



**Liverpool
Plains**
Shire Council

BUSINESS PAPER

Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday, 23 July 2025

I hereby give notice that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on:

Date: Wednesday, 23 July 2025

Time: 2.30pm

Location: Council Chambers

**Cian Middleton
General Manager**

Order Of Business

1	Acknowledgement of Country and Council Prayer.....	5
2	Apologies and Applications for a Leave of Absence by Councillors or Attendance via Audio-Visual link by Councillors	5
3	Confirmation of Minutes	6
3.1	Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 30 June 2025	6
4	Disclosures of Interests.....	18
5	Mayoral Minute(s).....	19
5.1	Mayoral Minute - 2025 National General Assembly (NGA) of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA).....	19
5.2	Mayoral Minute - Addressing the Illegal Tabacco Trade in the Liverpool Plains Shire and New South Wales	23
5.3	Mayoral Minute - Cost-Shifting onto Local Government.....	25
6	Reports of the General Manager.....	31
6.1	Executive Services - June 2025	31
6.2	Resolutions Register Update	33
6.3	Expresions of Interest for Liverpool Plains Shire Local Advisory Committees.....	55
6.4	Appointment of Council Delegate to the Wallabadah Community Association Incorporated.....	63
6.5	Sponsorship Request - 2025 Quirindi Spring Show.....	66
7	Reports of the Director Corporate and Community Services	70
7.1	Corporate and Community Services Directorate Report June 2025	70
7.2	Statement of Investments - June 2025	76
8	Reports of the Director Infrastructure and Environmental Services	100
8.1	Infrastructure & Environmental Services Directorate Report June 2025	100
9	Delegates Reports	121
	Nil	
10	Notices of Motions/Questions with Notice	121
	Nil	
11	Confidential Matters	122
11.1	Expresssion of Interest - Sale or Lease of the Royal Theatre Quirindi	122

- 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND COUNCIL PRAYER**
- 2 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS
OR ATTENDANCE VIA AUDIO-VISUAL LINK BY COUNCILLORS**

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 30 JUNE 2025

File Number: G2025/0268
Author: Christie Pearson, Executive Services Coordinator
Authoriser: Cian Middleton, General Manager
Annexures: A. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 30 June 2025

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 30 June 2025 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

**MINUTES OF LIVERPOOL PLAINS SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON MONDAY, 30 JUNE 2025 AT 2:30 PM**

PRESENT: Cr Ken Cudmore, Cr Donna Lawson, Cr Jason Allan, Cr Shawn Cain, Cr Terry Cohen, Cr James Robertson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Cian Middleton (General Manager), Nathan Skelly (Director Infrastructure and Environmental Services), Katrina Gresser (Acting CFO), Deborah Perry-Brown (Executive Support Officer), Jared McCulloch (Coordinator Governance, Risk and Corporate Records)

AUDIO RECORDING OF MEETINGS

The Mayor informed the meeting as follows:

This meeting of Liverpool Plains Shire Council is being live-streamed to Council's website, and a webcast of this meeting will be published to Council's website at <https://www.liverpoolplains.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Meetings/Council-meeting-livestreams> so that it is available for viewing by members of the public.

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND COUNCIL PRAYER

Cr Allan recited the Acknowledgement of Country and the Council Prayer.

2 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS OR ATTENDANCE VIA AUDIO-VISUAL LINK BY COUNCILLORS

2.1 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSECE BY COUNCILLORS

RESOLUTION 2025/106

Moved: Cr Ken Cudmore

Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen

That Council accept the apology submitted from Cr Charlie Simkin be received and accepted.

CARRIED

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 28 MAY 2025

RESOLUTION 2025/107

Moved: Cr Shawn Cain

Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson

1. That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28 May 2025 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

CARRIED**4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS**

The Mayor requested Councillors disclose any conflicts of interest in matters under consideration at the Ordinary Meeting, in accordance with Part 4 and part 5 of the Code of Conduct.

Cr Shawn Cain declared a pecuniary interest in relation to item 8.1 - Infrastructure & Environmental Services Directorate Report for the reason that he provides services to the Water and Waste Water division of Council. If there are any items that require discussion he will vacate the chamber.

Cr Shawn Cain declared a pecuniary interest in relation to item 8.4 - SPT132526LPSC Provision of Control Systems Support for the reason that he provides services to the Water and Waste Water division of Council and will vacate the chamber for this item.

5 MAYORAL MINUTE(S)**5.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - MAY 2025**

RESOLUTION 2025/108

Moved: Cr Ken Cudmore

Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Mayoral Minute for May 2025.

CARRIED**5.2 MAYORAL MINUTE - 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLACKTOWN CITY-LIVERPOOL PLAINS SHIRE SISTER CITY PARTNERSHIP**

RESOLUTION 2025/109

Moved: Cr Ken Cudmore

Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen

That Council:

1. Extend its appreciation to Blacktown City Council for hosting the Mayor and General Manager of Liverpool Plains Shire Council at the Streets Alive Festival and Sister City Anniversary Dinner on Saturday, 7 June 2025.
2. Invite the Mayor, Councillors and Executive Staff of Blacktown City Council to attend a reciprocal anniversary dinner in the Liverpool Plains Shire on Friday, 12 September, and the 2025 Quirindi Spring Show on Saturday, 13 and Sunday, 14 September 2025.

CARRIED

5.3 MAYORAL MINUTE - 2025 LOCAL ROADS CONGRESS

RESOLUTION 2025/110

Moved: Cr Ken Cudmore

Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson

That Council:

1. Receive endorse the Congress Communiqué as appended at *Annexure A*.
2. Write to the following members highlighting the issues raised at the 2025 NSW Local Roads Congress seeking their support:
 - (a) The Hon Chris Minns MP, Premier of NSW
 - (b) The Hon Prue Car MP, Deputy Premier of NSW
 - (c) The Hon John Graham MLC, Minister for Transport
 - (d) The Hon Jenny Aitchison MP, Minister for Regional Transport and Minister for Roads
 - (e) The Hon Ron Hoenig MP, Minister for Local Government
 - (f) The Hon Catherine King MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
 - (g) The Hon Kevin Anderson MP, Member for Tamworth
 - (h) The Hon Barnaby Joyce MP, Member for New England

CARRIED**6 REPORTS OF THE GENERAL MANAGER****6.1 EXECUTIVE SERVICES - MAY 2025**

RESOLUTION 2025/111

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr Shawn Cain

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Executive Services Report for May 2025.

CARRIED**6.2 RESOLUTIONS REGISTER UPDATE**

RESOLUTION 2025/112

Moved: Cr Jason Allan

Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Resolutions Register as at 18 June 2025 as appended at *Annexure A* and the Resolution Register for 2023 and 2024 as appended at *Annexure B*.

CARRIED

6.3 ADOPTION OF DRAFT STRATEGIC WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

RESOLUTION 2025/113

Moved: Cr Terry Cohen

Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson

That Council:

1. Adopt the draft Strategic Workforce Management Plan appended at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED

6.4 ENDORSEMENT OF DRAFT COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

RESOLUTION 2025/114

Moved: Cr James Robertson

Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson

That Council:

1. Pursuant to section 402 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, formally endorse the draft Liverpool Plains Shire Community Strategic Plan appended at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED

7 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

7.1 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE REPORT MAY 2025

RESOLUTION 2025/115

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr James Robertson

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Corporate and Community Services Directorate update report for May 2025.

