



COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA

Wednesday 8 June 2022

Commencing at 7:00pm

Wycheproof Supper Room

367 Broadway, Wycheproof

**Wayne O'Toole
Chief Executive Officer
Buloke Shire Council**

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. COUNCIL WELCOME AND STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

WELCOME

The Mayor Cr Daryl Warren will welcome all in attendance.

STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Mayor Cr Daryl Warren will acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we are meeting and pay our respects to their Elders and to the Elders from other communities who maybe here today.

2. RECEIPT OF APOLOGIES

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 11 May 2022.

4. REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

5. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

In accordance with Section 130 (2) of the Local Government Act 2020 Councillors who have a conflict of interest in respect of a matter being considered at this Meeting, must

- a) Disclose the conflict of interest in the manner required by the Council's Governance Rules 2020; and
- a) Exclude themselves from the decision making process in relation to that matter, including any discussion or vote on the matter at any Council meeting or delegated committee, and any action in relation to the matter.

Disclosure must occur immediately before the matter is considered or discussed.

6. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

NIL

7. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

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NEXT MEETING

THE NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL WILL BE HELD IN WYCHEPROOF SUPPER ROOM, 367 BROADWAY, WYCHEPROOF ON WEDNESDAY, 13 JULY 2022 AT 7:00PM.

Wayne O'Toole
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

6. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Nil

7. PROCEDURAL ITEMS**7.1 LETTERS OF CONGRATULATIONS AND RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT/AWARDS**

Author's Title: Executive Assistant

Department: Office of the CEO

File No: CR/13/01

PURPOSE

This report acknowledges and congratulates community persons and/or groups for their success in being recognised for a significant achievement or for being a recipient of an honourable award.

The report also informs Council of any letters of congratulations or any particular recognition of achievement that Council has received or been awarded in the past month.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council acknowledge and congratulate the persons and/or groups mentioned in the report for their achievements.

Attachments: Nil

RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT ITEMS

| Provider | Recipient | Date | Purpose for Recognition |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|---|
| Buloke Shire Council | Dr Anne Webster MP | 21 May 2022 | For being re-elected as the Federal Government Member of Mallee |

7.2 REPORT OF COUNCILLOR ASSEMBLIES

Author's Title: Executive Assistant

Department: Office of the CEO

File No: GO/05/04

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council note the report of Councillor Assembly Meetings held 4 and 18 May 2022.

Attachments: 1 [Councillor Briefing Record - 4 May 2022](#)
2 [Councillor Briefing Record - 18 May 2022](#)

KEY POINTS/ISSUES

Transparency is a fundamental principle of democratic governance.

The Local Government Act 2020 (The Act) Section 9 (2) (i) provides that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

In accordance with Section 57 of The Act, Council at its September 2020 Ordinary Meeting, adopted a Public Transparency policy, designed to improve public transparency in Council's decision-making processes and to assist the community in understanding the information that is accessible to them.

As per the Council Meeting Schedule adopted 10 November 2021, Councillor Briefings are held for Councillors to meet to consider matters that are likely to be the subject of a Council decision or for the exercise of delegation.

A record of the Councillor Briefings held on 4 and 18 May 2022 is attached for public information.



Councillor Briefing Record

Build a Better Buloke – a healthy, connected, inclusive and prosperous community

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------|-----------------|
| Date: | 4 May 2022 | Time: | 5:00pm – 8:00pm |
| Location: | Charlton District Office Council Chamber | | |
| Distributed To: | Cr Warren, Cr Getley, Cr Pollard, Cr Stewart, Cr Simpson, Cr Milne ,Cr Vis, Wayne O'Toole, Hannah Yu, Travis Fitzgibbon | | |
| Apologies: | Cr Pollard, Cr Vis | | |
| Acknowledgement of Country: | Buloke Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land now known as Buloke. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. | | |
| Conflicts of Interest: | Nil | | |

ITEMS

| NO. | MATTER FOR DISCUSSION | Notes |
|-----------|--|--------|
| | Councillor Only Time 5:00pm | |
| 1. | Confirmation of Councillor Briefing Notes – 20 April 2022 | Agreed |
| 2. | Presentations | |
| 2.1 | Planning – Rodney Hotker and John Keaney / Keaney Planning- | |
| 2.2 | Donald Community Precinct Members - Adam Campbell – | |
| 2.3 | Candidate for Federal Election – Sophie Baldwin | |
| 2.4 | Charlton Forum - Carolyn Olive | |
| 2.5 | Rate Incentive Options | |
| 3. | Councillor Matters | |
| 4. | CEO Updates | |
| 4.1 | Draft Agenda Council Meeting 11 May 2022 | |
| 4.2 | Community Forum Summit | |
| | NEXT MEETING 18 May 2022 - 5:00pm at Berriwillock Community Centre | |



Councillor Briefing Record

Build a Better Buloke – a healthy, connected, inclusive and prosperous community

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------|-----------------|
| Date: | 18 May 2022 | Time: | 5:00pm – 8:00pm |
| Location: | Berriwillock Community Centre | | |
| Distributed To: | Cr Warren, Cr Getley, Cr Pollard, Cr Stewart, Cr Simpson, Cr Milne ,Cr Vis, Wayne O'Toole, Hannah Yu, Travis Fitzgibbon | | |
| Apologies: | Cr Pollard | | |
| Acknowledgement of Country: | Acknowledged. | | |
| Conflicts of Interest: | Nil. | | |

ITEMS

| NO. | MATTER FOR DISCUSSION | Notes |
|------------|---|---------------|
| | Councillor & CEO Only Time 5:00pm | |
| 1. | Confirmation of Councillor Briefing Notes – 4 May 2022 | |
| 2. | Presentations | |
| 2.1 | Engage - Youth Program Sophie McClelland and Will Conlan from Tyrrell College. | |
| 2.2 | Birchip Park and Civic Precinct Master Plan: Workshop Outcomes Statement - Presented by Craig Kenny, Amber Ricks and Darci Tierney | |
| 2.3 | Berriwillock Comm Dev Group - 6:05pm Jamie Simpson and Nakia Nunn | Not presented |
| 2.4 | Culgoa Comm Devl Group – Samantha Grenda | |
| 2.5 | Birchip MCH – Representatives De-Anne Ferrier, Bridget Glen, Connely Ryan, Marian Haddrick, Alison McCowan. | |



| | | |
|------------|---|--|
| 2.6 | Monthly Project Report | |
| 2.7 | Lighting Up Buloke Underspend | |
| 3. | Councillor Matters | |
| 4. | CEO Updates | |
| | NEXT MEETING 1 June 2022 - 5:00pm Birchip District Office Council Chamber | |

7.3 CORRESPONDENCE INITIATED BY COUNCIL

Author's Title: Executive Assistant

Department: Office of the CEO

File No: GO/06/06

PURPOSE

This report notes and records correspondence initiated by Council and informs the Council of the responses received from this correspondence.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council notes the record of correspondence initiated by Council and the responses received.

Attachments: Nil

TABLE OF CORRESPONDENCE

| Council Initiative | Sent/to be sent to | Sent | Response | Purpose of Letter/Response |
|--|---------------------------|----------|----------|--|
| Write to local Federal member and State members expressing concern for people who are sitting outside the legal status of vaccination currently in place. Urging for a review. | Ms Louise Staley MLA | 20/12/21 | 23/12/21 | Acknowledged Council's proactive work to unite the Shire. Advised that the National Liberals have been calling for consistent National Cabinet approach to mandate vaccines and passports, however the Andrews Government has flagged the retention of vaccine passports until 2023. Will continue to address inequities and call on the State Government to address the issues impacting our community. |
| Above letter | Mr Stuart Grimley MLC | 20/12/21 | 22/12/21 | Acknowledged letter and will look into it further. |
| Above letter | Mrs Beverley McArthur MLC | 20/12/21 | | |
| Above letter | Ms Ali Cupper MLA | 20/12/21 | | |
| Above letter | Dr Anne Webster MP | 20/12/21 | | |

| Council Initiative | Sent/to be sent to | Sent | Response | Purpose of Letter/Response |
|--|---|-------------|-----------------|---|
| Write to Min of Transport Infr, Jacinta Allan and Minister for Roads and Roads Safety, Ben Carroll seeking urgent attention to continue to advocate to the resp auth for upgrade of: 1. The rail crossing nth of Lalbert on the Donald-Swan Hill Road; and 2. The rail crossing north-east of Charlton on the Boort-Charlton Road. | The Hon Jacinta Allan Minister for Transport Infrastructure | 10/3/22 | | Nil response received. Letter resent 27/5/2022 seeking urgent response. |
| Above letter sent to Hon Jacinta Allan | The Hon Ben Carroll MP Minister for Roads and Road Safety | 10/3/22 | | Nil response received. Letter resent 27/5/2022 seeking urgent response. |

7.4 BUILDING PERMITS - MONTHLY UPDATE

Author's Title: Statutory Administration Support

Department: Works and Technical Services

File No: DB/14/01

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides information on Building Permits approved by staff from 1 May 2022 to 31 May 2022.

The information published in the list provided, is in accordance with the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council note information contained in the report on Building Permits approved by staff from 1 May 2022 to 31 May 2022.

Attachments: Nil

LIST OF BUILDING PERMITS APPROVED BY COUNCIL SURVEYOR

| Permit No. | BAMS Permit No. | Address | Project Description | Date Approved |
|------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|--|---------------|
| 20220034 | 1105707448089 | Menzies Street, Charlton | Detached Garage Extension (Lock-Up to Completion) & Dwelling Extension (Lock-Up to Completion) | 12/05/2022 |
| 20220035 | 2151329681481 | Hannon Street, Sea Lake | Gazebo | 12/05/2022 |
| 20220036 | 8612978992920 | Newry Street, Watchem | Dwelling (Lock-Up to Completion) | 12/05/2022 |
| 20220037 | 2200951208830 | Broadway, Wycheproof | Arbor | 12/05/2022 |
| 20220038 | 5380706869446 | Watchem-Warracknabeal Road, Watchem | Internal Alterations to Public Amenities Building | 12/05/2022 |

LIST OF BUILDING PERMITS APPROVED BY PRIVATE SURVEYOR

| Permit No. | Address | Project Description | Date Approved |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Nil | | | |

7.5 PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED - MONTHLY UPDATE

Author's Title: Planning Officer

Department: Works and Technical Services

File No: LP/09/01

PURPOSE

This report provides information on planning applications under consideration by staff and the status of each of these applications.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council note information contained in the report on planning applications under consideration by staff and the status of each of these applications.

