



ORDINARY MEETING

AGENDA

11 NOVEMBER 2014

Your attendance is required at an Ordinary meeting of Council to be held in the Council Chambers, 232 Bolsover Street, Rockhampton on 11 November 2014 commencing at 9.00am for transaction of the enclosed business.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "C. R.", written in a cursive style.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
6 November 2014

Next Meeting Date: 09.12.14

Please note:

In accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, please be advised that all discussion held during the meeting is recorded for the purpose of verifying the minutes. This will include any discussion involving a Councillor, staff member or a member of the public.

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1 OPENING

The opening prayer will be presented by Reverend Jamie Maclean of Gracemere Baptist Fellowship.

2 PRESENT

Members Present:

The Mayor, Councillor M F Strelow (Chairperson)
Councillor C E Smith
Councillor C R Rutherford
Councillor G A Belz
Councillor S J Schwarten
Councillor A P Williams
Councillor R A Swadling
Councillor N K Fisher

In Attendance:

Mr E Pardon – Chief Executive Officer

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 7 October 2014

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

6 BUSINESS OUTSTANDING

6.1 BUSINESS OUTSTANDING TABLE FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

File No: 10097
Attachments: 1. Business Outstanding Table for Ordinary Council
Responsible Officer: Evan Pardon - Chief Executive Officer
Author: Evan Pardon - Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The Business Outstanding table is used as a tool to monitor outstanding items resolved at previous Council or Committee Meetings. The current Business Outstanding table for the Ordinary Council Meeting is presented for Councillors' information.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Business Outstanding table for the Ordinary Council Meeting be received.

BUSINESS OUTSTANDING TABLE FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Business Outstanding Table for Ordinary Council

Meeting Date: 11 November 2014

Attachment No: 1

Meeting Date	Report Title	Resolution	Responsible Officer	Due Date	Comments
10 April 2013	Notice of Motion - Councillor Ellen Smith - Footpath Survey in Gracemere	<p>THAT Council officers conduct a footpath survey in Gracemere to identify "missing links" in pathways and prepare a short and long term strategy to indentify same, and consider costings in the present and future budgets.</p> <p>That a report on a framework for a footpath strategy relating to the Rockhampton Regional Council area be brought back to the table.</p>	Martin Crow	31/12/2013	Approximately 20 footpath projects to a combined value of \$2.5M listed in the Forward works program for Gracemere. 1 project to a value of \$230K in 13/14 budget. Overall footpath strategy being addressed as part of active transport strategy.
13 November 2013	Review of Community Banner Pole System	That a further report be provided on alternative banner pole locations at Stapleton Park and other localities and the type of banner pole.	Shane Turner	27/11/2013	<p>Have requested information from Infrastructure on possible relocation of Stapleton Park Pole and the associated costs.</p> <p>Have also requested some suggestions for additional locations to site Banner Poles in Gracemere Mt Morgan etc.</p> <p>Expect to bring report back to the March Council meeting</p>

7 PUBLIC FORUMS/DEPUTATIONS

Nil

8 PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

Nil

9 COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING - 4 NOVEMBER 2014

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Minutes of the Parks & Recreation Committee meeting, held on 4 November 2014 as circulated, be received and that the recommendations contained within these minutes be adopted.

(Note: The complete minutes are contained in the separate Minutes document)

Recommendation of the Parks & Recreation Committee, 4 November 2014**9.1.1 BUSINESS OUTSTANDING TABLE FOR PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

File No:	10097
Attachments:	1. Business Outstanding Table for Parks and Recreation Committee
Responsible Officer:	Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The Business Outstanding table is used as a tool to monitor outstanding items resolved at previous Council or Committee Meetings. The current Business Outstanding table for the Parks and Recreation Committee is presented for Councillors information.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Business Outstanding Table for the Parks and Recreation Committee be received.

Recommendation of the Parks & Recreation Committee, 4 November 2014**9.1.2 COMMUNITY SERVICES CAPITAL WORKS MONTHLY REPORT – OCTOBER 2014 – PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

File No: 1464
Attachments: 1. Community Services Capital Works - Current Projects
Authorising Officer: Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer
Author: Andrew Collins - Special Projects Officer

SUMMARY

Project summary report for Capital Projects currently being delivered by Community Services Department on behalf of the Parks and Open Spaces section.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community Services Capital Works monthly report for October 2014 for Parks and Recreation be 'received'.

Recommendation of the Parks & Recreation Committee, 4 November 2014**9.1.3 AUGMENTATION OF CHIMPANZEE POPULATION - ROCKHAMPTON ZOO**

File No: 3066
Attachments: Nil
Authorising Officer: Margaret Barrett - Manager Parks
Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer
Author: Vincent Morrice - Coordinator Parks Recreation Services

SUMMARY

*Rockhampton Zoo houses exhibits of various native and exotic animals, including Chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*). Current best practice management approaches for the species include the provision that captive populations should allow for appropriately sized social groups for the benefit of the animals and for the educational value for visitors. The current chimpanzee population at Rockhampton Zoo does not necessarily constitute an appropriate sized social group and it is highly desirable that plans are made to augment the population with animals of appropriate background, age, gender, sexual maturity and genetic diversity.*

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council endorse the proposal to augment the chimpanzee population at Rockhampton Zoo through the importation of two suitable animals and that the costs of the importation be funded as outlined in the report;
2. THAT sponsorship for the two additional chimpanzees be sought.

Recommendation of the Parks & Recreation Committee, 4 November 2014**9.1.4 PARKS AND OPEN SPACE MONTHLY REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2014**

File No: 1464

Attachments: 1. **Parks and Open Space Monthly Operations Report - Period ended 30 September 2014**

Authorising Officer: **Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer**

Author: **Margaret Barrett - Manager Parks**

SUMMARY

This report provides information on the activities and services of Parks and Open Space unit for the month of September 2014.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report on the activities and services of Parks and Open Space Unit for September 2014 be received.

Recommendation of the Parks & Recreation Committee, 4 November 2014**9.1.5 REQUEST FROM MOUNT MORGAN RUGBY UNION CLUB FOR A WAIVER OF LEASE AND LICENCE FEES****File No:** 1464**Attachments:**

1. Letter from Mt Morgan Rugby Union Club seeking a waiver of fees
2. Copy of Invoice for Lease Fees
3. Copy of invoice for Licence fees
4. Copy of unaudited financial statements for Mt Morgan Rugby Union Club
5. Copy of accountant's review of financial statements
6. Copy of Resolution to enter into a Tenure Agreement with Mt Morgan Rugby Union Club

Authorising Officer: Margaret Barrett - Manager Parks
Michael Rowe - General Manager Community Services**Author:** Sophia Czarkowski - Sports & Education Officer

SUMMARY

Mount Morgan Rugby Union Club has requested that Lease and Licence Fees be waived for the 2013/14 and 2014/15 Financial Years to assist the Club in its ongoing operations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council accede to the request from Mount Morgan Rugby Union Club for a waiver of lease and licence fees and charges for the 2013/14 financial year and waive the licence fees and charges for the 2014/15 financial year totalling \$2,800 and enter into an agreement to pay the lease fee for 2014/15.

Recommendation of the Parks & Recreation Committee, 4 November 2014**9.1.6 REQUEST FROM ROCKHAMPTON RACING PIGEON CLUB FOR A REDUCTION IN LEASE FEES**

File No: 1464

Attachments:

1. Request from Rockhampton Racing Pigeon Club for a reduction in fees
2. Copy of financial information supplied by Club

Authorising Officer: Margaret Barrett - Manager Parks
Michael Rowe - General Manager Community Services

Author: Sophia Czarkowski - Sports & Education Officer

SUMMARY

Rockhampton Racing Pigeon Club has requested that Lease fees be reduced for the 2014/15 Financial Year to assist the Club in its ongoing operations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council accede to the request from Rockhampton Racing Pigeon Club for a reduction of Lease fees for the 2014/15 Financial Year as per Option One detailed in the Report.

9.2 COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING - 4 NOVEMBER 2014

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Minutes of the Communities Committee meeting, held on 4 November 2014 as circulated, be received and that the recommendations contained within these minutes be adopted.

(Note: The complete minutes are contained in the separate Minutes document)

Recommendation of the Communities Committee, 4 November 2014**9.2.1 BUSINESS OUTSTANDING TABLE FOR COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE****File No:** 10097**Attachments:** 1. **Business Outstanding Table for Communities****Responsible Officer:** Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer**Author:** Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The Business Outstanding table is used as a tool to monitor outstanding items resolved at previous Council or Committee Meetings. The current Business Outstanding table for the Communities Committee is presented for Councillors' information.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Business Outstanding Table for the Communities Committee be received.

Recommendation of the Communities Committee, 4 November 2014**9.2.2 MOUNT MORGAN PROMOTION & DEVELOPMENT FUNDING**

File No: 1731
Attachments: 1. Letter from Mount Morgan Promotion & Development Inc.
Authorising Officer: Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer
Author: Kerri Dorman - Administration Supervisor

SUMMARY

Acting Chief Executive Officer seeking Council's determination of funding on behalf of Mount Morgan Promotion & Development Inc.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Contribute to the funding of a Project Officer for the Mount Morgan Promotion & Development Inc. to a fixed amount of \$30,000;
2. Review the funding contribution arrangements as part of the 2015/16 budget deliberations.

Recommendation of the Communities Committee, 4 November 2014**9.2.3 PILBEAM THEATRE STORAGE SHED 4 CAMBRIDGE STREET****File No:** 11190**Attachments:**

1. Development Application Report
2. Shed Drawings & Details

Authorising Officer: Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer**Author:** Andrew Collins - Special Projects Officer

SUMMARY

Council has funded in the 2013/14 Capital budget the construction of a storage shed on the Pilbeam Theatre site. Lots have been amalgamated and a contract to design and construct the shed has been awarded. To commence the construction of the shed on the site a development approval is required.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the matter lay on the table pending presentation of a report detailing further options.

Recommendation of the Communities Committee, 4 November 2014**9.2.4 ROCKHAMPTON ART GALLERY COLLECTION MANAGEMENT PLAN 2014-2019**

File No: 465

Attachments: 1. Rockhampton Art Gallery Collection Management Plan 2014-2019

Authorising Officer: Peter Owens - Manager Arts and Heritage
Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer

Author: Tracy Cooper-Lavery - Gallery Director

SUMMARY

The Rockhampton Art Gallery Collection Management Plan (CMP) 2014-2019 is presented for Council endorsement

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council formally endorse the Rockhampton Art Gallery Collection Management Plan for implementation during the period 2014-2019 with the plan to be reviewed during 2019.

Recommendation of the Communities Committee, 4 November 2014**9.2.5 COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

File No: 7822

Attachments: 1. **Application to Community Assistance Program - CQ Aquajets Swimming Club**

Authorising Officer: **Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer**

Author: **Cheryl Haughton - Manager Community Services**

SUMMARY

An application to the Community Assistance Program has been received from CQ Aquajets Swimming Club seeking financial assistance to host the 2014 Tropic of Capricorn Swim Meet.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approves the application for funding under the Community Assistance Program from CQ Aquajets Swimming Club to the value of \$2,000.

Recommendation of the Communities Committee, 4 November 2014**9.2.6 COMMUNITIES AND FACILITIES MONTHLY OPERATIONAL REPORT**

File No: 1464
Attachments: 1. **Communities and Facilities Monthly Operational Report**
Authorising Officer: Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer
Author: Cheryl Haughton - Manager Community Services

SUMMARY

This report provides information on the activities of the Communities and Facilities section for the month of September 2014.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Monthly Operational Report on the activities of the Communities and Facilities section for the month of September 2014 be received.

Recommendation of the Communities Committee, 4 November 2014**9.2.7 MONTHLY OPERATIONS REPORT FOR ARTS AND HERITAGE FOR SEPTEMBER 2014**

File No: 1464
Attachments: 1. Monthly Operations Report for Arts and Heritage for September 2014
Authorising Officer: Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer
Author: Peter Owens - Manager Arts and Heritage

SUMMARY

The report provides information on the programs and activities of the Arts and Heritage section for September 2014.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Monthly Operations Report of the Arts and Heritage section for September 2014 be received.

Recommendation of the Communities Committee, 4 November 2014**9.2.8 ROCKHAMPTON SALOON CAR CLUB TRUSTEE PERMIT ROCKHAMPTON SHOWGROUNDS**

File No: 456
Attachments: Nil
Authorising Officer: Michael Rowe - General Manager Community Services
Author: Peter Owens - Manager Arts and Heritage

SUMMARY

The Rockhampton Saloon Car Club has contacted Council seeking to renew the organisation's trustee permit for use of the Rockhampton Showgrounds for motorsports event for another three years.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council extend the current trustee permit and offer a new trustee permit to the Rockhampton Saloon Car Club to conduct motorsports events at the Rockhampton Showgrounds as detailed in the report.

9.3 HEALTH AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE MEETING - 4 NOVEMBER 2014**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the Minutes of the Health & Compliance Committee meeting, held on 4 November 2014 as circulated, be received and that the recommendations contained within these minutes be adopted.

(Note: The complete minutes are contained in the separate Minutes document)

Recommendation of the Health & Compliance Committee, 4 November 2014**9.3.1 BUSINESS OUTSTANDING TABLE FOR HEALTH AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

File No:	10097
Attachments:	1. Business Outstanding Table for Health and Compliance
Responsible Officer:	Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The Business Outstanding table is used as a tool to monitor outstanding items resolved at previous Council or Committee Meetings. The current Business Outstanding table for the Health and Compliance Committee is presented for Councillors' information.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Business Outstanding Table for the Health and Compliance Committee be received.

Recommendation of the Health & Compliance Committee, 4 November 2014**9.3.2 COMMUNITY STANDARDS AND COMPLIANCE ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY**

File No: 5231
Attachments: 1. Enforcement Strategy Table
Authorising Officer: Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer
Author: Catherine Hayes - Manager Health & Environment /
Acting Manager Local Laws

SUMMARY

The Manager Community Standards and Compliance is presenting an Enforcement Strategy report for Council's adoption. This strategy will be an appendix to the whole of Council Enforcement Strategy.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community Standards and Compliance Enforcement Strategy, which will be an appendix to the whole of Council Enforcement Strategy, be adopted.

