



# Etheridge Shire Council

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## NOTICE OF MEETING

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**Meeting:** General Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, 17 May 2023

**Location:** **Council Chambers,  
Georgetown**

**Commencing:** **9.00am**

**Councillors:** Cr Hughes  
Cr Royes  
Cr Haase  
Cr Gallagher  
Cr Barns

## Agenda Attached

Ken Timms  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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**CONFIDENTIAL**

## Local Government Act 2009

The principles (s4(2)) of the Act are:

- Transparent and effective processes, and decision-making in the public interest
- Sustainable development and management of assets and infrastructure, and delivery of effective services
- Democratic representation, social inclusion and meaningful community engagement
- Good governance of, and by, local government
- Ethical and legal behavior of councillors and local government employees

## S.275 – Local Government Regulation 2012

### 275 Closed meetings

- (1) A local government or committee may resolve that a meeting be closed to the public if its councillors or members consider it necessary to close the meeting to discuss –
  - Appointment, dismissal or discipline of a CEO or a BCC senior executive employee
  - Legal advice obtained by the Council or legal proceedings involving the Council
  - Matters that may directly affect the health and safety of an individual or group
  - Negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the Council
  - Negotiations relating to the taking of land by the Council under the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967*
  - A matter required to be kept confidential under a law of, or formal arrangement with, the Commonwealth or a State
  - Industrial matters affecting employees
  - The Council budget
  - Rating concessions
- (2) A resolution that a meeting be closed must state the nature of the matters to be considered while the meeting is closed.
- (3) A local government or committee must not make a resolution (other than a procedural resolution) in a closed meeting.

### Conflict of Interest Obligations

Reference is made to Section 150EL of the Local Government Act 2009. Specifically, the obligation of Councillors when they first become aware they have a conflict of interest to make the Chief Executive Officer aware in writing or if in a meeting, ensure they declare immediately.

## AGENDA

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING AND SIGNING OF THE ATTENDANCE BOOK
2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY
3. PRAYER
4. APOLOGIES, CONDOLENCES AND CONGRATULATIONS
5. CONFIRMATION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
6. CONSIDERATION OF BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
7. CONSIDERATION OF DCS OPEN SESSION REPORTS
8. CONSIDERATION OF DES OPEN SESSION REPORTS
9. CONSIDERATION OF CEO OPEN SESSION REPORTS
10. CONSIDERATION OF OPEN ADDENDUM REPORTS
11. CONSIDERATION OF GENERAL BUSINESS
12. CONCLUSION

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# Etheridge Shire Council

## UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING OF  
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN  
ON WEDNESDAY, 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023  
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM



**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING  
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN  
ON WEDNESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023  
COMMENCING AT 9.00AM**

**ATTENDANCE**

Cr. Barry Hughes  
Cr. Laurell Royes  
Cr. Joe Haase  
Cr. Tony Gallagher  
Cr. Cameron Barns

**OFFICERS PRESENT**

Mr. Ken Timms, Chief Executive Officer  
Mr. Andrew McKenzie, Director Corporate Services  
Mrs. Renee Bester, Executive Assistant

**APOLOGIES**

The Chair declared the meeting open at 9.00am and welcomed all in attendance.

***ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY***

We would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of this land and pay our respects to the Elders past, present and future for they hold the history, cultural practice, and traditions, of their people."

***PRAYER***

"We ask that today you give us wisdom to make good decisions to benefit our communities. Help us see what will benefit our shire and give us hearts to serve others. Amen".

***DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST***

Nil

***APOLOGIES, CONDOLENCES AND CONGRATULATIONS***

Congratulations to Muxith Habib and his family on the birth of their baby boy.

***CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES***

**General Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Corrections:

Nil

**RESOLUTION:**

That the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 be confirmed.

**MOVED:** Cr. Haase

**SECONDED:** Cr. Gallagher

**CARRIED  
RESOLUTION #23.04.01CEO  
5/0**

***BUSINESS ARISING FROM GENERAL MINUTES***

Cr. Haase

- #22.12.15 DES is in discussions with TMR. Discussions have been had with local policemen regarding the non-use of road signs.
- #22.07.22 De-maining the Georgetown-Forsayth Road – still awaiting comprehensive report.

- #22.11.08 Send communications to purchasers of pavers regarding current progress.
- #22.04.08 Communications to Georgetown residents are still outstanding. Councillors expressed urgency to communicate to affected residents.

Cr. Royes

- #23.02.06 Request for confirmation that the Aged Care Advisory Committee been included within ILF funding/development process.
- #23.03.10 TMR Pit Endorsement – Advise from DAF was that Council may want to reconsider taking over the pits. After discussions, our current 16 pits require Indigenous Land Use Agreements.
- #22.08.14 Rural addressing is a matter of urgency. Purchase order has been lodged. Councillors expressed urgency to get pegs in the ground.

Cr. Gallagher

- Nil

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Council adjourned the meeting for Morning Tea at 10:06am.

#### **RESUMPTION**

Council resumed the meeting at 10:23am

### **CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS**

#### **Director Corporate Services**

##### **1. Briefing Report**

###### RESOLUTION

That Council acknowledges and receives the Director of Corporate Services' Briefing Report.

**MOVED:** Cr. Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Hughes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.02DCS**  
**5/0**

##### **2. Financial Performance (Actual vs. Budget) for the period 1 July 2022 31 March 2023**

###### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 requires the Chief Executive Officer to present a Financial Report of its accounts to the Local Government at least monthly.

###### RESOLUTION

That Council pursuant Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, resolve to adopt the monthly Financial Report the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, as presented.

**MOVED:** Cr. Barnes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Hughes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.03DCS**  
**5/0**

##### **3. Third Quarter 2022/23 Operational Plan Progress Report**

###### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with s174(3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, tabled for Council's reception is the Chief Executive Officer's third quarter (1 July – 31 March 2023) progress report on implementing Council's 2022/23 Operational Plan.

RESOLUTION

That Council receive the third quarterly progress report on Council's progress toward implementing its 2022 / 23 Operational Plan.

**MOVED:** Cr. Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Barnes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.04DCS**  
**5/0**

**4. *Endorsement of reviewed Staff Code of Conduct***

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Etheridge Shire Council has an adopted Staff Code of Conduct, the Staff Code of Conduct is a set of standards and behaviors related to the way Council Employees and or Contractors do their work. It is best practice to review the Staff Code of Conduct frequently.

RESOLUTION

That Council:

As per section 15 of the Public Service Ethics Act 1994, Council adopt the following reviewed policy: Staff Code of Conduct.

**MOVED:** Cr. Haase

**SECONDED:** Cr. Gallagher

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.05DCS**  
**5/0**

**5. *Audit Committee Meeting Minutes***

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with s211(1)(b)(iv), Council's Audit Committee met on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023 to receive the Queensland Audit Office's audit report on Council 2021/22 annual general purpose financial statements. In accordance with s211(1)(c), a copy of the Committee Meeting minutes are provided as a written report about the matters reviewed at the meeting.

RESOLUTION

That Council receive the Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023, and adopt the recommendations made therein.

**MOVED:** Cr. Hughes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.06DCS**  
**5/0**

**6. *Georgetown Walking Network Plan***

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council was successful in its grant application under the Department of Main Roads Walking Local Government Grant program. Shepherd Services was engaged to develop the Plan. After an initial round of public consultation, together with Council's workshop, Shepherd Services have forwarded the final draft of the Georgetown Walking Network Plan for Council's receipt, and upon receipt, a final round of public consultation.



Council has since applied to the Department of Main Roads for funding to develop similar Walking Network Plans for Mt Surprise, Einasleigh and Forsayth.

RESOLUTION

That Council receive the draft Georgetown Walking Network Plan and place the Plan on display for a final round of public consultation.

**MOVED:** Cr. Haase

**SECONDED:** Cr. Hughes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.07DCS**  
5/0

**7. Request for Community Assistance**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received a late request for Community Assistance for an Easter Event in Mt Surprise on Saturday 8 April. Applications for Community Assistance for 22/23 year closed Monday 4 October 2022.

RESOLUTION

That Council sponsor the 2023 Mt Surprise Easter event by reimbursing the organisers' actual costs to an amount of \$414.15

**MOVED:** Cr. Gallagher

**SECONDED:** Cr. Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.08DCS**  
4/1

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 11.53am to discuss negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government under section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012 which states that

(1) A local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the local government be closed to the public.

(2) A committee of a local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the committee be closed to the public.

(3) However, a local government or a committee of a local government may make a resolution about a local government meeting under subsection (1) or (2) only if its Councillors or members consider it necessary to close the meeting to discuss the sale of land.

**MOVED:** Cr. Hughes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.09**  
5/0

**ATTENDANCE**

Cr Royes left the meeting at 12:00 pm and returned at 12:03pm

Cr Haase left the meeting at 12:01pm and returned at 12:02pm

RESOLUTION

Council resolve to come out of closed session at 12.04pm.

**MOVED:** Cr. Gallagher

**SECONDED:** Cr. Barnes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.10**  
5/0

**8. Material Change of Use – Green Street**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In February 2023, an Application for Material Change of Use was lodged with Council. The Application is Impact Assessable against the Planning Scheme and Public Notification of the Application was required.

During Public Notification one (1) submission was received.

The Application is reported to Council and recommended for approval, subject to conditions.

RESOLUTION

That the Council resolve to approve the development application in accordance with the Planning Act 2016 as amended and that the application for a Development Permit for Material Change of Use – (Multiple Dwellings 6 x 2-bedroom units) on a site located at 8 Green Street Georgetown, being Lot 105 SP295139, is approved subject to the conditions detailed below.

**A. ASSESSMENT MANAGER CONDITIONS (COUNCIL)**

1. The development shall be undertaken substantially in accordance with the submitted documentation and submitted Plans, prepared by CA Architects, except where modified by any conditions below, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate:

Masterplan Concept – Site Plan	CA Architects	Drawing Number: 2226-PD SK 02	Dated 22/02/23
Internal Layout Plan – 2 Bed Unit	CA Architects	Drawing Number: 2130-PD A-01	Dated 17/11/22
Elevations – 2 Bed Unit	CA Architects	Drawing Number: 2130-PD A-02	Dated 17/02/22
Sections – 2 Bed Unit	CA Architects	Drawing Number: 2130-PD A-03	Dated 17/11/22

2. Any future work on the site shall be carried out generally in accordance with any relevant Council requirements and State legislation and to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.
3. If unactioned, this development approval lapses six (6) years after the day that the development approval takes effect, unless extended under the Planning Act 2016.
4. Should any of the Council's assets be damaged during the construction of any new associated works the cost of the reinstatement of all such assets shall be met by the applicant/proponent, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.
5. The connection of the development to an on-site effluent disposal system is required to be undertaken in compliance with the Site Classification and Wastewater Management System report, prepared by Earth Test, dated December 2022 and any other relevant State legislation or requirements, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.
6. The site and the development are required to discharge stormwater to a lawful point of discharge, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.
7. The water tank, shown on the Site Plan, encroaching into the front 6.0 metres setback, is required to be re-sited, clear of the 6 metre setback, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.
8. The access driveway and 6 visitor parking spaces are to be hardstand/sealed and a hardstand/sealed apron connection is required to the sealed carriageway of Green Street, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.
9. Landscaping of 10% of the site area, being 299m<sup>2</sup> is required, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.
10. All units are to be connected to the reticulated urban services, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.

Perimeter fencing of the site to side and rear boundaries is permitted, if considered warranted, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.

**MOVED:** Cr. Haase

**SECONDED:** Cr. Royes

**CARRIED  
RESOLUTION #23.04.11DCS  
5/0**

**9. Material Change of Use – High Street**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In February 2023, an Application for Material Change of Use was lodged with Council. The Application is Impact Assessable against the Planning Scheme and Public Notification of the Application was required.

During Public Notification one (1) submission was received.

The Application is reported to Council and recommended for approval, subject to conditions.

RESOLUTION

That the Council resolve to approve the development application in accordance with the Planning Act 2016 as amended and that the application for a Development Permit for Material Change of Use – (Multiple Dwellings 3 x 1-bedroom units) on a site located at 51 High Street Georgetown, being Lot 6 SP194675, is approved subject to the conditions detailed below.

**A. ASSESSMENT MANAGER CONDITIONS (COUNCIL)**

1. The development shall be undertaken substantially in accordance with the submitted documentation and submitted Plans, prepared by CA Architects, except where modified by any conditions below, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate:

Proposed Site Plan	Dileigh Civil/Structural Design & Project Management	D22.539 -AO1	Undated
3D Views	Dileigh Civil/Structural Design & Project Management	D22.539 – AO2	Undated
1 Bedroom Cabin	WeBuildUm	Not Stated	Undated
Floor Plan	WeBuildUm	Drawing Number: A101- Revision B	Undated
Elevations	WeBuildUm	Drawing Number: A102- Revision B	Undated

2. Any future work on the site shall be carried out generally in accordance with any relevant Council requirements and State legislation and to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.

3. If unactioned, this development approval lapses six (6) years after the day that the development approval takes effect, unless extended under the Planning Act 2016.

4. Should any of the Council's assets be damaged during the construction of any new associated works the cost of the reinstatement of all such assets shall be met by the applicant/proponent, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.

5. The connection of the development to an on-site effluent disposal system is required to be undertaken in compliance with the Site Classification and Wastewater Management System report, prepared by Earth Test, dated February 2023 and any other relevant State legislation or requirements, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.

6. The site and the development are required to discharge stormwater to a lawful point of discharge, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.

7. Building setback encroachments are limited to those shown on the submitted Plans and specifically:

a. 6.0 metre Front Boundary Setback – Southern unit, maximum encroachment of 2.8 metres, Northern unit, maximum encroachment of 3.2 metres;

All to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.

8. The access driveway is to be hardstand/sealed and a hardstand/sealed apron connection is required to the sealed carriageway of High Street, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.

9. Landscaping of 10% of the site area, being 87m<sup>2</sup>, is required with trees and shrubs native to the local area, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.

10. All units are to be connected to the reticulated urban services, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.

11. Perimeter fencing of the site to side and rear boundaries is permitted, if considered warranted, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.

**MOVED:** Cr. Haase

**SECONDED:** Cr. Gallagher

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.12DCS**  
**5/0**

#### RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 12.05am to discuss negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government; under section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012 which states that

(1) A local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the local government be closed to the public.

(2) A committee of a local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the committee be closed to the public.

(3) However, a local government or a committee of a local government may make a resolution about a local government meeting under subsection (1) or (2) only if its Councillors or members consider it necessary to close the meeting to discuss the sale of land.

**MOVED:** Cr. Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Haase

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.13**  
**5/0**

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Mr. Ken Timms left the meeting at 12:09 pm and returned at 12:11pm

#### RESOLUTION

Council resolve to come out of closed session at 12.56pm.

**MOVED:** Cr. Barnes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Gallagher

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.14**  
**5/0**

### **10. Supply & Install 6 Independent Living Homes**

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To meet the need of affordable housing, ESC has the opportunity to increase the numbers of affordable housing for an aging population in the Shire. In accordance with relevant legislation and the Etheridge Shire Council Procurement Policy. Tenders for these works were sourced through Local Buy tender arrangements LB304 Public Areas Facilities, Parks & Amenities Under the Local Buy arrangement, three suppliers Asset Cabins & Homes, Oly Homes and Ausco Modular, were invited to submit tenders against Council's scope of works. Tenders have been assessed, with the following recommendation against the LGR's purchasing principles."

## **11. Supply & Install 6 x 2 bedroom Staff Homes**

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To meet the needs of staff housing, ESC has the opportunity to increase the numbers of staff housing to attract staff into the Shire.

In accordance with relevant legislation and the Etheridge Shire Council Procurement Policy. Tenders for these works were sourced through Local Buy tender arrangements LB304 Public Areas Facilities, Parks & Amenities Under the Local Buy arrangement, three suppliers Asset Cabins & Homes, Oly Homes and Ausco Modular, were invited to submit tenders against Council's scope of works. Tenders have been assessed, with the following recommendation against the LGR's purchasing principles."

### RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to hold a special meeting on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023 commencing at 1pm to ratify the proposed tenders for Independent Living Facility & Staff Housing Precinct.

**MOVED:** Cr. Gallagher

**SECONDED:** Cr. Hughes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.15DCS**  
**5/0**

### ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned the meeting for Lunch at 1:00pm.

### RESUMPTION

Council resumed the meeting at 1:27pm.

## **CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS**

### **Director Of Engineering Services**

## **12. Briefing Report**

### RESOLUTION

That Council acknowledges and receives the Director of Engineering's Briefing Report.

**MOVED:** Cr. Haase

**SECONDED:** Cr. Barnes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.16DES**  
**5/0**

## **13. Grant for Bridge over Queenslander**

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received notification of a successful grant application to construct a bridge over the Queenslander on the Cobbold Gorge Road. The grant is for \$800,000 and is on an 80/20 basis, thus Council's contribution will be \$200,000 as part of the overall \$1M project.

### RESOLUTION

That Council directs the CEO to complete all necessary paperwork to accept the grant and to program the works.

**MOVED:** Cr. Barnes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Haase

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.17DES**  
**5/0**

#### **14. Mt Surprise Long Distance Coach Stop**

##### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The need for a new coach stop at Mount Surprise has been raised by community members. Council has requested support from Transport and Main Roads (TMR) who have advised that all such infrastructure projects are supported on a 50/50 co-funding partnership arrangement between TMR and Councils. TMR further suggested that such a project would likely cost in the vicinity of \$80,000 and that Council could apply at any time.

##### RESOLUTION

1. That Council consider allocating \$40,000 in the up-coming 2023/2024 financial year budget, and
2. Council immediately apply for approval and grant assistance from the TMR.

**MOVED:** Cr. Gallagher

**SECONDED:** Cr. Hughes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.18DES**  
**5/0**

#### **15. Percyvale Station Access Road**

##### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The owners of Percyvale Station wrote to Council in 2022 requesting that Percyvale Road be re-aligned to remove a dangerous bend and to improve access for heavy vehicles. This request was supported by the owner of the adjoining station, 'Old Robin Hood'. Council resolved that the Engineering Department put forward a Budget proposal for Council's consideration, the CEO wrote to the owners of Percyvale Station advising them of this. This report provides a preliminary estimate to complete the works.

##### RESOLUTION

That at the next Budget meeting, Council considers allocating a sum of \$40,000 in the 2023/2024 financial year budget to complete these works.

**MOVED:** Cr. Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Haase

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.19DES**  
**5/0**

#### **16. Supply & Delivery of One Grader**

##### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2023/2024 budget provides for the procurement of One New Grader with replacement budget of \$460,000. Due to delays in delivery of plant a decision was made to call tender for this grader in March 2023 with delivery July August 2023.

In accordance with relevant legislation and the Etheridge Shire Council Procurement Policy. Tenders for this plant were sourced through Local Buy tender arrangements Heavy Plant Machinery Equipment NPN2.15-2.

Caterpillar is one of the world's leading brands, which has a reputation for its support services and parts availability. An important feature of the recommendation is that the workshop is geared up to maintain and service Cat equipment.

The tender evaluation process was completed and the detail of each Tender is provided in this report.

##### RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the following Tender from Hasting Deering for Supply of One Graders delivery July next financial year 23/24

<i>Items for Trade</i>	<i>Recommended Tender</i>	<i>Purchase Price GST Excl</i>
6078 12M Motor Grader	Hastings Deering (150-14A Motor Grader)	\$460,000.00

**MOVED:** Cr. Gallagher

**SECONDED:** Cr. Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.20DES**  
**5/0**

### **17. Expressions of Interest for the Sale of Isuzu D-Max & Toyota Landcruiser**

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ian Croker, Ray Wieland and David Walker submitted expression of interests for the Isuzu D-Max. Ian Croker submitted the best EOI for the Isuzu D Max of \$6,250.00

Ray Weiland, Russell and Janell Zahner were the only two who submitted expression of interest for the Toyota Landcruiser. R.J Zahner submitted the best EOI for the Toyota Landcruiser Tray Back of \$31,500.00

Both expressions of interest were well above the reserves set for each vehicle and the trade values that we received.

#### RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the following two Expression of Interest from

1. Ian Croker for the sum of \$6,250.00 for the Isuzu D-Max
2. Russell and Janelle Zahner for the sum of \$31,500 for the Toyota Landcruiser

**MOVED:** Cr. Hughes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Gallagher

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.21DES**  
**5/0**

### **CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SESSION REPORTS**

#### **Chief Executive Officer**

### **18. Local Government Quadrennial Elections – Postal Voting**

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Local Government and Planning (DLGP) is requesting Council to advise if it wishes to apply to the Minister to conduct the next Local Government Elections in Etheridge Shire by Postal Vote.

#### RESOLUTION

That Council advise the Minister that it wishes to have the next Local Government Elections for the whole of the Etheridge Shire conducted by Postal Ballot.

**MOVED:** Cr. Barnes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Haase

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.04.23CEO**  
**5/0**

#### ATTENDANCE

Ken Timms left the meeting at 2:40pm and returned at 2:42pm  
Renee Bester left the meeting at 2:49pm and returned at 2:53pm







# Etheridge Shire Council

## UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF  
ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL  
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN  
ON FRIDAY, 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023  
COMMENCING AT 1.00PM

**ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING  
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGETOWN  
ON WEDNESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023  
COMMENCING AT 1.00PM**

**ATTENDANCE**

Cr. Barry Hughes  
Cr. Laurell Royes  
Cr. Tony Gallagher  
Cr. Cameron Barns

**OFFICERS PRESENT**

Mr. Ken Timms, Chief Executive Officer  
Mr. Andrew McKenzie, Director Corporate Services  
Mrs. Renee Bester, Executive Assistant

**APOLOGIES**

The Chair declared the meeting open at 1:04pm and welcomed all in attendance.

***ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY***

We would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of this land and pay our respects to the Elders past, present and future for they hold the history, cultural practice, and traditions, of their people.”

***PRAYER***

“We ask that today you give us wisdom to make good decisions to benefit our communities. Help us see what will benefit our shire and give us hearts to serve others. Amen”.

***DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST***

Nil

***APOLOGIES, CONDOLENCES AND CONGRATULATIONS***

Resolution

That Council accept the apology of Cr. Haase

**MOVED:** Cr. Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Barnes

**CARRIED  
RESOLUTION #23.05.01SP  
4/0**

***CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED SESSION REPORTS***

RESOLUTION

That Council go into closed session at 1.05pm to discuss negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government; under section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012 which states that  
(1) A local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the local government be closed to the public.

(2) A committee of a local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the committee be closed to the public.

(3) However, a local government or a committee of a local government may make a resolution about a local government meeting under subsection (1) or (2) only if its Councilors’ or members consider it necessary to close the meeting to discuss the sale of land.

**MOVED:** Cr. Barnes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Gallagher

**CARRIED  
RESOLUTION #23.05.02SP  
4/0**

RESOLUTION

Council resolve to come out of closed session at 1.16pm.

**MOVED:** Cr. Barnes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Hughes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.05.03SP**  
**4/0**

## ***Director Corporate Services***

### **1. Supply & Install 6 Independent Living Homes**

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To meet the need of affordable housing, ESC has the opportunity to increase the numbers of affordable housing for an aging population in the Shire. In accordance with relevant legislation and the Etheridge Shire Council Procurement Policy. Tenders for these works were sourced through Local Buy tender arrangements LB304 Public Areas Facilities, Parks & Amenities Under the Local Buy arrangement, three suppliers Asset Cabins & Homes, Oly Homes and Ausco Modular, were invited to submit tenders against Council's scope of works. Tenders have been assessed, with the following recommendation against the LGR's purchasing principles."

#### RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the following Tender from Bay Investments Pty Ltd trading as Oly Homes for Six (6) x 2 Bedroom Modular Homes, Mandatory Inclusions for the Independent Living Facility Stage 1. Lot 5 Racecourse Road. Oly homes to Build Deliver Install and Complete the Six homes by end of March 2024.

<b>Address</b>	<b>Recommended Tender</b>	<b>Purchase Price GST Excl</b>
<b>Lot 5 Racecourse Road</b>	<b>Bay Investments QLD P/L, T/A Oly Homes</b>	<b>\$1,703,263.32</b>

**MOVED:** Cr. Royes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Hughes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.05.04SP**  
**4/0**

### **2. Supply & Install 6 x 2 bedroom Staff Homes**

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To meet the needs of staff housing, ESC has the opportunity to increase the numbers of staff housing to attract staff into the Shire.

In accordance with relevant legislation and the Etheridge Shire Council Procurement Policy. Tenders for these works were sourced through Local Buy tender arrangements LB304 Public Areas Facilities, Parks & Amenities.

Under the Local Buy arrangement, three suppliers Asset Cabins & Homes, Oly Homes and Ausco Modular, were invited to submit tenders against Council's scope of works. Tenders have been assessed, with the following recommendation against the LGR's purchasing principles.

#### RESOLUTION

That Council resolves to accept the following Tender from Bay Investments Pty Ltd trading as Oly Homes for Six (6) x 2 Bedroom Modular Homes, Mandatory Inclusions for the Staff Housing Project at 8 Green Street. (Lot 105 on SP295139) Oly homes to Build Deliver Install and Complete the Six homes by end of March 2024.

<b>Address</b>	<b>Recommended Tender</b>	<b>Purchase Price GST Excl</b>
<b>8 Green Street</b>	<b>Bay Investments QLD P/L, T/A Oly Homes</b>	<b>\$1,556,077.32</b>

**MOVED:** Cr. Barnes

**SECONDED:** Cr. Royes

**CARRIED**  
**RESOLUTION #23.05.05SP**  
**4/0**



Business Arising				
19th April 2023				
#	Resolution	Officer	Action Taken	Progress
23.04.05	That Council as per section 15 of the Public Service Ethics Act 1994, Council adopt the following reviewed policy: Staff Code of Conduct.	DCS	Code of Conduct distributed to all staff	Complete
23.04.06	That Council receive the Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held 23rd March 2023, and adopt the recommendations made therein.	DCS	Recommendations being implemented for next Audit Committee Meeting	In progress
23.04.07	That Council receive the draft Georgetown Walking Network Plan and place the Plan on display for a final round of public notification.	DCS	Placed on public display, comments closing 10th May. Refer to late report	Complete
23.04.08	That Council sponsor the 2023 Mt Surprise Easter event by reimbursing the organisers' actual costs to an amount of \$414.15.	DCS	payment processed	Complete
23.04.11	<p>That the Council resolve to approve the development application in accordance with the Planning Act 2016 as amended and that the application for a Development Permit for Material Change of Use – (Multiple Dwellings 6 x 2-bedroom units) on a site located at 8 Green Street Georgetown, being Lot 105 SP295139, is approved subject to the conditions detailed below.</p> <p><b>A.ASSESSMENT MANAGER CONDITIONS (COUNCIL)</b></p> <p>1.The development shall be undertaken substantially in accordance with the submitted documentation and submitted Plans, prepared by CAArchitects, except where modified by any conditions below, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate:</p> <p>Masterplan Concept – Site PlanCA ArchitectsDrawing Number: 2226-PD SK 02 Dated 22/02/23  Internal Layout Plan – 2 Bed UnitCA ArchitectsDrawing Number: 2130-PD A-01Dated 17/11/22  Elevations – 2 Bed UnitCA ArchitectsDrawing Number: 2130-PD A-02Dated 17/02/22  Sections – 2 Bed UnitCA ArchitectsDrawing Number: 2130-PD A-03Dated 17/11/22</p> <p>2.Any future work on the site shall be carried out generally in accordance with any relevant Council requirements and State legislation and to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>3.If unactioned, this development approval lapses six (6) years after the day that the development approval takes effect, unless extended under the Planning Act 2016.</p> <p>4.Should any of the Council's assets be damaged during the construction of any new associated works the cost of the reinstatement of all such assets shall be met by the applicant/proponent, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>5.The connection of the development to an on-site effluent disposal system is required to be undertaken in compliance with the Site Classification and Wastewater Management System report, prepared by Earth Test, dated December 2022 and any other relevant State legislation or requirements, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>6.The site and the development are required to discharge stormwater to a lawful point of discharge, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>7.The water tank, shown on the Site Plan, encroaching into the front 6.0 metres setback, is required to be re-sited, clear of the 6 metre setback, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>8.The access driveway and 6 visitor parking spaces are to be hardstand/sealed and a hardstand/sealed apron connection is required to the sealed carriageway of Green Street, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>9.Landscaping of 10% of the site area, being 299m<sup>2</sup> is required, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>10.All units are to be connected to the reticulated urban services, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>Perimeter fencing of the site to side and rear boundaries is permitted, if considered warranted, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p>	DCS	Development Approval issued	Complete
23.04.12	<p>That the Council resolve to approve the development application in accordance with the Planning Act 2016 as amended and that the application for a Development Permit for Material Change of Use – (Multiple Dwellings 3 x 1-bedroom units) on a site located at 51 High Street Georgetown, being Lot 6 SP194675, is approved subject to the conditions detailed below.</p> <p><b>A.ASSESSMENT MANAGER CONDITIONS (COUNCIL)</b></p> <p>1.The development shall be undertaken substantially in accordance with the submitted documentation and submitted Plans, prepared by CAArchitects, except where modified by any conditions below, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate:</p> <p>Proposed Site PlanDileigh Civil/Structural Design &amp; Project ManagementD22.539 – AO1Undated  3D ViewsDileigh Civil/Structural Design &amp; Project ManagementD22.539 – AO2Undated  1 Bedroom CabinWeBuildUmNot StatedUndated  Floor PlanWeBuildUmDrawing Number: A101- Revision BUundated  ElevationsWeBuildUmDrawing Number: A102- Revision BUundated</p> <p>2.Any future work on the site shall be carried out generally in accordance with any relevant Council requirements and State legislation and to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>3.If unactioned, this development approval lapses six (6) years after the day that the development approval takes effect, unless extended under the Planning Act 2016.</p> <p>4.Should any of the Council's assets be damaged during the construction of any new associated works the cost of the reinstatement of all such assets shall be met by the applicant/proponent, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>5.The connection of the development to an on-site effluent disposal system is required to be undertaken in compliance with the Site Classification and Wastewater Management System report, prepared by Earth Test, dated February 2023 and any other relevant State legislation or requirements, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>6.The site and the development are required to discharge stormwater to a lawful point of discharge, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>7.Building setback encroachments are limited to those shown on the submitted Plans and specifically:  a.6.0 metre Front Boundary Setback – Southern unit, maximum encroachment of 2.8 metres, Northern unit, maximum encroachment of 3.2 metres;</p> <p>All to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>8.The access driveway is to be hardstand/sealed and a hardstand/sealed apron connection is required to the sealed carriageway of High Street, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>9.Landscaping of 10% of the site area, being 87m<sup>2</sup>, is required with trees and shrubs native to the local area, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>10.All units are to be connected to the reticulated urban services, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p> <p>11.Perimeter fencing of the site to side and rear boundaries is permitted, if considered warranted, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.</p>	DCS	Development Approval issued	Complete
23.04.15	That Council resolves to hold a special meeting on Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2023 commencing at 1pm to ratify the proposed tenders for Independent Living Facility & Staff Housing Precinct.	DCS	Special Meeting held	Complete
23.04.17	That Council directs the CEO to complete all necessary paperwork to accept the grant and to program the works.	DES	Acknowledgement sent	Complete
23.04.18	1.That Council consider allocating \$40,000 in the up-coming 2023/2024 financial year budget, and 2.Council immediately apply for approval and grant assistance from the TMR.	DES	TMR advised of same	Complete
23.04.19	That at the next Budget meeting, Council considers allocating a sum of \$40,000 in the 2023/2024 financial year budget to complete these works.	DES	For budget consideration	In progress
23.04.20	That Council resolves to accept the following Tender from Hastings Deering for Supply of One Graders delivery July next financial year 23 Items for Trade Recommended Tender Purchase Price GST Excl 6078 12M Motor GraderHastings Deering (150-14A Motor Grader)\$460,000.00	DES	Order sent to successful Tender	Complete
23.04.21	That Council resolves to accept the following two Expression of Interest for 1.Ian Croker for the sum of \$6,250.00 for the Isuzu D-Max 2.Russell and Janelle Zahner for the sum of \$31,500 for the Toyota Landcruiser	DES	Sale conditions meet.	Complete
23.04.23	That Council advise the Minister that it wishes to have the next Local Government Elections for the whole of the Etheridge Shire conducted by Postal Ballot.	CEO	Correspondence sent	Complete
Outstanding Business				
15th March 2023				
#	Resolution	Officer	Action Taken	Progress
23.03.10	Council resolves to let the matter lay on the table until the next Council meeting. (TMR Pit Endorsement)	DES	To presented at a future meeting	In progress
23.03.15	That Council accepts the terms and conditions of the Deed of Grant over Lot A & B on TSV19080 as set out in Correspondence on 15 February 2023 from the Department Resources, file reference 2019/001598.	CEO	Council has signed for and paid the deposit.	In progress
15th February 2023				