Attachments: Nil

LIST OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The information published in the list provided, is in accordance with the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014* and the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

| Application No | Applicant | Address | Date Rec | Summary of Proposal | Status |
|----------------|-----------|---|------------|---|---|
| PPA962/21 | | Corack Road, Donald (Lot 1&2 PS216306M) | 11/11/2021 | Use and development of land for a service station, construct and display a business identification sign and create or alter access to Road Zone, Category 1 | Further information request from referral authority |
| PPA974/22 | | Sutcliff Street, Sea Lake (CA 26 Sec 1 Parish of Burupga) | 01/04/2022 | Nine-lot subdivision of land | Permit issued |
| PPA977/22 | | Heenans Road, Charlton (Lot 1 PS406136) | 10/05/2022 | Construction of a single dwelling | Permit issued |
| PPA978/22 | | Sutcliff Street, Sea Lake (CA 26 Sec 1 Parish of Burupga) | 12/05/2022 | Removal of native vegetation | Awaiting report |
| PPA979/22 | | Messines Street, Nandaly (CA 2 Sec 3 Parish of Bimbourie) | 12/05/2022 | Shade sail | Permit issued |

| Application No | Applicant | Address | Date Rec | Summary of Proposal | Status |
|-----------------------|------------------|---|-----------------|---|--|
| PPA980/22 | | Camp Street, Donald (Lot 7 PS 65368) | 12/05/2022 | Three-lot subdivision of land containing existing buildings | Notice of application Referral |
| PPA981/22 | | Donald Street, Charlton (PC157596) | 18/05/2022 | Construction of a single dwelling | Request for further information |

7.6 JOINT LETTER TO SHIRE - BULOKE MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICE

Author's Title: Director Community Development

Department: Community Development

File No: CS/10/11

Relevance to Council Plan 2021 - 2025

Strategic Objective: Our Community Wellbeing

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for a joint letter received at the 11 May 2022 Council Meeting have a report brought to Council at the following Council Meeting.

SUMMARY

Council received a joint letter from persons in relation to the Maternal and Child Health Service in Buloke Shire. Council resolved to bring a report to the next available appropriate Council Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council writes to the first signatory of the letter addressing any business contained within the letter that has not been acted upon in accordance with the Buloke Shire Council Governance Rules.

Attachments: 1 [Buloke MCH Service Provision Joint Letter](#)

DISCUSSION

Council received a joint letter from 25 signatories at its 11 May 2022 Council Meeting in relation to the provision of its Maternal and Child Health service.

Maternal and Child Health Services are under a significant strain across Victoria. Some Local Government Areas (LGAs), including Buloke Shire, are currently recruiting for Maternal and Child Health Staff.

Interface Councils such as Melton, Whittlesea and Wyndham are campaigning heavily to the State Government to consider population growth projections in future funding for the sector as opposed to historical data and demand. Some of these LGAs are advertising for 12 FTE roles.

Buloke Shire Council is working closely with the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) around service provision and options in a rural context whilst leading the way in discussion with neighbouring LGAs around service provision innovation into the future.

Buloke Shire Council is committed to providing a high quality Maternal and Child Health service for all Buloke families.

Senior Officers and Councillors have met with residents to better understand and address their concerns. Council received a deputation from a group of concerned parents at the 18 May Briefing.

RELEVANT LAW

Not applicable.

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

The joint letter was tabled at the 11 May 2022 Council Meeting, with a report to be brought to the next available Council Meeting.

OPTIONS

Council may decide to deal with the matter in another fashion, as per the Buloke Shire Council Governance Rules.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no sustainability impacts from this report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

There has been no community consultation on this joint letter as it is not applicable.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Council will soon be undertaking an update to its Municipal Early Years Plan which will address many facets of the correspondence as part of a strategic planning process.

COLLABORATION

Officers have discussed the provision of services with neighbouring shires and the MAV.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

Council is funded by the State Government for large parts of the provision of its Maternal and Child Health service. This service is financially viable, the state of Victoria is currently significantly under staffed in the sector.

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Governance Rules.

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

Petitions, joint letters and other public participation methods are an integral part of Council's overarching governance principles.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No staff member involved in the preparation of this report has a conflict of interest.

Dear Mr. O'Toole, Mayor Warren and Councillors,

We write to you in relation to the provision of Maternal Child Health Services (MCHS) in the Buloke Shire.

MCH is a vital and mandated community service. It is extremely well funded by the Department of Health and has clear operating and funding guidelines which are outlined in publically available documents by the Department of Health and MAV. We are concerned that the Buloke Shire Council (BSC) is in breach of a number of these. These concerns are many and include:

- The discrepancies between the BSC provision of the MCHS and the MCHS DHHS and MAV dictate we should in fact have.
- The expenditure of unspent state funding provisions for the BSC MCHS.
- The lack of deliberative community engagement over changes to the service (5 days to 4 days etc) and structure of delivery in FTE resources.
- The reputational damage to the recruitment of a new MCHN and the need for a targeted recruitment solution, including the use of specialised consultants.
- The minimal transparency around the organisational structural changes proposed and if it is appropriate to have an administration role dealing with Health records.

The BSC needs to get it right for the sake of the future. Reflecting this:

1. We seek a simple acknowledgement and reassurance that Community Concerns are heard and that the BSC is endeavouring to do better. The refusal of the BSC to admit that there is validity to Community Concern has led to unnecessary, wasted effort by both volunteers and BSC staff that should in fact have been on service delivery.
2. We want the immediate implementation of the MCHS we are funded for and that we are within our rights to expect.
3. We want assurances for the future of this vital service. We would like to know what the BSC is doing, beyond engaging a consultant (see Point 7), to future proof essential services such as MCH. There is opportunity in the future if the BSC is prepared to act and think beyond the immediate present.
4. We want immediate and ongoing communication between the Early Years Community and the BSC about recruitment, retention and service delivery.
5. We want appropriately qualified staff, in accordance with MCH Delivery Guidelines, to be delivering the Maternal Child Health service.
6. We want some of the excess funding resulting from the reduced service provision to be redirected to immediately paying casual staff to fill the gap in the interim.
7. We want some of the excess funding resulting from the reduced service provision to be used to engage a suitable consultant to undertake a review of the delivery of Buloke Maternal Child Health Services, including the service provision and for this to be consulted on and made publicly available by August 2022.
8. We ask that this group letter be tabled as a group letter or petition at the next Ordinary Council Meeting as per The Buloke Shire Council Governance Rules 2021.

If you require any additional information, community members have kept comprehensive records of their dealings with the BSC and have read extensively on the matter through publically available documents from the Department of Health and MAV and would be happy to share them.

We want the BSC to get this right. The communities of Buloke would embrace the opportunity to engage with the BSC in accordance with the Buloke Shire Council Community Engagement Principles on this matter. We encourage contact and consultation.

Yours Sincerely,

Alison McCowan

Jacob Noonan

Marian Haddrick

De-Anne Ferrier

Clem McAuliffe

Fiona Best

Jarrold Tyler

Carling McEvoy

6/5/2022 1

25 signatures



7.7 STATUS OF ACTION OF PAST COUNCIL MEETING RESOLUTIONS

Author's Title: Executive Assistant

Department: Office of the CEO

File No: GO/05/04

PURPOSE

To provide Council an update on the Status of Action of Council Resolutions commencing from 11 May 2022 Council Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

Council to note the Status of Action Report for Council resolutions from 11 May Council Meeting.

Attachments: 1 [Status of Action of Council Resolutions from 11 May 2022 Council Meeting](#)

KEY POINTS/ISSUES

The Local Government Act 2020 (The Act) Section 9 (2) (i) provides that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

In accordance with the Council's Governance Rules adopted August 2020, Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law.

The transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured and is a fundamental principle of democratic governance.

A list of the Status of Action of Council Resolutions commencing from the 11 May 2022 Council Meeting is attached for public information.

Summary of Action on Council Resolutions – Commencing 11 May 2022 CM

11 May 2022

Commencing From 11 May 2022 Council Meeting

Status of Action of Council Resolutions for Councillor's Information

| Date | Directorate | Item | Resolution | Actioning Officer/s | Status of Action | Complete or Commenced |
|----------|-------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 11052022 | CEO Office | Letters of Congratulations and Achievement/Awards | Council acknowledge and congratulate the persons and/or groups mentioned in the report for their achievements. | EA. | Letters signed and sent. | Complete |
| 11052022 | CEO Office | Report of Councillor Assemblies | Council notes report of Councillor Assembly Meetings held 6 and 20 April 2022 | NA. | No further action required | Complete |
| 11052022 | CEO Office | Correspondence Initiated by Council | Council notes record of correspondence initiated by Council and the responses recd, and resend the letters in regards to Rail-Crossing Upgrades, given no responses have been received. | EA. | Letters resent. | Complete |
| 11052022 | WTS | Building Permits - Monthly Update | Council notes information contained in the report on Building Permits approved by staff from 1 April 2022 to 30 April 2022. | NA. | No further action required | Complete |
| 11052022 | WTS | Planning Applications Received - Monthly Update | Council notes information contained in the report on planning applications under consideration by staff and the status of each of these applications. | NA. | No further action required | Complete |
| 11052022 | CEO Office | Social Media Policy | Council adopts the Social Media Policy | Mgr Cust Engagement and Gov Officer | Action for policy Implementation completed, advertised and policy registered as required. | Complete |

Summary of Action on Council Resolutions – Commencing 11 May 2022 CM

11 May 2022

| Date | Directorate | Item | Resolution | Actioning Officer/s | Status of Action | Complete or Commenced |
|----------|-------------|---|---|---------------------|--|-----------------------|
| 11052022 | Comm Dev | Community Grants and Sponsorship | <p>Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the two funding applications noted below under the Community Grants and Sponsorship program: <p>\$3,187.34 Sustainability Fund Grant to Charlton Men's Shed; and</p> <p>\$2,000 Project Support Grant to Charlton Neighbourhood House; and</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Defers the decision on the following application and seek more information from the applicant on the expenditure breakdown for the amount applied for. <p>\$10,000 Sustainability Fund Grant to Donald Youth Group.</p> | Mgr Comm Services | Successful applicants notified. Council staff have worked with the deferred applicant to bring the proposal back to Council. | Complete |
| 11052022 | CEO Office | BSC Annual Plan Progress Report 21 – 22 – Third Quarter | Council notes the progress made to deliver the strategic objectives noted in the adopted Year 1 Annual Plan for the Buloke Council Plan 2021-2025. | NA. | No further action required | Complete |
| 11052022 | Finance | Finance Report as at 31 March 2022 | Council receives and notes the Financial Performance Report for the month ending 31 March 2022. | NA. | No further action required | Complete |
| 11052022 | Finance | Draft 2022 – 23 Financial Year Annual Budget | <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Having prepared the Draft 2022-23 Annual Budget and schedule of fees in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020, gives public notice of its endorsement; 2. Ensures the Schedule of Fees 2022 – 2023 and Capital | Mgr Finance | | |