CARRIED

7.2 ADOPTION OF DRAFT COMBINED DELIVERY PROGRAM 2026-2029 AND OPERATIONAL PLAN 2025-2026 INCLUDING DRAFT FEES AND CHARGES SCHEDULE 2025-2026

RESOLUTION 2025/116

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr Jason Allan

That Council:

1. Request the General Manager respond to each of the submissions received as appended at *Annexure A*.
2. Pursuant to sections 404 and 405 of the Local Government Act 1993, the Combined Delivery Program 2026-2029 and Operational Plan 2025-2026, including the Statement of Revenue Policy and Financial Information, appended at *Annexure B*, and the Fees and Charges 2025-2026, appended at *Annexure C* – with the inclusion of the following fee – Swimming Clubs exclusive use (weekday and weekends) per hour \$100.00.
3. Pursuant to clause 211(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, approve expenditure and vote funds as detailed in the Operational Plan 2025-2026 and Financial Information.
4. Pursuant to section 405(6) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, place the Operational Plan 2025-2026 on Council's website within 28 days of adoption.

CARRIED

7.3 MAKING OF THE RATES AND FIXING OF CHARGES 2025-2026

RESOLUTION 2025/117

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr Shawn Cain

That Council:

1. In accordance with Chapter 15, Parts 4 and 5 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, make and levy the following rates and annual charges for the 2025-2026 financial year:
 - (a) In relation to Ordinary Rates, Council has applied the increase of four (4) per cent as determined by the Independent Pricing and Remuneration Tribunal
 - (b) In relation to Ordinary Rates and pursuant to section 494, Council makes and levies the following Ordinary Rates for the year 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2026:

Ordinary Rates				
Rating Category	Sub-Category	Ad Valorem cents in \$	Base \$ Amount	Base Amount % of Yield
Farmland	Farmland	0.00192517	520	9.24%
	Quirindi	0.00618776	400	39.69%
	Residential – Mixed	0.00618368	400	43.70%
Residential	Development			
	Rural	0.00557863	400	27.01%
	Villages	0.00672295	400	47.80%

	Werris Creek	0.00930124	400	48.08%
	Quirindi	0.02249205	520	16.85%
	Business – Mixed Development	0.02249205	520	22.15%
	Villages	0.02249205	520	18.01%
Business	Premier	0.02353206	520	49.59%
	Spring Ridge	0.02249205	520	46.87%
	Wallabadah	0.02249205	520	25.00%
	Ordinary	0.02249205	520	23.53%
	Werris Creek	0.02249205	520	24.82%
Mining	Mining	0.03253586	2,725	19.40%
	Coal	0.02821151	2,725	0.49%

- (c) In accordance with sections 496 and 501 of the Local Government Act, Council makes and levies an annual charge for the provision of both domestic and commercial waste management services on each rateable and non-rateable property having access to these services for the year 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2026:

Waste Group	Applicable Charges	Amount \$
Residential – Currabubula, Quirindi, Wallabadah, Werris Creek, Willow Tree		
Occupied	Tip Facility Charge	115
	Domestic Waste Management Charge	515
Unoccupied	Tip Facility Charge	115
	Domestic Waste Management Charge	81
Business - Currabubula, Quirindi, Wallabadah, Werris Creek, Willow Tree		
Occupied	Tip Facility Charge	115
	Commercial Waste Management Charge	515
All Other Businesses		
	Tip Facility Charge	115
All Rural Properties		
	Tip Facility Charge	115
Additional Services		
	240 Litre Fortnightly Co-Mingled Recycling Service	179
	240 Litre Weekly Mobile Garbage Bin Service	360

- (d) In relation to water supply service charges and pursuant to sections 501, 502 and 552, Council makes and levies the following charges on all consumers connected to, or capable of being connected to, the Liverpool Plains Shire water supply systems and water supply for the year 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2026:

Standard size	Water Service Charge	Access Charge \$	Quarterly Step Usage \$/kL - up to 75kL	Quarterly Step Usage \$/kL - over 75kL
Residential and Non-residential	Vacant lots unoccupied	759	3.94	4.70
	20mm	759	3.94	4.70
	25mm	1,200	3.94	4.70
	32mm	1,800	3.94	4.70
	40mm	2,235	3.94	4.70

	50mm	3,490	3.94	4.70
	80mm	8,915	3.94	4.70
	100mm	13,915	3.94	4.70

Other Charges	Access Charge \$	Usage \$/kL
Recreational Usage	Variable Meter Size	3.94

- (e) In relation to sewerage service charges and pursuant to sections 501, 502 and 552, Council makes and levies the following annual charge on all consumers connected to, or capable of being connected to, the Liverpool Plains Shire sewer systems and sewer charges for the year 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2026:

Sewer Service Charges	Access Charge \$	Usage Charge \$/kL
Vacant Lots Unoccupied	785	0
20mm	785	0
25mm	785	0

Non-Residential Standard Charge	Access Charge \$	Usage Charge \$/kL
20mm	520	2.60
25mm	785	2.60
32mm	1,165	2.60
40mm and over	1,770	2.60

2. Pursuant to section 566(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council adopts the overdue rates and charges maximum interest rate of 10.5 per cent for the period 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 (inclusive) in accordance with the determination made by the Minister for Local Government as published in the Government Gazette No 119 – 28th day of March 2025.

CARRIED

7.4 ADOPTION OF DRAFT LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2026-2035

RESOLUTION 2025/118

Moved: Cr James Robertson

Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen

That Council:

1. Adopt the Long-Term Financial Plan 2026-2035 appended at *Annexure A*.
2. Repeal the Long-Term Financial Plan adopted 26 June 2024.

CARRIED

7.5 STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS - MAY 2025

RESOLUTION 2025/119

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr Shawn Cain

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Statement of Investments as at 31 May 2025 as appended at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED

7.6 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 MAY 2025

RESOLUTION 2025/120

Moved: Cr Terry Cohen

Seconded: Cr Shawn Cain

That Council:

1. Receive the minutes appended at *Annexure A* of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 16 May 2025 and the recommendations therein be adopted.

CARRIED**8 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES****8.1 INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE REPORT MAY 2025**

RESOLUTION 2025/121

Moved: Cr Terry Cohen

Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Infrastructure & Environmental Services Directorate report for the month of May 2025.

CARRIED**8.2 ENDORSEMENT AND ADOPTION OF CROWN LANDS PLAN OF MANAGEMENT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF NATIVE TITLE MANAGER ADVICE**

RESOLUTION 2025/122

Moved: Cr James Robertson

Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen

That Council:

1. Receive the Crown Land Plan of Management, appended at *Annexure A*, and confirm that it has considered the Native Title Manager advice, appended at *Annexure B*, in relation to the Plan of Management.
2. Adopt the Plan of Management pursuant to section 38 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

At 3:25 pm, Cr Donna Lawson left the meeting.

CARRIED

8.3 ADOPTION OF DRAFT ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS

RESOLUTION 2025/123

Moved: Cr Shawn Cain

Seconded: Cr James Robertson

That Council:

1. Adopt the following Asset Management Plans:
 - (a) Aerodrome Asset Management Plan appended at *Annexure A*
 - (b) Buildings Asset Management Plan as appended at *Annexure B*
 - (c) Fleet Asset Management Plan as appended at *Annexure C*
 - (d) Parks and Recreation Asset Management Plan as appended at *Annexure D*
 - (e) Transportation Asset Management Plan as appended at *Annexure E*
 - (f) Centralised Waste Water Asset Management Plan as appended at *Annexure F*
 - (g) Town Water Supplies Asset Management Plan as appended at *Annexure G*
2. Adopt the Asset Management Strategy, appended at *Annexure H*.

At 3:28 pm, Cr Donna Lawson returned to the meeting.