#	Resolution	Officer	Action Taken	Progress
23.02.06	That Council: - 1. Commit to the construction of: - a. Stage 1 of the Georgetown Independent Living Facility for the Age (6 x 2-bedroom houses); and b. Green Street Staff Housing Project (6 by 2 bedroom houses); At an estimate total project cost of \$5M. 2. Investigate and pursue funding sources for both projects to minimise the cost to ratepayers; and 3. Apply for loans through the Queensland Treasury Corporation to fund the balance of the construction costs.	DCS	Loan application submitted to DSDILGP & I being assessed. HIF grant application submitted 8/5/23	Complete
<b>18th January 2023</b>				
#	Resolution	Officer	Action Taken	Progress
23.01.14	Due to the recent declared disaster event including closure of roads throughout the region that Council resolve to lobby to Transport & Main Roads (TMR) for the installation of digital road condition signage similar to other TMR districts at strategic locations within the shire to warn travelling public of impending road conditions ah	DES	Raised with TMR, continue to discuss with them	In Progress
<b>14th December 2022</b>				
#	Resolution	Officer	Action Taken	Progress
22.12.15	Due to the recent neglect to observe road closure signs on Council road improvements that Council consider installing video surveillance to manage same.	DES	No action taken, will discuss same with Acting DES	No action taken
<b>16th November 2022</b>				
#	Resolution	Officer	Action Taken	Progress
22.11.05	That Council resolve to implement the normal version Snap, Send Solve as a further avenue for residents and members of the public to lodge customer requests and report faults. With a review process to be undertaken 6 months after implementation.	DCS	Implemented. Pending review at Council's June 2023. CEO undertaking a review of the workflow and procedure	In progress
22.11.07	That Council undertake a town planning compliance study of Mt Surprise to identify land uses incompatible with Council's Planning Scheme and any non-compliant building works. In further that the communities of Forsyth and Einasleigh will be taken through the same process when time perm	DCS	Consulting Town Planner engaged. Prelim research completed. Inspection date confirmed for 15th May	In Progress
22.11.08	That Council resolve to proceed with this project by engaging Steven Ryan to construct same and amend the budget at the next review to cover the additional construction costs.	DCS	Contractor has terminated engagement. Council to workshop	In Progress
22.11.24	That Council agrees in principle to support the development of the tourism proposal submitted by Finnegan's Rest subject to the necessary licences and approvals being put in place.	CEO	Applicant consulted and advised approval can be granted under ESC Local Law - subject to conditions	In progress
<b>12th October 2022</b>				
22.10.07	That pursuant to s149 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council resolve to initiate the acquisition of assessments 254/20000 (17 Crampton Road) and 265/17000 (22 Collins St) for unpaid rates and charges, having failed to secure a sale of the properties under Division 3, Part 12, Chapter 4 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.	DCS	Instructions issued to Preston Law. Next Action date is 20th June 2023.	In progress
<b>17th August 2022</b>				
22.08.14	That Council commence activities to complete Rural Addressing as a matter of urgency.	DES	Estimates for numbering options being obtained for council's consideration. Purchase order has now been lodged.	In Progress
22.08.15	That Council contact Department Transport and Main Roads highlighting the issue and recommend a solution. (Parking for the Georgetown BP Roadhouse)	DES	Issue raised with TMR and they are investigating options.	In progress
<b>15th June 2022</b>				
22.07.22	That Council request a comprehensive report outlining the pros and cons of de-maining the Georgetown-Forsyth road to be presented at a future General Meeting.	DES	Report being prepared	In Progress
<b>20th April 2022</b>				
22.04.08	1. Receive Mrs Taylor's Georgetown Land Use Survey, and note the contents therein; 2. That property owners that are listed in the recommendations be advised of their non-compliance, and further be advised that they have 12 months to inform council of their plans to rectify any anomalies regarding building and planning recommendations. 3. That the implementation of these recommendations be reviewed in 12 months.	DCS	Retained Council's Town Planner to resume action on Georgetown Land Use Study	In progress
<b>19th January 2022</b>				
22.01.9	That Council resolves to: 1. Construct a pilot waste transfer station at Forsyth to conform with EPA recommendation for the future of the Forsyth Landfill operation and furthermore modernise the site for sustainable environmental practices. 2. Furthermore that council advise the community of Forsyth of the proposed changes to the waste disposal to the township. 3. Nominatate the Forsyth transfer station for funding under the Regional and Remote Recycling Modernisation Fund, with a proposed council contribution of \$100,000 or 20%. 4. Should the funding application be unsuccessful, Council allocate \$50,000 in the 2022/23 budget for the design of transfer station to be funded in a future budget.	DES	Specifications and design for proposed Transfer Station are being drawn up. Funding has been applied for. Waiting for notification if EOI application has been successful. Grant unsuccessful. LRCI Phase 3 funding to fund project Planning and design to commence	In progress



# Etheridge Shire Council

## DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

### Briefing Report

#### 1 Key Points of Interest

Summary of matters within the Department – presented 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023:

- Sale for Arrears of Rates: Council has retained Preston Law to assist Council through the sale process. Statutory Notices have been served on the respective parties. No further action can occur until the minimum 3-month notice period expires, roughly at the end of June / early July.
- MoU with QHealth: I remain in contact with CHHS for the development of the proposed MoU. At the time of writing this report, I was yet to receive the first draft. I am under the belief it is nearing finalization for our review.
- DSDILGP / KPMG liquidity and sustainability framework review: KPMG are analysing supplied financial information. I expect contact from KPMG / DSDILGP in coming weeks as the analysis nears completion.
- WCF & Loan Application: Per Council's February resolution to finance the Independent Living Facility and Staff Housing Project from funds (to be offset with grants), Council's application was submitted on 27<sup>th</sup> April. The Dept have acknowledged receipt and have since forwarded our long-term cash forecast to QTC for review. QTC have given an undertaking to turnaround the review within a week. The Department's approval will take between 3-5 weeks.
- Mt Surprise Water: I remain in contact with the investigative teams of the respective State Government Agencies. We have supplied them with water test results and records relating to our bores, facilities and historic F&C Licensed premises. 2 News releases have been distributed to the Mt Surprise Community following the community meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> April. A reply to local member Robbie Katter's enquiry has also been prepared & dispatched. A fuller verbal report will be presented at the Council meeting, addressing developments from the time of writing this report to Meeting day.

#### 2 Operational Matters

- Internal Audit: Council has received the draft Internal Audit Report on Recoverable Works – the first Internal Audit project for 2023. Upon our review and feedback, Pacifica will finalise the report, which will then be presented to the Audit Committee.
- External Audit: Council has received and is reviewing the proposed External Audit Plan with QAO / BDO. BDO will be performing the Interim Audit from 22<sup>nd</sup> May.
- Snap Send Solve: Has been implemented with the 6-monthly review scheduled for 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023.
- NexGen implementation: Council has signed an agreement with LocalBuy to install Nex Gen. We are still arranging mutually convenient dates for its implementation.
- Aged Care Advisory Committee: Most recent meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Please refer to the Agenda Item
- 23/24 Budget Development: Most managers have now completed their budget submissions and work has commenced on preparing a draft budget for Council's consideration at a workshop likely to be held late May / early June.

- Georgetown Independent Living Facility:
  - Legal: Council has submitted its response to HRC's objection with QCAT. Preston Law have sought an update from QCTA (whether further info will be sought or the application will be considered "on the papers" or through a hearing. QCTA have not responded at the time of writing this report.
  - Project Delivery: Council accepted the Tender submission from Oly Homes at its Special Meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023.
  - HIF Grant Application: The Grant writing Team (Dr Sheila Peakes, Rob Jaggar (PM) and I) managed to lodge our Application for \$2.3M by the due date (8<sup>th</sup> May). Once more, I would like to acknowledge the devotion of Dr Peakes and Rob Jaggar to devote considerable additional hours outside of ordinary work time to enable Council to lodge a quality application.
- Biosecurity Plan: Awaiting feedback from SGNRM on availability to write our local Biosecurity Plan.
- Town Common Policy: I note Councillors' comments at the April meeting to effectively abandon the adopted Town Common Policy in preference of a "new model". Council's direction is sought as the Policy has not been rescinded and remains on the books as an enforceable / implantable policy Council's staff are (technically) legally required to follow. Further, Agistees are seeking clarification on Council's position on exclusive rights to paddocks, mixed / separate herds, ownership & supply of bulls.
- General Ledger re-write: The new Chart of accounts was rolled Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January. Council's budget has been entered. Coding to AAS 27 reports continues (P&L, Balance Sheet & Cash Flow Statement). A budget review will be conducted at the conclusion of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter.
- Website review: No further action has been taken given other priorities.
- Keyless Entry Project (MPSC & Pool): Project steering committee is comprised of DCS, PM, ICT & CDEO. Requests for quotations have been returned to the initial two suppliers to re-price initial submissions (due to revised scope of works). RFQ's closed week before Easter and are being assessed.
- Environmental Health: Clive Eves (appointed Feb '23) attended Georgetown week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> March to inspect licensed food business premises. Clive has continued to provide professional advice and inter-agency liaison in respect of the Mt Surprise Water issue. We expect Clive to return around August for a second round of License inspections.
- Mosquito Fogging: the mosquito fogging trial concluded late April. Limited formal feedback has been received from the community to aid Council's assessment of the trial. Councillors are asked to provide some direction for budgetary consideration for 2023/24 financial year.
- Land Use Compliance Reviews: Council's consulting town planner is proposing to attend Mt Surprise 15<sup>th</sup> May to conduct an initial review of the town's compliance against the Shire Planning Scheme. Liz has been further retained to action the Georgetown Planning Study during this planned visit.
- Georgetown Walking Network Plan: Following Council's receipt of the final draft from Shephard Services, the draft was advertised for public comment. At the date of writing this report, little feedback has been received from the community. It is proposed that a late report will be presented to the May meeting capturing what feedback has been provided within time, enabling Council to consider, amend if necessary, and hopefully adopt the Plan. Of note, TMR were consulted and are generally supportive (in so far as requiring protection of the State Network Assets) of the Plan.
- Einasleigh Town Common Yards: RLO sought expressions of interest to assist in design of yards December 2022. At the time of writing this report, no response has been received from contacted parties.
- 150 Year Commemorative Brick Wall: Council was due to workshop the project at a workshop scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> April, but the workshop was cancelled.

**Past Month:**



- 19<sup>th</sup> April: Council Meeting
- 20<sup>th</sup> April: public meeting in Mt Surprise
- 25<sup>th</sup> April: Attend ANZAC Commemorations in Georgetown and Mt Surprise
- 26<sup>th</sup> April: Councillor Workshop (until cancelled)
- 27<sup>th</sup> April: EMT Meeting
- 27<sup>th</sup> April: ILF briefing with ACAC Chair (Greg Ryan)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> May: Aged Care Advisory Committee Meeting
- 3<sup>rd</sup> May: teleconference with Dept Environment and Science RE: Mt Surprise Water
- 5<sup>th</sup> May: Council workshop & Special Meeting for ILF & SHP tenders
- 8<sup>th</sup> May: assisted DES investigative team conduct site inspections and testing in Mt Surprise
- 9<sup>th</sup> May: Meeting with regional staff from Biosecurity Queensland

**Next Month:**

- 17<sup>th</sup> May: Council Meeting
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May: Interim Audit commences

**6**

**Other**

- Council has been notified our application under the Queensland Remembers Grant Program for a new cenotaph at Mt Surprise was unsuccessful.
- Council has re-submitted its applications for funding (50/50) for Walking Path Network studies for Forsayth, Einasleigh and Mt Surprise.
- Awaiting response to Council's DRF application for multi-purpose / multi-agency disaster coordination centre.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of North West Mineral Province Sustainable Communities Program has opened. \$120,000 is available for eligible projects. Potential project nominations are welcomed.

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Andrew McKenzie  
**Director of Corporate Services**



# Etheridge Shire Council

<b>General Meeting</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> May 2023
<b>Subject</b>	Financial Performance (Actual v Budget) for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2023
<b>Classification</b>	Open
<b>Author</b>	Andrew McKenzie, Director Corporate Services

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 requires the Chief Executive Officer to present a Financial Report of its accounts to the Local Government at least monthly.

## RECOMMENDATION

That Council pursuant Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, resolve to adopt the monthly Financial Report the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023, as presented.

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## BACKGROUND

The monthly financial report of Council provides a “Snapshot” of Council's financial performance, financial position and cash flows for the reporting period.

## LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Aim No. 5: Best practice corporate governance and organizational excellence.

Strategy No. 5.3.1: Ensure transparency of Council's financial operations and performance and promote awareness within the community of Council's financial management and other strategies.

## BUDGET & RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

There are no Budget or Resource Considerations contained within this report.

## CONSULTATION

NIL

## LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires the Chief Executive Officer to present a financial report to Council's monthly meeting. The financial report is to be as close to the last day of the month of the reporting period as practicable.

## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

## RISK ASSESSMENT

CONSEQUENCE					
LIKELIHOOD*	Insignificant 1	Minor 2	Moderate 3	Major 4	Catastrophic 5
A (Almost certain)	H	H	E	E	E
B (Likely)	M	H	H	E	E
C (Possible)	L	M	H	E	E
D (Unlikely)	L	L	M	H	E
E (Rare)	L	L	M	H	H

Risk	Person affected/ location	Risk Rating	Risk Control Measures	By who when	Notes
Failure to maintain financially sustainable.....	Council / Community	C3 – High	Council has in place various controls to monitor Councils position on month to month basis.	DCS	Council is audited annually by the QAO and Council also conducts various Internal Audits on Council
	Council / Community / Management	C3 – High	Council has in place various controls and also provides monthly reporting to Council to discuss the financial position of Council. Management will raise any concerns with Council as and when they may arise.	DCS	Council is audited annually by the QAO and Council also conducts various Internal Audits on Council

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### Report Prepared By:

Andrew McKenzie, Director Corporate Services

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023

### Report Authorised By:

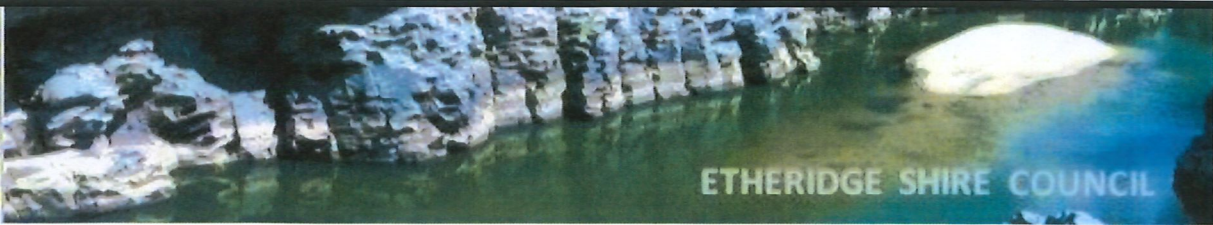
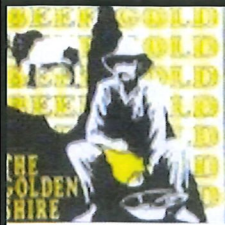
Ken Timms, Chief Executive Officer

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023

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## ATTACHMENTS:

Financial Report as at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023



ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

# *Etheridge Shire Council*

*March  
Financial Reports  
Council Meeting  
17 May 2023*

**Mayor and Councillors  
Etheridge Shire Council  
Georgetown Qld 4871**

### **Highlights of this Month's Financial Report**

**Reporting Period:=-**

**30-April-2023**

#### **Revenue:**

Total Revenue of \$ 44.02 M representing 60.4% of YTD Original Budget of \$ 72.87 M

These statements are for the 10 months of the financial year and would generally represent 83.3 % of the overall budget.

Council is expecting finalisation of QRA payments due for 22 Flood Damage. Final payments are expected to total approximately \$6-7m (inclusive of recent expenditures).

#### **Expenditure:**

Total expenditure of \$ 55.3 M for the same period represents 85.3% of the full year Expenditure Budget of \$ 64.8 M

#### **Outcome:**

The Cumulative Operating Result for the Report period is a Deficit of \$ -11.27 M

#### **Capital Works**

Refer attached Capital Funding report 2022-23 for details of Capital Projects and accompanying WIP report.

**Etheridge Shire Council**  
**Index of Attached Reports**

**Apr-23**

Highlights

Index

1. Cash Position
2. Monthly Cash Flow Estimate
3. Comparative Data
4. Capital Funding Summary
5. Road Works Expenditure

Capital Funding Detail (WIP)

Rates Outstanding Balances

Rates Control Totals

PCS Revenue and Expenditure Budget (Lvl 3 No cents) (3 Pages)

PCS Balance Sheet Summary (Lvl 3, No cents) (3 Pages)

~~PCS Statement of Comprehensive Income~~

~~PCS Statement of Financial Position~~

~~PCS Statement of Cash Flow~~

**Cash At Bank**

Operating Account				\$251,475
Cash Floats				\$1,500
Short Term Investments				
QTC Cash Fund				\$1,528,235
<b>Total Cash at Bank</b>				<u><u>\$1,781,210</u></u>

**Available Working Capital**

Cash at Bank				\$1,781,210
Less: Allowance for Cash backed Current Liabilities (Employee Entitlements AL, LSL, SL, RDO)				-\$875,527
Add: Receivables less: Payables	994,033	Less	-1,996,652	-\$1,002,619
Less: Council Constrained Cash				-\$1,241,000
<b>Available Working Capital</b>				<u><u>-\$1,337,936</u></u>

2. Monthly Cash Flow Estimate

May-2023

Receipts \$ 000's

Expenditure \$ 000's

Rates	\$34	Payroll	\$795
Fees and Charges Billings	\$10	Operating and Contractor Payables (*)	\$2,350
Own Roads Program Recoveries	\$0	Capital Acq	\$310
Main Roads Invoiced Recoveries	\$1,330	Other (Grant Funding Exp - Est)	\$0
Fed / State Grants (FAGS - Mid May)	\$750		
Grants Expected (**) (GDR \$1; FD \$0.9)	\$1,936		
QRA Provisional (Est Wk/End 12 May)	\$5,000		
	<u>\$9,060</u>		<u>\$3,455</u>

(\*) Includes Contractor Retentions

(\*\*) Includes best estimates for TMR, QRA, RMPC (Engineering reports lodgement dependent)

Cash is expected to Increase approximately \$5,605 K during next period.



Etheridge Shire Council

3. Comparative Data for

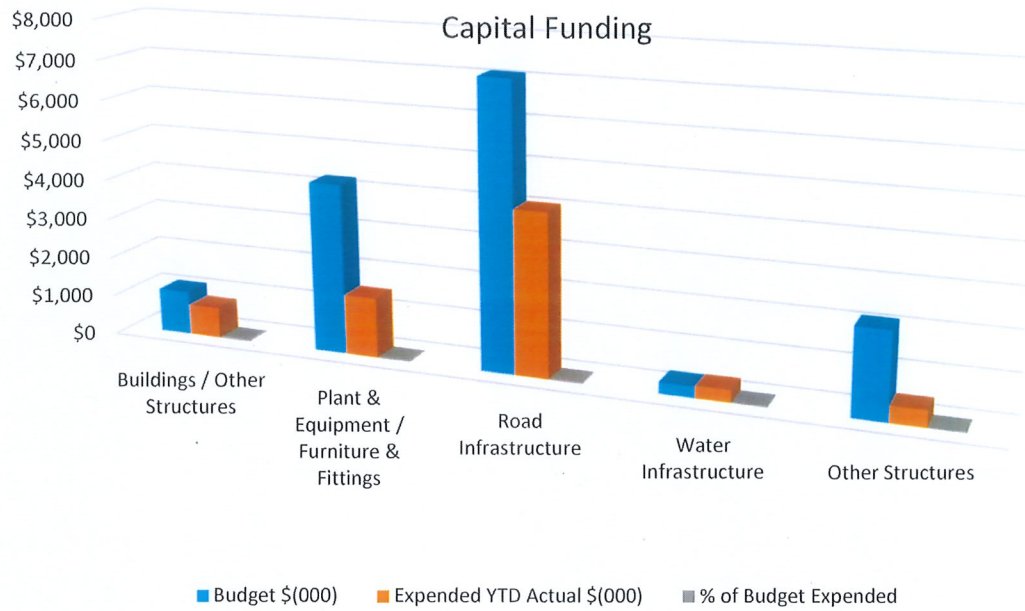
30-Apr-2023

	2021	2022	2023
Cash Position	\$10,782	\$13,453	\$1,781
Working Capital	\$7,081	\$12,142	-\$1,338
Rate Arrears	\$34	\$133	\$102
Receivables Current	\$187	\$787	\$54
Payables Current	\$342	\$1,179	\$1,263
Loan Payable (CL and NCL)	\$64	\$56	\$35

Working Capital \$000's

Cash and Deposits \$000's

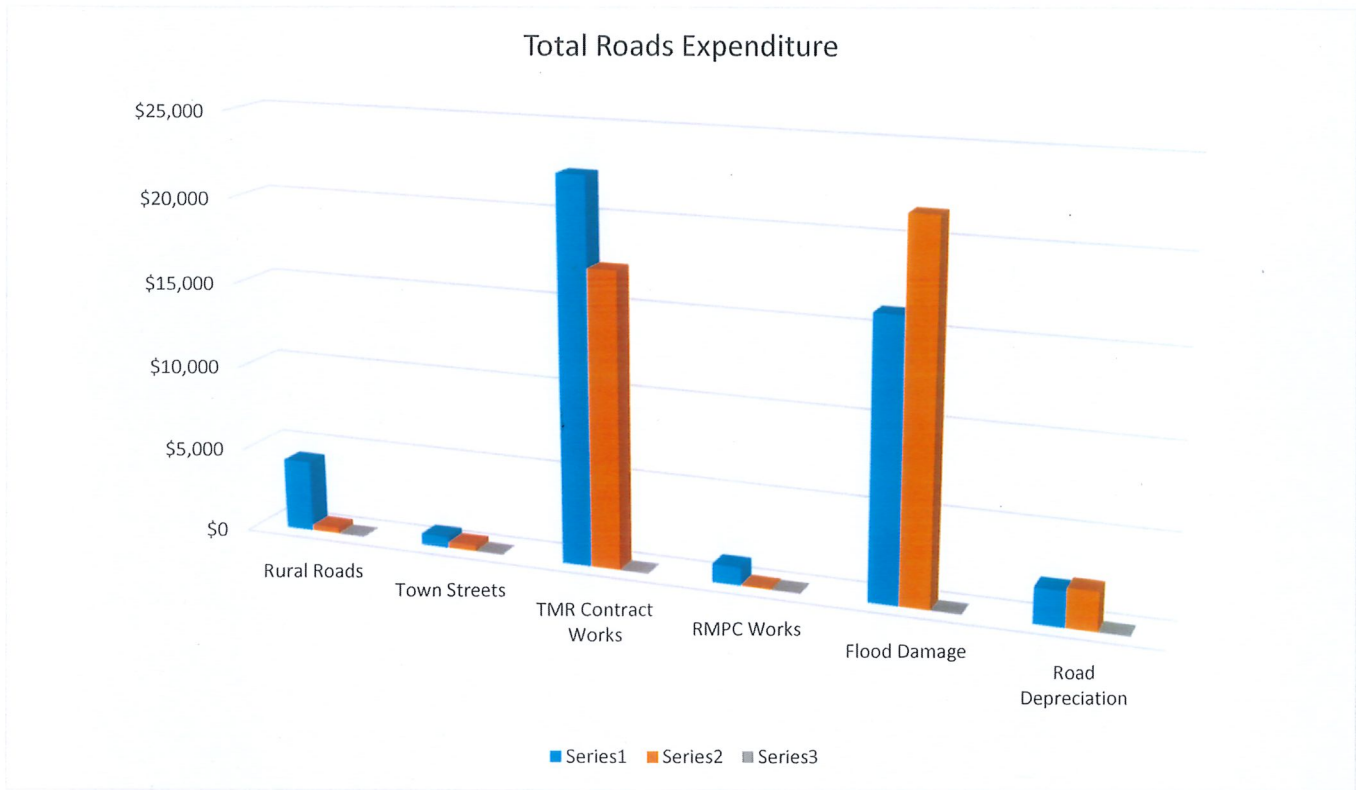
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Jul	11,676	7,999	10,113	14,985	11,352	15,567
Aug	12,882	8,224	11,777	14,335	9,803	11,178
Sep	8,533	14,444	9,511	14,084	15,241	12,278
Oct	8,165	8,221	10,678	11,889	14,601	12,159
Nov	7,951	14,520	8,616	11,367	16,836	8,408
Dec	7,561	12,492	5,450	11,375	13,501	5,674
Jan	7,313	11,244	4,326	10,259	14,030	3,727
Feb	7,081	12,142	5,149	10,782	13,453	8,333
Mar	6,088	10,976	768	9,654	10,901	3,449
Apr	5,457	12,211	-1,338	8,625	12,808	1,781
May	6,302	15,666		10,186	15,909	
Jun	11,244	9,511		13,215	16,118	



		Budget \$(000)	Expended YTD Actual \$(000)	% of Budget Expended
	<b>Total Capital Funding</b>	<b>\$16,978</b>	<b>\$7,038</b>	<b>41.45%</b>
1	Land and Improvements	\$2,090	\$19	0.90%
2	Buildings / Other Structures	\$1,100	\$762	69.28%
3	Plant & Equipment / Furniture & Fittings	\$4,251	\$1,493	35.12%
4	Road Infrastructure	\$7,105	\$4,057	57.10%
5	Water Infrastructure	\$286	\$300	104.79%
6	Other Structures	\$2,146	\$407	18.95%

**Etheridge Shire Council**  
**5. Road Works Expenditure**

**30-Apr-2023**



		<b>Budget</b> \$ 000's	<b>Expended</b> YTD Actual \$ 000's	<b>% of Budget</b> Expended \$ 000's
	<b>Total Road Expenditure</b>	<b>\$46,624</b>	<b>\$41,806</b>	<b>83%</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Rural Roads</b>	\$4,213	\$334	8%
<b>2</b>	<b>Town Streets</b>	\$671	\$345	51%
<b>3</b>	<b>TMR Contract Works</b>	\$22,410	\$17,261	77%
<b>4</b>	<b>RMPC Works</b>	\$1,080	\$71	7%
<b>5</b>	<b>Flood Damage</b>	\$16,170	\$21,541	133%
<b>6</b>	<b>Road Depreciation</b>	\$2,080	\$2,254	108%

		PREVIOUS YEARS (Opening balance)	YEAR TO DATE (ACTUALS)	TOTAL EXPENDITURE (ACTUALS)	BUDGET	% budget expended
<b>0400-4150-0000</b>	<b>Work in Progress - Land &amp; Land Improvements</b>				<b>\$2,090,000.00</b>	<b>2%</b>
0410-4501-0000	Work in Progress - Land Sales - LJ & ACJ Barns (00083-00000-000)		-\$ 9,090.91	-\$ 9,090.91		
4500-4510-0001	Charleston Dam - Pipe water to rec area (Land & Other improvements)		\$ 27,902.95	\$ 27,902.95		
			<b>\$18,812.04</b>	<b>\$18,812.04</b>		
<b>0400-4250-0000</b>	<b>Work in Progress - Buildings</b>				<b>\$1,100,000.00</b>	<b>69%</b>
3080-4501-0000	Aged Care Facilities -Advisory	\$9,674.86	\$69,475.64	\$79,150.50	\$ 590,000.00	
3100-4501-0001	Morgue Freezer		\$27,464.00	\$27,464.00		
3140-2268-0001	Sport Centre - Car Park Lands & drainage - Design					
3220-4501-0001	Einasleigh Infrastructure - Halls & Public Facilities - Water Tank Upgrade (other structures)	\$11,463.27		\$11,463.27		
3280-4502-0000	Staff Housing	\$46,446.23	\$591,412.63	\$637,858.86	\$ 1,150,000.00	
3280-4503-0000	Staff housing - HSH					
3280-4504-0000	Staff housing - SHP					
3280-4505-0000	Staff housing - ILF (Independent Living Facility)		\$4,485.00	\$4,485.00		
3350-4502-0000	Depot - Cap improvements - Carpark & shade structure		\$2,763.63	\$2,763.63		
3410-4500-0002	W4Q Cap Grant - Information Sign - Lynd Community Building	\$5,776.12	-\$5,776.12		\$ 50,000.00	
3410-4500-0003	W4Q Cap Grant - Beautification of Einasleigh Carpark					
3410-4500-0004	W4Q Cap Grant - Hard Roof Playground Shelters (Georgetown, Einasleigh & Forsayth)				\$ 35,000.00	
3410-4500-0005	W4Q Cap Grant - Fencing (Mt Surprise Cemetery & Mt Surprise Park)					
3410-4500-0006	W4Q Cap Grant - Shelter Shed & Seating @ Elizabeth Crk Mt Surprise					
3410-4500-0007	W4Q Cap Grant - Speed Warning Signs x 5 @ Georgetown and Forsayth	\$28,655.76		\$28,655.76		
3410-4500-0008	W4Q Cap Grant - Concrete Walkway from Forsayth Museum to town entrance					
3410-4500-0009	W4Q Cap Grant - Forsayth Sp & Rec Upgrade		\$0.00	\$0.00		
3410-4500-0010	W4Q Cap Grant - Bike Park - Mt Surprise					
3411-4500-0001	W4Q Capital Works (21/24) - Georgetown - Streetscaping (roads)				\$ 900,000.00	
3411-4500-0002	W4Q Capital Works (21/24) - Georgetown Sports Centre		\$47,280.52	\$47,280.52	\$ 300,000.00	
3411-4500-0003	W4Q Capital Works (21/24) - Einasleigh - Drainage improvement (roads)				\$ 1,000,000.00	
3411-4500-0005	W4Q Capital Works (21/24) - Rural Addressing					
3411-4500-0006	W4Q Capital Works (21/24) - Forsayth Cemetery Fencing	\$27,908.96	\$12,965.00	\$40,873.96		
3412-4500-0001	Cap Imp - Terrestrial - Damage-bk steps/install wheel					
3610-4500-0001	Rec. & Res 21-23 Cap Works: Solar energy - Council Buildings	\$77,840.00		\$77,840.00		
4140-4504-0002	Cap Imp. Depot - sign shed shade (other structures)	\$11,072.73		\$11,072.73	\$ 750,000.00	
4140-4504-0003	Cap Imp. Depot - workshop hoist		\$9,030.97	\$9,030.97		
5030-4500-0001	Cap Imp. Einasleigh Common - Upgrade Eins Common Stock Yrds (other structures)	\$12,540.00		\$12,540.00		
3350-4502-0001	Depot & Stores - Capital improvements - Depot - installation of generator (plant)					
3610-4500-0002	Recovery & Resilience Grant - North Head Rd - Install drainage & bitumen seal (roads)					
3610-4500-0003	Recovery & Resilience Grant - Georgetown Street scaping (roads)					
3620-4500-0001	LRCI Phase 3 - Forsayth Transfer Station		\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00		
3620-4500-0002	LRCI Phase 3 - Gtown Sports center (Parking & drainage)					
3620-4500-0003	LRCI Phase 3 - Reseals 2					
3620-4500-0004	LRCI Phase 3 -Industrial estate					
		\$231,377.93	\$762,101.27	\$993,479.20		
<b>0400-4350-0000</b>	<b>Work in Progress - Other Structures</b>				<b>\$2,146,000.00</b>	<b>18%</b>

