



# ADDENDUM

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**Meeting:** General Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**Location:** **Sports Centre,  
Georgetown**

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

**Councillors:** Cr Hughes  
Cr Carroll  
Cr Royes  
Cr Ryan  
Cr Tincknell

## Agenda Attached

Ken Timms PSM  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

## **Local Government Act Qld 2009**

Section 4(2) of the *Local Government Act Qld 2009* state that the local government principles are:

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

## **Local Government Regulation 2012**

Section 254(J) Closed meetings:

- (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 one or more of the following matters –
    - a) The appointment, dismissal or discipline of a chief executive officer
    - b) Industrial matters affecting employees
    - c) The local government's budget
    - d) Rating concessions
    - e) Legal advice obtained by the Council or legal proceedings involving the local government including, for example, legal proceedings that may be taken by or against the local government
    - f) Matters that may directly affect the health and safety of an individual or group of individuals
    - g) 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
    - h) Negotiations relating to the taking of land by the local government under the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967*
    - i) A matter the local government is required to keep confidential under a law of, or formal arrangement with, the Commonwealth or a State
    - j) An investigation report given to the local government under chapter 5A, part 3, division 5 of the Act.
  - (4) However, a local government or a committee of a local government must not resolve that a part of a local government meeting at which a decision mentioned in section 150ER(2), 150ES(3) or 150EU(2) of the Act will be considered, discussed, voted on or made to be closed.
  - (5) A resolution that a local government meeting be closed must –
    - a) State the matter mentioned in subsection (3) that is to be discussed; and
    - b) Include an overview of what is to be discussed while the meeting is closed. meeting be closed must state the nature of the matters to be considered while the
    - c) meeting is closed.
  - (6) A local government or a committee of a local government must not make a resolution (other than a procedural resolution) in a local government meeting, or a part of a local government meeting, that is closed.
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**General Meeting**      **16<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

<b>Subject</b>	RADF Committee Flying Minute
<b>Classification</b>	Open
<b>Author</b>	Renee Bester, Director of Corporate Services

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council's Regional Art's Development Fund (RADF) Advisory Committee opened Round 1 of the Community Funds to the amount of \$10000, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September and closed the round on the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024. As the Committee could not meet in person prior to the October General Meeting, an e-Poll was conducted to collect member votes.

## RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to adopt the recommendations made by the RADF Committee including the following:

- Award \$3000 to The Hat Bar NT for Round 1 of the Community Funding
- Endorse Katie Jones as a RADF Committee member

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## BACKGROUND

At the previous RADF Committee, it was recommended that Round 1 of the 2024-2025 Community Funding Grant be opened to a value of \$10,000 and further a list was developed of future potential members. Round 1 closed on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October and the following e-Poll was put to the RADF Committee on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> October, closing at close of business on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

1. The RADF Committee recommends that Council approve the application for funding submitted by Hat Bar NT?

- Agree
- Reserve judgement
- Disagree
- Defer judgement

2. The RADF Committee recommends that Council formally endorse Katie Jones as a RADF Committee member?

- Agree
- Disagree

1. The RADF Committee recommends that Council approve the application for funding submitted by Hat Bar NT  
Two votes were received in support, one vote against and one no vote.

2. The RADF Committee recommends that Council formally endorse Katie Jones as a RADF committee member?

Three votes were received in support and one no vote.

Results were confirmed with the Chair on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Aim No. 4: Quality social infrastructure makes the shire a desirable place to live.  
Corporate Outcome No. 4.3: A culturally aware community.

BUDGET & RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

Nil. Budget for Round 1 was \$10,000.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

RADF Guidelines

CONSULTATION

Please consult Council’s Community Engagement Policy in conjunction with the IAP2 Spectrum for guidance.

Consultation	Tick	Policy Consideration	Action
<b>No consultation required</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
<b>Inform</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Consult</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Involve</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Collaborate</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Empower</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

RISK ASSESSMENT

Risk Assessment Outcome: Assess likelihood and consequence to calculate outcome (Low, Medium, High)

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

**Report Prepared By:**

**Report Authorised By:**

**Renee Bester**

**Ken Timms PSM**

**Date: 14/10/2024**

**Date: 14/10/2024**

ATTACHMENTS

Includes attachments:

- Survey Results

# The RADF Committee recommends that Council approve the application for funding submitted b

3 Responses

00:48 Average time to complete

Active Status

1. The RADF Committee recommends that Council approve the application for funding submitted by Hat Bar NT?

● Agree (full amount \$3000)	2
● Agree (other amount)	0
● Disagree	1
● Require more information	0



2. The RADF Committee recommends that Council formally endorse Katie Jones as a RADF Committee member?

● Agree	3
● Disagree	0





**General Meeting**      **16<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

<b>Subject</b>	Draft 2025-2029 Corporate Plan
<b>Classification</b>	Open
<b>Author</b>	Renee Bester, Director of Corporate Services

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council engaged Mead Perry to conduct Council's 2024-2025 Corporate Plan. Mead Perry undertook consultation in the week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> October with Staff, Council and Communities to discuss the response from the survey results.

