



ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Thursday 22 October 2020

Commencing at 5.00pm

held remotely via zoom

**Anthony Judd
Chief Executive Officer
Buloke Shire Council**

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Anthony Judd
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

4.1 FINANCIAL REPORTS

4.1.1 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE STATEMENT FOR 2019-2020

Author's Title: Director Corporate Services

Department: Corporate Services

File No: FM/02/09

Relevance to Council Plan 2017 - 2021

Strategic Objective: Deliver our service in a financially viable way

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to have the Council approve, in principle, the Financial Statements and Performance Statement (Statements) for the 2019/20 financial year and to authorise two (2) Councillors to sign the final form statements on behalf of the Council.

SUMMARY

The preparation of Statements is a legislative requirement.

It is now appropriate for Council to approve the Statements in principle and authorise two (2) Councillors to sign the final Statements.

MOTION:

That Council:

1. Approves in principle the Financial Statements and Performance Statement for the 2019/20 Financial Year
2. Authorises the Mayor, Cr. Stewart, to approve last minute changes on an immaterial nature on the advice of Council's External Auditor
3. Authorises the Mayor, Cr. Stewart, and the Deputy Mayor, Cr. Pollard, to sign the final form Financial Statements and Performance Statement on behalf of, and with full authority of, the Council.

MOVED: CR ELLEN WHITE

SECONDED: CR GRAEME MILNE

CARRIED.
(R849/20)

Attachments:

- 1 Buloke Financial Report 2019-2020
- 2 Draft Performance Statement 2019-2020

DISCUSSION

Under Section 131 of the *Local Government Act 1989* a council must in respect of each financial year, prepare an Annual Report that includes audited Statements for the financial year. These Statements must be prepared in the prescribed manner and form and be certified by the Auditor General.

This year the Victorian Auditor General's Office agents Accounting and Audit Solutions Bendigo (AASB) acted as Council's auditors. The audit is in progress at the time of this report but the process has been

complicated by Covid-19 restrictions. The Statements have been reviewed by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office.

Council is required to approve, in principle, the Statements prior to receiving certification from the Auditor General. The Council must also authorise two (2) Councillors to certify the Statements in their final form; historically the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor.

RELEVANT LAW

The Statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, the *Local Government Act 1989* and the Regulations.

Council's Statements must be audited to meet the requirements as set out under the *Local Government Act 1989*.

RELATED COUNCIL DECISIONS

Not applicable to this report.

OPTIONS

Not applicable to this report.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable to this report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community consultation was not required in the preparation of the Statements. However, the Statements will be made available as public documents following the Auditor-General's approval. The Statements will form part of the Council meeting minutes and will be published in Council's Annual Report.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Not applicable to this report.

COLLABORATION

Not applicable to this report.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

The Statements form part of Council's Annual Report that must be submitted to the Minister in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*.

The Statements are a report back to the community on Council's performance against the adopted 2019/20 Annual Budget, along with performance against measures and targets for Key Strategic Activities specified in the 2019/20 Annual Budget.

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL PLANS AND POLICIES

Not applicable to this report.

COUNCIL PLANS AND POLICIES

The Statements are a report back to the community on Council's performance against the performance against measures and targets for Key Strategic Activities specified in the 2019/20 Annual Budget.

TRANSPARENCY OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

The availability of Council's audited financial and performance reporting to the community essential for ensuring transparency and accountability to the community and other levels of government.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

In providing this advice to the Council as the Director Corporate Services I, Hannah Yu, have no interests to disclose in this report.

5. MEETING CLOSE 5.15PM