		PREVIOUS YEARS (Opening balance)	YEAR TO DATE (ACTUALS)	TOTAL EXPENDITURE (ACTUALS)	BUDGET	% budget expended
3270-4500-0001	Shire Office - Cap Works - Car park shade structure		\$2,763.64	\$2,763.64		
4091-4501-0001	Capital Imp. Georgetown Aerodrome - Reseal of Airstrip runway		\$138,645.08	\$138,645.08	\$ 240,000.00	
4091-4501-0002	Capital Imp. Georgetown Aerodrome - Linemarking		\$27,636.36	\$27,636.36		
4077-4501-0001	W4Q Georgetown Infrastructure Projects at Costs - Shade and Seating Structures	\$4,980.00	-\$4,980.00			
5070-4500-0001	Gtown landfill cap improv - Extend concrete slab		\$27,500.00	\$27,500.00		
5151-4503-0000	Georgetown Parks Capital - Heritage park play area upgrade		\$25,439.17	\$25,439.17		
5152-4502-0001	WIP Charleston Dam Rec. - Supply & Install Restroom	\$331,095.25		\$331,095.25		
5152-4502-0002	WIP Charleston Dam Rec. - Supply & Install Picnic Shelters	\$86,009.66	\$22,663.02	\$108,672.68		
5152-4502-0003	WIP Charleston Dam Rec. - Supply & Install View Platform					
5152-4502-0004	WIP Charleston Dam Rec. - Supply & Install BBQ's (Wood Fired)	\$33,754.84		\$33,754.84		
5152-4502-0005	WIP Charleston Dam Rec. - Supply & Install Boat Ramp	\$98,676.72	\$99,993.22	\$198,669.94	\$ 100,000.00	
5152-4502-0006	WIP Charleston Dam Rec. - Parking & Internal Roads	\$1,109,957.58	-\$22,620.85	\$1,087,336.73		
5152-4502-0007	WIP Charleston Dam Rec. - Playground & Activity Area	\$45,201.39		\$45,201.39		
5152-4502-0008	WIP Charleston Dam Rec. - Supply & Install Walkways	\$9,658.31	\$1,575.60	\$11,233.91		
5152-4502-0009	WIP Charleston Dam Rec. - Landscaping (Trees/Shrubs)	\$84,813.99	\$4,864.17	\$89,678.16		
5152-4502-0010	WIP Charleston Dam Rec. - Supply & Install Entrance Monument & Various Signage		\$250.88	\$250.88		
5161-4500-0001	Georgetown Cemetery - fence replacement		\$18,695.20	\$18,695.20		
5165-4500-0001	Kidston Cemetery - Replace fence		\$36,995.00	\$36,995.00		
6010-4502-0001	Infrastructure at Cost Building Our Regions Grant Terrestrial Upgrade - Upgrade to Complex		\$2,344.00	\$2,344.00		
6010-4502-0002	Infrastructure at Cost Building Our Regions Grant Terrestrial Upgrade - Internal Fitout (Displays etc)					
6010-4502-0003	Infrastructure at Cost Building Our Regions Grant Terrestrial Upgrade - New carpet in collection area					
6010-4502-0004	Infrastructure at Cost Building Our Regions Grant Terrestrial Upgrade - Landscaping					
6010-4502-0005	Collection upgrade - John Tawning - Topaz purchase		\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00		
6020-4502-0001	Cap Imp. Child Care Centre - Shade Structure					
		\$1,804,147.74	\$406,764.49	\$2,210,912.23		
0400-4450-00000	Work in Progress - Fleet Plant & Equipment				4,251,000.00	46%
4150-4500-0103	Plant Purchases - Genelite 66kVA Generator #1 (Plant 8843)	\$27,605.00		\$27,605.00		
4150-4500-0104	Plant Purchases - Genelite 66kVA Generator #1 (Plant 8844)	\$27,605.00		\$27,605.00		
4150-4500-1280	Plant Purchase - Hilux (Plant 1280)		\$68,503.92	\$68,503.92		
4150-4500-1285	Plant Purchase - Hilux (Plant 1285)		\$68,503.92	\$68,503.92		
4150-4500-1300	Plant Purchase - Hilux (Plant 1300)		\$68,503.92	\$68,503.92		
4150-4500-1305	Plant Purchase - Hilux (Plant 1305)		\$68,503.92	\$68,503.92		
4150-4500-1315	Plant Purchase - Hilux (Plant 1315)		\$68,503.92	\$68,503.92		
4150-4500-1325	Plant Purchases - Prado		\$65,136.89	\$65,136.89		
4150-4500-1345	Plant Purchases - BT-50 (Plant 1345)		\$75,909.09	\$75,909.09		
4150-4500-1350	Plant Purchases - BT-50 (Plant 1350)		\$75,909.09	\$75,909.09		
4150-4500-1355	Plant Purchases - BT-50 (Plant 1355)		\$75,909.09	\$75,909.09		
4150-4500-1360	Plant Purchases - BT-50 (Plant 1360)		\$75,909.09	\$75,909.09		
4150-4500-1365	Plant Purchases - BT-50 (Plant 1365)		\$75,909.09	\$75,909.09		
4150-4500-2620	Plant Purchases - Prime Mover (Plant 2620)		\$222,075.00	\$222,075.00		
4150-4500-5060	Plant Purchases - Skid Steer Loader (Plant 5060)		\$147,691.20	\$147,691.20		
4150-4500-6080	Plant Purchases - 2022 CAT Grader (Plant 6080)		\$504,721.60	\$504,721.60		
4150-4500-8848	Plant Purchases - Satellite Kit # 4		\$1,045.00	\$1,045.00		
4150-4500-8858	Plant Purchases - Satellite Kit # 5		\$8,579.10	\$8,579.10		
4150-4500-8859	Plant Purchases - Satellite Kit # 6		\$8,579.10	\$8,579.10		
4150-4500-8870	Plant Purchases - Generator (Plant 8870)		\$26,298.00	\$26,298.00		
4150-4500-1295	Plant Purchase - Hilux (Plant 1295)		\$68,503.92	\$68,503.92		

		PREVIOUS YEARS (Opening balance)	YEAR TO DATE (ACTUALS)	TOTAL EXPENDITURE (ACTUALS)	BUDGET	% budget expended
4150-4500-1275	Plant Purchase - Hilux (Plant 1275)		\$68,503.92	\$68,503.92		
4150-4500-1290	Plant Purchase - Hilux (Plant 1290)		\$68,503.92	\$68,503.92		
4150-4500-1310	Plant Purchase - Hilux (Plant 1310)		\$68,503.92	\$68,503.92		
4150-4500-1265	Plant Purchase - Hilux (Plant 1265)		\$68,503.92	\$68,503.92		
4150-4500-1270	Plant Purchase - Hilux (Plant 1270)		\$68,503.92	\$68,503.92		
4150-4502-0000	Plant Sales - 2011 Zero Turn Mower		-\$2,727.27	-\$2,727.27		
4150-4502-0000	Plant Sales - Plant 5027 - Loader Skid Steer Bobcat S205H		-\$25,000.00	-\$25,000.00		
4150-4502-0000	Plant Sales - Plant 6014 - Grader Caterpillar 140H		-\$115,000.00	-\$115,000.00		
4150-4502-0000	Plant Sales - Plant 1036,1046,1066,1093,1221 (Mareeba Mazda)		-\$142,727.27	-\$142,727.27		
4150-4502-0000	Plant Sales - Plant 1098, 1086, 1216, 1258, 1237 (Pacific Toyota)		-\$166,363.63	-\$166,363.63		
4150-4502-0000	Plant Sales - Plant 1247, 1025, 1117, 1015, 1077 (Pacific Toyota)		-\$134,545.46	-\$134,545.46		
4150-4502-0000	Plant Sales - Isuzu Dmax to Ian Croaker - Tender - Plant 1135		-\$6,250.00	-\$6,250.00		
4150-4502-0000	Plant Sales - Toyota Landcruiser to Zahner - Tender - Plant 1126		-\$31,500.00	-\$31,500.00		
		\$55,210.00	\$1,493,100.83	\$1,548,310.83		
0400-4550-0000	Work in Progress - Furniture & Other Equipment					
0400-4650-0000	Work in Progress - Roads Infrastructure				\$7,105,000.00	57%
4012-4500-0001	Work In progress -Roads & Streets - First Street Forsayth 22/23 Survey & Design		\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00		
4020-4500-0001	Capital Ip - Sealed Services - Forsayth - Einasleigh Rd Reseal		\$413,935.54	\$413,935.54	\$ 770,000.00	
4020-4528-0002	Road Improvements - R2R 21/22 Infr. @ cost - North Head Road project	\$268,124.24		\$268,124.24		
4020-4529-0001	Road Improvements - R2R 21/22 Infr. @ cost - North Head Road project	\$3,134,715.11	\$3,344,268.09	\$6,478,983.20		
4020-4540-0000	Cap imp - Dump access rd - Upgrade & seal		\$66,101.10	\$66,101.10		
4020-4550-0000	Cap imp - Gtown Cemetery Road - Upgrade & seal		\$124,310.98	\$124,310.98		
4040-4512-0000						
4040-1009-0000	Drainage Construction Works - LRCIP - LRIG Paddys Road	\$91,773.71		\$91,773.71		
4040-1051-0000	Drainage Construction Works - LRCIP - LRIG Vanlee Road					
4040-1057-0000	Drainage Construction Works - LRCIP - LRIG North Heads Road	\$536.70	-\$536.70			
4040-1059-0000	Drainage Construction Works - LRCIP - LRI Grant Agate Creek	\$4,172.19	-\$4,172.19			
4040-2028-0000	Drainage Construction Works - LRCIP - LRIG O'Briens Creek Road					
4040-3009-0000	Drainage Construction Works - LRCIP - LRIG Gilberton Road	\$331,177.41		\$331,177.41		
4061-4504-0001	Town Streets Imp. Capital Imp. Street Reseals Georgetown - Cumberland St (High to Low St)		\$6,465.90	\$6,465.90	\$ 190,000.00	
4061-4504-0002	Town Streets Imp. Capital Imp. Street Reseals Georgetown - Haldane Lane		\$7,611.59	\$7,611.59		
4061-4504-0003	Town Streets Imp. Capital Imp. Street Reseals Georgetown - Haldane Street (Crampton-GDR)		\$46,551.92	\$46,551.92		
4061-4504-0004	Town Streets Imp. Capital Imp. Street Reseals Georgetown - High Street (Norman-Cumber St)		\$12,107.69	\$12,107.69		
4061-4504-0005	Town Streets Imp. Capital Imp. Street Reseals Georgetown - Low Street (South-St George)		\$6,544.22	\$6,544.22		
4061-4504-0006	Town Streets Imp. Capital Imp. Street Reseals Georgetown - South Street (High-Haldane St)		\$8,129.49	\$8,129.49		
4061-4504-0007	Town Streets Imp. Capital Imp. Street Reseals Georgetown - Collins Street to Munic		\$9,043.61	\$9,043.61		
4062-4501-0001	Capital Imp - Street Reseals Forsayth - Second St		\$14,491.09	\$14,491.09	\$ 500,000.00	
4120-2337	Contractor services - not capital					
		\$3,830,499.36	\$4,057,252.33	\$7,887,751.69		
0400-4750-0000	Work in Progress - Water Infrastructure		-\$82,482.00	-\$82,482.00	\$285,500.00	-20%
3411-4500-0004	W4Q Capital Works (21/24) - Forsayth/Georgetown - Water Telemetry					
4320-4500-0002	Capital Imp. Georgetown Water Plant & Equipment at cost - Replacement of Meters	\$6,101.54	\$2,513.30	\$8,614.84		
4320-4500-0004	Capital Imp. Georgetown Water Plant & Equipment at cost - New Water Connections	\$51.70	\$696.28	\$747.98		
4320-4501-0000	Capital Imp. Georgetown Water Infra - Install telemetry	\$16,521.20		\$16,521.20	\$ 40,000.00	

		PREVIOUS YEARS (Opening balance)	YEAR TO DATE (ACTUALS)	TOTAL EXPENDITURE (ACTUALS)	BUDGET	% budget expended
4320-4501-0002	Capital Imp. Georgetown Water Infra - Valve replacement		\$2,772.67	\$2,772.67		
4320-4501-0003	Capital Imp. Georgetown Water Infra - Raw Water reservoir & Main to Treatment Plant	\$277,440.25	\$17.12	\$277,457.37		
4320-4501-0004	Capital Imp. Georgetown Water Infra - Replace water main to racecourse	\$32,544.90		\$32,544.90		
4320-4506-0002	Infrastructure at cost Georgetown Water - Install Valves & Hydrants					
4320-4507-0001	Water Supply Gtown - Infrastructure at cost - Replace water main (St George St & South St)		\$1,563.72	\$1,563.72		
4340-4500-0002	Capital Imp. Forsyth Water PPE - Replacement of meters	\$3,597.99	\$1,231.65	\$4,829.64		
4340-4500-0003	Capital Imp. Forsyth Water PPE - New Water Connection					
4340-4502-0001	Forsyth WTP - Install telemetry					
4340-4502-0002	Forsyth WTP - Install undercover area		\$7,322.50	\$7,322.50		
4340-4502-0003	Forsyth WTP - Line & aircon chlorine storage		\$9,515.90	\$9,515.90		
4340-4503-0001	Capital Imp. Forsyth Water Infrastructure - Supply & Install store Room & Slab					
4340-4503-0002	Capital Imp. Forsyth Water Infrastructure - Install Internal Work Room					
4340-4504-0001	Capital Imp - Forsyth Water Capital Imp. Res. To WTP - Connection of New Reservoir to WTP	\$84,963.75	\$659.70	\$85,623.45		
4340-4504-0002	Capital Imp - Forsyth Water Capital Imp. Res. To WTP - Security Fencing	\$17,194.60		\$17,194.60	\$	12,500.00
4340-4504-0003	Capital Imp - Forsyth Water Capital Imp. Res. To WTP - Install telemetry	\$7,080.00		\$7,080.00	\$	40,000.00
4500-4500-0000	Charleston Dam Project - Charleston Dam Support Design Etc	\$1,545,704.81	\$56,098.89	\$1,601,803.70		
4500-4501-0001	Construction of Fish Ladder & Spillways - Construction of Fish Ladder				\$	40,000.00
4500-4502-0001	Construction of Dam Wall & Pipes - Constr of Dam Wall & Pipes					
4500-4502-0002	Construction of Dam Wall & Pipes - Remedial works on top of dam wall (Replace gravel)					
4500-4502-0003	Construction of Dam Wall & Pipes - Install power to reservoir & pumps					
4500-4503-0001	Const Reticulation Dam Forsyth WTP- Const of Reticulation (Dam to Forsyth WTP)	\$1,146,033.82	\$2,964.00	\$1,148,997.82		
4500-4503-0002	Const Reticulation Dam Forsyth WTP- Mobilisation					
4500-4503-0003	Const Reticulation Dam Forsyth WTP- Design / Survey					
4500-4503-0004	Const Reticulation Dam Forsyth WTP- De-Mobilisation					
4500-4504-0001	Consts Reticulation Dam/Gtown - Const of Reticulation (Dam to Georgetown WTP)	\$3,165,269.06	\$13,089.06	\$3,178,358.12		
4500-4504-0002	Consts Reticulation Dam/Gtown - Mobilisation					
4500-4504-0003	Consts Reticulation Dam/Gtown - Design / Survey					
4500-4504-0004	Consts Reticulation Dam/Gtown - De-Mobilisation					
4500-4505-0001	Charleston Dam Infrastructure Cost - Floating Inlet	\$632,049.52	\$16,385.27	\$648,434.79		
4500-4506-0001	Charleston Dam Rec Area - Charleston Dam Rec Survey Des	\$85,373.23	\$43,141.82	\$128,515.05	\$	475,000.00
4500-4506-0002	Charleston Dam Rec Area - Fencing		\$114,771.51	\$114,771.51		
4500-4507-0001	Charleston Dam Infrastructure Cost - Charls Dam - Pump-housing Fsy water					
4500-4508-0001	Dam Water Supply & pipelines & Equipment - Dam Water Supply Item 1	\$40,519.03	\$69,406.09	\$109,925.12		
4500-4509-0001	Work in Progress - Water - Shed (Council Funded)		\$40,027.20	\$40,027.20		
		\$7,060,445.40	\$299,694.68	\$7,360,140.08		
		\$12,981,680.43	\$7,037,725.64	\$20,019,406.07		
	Other additions					
	Renewals					

ASSESSMENT	NAME	THIS YEAR				--ARREARS--						INTEREST	UNALLOC REC	TOTAL	---LAST PAYMENT---	
		1st LEVY	2nd LEVY	SUPP. LEVIES	WATER LEVIES	1 YEAR	2 YEARS	3 YEARS	4 YEARS	5 YEARS	5+ YEARS				AMOUNT	DATE
00039-00000-000		2189.92										104.37		2294.29	2115.97	22-10-2021
00051-50000-000		1112.58										53.02		1165.60	971.47	22-10-2021
00080-00000-000					509.84							2.29		512.13	2368.74	03-10-2022
00081-51000-000		203.34			219.56							33.16		456.06	50.00	15-03-2023
00089-10000-000					761.13							3.41		764.54	1431.58	01-10-2022
00094-50000-000												1.31		1.31	292.63	07-05-2023
00097-00000-000		110.78			250.32							19.70		380.80	50.00	01-04-2023
00104-00000-000		1817.34			9.02	1872.36	1707.77	322.49				1258.56		6987.54	500.00	09-12-2022
00109-00000-000					294.17							1.32		295.49	1693.08	02-10-2022
00114-00000-000					146.06							0.66		146.72	1593.28	20-09-2022
00153-00000-000					87.90							0.39		88.29	1200.00	05-10-2022
00172-00000-000		1640.01			351.34							159.39		2150.74	250.00	04-05-2023
00203-00000-000					52.79							0.24		53.03	0.14	04-10-2022
00251-00000-000					3.58							0.02		3.60	2038.01	29-09-2022
00251-10900-000				569.69										569.69	0.00	
00251-25500-000					134.15							0.60		134.75	1841.34	21-09-2022
00251-60000-000					7.80							0.03		7.83	1793.73	28-09-2022
00253-01100-000					161.27							0.72		161.99	1799.54	02-09-2022
00254-20000-000		1083.00		3631.14	49.05	978.52	940.40	968.00	949.60	927.60	893.30	2702.04		13073.60	866.29	02-11-2015
00264-10000-000												0.22		49.27	1840.55	27-09-2022
00265-17000-000		1083.00		3334.84	187.22	978.52	940.40	968.00	949.60	927.60		2165.39		11347.35	1000.00	29-05-2018
00265-25000-000					117.09							0.84		188.06	2372.50	02-09-2022
00265-30000-000												0.53		117.62	1867.50	28-09-2022
00265-32000-000		1083.00										140.61		1223.61	1000.00	16-02-2023
00265-33000-000		1783.27				168.45						724.39		2676.11	100.00	08-05-2023
00265-53000-000		1359.11			11.62	1263.84	168.23					341.77		3144.57	3744.73	21-10-2020
00268-67000-000					24.41							0.11		24.52	5694.28	29-09-2022
00278-00000-000					638.56							2.86		641.42	1816.35	09-09-2022
00279-20000-000					8.90							0.04		8.94	1792.63	21-09-2022
00295-50000-000					51.46							0.23		51.69	3524.92	05-10-2022
00297-00000-000		105.60										8.55		114.15	713.60	27-10-2022
00332-30000-000												24.64		24.64	100.00	03-03-2023
00338-00000-000		187.47										11.76		199.23	1515.49	14-10-2022
00353-30000-000		2218.32				1953.19						360.02		4531.53	1832.12	04-01-2021
00355-71300-000		10330.56										784.46		11115.02	34480.44	27-10-2022
00359-10012-000		960.20										45.76		1005.96	924.71	08-12-2021
00365-50000-000												2.27		429.35	429.35	09-11-2022
00411-00001-000					337.69							1.51		339.20	314.76	15-09-2022
00441-00000-000		7728.14										588.02		8316.16	25000.00	27-10-2022
00441-70000-000		8400.15										638.74		9038.89	25000.00	27-10-2022
00452-00900-000		41875.60				5611.42	641.40	63.12				2739.61		50226.63	36149.01	22-10-2021
00452-30231-000		703.60				660.80	641.40					418.03		2486.95	577.88	14-07-2021
00452-30232-000		693.40				660.80	641.40	641.00	628.60	234.17		1058.37		4557.74	959.00	05-06-2017
00526-00000-000												39.83		39.83	2672.20	09-12-2022
00556-00000-000												36.27		36.27	11155.77	23-11-2022
=====		86668.39	0.00	7535.67	4414.93	14147.90	5039.60	2962.61	2527.80	2089.37	893.30	14476.06	0.00	140755.63		



	REVENUE			EXPENDITURE		
	30 Apr 2023 Actual	Original Budget		30 Apr 2023 Actual	Original Budget	
0300-0001 ASSETS LIABILITIES & EQUITY						
0300-0002 CASH AND RECEIVABLES	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
0400-0002 NON-CURRENT ASSETS	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
0500-0002 CURRENT PAYABLES AND LIABILITIES	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
0600-0002 LOANS & LIABILITIES NON-CURRENT	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
0700-0002 SHIRE CAPITAL & RESERVES	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
0300-0001 ASSETS LIABILITIES & EQUITY TOTAL	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
1000-0001 Governance						
1000-0002 Elected Members	0	0	0%	312,750	400,500	28%
1010-0002 Governance	0	0	0%	0	898,750	---
1020-0002 Economic Development	137,620	328,000	138%	262,424	122,500	-53%
1030-0002 Civic Receptions and Events	0	2,000	---	0	30,000	---
1040-0002 Regulatory Services						
1040-0003 Town Planning	0	50,000	---	0	40,000	---
1041-0003 Building Control	6,225	5,000	-20%	0	5,000	---
1042-0003 Environmental Health	0	5,000	---	6,341	7,500	18%
1043-0003 Local Laws	0	0	0%	0	10,000	---
1040-0002 Regulatory Services TOTAL	6,225	60,000	864%	6,341	62,500	886%
1050-0002 Disaster Management	(347)	21,000	<999%	26,404	36,000	36%
1060-0002 WH&S	0	0	0%	244,352	304,000	24%
1000-0001 Governance TOTAL	143,498	411,000	186%	852,271	1,854,250	118%
2000-0001 Corporate						
2000-0002 General Rates	2,299,489	1,965,500	-15%	301,374	0	-100%
2010-0002 General Administration	1,417,703	5,286,500	273%	3,042,128	1,764,005	-42%
2020-0002 Employee Services	687,091	2,300,000	235%	1,440,542	1,622,500	13%
2030-0002 ICT	0	0	0%	226,690	355,000	57%
2040-0002 Broadcasting Services	0	0	0%	17,530	11,250	-36%
2000-0001 Corporate TOTAL	4,404,283	9,552,000	117%	5,028,264	3,752,755	-25%
3000-0001 Community						
3000-0002 Commercial Rental Properties						
3000-0003 Staff housing	102,415	166,000	62%	182,387	385,000	111%

(Accounts: 0300-0001-0000 to 5014-2400-0000. All report groups. 84% of year elapsed. To Level 3. Excludes committed costs)

Etheridge Shire Council (Budget for full year)

Financial Year Ending 2023

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	REVENUE			EXPENDITURE		
	30 Apr 2023 Actual	Original Budget		30 Apr 2023 Actual	Original Budget	
3001-0003 Other Residentials	2,000	0	-100%	0	0	0%
3002-0003 Savannah House	3,250	8,000	146%	29,067	65,000	124%
3003-0003 Demountable Office (Mary St)	42,000	48,000	14%	0	5,000	---
3004-0003 Aged Care	20,000	100,000	400%	0	0	0%
3000-0002 Commercial Rental Properties TOTAL	169,665	322,000	90%	211,453	455,000	115%
3010-0002 Libraries	5,958	6,000	1%	14,682	34,500	135%
3020-0002 Community Development	31,000	24,000	-23%	59,971	130,000	117%
3030-0002 Sport & Recreation	103,254	302,500	193%	418,545	456,000	9%
3040-0002 Halls	1,878	5,000	166%	201,720	262,500	30%
3050-0002 Medical Centres	0	0	0%	25,152	35,000	39%
3060-0002 Aerodromes	0	240,000	---	257,701	272,250	6%
3070-0002 Terrestrial Centre	494,310	113,000	-77%	347,728	399,000	15%
3080-0002 Little Gems Child Care Centre	230,476	225,000	-2%	276,025	426,500	55%
3090-0002 Georgetown Student Hostel	84,879	95,000	12%	231,046	231,250	0%
3100-0002 Cemeteries	30	45,000	>999%	15,079	35,000	132%
3000-0001 Community TOTAL	1,121,451	1,377,500	23%	2,059,103	2,737,000	33%
4000-0001 Infrastructure Services						
4000-0002 Parks Gardens Reserves and Grounds	0	37,500	---	364,383	913,000	151%
4010-0002 Rural Lands Protection	25,449	20,000	-21%	73,514	313,000	326%
4020-0002 Street Lighting	0	0	0%	9,163	10,000	9%
4030-0002 Roads						
4030-0003 Shire Roads	2,594,869	6,361,000	145%	2,297,173	3,231,750	41%
4031-0003 Town Streets	0	950,000	---	501,250	350,000	-30%
4032-0003 Flood Damage	14,980,367	28,220,000	88%	23,025,375	28,220,000	23%
4030-0002 Roads TOTAL	17,575,235	35,531,000	102%	25,823,798	31,801,750	23%
4040-0002 Depot and Stores	98,503	310,000	215%	386,071	875,500	127%
4050-0002 Recoverable Works						
4050-0003 Private Works	124,579	40,000	-68%	108,259	36,000	-67%
4051-0003 DTMR	13,874,503	17,800,000	28%	16,427,478	16,000,000	-3%
4050-0002 Recoverable Works TOTAL	13,999,082	17,840,000	27%	16,535,737	16,036,000	-3%
4060-0002 Plant Operations	6,044,809	6,680,000	11%	3,045,026	4,995,000	64%
4000-0001 Infrastructure Services TOTAL	37,743,078	60,418,500	60%	46,237,692	54,944,250	19%
5000-0001 Utilities						
5000-0002 Water Supply						
5000-0003 Georgetown WTP & Reticulation	348,193	342,220	-2%	463,743	715,000	54%

(Accounts: 0300-0001-0000 to 5014-2400-0000. All report groups. 84% of year elapsed. To Level 3. Excludes committed costs)

Etheridge Shire Council (Budget for full year)

Financial Year Ending 2023

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		REVENUE			EXPENDITURE		
		30 Apr 2023	Original		30 Apr 2023	Original	
		Actual	Budget		Actual	Budget	
5001-0003	Forsayth WTP & Reticulation	100,492	126,100	25%	256,932	437,000	70%
5002-0003	Charleston Dam	0	0	0%	168,854	200,000	18%
5000-0002	Water Supply TOTAL	448,685	468,320	4%	889,529	1,352,000	52%
5010-0002	Waste Management						
5010-0003	Georgetown	129,074	113,000	-12%	196,724	139,500	-29%
5011-0003	Forsayth	13,665	513,850	>999%	11,276	17,500	55%
5012-0003	Einasleigh	9,805	10,300	5%	13,348	17,500	31%
5013-0003	Mt Surprise	10,530	9,750	-7%	7,821	12,500	60%
5010-0002	Waste Management TOTAL	163,073	646,900	297%	229,169	187,000	-18%
5000-0001	Utilities TOTAL	611,758	1,115,220	82%	1,118,698	1,539,000	38%
TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE		44,024,069	72,874,220	66%	55,296,028	64,827,255	17%

(Accounts: 0300-0001-0000 to 5014-2400-0000. All report groups. 84% of year elapsed. To Level 3. Excludes committed costs)

Etheridge Shire Council (Budget for full year)

Financial Year Ending 2023

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	OPENING BALANCE	YEAR TO DATE 30 Apr 2023	BUDGET	CURRENT BALANCE 30 Apr 2023	BUDGET
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>					
0300-0001 ASSETS LIABILITIES & EQUITY					
0300-0002 CASH AND RECEIVABLES	22,947,363	(19,445,269)	---	3,502,094	19%
0300-0001 ASSETS LIABILITIES & EQUITY TOTAL	22,947,363	(19,445,269)	---	3,502,094	19%
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	22,947,363	(19,445,269)	---	3,502,094	19%
<u>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</u>					
0300-0001 ASSETS LIABILITIES & EQUITY					
0400-0002 NON-CURRENT ASSETS	256,327,754	2,934,145	17%	259,261,899	101%
0300-0001 ASSETS LIABILITIES & EQUITY TOTAL	256,327,754	2,934,145	17%	259,261,899	101%
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	256,327,754	2,934,145	17%	259,261,899	101%
TOTAL ASSETS	279,275,117	(16,511,124)	-97%	262,763,993	95%

(Accounts: 0300-0001-0000 to 5014-2400-0000. All report groups. 84% of year elapsed. To Level 3. Excludes committed costs)

Etheridge Shire Council (Budget for full year)

Financial Year Ending 2023

Printed(MURRAY): 03-05-2023 8:11:14 AM

	OPENING BALANCE	YEAR TO DATE 30 Apr 2023	----- BUDGET	----- CURRENT BALANCE 30 Apr 2023	----- BUDGET
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>					
0300-0001 ASSETS LIABILITIES & EQUITY					
0500-0002 CURRENT PAYABLES AND LIABILITIES	7,941,360	(5,293,145)	---%	0	2,648,215 84%
0300-0001 ASSETS LIABILITIES & EQUITY TOTAL	7,941,360	(5,293,145)	---%	0	2,648,215 84%
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	7,941,360	(5,293,145)	---%	0	2,648,215 84%
<u>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>					
0300-0001 ASSETS LIABILITIES & EQUITY					
0600-0002 LOANS & LIABILITIES NON-CURRENT	2,270,985	53,980	---%	0	2,324,965 268%
0300-0001 ASSETS LIABILITIES & EQUITY TOTAL	2,270,985	53,980	---%	0	2,324,965 268%
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	2,270,985	53,980	---%	0	2,324,965 268%
TOTAL LIABILITIES	10,212,345	(5,239,165)	---%	0	4,973,180 124%
NETT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)	269,062,772	(11,271,960)	-66%	16,977,500	257,790,813 95%

(Accounts: 0300-0001-0000 to 5014-2400-0000. All report groups. 84% of year elapsed. To Level 3. Excludes committed costs)

Etheridge Shire Council (Budget for full year)

Financial Year Ending 2023

Printed (MURRAY): 03-05-2023 8:11:14 AM

	OPENING BALANCE	----- YEAR TO DATE 30 Apr 2023	----- BUDGET	----- CURRENT BALANCE 30 Apr 2023	----- BUDGET
<u>COMMUNITY EQUITY</u>					
0300-0001 ASSETS LIABILITIES & EQUITY					
0700-0002 SHIRE CAPITAL & RESERVES	269,062,772	(11,271,960)	-140%	8,046,970	257,790,813 98% 263,526,305
0300-0001 ASSETS LIABILITIES & EQUITY TOTAL	269,062,772	(11,271,960)	-140%	8,046,970	257,790,813 98% 263,526,305
TOTAL COMMUNITY EQUITY	269,062,772	(11,271,960)	-140%	8,046,970	257,790,813 98% 263,526,305



# Etheridge Shire Council

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<b>General Meeting</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> May 2023
<b>Subject</b>	Aged Care Advisor Committee Meeting Minutes
<b>Classification</b>	Open
<b>Author</b>	Andrew McKenzie

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Aged Care Advisory Committee met on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023. A copy of the Meeting Minutes is presented for Council's information.

## RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the minutes of the Aged Care Advisory Committee meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023;

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## BACKGROUND

The Aged Care Advisory Committee is an advisory committee of Council, constituted under the *Local Government Act 2009*. Good governance requires advisory committee meeting minutes be tabled at the next General Meeting of Council.

In essence, the purpose of the Meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 was to provide Committee Members with an update on progress toward the Independent Living Facility and seek comments upon the procurement decision before Council's Special Meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> May. Please note that the Committee's comments were tabled at Council's Special Meeting.

## LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Aim No. 3: Quality Social Infrastructure makes the shire a desirable place to live.

## BUDGET & RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

Council has received \$100,000 from the North West Mineral Province Building Sustainable Communities Program to fund the design elements of the Independent Living Facility, with a further \$500,000 to commence on-site development, including building construction.

Council resolved in February 2023 to commit to the project and apply for loans to finance the housing projects, while applying for grants to offset Council need to borrow all or some of the projects' costs. In this regard, Council has formally applied for a loan facility through the DSDILGP, and has submitted an application under the Housing Investment Fund for \$2.3M.

## CONSULTATION

Occurs through the Aged Care Advisory Committee meetings.

### LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

The committee is constituted under the Local Government Act & Regulations.

The Building Sustainable Communities grant program is subject to the conditions of funding, as contained in the funding agreement with the Department.

### POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

### RISK ASSESSMENT

<b>CONSEQUENCE</b>					
<b>LIKELIHOOD*</b>	<b>Insignificant 1</b>	<b>Minor 2</b>	<b>Moderate 3</b>	<b>Major 4</b>	<b>Catastrophic 5</b>
A (Almost certain)	H	H	E	E	E
B (Likely)	M	H	H	E	E
C (Possible)	L	M	H	E	E
D (Unlikely)	L	L	M	H	E
E (Rare)	L	L	M	H	H

Nil at this time

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**Report Prepared By:**

Andrew McKenzie

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023

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**Report Authorised By:**

Ken Timms, Chief Executive Officer

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023

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ATTACHMENTS: Aged Care Advisory Committee meeting minutes for meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023.



**ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING (AGED & DISABILITY CARE)**  
**HELD IN GEORGETOWN THURSDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023**  
**GEORGETOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES**

Greg Ryan opened the meeting at 9.03am.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY EWAMIAN PEOPLE**

*“We would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of this land and pay our respects to the Elders past, present and future for they hold the history, cultural practice and traditions, of their people.”*

**DECLARATIONS**

*Nil*

**ATTENDANCE**

Members: Greg Ryan (Committee Chair), Carol Ryan.

Via Videoconference: Amanda Dixon (Member), Renae Woodforth (Member)

Advisors: Andrew McKenzie (Committee Secretary), Rob Jaggard (Project Officer) via videoconference.