Mead Perry have drafted a document based on the feedback received and the objectives of the Councillors for endorsement.

## RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to:

- Endorse the draft 2024-2029 Etheridge Shire Council Corporate Plan subject to public comment for 30 days, with the final document to be presented to the December 2024 General Meeting.

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## BACKGROUND

As per s104 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a local government must prepare and adopt a five-year corporate plan which must:

- outline the strategic direction of the local government
- state performance indicators for measuring progress in achieving the local governments vision
- outline the objectives of each commercial business unit and the nature and extent of the significant business activity conducted by each commercial business unit

As per s165-166 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a local government must adopt the corporate plan in sufficient time to allow the budget and annual operational plan consistent with the corporate plan to be adopted for the 1<sup>st</sup> financial year that is covered by the plan.

The current projected plan for adoption is that upon endorsement, Council will publicly display the draft document for 30 days. The final document, including any amendments, will be presented to Council for adoption at the December 2024 General Meeting of Council. This will enable Council to commence draft 2025-2026 Operational Plan and Budget in early 2025.

## LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

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

Corporate Outcome No. 5.1: Council provides community leadership through financial sustainability and an open and accountable governance structure.

## BUDGET & RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

Nil.

## LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Local Government Act 2009

Local Government Regulations 2012

## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

## CONSULTATION

Please consult Council's Community Engagement Policy in conjunction with the IAP2 Spectrum for guidance.

Consultation	Tick	Policy Consideration	Action
No consultation required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Council will publicly display the draft document for 30 day for comment prior to adopting a final version.
Inform	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Consult	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Involve	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Collaborate	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Empower	<input type="checkbox"/>		

#### RISK ASSESSMENT

Risk Assessment Outcome: M

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

Report Prepared By:

Report Authorised By:

Renee Bester

Ken Timms PSM

Date: 14/10/2024

Date: 14/10/2024

#### ATTACHMENTS

Includes attachments:

- Draft 2025-2029 Corporate Plan



# Etheridge Shire Council

## Corporate Plan 2025 to 2029

### our Mission

... To lead the community in line with our guiding principles to achieve our shared vision...

### our Vision

... Etheridge Shire is a place of innovation, diversity and opportunity for all. We have a vibrant and cohesive community which is provided with quality services that maintain a high quality of life. Inclusive and progressive leadership ensures a sustainable community, economy and environment,...

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Etheridge Shire is a place of innovation, diversity, and opportunity for all. We have vibrant and unique communities that are provided with community focused services that maintain our country centric ways of life. Dynamic leadership ensures sustainable communities, economies, and best practices for our environment.

### Our Guiding Principles

**Safe** - We focus on creating a safe workplace to ensure the wellbeing of our staff and the community;

**Teamwork** - We work together as one council towards shared goals and for the greater good of the community;

**Respect** - We will be inclusive, treat people with courtesy and fairness, and ensure each individual is valued and heard;

**Integrity**- We will behave in a way that is honest, open, and transparent. We will take responsibility for our actions and strive for excellence;

**Value** - We aim to deliver services efficiently, effectively and in an environmentally and financially sustainable manner; and

**Engagement** - We engage with our staff and community to inform our decision making, and create awareness of our activities.

