy will be formally adopted.
-

Report

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the draft Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy, which establishes a governance framework for the ethical, transparent, and responsible use of AI technologies across Council operations.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies are increasingly being integrated into local government functions, including customer service, data analytics, infrastructure management, planning, and administrative processes. These tools can enhance efficiency, improve decision-making, and deliver more responsive services to the community.

At the same time, AI presents challenges related to transparency, bias, privacy, accountability, and data governance. The NSW Ombudsman, Office of Local Government (OLG), and NSW Information and Privacy Commission have all issued preliminary guidance highlighting the need for public sector organisations to implement frameworks that ensure AI is used responsibly and ethically.

The development of a Council AI Policy aligns with Council's Corporate Governance Framework, Information Management Policy, and Code of Conduct, and supports best practice principles in risk management, transparency, and accountability.

Consultation

The draft Policy has been developed in consultation with the Information Technology, Governance, and Risk Management teams, with reference to guidance from Cyber NSW, the NSW Ombudsman, NSW Privacy Commissioner, and the Australian Government's Department of Industry, Science and Resources.

Following adoption, a staff awareness and training program will be implemented to support the policy rollout.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from the adoption of the Policy. Any future AI-related initiatives will be subject to separate budget consideration and risk assessment.

Council Policy/Risk/Legislation Considerations

Policy -

The Policy mitigates risks associated with:

- Misuse or misunderstanding of AI systems;
- Inadvertent breaches of privacy or data protection laws;

- Lack of transparency in automated decision-making;
- Reputational damage arising from AI failures or ethical breaches.

Policy - This Policy complements existing Council policies, including:

- Code of Conduct
- Privacy Management Plan
- Cyber Security Policy
- Records Management Policy
- Enterprise Risk Management Framework
- Data Breach Policy

Enclosures (following report)

Enclosure A: Draft Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

Attachments (As separate attachment)

Nil

POLICY STATEMENT

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

AUTHORISATION

POLICY TYPE: <i>(Council or Operational)</i>	Council
POLICY LOCATION: <i>(eg. Corporate, Engineering, etc.)</i>	Corporate Services
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: <i>(by position title)</i>	Director Corporate and Community Services
AUTHORISED BY: <i>(GM or Director Title)</i>	General Manager
DATE ADOPTED:	TBD
ADOPTED BY: <i>(Manex or Council)</i>	
MINUTE NO: <i>(If required)</i>	
REVIEW DUE DATE: <i>(Four years unless statutorily required sooner)</i>	
REVISION NUMBER:	0
RELATIONSHIP TO THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	

DOCUMENT HISTORY

VERSION NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENTS <i>Include names of former policies that this policy will replace if applicable</i>	AMENDED BY <i>(Where required)</i>

REVIEW OF THIS POLICY

This Policy will be reviewed within two years from the date of adoption or as required in the event of legislative changes. The Policy may also be changed as a result of other amendments that are to the advantage of Council and in the spirit of this Policy. Any amendment to the Policy must be by way of a Council Resolution.

1. Purpose:

This policy provides a framework for the ethical, transparent, and secure use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) across Bland Shire Council. The policy ensures that AI systems are used to improve services while safeguarding personal privacy, promoting accountability, and maintaining public trust.

2. Scope:

This policy applies to: - All staff, Councillors, contractors, and consultants involved in the procurement, development, implementation, or use of AI technologies. - All AI tools and systems used by Council, whether developed in-house or procured externally.

3. Outcomes:

Bland Shire Council supports the ethical and effective use of AI to enhance operations, provided its use aligns with Council's values, applicable legislation, and community expectations. Council will implement appropriate safeguards to minimise risks and facilitate responsible governance.

4. Guiding Principles

Council adopts the Australian AI Ethics Principles and commits to:

1. **Ethical Use:** Ensure AI use supports social, environmental, and individual wellbeing.
2. **Human Oversight:** AI is to augment, not replace, human decision-making. Staff remain accountable.
3. **Transparency:** Communicate when AI is used and disclose AI-generated content where appropriate.
4. **Privacy and Security:** Ensure AI systems comply with privacy legislation and the NSW Cyber Security Policy.
5. **Fairness and Inclusion:** Mitigate bias and ensure outputs are fair and accessible.
6. **Accountability:** Maintain clear responsibility for AI system outcomes.
7. **Contestability:** Provide mechanisms to challenge AI-driven decisions.

5. Roles and Responsibilities:

Role	Responsibility
General Manager	Oversight of AI policy implementation and governance.
Directors and Managers	Ensure AI use in departments aligns with this policy.
ICT Manager	Conduct risk assessments and ensure security and ethical compliance.
All Staff	Use AI responsibly and report risks or issues.

6. Implementation

- **AI Governance Group:** A cross-functional team will oversee AI risk management and ethical compliance.
- **Assessment Process:** All new AI tools must undergo a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) and Security Risk Assessment (SRA).
- **Pilot Programs:** Trial AI applications in controlled settings before broad deployment.
- **Training:** Staff will receive ongoing training in AI literacy, ethical use, and risk identification.

7. Definitions:

Artificial Intelligence (AI): Systems that perform tasks typically requiring human intelligence, including learning, decision-making, and problem-solving.

Generative AI: AI capable of generating content (e.g., text, images, code) based on training data.

Sensitive Data: Information classified under NSW privacy laws, such as personal, health, or financial data.

Shadow IT: Use of unapproved technology or software within the organisation.

8. Prohibited Uses

Council prohibits the following:

- Using AI to make final decisions on individual rights or entitlements without human review.
- Entering confidential or sensitive data into public generative AI tools.
- Using AI in a way that contravenes legal obligations or Council policies.

9. Monitoring and review

AI use and associated risks will be reported annually to the Executive Leadership Team.

10. Legislation and Supporting Documents:

- Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)
- Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW)
- Australian AI Ethics Framework
- NSW Artificial Intelligence Assurance Framework
- NSW Cyber Security Policy
- Bland Shire's Code of Conduct,
- Privacy Policy,
- Cyber Security Policy,
- Records Management Policy

11. Attachments:

Nil

6.10 NSW Agency Reporting for Bland Shire Council 2024-2025

CSP Theme: Growth 1 - Good Governance is integral to Council's operations and management of community resources

Department: Corporate and Community Services

Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Recommendation:

That Council notes the submission of the Annual Agency Report on the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 and Public Interest Disclosures was made to the relevant agencies within the statutory time frames.

Report

All local government entities in New South Wales have a statutory obligation to regularly inform State Government agencies within certain time frames in relation to relevant activities under various pieces of legislation. This report serves to advise Councillors of the information supplied to assist Council in meeting this obligation.

Under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA) Council is required to lodge annual reports about its GIPA activities with the Minister for Local Government within 4 months of the end of each reporting year. The required information was electronically lodged with the Office of Local Government (OLG) via email on 5 August, 2024. The information was also provided to the Information and Privacy Commission (IPC) utilising its online reporting tool.

The report advises Councillors on the number of formal applications received. In addition to formal applications, which must be managed in accordance with the legislation, Bland Shire Council processed 30 Informal Applications for information in accordance with the GIPA requirements. This is a slight decrease from the previous year when 33 informal applications were processed. Most cases related to requests for real property details and associated development and building information. These statistics are not recorded by the IPC and are provided for the information of Councillors only.

Council is also required to report to the NSW Ombudsman and the OLG. This report, for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025, was also submitted to the Ombudsman via the online reporting tool on 30 July, 2025.

The report to the Ombudsman not only provides details on the number of PIDs received but also any staff awareness actions undertaken by the Council organisation. A copy of this report is provided for the information of Councillors.

Consultation

Nil

Financial Implications

Nil

Council Policy/Risk/Legislation Considerations

Risk – Failure by Council to submit reports in accordance with statutory requirements may present a risk to Council in the form of qualified audit opinions or potential corruption or misconduct allegations. By providing regular updates to staff on the reporting options and procedures in relation to inappropriate conduct, Council increases the awareness of staff of their obligations and reduces the risk of maladministration.

Policy – Council’s Public Interest Disclosure Policy and Information Guide govern the processes for the provision of information. The information included within this report fits within Council’s Delivery Program’s Growth 1a – timely implementation of Council resolutions and the activity to promote and advocate improved management of, and access to, information across Council.

Legislative/Statutory – The Public Interest Disclosures Act (PID) 2022 (NSW) and PID Regulations stipulate Council’s responsibilities in the reporting of misconduct. Councils must provide statistical / summary information about PIDs to the NSW Ombudsman. The Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (NSW) provides the public with a right to access government-held information and the Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2018 (NSW) prescribes additional details (such as what open-access information agencies must publish, procedural matters, etc.) under the GIPA Act. Section 125 of the GIPA Act requires agencies to submit their GIPA data to the Minister within 4 months after each reporting year; and then a copy (after tabling) to the Information Commissioner.

Enclosures (following report)

Enclosure 1: GIPA Clause 7 Report

Enclosure 2: Ombudsman NSW 2024_25 Lodged Annual Return

Attachments (As separate attachment)

Nil

Enclosure 1: GIPA Clause 7 Report

Government Information (Public Access) Act – Annual Report for Agency Bland Shire Council

Clause 8A: Details of the review carried out by the agency under section 7 (3) of the Act during the reporting year and the details of any information made publicly available by the agency as a result of the review

Reviews carried out by the agency	Information made publicly available by the agency
Yes	No

Clause 8B: The total number of access applications received by the agency during the reporting year (including withdrawn applications but not including invalid applications)

Total number of applications received
0

Clause 8C: The total number of access applications received by the agency during the reporting year that the agency refused either wholly or partly, because the application was for the disclosure of information referred to in Schedule 1 to the Act (information for which there is conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure)

Number of Applications Refused	Wholly	Partly	Total
	0	0	0
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%	

Schedule 2 Statistical information about access applications to be included in annual report

Table A: Number of applications by type of applicant and outcome*

	Access Granted in Full	Access Granted in Part	Access Refused in Full	Information not Held	Information Already Available	Refuse to Deal with Application	Refuse to Confirm/Deny whether information is held	Application Withdrawn	Total	% of Total
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Private sector business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Not for profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Members of the public (by legal representative)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Members of the public (other)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		

* More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision. This also applies to Table B.

Table B: Number of applications by type of application and outcome*

	Access Granted in Full	Access Granted in Part	Access Refused in Full	Information not Held	Information Already Available	Refuse to Deal with Application	Refuse to Confirm/Deny whether information is held	Application Withdrawn	Total	% of Total
Personal information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		

* A personal information application is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual).

Table C: Invalid applications

Reason for invalidity	No of applications	% of Total
Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Application is for excluded information of the agency (section 43 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Total number of invalid applications received	0	0.00%
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	0	0.00%

Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 of Act

	Number of times consideration used*	% of Total
Overriding secrecy laws	0	0.00%
Cabinet information	0	0.00%
Executive Council information	0	0.00%
Contempt	0	0.00%
Legal professional privilege	0	0.00%
Excluded information	0	0.00%
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0	0.00%
Transport safety	0	0.00%
Adoption	0	0.00%
Care and protection of children	0	0.00%
Ministerial code of conduct	0	0.00%
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0	0.00%
Privilege generally - Sch 1(5A)	0	0.00%
Information provided to High Risk Offenders Assessment Committee	0	0.00%
Total	0	

*More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and if so, each such consideration is to be recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table E

Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to section 14 of Act

	Number of times consideration used*	% of Total
Responsible and effective government	0	0.00%
Law enforcement and security	0	0.00%
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	0	0.00%
Business interests of agencies and other persons	0	0.00%
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0	0.00%
Secrecy provisions	0	0.00%
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation	0	0.00%
Total	0	

Table F: Timeliness

	Number of applications*	% of Total
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	0	0.00%
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0	0.00%
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0	0.00%
Total	0	

Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)

	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total	% of Total
Internal review	0	0	0	0.00%
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	0	0	0.00%
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	0	0	0.00%
Review by NCAT	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	0	0	0	
% of Total	0.00%	0.00%		

*The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions, but can make recommendations to the original decision-maker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made by the Information Commissioner.

Table H: Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)

	Number of applications for review	% of Total
Applications by access applicants	0	0.00%
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act)	0	0.00%
Total	0	

Table I: Applications transferred to other agencies.

	Number of applications transferred	% of Total
Agency-Initiated Transfers	0	0.00%
Applicant - Initiated Transfers	0	0.00%
Total	0	

Ombudsman NSW - 2024-25 Lodged Annual Returns

1. Name of the reporting agency for this annual return.

Bland Shire Council

2. Is the reporting agency completing this annual return or is it made on behalf of the reporting agency?

By the reporting agency

3. Agency submitting this annual return

Bland Shire Council

4. Has the submitting agency entered into an arrangement with the reporting agency under s 81 of the PID Act to submit this annual return on their behalf?

Yes

5. Select which agency type best describes the reporting agency

Local government authority

6. Total number of full-time equivalent employees of the reporting agency at 30 June

125

7. Name of person completing this annual return

Alison Balind

8. Position

Director Corporate and Community Services

9. Email

ABalind@blandshire.nsw.gov.au

10. Contact Number

0269722266

11. How does the reporting agency ensure public officials associated with the agency are aware of the PID Act 2022?

- Training/information session (not mandated PID training)
- PID campaign/PID working group
- NSW Ombudsman publications/awareness
- Internal newsletters/bulletins
- Internal policies
- Direct all staff messaging
- Content on agency intranet
- Posters/pamphlets
- Discussion at branch/division/team meetings

12. If you selected 'Other' in question 11, outline any additional awareness activities the reporting agency undertakes to ensure public officials associated with the agency are aware of the PID Act 2022.

-

13. Does the reporting agency include content on the PID Act 2022 in its induction program?

Yes

14. Has the head of the agency received training on the agency's PID policy and on their responsibilities under the PID Act 2022?

Yes

15. If training has not been received by the head of agency, provide reasons for this

-

16. Have all disclosure officers (excluding head of agency) received training on the agency's PID policy and on their responsibilities under the PID Act 2022?

Yes

17. If training has not been received by all disclosure officers, provide reasons for this

-

18. Have all managers received training on the agency's PID policy and on their responsibilities under the PID Act 2022?

Yes

19. If training has not been received by managers, provide reasons for this (Read only)

-

20. What measures has the agency taken to promote a 'speak up' culture among public officials associated with the agency?

- Training/information sessions
- Availability of PID resources

21. If you selected 'Other' in question 20, outline any additional measures the reporting agency has taken to promote a 'speak up' culture. (Read only)

-

22. Total number of purported PIDs made by public officials to the reporting agency that were NOT in fact PIDs

1

23. Total number of purported PIDs that were made by other persons (not public officials) to the reporting agency that were NOT in fact PIDs

0

24. Enter the number of purported PIDs that were not dealt with, or ceased to be dealt with, as a PID because the disclosure was not made by a public official (Read only)

0

25. Enter the number of purported PIDs that were not dealt with, or ceased to be dealt with, as a PID, because the disclosure was not a report about serious wrongdoing (Read only)

1

26. Enter the number of purported PIDs that were not dealt with, or ceased to be dealt with, as a PID because the disclosure was not made by a public official AND not a report about serious wrongdoing (Read only)

27. How many voluntary PIDs did the reporting agency receive during the return period?

0

28. How many voluntary PIDs did the reporting agency finalise during this return period?

0

Submitted

1252

6.11 Council Meeting Dates 2026

CSP Theme: Growth 1 - Good Governance is integral to Council's operations and management of community resources

Department: Corporate and Community Services

Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Recommendation:

That Council endorses the meeting schedule dates for 2026.

Introduction

It would be appropriate for Council to now determine a program of meetings and strategy sessions for the coming year to enable all interested parties to plan.

This report presents dates to allow Council to continue to meet regularly to deal with matters as required as well as providing alternative dates to accommodate anticipated activities associated with the election of Councillors for a new term of Bland Shire Council.

The projected Council Meeting and Council Workshop Schedule for the period up to December 2026 is as attached (Enclosure A). Section 365 of the Local Government Act 1993 states that Council is required to meet at least 10 times each year. Accordingly, Ordinary Meetings of Bland Shire Council are currently held on the third Tuesday of every month excluding January.

Due to the impending changes with the Model Code of Meeting Practice, it is proposed that Council conduct Strategy Sessions once each month. These Sessions will not be decision making events and will serve as an opportunity for Councillors and Staff to discuss strategic matters affecting the operation of Council. When Council adopts its new Code of Meeting Practice, it may well determine to make the Strategy Sessions open to members of the community.

Council meetings and strategy sessions are held in the Council Chambers, unless otherwise determined, with meetings commencing at 6.30pm and strategy sessions scheduled to commence at 6pm.

Consultation

Nil

Financial Implications

Nil

Council Policy/Risk/Legislation Considerations

Policy – Council's Code of Meeting Practice governs the manner in which meetings are facilitated at Bland Shire Council. Based on the Model Code of Meeting Practice, Council is currently seeking commentary on a revised Code of Meeting Practice and future changes will be dependent upon the outcome of this process.

Legislation – The Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) this Act contains provisions about open meetings, notice, closure of parts of meetings among other things. The Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW, which is prescribed under section 360 of the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation and which councils must adopt for how meetings are to be run.

Enclosures (following report)

Enclosure A - Bland Shire Council 2026 meeting schedule

Attachments (As separate attachment)

Nil

Bland Shire Council 2026 meeting schedule

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Key Holidays and Observances (NSW)					
Jan 01	New Year's Day	Jan 26	Australia Day	Apr 3	Good Friday
Apr 5	Easter Sunday	Apr 6	Easter Monday	Apr 25	Anzac Day
Jun 8	King's Birthday			Oct 05	Labour Day
Dec 25	Christmas Day	Dec 28	Boxing Day Holiday	Dec 31	New Year's Eve
Legend					
	Strategy Session		Ordinary Council Meeting		Public Holiday
School Holidays NSW					
AUTUMN		WINTER		SPRING	
Tuesday 7 April to Friday 17 April 2026		Monday 6 July to Friday 17 July 2026		Monday 28 September to Friday 9 October 2026	
				Friday 18 December to Wednesday 27 January 2027	

Section 3 – Technical Services

6.12 Co-funding the Delivery of Proposed Saloon Car Drag Strip in West Wyalong

CSP Theme: Home 3 -Maintaining and improving the environment in which we live, work and play is a key priority

Department: Technical Services

Author: Director Technical Services

Recommendation:

That Council approve an additional allocation from unrestricted cash (invested funds), as outlined in the confidential attachment, toward the development of the Saloon Car Drag Strip in West Wyalong, and that the adjustment be included in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for Q1 2025-26.

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for an additional allocation of Council funds for the Saloon Car Drag Strip to complete the project.

The Saloon Car Drag Strip is a project in the making since 2015 and is now almost ready to enter the delivery phase. Once Council approves the allocation of funds to join with the Federal Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Fund Round 3 funding the project team only requires the final approval of the DA to proceed.

The potential for this project to provide recreational activities to shire residents, while creating additional visitor numbers has been highlighted on several occasions at Council Workshops and internal meetings. Generation of economic activity through growth in tourism is seen as the main reason for supporting the project.

Financial Implications

Detailed cost estimates for the project are provided under confidential cover due to commercial sensitivity and potential procurement implications, in accordance with *Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993*.

In summary, the project will require a significant additional Council contribution to co-fund the works alongside existing grant allocations. The revised estimates reflect increases associated with updated earthworks and ground condition assessments, recommended contingency allowances, and potential upgrades required to meet Transport for NSW intersection standards. Opportunities to seek supplementary external funding for certain components, including the intersection works, are being explored.

The primary risk facing the project is the potential additional cost for earthworks and ground stabilisation. The requirement for an upgraded intersection on the Newell Highway has also added a significant cost. We remain hopeful that alternative funding could be secured for this component but at this point we have no firm commitments, therefore Council needs to acknowledge the potential for this cost also.

The proposed expenditure is not currently provided for within any existing reserve or budget allocation. As there are no suitable internally restricted reserves available to fund the initiative, it is recommended that the amount be drawn from Council's invested funds. This will reduce Council's available cash and investment holdings.

Conclusion

These additional funds will support this well researched community driven project and assist in generating additional tourism revenue in the Shire. This allocation to co-fund will also close out our commitment to the Federal Government's LRCI 3 Funding Round.

Enclosures (following report)

CAPEX – Project Update

Attachments (As separate attachment)

Nil

Topic	CAPEX – Projects Update
Authors	Project Status – Director & Staff-Technical Services
Date	October 2025

To provide information on the progress of various funding programs.

PROGRAM	LOCAL ROADS & COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PHASE 3				
PROJECT	Saloon Drag Strip at Airport				
PROJECT SPONSOR	Raymond Sexton-Director Technical Services				
PROJECT MANAGER	Hayden Long				
APPROVED PROJECT END DATE	31 st December 2025				
PROJECT STATUS	NOT ON TRACK				
PERCENTAGE COMPLETE	20 %				
BUDGET STATUS	Budget (\$)	Amount Spent to Date (\$)	Committe d Funds (\$)	Total (\$)	Remaining Funds (\$)
Saloon Car Drag Strip at Airport	1,285,000	\$100,764		100,764	1,184,236
Funded by BSC	1,500,000				1,500,000
COMMENTARY ON PROGRESS					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key Milestones DA now approved. Construction Certificate (CC) preparation continues. Regional Engineering Services has been engaged to prepare an Issue for Construction Design package. Current Schedule Finalisation of the Construction design package is expected by late Oct 2025. Finance Current Grant Funding \$1.2 M approx. Approved Council Allocation \$1.5 M Revised Earthworks/Ground Conditions Assessment indicate another \$1.0 M Cost Consultants recommend Contingency of between \$1.0 & \$1.3 M Upgraded Intersection to TfNSW Standards* \$1.0 M <p>Best Guess Project Total: \$6.0 M Also, we must consider future repair and maintenance costs. *Note. Potential to seek other funding from TfNSW for intersection.</p>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk There remains significant financial risk relating to latent conditions. The assessment of these risks is based on a combination of empirical knowledge, gained via similar earthworks undertaken as part of the aerodrome construction and the limited scope of the recent geotechnical investigation. 					