CARRIED

8.4 SPT132526LPSC PROVISION OF CONTROL SYSTEMS SUPPORT

RESOLUTION 2025/124

Moved: Cr James Robertson

Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen

That Council:

1. Adopt the suppliers listed below be appointed to this contract as Panel Source suppliers to Liverpool Plains Shire Council for an initial period of 36 months from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2028:
 - (a) 360 Engineering
 - (b) Alliance Automation

(c) SAFEgroup Automation

2. Provision be allowed for a 12-month extension based on satisfactory supplier performance, which may take this contract through to 30 June 2029.

At 3:28 pm, Cr Shawn Cain left the meeting.

CARRIED

8.5 LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE - 10 JUNE 2025

RESOLUTION 2025/125

Moved: Cr James Robertson

Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen

That Council:

1. Endorse the minutes of the Local Traffic Committee meeting held 10 June 2025 as appended at *Annexure A*

At 3:30 pm, Cr Shawn Cain returned to the meeting.

CARRIED

9 DELEGATES REPORTS

Nil

10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

11 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

RESOLUTION 2025/126

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr James Robertson

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*:

11.1 Bad Debt Write-off - Rates, Charges and Sundry Debtors

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (b) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with discussion in relation to the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer.

CARRIED

REPORT ON CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

The Mayor reported as follows on the matters considered in the confidential section of the meeting:

11 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

11.1 BAD DEBT WRITE-OFF - RATES, CHARGES AND SUNDRY DEBTORS

RESOLUTION 2025/127

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr James Robertson

That Council:

1. Authorise the write-off of Bad Debts of \$2,148.46 being \$921.59 from Rates and Water Charges for postponed rates, \$148.15 from Small Debt Write-offs and \$1,078.72 (including GST) from General User Charges, at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025/129

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 3:54pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 23 July 2025.

.....
CHAIRPERSON

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS


5 MAYORAL MINUTE(S)

5.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - 2025 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY (NGA) OF THE AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (ALGA)

File Number: G2025/0228

Author: Ken Cudmore, Mayor

Authoriser: Ken Cudmore, Mayor

Annexures: A. National General Assembly 2025 Communiqué [↓](#) 

MOTION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly 2025 Communiqué, appended at *Annexure A*.

REPORT

The 2025 National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government, hosted by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), took place at the National Convention Centre in Canberra from 24 to 27 June 2025. This year's theme, "*National Priorities Need Local Solutions*", highlighted the critical role local governments play in delivering place-based initiatives to tackle the nation's most pressing challenges.

Organised by ALGA, the NGA brought together local councils from across Australia to develop a unified voice on key issues impacting local governments and their communities. It was a valuable opportunity for Council's General Manager and I to connect with our peers from other councils and vote on policy priorities and issues to be progressed by the ALGA over the coming term.

As set out in the Communiqué appended at *Annexure A*, key issues discussed at the NGA included housing and community infrastructure; emergency management capacity and capability; jobs and workforce development; and road safety. These are all critical issues affecting the local government sector, and particularly rural councils such as ours.

The NGA program included a range of speeches, presentations and panel discussions, with the keynote speech delivered by Her Excellency, the Governor-General. It was particularly pleasing to see Tamworth's own Professor Jenny May AM address the Assembly, in her capacity as the National Rural Health Commissioner, focusing on the healthcare challenges faced by rural and regional communities.

The Assembly offered an important platform for councils to raise and discuss matters they believe should be addressed by the recently returned Albanese Labor Government. All resolutions passed during the 2025 NGA will be published on ALGA's website after review by the ALGA Board.



Cr Ken Cudmore

MAYOR



Image (Above): The keynote speech was delivered by Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, Her Excellency the Honourable Sam Mostyn AC.



Image (Above, L-R): ABC political commentator David Speers facilitated several panel sessions, including one with Local Government Minister, Kristy McBain MP, Assistant Minister for Citizenship, Customs and Multicultural Affairs, Julian Hill MP, and Assistant Minister for Climate Change, Josh Wilson MP.



COMMUNIQUE

More than 1,300 local government leaders from across Australia gathered in Canberra from 24-27 June for the 31st National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA).

We were welcomed to country for the National General Assembly by Ngunnawal woman and Co-Chair of ACT Reconciliation Council, Selina Walker. The Assembly recognised the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples as traditional custodians of the ACT and recognised any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. The Assembly paid its respects to their elders past, present and emerging, and acknowledged the vital and ongoing contributions First Nations peoples continue to make to our nation.

Her Excellency the Honourable Ms Sam Mostyn AC, Governor-General of Australia, formally opened the Assembly and spoke about the role of community leadership and local engagement in building national resilience and unity, including the importance of teaching our younger generation the importance of civic governance.

We heard from a range of Federal Ministers across the Assembly including: The Honourable Kristy McBain MP, Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher, The Honourable Julian Hill MP, The Honourable Josh Wilson MP, The Honourable Darren Chester MP, Dr Anne Webster MP and the Honourable Kevin Hogan MP.

There was broad acknowledgement from Ministers that councils play a critical role in supporting their communities and that the role has expanded significantly, as has the financial pressure councils face. That is why local government is calling for urgent action to ensure the financial sustainability of councils.

Delegates heard from Mark Bouris AM and Dr Merriden Varrall who unpacked global economic forces shaping Australia's local economies, including trends in trade, security, and investment.

Jason Clarke, world leading consultant on issues of leadership and innovation, closed Day 1 of the NGA with an energising and practical presentation on how councils can take bold ideas and translate them into tangible, community-focused change.

Day 2 of the NGA featured the launch of ALGA's exciting new research "Adapting Together: Local Government Leadership in a Changing Climate". The report finds that Australia's councils are expected to spend more than \$2 billion over the next five years to future-proof their communities from the changing climate, resulting in up to \$4.7 billion in avoided costs to communities.



ALGA President Mayor Matt Burnett noted “Climate-resilient infrastructure is expensive and takes time to build, so we need sustainable funding from the Federal Government to implement long-term planning and adaptation now and into the future”. That is why “We are asking the Government for a new \$400 million climate adaptation fund, distributed to all Australia’s councils each year, to deliver ongoing and sustainable place-based climate solutions” Mayor Burnett said.

Councils considered the way AI is shaping the future with presentations from Stephen Scheeler, founder of The Digital CEO and co-founder and CEO of Omniscient, and Tim Golsby-Smith, co-founder and CEO of myLot.

The 2025 NGA saw the return of concurrent listening sessions providing an interactive platform for delegates to engage directly with federal agencies and sector experts on key policy issues. The listening sessions included:

- Housing and community infrastructure – where the discussion covered a range of challenges from housing affordability, the prohibitive cost of housing infrastructure, ideas around housing and homelessness.
- Emergency management capacity and capability – where attendees shared examples of what has worked in their communities and highlighted remaining challenges. This included the need for long-term funding certainty and better integration of local knowledge in disaster preparedness and recovery frameworks.
- Local government jobs and skills – where attendees highlighted key issues attracting workers to the regions, promoting council careers to young values-led workers, better access to local training, cost-shifting concerns, migrant workforce support, and housing shortages as a major staffing barrier.
- Safer roads - discussed infrastructure funding and general maintenance, speed management, driver behaviour, and the broader questions of regional vs urban specific problems.

Motions and Assembly Outcomes

- Almost 190 motions were debated across a range of policy areas including financial sustainability, roads, disaster resilience, health, housing, and climate. Motions passed by the NGA will be referred to relevant Ministers for response and also used by the ALGA Board to inform national policy positions.