# Corporate Plan Aims & Outcomes

## Aim 1 – Roads/Transport

A sustainable transport network that meets community needs

### Outcome

1.1 Shire rural roads are all weather, town streets are bitumen with footpaths, kerb, channelling and drainage.

1.2 Transport and Main Roads is committed to developing a network that is fully sealed to Road Train Route standard.

1.3 There are multiple public transport options.

### Strategy

Strategy No.	Strategy	Performance Measure
1.1.1	An asset management strategy to support the monitoring, maintenance, replacement and enhancement of council's road assets.	Asset management Works Program annually adopted.
1.1.2	Develop and implement a comprehensive, sustainable and funded, 10-year Capital Works Program for roads, incorporating road train access and drainage.	10 Year Capital Works Program annually adopted.
1.1.3	Lobby for adequate funding to enable the repair of the shire road network affected by natural disaster.	Quantity of work completed.
1.1.4	Work with regional groups and our communities to upgrade Local Roads of Regional Significance (LRRS).	Number of LRRS roads and funding opportunities.
1.2.1	Maintain relationship with the Department of Transport and Main Roads to undertake road construction and maintenance (Road Train Routes).	% of works program completed.
1.2.2	Continue to lobby to raise the national profile of the Georgetown to Forsayth, Kennedy, Gulf and Gregory Development Roads and Bridges and for additional funding for high priority widening and sealing.	% of works program completed.
1.3.1	An asset management strategy to support the monitoring, maintenance, replacement and enhancement of council's airports and airfield assets.	Asset management Works Program annually adopted.
1.3.2	Advocate for improved airfield infrastructure and services.	Number of meetings attended and funding obtained.
1.3.3	Advocate for improved rail and bus services.	Number of services available.

## Aim 2 – Environment

A sustainable Environment of natural assets, water, wastewater and waste management

### Outcome

- 2.1 Best practice water and wastewater management.
- 2.2 Best practice waste management.
- 2.3 Best practice natural environment and pest management.
- 2.4 An energy efficient shire.
- 2.5 Industry has sustainable environmental practices.

### Strategy

Strategy No.	Strategy	Performance Measure
2.1.1	An asset management strategy to support the monitoring, maintenance, replacement and enhancement of council's water and wastewater assets.	Asset management Works Program annually adopted.
2.1.2	Develop and implement a comprehensive, sustainable and funded, 10-year Capital Works Program to deliver good quality, reliable water and wastewater supplies for all communities.	10 Year Capital Works Program annually adopted.
2.1.3	Water Reservoirs are operating and environmentally compliant.	% Compliance.
2.1.4	Lobby for adequate funding to enable the repair and maintenance of shire water and wastewater network affected by natural disaster or other events.	Number of meetings attended and funding obtained.
2.2.1	An asset management strategy to support the monitoring, maintenance, replacement and enhancement of council's collection and waste management facilities throughout shire.	Asset management Works Program annually adopted.
2.2.2	Waste transfer stations are operating and environmentally compliant	% Compliance.
2.3.1	Develop Council's Biosecurity Plan in consultation with landowners and other stakeholders to reduce the impact of existing and emerging pests and weeds.	Works program annually adopted.
2.3.2	In partnership with the community and external agencies, promote and support best practice management of the natural environment.	Number of meetings attended and funding obtained.
2.4.1	Support of renewable energy, carbon reduction programs and council's carbon footprint.	Quantity of Renewable energy and carbon credits.
2.5.1	Companies and industries are environmentally compliant.	% Compliance.

## Aim 3 – Economic

A diversified economic development ensures a prosperous shire

### Outcome

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

3.2 A diversified economic base: rural, tourism, mining and support services.

3.3 Large scale projects provide a legacy for our communities.

### Strategy

Strategy No.	Strategy	Performance Measure
3.1.1	Maintain a compliant planning scheme that supports the future development of our shire.	% Compliance.
3.1.2	Review and update the asset management strategy to support the monitoring, maintenance, replacement and enhancement of council's housing stock.	Asset management Works Program annually adopted.
	Plan and develop a range of land and housing options for youth, families and older members of the communities.	
3.1.3	Advocating for the release of land or State Land for future development across the shire.	Number of meetings attended and funding obtained.
3.2.1	Facilitate the development and marketing of a distinctive regional image.	Growth in economic development.
3.2.2	Support community development to expand and meet the growing needs of the region through infrastructure, income diversification and advocacy.	Growth in economic development, tourism numbers, rural products, mining, renewable energy.
3.2.3	Support skills development (youth, business, industry).	Number of programs conducted.
3.2.4	Career pathway and employment opportunities for youth.	% of under 35 consistent with state average.
3.2.5	Improve business and policy outcomes to support local businesses.	% of local spent dollars.
3.2.6	Advocate for the development of the Etheridge Agriculture Precinct and associated agricultural , including commodities ie water, industries.	Number of meetings attended and funding obtained.
3.3.1	Companies of large-scale projects operate with a suitable social licence to our community.	Employment by Industry.
3.3.2	Large-scale projects provide long term benefits to our community.	Value Added by Industry Sector.