6.13 DA2025.0012 – 1 Barnado Street – Demolition and Multi Dwelling Housing

CSP Theme: Place 2 - Lifestyle is supported through well-maintained built and natural environments.

Department: Technical Services

Author: Director of Technical Services

Recommendation:

That council approve DA2025/0012 – Demolition and Multi Dwelling Housing subject to conditions of consent.

Introduction

The applicant is seeking consent to construct a *Multi Dwelling Housing* development, comprising of six 2-bedroom attached and detached *dwelling houses* in various configurations. The *multi dwelling housing* development is proposed to be constructed in four separate buildings. The development application is also seeking consent for the demolition of the existing dwelling and removal of existing vegetation on the site. A comprehensive landscaping has been provided to replace the existing vegetation on the site and to soften the overall appearance of the development in the site's current context.

The subject site is known as 1 Barnardo Street, West Wyalong, and comprises Lot 268 DP 753135, Lot 349 DP 753135 & Lot 350 DP 753135, with a combined area of approximately 1718.66 sqm. These lots will be required to be consolidated into a single lot as a condition of consent, prior to the release of an occupation certificate. The site is located on the corners of Barnardo and Church Streets and is situated within close proximity of the town centre of West Wyalong. The site shares two boundaries with Barnardo Park.

The site is zoned E1 - Local Centre under the Bland Local Environmental Plan 2011. Development for the purposes of Residential Accommodation, including *multi dwelling housing* is permissible with consent within the E1 Zone.

A single detached dwelling-house is currently located on the site. Land use in the vicinity of the site is a mix of commercial, residential accommodation and public recreation areas.

No written submissions were received in relation to the development proposal during the standard 14-day notification period.

The development has been assessed as being generally consistent with the relevant sections of the Development Control Plan (DCP), where a single variation to the DCP is required to facilitate the development. The DCP requires that 1 visitor car park is required to be provided for every 3 dwellings proposed, leading to a shortfall of 2 visitor parking spaces. On street parking in this location is not considered to be significantly impacted by the addition of visitor parking to service this development where approximately 70m of site frontage is provided to Barnardo and Church Streets.

The additional parking of vehicles on these frontages will not generate any significant additional road safety concerns. It is recommended that this variation be supported in this instance where the anticipated impacts of the variation are considered to be minor in nature and where the development is consistent with the other requirements of the DCP.

This site has been identified as flood prone land in the West Wyalong Flood Study. A condition of consent has been applied to require the finished floor level of each dwelling to be consistent

with the relevant Flood Planning Level for this site, which is 255m AHD inclusive of 500mm freeboard.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage has been considered on the site, including existing vegetation, through a AHIMS Search, as well as consultation with the Local Aboriginal Land Council. No items or locations of aboriginal cultural significance have been identified on the site through this due diligence process.

Financial Implications

There are no negative financial implications to Council in approving this development. A s7.12 Contributions amount of \$1072.50 will be levied against the development. A Sewer Headworks Charge will also be applied to the development of \$26,650.00, based on the addition of 5 additional dwellings on this lot in addition to the existing dwelling. The refusal of the development application may lead to additional staff costs in relation to reviews and appeals processes.

Summary

The proposed development is considered to be generally consistent with the Bland Local Environmental Plan 2011 and the Bland Development Control Plan 2012, with one variation required in relation to the provision of onsite visitor parking. It is considered that the subject site is suitable for the proposed development.

Enclosures (following report)

Development Assessment Report

Attachments (As separate attachment)

Nil

DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT REPORT			
DA Number:	DA2025/0012 & PAN-468081		
Address:	1 Barnardo Street, West Wyalong NSW 2671		
Legal Description:	Lot 268 DP 753135, Lot 349 DP 753135 & Lot 350 DP 753135		
Development Description:	Multi Dwelling (6 dwellings) and Strata Subdivision		
PROJECT OVERVIEW			
<p>The Applicant is seeking consent to construct a <i>Multi Dwelling Housing</i> development, comprising of six 2-bedroom attached and detached <i>dwelling houses</i> in various configurations. The <i>multi dwelling housing</i> development is proposed to be constructed in four separate buildings. The development application is also seeking consent for the demolition of the existing dwelling and removal of existing vegetation on the site.</p> <p>The subject site is known as 1 Barnardo Street, West Wyalong, and comprises Lot 268 DP 753135, Lot 349 DP 753135 & Lot 350 DP 753135, with a combined area of approximately 1718.66 sqm. The site is located on the corners of Barnardo and Church Streets and is situated within close proximity of the town centre of West Wyalong. The site shares two boundaries with Barnardo Park.</p> <p>The site is zoned E1 - Local Centre under the Bland Local Environmental Plan 2011. Development for the purposes of Residential Accommodation, including multidwelling housing is permissible with consent within the E1 Zone.</p> <p>A single detached dwelling-house is currently located on the site. Land use in the vicinity of the site is a mix of commercial, residential accommodation and public recreation.</p> <p>No written submissions were received in relation to the development proposal.</p>			
PROPERTY DETAILS/HISTORY			
	Checked		Comments
File History	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	No relevant site history.
Title Plan	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fortunate Life Investments, as the legal owner of the land, have provided written consent for the lodgement of the application.
Ownership	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
APPLICATION TYPE			
Does this application require referral for decision by Council? Yes – multi dwelling housing			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Is this application an Integrated Development Application?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is this application a Designated Development Application?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is this application for State Significant Development?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is this application submitted by/on behalf of a Public Authority?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is this application a staged Development?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Stage Detail:			

Is this application a section 4.55 amendment?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does this application require concurrence referral?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does this application require courtesy comment?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Department	Date Requested	Date Received	Comments/Issues Raised	
Goldenfields Water County Council	12.3.2025	12.3.2025	<p>Goldenfields Water have indicated that they are able to supply water to the proposed development. They have recommended conditions of consent as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The developer is to submit an application to GWCC for water supply; ➤ A Certificate of Compliance is required prior to the release of a Construction Certificate for the development; and ➤ Developer Infrastructure Charges are applicable. 	
Electricity	12.3.2025	13.3.2025	The Applicant has been advised of the requirements outlined by Essential Energy in an email dated 2.4.25.	

	Applicable	
SEPP (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021 <i>This SEPP protects the biodiversity values of trees and other vegetation in areas of the State, and to preserve the amenity of areas of the State through preservation of trees and other vegetation.</i> No proposed clearing or loss of native or significant vegetation. The site is not mapped on the Biodiversity Values Map. No further consideration necessary.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SEPP (Building Sustainability Index: BASIX) 2004 <i>The SEPP provides for the implementation of BASIX throughout the State.</i> As the value of the proposed works is estimated to be in excess of \$50,000, the proposed development is defined as BASIX affected. A Basix Certificate for Multi Dwelling housing has been submitted with the application, with a pass score for each dwelling.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
SEPP (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 <i>The SEPP provides exempt and complying development codes that have State-wide application.</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SEPP (Housing) 2021 <i>The SEPP aims to encourage provision of housing for seniors, including residential care facilities. The SEPP provides development standards.</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SEPP (Industry and Employment) 2021	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SEPP (Planning Systems) 2021	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SEPP (Precincts – Central River City) 2021	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SEPP (Precincts – Eastern Harbour City) 2021	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SEPP (Precincts – Regional) 2021	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SEPP (Precincts – Western Parkland City) 2021	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SEPP (Primary Production) 2021	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<i>This SEPP facilitates the orderly economic use and development of lands for primary production; reduce land use conflict and sterilisation of rural land.</i>		
SEPP (Resilience and Hazards) 2021 - Remediation of Land <i>The SEPP provides a systematic approach to the assessment of development proposals for potentially hazardous and offensive industry or storage.</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Clause 4.6 of the SEPP states that:</p> <p>1) A consent authority must not consent to the carrying out of any development on land unless:</p> <p>a) It has considered whether the land is contaminated, and</p> <p>b) If the land is contaminated, it is satisfied that the land is suitable in its contaminated state (or will be suitable, after remediation) for the purpose for which the development is proposed to be carried out, and</p> <p>c) If the land requires remediation to be made suitable for the purpose for which the development is proposed to be carried out, it is satisfied that the land will be remediated before the land is used for that purpose.</p> <p>The subject site is not listed on Council's Geographic Information System as being potentially contaminated as a result of any past or present uses of the land. A further search of Council's files for the subject property has not identified any previous use of the land that may have led to potential contamination. The site is located within the E1 – Local Centre zone and has been previously used for a residential use. There was no indication during the site inspection of the property, of any potential contamination of the land. This being the case, it is considered that the subject site is suitable for the proposed development. Consideration of potentially hazardous material present in the existing dwelling will be a condition of any issued consent.</p>		
SEPP (Resources and Energy) 2021 <i>The SEPP aims to provide proper management of mineral, petroleum and extractive material resources and ESD</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 <i>The SEPP provides a consistent approach for infrastructure and the provision of services across NSW, and to support greater efficiency in the location of infrastructure and service facilities.</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

BLAND LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2011

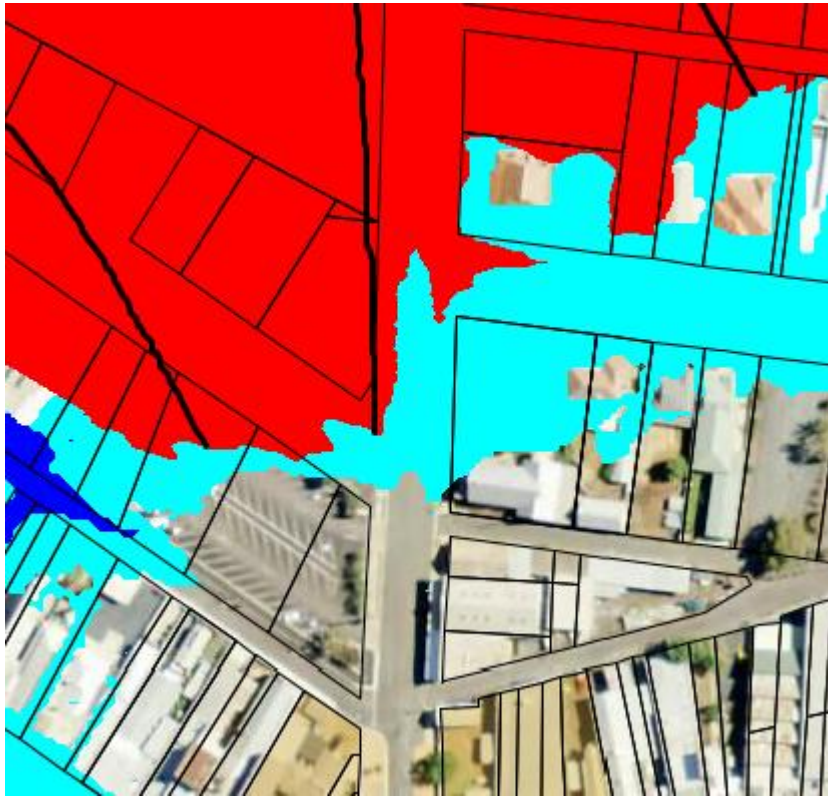
<p>The subject land is zoned: E1 Local Centre Zone</p>	
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	<p>The objectives of the E1 zone are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>To provide a range of retail, business and community uses that serve the needs of people who live in, work in or visit the area.</i> ➤ <i>To encourage investment in local commercial development that generates employment opportunities and economic growth.</i> ➤ <i>To enable residential development that contributes to a vibrant and active local centre and is consistent with Council's strategic planning for residential development in the area.</i> ➤ <i>To encourage business, retail, community and other non-residential land uses on the ground floor of buildings.</i> ➤ <i>To promote the heritage character of West Wyalong and Wyalong.</i> ➤ <i>To encourage tourism opportunities in West Wyalong and Wyalong.</i> <p>Clause 2.3(2) of the LEP provides that the consent authority must have regard to the objectives for development in a zone when determining a development application in respect of land within the zone.</p> <p>The proposed development is considered to align with the applicable objectives of the zone for the following reasons:</p> <p>The proposal provides for residential development that will contribute to a vibrant and active local centre and is consistent with Council's strategic planning for residential development in the area, as described above. In general, residential land uses which are located within close proximity to a local centre contribute to the vibrancy and activity within a town. The potential future occupants would have the opportunity to access employment, retail and community services within walking distance of their home. In addition, the existing use of the site is for residential purposes, where the proposed development will contribute to higher density living in an appropriate location close to local services and commercial uses.</p>	
Definition from LEP	<p><i>multi dwelling housing</i> means 3 or more dwellings (whether attached or detached) on one lot of land, each with access at ground level, but does not include a residential flat building.</p>	
Permissibility:	<p><i>Multi dwelling housing</i> is permitted with consent in the E1 Local Centre Zone, being an innominate permissible purpose described as <i>“any other development not specified in Item 2 or 4”</i> as listed in the land use table for the E1 zone.</p>	
Clause		Compliance
Part 4 Principal Development Standards		
4.1	Minimum subdivision lot size	Not Applicable
4.1AA	Minimum subdivision lot size for community title schemes	Not Applicable

4.1A	Minimum subdivision lot size for strata plan schemes in certain rural and environmental zones	Not Applicable
4.2	Rural Subdivision	Not Applicable
4.2A	Erection of dwelling houses on land in certain rural and environmental protection zones	Not Applicable
4.2B	Erection of rural workers' dwellings	Not Applicable
4.3	Height of buildings	Not adopted
4.4	Floor space ratio	Not adopted
4.5	Calculation of floor space ratio	Not adopted
4.6	Exceptions to development standards	Not Applicable
Comment: No further consideration of the above matters if considered to be necessary.		
Part 5 Miscellaneous Provisions		
5.1	Relevant acquisition authority	Not Applicable
5.2	Classification and reclassification of public land	Not Applicable
5.3	Development near zone boundaries	Not Applicable
5.4	Controls relating to miscellaneous permissible uses	Not Applicable
5.5	Controls relating to secondary dwellings on land in a rural zone	Not adopted
5.6	Architectural roof features	Not adopted
5.7	Development below mean high water mark	Not applicable
5.8	Conversion of fire alarms	Not Applicable
5.9	Dwelling house or secondary dwelling affected by natural disaster	Not adopted
5.9AA	Repealed	Repealed
5.10	Heritage conservation – Refer to discussion below.	Not Applicable
5.11	Bushfire hazard reduction	Not Applicable
5.12	Infrastructure development and use of existing buildings of the crown	Not Applicable
5.13	Eco-tourist facilities	Not Applicable
5.14	Siding spring Observatory – maintaining dark sky	Not adopted
5.15	Defence communications facility	Not adopted
5.16	Subdivision of, or dwellings on, land in certain rural, residential or environment protection zones	Not Applicable
5.17	Artificial water bodies in environmentally sensitive areas of operation of irrigation corporations	Not Applicable
5.18	Intensive livestock agriculture	Not Applicable
5.19	Pond-based, tank based and oyster aquaculture	Not Applicable
5.20	Standards that cannot be used to refuse consent—playing and performing music	Not Applicable
5.21	Flood planning	Complies

5.22	Special flood considerations	Not adopted
Comment:	<p>5.21 Flood Planning OUTER Flood Plain</p> <p>(1) <i>The objectives of this clause are as follows—</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) <i>to minimise the flood risk to life and property associated with the use of land,</i> (b) <i>to allow development on land that is compatible with the flood function and behaviour on the land, taking into account projected changes as a result of climate change,</i> (c) <i>to avoid adverse or cumulative impacts on flood behaviour and the environment,</i> (d) <i>to enable the safe occupation and efficient evacuation of people in the event of a flood.</i> <p>(2) <i>Development consent must not be granted to development on land the consent authority considers to be within the flood planning area unless the consent authority is satisfied the development—</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) <i>is compatible with the flood function and behaviour on the land, and</i> (b) <i>will not adversely affect flood behaviour in a way that results in detrimental increases in the potential flood affectation of other development or properties, and</i> (c) <i>will not adversely affect the safe occupation and efficient evacuation of people or exceed the capacity of existing evacuation routes for the surrounding area in the event of a flood, and</i> (d) <i>incorporates appropriate measures to manage risk to life in the event of a flood, and</i> (e) <i>will not adversely affect the environment or cause avoidable erosion, siltation, destruction of riparian vegetation or a reduction in the stability of river banks or watercourses.</i> <p>(3) <i>In deciding whether to grant development consent on land to which this clause applies, the consent authority must consider the following matters—</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) <i>the impact of the development on projected changes to flood behaviour as a result of climate change,</i> (b) <i>the intended design and scale of buildings resulting from the development,</i> (c) <i>whether the development incorporates measures to minimise the risk to life and ensure the safe evacuation of people in the event of a flood,</i> (d) <i>the potential to modify, relocate or remove buildings resulting from development if the surrounding area is impacted by flooding or coastal erosion.</i> <p>(4) <i>A word or expression used in this clause has the same meaning as it has in the Considering Flooding in Land Use Planning Guideline unless it is otherwise defined in this clause.</i></p> <p>(5) <i>In this clause—</i></p> <p>Considering Flooding in Land Use Planning Guideline means the Considering Flooding in Land Use Planning Guideline published on the Department's website on 14 July 2021.</p> <p>flood planning area has the same meaning as it has in the Flood Risk Management Manual.</p> <p>Flood Risk Management Manual means the Flood Risk Management Manual, ISBN 978-1-923076-17-4, published by the NSW Government in June 2023.</p> <p>The subject land is not identified on the current LEP Flood Planning Map. However, Council recently carried out a flood study for the Wyalong & West Wyalong Area. Design</p>	

Flood Modelling (Preliminary Results) map, which was provided as part of the flood study, was reviewed. The subject land is identified as being within the Flood Affected area, as shown in the mapping below.



The flood mapping includes a contour line in this location that identifies the flood planning level as 255 AHD, inclusive of 500mm freeboard. A condition of consent is to be applied requiring the finished floor levels (FFL) of each dwelling is consistent with this level.

Part 6 Additional local provisions

6.1	Essential services	Complies
6.2	Earthworks	Complies
6.3	Terrestrial biodiversity	Not Applicable
6.4	Riparian land and watercourses	Not Applicable
6.5	Wetlands	Not Applicable
6.6	Groundwater vulnerability	Not Applicable
6.7	Repealed	Not Applicable
6.8	Airspace operations	Not Applicable
6.9	Location of sex services premises	Not Applicable

Comment: 6.1 Essential Services
Council is satisfied that essential services for the proposed development are available, or adequate arrangements can be made to ensure that the below services are readily available on the site.

Sewer: According to Councils GIS Program, Council's reticulated sewer infrastructure is available to the west of the site and can service the development.



Water: According to Councils GIS Program, Council's reticulated water infrastructure is available in Barnado Street. Goldenfields Water have indicated that they are able to supply water to the proposed development. They have recommended conditions of consent as follows:

- The developer is to submit an application to GWCC for water supply;
- A Certificate of Compliance is required prior to the release of a Construction Certificate for the development; and
- Developer Infrastructure Charges are applicable.

Electricity: According to Councils GIS Program, electricity infrastructure is available in Church Street. Essential Energy have no objection to the proposed development. There is electricity infrastructure available to the site. The Applicant has been advised of the requirements outlined by Essential Energy in an email dated 2.4.25 and saved in Magiq.

Access: Suitable road access from Barnado Street and Church Street is available to service the proposed development. The proposal is satisfactory in this regard. A s138 approval will be required to be obtained from Council prior to the construction of any new accesses to the existing road network.

Stormwater: Roof and surface stormwater from paved and impervious areas is to be collected and directed to a legal point of discharge, to protect the site and adjoining property from effects of flooding. Relevant work is to be carried out immediately after the roof and guttering is installed. A Stormwater Management Plan is required as a recommended Condition of the Development Consent.

6.2 Earthworks

The application includes earthworks to accommodate the proposed development. Appropriate conditions will be recommended on any consent to ensure that adequate erosion and sedimentation controls and dust mitigation measures are in place during site works.

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN

PART 1.3 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION NEIGHBOUR NOTIFICATION POLICY

Is the proposal Advertised Development?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Comment

The proposed development is not listed as one of the prescribed uses contained in Clause 1.3.9 of the Bland Shire Development Control Plan and accordingly, was not required to be advertised in a local newspaper.

Did the application require Neighbour Notification?

Yes ☒

No ☐

Comment

In response to the plans, neighbour notification was sought between the following dates: 12 March 2025 and 26 March 2025, no submissions were received.

PART 4 DUAL OCCUPANCY AND MULTI-DWELLING RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

The proposed multi-unit development has been assessed under Section 4 of the Bland Shire Development Control and with regard to the additional specific policy relating to the E1 – Local Centre zone. The overarching objective of Chapter 4 aims to ensure that residential development is of a high visual quality and amenity, while minimising impacts on surrounding development. The proposed design of the development is considered to be of an acceptable visual quality with limited impact on surrounding development.

Development respects the character of the neighbourhood by:

PMD1.1	Being respectful of, without necessarily imitating the style and character of adjoining houses and gardens including the scale, materials, roof forms and types of trees.	Meets Acceptable Solution
PMD1.2	Providing attractive streetscapes, comprising trees, gardens, building facades, fences and walls.	Meets Acceptable Solution
PMD1.3	Preserving established trees and gardens.	Not Relevant

Comment

The development will be constructed of selected brickwork and cement rendered brickwork on the front façade and a metal roof. Good passive design and the incorporation of sustainability initiatives will contribute towards the site achieving a high level of environmental performance.

The proposed redesigned fencing detail (blue line) for Proposed Unit 4 relocates the fencing from on the property boundary to back within the property. Extensive landscaping is proposed to visually soften the development in the streetscape.

Dwellings 1-4 are setback 4m from Barnado Street, with the garage's setback behind the dwelling façades at 5.62m. Dwelling 6 is setback 4m from Church Street, with the garage setback further behind the front façade. It is considered that the setting back of the garages from the external wall of the new dwellings reduces the visual dominance of the garage door in the streetscape. Dwellings 5 & 6 have variable setbacks to the northern boundary, with a minimum of 3.003m to the northern rear boundary to enable the incorporation of north facing open space. Dwellings 1 & 5 have a 1m setback to the western boundary. Dwellings 1-4 have a 4m setback to the internal driveway servicing dwellings 5 & 6. The units are considered to be sufficiently articulated by the use of varied setbacks. The mix of materials further reduces the visual dominance of the façade. The proposed setbacks are considered to be appropriate with respect to the E1 zoning and the park that are located immediately adjoining the site.