Summary of Action on Council Resolutions – Commencing 11 May 2022 CM

11 May 2022

| Date | Directorate | Item | Resolution | Actioning Officer/s | Status of Action | Complete or Commenced |
|----------|-------------|---|--|---------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | | Expenditure Program 2022 – 2023 are included with the Draft Annual Budget 2022 – 2023 document made available for public inspection; 3. Invites submissions in relation any proposal contained with the Draft 2022-23 Draft Annual Budget until 12 noon 8 June 2022; 4. Allows presentations in support of submissions to be heard at the Council Meeting to be held on 8 June 2022. | | | |
| 11052022 | Finance | Draft 2022 – 23 to 2031 – 32 Financial Plan | That Council: 1. Having prepared the Draft 2022-23 to 2031-32 Financial Plan in accordance with the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> , gives notice of its endorsement; 2. Invites submissions in relation any proposal contained with the Draft 2022-23 to 2031-32 Financial Plan until 12 noon 8 June 2022; and 3. Allows presentations in support of submissions to be heard at the Council Meeting to be held on 8 June 2022. | Mgr Finance | | |
| 11052022 | CEO Office | Motion to Save the Murray Basin Rail Project. | Buloke Shire Council writes to Premier Andrews expressing concern over the Murray Basin Rail Project | EA/CEO | Letter to Premier has been sent. | Complete |

Summary of Action on Council Resolutions – Commencing 11 May 2022 CM**11 May 2022**

| Date | Directorate | Item | Resolution | Actioning Officer/s | Status of Action | Complete or Commenced |
|----------|-------------|---|--|---------------------|--|-----------------------|
| | | | and request that the Premier honour his government's commitment to complete the Murray Basin Rail Project to its original scope. | | | |
| 11052022 | Comm Dev | Petition – BSC's Provision of Birchip MCH Service | Council to receive this joint letter, and lay it on the table for a report to be provided to Council for consideration its next Council Meeting scheduled for 8 June 2022. | D Comm Dev | A report has been prepared for the June Council Meeting. | Complete |

7.7 Status of Action of Past Council Meeting Resolutions

Attachment 1 Status of Action of Council Resolutions from 11 May 2022 Council Meeting

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 POLICY REPORTS

Nil

8.2 MANAGEMENT REPORTS

8.2.1 SUBMISSIONS - DRAFT BUDGET 2022 - 2023 FINANCIAL YEAR

Author's Title: Chief Executive Officer

Department: Office of the CEO

File No: FM/05/02

Relevance to Council Plan 2021 - 2025

Strategic Objective: Our Council and Community Leadership

PURPOSE

To receive submissions in respect of the Draft 2022/23 Annual Budget.

SUMMARY

Council adopted the Draft 2022/23 Annual Budget at the Council Meeting held on 11 May 2022 and gave notice to the Buloke community in accordance with the Council's Community Engagement policy. Submissions will be received until 12 noon 8 June 2022. Persons making a submission are invited to attend the Council Meeting held on 8 June 2022 to present to their submissions.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives submissions in respect of the Draft 2022/23 Annual Budget adopted for exhibition on 11 May 2022.

- Attachments:**
- 1 [Submission one - Buloke Neighbourhood House - Confidential Information](#)
 - 2 [Submission two - Donald 2000 - Confidential Information](#)
 - 3 [Submission three - Donald 2000 - Confidential Information](#)

DISCUSSION

As at the date of this Report, the following written submissions have been received by the Buloke Shire Council:

| Sub. No. | Correspondent | Purpose of Submission to Draft Budget 2022/2023 |
|----------|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. | Buloke Neighbourhood House Cluster | Seeking an annual funding allocation of \$5,000 to each House in the Council's Annual Budget to support us in meeting the needs of our communities. |
| 2. | Donald 2000 Inc | Seeking \$300K available for preliminary works at Donald Tradie Park and other opportunities which may arise |
| 3. | Donald 2000 Inc | Seeking \$10K for a business case for the Donald Tradie Park |

Council will consider submissions prior to adopting the 2022-23 Annual Budget at the Council Meeting to be held on 29 June 2022.

RELEVANT LAW

In receiving and considering submissions, Council is lawfully compliant with section 96 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Council adopted the Draft 2022/23 Annual Budget at the Council Meeting held on 11 May 2022 and commenced community engagement activities.

OPTIONS

Council will consider submissions and determine whether to allocate resources in response to submissions prior to considering the 2022-23 Annual Budget at the Council Meeting to be held on 29 June 2022.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Key budget initiatives and information on services provided by Council were highlighted on Council's social media platforms, providing Council the opportunity to receive direct comments from the community and individual residents on specific matters of interest.

A copy of the Draft 2022/23 Annual Budget was provided to all primary community forums inviting feedback and submissions. A community summit was held in May 2022 to present the draft budget to the community.

Council advertised the Draft 2022/23 Annual Budget in local papers and made it available for inspection on Council's website.

Those who have made a written submission were invited to make a verbal submission to the Council Meeting on 8 June 2022.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Not applicable.

COLLABORATION

Not applicable.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY**REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES**

Not applicable.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Council's community engagement has been undertaken in accordance with the Council's Community Engagement policy.

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

This report allows submitters to make a public statement to Council and contribute to the shaping of the budget.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

I, Wayne O'Toole, have no conflicts of interest to declare in relation to this report.

. Submissions - Draft Budget 2022 - 2023 Financial Year

Submission one - Buloke Neighbourhood House - Confidential Information

0 Pages

. Submissions - Draft Budget 2022 - 2023 Financial Year

Submission two - Donald 2000 - Confidential Information 0 Pages

. Submissions - Draft Budget 2022 - 2023 Financial Year

Submission three - Donald 2000 - Confidential Information 0 Pages

8.2.2 COMMUNITY GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIPS

Author's Title: Community Development Officer

Department: Community Development

File No: GS/09/42

Relevance to Council Plan 2021 - 2025

Strategic Objective: Our Community Wellbeing

PURPOSE

This report is presented to Council to consider the allocation of funds from the Community Grants and Sponsorship Program.

SUMMARY

Presenting two applications for the Community Grants and Sponsorship program for the Financial Year 2021/2022

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Considers the following funding under the Community Grants and Sponsorship program:

\$10,000 Sustainability Fund Grant to Donald Youth Group

\$10,000 Sustainability Fund Grant to Donald Mothers of Pre Schoolers

- Attachments:**
- 1 [Community Grants 2021-2022 Council Report June](#)
 - 2 [Councillor Briefing information June](#)

DISCUSSION

The following applications for funding are being put forth to Council for final decision.

Each of these applications have been assessed as per the Community Grant Guidelines as accepted by Council. The Senior Leadership Team recommends the following grants for council's consideration and final decision on the allocations.

| Project: Reducing the VRI Halls Carbon Footprint | |
|--|--|
| Organisation: | Donald Youth Group |
| Grant Type | Sustainability Fund Grant |
| Amount Applied: | \$10,000 |
| Funding Amount Recommended: | \$10,000 |
| Full project cost: | \$15,025 |
| Project Description: | <p>The project will replace the inefficient air conditioners in the VRI building for an energy efficient one, installed by a local business. It will also replace the old and inefficient electric cooktop and oven for one that is safer and more energy efficient.</p> <p>To install these safely, the electrical circuits in the hall will need to be updated, to ensure that the circuitry is safe and prevent the building from burning down.</p> |

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Project Benefit: | <p>This will allow for the Donald Youth group to be able to use the space all year round and be able to cook meals in a safe and sustainable way.</p> <p>The project will model sustainable infrastructure, teaching the young people the importance of sustainability and making decisions that will be sustainable in the long term.</p> <p>The project will conserve resource usage and reduce their carbon footprint, through updating of old, inefficient appliances and ensuring that these new appliances are fitted into the building with electricity circuitry that is compliant with current standards.</p> |
| Project: | Sustainably repairing the VRI Hall for MOPS to use. |
| Organisation: | Donald Mothers of Pre-Schoolers Group MOPS |
| Grant Type | Project Support Grant |
| Amount Applied: | \$10,000 |
| Funding Amount Recommended: | \$10,000 |
| Full project cost: | \$15,000 |
| Project Description: | <p>Repairing and maintaining the dilapidated external weatherboards and window and door frames to avoid needing to undertake a complete replacement in coming years. If repairs and maintenance is not conducted shortly on the hall's window frames, doors and many of the weatherboards will be beyond repair. MOPS wish to remove the old paint and repair any rotted timber in preparation of repainting the building. MOPS would like to protect the asset that is there, to prevent needing to replace them, which would be an unsustainable option.</p> <p>As it is, the current structure has been quite poorly maintained, and if no restorations are undertaken soon, then the building will likely need to be demolished</p> <p>This repair to the site will improve the environment as the building will no longer be an eyesore in the area, as presently it is a derelict building in the street, and it will also conserve resource usage as the weatherboards and windows will be repaired, rather than being completely replaced.</p> |
| Project Benefit: | <p>Donald MOPS Facebook page has 96 members. The fortnightly MOPS meetings in person sees approximately 7 to 14 mums and 7 to 20 babies, toddlers and kids. The mums who come along changes each week. This project will directly benefit many mothers in Donald but it will also benefit their partners, children and friends. As when support is provided to mothers it's then felt by everyone around them.</p> <p>This project will not only benefit the MOPS group, but it will also create a safe place for vulnerable youth from Donald and surrounding areas to gather and take ownership of a space.</p> |

2021/2022 Community Grant Fund grants prior to this allocation: (24 May 2022) \$18,533.00

2021/2022 Sustainability Grant Fund grants prior to this allocation: (24 May 2022) \$26,650.67

RELEVANT LAW

Not applicable

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Not applicable

OPTIONS

Council has the option not to allocate funds as per recommended or defer for further information.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Positive impact on the carbon footprint of the facility. Positive impact of the sustainability of the building.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Manager of Community Services or Community Development Officer engaged with each applicant listed.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Not applicable

COLLABORATION

Not applicable<Type text here...>

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

Allocation sits within the 2021/22 Financial Year the Sustainability Fund of \$50,000.