**APOLOGIES**

**MOVED: Amanda Dixon**

**SECONDED: Renae Woodforth**

That the apologies of the following Committee Members / observers be received, and leave of absence granted: -

- Cr Joe Haase (Member)
- Cr Tony Gallagher (Member)
- Valerie Grey (Member)
- Alana Young (Member)

**CARRIED**

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**MOVED: Carol Ryan**

**SECONDED: Greg Ryan**

That:

*The Minutes of the Advisory Committee (Aged & Disability Care) Meeting held at Georgetown on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022.*

**CARRIED**

**CONDOLENCES**

*Nil*

## BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES AND GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

## NEW MATTERS / GENERAL BUSINESS

### 1. Council Update

Andrew advised: -

- Council
- Georgetown Aged Independent Living Facility:
  - Ausnorth Consulting
    - Survey: completed
    - Town Planning Application: completed.
    - Civil Design: well progressed (Erscon)
  - Cairns Architects
    - Master Plan: completed.
  - Preston Law
    - Application to QCAT: lodged (incl. response to HRC' objection)
    - Tenancy documents and facility rules: on hold.
  - Project Manager
    - Geotech: completed.
    - Tenders: called & assessed
    - Building Certifiers: engaged

Project Manager Rob, discussed the development of the 'Request for Tender' (RFT) following significant research into community housing going into Barcoo, Longreach, Mornington Shires, as well as the Liveable Housing Design Standard used by QBuild to spec Queensland's Social Housing Stock. Using this research Rob developed a scope of works based on the "Gold Standard" design – which includes the design features Council and the Committee had identified as desirable for 'aged friendly accommodation'.

The RFT & 'Gold Standard' scope of works was provided to 3 suppliers on LocalBuy – a pre-approved supplier list maintained by the Local Government Association of Queensland. Submissions were received early April.

The Committee then reviewed the respective building plans received from the 3 submitters. As a result of this review, the Committee made the following observations / recommendations: -

1. Where possible, provide the ramp at the front of the house to enable easier access from car port to entry. (it was noted that Australian Standards require a ramp incline of 1:14, which may preclude this recommendation, however it will be noted and considered during construction).
2. Provide sun protection on westerly facing verandas / walls.
3. Ensure there is provision for dishwashers and rangehoods in the kitchens.
4. Noting one design where an internal fire may block egress from bedrooms, suggest an exit through the bathroom.
5. Pre-install handrails in all dwellings (kitchen and bathroom) in preference to retrofitting them later.

### 2. Etheridge Cares Update

Renaë provided the following update on behalf of Etheridge Cares:

- Etheridge Cares currently has 15 clients Etheridge Shire, 2 in Croydon and 12 in Greenvale, while also managing a further 30 clients across Australia on behalf of Trinity Care.
- Etheridge Cares employs 3 Coordinators and has 6 support works servicing clients local clients.
- Etheridge Cares has fund raised approximately 25% of the cost of a bus.

The Chair acknowledge the amazing work Etheridge Cares is performing, and the services offered to its clients.

**Next Meeting**

To revert to the usual schedule of the Thursday following every 2<sup>nd</sup> Council Meeting.

**CONCLUSION**

Greg Ryan closed the meeting at 10.33 am.



# Etheridge Shire Council

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<b>General Meeting</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> May 2023
<b>Subject</b>	Review of Borrowing Policy
<b>Classification</b>	Open
<b>Author</b>	Andrew McKenzie, Director Corporate Services

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council resolved to apply for a new loan facility to fund the Georgetown Independent Living Facility for the Aged and Green St Staff Housing Project, with the intent to seek grants to offset the need to draw down the loan facility. In line with this resolution, and Council's decision at its Special Meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023, Council is required to update its long-term financial forecast model, long-term cash flow forecast, and Borrowing Policy to recognise the new loan.

To this end, the Borrowing Policy adopted at Council's July 2022 Budget Meeting, has been updated. Council is requested to adopt the revised Policy.

## RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the revised 2022-23 Borrowing Policy, as presented.

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## BACKGROUND

As noted above, Council is required to update several long-term financial models and its Borrowing Policy when applying for new financial products, e.g. loans.

To this end, the adopted 2022/23 Borrowing Policy, while making note of the possibility of borrowing for the Independent Living Facility and staff housing projects, did not contemplate the change in scope or the rapid progress of either project witnessed over the past 7 months. Accordingly, it is necessary to amend the adopted Policy with the new financing products.

## LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Aim No.3: A diversified economic development ensures a prosperous shire.

Outcome 3.1: A variety of land and housing options for the community.

Corporate Aim No. 4: Quality Social Infrastructure makes the shire a desirable place to live.

Outcome 4.2: An invigorated community with a variety of multi-age services.

Corporate Aim No. 5: Best practices corporate governance and organisational excellence.

Outcome 5.1: Council provides community leadership through financial sustainability and an open and accountable governance structure.

## BUDGET & RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

When compiling the 2022/23 Budget, Council set aside \$500,000 toward the planning, design and initial site treatment of the Independent Living Facility, and a further \$500,000 to acquire staff housing. Since the adoption of the budget, Council has (significantly) changed the scope of both projects from a traditional build over successive financial year budget allocations to purchasing 6 x 2-bedroom pre-fab dwellings for both projects. Further, the has been a conscious decision to accelerate the projects to address economies of scale in procurement and address the absence of local housing stock for rent / buy, which in turn is inhibiting the Shire's economic growth. For these reasons, Council has committed to a \$6M investment between both projects, to be funded through a combination of loans (principally) and grants (to offset the draw down on loans).

Council sought a advice from QTC on the appropriate debt pool and debt servicing obligation on a \$6M loan over a 20 year term. QTC advised the indicative interest rate (on the day of the advice) was 4.482% with quarterly debt service payments (Principal & Interest) of around \$115,000. Debt service payments are non-discretionary, and will be written into Council's future year budgets.

## CONSULTATION

As noted above, Council foreshadowed a potential need to fund the Independent Living Facility and Staff Housing Projects through loan funding when framing the 22/23 Budget. Council has carefully considered the projects' change in scope and accelerated delivery, and has come to the decision to apply for a loan to cover the capital costs through loans, less the amount of any grants it may obtain.

In addition, Council's staff have recently been in contact with the Dept of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Queensland Treasure Corporation (QTC) to apply for the loan undertaking.

## LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Council is following the Department's process for applying for financing instruments.

## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council must amend its Borrowing Policy in light of the new loans being sought.

## RISK ASSESSMENT

CONSEQUENCE					
LIKELIHOOD*	Insignificant 1	Minor 2	Moderate 3	Major 4	Catastrophic 5
A (Almost certain)	H	H	E	E	E
B (Likely)	M	H	H	E	E
C (Possible)	L	M	H	E	E
D (Unlikely)	L	L	M	H	E
E (Rare)	L	L	M	H	H

## OUTCOME

Risk is assessed as Low: Rare Likelihood or Minor consequence.

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**Report Prepared By:**

**Report Authorised By:**

Andrew McKenzie, Director Corporate Services

Ken Timms, Chief Executive Officer

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023

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STATUTORY POLICY	
Debt / Borrowing Policy	
Policy No.	ESC-003
Department	Corporate & Community Services
Program	Finance / Budget

<b>Approved by Council</b>	<b>Meeting number and date</b>	
	<a href="#">17<sup>th</sup> May 2023</a>	
	<b>Resolution number</b>	
<b>Approval by CEO</b>	Ken Timms	
<b>Effective date</b>	<b>Review date</b>	
<del>4<sup>th</sup> July 2022</del> <a href="#">17<sup>th</sup> May 2023</a>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> June 2023</b>	
<b>Policy Author</b>		
Director Corporate Services		
<b>Current incumbent</b>		
Andrew McKenzie		
<b>Implementation Officer</b>		
Director Corporate Services		
<b>Current incumbent</b>	<b>Contact number</b>	<b>Official file no.</b>
Andrew McKenzie	07 4079 9007	ESC-003

# Etheridge Shire Council

## Debt / Borrowing Policy 2022 - 23

### 1. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Section 192 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires a local government to develop a Debt Policy. The Policy must address the: -

- New borrowings planned for the current financial year and the next nine (9) financial years;
- Period over which Council plans to repay existing and new borrowings.

As a public sector entity, Council is also subject to the provisions of the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982*. This Act regulates Council's ability to enter into financial arrangements.

### 2. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

This Policy is formulated under section 192 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, and in accordance with the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982*. It is intended to guide Council's responsible financial management for loan undertakings, ensuring the level of Council's indebtedness is within acceptable limits to Council, its communities and external stakeholders.

### 3. POLICY PROVISIONS

#### Short Term Borrowings

Council will maintain a Working Capital Facility with Queensland Treasure Corporation to assist in managing cash flows / balances throughout the year, to manage the timing between expenditure and reimbursement on recoverable works so that Council's services and capital works program are not unduly disrupted. Draw downs from the Working Capital Facility will be repaid as cash balances allow and will generally be fully repaid at the conclusion of the grant / recoverable work activities giving rise to Council's need to draw upon the WCF.

Council's WCF limit is \$7.5M.

#### Long Term Borrowings

As a general principle, Council recognises that loan borrowings for capital works are an important source of funding and that the full cost of infrastructure should not be borne entirely by present day ratepayers. Future beneficiaries of the infrastructure should contribute toward its cost. Whilst recognising the importance of loan borrowings, Council should not place undue reliance upon loans as a source of income.

Council will endeavour to restrict all borrowings to expenditure on identified capital projects that are considered by Council to be of the highest priority, and which cannot be funded from revenue, as identified by the adopted budget. In no circumstances should council borrow funds for recurrent expenditure.

In general terms, borrowings will only be used to finance capital projects or asset acquisitions that will provide services now and into the future. No borrowings will be used to finance recurrent expenditure or operational costs of Council. Where identified asset replacement reserves exist, it will be Council's preference to use reserved funds prior to undertaking new loans.

~~Prior to undertaking new loans, Council shall prepare a business case to support the need for loan funding and Council's capacity to service repayments. Loan terms will be determined upon the individual nature of the infrastructure investment or asset acquisition, taking into account the expected life of the infrastructure / asset, intergenerational equity and long term budgetary constraints.~~

~~The basis to determine the utilisation of loan funds will be as follows:~~

- Analysis of existing debt levels with a loan servicing cost target of less than 25% in any one year;
- Where borrowings relate to a service that is funded by utility or user charges (eg. Water), the user charge should reflect the cost of providing the service including the loan servicing costs;

#### **10 Year Loan Programme Forecast**

Council will be undertaking industrial land, staff and aged housing developments in the coming years. To fund these developments, Council will be seeking a \$1M loan in 2022/23.

Beyond this, Council has no future borrowings proposed over the forward 10-year forecast horizon. This position will be reviewed on an annual basis, in conjunction with each year's review of the Capital Works Program and Annual Budget. Planned long-term borrowings are: -



<u>Year and Purpose of Borrowings</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Term</u>
<u>2016 Forsayth Water Treatment Plant</u>	<u>\$100,000</u>	<u>\$32,979</u>	<u>10 years</u>
<u>2022/23 Housing Projects</u>	<u>\$6,000,000</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>20 years</u>
<u>2023/24 No borrowings proposed</u>			
<u>2024/25 No borrowings proposed</u>			
<u>2025/26 No borrowings proposed</u>			
<u>2026/27 No borrowings proposed</u>			
<u>2027/28 No borrowings proposed</u>			
<u>2028/29 No borrowings proposed</u>			
<u>2029/30 No borrowings proposed</u>			
<u>2030/31 No borrowings proposed</u>			
<u>2031/32 No borrowings proposed</u>			

#### **Repayment Schedule**

Loans will be repaid in accordance with the conditions of the loan undertaking and / or financial instrument.

As at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022, Council has a single loan with QTC for the Forsayth Water Treatment Plant. The term of this loan is 20 years. Annual principal and interest payments amount to \$14,400 (in round terms). This loan will be discharged in calendar year 2025.

#### **4. REVIEW**

This policy will be reviewed each year with the adoption of the Budget.



# Etheridge Shire Council

<b>General Meeting</b>	17 May 2023
<b>Subject</b>	Walking Network Plan
<b>Classification</b>	Open
<b>Author</b>	Cheryl Portch - Community Development & Events Officer

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Georgetown Walking Network Plan

## RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council adopt the Georgetown Walking Network Plan as tabled.

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## BACKGROUND

Council received funding to develop a Walking Network Plan for Georgetown. Shepherd Services Pty Ltd were hired to create a plan through community & stakeholder's consultation and input. Council advertised for community feedback on Council's webpage and facebook pages as well as the Inform, however no feedback was received.

## LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

Aim No.4: Quality social infrastructure makes the shire a desirable place to live.

Outcome 4.1: An active community with a variety of recreational activities.

## BUDGET & RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

Council received \$30,000 from the Dept of Transport and Main Roads toward the total project budget of \$60,000.

## CONSULTATION

The project's methodology invited targeted consultation with Community, Stakeholders & Funding Body prior to the preparation of the initial draft.

The latest round of consultation was directed toward getting feedback on Council's prioritisation of walking paths, believing that stakeholder needs were identified and captured in the draft plan from the first round of targeted consultation.

Concurrently to community consultation, Council invited TMR's comment. TMR has made comment (essentially reiterating preservation of the State Road Infrastructure), which is / has been addressed in the Plan.

## LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Council is bound to the funding agreement. We have complied with same over the duration of the project and on target for its completion by the due date (30<sup>th</sup> June 2023).

## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

## RISK ASSESSMENT

CONSEQUENCE					
LIKELIHOOD*	Insignificant 1	Minor 2	Moderate 3	Major 4	Catastrophic 5
A (Almost certain)	H	H	E	E	E
B (Likely)	M	H	H	E	E
C (Possible)	L	M	H	E	E
D (Unlikely)	L	L	M	H	E
E (Rare)	L	L	M	H	H

OUTCOME

Low Risk

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**Report Prepared By:**

**Report Authorised By:**

Cheryl Portch

Ken Timms, Chief Executive Officer

Date: 11 May 2023

Date:

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# Georgetown Walking Network Plan



## Executive Summary

Walking is one of the most beneficial modes of transportation. A form of active transport, walking offers a broad range of health, environmental, economic and social benefits. Best suited for shorter trips, many people walk to local destinations such as shops, community facilities, parks or school. Walking is also the most common forms of physical activity in Queensland as it offers a low cost and accessible form of activity, enabling people to get active and moving.

The Queensland State Government believes every Queenslanders should have the opportunity to walk for transport, health and recreation. More people will walk when everyday destinations are connected by comfortable, direct, safe and accessible routes.

To achieve this, the State Government have developed Queensland's first walking strategy with 4 priority areas:

- Planning for walkable communities and places
- Building connected, comfortable and safe walking environments for all
- Encouraging more people to walk as part of their 'everyday'
- Working together to deliver for walking.

Council has developed the Georgetown Walking Network Plan based on extensive community engagement to ensure that the plan is practical and prioritised in a way that aligns with community priorities. The primary and secondary routes and priority projects that have been identified through the development of this plan will facilitate more people walking and getting moving, more often, in and around Georgetown.

The community engagement process provided an overwhelming view that improving the Georgetown River Walk would provide the greatest benefit to the community as this recreational facility provides the most attractive walking route in Georgetown. Due to the climate of Georgetown most walking occurs early morning and late evening for recreation, while walking does occur within the town these trips are shorter and focused around the CBD. These shorter trip are also more weather dependent and influenced by the wet season and extreme summer heat whereas the River Walk is used all year round by residents for recreational walking. The River Walk also provides connection to the Georgetown Pool, Gym and Sports Ground offering the community other opportunities to get active and improve their health and wellbeing.

A variety of other projects that will improve the availability of walking opportunities and improve pedestrian safety have also been identified that once delivered will transform the walking experience in Georgetown.

## Background

Etheridge Shire Council identified the need to improving waling infrastructure within Georgetown and sought funding though the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) to develop a Walking Network Plan (WNP) & Prioiritised Works Program (PWP). The development of the WNP & PWP would identify and prioritise the improvements in walking infrastructure within Georgetown and enable Council to progress towards achieving its objective to improve walking and active recreation opportunities for its community.

The development of the WNP & PWP is consistent with several strategies in Council's 2021-2025 Corporate Plan, including:

- Review and update the comprehensive asset management strategy to support the monitoring, maintenance, replacement and enhancement of council's parks, garden and recreational facilities.
- Enhance and improve the aesthetics of each town.
- Advocate for funding for additional sport and recreation infrastructure.
- Support community development to expand and meet the growing needs of the region through infrastructure, income diversification and advocacy.

## Objectives

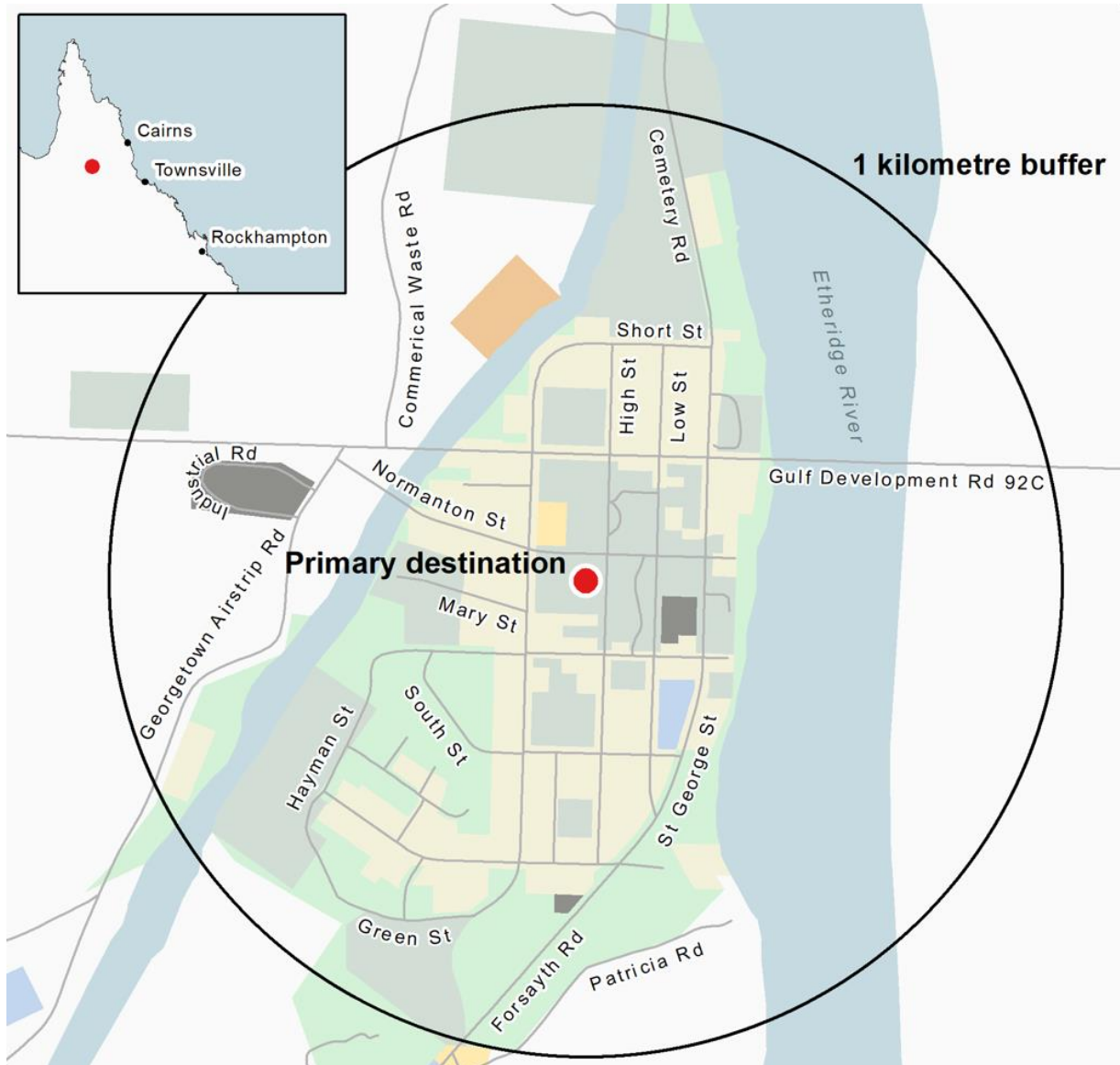
Council's objectives for walking and active recreation over the next 10 years are:

- To provide better access to active recreation, walking and cycling facilities.
- To provide a safe, connected, all weather pathway network suitable for all ages and abilities.
- To have walking and cycling as an easy choice, particularly for recreation, tourism and short transport trips.
- To develop a pathway network that improves access for visitors and promotes the natural amenity of Georgetown
- To deliver improved active recreation, walking and cycling facilities through partnerships and in a way that maximises the benefits to the community.

## Study Area

The study area for this project is the town of Georgetown located on the Etheridge River in Far North Queensland, Australia.

Figure 1 – Study Area



## About Georgetown

Georgetown is a town on the Etheridge River in Far North Queensland, Australia. The Gulf Developmental Road passes through the town, linking Cairns - 412 km to the east - and Normanton - 301 km to the west.

Georgetown is the administrative headquarters of the Shire of Etheridge, a local government area encompassing the nearby settlements of Mount Surprise, Forsayth and Einasleigh. At the 2021 census, Georgetown had a population of 215.

The Etheridge River was the site of a gold rush in the 1870s; the town of Georgetown was established on the site of the diggings. Originally known by the name Etheridge, the town's name was changed in 1871 to honour an early gold commissioner, Howard St George. By 1900 grazing had replaced gold mining as the region's primary source of income.

There are many interesting historical features in Georgetown, from the restored Shire Hall in St George Street (built in 1908 and restored in 1998), Savannah House, the restored ex-clerk of the Courts dwelling in the same street, the Masonic Temple, the Catholic Church (established in 1913), and the cemetery.

Georgetown is also home to the Ted Elliot Mineral Collection which was founded by the Etheridge Shire Council in early 2003. The collection is the work of one man and houses over 4500 mineral specimens. The centre also is an accredited Information centre and home to the 'Unearth Etheridge' display, showcasing the Shire's rich geographical and historical past.

The Etheridge Heritage Park has been developed in the centre of town and has a free electric BBQ amongst shaded trees with a modern public toilet block including a baby change station. There is also a signed walk around the town which is the 'Georgetown River Walk'. This walk is ideal to unwind or to take in our local flora and fauna and native bird life but requires improvement due to significant flood damage.

Georgetown hosts a number of regional country activities including a Camp Draft, Rodeo, Bush Races, Bushman's Ball, Debutante Ball, Various Fetes and Sporting Events.



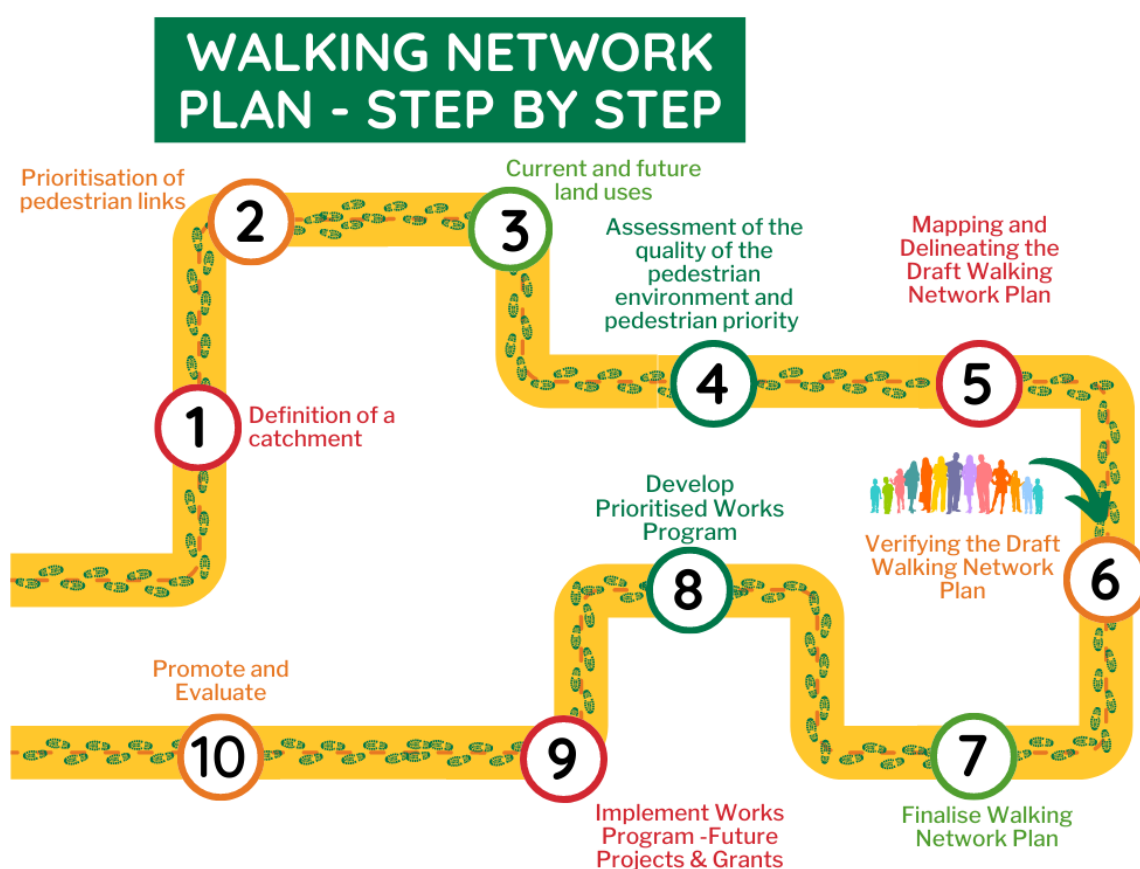
## Development of the Draft Walking Network Plan

The overarching objective of developing a WNP is to provide an improved pedestrian environment that encourages more people to walk for more often for exercise, recreation and short transport trips. The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) have provided guidance to support Councils to develop a WNP and PWP.

### Process

Development of a WNP requires consideration of a number of key steps. The process seeks to identify the most direct routes to connect people from their places of residence to a primary destination as well connecting people from other secondary destinations to the primary destination. Consideration of recreational walking opportunities, local factors such as climate and community feedback are also factored into the planning process to ensure that the plan identifies the routes that have the greatest potential to deliver on Council’s objectives and create the most benefit to the community. Figure 2 outlines the process used to create a WNP 7 PWP.

Figure 2 – WNP &PWP development process



## Primary Destination - Georgetown Primary Health Clinic (PHC)

The primary destination used to develop the Georgetown WNP is the Georgetown Health Clinic is located on Normanton Street. The clinic is the main health and medical service for Georgetown and surrounding areas. It delivers a number of community health services such as immunisations, complex care coordination, wound care and telehealth. The clinic also has limited emergency care facilities and a hospital based ambulance.

The Clinic is open Monday-Friday between 9:00am-12:00pm and 2:00pm-4:00pm and on weekends & Public Holidays between 10:00am-12:00pm.

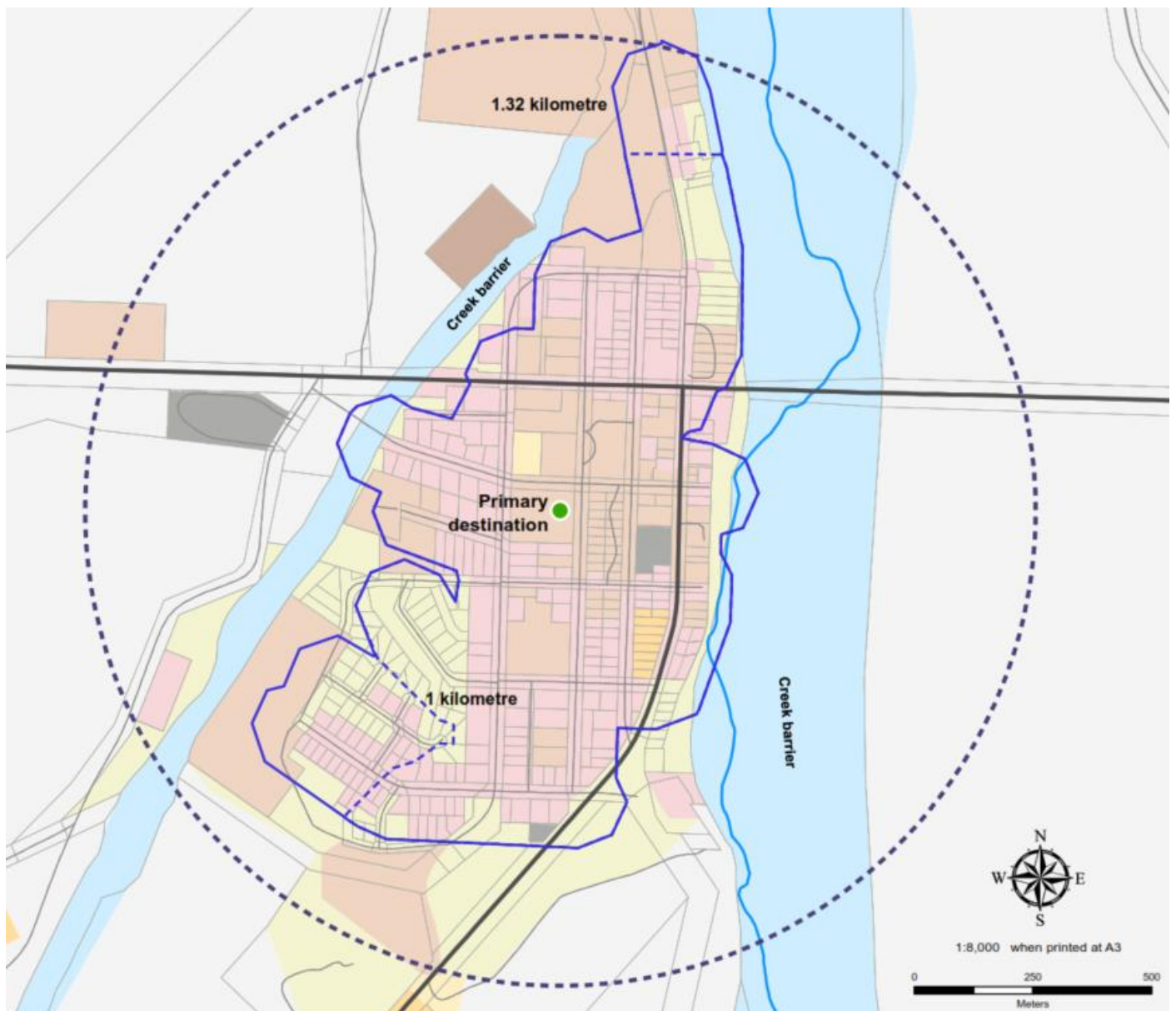
As the clinic is the only medical facility within town it sees significant visitations from locals and visitors to the region.

The central location of the PHC within Georgetown enabled improved walking opportunities to be considered throughout the entire township.

### Walkable Catchment

Mapping the walkable catchment identifies the likely catchment that people will walk to the primary destination from surrounding areas. International research shows that pedestrian trips for the purposes of transport are likely to extend up to 20 minutes (approximately 2 kilometers) to and from a destination. Beyond this distance the number of people who are willing to walk for transport decreases significantly. As Georgetown is a relatively compact rural town a 1 and 1.3km (maximum) catchment distance was used, see figure 3. The walking catchment includes the whole township and with the central location of the PHC all options to deliver of Council’s objectives for walking were considered in this project. The main walking barriers within the walkable catchments are the waterways that surround the township.

**Figure 3 Walkable Catchment of the Georgetown Primary Health Clinic including walking barriers.**



## Population Profile & Mapping

The population of Georgetown in the 2021 census was 215. There are a few vacant parcels of land within the township that could accommodate growth and beyond this there is land on the southern fringe to the current township which could support additional growth.

Council expects to see an increase in population as gold prospecting and mining grows. Laneway Resources has recently commenced a \$2.5m refurbishment of the Georgetown gold production plant. Planned expansion in the agriculture industry is expected to significantly reverse population numbers as the Shire's economic drivers grow and diversify.

Council also has developed a masterplan for an Independent Living Facility for the Aged consisting of 2-3 stages of 4-6 units per stage. This development is located on the southern fringe of town on lot 5SP206970 and connection of this future facility to the Primary Health Clinic and CBD is a high priority for Council and an essential part of this development.

The anticipated reopening of the Midway Roadhouse & Caravan Park (located on the Guld Developmental Road) will provide increased economic activity providing a base for tourists and workers throughout the year.