Recommendation of the Health & Compliance Committee, 4 November 2014**9.3.3 MONTHLY OPERATIONS REPORT HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT SECTION
PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 2014.****File No: 1464****Attachments:**

- 1. Monthly Operations Report Health and Environment Section Period Ended September 2014**
- 2. All Monthly Requests - Traffic Light Report Period Ended September 2014**
- 3. Financial Matters Report**

Authorising Officer: Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer**Author: Catherine Hayes - Manager Health & Environment /
Acting Manager Local Laws**

SUMMARY

The monthly operations report for the Health and Environment Section as at 30 September 2014 is presented for Councillor's information.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Health and Environment Monthly Operations Report for September 2014 be received.

Recommendation of the Health & Compliance Committee, 4 November 2014**9.3.4 MONTHLY OPERATIONS REPORT LOCAL LAWS SECTION PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 2014**

File No: 1464

Attachments:

1. Monthly Operations Report Local Laws Section
2. Local Laws Monthly Request - September 2014
3. September 2014 Local Law General Ledger

Authorising Officer: Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer

Author: Catherine Hayes - Manager Health & Environment / Acting Manager Local Laws

SUMMARY

The monthly operations report for the Local Laws Section as at 30 September 2014 is presented for Councillor's information.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Monthly Operations Report Local Laws Section as at 30 September 2014 be 'received'.

9.4 BUSINESS ENTERPRISE COMMITTEE MEETING - 5 NOVEMBER 2014

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Minutes of the Business Enterprise Committee meeting, held on 5 November 2014 as circulated, be received and that the recommendations contained within these minutes be adopted.

(Note: The complete minutes are contained in the separate Minutes document)

Recommendation of the Business Enterprise Committee, 5 November 2014**9.4.1 COMPOST TRIAL**

File No: 7927
Attachments: Nil
Authorising Officer: Robert Holmes - General Manager Regional Services
Author: Craig Dunglison - Manager RRWR

SUMMARY

Council was provided a deputation from Mr Michael Alexander in regards to the establishment of a trial waste composting project. Mr Alexander previously had put a proposal to undertake a composting trial involving greenwaste, sludge (sewer and or water) and possibly organics. To undertake the trial will require significant expenditure but could assist Council in the longer term with local markets. Also no site could be located to undertake the trial. Council requested further information and that is now provided in this report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT this matter be further investigated having regard for the waste options currently being considered by Council and test the market for the operation.

Recommendation of the Business Enterprise Committee, 5 November 2014**9.4.2 ROCKHAMPTON REGIONAL WASTE AND RECYCLING PERFORMANCE PLAN QUARTERLY REPORT AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2014****File No:** 7927**Attachments:**

1. RRWR Income Statement
2. RRWR Capital Management Report 2014-15 as at September 2014
3. RRWR Customer Service Standards Performance as at 30 September 2014

Authorising Officer: Robert Holmes - General Manager Regional Services**Author:** Craig Dunglison - Manager RRWR

SUMMARY

Rockhampton Regional Waste and Recycling's performance is reported to Council on a quarterly basis in accordance with the adopted 2014/15 Performance Plan. This report, as at 30 September 2014, is presented for the Committee's information.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Rockhampton Regional Waste and Recycling Annual Performance Plan quarterly report as at 30 September 2014 be received.

Recommendation of the Business Enterprise Committee, 5 November 2014**9.4.3 MONTHLY OPERATIONS REPORT - ROCKHAMPTON REGIONAL WASTE AND RECYCLING****File No:** 7927**Attachments:**

1. Operations Report RRWR September 2014
2. RRWR Income Statement as as 30 September 2014
3. RRWR Capital Management Report as at 30 September 2014

Authorising Officer: Robert Holmes - General Manager Regional Services**Author:** Craig Dunglison - Manager RRWR

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an overview of Rockhampton Regional Waste and Recycling (RRWR) for the month of September 2014.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the RRWR operations report for September 2014 be received.

Recommendation of the Business Enterprise Committee, 5 November 2014**9.4.4 UPDATE OF PROGRESS - INTERIM WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN****File No:** 7927**Attachments:** 1. **Rockhampton Regional Waste and Recycling Interim Waste Management Plan****Authorising Officer:** **Robert Holmes - General Manager Regional Services****Author:** **Craig Dunglison - Manager RRWR**

SUMMARY

In June 2014 an Interim Waste Management Strategy was adopted by Council. This report provides an update of the progress of the Actions outlined in the Interim Waste Strategy.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the progress report on the Interim Waste Management Plan be received.

Recommendation of the Business Enterprise Committee, 5 November 2014**9.4.5 AIRPORT TERMINAL REDEVELOPMENT REPORT****File No:** 10234**Attachments:**

1. **Correspondence from Stea Astute Architecture**
2. **Partial Floorplan with Car Park**
3. **Partial Floorplan Annotated**

Authorising Officer: Ross Cheesman - General Manager Corporate Services**Author:** Trevor Heard - Manager Rockhampton Airport

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide information to Council on the proposed redevelopment of the Airport terminal which will transform the terminal and passenger flow into what is accepted as best practice at large regional airports.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Airport Terminal Redevelopment Report be received.

Recommendation of the Business Enterprise Committee, 5 November 2014**9.4.6 CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT - ROCKHAMPTON AIRPORT -
MONTHLY OPERATIONAL REPORT****File No:** 7927**Attachments:** 1. Airport Finance Monthly Report - September
2014**Authorising Officer:** Ross Cheesman - General Manager Corporate Services**Author:** Trevor Heard - Manager Rockhampton Airport

SUMMARY

The monthly operations report for the Rockhampton Airport as at 30 September 2014 is presented for Councillor's information.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Corporate Services Departmental Operations Report for Rockhampton Airport as at 30 September 2014 be "received".

9.5 WATER COMMITTEE MEETING - 5 NOVEMBER 2014

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Minutes of the Water Committee meeting, held on 5 November 2014 as circulated, be received and that the recommendations contained within these minutes be adopted.

(Note: The complete minutes are contained in the separate Minutes document)

Recommendation of the Water Committee, 5 November 2014**9.5.1 BUSINESS OUTSTANDING TABLE FOR WATER COMMITTEE**

File No:	10097
Attachments:	1. Business Outstanding Table for Water Committee
Responsible Officer:	Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Robert Holmes - General Manager Regional Services

SUMMARY

The Business Outstanding table is used as a tool to monitor outstanding items resolved at previous Council or Committee Meetings. The current Business Outstanding table for the Water Committee is presented for Councillors' information.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Business Outstanding Table for the Water Committee be received.

Recommendation of the Water Committee, 5 November 2014**9.5.2 FRW MONTHLY OPERATIONS REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2014****File No:** 1466**Attachments:** 1. **FRW Monthly Operations Report - September 2014****Authorising Officer:** Robert Holmes - General Manager Regional Services**Author:** Nimish Chand - Manager FRW

SUMMARY

This report details Fitzroy River Water's financial position and other operational matters for the Council's information as at 30 September 2014.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the FRW Monthly Operations Report for September 2014 be received.

Recommendation of the Water Committee, 5 November 2014**9.5.3 FRW ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2014****File No:** 1466**Attachments:**

1. **Customer Service Standards as at 30 September 2014**
2. **Customer Service and Financial Targets as at 30 September 2014**
3. **Non Compliance Comments as at 30 September 2014**

Authorising Officer: Robert Holmes - General Manager Regional Services**Author:** Nimish Chand - Manager FRW

SUMMARY

Fitzroy River Water's performance against financial and non-financial targets and key strategies is reported to Council on a quarterly basis in accordance with the adopted 2013/14 Performance Plan. This report as at 30 September 2014 is presented for the Committee's information.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Fitzroy River Water Annual Performance Plan quarterly report as at 30 September 2014 be received.

9.6 INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING - 5 NOVEMBER 2014

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Minutes of the Infrastructure Committee meeting, held on 5 November 2014 as circulated, be received and that the recommendations contained within these minutes be adopted.

(Note: The complete minutes are contained in the separate Minutes document)

Recommendation of the Infrastructure Committee, 5 November 2014**9.6.1 BUSINESS OUTSTANDING TABLE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE****File No:** 10097**Attachments:** 1. **Business Outstanding Table for Infrastructure Committee****Responsible Officer:** Michael Rowe - Acting Chief Executive Officer**Author:** Robert Holmes - General Manager Regional Services

SUMMARY

The Business Outstanding table is used as a tool to monitor outstanding items resolved at previous Council or Committee Meetings. The current Business Outstanding table for the Infrastructure Committee is presented for Councillors' information.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Business Outstanding Table for the Infrastructure Committee be received.

Recommendation of the Infrastructure Committee, 5 November 2014**9.6.2 ROADS ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN (RAMP) PRESENTED FOR COUNCIL'S REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

File No: 1392
Attachments: 1. Transport Drainage AMP
Authorising Officer: Ross Cheesman - General Manager Corporate Services
Author: Alicia Cutler - Manager Finance

SUMMARY

The Roads Asset Management Plan (RAMP) is presented for Council review and approval. A presentation will be provided at the meeting that walks Councillors through the content of the RAMP.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Roads Asset Management Plan be adopted.

Recommendation of the Infrastructure Committee, 5 November 2014**9.6.3 FUTURE USE OF ALTERNATIVE ROAD RESURFACING PRODUCTS -
COUNCILLOR SCHWARTEN**

File No: 4808
Attachments: 1. Letter from Councillor Schwarten
Authorising Officer: Evan Pardon - Chief Executive Officer
Author: Evan Pardon - Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

Councillor Stephen Schwarten has requested discussion on the future use of "slurry sealant" and other alternative road resurfacing products.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report on the future use of alternative road resurfacing products be received.

Recommendation of the Infrastructure Committee, 5 November 2014**9.6.4 REVISION OF THE 2014/2015 CAPITAL BUDGET FOR ROADS AND DRAINAGE**

File No: 7028, 8785
Attachments: 1. Budget Tracking - 1 October 2014
Authorising Officer: Robert Holmes - General Manager Regional Services
Author: Russell Collins - Manager Civil Operations

SUMMARY

Immediately preceding the budget adoption and after the draft budget had been prepared, the Councillors inspected a number of intended road projects to give further consideration to the scopes of work required with a view to maximising the available budget. Also, there have been opportunity to review the allocation for another few projects and this report seeks the Committee's endorsement of a number of revisions to the 2014/2015 Capital Budget for Roads and Drainage.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the budget amendments outlined in this report be approved.

Recommendation of the Infrastructure Committee, 5 November 2014**9.6.5 CIVIL OPERATIONS MONTHLY OPERATIONS REPORT - NOVEMBER 2014****File No:** 7028**Attachments:**

1. Civil Operations Monthly Operations Report - September 2014
2. Works Program October - November 2014

Authorising Officer: Robert Holmes - General Manager Regional Services**Author:** Russell Collins - Manager Civil Operations

SUMMARY

This report outlines Civil Operations Monthly Operations Report and also the Works Program of planned projects for the months of October - November 2014.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Civil Operations Monthly Operations Report for November 2014 be received.

Recommendation of the Infrastructure Committee, 5 November 2014**9.6.6 ENGINEERING SERVICES MONTHLY OPERATIONS REPORT - NOVEMBER 2014**

File No: 7028

Attachments: 1. Monthly Operations Report - Engineering Services - 30 September 2014

Authorising Officer: Robert Holmes - General Manager Regional Services

Author: Martin Crow - Manager Engineering Services

SUMMARY

This report outlines Engineering Services Monthly Operations Report for the period to the end of September 2014.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Engineering Services Monthly Operations Report for November 2014 be received.

10 COUNCILLOR/DELEGATE REPORTS**10.1 COUNCILLORS' DISCRETIONARY FUND - DEPUTY MAYOR COUNCILLOR TONY WILLIAMS - BERSERKER STREET STATE SCHOOL P & C**

File No: 8295
Attachments: Nil
Authorising Officer: Evan Pardon - Chief Executive Officer
Author: Trudy Heilbronn - Executive Support Officer

SUMMARY

Approval is sought from Council for a donation from Deputy Mayor, Councillor Tony Williams' Councillors' Discretionary Fund to the Berserker Street State School P & C to cover the cost of purchasing two (2) CLO'ey Composting Units for the School's Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT approval be granted to donate \$1,396.00 from Deputy Mayor, Councillor Tony Williams' Councillors' Discretionary Fund to the Berserker Street State School P & C to cover the cost of purchasing two (2) CLO'ey Composting Units for the School's Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program.

COMMENTARY

Deputy Mayor, Councillor Tony Williams, is seeking approval from Council to donate \$1,396.00 to the Berserker Street State School P & C to cover the cost of purchasing two (2) CLO'ey Composting Units for the School's Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program.

The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program is fully integrated with the curriculum of the Berserker Street State School and has four (4) major components – growing, harvesting, preparing, and sharing.

This donation will assist the Berserker Street State School P & C to purchase the composting units to reduce the amount of waste in the School and use the compost in the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden so it remains self-sustainable.

11 OFFICERS' REPORTS

11.1 FITZROY RIVER STORAGES

File No: 7687

Attachments:

1. Draft Submission to Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper
2. Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure Project - Map 1
3. Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure Project - Map 2
4. Connors River Dam and Pipelines - Map 1
5. Connors River Dam and Pipelines - Map 2
6. Nathan Dam and Pipelines - Map

Authorising Officer: Evan Pardon - Chief Executive Officer

Author: Robert Holmes - General Manager Regional Services

SUMMARY

It has recently been requested that a brief report be presented to the Council outlining the proposed/suggested additional water storages on the Fitzroy River catchment to put in perspective recent media reports. Also, the Federal Government recently released the Agricultural Competitiveness Green Paper seeking input to infrastructure and strategies to improve the competitiveness of the agricultural sector. The report is submitted for the Council's information and endorsement is sought for the suggested submission to the Green Paper.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT the information in respect of the identified water storages in the Fitzroy Catchment be noted;
2. THAT the draft submission attached to this report be lodged in respect of the Agricultural Competitiveness Green Paper indicating that this Council strongly supports the Lower Fitzroy Infrastructure Project and seeks consideration of the expediting of that project.