## Aim 4 – Social

Quality social infrastructure makes the shire a desirable place to live

### Outcome

4.1 An active community with a variety of recreational activities.

4.2 An invigorated Community with a variety of multi-age services.

4.3 A culturally aware community.

4.4 A variety of modern communication mechanisms available for the whole shire.

### Strategy

Strategy No.	Strategy	Performance Measure
4.1.1	Review and update the comprehensive asset management strategy to support the monitoring, maintenance, replacement and enhancement of council's parks, garden and recreational facilities.	Asset management Works Program annually adopted.
4.1.2	Establishment suitable recreational activities/facilities at water reservoirs.	% of works program completed.
4.1.3	Enhance and improve the aesthetics of each town.	% of works program completed.
4.1.4	Advocate for funding for additional sport and recreation infrastructure.	Number of meetings attended and funding obtained.
4.2.1	Review and update the comprehensive asset management strategy to support the monitoring, maintenance, replacement and enhancement of Council's Health, assisted living, childcare facilities	Asset management Works Program annually adopted.
4.2.2	Ensure that services to the community for childcare, youth hostel and assisted living services are provided.	Operational performance and customer feedback.
4.2.3	Construct care facilities to retain citizens in the community.	% of works program completed.
4.2.4	Advocate and facilitate the provision and improvement of central and remote health services.	Number of meetings attended and funding obtained.
4.2.5	Advocate and facilitate for improvements in educational services to be provided within the shire.	Number of meetings attended and funding obtained.
4.2.6	Advocate for policing and emergency capability and service delivery across the Shire.	Number of meetings attended.
4.3.1	Review and update the comprehensive asset management strategy to support the monitoring, maintenance, replacement and enhancement of council's social infrastructure.	Asset management Works Program annually adopted.
4.3.2	Provide libraries, as learning and information centres.	Operational performance and customer feedback.

Strategy No.	Strategy	Performance Measure
4.3.3	Engage with and support local arts and cultural groups.	Number of meetings attended.
4.3.4	Build and strengthen the Shire's identity through the support and provision of a variety of events and branding our corporate image.	Number of events held and funding obtained.
4.3.5	Encourage local historians to preserve and promote local history and heritage.	Number of meetings attended.
4.4.1	Improve co-operation and communication with relevant stakeholders and all levels of government in the strategic planning of future community infrastructure.	Number of meetings attended and funding obtained.
4.4.2	Review and update the comprehensive asset management strategy to support the maintenance, replacement and enhancement of council's communication assets.	Asset management Works Program annually adopted.

## Aim 5 – Governance

Best practice corporate governance and organisational excellence

### Outcome

5.1 Effective communication between council and the community and across the community.

5.2 Council operations support quality service provision and good governance.

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

5.4 Desirable staffing balance that reflects Council and community expectations.

5.5 Council is effective in attracting and retaining qualified, experienced and committed staff.

5.6 Council is effective in planning, preparing and responding to natural disasters.

### Strategy

Strategy No.	Strategy	Performance Measure
5.1.1	Using appropriate media, promote civil and respectful discussion and participation in relevant issues.	Community Survey.
5.1.2	Disseminate accurate and relevant information within the organization, the community and other relevant audiences.	Community Survey.
5.1.3	Review the current practice of holding consultation meetings throughout the Shire and distribution of newsletter 'Inform' to maximise effective community engagement.	Number of "community connect" meetings.
5.1.4	Council will embrace exceptional customer service, valuing staff and promoting ethical standards of practice, supported by clear policies and strategies.	Community Survey.
5.2.1	Ensure the transparency of council's administration and promote awareness within the community of council's financial management and other strategies.	Operational performance and customer feedback.
5.2.2	Pursue opportunities for external income sources to enhance financial capacity beyond traditional methods.	Financial Position.
5.2.3	Ensure the efficiency of procurement and stores activity.	% Compliance.
5.2.4	Ensure the efficiency of depot and engineering administration.	% of works program completed.
5.2.5	Maintain a profitable fleet business and manage contractor hire arrangements.	% profitability of plant.

Strategy No.	Strategy	Performance Measure
5.3.1	Ensure a preparedness to respond to natural disasters and other emergencies and engage in planning activities aimed at minimising the impact of such disasters on the community.	Number of events and community feedback.
5.3.2	Maintain a compliant, resourced disaster management plan.	% Compliance.
5.4.1	Expect an environment of honesty and integrity in which elected members, managers and staff work together in a spirit of trust and teamwork.	Annual Staff and contractor Survey.
5.4.2	Actively participate in the membership of regional development and other organisations in order to achieve mutual regional priorities.	Number of meetings attended.
5.4.3	Councillors take a leadership role in the community, serve as a role model and provide strategic direction for the continued growth and development of the region.	Number of meetings attended.
5.5.1	Develop, review and implement a staffing strategy to the efficiency of council operations.	Strategy adopted.
5.5.2	Council processes, service levels and use of technology provide an efficient use of resources.	Number of processes reviewed.
5.5.3	Provide accountable, professional, responsible, timely and accessible services to external and internal customers that reflect the values of the organization.	KPI: External - Snap send solve, Internal - Council Requests.
5.6.1	Ensure councillors and staff are provided with relevant skills and professional development opportunities to achieve stated strategic priorities and corporate objectives.	% of works program completed.
5.6.2	Implement effective HRM strategy throughout the organisation.	Staff turnover.
5.6.3	Develop and implement organisation well-being programs.	% Compliance.
5.6.4	Develop and implement proactive WHS and enterprise risk strategies to reduce threats to the council and the community.	% Compliance.