5.2 MAYORAL MINUTE - ADDRESSING THE ILLEGAL TABACOO TRADE IN THE LIVERPOOL PLAINS SHIRE AND NEW SOUTH WALES

File Number: G2025/0265
Author: Ken Cudmore, Mayor
Authoriser: Ken Cudmore, Mayor
Annexures: Nil

MOTION

That Council:

1. Writes to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) to formally raise serious concerns about the unlawful sale of tobacco products from tobacconist outlets operating within the Liverpool Plains Shire local government area and broader New South Wales and request the DPHI to urgently consider amending the *NSW Standard Instrument – Principal Local Environmental Plan* to include the following:
 - a) Introduce a new, standalone land use definition for “Tobacconist”;
 - b) Remove tobacconists from the current definitions of “shop,” “retail premises,” and “specialised retail premises”; and
 - c) Include transitional provisions that grant deemed development consent to existing tobacconist premises, conditional upon (but not limited to) compliance with the following standard conditions:
 - i) Adherence to all applicable legislation; and
 - ii) A strict prohibition on the sale of prohibited or illicit products.
2. Provide a submission to the NSW Inquiry into the Illegal Tobacco Trade, outlining the impacts of illegal tobacconist activity in rural and regional communities such as the Liverpool Plains Shire, prior to close of submissions on 01 August 2025.
3. Calls on both the NSW and Commonwealth Governments to ensure that all relevant agencies and councils are adequately resourced and funded to carry out enforcement, compliance, and administrative duties arising from any amendments to the Standard Instrument or related public health and planning laws, including provisions for staffing, legal services, and operational support necessary to monitor, regulate, and prosecute unlawful tobacconist activity effectively.

REPORT

The rapid increase in unregulated tobacconist outlets, particularly those involved in the sale of illicit tobacco and illegal nicotine vapes, has become more pronounced across regional New South Wales.

Over the past 12 months alone, NSW Health has confiscated hundreds of thousands of unlawful vapes and reported a notable surge in non-compliance within regional local government areas (LGAs). These businesses often exploit planning loopholes by registering under broad categories such as “shop” or “specialised retail premises,” which limits the ability of councils to assess or restrict them based on public health concerns or law enforcement priorities.

Reports from the Therapeutic Goods Administration and the Australian Border Force indicate that illegal tobacco and vape imports are increasingly associated with organised crime, even in rural communities. A 2024 NSW Parliamentary briefing further highlighted that children are being disproportionately targeted through illicit vape marketing in these retail environments, underscoring the urgency for targeted, place-based interventions.

Although local governments are expected to take on a greater role in land use regulation and enforcement, any new responsibilities—such as monitoring tobaccoist compliance or handling transitional planning consents—must be supported with adequate funding and resources from both the NSW and Commonwealth Governments. Without this support, already under-resourced councils will face significant challenges in implementing or enforcing even the most well-intentioned reforms, ultimately exacerbating harm to vulnerable communities and undermining broader regulatory goals across the state.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'K M Cudmore', is displayed on a light blue rectangular background.

Cr Ken Cudmore

MAYOR

5.3 MAYORAL MINUTE - COST-SHIFTING ONTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT**File Number:** G2025/0269**Author:** Ken Cudmore, Mayor**Authoriser:** Ken Cudmore, Mayor**Annexures:** A. Cost Shifting 2025 Report Summary [↓](#) 

MOTION

That Council:

1. Note the findings of the Local Government NSW Cost Shifting Report for the 2023/24 financial year.
2. Publish a copy of the LGNSW Cost Shifting Report to Council's website so that our community may access it.
3. Write to the Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Local Government seeking that they urgently address these costs through a combination of regulatory reform and appropriate funding.

REPORT

The pressure on local councils to maintain services of appropriate standard that meet the needs of our communities has reached unprecedented levels.

The unrelenting growth of cost shifting to councils, coupled with rate pegging and insufficient state and federal funding, is increasingly eroding the possibility of financially sustainable local government and risking the capacity of councils to deliver the essential infrastructure and services required by their communities.

The latest research commissioned by Local Government NSW ("LGNSW") shows that the increase in cost shifting has continued unabated by various State and Federal Government policies. The report summary has been included at *Annexure A*, with the full report available online from LGNSW's website at www.lgnsw.org.au/costshifting.

The cost shifting report, produced by independent consultants Morrison Low Consultants for the 2023/2024 financial year, reveals that \$1.5 billion of expense has been imposed on councils. This is an increase of approximately \$140 million (10 per cent) since the last report for the 2021/22 financial year, when the total cost shift was estimated at \$1.36 billion.

On average, this also now represents an inflated cost of \$497.40 for each ratepayer, an increase of \$36.72 from 2021/22. It is unfair to our communities that such a large portion of their rates are being diverted away from local priorities.

With councils having to fund this ongoing subsidy primarily for the State Government each and every year, it means our communities get less or go without. They go without safer roads. They go without parks. And they go without important community services that only councils provide, while their communities are effectively paying hidden taxes to other levels of government.

The Liverpool Plains Shire community deserves better. The decades-long practice of cost shifting is continuing to undermine the financial sustainability of the local government sector. This must stop. The November 2024 report of the parliamentary inquiry into the ability of councils to fund

infrastructure and services called for the NSW Government to identify opportunities to reduce cost shifting to local government. This call must be heard and acted upon.

It is essential to councils and communities that the NSW Government urgently seek to address cost shifting through a combination of regulatory reform and appropriate funding.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Cr Ken Cudmore', is displayed within a light blue rectangular box.

Cr Ken Cudmore

MAYOR



Cost Shifting 2025

Report Summary



How State Costs Eat Council Rates

The financial sustainability of councils across New South Wales is now at a critical juncture. Both Federal and State Parliamentary Inquiries have recognised cost shifting as one of the most significant contributors to the financial concerns of local government.

What is cost shifting?

Cost shifting occurs when state and federal governments force councils to assume responsibility for infrastructure, services and regulatory functions without providing sufficient supporting funding.

How bad is cost shifting in NSW?

Cost Shifting 2025: How State Costs Eat Council Rates, by independent consultants Morrison Low, reveals that NSW councils are currently being asked to absorb cost shifting worth more than \$1.5 billion each year. The practice has imposed an estimated cumulative burden of more than \$11.31 billion over the last decade.

Importantly, as cost of living pressures for households only seem to be rising every month, cost shifting now amounts to an average annual cost of \$497.40 paid by each NSW ratepayer.

This average figure equates to nearly \$500 per ratepayer that councils cannot invest in the services and infrastructure their communities need and deserve. New libraries, sporting facilities or youth development programs are forfeited, road repairs are delayed, and rates have to rise as funds are instead diverted towards the unrecoverable cost of services, programs and functions that are imposed on councils, overwhelmingly from the NSW Government.

What needs to change?

The NSW Government needs to take urgent action to address cost shifting onto councils and their communities, through a combination of regulatory reform, budgetary provision and appropriate funding.

As always, LGNSW stands ready to work with the state government to address the practice of cost shifting and to strengthen the financial viability of our councils so they can continue the good work of supporting our communities.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Phyllis'.

Mayor Phyllis Miller OAM
LGNSW President



What's eating council rates?

\$1.5 Billion

Cost shift to council per year



Analysis by independent consultants Morrison Low calculated the total cost shifted onto councils in the 2023/24 financial year at **\$1.5 billion**.

\$11.31 Billion

Estimated cost shift to councils over the past decade



This is an increase of 10 per cent since the 2021/22 financial year, when the total cost shift was estimated at **\$1.36 billion**.