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Buloke Shire Council Plan 2021-2025 and Long-Term Community Vision.

Community Grant Guidelines.
Community Engagement Policy.

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

Not applicable

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No officers involved in this report have a conflict of interest.

| Community Grants and Sponsorship | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 2021-2022 | | | Total Pool | \$20,000.00 | |
| Organisation | Type | Date received | Amount in Application | Recommended \$ | Granted by Council |
| Charlton Probus Club | Small Equipment Grant | 22/06/2021 | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Charlton Golf Club | Sponsorship | 29/06/2021 | \$ 500.00 | \$ 500.00 | \$ 500.00 |
| North Central LLEN | Sponsorship | 11/06/2021 | \$ 500.00 | Withdrawn | Withdrawn |
| Watchem Development Association | Project Support Grant | 6/07/2021 | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Donald Friends & Neighbours | Small Equipment Grant | 14/07/2021 | \$ 933.00 | \$ 933.00 | \$ 933.00 |
| Wycheproof Mens Shed | Small Equipment Grant | 13.8.21 | \$ 600.00 | \$ 600.00 | \$ 600.00 |
| Wycheproof Caravan Park | Small Equipment Grant | 11.8.21 | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Charlton Rotary Club | Sponsorship | 20.8.21 | \$ 500.00 | \$ 500.00 | \$ 500.00 |
| Wycheproof Community Resource Centre | Sponsorship | 14/0/2021 | \$ 500.00 | \$ 500.00 | \$ 500.00 |
| Wycheproof and District Lawn Tennis Club | Small Capital Equipment Grant | 20/10/2021 | \$ 500.00 | \$ 500.00 | \$ 500.00 |
| Mallee Sports Assembly | Sponsorship | 27/10/2021 | \$ 250.00 | \$ 250.00 | \$ 250.00 |
| Birchip Playgroup | Grant | 16/11/2021 | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Donald 2000 | Project Support Grant | 26/10/2021 | \$ 2,000.00 | Withdrawn | Withdrawn |
| Birchip Business and Learning Centre | Project Support Grant | 12/11/2021 | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Charlton Lions Club | Sponsorship | 3/12/2021 | \$ 250.00 | \$ 250.00 | \$ 250.00 |
| Buloke Youth Health Expo | Project Support Grant | 23/11/2021 | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Birchip Business and Learning Centre | Project Support Grant | 13/11/2021 | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 1,500.00 | \$ 1,500.00 |
| Rex Theatre Charlton | Project Support Grant | 18/02/2022 | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 2,000.00 | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Charlton Neighbourhood House | Project Support Grant | 44663 | 2000 | 2000 | \$ 2,000.00 |
| | | | | \$ 18,533.00 | \$ 18,533.00 |
| Sustainability Fund | | | | | |
| 2021-2022 | | | Total Pool | \$50,000.00 | |
| Watchem Development Association | Sustainability Grant | 23/07/2021 | \$ 8,090.00 | \$ 8,090.00 | \$ 8,090.00 |
| Wycheproof and District Lawn Tennis Club | Sustainability Grant | 20/10/2021 | \$ 7,466.80 | \$ 5,500.00 | \$ 5,500.00 |
| Donald 2000 | Sustainability | 10/11/2021 | \$ 6,535.00 | \$ 8,713.33 | \$ 8,713.33 |
| Charlton Mens Shed Solar | Sustainability Grant | 1/03/2022 | \$ 4,347.34 | \$ 4,347.34 | \$ 4,347.34 |
| Donald Youth Group | Sustainability | 30/03/2022 | \$ 10,000.00 | \$ 10,000.00 | |
| Donald MOPS | Sustainability | 31/03/2022 | \$ 10,000.00 | \$ 10,000.00 | |
| | | | | \$ 46,650.67 | \$ 26,650.67 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Remaining Funding (if all applications are approved) | | | | | |
| Community Grants | 1467 | | | | |
| Sustainability Grants | 3349.33 | | | | |

Councillor Briefing information – JUNE

Purpose:

This Briefing Report comes to Council for their consideration in relation to future guidelines and promotion of the Community Sustainability Grant Fund. The report also contains a Briefing Report for the grants to be considered by Council at its upcoming Council Meeting. This report contains further information to that of the Council Meeting Report.

SUSTAINABILITY GRANT

Community Sustainability Grant

Assistance for projects that contribute to reducing your community's carbon footprint, improve the environment or effectively conserve resource usage. Projects such as water re use systems, solar panels, updating to LED lighting will be considered.

Up to \$10,000

Council will fund projects on a \$2:1 ratio. Your contribution may consist of cash, assistance from other funding agencies, or up to 50% "in kind" such as voluntary labour or materials.

From the original report on the granting information around the concept of the Community Sustainability Grants

1. "This reserve will fund community based sustainability projects".
2. Council is committed to supporting community infrastructure and maintaining the liveability for all residents. The focus on sustainability is clearly spelt out in the Buloke Council Plan which states that we are

"A Shire working with the community to reduce our carbon footprint, protect and enhance the natural environment and share experiences and information"

The creation of this reserve empowers our communities to take the lead in determining what sustainability projects are important to them and to provide funds to carry out these projects.

3. Funds from this reserve can be allocated to sustainability initiatives through the setting up of an annual community sustainability grant program, with a pool of \$50,000

Questions raised from these guidelines and the original report:

- There is no clear expectation of what these projects will entail, it is a very broad scoping concept, which has often been a limiting factor for community groups assessing their projects with these grants.
- In the past few years, the primary focus of these grants has been on installation of solar panels, however most groups now have solar panels installed, so there needs to be a shift in our focus so that there is more of a broader scope to the initiatives presented as projects seeking sustainability grant funding.
- There is a collective underspend in the Community Grants Sustainability Grant of \$72,000 from previous financial years, and this funding is much better being used by the community for these types of projects, rather than being left as unspent funding.

Discussion points for consideration:

- How can we adjust the guidelines so that it captures the breadth of what Sustainability can entail?
- Should we create a secondary stream of sustainability funding that does not require co-contributions, so that smaller community groups can access this funding?

Current Projects up for consideration by Council:

Both projects are relating to the Donald VRI Hall – pictured below. The Granite Church and its auspiced organisations have a 10 year lease, with the option of another 10 years after that.



Donald Youth Group

- Installation and upgrade of essential appliances, which would reduce the carbon footprint of the building.
- At the previous Council Meeting, there were concerns around the budget, and what the costings would be for this funding. The costings are outlined below. Councillors should note that there is a requirement for the electrical circuits in the building to be upgraded so that the new appliances are able to safely operate, without shorting the existing electrical circuits. All appliances are being purchased locally and the electrician is also a local trade's person.
 - Oven - \$2,299
 - Reverse Cycle AC/ Heater - \$2,899
 - Electrical installations, power upgrade and relevant inspections - \$10,300

Donald MOPS

- At the previous Council Briefing, Councillors did not feel as though it aligned with the program and did not believe that it targeted sustainability sufficiently.
 - The project is actively conserving resource usage through having renovating and repairing existing features, rather than having to demolish the full building and build it back up again.
 - Save trees from milling and energy from processing and transporting them, as well as reduce the number of resources that are required to enhance the building
 - By doing this work, there will be less air that is leaked out of the building, through the rotting window frames, which will mean that the building becomes more insulated, and thereby reducing the carbon footprint that heating/ cooling, and keeping it at a consistent level, will create.
 - This project will also open up a discussion with the MOPs team, as well as the Youth Group that works out of the space, around why it's important to repair buildings, rather than ripping them down, and it will mean that there will be a great deal of sustainability conversations that will happen as a result of the project.
 - The project was endorsed by the Senior Leadership team, as a project that aligns with the sustainability guidelines

It's important to note that these projects are part of a set of initiatives from the Youth Group and the Granite church that will bring the VRI back to life, in projects that will be primarily led by some of the most vulnerable Youth in the southern end of Buloke, giving them the capacity to have ownership over the space, and providing them with connections that they might otherwise not get.

8.2.3 TOURISM BUSINESS INNOVATION GRANTS - ROUND ONE

Author's Title: Manager Facilities and Projects

Department: Works and Technical Services

File No: GS/09/50

Relevance to Council Plan 2021 - 2025

Strategic Objective: Our Economy

PURPOSE

This report is presented to the Council to consider applications received under round one of the Tourism Business Innovation Grants Program.

SUMMARY

As a result of the Council receiving funding from the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR) Tourism Infrastructure Program (Flagship Projects), the Council had the opportunity to administer a once-off grant program worth a total of \$60,000 to fund tourism business pilots in the Buloke Shire over two rounds. This report is presented to the Council to consider applications received under round one, and recommends the Council authorises the payment of \$30,000 to the Birchip Cropping Group based on their application receiving the highest score by the assessment panel.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to notify the Birchip Cropping Group of their successful application to the Tourism Business Innovation Grants Program, Round One;
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to approve payment of a grant contribution totalling \$30,000 to the Birchip Cropping Group under the Round One of the Tourism Business Innovation Grants Program, Round One;
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to notify unsuccessful applicants of the outcome.

Attachments: Nil

DISCUSSION

In 2021, Council received \$790,000 in funding under the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR) Tourism Infrastructure Program (Flagship Projects) to deliver a four-part project including:

- Buloke accommodation for lakes inviting niche tourism,
- Night activation for Silo Art,
- A Street Art Festival, and a
- Business Innovation Pilot program.

The purpose of the fund is to deliver priority projects identified in the Silo Art Gap Analysis, which was funded and developed by the DJPR, in partnership with Wimmera Mallee Tourism member Councils (Buloke, Hindmarsh, West Wimmera and Yarriambiack Shire Councils).

As part of this funding, Buloke is represented on a greater Project Design Steering Group (PDSG) with representatives from Hindmarsh, West Wimmera and Yarriambiack Shire Councils, Regional Development Victoria (RDV) Grampians, RDV Loddon Mallee, Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation, Visit Victoria and the Tourism and Tourism Events Visitor Economy (TEVE) department of DJPR.

The purpose of the Business Innovation Pilot program under the grant agreement is to:

- Support local businesses to maximise benefits from increased tourism,
- Provide financial support to at least one pilot project per year over two financial years, and
- Increase visitor expenditure by 2023-2024 using a 2019-2020 baseline.