Development is of appropriate building height, bulk and form by:

PDM3.1	Being respectful of the predominant surrounding building forms, roof forms and building heights.	Meets Acceptable Solution
PDM3.2	Minimising building bulk and height on or near boundaries to avoid overshadowing and overlooking of neighbours.	Meets Acceptable Solution

These considerations are more relevant to the Residential zones and less relevant to the E1 Local Centre zone, nonetheless the matters have been considered. The front facade of the development is articulated so that the height, bulk and scale is appropriate to the prevailing scale of the street and the surrounding buildings and; as such, the proposed development is not expected to detract from the character of the street. The proposal attains a maximum height of 4.648m (Roof ridge 259.448 – NGL 254.800) to the apex of the ridgeline, thereby complying with the 8m height limit. The outlooks from dwellings do not overlook the private open space of any adjoining properties.

Development protects the heritage qualities of the area by:

PDM4.1	Respecting existing heritage buildings, streetscapes or gardens close to the development.	Not Relevant
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Development provides good environmental performance access by:

PDM5.1	Providing good sunlight to living areas and avoiding overshadowing of neighbours and established garden areas.	Meets Acceptable Solution
PDM5.2	Planning the internal layout of a dwelling to ensure good daylight to living areas.	Meets Acceptable Solution
PDM5.3	Locating parking in the shadow of the buildings.	Meets Acceptable Solution

Development creates clear address and access by:

PDM6.1	Ensuring dwellings adjoining the street frontage address the street.	Meets Acceptable Solution
PDM6.2	Providing each dwelling with clear and distinct access, preferably visible from a public street.	Meets Acceptable Solution

Comment

The new dwellings on the street frontages address the street. The front façades of these units incorporate windows and doors to habitable rooms that address the street frontage. Vehicle crossovers are required for both the Barnado Street entrance to the property and the Church entrances to the property. Separate crossovers are required for dwelling 5 and 6 due to existing power infrastructure in this location. The overall development satisfies these DCP considerations and, as such, the proposed arrangements are considered to be satisfactory.

Development provides access and parking by:

PDM7.1	Providing adequate parking for the number and type of dwellings.	Meets Acceptable Solution
PDM7.2	Ensuring that access driveways and garage frontages do not visually dominate development.	Meets Acceptable Solution
PDM7.3	Ensuring vehicle access to and from the site is safe.	Meets Acceptable Solution
PDM7.4	Minimising the number and width of access driveways consistent with the traffic function of those driveways.	Meets Acceptable Solution
<p>Comment</p> <p>Chapter 11 of the Bland Shire Development Control Plan requires that a multi-unit dwelling containing 2 bedrooms is required to provide one covered and one uncovered parking space.</p> <p>One (1) car parking space is proposed per unit in each of the proposed garages and one (1) uncovered space is proposed in front of each garage, or offset to the side in the case of Residence No. 5.</p> <p>As per the DCP, visitor parking is to be provided at a rate of one (1) space per three dwellings or part thereof (may be uncovered). No visitor parking spaces are proposed.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that two (2) uncovered visitor spaces are not proposed. However, the proposed shortfall is considered to be acceptable for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ One (1) undercover and one (1) uncovered space is available for the use of each dwelling. ➤ With a street frontage of 31.36m on Barnado Street and 38.62m Church Street, there is sufficient kerb-side space to also accommodate the shortfall of 2 visitor parking spaces off-site along the street. Angle Council parking is available on Barnado Street directly opposite the site. ➤ The proposed garages are not located forward of the building line. Therefore, garages are not visually dominating in the streetscape. ➤ Adequate parking for each unit has been provided to comply with the DCP. <p>For these reasons, the proposal is considered to be satisfactory in this regard.</p>		
Development provides facilities consistent with the residential use of the land including:		
PDM8.1	Letterboxes.	Meets Acceptable Solution
PDM8.2	Clothes drying facilities - All dwellings are provided with an external clothes drying area, which are positioned so that they are capable of being concealed from the street.	Meets Acceptable Solution
PDM8.3	Garbage bin storage.	Meets Acceptable Solution
PDM8.4	Outdoor service areas.	Meets Acceptable Solution
Development is served by necessary utilities and services including:		
PDM9.1	Telephone/data, water, sewer, power and gas.	Meets Acceptable Solution
PDM9.2	Onsite water storage.	Not Relevant
PDM9.3	<p>Drainage</p> <p><i>Note: Headwork's and/or development servicing plan charges may be applicable to the development. Applicants are advised to contact Council's Engineering Services Department to determine these charges, which</i></p>	Meets Acceptable Solution

	<i>are payable prior to the release of any Construction Certificate.</i>	
Comment Council is satisfied that essential services for the proposed development are available and/or adequate arrangements can be made, to make them available. DSP charges will be levied via a condition of consent. Stormwater will be directed to Church Street. Conditions relating to drainage will be applied.		
B2 Local Centre Zone		
PDM10.1	Using its slope, its orientation to the sun, and its established landscape quality to create useable outdoor spaces and views.	Meets Acceptable Solution
PDM10.2	Minimising paved areas	Meets Acceptable Solution
PDM10.3	Keeping the floor area of the new building to a minimum through efficient planning so as to retain as much of the existing backyard and garden as possible and to minimise site coverage and maximise setbacks from the boundaries.	Meets Acceptable Solution

PLANNING AGREEMENT Section 4.15(1)(a) (iia) – EP & A Act		
Is there a planning agreement in force under section 7.4 of the EP&A Act	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has a Planning Agreement been offered under this development?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

PLANNING STRATEGIES/LOCAL POLICY		
Is there a Planning Strategy or Local Policy that requires notation?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Has the applicant submitted any supporting planning assessments?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Comment: Bland Shire Council Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS): The LSPS sets the framework to guide future economic, social and land use planning decisions for Council for the next 20 years. As a part of this process, the LSPS recognised the opportunities presented by the expansion of the mining and renewable energy sectors. The LSPS does however recognise a challenge in attracting investment in housing within West Wyalong and Wyalong. Housing opportunities and choice are highlighted as being a priority to cater for changing demographics and population needs. The proposed development provides choice and variety by way of multi dwelling housing to accommodate the current and future housing demands of the community. Bland Housing Strategy – BHS (October 2022): The Bland Housing Strategy establishes the strategic framework for residential growth within the Bland Shire for the next 20 years. The “Housing Vision” of the Strategy states that... <i>Residents will have access to a range of housing types that provide choice, are sustainable, affordable and suit the current and future needs of residents</i> ”. The housing vision was drawn from extensive community consultation and strategic planning work undertaken by Council.		

It is considered that the proposed development aligns with the intent of the Strategy for the following reasons:

- The BHS highlights that there is a housing supply gap for smaller dwellings. Lone person households currently make up 33% of the total households living in the Bland Shire. This figure is likely to expand with the expansion of the Cowal Gold Mine and a general trend towards smaller household sizes and an ageing population. In response, one and two bedroom dwellings currently only make up 4% of the total housing stock, indicating a mismatch in the range of housing choice. Furthermore, it is recognised that lone persons living in larger homes would be incurring greater housing costs than required.
- The BHS also recognises that there is an emerging housing supply gap for adaptable housing and housing for seniors with the percentage of persons aged over 65 projected to increase from 20% to 25% by 2036. As such, there needs to be housing within the main townships that meets the needs of this growing population – housing that is located close to town to allow residents to “age in place”.

The proposal satisfies the intent of these documents. In essence, multi-unit dwelling houses located within walking distance of the centre provides a housing type that is diverse and affordable. Smaller dwellings offer a sustainable way of encouraging more homes without placing additional demands on infrastructure. Focusing housing in locations that already have access to services to meet the everyday needs of the residents helps to avoid undesirable impacts such as traffic congestion and a lack of street parking. The proposal may be described as infill housing, which is one of the key outcomes defined as a need from the BHS.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS Section 4.15(1)(b) – EP & A Act			
	Impact		Comment
Social	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Satisfactory.
Economic	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Satisfactory.
Siting & Configuration	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	See comments under DCP
Setbacks	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complies.
Privacy	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Satisfactory.
Overshadowing	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	See comments under DCP
Solar Access	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	See comments under DCP
Visual	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	See comments under DCP
Amenity	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Satisfactory.
Water	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Refer to discussion earlier in the report.

Air	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Satisfactory.
Noise	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	It is noted that any noise generated by the proposed development will be residential in nature and noise associated with residential development is considered to be acceptable given the zoning of the land. A standard condition will be recommended in relation to construction hours in order to preserve surrounding amenity.
Land Degradation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The site does not contain any land mapped as being of Biodiversity Value by the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) Biodiversity Values Map. There are no threatened species mapped as recorded by BioNet, as occurring on or near the site. Based on this, it is not expected that critical habitat or threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats, will be adversely affected as a result of the proposed development.
Vegetation Loss	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Flora	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Fauna	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Has a Threatened Species Impact Assessment been prepared?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the proposed development required approval under the EPBC Act?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Heritage	Impact		Comment
European	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The subject site is not identified as being of European heritage significance.
Aboriginal	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The site has been heavily modified. Creek lines/watercourses (even if ephemeral) n/a Shoreline of water body (past or present) n/a Cliff lines/boulders (higher than 1m) n/a Overhangs in any of the cliff lines/boulders n/a Deep sandy deposits n/a Old growth trees n/a No further investigation considered necessary.
Is the land classified as containing and item of environmental heritage?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is there an impact on a heritage item in the vicinity of the proposal?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comment Refer to comments above.			
Is this proposal in a heritage conservation area?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is this proposal in an adjoining or in close vicinity to a conservation area?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has a Heritage Impact Statement been prepared for the proposal?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has an Archaeological Survey been prepared for this proposal?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

FLOODING Section 4.15(1)(b) – EP & A Act		
Is this property flood affected?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Comment See commentary in Bland LEP section above.		

BUSHFIRE PRONE LAND
Section 4.15(1)(b) – EP & A Act

Is this property bushfire prone as per the Bush Fire Prone Land Map?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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CONTAMINATED LAND
Section 4.15(1)(b) – EP & A Act

Has this land been identified as being contaminated land by Council?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does this land require remediation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has a Contaminated Land Site Investigation been completed?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is it possible that this land may be contaminated?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is this land in the close vicinity or adjoining a known contaminated site?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

INFRASTRUCTURE
Section 4.15(1)(b) – EP & A Act

Is an engineering assessment required?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Has an engineering assessment been completed?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Who completed the engineering assessment?	Zibby Wrobel	

Comment

- Sewer Headworks Charges.
- Stormwater is to be directed to the street.
- A Stormwater Management Plan is required as a condition of the recommended Development Consent.
- Finished floor levels to be above the 1%AEP.
- Minor kerb augmentation will be required to accommodate the vehicular access.

Does this proposal have any potential impact on:

	Impact		Comment
Sewer	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Refer comments above.
Water	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Goldenfields Water have indicated that they are able to supply water to the proposed development. They have recommended conditions of consent as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The developer is to submit an application to GWCC for water supply; ➤ A Certificate of Compliance is required prior to the release of a Construction Certificate for the development; and ➤ Developer Infrastructure Charges are applicable - \$20,280 (1ET = \$7,800)
Drainage	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Stormwater drainage must be constructed and maintained so as to provide a satisfactory overland flow path and not adversely affect adjacent properties. Stormwater shall be directed to the

			Church Street. A Stormwater Management Plan is required as a Condition of Consent.
Access	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Suitable road access from Church and Barnado Streets can accommodate the proposed development.
Kerb & Gutter	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Existing kerb and gutter exists along the primary street frontage. Minor augmentation may be required to accommodate the vehicular access.
Upgrade Existing Road	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No road upgrades are required.
Road Network	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The existing road network is capable of serving the additional demands created by the proposed development. Suitable road access is available from Church and Barnado Streets, which are sealed Council managed roads.
Existing Easements	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No known easements.
Electricity	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Refer comments above.
Telecommunications	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NBN is available at the subject address.
Pedestrian Access	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Council footpath exists along Church and Barnado Streets. All dwellings have pedestrian access from the primary street frontage by way of designated internal access paths or direct access.
Loading and Unloading	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	During construction, loading and unloading of machinery, building materials and the like will take place. The land is of a size that plant and machinery may be accommodated on-site during construction. Any consent shall be conditioned with approved hours of construction to minimise any potential impacts on adjoining/surrounding neighbours.
Parking	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Refer to discussion above.
Energy Consumption	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	As the value of the proposed works is estimated to be in excess of \$50,000, the proposed development is defined as BASIX affected. A Basix Certificate 1763274M for Multi-Unit housing has been submitted with the Application and is attached to the file. A suitable condition requiring compliance with the submitted BASIX Certificate prior to the release of the Occupation Certificate for the dwellings has been included as a part of the recommended determination documentation.
Does the development require any new easements?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has an Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan been submitted?			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

CONSTRUCTION ASSESSMENT

Is a construction certificate required?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Is a subdivision works certificate required?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Was a construction certificate application submitted with this application?		No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has Council been appointed as the Principal Certifying Authority?		To be determined
Is an annual Fire Safety Certificate required?		No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SECTION 68 ASSESSMENT

Is a Section 68 assessment required?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Has a Section 68 assessment been completed?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Was a Section 68 application submitted with this application?		No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
What type of Section 68 approval is required? To be conditioned.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sewer
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stormwater

DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS

Does this proposal require any Developer Contributions	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Amount	\$1,072.50	

ADVERTISING SIGNAGE

Does this application include advertising signage?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has an assessment under SEPP (Industry and Employment) 2021 been carried out?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

NOTIFICATION

Does this application require neighbour notification?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Is this application advertised development under the EP & A Act?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Was this application notified/advertised as per the provisions of:	DCP	
Was this application notified/advertised for public interest purposes only?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Dates notification undertaken:		
Commenced:	12/03/2025	Finished: 26/03/2025
Were there any written submissions received?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SECTION 88B INSTRUMENT

Does Council require a Section 88b instrument to be prepared?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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PUBLIC INTEREST

Does this proposal have any construction or safety issues?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Are there any public health issues associated with the proposal?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Are there any other public interest issues?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SITE SUITABILITY

Is the site suitable for the development?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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ASSESSING OFFICER COMMENT

Comment:	<p>The section 4.15 assessment of the proposal indicates that the development is acceptable and is recommended for approval subject to conditions of consent. The proposed development is largely consistent with Council's Bland Shire Development Control Plan 2011 (DCP). Proposed variations to any acceptable solutions of the DCP are justifiable and have planning merit. The development achieves the performance outcomes sought under the plan.</p> <p>Under the <i>Bland Local Environmental Plan 2011</i>, multi dwelling housing is permitted with consent within the subject zone, E1 Local centre. The proposed development is consistent with the objectives of the zone, by providing variety by way of multi dwelling housing to accommodate the current housing demands of the community. The site is located in close proximity to the CBD, medical and sporting facilities, schools and early childcare centre, offering a variety of conveniences to the community.</p>
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RECOMMENDATION

Approved	
Comment:	The proposal is recommended for a conditional approval.

CONDITIONS

PART A - ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS

General

1. This consent relates to **Demolition, Multi Dwelling Housing (6 dwellings) and Consolidation of Three (3) Lots into One (1) Lot** as illustrated on the plans, specifications and supporting documentation stamped with reference to this consent, as modified by the following conditions. The development shall be carried out in accordance with this consent.

Notes:

- *Any alteration to the plans and/or documentation shall be submitted for the approval of Council. Such alterations may require the lodgement of an application to amend the consent under s4.55 of the Act, or a fresh development application. No works, **other than those approved under this consent**, shall be carried out without the prior approval of Council.*
 - *Where there is an inconsistency between the documents lodged with this application and the following conditions, the conditions shall prevail to the extent of that inconsistency.*
2. The **Multi Dwelling Housing (6 dwellings)** is not to be occupied, or the use is not to commence until all relevant conditions of development consent have been met or unless other satisfactory arrangements have been made with council (i.e. a security).

Building Code of Australia

3. All building work must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Building Code of Australia.

Note: *This condition is prescribed under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021.*

Erection of signs

4. A sign must be erected in a prominent position on any site on which building work, is being carried out:
 - a) showing the name, address and telephone number of the principal certifying authority for the work, and
 - b) showing the name of the principal contractor (if any) for any building work and a telephone number on which that person may be contacted outside working hours, and
 - c) stating that unauthorised entry to the work site is prohibited.

Any such sign is to be maintained while the building work, subdivision work or demolition work is being carried out, but must be removed when the work has been completed.

Boundary Encroachments

5. Consent given to build in close proximity to the allotment boundary is in no way to be construed as permission to build on, or encroach over, the allotment boundary. Your attention is directed to the provisions of the *Dividing Fences Act*, which gives certain rights to adjoining owners, including use of the common boundary. In the absence of the structure standing well clear of the common boundary, it is recommended that you make yourself aware of your legal position. This may necessitate a survey to identify the allotment boundary.

PART B - REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO ISSUE OF CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE

Construction Certificate Application

6. A Construction Certificate application is required to be submitted to and issued by Council/Accredited Certifier prior to any excavation or building works being carried out on site.

Engineering Plans

7. Engineering plans, showing details of all proposed work and adhering to any conditions of development consent are to be submitted to, and approved by Bland Shire Council or an Accredited Certifier prior to issuing of the Construction Certificate.

Engineering plans are to show a Finished Floor Level for each dwelling equivalent to the Flood Planning Level for this site.

Stormwater Management Plan

8. The peak stormwater runoff from the site for all rainfall events is not to be greater than the current stormwater runoff from the site. A stormwater management plan including hydrological modelling of both the predevelopment and post development conditions is to be submitted prior to issuing of the Construction Certificate.

Section 94A Contribution Condition

9. Pursuant to section 4.17(1) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, and the Bland Section 94A Development Contributions Plan 2011, a contribution of \$1,072.50 shall be paid to Council.

The amount to be paid is to be adjusted at the time of the actual payment, in accordance with the provisions of the Bland Section 94A Development Contributions Plan. The contribution is to be paid before a Construction Certificate is issued.

Section 68

10. Approval if required from Council for the following activities pursuant to Chapter 7, Section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993 for:
 - Sewerage work, and
 - Stormwater drainage work.

Approval must be obtained prior to the issue of a Construction Certificate for the development.

Water Supply – Goldenfields Water County Council

11. A Certificate of Compliance is required to be obtained from Goldenfields Water County Council for the new water service prior to the issue of a Construction Certificate.

Sewer Headworks Charge

12. Prior to the issue of a construction certificate, the headworks charge for the new connections shall be paid to Council, being a fee of \$26,650.00 (1 existing dwelling, 5 new dwellings x \$5,330.00). Payment shall be paid to Council prior to any sewer services works being carried out.

Please contact Councils sewer services for an inspection.

Car Park Layout Standards

13. Prior to the release of the Construction Certificate a revised parking plan shall be submitted that demonstrates compliance with the following standards. Swept path analysis is to be include in the revised parking plan.

(a) AS2890.1 2004

(b) AS2890.2 2002

(c) AS2890.3 2003

(d) AS/NZS2890.6.2009

Garbage Area

14. Prior to the issue of the Construction Certificate, details of the proposed garbage/bin storage area at the rear of the development must be submitted for assessment and approval by the Director Technical Services. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Landscaping - Construction

15. Prior to the release of Construction Certificate, detailed construction plans for the landscape treatments as documented in this Development Application shall be submitted for approval.

Detailed plans are to show all landscape treatments that include but are not limited to: Entry treatments, signage, tree planting, carparks, shrub planting, turfing, signage, paths, pavement treatments etc. A Plant Schedule indicating all plant species, pot sizes, spacings and numbers to be planted within the development shall be submitted. Plant species are to be identified by full botanical name. All plants proposed are to be detailed in the plant schedule. The detailed landscape construction plans are to include the quantity and location of any and all Street Trees proposed for installation as part of this development.

Essential Energy and Telecommunications

16. Prior to the issue of Construction Certificate, satisfactory arrangements for Essential Energy and the relevant telecommunications authority, for both the provision of electrical power and telecommunications lines respectively, to fully service the development, shall be made. The developer must furnish documentary evidence that such arrangements, have been made. The services of a Level 2 Electrician/Accredited Service Provider (ASP) are required to be engaged in order to disconnect the existing service from the network and then remove the private pole. The Applicant is required to contact Essential Energy in this regard.

Relocation of Services

17. If the development is likely to disturb or impact upon telecommunications, power or water infrastructure, written confirmation from the service provider that they have agreed to the proposed works must be submitted to the Principal Certifying Authority prior to the issue of a Construction Certificate. The arrangements and costs associated with any adjustment to infrastructure shall be borne in full by the applicant/developer.

Check Underground Services

18. No works are to take place to any services without prior written approval from the relevant authority.

NOTE: Underground assets may exist in the area that is subject to your application. In the interests of health and safety and in order to protect damage to third party assets please contact Before you dig at www.byda.com.au or telephone on 1100 before excavating or erecting structures.

Geotechnical Investigation

19. Prior to the issue of any construction certificate, a geotechnical investigation is to be carried out by a suitably qualified person, with particular consideration to historical mining works and mine subsidence on this site. The report should inform the engineering design of the development and is to be provided to Council as part of the Construction Certificate application documentation

Approval for Works within the Road Reserve

20. Prior to the issue of any construction certificate, the applicant must apply for and obtain approval under Section 138 of the Roads Act 1993 from the road authority (Council) for works proposed within the reserve. The developer is responsible for all public utility adjustment/relocation works, necessitated by the proposed development and as required by the various public utility authorities and/or their agents.