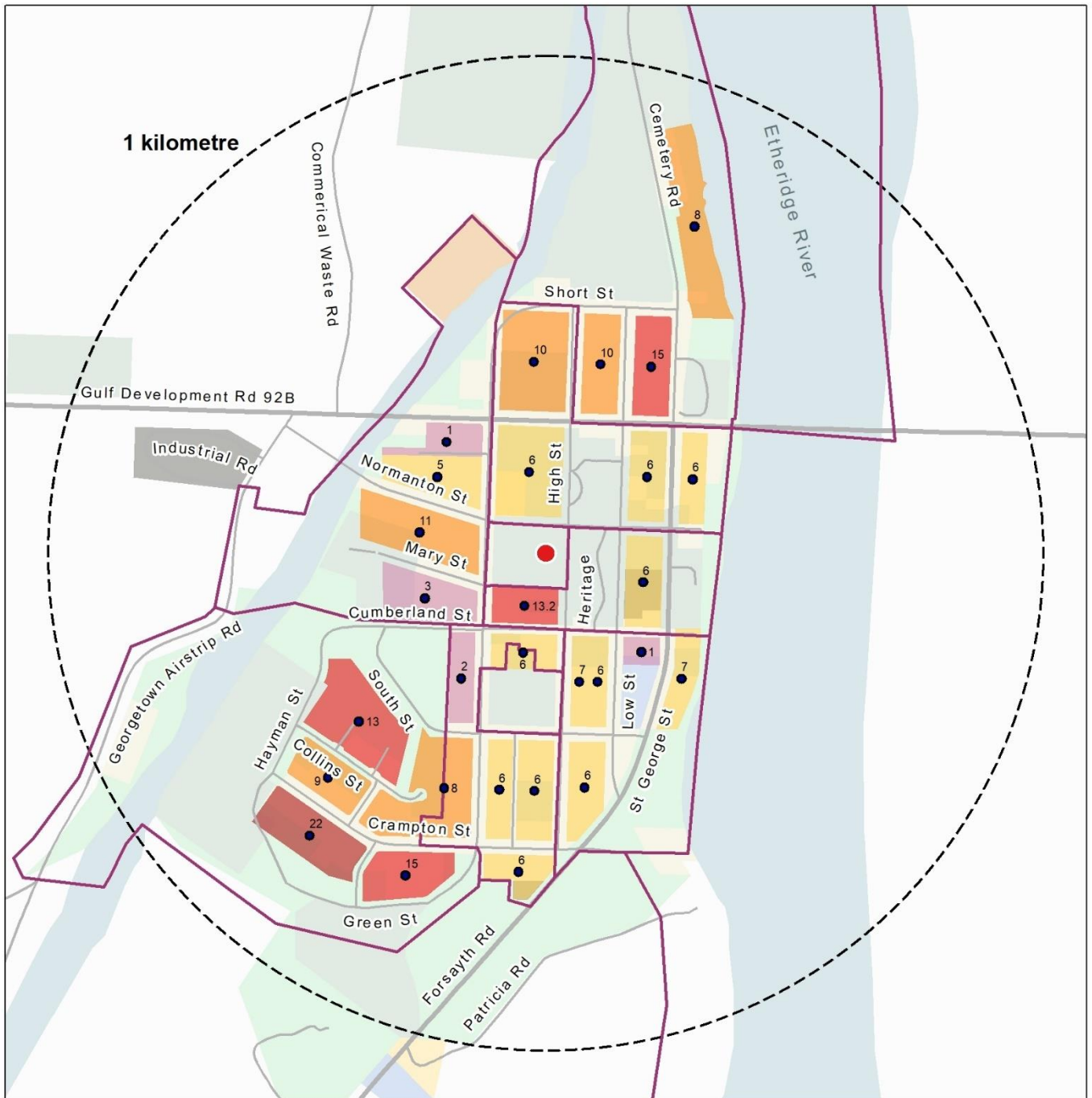
### Population Mesh Block Data

The 2021 Census data available for Georgetown is broken into nine mesh blocks as shown in Figure 4 and outlined in Figure 5. Mesh Blocks of this size are too big to generate trip data that would be useful for the analysis required in developing the WNP. More granular population mesh block data was created by using aerial imagery to count the number of dwellings within each Census mesh block and then distributing the Census mesh block population into the detailed mesh blocks. Where known outliers such as motels, hostels and other forms of housing that were known by Council to be above average the population data was adjusted to reflect this knowledge but remain consistent with the overall Census data. Detailed mesh blocks used for modelling are shown in figure 6.

**Figure 4 2021 Census Mesh Blocks and populations for Georgetown**

Census Mesh Block	Population
30249970000	33
30249980000	28
30249960000	21
30249910000	59
30249920000	34
30249930000	27
30249900000	0
30249950000	13
30249940000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>215</b>

Figure 5 –Population Mesh Blocks



Georgetown Walking Catchment and ABS Mesh Blocks

- Primary Destination
- ABS Mesh Blocks
- Mesh Block Centre Point
- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- 8 - 11
- 12 - 15
- 16 - 22
- 0 - 3
- 4 - 7



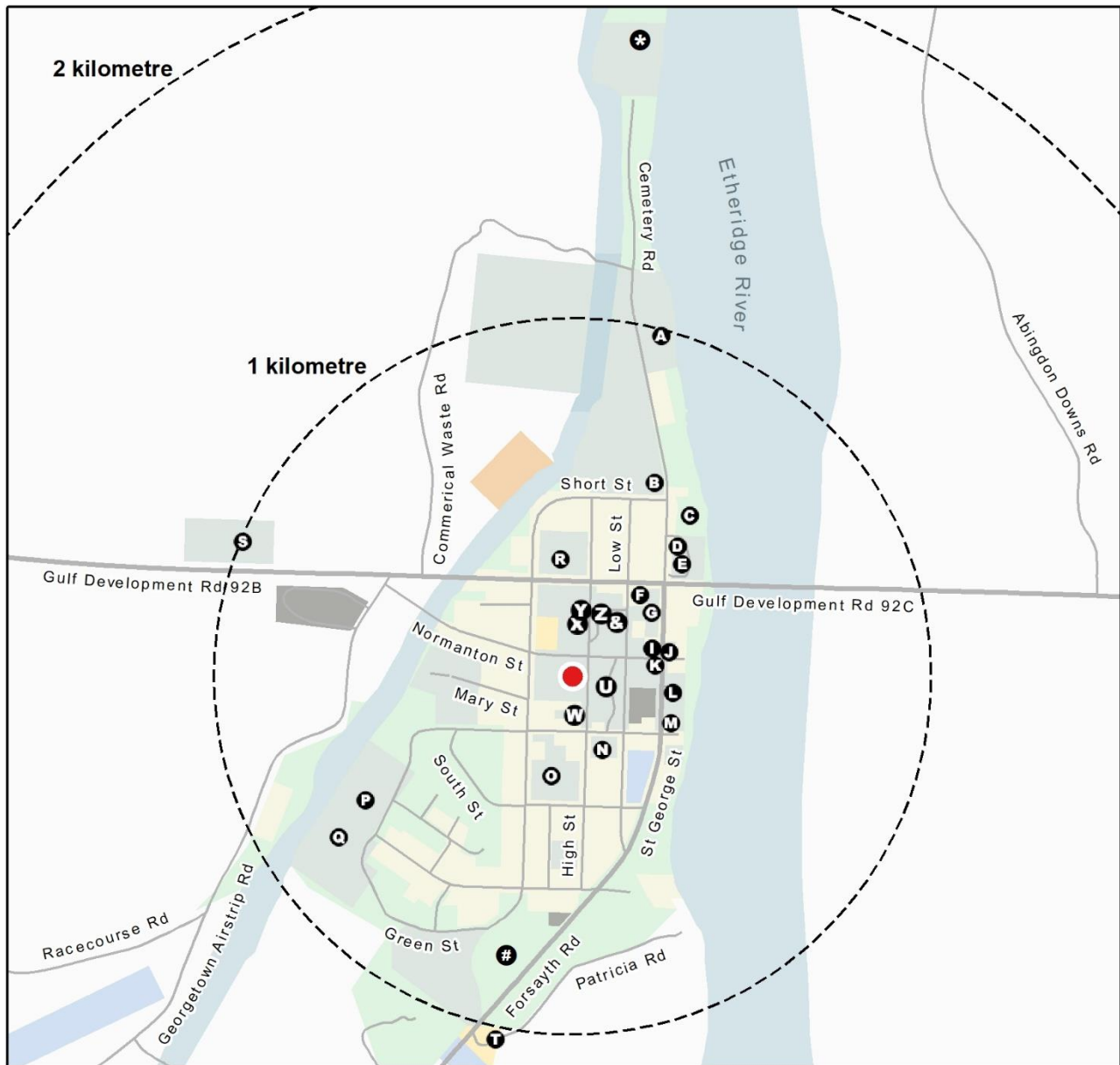
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© Australian Bureau of Statistics Mesh Blocks - 2021, accessed 28 March 2023. Land Use Mapping - Current, © State of Queensland (Department of Environment and Science) 2023.

## Secondary Destinations

Within Georgetown there are a number of secondary destinations that are attractors and trip generators for locals and visitors. The secondary destinations map shown in Figure 6 highlights all the secondary destinations within Georgetown. For the purpose of analysis trips between secondary destinations and the primary destination also included consideration of the interaction with the CBD. This approach was taken on the basis that the primary destination being a health clinic might not capture the highest number of walking trips and by including the CBD a more representative model would be produced.

**Figure 6 Map of Secondary Destinations**



### Georgetown Secondary Destinations

- |   |  |  |                                      |
|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| <b>A</b> Georgetown Golf Club                         | <b>I</b> Georgetown Rural Supplies                     | <b>P</b> Gregg Bethel Memorial Football Oval | <b>W</b> CWA                         |
| <b>B</b> Goldfields Caravan Park                      | <b>J</b> Georgetown Butcher                            | <b>Q</b> Rodeo & Campdraft Grounds           | <b>X</b> QGAP                        |
| <b>C</b> Georgetown Sports & Recreation Centre        | <b>K</b> Wenaru Hotel                                  | <b>R</b> Midway Roadhouse & Caravan Park     | <b>Y</b> Police                      |
| <b>D</b> Swimming Pool                                | <b>L</b> Coucil Chambers, Shire Hall, Public Amenities | <b>S</b> Latara Hotel Motel                  | <b>Z</b> Peace Monument Garden       |
| <b>E</b> Greens Park                                  | <b>M</b> Gulf Savannah NRM & NWRH                      | <b>T</b> Water Tower & Lookout               | <b>&amp;</b> TerrEstrial Centre      |
| <b>F</b> Travellers Tavern & Tyre Shop                | <b>N</b> Child Care, Student Hostel                    | <b>U</b> Heritage Park                       | <b>#</b> Future Independent Facility |
| <b>G</b> Roadhouse, Bendigo Bank, Post Office, Grocer | <b>O</b> Georgetown State School                       | <b>V</b> Primary Health Centre               | <b>*</b> Cemetery                    |

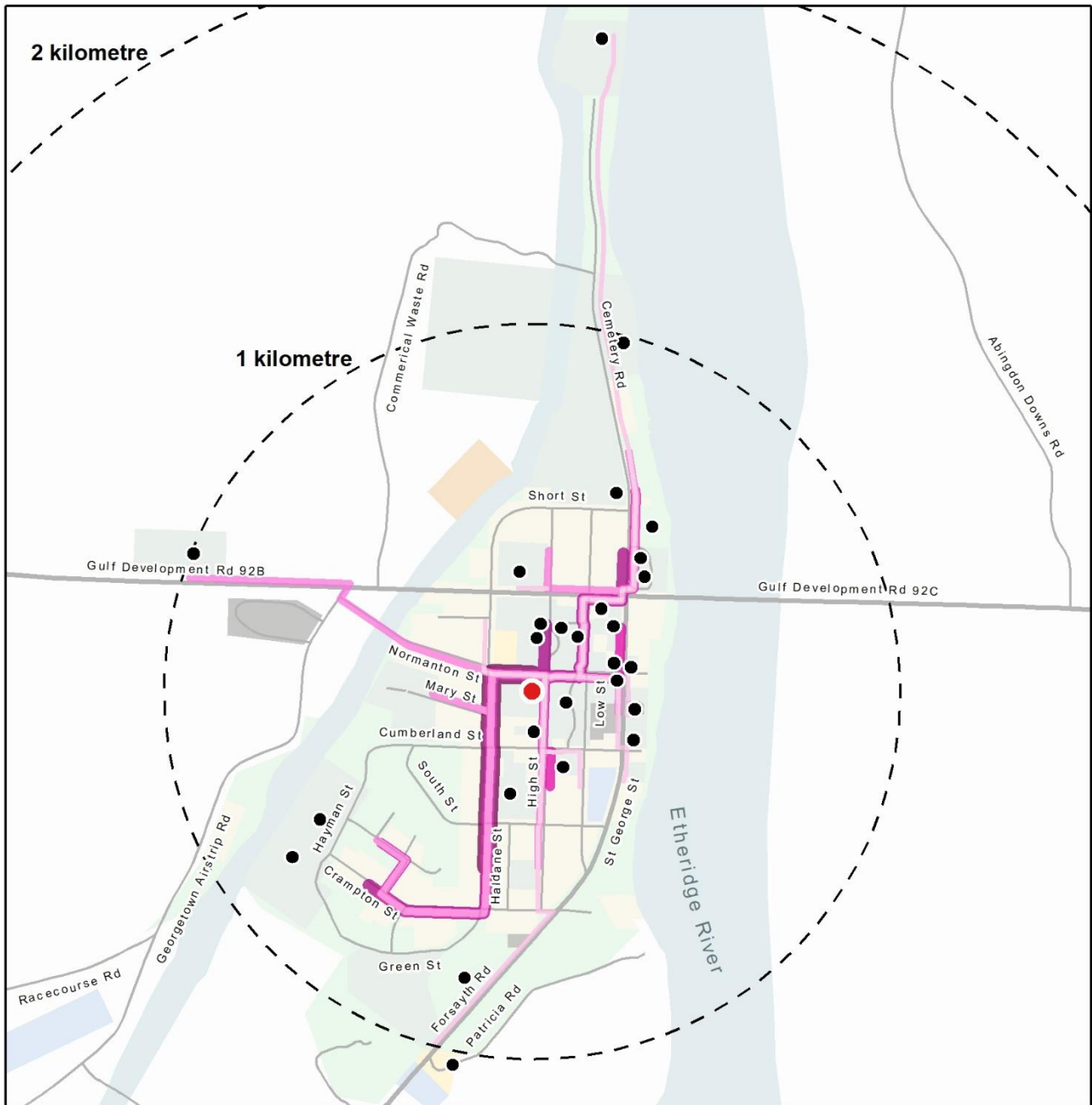


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## Shortest Route Mapping

The detailed population mapping and secondary destination mapping were used to inform spatial analysis using a Geographic Information System (GIS). This analysis mapped the trips between the population mesh block and secondary destinations to the primary destination. Figure 7 shows the results of this analysis which was used to inform stakeholder engagement and the identification of primary and secondary routes.

Figure 7 – Shortest Route Mapping



### Georgetown Shortest Routes

- |                         |            |          |
|-------------------------|------------|----------|
| ● Primary Destination   | Trip Count | 21 - 30  |
| ● Secondary Destination | 0 - 7      | 31 - 59  |
| — Major Road            | 8 - 20     | 60 - 108 |
| — Local Road            |            |          |



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## Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder Engagement was a key component in the development of the WNP and PNP. Council wanted to ensure that the recommendations of WNP & PNP were based on a systematic approach but were also practical and reflected the sentiments and priorities of the community. Ensuring that the final primary pathway network and priority projects would create infrastructure that will be valued and used by the community was considered to be critical.

The aims of the stakeholder engagement included:

- General promotion of the importance walking and getting active
- Understanding what can be done to get people in the community walking and moving more often
- Understanding how the Community currently perceive walking and potential future opportunities
- Understanding where the community feels unsafe when walking
- Assisting with the identification of the priority pathway network and project prioritisation process

Being a relatively small, well connected community with an ageing population a face to face engagement approach with primary stakeholder groups was considered the best way to generate interest in the WNP and gain the desired feedback. Many of Georgetown residents have lived in the town for many years and are very familiar with the walking environment and the history of the town.

### Stakeholders

Early in the project a stakeholder register was developed to ensure that a wide variety of feedback was sought from the community of Georgetown. Figure 8 details the list of stakeholders that were identified as well as whether they were primary or secondary stakeholders and the method of engagement that was used.

**Figure 8 – Stakeholder Register**

Stakeholder	Primary / Secondary	Method of Engagement
Georgetown Primary Health - staff	Primary	Face to face and review draft maps
Council Staff – key stakeholders. Works Manager	Primary	Face to face and teams. Review draft maps.
School Principal School P&C	Primary	Face to face and review draft maps P&C meeting – review draft maps
Etheridge Cares – aged care provider	Primary	Face to face and review draft maps
VIC staff	Primary	Face to face and review draft maps
General Community	Secondary	Information Flyer at Public Health Clinic
Little Gems Daycare	Primary	Face to face and review draft maps
Hostel	Primary	Face to face and review draft maps
Georgetown Progress Association	Primary	Phone Call – Review draft maps at Association Meeting
TMR	Primary	Email/MS Teams meeting

## Community Survey

Early in the project development an opportunity to promote the project and gather initial feedback was identified by Council. A lifelong learning session for seniors to improve their skills with technology was hosted by Council on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

Although the development of mapping and desktop analysis had only just commenced the opportunity to gain some early feedback was pursued. A simple flyer with some questions was produced and circulated at the event and also at other less formal community meetings both before and after the event. In total 10 responses were received.

This initial feedback assisted in being able to focus the field assessments and also informed the future engagement with the primary stakeholders.

## Stakeholder Feedback

The stakeholder engagement process was very successful. Interest and participation in the project was high and feedback was relatively consistent. 8 conversations were had and 10 written survey responses were received, many of the conversations were with representatives of groups/agencies which represented a significant portion of the community.

A workshop with Councillors and senior Council staff allowed for additional feedback into the walking network plan and included input regarding incorporation of Council's strategic priorities and community priorities based on feedback to Councillors.

In addition to face to face engagement a draft version of this report was provided for public comment with feedback incorporated into the final draft.

As a result of the engagement process stakeholder feedback was collated and displayed graphically in Figure 9. Highlights, Key Challenges and Key Opportunities that were identified by stakeholders are detailed below. A summary of feedback from individual stakeholders is located in Appendix 2.



**Figure 9 – Stakeholder Feedback**



**Highlights**

Generally feedback was consistent with the below themes being common:

- The prioritisation of recreational walking opportunities is important for tourists and locals. The River Walk is well used but requires improvement to make it more accessible and improve safety following recent flooding.
- The crossing of the Gulf Developmental Road is a key issue
- Connection from the PHC to Heritage Park and the CBD is important
- People reported that they will more likely walk for recreational purposes and to access recreational and social facilities (Golf Club and Latara Motel Restaurant) than walk to work or access services.
- There are a large number of families living in the southern end of town and plans to develop an independent living facility
- Burrs and goats head prickles – get stuck in shoes/bike tires meaning more paths are needed to encourage walking and cycling

**Key Challenges**

Key challenges that were identified by a number of stakeholders included:

- Wide roads widths create significant distances for pedestrians to cross with 15-20m road widths common
- Limited street lighting
- Vehicles speeding coming into town on the Forsayth Road
- Crossing grids on foot and walking across the road bridge to get to Latara (GDR)
- Interaction with heavy vehicles including swept paths of heavy vehicles (GDR and Forsayth Road)
- Existing pram ramps often don't have receiving ramps
- Limited parking controls signage or physical restriction to protect crossing locations (not a significant issue as streets are quiet most of the time)
- Limited shade trees in newer areas (opportunity to establish now for future)
- Burrs and goats head prickles

## Key Opportunities

Key opportunities that were identified by a number of stakeholders included:

- The River Walk is 5km an ideal length for recreational walking.
- The River Walk connects with Council's Pool, Gym Facility and Sports Grounds which collectively can provide a facility that facilitate the top 5 physical activities in Queensland.
- There is also the opportunity to develop an annual 5km, 10km and half marathon even using the Riverwalk Track. With the proximity of the Georgetown Pool and surrounding road network a triathlon based event could also prove popular.
- Generally wide and open verges with limited vegetation blockages will make construction of new pathways relatively simple and cost effective
- The road network is generally in a grid patten with good opportunity to provide connections and link with the River Walk
- Some significant shade trees in more established areas
- Safe community, relatively low speeds and traffic volumes (other than GDR and Forsayth Road)

## Department of Transport and Main Roads Feedback

The Gulf Developmental Road and the Forsayth Road that run through Georgetown are State Controlled Roads managed by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR). The TMR Cairns office provided input into the WNP relevant to the State Controlled Roads within the study area. Feedback provided included:

- A pedestrian refuge should be provided on the western and southern leg of the Gulf Developmental Road / Forsayth Road Intersection.
- Council should consider including a formalised connection to the Latara Motel via Normanton Street as part of their identification and assessment of routes to be included in the Georgetown Walking Network Plan.

TMR advice was welcomed and included into the network planning process.

## Georgetown River Walk

With studies demonstrating that walking for recreation is the most common reason people walk the Georgetown River Walk and access to this walk has been considered in a similar way to other secondary destinations. While the riverwalk encircles the town it was a key consideration of Council to ensure that this locally iconic walk is highlighted and accessible to the community and visitors to Georgetown. This walk was established in the early 2000s and featured wayfinding signage to direct locals and visitors around the 5km circuit.

The River Walk currently provides an attractive option for recreational walking however since its original construction much of the wayfinding signage has deteriorated and the track has suffered damage due to major flooding. The track is now predominantly a formed track of varying grade and cross section. Even in its current form the track is well used by locals and visitors as it offers a walking experience that is mostly well shaded with high degrees of natural amenity.

Feedback from stakeholder engagement indicated that developing the River Walk would contribute significantly to the overall health and wellbeing of the community by providing a safe and relaxing walking trail. Given the natural shading and visual amenity available on the River Walk it is considered that many people will use this route as part of other walking trips even though it may be longer than more direct alternatives. Identification of shorter walks within the River Walk circuit that allows pedestrians to get on and off the River Walk at more frequent intervals and connecting to the network of future paths will improve opportunities for all forms of walking.

Improving the River Walk and connectivity with Heritage Park exercise equipment will inspire activity with places and spaces that invite an active lifestyle.

Future opportunity exists to add interpretative signage for flora & fauna, as well as community art pieces which will contribute to tourist & visitor experience.

## Primary & Secondary Routes

Following the spatial analysis and community engagement the proposed pathway network was classified into 3 categories being: Primary, Secondary and Special – CBD. This categorisation allows Council to identify parts of the future pedestrian network that will benefit the greatest number of pedestrians.

Primary routes are those that generate regular and high levels of travel demand on a daily basis, such as to residential, retail, educational and commercial destinations as well as recreational routes with high usage. In identifying the primary network Council also considered the Principal Cycle Network (see appendix 3) which defines priorities for improved cycling infrastructure.

Secondary Routes will typically carry less pedestrians and mainly function to connect users to the primary network.

Special – CBD paths will typically see high numbers of pedestrians and while often functioning as part of the primary network also need to provide additional amenity and features due to their location within the CBD.

Figure 10 Primary and Secondary Routes



Georgetown Pathway Priorities

Legend

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| <span style="color: red;">●</span> Primary Destination | <b>Priority</b> |
| Major Roads  | Primary         |
| Local Roads  | Secondary       |
| Walking buffer   | CBD Special     |



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## Desired Level of Service

Council has developed a desired level of service for those routes identified as primary and secondary routes. The desired level of service shown in Figure 11 establishes an agreed standard of provision for the pedestrian environment. A hierarchical based approach has been used however variations of the levels of service may be need to meet specific project requirements. The identified standards have been used for the development of estimates in the PWP.

Council has previously undertaken a Master Plan for the main CBD area along St George St (Forsayth Road). Due to the more complex issues associated with a master planned street scape a classification of Special has used to identify sections of the pedestrian network that will require additional planning and design effort to accommodate the requirements of the Master Plan.

**Figure 11 – Desired Standard of Service for new pathways**

Hierarchy Classification	Pathway Standard	Other Features
<b>Primary</b>	2.5m concrete shared path*	Street Trees – one every 10m, Seating – every 250m (under trees), lighting on routes with high night usage. Wayfinding signage.
<b>Secondary</b>	2.0m concrete path	Street Trees – one every 20m, Seating – every 500m (under trees). Wayfinding signage directing users to primary pathways.
<b>Special – CBD</b>	Dependent on future master planning	Dependent on future master planning

\*The River Walk Path will be constructed within the waterway area of the Etheridge River. The path will follow the existing alignment and be constructed within the footprint of the of the current track. The current track has been subject to significant damage due to flooding and in some areas of the path erosion caused by flooding has already required relocation of the path. Due to the potential for scour a more robust construction standard will be required for the River Walk, see appendix 4.

## Priority Works Program

The walking network plan identified a total of 9.9km of new pathways and various other improvements to be made to walking facilities within Georgetown. In developing the Priority Works Program (PWP), it was considered critical by Council to place high importance on factors that are relevant to the community of Georgetown. Council’s focus is prioritise projects that will see more people walking and getting active more often.

A high level ranking was applied based on the criteria listed in Figure 12.

**Figure 12 Ranking Criteria**

Essential	Important	Non-essential/ Other Improvements
Safety related (footpath provision on streets classified as greater than Collector, crash, or hazardous location, speed limit reviews, lighting)	Works that encourage walking (crossings at desire lines, seating/street furniture/ de cluttering of path area)	Art installations
Accessibility (provides access for people with disability)	Wayfinding	
Missing links and crossings	Footpath widening	
Removal of trip hazards	Pavement upgrades for amenity; Street trees	

Each project was also assessed for its priority against other projects based on the criteria listed in figure 13.

**Figure 13 Priority Criteria**

Priority	Description
1	Essential and primary route; items raised by community
2	Essential and secondary route; important and primary route
3	Important, secondary route or non-essential
Other	Ongoing works or requiring significant works/ time/ cost to realise

## Timing

Each project Figure 14 identifies the timing categories that have been applied based on stakeholder feedback and priority. Timeframes are indicative and will be largely driven around available funding for each of the specific projects within the works program and local factors relevant at the time. The projects detailed in the PWP will be completed in accordance with Council’s Long Term Asset Management Plan and Long Term Financial Plan to ensure infrastructure and financial sustainability. Based on the total value of projects identified, Council will be unable to fund all projects detailed in the PWP in its current 10 year Long Term Financial Plan. The PWP provides a basis for prioritising walking infrastructure projects and to help leverage grant funding.

**Figure 14 Timing Categories**

Immediate	Short term (Priority 1)	Medium Term (Priority 2 & 3)	Long Term (All other)
within 12 months	1-3 years	3-5 years	5-10 years

## Other Improvement Opportunities

Council's existing pathway network is in relatively good condition however has a number of improvements that could be made in terms of pathway width, kerb ramp grades and tactile markings. The feedback from the stakeholder engagement process didn't highlight that any of these issues were stopping people from walking or creating significant concerns within the community. Based on this feedback it is recommended that Council upgrade pathway widths, pram ramps and tactile markers progressively as pathways require replacement due to age and poor condition. Should additional feedback on issues be provided from the community in future Council should consider isolated improvements if deemed necessary at the time.

## Estimated Cost Range

To provide Council and the community with a high level appreciation of the costs involved with each of the projects listed in the PWP cost ranges have been applied to each of the project based on Table 15. These cost estimates should be considered as high-level strategic cost estimates for the purposes of developing the program and require further investigation through the future phases of individual project development (planning to detailed design and construction phases) to refine the costs.

**Figure 15 Project Cost Ranges**

\$	< \$50,000
\$\$	\$50,000 - \$200,000
\$\$\$	\$200,000 - \$500,000
\$\$\$\$	\$500,000 - \$2,000,000
\$\$\$\$\$	> \$2,000,000

## Priority Projects

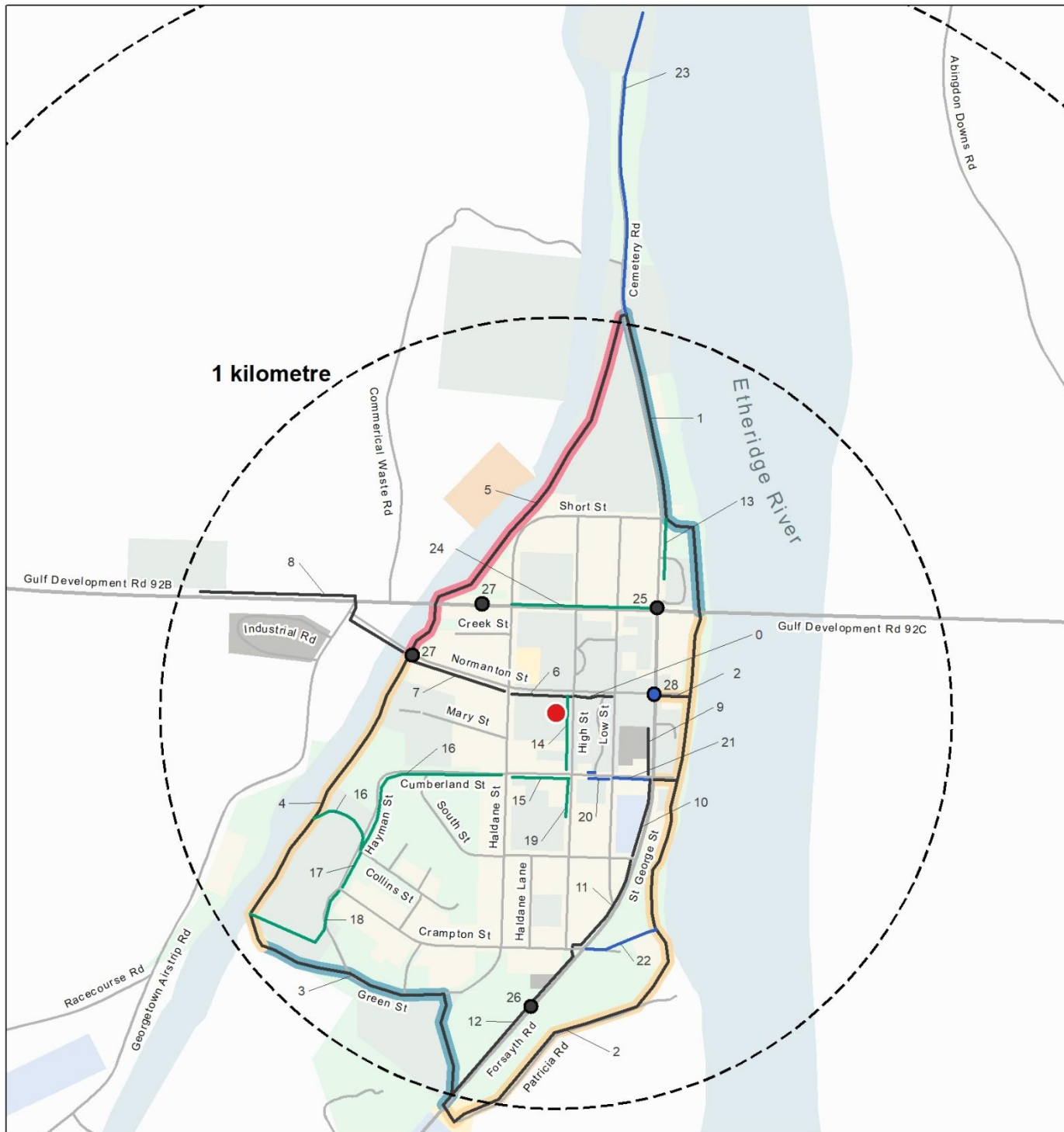
To develop the priority works program an assessment of each primary pathway and those secondary pathways that were highlighted during stakeholder engagement against the abovementioned criteria. A number of other improvement opportunities that were also identified were included in this assessment. This process resulted in the priority works program shown in table form in Figure 18 and mapped in Figure 19.

