

### NOTICE OF ORDINARY MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the next Meeting of Council will be held in the Council Chambers on **Tuesday, 21 July 2020 at 4.00pm.**

#### Agenda

- (1) Submission of Questions for Next Meeting
- (2) National Anthem
- (3) Prayer
- (4) Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners:  
*"I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we live, work and play. I pay my respects to our Elders past and present and thank them for the contribution they have made, and continue to make, in the cultural identity of our nation."*

#### **\*\*RECORDING\*\***

At this stage I would like to remind everyone present that this meeting is being recorded

- (5) Apologies
- (6) Declarations of Interest:  

At this juncture, Councillors should indicate any items in which they have an interest and therefore will not be participating in discussion or voting.
- (7) Confirmation of Minutes:
  - Ordinary meeting held on 23 June 2020 (circulated previously)
  - Extraordinary meeting held on 7 July 2020 (circulated previously)

(8) Listing of matters to be considered in Closed Council

The following matters are listed to be considered in Closed Council in line with the confidentiality policy of Council and Clause 10A (2) of the Local Government Act, 1993, relating to:

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)
- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer
- (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
  - I. prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
  - II. confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
  - III. reveal a trade secret
- (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of the law
- (f) matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property
- (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on community land.

- Procedural Motion to close Council to Press and Public
- Reports from Servants to Closed Council Meeting
  - Tender – SES Headquarters (d)
  - Business opportunities (c)
  - Proposal to close Council public road (c)
- Procedural Motion to re-open meeting to Press and Public

(9) Reports from Servants

(10) Correspondence



David Neeves  
General Manager

## Procedural Motion – to exclude Press and Public

“That by reason of the confidential nature of the matters to be considered in line with the confidentiality policy of Council and Clause 10(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993, relating to financial matters, staff matters, industrial matters, acceptance of tenders, personal affairs of private individuals, possible or pending litigation and such other matters considered appropriate – the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting.

**MAYORAL MINUTE - 9/20**  
**MAYORAL COMMITMENTS**

**SUMMARY**

To advise of the Mayor's activities during the preceding month.

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29/6/20	Sports Council meeting
30/6/20	Meeting with Cooee Lodge Retirement Village residents re budget
1/7/20	Meeting re dental services
1/7/20	Visit from Mark Coulton re Building Better Regions Funding
2/7/20	Meeting re Interagency services
3/7/20	Videoconference re RMS Road Classification Review and Transfer
7/7/20	Extraordinary Council meeting
9/7/20	Discussions with Economic Development Committee representative regarding caravan amenities
13/7/20	Joint Organisation meeting, Narromine
16/7/20	Videoconference – COVID-19 LGA update
17/7/20	Meeting with Mark Coulton MP and Deputy Prime Minister, Dubbo
20/7/20	Meeting with Department Premier & Cabinet staff re State Government Job and Acceleration Fund
21/7/20	Bush Fire Management Committee meeting, Coonabarabran
21/7/20	Council Workshop
21/7/20	Council Meeting

**Principal Activity**

Strategic Leadership

**Policy Implications**

Nil

**Budget Implications**

Nil

**Delivery Program Actions**

**4.1.2.1**

Conduct the business of Council in an open and transparent manner

MEETING OF: GILGANDRA SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD ON: 21 JULY 2020

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RECOMMENDATION

That the report be noted.

D Batten  
Mayor

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**SUMMARY**

To advise of the forthcoming Local Government NSW Annual Conference and determine attendance and motions.

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Cr Linda Scott President of Local Government NSW has advised that the 2020 Annual Conference will be held from Sunday, 22 November to Tuesday 24 November at the Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley, 430 Wine Country Drive, Lovedale.

Council is asked to consider any motions for the Conference. Proposed motions should be strategic, affect members state-wide and introduce new or emerging policy issues and actions. When submitting motions, members are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the existing principles and positions of LGNSW on issues of importance to the sector, as members will be asked to identify if their motion is seeking a change to LGNSW's existing Policy Position. Motions can be submitted until 12 midnight on Monday, 28 September 2020.

Council is also requested to determine attendance at the conference, noting that in the past Council has been represented by the Mayor and General Manager and, on occasion, other interested councillors. Due to anticipated accommodation demand, accommodation has been booked for three attendees.

Registration will open from mid July on the LGNSW website with 'early bird' rates.

<u>Principal Activity</u>	Respected Leadership
<u>Policy Implications</u>	Nil
<u>Budget Implications</u>	Approximately \$1,000 registration cost per participant plus travel and accommodation
<u>Delivery Program Actions</u>	<b>3.1.2.4</b> Establish links and relationships with relevant legislative and regulatory authorities.

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That Council determine any motions to be put forward.
2. That the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and General Manager (or their substitutes) be authorised to attend the conference.

David Neeves  
General Manager

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**INLAND RAIL BRIEFING UPDATE**

**SUMMARY**

To provide an update on progress on key Inland Rail activities and anticipated actions and activity in the short term.

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This report aims to provide a detailed briefing for Councillors on the actions around Inland Rail. A workshop will be held prior to the Council meeting as per the discussion at the June workshop to provide Councillors the opportunity to seek any clarification on these or any other inland Rail related issues.

At the time of writing this report, ARTC Inland Rail is confirmed to attend the workshop prior to the July Council meeting. This briefing is part of a wider community engagement Inland Rail are undertaking to inform stakeholders of the status of the Narromine to Narrabri project and the impending Environmental Impact Statement and final corridor alignment.

It has been requested that Council be informed of the various avenues of consultation proposed to be undertaken. The opportunities need to be widely communicated as each briefing will have a target audience and potentially focus on slightly different aspects of the EIS. Council has regulatory functions and assets that the EIS will specifically address and many community members will not be interested in these specific issues. However, if impacted landholders and other stakeholders are not aware of their opportunities to be involved in the process there may be a desire to seek involvement in Council or other particular focused consultation sessions.