COMMENTARY

The Australian Government's Agricultural Competitiveness Green Paper was released on 20 October 2014.

Among other issues the Green Paper sought submissions for inclusion in the Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper by 12 December 2014.

Council has had a long-term interest in the development of additional water storages along the Fitzroy River together with other issues relating to agricultural competitiveness. A copy of a draft submission for the White Paper is attached to this report.

Fitzroy Industry and Infrastructure Study (FIIS)

In 2007 the Queensland Government, Rockhampton City Council, Fitzroy and Livingstone Shire Councils, Stanwell Corporation and Rockhampton Regional Development completed FIIS, which examined the water infrastructure necessary to develop nine agricultural precincts along the Fitzroy River within 110km of Rockhampton.

This study also included estimates of the cost of required roads, power and telecommunications. FIIS has since been included in Growing Central Queensland as the Fitzroy River Agriculture Corridor.

Water Infrastructure in Central Queensland

Council strongly supports the development of the following as part of Growing Central Queensland:

- Fitzroy River Agriculture Corridor, which includes the construction of Rookwood Weir, raising of Eden Bann Weir, associated roads and power and telecommunication infrastructure;
- Dawson River Agriculture Corridor, which includes the construction of Nathan Dam, associated roads and power and telecommunication infrastructure;
- Mackenzie River Agriculture Corridor, which includes the construction of Connors Dam, associated roads and power and telecommunication infrastructure; and
- Central Queensland Agribusiness Logistics Precincts, which includes Rockhampton Airport, Gracemere Industrial Area, Port of Gladstone, Port Alma and industrial areas in Rockhampton, Emerald and Biloela.

Rookwood Weir

Its construction is the key step in developing the Fitzroy River Agricultural Corridor and the wider Growing Central Queensland project.

Council believes Rookwood Weir is likely to have one of the lowest capital costs per megalitre of water yield in Queensland and Australia.

The Fitzroy River Agricultural Corridor is in close relative proximity to Rockhampton, a sizable regional city, with:

- Large employee base;
- Higher level retail;
- Extensive health services;
- Comprehensive educational services; and
- Industrial areas for processing and support services.

The agricultural corridor is also close to the junction of north-south and east-west rail links, which include road, rail, port and airport infrastructure.

BACKGROUND

It has recently been requested that a brief report be presented to the Council outlining the proposed/suggested additional water storages on the Fitzroy River catchment to put in perspective recent media reports. This matter has also been brought to the fore through the recent Federal Government release of the Agricultural Competitiveness Green Paper that has been presented as a discussion of possible options proposed by stakeholders for improving the competitiveness of the agricultural sector.

Below is a table that indicates the current proposals and their status as extracted from the Government's Green Paper. This is then followed by a brief description of the water storage proposals currently identified for the Fitzroy catchment.

Table 4 List of potential water infrastructure projects that could warrant possible Commonwealth involvement

<i>Likely to be sufficiently developed to allow consideration of possible capital investment within the next 12 months</i>	
Gippsland: Macalister Irrigation District/Southern Pipeline	Victoria
Tasmanian Irrigation Tranche II: Southern Highlands	Tasmania
Tasmanian Irrigation Tranche II: Scottsdale	Tasmania
Tasmanian Irrigation Tranche II: Circular Head	Tasmania
Tasmanian Irrigation Tranche II: Swan Valley	Tasmania
Tasmanian Irrigation Tranche II: North Esk	Tasmania
<i>Could warrant future consideration of possible capital investment, but less advanced in stage of development</i>	
Gippsland: Lindenow Valley Water Security Project (Mitchell River)	Victoria
Emu Swamp Dam—Severn River, Stanthorpe (MDB)	Queensland
Nathan Dam, Dawson River	Queensland
Wellington Dam Revival Project	Western Australia
<i>Likely to be suitable for further consideration for possible assistance to accelerate feasibility studies, cost benefit analysis or design</i>	
Apsley Dam—Walcha	New South Wales
Lostock Dam enlargement—Hunter Valley	New South Wales
Mole River Dam (MDB)	New South Wales
Needles Gap (MDB)	New South Wales
Burdekin Falls Dam (including Water for Bowen)	Queensland
Connors River Dam—Sarina	Queensland
Fitzroy Agricultural Corridor—construction of Rockwood Weir and raising Eden Bann Weir	Queensland
Mitchell River System	Queensland
North Queensland Irrigated Agriculture Strategy: Flinders-Gilbert, large scale infrastructure proposals (e.g. IFED) and on-farm developments	Queensland
Nullinga Dam—Cairns	Queensland
Urannah Dam—Collinsville	Queensland
Ord Irrigation Stage III (water infrastructure components)	Western Australia Northern Territory
Pilbara and/or Kimberley irrigated water pipeline system	Western Australia
Expanded Horticulture Production—Northern Adelaide Plains—waste water reuse	South Australia
Intensive Livestock and Horticulture Expansion—Northern Dams Upgrade—Clare Valley	South Australia
Exploring off-stream storage opportunities to increase water availability for agricultural development	Northern Territory
Adelaide River Dam/off stream storage	Northern Territory

LOWER FITZROY RIVER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

Description	The raising of Eden Bann Weir and construction of a new weir at Rookwood on the Fitzroy River, Central Queensland.
Proponent	Gladstone Area Water Board and SunWater Ltd.
Location/s	Eden Bann Weir: about 50 km north-west of Rockhampton Rookwood Weir: about 54 km south-west of Rockhampton
Local government/s	Central Highlands Regional Council Livingstone Shire Council Rockhampton Regional Council Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council
Investment	\$434 million
Key features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • raising of Eden Bann Weir • construction of Rookwood Weir • associated infrastructure, including access roads and fauna passage structures • augmentation and maintenance of roads and river crossings affected by inundation
Jobs	150 (construction)

Project Summary

GAWB and SunWater propose to develop infrastructure to capture and store water, by way of raising the existing Eden Bann Weir and constructing a new weir at Rookwood on the Fitzroy River. Associated infrastructure may include upgrades to state, local and private roads, bridges and crossings to maintain existing access after inundation. The key components of the Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure Project include:

- The Eden Bann Weir (Stage 1) was built in 1994 and it is proposed that a Stage 2 will raise to RL 18.2 metres with the addition of gates as Stage 3 will raise the structure to RL 20.2 metres. The weir is located approximately 50 kilometres (km) north-west of Rockhampton.
- The proposed Rookwood Weir is a new build at a site located approximately 54 km south-west of Rockhampton. The Stage 1 infrastructure development will be built to with the addition of gates at Stage 2.
- Associated with the weirs will be fish and turtle passage structures, which are to be developed in consultation with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Queensland Fisheries) and the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (formerly the Department of Environment and Resource Management).
- Allowing for the capture and storage of unallocated water resources that are available in the system (nominally 76 000 ML/a).
- Implementation of a flexible strategy to allow the rapid delivery of water to meet anticipated future demands.

The Fitzroy River forms at the confluence of the Mackenzie and Dawson Rivers flowing out into the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and Marine Park, which is approximately 300 km downstream.

The project has been proposed to address the potential demands from urban populations, industry and agriculture within the Gladstone and Rockhampton regions and along the Capricorn coast to secure future water supply and improve water security in the short to medium term.

In 2006 the Central Queensland Regional Water Supply Strategy identified the project as a means of meeting short to medium term urban and industrial demand for water in the Lower Mackenzie/Fitzroy sub-region. Along with water trading and water efficiency gains longer term urban, industrial and agricultural demands can be achieved through the project operating in conjunction with the Fitzroy Barrage, Awoonga Dam and the proposed Nathan Dam.

CONNORS RIVER DAM AND PIPELINES

Description	A 373,662ML dam, water from which will be transported via a 133km pipeline to Moranbah and will primarily service coal mines (and associated communities) in Central Queensland's coal basins.
Proponent	SunWater Ltd (a government owned corporation).
Location/s	Dam: on Connors River near Mount Bridgett, 110km east of Moranbah and 70km south of Sarina. Pipeline: will run from the dam to Moranbah.
Local government/s	Isaac Regional Council
Key features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roller-compacted concrete dam, including a central spillway and aquatic fauna transfer device • Pipeline • Associated infrastructure • Recreational area beside water storage area • Upgrade of access roads • Commissioning of temporary resource extraction areas

Project Summary

The relevant terms of reference (TOR) are for an environmental impact statement (EIS) for a proposed dam located on the Connors River at 95.7km adopted middle thread distance near Mt Bridgett in Isaac Regional Shire approximately 235km north west of Rockhampton. A locality map is provided as an attachment to this report. It is proposed that the dam construction type will be roller compacted concrete. Other features of the project include:

- yield of up to 56,400ML per annum of high reliability water with a storage volume of 373,700ML.
- at least one water distribution pipeline from the storage west to the northern Bowen Basin, with ultimate discharge location likely to be in the vicinity of Moranbah.
- Fishways and water outlets (fish migration and water release).

Within the TOR, the term "project" includes all activities necessary for construction and operation of the dam and distribution pipelines or other distribution systems that are the business responsibility of the proponent. The details may vary as the project is refined.

NATHAN DAM AND PIPELINES

Description	An 888,312ML dam, with an annual yield of 66,000 ML; and a 149.3-kilometre trunk pipeline.
Proponent	SunWater Ltd (a government owned corporation).
Location/s	Dam: on Dawson River, about 35 km north-east of Taroom Pipeline: from dam, through the Surat Basin, to Warra
Local government/s	Banana Shire Council (water storage area and pipeline) Western Downs Regional Council (pipeline)
Investment	\$1.4 billion
Key features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • earth and rockfill dam with spillway on right abutment • multi-level offtake • aquatic fauna transfer devices • pipeline • associated infrastructure
Jobs	Up to 425 (construction) Up to 5 (operational)

A dam on the Dawson River was originally proposed in 1922. The project gained impetus during the 1990s due to ongoing drought and increasing water demands in the region. An impact assessment study was completed for the Department of Natural Resources in September 1997. The study found that, with appropriate management, no significant adverse impacts existed that would prevent the development from being progressed. Expressions of interest to build the dam were then sought from the private sector. A successful submitter was chosen as the preferred developer on a fully commercial basis.

In August 2002, the successful submitter referred the project for assessment under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act). The (then) Australian Minister for the Environment and Heritage determined that Nathan Dam was a 'controlled action' under the Act. In December 2002 the Queensland Conservation Council and the World Wide Fund for Nature (Australia) applied for a judicial review of the Minister's decision. They argued that the environmental assessment report needed to address potential impacts on the Great Barrier Reef. In May 2004, the Federal Court of Australia found that the Commonwealth Minister had erred in not considering the indirect impacts of Nathan Dam. The Federal Court found the Commonwealth Minister was required to consider the downstream impacts and as a result "other controlling provisions" of the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act may have been triggered. The Federal Court directed that the decision be re-examined.

In 2006, the Central Queensland Regional Water Supply strategy was released. The strategy examined the adequacy of current water supplies for existing and future demands across the Fitzroy River Basin and associated coastal areas and highlighted a short to medium term need for additional supplies in the Dawson/Callide sub-region that could not be met by water trading or efficiency measures.

It indicated that these demands could be met through the construction of a dam on the Dawson River, hereafter referred to as Nathan Dam.

In 2006, the Queensland Government released its Statewide Water Policy, which outlined a plan to improve water security and support future economic growth in regional Queensland. The policy supports a \$420 million investment in regional water infrastructure which aims to meet the needs of urban and rural users as well as:

- enable the development of Bowen as a major industrial centre of the future;
- provide additional water to the rapidly growing coalfield and coal mining communities in the Bowen Basin;
- drought-proof coastal communities to ensure the viability of valuable tourism and manufacturing industries;
- provide secure water supplies to the Surat Basin to open up the vast thermal coal reserves for mining and stimulate the rural economy; and
- provide secure water supplies for industrial and urban users in Central Queensland.

The Statewide Water Policy identified eleven regional water infrastructure projects with \$222 million committed for the development of dams and weirs and \$198 million for channels and pipelines. Funding of \$120 million was allocated toward the design and construction of the proposed Nathan Dam, subject to the Australian Government's approval under the Act.

In July 2007, the Queensland Government released a Program of Works for the regional water infrastructure projects and designated proponents to progress the projects through feasibility investigations and approvals through to the development of a business case. SunWater was designated as the proponent to develop the business case for Nathan Dam.

Given the timeframes within the Program of Works which water supply enhancements are required, the environmental approvals process will be conducted in parallel with the refinement of other components of the business case. As such, robust estimates of demand levels and location, the means of transporting water to demand points and the end uses of the water will progress in line with the various studies. Development of the business case and the environmental impact statement (EIS) are complementary processes in that each component will take into account the outputs of the other in decision-making. The definition of the project included in the submitted EIS will consequently be more precise than that included here.

When the business case for the Nathan Dam has been finalised, the government will be in a position to consider whether or not to proceed to construction and assess the commerciality of the proposed development.

THE GAP DAM

As part of the 1992 Rockhampton Flood Management Study, a dam located at The Gap was considered as part of an overall flood mitigation strategy and the following is an extract of that report.

In order to provide a high degree of flood mitigation, one or more major storages would be required. The principle of operation would be to store sufficient of the flood inflow to the storage to significantly reduce the discharge at Rockhampton, preferably so that bankfull flow (about 8,000m³/s) was not exceeded, taking account of inflow below the storage.

In order to put these volumes in perspective, it is instructive to consider the storage site at The Gap which has previously been identified as a potential site for a major storage. The location of The Gap dam site is shown in Figure 14-1.