## **Message from the Mayor .....**

“ I am pleased to present Etheridge Shire Council’s Corporate Plan for 2025 - 2029. ”.....

Cr. Barry Hughes

Council has just recently completed a review of the existing Corporate Plan. It is councils’ duty to present the revised version of the Corporate Plan that will serve the current Council as a working document for the next five years.

Information for the revision process has been collated utilising valuable input from Councillors and staff, as well as strong participation in the survey and local meetings from communities across the Shire.

The new Corporate Plan will guide and assist Councils deliberations, bringing clarity to decision making processes across all aspects of Councils business.

The KPI’s forming the cornerstones around the revised Corporate Plan consist of

- A sustainable Transport network that meets community needs.
- A sustainable Environment of natural assets, water, wastewater and waste management.
- A diversified Economic development ensures a prosperous shire.
- Quality Social infrastructure makes the shire a desirable place to live.
- Best practice corporate governance and organisational excellence.

It is the expectation of this Council and officers of council, that the plan offers itself as a significant tool to help achieve the necessary changes to be undertaken on a proactive platform. This will ensure effective financial and physical performances from whole of council delivering a sustainable future for all shire residents.

In revising the existing Corporate Plan council has considered extensively the changing dynamics across community's and industries within the shire, and in doing so has provided strategic pathways and objectives to achieve cost effective outcomes.

Council has a very clear intention to remain engaged with whole of community to maintain a high level of service provision and connectivity as well as strong leadership through advocacy to all levels of government.

I look forward to working closely with your council to ensure that community expectations match the capacity of council to deliver through continuity of engagement, encouragement of council and community partnerships and collaboration, plus a robust management approach to achieve the goals set out in this document.

Barry Hughes

MAYOR

## **Elected Representatives**

## Regional Profile

The early history of the Etheridge Shire is synonymous with famous explorers such as Leichhardt (1844-45), Gregory (1855-56), McKinlay (1862) and Jardine (1864), all of whom traversed the area seeking minerals, timber and good pastoral land.

Etheridge Shire Council – Administration Building Georgetown History also records that in 1869 a young geologist named Richard Daintree explored the area around 41 Mile Creek and the Gilbert and Copperfield rivers, revealing the presence of payable gold. May 1870 saw the establishment of the community of Etheridge, along the banks of the Etheridge River. In November of the same year, this new settlement became known as Georgetown, named after the first gold commissioner in the region, Howard St. George.

The Etheridge Shire Council was first called the “Einiasleigh Divisional Board” which then became the Einiasleigh Shire Council in 1902 before changing its name to the Etheridge Shire Council in March 1919, because Council’s mail was being sent to Einiasleigh instead of Georgetown.

The grazing occupation of the Gulf Savannah originated with Carpentaria Downs, which in the mid 1800’s was partially owned by sea captain Robert Towns, founder of both Burketown and Townsville. The main pastoral settlements appeared in the eastern part of the Shire, where large individual areas were taken up. In many cases these settlements remain some of the largest stations in the Shire today.

Relics of the famous gold rush days can still be found throughout the district and the settlements of Mt Surprise, Einiasleigh, and Forsayth, together with Georgetown, remain a fossickers dream. The Etheridge goldfield, the “poor mans” goldfield, has never been worked out, and modern-day prospectors armed with metal detectors still search for specimens such as coloured topaz, agates, sapphires, smoky quartz and other precious stones, as well as nuggets of gold.

The Etheridge Shire covers approximately 39,039 square kilometres of Queensland’s Gulf Savannah Region. The Shire is connected by four main communities being: Mt Surprise, Einiasleigh, Forsayth and Georgetown and two smaller communities: Kidston and Oak Park.

Local Government’s role as a third tier of government in Australia is defined in State Government legislation - being the Local Government Act 2009. Council comprises of a Mayor and four Councillors elected on an undivided basis every four years.

The Shire will be faced with many changes and challenges over the next 5 - 10 years to maintain social, environmental and financial sustainability. It is of concern that the Shire population has been diminishing and growing older and that the Shire youth are not returning after leaving for their education.