\$497.40

Per ratepayer per year

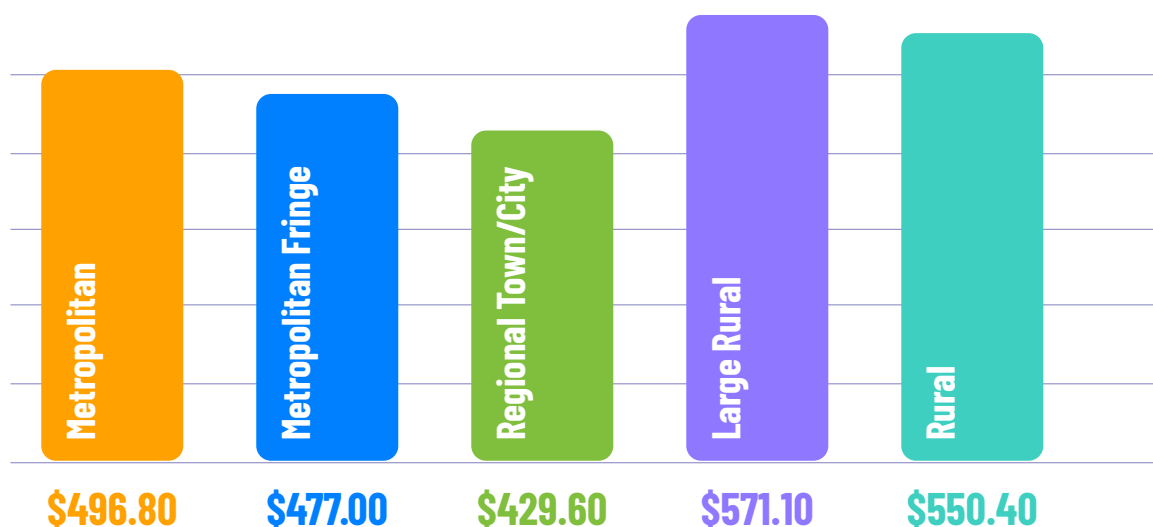


In 2023/24, each NSW ratepayer had the equivalent of **\$497.40** of their payments to councils eaten by costs imposed on councils by other spheres of government. (Up from \$460.67 in 2021/22). These are overwhelmingly state government costs.



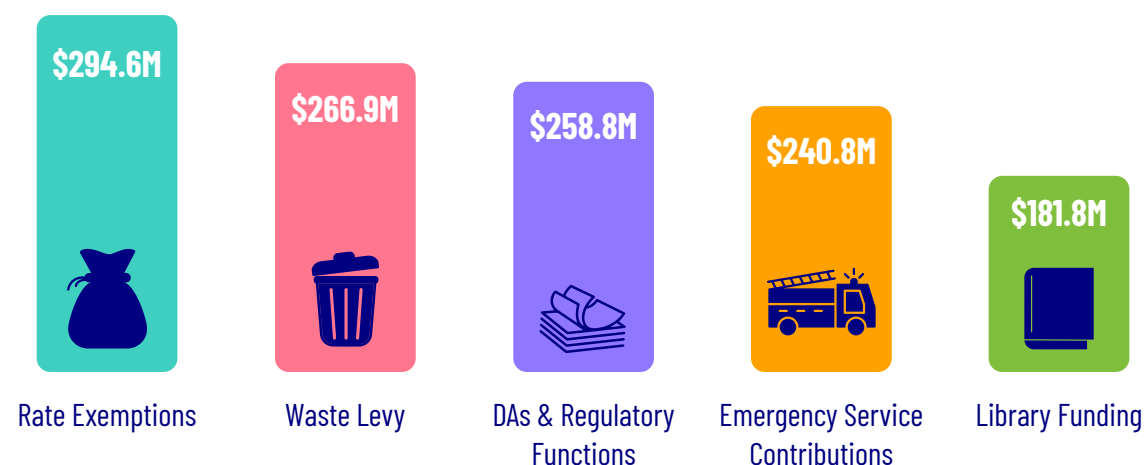
The amount of council revenue absorbed by cost shifted obligations ranges from **\$429.60 for ratepayers in regional towns and cities**, to **\$571.10 for ratepayers in large rural councils**

Cost shift per ratepayer per year by council classification





Top Five Cost Shifts onto NSW Councils



Forced rate exemptions

Councils are required to exempt profit-driven state-owned corporations and other organisations from paying rates, even though they use and benefit from local government services and infrastructure. As they are exempt from paying rates, the burden of the costs they incur is shifted to ratepayers to fund. Examples of exempt organisations include NSW Forestry Corporation, private schools, and non-government social housing providers. These are state government responsibilities, and the cost should be distributed across the state and borne by the State Government – not by local communities.

The waste levy

The waste levy is an invisible NSW Government tax on ratepayers. The waste levy is a levy paid by waste facilities in metro and some regional areas to the NSW Government. The cost of this levy is recovered through the waste collection fees levied by councils, in effect shifting the burden of this State Government tax onto ratepayers.

Development assessment and regulatory functions

Councils incur costs of increased regulatory responsibilities that are not fully funded by fees and charges. The most significant regulatory function cost shift is for assessing development applications. Development assessment fees are set by the NSW Government and are generally set well below the actual cost for this function. Councils are also being increasingly called upon to provide written feedback on State Significant Developments, which consumes significant resources without any cost recovery mechanism available.

Emergency services contributions and obligations

Councils are required to fund 11.7 per cent of the cost of the NSW Government's emergency services in addition to other financial obligations. From 2024-25, the rate peg methodology has changed to allow for an Emergency Services Levy (ESL) factor which will increase the rate peg to cover expected increases in council contributions. While this will partly address cost shifting concerns, LGNSW is calling for the NSW Government to remove the ESL from councils entirely as part of its current review.