PART C - REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF WORK

Notice of Commencement

21. Notice of commencement (at least 48 hours' prior) is to be given to Council in writing.

Erosion and Sediment Control

22. All practical measures must be taken to ensure erosion and subsequent sediment movement off-site does not occur.

In particular, a silt fence or equivalent must be provided downhill from the cut and fill area (or any other disturbed area). The fence must be regularly inspected and cleaned out and/or repaired as necessary and all collected silt must be disposed of to the satisfaction of the Principal Certifying Authority (PCA).

Unnecessary disturbance of the site (e.g. excessive vehicular access) must not occur.

All cuts and fills must be stabilised or revegetated as soon as possible after the completion of site earthworks.

Note: *On the spot fines may be imposed for non-compliance with this condition.*

Residential Building Work

23. Any licensed contractor(s) **performing residential building work valued at \$20,000 or more** must obtain indemnity insurance as required by the Home Building Act 1989. Evidence of such insurance must be provided to the Principal Certifying Authority (PCA) before building works commence.

Notes:

- *This condition is prescribed under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000.*
- *If appointment as PCA, **Bland Shire Council WILL NOT INSPECT any building work unless evidence of indemnity insurance has been provided.** A copy of the Certificate of Insurance will suffice.*

Temporary Onsite Toilet

24. A temporary on-site toilet is to be provided and must remain throughout the project or until an alternative facility meeting Council's requirements is available on-site.

Damage to Public Assets

25. The developer or their agent must undertake a site inspection of the adjacent kerbs, gutters, footpaths, walkways, carriageway, reserves and the like, prior to commencement of work and document evidence of any damage to existing assets. Failure to identify existing damage will result in all damage detected after completion of the building work being repaired at the applicant's expense.

Public Infrastructure Fronting The site

26. Prior to works commencing on site:
- i. Council must be notified of any damage to kerb and gutter and footpath fronting the site. The absence of such notification shall indicate that no damage exists, and the applicant shall be responsible for the repair of any damage to kerb and gutter or footpath fronting the site.
 - ii. Satisfactory protection for existing public infrastructure must be provided and maintained throughout the construction period.

Access Levels

27. If a vehicular crossing over the footway must be constructed, access levels must be confirmed from Council's Technical Services Department. The vehicular crossing must be constructed in accordance with Council's Engineering Guidelines (Drawing E.S.D 04). Further, the applicant must obtain a Compliance Certificate pursuant to Section 109C of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* PRIOR TO THE CONSTRUCTION of the footway crossing from Council or an accredited certifying authority certifying that the works have been completed in accordance with Council's Engineering Guidelines and that the levels are in accordance with those issued.

Soil and Water Management Plan

28. A soil and water management plan for the site shall be submitted. No building, engineering, or excavation work, or topsoil stripping or vegetation removal, is to be carried out in relation to this development until such time as a compliance certificate pursuant to Section 109C of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, as amended has been issued by Council or an accredited certifying authority confirming that the plan is in accordance with Council's Engineering Guidelines and Soils and Construction Volume 1, Managing Urban Stormwater. Once approved, the measures in the Soil and Water Management Plan are to be implemented during the course of the development.

Clearance from Powerlines

29. Prior to the commencement of any works, a letter from Essential Energy indicating that satisfactory clearances and minimum distances from power lines will be maintained during and after all construction works must be provided to Council.

Establishment of Site Survey Mark for Finished Floor Levels

30. Prior to the commencement of any works, a Survey Mark shall be installed on the site by an appropriately qualified surveyor that indicates the Flood Planning Level on the site. This mark shall be securely fixed to a permanent item or fixture (such as the existing boundary fence) and shall be utilised as a height reference for the Finished Floor Levels of the proposed dwellings.

PART D - REQUIREMENTS DURING WORKS

Approved Hours of Construction

31. Construction work may only be undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Protection Authority – Interim Construction Noise Guideline as identified below:

DAY	HOURS
Monday to Friday	7:00am to 6:00pm
Saturday	8:00am to 1:00pm
Sunday & Public Holidays	Nil

Vehicular Access

32. Any new Vehicular access or upgrades to an existing Vehicular access within the road reserve must be constructed to Council standards, at full cost to the developer, Driveway design and grades shall comply with AS2890.1: 2004 (or as amended).

Refer to Councils standard drawing for more information.

Note: Prior to any works commencing within the road reserve of Barnado Street and Church Street, the applicant must apply for and obtain approval under Section 138 of the Roads Act 1993 from the road authority (Council)

Replace Redundant Kerb Layback

33. The redundant kerb layback in Barnado Street and Church Street shall be replaced with integral barrier kerbing, and Council's footway rehabilitated.

Note: Prior to any works commencing within the road reserve of Barnado Street and Church Street, the applicant must apply for and obtain approval under Section 138 of the Roads Act 1993 from the road authority (Council).

Ponding to Neighbours

34. All earthworks, filling, building, driveways or other works, must be designed and constructed (including stormwater drainage if necessary) so that at no time, will any ponding of stormwater occur on adjoining land as a result of this development.

Onsite Water Storage

35. Any proposed Water Storage Tanks shall be no closer to side and rear boundaries than 900mm.

Stormwater Drainage Constructed and Maintained

36. Stormwater from the **New Dwellings** is to be conveyed to the Church Street kerb via drainage designed and constructed in accordance with AS/NZS 3500.3.2018 – Stormwater drainage and the Building Code of Australia. Heavy duty kerb adaptor must be used to connect to the existing or new constructed kerb.

Collect and Convey Surface Runoff

37. All storm water runoff from the proposed development must be collected on site and conveyed Council's existing stormwater management infrastructure, in a manner consistent with AS 3500.

Building Waste

38. The provision of a metal waste skip with self-closing lid or secure covering on-site for the duration of the construction to ensure that all wastes are contained on the site. The receptacle is to be emptied periodically to reduce the potential for rubbish to leave the site.

Note: On the spot fines may be imposed by Council for Pollution incidents.

Building Materials, Plant and Equipment

39. All building materials, plant and equipment are to be placed on the site of the development so as to ensure that pedestrian and vehicular access in public places is not restricted and also so that the road reserve is not damaged.

Note: On the spot fines may be imposed for non-compliance with this condition.

Soil and Water Management

40. All practical measures must be taken to ensure erosion and subsequent sediment movement off-site does not occur.

In particular, a silt fence or equivalent must be provided downhill from the cut and fill area (or any other disturbed area). The fence must be regularly inspected and cleaned out and/or repaired as necessary and all collected silt must be disposed of to the satisfaction of the Principal Certifying Authority (PCA).

Unnecessary disturbance of the site (e.g. excessive vehicular access) must not occur.

All cuts and fills must be stabilised or revegetated as soon as possible after the completion of site earthworks.

Upgrade Council Infrastructure

41. Any upgrades or alterations to existing Council infrastructure required as a result of the development shall be at the full cost of the applicant. Contact Council's Development Engineer to confirm what approval is required prior to commencing work on any Council infrastructure. Such work includes (but is not limited to) upgrade or connection to sewer or stormwater mains, and alteration of stormwater pits and sewer manhole levels, amendments to kerbing or drainage channels or roads.

Disturbed Areas Stabilised

42. All disturbed development areas shall be progressively stabilised and/or revegetated so that no development areas remain exposed to potential erosion damage for a period of greater than 14 days.

Public Road Maintained Clean

43. The developer is to maintain all adjoining public roads to the site in a clean and tidy state, free of excavated "spoil" material.

Overhead Wires

44. The new entrance and exit are to have adequate clearance from the top surface of the footway crossings as constructed to the underside of any overhead electricity or telephone wires, to the satisfaction of Essential Energy and/or relevant telecommunications authority respectively. Written evidence of compliance with the authorities' requirements must be provided to Council.

Removal of Trees and Vegetation

45. Trees indicated on the submitted plans for removal, shall be removed from the site in accordance with the proposed development. The approved works shall be executed so as to comply with the NSW Work Cover Code of Practice – amenity tree industry 1998 No. 034. Any works associated with tree removal shall be carried out in Accordance with

Australian Standards - AS 4373-2007, Pruning of Amenity Trees. All tree stumps shall be removed below ground level and the surface area reinstated to prevent potential injury. All waste material from the subject tree/s shall be removed from site in conjunction with clearing.

PART E - REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO OCCUPATION CERTIFICATE

Occupation Requirements

46. No person is to use or occupy the building or alteration that is the subject of this approval without the prior issuing of an Occupation Certificate.

Evidence of Consolidation

47. The applicant shall demonstrate that Lots 268, 349 & 350, DP753135 have been consolidated into a single lot, prior to the issue of the Occupation Certificate.

Public Infrastructure

48. The applicant shall rectify any damage to public infrastructure (including roads, gutters, footpaths, street trees, etc.) prior to the issue of the Occupation Certificate at no cost to Council.

Paving of Vehicular Movement Areas

49. Prior to the issue of Occupation Certificate, the paving of all vehicular movement areas must be either a minimum of 150mm thick flexible pavement and sealed or 150mm thick reinforced concrete.

Provision of Formal Address Number

1. The person having the benefit of this consent is to contact Bland Shire Council and request formal property address numbers for each dwelling. The property number is to be provided in a visible place on or near the entrance for the convenience of visitors, emergency services and postal services prior to the issue of a Final Occupation Certificate. Numbers shall be 100mm high x 50mm wide (minimum) and of a colour contrasting with the surface to which they are affixed.

Smoke Alarms

50. A Compliance Certificate certifying the installation of smoke alarms is to be provided to Council.

BASIX Certificate

51. Commitments listed in stamped approved BASIX Certificate relating to the development must be fulfilled prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate.

Ground Levels

52. Finished ground levels are to be graded away from the buildings and adjoining properties must achieve natural drainage. The concentrated flows are to be dispersed down slope or collected and discharged to the stormwater drainage system.

Letterboxes

53. Letterboxes are to be installed fronting Barnado Street or Church Street, as relevant, prior to the issuing of an Occupation Certificate.

Completion Requirements

54. All of the foregoing conditions are to be at the full cost of the developer and to be completed prior to the issuing of an Occupation Certificate, unless stated otherwise.

Landscaping Completion

55. Prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate for the dwellings, the proposed development is to be landscaped to enhance the development's appearance within the streetscape and provide shade and environmental benefits in accordance with the approved landscaping plan for the development.

Outdoor Lighting

56. Any lighting used on site in connection with the development is to comply with AS 4282 – Control of the Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting (current version), to protect the amenity of the locality.

Finished Floor Levels

57. Prior to the issue of any occupation certificate, a report shall be provided to Council by a suitably qualified surveyor confirming that the Finished Floor Levels of each dwelling have been completed to the required Flood Planning Level for this site.

PART G – REASONS FOR CONDITIONS

Conditions of consent have been imposed to:

58. Ensure the proposed development:
- a) achieves the objects of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979;
 - b) complies with the provisions of all relevant environmental planning instruments;
 - c) is consistent with the aims and objectives of Council's Development Control Plans, Codes and Policies.
59. Ensure that the relevant public authorities and the water supply authority have been consulted and their requirements met or arrangements made for the provision of services to the satisfaction of those authorities.
60. Meet the increased demand for public amenities and services attributable to the development in accordance with Section 94 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979.

61. Ensure the protection of the amenity and character of land adjoining and in the locality of the proposed development.
62. Minimise any potential adverse environmental, social or economic impacts of the proposed development.
63. Ensure that all traffic, carparking and access requirements arising from the development are addressed.
64. Ensure the development does not conflict with the public interest.

PART G – OTHER COUNCIL APPROVALS

Section 68 Local Government Act, Section 138 Roads Act

Section 138 Roads Act

65. For all construction work required on Council road reserves (eg. vehicular footpath crossings utilities and stormwater work, footpath paving, kerb and gutter etc.), the Applicant is to submit an Application to Council as the roads authority pursuant to s138 of the Roads Act 1993 and obtain approvals for all such proposed work. These Application(s) must be approved prior to the issue of a Construction Certificate, to ensure that pedestrian and vehicular safety during construction has been addressed and that the work meets Council's relevant Engineering Code and other design standards for work in road reserves.

The proposal which will involve work/activity over public land, is to be protected by public liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$10 million, or such other amount as may be advised by Council.

Notification of Final Restoration Works

66. The applicant is responsible for undertaking final restoration of the work area as soon as practicably possible, but within 14 days after work has been completed. Council must be notified of the final restoration works.

Pedestrian Access

67. Pedestrian Access past the site is to be available at all times. Access past the site must be no less than 1.5 metres wide of footpath and must be maintained and free of obstruction to pedestrians at all times. Traffic Controllers must be on site and available to escort pedestrians as required.

Comply with all Conditions of Consent

68. The applicant is responsible for complying with ALL conditions of consent. It is the Applicants responsibility to note the expiry date and ensure the approval is extended and appropriate fees paid if the work must continue. Extension of approval must be arranged prior to expiry of current approval. Failure to renew the approval may result in issue of infringement notice.

Contractors Require Public Liability Insurance

69. The Applicant/Principal Contractor of this road occupancy consent must ensure all sub-contractors working within the approved area have current public liability insurance to the value of 20 million dollars. The public liability insurance must be valid for the duration of the work.

Restoration of Nature Strip / Footpaths

70. Any area within the road reserve disturbed by trenching / installation works must be filled and suitably compacted. The areas shall be levelled with suitable debris free topsoil.

Topsoil fill must be flush with existing footpaths and top of kerbs and returfed to ensure area is immediately stabilised. Note: Topsoil and seeding is not supported unless express approval is given by Council.

Any hardstand footpaths disturbed by works shall be restored to Council standard. Restoration of paths must incorporate complete segments. Partial restoration is not permitted.

Note: The roadway must be reopened at the end of each shift. The work shall be arranged to ensure all trenching is backfilled at the end of each shift and / or slip-free steel plates are placed over the work area to provide safe, hazard free passage past the work site. In situations where work is incomplete due to emergency or unforeseen circumstance, traffic control must remain in place and the worksite must be supervised under 24hr traffic control personnel.

Environmental Sediment Controls

71. Environmental sediment controls must be in place prior to work commencing and maintained as required to ensure compliance with current Environmental Standards and Legislation.

Dial before you dig

72. Beware: Damage to cables and conduits can disrupt services and cost YOU money. For prompt location of cables and conduits, please ring 1100. Calls to this number are free.

PART H – GENERAL ADVICE

BOUNDARY ENCROACHMENTS

Consent given to build in close proximity to the allotment boundary is in no way to be construed as permission to build on, or encroach over, the allotment boundary. Your attention is directed to the provisions of the *Dividing Fences Act*, which gives certain rights to adjoining owners, including use of the common boundary. In the absence of the structure standing well clear of the common boundary, it is recommended that you make yourself aware of your legal position. This may necessitate a survey to identify the allotment boundary

ARTEFACTS

In the event that Aboriginal artefacts are identified on the site during development through earthworks or construction, the Applicant shall contact the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS – part of the Office of Environment and Heritage) and cease work in the relevant location pending investigation and assessment of its heritage value by NPWS and the relevant local Aboriginal groups.

A 'Consent to Destroy' Application under section 90 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 must be submitted and issued by the Director-General of National Parks and Wildlife for any Aboriginal archaeological sites that are to be damaged or destroyed as a result of any development. The Applicant shall consult with the relevant local Aboriginal groups and to the satisfaction of the NPWS prior to any 'Consent to Destroy' Application being submitted.

For further information see the NPWS Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigations in NSW:

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/licences/archinvestigations.htm>

In the event that any relics, being any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that:

- (a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and
- (b) is of State or local heritage significance,

are identified on the site during development through earthworks or construction, the Applicant/developer shall notify the NSW Heritage Council as required under s.146 of the Heritage Act 1977, as well as the Armidale Dumaresq Council, of the find and await further advice before proceeding with the development.

LAPSING OF DEVELOPMENT CONSENT

Development consent does not lapse if the approved use has actually commenced or the proposed work is physically commenced before the consent lapse date, except where a condition specifies a limit to the duration of the consent.

RIGHT OF APPEAL

If you are the applicant:

You can appeal against this decision in the Land and Environment Court within twelve (12) months of the date of this notice (section 97 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979*). You cannot appeal, however, if a Commission of Inquiry was held and the development is designated development or state significant development.

REVIEW OF DETERMINATION

An applicant may request the Council to review this determination within one (1) year after the date the applicant received this notice. The prescribed fee must be paid with the request for a review. Once the review is completed the Council may confirm or change the determination.

If there is an appeal, the period of time within which Council may undertake a review is extended up to the time the Court hands down its decision.

A Review cannot be requested for:

- a determination to issue or refuse to issue a complying development certificate, or
- a determination in respect of designated development, or
- a determination in respect of integrated development, or
- a determination in respect of integrated development, or a determination made by Council under Section 116E in respect of an application by the Crown.

Section 4 – Reports for Information

Recommendation:

That the following reports, provided for information only, be received and noted:

- 6.14 Community Development & Youth Services September 2025 Update
 - 6.15 Bland Shire Library September 2025 Update
 - 6.16 Children Services September 2025 Update
 - 6.17 Bland Community Care Services September 2025 Update
 - 6.18 Technical Services Update
 - 6.19 Development and Regulatory Services September 2025 Activity Report
-

6.14 Community Development & Youth Services September 2025 Report

CSP Theme: Family 6 – Young and old are valued members of our community

Department: Community Development

Author: Community Development Officer & Youth Services Officer

Mornings Melodies and Memories

Mornings, Melodies and Memories sessions continue to be provided to the villages of the Bland Shire each Monday. Staff have incorporated some interesting trivia and mind games at each session, with some locations requesting to play bingo.

Attendance numbers for September 2025:

Location	Date	Number of Participants
Ungarie	1 September	6
Tallimba	8 September	6
Weethalle	15 September	Session cancelled due to participants commitments elsewhere
Barmedman	22 September	13

NRMA Driving Lessons

The NRMA Driving School car was back in West Wyalong throughout September-October, assisting 18 local young people learn to drive. Lessons were delivered by Francine, a friendly and experienced instructor, learners are building skills, confidence and safe driving habits right here in town. Proudly supported by Bland Shire Council, this program saves families time and travel while giving students a strong start on the road.



The Long Ride - Raising funds and awareness of prostate cancer

Bland Shire Council hosted a community breakfast on Monday 13 October at McCann Park to welcome participants from The Long Ride. Riders come from all over Australia to raise funds and awareness of prostate cancer.

Four youth volunteers, Charlotte, Ava, Kylah and Annabel, who participated in the Hospitality Camp held in April 2025, assisted with this initiative, with all funds raised going directly to Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia.

Australian Skin Cancer Foundation Skin Check Truck

The Skin Check Truck will be back in the Bland Shire this October, visiting Ungarie on Friday 17 October at Bing Wallder Park and will be part of the Hearts of Gold Festival in West Wyalong on Saturday 18 October. The truck will be parked at 98 Main Street (in front of the IGA Supermarket).

The Resilience Project



Join us for an inspiring evening as former AFL player Martin Heppel brings his high-energy humour and captivating storytelling to the Bland Shire. Wednesday 22 October 2025 at Toppy Hall from 6.30-8.30pm. Building positive mental health works best when we do it together. This session is designed for parents and the wider community, with evidence-based strategies that are practical and uplifting.

This free community event is proudly brought to you by Bland Shire Council, jointly funded by the Australian Government and NSW Government under the Future Drought Fund.

Spring Holiday Schedule

During the Spring holidays, the Youth Centre scheduled the following activities: games and snacks, dumpling making, painting and paper mâché, jam session and karaoke and a ping pong tournament. All these activities took place at the Youth centre with the aim to appeal to a broad range of youth interests to garner interest in both use of the space and the experiences offered by youth programs.

Regular Youth Centre Opening

During regular youth centre opening time, there has been a considerable uptake in the playing of table tennis, with even a new game being invented called 'cup pong', where paper cups replace the rackets and rallies occur over a period, the winner being decided by a panel of judges based on style. This perfectly encapsulates the creativity of Bland Shire youth, and reflects how through collaboration, just how innovative the contributions of young people are for the community.

Some other notable activities during regular opening hours include participants utilising the cooking amenities more often than usual, with brownies, nachos and instant noodles being some food items produced. While seemingly unimportant, this is significant as these cooking activities involved multiple participants collaborating and sharing knowledge about food preparation, reflecting how valuable the youth centre is in facilitating meaningful recreational experiences and life skill learning opportunities for young people.

Grant Progress

For the Murrumbidgee Community Wellbeing and Suicide Prevention Grant, a 'test run' mini session has been planned in Wagga, where a two-hour session will provide youth leaders and youth centre staff with an idea of how the sessions are run. The Heaps Decent music

production sessions have been pushed back to later in the year due to their staff availability, and at this stage, it is reasonable for the suicide first aid training to take place sometime next year due to other commitments, including the establishment and function of a youth advisory council.

Throughout the month of September, 71 young people utilised the facilities at The Hive.

6.15 Bland Shire Library September 2025 Update

CSP Theme: Place 4 – Community Culture is nurtured and enriched through respectful and relevant activities and events.

Department: Corporate and Community Services

Author: Library Services Coordinator

Riverina Regional Library Advisory Committee Meeting – 22 October

A meeting of the Riverina Regional Library Advisory Committee to be held Wednesday, 22 October 2025.

2025/26 Public Library Infrastructure Grants

NSW councils are now invited to apply for the 2025/26 Public Library Infrastructure Grants program managed by the State Library of NSW. Applications are due by 5pm on Monday 10 November 2025.

Successful Cowal Partnering Grant Application

Bland Shire Library's application seeking support from Evolution Mining's Cowal Partnering Program to provide funding for the library's annual incentive-based Summer Reading Club program has been successful with Evolution contributing \$3,400 towards the project.

Book Week Lego Challenge Awards

Just to recap: To highlight Book Week (16 – 23 August), Bland Shire Library hosted a Lego challenge inspired by this year's theme, *Book an Adventure*. Children of all ages were invited to design and construct an adventure-theme park based on their favourite book.

The library was delighted with the response, receiving over twenty submissions from across the Shire. Prizes were awarded to participants in September.