A previous report on The Gap Dam Site (Irrigation & Water Supply Commission 1977) showed that at full potential it would be possible to construct a reservoir of capacity of 10 x 10⁶ ML to full supply level (FSL) and such a dam would have a surcharge storage of a further 4 x 10⁶ ML. Thus a dam built primarily for water conservation purposes would have only a relatively small flood control capability, bearing in mind that the volume of the 1991 flood was about 17 x 10⁶ ML and the 1918 flood about 32 x 10⁶ ML. However, this situation would be substantially more beneficial if such a storage

were operated primarily for flood control. This would entail the storage level being drawn down by the start of each wet season.

In order to restrict outflow to say $6,000\text{m}^3/\text{s}$ to allow a component of local runoff to occur without causing the breakout threshold of $8,000\text{m}^3/\text{s}$ at Pink Lily to be exceeded, would require a storage volume of about $7 \times 10^6\text{ML}$ for the 1991 flood and $16 \times 10^6\text{ML}$ for the 1918 flood.

The cost of such a storage was estimated (IWSC 1977) to be \$100 million in 1977 prices. At current costs this would be in excess of \$200 million.

A dam of this magnitude would cause inundation (at maximum storage level) of about 10,000ha of land. If the reservoir were generally drawn down, this land area would not be totally sterilized but may not be useable for grazing purposes. A dam operated primarily for flood control purposes would, therefore, still have significant environmental impact.

Benefits in terms of flood mitigation would be to eliminate downstream flood damage for floods below about $15,000\text{m}^3/\text{s}$ (as measured at the Gap) with reducing mitigation effects for more extreme floods. Figure 9-5 shows the cumulative contribution to mean annual damages over a range of flood heights. The protection provided by a major storage would effectively mean that floods below 8m (without storage) would no longer cause damage. On the above basis, storage would result in about a 30% reduction in damages. Assuming that both direct and indirect damages were reduced in proportion, this would result in a net benefit of about \$1.6 million pa, equivalent to a net present value of about \$32 million (at 5% discount rate). The benefit-cost ratio without including operating costs would be of the order of 0.15.

This clearly demonstrates that such a major dam could not be justified on economic grounds for flood mitigation alone. If additional benefits were sought by conservation use, this would significantly reduce the flood mitigation benefit and also cause greater environmental impact due to permanent inundation.

The 1992 Report did not specifically identify a site for such a dam at the gap and Council officers have had a high level look at the area and have mapped a suggested location for such a dam given the topography of the area. A map will be presented to the meeting that will show this site, forecast inundation areas and the impact on previously identified Fitzroy Agricultural sites.

RISK ASSESSMENT

Any consideration of water storage sites on the Fitzroy should also be considered in conjunction with the long term water supply security for the Region's water supply.

CONCLUSION

The above provides a high level summary of current proposed water storages for the Fitzroy and also the need for enhanced water storage for the development of the agricultural sector as follows:

- Fitzroy River Agriculture Corridor, which includes the construction of Rookwood Weir, raising of Eden Bann Weir, associated roads and power and telecommunication infrastructure;
- Dawson River Agriculture Corridor, which includes the construction of Nathan Dam, associated roads and power and telecommunication infrastructure;
- Mackenzie River Agriculture Corridor, which includes the construction of Connors Dam, associated roads and power and telecommunication infrastructure; and
- Central Queensland Agribusiness Logistics Precincts, which includes Rockhampton Airport, Gracemere Industrial Area, Port of Gladstone, Port Alma and industrial areas in Rockhampton, Emerald and Biloela.

To maintain support of the foregoing, the proposed submission to the Federal Government's Agricultural Competitiveness Green Paper should be supported.

FITZROY RIVER STORAGES

Draft Submission to Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper

Meeting Date: 11 November 2014

Attachment No: 1

Submission by Rockhampton Regional Council to the Australian Government's Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper

The Australian Government's Agricultural Competitiveness Green Paper was released on 20 October 2014. Among other things, the Green Paper sought submissions from stakeholders for consideration in the White Paper by 12 December 2014.

Strength of Central Queensland Agriculture

Central Queensland is one of the nation's largest agricultural producing regions.

The gross value of its agricultural production is over \$1.25 billion per annum with the high point being a massive cattle herd of 3.5 million head. The Region has the greatest beef stock density of any region in Australia, and Rockhampton is internationally recognised as the Nation's Beef Capital.

Over 5.8 per cent of Central Queensland's workforce is employed in the agricultural sector and the Region has over 51 million hectares of agricultural commodities, which is equal to that of the entire Northern Territory.

Central Queensland's own University, CQUniversity, is the highest ranked Australian university for agricultural research in the latest Commonwealth rankings. On 1 July 2014 CQU joined with Central Queensland Institute of TAFE to form Queensland's first comprehensive university.

The Region plays host to two of Australia's most respected agricultural training colleges at Emerald and Longreach.

There is a significant opportunity to expand the Region's agricultural production by developing additional capacity to turn off intensively fed cattle, chickens and pigs. Likewise, there is another significant opportunity to expand horticultural and cropping (cereal, legume and cotton) production in areas along the Fitzroy River and its tributaries.

General Thrust

Council supports the general thrust of the Green Paper to:

- Increase returns at the farm gate;
- Keep families as the corner stone of farming;
- Build the infrastructure of the 21st century;
- Create well-paying jobs in agriculture;
- Reduce unnecessary governmental regulation;
- Promote access to key export markets;
- Focus on Australia's competitive advantages;
- Support strong and vibrant regional communities; and
- Maintain access for all Australians to high-quality and affordable fresh food.

There is an urgent need for farming to be more profitable. While Council supports an expansion of Australia's agricultural productivity through the development of the three Growing Central Queensland agricultural corridors, it realises this needs to go hand in hand with new or expanded markets for that produce. Council supports efforts to increase consumption within Australia and internationally, and to find new markets overseas.

Council also supports the better use of long-term planning for agricultural development and has been actively involved in this pursuit for many years through the Fitzroy Industry & Infrastructure Study (FIIS) (2003-07), active promotion of the Fitzroy Agricultural Corridor and creation of the Gracemere Industrial Area to cater for agricultural logistics and support services.

Growing Central Queensland

As one of the six local government stakeholders, Council strongly supports the Growing Central Queensland initiative, which is designed to capture sustainable agribusiness opportunities for individuals and communities across Central Queensland. This project is being championed by Regional Development Australia Fitzroy and Central West.

The Fitzroy Basin, which specialises in production of beef, but also has significant areas of dryland and irrigated cropping, has the potential to become a globally renowned centre for intensive animal production and horticulture.

Such development can piggyback on substantial existing natural resources and infrastructure such as processing facilities, road, rail and air networks, ports and agricultural support services.

21st Century Infrastructure

Council advocates for and strongly supports the development of the following as part of Growing Central Queensland:

- Fitzroy River Agriculture Corridor, which includes the construction of Rookwood Weir, raising of Eden Bann Weir, associated roads and power and telecommunication infrastructure;
- Dawson River Agriculture Corridor, which includes the construction of Nathan Dam, associated roads and power and telecommunication infrastructure;
- Mackenzie River Agriculture Corridor, which includes the construction of Connors Dam, associated roads and power and telecommunication infrastructure; and
- Central Queensland Agribusiness Logistics Precincts, which includes Rockhampton Airport, Gracemere Industrial Area, Port of Gladstone, Port Alma and industrial areas in Rockhampton, Emerald and Biloela.

In 1972, the Fairbairn Dam was constructed across the Nogoia River, 25km south-west of Emerald, to create Lake Maraboon and provide water for the cotton, citrus, grapes and other horticultural operations. The Nogoia River is one of the nine major tributaries of the Fitzroy River. In the intervening 42 years horticulture enabled by the Fairbairn Dam has become far more complex, with the mandarin grower 2PH being the shining example.

Opportunities provided by the Fairbairn Dam can be replicated in other parts of the Fitzroy Basin through improved water storage infrastructure. A series of weirs has been built on the Dawson River which have significantly increased agricultural production.

The agricultural corridors included in Growing Central Queensland have great potential for greater intensive animal and horticultural production. Each can play an important part in the maximisation of agricultural production from the Fitzroy Basin, and particularly expand opportunities east of Emerald.

Land Suitability and Water Studies

In 2007 the Queensland Government, Rockhampton City Council, Fitzroy and Livingstone Shire Councils, Stanwell Corporation and Rockhampton Regional Development completed FIIS, which examined the water infrastructure necessary to develop nine agricultural precincts along the Fitzroy River within 110km of Rockhampton. This study also included estimates of the cost of required roads, power and telecommunications.

Following completion of the Analysis of Industry Development Opportunities Report in 2003, the following technical studies were undertaken to ascertain the overall environmental and economic suitability of FIIS:

- Land suitability study (2006);
- Health risk assessment (2006);
- Heat stress incidence report (2006);
- Economic assessment report (2007); and
- Environmental assessment report (2007).

Despite originally commencing in 2009, the EIS for the Rookwood and Eden Bann Weirs has not been completed. Terms of reference for the EIS have been reissued on 3 September 2014 to allow the project to be assessed under the new joint Commonwealth-State assessment process.

The EIS for the Nathan Dam and Pipelines Project was released for public and government agency review from 23 April 2012 to 5 June 2012 and has then closed. The EIS is awaiting final approval by the State and Federal Governments.

The EIS for the Connors Dam and Pipelines Project has been recommended to proceed by the State and Federal Governments, subject to conditions and recommendations.

Water

FIIS included an estimation of the costs of constructing Rookwood Weir and of raising Eden Bann Weir. This work will need to be updated and the necessary approvals gained.

Both weirs have been listed in the Green Paper as being “likely to be suitable for further consideration for possible assistance to accelerate feasibility studies, cost benefit analysis or design.”

Given the work already done on both weirs, Council recommends an acceleration of the EIS process for both. As considerable preparatory work has been undertaken on the Rookwood Weir in particular, Council suggests it be elevated to the second category of water infrastructure projects in the Green Paper. In addition, Council suggests the Australian Government invest in accelerating its front end engineering and design for the Rookwood Weir to enable it to become investment ready and for its construction to start more quickly.

Council has a 50,000 megalitre water allocation from the Fitzroy River barrage, of which it uses approximately half. While leasing the unused portion of its allocation will have some impact on the reliability of its supply, in the right circumstances Council is prepared to consider leasing part of its allocation to a potential producer to increase agricultural productivity from the Fitzroy River Agricultural Corridor. However, this allocation can only be made available within the extents of the Barrage weir pool (Fitzroy A zone).

Should it become necessary to choose between the timing of the development of the infrastructure in the agriculture corridors, then Council would support the following order of construction:

1. Construction of Rockwood Weir;
2. Raising of Eden Bann Weir;
3. Construction of Connors Dam and/or Nathan Dam.

Case for Construction of the Rookwood Weir

Its construction is the key step in developing the Fitzroy River Agricultural Corridor and the wider Growing Central Queensland project.

Council believes Rookwood Weir is likely to have one of the lowest capital costs per megalitre of water yield in Queensland and Australia.

The Fitzroy River Agricultural Corridor is in close relative proximity to Rockhampton, a sizable regional city, with:

- Large employee base;
- Higher level retail;
- Extensive health services;
- Comprehensive educational services; and
- Industrial areas for processing and support services.

The agricultural corridor is also close to the junction of north-south and east-west rail links, which include road, rail, port and airport infrastructure.

Cost of Agricultural Water

Council has considerable experience in selling water for agricultural use as it currently sells water to about 100 irrigators.

Farmers have a limited capacity to purchase water and the price which can be charged for agricultural water is considerably less than can be charged for water used for other purposes, eg municipal or industrial. From an investor's perspective, there is greater risk in funding agricultural water infrastructure as the lower price requires longer repayment times. This often results in greater requirement for Government as opposed to commercial funding.

Roads

FIIS included an estimation of the costs of constructing an all-weather road system for properties in the nine identified agricultural precincts. In general, the road systems west of Ridgeland and north of the Capricorn Highway are limited, at the best, and just capable of getting inputs in and outputs out. These cost estimates have been updated by Council in 2013.

Power

FIIS included an estimation of providing power to properties in the nine agricultural precincts along the Fitzroy River. These cost estimates have been updated by Ergon Energy in 2013.

Telecommunications

The rollout of the NBN has provided at least satellite telecommunications coverage in the nine precincts identified as part of FIIS and in the areas in front of the Nathan and Connors Dams.

The mobile phone network in all areas away from the Bruce and Capricorn Highways is poor and in need of upgrade.

Port of Gladstone

The Port of Gladstone is Queensland's largest bulk commodity port.

However, it lacks the capacity to import and export containers, and most containers of Central Queensland agricultural produce are mainly exported through the Port of Brisbane at considerable cost to growers and processors, and to the detriment of Central Queensland.

Council supports Central Queensland having its own shipping terminal which can handle containers, particularly for produce coming from the three Growing Central Queensland agricultural precincts. Currently, southern and Central Queensland and northern New South Wales have an unhealthy dependence on the Port of Brisbane.

In the short term it may be a challenge to entice sufficient freighters to use a Central Queensland freight terminal, but that will be corrected over time, as demand and volumes increase to viable levels.

Port Alma

Port Alma, which is also administered by the Gladstone Ports Corporation, is an alternative port which could handle produce from the three Central Queensland agricultural precincts and be used by the Central Queensland agricultural logistics precincts.

Central Queensland Agribusiness Logistics Precincts

A number of logistics precincts have been developed throughout Central Queensland to support the Region's substantial agricultural production.

The Port of Gladstone and Port Alma are two such precincts, but Rockhampton Airport, Gracemere Industrial Area and the industrial areas in Rockhampton, Emerald and Biloela are others.

Rockhampton Airport can handle the largest air freighters presently in use and can become a hub to handle agricultural produce bound for Asia quickly and cost-effectively. Land is being set aside for use as transport depots from which produce from the Growing Central Queensland agricultural precincts can be aggregated and exported to Asia.