Library funding

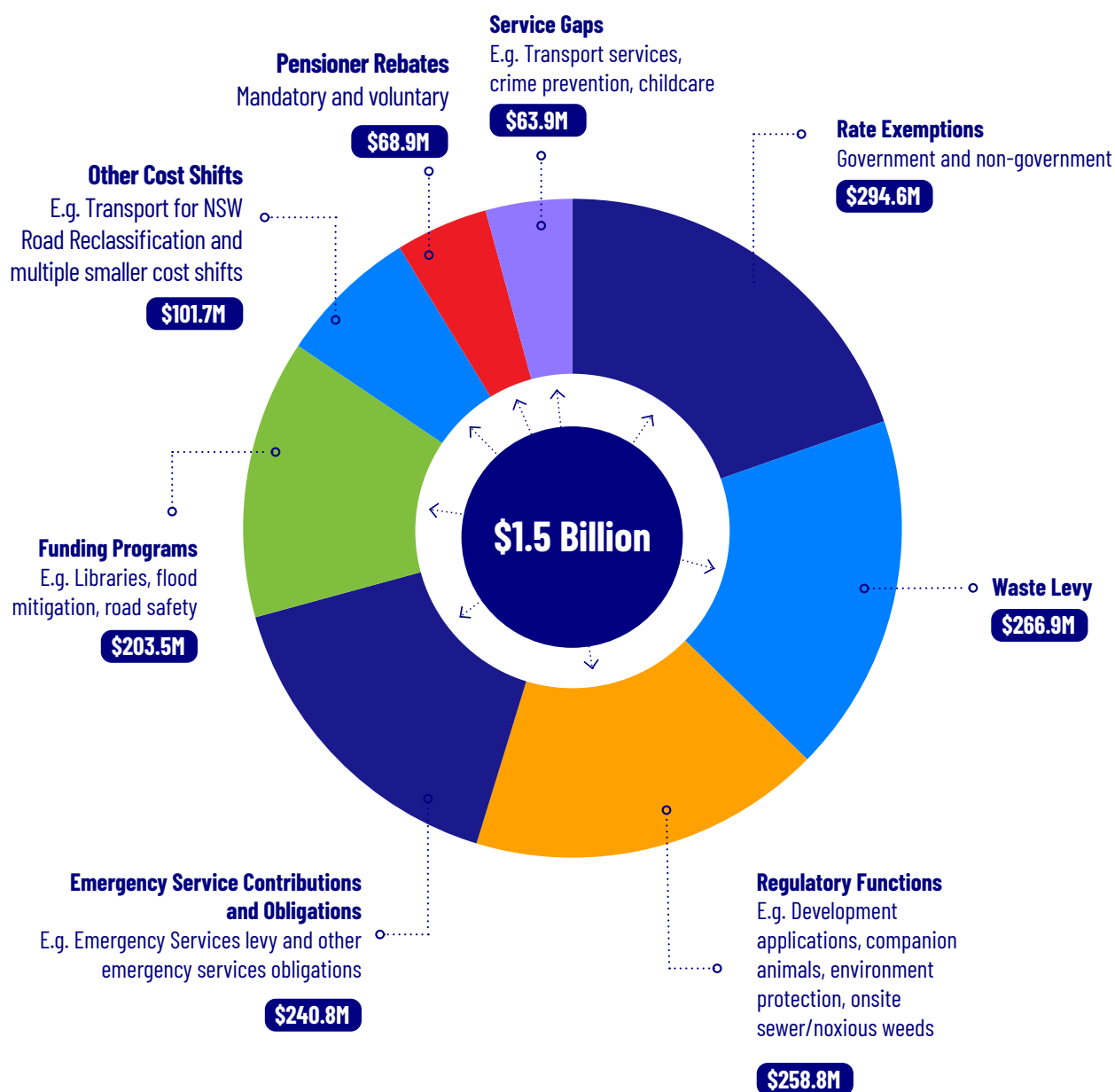
Many funding programs announced by state or federal governments are required to be delivered by local government but are either not fully funded or have their funding reduced over time leaving councils with the decision to either continue the program – and make up the burden of the cost – or cease the program entirely. An example of this is libraries, where the original commitment from NSW Government was to fund up to 50 per cent of libraries' cost for many councils. The NSW Government now funds just 6 per cent of the total costs, leaving councils to fund an additional \$181.8 million to make up the shortfall.

Other cost shifts

Multiple smaller and emerging cost shifts are detailed in the full report.



Cost shifting components



Local Government NSW

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lgnsw.org.au

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6 REPORTS OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

6.1 EXECUTIVE SERVICES - JUNE 2025

IP&R Linkage:	Goal: Demonstrate good governance
	Strategy: Develop and implement a robust governance and integrity framework
Author:	Deborah Perry-Brown, Executive Support Officer
Authoriser:	Cian Middleton, General Manager
File Number:	G2025/0263
Annexures:	Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Executive Services Report for June 2025.

BACKGROUND

Table 1: lists the Meetings, functions and events attended by the General Manager during the period 01 through to 30 June 2025:

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Actions and Functions / Events attended by Cian Middleton General Manager	
*The General Manager also regularly meets with staff within the organisation on an ad hoc basis	
03/06/2025	LG Professionals General Manager discussion circle
04/06/2025	Local Government Innovation Exchange – guest speaker
05/06/2025	General Manager and Director Forum – LG Professionals
10/06/2025	Meeting with Quirindi Showground User Group
10/06/2025	Meeting with Agracom
10/06/2025	Meeting with Liverpool Plains Business Chamber
10/06/2025	Wallabadah Progress Association meeting
11/06/2025	Consultative Committee meeting
11/06/2025	Country Mayors Association meeting – Orange NSW
12/06/2025	Regional Transport and Roads Meeting – Orange NSW
13/06/2025	Meeting with community members
13/06/2025	Quirindi Advocate meeting

13/06/2025	Blacktown Service Planning meeting via Teams
18/06/2025	Bizconnect event – Quirindi Jockey Club
23-27/6/25	Attend ALGA National General Assembly - Canberra
28/06/2025	Willow Tree Lions Club Changeover Dinner

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no legislative or policy implications for Council associated with this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for Council associated with this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications for Council associated with this report.



COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

This report provides an overview of Executive Services during the month of June 2025.

6.2 RESOLUTIONS REGISTER UPDATE

IP&R Linkage:	Goal: Demonstrate good governance
	Strategy: Develop and implement a robust governance and integrity framework
Author:	Christie Pearson, Executive Operations
Authoriser:	Cian Middleton, General Manager
File Number:	G2025/0264
Annexures:	A. Resolutions Register Update June 2025 ↓  B. Resolutions Register Update 2023 and 2024 ↓ 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Resolutions Register as at 16 July 2025 as appended at *Annexure A* and the Resolution Register for 2023 and 2024 as appended at *Annexure B*.

BACKGROUND

Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (“the Act”) provides that Council’s governing body is responsible for directing and controlling the affairs of Council in accordance with the Act, including making decisions with respect to the exercise of Council’s functions. Decisions of Council’s governing body must be made at meetings of the Council, which must be conducted in accordance with Council’s Code of Meeting Practice.

Section 335 of the Act requires the General Manager to conduct the day-to-day management of Council in accordance with its strategic plans, programs, strategies and policies, and to implement, without undue delay, lawful decisions of the Council.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The Resolutions Register appended at *Annexure 1* lists all resolutions of Council, commencing 1 January 2025, that require further action by Officers in order to be implemented.

The Resolutions Register appended at *Annexure 2* lists all outstanding resolutions of Council for 2023 and 2024 that require further action by Officers in order to be implemented.

Each resolution has been assigned to the appropriate Officer, who is responsible for completing any actions required to effectively implement the respective resolution.

The register excludes those resolutions of Council that do not require further action.

Commencing 1 January 2025, Council has made forty four resolutions requiring further action. As illustrated in *Table 1*, below, thirty eight have been completed and actioned as at the date of this Business Paper being published, and six remain outstanding.

Table 1: Council Resolution Status Summary		
Status	Definition	Number
Complete	Action completed by date of Business Paper publication.	38
Outstanding	Action not completed by date of Business Paper publication.	6
TOTAL		44

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

As detailed above, the Act requires the General Manager to implement, without undue delay, the lawful decisions of Council. The Resolutions Register clearly details how the General Manager is implementing Council's decisions, consistent with resolutions made at its meetings.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for Council associated with this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Provision of the Resolutions Register mitigates the risk of actions not being implemented in a timely manner.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

The Resolutions Register appended at *Annexure A and Annexure B* lists all Council resolutions requiring further action, and the status of implementing each action, as at 16 July 2025. It is recommended that Council receive and note the Resolutions Register.