**GrainCorp Industrial Precinct**

Work has commenced on the Development Application and Master Plan for the GrainCorp Industrial Precinct. An extremely positive response was received when quotations were sought to undertake the DA preparation and associated plans and investigations. Both quality of proposals and price was in line, to slightly better than expected. Premise who have an office based in Dubbo have been engaged and have already had staff on the ground undertaking some of the site investigations.

The DA and Master Plan process is forecast to take 12 weeks.

Concurrently Council is working with GrainCorp to finalise negotiations on the sale and/or exchange of land. It is anticipated this can be finalised in the same timeframe as the DA preparation.

Once the DA and Graincorp negotiations are finalised, detailed design and a construction methodology can be finalised. At this point in time construction delivery will likely be either self-performed by Council or the project put out to tender for construction and be managed by Council. Either way Council's Infrastructure Project Manager will manage the construction delivery. Detailed designs are required for Council staff to make an assessment on Council's internal abilities to deliver the project both from a technical perspective as well as considering the availability of Infrastructure staff to deliver the works.

A number of valuable lessons were learnt from the Gilgandra Industrial Subdivision. It has been successful from the point of view that all apart from one block all are sold or under development. What has been problematic for Council is the negotiation on the individual sales and trying to maintain a fair and equitable approach to requests that have come forward at different times.

To complement the development of the Masterplan, staff will develop a Gilgandra Industrial Precinct Sales and Development Plan. This will provide a set of development guidelines and Council's principles on which it will consider any request for assistance, be that in-kind or cash. No doubt, many Councillors would agree there are very positive outcomes from developing Industrial land in our community, however it is not without its challenges and any way to smooth out the process should be investigated.

Other issues to be examined as part of the plan:

- First Mover Program – This is where the first business to purchase and develop will receive Council support. This strategy is common at all levels of government and acts as a catalyst for other development. A potential Council First Movers Program would look to leverage current State and Federal programs. First movers programs are generally aimed at marquee developments that generate significant jobs or facilitate other complimentary business opportunities. In the Gilgandra Industrial Subdivision, the Gilgandra Vet Clinic was the first mover, proving to be a catalyst for other sales.
- Development timeframes – Other Industrial land developments have timeframe whereby a DA and construction must start within set periods or the land is returned to Council (with full refund to the purchaser). This stops land banking of expensive industrial land that has been specifically developed to generate business activity and employment generation opportunities. Council has made some efforts with this by retaining the land and not having it with agents and also the rates incentive program. It is suggested the current climate is more competitive and controls that facilitate outcomes are more important than incentives.



- Explore the planning framework to look at fast-track project approvals similar to what has been developed for the Special Activation Precincts in NSW. It is unclear what this involves but a greenfield development should be able to incentivise purchases through simplified Development Application processes when the overarching environmental impact assessments and reports have been considered as part of this initial DA.

In closing on the Gilgandra Industrial Precinct, the following are the updated project milestones:

- DA and Masterplan Lodged by end of September 2020
- Graincorp agreement finalised September 2020
- Detailed Design October and November 2020
- Construction Methodology determined December 2020
- Construction January – June 2021

### **Interface Improvement Program Gilgandra Coonamble Project**

Work with project delivery consultant EY (Ernst & Young) has been well underway for several months. Several key project milestones have been achieved including:

- Project Plan approval by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Communities and Communications
- Progressing through to Gateway 2 of the governance framework. The aim is to get through to Gateway 4 which will see a full strategic business case conducted
- An extensive investment logic mapping workshop process to ensure the scope of the project is in step with the desired outcomes

The Project Plan outlines the objectives of the project and follows this section of the report.

The project team has now moved into working out stakeholder engagement activities and ways to secure formal support from local businesses and farming enterprises to support the business case. This process also involves engagement with regional, state and national businesses to provide similar support.

There has been some eagerness, particularly in the Coonamble area, for individual growers and industry participants to get involved and have their input into the project. This opportunity will be afforded in due course and it is essential in the development of a robust strategic business case. The project team need to maintain a process that has been agreed upon, particularly as there are both government departments and private companies handing over confidential data to assist the project.

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When stakeholder engagement activities commence, Councillors will be notified and any assistance in communicating to the relevant people will be greatly appreciated

Details of the Project are shown in Table 4 below.