Gracemere Industrial Area (GIA) has grown into a specialist logistics node, servicing the Region's agricultural and mining sectors. Significant areas of industrial land are available for large and small agricultural processing and service industries. Significantly, the GIA has direct access for freight efficient vehicles up to Type 1 road trains.

A study undertaken in 2012 by AEC Group identified Gracemere as being the most desirable location for a logistics hub in coastal Central Queensland.

Other industrial areas in Rockhampton, Emerald and Biloela provide other logistical services for the Region's agricultural businesses.

Rockhampton Regional Council has developed a series of Growth Incentives to simulate development. These reduce the infrastructure charges for industrial and commercial buildings by 50 per cent for applications which are lodged by 31 December 2015 and which are completed with three years of approval.

Leveraging Existing Infrastructure and Investment

Significant investments have been made in improving the flood immunity of access into Rockhampton through completion of the Yeppen North Bruce Highway Upgrade Project and Yeppen South Bruce Highway Upgrade Project, which is expected to be finished by the end of 2015.

While not yet committed, planning is well advanced for the Rockhampton Ring Road that will link key residential and industrial growth areas in Parkhurst and Gracemere.

Completion of the Gracemere Overpass and Council's \$6 million plus investment in infrastructure to service the GIA are all steps towards providing the necessary infrastructure to support significant growth in the Rockhampton Region.

The \$160 million redevelopment of the Rockhampton Base Hospital, which will include the Central Queensland Regional Integrated Cancer Service, is another key addition to the Region's infrastructure.

Central Queensland Agribusinesses

Central Queensland, and in particular Rockhampton and Gracemere, have a sophisticated web of businesses providing a wide range of services to the region's agricultural producers and processors.

Council supports the continued growth of this sector so that Central Queensland can become increasingly independent with most agricultural service providers carrying on business within the Region.

Intermodal Transport Exchanges

There is an opportunity to establish intermodal exchanges in Rockhampton and Emerald to change goods in Central Queensland from one transport mode to another. Expected growth in the agricultural and mining sectors make this a growing need.

Regional Universities

Council suggests regional universities are ideally placed to undertake research and development into regional issues. From a research perspective, this is why Federal and State Governments have created them.

By way of example, CQUniversity has campuses in Rockhampton, Mackay, Bundaberg, Gladstone and Emerald, each of which is well positioned to research issues arising from and impacting on Growing Central Queensland.

Streamlining the Application Process

As one of Queensland larger local authorities, Council has appointed case managers to shepherd important development applications through its approvals process.

Council supports the use of case managers to assist developers of key agricultural projects to successfully navigate complex development approvals process.

Council also supports the creation of one-stop shops for environmental approvals.

Seasonal Worker Program

Council supports an expansion of the Seasonal Worker Program to include all agricultural industries.

A great deal of the labour in rural Australia is provided by backpackers, and this needs to be supplemented by seasonal workers who come from Australia's Pacific neighbours. Such an addition would provide additional prosperity for those Pacific nations.

Council also considers seasonal workers should bare the cost of travel to and from places of employment.

National Agricultural Tertiary Centres of Excellence

Council supports the creation of these centres of excellence and suggests one should be located at one of the Rockhampton campuses of CQUniversity.

References and Attachments

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- *Fitzroy Industry and Infrastructure Study - Analysis of Industry Development Opportunities*, GHD, August 2003
- *Fitzroy Industry and Infrastructure Study - Infrastructure Requirements*, GHD, August 2003

-
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 - *Rockhampton Region Towards 2050*, Rockhampton Regional Council, March 2010
 - *Proceedings of the Fitzroy AgInvest Summit*, DPI Complex, Parkhurst, 30 June 2010
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 - *Bruce Highway Action Plan*, Department of Transport & Main Roads, October 2012
 - *Central Queensland Intermodal Logistics Hub Pre-feasibility- Prefeasibility and Baseline Analysis*, AEC Group, December 2012
 - *Queensland Agricultural Land Audit*, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry, 2013 @ Chapters 3 Development Projects and Chapter 5 Recommendations
 - *Investments Worth Cultivating*, Trade & Investment Queensland, 2013
 - *FCWRDA Regional Road Map*, Fitzroy Central West Regional Development Australia, 2013
 - *The Queensland Plan - Queensland's 30-year vision* Queensland State Government 2013
 - *Experimental Estimates of Gross Regional Product 2000-01, 2006-07 and 2010-11*, Queensland Treasury and Trade, March 2013
-

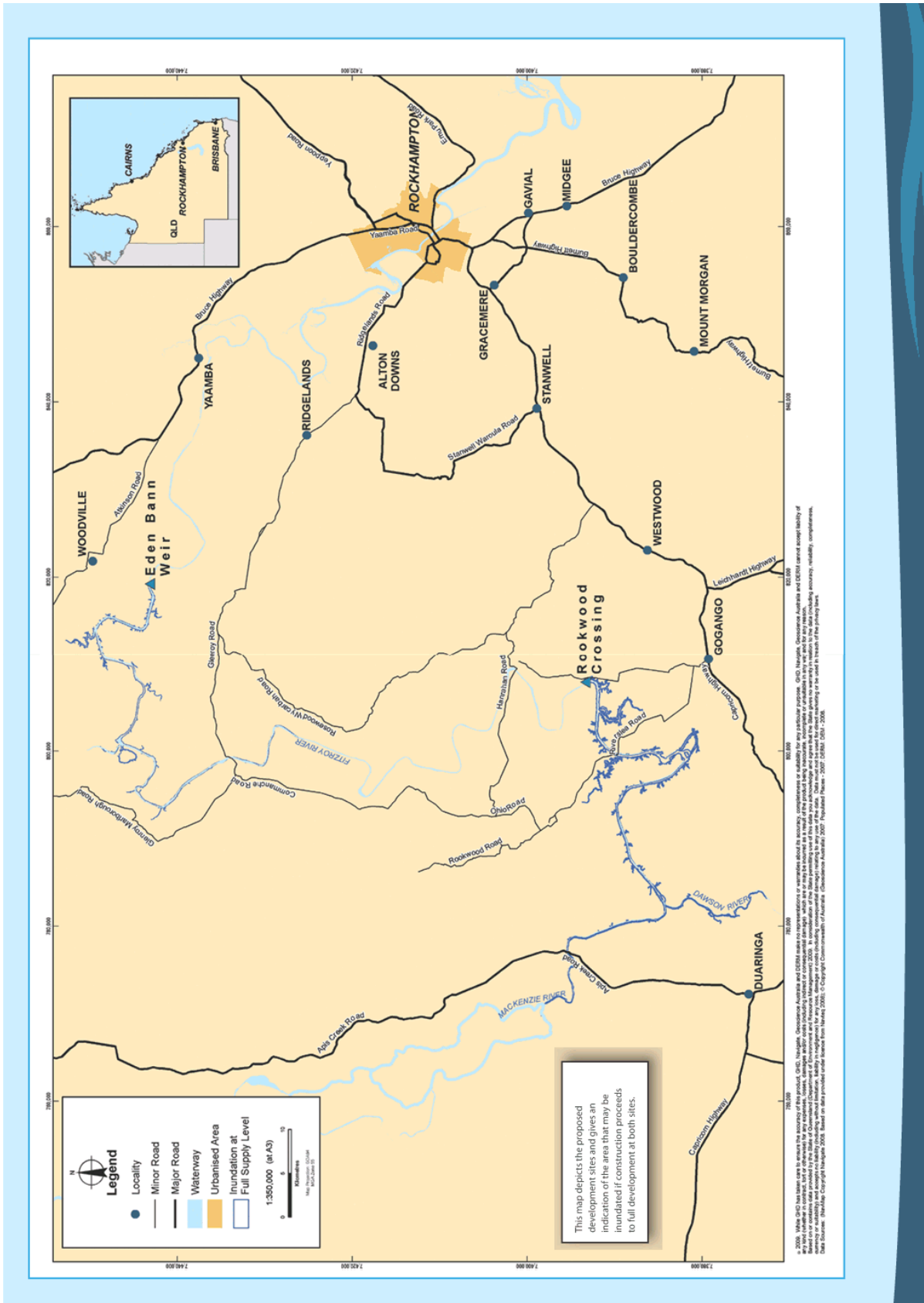
- *Northern Australia Food and Fibre Supply Chains - Identifying market opportunities and infrastructure needs*, CSIRO, June 2013
- *An Overview of Food & Fibre Industries in Central Queensland*, Regional Development Australia, December 2013
- *Queensland's Agriculture Strategy*, Department Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry, 2013
- *Inquiry into the Development of Northern Australia - Final Report*, Joint select Committee on Northern Australia, 4 September 2014 @ Chapter 10 Central Queensland
- *Regions Q Framework*, Queensland State Government, July 2014
- *Fitzroy Basin Resource Operations Plan*, Queensland State Government, September 2014
- *Agricultural Commodities 2012-13 – Total North Queensland*, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry, 2014
- *Value of Agricultural Commodities 2012-13 – Total North Queensland*, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry, 2014

FITZROY RIVER STORAGES

Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure Project - Map 1

Meeting Date: 11 November 2014

Attachment No: 2

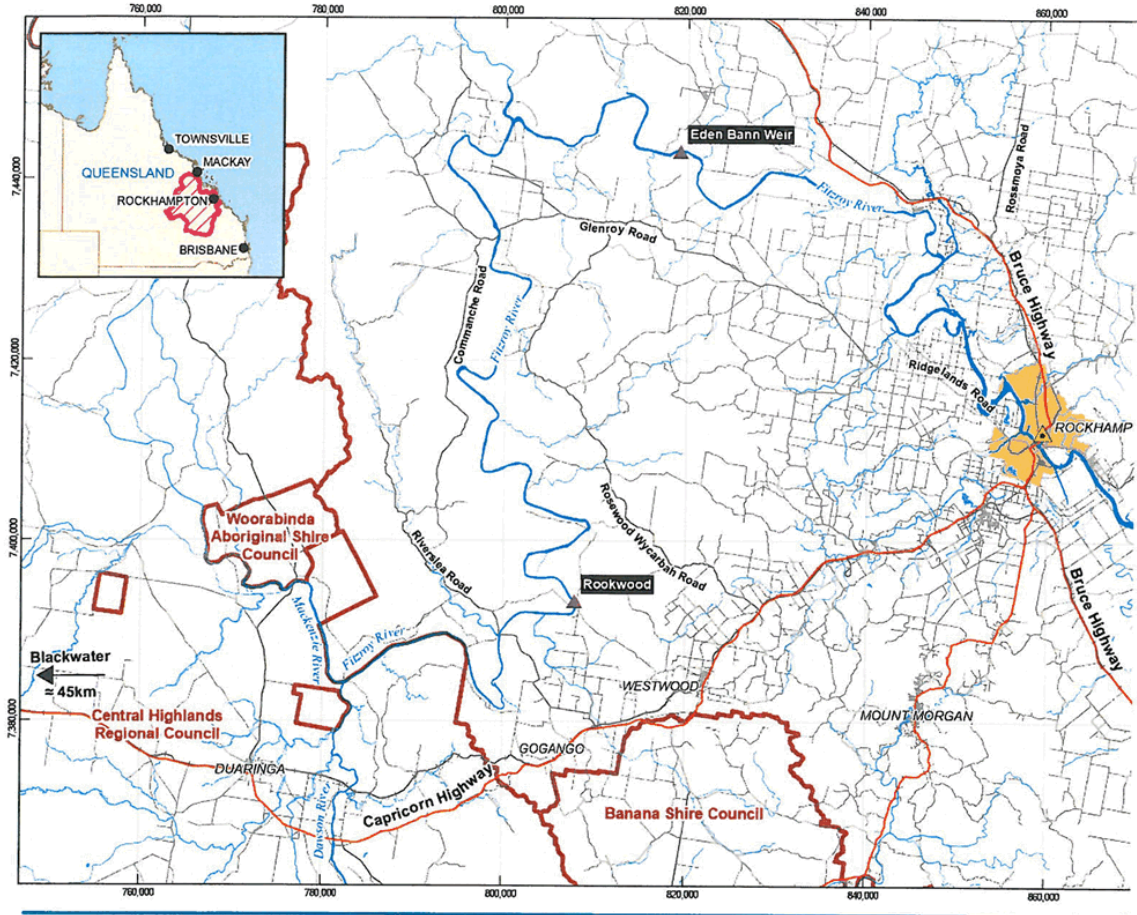


FITZROY RIVER STORAGES

Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure Project - Map 2

Meeting Date: 11 November 2014

Attachment No: 3



1:600,000 (at A4)

0 5 10 15 20
Kilometres

Map Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator
Horizontal Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA94)
Grid: Map Grid of Australia 1994, Zone 55

LEGEND

- Proposed Weir
- Location
- Fitzroy Barrage
- Waterway
- Highway
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- River of Interest
- Fitzroy Basin
- LGA Boundaries
- Urbanised Area

GHD
CLIENTS PEOPLE PERFORMANCE

Queensland Water Board
SunWater
Building Power

Level 6, 145 Eagle Street Brisbane QLD 4

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Data Source: © Navteq 2008. Based on data provided under licence from Navteq 2008. Roads, Waterways, State Boundary - 2008. Sunwater, Waterways, Weir Locations - 2008. © Copyright Commonwealth of Australia (Geoscience Australia) 2007. Population