Action Sheets Report	Division:	Council	Date From:	1/06/2025
	Committee:		Date To:	30/06/2025
	Officer:		Printed: 16 July 2025 9:01 AM	

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 19/02/2025	Pearson, Christie Inglis, Glenn	Reports to Council	Appointment of Councillor Delegates to 2025 Conferences
RESOLUTION 2025/18			
Moved: Cr Donna Lawson			
Seconded: Cr James Robertson			
That Council:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appoint the following Councillors to attend each of the following conferences being held in 2025: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) LGNSW Conference: Cr Ken Cudmore, Cr Terry Cohen and Cr Donna Lawson (<i>three Councillors</i>). (b) LGNSW Tourism Conference: Cr Jason Allan (<i>one Councillor</i>). (c) NSW Local Roads Congress: Cr Charlie Simkin (<i>one Councillor</i>). (d) LGNSW Water Management Conference: Cr Shawn Cain (<i>one Councillor</i>). (e) Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly: Cr Ken Cudmore (<i>one Councillor</i>). 2. Approve reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred by Councillor delegates attending the above conferences, in accordance with the Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy. 3. Note that Councillor delegates are required to provide a written delegate's report to Council following each conference attended. 			
CARRIED			
UPDATE: In Progress			

Action Sheets Report	Division:		Date From:	1/06/2025
	Committee:	Council	Date To:	30/06/2025
	Officer:			
				Printed: 16 July 2025 9:01 AM

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 19/02/2025	Neave, Ruth Frost, Dean	Reports to Council	Military Tattoo
RESOLUTION 2025/22			
AMENDMENT			
Moved: Cr Donna Lawson			
Seconded: Cr James Robertson			
That Council:			
1. Acknowledges that the Military Tattoo will not be held in the 2024/2025 financial year			
2. The funding of \$25,000 be realised as a saving in the 2024/2025 financial year and is transferred to 2025/2026 financial year			
3. Include the development of an Events Strategy in the revised Arts and Cultural Plan due for completion in July 2025.			
			CARRIED
UPDATE: To be reviewed in the 25/26 financial year			

Action Sheets Report	Division:		Date From: 1/06/2025
	Committee:	Council	Date To: 30/06/2025
	Officer:		Printed: 16 July 2025 9:01 AM

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 19/02/2025	Skelly, Nathan Batterham, Rodney	Confidential Matters	GP Practice - Real Estate Incentive
RESOLUTION 2025/33			
Moved: Cr James Robertson			
Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen			
That Council:			
1. Support the Rural Doctors Network (RDN) to try to recruit a doctor to Quirindi by offering the incentives identified within this report.			
			CARRIED
UPDATE: Partnership with RDN still in place and to date there is still no Doctor			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 19/02/2025	Skelly, Nathan	Confidential Matters	Spring Ridge Cemetery - Land Acquisition
RESOLUTION 2025/35			
Moved: Cr James Robertson			
Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson			
That Council:			
1. Approve acquiring the land by agreement that the Spring Ridge Cemetery is sited on in accordance with the contents of this report.			
2. Authorise the General Manager to execute all documents related to the purchase of this land.			
			CARRIED
UPDATE: Currently in Progress executing documentation			

Action Sheets Report	Division: Committee: Council Officer:	Date From: 1/06/2025 Date To: 30/06/2025 Printed: 16 July 2025 9:01 AM
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Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 26/03/2025	McCulloch, Jared Frost, Dean	Reports to Council	Royal Theatre – Service Review Outcome
<p>RESOLUTION 2025/51</p> <p>Moved: Cr Donna Lawson Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Notes the outcome of the Royal Theatre Service Review Call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the sale or lease of the Royal Theatre, 115 Henry Street Quirindi; Advertise the EOI for a period of 28 days on Council’s website, local newspapers and one (1) National newspaper; Note that a report will be submitted to the Council at the first available meeting after the closing of the EOI process, including all responses, for the determination of a purchaser/lessor. <p>At 3:07pm, Cr Charlie Simkin left the meeting. At 3:09pm, Cr Charlie Simkin returned to the meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p> <p>UPDATE: COMPLETE – Subject to a separate report</p>			

Action Sheets Report	Division:		Date From:	1/06/2025
	Committee:	Council	Date To:	30/06/2025
	Officer:		Printed:	16 July 2025 9:01 AM

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 26/03/2025	Batterham, Rodney Batterham, Rodney	Reports to Council	Quirindi Golf Club - Request for Water Charges relief
RESOLUTION 2025/56			
Moved: Cr James Robertson			
Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson			
That Council:			
1. Decline the request to reduce water access charges at the Quirindi Golf Course from the existing 100mm water meter down to the 40mm water meter rate for a 3-4 year period.			
2. Agree to a final year of temporary reduction in access charge at the Quirindi Golf Club from the 100mm access charge rate to the 40mm access charge rate during 2024/25, subject to the following occurring within the first 90 days of the 2025/26 rating year:			
(a) Club Quirindi engage with Councils Water Services staff to develop a feasible strategy for putting in place legitimate cost reduction methods for irrigation purposes for water sourced from the Quirindi Water Supply used at the Quirindi Golf Course.			
(b) Club Quirindi's board provide a written commitment to Council acknowledging the administrative reduction in water Access Charges expires at the end of 2024/25 and that they undertake tangible work to their water systems in partnership with Council that facilitates the requested reduction in charges for water sourced from the Quirindi Water Supply for irrigation purposes.			
At 3:49pm, Cr James Robertson left the meeting.			
At 3:51pm, Cr James Robertson returned to the meeting.			
CARRIED			
UPDATE: Letter has been set to Quirindi Golf Club re: requirements of resolution and seeking an update			

Action Sheets Report	Division:	Council	Date From:	1/06/2025
	Committee:		Date To:	30/06/2025
	Officer:		Printed: 16 July 2025 9:01 AM	

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 26/03/2025	Skelly, Nathan Batterham, Rodney	Reports to Council	Werris Creek Industrial Precinct - Funding Withdrawn
RESOLUTION 2025/57			
AMENDMENT			
Moved: Cr Donna Lawson			
Seconded: Cr Charlie Simkin			
That Council:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Notes that funding has been withdrawn by the NSW Government for the Werris Creek Industrial Precinct Project; Agrees that the project cannot progress; and Notes that other funding opportunities will be sought in the future regarding investment opportunities in the Werris Creek economic base Undertake an investigation into the grant funding application and subsequent project activities pertaining to the Werris Creek Industrial Precinct Project 			
At 4:00pm, Cr Charlie Simkin returned to the meeting.			
At 4:10pm, Cr Jason Allan left the meeting.			
At 4:14pm, Cr Jason Allan returned to the meeting.			
CARRIED			
UPDATE: Investigation into project currently taking place with a presentation to be provided to ARIC in August 2025			

Division:	Council	Date From:	1/06/2025
Committee:		Date To:	30/06/2025
Officer:		Printed:	16 July 2025 9:01 AM
Action Sheets Report			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 30/06/2025	Middleton, Cian Middleton, Cian	Reports of the General Manager	Adoption of draft Strategic Workforce Management Plan
RESOLUTION 2025/113			
Moved: Cr Terry Cohen			
Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson			
That Council:			
1. Adopt the draft Strategic Workforce Management Plan appended at <i>Annexure A</i> .			
			CARRIED
UPDATE: COMPLETE			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 30/06/2025	Gresser, Katrina Frost, Dean	Reports of the General Manager	Endorsement of draft Community Strategic Plan
RESOLUTION 2025/114			
Moved: Cr James Robertson			
Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson			
That Council:			
1. Pursuant to section 402 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> , formally endorse the draft Liverpool Plains Shire Community Strategic Plan appended at <i>Annexure A</i> .			
			CARRIED
UPDATE: COMPLETE			

Division:		Date From: 1/06/2025	
Committee: Council		Date To: 30/06/2025	
Officer:		Printed: 16 July 2025 9:01 AM	
Action Sheets Report			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 30/06/2025	Gresser, Katrina Frost, Dean	Reports of the Director Corporate and Community Se	Adoption of draft Combined Delivery Program 2026-2029 and Operational Plan 2025-2026 including draft Fees and Charges Schedule 2025-2026
RESOLUTION 2025/116			
Moved: Cr Donna Lawson			
Seconded: Cr Jason Allan			
That Council:			
1. Request the General Manager respond to each of the submissions received as appended at <i>Annexure A</i> .			
2. Pursuant to sections 404 and 405 of the Local Government Act 1993, the Combined Delivery Program 2026-2029 and Operational Plan 2025-2026, including the Statement of Revenue Policy and Financial Information, appended at <i>Annexure B</i> , and the Fees and Charges 2025-2026, appended at <i>Annexure C</i> – with the inclusion of the following fee – Swimming Clubs exclusive use (weekday and weekends) per hour \$100.00.			
3. Pursuant to clause 211(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, approve expenditure and vote funds as detailed in the Operational Plan 2025-2026 and Financial Information.			
4. Pursuant to section 405(6) of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> , place the Operational Plan 2025-2026 on Council’s website within 28 days of adoption.			
CARRIED			
UPDATE: COMPLETE			