**Figure 18 –Priorities Works Program - Table**

Map Reference	Type	Location	Recommendation	Rank	Timing	Responsibility	WNP Route Designation	Cost Band
0	New Path	Normanton Street High St to Low St	Install new path to provide connection across northern end of Heritage Park. Include adjustmet to alignment of path from bridge to the north of Normanton St. Includes crossing of large open channel. Consider masterplan for area.	Essential	Short Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$
1	New Path	Riverwalk Greens Park to Golf Club	Install new shared path including scour protection to provide active recreation walking route. Includes connection through Greens Park and Under GDR.	Essential	Short Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$\$\$
2	New Path	Riverwalk Greens Park to Lookout	Install new shared path including scour protection to provide active recreation walking route. Including upgraded connection to Normanton St/St George St and Cumberland St/St George St.	Essential	Short Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$\$\$
3	New Path	Riverwalk, Rodeo Grounds to Lookout	Install new shared path including scour protection to provide active recreation walking route.	Essential	Short Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$\$\$
4	New Path	Riverwalk Normanton St to Rodeo Grounds	Install new shared path including scour protection to provide active recreation walking route.	Essential	Short Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$\$\$
5	New Path	Riverwalk Golf Club to Normanton Street	Install new shared path including scour protection to provide active recreation walking route.	Essential	Short Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$\$\$
6	New Path	Normanton Street Haldane St to High St	Install new shared path on southern side of Normanton St. Will impovre safety as motel guests wont need to use GDR road bridge.	Essential	Short Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$
7	New Path	Normanton Street Western Grid to Haldane St	Install new shared path on southern side of Normanton St. Will impovre safety as motel guests wont need to use GDR road bridge.	Essential	Short Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$
8	New Path	Lalara Motel to Riverwalk via Normanton St	Install new shared path on southern side of Normanton St. Will impovre safety as motel guests wont need to use GDR road bridge.	Essential	Short Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$\$\$
9	New Path	St George Street Existing Path to Cumberland St	Install shared path on western side of St Geogre Street (Forsayth Road). Timing to coincide with indepenet living project.	Essential	Short Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$
10	New Path	St George St Cumberland St to South St	Install shared path on western side of St Geogre Street (Forsayth Road). Timing to coincide with indepenet living project.	Essential	Short Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$
11	New Path	St George St South St to Crampton St	Install shared path on western side of St Geogre Street (Forsayth Road). Timing to coincide with indepenet living project.	Essential	Short Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$
12	New Path	St George St Crampton St to Riverwalk	Install shared path on western side of St Geogre Street (Forsayth Road). Timing to coincide with indepenet living project.	Essential	Short Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$\$
13	New Path	St George Street Greens Park to Short St	Install shared path on Eastern side of St George Street (Forsayth Road). Conneciton to River Walk pool and rec centre.	Essential	Medium Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$
14	New Path	High Street Normanton St to Cumberland St	Install shared path on southern side of High St.	Essential	Medium Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$
15	New Path	Cumberland St Haldane St to High St	Install shared path on southern side of Cumberland St.	Essential	Medium Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$
16	New Path	Cumberland St Haldane St to Collins St	Install shared path on southern side of Cumberland St.	Essential	Medium Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$\$
17	New Path	Hayman St Collins St to Crampton St	Install shared path on western side of Hayman St.	Essential	Medium Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$\$
18	New Path	Hayman St Crampton St to Riverwalk	Install shared path on western side of Hayman St.	Essential	Medium Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$\$
19	New Path	High Street Cumberland St to Existing Path	Install shared path on western side of High St.	Essential	Medium Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$
20	New Path	Cumberland St Existing Path to Low St	Install shared path on southern side of Cumberland St.	Essential	Long Term	ESC	Primary	\$
21	New Path	Cumberland St Low St to St George St	Install shared path on southern side of Cumberland St.	Essential	Long Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$
22	New Path	Crampton St Riverwalk to St George St	Install shared path on northern side of Crampton St.	Essential	Long Term	ESC	Primary	\$\$
23	New Path	Connection to Geogertown Cemetry	Install path on easternside of Cemetry Road	Important	Long Term	ESC	Secondary	\$\$\$\$
24	New Path	Connection to Midway Roadhouse & Caravan Park	Install path on northern side of GDR. Including drainage modifications. Includes small section on southern side od GDR near Traverns Tyre Shop.	Important	Medium Term		Secondary	\$\$\$
25	Crossing Improvement s	Crossing Imporvements - Gulf Developmental Road (GDR)	Install blister islands and pedestrian refuge on GDR. Includes lighting.	Essential		TMR	Primary	\$\$
26	Speed Management	Forsayth Road	Speed monitoring and enforcement. Consider Vechicle Activtated Speed Sign	Essential	Short Term	TMR/QPS	Primary	\$
27	Hazard Removal	Remove Grids (Normanton Street and GDR)	Remove redundant cattle grids and supporting infrastructure.	Essential	Short Term	ESC/TMR	Primary	\$
	Upgrade to Existing Assets	Upgrade pram ramps	Progressively upgrade pram ramps as renewals are required to current standards or as specific issues are identified by the community.	Essential	Medium Term	ESC	Various	\$
	Lighting Provision	Lighting imporvemets - Lalara, Golf Club and CBD	Install route lighting to key destinations that are commonly visited by community at night.	Essential	Medium Term	ESC/TMR	Primary	\$\$\$
	Signage	Way finding signage	Install wayfinding signage throughout pathway network to identify key routes and desitinations.	Important	Medium Term	ESC	Primary	\$
28	Upgrade to Exisitng Assets	CBD paths	Upgrade to CBD paths, pram ramps and lighting as part of CBD masterplan upgrades.	Important	Long Term	ESC/TMR	Primary	\$\$\$\$
	Investigation	DDA improvements	Consider increased provision of DDA parking, pramp ramps at key locations.	Essential	Medium Term	ESC	Various	\$
	Upgrade to Existing Assets	Street Trees	Install street trees as part of new/renewals. Encourage appropriate species planting by locals.	Important	Long Term	ESC	Various	\$



Figure 18 –Priorities Works Program - Map



### Georgetown Order of Pathway Priorities

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <span style="color: red;">●</span> Primary Destination   | <b>Priority Works Program</b>  | <span style="color: green;">—</span> Medium Term |
| <span style="border-bottom: 1px solid grey; width: 20px; display: inline-block;"></span> Major Roads             | <span style="color: black;">●</span> Short Term  | <span style="color: blue;">—</span> Long Term    |
| <span style="border-bottom: 1px solid lightgrey; width: 20px; display: inline-block;"></span> Local Roads        | <span style="color: blue;">●</span> Long Term  |  |
| <span style="border: 1px dashed black; width: 20px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span> Walking buffer | <span style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 20px; display: inline-block;"></span> Short Term |  |



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## Detailed Prioritisation - Multi-Criteria Analysis

As many of the projects in the PWP were grouped into the high level priority categories Multi Criteria Analysis (MCA) was adopted to provide more granular prioritisation. The criteria and weightings used in the analysis are shown in Figure 16 and were developed to align with the objectives of the project. The priorities will be used by Council to provide general guidance on the order of the implementation of the projects listed in this PWP. It should be noted that these priorities are based on a point in time assessment and will be subject to change over time due to the changing priorities within the community, emerging issues and opportunities and changes to Council's strategic objectives.

**Figure 16 Multi Criteria Analysis Criteria and Weightings**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
Facilitation of improved recreational walking opportunities	20%
Alignment with future planning / strategic initiatives	20%
Community Feedback	25%
Connecting to Primary Destination	10%
Facilitation of Cycling	10%
Facilitation of Active Recreation	10%
Amenity of Route	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Results of the detailed MCA assessment are provided in Appendix 1.

## Funding

With the adoption of this WNP and PWP Council will be in a position to direct any external funding as well as its own upgrade funding towards the priorities identified in this plan. Upon making funding applications Council should review the estimates in the PWP to reflect the time that has elapsed since the adoption of the PWP to reflect increases in market costs and other price rises relevant to the project as well as including information that has become available through the project planning and design phase.

## Appendices

### Appendix 1 – Detailed Project Prioritisation

Map Reference	Type	Location	Facilitation of improved recreational walking	Alignment with future planning / strategic initiatives	Community Feedback Score	Connecting linkage to Primary Destination	Facilitation of Cycling	Facilitation of Active Recreation	Amenity of Route	Priority Score
0	New Path	Normanton Street High St to Low St	5	5	5	5	3	5	4	4.75
1	New Path	Riverwalk Greens Park to Golf Club	5	5	5	2	5	5	5	4.7
2	New Path	Riverwalk Greens Park to Lookout	5	5	5	2	5	5	5	4.7
3	New Path	Riverwalk, Rodeo Grounds to Lookout	5	5	5	2	5	5	5	4.7
4	New Path	Riverwalk Normanton St to Rodeo Grounds	5	5	5	2	5	5	5	4.7
5	New Path	Riverwalk Golf Club to Normanton Street	5	5	5	2	5	5	5	4.7
6	New Path	Normanton Street Haldane St to High St	5	5	5	5	3	4	3	4.6
7	New Path	Normanton Street Western Grid to Haldane St	5	5	5	4	4	4	3	4.6
8	New Path	Latara Motel to Riverwalk via Normanton St	3	5	5	5	3	3	4	4.15
9	New Path	St George Street Existing Path to Cumberland St	2	5	5	4	5	4	3	4.1
10	New Path	St George St Cumberland St to South St	2	5	5	4	5	4	3	4.1
11	New Path	St George St South St to Crampton St	2	5	5	4	4	4	3	4
12	New Path	St George St Crampton St to Riverwalk	2	5	5	4	4	4	3	4
13	New Path	St George Street Greens Park to Short St	2	3	5	3	5	4	3	3.6
14	New Path	High Street Normanton St to Cumberland St	2	3	4	5	4	5	3	3.55
15	New Path	Cumberland St Haldane St to High St	2	4	4	2	5	3	3	3.35
16	New Path	Cumberland St Haldane St to Collins St	2	4	4	2	5	3	3	3.35
17	New Path	Hayman St Collins St to Crampton St	2	4	4	2	5	3	3	3.35
18	New Path	Hayman St Crampton St to Riverwalk	2	4	4	2	5	3	3	3.35
19	New Path	High Street Cumberland St to Existing Path	2	3	4	3	4	5	3	3.35
20	New Path	Cumberland St Existing Path to Low St	2	4	4	3	2	2	3	3.05
21	New Path	Cumberland St Low St to St George St	2	4	4	3	2	2	3	3.05
22	New Path	Crampton St Riverwalk to St George St	3	3	3	2	2	4	4	2.95
23	New Path	Connection to Georegtown Cemetry	2	2	4	1	2	2	5	2.55
24	New Path	Connection to Midway Roadhouse & Caravan Park	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	2.3

## Appendix 2 – Stakeholder Feedback

### Georgetown Primary Health Clinic

Considers that many visitors to the clinic will still likely drive with connection to CBD likely to create some more visits by people on foot. Riverwalk would provide greatest likelihood of getting more people walking more of the time.

### Etheridge Cares

Highway crossing a priority, Golf Club busy on Friday night – no street lights, River Walk built by Progress Association, damaged after floods, still well used – great recreational walk, Latara – only restaurant in town popular with locals difficult to walk to due to grid, bridge, no path, walking to lookout popular for recreational walking, Lots of truck movements on southern side or rural supplies, path in front of pub could be concreted, crossing of St George St – commonly between pub and Council office, lots of kids live on southern end of town.

### Georgetown State School

Main walking activities to pool and sports oval (school sports oval of very low quality) for school activities. Highway crossing is used when going to pool. River Walk is a popular recreational walk used by staff and students.

### Georgetown Hostel

Between 7 and 14 children. Often go walking to the pool and sports grounds. Walk via Terrestrial Centre, path near bridge could be adjusted, corner near servo limited room, issues with prickles, no one rides bikes because of constant flat tyres. Road through Heritage Park used to be closed, not causing issues.

### Little Gems Daycare

Take children for walks to the park and around town, use 2 strollers where there are no paths walk on the road, better connection to terrestrial center would be advantageous, 10-15 children problems with prickles, walk to greens park for morning tea – highway crossing a challenge. Path widths ok for prams.

### Terrestrial / Visitor Information Centre

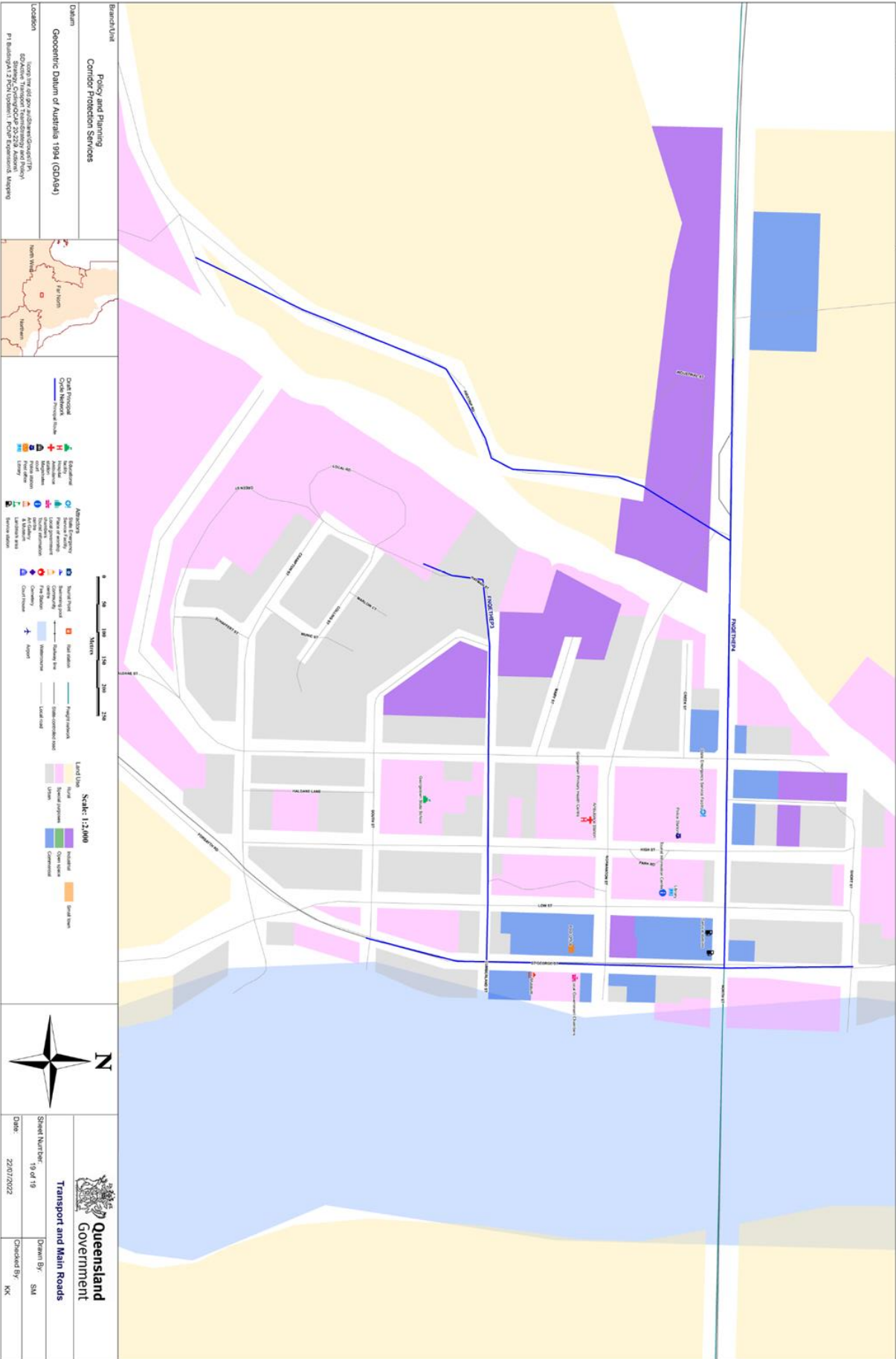
17000 visitors per year, water tower is a popular walk, access from Centre to toilets in Heritage Park is important as well as signage, there is significant demand from tourists for the River Walk which would benefit from an upgrade as well as improved wayfinding signage and interpretive signage (eg tree species)

### Georgetown Progress Association

River walk and crossing of the GDR are main priorities. Improving access to other sporting and recreational centers is important to help get people out and about.

# Appendix 3 - Georgetown Principal Cycle Network Plan

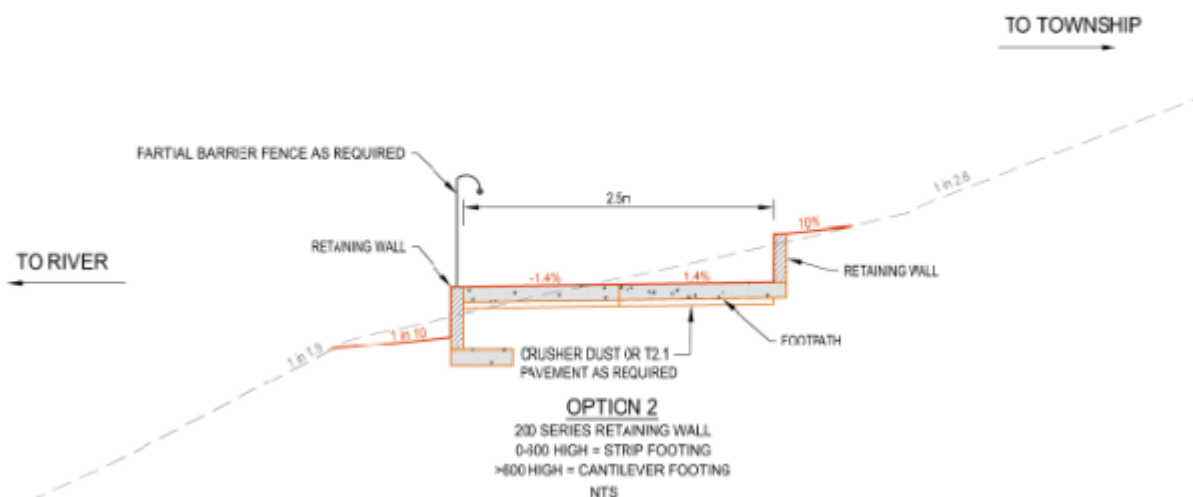
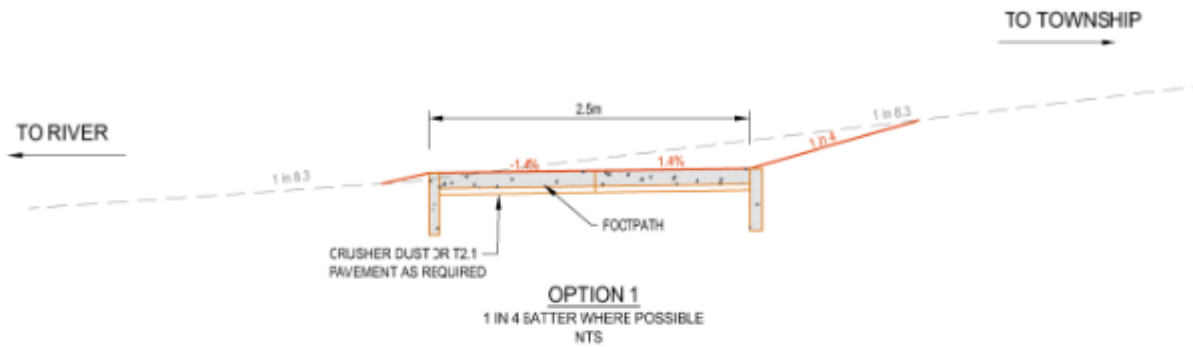
## Georgetown Township Principal Cycle Network Plan Workshop - Far North Queensland



## Appendix 4 - Riverwalk Construction Standard - Concept Plan

To reduce the likelihood of damage to the River Walk pathways it is proposed that cut off walls be installed and earth stabilization matting be installed either side of the path to further reduce the likelihood of erosion. Backfilling along either side of the path should be undertaken with material with a high clay content to encourage moisture retention and grass growth. Due to the nature of local soils, river flow velocities and grass die off during the dry season inspections and repair of damage will be required following each flood event.

The plan below is a concept level plan and additional investigation, planning, survey and design will be required.





# Etheridge Shire Council

## DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

### Briefing Report

#### 1 Update

Welcome to my May Briefing Report.

#### 2 Operational Plan Matters

The Operational Plan requires a number of long-term plans to be developed across most asset classes, as well as a long term capital works plan that brings these plans together. Works has commenced on these plans and will soon require Council input to finalise.

#### 3 Emmerging Issues

The Genex Hydro and Genex Wind projects are both needing access to site for oversize loads. At this stage Council has denied access to Kidston via the Forsayth - Einasleigh Road, so both projects are looking to utilize the Gregory Development Road from the Oasis. Genex Hydro requires access in July 2023 whereas Genex Wind require continual access through-out the dry of 2024. Officers will continue to work with both parties to reach an equitable solution.

#### 4 Projects

##### Charleston Dam

The Charleston Dam Project continues.

- Fish Ladder
  - DAF have given provisional approval for Council to proceed with an amendment to the original approval for the fish ladder, this opens the way for the design process to proceed.
- Dam Certification
  - The dam is yet to be fully certified. GHD have provided the completion report which identifies a number of issues that need to be addressed before they can certify the dam. A meeting with DAF, GHD and Council Officers is suggested to develop a clear plan to resolve all issues.
- Water main to Recreation Area
  - The new water main to the tanks is near complete but cannot be progressed until the under-boring of Forsayth Road and the cemetery entrance have been completed. The contractor has not been able to lock-in a date at this time.
- Fencing
  - Some fencing work remains to be completed. This will occur shortly, and all gates will then be locked. The security compound fence at the tank site has been completed, some additional cattle fencing will tie the security fence into existing fences.
- Shed at Tank Site
  - The shed at the tank site is nearing completion.
- Access Road
  - The access road has been graded form Forsayth Road through to the spillway.

##### TMR

Work on the short section of the GDR (between the sections completed last year) has commenced. Preparation is well underway for the next 5.0km section of the Kennedy Development Road, the hand-over of site possession from the TMR is tentatively lock-in for 20 June 20203.

##### Rural Addressing

Letters to impacted residents are being prepared that will explain the Rural Addressing process, the property's proposed new address and the proposed location of the sign for the property. Materials to complete the signage are

also being ordered. Property owners will be given 3 weeks to raise any concerns regarding their address and the location of the marker, once these are received and any necessary adjustments made, the markers will be installed. Once installation is complete, all relevant agencies will be informed, and all impacted residents will be advised that the system is operational and they should now only use their new rural address for all correspondence.

## 5 Calendar of Events

### Over the past month

- |         |            |   |
|---------|------------|---|
| • 11-04 | Georgetown | Engineering Services Team meeting                 |
| • 25-04 | Georgetown | Road User Agreement meeting with Savannah Gold    |
| • 27-04 | Georgetown | EMT   |
| • 02-05 | Georgetown | 2023 Flood – Pre-Delivery Planning with Shepherds |
| • 09-05 | Cairns     | FNQRRTG   |

### Next Month

- |         |           |                           |
|---------|-----------|---------------------------|
| • 16-05 | Gilberton | Lyn French re road issues |
|---------|-----------|---------------------------|

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Alan Clark  
Director Engineering Services





# Etheridge Shire Council

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER Briefing Report

### 1 Update

Welcome to my May "Briefing" Report.

The season has changed and now it is down to business.

Tourism numbers are picking up, slowly and this can possibly be linked to the big wet we had this year and the travelers are shying off.

Flood Damage wise, ESC has put in a claim for approximately \$56mil, so the pressure is on to have it completed by June 2025.

Overnight the Federal Budget was released and there's not much to cheer about. I will have more comment on this once an in-depth analysis has been done.

### 2 Operational Plan Matters

Operationally Council is progressing well through the strategies set by Council and Management have acknowledged the project priorities identified by Council at a recent Workshop.

Special projects are still being managed as follows.

1. Robert Jaggard
  - a. Housing (Independent Living and Staff housing, Etc.)
2. Alan Clark
  - a. I secured the services of Alan as Council's Director Engineering Services until December this year
  - b. This allows ESC to bed down some projects, but also sees an opportunity to put in place as outlined in the Operational Plan.

### 3 Emerging Issues

There have been some holdups with land tenure arrangements with regard to Charleston Dam that need to be discussed at the meeting.

### 4 Projects

I am currently working on the following projects, and if you have any comments do not hesitate to ask.

- **Charleston Dam – Alan Clark**
  - Boundary fencing is nearing completion.
  - Fence around the compound is all but finished, now for the storage shed
  - Alterations of land tenure has Native Title considerations.
  - There are now new regulations with regard to the EAP
- **QRA Flood Damage – Gravel Pits**
  - Council is currently working through the new arrangements for ILUA's for gravel pits and other issues.
- **Asset Management - Road**
  - Currently the DES-Director Engineering Services is dealing with this report and should have it to a Council Meeting soon.
- **Developments**
  - Genex
    - Advice from the Coordinator General of a proposal for a Wind Farm
    - Powerlink approval has been deemed approved
  - Finnigan's Rest
    - Proposed commercial use at Charleston Dam – pending a formal request
  - Quartz Mine
  - Industrial Estate

- **Tourism Master Plan**
  - Funded projects
    - Master Plan – Totems, Entrance Signs and Pavilions
    - Sustainability Certification – presentation at the Council Meeting
- **Economic Development Plan**
  - Status of an Economic Development Strategy
    - Working with State Development to develop a new Strategy for the shire.
- **Rodeo Grounds – Georgetown**
  - Renouncing their lease
  - Correspondence attached
- **Gulf Stockman’s Challenge Club Inc.**
  - Advising of inception and requesting support
  - Correspondence attached
- **Land use issue**
  - Correspondence attached.
- **Budget**
  - As per item in the information section

## 5 Calendar of Events

### Over the past month

- |                                   |             |                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| • 20 <sup>th</sup>                | Mt Surprise | Mt Surprise Water   |
| • 21 <sup>st</sup>                | Teams       | Economic Strategy   |
| • 24 <sup>th</sup>                | Teams       | Genex / TMR roads   |
| • 25 <sup>th</sup>                | G’Town      | Anzac Day           |
| • 26 <sup>th</sup>                | Board Room  | Councillor Workshop |
| • 27 <sup>th</sup>                | CEO Office  | EMT meeting         |
| • 27 <sup>th</sup>                | Teams       | Local Housing Plan  |
| • 1 <sup>st</sup>                 | Labour Day  |                     |
| • 2 <sup>nd</sup>                 | Teams       | ALMA Board Meeting  |
| • 2 <sup>nd</sup>                 | Teams       | QRA Meeting         |
| • 3 <sup>rd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> | Hughenden   | NWQROC Meeting      |
| • 5 <sup>th</sup>                 | Board Room  | Councillor Workshop |
| • 5 <sup>th</sup>                 | Board Room  | Special Meeting     |
| • 10 <sup>th</sup>                | Teams       | DDMG Meeting        |
| • 11 <sup>th</sup>                | Teams       | Genex / OCG roads   |
| • 12 <sup>th</sup>                | Cairns      | PSM                 |
| • 17 <sup>th</sup>                | Board Room  | Council Meeting     |

### Next month

- |                                     |            |                   |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| • 18 <sup>th</sup>                  | Board Room | EMT Meeting       |
| • 20 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup>  | Bali       | Annual leave      |
| • 22 <sup>nd</sup> 26 <sup>th</sup> | Council    | External Auditors |
| • 1 <sup>st</sup>                   | Cairns     | FNQROC            |
| • 2 <sup>nd</sup>                   | Teams      | NWQROC            |
| • 7 <sup>th</sup>                   | Board Room | Budget Workshop   |
| • 14 <sup>th</sup>                  | Board Room | Budget Workshop   |
| • 21 <sup>st</sup>                  | Board Room | Council Meeting   |

## 6 Other

Others.

Ken Timms PSM  
CHIEF EXECUTICE OFFICER

Etheridge Shire Council

Georgetown

24/03/2023

To the CEO, Councillors and Mayor of the Etheridge Shire Council.

After discussions with our members, we, as the representatives of the Committee of the Georgetown Horse and Pony Club Inc, wish to renounce our Clubs name on the lease agreement for the Campdraft and Rodeo grounds. The Club is covered for public liability under our affiliation with the Australian Campdraft Association only for events and some associated days, we do not have cover for public liability for the calendar days outside of these times. The committee has agreed that this arrangement leaves the club and its members open to a lot of risk and therefore we would like to please request/offer the council to take the lease of the grounds back into council's name, so that this issue may be rectified.

We look forward to working with council in developing and progressing the grounds in the future.

Yours Sincerely,



Glen Connolly

President

Georgetown Horse & Pony Club Inc

Committee



Timina Le Brocq

Secretary

Georgetown Horse & Pony Club Inc

Committee

ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL GEORGETOWN
31 MAR 2023
RECEIVED
Action <u>DCS</u>
FYI <u>CEO</u>
Dist _____
File _____
Doc _____

17/04/2023

The Chief Executive Officer  
Etheridge Shire Council  
PO Box 12  
GEORGETOWN QLD 4871

Dear Sir,

Re: GULF STOCKMANS CHALLENGE CLUB INC

It is with great excitement that I formally introduce a newly incorporated sporting club to the Etheridge Shire the "Gulf Stockmans Challenge Club Inc." Stockmans Challenges are a unique Australian sport designed to commemorate the Australian Stockmans horsemanship skills. A Stockmans Challenge event consists of a dry work pattern and cattle work phase.

I founded this club with the vision of bringing a challenge to our region and to promote and improve the horsemanship skills of our community through the hosting of training days, clinics and having an affiliated Stockmans Challenge. I have held an official meeting with interested community members and we have formed a committee and I have just received our Certificate of Incorporation. I have made contact with the Georgetown Campdraft and Rodeo Committees and they are happy for us to use the grounds and I am seeking Council approval for the same. We would be affiliated with the Australian Stockmans Challenge Association for our insurance which will cover any of the events we intend to hold at the grounds.

As we are a newly formed club we are in need of financial help and were hoping that Council may have funding available that we may be able to apply for. Initial expenses would be paying insurance and Affiliation to the Australian Stockmans Challenge Association and I would like to host a "welcome/come and try" day for interested adults and children.

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Stockmans Challenges is a fast growing sport and are now a modern day tribute to the stockmen and women of the years gone by, an acknowledgement of the skills required to work cattle in the bush. This is a part of our Etheridge Shire heritage which our club intends to encourage and grow with the vision of hosting an event such as Cloncurry that our Community can be proud of.

Thank you so much for your time and please feel free to contact me with anything further you would like to discuss.

Regards



Shelly Taylor  
Secretary  
Gulf Stockmans Challenge Club Inc.  
Coralat Station  
Mt Surprise Qld 4871  
Ph. 40625503  
0418180614

14/5/23

To Ceo Ken Timms, Mayor Brian Hughes, and all Councillors of Etheridge shire council.

It is with great regret that we have to put pen to paper again. We have been coming to Georgetown on and off for quite some years now. We invested in 2 blocks here approximately 2014/2015 . When we purchased these blocks we were told by the then Ceo that all blocks adjacent and across from us were residential and or council owned and would not be sold. SINCE THE BUILDING OF OUR HOME WHICH WAS BUILT TO COUNCIL REGULATIONS AND SPECIFICATIONS, there has been no regard as to what happens around us. We are currently living in what seems to be an industrial area. We have been here for 2 weeks and have had over the Easter period again 3 years running nothing but disregard by our neighbour's to do nothing but industrial work over the Easter period, this includes good Friday grinding and oxy cutting of side tippers, same Saturday , trucks coming and going constantly. Easter Monday the neighbor checking the side tippers with piercing noise at 7 pm, plus additional industrial work across the road. We have photos and video clips relating to this which we will hold onto in case of legal reasons. We have approached you previously and are very disappointed that if anything it seems to be getting worse. Our neighbour at 9 Hayman St has interest/work for the mine at agate creek and I believe in charge of trucks and contracts to the mine and are using they're home as a depot for truck drivers to leave they're tyres and dollies at they're convenience here. So now we have trucks coming and going totally around us. I am sure none of you have witnessed this because if you had or it occurred near your residences you would have done something about it. We are very disappointed and dismayed at what is being allowed to occur down this end of town. For your reference we understand that machinery and trucks are a big part of this rural environment, but we wondering why if anything after our last discussion no regard is being given to our situation.

#### EXAMPLE 1

Tuesday 11th

We had a mine truck pulled up at Reedy's corner idling for 2 hours blocking the council back entrance to change 2 rear tyres. The wheels are still sitting where they took them off. They used gerny, rattle guns and other equipment to get the tyres off as they are not equipped for that.

#### Example 2

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>

Trucks are being parked on council land directly across from us closer to the end of the football field. They are being started up early hours of the morning idling to build up pressure before the drive off.

We feel if anything this leaving of trucks should be done at the work place or processing plants, not into the residential areas. They should be driving they're cars to work not they're trucks. If people or truck owners in the main street are being chastised it should be the same for everyone. Why is no-one down our way being told as well? It's the beginning of the tourist season and many a tourist drive around the town to see what is here. I am embarrassed for the town when I see them drive around our way and see the junk yards.

We are also concerned about sewerage at all properties surrounding us. We have had effluent smell at our home, quite gaseous and foul. We are wondering if we can see approvals for septic systems for all the properties surrounding us. When we built we had to get the plumbing inspector at the time to check our trenches for our AES system. We believe all our neighbours have not had plumbing approval for systems that have been put in at random and not by certified plumbers or tradesman.

We now have trucks moving in where Jason used to be and believe no building inspection has been done there either.

Further up Cumberland St behind Perch's is a quagmire of building equipment and nothing is happening, it's been 2 years and it's still a junk yard. It's a damn disgrace, it's got to this stage with no consequences.

We feel very let down by council, disheartened and frustrated that we put our heart and soul into our house and its surrounds only be treated like we don't matter. We came to Georgetown in good faith and love the people and the area but there is only so much we can take.

We would appreciate this being tabled at the next council meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> April. We would also like an email to say you have received our formal letter of complaint. We would also appreciate confidentiality on all levels as we do not want any repercussions on our personal property while we are not here.

We would also like to know what is going to happen in the immediate future and not so immediate future in regards to the situation.

If council believe it's all too difficult then we are not opposed to the council buying us out.

We have been nothing but up front and true in everything we have brought to the table and are now at our wits end. We have had no feedback since the last time we spoke with Ken. We feel we have not been listened to and that the situation is only getting worse.

This scenario has been going on for well over 4 years and you have allowed these residents free range of what they can do. It's getting worse not better.