FITZROY RIVER STORAGES

Connors River Dam and Pipelines - Map 1

Meeting Date: 11 November 2014

Attachment No: 4

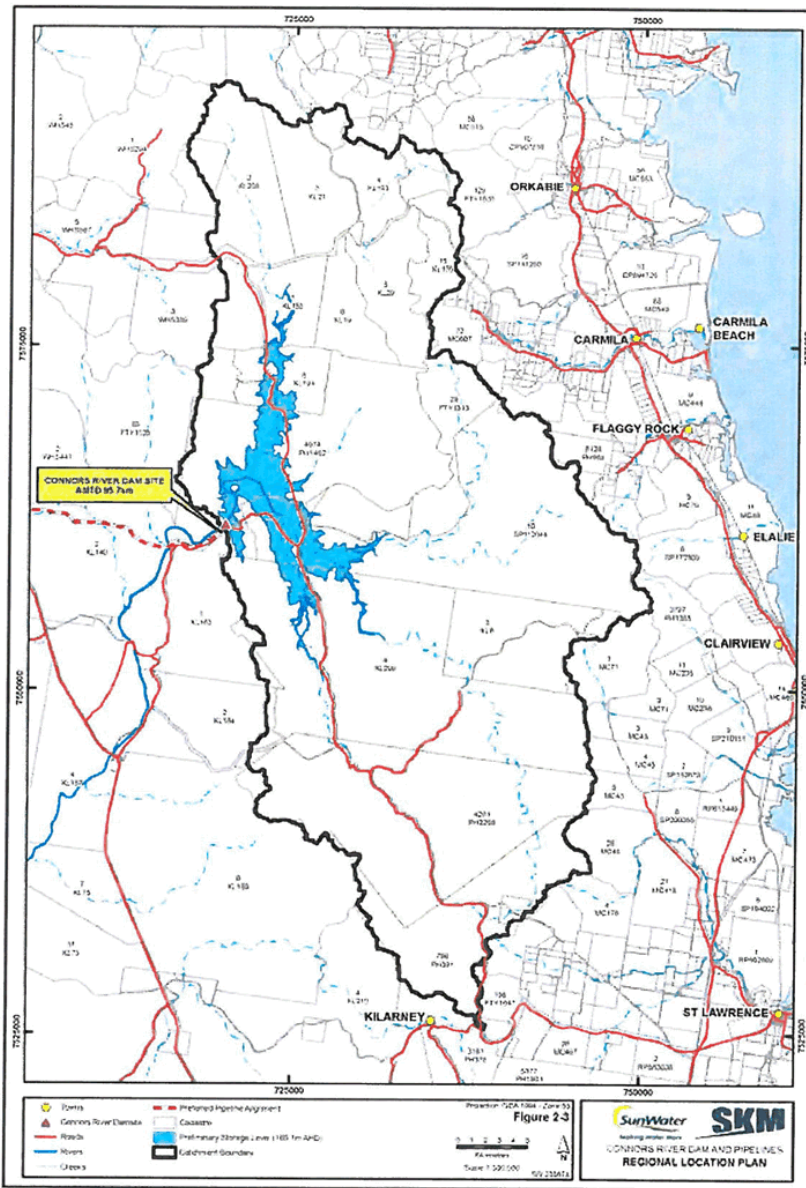


Figure 2.2 Dam site locality plan

- 12 - Project description
 Connors River Dam and Pipelines project
 Coordinator-General's report on the environmental impact statement

FITZROY RIVER STORAGES

Connors River Dam and Pipelines - Map 2

Meeting Date: 11 November 2014

Attachment No: 5

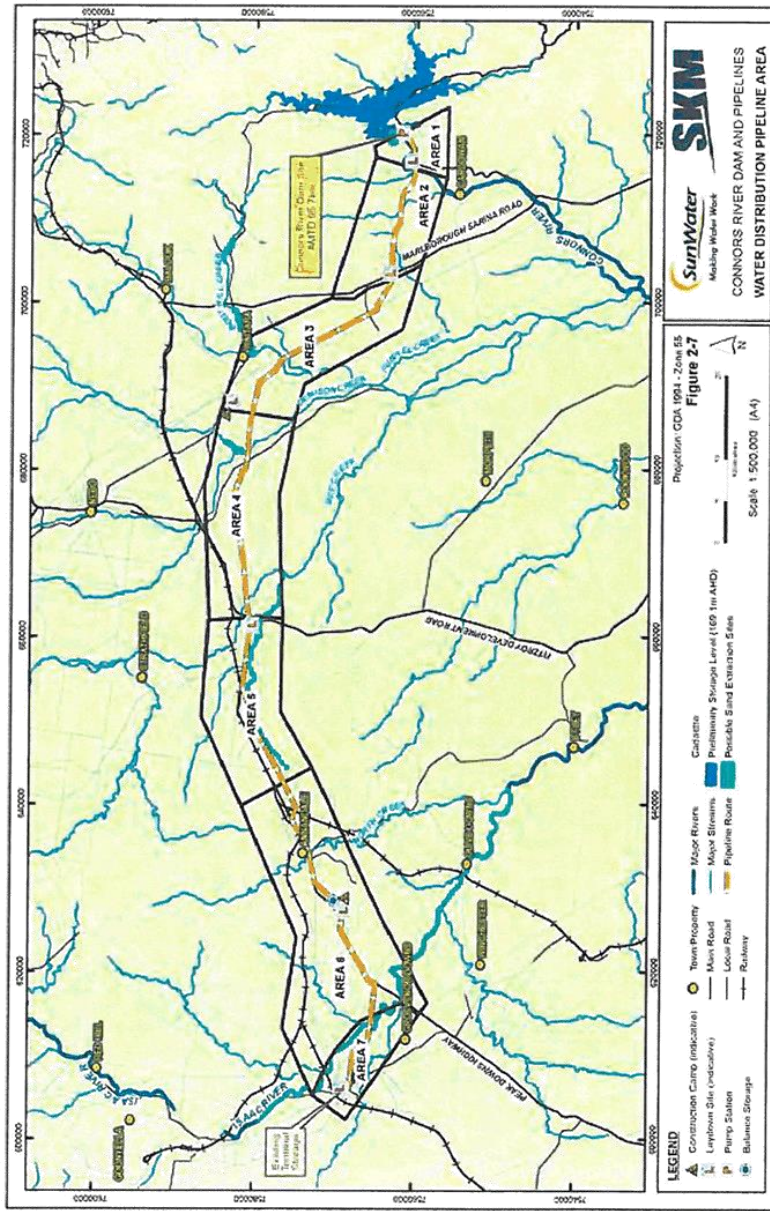


Figure 2.3 Pipeline route alignment locality plan

Project description
 Connors River Dam and Pipelines project:
 Coordinator-General's report on the environmental impact statement

FITZROY RIVER STORAGES

Nathan Dam and Pipelines - Map

Meeting Date: 11 November 2014

Attachment No: 6



11.2 QUEENSLAND ROADS ACTION PLAN

File No:	3540
Attachments:	1. Terms of Reference for Interim Working Group 2. Terms of Reference for Working Group
Authorising Officer:	Evan Pardon - Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Robert Holmes - General Manager Regional Services

SUMMARY

Council representatives have now attended a couple of meetings of this group and it is considered that it is in Council's interests to maintain that participation and become members of the Queensland Roads Action Plan Working Group.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council indicate its support for the Queensland Road Action Plan and participate in the Working Group established for that purpose through the contribution of \$3,000 as outlined in this report;
2. THAT Deputy Mayor, Councillor Tony Williams, be Council's representative on the Queensland Road Action Plan Working Group.

COMMENTARY

The Queensland Regional Roads Forum was held in Longreach on 4 December 2013 at the initiative of the Regional Development Australia (RDA) Committees from Townsville and North West Queensland, Far North Queensland and Torres Strait, Fitzroy and Central West, Mackay-Isaac-Whitsunday and Darling Downs and South West. Deputy Mayor Councillor Williams and Bob Holmes General Manager Regional Services attended that forum.

Fifty representatives from organisations with a direct interest in roads attended the forum, such as the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads, the Queensland Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning, local government Mayors and Chief Executive Officers including those involved with Regional Roads Groups, RACQ, Agforce, regional economic development organisations and transport organisations amongst others. Collectively we were able to identify a way forward that will encourage stakeholders to work together on a coordinated approach to prioritising Queensland's regional roads and effectively lead to better outcomes for road management.

The key outcomes of the Regional Roads Forum were as follows:

1. To provide updates to all stakeholders on road planning across the entire inland region of Queensland – that is, roads outside of South East Queensland and away from the coastal routes of the Bruce and Burnett Highways;
2. To hear from different organisations about their road development priorities;
3. To facilitate discussion about criteria for prioritising road upgrades and identify consensus points on road priorities and where further work needs to be done; and
4. To develop an agreed framework for advocacy to progress work on priority roads.

The outcomes we achieved at the forum were as follows.

- a) Identification of criteria for prioritising regional roads – Economic value (including productivity on supply chains), Safety, Strategic Intent, Access and Social value; and an initial listing of regional roads priorities by forum participants.
- b) Identification of information gaps and information sources regarding Queensland regional roads.

-
- c) Identification of opportunities for joint advocacy and collaboration to progress priority rural roads.
 - d) Agreement to the need and benefits of collaboration of advocacy efforts for regional roads.
 - e) Agreement that all roads have merit, and priorities are determined by different means. It is important to cross-reference the priorities identified at the Regional Roads Forum against documents such as the Regional Roads Groups' priority documents and those identified in strategic government policy documents such as *Developing Northern Australia*.
 - f) There was support for a future working group to be established. An Interim Working Group is to be established for the period to 31 March 2014 to:
 - Draft the TOR for a future working group and consult stakeholders on its suitability.
 - List available information and evidence based sources as preparation for undertaking a gap analysis.
 - Establish contact with each Regional Roads Group and obtain lists of priorities and evidence based studies for cross referencing with forum identified priorities and strategic government policy documents such as the *Developing Northern Australia*.
 - Determine other stakeholders and their future participation and commitment.
 - Hold initial discussions with government to determine budgetary cycles.
 - g) Membership of the Interim Working Group is:
 - Cr Rick Britton, Chair of the IWG, Mayor Boulia Shire Council (Regional Development Australia rep)
 - Cr Peter Maguire, Mayor Central Highlands Regional Council (Local Government and Regional Roads Group rep)
 - Cr Butch Lenton, Mayor Winton Shire Council, (Local Government and Regional Roads Group rep)
 - Dave Burges, Chief Executive Officer, Quilpie Shire (Local Government and Regional Roads Group rep)
 - Cr Ian Groves, Councillor, Barcoo Regional Council, Industry (AgForce – Cattle Industry rep)
 - Darlene Irvine, Executive Officer, Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (Local Government FNQ rep)
 - h) An agreement by stakeholders to advocate for support to develop a Western Roads Action Plan, similar to the one developed for the Bruce Highway which was a critical piece of work to secure support for funding commitments; and
 - i) A strong sense of collaboration and agreement to work across borders to achieve better outcomes in western regional roads funding.

The Terms of Reference for the Interim Working Group are attached as Attachment 1.

August 2014 Forum - Mount Isa

The second Regional Roads Forum was held on 28 August 2014 in Mount Isa; however, due to logistical issues Rockhampton Regional Council didn't attend, but was represented by the coordinator of the Rockhampton Regional Roads Group.

The purpose of the Forum was to bring key stakeholders from local, state and commonwealth governments together in order to develop a highly strategic program of

prioritised road and transport infrastructure projects for consideration and investment over the next 15 years.

Thirty-six representatives from stakeholder organisations, including the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads, Regional Road and Transport Groups (RRTGs), Regional Development Australia, and local governments attended the forum to continue working towards the development of a Queensland Roads Action Plan - focusing on key priority routes west of the Bruce Highway and outside of South East Queensland.

Outcomes of the forum included agreement to:

1. collaborate on the development of a Queensland Roads Action Plan (QRAP)
2. form a QRAP Working Group
3. the Draft Terms of Reference for the Working Group
4. support RDA Townsville and North West Queensland as the secretariat for the Working Group.

Attached is a copy of the Terms of Reference for the Working Group (Attachment 2).

October 2014 – Working Group Meeting

Coinciding with the 2014 LGAQ Conference, a meeting of the Working Group was held in Mackay on Tuesday 28 October and was attended by Mayor, Councillor Strelow and the CEO, Evan Pardon.

Membership Contribution

Those represented at the Mount Isa forum agreed to providing \$2,000 per Working Group member (each participating RRTG, LGAQ and RACQ) to fund the Secretariat work required to support the formation of the Working Group. To date, the four Northern Queensland RDA Committees have contributed \$13,000 cash in addition to the in-kind contribution of RDA TANWQ staff time, which has supported the work already completed, i.e. coordination of the Longreach and Mount Isa forums and preparation of supporting documentation.

The Working Group contributions will enable the Secretariat to complete the following work **from 1 September to 31 October:**

1. Communique prepared and distributed
2. Workshop Notes and presentations collated and distributed
3. This letter from IWG to all RRTG Chairs
4. Invoicing for the Secretariat contributions, budget management and associated reporting on funds collected and spent
5. Letter to brief stakeholders on the outcomes of the forum – including fed/ state MPs/ senators
6. Promotion of the outcomes of the forum through RDA newsletters, websites and media
7. Organisation of first WG meeting in late October (to align with the LGAQ meeting in Mackay) and subsequent meetings
8. Draft a high level strategy document for the WG for the way forward.

Potentially before and after 31 October, Secretariat staff will also:

- Meet with federal and state representatives to brief on the project and align with federal and state priorities
- Meet with other potential supporters of the initiatives
- Regularly communicate with stakeholders through newsletters and direct emails as appropriate.

In addition to the Secretariat contribution, we have also approached Councils in the proposed Action Plan area seeking a commitment of \$3,000 per Council, which will go towards the cost of a consultant to prepare the Queensland Roads Action Plan. We thank those Councils that have already indicated their commitment and ask that the funds be held until such time as the Working Group is ready to progress with tenders.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Those represented at the Mount Isa forum agreed to providing \$2,000 per Working Group member (each participating RRTG, LGAQ and RACQ) to fund the Secretariat work required to support the formation of the Working Group.

In addition to the Secretariat contribution, a contribution from each Council in the proposed Action Plan area in the amount of \$3,000 per Council, which will go towards the cost of a consultant to prepare the Queensland Roads Action Plan, was sought.

STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

No direct impacts other than through attendance at Group meetings from time to time.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The main potential risk for this matter would be not having a contribution to a group that will be lobbying and promoting for federal and state government expenditure on roads that provide vital links for our regional economy.