Table 4 Proposal details

Proposal Details	
<b>Proposal Title</b>	Upgrade of the Gilgandra-Coonamble line with connectivity with Inland Rail at Curban.
<b>Proponent</b>	Gilgandra and Coonamble Shire Councils.
<b>Description</b>	<p>The Project entails the upgrading of the Gilgandra-Coonamble line through re-railing, re-surfacing and culvert replacements, and the development of a seamless connection with Inland Rail at Curban. This will allow for a service that is interoperable with Inland Rail, with aligned technical specifications.</p> <p>The Project supports supply chain efficiencies for the grain industry and provides connectivity to Inland Rail for Gilgandra and Coonamble regional and rural communities and businesses. The Project will future-proof the Gilgandra-Coonamble line to support future opportunities, freight supply chains and efficiencies of freight movements for industries and businesses.</p> <p>The goal is for the 95 kilometre upgrade to be delivered, in conjunction with the construction of the Narromine-Narrabri section of Inland Rail to a standard that would allow 25 tonne axle loads be operated at 80 kilometres per hour, which is the current standard of Inland Rail.</p>
<b>Background</b>	<p><b>Industrial context</b></p> <p>The Gilgandra and Coonamble Shires form part of the twelve local government areas in the Orana region in central northern NSW. Home to 122,956 people, the Orana region supports approximately 49,871 jobs and had an annual economic output of \$17.3 billion in 2018<sup>2</sup>.</p> <p>In the Gilgandra Shire region, the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry sector makes the greatest contribution to economic output, which, at \$181.5 million, accounted for 40% of the region's total output in 2018 and 72% of exports<sup>3</sup>. Similarly, for the Coonamble Shire, the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry's economic output was \$157.3 million accounting for 39% of the region's total output in 2018 and 75% of exports<sup>4</sup>. Road transport currently plays a significant role in the grain freight task in Gilgandra and Coonamble Shire.</p> <p>There are three grain handling sites at Coonamble, including one facility operated by AgriGrain located on Gadsens Lane and a silo site as an overflow facility. There is another facility operated by GrainCorp located on Back Combara Road. There is one grain handling facility operated by GrainCorp on Dubbo Road in Gilgandra.</p> <p><b>Rail context</b></p> <p>Gilgandra is located in the middle of the Narromine to Narrabri Inland Rail project, which is the largest greenfield section of the ARTC program of works. There is a CRN rail line from Dubbo to Coonamble, running through Gilgandra and Curban which is a key line in the supply chain of grain across Australia, particularly the section from Gilgandra to Coonamble. Currently, the CRN line is a dedicated grain line and is limited to 19 tonnes per axle and speeds of either 50 kilometres per hour or 70 kilometres per hour<sup>5</sup>. These limitations on the existing rail freight network are causing bottlenecks when it comes to the transport of agricultural produce in the form of uneven network utilisation with some freight trains running at less than full capacity.<sup>6</sup></p> <p>The market share of freight using the road network over rail is increasing. Significant improvements in high performance vehicles, increased truck loads, improved fuel efficiency and safety have resulted in significant productivity gains for the road transport sector. In contrast, the rail sector has not been able to keep pace with the productivity gains and has been impeded by aging infrastructure. This has seen road capture an increasing market share of the freight task.</p>

### **Senate Inquiry**

On 17 September 2019, the Senate moved that the following matter, *Management of the Inland Rail project by the Australian Rail Track Corporation and the Commonwealth Government* be referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee for inquiry and report.

On 11 June 2020, the Senate granted an extension of time to report until 11 November 2020.

A public hearing had been set down to be held in Gilgandra on 6 April 2020 but has been postponed due to COVID-19. It is unclear (and no confirmation has been forthcoming if the Gilgandra hearing will be rescheduled. Given the travel restrictions that are currently in place it appears to be difficult for senate committees to meet at offsite locations.

An announcement has been made that a hearing will be held in Canberra on 7 August 2020. As Council made a submission there may be an invitation to appear before the committee and, given the uncertainty over future hearings, it is a possibility that Council may be invited to appear at the Canberra hearing.

### **Cost recovery of Legal Fees and Staff Time from ARTC**

There has been no agreement reached as yet with ARTC about the recovery of staff time for historical activities such as data collection and provision. The Inland Rail Project Manager advises there was a legal issue that required resolution between ARTC Inland Rail and McCullough Robertson. This issue is resolved and the request for reimbursement for legal advice and historical (2019/20) hours will now be progressed. Once this system is in place, monthly or bi-monthly progress claims can be made in 2020/21 financial year and onwards.

<u>Principal Activity</u>	Economic Development
<u>Policy Implications</u>	Nil
<u>Budget Implications</u>	Nil
<u>Delivery Program Actions</u>	<b>5.1.2.1</b> Provide support for existing business and facilitate opportunities for business development and growth

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the report be noted.

David Neeves  
General Manager

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**REQUEST FROM GILGANDRA MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**SUMMARY**

To consider a request from the Gilgandra Museum and Historical Society for an increased contribution from Council to offset reduced revenue from Gallery takings at the Cooe Heritage Centre during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

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The Gilgandra Museum and Historical Society has written to Council as follows

*“Council has been supportive of the Society for many years with allocation of an annual \$500, which has been very useful in covering insurance and other ongoing costs associated with running the Society. This support has certainly been appreciated and, in more recent years, the allocation of 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of donation fees received at the Coe-ee Heritage Centre has enabled restoration and other work to be undertaken.*

*Because of the closure of the CHC and Rural Museum during the COVID-19 restrictions the Society’s income has been completely eliminated. The Rural Museum has re-opened and gradually a small number of visitors are returning however, the entry fees will only cover a small proportion of our running expenses of electricity, security, pest control, etc. Also, because of the closure of the CHC, for at least the next 9 months for upgrading works, our income will be very limited.*

*The Society, because of the above circumstances, is requesting that Council consider providing some assistance so that it can meet its ongoing costs and continue its commitment to improve the tourist and educational attractions in Gilgandra”*

Council has an agreement with the Society that, in recognition of the valuable input they provide at the CHC by way of overseeing the curation of the Alan Wise Room and Federation Gallery, one third of the gallery donations are paid to the Society.

In an average year donations total around \$9k with the Society’s share being \$3k. Given that the CHC will be closed for around 12 months due to Covid-19 restrictions and upcoming building construction works it is suggested that a one-off contribution of \$3k be made to the Society.

<u>Principal Activity</u>	Sense of Place
<u>Policy Implications</u>	Nil
<u>Budget Implications</u>	Additional Budget Allocation of \$3k
<u>Delivery Program Actions</u>	<b>1.2.1.5</b> Provide assistance to community organisations where appropriate to ensure their future sustainability.  <b>1.3.9.1</b> Provide a museum, keeping place and cultural centre for Gilgandra and district which supports and develops a range of travelling and local exhibitions to attract diverse audiences.

### RECOMMENDATION

That Council provide a one-off donation to the Gilgandra Museum and Historical Society of \$3k to recognise the reduction in gallery revenue at the Cooee Heritage Centre following its closure as a result of the Covid-19 restrictions and pending building construction works.