Yours sincerely

Jens and Julie Jorgensen



# Etheridge Shire Council

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<b>General Meeting</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> May 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Appointment of Acting CEO
<b>Classification:</b>	Open
<b>Author:</b>	Renee Bester – Executive Assistant

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Local Government Act 2009 section 195 states that:

A local government may appoint a qualified person to act as the chief executive officer during –

- (a) Any vacancy, or all vacancies, in the position; or
- (b) Any period, or all periods, when the Chief Executive Officer is absent from duty or cannot, for another reason, perform the chief executive officers responsibilities.

Current Chief Executive Officer, Ken Timms, has applied to the Chair for a period of leave of two weeks which has been approved.

## RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to appoint Mr Neil Crotty as acting Chief Executive Officer for the period 20<sup>th</sup> May 2023 through to 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

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## BACKGROUND

As per Local Government Regulation 2012, the appointment of an appropriately qualified Acting Chief Executive Officer must be done by resolution. An Acting Chief Executive Officer must be appointed for any period where the Chief Executive Officer is absent from duty or cannot, for another reason, perform the Chief Executive Officer's responsibilities.

Current Chief Executive Officer, Ken Timms, has applied to the Chair for a period of leave of two weeks which has been approved. This annual leave includes travelling overseas and may not be able to respond when called on, hence the requirement for appointment of an acting Chief Executive Officer.

Mr Crotty is suitably qualified and has past experience as a Chief Executive Officer. Further he knows the area and has worked for the Council in the past.

## LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

This is a statutory requirement and does not have a linkage to Council's Corporate Plan.

## BUDGET & RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

Minimal impact on the budget as all leave entitlements are covered.

## CONSULTATION

Nil

## LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Nil



POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

RISK ASSESSMENT

CONSEQUENCE					
LIKELIHOOD*	Insignificant 1	Minor 2	Moderate 3	Major 4	Catastrophic 5
A (Almost certain)	H	H	E	E	E
B (Likely)	M	H	H	E	E
C (Possible)	L	M	H	E	E
D (Unlikely)	L	L	M	H	E
E (Rare)	L	L	M	H	H

The Risk is assessed as L – Low: The Likelihood is D (Unlikely), with an insignificant consequences.

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**Report Prepared By:**

**Report Authorised By:**

Renee Bester, Executive Assistant

Ken Timms, Chief Executive Officer

Date: 10/05/2023

Date:10/05/23

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ATTACHMENTS



Etheridge Shire Council

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**FOR YOUR  
INFORMATION**

The Mayor

0473 788972.

20-4-23

Barry Hughes,

ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL  
GEORGETOWN

26 APR 2023

Etheridge Shire Council,  
Box 12 - Georgetown Qld 4871

RECEIVED

Dear Barry,

I have been meaning to write to you & the Council, but have not done so, owing to illness.

Sitting on our verandah, at 1 Savannah Close, looking across the main road at the huge amount of Chinese apple trees, increasing each year, is rather terrifying. There is also, a block of ground, so overgrown, it is terrifying & a huge fire hazard.

When we first bought at 1 Savannah Close, beside us, the block was so overgrown by huge Chinese apple trees that it had to be cleared by a bulldozer & loader, pulling a massive chain between them. A poison crew went along behind spraying anything that was not knocked down or pulled out.

Exactly the same scenario is happening over the road and if the block of ground has an owner, they should be made to clean this up. Council does need to ~~be~~ look into this, to see if it is still owned, and if it is, the person or persons made to clean this fire hazard up forthwith.

Sincerely JOHN & MERLE TAYLOR

 M E Taylor



## The Hon Catherine King MP

---

Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government  
Member for Ballarat

Barry Hughes  
Mayor  
Etheridge Shire Council  
PO Box 12  
GEORGETOWN QLD 4871

*Sent Via:* mayor@etheridge.qld.gov.au  
*Cc:* info@etheridge.qld.gov.au

Dear Mayor/Councillor

I am writing to you about your Phase 4 funding allocation for the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Program. The Australian Government is proud of its continued support of councils across Australia, including our focus on funding road projects in rural, regional and outer urban Australia through Phase 4 of the LRCI program.

The Government has committed \$750 million to Phase 4 of the LRCI Program which includes two components of funding:

- Part A: \$500 million to spend on priority local road and community infrastructure projects, and
- Part B: \$250 million to spend on road projects in rural, regional and outer urban areas.

In February 2023, the Government announced council allocations for the Part A \$500 million funding component. Councils across Australia will be able to spend this funding on priority local road and community infrastructure projects.

I am now advising you about the allocation you will receive under the Part B \$250 million funding component. In addition to your Part A funding component, the **Etheridge Shire Council** will receive a Part B allocation of **\$437,552**.

Allocations for the Part B funding component are available to councils classified as rural, regional or outer-urban to spend on road projects. 466 of Australia's 550 councils will receive a Part B funding allocation. The Government has drawn on the Australian Classification of Local Governments, as a robust framework underpinning the determination of eligible councils for this funding component.

Individual council allocations for Part A and Part B funding components are available on the LRCI Program [website](#).

Phase 4 Guidelines are expected to be released ahead of the opening of Phase 4 on 1 July 2023, with projects to be completed by 30 June 2025.

Guidelines and grant agreements will be finalised by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts over the coming months.

We look forward to continuing to work with you to deliver priority local road and community infrastructure projects.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Catherine King".

THE HON CATHERINE KING MP  
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristy McBain".

THE HON KRISTY MCBAIN MP  
Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories

3/5/ 2023

17/04/2023

The Chief Executive Officer  
Etheridge Shire Council  
PO Box 12  
GEORGETOWN QLD 4871

Dear Sir,

Re: GULF STOCKMANS CHALLENGE CLUB INC

It is with great excitement that I formally introduce a newly incorporated sporting club to the Etheridge Shire the "Gulf Stockmans Challenge Club Inc." Stockmans Challenges are a unique Australian sport designed to commemorate the Australian Stockmans horsemanship skills. A Stockmans Challenge event consists of a dry work pattern and cattle work phase.

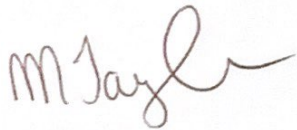
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Thank you so much for your time and please feel free to contact me with anything further you would like to discuss.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Taylor' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Shelly Taylor  
Secretary  
Gulf Stockmans Challenge Club Inc.  
Ooralat Station  
Mt Surprise Qld 4871  
Ph. 40625503  
0418180614



Department of  
**State Development, Infrastructure,  
Local Government and Planning**

Our ref: MC23/2208

Your ref: ECQ/0423/KT:rb

28 April 2023

Mr Ken Timms PSM  
Chief Executive Officer  
Etheridge Shire Council  
ken.timms@etheridge.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Timms

Thank you for your letter of 21 April 2023 to the Honourable Steven Miles MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure, about the Etheridge Shire Council's application to conduct the 2024 local government election by postal ballot. The Deputy Premier has asked me to respond on his behalf on this occasion.

I am pleased to advise that the council's application is currently being processed in accordance with requirements in section 45AA of the *Local Government Electoral Act 2011* and a final response will be provided in due course.

If you require any further information, please contact Ms Pamela Cameron, Principal Project Officer, Governance and Capability, Local Government Division, in the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, by telephone on 0427 800 239 or by email at [pamela.cameron@dSDLGP.qld.gov.au](mailto:pamela.cameron@dSDLGP.qld.gov.au), who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

Louisa Lynch  
**Director  
Governance and Capability  
Local Government Division**

1 William Street  
Brisbane Queensland 4000  
PO Box 15009  
City East Queensland 4002  
**Telephone** 13 QGOV (13 74 68)  
**Website** [www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au](http://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au)  
**ABN** 29 230 178 530



**Renee Bester**

---

**From:** Ken Timms  
**Sent:** Monday, 24 April 2023 8:06 AM  
**To:** Renee Bester  
**Subject:** FW: Electoral Commission of Queensland - The Countdown

Hi Renee

For council meeting agenda – information.

Kind Regards



*Ken Timms PSM*

Chief Executive Officer  
**Etheridge Shire Council**  
PO Box 12 | St George Street | Georgetown Q 4871  
**Phone:** 4079 9090    **Fax:** 07 4062 1285  
**Mobile:** 0439 414 771    **Email:** [Ken.Timms@etheridge.qld.gov.au](mailto:Ken.Timms@etheridge.qld.gov.au)



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**From:** Electoral Commission of Queensland <noreply@ecq.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, 21 April 2023 3:16 PM  
**To:** Ken Timms <Ken.Timms@etheridge.qld.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Electoral Commission of Queensland - The Countdown

You don't often get email from [noreply@ecq.qld.gov.au](mailto:noreply@ecq.qld.gov.au). [Learn why this is important](#)

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2024 local government elections  
**The Countdown**





## Message

FROM THE ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

Welcome to the first edition of *The Countdown* – a regular update from the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ) that you'll be receiving in the lead up to the 2024 local government elections.

Since the 2020 elections, we have been actively looking at ways we can improve our engagement and communication with councils and much of this activity has been informed by the feedback you provided to us.

In this newsletter you'll read about some of these initiatives, including the new Local Government Election Advisory Committee and our schedule of face-to-face council visits.

We encourage you to share this information in your own community newsletters. We are always eager to hear from you about your election delivery needs and about how we can work better together. If you would like to be added to the distribution list for this newsletter, please contact [communications@ecq.qld.gov.au](mailto:communications@ecq.qld.gov.au)

Planning is well underway for the quadrennial elections as we work towards delivering a smooth and efficient event for every local government area in Queensland. This task should hopefully be made much easier without the challenges imposed by a world-wide pandemic!

I hope you find the information in *The Countdown* informative and useful in terms of your own preparedness activities for 2024. We're looking forward to the year ahead and continuing to work closely with you.

Regards,

**Pat Vidgen**

**Electoral Commissioner**



## **In this edition of The Countdown**

- **New Local Government Election Advisory Committee**
- **Building stronger relationships**
- **Costings update for 2024**
- **'Election Day Heroes' campaign nets strong pool for Returning Officers**
- **Compliance support for candidates**
- **Did you know?**



## **New Local Government Election Advisory Committee**

A new Local Government Election Advisory Committee has been established to provide a local government perspective on the planning and preparation for the 2024 local government quadrennial elections.

The Committee met for the first time on 9 March 2023 at the ECQ's head office in Brisbane.

The Committee is comprised of eight members – each with broad experience across the local government sector. The various roles, background and diverse views of members will be invaluable to the ECQ as it aims to enhance its relationship with local governments and design electoral services to meet the needs of Queensland communities.

Meet the Committee members:

- Pat Vidgen PSM, Electoral Commissioner (Chair), ECQ
- Wade Lewis, Assistant Electoral Commissioner, ECQ
- Jae Lancaster, Deputy Director-General, Local Government Division, Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
- Peta Irvine, Chief Executive Officer, Local Government Managers Australia
- Chatur Zala, Chief Executive Officer, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council
- Glen Beckett, General Manager Assist, Acting Head of Advocacy, Local Government Association of Queensland

- Victoria Nelson, Coordinator Councillor Governance, Sunshine Coast Council
- Kevin Yearbury PSM, independent member.

Over the next year, members will discuss various topics related to ECQ's planned delivery of the 2024 local government elections including:

- election resourcing and drivers of election-related costs
- recruitment and training of Returning Officer
- election service design
- First Nations engagement
- funding, disclosure and compliance for candidates
- communication campaigns, and
- the process for counting ballots and declaring results.

The next meeting is planned for early July 2023.



*First meeting of the LGEAC with (left to right): Andrew Chesterman (LGMA representative), Glen Beckett (LGAQ), ECQ Assistant Commissioner Wade Lewis (on screen), CEO Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council Chatur Zala (on screen), Matthew Thurlby (ECQ), Kim Beamish (ECQ), Kevin Yearbury (independent member), ECQ Executive Director Julie Cavanagh, and Electoral Commissioner Pat Vidgen (front).*

## **Building stronger relationships through our Council Engagement Program**

Since mid-2021, the ECQ has been proactively engaging with Queensland's 77 councils in an effort to improve communication and transparency, and strengthen our relationships. We asked you for your feedback after the unique challenges presented by the 2020 local government elections and used this information to develop a program of engagement activities.

A Statement of Intent kicked off the program, setting out the ECQ's commitment to ongoing and constructive engagement with Queensland's local governments and stakeholder organisations for the delivery of local government elections, that meet the electoral needs of local communities.

Each council was provided with a dashboard of relevant information and an invitation to meet with the Electoral Commissioner, Assistant Electoral Commissioner, Executive Director, and other senior management representatives either via Teams or in person where it was possible. In these valuable meetings, the ECQ provided an overview of key election outcomes from 2020 including visibility of the services and cost drivers for those elections, helping enhance councils' understanding of electoral processes.

Indigenous councils received a summary of findings from the Indigenous Local Government Chiefs Forum, which was held by the ECQ in partnership with Local Government Managers Australia Queensland in November 2022. Further engagement with Indigenous councils and the ECQ election delivery team will continue in 2023, in conjunction with the finalisation of the ECQ's forthcoming First Nations Engagement Strategy and action plan.

Earlier this year, the ECQ commenced proactive, operational discussions with councils about local service design for next year's elections. Councils were asked to provide feedback via an online survey, tailored to each council's planned services, with the response from councils very high. This early consultation is already proving helpful with election preparations and service design

Finally, the ECQ formed a Local Government Election Advisory Committee with representatives from the local government sector – and you can read more about the Committee and its work in this edition of *The Countdown*.

Election preparations are well underway and councils can expect ongoing communication about their local service design in the lead up to the 2024 elections.



*Earlier this year ECQ staff visited Hinchinbrook Shire Council in Far North Queensland as part of the election engagement program.*



## **Costings update for 2024**

Work is currently underway to analyse the resources that will be required to deliver the 2024 local government elections and the ECQ is working hard to distribute cost estimates to councils before the end of April 2023.

A dedicated ECQ finance account manager has been assigned to councils for any queries related to the cost estimate or updates on the costs incurred during the election period. For more information, please contact the ECQ's Chief Finance Officer, Maya Marpudin at [maya.marpudin@ecq.qld.gov.au](mailto:maya.marpudin@ecq.qld.gov.au).



## **'Election Day Heroes' campaign nets strong pool for Returning Officer roles**

A recruitment process was commenced in 2022 to fill a total of 152 Returning Officer (RO) and Assistant Returning Officer (ARO) positions for the 2024 local government elections. A key message that came out of our meetings with many councils is the importance of having capable people appointed to this role, and the importance of councils having good communications with them.

Recruitment is based on a hybrid model that includes existing ROs from the 2020 local government elections and some new talent found through state-wide advertisements.

To promote the vacancies, the ECQ delivered an 'Election Day Heroes' campaign which was advertised across ECQ and stakeholder channels. Vacancies were also advertised on the Queensland Government's Smart Jobs website. A selection process is currently underway and once all vacancies are filled, a face-to-face training program tailored to assigned local government areas, will be conducted.

RO feedback and recommendations from the 2020 elections has helped shape an improved support model for ROs. The endorsed model provides centralised service delivery for operational, technical and application support, with a consistent single point of contact for all communication and information sharing between the ECQ and ROs.

**Help us deliver democracy to Queenslanders!**

**WE'RE  
HIRING**



**Returning Officer roles open now!**



## **Compliance support for candidates**

This week, the ECQ published its [approach to compliance](#) for the 2024 elections. This approach sets out the ECQ's role as the regulator of funding and disclosure requirements and provides guidance about who to contact in relation to other issues (such as signage regulations).

The [commitments and expectations](#) of candidates and other election participants is also outlined, as is the ECQ's commitment to providing help to candidates and others who genuinely want to comply with their obligations.

Obligations for candidates begin well before nominations for the election officially open.

That's why it is important that the ECQ contacts candidates as soon as they indicate an intention to become a candidate. We are already aware of many candidates having done this, and we have



been receiving disclosures regarding donations received and expenditure incurred.

If you become aware of any person who has indicated that they intend to contest next year's elections, you are welcome to advise the ECQ via [fad@ecq.qld.gov.au](mailto:fad@ecq.qld.gov.au).

### **Electoral expenditure caps**

The Queensland Parliament passed laws introducing an expenditure cap framework for the 2024 local government elections. The laws are yet to formally commence operation, and the ECQ is currently working to ensure systems and educational materials are ready for commencement.

The expenditure caps for each local government area can only be calculated and published in July 2023.



### **Did you know?**

- We expect more than 1,500 people to vie to be a councillor as part of the 2024 local government elections.
- Around 1,200 polling booths will be operated by the ECQ in communities right across Queensland.
- There will be around 150 early voting centres and RO offices across the State.



This email was sent by Electoral Commission of Queensland, Electoral Commission of Queensland, Level 20, 1 Eagle Street, BRISBANE, QLD 4000, Australia to [ken.timms@etheridge.qld.gov.au](mailto:ken.timms@etheridge.qld.gov.au)

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**Ken Timms**

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**From:** LGAQ <ask@lgaq.asn.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 9 May 2023 9:43 PM  
**To:** Ken Timms  
**Subject:** What the 2023-24 Federal Budget means for your council

Click [here](#) if you are having trouble viewing this message.

Login to Congruent



## What the 2023-24 Federal Budget means for your council

Dear Ken,

The peak body for Queensland's councils has welcomed funding announced in the Federal Budget for a rain gauge network to keep communities safe but has warned other critical funding has been cut, vanished or ignored.

### What's important for your council and community?

- Despite recognition of the impact of liveability and cost-of-living pressures, funding for Financial Assistance Grants is still flatlining, while maintaining the advance payment mechanism to assist councils with budget cash flow. At the last Federal election, Labor committed to a 'fair increase' in FA grants. Despite this, the allocation went backwards as a percentage of total taxation revenue, decreasing from 0.52% to 0.5%.

- We have been successful in our strong advocacy on early flood infrastructure funding, with an initial allocation of \$236 million over ten years, starting from 1 July 2023, to remediate high priority flood warning infrastructure and address critical reliability risks. The Bureau of Meteorology will upgrade and integrate local and State Government-owned rain and river gauges into its existing flood warning network. Work in Queensland will be prioritised.
- Funding for critical road infrastructure programs including Roads to Recovery, Roads of Strategic Importance (ROSI), Black Spot Projects and Bridges Renewal remain steady across the next four years – although there is a significant reduction in ROSI funding in 2026/27.
- Funding for critical water infrastructure projects through the National Water Grid Fund will further reduce over the next four years – on the back of significant reductions in the October 2022 budget, with \$200 million allocated for 2026/27.
- Following the announcement last Friday, the Budget provides \$83.2 million over 4 years, from 1 July 2023, to establish a national Net Zero Authority to promote orderly and positive economic transformation associated with decarbonisation and energy system change in regional areas, including support for impacted workers. As an interim step, an agency will be established from 1 July 2023, initially within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, to lead the design and establishment of the Authority and to perform its functions, pending its formal establishment. This was a resolution at the 2022 LGAQ Annual Conference.
- The funding tap for the popular Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCIP) is turned off in 2026/27, with funding only allocated to 30 June 2026.
- Continued advocacy for housing funding to reduce overcrowding in Queensland's First Nations communities has again been ignored.
- Program guidelines for the new Growing Regions Program have been released, providing opportunities for critical infrastructure upgrades in rural, regional, remote and First Nations communities – with recognition of social disadvantage. This program has replaced the Building Better Regions Fund. Program guidelines are available – [here](#).
- The inclusion of \$13.5 million over 3 years from 2023–24 for an additional round of the Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program to support improved safety

and access at remote airstrips and facilitate air connectivity and the delivery of goods and services to remote communities, is welcomed.

- Queensland's First Nations communities should also benefit from \$97.7 million over 3 years from 2022–23 to support the development of a New Jobs Program trial to replace the Community Development Program (CDP) and to meet increased demand for the CDP as a result of sustained higher levels of demand since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kind regards,

**Alison Smith**

Chief Executive Officer

Local Government Association of Queensland



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# Minutes of the 159<sup>th</sup> FNQROC Board Meeting

<b>Meeting No</b>	159
<b>Meeting Name</b>	FNQROC Board Meeting
<b>Date</b>	6 April 2023
<b>Time</b>	8.00am to 12 noon
<b>Venue</b>	Mission Beach

## REPRESENTATIVES

<b>CHAIR</b>	Cr Terry James, Dep Mayor	Cairns Regional Council
	Cr Mark Nolan, Mayor	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
	Cr Peter Scott, Mayor	Cook Shire Council
	Cr Peter Garde, Dep Mayor	Croydon Shire Council
	Cr Michael Kerr, Mayor	Douglas Shire Council
	Cr Barry Hughes, Mayor	Etheridge Shire Council
	Cr Ramon Jayo, Mayor	Hinchinbrook Shire Council
<b>DEPUTY CHAIR</b>	Cr Angela Toppin, Mayor	Mareeba Shire Council
	Cr Bradley Creek, Mayor	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council
	Cr Ross Andrews, Mayor	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council
	Cr Dave Bilney	Tablelands Regional Council

## CEOS

Ms Mica Martin, CEO	Cairns Regional Council
Mr Andrew Graffen, CEO	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Mr Brian Joiner, CEO	Cook Shire Council
Mr Peter Franks, CEO	Mareeba Shire Council
Mr Gary Rinehart, CEO	Tablelands Regional Council
Mr Richard Wright, CEO	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council

## OBSERVERS

Ms Lucy Greene	LGAQ
Cr Mary Brown	Hinchinbrook Shire Council
Cr Jeff Baines	Cassowary Coast Regional Council

## INVITED GUESTS

Ms Nikki Boyd	Assistant Minister for Local Government
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Ms Melanie Kempton	ARUP
Sam Koci	ARUP
Joyanne Manning	ARUP (online)
Paul Gilles	QTC
Christine Ip	QTC
Ben Hanslip	AICD
Justin Agale	AICD (online)

## FNQROC STAFF

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Ms Darlene Irvine	Executive Officer
Mr Travis Sydes	Natural Asset Management & Sustainability Coordinator
Ms Amanda Hancock	Regional Strategic Infrastructure Coordinator
Mr Elliott Meelen	Regional Procurement Coordinator
Ms Paula Power	Executive Support Officer
Ms Maria Anselmo	Climate Resilience Coordinator

## APOLOGIES

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Cr Bob Manning, Mayor	Cairns Regional Council
Cr Trevor Pickering, Mayor	Croydon Shire Council (online)
Ms Jacqui Cresswell, CEO	Croydon Shire Council (online)
Ms Rachel Brophy, CEO	Douglas Shire Council
Mr Ken Timms, CEO	Etheridge Shire Council
Mr Kelvin Tytherleigh, CEO	Hinchinbrook Shire Council
Cr Jason Woibo, Mayor	Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council
Mr Steve Linnane, CEO	Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council
Cr Rod Marti, Mayor	Tablelands Regional Council
Cr Kevin Cardew, Dep Mayor	Tablelands Regional Council
Ms Kiley Hanslow, CEO	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council

## 3079 WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

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The meeting commenced at 8.00am

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which we met today and paid respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Cr Kerr acknowledged Assistant Minister Nikki Boyd's attendance and thanked her for participating in the activities in Cassowary Coast yesterday and today.

Cr Kerr welcomed new starter to FNQROC Maria Anselmo who is the new Regional Climate Resilience Coordinator.

Cr Nolan addressed the Board and thanked everyone for coming and for allowing them to showcase their beautiful region.

## 3080 BOARD PRESENTATIONS

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### Ms Nikki Boyd – Assistant Minister for Local Government

Ms Boyd thanked Cr Nolan for hosting the FNQROC Board meeting from Cassowary Coast and for the warm welcome and hospitality.

Ms Boyd provided information about her electorate Pine Rivers which is 20km North of Brisbane and outlined her Local Government portfolio. Acknowledged meeting LGAs to celebrate what has been achieved together and identify priorities.

Ms Boyd enjoys the authentic experiences when she comes to our areas. Local Government is important and seeing what can be achieved and what needs to be done. Advocating for additional expenditure for infrastructure, roads, water and waste and ongoing financial issues. Acknowledging that councils need additional support.

Focus on how as a State Government can identify skills gaps in this tight economic environment.

Working with stakeholders fixing the OIA and conflict of interest. 40 recommendations from the Belcarra Report and already working on implementing those. Complaints need to be dealt with quickly and assessed on merits. Will be working with LGAQ so process is formal and clear with one consistent message across the sector.

### **Questions**

Mr Franks – Local government major interest – Ms Boyd believes this has progressed and they are expecting an announcement in coming days. Could make broad scale change for next election.

Cr Kerr thanked all the other Ministers for meeting with the FNQROC Delegation in Brisbane 29-30 March 2023.

## **3.2 Mr Brett Carlsson, Engagement, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) – formally (NRRRA)**

Mr Carlsson provided an overview of NRRRA transitioning from an Agency of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet across to The Department of Home Affairs and joining with Emergency Management Australia (EMA) to become the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

Mr Carlsson outlined the new roles and responsibilities of the new NEMA and how they can assist FNQROC to help enable the communities of the region to be much safer and more resilient to the impacts of natural disasters.

### **Questions/discussions from the floor**

Cr Hughes acknowledged the importance of organisational structure. LDMG meetings in Georgetown earlier this year. It is reassuring government agencies involved and how they have progressed, and facilitation made available to Local Government and Industry and how important it is in times of adversity.

## **3.3 Mr Paul Gillies and Ms Christine Ip, Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC)**

QTC thanked the Board for their warm welcome and for Cassowary Coast Regional Council for inviting them.

QTC provided a presentation on Water and Wastewater Capability explaining the options analysis stage and where to next. Surveys were developed from workshops run in each FNQROC Council. 12 surveys completed – 100% rate on those surveys. QTC have analysed those findings which were broken down into two parts; water, waste water and maintenance and business support under these. Overall water more challenging than waste water. Next steps are designing the scope and completing the options



analysis by end of July 2023. QTC will come back to the FNQROC Board at the end of July and run another workshop for solutions targeted to start in August 2023.

Presentation provided with minutes.

## Motion

***That the FNQROC Board approves the water and waste water capability analysis moves to the next stage being the development of scope for the options analysis stage. The scope will consider:***

### ***a. People***

- ***Ability to attract and retain suitable, qualified staff to support the water and wastewater businesses***
- ***Ability to provide training and upskill the existing workforce***
- ***Ability to access external specialist contractors and consultants***

### ***b. Systems and data***

- ***Ability to record, store, access and analyse data, to better inform planning and decision-making activities to support:***
  - ***Capital Planning***
  - ***Capital delivery***
  - ***Asset management***
  - ***Procurement and contract management***

### ***c. Processes***

- ***The use of documented standardised operating procedures, processes and templates to guide and assist:***
  - ***Capital planning***
  - ***Capital delivery***
  - ***Asset management***
  - ***Procurement and contract management***

**MOVED: Cr Angela Toppin**  
**SECOND: Cr Mark Nolan**

**Carried**

## Questions/discussions from the floor

- Q. Mr Joiner – Capital planning and depreciation. How does it feed in? How do we get the capital until we can get grant funding for these initiatives when available?
- Mr Gillies/Ms Ip (QTC) – Understands practical challenges faced. Having a plan in place ensures councils prioritise projects and if funding is granted councils are ready when the money comes through. Having right systems and processes in place you have a good case to advocate. Water & sewerage – projects that are ready and needed. Control what you can control. LGAQ to advocate for longer time funding and a bigger pool.
- Cr Kerr - Imperative that good quality data is in place. Technical data showing exactly what we are feeling.

- Cr Andrews – Yarrabah had no water in the community for days last week. Yarrabah doesn't have a water plan and will be struggling in the future for long term water supply. Not having water in community for days is not good especially for the elderly.
- Cr Scott – majority of councils regional and remote operate on a reactive basis.
- LGAQ – we need FAGs grants so we can deliver government services to remote and regional services, we need support from Treasury and work together to address this.
- Cr Kerr – everyone should be entitled to the same water supply. Data from all councils and plan will give same opportunity. Distributing funds to councils based on their needs. This is a good data initiative with all councils on the same page.
- A Graffen – Shortage of plumbers and fitters to get the work done. Funding needs to increase. Need TAFE places and traineeships.
- P Franks – great initiative. Ability to go to State and Federal Government with what we know and what needs to be done. We don't have the money to deliver but this is good ammunition and starting point.
- M Martin – good to be on same page, gathering data will allow a stronger case as a ROC. Work together and leverage off councils around the regions and assist when needed.
- G Rinehart – Capital planning, need clarity at what point is it sufficient to ask for money.
- Cr Kerr thanked QTC for the work that has been done to date.

(Cr Peter Garde left the meeting)

### 3.4 Ms Melanie Kempton, Mr Sam Koci and Joyanne Manning, ARUP

ARUP presented the final Resource Recovery Plan to the FNQROC Board which included the project staging update, RRR Plan documents, implementation approach, action outcomes, roadmap and funding and governance.

8 key actions developed to provide a holistic approach. Regulatory support from state and federal government.

- Action 1 – Step Change in Customer Engagement
- Action 2 – Optimise Regional Servicing Arrangements
- Action 3 - New Transfer Station Facilities
- Action 4 – Enhance Kerbside Collection
- Action 5 – Maximise Diversion of Organic Waste
- Action 6 - Optimise Resources Recovery Facilities
- Action 7 – Develop Centralised Precinct
- Action 8 – Alternatives to landfill (Energy from Waste)

The Resource Recovery Plan is underpinned by state and federal funding and regulatory support. Need governance structure at a regional level to support collaborative engagement. Discussions have commenced to leverage existing FNQROC structure to expand on current capacity with the availability of adequate and sustained resourcing.

Presentation provided with minutes.

#### Questions/discussions from the floor

- P Franks – it is an aspirational plan. Does not see it as a locked in plan. Mareeba have big things that need to be done and need to look at what the impact is for rate payers. Aspirational things for state targets and councils cannot absorb all costs. Timeframe may need to be extended.
- Ms Kempton – timeframes are ambitious and projectory laid out for councils.

- A Graffen - curb side collection. Out of sync with contracts as they are coming to the end of current contracts. Regional servicing arrangement and alignment. Look at cycles and how they line up. Cassowary Coast Regional Council happy to go ahead.
- D Irvine – with a designated implementation officer the finer project details will be developed. It could be that a project starts and a council/s may not join for a number of years due to contract commitments/ costs etc. Any implementation will take this into account within the details. The plan is ambitious, but this is what is needed to meet the State targets. We know the ROI isn't there for ratepayers and this is the message we shared during our State delegation recently. With out funding and regulatory support we won't meet the targets.
- M Martin confirmed Cairns Regional Council are supportive. Cairns going through detailed work currently. Devil in the details and how much funding from state and federal government. There seems to be a disconnect from DES and DSDILGP datasets.
- A Hancock – first action split into two. Behavioural change and inconsistency of dataset. Data needs to be as consistent as possible and regionally on the same page.
- Cr Kerr – cost benefit analysis – will struggle to be cost neutral and will need a lot of support. Environmental benefits and services to the community. If funding disappears it will be a concern in the future and will need certainty.
- Cr Andrews – acknowledge first nations. Local governments ancestral ties to the land. Challenging for them and the language that is used.
- Ms Kempton – language or commentary could be improved. Any suggestions forward to ARUP.

#### **Motion**

***That the FNQROC Board endorses the FNQROC Resource Recovery Plan.***

**MOVED: Cr Angela Toppin**

**SECOND: Cr Terry James**

**CARRIED**

### **3.5 Mr Ben Haslip and Mr Justin Agale, Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD)**

Mr Haslip introduced himself to the board and provided an insight into his background and why he joined AICD.

Mr Haslip introduced Mr Agale online who provided information about his role at AICD. He provides advice to boards about how they can engage with Indigenous Communities and how to incorporate traditional practices into our work practices.

AICD offer government training, both first nations and traditional governance. Acknowledged the Local government Act is different to regular board requirements but the financial literacy, risks and strategy development are all the same. Can tailor training for each council based on their needs.

#### **Questions/feedback from the floor**

- M Martin – asked whether AICD were partnering with Peak Services. Ms Martin has attended Company Director 5-day Director Course previously; it was a challenging but a very good course that all councils should do.
- B Joiner – Would be good for the Executive Leadership Team to do the Governance essentials for local government. 3-day course. Mr Haslip recommended that the 3-day course would be good for team building and to get a good understanding council.

- Cr Kerr - If you want to be a councillor you need to know how a board works. ie. Governance.
- Cr Andrews – mainstream law and cultural dynamics as well.
- Mr Haslip - training to all sorts of industry. Governance training, handled by making sure skilled facilitators and cultural differences align. Faculty members are skilled up in first nations practices.

Presentation provided with minutes. Mr Haslip and Mr Agales contact details are included on the last slide.

### 3.6 Ms Lucy Greene, (LGAQ)

Ms Greene provided an overview of LGAQ recent activities per the briefing note circulated prior to meeting. (Appendix 1)

Ms Greene acknowledged the attendance of Assistant Minister Nikki Boyd.