Guidelines

The Council endorsed the Tourism Business Innovation Grants Guidelines at its meeting in April. The guidelines aim to support projects and initiatives which are aligned to the Councils tourism objectives, prioritising applications which can demonstrate:

- Alignment with key strategies in the Interim Economic Development and Tourism Strategy 2023-2024:
 - Theme 1: COVID Recovery – “Positioning Buloke for Domestic Visitor Experiences”
 - Theme 4: Targeted industries investment – “Tourism Attractions and Responsive Town Businesses”, and “Enhance agribusiness diversification and value-adding”
- Alignment with priorities identified in the Silo Art Gap Analysis for Buloke:
 - Improved visitor servicing (improved and consistent offering, or innovative offerings)
 - Adding value to existing Silo Art Trail through innovative activation of current tourism product or development of new tourism product
- Increase visitor expenditure in Buloke by 2023-2024.

Assessment Panel

Originally, the assessment panel which was established was designed to include representation from Councils key tourism stakeholders, including a representative from the Economic Development and Tourism Advisory Committee (EDATAC), Buloke Tourism Board (BTB), specialist Council Officers, and an independent tourism professional.

After further consideration and feedback from members of Buloke Tourism Board, it was determined that including a representative from Buloke Tourism Board may prohibit the ability for the Board to support or endorse applications to the fund, and their ability to make an application to the fund should they decide to. Instead, Officers enquired through Wimmera Mallee Tourism Board to seek an alternate panel member who was independent of Council administration.

Additionally, leading up to the Assessment Panel meeting, the Chair of the Councils Economic Development and Tourism Advisory Committee declared a conflict of interest, as they were making an application on behalf of Charlton Neighbourhood House. Unfortunately, the remaining members of the EDATAC who were independent of the Councils administration and Councillor representatives also had conflicts of interest. Officers did not pursue a replacement panel member on that basis.

The Assessment Panel Members were:

| Name | Position/Organisation |
|-----------------------|---|
| Amber Ricks | Manager Facilities and Projects, Buloke Shire Council |
| Kerrie Mulholland | Tourism Projects Officer, Buloke Shire Council |
| Rebecca Postlethwaite | Community Development Officer, Buloke Shire Council |

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Bernard Young | Member, Wimmera Mallee Tourism Board |
| Darby Ryan | Regional Development Australia Coordinator, Grampians Region, Regional Development Victoria |
| David Leathem | Independent Tourism Professional (Previous Manager Economic Development and Tourism at Mount Alexander Shire Council, and currently a Tourism Consultant). |

Assessment Criteria

Each application was scored against the below nine criteria which were directly linked to the *Tourism Business Innovation Guidelines*:

1. Originality and uniqueness of idea in Buloke
2. How well will their idea attract and encourage tourism in the Buloke region
3. Positioning Buloke for domestic visitor experiences
4. Adding value to the existing Silo Art Trail through innovative activation
5. Extending overnight stay within the region through traditional target markets
6. Attracting new target markets to the regions, in line with Council's tourism markets – Grey Nomad Day Trippers, Lifestyle Leaders and Young Active families
7. Improved visitor servicing (improved and consistent offering, innovative offerings)
8. Number of towns likely to receive benefit
9. Sustainability – documents provided by applicant demonstrate likelihood of sustainable business model post-funding

Assessment Rubric and Scoring Method

Rubric

| Scoring | | |
|-----------|--|-------|
| Result | Description | Score |
| Excellent | The application satisfies the selection criteria to an excellent standard. The supporting information is comprehensive, well-evidenced and compelling. | 9-10 |
| Very Good | The application satisfies the selection criteria to a very good standard. The supporting information is clearly articulated and compelling. | 7-8 |
| Good | The application satisfies the selection criteria to an acceptable degree. There are some minor deficiencies and shortcomings in the detail of the supporting documentation. Shortcomings in supporting documentation are not critical to the success of the project. | 5-6 |
| Average | The application barely satisfies the selection criteria. There are major deficiencies in the detail of the supporting information. | 3-4 |
| Poor | The supporting information is insufficient to allow an in-depth assessment of application against the selection criteria. | 0-2 |

All panellists received a copy of the applications, the scoring rubric, and the following instructions via email on the afternoon of Wednesday 16 May 2022:

1. Each panellist is required to score applications against the assessment criteria using the scoring rubric provided.
2. Each criterion is scored between 1-10, with 1 being the lowest score and 10 being the highest score.
3. Each applicant's total score will be an average of the total of all Assessment panellists criteria scores.
4. To assist with the panel assessment, discussion, and moderation of scores, it is recommended that panellists keep notes against each score.

Assessment Moderation Method

To ensure transparency and integrity of scoring, outlying scores were moderated across the top scoring applications using the following methodology:

When there is a conflict of scores between assessment panellists of +/-3, the panellists discussed their scoring in detail to ensure their understanding of the application responses and the scoring rubric were consistent.

Based on the discussion, panellists could choose to maintain their score, or modify it.

Applications received

Applicant

Overview of initiative

Sea Lake Bike Cabs

'Picnic Rides under the Stars' – Offering guided tours or self-tours on electric scooters or Pedi-cabs around Sea Lake points of interest.

Total projected expenditure: \$30,700

Other grant income/contributions: \$0

Grant amount requested: \$30,000

Charlton Neighbourhood House

'First Peoples Art Trail – Stage Two' – The production of a series of stories and interviews with Djaara people which can be played by placing two audio units along the banks of the Avoca River.

Total projected expenditure: \$78,000

Other grant income/contributions: \$30,000 (Regional Arts Victoria – not yet confirmed, but invitation to apply has been received)

Other grant income/contributions: \$8,000 (Community – confirmed)

Other grant income/contributions: \$10,000 (Other philanthropic organisations – not yet confirmed)

Grant amount requested: \$30,000

'Sea Lake Visitor Hub' – Expand offering to include the sale of locally produced ice cream and gelato.

Lake Tyrrell Salt Company

Total projected expenditure: \$19,500

Other grant income/contributions: \$12,927 (Business own source - confirmed)

Grant amount requested: \$6,573

'Buloke Events Centre Sound Shell' – Install a purpose-built sound shell on site at the Buloke Events Centre to expand the number of events that can be held at the site.

Donald 2000

Total projected expenditure: \$60,000

| | |
|--|--|
| | Other grant income/contributions: \$15,000 (Volunteer in-kind – confirmed) |
| | Other grant income/contributions: \$15,000 (External and internal funds – confirmed) |
| | Grant amount requested: \$30,000 |
| | ‘Blue Duck’ – Establishment of Blue Duck Donald Distillery and Smokehouse. |
| Blue Duck Donald Distillery and Smokehouse | Total projected expenditure: \$154,816 |
| | Other grant income/contributions: \$160,000 (Business sales forecast May 2022-April 2023– not confirmed) |
| | Grant amount requested: \$30,000 |
| | ‘Sea Lake Street Art’ – Expand the street art offering in Sea Lake by creating a series of three new major art works on the walls of the Royal Hotel, replicating Melbourne’s iconic laneways. |
| Royal Hotel Sea Lake Co-Operative | Total projected expenditure: \$36,500 |
| | Other grant income/contributions: \$6,500 (Business own source - confirmed) |
| | Grant amount requested: \$30,000 |
| | ‘Hotel upgrade’ – Painting, new floor coverings, electrical work, and new TV installation. |
| Royal Mail Hotel Wycheproof | Total projected expenditure: \$45,000 |
| | Other grant income/contributions: \$65,000 (Business sales forecast – not confirmed) |
| | Grant amount requested: \$30,000 |
| | ‘Farm tours’ – Tours to local farms to meet and talk with farmers about what they produce, the technology and machinery used with a paddock-to-plate food experience curated by Chef Stefano de Pieri. |
| Birchip Cropping Group | Total projected expenditure: \$58,600 |
| | Other grant income/contributions: \$32,000 (farm tour income – not confirmed) |
| | Grant amount requested: \$30,000 |
| | ‘Complete the fit-out’ – Works to finalise custom built office, grooming salon and indoor dog pens to facilitate accommodation for up to 17 dogs. |
| Pampered Pets Wycheproof | Total projected expenditure: \$46,000 |
| | Other grant income/contributions: \$46,000 (business own source – not confirmed) |
| | Grant amount requested: \$15,664 |

Assessment Scores

| Applicant | Raw Score | Final Score (Average) |
|------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Sea Lake Bike Cabs | 337 | 56.1 |
| Charlton Neighbourhood House | 369 | 61 |
| Lake Tyrrell Salt Company | 208 | 34.6 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|------|
| Donald 2000 | 326 | 54.3 |
| Blue Duck Donald | 326 | 54.3 |
| Royal Hotel Sea Lake | 313 | 52.1 |
| Royal Mail Hotel Wycheproof | 235 | 39.1 |
| Birchip Cropping Group | 397 | 66 |
| Pampered Pets Wycheproof | 229 | 38 |

Assessment Panel Feedback and final remarks

The assessment panel were overall very impressed with the variety and calibre of applications received and impressed upon the point that the Council should consider how it may assist unsuccessful applicants to facilitate their ideas in future.

The panel suggested that unsuccessful applicants:

- be nominated for mentoring by the Tourism Ninja, which is being funded by the State Government under the Silo Art Activation fund, with 25 places available across the Wimmera Mallee Region,
- are encouraged to apply for any future funding rounds of the State Government's Enabling Tourism Fund, and
- Are provided tangible and constructive feedback on their applications to assist them with an application to Round Two if the Tourism Business Innovation Grants which opens in August

Pre-moderation, both the Birchip Cropping Group (BCG) and Charlton Neighbourhood House (CNH) tied at equal first, however after moderation, the BCG had a higher score by 5 points.

The Assessment Panel has suggested the Council consider funding both the BCG and CNH an equal \$15,000 each, contingent on both applicants' ability to fulfill the intentions of the application with less funding, and within the timeframes stipulated in the *Tourism Business Innovation Guidelines*.

Prior to preparing this report, Officers requested further information from the BCG with regard to their ability to meet the project objectives in their grant application, if the project was only partly funded. The BCG confirmed that the project would not be able progress unless it was fully funded.

Similarly, Officers engaged with the Charlton Neighbourhood House with regard to their application. Although the CNH did not say that their project would not proceed if only part-funded, they did confirm they would have to seek funds elsewhere to ensure the project went ahead.

Officers recommend that the Council grant \$30,000 in funding the BCG.

RELEVANT LAW

Not applicable.

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

The Council endorsed the *Tourism Business Innovation Grant Guidelines* at its meeting in April 2022.

OPTIONS

Not applicable.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Applications which directly contravene the Councils plans or policies were considered ineligible under this fund.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council's Economic Development and Tourism Advisory Committee (EDATAC) were consulted upon receipt of funding by the DJPR to discuss the most effective way to allocate the funding.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Officers prepared these guidelines which inform how the fund is administered in collaboration with industry stakeholders to ensure that funded activities align with tourism objectives and priorities identified at a local, regional and state level.