## Assessment of Local Conditions

The Etheridge Shire has experienced a steady decline in population over the last five years, leaving an estimated population of 726 people at 30 June 2023. The decline in population inversely reflects the increase in local unemployment and has caused considerable changes to the local demographics.

Positively, the population median age, which was 47.0 years in 2018, had reduced to 44.4 years in 2023. The proportion of residents aged 45+ now make up 41.3% of the shire, while those below 25 make up 31.2%. The 25-44 age group commonly associated with young families is 27.6% (see: <http://profile.id.com.au/fnqroc/population?WebID=160>).

In 2022/23, The economy's "Value Added" for Etheridge Shire was \$94.7M. Agriculture, predominately beef cattle was \$57M or 60%. The "value added" from tourism was \$9M. The difference between 'local employment' (408) and 'employed residents' (363) indicates that approximately 45 (11%) people employed in the Shire live outside the Shire.

Even with the employment statistics, the unemployment rate of 1.8% is below the regional rate of 3.3% (for further detail, go to: <http://economy.id.com.au/fnqroc/about?WebID=160>.)

Table 1 - Etheridge Shire Population Estimate: 2004 to 2024

2004	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
1,022	1,018	1,013	1,009	1,004	1,000	988	976	964	952	940	926	819	804	793	794	803	724	726



**General Meeting**      **16th October 2024**

<b>Subject</b>	TORRLINGER ROAD EXTENSION
<b>Classification</b>	Open
<b>Author</b>	Raju Ranjit – Director of Engineering Services

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report relates to the extension of the Torrlinger Road as per the request of the resident.

## RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to:

Either –

- a. accept the proposal and Council maintain as a property access road; or,
- b. accept the proposal to extend the Torrlinger Road as a gazetted road from the end of the existing Torrlinger Road to the Property fence which is 22 km subject to a Road Corridor Survey at the rate payers expense.

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## BACKGROUND

Council received a request from the land holder regarding the Torrlinger Road extension to their homestead, as they wish Council to maintain the road. The existing Torrlinger Road is an unsealed road that starts from the Paddy's Road and ends at chainage 23.25 km .

An inspection has been carried out by engineering staff. The proposed extension section is 22 km (Ref. Road Map-Green line) and has several bad flood ways. The estimated cost to bring to the standard level is \$500,000.



Proposed Road Map



LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Aim No. 1: A Sustainable Transport Network That Meets Community Needs

BUDGET & RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

Will be incorporated into Council's Shire Road budget as a class 9D road.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Local Government Act 2009.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

CONSULTATION

Please consult Council's Community Engagement Policy in conjunction with the IAP2 Spectrum for guidance.

Consultation	Tick	Policy Consideration	Action
<b>No consultation required</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	Consulted with relevant staff
<b>Inform</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Consult</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Involve</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Collaborate</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Empower</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

RISK ASSESSMENT

Risk Assessment Outcome: H if the road does not get maintenance after Council ownership process.