N J Alchin  
Director Corporate Services

## **LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY HUB PROGRESS UPDATE**

### **SUMMARY**

To inform Council of progress in the delivery of the Library and Community Hub.

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The vision for the Library and Community Hub has been refined by the project team in response to Council workshop feedback on 23 June 2020. The vision and purpose provides the overarching direction and parameters for preparation of the scope and design for the Library and Community Hub.

A final working budget has been prepared and negotiations with the Department of Industry Innovation and Science have commenced to finalise the Building Better Regions Fund grant template and deed of agreement. The final deed of agreement will be signed off in the last week of August 2020 to ensure funds are available in line with the project timeline.

### **Project progress**

The negotiations with the Department of Industry Innovation and Science have commenced in July and the grant template was submitted to the Department on 13 July 2020. This forms the basis for finalisation of the deed between Council and the Department for payment of the grant. We anticipate finalisation of the template and the final deed no later than 24 August 2020.

A key criteria of the BBRF grant conditions is that construction must start within 12 weeks of finalisation of the deed of agreement. To meet this requirement we have adjusted the project timeline to reflect the site preparation activities including remediation that will occur in August and September.

A working project budget has been prepared that ensures that Council meets all of the conditions of each of the grants that have been consolidated to deliver this project. This has meant reshuffling of some components of the project that are ineligible in one grant but permissible in another. For example Council staff salaries including for project management are ineligible expenses under the BBRF. These will be met from other grant funds and Council's own contributions.

### **Library and Community Hub vision and purpose**

The vision for the Library and Community Hub is largely captured in the visuals presented to Council at the workshop on 23 June. Based on the feedback from the workshop the team have prepared a working project Vision, Purpose and Design statements for the Library and Community Hub. These are outlined below.

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## Vision

*'The Library and community hub will be a dynamic community living room, creating a strong, modern centre piece in the heart of the Gilgandra that attracts passers-by and celebrates our local identity'.*

## Purpose is to:

- Attract locals and visitors to the CBD invigorating Miller Street
- Expand the library to meet current and future demand for its services
- Extend access to new technology and information services
- Improve the library's capacity to support local businesses, innovators and creators
- Expand access to services and facilities for locals and tourists

## The design will:

- Inspire and set a new standard for the architectural character of Miller Street
- Link the river, our cultural hub and the main street
- Recognise and reflect the character of Gilgandra
- Create a sense of belonging for people of all ages
- Meet national standards for library and community spaces
- Deliver spaces that:
  - Are welcoming, modern, attractive and fun
  - Are multi-use and can host educational, recreational and cultural programs and services
  - Support individual self-directed learning and private study
  - Support meetings between agencies and clients, tutors and students, professionals and businesses
  - Can host larger recreational, social and professional gatherings and meetings

The detailed project scope will be prepared based on our working vision and in response to the outcomes of the grant negotiations by the close of July 2020.

The project team continues to monitor opportunities for additional resources for the project.

<u>Principal Activity</u>	Sense of Place
<u>Policy Implications</u>	Nil
<u>Budget Implications</u>	Nil

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Delivery Program Actions

**1.3.8.1** Maintain existing community engagement with the Library by continuing to develop it as a community space where people can engage with collections, information services, technology and each other.

**1.3.8.2** Provide free access to library services to meet the community's educational, recreational and cultural information needs, support community health and well-being and enable learning for all.

**1.3.8.3** Plan and deliver customer focussed library services, reflecting community needs and expectations.

**1.3.8.4** Develop relationships and partnerships between the library, other service providers and community groups.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the report and actions.

Jo Manion  
Director Community Services



**CHANGES TO ROAD MAINTENANCE COUNCIL CONTRACT (RMCC)**

**SUMMARY**

To advise of a request by Transport for NSW (TfNSW) for Gilgandra Shire Council to assume responsibility for the RMCC within the Warren Shire Council area.

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Council recently received a request from TfNSW to assume responsibility for the management of the sections of State Highways that are located within the Warren Shire Council area. This management will be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Road Maintenance Council Contract.

Council has agreed to assume this responsibility on a temporary basis until an agreement can be formalised. Council and TfNSW representatives met on 6 July 2020 in order to get a better understanding of the nature of the work. This adds 85kms to the road network under Council's management and will involve both maintenance and ordered work on the Oxley Highway through to Nevertire.

At this stage it is not proposed to adjust resourcing levels to cater for the additional work, however this may change if it proves to be beyond our present operational capacity. If this were to occur, increased resourcing would be offset by RMCC income and therefore be cost neutral to Council.

As part of the new contract, Council was required to review its RMCC Council System Management Plan to satisfy the R2 Prequalification requirement. This work is largely complete but requires the adoption of an integrated Workplace Health and Safety, Environment and Quality Policy. This Policy is specific to RMCC works and is supplied as an attachment. It is recommended that Council agree to accept changes to the agreement to reflect the additional works and adopt the Policy for RMCC works.

<u>Principal Activity</u>	Asset Management and Service Delivery
<u>Policy Implications</u>	Nil
<u>Budget Implications</u>	Cost neutral as RMCC income will fund additional resources
<u>Delivery Program Actions</u>	<b>6.2.1.07</b> Maintain and improve the regional and state road network in association with TfNSW.

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RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council agree to changes to the RMCC agreement with TfNSW by assuming responsibility for State Highway works in the Warren Shire Council area.
2. That Council adopt the Work Health and Safety, Environment and Quality Policy, as presented, for works performed for TfNSW under the Road Maintenance Council Contract.

Daryl Colwell  
Director Infrastructure

**REQUEST BY WATERNSW TO PROVIDE WATER FOR PUMP TESTING**

**SUMMARY**

To advise Council of a request by WaterNSW for assistance with pump testing at Nyngan and Cobar by providing 50ML of water under current Water Sharing Plan provisions.