Amelia Tonta – 10 September

On Wednesday, 10 September, Bland Shire Library had the pleasure of hosting the wonderfully talented children's author, Amelia Tonta (also known as Amelia McInerney) for three one-hour sessions. Around 140 students from Kindergarten to Year 2 at the West Wyalong Public School and St Mary's War Memorial School were lucky enough to attend a fun-filled session with Amelia. She captivated the children with her personal story, lively readings, creative writing activities — and even a fun chicken dance!



Kurrajong Lifestyle Choices – 11 September

Access and equity is a fundamental value at Bland Shire, which is why the library welcomed a quarterly visit from Kurrajong Lifestyle Choices, West Wyalong branch on Thursday, 11 September 2025. The library provided lunch and a decorative birdhouse / birdseed feeder activity for the clients and their carers to enjoy.

Kurrajong's next visit on Thursday, 4 December will be a joint event with the Temora branch. Bland Shire Library plans a festive program for the enjoyment of both clients and their Carers.



Baby Bounce – Car Seat Safety Presentation – 12 September

A special Baby Bounce session featuring a talk on car seat safety by Council's Road Safety Officer, along with hands-on guidance from professional car restraint fitter Shandi Gibbons from Cotmakers in Wagga, was a huge success. A massive thank you to everyone involved. A great initiative for keeping our little ones safe while travelling on the road.



Baby Bounce – Mums and Bubs Pilates Presentation – 26 September

Karen Penfold from Baseline Exercise Physiology gave a short presentation following Baby Bounce on Friday, 26 September. A qualified exercise physiologist, Karen runs a weekly Mums & Bubs Pilates class at the Seek Fitness Centre. During her visit, she provided an overview of the class and demonstrated a few of the exercises.



Successful School Holiday Program

Bland Shire Library was buzzing with energy during its September / October school holiday program, which was a huge hit once again with every session fully booked! The fun kicked off with **Drawing Bots** (Tuesday, 30 September), where participants built their own circuits or mini robots and watched in awe as they brought their creations to life, drawing unique patterns. It was a hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) activity that sparked creativity, curiosity, and plenty of smiles!



Following the Drawing Bots excitement, the fun continued with **LEGO Club** on Wednesday, 1 October. More than 30 enthusiastic kids joined the action-packed morning session, which featured a lucky door prize draw, a thrilling LEGO animal scavenger hunt, and a Halloween-themed mini challenge that sparked imagination and friendly competition.



Not to be outdone, the creativity kept flowing on Thursday, 2 October with **Water Pistol Art**. Armed with paint-filled water pistols, participants let their imaginations run wild, blasting colour onto canvases to create vibrant, unique, one-of-a-kind masterpieces. It was messy, but so much fun!



Cupcake Decorating with Dagmar McIntyre was a sweet and spooky finale to the library's school holiday program! Held on Wednesday, 8 October, both sessions were fully booked, with 42 excited children diving into the fun. From ghosts to ghouls, they decorated creative Halloween cupcakes — bringing plenty of smiles and deliciously spooky treats for all to enjoy!

Author Visit – Gus Gordon 20 – 24 October

The highly anticipated visit from award-winning children's illustrator and author Gus Gordon is finally happening! Originally scheduled for March this year, Gus's visit was postponed at the last minute due to Cyclone Alfred disrupting travel arrangements. It has since been rescheduled for October. While the original timetable had to be adjusted due to other commitments at some smaller schools, we're excited to announce that all nine schools within the Bland Shire will still have the opportunity to engage with Gus during his visit.

Grandparent Day – 26 October

Grandparent Day celebrates the role of grandparents and older people in our lives.

To highlight Grandparent Day, Bland Shire Library is launching a photo and writing initiative across the Bland LGA, inviting children and young people to share a photo of their grandparents — or a special grandperson — and include a written piece about what makes them unique or important.

All entries will be exhibited in the library, and grandparents, grand-friends, and anyone who fulfills a grandparent role in a family will be invited to a special afternoon tea. This event will include a presentation celebrating their contributions and offer a chance for grandchildren and grandparents to view the exhibition together.

Bland Shire Library's application for funding through the NSW Public Libraries Association to support the event, has been successful. The library received \$500.

Author Susan Mackie – 19 November

Bland Shire Library is thrilled to host a presentation by award-winning author Susan Mackie on Wednesday, 19 November at 10.30am.

Susan's most beloved work is the Barrington Series. She was named the 2025 RUBY Award Winner in the Romantic Elements / Women's Fiction category at the Romantic Writers of Australia Conference in August for her book – The Barrington Book Club.

This national recognition highlights not only Susan's gift for weaving heartfelt, compelling stories, but also the creative excellence flourishing in regional Australia.

Susan published her debut novel, *Charlie's Will*, in 2020. The book quickly rose to Number One in its genre on Amazon, launching her career as a respected independent author. Since then, she has gone on to publish a further nine books in the Barrington Series – a character-driven small-town romance and women's fiction books, each of them a best-seller.



Little Wattle to Visit in November

Little Wattle Preschool and Long Day Care Centre has scheduled two library visits in November. The Bottlebrush class will visit on Friday, 7 November at 10:30am, followed by the Preschool group on Wednesday, 12 November at 10:30am. A Storytime session has been planned for both groups.



Storytime Circus Event

The circus came to town, and Storytime took centre stage in delivering a fun-filled and engaging morning for children and families alike.

The event began with an enthusiastic reading of *Spot Goes to the Circus*, led by our dedicated student volunteers. This set the tone for a vibrant program of music, movement, and creativity. A beach ball game encouraged teamwork and active play — with plenty of spirited participation from both children and parents. Craft time featured the children making colourful clown headbands to take home.

A sincere thankyou to our outstanding student volunteers from the West Wyalong High School, Kylah and Charlotte. Their enthusiasm, leadership, and ability to engage the group made the morning truly special, and their contribution brought an extra spark of energy and joy to the event. Bland also received RRL's "photo of the week".

Knit 'n' Knatter - September

The library's resident knitting group remains popular, with 83 participants recorded in September. Now meeting weekly, the group warmly welcomes residents from the Royal Freemasons Benevolent Institute, who appreciate the change of scenery, social interaction, and a renewed enthusiasm for knitting.

A highlight in September was the heartwarming gesture by group member Vicki Harper who gifted an RFBI resident a handcrafted blanket featuring Bonnie, the RFBI's companion dog. The group also celebrated several birthdays including one of the group's longest serving members who turned 96.

The group recently donated a box of knitted fingerless gloves to the Canberra Hospital Foundation and provided sensory muffs to the RFBI. As the weather begins to warm, any additional knitting will be stored for future use.



New Mobile Library Trailer

Riverina Regional Library's (RRL) mobile library is sporting a fresh new look, with a new library trailer replacing the existing readers' rig.

The new mobile library was launched on Friday 3 October at Ardlethan, featuring more options in its collection and an emphasis on accessibility.

Since the regional library started in 1978, it has had four other mobile library trailers. The most recent carries the latest books, DVDs, audiobooks and other resources.

The mobile library travels approximately 60,000 km a year and visits 18 rural and remote communities (weekly, fortnightly or monthly), which covers Bland, Coolamon, Federation, Lockhart, Snowy Valleys and Temora.



2025 Public Library Objectives and Standards

The Living Learning Libraries standards have been superseded by the NSW Public Library Objectives and Standards.

An online information session on the new NSW Public Library Objectives and Standards was held Tuesday, 7 October for all NSW Library Managers.

The primary difference in the revised Public Library Objectives and Standards is the shift from median-based targets to top-quartile benchmarks, which now set performance targets based on the best practices of the most successful libraries. This change provides councils and libraries with more realistic, achievable goals rooted in actual high performance, allowing for greater flexibility to adapt to unique local circumstances while still promoting continuous improvement.

A library performance report for all NSW library services based on the 2023/24 statistics is now available. These reports show how each library performs against the minimum target for its relevant cohort (using the older standards).

It should be noted that reports are currently available only at the library service level, not for individual councils. However, individual council reports can be compiled separately and supplied on request. Hence, a request has been submitted by Bland Shire Library.

6.16 Children Services September 2025 Update

CSP Theme: Family 1 - Facilitated services meet our community's requirements.

Department: Corporate and Community Services

Author: Senior Early Childhood Teacher

Staffing & Recruitment

Following recent interviews, two new Diploma-qualified educators have been successfully appointed and will soon join the CSU team. This recruitment strengthens the service's capacity to meet growing demand while maintaining high-quality care and education.

Professional Development

Anthony Semann, PhD ECT Teacher and Early Childhood Advocate, conducted an on-site professional development day. All educators engaged in deep, critical reflection on pedagogy and practice. The session left the team united, inspired, and motivated to continue delivering high-quality early learning experiences.

Two educators completed Floor Book Training, gaining valuable insights into enhancing documentation practices and capturing children's voices in the curriculum more meaningfully.



Allied Health Services

Occupational Therapist Esther Petrie completed her school intervention program.

Her work included assessments, direct support for children and families, and establishing pathways for ongoing care where needed. The program received highly positive feedback from the community.



Community Engagement & Fundraising

The Preschool Parent Committee Art Gallery Night was held at Regal Estate, showcasing individual artworks from every child attending CSU. It was a highly successful event, raising significant funds to support access to allied health services for preschool children.

Upcoming Events

CSU Open Day is fast approaching and will provide a valuable opportunity for both new and existing families to tour the service, meet the educators, and learn more about our programs. This event is crucial for building relationships ahead of the 2026 preschool year.

An upcoming Government Health and Development Check will take place this term, supporting early identification and intervention for children's developmental needs.

CSU will host a university student for a four-week teaching placement in Term 4, offering valuable in-service learning while supporting future educators.

Bland Preschool- Senior Early Childhood Teacher

In September, the children were thoroughly entertained by Bingo Jack, a lively magician whose tricks and humour had everyone in fits of laughter.

As part of their creative exploration, children engaged in open-ended art experiences in preparation for both the West Wyalong Show and the Art Gallery Fundraiser. These activities have fostered self-expression, creativity, and confidence.

The Bilby Class continued to explore nature through the Green Corridor, building teepees and designing long jump and running tracks using natural materials. These experiences supported physical development and deepened children's connection to the environment. The preschool atmosphere this term has felt safe, happy, and connected. Walking through the service, there's a palpable sense of warmth and belonging- for both children and staff.



Mobile Resource Unit/Ungarie Preschool – Room Leader

- Vegetable Exploration: This month, we introduced a variety of vegetables to the children. They enjoyed exploring different textures, colours, and tastes while learning about healthy eating.
- Park Excursion: The children went on an excursion to the local park to collect natural materials like leaves and twigs. These were later used in our playdough play, encouraging creativity and sensory exploration.
- Learning Key Signs: We continued learning key Auslan signs to support communication and inclusion. The children are showing growing interest and confidence in using sign language.
- Pizza Making: As part of our healthy eating focus, the children made their own pizzas. This hands-on cooking experience was fun and

helped build fine motor skills and independence.

It Takes a Village (ITAV) – Program Session Leader

During the month of September, the Tallimba playgroups were cancelled. However, the Ungarie Playgroup continued as planned, with Charlotte Whiley stepping in as facilitator due to the absence on leave of regular ITAV's Program Session Leader, Julie Oberg. Charlotte ensured the session ran smoothly and that both children and families continued to feel supported. During this same period, the West Wyalong ITAV playgroups were facilitated by Jen Pettit, who also covered sessions in Julie's absence.

The Bland Toy Library experienced steady usage throughout the reporting period. As of the final day of September, there were 48 toys on loan, with a total of 31 toy loans issued during the month. This reflects the ongoing engagement of local families and highlights the toy library's role in supporting early learning through access to quality play resources.

Engagement on the ITAV Facebook page remained consistent during July, with a total of 330 followers. The page continues to act as a key platform for sharing updates, promoting programs, and connecting with the broader community through educational content and local news.

The current contract for the Targeted Earlier Intervention (TEI) Program, known locally as It Takes a Village (ITAV), is currently under review. A new contract is expected to be finalised shortly.

6.17 Bland Community Care Services September 2025 Update

CSP Theme: Family 6 - Young and old are valued members of our community.

Department: Community Development

Author: Community Care Coordinator

General Update

Bland Community Care Staff continue to prepare for the new Aged Care Act commencing 1st November 2025. Preparation has included updates to the Client Handbook, client assessment template, policies and procedures, updating posters and implementing the new Statement of Rights. The Community Care Team Leader and Coordinator have been watching several government webinars over the past twelve months in preparation for these changes. This month Bland Community Care Services welcomed a new Support Assistant, Hanie Blanco. We are currently advertising for a casual Support Assistant.

Service Update

Intakes under Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) have slowed down due to the large waitlist, funding limitations and staffing constraints. Bland Community Care Services (BCCS) is currently accepting referrals for Community Packages – Out of Hospital Care (COMPACKS) and Transitional Aged Care Program (TACP) clients when possible. These services are short term (six to twelve weeks) programs that aim to assist patients recovering from a hospital stay.

The My Aged Care portal continues to be closed for Domestic Assistance, Personal Care, Home or Community General Respite - Flexible Respite, Group and Individual Social Support, and Home Maintenance and Repairs - Gardening. This is due to the large waitlists and staffing availability. The My Aged Care portal is open for Equipment and Products.

Staff are currently working through the waitlists and are slowly onboarding new clients for CHSP Yard Maintenance, Domestic Assistance and Group & Individual Social Support. The service waitlist is continually growing as clients are inquiring about services directly to us rather than through the My Aged Care portal. All clients on the waitlist are aware of the situation.

September 2025 Service Numbers:

SERVICE PROVIDED	Number of Services SEPTEMBER 2025
Personal Care	14
Domestic Assistance	36
Transport	0
Home or Community Respite - General	38
Home and Maintenance - Gardening	35
Group Social Support	18 sessions
Individual Social Support	8
Equipment and Products	0

Staff Training

The Bland Community Care Coordinator attended a two-day session in Wagga for the Aspiring Leaders Program this month.

The Bland Community Care Team Leader and Coordinator attended a Leadership Program for two days.

Bland Community Care Coordinator completed Fire Warden Training.

All Bland Community Care Staff completed their annual training over two days.

Bland Community Care Coordinator completed a two day Fresh Start Supervisor Program.

Group Updates:

Wednesday Activity Group

Wednesday Activity Day continues weekly each Wednesdays at 10am.

Throughout Wednesday Activity Day participants enjoy a mix of cognitive and physical activities – such as trivia, quizzes, ‘The Price is Right’, hooky, bowls, quoits, magnetic darts, crafts etc – excursions, visiting groups – such as entertainers and school/daycare groups, and themed days – such as Valentines Day, Kings Birthday, Easter etc.

A volunteer attends Wednesday Activity Group every week. She assists with serving morning/afternoon tea and lunch. Our Volunteer also supports group activities, including tasks such as keeping score during games mornings and assisting clients with vision or cognitive impairments in participating fully.

This month, Bland Community Care welcomed a potential new client for a trial session. She enjoyed the experience and will be formally onboarded in the coming weeks.

Client Attendance (excluding our volunteer) - SEPTEMBER 2025

Wednesday 3rd September CANCELLED DUE TO THE LOCAL SHOW

Wednesday 10th September 8 attendees

Wednesday 17th September 9 attendees

Wednesday 24th September 10 attendees

Clients are provided with morning/afternoon tea and a “home cooked” meal for lunch. Sweets are also served after the main meal.



On Wednesday 24th September the group enjoyed a visit from the Wyalong Public School children. The children had Morning Tea with the clients. The children then sang several songs. The morning was enjoyed by all present.

Bland Blokes

Bland Blokes continue to meet on a weekly basis each Tuesdays from 9:30am. These sessions provide an opportunity for participants to catch up with contemporaries and talk about a range of interests. New members are always welcome to attend and join in for Morning Tea and conversation with like-minded people. The Bland Blokes has five regular attendees.

Client Attendance - September 2025

Tuesday 2nd September 2 attendees

Tuesday 9th September 4 attendees

Tuesday 16th September 4 attendees

Tuesday 23rd September 6 attendees

Tuesday 30th September 4 attendees

Gentle Exercise Group

Gentle Exercise Groups are held each Monday 10am & Thursday x 2 groups – 11am & 1.30pm, with participants enjoying the gentle exercise program followed by Morning or Afternoon Tea and chat. The sessions include both seated and standing exercises. Various equipment is used during these sessions such as floor pedals, small hand weights, Pilates balls, Pilates step and pool noodles. Clients also go for a walk around the courtyard during the session.

This month, Bland Community Care welcomed a potential new client for a trial session. She enjoyed the experience and will be formally onboarded in the coming weeks.

Client Attendance - September 2025

Monday 1 st September	3 attendees
Thursday 4 th September (am)	4 attendees
Thursday 4 th September (pm)	4 attendees
Monday 8 th September	3 attendees
Thursday 11 th September (am)	7 attendees
Thursday 11 th September (pm)	4 attendees
Monday 15 th September	5 attendees
Thursday 18 th September (am)	6 attendees
Thursday 18 th September (pm)	5 attendees
Monday 22 nd September	5 attendees
Thursday 25 th September (am)	5 attendees
Thursday 25 th September (pm)	3 attendees
Monday 29 th September	CANCELLED DUE TO STAFF TRAINING

*Several clients engage in sessions twice a week.

6.18 Technical Services Update

CSP Theme: Family 6 - Young and old are valued members of our community.

Department: Community Development

Author: Community Care Coordinator

The aim of this report is to clearly report to Council on works undertaken by Technical Services during the previous month. Most activities are routine and do not need more detailed descriptions, but we will list the locations to facilitate Councillors answer queries from their respective constituents. We will endeavour to offer further detail to any item that is special or out of the ordinary.

We have broken it down under a series of heading for ease of access to the information:

- Roads Maintenance
- Parks & Gardens including Villages
- Biodiversity & Weed Control
- Miscellaneous

Roads Maintenance

Works Undertaken September 2025

Maintenance Wet Grading

- Griffiths Lane
- Tuggerabach Road
- Manglesdorf's Lane
- Spencers Lane
- Stewarts Lane
- Bartells's Lane
- East Bland Road
- Merrengreen Road
- Waarbilla Road

Flood Damage Repairs

Nil this Month

Sealed Road Patching Works

Mick Hampton has been filling in for us in this role, hhis has now ceased as Mick is back doing the garbage run. We currently do not have an operator for the Jetpatcher.

Gravel Re-sheeting

- Merrengreen Road - resheet completed.
- Wet grade is continuing.
- Sandy Creek Road - gravel on road to be started this month.
- Bodels Lane - gravel being carted.
- **NB** Cost for the re-sheeting on some roads will increase dramatically due to the need to engage contract water truck, with some water sources being 100 km round trip.

Heavy Patching

- Re-hab work to be started on 57 Nth this week.

Re-sealing

- Park Street
- Tower Street
- Grenfell Street completed.

Fulton Hogan Have commenced heavy patching on local streets within West Wyalong.
Resealing to commence on local West Wyalong streets 1 September, weather permitting.

Works Planned October 2025**Maintenance Grading/Wet Grade**

- Pearse's Lane
- Merrengreen Road - Ongoing
- Holmes Lane
- Harts Lane
- East Bland Lane.

Flood Damage Repairs

- Nil This Month

Sealed Road Patching Works

- Unknown due to no Jetpatcher Operator

Gravel Re-sheeting

- Sandy Creek Road
- Bodel's Lane
- Buddigower Road - Gravel Permitting
- Arianah Park Road - Gravel Permitting

Heavy Patching

- Asphalt work has commenced in England Street
- Shire Street
- Court Street

Sewerage Treatment Works

- Toilets in Barmedman and Ungarie cleaned Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Biosecurity- Weeds/Environmental Report**Environmental**

Monthly dust monitoring at West Wyalong Airport for the Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water continued. A new device was installed this month.

Training - Biosecurity Staff attended the Riverina Regional Weed Committee meeting in Wagga. One Staff member attended a Fire Wardens course.

Biosecurity staff attended West Wyalong Show with a display of various cacti and bio agents council is using to control cacti in the Bland.

Biosecurity staff attended Henty Field Days and worked at the Weed Information shed, giving advice and information to people from NSW and Victoria.

Costs of participation at Henty Field Days and the West Wyalong Show were funded by the Dept Primary Industries through the Weed Action Plan (WAP) Program.

Biosecurity-Weeds

Biological Control – Biosecurity staff continue to monitor release sites for cochineal on wheel cactus, pencil cactus, riverina pear, tiger pear and velvet tree pear, showing positive results with the biological agents spreading throughout each infestation.

High Risk Pathway Inspection – Mid Western Highway, West Wyalong-Condobolin Road, Lake Road, Goldfields Way, Quandialla Road, Hillston Road, Rankin Springs Road, Mary Gilmore Way, Newell Highway.

The following Biosecurity weeds and other controls were undertaken.

- Boxthorn - Wyalong old tip
- Tree sucker spraying – Bygoo Road, Tallimba Road, Condobalin Road (57 North), Boramle Road, Arian Park Road.
- Wild Radish - 57 North, Greaves Lane, Gunn Road.
- Shoulder spraying - West Wyalong-Condobolin Road (57 North), Girral-Lake Cargelligo Road (231).
- Spraying of West Wyalong Airport.

Mowing

- Mowing shoulders - Rankin Springs Road (MR 371).

Works undertaken in the Villages

Monday's – Ungarie

- Mow the football oval
- Prune suckers around street tress
- fix water leak at showgrounds
- Whipper snip and mow town surrounds
- Spray for weeds
- Picked up tree branches around town
- Mow and whipper snip pre-school
- Mow and whipper snip cemetery

Tuesday's – Tallimba – Weethalle – Naradhan

- Clean public toilets at Tallimba, Weethalle and Naradhan
- Mow and whipper snip around town entrances
- Sprayed park at Tallimba (broadleaf)
- Cut up fallen trees around town and take to the tip
- Mow and whipper snip park
- Mow and whipper snip Tallimba and Weethalle cemetery

Wednesday's - Barmedman

- Mow and whipper snip parks
- Mow and whipper snip town entrances
- Cut up fallen trees and take to the tip
- Mow and whipper snip cemetery
- Prune suckers around town street trees
- Mow around the Shire boundary
- Mow and whipper snip cemetery

Thursday's - Ungarie

- Mow and trim nature strips around town
- Clean Pidgeon droppings in the park
- Friday's – Weethalle (one person works)
- Clean toilets in Main Street
- Mow whipper snip playground and town entrance.