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

**Report Prepared By:**

**Raju Ranjit**

**Date: 4/10/2024**

**Report Authorised By:**

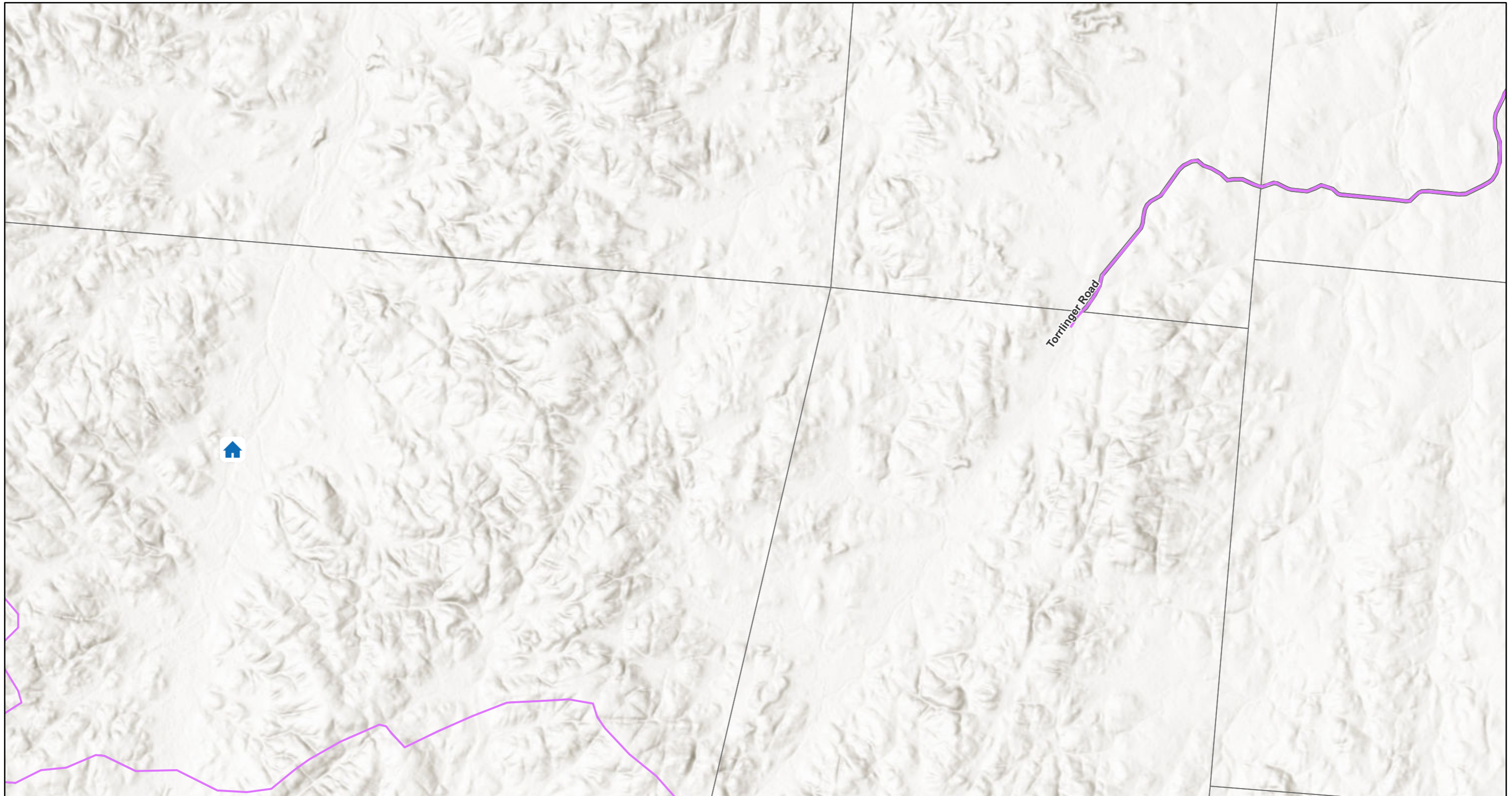
Ken Timms PSM

Date:14/10/2024

ATTACHMENTS

- Torrlinger Road Homestead location
- Current Torrlinger Road Corridor

# Etheridge Shire Council




15/10/2024, 9:21:48 am

 Homesteads

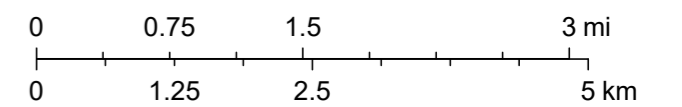
Road Centreline

 5B

 LGA

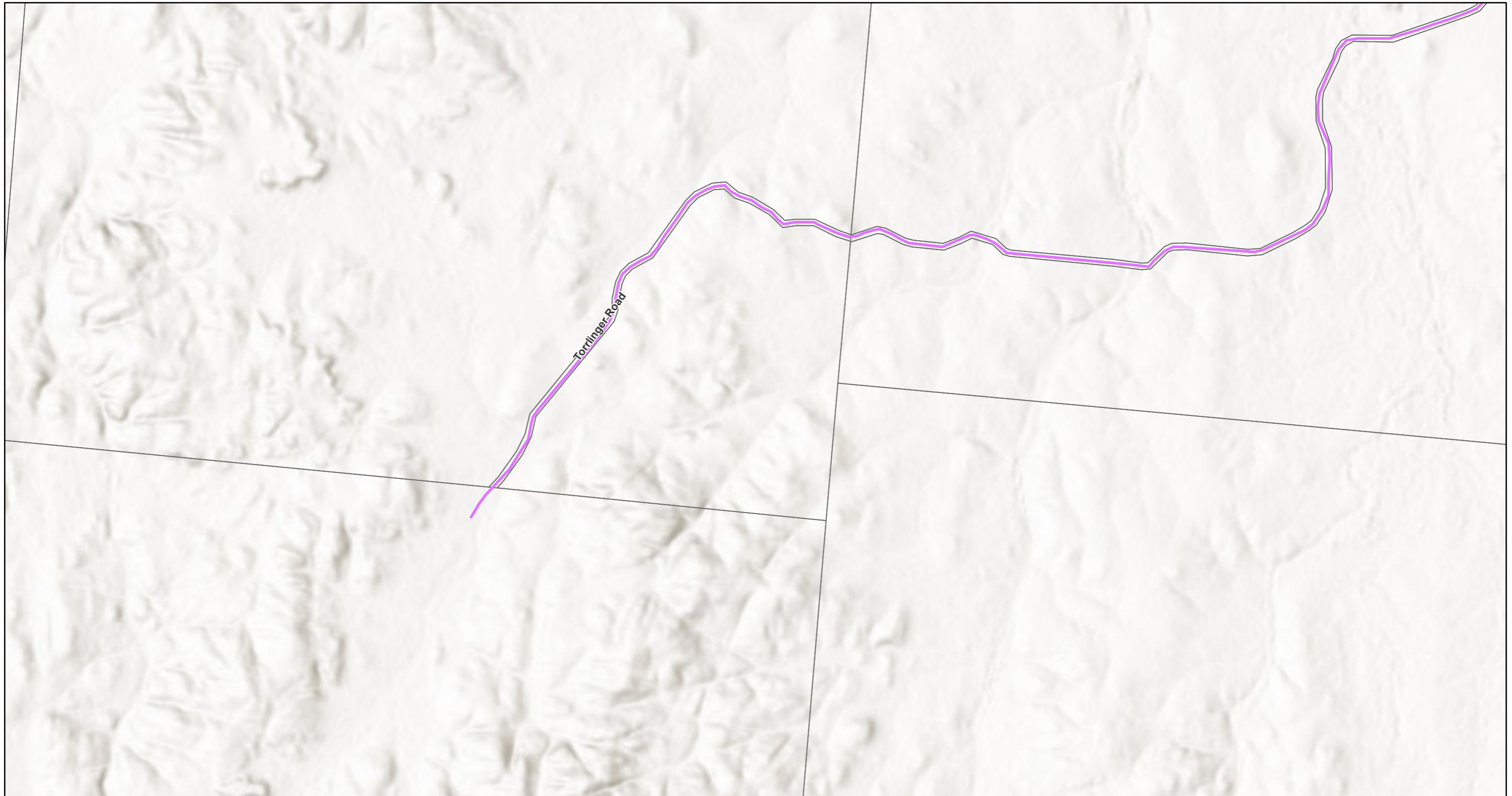
 DCDB (Sept 2024)

1:72,224



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# Etheridge Shire Council



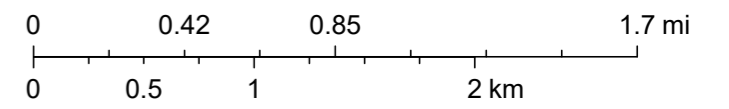
15/10/2024, 9:24:30 am

Road Centreline

5B

DCDB (Sept 2024)

1:36,112



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**General Meeting**      **16th October 2024**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>UPGRADE OF FIRTH STREET</b>
<b>Classification</b>	Open
<b>Author</b>	Raju Ranjit – Director of Engineering Services

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report relates to the upgrade the Firth Street and drainage works near in Mount Surprise .

## RECOMMENDATION

That Council accepts the proposed Firth Street upgrade project and drainage works around the Firth Street in Mount Surprise.

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## BACKGROUND

Following the Community connect session conducted in Mount Surprise on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024, Council is constructing few open drains in Mount surprise town area to reduce the risk of flooding and prevent the infrastructure from water damage.

One of the proposed open drains crosses the Firth Street. The Firth Street at present is not on the road corridor and recommended to swift within the Council Road corridor. The Local Government Act states that road should be built within the road corridor. There will be significant cost saving in mobilisation, demobilisation and cross drainage works if the works done whilst the team is constructing drainage in the Mount Surprise.



## LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Aim No. 5: *To provide service delivery and infrastructure roll out, maintenance and improvement underpins a healthy and growing economy and comfortable lifestyle in the gulf region.*

## BUDGET & RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

The relocate cost of Firth Street is approximately \$ 80,000 and will be spent under RTR funding .

## LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Local Government Act 2009.

## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

## CONSULTATION

Please consult Council's Community Engagement Policy in conjunction with the IAP2 Spectrum for guidance.

Consultation	Tick	Policy Consideration	Action
<b>No consultation required</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	Consulted with relevant staff
<b>Inform</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Consult</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Involve</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Collaborate</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Empower</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

## RISK ASSESSMENT

Risk Assessment Outcome: L

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

**Report Prepared By:**

Raju Ranjit

**Date: 2/10/2024**

**Report Authorised By:**

Ken Timms PSM

Date:

## ATTACHMENTS



Road Map