- LGAQ March Canberra Delegation: 15 meetings including with the new Shadow Local Government Minister Darren Chester, Minister Kristy McBain, Minister Catherine King, Minister Michelle Rowland, Minister Brendan O'Connor, Minister Julie Collins to name a few. Minister Catherine King said the new Growing Regions Fund guidelines will be released soon and that some projects that were eligible under round 6 of BBRF might not be eligible. Minister Rowland will be visiting FNQ after the May Budget to discuss regional connectivity issues.
- The OIA Parliamentary Inquiry Report was debated in Queensland Parliament last week and the LGAQ acknowledges Assistant Minister Nikki Boyd's support of the Association and Queensland councils' engagement as part of that inquiry. Look forward to the Bill before the House this year.
- The Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee is holding an inquiry into the adequacy of Australia's preparedness to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Victoria and the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Brisbane, and to leave a legacy of sporting infrastructure to encourage more Australians to participate in elite and community sports and live active lifestyles. The LGAQ will be issuing a submission, informed by member feedback to the survey of members conducted by the Association last year, and also encourages individual councils to submit to the inquiry. We encourage councils to focus on the sporting facilities available in their communities that can be used for Olympics training.
- The LGAQ is hosting a webinar with member councils on Cost Shifting on Wednesday 13 April to assist councils who are yet to complete their cost shifting survey. To date, 62% of councils have completed the survey but the aim is to reach at least 70% response rate to ensure a quality data set to have the evidence to back up calls for increases to FA Grants and united State and Federal grant funding. Rebroadcasting costs was an issue the LGAQ spoke to Minister Rowland about in Canberra and are currently aware of 10 councils in Queensland paying for the retransmission of TV and radio as well as maintenance and licence fees. The LGAQ is putting together a meeting for the Minister and affected councils to discuss solutions.
- The LGAQ has released its new housing strategy in the same week the State Government announced funding for the LGAQ to partner with the government to develop housing plans for an additional 38 councils.

#### Questions/discussions from the floor

- Cr Scott – Broadcasting – Cook Shire has 2
- Cr Kerr – Broadcasting – 2 shut down
- Cr Toppin – Broadcasting – 2 closed and pushed to satellite.
- Cr Andrews – The Voice referendum bill presented last week in Canberra. Coalition not supporting it.

- Ms Boyd – Palaszczuk Governing is supporting the yes vote. Campaign kits being sent that can support councils and leaders in the community.

## 3081 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The draft minutes of the 158th FNQ Regional Organisation of Councils (FNQROC) Board meeting of 2 February 2023.

**MOVED: Cr Mark Nolan**  
**SECOND: Cr Peter Scott**

### Motion

*That the FNQROC Board move that the minutes of the 158<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting held on 2 February 2023 be confirmed and adopted (with the inclusion of Cr Terry James being in attendance).*

**CARRIED**

**Action: Minutes of the 159<sup>th</sup> Board meeting to reflect that Cr James, Cairns Regional Council attended the meeting on 2 February 2023.**

## 3082 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 5.1 Action items from Thursday 2 February 2023 FNQROC Board Meeting.

Thursday 2 February 2023

Minute Number	Action	Responsible Person(s)	Status
3047	Cr Kerr to raise housing investment with the Superannuation Board.	Cr Kerr DSC	Ongoing
3062d	L Greene to seek further information on one of the key features of the Local Government Electoral and other legislation (expenditure caps) amendment Bill 2022, ' <b>prescription of certain offences as integrity or serious integrity offences under the Local Government Act and City of Brisbane Act</b> ' and forward to the FNQROC Board.	L Greene LGAQ	Complete
3065	Calendar invites/date claimer for the Mayoral Delegations to be forwarded to Mayors.	P Power FNQROC	Complete
3070a	T Sydes to continue with desktop analysis and establish Steering Committee for the FNQROC Regional Mountain Bike Strategy.	T Sydes FNQROC	Ongoing
3070b	T Sydes to send information regarding funding for shovel ready MTB projects to Cr T Pickering.	T Sydes FNQROC	Complete
3071	D Irvine to investigate higher yielding interest rates for savings/cheque accounts for FNQROC.	D Irvine FNQROC	Ongoing
3077	A Hancock to liaise with ARUP to look at renaming clusters within the RRR Strategy.	A Hancock FNQROC	Complete

### Motion

#### Recommendation:

*That the FNQROC Board agree to advocate the proposal below at the upcoming State Mayoral Delegation 29-30 March and the Federal Mayoral Delegation 1-3 August 2023.*

#### NQPHN Ask:

1. Initial \$2.15m over two years to complete feasibility studies for all six locations:
  - a. \$947k: 3 FTE project coordinators (0.5 FTE per site)
  - b. \$277k: travel and operational costs
  - c. \$926k: local service mapping, combined data and needs analysis, model option identification, Regional Primary Health Plan, recurrent funding analysis.
2. Recurrent block funding (Commonwealth and State)
  - a. Recurrent funding confirmed per location from feasibility studies.

**MOVED: Cr Mark Nolan**

**SECOND: Cr Michael Kerr**

**PASSED**

## 3084 ADVOCACY

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### 6.1 Advocacy update from FNQROC Council members.

- FNQROC Advocacy Briefing and Report are available on the FNQROC website.
- Cr Scott – The recent Brisbane Mayoral Delegation was a very successful trip. Cr Scott acknowledged and thanked the FNQROC Team for the work done in putting it all together.
- Cr Toppin – Acknowledged that it was one of the best delegations attended.
- D Irvine asked Ms Boyd what FNQROC could do better on the next FNQROC Mayoral Delegation.
- Ms Boyd – acknowledged that being in a central location was positive and streamlined. Advocacy points really fantastic, the briefing document is a good document to inform Ministers. Ministerial delegations relaxed open and accepting. It is entirely getting across brief and the rapport that they build with all of them. Keep those relationships going and on political issues.

### 6.2 LGAQ Advocacy Letters

For noting.

## 3085 STRATEGIC OPERATIONAL PLAN

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### 7.1 New FNQ Regional Plan update

Ms Irvine provided and update on the FNQ Regional Plan.

- Martin Reason, Tim Pearson and Linda Brown DSDILGP. 11 staff members working on this from the department. Current budget \$750,000 with Cape at \$500,000.
- Have been given an extension of 6 months. Draft Regional Plan expected at the end of this year and the final plan mid next year.
- Department committed to working more closely with FNQROC looking at a steering committee and providing monthly briefing notes.
- We need to get this FNQ Regional Plan right as it sets us up for the next 15 years. We've seen the consequences if we don't. Very focussed on monitoring implementation actions developed.

#### **Questions/discussions from the floor**

- Planning Specialists – vital to Cook Shire that Cape and FNQ plans run simultaneously together.
- Advocated to the Department, currently working with Mel from TCICA. Really important they are both done together. Ms Irvine explained that Cape will be 6 months behind as it will be trying to deal with the land tenure issues which is vital for the Cape. It would be good to get traction here.
- Cr Scott – delegation to Brisbane Minister Stewart guaranteed that the land act will be reviewed and we've requested that the aboriginal Land Act be done as well.
- There was confusion over a recent tender. It was clarified that they had gone out for a consortium to do the technical documents. The State has used our expectation document as a base for this. One of the first workshops to be held will be going through our expectations document to identify what is achievable and what is causing some issues so we can resolve these. We have asked to be part of or included in the assessment of these tenders to ensure the local experience included within the tenders is suitable – we're waiting on a response back on this.
- Ms Boyd working on the Wide Bay Burnett Regional Plan – learnt through the process how important it is to have good communication and measured expectations. Other work done alongside the Regional Plan ie. Economic Development Plan. Plans will remain live documents.

#### **7.2 Memorandum of Understanding**

Regional Development Tropical North MOU

##### **Motion**

***That the FNQROC Board agrees to sign the MOA with the Regional Development Tropical North.***

**MOVED: Cr Michael Kerr**

**SECOND: Cr Barry Hughes**

**PASSED**

## 3085 DISCUSSION TOPICS

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Nil

## 3086 CORRESPONDENCE

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Nil

## 3087 FNQROC POLICY REVIEW

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Nil

## 3089 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**Profit and Loss and Balance Sheet – 1 July 2022 to 24 March 2023**

**MOVED: Cr Angela Toppin**

**SECOND: Cr Bradley Creek**

**Motion**

*That the profit and Loss and Balance Sheet Reports for the period FY 2021 to 24 March 2023 be adopted and accepted.*

**CARRIED**

## 3090 ATTENDANCE & MINUTES OF MEETING

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Meetings Attended by Executive Officer – as noted.

## 3091 LGAQ POLICY EXECUTIVE DISCUSSION – CR PETER SCOTT

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If any issues, please raise with Cr Peter Scott to take to LGAQ Policy Executive.

## 3092 MINUTES OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES

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**FNQROC Economic Development Advisory Group – 10 February 2023**

Noted

**Natural Asset Management Advisory Committee (NAMAC) #53 – 10 February 2023**

Noted



Noted

## 3093 MINUTES OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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### FNQROC Regional Aerodrome Operational Business Plan – 13 February 2023

Noted

### FNQROC Procurement Advisory Committee – 3 March 2023

Noted

### FNQROC Regional Resource Recovery Plan – 10 March 2023

Noted

### FNQROC Regional Sewer Relining 2023/2024 – 10 March 2023

Noted

## 3094 GENERAL BUSINESS

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### General Business

#### FNQROC Mountain Bike Strategy

- Strategy conversation late May, early June with points of contacts and key stakeholders.
- Thank you to the sponsors of Crankworx Mark II. TTNQ and other sponsors have given us VIP tickets for this year's event. Would like to get a collective group of Councils and Mountain Bike representatives to experience Crankworx as a group.
- Soft launch of the Mountain Bike Strategy early next year. When strategy is bedded down there is a potential to launch at Crankworx in 2024.

**Action: Crankworx VIP tickets - email to be sent to all councils asking what days they would be available to attend. Events on Wednesday 17 May, Thursday 18 May and Friday 19 May 2023.**

#### Reviewing Development Manual

- D Irvine - going through submissions to amendment now and will come to councils to go out for public consultation. Development Manual will be 20 years old next year (2024).

**Action: D Irvine to schedule meeting with FNQROC Councils to explain the Development Manual in detail.**

#### Parliamentary sitting in Cairns 9-11 May 2023

- We've always said that Councils should use the regional sitting in Cairns to advocate their local priorities. FNQROC has worked with RDA TN, TCICA, Advance Cairns, RDATE, TTNQ on some jointly agreed regional 'announceables'. It would have been preferable that it came to the FNQROC Board prior however at the last minute we had to send these to Treasury by COB

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April. An executive decision was made to support the document with included went to Treasury Wednesday 4 April 2023. The list included 7 projects, 4 of which are on our priority list being Kuranda Range Road, Housing in discrete Indigenous Communities, Mountain Biking, and Etheridge Agricultural Precinct. Lakeland Irrigation Area Scheme wasn't included as the business case is with the State and they can't put an ask on it until it has been through this process.

#### **Dinner with QTC**

- Dinner with QTC at 6pm on 1 June 2023 – invitation has been sent directly from QTC.
- The next FNQROC Board meeting will start at 1pm instead of 10am to accommodate the QTC dinner.
- The RRTG will start prior to the FNQROC Board meeting at 12 noon.

**Action:** P Power to update calendar invites to reflect the change to the time of the next FNQROC Board meeting on 1 June 2023 to 1pm and the RRTG meeting to 12 noon.

#### **Questions/discussions from the floor**

P Franks asked the FNQROC Board whether they would be interested in becoming a member of Advance Cairns.

**Action: Advance Cairns Membership to be discussed at the next FNQROC Board meeting on 1 June 2023.**

Cr Kerr thanked Mayors, CEOs, guests and observers for their attendance and Cassowary Coast for hosting a fantastic couple of days.

### **3095 NEXT MEETING**

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The Chair advised that the next meeting is scheduled for **1pm Thursday 1 June 2023 at Cairns Regional Council, Civic Reception Room.**

The Chair thanked members for their contribution. There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 11.30am.

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**Cr Michael Kerr, Acting FNQROC Chair**

## AGREED ACTION ITEMS

Thursday 6 April 2023

Minute Number	Action	Responsible Person(s)
3047	Cr Kerr to raise housing investment with the Superannuation Board.	Cr Kerr DSC
3070a	T Sydes to continue with desktop analysis and establish Steering Committee for the FNQROC Regional Mountain Bike Strategy.	T Sydes FNQROC
3071	D Irvine to investigate higher yielding interest rates for savings/cheque accounts for FNQROC.	D Irvine FNQROC
3081	Minutes of the 159 <sup>th</sup> Board meeting to reflect that Cr James, Cairns Regional Council attended the meeting on 2 February 2023.	P Power FNQROC
3095a	Crankworx VIP tickets - email to be sent to all councils asking what days they would be available to attend. Events on Wednesday 17 May, Thursday 18 May and Friday 19 May 2023.	P Power FNQROC
3095b	Schedule meeting with FNQROC Councils to explain the Development Manual in detail.	D Irvine FNROC
3095c	Update calendar invites to reflect the change to the time of the next FNQROC Board meeting on 1 June 2023 to 1pm and the RRTG meeting to 12 noon.	P Power FNQROC
3095d	Advance Cairns membership to be discussed at the next FNQROC Board meeting on 1 June 2023.	D Irvine FNQROC

## FNQROC Board Meeting Dates for 2023

Date	Venue
Thursday 01 June 2023	CAIRNS
Thursday 03 August 2023	CANBERRA
Thursday 05 October 2023	HOPE VALE*
Thursday 07 December 2023	CAIRNS

\*Away meeting tentative - to be confirmed early August 2023



**Etheridge**  
**Area Fire Management Group**

Etheridge Shire  
Operation Sesbania

**BUSHFIRE RISK MITIGATION PLAN**

15<sup>th</sup> January 2023 to 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Version 1.1

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7. Appendices (Maps or other attachments)

<b>Document title:</b>	Operation Sesbania, Bushfire Risk Mitigation Plan Template		
<b>Prepared by:</b>	A/Bushfire Safety Officer, Aaron Sheehan – Office of Bushfire Mitigation A/Inspector, Manager Bushfire Safety, Wayne Ford – Office of Bushfire Mitigation		
<b>Contributors:</b>	A/Superintendent, Executive Manager Operations, Paul Storrs - Office of Bushfire Mitigation A/Superintendent, Executive Manager Bushfire Mitigation Strategy and Policy, Adam Moss - Office of Bushfire Mitigation		
<b>Reviewed by:</b>		<b>Date of review</b>	<b>New version number</b>
Mitigation Inspectors	Feedback – Incorporated	17-18/02/2022	Draft 0.8
<b>Authorised by:</b>	A/Chief Superintendent, Neil Kelso, Director Regional Coordination Rural Fire Service		V 1.0 (Final)

### Document Status

Date	Officer	Position	Status	Date of Review	New version number
	Chloe Swiney	AFMG Chair	Draft	29/04/2023	1.1
	All members	AFMG Members (see below)	Endorsed	11/04/2023	1.1
	Chloe Swiney	AFMG Chair	Approved	26/04/2023	1.1
		LDMG	Provided		

<p><b>AFMG Chair Approval:</b></p> <p><b>Name:</b> <u>Chloe Swiney</u> Chair of AFMG – Etheridge Shire LDMG</p> <p><b>Position:</b> <u>Acting Manager Bushfire Mitigation Rural Fire Service</u></p> <p><b>Date:</b> <u>26/04/2023</u></p> <p><b>Version Number:</b> <u>1.1</u></p>	<p><b>Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) Noted:</b></p> <p><b>Name:</b> <u>Brendy Hughes</u> Chair of LDMG – Etheridge</p> <p><b>Position:</b> <u>Mayor</u></p> <p><b>Date:</b> <u>28/4/23</u></p> <p><b>Version Number:</b> <u>1.1</u></p>
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### OFFICIAL

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**Etheridge Shire Area Fire Management Group Members:**

<b>Name of Representative</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Barry Hughes	Mayor	Etheridge Shire Council
Ken Timms	CEO	Etheridge Shire Council
Russell Jack	Senior Land Officer	Department of Resources
Kim Parker	Operations Officer	Department of Resources
Paul Barnes	Element Manager – Fire Management	Department of Transport and Main Roads
Jackie McLeod	Director/Principal Consultant	Ewamian Limited Tallaroo IP & Nature Refuge
Mark Wessels	Ranger Coordinator	Ewamian Limited Tallaroo IP & Nature Refuge
Murray Hayton	Emergency Management Coordinator	Emergency Management QFES
Chris Wegger	Bushfire Safety Officer	RFS QFES
Michael Spartalis	Area Training Support Officer	RFS QFES
Dance	Rural Firefighter	Georgetown RFS
Joseph Haase	1 <sup>st</sup> Officer	Georgetown RFS
Ian Carroll	Secretary/ Fire Warden	Forsayth RFS
Laurance Baron	1 <sup>st</sup> officer	Forsayth RFS

Bushfire Mitigation Manager, Rural Fire Service, Aaron Regan  
 Chair, Etheridge Shire, Area Fire Management Group  
 Email: [FNR.BushfireMitigation@qfes.qld.gov.au](mailto:FNR.BushfireMitigation@qfes.qld.gov.au) or [Aaron.Regan@qfes.qld.gov.au](mailto:Aaron.Regan@qfes.qld.gov.au)

## 1. Purpose

In recent years, Queensland and other States have experienced bushfires with wide-ranging and severe impacts to communities, infrastructure and the environment. These concerns are reflected in the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements report, otherwise known as the 'Bushfires Royal Commission 2020'.

Because of these recent impacts and concerns and the potential for continuing challenging bushfire conditions into the future, proactive efforts to mitigate bushfire risks continues to be of high importance at all levels of government and throughout the Queensland community.

This BRMP will be used to support:

- The identification of Bushfire Hazards within a Local Government area.
- Support long term vegetation management and Community Engagement initiatives.
- Operational planning, long term (1-3 years) and decision making by AFMG members during the annual Operation Sesbania implementation period
- Forward planning for progressive future mitigation activities in subsequent years (AFMG partner three-year business plan if available)
- Support operational readiness planning of QFES, its partner organisations and landowners in preparation for bushfires.
- The integration of hazard - specific planning for bushfire mitigation into Queensland's Disaster management arrangements.
- Recognition of Local Disaster Management Plans (LDMPs) and associated activities of Local Disaster Management Groups (LDMGs)

The BRMP also establishes a collaborative standardised framework for the reporting of bushfire mitigation activities during the annual Operation Sesbania reporting cycle.

## 2. Role of the Area Fire Management Group

Rural Fire Service (RFS) leads the coordination of AFMGs to support a collaborative approach in the planning, implementation and reporting of bushfire mitigation activities.

The *Disaster Management Act 2003* identifies that preventing, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from bushfires and other natural disasters is a shared responsibility involving government agencies, individual landholders, non-government, and private organisations.

AFMGs provide the primary mechanism for the coordinated identification of high-risk areas, the planning of bushfire mitigation activities, and the preparation of the BRMP for applicable Local Government Areas.

AFMGs also play a key role in supporting biodiversity in the landscape through, connecting communities, landholders, and partners with local level bushfire mitigation activities.



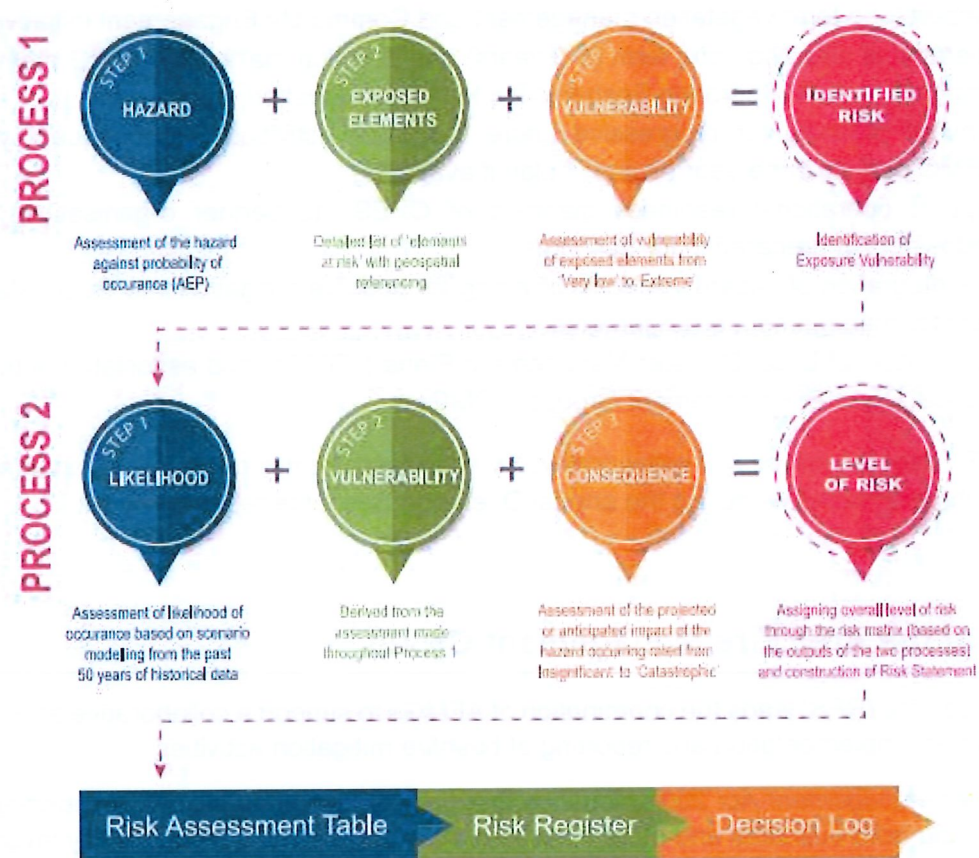
### 3. Method used to prepare this plan

#### 3.1 Principles

The method used to prepare this plan is guided by the recommendation from the matters raised in the 2019 review of Queensland Bushfires by the Inspector General of Emergency Management. Reference, IGEM – Queensland Bushfires Review Report 2: 2019-2020

#### 3.2 Risk Assessment Methodology

The methodology used to assess bushfire risk for Operation Sesbania, is based on the Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework (QERMF), as outlined in section 3.5 of Queensland’s Disaster Management Guideline.



The QERMF also upholds international best practice championed by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR).

The risk assessment methodology adopted for Operation Sesbania applies the QERMF (process one) to integrate geospatial data (GIS Data) and local knowledge (process two) on four risk factors (bushfire hazard, vulnerability, exposed elements (buildings) and likelihood) to estimate bushfire risks at the locality scale, and to inform the identification of specific at-risk hotspots.

### 3.3 Risk Assessment Process (Figure 2)

#### 3.3.1 Stage One

In preparing the BRMP, a structured and transparent approach is used to implement the following steps.

Process One	Assess and record the level of bushfire risk utilising integrated geospatial data (GIS data including, bushfire hazard, vulnerability, and exposed elements (buildings) at the start of the planning cycle for all localities in Etheridge Shire Local Government Area (LGA).
Process Two	Drawing on local knowledge of Etheridge Shire AFMG members regarding risk factors, specific to the bushfire hazard, likelihood, and consequence.
Outcome	Identify high-risk communities or infrastructure hotspots associated with these high-risk localities.
Risk Treatment	Identify planned activities to mitigate bushfire risks at these hotspots, specifically: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. hazard reduction activities (incl. planned burn, mechanical reduction, grazing management),</li><li>2. firebreak or fire trail upgrades, maintenance, or construction,</li><li>3. community education activities (incl targeted community activities),</li><li>4. engaging and providing information to the community in preparing their property and family for the impact of bushfire.</li></ol>

#### 3.3.2 Stage Two – Evaluating Outcomes

Annual residual risk will be documented and provided to the RBC and LDMG. Annual residual risk will also be included in the following years Operation Sesbania mitigation planning cycle. (Refer to Operation Sesbania annual planning template)

1. Operation Sesbania dashboard tools provide progress reports, including the completion of planned mitigation activities.
2. Operation Sesbania dashboard technologies assess and adjust the level of bushfire risk (high, medium, low) continuously as completed mitigation activities are uploaded via the applicable application technologies.

Information contained within this report will provide an input to pre-season bushfire readiness planning and regional assessment of residual risk by RFS and other response agencies (Regional Response Plan).

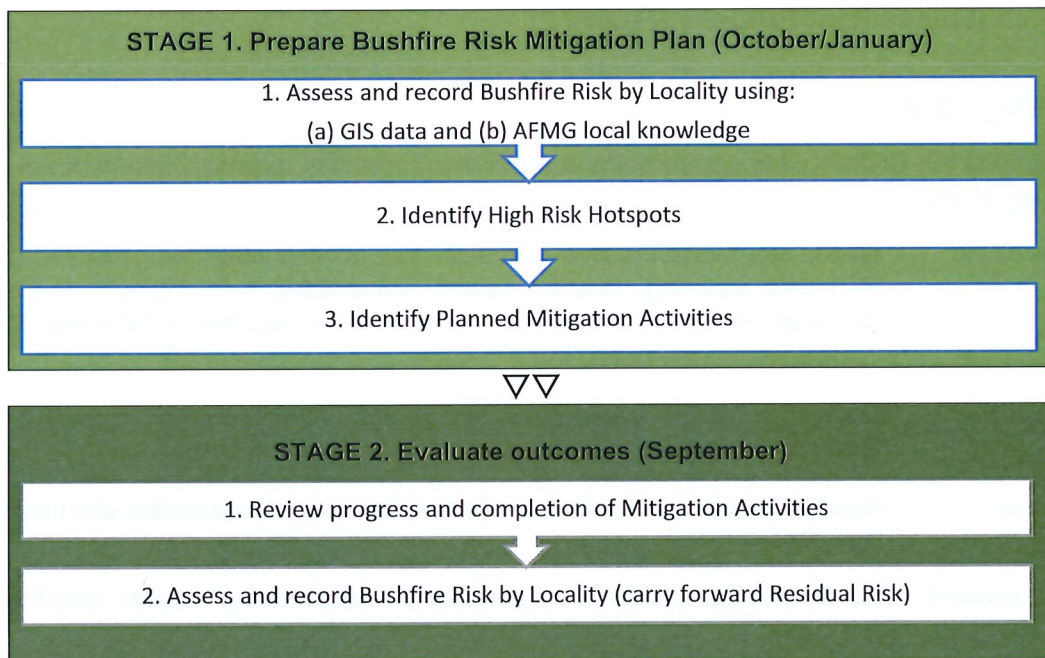


Figure 2. Staged approach for Assessing Bushfire Risk, identifying priority area, planning mitigation activities, reviewing progress and assessing residual risk for Regional Response Plans and preparation for the Yearly Mitigation Report to the SBC.

#### 4. Area Fire Management Group Meeting – Objectives

The Etheridge Shire AFMG meeting held at Georgetown on the 07/02/2023 reviewed the level of bushfire risk in the Etheridge Shire LGA, by combining formal evidence plus the local knowledge of AFMG partners and stakeholders regarding Overall Fuel Hazard Rating (AFMG estimate) and the Average Likelihood of Fire Arrival (AFMG estimate).

The AFMG also identified high priority hotspots of buildings (assets) with a high risk from bushfires and identified several planned activities within the Operation Sesbania implementation cycle to mitigate these risks. (12-month implementation plan) (See table 5)

5. Etheridge Shire Area Fire Management Group priority localities & planned activities (Operation Sesbania Implementation Plan)

Planned Mitigation Activity Local Government area 1	Locality Name 2	Locality Reference, Address or GPS Coordinate 3	Agency Reference 4	Activity Reference 5	Activity Type 6	Activity Subcategory 7	Activity Detailed-Category 8	Activity Support 9
Etheridge	Canyon Resources Reserve	SP27171	QPWS	Hazard Reduction Burn	Fuel Management	Burning	Hazard Reduction	RFS Forsayth
	Forsayth	34AP11612 East Side	DoR	Hazard Reduction Burn	Fuel Management	Burning	Hazard reduction	RFS Forsayth, QPWS
	Forsayth	2SP287759 Northwest Side	DoR	Hazard Reduction Burn	Fuel Management	Burning	Hazard reduction	RFS Forsayth, QPWS
	Forsayth	5AP11612	DoR	Other	Access Management	Fire Trail	Spraying	RFS Forsayth
	Forsayth	34AP11612	DoR	Other	Access Management	Fire Trail	Spraying	RFS Forsayth
	Forsayth	2SP287759	DoR	Other	Access Management	Fire Trail	Spraying	
	Mount Surprise	26AP19380 Undarra	QPWS	Hazard Reduction Burn	Fuel Management	Burning	Hazard reduction	
	Mount Surprise	26AP19380 Undarra	QPWS	Hazard Reduction Burn	Fuel Management	Burning	Hazard reduction	
	Talaroo IPA & Nature Refuge	2909SP312712	Ewamian Limited	Hazard Reduction Burn	Fuel Management	Burning	Hazard reduction	
	Mount Surprise Township	Township NE break	Etheridge Shire Council	Clearing	Access Management	Fire Trail	Bare Earth	
	Mount Surprise Township	Township NW break	Etheridge Shire Council	Clearing	Access Management	Fire Trail	Bare Earth	
	Mount Surprise Township	NW break – behind houses	Etheridge Shire Council	Clearing	Access Management	Fire Trail	Bare Earth	
	Mount Surprise Township	SE Inside break	Etheridge Shire Council	Clearing	Access Management	Fire Trail	Bare Earth	
	Mount Surprise Township	SE middle break	Etheridge Shire Council	Clearing	Access Management	Fire Trail	Bare Earth	

## 6. References

- Governance & Administration Guide for Queensland Fire Management Groups and Committees.
- Blanchi, R., J. Leonard , et al. (2013). Environmental circumstances surrounding bushfire fatalities in Australia 1901-2011. Environmental Science & Policy.
- Chen, K. and J. McAneney (2004). Quantifying bushfire penetration into urban areas in Australia. Geophys. Res. Lett. 31(12): L12212.
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- Leonard, J., Opie, K. (2017) Estimating the potential bushfire hazard of vegetation patches and corridors. CSIRO, Australia.
- <https://www.igem.qld.gov.au/queensland-bushfires-review-2019-20>
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- <https://naturaldisaster.royalcommission.gov.au/publications/html-report>
- [https://www.igem.qld.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-02/2019%20Qld%20Bushfires%20Review%20Report%20-%20PUBLIC 20 02 2020.pdf](https://www.igem.qld.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-02/2019%20Qld%20Bushfires%20Review%20Report%20-%20PUBLIC%2002%202020.pdf)

## 7. Appendices (Maps or other attachments)

## Changes to the *Stock Route Management Act 2002*

### Background

The *Stock Route Management Act 2002* (the Act) was amended to implement the outcomes of extensive consultation on stock route reforms undertaken since 2018. The amendments will result in improved cost recovery for local government and streamline their administration of the stock route network. The amendments took effect as part of the *Land and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2022*.

The remake of the expiring Stock Route Management Regulation 2003 (Regulation) is progressing and key amendments will be communicated once the Regulation commences.

The following amendments commenced on 28 February 2023.

### Key changes

#### Local governments to retain 100% of stock route revenue

Local governments will keep 100% of the revenue collected from application and permit fees, fines, and water facility agreements. Previously, 50% of collected funds needed to be returned to the department. The 100% retained funds must continue to be used for the administration, maintenance, or improvement of the stock route network.

#### Stock route management plans

Stock route management plans prepared by local governments (under Chapter 3, Part 3 of the Act) will now last longer (5 years) to align with the life of the State Stock Route Management Strategy (the Strategy).

A local government that is required to prepare a stock route management plan

- will have up to 12 months to prepare its plan after the Strategy is published
- no longer needs to establish a working group to prepare the plan or submit a draft plan to the Minister for consideration
- must consult relevant state agencies and adopt its plan under processes that have been formalised for consistency
- must publish a draft plan on its website for public comment and consider submissions before the plan is finalised
- must ensure its adopted plan is consistent with the principles of stock route network management and the Strategy.

Transitional provisions allow the current Strategy and existing adopted plans to continue.

Note: when the remake Regulation commences, the following councils will no longer be required to prepare a Stock Route Management Plan (though they may still choose to do so): Bulloo Shire Council, Charters Towers Shire Council, Cloncurry Shire Council, Mt Isa City Council and Quilpie Shire Council.

## Stock route mapping

The process of declaring stock routes by regulation, has been replaced by the Chief Executive certifying and publishing a digital online map of stock routes under new section 97A of the Act. This means that

- the stock route map can be updated administratively whenever necessary
- the current stock route map continues until it is replaced by the first certified and published map
- an online record of previously certified/published maps will be kept for public access.

The process to amend stock routes is being developed and will be communicated separately.

## Notifications

Under broadened notification provisions, local governments may now publish notices on their website or in a suitable local media channel, e.g. for notifications associated with stock route network management plans, agistment permits or seizing stock.

## Further information

For more information about stock routes, visit the website at <https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/land/access/stock-routes>

*Stock Route Management Act 2002* and *Stock Route Management Regulation 2003*  
<https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/browse/inforce>

If you have questions or require further information about these changes, call 13 QGOV (13 74 68) to contact your nearest business centre.