- Park Maintenance
- Mow whipper-snip and edge all parks
- Check irrigation
- Park inspection
- Spray weeds in park gardens
- Rotary hoe front garden
- Took down old fence around maze for public access at McCann Park
- Cleaned drains in Barnardo Park
- Mow whipper-snip pre-school
- Empty water fountain at Barnardo Park
- Empty bins in the parks (Monday & Fridays)
- Empty fat trays from barbeques in all parks (once a month)
- Cemetery Maintenance
- Mow whipper snip and edge cemetery
- Check graves once dug
- Check backfill once back filled
- Check irrigation
- Back fill graves when they sink
- Move shelters for funerals
- Attach plaque at West Wyalong cemetery
- Sprayed broad leaf
- finished putting wagga river rock through garden beds
- Pump tanks out at the cemetery
- Sporting Fields Maintenance
- Replace Wi-Fi adapter in McAlister Oval controller
- Round up surrounds McAlister Oval
- Round up surrounds Ron Crowe
- Line mark athletics at McAlister Oval
- Attach plaques Wyalong cemetery
- Attach photo on headstone
- Replace broken tap box at McAlister Oval
- Sprayed acelepryn Ron Crowe
- Broadleaf sprayed Perseverance Street touch ground
- Water leak fixed at McAlister Oval
- Line marked shot put & discus
- Broadleaf Perseverance Street cricket ground
- Mow Ron Crowe surrounds
- Mow Perseverance Street ground surrounds
- Fix Perseverance Street main line water leak
- Spray acelepryn at McAlister Oval
- Mow Redman oval
- Mow McAlister Oval surrounds
- Mow skate park
- Close airport for jet flyers
- Mow McAlister Oval
- Mow Perseverance Street cricket ground
- Mow Perseverance Street touch ground
- Spray kikuyu out of the McAlister Oval pitch
- Spray destiny at McAlister Oval
- Core McAlister Oval
- Core Perseverance Steet touch ground

Town Maintenance - General

- Mow and whipper snip Main Street
- Mow and whipper snip pre school
- Trim street trees
- Mow and whipper snip Council Chambers
- Airport inspection (Tuesday and Thursday)
- Mow whippers snip rotary park
- Mow RSL Memorial Walkway

Street Sweeper

- West Wyalong

Cleaners Report

- Clean Stadium floors
- Replacement of taps at the outside of the stadium
- Cleaned Airport toilets
- Wyalong Cemetery toilets
- All public toilets daily including weekends
- McAlister Oval before the finals
- CSU every weekday
- Shire chambers every weeknight
- HACCC every Tuesday and Thursday

ENGINEERING DESIGN & CONSULTANCY ADVICE

Cooinda Park Foot Bridge

- The consultant has finalised the plans for the Cooinda Park foot bridge. To improve both accessibility and safety, recommended enhancements, including an approach extension and approach wings, are currently being fabricated. Construction of the foot bridge is scheduled to commence in late October, following the completion of all fabrication processes.

Airport Compliance

- CASA's surveillance visit to the West Wyalong Aerodrome has been rescheduled to mid-November 2025.
- Negotiations for leasing the commercial airport hangar to Flight Design Pty Ltd are ongoing. Council management is currently awaiting the company's business plan outlining its proposed activities at West Wyalong.
- Charter flight operations continue to run in accordance with the regular weekly schedule.

Development and Road Opening Permits

- Construction of power poles, electrical components, street lighting upgrades, and NBN connection within the new Industrial Subdivision have been finalised. The project is currently awaiting Essential Energy certification. In the meantime, final cleanup activities, road line marking, and preparation for the Subdivision Certificate are underway.
- Road Opening Permit applications are processed regularly.

Assets Management Strategy & Advice

- The Assets Crew continues to conduct routine road condition assessments as part of the road network reseal program.
- The **Assets System Support Officer** position recruitment is in a final stage. This role is critical in maintaining accurate and compliant asset data.

Traffic Management

- Ongoing maintenance activities include **line marking** and regular **inspection and replacement of road signage** as needed.

Stormwater and Flood Mitigation

- The *Wyalong and West Wyalong Flood Management Study and Plan* and The *Ungarie Volunteer House Rising Feasibility Study* are in progress.

6.19 Development & Regulatory Services September 2025 Activity Report

CSP Theme: Home 3 - Maintaining and improving the environment in which we live, work and play as a key priority

Directorate: Technical Services

Author: Development Services Officer

Planning and Building Activities Update

The following DA applications were approved during September 2025

Application No	Location	Description	Consent Authority	Approval Date
DA2025/0064	1037 Youngareen Road North Yalgogrin	Installation of a Manufactured Home	Staff	11/09/2025
DA2025/0051	112 Neeld Street Wyalong	Storage Premises	Staff	15/09/2025
DA2025/0067	13510 Newell Highway	Recreation Facilities (Outdoor) - Drag Strip	Consultant	25/09/2025
DA2025/0003	11 Shire Street West Wyalong	Residential Alterations & Additions (Sunroom)	Staff	01/09/2025
DA2026/0010	2208 Rankin Springs Road Naradhan	New residential Dwelling House + Change of Use for Existing Dwelling from residential to Rural Workers Dwelling.	Staff	25/09/2025

Other applications approved during September 2025:

- 0 Construction Certificates
- Eight (8) Local Government Act Applications
- Two (2) Occupation Certificates

Type	Number
Swimming Pool Compliance	2
Swimming Pool Public Health	
Building	32
On-site Sewer Management	
Public Health	
Public Health (Mortuary)	
Compliance	
Food	
Health – Water Complaint	
UPSS	
EP & A ACT – Development Control	
Protection of the Environment Operations Act – Offensive Noise (Residential)	
Local Govt (Unhealthy Premises – Pigeon)	
Overgrown & Untidy Blocks	

The following inspections were carried out during September 2025

Number of enquiries and meetings during September 2025

Type	Number
Building and Planning	18
Public Health	
Compliance	3
Food	
UPSS Providers	
Swimming Pools	2
Local Govt (Unhealthy Premises – Pigeon)	
Complaints	3
OSSM – AWTs follow up for quarterly service reports	
Other	30
Meetings	
Planning	32
Planning Portal Integration	4
Other	0

Environmental Health Update

GIS Update

Researching AI-powered road analysis, which leverages automated mapping and condition detection to support the Assets team.

Addressing & Data Integrity.

Progressed with segmentation work across several spatial datasets to ensure they align accurately with Council's base layers.

Provided general mapping support across departments

Regulatory Activities Update

Dog Attacks:

Nil

Companion Animal Seizure and Impound Activities August 2025

Seizure Activities:	Dogs	Cats
Seized	3	0
Returned to Owner		

Impounding Activities:	Dogs	Cats
Animals in pound at start of month	6	0
Incoming Animals		
Transferred from Seizure Activities	3	0
Dumped at Pound	2	
Surrendered	3	1
Total Animals in Pound	8	1

Outgoing Animals		
Released to Owner		
Euthanised		
Rehoused (Rescued)	6	1
Sold		
Died at Pound		
Stolen		
Escaped		
Total Animals Leaving Pound	6	
Animals in Pound at end of Month	2	0

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

CSP Theme: People 5. - Leadership of the community is respectful, transparent and accountable.

Committees	Date/s	Minutes Attached
Mining and Energy Related Councils NSW	4 June	✓
Cowal Environmental Monitoring and Consultative Committee	3 September	✓
Minutes of the NSWPLA Meeting	3 September	✓
Mining and Energy Related Councils NSW	11 September	✓

Section 355 Committees	Date/s	Minutes Attached
Wyalong School Of Arts & Hall Committee AGM	18 August	✓
Wyalong School Of Arts & Hall Committee	18 August	✓
Wyalong School Of Arts & Hall Committee Extraordinary Meeting	22 September	✓

Recommendation:

That Council endorse the Committee meeting minutes as presented.

**MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW)
INCORPORATED, ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 4 JUNE 2025, PRESTON
STANLEY ROOM, NSW PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY.**

Present

Cr Kevin Duffy (Chair)
Cr Tony Lord
Cr Jim Hickey
Cr Emma Henderson
Grant Baker
Cr Deidre Stuart
Cr Maurice Collison
Greg McDonald

Orange City Council
Bland Shire Council
Broken Hill City Council
Bland Shire Council
Bland Shire Council
Wollongong City Council
Upper Hunter Shire Council
Upper Hunter Shire Council

Dr Jess Jennings
FTG – Director Policy
Ingrid Moores (as Minute Taker)
Andrew Callow

MERC – Executive Officer
FTG – Project Officer
FTG – Intern

Microsoft TEAMS

Cr Bruce Reynolds
Mark Dicker
Cr Peter Batten
Cr Jarrod Marsden
Cr Josh Black
Gary Woodman
Cr Greg Whitely
Cr Thomes Quinn
Ron Zwicker
Cr Chris Roylance
Cr Dennis Brady (Deputy Chair)
Patrick Ruettjes
Brad Cam
Cr Tony Mileto
Kent Boyd PSM

Blayney Shire Council
Blayney Shire Council
Cabonne Shire Council
Cobar Shire Council
Dubbo Regional Council
Warren Shire Council
Warren Shire Council
Wollongong City Council
Wollongong City Council
Forbes Shire Council
Lachlan Shire Council
Lachlan Shire Council
Mid-Western Regional Council
Orange City Council
Parkes Shire Council

Observer

Ian Greenham

Orange City Council

1. Welcome

The Chair, Councillor Kevin Duffy welcomed delegates, FTG staff officers and opened the meeting at 12:05pm

2. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair acknowledged the traditional owners of the land that the meeting was held on and paid his respects to the Elders past, present & emerging.

3. Apologies

OM 9/2025 Resolved (Cr Hickey /Cr Lord) That the apologies of Cr Miller, Mr Jane, Cr Mckay, Mr Loane, Mr Waddell and Mr Wood be received and noted.

**MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW)
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4. Disclosure of Interests

No Disclosure of Interest

5. Speakers

The speakers of The Honourable Roy Butler, MP and The Honourable Paul Scully, Minister for Planning and Public Places were postponed to 1:30pm and 3pm respectfully to align to the Ministers schedules and availability.

6&7 Adoption of the Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held 27 March 2025

OM 10/2025 Resolved (Cr Brady, Cr Lord) That the minutes of the Ordinary General meeting held on 27 March 2025 be received and noted and there was no business arising.

8&9 Adoption Minutes of Executive Committee held on 4 June 2024.

It was highlighted that Upper Hunter had requested to rejoin with MERC and that was approved by the Executive Committee.
A question was asked as to why the free membership was proposed and proceeded.
It was noted that a suite of Constitutional changes was approved at the 2024 AGM one of which was to delegate to the Executive the ability to waive fees for the ensuing 12 months following a new Council's application to encourage greater membership.

OM 11/2025 Resolved (Cr Lord, Cr Hickey) That the minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 4 June 2025 be received and noted and that there was no further business arising.

10. Executive Officer Report

The meeting welcomed Dr Jess Jennings as the new Executive Officer for MERC. Dr Jennings is an economist with specialist expertise in resource economics – particularly primary production. He has worked with both the NSW and Commonwealth governments – including for the Australian Bureau of Agricultural Resource Economics and Science. He is presently employed as a NSW Government policy officer and as part of a multi-disciplinary economic transitions team in the Central West. He is the former Mayor of Bathurst with significant experience in local government and in issues impacting regional NSW.

The Meeting also acknowledged the work of Greg Lamont in recommending the role of Executive Officer on an interim basis for the last six or so months and expressed its appreciation. It was noted that a letter be written via the chair to showing the Association's appreciation of Greg's work.

A financial update was provided, including:

- Revenue and expenditure statements
- Detailed balance sheet

Upcoming speaker schedule discussed, with Roy and Paul Scully noted as upcoming presenters.

We are working with ministers' offices to have The Honourable Penny Sharpe MLC Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage.

**MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW)
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As well as The Honourable Stephen Kamper Minister for Multiculturalism, Jobs and Tourism, Lands and Property, and Sports for the September meeting.

Consideration is being given to inviting The Honourable Courtney Houssos, MLC Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement and Minister for Natural Resources. As well as The Honourable Daniel Mookhey MLC Treasurer to the November meeting.

OM 12/2025 Resolved (Cr Lord /Cr Hickey) that the Executive Officer Report be received and noted.

11. Policy Officer Report

FTG staff officers provided a policy update. It was noted that it appeared the recent visits to non-member councils had been very positive and several councils working on providing reports to their respective councillors about rejoining MERC. It was also noted to organise a meeting with Forbes Shire Council with Cr Chris Roylance and Acting GM Richard Jane.

Noting concerns leading up to the Meeting as to whether the proposed Campaign included those Local Government Areas not hosting mining activity directly, FTG staff officers confirmed that the Campaign proposed to include those councils together with energy councils.

There was also assurance that the scope of the campaign will address the impacts of renewable energy developments.

The NSW Government is continuing to draft legislation for its proposed Future Jobs and Investment Authorities.

Concerns were again raised regarding the scope of a combined campaign and its budgetary implications for councils. Responses were provided by FTG staff officers.

12. Sample new Energy Rating Sub-categories

FTG staff officers provided sample new energy rating sub-categories for member consideration and discussion.

OM 13/2025 Resolved (Cr Hickey/Cr Lord) that the Policy Officer Report including the Sample New Energy Rating Sub-categories be received and noted.

13. General Business

Participants noted upcoming meetings and ongoing communications with external stakeholders.

The importance of continuing to engage and inform member councils was reinforced.

The meeting was suspended at 1:10pm with a short break before reconvening for the scheduled session with The Honourable Roy Butler MP at 1:30 PM.

**MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW)
INCORPORATED, ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 4 JUNE 2025, PRESTON
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Speaker 1 The Honourable Roy Butler MP addressed the meeting at 2pm

- Significant mining projects were discussed across Narrabri, Bobabri, and Cobar, alongside emerging renewable energy developments in the Far West.
- Mr Butler highlighted the economic and historical contributions of Broken Hill and raised the challenges of managing renewable projects on vast rural lands.
- The Regional Development Trust Fund has been increased by an additional \$50 million, bringing the total to \$450 million.
- Mr Butler noted that the first round of \$50 million has been allocated, with continued contributions anticipated.
- There was strong consensus that a replacement program is needed for the discontinued *Resources for Regions* initiative to support mining-affected councils.
- Local government input was emphasized as critical in the development of this new program.
- Mr Butler's electorate is the largest in NSW, spanning 356,000 sq km and 150 communities.
- Mr Butler's team consists of 12 staff across Broken Hill, Cobar, and Narrabri, offering policy, media, and community support to councils both inside and outside the electorate.
- Cr. Mark Dicker raised the need for a new government-supported funding model co-designed by local councils.
- Cr. Reynolds emphasized the cumulative impacts of mining, including dust, traffic, and water, and the additional strain from logging in forestry-impacted areas.
- Councillors urged a campaign and advocacy effort to highlight these issues to the state government.
- Cr. Roy raised concerns about the oversubscription of the Regional Economic Development Fund and the need to requote projects due to rising costs.
- Cr. Batten advocated for more support for low rate-base councils like Buchan Shire.
- Councils detailed the impacts of mining on road infrastructure and community facilities, calling for targeted funding.
- Mr Butler suggested a quiet, strategic approach to lobbying for a new Resources for Regions-style program.
- Mr Butler supported developing a grassroots proposal in collaboration with local government stakeholders.
- Emphasized involving the Department of Local Government and relevant ministers in the proposal process.

Delegates expressed appreciation for the discussion and Mr Butler's time.

The meeting was suspended at 2:30pm with a short break before reconvening for the scheduled session with Paul Scully Minister for Planning and Public Spaces at 3:00 PM.

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**Speaker 2 – The Honourable Paul Scully Minister for Planning and Public Spaces
addressed the meeting at 3pm with his team**

- Minister Scully discussed the reuse of post-mining land for future employment opportunities was emphasized over reverting to pre-settlement conditions.
- Infrastructure needs including roads, rail, and electricity were identified as key enablers.
- Global interest in reusing old mine shafts for energy generation was discussed, with examples from Texas and Poland.
- The Federal Labor Party has committed funding for pilot sites to trial such initiatives.
- Acknowledgement of the significant workforce in the resources sector, both direct and indirect.
- Emphasis on providing choice and employment opportunities in regions facing mine closures.
- The need for streamlined processes to support reuse of land for employment was highlighted.
- NSW government is working to improve the planning system for critical minerals to meet global and domestic demand (especially copper).
- Planning reforms aim to facilitate responsible extraction while integrating miners into local communities.
- Clarification that renewable energy zones (REZs) are not exclusive and may intersect with other land uses.
- New renewable energy guidelines were discussed, with a focus on:
 - Community engagement
 - Cumulative impacts
 - Visual amenity
 - Social impact assessments
- The process must be scientific, transparent, and community-informed.
- Members raised concerns over loss of social license for solar farms in the Dubbo region due to poor visual outcomes.
- Updated solar farm guidelines were discussed:
 - Include visual impact assessment methodologies
 - Encourage early engagement and suitable site selection
 - Emphasize community benefits
- Discussion on balancing infrastructure delivery with adequate planning staff capacity, particularly in rural and regional councils.
- Recent government announcements include:
 - Financial support for hiring planners and trainees
 - Online para-planning courses through TAFE to assist councils with administrative planning tasks
- Workforce shortages in planning were acknowledged as a persistent challenge.
- Improvements to the planning portal are underway to reduce complexity:
 - Goal to reduce development application questions to around 200
 - Greater system flexibility and responsiveness is planned
- Need for a more efficient digital system to manage diverse application types was emphasized.

4

**MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW)
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Delegates expressed appreciation for the discussion and Minister Scully's time.

The Chair then thanked all participants.

15. Close – the meeting closed at 3:35pm.

The minutes were confirmed at the Ordinary General Meeting held on 11 September 2025 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary meeting held on 4 June 2025.

.....
Cr Kevin Duffy,
Chairperson

Title	Cowal Gold Operations Community Environmental Monitoring and Consultative Committee (CEMCC)
Date	3 September 2025
Time	9.00am – 11.03am
Chair	David Ross
Attendees	Evolution: Greg Coase, Renee Pettit WCC: Ally Coe, Vicki Swadling LSC: Cr. Dennis Brady FSC: Cr. Brian Matisse, Cr. Chris Roylance BSC: Cr. Holly Brooks Community: Angus Stitt, Lucy Buttenshaw*, Kate Dean*, Bruce Dent. *Attended remotely.
Apologies	Dan Matisse and Geoff West

Agenda

	Item description	Action
1	Welcome The Independent Chair, DR, opened the meeting at 9.04 am. DR informed those present that Geoff West will be joining the committee following the departure of long-standing member Bruce Dent, who has chosen to step down. Unfortunately, Geoff is unable to attend today's meeting.	
2	Declaration of interest DR advised there were no changes to previous declarations by CEMCC members; as Independent Chair of the CEMCC, appointed by the Secretary of the NSW Department of Planning, DR receives payment via a Trust established by the Bland Shire Council.	
3	Business arising from previous minutes The last meeting of the CEMCC was held 11 June 2025 at the Wiradjuri Corporation Centre. Minutes moved and seconded by CEMCC. There was one action item from that meeting: EVN to provide history of sample testing of near neighbour water tanks carried out in the past. GC advised that EVN will be unable to provide this information due to privacy concerns. AC provided an update from the recent WCC forum, which offered a valuable opportunity to network and showcase the outcomes achieved through WCC and their initiatives. The forum also highlighted the strong partnership between the WCC and EVN, demonstrating how collaboration	

	has been key to achieving these results	
4	Correspondence NA	
5	Reports Slide pack presented and to be attached. Greg Coase provided a detailed account of Cowal Gold Operations (CGO's) Environment Department's activities over the last quarter and a status of the underground project along with an update of the OPC. Including new edition Exploration Map, Sustainability principles, Safety Data & Environmental Incidents. Environmental approvals and permits update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Landholder letter signed to facilitate surrender of existing development consents (DA 14/98 and SSD 10367) - AHIPS surrendered and modified by Heritage NSW. Monitoring locations Depositional dust <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elevated dust levels recorded at McIntocks shed, unlikely attributed to activities at CGO. Air quality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No exceedances Blasting and vibration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No exceedances Operational noise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No exceedances Rainfall Surface and lake water Groundwater Fauna and Flora <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No environmental incidents or complaints Cyanide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No cyanide related fauna deaths recorded at CGO. Biodiversity offsets and management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CGO are in progress to resolve biodiversity credit liability associated with stage three and four of the OPC approval. Waste management OPC update	

	<p>Exploration update</p> <p>Renee Pettit provided details of community complaints and the activities and support undertaken by the Cowal Community and External Relations team in the previous quarter:</p> <p>Complaint Register One complaint received on 22 August from business owner regarding etiquette at Evolution bus pick up point. Evolution has addressed etiquette with workforce and are exploring option to use alternate pick-up point.</p> <p>Community Consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recent discussions with local shires around FY25 EVN community spend and impact. - Stakeholder perception survey, process to commence November 2025. <p>Community Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CPP, 28 applications received. Outcomes to be communicated by end of September. - Cowal Cares, four community groups received funding last quarter. <p>Cowal in the Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communicated onsite and community events <p>20 Years of CGO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outlined full list of events <p>Shared Value project discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What does SVP success look like - Understanding shared value - Community ownership - Strategic alignment - Impact and measurement 	<p>Action 1: Members of CEMCC to come to next meeting with SVP ideas.</p>
6	<p>General Business</p> <p>Greg presented the newly drafted charter, as previously referred to Barrick, now referred to as the CCC Terms of Reference, along with the supporting documents. Discussion around new CCC Terms of Reference contents.</p> <p>Chris Roylance shared that discussions were planned with State Government to seek funding and support for the dual highway (Marsden). Following these discussions, he requested a letter of support from Evolution, which Greg Coase confirmed EVN would be happy to provide.</p> <p>David farewelled Bruce from the committee, thanking him for his many years of contribution. Bruce shared that he had greatly enjoyed his time on the committee, valued the friendships he had made, and noted that he had recently moved off the family farm, which had been in his family for 126 years.</p>	<p>Action 2: Members to review CCC Terms of Reference and provide any comment.</p> <p>Action 3: EVN to distribute CCC terms of reference and supporting documents.</p>