COLLABORATION

Officers sought advice from DJPR, member Councils of Wimmera Mallee Tourism, and the Tourism Infrastructure Program (Flagship Projects) PDSG in the development of the fund guidelines. Officers invited three tourism industry stakeholders independent of Council administration to participate in the Assessment Panel.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

The grant program is being funded by the DJPR Tourism Infrastructure Program (Flagship Projects) funding received by Council in 2021

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Officers have prepared the funding model and associated guidelines in line with priorities outlined in the Wimmera Mallee Silo Art Gap Analysis.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

Officers have prepared the funding model and associated guidelines in line with priorities identified in the following Council plans and strategies:

- Long-Term Community Vision and Council Plan 2021-2025
- Interim Economic Development and Tourism Strategy 2022-23

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

Due to the commercial information and intellectual property contained in this report, it is recommended that this matter be excluded from the public.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No Officer in the preparation of this report have a conflict of interest to declare.

8.2.4 DRAFT ASSET PLAN

Author's Title: Manager Assets

Department: Works and Technical Services

File No: FM/02/09

Relevance to Council Plan 2021 - 2025

Strategic Objective: Our Built and Natural Environment

PURPOSE

The purpose of this agenda item is for Council to approve the Draft Asset Plan for public release for comment.

SUMMARY

The Asset Plan provides an overview of Council's fixed assets, the strategic challenges it faces in responsible asset management, and the strategies Council is pursuing over the next 10 years. In line with Council's community engagement principles of good communication and transparency of decision making, the release of the Draft Asset Plan for public comment is a key phase in reviewing Council's current Road Management Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council acknowledge the release of the Draft Asset Plan for public comment.

Attachments: 1 [Draft Asset Plan - Community Consultation](#)

DISCUSSION

The Draft Asset Plan has been prepared and presented to the Buloke community as a 'balanced' preliminary plan formulated using assumptions as a starting point for Council decisions including the development of priorities for asset renewal/replacement, and consideration and review future capital works programs. The use of 'preliminary' in this context emphasises the need to review and update the Plan at least once per year so that the underpinning assumptions are updated as Council's knowledge of the condition and capacity of its assets improves.

The Plan also provides the opportunity for the Buloke community to gain an understanding of asset management in its strategic context. It highlights the perpetual challenges associated with balancing community expectations with the capacity to pay, and outlines how Council intends to develop strategies, services and investment in infrastructure which meets the community's needs whilst simultaneously remaining affordable.

RELEVANT LAW

The Local Government Act 2020 requires the Council to develop an Asset Plan to clearly and transparently set its direction and priorities which support the efficient and responsible management of its assets on behalf of the community. This review is to be completed by June 2022.

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

There are no related Council decisions with respect to the Draft Asset Plan.

OPTIONS

Council do not release the review for public comment.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The sustainable use of physical, monetary and human resources is imperative developing long term cost-effective asset management strategies.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Initial comments on the proposed Asset Plan were sought during the Community Summit. These comments have been incorporated into the Draft Plan for future reference. The plan is now subject to final a round of community engagement prior to being considered by the Council at its June Council Meeting.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Council continues to work with the community to develop master plans across a range of asset classes, including sport and recreation precincts. These master plans provide the opportunity for the Council to pursue targeted funding opportunities on infrastructure projects to ensure best value for money and alignment with Council's long term community vision.

COLLABORATION

Not applicable.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

Key financial challenges and actions associated with the management of the Councils Assets are set out within the proposed Plan

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable to this report.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

The development of the Asset Plan is in accordance with, and complementary to the Council Plan, the Community Engagement Policy and is a requirement of the Annual Plan.

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

To promote transparency, Council will acknowledge the release the Draft Asset Plan for public comment.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

Buloke Shire Council

Asset Plan

2022-2032

The Buloke Shire is located in the north-west of Victoria between 210 and 360 kilometres from Melbourne. It is bounded by both the Mildura and Swan Hill Rural Cities in the north, Gannawarra and Loddon Shires in the east, Northern Grampians Shire in the south and Yarriambiack Shire in the west.

Buloke is a predominantly rural area. The main townships are Birchip, Charlton, Donald, Sea Lake and Wycheproof. The Shire also comprises of the smaller townships of Berriwillcock, Culgoa, Nandaly, Nullawil and Watchem.

Buloke encompasses a total land area of 8,000 square kilometres and is approximately 140 kilometres long and 60 kilometres wide. Council maintains a road network spanning 5,302 kilometres. There are also 747 kilometres of roads under State Government control within Buloke. The two main arterial roads servicing Buloke are the Calder and the Sunraysia Highways. Both run north and south through the Shire. Land is used largely for agriculture, particularly grain (wheat, oats and barley) production and sheep grazing.

The current population according to 2016 Census results is 6,201. The Buloke Shire experienced steady population decline between the 2011 and 2016 Census of approximately 2.81%. In the 2014 **Loddon Mallee North Regional Growth Plan**, it was projected that the Buloke population would increase to 6,779 in 2021. However, pre-COVID, there was a general belief locally that this projection would unlikely be met as the region continues to face an ageing population and workforce.

While the 2021 Census of population results were not published at the time this Plan was developed, other regional studies discuss the increase in regional migration from metropolitan Melbourne as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the 2022 **Wimmera Development Association Housing Blueprint** which investigates future housing demand across the Wimmera Southern Mallee region, the Wimmera Development Association projects an increase in population of 1.9% across the region over the period 2021-2036. It is expected that the neighbouring LGAs of Horsham Rural City Council and Northern Grampians Shire Council will see significant positive population growth, and Buloke is expected to move towards population stability over the next 15 years which is positive, given population of Buloke has traditionally been expected to continually decline.

Acknowledgement

Buloke Shire Council acknowledges the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagalk Nations and the Dja Dja Wurrung people as the traditional owners of parts of the land now known as Buloke. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and value their ongoing contribution to our heritage and our community.

Buloke has a significant number of cultural heritage places including an Aboriginal historical place, burials, artefact scatters, earth features, low density artefact distributions, scarred trees and a stone feature.

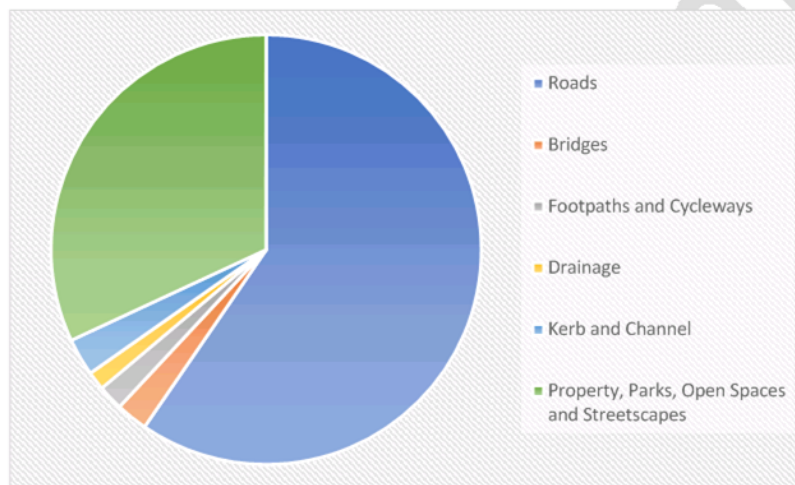
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Executive Summary

Local government entities are well-known to be asset-intensive organisations, and as such, responsible asset management is essential to balance the community's service needs and long-term financial sustainability. This is especially important in rural councils such as Buloke, as the operating costs of assets often far outweigh our metropolitan counterparts.

Buloke Shire Council delivers over 100 services to the community and manages over \$273,448 million in physical infrastructure assets. This Asset Plan (Plan) has been developed to inform the Buloke community on how the Council intends to manage and maintain the below Council-owned and controlled infrastructure assets:



The Plan has been prepared and presented to the Buloke community as a 'balanced' preliminary plan formulated using assumptions as a starting point for Council decisions including the development of priorities for asset renewal/replacement, and consideration and review future capital works programs. The use of 'preliminary' in this context emphasises the need to review and update the Plan at least once per year so that the underpinning assumptions are updated as Council's knowledge of the condition and capacity of its assets improves.

This Plan also provides the opportunity for the Buloke community to gain an understanding of asset management in its strategic context. It highlights the perpetual challenges associated with balancing community expectations with the capacity to pay, and outlines how Council intends to develop strategies, services and investment in infrastructure which meets the community's needs whilst simultaneously remaining affordable.

Introduction

The *Local Government Act 2020* requires the Council to develop an Asset Plan to clearly and transparently set its direction and priorities which support the efficient and responsible management of its assets on behalf of the community.

The purpose of this Plan is to provide an overview of Council's fixed assets, the strategic challenges it faces in responsible asset management, and the strategies Council is pursuing over the next 10 years.

Strategic Context

Long Term Vision:

Our future Buloke has quality, safe and accessible infrastructure valued by and responsive to the community alongside attractive streetscapes and a protected and celebrated natural environment reflecting Buloke pride.

Key Principles:

- Built assets are critical to Buloke's economic health and community wellbeing
- Assets are fit for purpose based on current and future community need
- Assets support and enhance intergenerational equity by being financially, socially, and environmentally sustainable
- Asset management focusses on its asset renewal needs before it elects to upgrade or construct new assets

Goals and Indicators:

- Council assets deliver appropriate service levels which balance financial sustainability with community expectations and demand
- Customer satisfaction with assets is maintained or increased where possible
- Effective financial planning ensures capacity for asset renewal and replacement

Strategies and Key Priorities:

- Understand the condition, functionality, utilisation, and capacity of assets to ensure targeted asset management planning, including through undertaking audits of asset infrastructure
- Ensure strategic planning and asset planning are aligned to optimise efficient and effective asset management
- Advocate for funding and construction of essential assets by State and Federal governments to support liveability and reduce pressure on Council's community, assets, and financial position
- Anticipate and monitor emerging issues and community needs to ensure asset management decisions achieve best outcomes for the community, including future generations.

Asset Planning

What is a Council Asset?

An asset is defined as something of value, and that can meet the commitments or goals and objectives of an organisation (deliver a service). An asset can be tangible (something which you can physically touch, like a building or a road), or it can be intangible (an experience, or professional expertise).