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Due to the drought and the historically low dam levels, a State Government project was instigated to investigate and explore options to provide sustainable drought relief to the towns of Nyngan and Cobar. The water supply to these towns was at extreme risk of failure due to predicted cease to flow of the Macquarie River. This need was identified in the Critical Needs Act 2019.

WaterNSW have written to Council advising that it considers the most reliable means of providing this drought relief as being from a groundwater source that would be operated during drought conditions. To achieve this, WaterNSW is exploring the viability of groundwater sources in the Southern Recharge and Surat Basin (NSW Great Artesian Basin Groundwater Source Water Sharing Plan).

WaterNSW is currently investigating potential groundwater sources and are seeking to reach an arrangement with existing Water Access Licence (WAL) holders to access water for the purposes of testing. Access to this test water would be facilitated under the Water Sharing Plan (WSP). They have discussed the options with NRAR and the agreed and most expeditious approach, that facilitates ongoing progress of these investigations, is to identify existing Licence holders and linking their Water Users Association (WUA) exemption to the licence for the testing purposes.

Gilgandra has been identified as having a suitable licence within the Southern Recharge and WaterNSW are looking for a time efficient solution that maintains compliance with the WSP. The objective of their approach is to ascertain the receptiveness of Council in playing a role in this initiative by agreeing to the linking of our WAL and their WUA, for the purpose of taking water for testing.

They have indicated that this would entail a volume of approximately 50ML but have not specified if this would be an ongoing arrangement or a one-time use, nor have they indicated a purchase price. Rather, the request suggests that 'negotiations on the specific arrangements are to be discussed'.

On the surface, it appears that Council can help but without further details it is difficult to anticipate the challenges that may arise during negotiations. It is therefore recommended that Council authorise the General Manager to enter into negotiations with WaterNSW with details of any potential agreement reached subject to a future report.

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<u>Principal Activity</u>	Asset Management and Service Delivery
<u>Policy Implications</u>	Nil
<u>Budget Implications</u>	Positive if negotiations provide income for unused allocation of water.
<u>Delivery Program Actions</u>	<b>6.1.2.04</b> Provide a potable town water supply to Gilgandra that meets Australian Drinking Water Standards

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the General Manager be authorised to enter into negotiations with WaterNSW regarding an agreement to provide groundwater in accordance with the Water Sharing Plan.

Daryl Colwell  
Director Infrastructure

**ROAD BETTERMENT PROGRAM**

**SUMMARY**

To propose a roads betterment program for adoption by Council as part of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program submission.

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At the June 2020 Ordinary Meeting, Council considered projects for the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure fund. Part of the resolution involved an allocation of \$355,000 for a roads betterment fund with the program to be formulated by the Director Infrastructure.

This is an opportunity to improve constant problem areas on the network with a view to improve sites where each subsequent flood or heavy rain event causes repeated damage. The list below provides a summary of these areas, suggested treatment and associated estimates:

- Bidon Creek erosion restoration at Bidon involving batter and bed scour protection \$150,000
- Construct concrete causeway over culvert on Doorroombah Rd, immediately north of the intersection with Tooraweenah Aerodrome Rd \$90,000
- Seal extension to floodway on Tooraweenah-Mendooran Rd over Gundy's Creek crossing \$60,000
- Construct retaining wall at culvert immediately north of Magie Melon Creek \$25,000
- Construct approach slab to Milpulling Creek on Gilmours Rd \$30,000

Noting that natural disaster funding is only for reinstatement of assets to their pre-disaster condition, this funding if used in conjunction may be useful to address the underlying issue and provide betterment that will improve the level of service for the community in the future.

<u>Principal Activity</u>	Asset Management and Service Delivery
<u>Policy Implications</u>	Nil
<u>Budget Implications</u>	\$355,000 allocation from the Roads and Community Grants funding
<u>Delivery Program Actions</u>	<b>6.2.1.2</b> Provide and maintain road access for all residents except during periods of wet weather

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RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the betterment program, as presented, as part of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program submission.

Daryl Colwell  
Director Infrastructure

## **FEES AND CHARGES – COMPANION ANIMALS**

### **SUMMARY**

To advise Council of the new fees and charges under the Companion Animals Regulation 2018.

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The Companion Animals Regulation 2018 was amended to provide for new companion animal registration categories, late fees and annual permits for certain animals. This information has been received after Council's fees and charges were adopted.

### **Lifetime Registration**

<b>Registration Category</b>	<b>Previous Year Fee</b>	<b>Current Year Fee</b>
Dog desexed before 6 months of age	\$58	\$60
Dog desexed after 6 months of age	n/a	\$216
Dog not desexed	\$210	\$216
Dog desexed before 6 months of age – owned by pensioner	\$25	\$26
Dog desexed after 6 months of age – owned by pensioner	n/a	\$216
Dog desexed – sold by pound/shelter	\$29	\$30
Dog not desexed – not recommended by vet	n/a	\$60
Dog not desexed – recognised breeder	\$58	\$60
Working dogs	\$0	\$0
Assistance animal	\$0	\$0
Public authority service dog	\$0	\$0
Registered Greyhound	\$0	\$0
Cat Not Desexed	\$210	\$50
Cat desexed before 4 months of age	n/a	\$50
Cat desexed after 4 months of age	n/a	\$50
Cat desexed before 4 months of age – owned by pensioner	n/a	\$26
Cat desexed after 4 months of age	n/a	\$50
Cat desexed – sold by pound/shelter	\$29	\$25
Cat not desexed – not recommended by vet	n/a	\$50
Cat not desexed – recognised breeder	\$58	\$50

### **Annual Permits**

Annual permits now apply to restricted and dangerous dogs and also to undesexed cats.