	<p>Discussion around next meeting to be held at the EVN town office and delay tour till next year. Members agreed to postpone holding the site visit until 2026.</p> <p>Discussion around providing slide pack one week ahead of meeting to allow members to review so meetings, allowing more time for focussed discussions.</p>	
7	Meeting Schedule	3 December EVN town office

Action items

	Responsible	Item description	Deadline
1	CEMCC members	Members of CEMCC to come to next meeting with SVP ideas.	3 December
2	CEMCC Members	Members to review CCC terms of Reference and provide any comment.	3 December
3	EVN	To distribute draft CCC Terms of Reference and supporting documents.	3 December



MINUTES OF THE SOUTH-WEST ZONE MEETING
Wednesday 3 September - 10am
Online – MS Teams

Delegates Attending

Toni Pisasale, Cr Pam Haliburton, Karen Doughty, Carina Clement, Karen Wendt, Zac Armistead, Christie Bolton, Phillipa Scarf, Michelle Head, Susan Kane, Adele Casey, Rachel Cody, Ashleigh Stokes, Cr Kylie King, John Williams

Meeting

1	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country AlburyCity acknowledges the Wiradjuri people as the traditional custodians of the land in which we live and work and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, culture, tradition and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people that contribute to our community.
2	Apologies – Cr Kidd, Cr Holly Brooks, Wendy Manning, Alison Balind, Cr Mary Dodds, Carly Toll, Penny Howse Moved: Karen Wendt Seconded: Carina Clement CARRIED
3	Introductions – All attendees introduced themselves
4	Confirmation of Minutes and business arising from 10 April 25, held at June Library. Moved: Karen Wendt Seconded: Carina Clement, CARRIED There were no outstanding actions from the previous meeting.
5	State Library of NSW Report Presented by Phillipa Scarf Copy of report attached to minutes Highlights from the report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A representative from State Library of NSW will speak at the SWITCH Conference on the value of libraries. • The Public Library of NSW Infrastructure grants will open soon. • Phillipa provided information on Book Ends event held at the State Library. Four remarkable people spoke to the group about professional identity, leadership and resources. Phillipa moved her report Seconded: Carina Clement
6	NSW Public Library Association (NSWPLA) Report Presented by Adele Casey Copy of report attached to minutes Highlight from the report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SWITCH Conference early bird registrations closed last week. There is a waiting list for exhibitors and sponsors.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a professional development series starting in February 26. More information will be coming soon. • Planning is underway to hold a Library Open Day early next year. This will be promoted Statewide, with digital collateral provided including poster and email signatures. The idea of the open day is to promote libraries and increase usage. Adele will provide a media release for the Library Open Day. • NSWPLA, in partnership with DCJ, are supporting libraries across NSW to celebrate Grandparents Day. Libraries can apply for \$500 in funding to host activities. Simply complete the short application form (including bank details for transfer). Funding is limited, so apply early. NSWPLA NSW Public Libraries Association Applications close Friday, 3 October 2025. <p>Adele moved her report Seconded: Rachel Cody</p>
7	<p>South-West Zone Digital Report Presented by Zac Armistead Copy of report and statistics attached</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zac is available to answer any questions regarding the report <p>Zac moved his report Seconded: Christine Bolton</p>
8	<p>South-West Zone Strategic Plan (2022-2027) Presented by Carina Clement –</p> <p>Highlights from the report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NSWPLA Strategic Plan will be review and then adopted at the AGM in November 25. • At the next full zone meeting to be held in March/April 26 a workshop will be held to review the current SWZ Strategic Plan to bring it into line with the NSWPLA Strategic Plan.
9	<p>Notices of Motions Notices for Motions for NSWPLA AGM on the 14 November 25 due 26 September 26. No motions put forward</p>
	<p>Library round-up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albury City LibraryMuseum – The Write Around the Murray Festival will commence from 10-14 September. There are some great authors/creatives attending the festival. Bookings for the festival are going well. There are 2035 students booked in for the Schools Program. • Junee Library – The library remains the best library in the Zone - Cr Pam Haliburton • RRL – The new RRL Mobiles Library trailer will be launched in October. The trailer is the biggest unit yet and has far more technology advancements than any other trailer. Congratulations to Zac for managing the project and for being successful in obtaining grant funding for it.
10	No other general Business
11	Full zone meeting – March/April 2026, Wagga Wagga & online
12	Meeting closed – 10.46am

DRAFT

ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2025
9.45AM

IN PERSON - PRESTON STANLEY ROOM
NSW PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY

ONLINE - MICROSOFT TEAMS

ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS

Contact Executive Officer Jess Jennings: info@miningrelatedcouncils.asn.au

Note 1: Delegates are reminded that the provisions of the NSW Local Government Model Code of Conduct and Model Code of Meeting Practice apply to meetings of the Association of Mining & Energy Related Councils (NSW) Inc.

Note 2: The Association's constitution requires the Executive Committee to meet at least four times a year (Clause 7.4) and to have at least one Ordinary General Meeting per year (Clause 11.1), which is at least the Annual General meeting.

DRAFT

Attendance:

Cr Kevin Duffy – Orange City Council
Cr Tony Lord – Bland Shire Council
Cr Bruce Reynolds – Blayney Shire Council
Mark Dicker – GM, Blayney Shire Council
Cr Heather Nicolls – Cabonne Shire Council
Cr Chris Roylance – Forbes Shire Council
Dr Jess Jennings – MERC Executive Officer

Online:

Cr Jim Hickey – Broken Hill City Council
Barry Omundson – Interim GM, Orange City Council
Cr Jarrod Marsden – Cobar Shire Council
Peter Vlatko – GM, Cobar Shire Council
Cr Des Kennedy - Mid-Western Regional Council
Cr Diedre Stuart – Wollongong City Council
Cr Thomas Quinn – Wollongong City Council
Ron Zwicker – Wollongong City Council
Cr Emma Henderson – Bland Shire Council
Cr Greg Whitely – Warren Shire Council
Cr Bob McKay – Warren Shire Council
Gary Woodman – GM, Warren Shire Council
Patrick Ruettjes – Council Director, Lachlan Shire Council
Cr Peter Batten – Cabonne Shire Council
Cr Tony Mileto – Orange City Council
Cr Colleen Fuller – Gunnedah Shire Council
Andrew Johns – Council Director, Gunnedah Shire Council
Eric Growth – GM, Gunnedah Shire Council

Martin Rush – MERC Policy Officer
Jono Wheaton – Consultant Akarui Mirai – presenter
John Clements – Advisor, Roy Butler Office – observer

- 1. Welcome by Chair to Board Members:** The Chair Cr Kevin Duffy welcomed members and opened the meeting at 9.47am.
- 2. Acknowledgement of Country:** The Chair acknowledged the traditional custodians of the lands that we meet on and paid respects to Elders past, present & emerging.
- 3. Apologies:** Cr Dennis Brady, Cr Phyliss Miller, Cr Maurice Collison, Brad Cam, Grant Baker.

Resolved (Cr Lord / Cr Nicolls) that: the apologies be accepted.

4. Disclosures of Interest.

Nil

5. Adoption of the Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held 4th June 2025

Resolved (Cr Hickey/ Cr Lord) that: the minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held on 4JUN25 be adopted.

6. Business Arising from Ordinary General Meeting held on 4JUN25

NIL

7. Receive and note Minutes of Executive Committee held on 4JUN25.

Resolved (Cr Duffy / Cr Hickey) that: the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 4JUN25 be received and noted.

8. Business Arising from Executive Committee held on 4JUN25.

NIL

9. Executive Officer Report

Resolved (Cr Stuart / Cr Hendersen) that: the report from the Executive Officer, including financial report be accepted.

Resolved (Cr Lord / Cr Hickey) that: standing orders be suspended at 9.50am until Martin Rush returns online.

Resolved (Cr Lord / Cr Hickey) that: the meeting resume at 10.01am.

10. Policy Director Report

Resolved (Cr Nicolls / Cr Lord) that: the Policy Officer's report be accepted and any actions noted, namely detailed policy development and collaboration with Jono Wheaton is to occur and be presented to next meeting.

Resolved (Cr Lord / Cr Hickey) that: standing orders be suspended at 10.10am until Jono Wheaton joins online at 11am.

Resolved (Cr Lord / Cr Hickey) that: the meeting resume at 10.55am.

11. Presentation: Mr Jono Wheaton, Akarui Mirai (11am dial-in)

Resolved (Cr Reynolds / Cr Lord) that: Jono Wheaton is thanked for his presentation with Q&A, and noted future policy developments will emerge from both Jono Wheaton's work and MERC Policy Officer Martin Rush's work by the next MERC meeting on 20NOV25.

12. General Business

Nil

13. Invited speaker: The Hon Roy Butler, Member for Barwon (12.05pm)

Resolved (Cr Reynolds / Cr Lord) that: The Hon. Roy Butler is thanked for his support of MERC and noted relevant discussion around different Government funding opportunities, eg REZ, Royalties for Rejuvenation etc and their suitability for future MERC policy proposals. MERC will continue to liaise with Mr Butler on policy and relevant business.

Resolved (Cr Reynolds / Cr Lord) that: standing orders be suspended to break for lunch at 12.30pm and return 1pm.

14. Invited speaker: Mr Craig Milton, Policy Advisor, Minister Kamper Office (1pm)

Resolved (Cr Reynolds / Cr Lord) that: Mr Milton and Minister Kamper's Office is thanked for his visit and discussion, particularly concerning lands and property.

15. Next Meeting – the next MERC meeting to be held on 20NOV25, details TBA.

16. Close.

ATTACHMENTS:

A – MINUTES ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING 4JUN25

B – MINUTES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 4JUN25

C – EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

D – POLICY DIRECTOR REPORT

E – FINANCE REPORTS

ATTACHMENT A – MINUTES ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING 4JUN25

MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) INCORPORATED, ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 4 JUNE 2025, PRESTON STANLEY ROOM, NSW PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY.

Present

Cr Kevin Duffy (Chair)
Cr Tony Lord
Cr Jim Hickey
Cr Emma Henderson
Grant Baker
Cr Deidre Stuart
Cr Maurice Collison
Greg McDonald

Dr Jess Jennings
FTG – Director Policy
Ingrid Moores (as Minute Taker)
Andrew Callow

Microsoft TEAMS

Cr Bruce Reynolds
Mark Dicker
Cr Peter Batten
Cr Jarrod Marsden
Cr Josh Black
Gary Woodman
Cr Greg Whitely
Cr Thomes Quinn
Ron Zwicker
Cr Chris Roylance
Cr Dennis Brady (Deputy Chair)
Patrick Ruettjes
Brad Cam
Cr Tony Mileto
Kent Boyd PSM

Observer

Ian Greenham

Orange City Council
Bland Shire Council
Broken Hill City Council
Bland Shire Council
Bland Shire Council
Wollongong City Council
Upper Hunter Shire Council
Upper Hunter Shire Council

MERC – Executive Officer

FTG – Project Officer
FTG – Intern

Blayney Shire Council
Blayney Shire Council
Cabonne Shire Council
Cobar Shire Council
Dubbo Regional Council
Warren Shire Council
Warren Shire Council
Wollongong City Council
Wollongong City Council
Forbes Shire Council
Lachlan Shire Council
Lachlan Shire Council
Mid-Western Regional Council
Orange City Council
Parkes Shire Council

Orange City Council

1. Welcome

The Chair, Councillor Kevin Duffy welcomed delegates, FTG staff officers and opened the meeting at 12:05pm

2. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair acknowledged the traditional owners of the land that the meeting was held on and paid his respects to the Elders past, present & emerging.

3. Apologies

OM 9/2025 Resolved (Cr Hickey /Cr Lord) That the apologies of Cr Miller, Mr Jane, Cr Mckay, Mr Loane, Mr Waddell and Mr Wood be received and noted.

**MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW)
INCORPORATED, ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 4 JUNE 2025, PRESTON
STANLEY ROOM, NSW PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY.**

4. Disclosure of Interests

No Disclosure of Interest

5. Speakers

The speakers of The Honourable Roy Butler, MP and The Honourable Paul Scully, Minister for Planning and Public Places were postponed to 1:30pm and 3pm respectfully to align to the Ministers schedules and availability.

6&7 Adoption of the Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held 27 March 2025

OM 10/2025 Resolved (Cr Brady, Cr Lord) That the minutes of the Ordinary General meeting held on 27 March 2025 be received and noted and there was no business arising.

8&9 Adoption Minutes of Executive Committee held on 4 June 2024.

It was highlighted that Upper Hunter had requested to rejoin with MERC and that was approved by the Executive Committee.
A question was asked as to why the free membership was proposed and proceeded.
It was noted that a suite of Constitutional changes was approved at the 2024 AGM one of which was to delegate to the Executive the ability to waive fees for the ensuing 12 months following a new Council's application to encourage greater membership.

OM 11/2025 Resolved (Cr Lord, Cr Hickey) That the minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 4 June 2025 be received and noted and that there was no further business arising.

10. Executive Officer Report

The meeting welcomed Dr Jess Jennings as the new Executive Officer for MERC. Dr Jennings is an economist with specialist expertise in resource economics – particularly primary production. He has worked with both the NSW and Commonwealth governments – including for the Australian Bureau of Agricultural Resource Economics and Science. He is presently employed as a NSW Government policy officer and as part of a multi-disciplinary economic transitions team in the Central West. He is the former Mayor of Bathurst with significant experience in local government and in issues impacting regional NSW.

The Meeting also acknowledged the work of Greg Lamont in recommending the role of Executive Officer on an interim basis for the last six or so months and expressed its appreciation. It was noted that a letter be written via the chair to showing the Association's appreciation of Greg's work.

A financial update was provided, including:

- Revenue and expenditure statements
- Detailed balance sheet

Upcoming speaker schedule discussed, with Roy and Paul Scully noted as upcoming presenters.

We are working with ministers' offices to have The Honourable Penny Sharpe MLC Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage.

**MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW)
INCORPORATED, ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 4 JUNE 2025, PRESTON
STANLEY ROOM, NSW PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY.**

As well as The Honourable Stephen Kamper Minister for Multiculturalism, Jobs and Tourism, Lands and Property, and Sports for the September meeting.

Consideration is being given to inviting The Honourable Courtney Houssos, MLC Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement and Minister for Natural Resources. As well as The Honourable Daniel Mookhey MLC Treasurer to the November meeting.

OM 12/2025 Resolved (Cr Lord /Cr Hickey) that the Executive Officer Report be received and noted.

11. Policy Officer Report

FTG staff officers provided a policy update. It was noted that it appeared the recent visits to non-member councils had been very positive and several councils working on providing reports to their respective councillors about rejoining MERC. It was also noted to organise a meeting with Forbes Shire Council with Cr Chris Roylance and Acting GM Richard Jane.

Noting concerns leading up to the Meeting as to whether the proposed Campaign included those Local Government Areas not hosting mining activity directly, FTG staff officers confirmed that the Campaign proposed to include those councils together with energy councils.

There was also assurance that the scope of the campaign will address the impacts of renewable energy developments.

The NSW Government is continuing to draft legislation for its proposed Future Jobs and Investment Authorities.

Concerns were again raised regarding the scope of a combined campaign and its budgetary implications for councils. Responses were provided by FTG staff officers.

12. Sample new Energy Rating Sub-categories

FTG staff officers provided sample new energy rating sub-categories for member consideration and discussion.

OM 13/2025 Resolved (Cr Hickey/Cr Lord) that the Policy Officer Report including the Sample New Energy Rating Sub-categories be received and noted.

13. General Business

Participants noted upcoming meetings and ongoing communications with external stakeholders.

The importance of continuing to engage and inform member councils was reinforced.

The meeting was suspended at 1:10pm with a short break before reconvening for the scheduled session with The Honourable Roy Butler MP at 1:30 PM.

**MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW)
INCORPORATED, ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 4 JUNE 2025, PRESTON
STANLEY ROOM, NSW PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY.**

Speaker 1 The Honourable Roy Butler MP addressed the meeting at 2pm

- Significant mining projects were discussed across Narrabri, Bobabri, and Cobar, alongside emerging renewable energy developments in the Far West.
- Mr Butler highlighted the economic and historical contributions of Broken Hill and raised the challenges of managing renewable projects on vast rural lands.
- The Regional Development Trust Fund has been increased by an additional \$50 million, bringing the total to \$450 million.
- Mr Butler noted that the first round of \$50 million has been allocated, with continued contributions anticipated.
- There was strong consensus that a replacement program is needed for the discontinued *Resources for Regions* initiative to support mining-affected councils.
- Local government input was emphasized as critical in the development of this new program.
- Mr Butler's electorate is the largest in NSW, spanning 356,000 sq km and 150 communities.
- Mr Butler's team consists of 12 staff across Broken Hill, Cobar, and Narrabri, offering policy, media, and community support to councils both inside and outside the electorate.
- Cr. Mark Dicker raised the need for a new government-supported funding model co-designed by local councils.
- Cr. Reynolds emphasized the cumulative impacts of mining, including dust, traffic, and water, and the additional strain from logging in forestry-impacted areas.
- Councillors urged a campaign and advocacy effort to highlight these issues to the state government.
- Cr. Roy raised concerns about the oversubscription of the Regional Economic Development Fund and the need to requote projects due to rising costs.
- Cr. Batten advocated for more support for low rate-base councils like Buchan Shire.
- Councils detailed the impacts of mining on road infrastructure and community facilities, calling for targeted funding.
- Mr Butler suggested a quiet, strategic approach to lobbying for a new Resources for Regions-style program.
- Mr Butler supported developing a grassroots proposal in collaboration with local government stakeholders.
- Emphasized involving the Department of Local Government and relevant ministers in the proposal process.

Delegates expressed appreciation for the discussion and Mr Butler's time.

The meeting was suspended at 2:30pm with a short break before reconvening for the scheduled session with Paul Scully Minister for Planning and Public Spaces at 3:00 PM.

**MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW)
INCORPORATED, ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 4 JUNE 2025, PRESTON
STANLEY ROOM, NSW PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY.**

**Speaker 2 – The Honourable Paul Scully Minister for Planning and Public Spaces
addressed the meeting at 3pm with his team**

- Minister Scully discussed the reuse of post-mining land for future employment opportunities was emphasized over reverting to pre-settlement conditions.
- Infrastructure needs including roads, rail, and electricity were identified as key enablers.
- Global interest in reusing old mine shafts for energy generation was discussed, with examples from Texas and Poland.
- The Federal Labor Party has committed funding for pilot sites to trial such initiatives.
- Acknowledgement of the significant workforce in the resources sector, both direct and indirect.
- Emphasis on providing choice and employment opportunities in regions facing mine closures.
- The need for streamlined processes to support reuse of land for employment was highlighted.
- NSW government is working to improve the planning system for critical minerals to meet global and domestic demand (especially copper).
- Planning reforms aim to facilitate responsible extraction while integrating miners into local communities.
- Clarification that renewable energy zones (REZs) are not exclusive and may intersect with other land uses.
- New renewable energy guidelines were discussed, with a focus on:
 - Community engagement
 - Cumulative impacts
 - Visual amenity
 - Social impact assessments
- The process must be scientific, transparent, and community-informed.
- Members raised concerns over loss of social license for solar farms in the Dubbo region due to poor visual outcomes.
- Updated solar farm guidelines were discussed:
 - Include visual impact assessment methodologies
 - Encourage early engagement and suitable site selection
 - Emphasize community benefits
- Discussion on balancing infrastructure delivery with adequate planning staff capacity, particularly in rural and regional councils.
- Recent government announcements include:
 - Financial support for hiring planners and trainees
 - Online para-planning courses through TAFE to assist councils with administrative planning tasks
- Workforce shortages in planning were acknowledged as a persistent challenge.
- Improvements to the planning portal are underway to reduce complexity:
 - Goal to reduce development application questions to around 200
 - Greater system flexibility and responsiveness is planned
- Need for a more efficient digital system to manage diverse application types was emphasized.

4

**MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW)
INCORPORATED, ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 4 JUNE 2025, PRESTON
STANLEY ROOM, NSW PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY.**

Delegates expressed appreciation for the discussion and Minister Scully's time.

The Chair then thanked all participants.

15. Close – the meeting closed at 3:35pm.

The minutes were confirmed at the Ordinary General Meeting held on 11 September 2025 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary meeting held on 4 June 2025.

.....
Cr Kevin Duffy,
Chairperson

ATTACHMENT B – MINUTES EXECUTIVE MEETING 4JUN25

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCIL'S (NSW) INCORPORATED, HELD ON 4th JUNE 2025. ONLINE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS & IN PERSON.

Present

Cr Kevin Duffy (Chair)	Orange City Council
Cr Tony Lord	Bland Shire Council
Cr Jim Hickey	Broken Hill City Council

By Video Link

Cr Dennis Brady (Dep Chair)	Lachlan Shire Council
Richard Jane	Forbes Shire Council

Jess Jennings	MERC - Executive Officer
Martin Rush	FTG – Director Policy
Ingrid Moores (as Minute Taker)	FTG – Policy Officer
Andrew Callow	FTG - Intern

1. Welcome

The Chair, Councillor Kevin Duffy welcomed Executive Committee members, Executive Officer, Jess Jennings, Martin and Ingrid and opened the meeting at 9.10am

2. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair acknowledged the traditional owners of the land that the meeting was held on and paid his respects to the Elders past, present & emerging.

3. Apologies

Cr Phyllis Miller
Steve Loane

EM 6/2025 Resolved (Cr Lord/Cr Brady) That the apologies of Cr Miller and Steve Loane be received and noted.

4. Disclosure of Interests

Nil

5. Executive Officer Report

Martin Rush, Interim Executive Officer, spoke to the Report noting particularly the appointment of Dr Jess Jennings as Executive Officer.

Cr Duffy welcomed Dr Jess Jennings into the role of Executive Officer.