Profiles of our Assets

For the purposes of this Plan, assets are considered as tangible and fixed infrastructure assets which are owned or controlled by the Council. As at 30 June 2021, Buloke's carry value of assets comprised:

| | Roads | Bridges | Footpaths and Cycleways | Drainage | Kerb and Channel | Property, Parks, Open Spaces and Streetscapes |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---|
| Value | \$157.86M | \$6.31M | \$5.03M | \$3.71M | \$7.47M | \$84.63M |
| Capital Works Budget FY23 | \$6.02M | \$0.16M | \$0.83M | \$0.38M | - | \$9.186M |
| % Assets in Fair to Good Condition | Assessment Underway | Assessment Underway | Assessment Underway | Assessment Underway | Assessment Underway | Assessment Underway |
| State Average (%) | Assessment Underway | Assessment Underway | Assessment Underway | Assessment Underway | Assessment Underway | Assessment Underway |
| Small Council Average (%) | Assessment Underway | Assessment Underway | Assessment Underway | Assessment Underway | Assessment Underway | Assessment Underway |
| Service Requests (from 1 July 2021) | 558 | Nil | 67 | 27 | 23 | 426 |
| New Works Requests (from 1 July 2021) | 3 | Nil | 2 | Nil | Nil | 3 |

What is Asset Management?

Asset Management relates to long term planning which outline the asset activities for each asset class. In other words, provides a framework for the actions and resources required to provide a defined level of service in the most cost-effective way. The objective of asset management is to:

- Ensure alignment with Council's strategic goals and key asset management policies
- Define levels of service and performance standards
- Identify demand forecasts and management techniques
- Provide a definition of the asset portfolio
- Include a broad description of the lifecycle management activities for operating, maintaining, renewing, developing, and disposing of assets
- Outline key asset improvement actions, including resources and timeframes.

Assets and Service Delivery

An asset is the infrastructure which enables the delivery of a service to the community.

A service, or the agreed service level (what the Council agrees to deliver to the community), is what drives the need or requirement for an asset.

For example:

A **recreation reserve building** or **stadium** is an asset which provides a space for the community to participate in recreational services, community sport and other activities which promote healthy and active lifestyles.

A **bridge** is an asset which provides the community safe access over a waterway or terrain which is difficult to navigate, or access between communities.

Council delivers over 100 services to the community and in doing so, must ensure assets supporting these services are managed in a way that optimises performance for the lowest 'whole of life' cost.

How Councils invest in assets

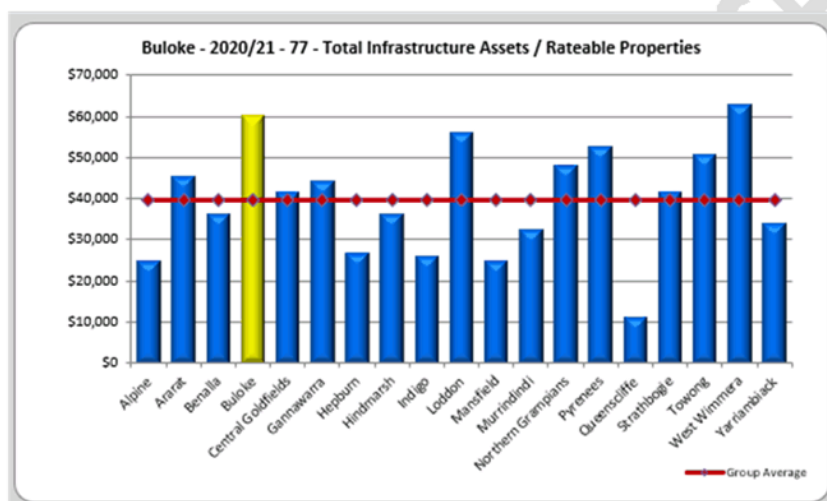
Council uses ratepayer and external funding to invest in asset through the following annual and cyclical expenditure:

| Type of Expenditure | Definition | Purpose/Example |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Maintenance | Expenditure on an asset which maintains the asset in use, but does not increase its service potential or life | Maintaining asset serviceability by repair, e.g., repairing a single pipe in a drainage network or a pothole in a road |
| New asset expenditure | Expenditure which creates a new asset that provides a service which does not currently exist. New asset expenditure does not have any element of renewal, expansion or upgrade of existing assets. New capital expenditure may or may not result in additional revenue for Council and will result in an additional burden for future operation, maintenance and capital renewal | Provides new assets for services which do not currently exist |
| Asset renewal expenditure | Expenditure on an existing asset or on replacing an existing asset which returns the service capability of the asset to its original capability. It has no impact on revenue but may reduce future operating and maintenance expenditure if completed at the optimum time | Retains an existing service level, e.g., re-sheeting and road reseals, resurfacing an oval |
| Asset expansion expenditure | Expenditure which extends the capacity of an existing asset to provide benefits to new users at the same standard as is provided to existing beneficiaries. It is discretionary expenditure which increases future operating and maintenance costs because it increases the Council's asset base but may be associated with additional revenue from the new user group | Increases the quality of service provided to ratepayers or provides new services, e.g., widening the pavement of a sealed area of an existing road |
| Asset upgrade expenditure | Means expenditure which enhances an existing asset to provide a higher level of service or that will increase the life of the asset beyond its original life. Asset upgrade expenditure is discretionary and often does not result in additional revenue unless direct user charges apply. It will increase operating and maintenance expenditure in the future because of the increase in the Council's asset base | Extends services to newly developing areas of the Council where there are new ratepayers, e.g., extending a road or drainage network, new pre-school |

Our Challenges

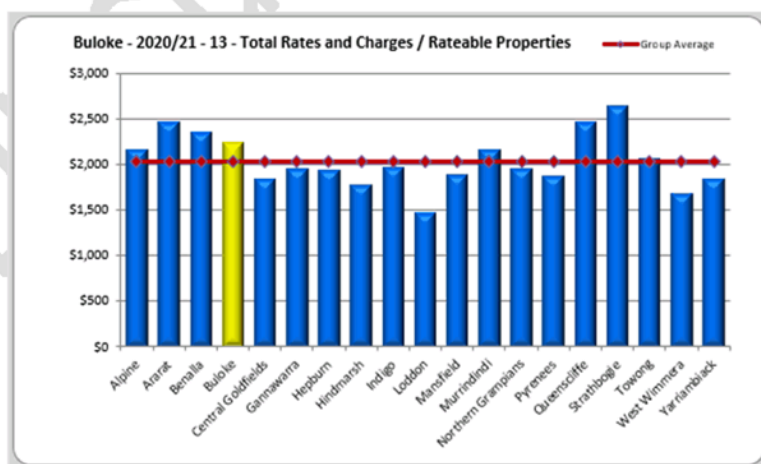
General

Buloke is managing comparatively high assets when compared with similar small rural Councils. Highlighting Infrastructure (roads, drainage, bridges and footpaths) assets reported as at 30 June 2021 below, Buloke manages \$60,000 worth of assets for every rateable property significantly above the small rural Council group average



Source: CT Management Council Financial Benchmarks – 2020/21

The cost of maintaining our asset base is not reflected in rates income with Buloke close to average for similar small rural councils, reflecting Buloke's reliance on State and Federal Grant funding to maintain service levels and assets.

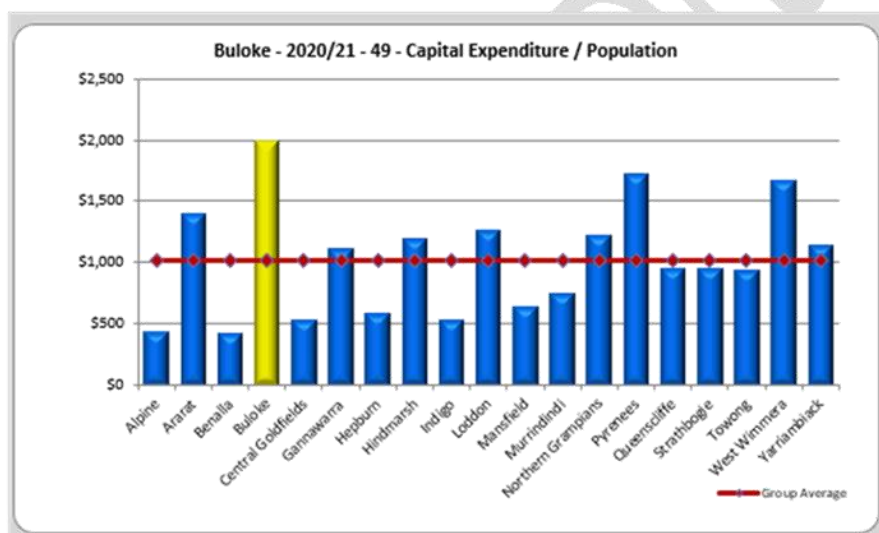


Source: CT Management Council Financial Benchmarks - 2020/21

Renewal Gap

All councils face the problem of ageing assets. As the condition of assets deteriorates, the level of service supported by those assets diminishes. Councils must invest in maintaining and replacing those assets if they wish to maintain the same level of service. The asset 'renewal gap' refers to the difference between the funding councils need to renew their existing assets and the money they actually allocate to this purpose. What we need and are able or prepared to fund is determined by the Council after weighing up available data and evidence, competing priorities, and differing viewpoints.

Ageing infrastructure has been a long-term challenge in the Buloke Shire. The significant asset burden on a small rate payer base presents an ongoing challenge of sourcing appropriate funds to reduce the asset renewal gap on Buloke's extensive road network as well as key community infrastructure such as Town Halls, pools and sporting precincts. Upgrading the ageing drainage network across Buloke and ensuring accessibility considerations to cater for Buloke's population demographic all bring together the challenge of ensuring required investment into the priority areas.



Source: CT Management Council Financial Benchmarks – 2020/21

Community Expectations

The provision of assets has historically been demand driven with a priority on meeting user expectations. Council operates in a constrained fiscal environment and has a forecasted decline in population within the municipality however has experienced a growth in expectations and costs far outstripping revenue growth. The need to budget for renewal and replacement of ageing assets will ultimately result in a further focus on demand, service levels and expectation management.

Our Future

Strategic Improvement Initiatives

The Council's goal in management of its assets is to meet the required level of service as far as reasonably practicable in a manner which is cost effective for current and future users. Key elements of this approach include:

- Taking a whole of life approach
- Developing long term cost-effective management strategies
- Providing a defined level of service and monitoring performance
- Managing risks associated with asset failures
- Sustainable use of physical resources
- Continuous improvement in asset management practices.