**Restricted and Dangerous dogs** - owners are now required to obtain an annual permit for the keeping of these dogs. The permit fee is \$195 per year (subject to CPI increases). If a person owns a dog that is both a Restricted and Dangerous Dog, two permits must be obtained.

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**Undesexed cats** – all owners are required to obtain an annual permit for the keeping of their cat. The permit fee is \$80 per year (subject to CPI increases). In order for an owner to be exempt from the annual permit requirements, they must desex their cat before it attains the age of four (4) months and lifetime register the cat before it is six (6) months. Owners who desex their cat after four (4) months of age and register the cat before six (6) months of age are required to obtain a permit for one (1) year only.

Council is now responsible for the issuing of permits, collection of monies on behalf of the Office of Local Government and the enforcement of non-permit holders.

### **Late Fees**

An additional \$17 is applicable to any lifetime registration for a dog or cat (after 6 months of age) and annual permit for restricted and dangerous dogs and undesexed cats. The late fee is implemented where a person fails to pay their registration or permit fee within 28 days of when the registration or permit became due.

### **Education**

An education campaign will be conducted notifying residents and ratepayers of the changes which came into effect. This campaign will be a joint enterprise between Ranger Services and the Marketing & Communications team utilising Council's website, Facebook page, hard copy media such as flyers and posters and targeted verbal and written education to individuals.

<u>Principal Activity</u>	Sense of Place
<u>Policy Implications</u>	Legislated changes
<u>Budget Implications</u>	Nil
<u>Delivery Program Actions</u>	<b>1.7.1.4</b> Address issues regarding owners responsibility in relation to domestic animals (dog control issues)

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the amendments to the Companion Animals Regulation and associated fees and charges be noted.

Lindsay Mathieson  
Director Planning & Environment

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**MINUTES – COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR ADOPTION**

SUMMARY

To present the following minutes of Committee meetings for consideration and adoption.

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Sports Council

29 June 2020

Principal Activity

Community Engagement

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget Implications

Nil

Delivery Program Actions

**2.1.1.1**

Offer opportunities for community members and groups to have input into strategic planning to ensure the community are informed and empowered

**2.1.1.4**

Recognise the importance of and encourage community members on to Council committees

MEETING OF: GILGANDRA SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD ON: 21 JULY 2020

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**SPORTS COUNCIL**

29 June 2020

**PRESENT**

B Luff – (President)  
K Reynolds – (Vice President) Park Tennis Club  
Cr D Batten – Mayor  
M Colwell – Gilgandra Little Athletics  
A Newstead – Gilgandra Little Athletics  
R Rogers – Gilgandra Junior Basketball Assn  
N Alchin – (Secretary) Gilgandra Shire Council

Proceedings of the meeting commenced at 5.32 pm

**IN ATTENDANCE**

M Linton-Harland – Gilgandra Shire Council

**APOLOGIES**

A Hall – Gilgandra Jockey club

<b>COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION – 6/20</b>	K Reynolds/D Batten
That the apology received be accepted.	

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

<b>COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION – 7/20</b>	K Reynolds/ M Colwell
That the Minutes of the Sports Council Meeting held on 2 March 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.	

**BUSINESS ARISING**

**Indoor Sporting Facility Working Party**

The secretary advised that another meeting of the Working Party would be convened in coming weeks to determine whether a staged approach was possible and determine the priorities.

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GENERAL BUSINESS

Winter Sporting Competitions

The meeting noted that the Castlereagh Cup Rugby League competition is due to recommence on 18 July 2020 subject to crowds being able to attend games with Gilgandra to play Cobar at McGrane Oval in the first round. It was further noted that Western Plains Rugby are also planning a 2020 competition however Gular Rugby Club will not be participating. It is understood that Junior League will not be played locally however there may be teams participating in the Dubbo Junior League.

It was noted that the Castlereagh League competition is scheduled to finish on 10 October 2020 which overlaps with the cricket season and Little A's by a week but this is not considered a major issue.

Little Athletics 400m Track & 100m Run Off Area McGrane Oval

It was noted that Little A's had decided not to pursue the issues around the extension of the 400m track at McGrane Oval as potential solutions were not likely to be cost effective. It was further noted that Little A's would like consideration given to a run off area by way of a removable section in the new fence around the oval along with removal of the concrete lip under the fence in that area. The secretary advised that consideration will be given to a removable section while the issue of the concrete lip would need to be taken up with Council's General Manager.

Hirer Responsibilities for McGrane Oval Facilities

The meeting discussed the responsibility of McGrane Oval Hirers for maintaining the facilities at McGrane Oval during events particularly given the recent upgrades to these facilities.

<b>COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION – 8/20</b>	D Batten/ M Colwell
That a protocol/agreement be developed with hirers of McGrane Oval setting out their responsibility for maintaining facilities at McGrane Oval during events and liability for any associated damage that may occur.	

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 6.02PM.

B Luff  
President

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MEETING OF: GILGANDRA SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD ON: 21 JULY 2020

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RECOMMENDATION

That the above listed Committee minutes be adopted.

David Neeves  
General Manager

MEETING OF: GILGANDRA SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD ON: 21 JULY 2020

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## **REPORTS FOR INFORMATION AND NOTATION**

### **SUMMARY**

To present reports for information and notation.

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- Statement of Bank Balances (Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation No. 93) and Investment Balances
- Matters Outstanding from Previous Council Meetings
- Development Applications

Any questions which Councillors may have in relation to these reports and/or issues to be raised, should be brought forward at this time.

**STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AND INVESTMENT BALANCES**

**SUMMARY**

To present the following information relative to the above report headings:

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1. Statement of Bank Balances (Local Government Financial Management Regulation No. 19) - Month of June 2020.
2. Certificate of Bank Reconciliation - Month of June 2020.
3. Details of investments as at 30 June 2020 (Local Government Financial Management Regulation No. 19).