CONCLUSION

As the Rockhampton Region economy relies heavily on the transport routes to and from the west as well as the availability of alternative routes during times of natural disasters, it is in the Council's best interests to participate in the QRAP Working Group and that Cr Williams, as Chair of the Infrastructure Committee be Council's representative.

QUEENSLAND ROADS ACTION PLAN

Terms of Reference for Interim Working Group

Meeting Date: 11 November 2014

Attachment No: 1

TERMS OF REFERENCE
QUEENSLAND REGIONAL ROADS INTERIM WORKING GROUP

ROLE/PURPOSE

The role of the Interim Working Group (IWG) is to undertake initial work to establish a platform for a coordinated stakeholder approach to advocacy efforts relating to funding of Queensland's Regional Roads. The goal is to prepare the Terms of Reference for a Working Group and do desk top research to compile information that will be useful going forward.

The IWG sets out to:

1. **Communicate with relevant stakeholders** to make them aware of the IWG and actions being take
 - Ministers/ Senators, Members of Parliament, Departmental officials, other key stakeholders
2. Prepare the ground work for a **gap analysis** of Queensland's Regional Roads by:
 - Establish contact with the Regional Roads Groups – either directly or through the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) and obtain lists of priorities and evidence based studies for cross referencing with forum identified priorities and government strategic policy documents such as "Developing Northern Australia".
 - Listing available information and evidence based sources.
3. Prepare the **Terms of Reference** for the Working Group beyond 31 March, 2014 and consult with stakeholders on its suitability.
4. **Hold initial discussions with DTMR** regarding planning, budgetary cycles, and the best way to collaborate going forward
5. **Consolidate and expand the list of stakeholders** as appropriate for engagement and communications purposes.
6. **Seek a date for a future Regional Roads Forum** to share information collected on Regional Roads priorities and evidence and appoint the Working Group to go forward. Seek an opportunity to coincide with other events (eg. Local Government or Regional Roads Groups meetings).

TERMS

This Terms of Reference (TOR) is effective from 4 December 2013 and continues for a period to 31st March or until terminated by agreement by the IWG members.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the IWG, as agreed to at the Regional Roads Forum held in Longreach on the 4 December 2013 and follow up contact since then, is:

- Cr Rick Britton, Mayor Boulia Shire Council (Regional Development Australia representative)
- Cr Peter Maguire, Mayor Central Highlands Regional Council (Local Government)
- Cr Butch Lenton, Mayor Winton Shire Council, (Local Government)
- Dave Burges, CEO, Quilpie Shire (Regional Roads Groups)
- Ian Groves - Industry (AgForce – Cattle Industry)
- Darlene Irvine, Executive Officer, Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils

The Secretariat role will be provided by the Regional Development Australia Townsville and North West Queensland Committee. CEO Glenys Schuntner can be contacted on 07 4760 1612; 0417 198 284 or ceo@rdanwg.org.au Other RDA CEOs will be called upon to assist if required.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The IWG is accountable for:

- Fostering collaboration;
- Removing obstacles to the IWG achieving outcomes;
- Maintaining at all times the focus of the agreed scope and outputs;
- Monitoring and managing the factors outside the IWG control that are critical to achieving outcomes.

Members of the IWG will commit to:

- Preparing for and attending all scheduled IWG meetings;
- Wholeheartedly championing the outcomes of the IWG publically;
- Sharing available information within the IWG;
- Making timely decisions and taking action so as not to delay outcomes; and
- Notifying members of the IWG as soon as practical, if any matter arises which may be deemed to affect the outcomes of the IWG.

Members of the IWG will expect:

- That each member will be provided with complete, accurate and meaningful information in a timely manner;
- To be given reasonable time to make key decisions;
- To be alerted to potential risks and issues that could impact the work as they arise; and
- Open and honest discussions, without resort to any misleading assertions.

Sub-committees can be formed and given appropriate delegations.

MEETINGS

All meetings will be chaired by Cr Rick Britton, Mayor Boulia Shire Council and Regional Development Australia Townsville and North West Queensland Committee Member.

A meeting quorum will be 60% members of the IWG.

Members are able to nominate Proxies to attend meetings. A Mayor can nominate another Councillor or his/her CEO. A CEO may nominate his/her Deputy CEO or a Director of Engineering. The Agforce representative can nominate another Director.

Decisions are to be made by consensus (ie. Members are satisfied with the decision even though it may not be their first choice). If consensus not possible, the IWG Chair is to make the final decision.

The Secretariat is responsible for:

- Sending out meeting requests and organising logistics;
- Preparing the agenda and supporting papers; and
- Preparing meeting minutes, and other information as required, and their distribution.

Meetings are to be held by teleconference/videoconferencing preferably at least monthly.

AMENDMENT, MODIFICATION OR VARIATION

This Terms of Reference may be amended, varied or modified in writing after consultation and agreement by the IWG members.

QUEENSLAND ROADS ACTION PLAN

Terms of Reference for Working Group

Meeting Date: 11 November 2014

Attachment No: 2

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE**QUEENSLAND WESTERN ROADS ACTION PLAN (QWRAP) WORKING GROUP****1. BACKGROUND**

In August 2013, Regional Development Australia (RDA) Townsville and North West Queensland Committee Member Cr Rick Britton, Mayor of Boulia recommended that regional Queensland RDAs collaborate to explore ways to enhance regional cooperation on attracting more funding into the regional road network west of the Bruce Highway and outside South East Queensland. (The Bruce Highway has secured significant funding and the development of the Bruce Highway Crisis Action Plan was considered a model to follow.)

As a result, a Queensland Regional Roads Forum was held in Longreach on 4 December 2013 at the initiative of the RDA Committees from Townsville and North West Queensland, Far North Queensland and Torres Strait, Fitzroy and Central West, Mackay-Isaac-Whitsunday, and Darling Downs and South West. 50 representatives from organisations with a direct interest in roads attended the forum, including the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads, the Queensland Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning, local government Mayors and Chief Executive Officers including those involved with Regional Roads Groups, RACQ, Agforce, regional economic development organisations, and transport organisations amongst others.

The outcomes that were achieved at the forum were as follows.

- a) Identification of criteria for prioritising regional roads – Economic value (including productivity on supply chains), Safety, Strategic Intent, Access, and Social value.
- b) Identification of an initial list of regional road priorities.
- c) Initial identification of information gaps and information sources.
- d) Agreement to the need and benefits of collaboration of advocacy efforts for regional roads.
- e) Agreement that all roads have merit, and priorities are determined by a range of criteria. It is important to cross-reference the priorities identified at the Regional Roads Forum against documents such as the Regional Roads Groups' priority documents and those identified in strategic government policy documents such as *Developing Northern Australia*.
- f) There was support for a future working group to be established. An Interim Working Group (IWG) was established to:
 - Draft the Terms of Reference for a future working group and consult stakeholders on its suitability.
 - List available information and evidence-based sources as preparation for undertaking a gap analysis.
 - Establish contact with each Regional Roads and Transport Group to obtain lists of priorities and evidence based studies for cross referencing with forum-identified priorities and strategic government policy documents such as the *Developing Northern Australia*.
 - Determine other stakeholders and their future participation and commitment.
 - Hold initial discussions with government to determine budgetary cycles.

1 | Draft Terms of Reference

Queensland Western Roads Action Plan Working Group

- g) An agreement by stakeholders to advocate for support to develop a Queensland Western Roads Action Plan, similar to the one developed for the Bruce Highway, which was a critical piece of work to secure support for funding commitments.
- h) A strong sense of collaboration and agreement to work across borders to achieve better outcomes in western regional roads funding.

Since the forum and formation of the IWG, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Hon Warren Truss MP, and Queensland Minister for Transport and Main Roads, the Hon Scott Emerson MP, have congratulated the RDA Committees on their initiative and the formation and work of the IWG and encouraged our work going forward.

With the support of the Secretariat provided by Glenys Schuntner, CEO, RDA Townsville and North West Queensland Committee, the IWG has prepared a Queensland Regional Roads Update including a reference list for all known relevant roads reports, the draft Terms of Reference for the permanent Working Group and made arrangements for the forum to be held on 28 August 2014.

At this meeting it is planned for the following Terms of Reference to be finalised, the permanent Working Group (WG) to be elected and decisions made about future funding arrangements. *(The Background section of this Terms of Reference can be edited as appropriate after 28 August.)*

2. ROLE/PURPOSE OF THE WORKING GROUP (WG)

The role of the Working Group (WG) is to develop the Queensland Western Roads Action Plan (QWRAP).

The WG sets out to:

1. Communicate and engage regularly with relevant stakeholders
 - Stakeholders will include but not be limited to Commonwealth, State and Local Government representatives; roads groups; industry groups; and regional development groups
2. Secure funds to undertake work to develop the QWRAP Work with stakeholders to raise funds to undertake the work that cannot be completed by the Commonwealth, State or Local Governments.
3. Engage a consultant to undertake the required work and regularly meet to discuss progress
 - Present the draft QWRAP to stakeholders for feedback
4. Finalise the QWRAP
5. Draft an advocacy plan
6. Convene a meeting of all QWRAP stakeholders to discuss and decide on the advocacy plan and next steps

3. TERMS

This Terms of Reference (TOR) is effective from 28 August 2014 and continues to 31 December 2015 or until terminated or extended by agreement by the WG members.

2 | Draft Terms of Reference

Queensland Western Roads Action Plan Working Group

4. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the WG is to be made up of one representative from each of (1) the financially contributing RRTGs, (2) the Local Government Association of Queensland, (3) RACQ, (4) the Department of Transport and Main Roads, and (5) Regional Development Australia.

5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The WG is accountable for:

1. Fostering collaboration;
2. Removing obstacles to the achievement of WG outcomes;
3. Maintaining focus at all times on the agreed scope and outputs;
4. Monitoring and managing the factors that are outside the WG control and that are critical to achieving outcomes.

Members of the WG will commit to:

1. Preparing for and attending all scheduled WG meetings (usually by teleconference);
2. Taking a whole of QWRAP perspective and not just an individual stakeholder perspective;
3. Wholeheartedly championing the outcomes of the WG publically;
4. Sharing available information within the WG;
5. Disseminating all relevant information back to their RRTG / organisation;
6. Making timely decisions and taking action so as not to delay outcomes; and
7. Notifying members of the WG as soon as practical, if any matter arises which may be deemed to affect the outcomes of the WG.

Members of the WG will expect:

1. That each member will be provided with complete, accurate and meaningful information in a timely manner;
2. To be given reasonable time to make key decisions;
3. To be alerted to potential risks and issues that could impact the work as they arise; and
4. Open and honest discussions, without resort to any misleading assertions.

6. GOVERNANCE

Chair

The Chair and a Deputy Chair will be elected by the WG members at the first meeting. The position is for the period of the Terms of Reference, that is, up to 31 December 2015 unless decided by WG members to terminate or extend the Terms of Reference and WG.

Secretariat

The Secretariat role will be provided by xxx (need to discuss) and is responsible for:

3 | Draft Terms of Reference

Queensland Western Roads Action Plan Working Group

- Managing the project budget and resources;
- Raising invoices and making payments as required;
- Sending out meeting requests and organising logistics;
- Preparing the agenda and supporting papers in coordination with the Chair; and
- Preparing and distributing meeting minutes, and other information as required.

Meetings

1. Meetings are to be held by teleconference/videoconference preferably at least monthly at an agreed time that is convenient for all members of the WG.
2. A meeting quorum will be 60% of the members of the WG.
3. Members are able to nominate proxies to attend meetings.
4. Decisions are to be made by consensus, that is, Members are satisfied with the decision even though it may not be their first choice. If consensus is not possible, the WG Chair is to make the final decision.

Agenda

1. Written reports and agenda items are to be submitted to the Secretariat one week prior to the meeting.
2. When an agenda item is submitted it will include a brief overview of the matter for discussion and an outline of the requested role of the IWG in relation to the matter.
3. The agenda will be developed by the Chair and supported by the Secretariat.
4. Agenda items, matters for discussion, and agency reports are to be circulated by the Secretary to sub-committee members no later than five days prior to the meeting.

7. AMENDMENT, MODIFICATION OR VARIATION

This Terms of Reference can be amended by the WG with the agreement of 100% of Members of the WG.

11.3 LOCAL PREFERENCE POLICY REVIEW

File No:	5883
Attachments:	1. Draft Revised Local Preference Policy
Authorising Officer:	Ross Cheesman - General Manager Corporate Services
Author:	Drew Stevenson - Manager Corporate and Technology

SUMMARY

Presenting the revised Local Preference Policy with the objective to support the development of competitive local business and industry.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council adopts the revised Local Preference Policy including the increased minimum local preference weighting from 5% to 10%.

COMMENTARY

Council has adopted a longstanding local preference policy that seeks to encourage local businesses to quote or tender in competition with businesses operating outside of the Rockhampton Regional Council boundaries. One of the mechanisms to support buying local is a local preference weighting, currently 5%, that is used during quote / tender evaluations. This report presents the revised Local Preference Policy, including a recommended increase of the minimum local preference weighting to 10%.

BACKGROUND

As part of the quote and tender evaluation process, Council officers utilise the 5% weighting in accordance with the following local preference evaluation table:

Definition	Rating	Supporting Business
Business completely set up and run locally within the RRC boundaries.	5	With the commitment to local businesses and economy.
Business operating locally, but with head office setup outside of the RRC boundaries.	4	With commitment to local economy.
Business completely set up and run outside of RRC boundaries but within the Central Queensland region.	3	Within Central Queensland.
An outside provider employing less than 20% of staff within RRC boundaries.	2	Minimal impact on local economy.
Suppliers operating outside of the Central Queensland region.	0	

RRC Buying Local Analysis

Spend analysis for the ten month period January to October 2014 (based on the de-amalgamated RRC) shows that Council has spent just over \$50M on goods and services. Of that amount, \$34.8M has been spent within the RRC boundaries. That is, **69%** of Council's goods and services have been acquired from local suppliers. An additional \$156K was spent in CQ (BSC, CHRC, GRC, LSC and MRC).