For effective asset management, Council has identified the below profiles to establish key objectives for each category for the development of specific Asset Management Implementation Plans. Initial feedback against each of the profiles received during Council's community engagement period is summarised and will be referred to in the development of the Implementation Plans

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Transport | <p>The largest asset class at the Council. A hierarchy made up of the road types defines the Council's road network and guides management decisions.</p> <p>Community Feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>We are an ageing population, and footpaths and crossovers are a real necessity</i> • <i>We need to triple investment allowed for in next year's budget for drainage and investment and planning – better to do this now before another flood</i> • <i>We should allow for an acceptable level of flooding on roads because of once in 100-year floods, etc</i> • <i>We need to look at the most cost-effective material, and the maintenance requirements for different footpath materials</i> • <i>As someone who uses mobility aids, paths that aren't concrete bring up safety concerns</i> |
| Drainage | <p>Drainage is made up of a network of pipes, pits and sumps. The majority of these assets are buried and the service they provide significantly contributes to the health of the community.</p> <p>Council's stormwater drainage network ensures water run-off is captured quickly and diverted into storage areas such as sumps. With an effective drainage system there should be no pooling of water on the roads or flooding under normal weather conditions.</p> <p>Community Feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Review drainage in consultation with water authorities who are doing innovative work in this area</i> |

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Recreation and open space | <p>Council owns and/or maintains parks, recreational facilities, lakes, streetscapes and swimming pools. Recreation assets also include sports precincts, parks, playground equipment, barbeques, seats and shelters</p> <p>Community Feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How are community plans reflected in asset planning?</i> • <i>Is there a document which breaks down recreational and community areas so people can consider during community planning?</i> • <i>We really need to increase tourism and have people come up farther than places like Northern Grampians, etc to spend their money</i> |
| Buildings and structures | <p>The building and structures portfolio is a significant touch point for the community as it includes town halls, senior citizens centres and public toilets</p> <p>Community Feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Specific community consultation will be required where there is a proposal to let the asset decline or demolish the asset</i> |

Council's Asset Management Implementation Plans will consider the following key questions with respect to asset investment:

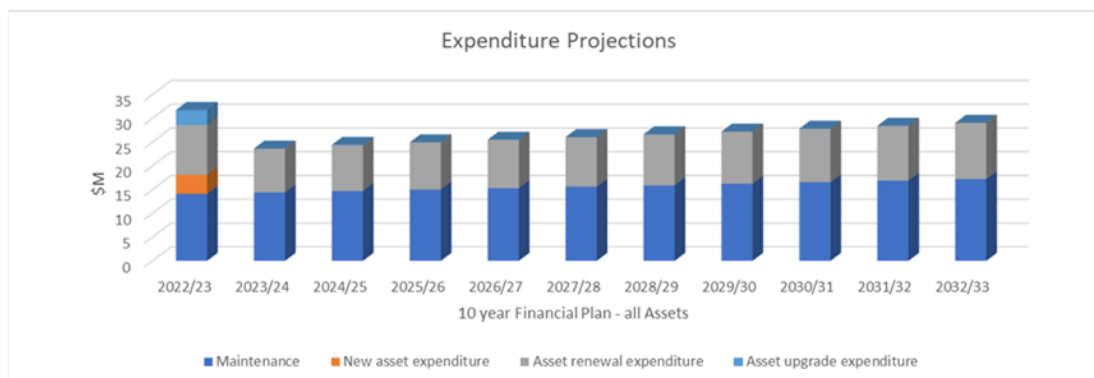
- How much does it cost ratepayers to retain the current asset portfolio, that is, what is the long-term average cost of renewal plus maintenance?
- What assets support service delivery and therefore should be renewed and retained as opposed to assets which are surplus and should be rationalised?
- How much will need to be spent in the short term (relative to the renewal expenditure in the recent past)?
- How much more management effort (financial and operational) will be required of Council as assets age?
- What assets are at the risk phase or intervention level of their lifecycle and will ultimately result in their being unserviceable and unsafe?
- What outcomes would the community and Council like to achieve with respect to asset upgrades?
- Are the assets providing the level of service expected by the community currently and into the future?
- What assets should the community manage for decline to free up funds to improve levels of service for other assets?

Strategic Capital Investment

Council continues to work with the community to develop master plans across a range of asset classes, including sport and recreation precincts. These master plans provide the opportunity for the Council to pursue targeted funding opportunities on infrastructure projects to ensure best value for money and alignment with Council's long term community vision.

The projected capital expenditure in Council's Financial Plan is based on available asset data. Priority provision is required for critical renewal investment and is funded to the maximum extent possible over the next 10 years. Upgrades and new construction are considered discretionary and are not fully funded. As master

planning across all assets is completed, funding requirements will be progressively estimated and a review of funding strategies, including consideration of reserve funding, will be undertaken.



Advocacy

The Council will continue to work with other levels of government, agencies and organisations to achieve its goals for the community. Council's Advocacy Strategy sets out the key priorities identified in the Council Plan 2021-25 and Long-Term Community Vision, Council's Capital Works Program, and other relevant policies, plans, and strategies adopted by the Council

Condition Assessment

Monitoring asset condition and performance relates to the ability of the asset to meet targeted levels of service. Asset condition reflects the physical state of the asset and the functional level of service it can provide.

Monitoring asset condition and performance throughout the asset life cycle is important to identify underperforming assets or those which are about to fail. Council is continuing the implementation of its Asset Management System to readily monitor asset condition and performance and to:

- Identify those assets which are underperforming
- Predict when asset failure to deliver the required level of service is likely to occur
- Ascertain the reasons for performance deficiencies and
- Determine what corrective action is required and when (maintenance, rehabilitation, renewal).

The benefits of knowing the current condition and performance (level of service) an asset provides are:

- Ability to plan for and manage the delivery of the required level of service
- Avoidance of premature asset failure, leaving open the option of cost-effective renewal
- Managing risk associated with asset failures
- Accurate prediction of future expenditure requirements and
- Refinement of maintenance and rehabilitation strategies

Priority is on funding the annual renewal based on predetermined service levels generally described as intervention levels – the maximum level an asset can deteriorate to prior to renewal investment.

The intervention level is theoretically where the assets service life has expired and renewal investment is required to restore service potential, for example a road needs resheeting to be useable.

Council, as asset managers, need to be able to assess the relative merits of rehabilitation / renewal / replacement options and identify the optimum long-term solution through a decision related to levels of service. Council needs to strategically determine an affordable level of service to manage the emerging condition profile.

Engage

Council will continue to engage with the community to ensure its assets are appropriate to the community's needs and reasonable aspirations, and that the performance and services delivered by those assets are acceptable to user.

The Council will also seek to manage expectations by ensuring the community understands the need to prioritise expenditure on assets via a capital evaluation process. Community engagement in relation to all Asset Management Implementation Plans will emphasise the need to achieve the greatest net public benefit by linking future directions on service delivery with asset planning, to ensure the investment remains affordable and financially responsible.

8.3 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Nil

8.4 ORGANISATIONAL REPORTS

Nil

8.5 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Nil

8.6 MATTERS WHICH MAY EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

Nil

9. OTHER BUSINESS**9.1 NOTICES OF MOTION****9.1.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - PROPOSED CULGOA DUMP POINT**

Author's Title: Councillor Pollard

Department: Office of the CEO

File No: SD/05/01

Relevance to Council Plan 2021 - 2025

Strategic Objective: Our Community Wellbeing

PURPOSE

In relation to the project's ongoing annual costs, these costs should be considered in the project development. There have been several attempts to have these ongoing costs presented to Council and to my knowledge these have not been addressed. In making this decision, Councillors should be fully aware of these costs, as they may have the potential to influence future budgets. On the information presented, we could potentially be looking at an annual outlay in excess of \$40,000. If this figure is correct, it could seriously impact Council's capacity in funding our ongoing Footpath, Drainage and Road maintenance requirements, as well as having the potential for needing to increase rate revenue above the legislated rate cap.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council temporally remove the proposed Culgoa Dump Point from the capital works project list until the following information is received;

1. A full annual operational cost of transporting the waste
2. Determine where the annual operating expenditure fits into our budget
3. Are there any traffic management issues to access the dump point?
4. How many overflows happen before we receive EPA infringement notice and at what cost
5. Are there any environmental issues with the proximity to the waterway (DELWP, CMA)?
6. Is the location beside the hall the best location? Could it be shifted further from the waterway to minimise environmental issues?
7. Design of the proposed dump point
8. Has a complete cost Benefit Analysis been prepared?
9. When all the information is available, that it is presented back to a future open Council meeting for debate

Attachments: Nil

9.1.2 NOTICE OF MOTION - LETTER OF SUPPORT - SEA LAKE OFF ROAD CLUB INC - MALLEE RALLY - LAKE TYRRELL

Author's Title: Councillor Getley

Department: Office of the CEO

File No: ED/05/06

PURPOSE

Council to consider supporting the Sea Lake Off Road Club Inc (SLORC) in its endeavour to have the Mallee Rally event returned to the site of Lake Tyrrell for 2023 and beyond.

SUMMARY

The Sea Lake Off Road Club Inc (SLORC) is passionate about returning the iconic event "The Mallee Rally", Australia's longest-running off-road event, to the site of Lake Tyrrell for 2023 and beyond.

For well over four decades Sea Lake has been home to the Mallee Rally, an event also steeped in rich history.

The SLORC have put forward a proposal to modify the route for the event to move predominantly external of the lunettes on the East side of the lake, onto privately owned and farmed land.

The importance of conserving and protecting the heritage of this area is truly respected, noting the Cultural Management Plan prepared for Lake Tyrrell. The SLORC have engaged the services of a cultural heritage adviser who has inspected the proposed route and is to prepare a report soon.

This initiative is an extremely important tourism proposal that will add incredible value to the other tourist highlights and creative elements of the region.

The SLORC committee members being residents of Sea Lake and abroad, have a strong passion and endeavour to have this event returned to the Lake Tyrrell. They will each voluntarily devote their time and effort to organise this iconic event, that significantly aids these small rural communities to stay afloat both socially and economically.

It is believed the return of the Mallee Rally to Lake Tyrrell, is an important initiative to positively impact tourism numbers to the region, and subsequently the support to the region's small businesses.

Council to consider providing a letter of support to the Sea Lake Off Road Club Inc in favour of this proposal.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council send a letter of support in principle for the Sea Lake Off Road Club's endeavour to have the Mallee Rally returned to the site of Lake Tyrrell for 2023 and beyond.

Attachments: Nil

9.2 QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

Nil

9.3 URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

9.4 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

10. MEETING CLOSE