Minister Speakers arranged for September and several others for November. There was a consensus that the Hon. Daniel Mookhey MLC, Treasurer of NSW, should be invited to the November Ordinary Meeting.

A letter to be drafted acknowledging the work of Greg Lamont.

EM 7/2025 Resolved (Cr Hickey / Cr Lord) that:

1. The Executive Committee note the Report.
2. The Executive Committee endorse the Income and Expenditure Statement and Detailed Balance Sheet to 31 March 2025.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCIL'S (NSW) INCORPORATED, HELD ON 4th JUNE 2025. ONLINE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS & IN PERSON.

3. The Executive Committee thank Greg Lamont for stepping in as the Interim Executive Officer during the first six months of 2025.
4. The Executive Committee welcome Dr Jess Jennings into the role of Executive Officer.

6. Policy Officer Report

Martin Rush, Policy Director FTG provided an update on policy initiatives –

Visitation Program is to still visit Forbes, Wollongong, Wollondilly, Upper Lachlan and Broken Hill together with Lower Hunter Councils.

A good response from the recent program and optimism about future programs.

Clarification around the campaign to resolve the issues raised by Forbes Shire Council.

EM 8/2025 Resolved (Cr Lord/Cr Brady) that the Policy Officer Report be received and noted.

7. Admission of Upper Hunter Shire Council to Membership of the Association

Upper Hunter Shire Council have applied for Membership of the Association on the basis of fee-free Membership to 30 June 2026.

EM 9/2025 Resolved (Cr Hickey/Cr Brady) that:

(i) in pursuance of clause 3.1 of the Association's Constitution, Upper Hunter Shire Council to admitted to Membership of the Association.

(ii) in pursuance of clause 16.3(b) of the Association's Constitution the payment of fees by Upper Hunter Shire Council be waived for the period to 30 June 2026.

8. General Business

Dr Jennings noted that a fee-free waiver is likely to be helpful to attract membership from councils confronting immediate financial issues.

Cr Duffy requested short media talking points about the achievements of MERC as a result of recent media about what MERC's work and campaign.

10. Close – the meeting closed at 9:30am.

The minutes were confirmed at the Ordinary General Meeting held on 4th June 2025 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the Executive Committee meeting held earlier on 4th June 2025.

.....
Cr Kevin Duffy,
Chairperson

ATTACHMENT C – EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

Dr Jess Jennings has successfully submitted the appropriate forms to Dept of Fair Trading to become the new MERC Executive Officer (includes Public Officer role), taking over from Mr Greg Lamont.

Jess has engaged with MERC accountant and is working with previous account holders to finalise all aspects of the MERC account management, noting that member councils have now been invoiced and paid their member fee for 2025-26.

Jess compiled and distributed the recent MERC Quarterly Newsletter, July 2025 Edition.

Jess, Chair Duffy and Mark Dicker met in Orange on 3JUL25 to discuss the best way to progress MERC’s policy development approach, and a subsequent meeting (online 21JUL25) with Brad Cam, Mark Dicker, Kent Boyd, Jess Jennings, Jono Wheaton and Martin Rush that resolved for Martin Rush and Jono Wheaton to collaborate on the development of MERC’s policy pitch to NSW Government, which is now underway and anticipated to culminate mid-NOV25 in time for the next MERC Member Meeting (scheduled 14NOV25).

Items for consideration 11SEPT25:

1. NSW Premier’s ***Rural Remote & Regional Advisory Council*** (PRRRAC) will meet twice annually with the Premier and Minister Moriarty.
2. **NSW Joint Organisation Chairs Forum** resolved write to all joint organisations, regional organisations of councils and other regional groups of councils to recommend and seek their support for and participation in a collaborative approach to:
 - understanding and applying the NSW Government’s benefit-sharing guideline for large-scale energy developments;
 - developing council policies and procedures for negotiating community benefits-sharing arrangements; and
 - advocating for clear planning processes, additional guidelines and retrospective arrangements to ensure net community benefit for regional host communities for all energy developments.

Recommendation

The Report be noted.

ATTACHMENT D – POLICY DIRECTORS REPORT

Summary

The Report provides an overview of policy development and initiatives undertaken by Mining and Energy Related Councils.

Resources and Energy Communities Campaign

The Association, at its General Meeting on the 14th of November 2024, canvassed the possibility of running a substantial campaign on the issue of benefit sharing for mining and energy related communities in NSW. In pursuit of that direction, staff officers provided a campaign strategy document, prepared by Astrolabe Group and Horton Advisory, to the membership which was subsequently endorsed by both the Executive Committee and the General Membership in March 2025. The proposal includes a voluntary contribution in a suggested sum of \$10,000 from each member and several non-member councils.

As members are aware, however, staff officers were provided with an email from Blayney Shire Council which disclosed a material policy division within the MERC membership concerning the strategy around the former Resources for Regions Program. Whilst staff officers had some awareness of the development of a parallel campaign, staff members were not aware of its substance. Essentially, there were at least some members who did not see strategic value in extending the campaign beyond the previous recipients of the former Resources for Regions Program. In addition to therefore excluding councils like Forbes Shire and Warren Shire, the parallel campaign would have excluded councils impacted by Major Projects related to renewable energy. Staff officers had thought that the reason for the commentary from Forbes Shire Council at the June MERC Ordinary Meeting related to a misunderstanding about its inclusion in the proposed Astrolabe campaign. It is now thought that the concern raised by Forbes Shire Council related to confusion about the parallel campaign being facilitated by Blayney Shire Council – the terms of which campaign would have excluded Forbes Shire.

Staff officer advice

In the view of staff officers, the NSW Government is very unlikely to bring back Resources for Regions with only minor edits relating to its naming – as suggested by the Member for Barwon. The NSW Government was very critical of the methodology developed around the program as to "who was in and who was out". The methodology developed was no more complex than identifying where the mining workforce lived as a proxy for "impactedness". That metric was a poor proxy for the largest head of impact facing regional councils which relates to the consumption of a Council's road asset. The NSW Government, in Opposition, criticised the methodology and the governance around the expenditure and noted that the weakness in that methodology exposed it to the criticism of being an exercise in pork-barrelling.

Moreover, the NSW Government has now reviewed the Regional Development Act, 2004 and the Guidelines associated with its Regional Development Trust Fund, making statutory changes to align

funding with, amongst other things, impacts associated with developments of both resources and energy projects. Staff officers cannot see the NSW Government rolling back that policy direction.

The view of staff officers is that the Association's best chance of success is to lock in behind that policy direction by expanding the existing stream related to regional resources and energy impacts. It is also the view of staff officers that enfranchising rather than disenfranchising councils and communities gives our efforts the highest chance of success.

Subsequent meeting with the facilitators of the parallel campaign

Staff officers met with Blayney Shire Council's General Manager and other interested councils associated with the parallel campaign together with Jonathon Wheaton from Akarui Mirai Advisory in August in an attempt to reach alignment on the proposed campaigns.

Jonathon Wheaton supported the staff officer contention that the NSW Government was very unlikely to bring back Resources for Regions (whether with a name change or otherwise) and agreed that a program for both resources and energy developed under the framing of the amended Regional Development Act, 2004 was the best way forward. There was broad agreement from the other general managers present on that point.

On that basis, the following was agreed.

- Jonathon Wheaton would, at the cost of his contributing councils, draft a policy for the consideration of his contributing councils and MERC members.
- Staff officers would assist if requested.
- The policy would be available by October 2025 for the MERC November Ordinary Meeting.

Since that time, staff officers have provided to Jonathon Wheaton a copy of MERC's policy framing document and contact details for key stakeholders.

Jonathon Wheaton is due to provide MERC members with an update at its meeting on the 11th September. A copy of the Akarui proposal is attached. It is also noted that several Joint Organisations are in the very early stages of also developing a campaign around benefit sharing.

Member meetings

Membership meetings for the southwest are yet to take place and will be scheduled for October and November.

Recommendation

The Report be noted.

ATTACHMENT E – FINANCE REPORTS

Income Expenditure Statement 01/07/2024 to 30/06/2025

Association of Mining Related Councils Inc
ABN 70 657 154 560
Income and Expenditure Statement
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Income		
Membership Fees	132,000.00	128,235.58
Interest received	0.01	449.58
Total income	<u>132,000.01</u>	<u>128,685.16</u>
Expenses		
Bank fees & charges	48.00	18.17
Computer Expenses		109.00
Contract Payments - Executive Officers	121,356.16	164,648.20
Depreciation - Other	195.00	195.00
Fees & charges		322.04
M/V car - Fuel & oil		145.06
Printing & stationery	183.64	38.97
Subscriptions		209.90
Travel, accommodation & conference	1,354.01	6,594.35
Total expenses	<u>123,136.81</u>	<u>172,280.69</u>
Net profit attributable to the association	<u>8,863.20</u>	<u>(43,595.53)</u>
Total changes in equity of the association	<u>8,863.20</u>	<u>(43,595.53)</u>
Opening retained profits	48,651.17	92,246.70
Net profit attributable to the association	<u>8,863.20</u>	<u>(43,595.53)</u>
Closing retained profits	<u>57,514.37</u>	<u>48,651.17</u>

These financial statements are unaudited. They must be read in conjunction with the attached Accountant's Compilation Report and Notes which form part of these financial statements.

Detailed Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2025

Association of Mining Related Councils Inc
ABN 70 657 154 560
Detailed Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
Current Assets			
Cash Assets			
Cash At Bank - Business CBA		57,862.08	41,809.65
Cash At Bank - Business Account			1,345.79
Cash At Bank - Beyond Bank		10.17	10.16
		57,872.25	43,165.60
Total Current Assets		57,872.25	43,165.60
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment			
Office equipment		976.00	976.00
Less: Accumulated amortisation		(390.00)	(195.00)
		586.00	781.00
Total Non-Current Assets		586.00	781.00
Total Assets		58,458.25	43,946.60

These financial statements are unaudited. They must be read in conjunction with the attached Accountant's Compilation Report and Notes which form part of these financial statements.

AGENDA

WYALONG SCHOOL OF ARTS & HALL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE OF MEETING: 18 AUGUST 2025

VENUE: WYALONG HALL

MEETING OPENED: 6.30 pm

APOLOGIES: Heather Good, Chris Butcher, Michelle Lamb, Gerard Payne

PRESENT: Des Lamb, Bev Fury, Ron Good, Amanda Stitt

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Read by Des Lamb

Moved: Des Lamb

Seconded: Amanda Stitt

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

No President's report was presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Read by Bev Fury

Moved: Bev Fury

Seconded: Ron Good

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

There was no business arising from previous minutes

GENERAL BUSINESS:

All positions were declared vacant and Amanda Stitt acted as interim Chair for remainder of AGM and election of Executive Committee.

President: Des Lamb nominated Gerard Payne

Seconded: Amanda Stitt

Gerard had advised that if nominated he would accept the nomination and was elected

1st Vice President: Bev Fury nominated Ron Good

Seconded: Des Lamb

Ron accepted the nomination and was elected

2nd Vice President: Ron Good nominated Amanda Stitt

Seconded: Des Lamb

File:	GOV-S355-WSA-44	Action
Action Officer:	DCCS	<input type="checkbox"/>
REC'D	15 SEP 2025	
Copy to:	SFO, ORIG-SFO	
Bland Shire Council		

Amanda accepted the nomination and was elected

Secretary: Amanda Stitt nominated Des Lamb

Seconded: Ron Good

Des was accepted the nomination and was elected

Treasurer: Ron Good nominated Bev Fury

Seconded: Amanda Stitt

Bev accepted the nomination and was elected

Booking Officer: Gerard had previously advised that he and Shanay would be happy to continue acting as the booking officers for the Hall

Hall Inspectors: Hall inspectors would remain as current committee members

Amanda congratulated the new committee

AGM closed at 6.45 pm

WYALONG SCHOOL OF ARTS & HALL COMMITTEE

DATE OF MEETING: 18 AUGUST 2025

VENUE: WYALONG HALL

Meeting opened at: 6.45pm

PRESENT: Des Lamb, Bev Fury, Ron Good, Amanda Stitt

APOLOGIES: Gerard Payne, Michelle Lamb, Heather Good, Chris Butcher

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Read by Des Lamb

Moved: Des Lamb

Seconded: Bev Fury

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Ron has spoken to Jeremy Lamb about installation of pavers across lawn to defibrillator and lock box – he will follow up with Jeremy.

Bev Fury has spoken to Brad Frost in relation to outstanding matters and has sent further letter to Bland Shire. Still waiting to hear further from engineer and Brad Frost in relation to outstanding matters. Bev will follow up with Council.

Des still waiting on second quote for air conditioning for stage area and kitchen. Bev to provide a copy of first quote with figures removed for Des to give to other supplier so we know both quotes are for same work.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Moved: Bev Fury

Seconded: Amanda Stitt

CORRESPONDENCE :

Letter to Alison Ballind at Bland Shire re outstanding matters sent on 14 May 2025. Follow up email sent on 13 August 2025.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Bev advised that Brad Frost said it would be okay to install equipment in ceiling to allow for decorations to flow from centre of ceiling to walls eg fairy lights etc. as long as it was done by licensed builders to standard. Amanda to speak to Trish Stokes about this and get Stokes Builders to install.

Discussion was had re internet connection to Hall. Committee to speak to Chris Butcher about this and get some advice from him re Starlink or what suggestions he may have.

Ron Good advised that weeds at back of Hall have been sprayed.

Next meeting: 10 November 2025 6.30 pm to include Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at Toppy Hotel at conclusion of meeting

Meeting closed: 7.10 pm

File:	Gov-S355-WSA+H	Action
Action Officer:	DCCS	<input type="checkbox"/>
REC'D	15 SEP 2025	
Copy to:	SFO, DRIG SFO	
	Bland Shire Council	

WYALONG SCHOOL OF ARTS & HALL COMMITTEE

DATE OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING: 22 SEPTEMBER 2025

VENUE: WYALONG HALL

Meeting opened at: 5.30 pm

PRESENT: Des Lamb, Michelle Lamb, Gerard Payne, Amanda Stitt

APOLOGIES: Ron Good, Heather Good

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Bev called the meeting to discuss quotes received for air conditioning installation on stage and in kitchen.

Two quotes received:

1. Border to Border \$6,842.00
2. CBR - \$11,256.30

Discussion was had in relation to both quotes. Final decision was to go with Border to Border.

Moved: Amanda Stitt

Seconded: Gerard Payne

Amanda said that Michelle Wheatley had requested use of the red carpet and bollards. Discussion was had on whether or not to donate the carpet to Michelle on the condition that if we needed to use again we would have the use of it free of charge. It was decided that we would do this.

Moved: Bev Fury

Seconded: Amanda Stitt

Amanda said she had spoken to Trish Stokes about the installation of equipment to enable decorations (such as fairy lights etc) to be strung from centre of ceiling. Trish will speak to Stokes Builders and arrange for this to happen.

Discussion was had re internet. One suggestion was using the radio stations internet and perhaps reducing their rent to cover this. Des is to speak to Chris Butcher about whether this could be a possibility.

BOOKINGS

We have bookings for:

11 October

18 October

23-24 October

13-14 November

Meeting closed: 5.55 pm

File:	Gov - S355 - WSA + H	Action
Action Officer:	D.C.C.S.	<input type="checkbox"/>
REC'D	02 OCT 2025	
Copy to:	SFO, ORIG SFO	
Bland Shire Council		



CENTRAL BEVERAGE
& REFRIGERATION

23 Ungarie Rd
West Wyalong NSW 2671
02 6979 2900
info@centralbeverage.com.au
AU53611

Quote

ABN: 22 644 402 228

Tax Invoice # 2765
12th February 2025

Ronny Good
Wyalong Hall
6-8 Shire street
West Wyalong, NSW 2671

DESCRIPTION

PRICE

Supply and install new 9kw Mitsubishi electric split system to rear stage area with outdoor unit to be located on roof similarly located to others. Kitchen 7kw Mitsubishi Electric split system to be located central to the room with condenser mounted on aerated concrete slab at rear of building. Power supplies from switchboard included and provided by Glasgow electrics. Fan above stage subject to further investigation due to existing ceiling construction etc. Suggest the operation of split system in FAN mode where required and if required we can investigate further the cost to install ceiling fan to stage.

\$10,233.00

SUBTOTAL: \$10,233.00

GST: \$1,023.30

TOTAL: \$11,256.30

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Quote is valid for 30 days from issue date. Works will commence after an initial 40% deposit has been received, with the remainder of the total to be paid within 7 days of completion of works. Central Beverage & Refrigeration reserves the right to remove any items not paid for within the time frame discussed in these terms.

How to Pay

Quote#2765

We accept payment by: Bank Deposit or Cash

BUY NOW PAY LATER WITH Laddr pay

For more info on how you can buy now pay later with Laddr pay please send us an email and reference your invoice number for us to sign you up today.

Westpac Central Beverage and
Refrigeration
BSB: 032-067
Acc No: 746102

Cheque 23 Ungarie Rd,
West Wyalong NSW
2671

Online payment Visit this link to pay your invoice online: <https://sm8.link/98qb8ht>

Thank you for your business, have a great day!

Compose

Delete

Actions

Apply

Re: Quote 1011 from Border To Border PTY LTD

zeus2444@yahoo.../Sent

 **Bev** <zeus2444@yahoo.com>
To: lambs231060@bigpond.com

12 Sept at 21:15

PrintRaw message

This quote is only for stage - not stage and kitchen
Bev

On 12 Sep 2025, at 2:12 pm, lambs231060@bigpond.com wrote:

- Inbox
- Drafts
- Sent
- Archive
- Spam
- Deleted Items

Folders

Edit

Hide

+ New folder

- 761 Inc
- Antoinette1
- Apple8
- Bradford Exchange
- Cassandra1
- Leah
- Divorce Hub14
- Insurance1
- Main Street13
- MISC3
- Netflix
- Motor Vehicle4
- Mum20
- Mygov4
- Netflix3
- Noom
- Notes
- Physio
- RCI1
- TAFE
- Toppy Hal6
- Travel3
- Vape
- Vodafone1
- Westpac
- Work

On ,Thu Sep 11 2025 15:46:46 GMT+1000 (Australian Eastern Standard Time), Border To Border PTY LTD <quickbooks@notification.intuit.com> wrote:

----- Original Message -----
Dear Wyalong Hall,

Please review the quote below. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions.
We look forward to working with you.

Have a great day!
Border To Border PTY LTD

Quote

84 Adlers Lane
Alleeena NSW 2671
0427241140
ABN : 21 688 497 501

Quote No.: 1011
Date: 11/09/2025
Exp. Date: 11/10/2025
A\$3,956.70

Address:
Wyalong Hall

Description	GST	Amount
WYALONG HALL	GST	3,597.00

SUPPLY AND INSTALL 1x LARGE SPLIT SYSTEM (ROOF MOUNTED)

Price includes installing a Mitsubishi electric air-conditioner as requested on a side wall of the stage. This will involve running pipe work through the ceiling and to the outdoor unit to be mounted on the roof on a roof bracket. Includes running electrical wiring, insulated pipe work, drain and interconnect and terminating at both ends. A drain pump is to be installed on the indoor unit due to the location. Penetrations to be sealed to prevent vermin ingress. A dedicated circuit for the split system to be ran from the outdoor unit to the switch board and put on an RCBO with and isolator at the unit. System requires a deep evacuation and leak test. Involves commissioning the unit and testing. Works to be completed to our high standard and to comply with AS3000 Electrical Standards.

Note: Extras due to unknowns will be discussed as required with management. , 1 @ A\$3,597.00

SubTotal:	3,597.00
GST Total	359.70
Total:	A\$3,956.70

***** BAS Summary *****

Rate	GST	Net
GST @ 10%	359.70	3,597.00

Compose

Delete Actions Apply

Compose

Delete

Spam

Actions

Apply



Inbox

12

Drafts

Sent

Archive

Spam

Deleted Items

Folders

Edit

Hide

+ New folder

761 Inc

Antoinette

Apple

Bradford Exchange

Cassandra

Leah

Divorce Hub

Insurance

Main Street

MISC

Netflix

Motor Vehicle

Mum

Mygov

Netflix

Noom

Notes

Physio

RCI

TAFE

Topsy Hal

Travel

Vape

Vodaphone

Westpac

Work

Fwd: Quote 1016 from Border To Border PTY LTD

zeus2444@yahoo.../Inbox



lambs231060@bigpond.com <lambs231060@bigpond.com>
To: zeus2444@yahoo.com <zeus2444@yahoo.com>

18 Sept at 18:51

Print Raw message

Acrobat
Studio

Start free trial

On ,Thu Sep 18 2025 17:56:32 GMT+1000 (Australian Eastern Standard Time), Border To Border PTY LTD <quickbooks@notification.intuit.com> wrote.

----- Original Message -----
Dear Wyalong Hall,

Please review the quote below. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions.
We look forward to working with you.

Have a great day!
Border To Border PTY LTD

----- Quote -----

84 Adlers Lane
Alleena NSW 2671
0427241140
ABN : 21 688 497 501

Quote No.: 1016
Date: 18/09/2025
Exp. Date: 18/10/2025
A\$2,885.30

Address:

Wyalong Hall

Description	GST	Amount
WYALONG HALL	GST	2,623.00

KITCHEN 4.1kW SPLIT SYSTEM (REMOVAL + INSTALLATION)

Price includes isolating the power and completing loc out/tag out of the original unit and removing and disposing of correctly as required. Involves re-installing the new indoor and out door unit (on a wall bracket or mounting feet/pad as requested. Includes new dedicated electrical circuit to the unit if required with an isolator to meet compliance. Insulated pipework, interconnects and drain to be ran and fit off at both the indoor and out and switchboard. Make sure the circuits on an RCBO to be compliant. Deep evacuation to be completed and unit leak tested and commissioned. Works to be completed to our high standard and all works to be tested and completed to comply with AS3000 Electrical Standard. , 1 @ A\$2,623.00

SubTotal:	2,623.00
GST Total	262.30
Total:	A\$2,885.30

***** BAS Summary *****

Rate	GST	Net
GST @ 10%	262.30	2,623.00