Some of the high value expenditure outside of Central QLD includes specialist aviation services/maintenance/products, and water/sewage treatment chemicals and major infrastructure. However, it should be noted that some of these contracts do include the use of local sub-contractors which hasn't been captured in this financial analysis.

Analysis of Council's expenditure on Hire of Plant and Equipment, Trade Services and Roadmaking Materials shows that we have spent a total of \$17.8M for the ten month period, with \$17.7M (**99%**) being spent on local businesses or locally supplied materials. These are the majority of our small business operators.

Whilst we can't do much better than that for the acquisition of Hire of Plant and Equipment, Trade Services and Roadmaking Materials, we can work at improving on the 69% local spend; noting this is the highest result since RRC local spend was first assessed in 2008 and still a solid investment considering specialist requirements.

Increasing our buying local percentage

As stated earlier, our Local Preference Policy stipulates a minimum 5% weighting. Looking at the most recent 50 contracts the local preference weightings were assigned as follows:

- 43 with the minimum 5% weighting;
- 6 had a 10% weighting; and
- 1 had a 20% weighting.

Increasing the minimum local preference weighting to 10% is expected to have a positive impact on the proportion of goods and services acquired within the RRC local area. It would also send a message to Council staff and local businesses of Council's further commitment to supporting the development of competitive local business and industry within the region.

CONCLUSION

Based on the spend analysis for the past 10 months, January to October 2014, 69% of Council's goods and services were acquired locally. Whilst this result is the best to date, it is recommended that Council adopts a minimum 10% local preference weighting as a mechanism to further improve on our buying local results.

LOCAL PREFERENCE POLICY REVIEW

Draft Revised Local Preference Policy

Meeting Date: 11 November 2014

Attachment No: 1



LOCAL PREFERENCE POLICY (ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY)

1 Scope:

This policy applies to all Council employees involved in the procurement of goods and / or services on behalf of Rockhampton Regional Council.

2 Purpose:

To provide a standard processes that encourages local businesses to tender or quote in competition with businesses operating outside of the Rockhampton Regional Council boundaries.

3 Related Documents:

Primary

Nil

Secondary

Local Government Act 2009

Local Government Regulation 2012

Purchasing Policy – Acquisition of Goods and Services

4 Definitions:

To assist in interpretation, the following definitions apply:

CEO	<i>Chief Executive Officer</i> A person who holds an appointment under section 194 of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> . This includes a person acting in this position.
Council	Rockhampton Regional Council
Employee	<i>Local government employee—</i> (a) the chief executive officer; or (b) a person holding an appointment under section 196 of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> .
RRC	Rockhampton Regional Council

5 Policy Statement:

Council is committed to the sound contracting principles of:

- a) Value for money;
- b) Open and effective competition;
- c) The development of competitive local business and industry;
- d) Environmental protection; and
- e) Ethical behaviour and fair dealing.

In the context of this policy, Local Preference refers directly to Council's commitment to the development of competitive local business and industry.

5.1 Development of Competitive Local Business and Industry

In order to enhance the capabilities of local business and industry, employees issuing invitations to suppliers must:

- 5.1.1 Advertise in the local newspaper for tenders and on Council's Website for tenders and quotes;
- 5.1.2 Actively seek out potential local suppliers and encourage such suppliers to submit a bid where they are qualified and able to meet the requirements of the scope of work;
- 5.1.3 Ensure local suppliers are given equal opportunities to respond and are treated without prejudice; and
- 5.1.4 Encourage local suppliers to do business with RRC.

5.2 Local Preference Evaluation and Weighting Criteria

Council's preference is, all things being equal, to purchase locally. The below ratings are to be applied when evaluating invitations:

Definition	Rating	Supporting Business
Business completely set up and run locally within the RRC boundaries.	10	With the commitment to local businesses and economy.
Business operating locally, but with head office setup outside of the RRC boundaries.	8	With commitment to local economy.
Business completely set up and run outside of RRC boundaries but within the Central Queensland region.	6	Within Central Queensland.
An outside provider employing less than 20% of staff within RRC boundaries.	4	Minimal impact on local economy.
Suppliers operating outside of the Central Queensland region.	0	

Following determination of the correct rating as defined above, a minimum weighting of **10%** for Local Preference shall be applied to the rating to calculate the final score.

6 Review Timelines:

This policy will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

- 6.1 The related information is amended or replaced; or
- 6.2 Other circumstances as determined from time to time by the CEO.

7 Responsibilities:

Sponsor	Chief Executive Officer
Business Owner	General Manager Corporate Services
Policy Owner	Manager Corporate and Technology
Policy Quality Control	Corporate Improvement and Strategy

**EVAN PARDON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

12 STRATEGIC REPORTS

12.1 CARBON TAX REMOVAL REPORT

File No:	6889
Attachments:	Nil
Authorising Officer:	Ross Cheesman - General Manager Corporate Services
Author:	Alicia Cutler - Manager Finance

SUMMARY

This report is to finalise the removal of the Carbon Tax which will incorporate a receipt to Rate Notices as well as deal with the funds collected to date that are not required to be paid.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received and the changes to the treatment of the Carbon Tax reductions be noted.

COMMENTARY

A report was presented to Performance & Service committee on 29 July 2014 (following the repeal of the Carbon Tax), with the following resolution made:

“THAT

- The report on the Repeal of the Carbon Tax be received.*
- The Fees and Charges be adopted as per schedule attached in the report.*
- Progress a concession of \$18.80 to be applied to the January – June 2015 Rate Levy.*
- Should a surplus of Carbon Tax collected for future liability eventuate then this be offset against loan debt in the Waste Business. “*

This report is provided to follow up and finalise the remaining issues around the repeal of the Carbon Tax.

Progressing a Concession for the January – June 2015 Rate Notice

Since this report, advice has been received from the Department of Local Government that although there is no 'express legislative power' allowing Councils to amend rates for the 2014/15 financial year, Councils can make a **voluntary payment** to ratepayers to refund money collected to meet carbon tax liabilities if they choose. The advice states that it is entirely at the discretion of Councils to consider some form of refund of the general rates or waste management utility charges set for the 2014/15 financial year in the reasonable expectation that they would continue to have carbon tax liability.

It is proposed to process a payment of \$18.80 per cleansing charge, which will appear as a line item on the next Rate Notice. It is also proposed to add the following notation:

“The Payment shown above titled “x” represents the yearly cost for the Carbon Tax at the Lakes Creek Landfill which is no longer required, since the repeal of the Clean Energy Legislation. Council hopes and expects there will be further savings in other costs such as electricity and carbon intensive materials that will be realised throughout the year and benefit future budgets.”

It should be pointed out there will be no adjustments proposed where properties have changed ownership in the first half of the financial year or where cleansing services have been added or deducted throughout the year.

Surplus of Carbon Tax Collected

The total of Carbon Tax collected to date through fees and charges as well as rate notices that is no longer required is \$1.456 million. It should be noted that the portion paid by Livingstone Shire residents has already been remitted to them as part of the de-amalgamation separation.

Carbon Tax Monies Collected 2012/13	\$886,967
Carbon Tax Monies Collected 2013/14	\$1,270,745
Carbon Tax Monies Collected to 2013/14 (To 28 July 2014)	\$91,281
Total Carbon Tax Monies Collected	\$2,248,992
Less Carbon Tax Liability for 2013/2014	\$371,000
Less Monies remitted to Livingstone in the De-amalgamation	\$421,734
Remaining monies to be allocated to debt reduction	\$1,456,259

The Waste Business does not presently pay a return to Council which is largely due to the high level of debt that is currently sitting within this Business. At the Performance and Service Meeting in July it was proposed that the surplus funds be used to reduce the debt levels which will in-turn benefit the users of the service (by reduced interest charges) in the future.

This change will be included into the next Revised Budget.

13 NOTICES OF MOTION

13.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR STEPHEN SCHWARTEN - ALICK STREET RECONSTRUCTION ROADWORKS

File No: 8246
Attachments: 1. Notice of Motion
Responsible Officer: Michael Rowe - General Manager Community Services
Evan Pardon - Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

Councillor Stephen Swarten has indicated his intention to move the Notice of Motion as attached to this report at the next Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 11 November 2014.

COUNCILLOR'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Irrespective of any and all recommendations to Council by the Infrastructure Committee that would seek to further reduce the amount budgeted for the reconstruction of Alick Street to below that shown as [Line 408 Page 75] contained in the *Rockhampton Regional Council Budget 2014 -2015, as proposed by Mayor Margaret Strelow and subsequently adopted by the full Council on 27 June 2014*, shall remain as adopted and used for the intended purpose namely reconstruction of Alick Street, Park Avenue as well as some other associated drainage works.
2. Council acknowledges and appreciates the patience shown by the residents of Alick Street in their long wait for successive Council administrations to provide the necessary funding for completion of this much-needed project.

BACKGROUND

As per attachment.

**NOTICE OF MOTION -
COUNCILLOR STEPHEN SCHWARTEN
ALICK STREET RECONSTRUCTION
ROADWORKS**

Notice of Motion

Meeting Date: 11 November 2014

Attachment No: 1



Councillor Stephen Schwarten

Division 7

All Enquiries 1300 22 55 77

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Email Stephen.Schwarten@rrc.qld.gov.au

3 November 2014

Mr Evan Pardon
Chief Executive Officer
Rockhampton Regional Council

Dear Sir,

Re: Notice of Motion

I, Councillor Stephen Schwarten elected representative for Division 7 do hereby give written notice that at the next ordinary meeting of Council, to be held on 11 November 2014 propose to move the following:

1. Irrespective of any and all recommendations to Council by the Infrastructure Committee that would seek to further reduce the amount budgeted for the reconstruction of Alick Street to below that shown as [Line 408 Page 75] contained in the *Rockhampton Regional Council Budget 2014 -2015, as proposed by Mayor Margaret Strelow and subsequently adopted by the full Council on 27 June 2014*, shall remain as adopted and used for the intended purpose namely reconstruction of Alick Street, Park Avenue as well as some other associated drainage works.
2. Council acknowledges and appreciates the patience shown by the residents of Alick Street in their long wait for successive Council administrations to provide the necessary funding for completion of this much-needed project.

BACKGROUND:

I have recently again been contacted by a number of residents of Alick Street drawing my attention to the further deterioration in the condition of the roadway, which I in collaboration with one particular resident, submitted to the Council in writing five years ago at the very minimum had reached a point where it had gone past the point being able to be prepared and as such required full reconstruction.

In summary, our submission to the Council was that:



- The pavement under the surface had over time been compromised to the extent where if it had not already reached a stage where it was past the point of being able to be repaired well it was very close to this.
- Particularly the section running down the middle of the road way needed to be immediately excavated right down to the clay pan and replaced with a whole new road base, with the top of the roadway resurfaced, from kerb to kerb, to a high standard
- The existing kerbing and channelling while incomplete for a small section from No. 9 up to “Monty’s Store” at the corner of Alick Street and Glenmore; was essentially in reasonably sound order and could be retained.

As stated this was several years ago and since that time while nearby Thackeray Street and Yung Teen Street have been effectively re-built; Alick Street has continued to languish on Council’s works program despite a slow and steady stream of letters and text messages to the editor of *The Morning Bulletin* by the disaffected residents themselves and constituents/residents themselves making their own submissions to Council.

Having promised my constituents my ongoing and persistent advocacy for their plight, I must say that when Council officers presented the elected body with their recommendation for the 2014 – 2015 Capital Works Program I felt elated on their behalf as all the indications were there to suggest our combined efforts were about to finally bear fruit.

Indeed, [line item 408 at Page 78] of “*Rockhampton Regional Council Budget 2014 -2015 As proposed by Mayor Margaret Strelow, subject to adoption by the full Council on 27 May 2014*” provided for the significant sum of \$610,000 for the purposes of road reconstruction works some new drainage works in Alick Street.

However, further Council re-prioritising saw a refinement of this projected amount to \$485,850 on the advice of Council Officers that savings could be had through the utilization of “alternative materials and alternative methodologies”. As indicated already [line item 405 at Page 75] of Mayor Strelow’s “*Rockhampton Regional Council Budget 2014 -2015 (with amendments from issue in 12 June 2014)*”, which was duly adopted without dissent by the Special Council Meeting of 27 June, continued to carry the amount of \$485,850 [Line 405 Page 75] for the purposes of reconstruction and drainage works in Alick Street..

But, it now seems most apparent that with a number of recent budget revision submissions surrounding Alick Street the indications are that the \$485,850 amount allocated for reconstruction and additional drainage works by way of a unanimous vote by all Councillors present is yet again to be reduced. One can only conclude that if this does in fact occur, contrary to the aspirations, hopes and needs of my constituents, regardless of the fact that the issues raised all those years ago have been the subject of some 50 or more divisional road inspections over the past three years, the sad fact is this project is never going to be carried out.

I make this statement on the basis that at NO STAGE has any person, either within the employ of Council or from elsewhere come forward to challenge the basic tenant of the belief expressed in the submission the constituent in question and I originally collaborated on and duly presented to Council, namely that the pavement beneath the surface of Alick Street is damaged beyond repair and conditions are progressively getting worse. And, further to this, nor has any evidence been presented to Council that the quality and condition of the Alick

Street sub-base is adequate to be conducive to alternative materials and methodologies being employed.

Given this lack of information, the unfortunate history surrounding the construction of roads in the Park Avenue – Kawana area (a history I am all too ready to expand upon), the patience shown by the long-suffering residents of Alick Street and the need for Alick Street to be rebuilt to a standard that is acceptable to and enjoyed by the majority of residents in Rockhampton I would urge Councillors to maintain the existing Budget allocation (\$485,850) for the reconstruction of Alick Street as it presently stands and support this Notice of Motion.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Stephen Schwarten
Member for Division 7

14 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

15 URGENT BUSINESS/QUESTIONS

Urgent Business is a provision in the Agenda for members to raise questions or matters of a genuinely urgent or emergent nature, that are not a change to Council Policy and can not be delayed until the next scheduled Council or Committee Meeting.

16 CLOSURE OF MEETING