<b>CASH BOOK BALANCE AS AT</b>	<b>31-May-20</b>	<b>\$6,232,591.20</b>
Plus: Receipts		\$5,809,915.27
Less: Payments		\$4,129,680.26
<b>CASH BOOK BALANCE AS AT</b>	<b>30-Jun-20</b>	<b>\$7,912,826.21</b>

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<b>STATEMENT BALANCE AS AT</b>	<b>31-May-20</b>	<b>\$6,514,299.23</b>
Plus: Receipts		\$5,828,137.21
Less: Payments		\$4,235,448.37
<b>STATEMENT BALANCE AS AT</b>	<b>30-Jun-20</b>	<b>\$8,106,988.07</b>

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Plus: Unpresented Receipts		\$6,940.56
Less: Unpresented Payments		\$201,102.42
<b>RECONCILED BALANCE AS AT</b>	<b>30-Jun-20</b>	<b>\$7,912,826.21</b>

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Cashbook balance as at 30 June 2020:	\$7,912,826.21
Investments held as at 30 June 2020:	\$23,050,335.28
<b>Total Cash &amp; Investments Held as at 30 June 2020:</b>	<b>\$30,963,161.49</b>

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The bank balances in each of the funds as at 30 June 2020 are:

General Fund	\$15,489,074.42
Water Fund	\$2,856,330.60
Sewer Fund	\$1,629,459.60
Orana Living	\$3,322,258.85
Carlginda Enterprises	\$479,271.40
Cooee Villa Units	\$1,395,792.09
Cooee Lodge	\$4,470,248.18
Jack Towney Hostel	\$860,505.29
Trust Fund	\$460,221.06

**Balance as per Total Cash & Investments Held: \$30,963,161.49**

Details of Council's investments are as follows:

(a)	\$1,000,000.00	For 368 days @ 1.70%	Due on 14-Dec-20	With AMP Bank
(b)	\$1,000,000.00	For 365 days @ 1.45%	Due on 10-Mar-21	With AMP Bank
(c)	\$1,000,000.00	For 365 days @ 1.70%	Due on 27-Jan-21	With AMP Bank
(d)	\$1,000,000.00	For 182 days @ 1.80%	Due on 13-Aug-20	With AMP Bank
(e)	\$500,000.00	For 184 days @ 1.20%	Due on 03-Sep-20	With Bendigo
(f)	\$1,000,000.00	For 214 days @ 1.00%	Due on 06-Jan-21	With Bendigo
(g)	\$1,500,000.00	For 213 days @ 1.55%	Due on 04-Aug-20	With Bendigo
(h)	\$500,000.00	For 183 days @ 1.55%	Due on 04-Oct-20	With Bendigo
(i)	\$500,000.00	For 214 days @ 1.45%	Due on 11-Nov-20	With Bendigo
(j)	\$1,000,000.00	For 122 days @ 1.65%	Due on 17-Jul-20	With Macquarie
(k)	\$2,000,000.00	For 244 days @ 1.70%	Due on 15-Dec-20	With Macquarie
(l)	\$1,000,000.00	For 122 days @ 1.60%	Due on 17-Aug-20	With Macquarie
(m)	\$1,000,000.00	For 183 days @ 1.70%	Due on 02-Oct-20	With MCU
(n)	\$500,000.00	For 182 days @ 1.10%	Due on 04-Nov-20	With IMB
(o)	\$1,000,000.00	For 182 days @ 1.40%	Due on 25-Sep-20	With IMB
(p)	\$1,000,000.00	For 184 days @ 1.25%	Due on 20-Nov-20	With ME Bank
(q)	\$1,500,000.00	For 365 days @ 1.50%	Due on 15-Dec-20	With ME Bank
(r)	\$500,000.00	For 182 days @ 1.55%	Due on 27-Jul-20	With NAB
(s)	\$2,000,000.00	For 120 days @ 1.40%	Due on 30-Jun-20	With NAB
(t)	\$1,000,000.00	For 271 days @ 1.00%	Due on 22-Feb-21	With NAB
(u)	\$1,000,000.00	For 182 days @ 1.60%	Due on 20-Jul-20	With NAB
(v)	\$500,000.00	For 152 days @ 1.60%	Due on 06-Sep-20	With NAB
(w)	\$1,050,335.28	0.25%	At Call	With TCorp
<b>Total Investments:</b>				<b>\$23,050,335.28</b>

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**OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

SUMMARY

To provide an update in relation to matters previously resolved at Council Meetings requiring further action to be taken.

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<u>Res. No.</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Action</u>
<u>September 2017</u>		
264/17	Mudfords Road	Followed up again.
<u>March 2018</u>		
55/18	Flora Reserve	Discussions with local service clubs, groups, etc on hold pending creation of a plan of management for the site.
<u>February 2019</u>		
16/19	Ecotourism/Geotourism Accommodation project	To be further considered as time permits
<u>December 2019</u>		
263/19	Electric Vehicle Fast Charging Station	Awaiting further information
<u>May 2020</u>		
89/20	Signage project	Progressing – audit completed Quotations to be sought in coming weeks
90/20	Cultural Precinct Upgrade	Stakeholder engagement underway
<u>June 2020</u>		
101/20	Review of policies	Policies updated
102/20	Rising Sun Structure	Community notified of identified location via article in The Gilgandra Weekly
106/20	Tooraweenah CWA – Telstra Tower	Report to August meeting



### **DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS**

The following development applications were approved during June 2020:

DA Number	Received	Applicants Name	Application Description of Work	Property Address	Decision	Development Value
2020/341	07/05/2020	Watt	Vehicle repair workshop	Tooraweenah	Approved 16/06/2020	\$1000
2020/343	02/06/2020	Doherty	Carport	26 Raymond Street Gilgandra	Approved 10/06/2020	\$4,950
2020/344	26/05/2020	Irvin	Carport	1 Bensley Close Gilgandra	Approved 10/06/2020	\$9,936
2020/345	11/06/2020	Woollams	Inground Pool	54 Riveredge Road Gilgandra	Approved 26/06/2020	\$43,000
<b>June</b>						<b>\$58,886</b>
<b>Total 2020</b>						<b>\$1,054,886</b>

### **Applications under assessment**

- DA2020/334 - Jack Towney Hostel, extensions/On hold.
  - DA2020/335 - Freight Transport Facility/ Stop the clock, Further Information.
  - DA2020/346 - Home business/beauty salon.
  - DA2020/348 - Dwelling.
  - DA2020/350 - Mobile beauty business.
-

**Planning Developments - Mean & Median Report Processing Times  
 for the Month of JUNE**

**JUNE 2020**

DA Number	Actual Days	Stopped Days	Total Days	Working Days	Stopped Work Days	Total Work Days
2020/344	16	0	16	12	0	12
2020/343	31	0	31	23	0	23
2020/341	40	0	40	28	0	28
2020/345	9	0	9	7	0	7

Summary Statistics	
No of Applications	4
Total Actual Days	96.00
Mean Actual Days	24.00
Mean Stopped Days	0.00
Mean Total Days	24.00
Mean Work Days	17.50
Mean Work Stop Days	0.00
Mean Total Work Days	17.50
Median Actual Days	23.50

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the reports be noted.

David Neeves  
General Manager

**CATEGORY A –**  
**REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FROM WARREN SHIRE COUNCIL**

**SUMMARY**

To advise of a request for support from Warren Shire Council.

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Warren Shire Council Mayor, Cr Milton Quigley, has written to Council as follows:

Council at its May 2020 Meeting considered the impacts that Covid-19 is having on the National and State economy and considered these impacts against the impacts that severe drought continues to have at a social and economic level.

Council recognises that a worldwide pandemic and a need for social isolation has been required to reduce the national death toll and does not criticise the actions and steps taken to support families, communities and the economic welfare direction taken.

In Council's consideration of the impacts of drought compared to the impacts of Covid-19 at a social and economic level, it believes that if the same level of financial support was made available to farming communities during severe drought as is being provided to the Covid-19 families and communities, then the drought effected areas of the Nation would be able to maintain a greater level of job security, prevent the migration of people from small rural and remote communities to larger centres and allow the protection of the communities economic base.

At Council's 23rd April 2020 Meeting it was resolved that Council send a letter to Federal and State politicians expressing Council's concerns regarding the following:

1. *Immediately address the inequity that exists between the drought response and those of crisis.*
2. *Government actions reflect the importance of the regions and value them accordingly.*
3. *Shift focus on primary criteria and actions to those that relate to loss of income and protecting people when most vulnerable.*
4. *Safeguard and protect our resources and food security vital to all Australians.*

Council is supportive of the Federal and State Governments rapid response to boost the national economic outcome, and this is assisting to prevent a severe decline towards economic depression.

Businesses will receive a fortnightly wage subsidy up to \$1,500 per employee as part of a Federal Government support to prevent millions of people from losing their jobs to the coronavirus pandemic. At the same time, rural businesses and rural families have and continue to go through drought conditions and are suffering hardship due to no crops, loss of production due to drought, sale of stock or through a shrinking customer base.

There is a level of inequity in rural areas for farming families and rural business compared to the loss of employment in other business sectors. A casual employee who cannot go to work can receive a financial subsidy that helps pay the electricity, buy food or pay rent, whilst a person who is working in a drought affected community in a rural based business or on a rural property is expected to survive on limited personal funding.

Many programs are available to farming families, unfortunately the cut off for Government support excludes many families and the business operators from applying due to the value of assets e.g. land and machinery. During drought times people cannot eat dirt or machinery and rural business cannot generate income from farmers who cannot produce crops or stock for sale. An inequity has been established that can be rectified.

To ensure that all levels of the community are funded both now and into the future, this request of the Federal Government to extend a rural based payment to rural families, and rural based business to support the day to day needs of families as is occurring during this Covid-19 pandemic will ensure social equity and provide support to rural families and the communities they live within.

Council believes that the National economic security at times of drought has a very high level of importance. As shown during the Covid-19 shut down, the National reliance on overseas companies and governments has seen everyday commodities not being available and price rises that cannot be sustained. Rural Australia, the farming families and rural companies, the rural employees, the shop assistants, doctors, nurses and education, are highly important to ensure that crops and stock are being produced at a National level without shifting our reliance on overseas producers.

Council is asking for consideration of future support being legislated to ensure that rural Australia does survive, that all farming families, producers, small business and employees are supported during drought declarations and recognisable impacts regionally are being identified, on a similar basis as the economic stimulus being offered across Australia during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

<u>Principal Activity</u>	Representation and Collaboration
<u>Policy Implications</u>	Nil
<u>Budget Implications</u>	Nil
<u>Delivery Program Actions</u>	<b>8.1.3.1</b> Monitor issues such as law and order, education and health that impact on the Gilgandra community.

## **SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL'S DETERMINATION**

David Neeves  
General Manager

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MEETING OF: GILGANDRA SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD ON: 21 JULY 2020

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## **PRECIS OF CATEGORY B CORRESPONDENCE**

### **SUMMARY**

To pass on relevant information from correspondence received.

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Documents mentioned are available upon request for any interested Councillors.

1. **SANTOS LIMITED**

Draft stakeholder engagement letter providing an update on the Narrabri Gas Project.

2. **ORANA JOINT ORGANISATION**

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2020.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That receipt of the Category B correspondence be noted.

David Neeves  
**General Manager**