Division:	Council	Date From:	1/06/2025
Committee:		Date To:	30/06/2025
Officer:			
Action Sheets Report		Printed: 16 July 2025 9:01 AM	

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject	
Council 30/06/2025	Gresser, Katrina Frost, Dean	Reports of the Director Corporate and Community Se	Making of the Rates and Fixing of Charges 2025-2026	
RESOLUTION 2025/117				
Moved: Cr Donna Lawson				
Seconded: Cr Shawn Cain				
That Council:				
1. In accordance with Chapter 15, Parts 4 and 5 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> , make and levy the following rates and annual charges for the 2025-2026 financial year:				
(a) In relation to Ordinary Rates, Council has applied the increase of four (4) per cent as determined by the Independent Pricing and Remuneration Tribunal				
(b) In relation to Ordinary Rates and pursuant to section 494, Council makes and levies the following Ordinary Rates for the year 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2026:				
Ordinary Rates				
Rating Category	Sub-Category	Ad Valorem cents in \$	Base \$ Amount	Base Amount % of Yield
Farmland	Farmland	0.00192517	520	9.24%
	Quirindi	0.00618776	400	39.69%
Residential	Residential – Mixed Development	0.00618368	400	43.70%
	Rural	0.00557863	400	27.01%
	Villages	0.00672295	400	47.80%
	Werris Creek	0.00930124	400	48.08%
	Quirindi	0.02249205	520	16.85%
	Business – Mixed Development	0.02249205	520	22.15%
Business	Villages	0.02249205	520	18.01%
	Premier	0.02353206	520	49.59%
	Spring Ridge	0.02249205	520	46.87%
	Wallabadah	0.02249205	520	25.00%

Division:	Council	Date From:	1/06/2025
Committee:		Date To:	30/06/2025
Officer:		Printed:	16 July 2025 9:01 AM
Action Sheets Report			

	Ordinary	0.02249205	520	23.53%
	Werris Creek	0.02249205	520	24.82%
Mining	Mining	0.03253586	2,725	19.40%
	Coal	0.02821151	2,725	0.49%

- (c) In accordance with sections 496 and 501 of the Local Government Act, Council makes and levies an annual charge for the provision of both domestic and commercial waste management services on each rateable and non-rateable property having access to these services for the year 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2026:

Waste Group	Applicable Charges	Amount \$
Residential – Currabubula, Quirindi, Wallabadah, Werris Creek, Willow Tree		
Occupied	Tip Facility Charge	115
	Domestic Waste Management Charge	515
Unoccupied	Tip Facility Charge	115
	Domestic Waste Management Charge	81
Business - Currabubula, Quirindi, Wallabadah, Werris Creek, Willow Tree		
Occupied	Tip Facility Charge	115
	Commercial Waste Management Charge	515
All Other Businesses		
	Tip Facility Charge	115
All Rural Properties		
	Tip Facility Charge	115
Additional Services		
	240 Litre Fortnightly Co-Mingled Recycling Service	179
	240 Litre Weekly Mobile Garbage Bin Service	360

- (d) In relation to water supply service charges and pursuant to sections 501, 502 and 552, Council makes and levies the following charges on all consumers connected to, or capable of being connected to, the Liverpool Plains Shire water supply systems and water supply for the year 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2026:

Division:		Date From:	
Committee:		Date To:	
Officer:		Printed:	
Council		1/06/2025	
		30/06/2025	
Action Sheets Report		16 July 2025 9:01 AM	

Standard size	Water Service Charge	Access Charge \$	Quarterly Step Usage \$/kL - up to 75kL	Quarterly Step Usage \$/kL - over 75kL
Residential and Non-residential	Vacant lots unoccupied	759	3.94	4.70
	20mm	759	3.94	4.70
	25mm	1,200	3.94	4.70
	32mm	1,800	3.94	4.70
	40mm	2,235	3.94	4.70
	50mm	3,490	3.94	4.70
	80mm	8,915	3.94	4.70
	100mm	13,915	3.94	4.70

Other Charges	Access Charge \$	Usage \$/kL
Recreational Usage	Variable Meter Size	3.94

(e) In relation to sewerage service charges and pursuant to sections 501, 502 and 552, Council makes and levies the following annual charge on all consumers connected to, or capable of being connected to, the Liverpool Plains Shire sewer systems and sewer charges for the year 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2026:

Sewer Service Charges	Access Charge \$	Usage Charge \$/kL
Vacant Lots Unoccupied	785	0
20mm	785	0
25mm	785	0

Non-Residential Standard Charge	Access Charge \$	Usage Charge \$/kL
20mm	520	2.60
25mm	785	2.60

Division:		Date From:	1/06/2025
Committee:	Council	Date To:	30/06/2025
Officer:		Printed:	16 July 2025 9:01 AM
Action Sheets Report			

32mm	1,165	2.60
40mm and over	1,770	2.60

2. Pursuant to section 566(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council adopts the overdue rates and charges maximum interest rate of 10.5 per cent for the period 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 (inclusive) in accordance with the determination made by the Minister for Local Government as published in the Government Gazette No 119 – 28th day of March 2025.

CARRIED

UPDATE: COMPLETE

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 30/06/2025	Powell, Chris Frost, Dean	Reports of the Director Corporate and Community Se	Adoption of draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2026-2035
RESOLUTION 2025/118			
Moved: Cr James Robertson			
Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen			
That Council:			
1. Adopt the Long-Term Financial Plan 2026-2035 appended at <i>Annexure A</i> .			
2. Repeal the Long-Term Financial Plan adopted 26 June 2024.			
CARRIED			
UPDATE: COMPLETE			

Action Sheets Report	Division:		Date From:	1/06/2025
	Committee:	Council	Date To:	30/06/2025
	Officer:			
				Printed: 16 July 2025 9:01 AM

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 30/06/2025	Teuma, Cindy Skelly, Nathan	Reports of the Director Infrastructure and Environ	Endorsement and Adoption of Crown Lands Plan of Management and Acknowledgement of Native Title Manager Advice
RESOLUTION 2025/122			
Moved: Cr James Robertson			
Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen			
That Council:			
1. Receive the Crown Land Plan of Management, appended at <i>Annexure A</i> , and confirm that it has considered the Native Title Manager advice, appended at <i>Annexure B</i> , in relation to the Plan of Management.			
2. Adopt the Plan of Management pursuant to section 38 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> .			
At 3:25 pm, Cr Donna Lawson left the meeting.			
			CARRIED
UPDATE: COMPLETE			

Division:	Council	Date From:	1/06/2025
Committee:		Date To:	30/06/2025
Officer:		Printed:	16 July 2025 9:01 AM
Action Sheets Report			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 30/06/2025	Skelly, Nathan Skelly, Nathan	Reports of the Director Infrastructure and Environ	Adoption of draft Asset Management Plans
RESOLUTION 2025/123 Moved: Cr Shawn Cain Seconded: Cr James Robertson That Council: 1. Adopt the following Asset Management Plans: (a) Aerodrome Asset Management Plan appended at <i>Annexure A</i> (b) Buildings Asset Management Plan as appended at <i>Annexure B</i> (c) Fleet Asset Management Plan as appended at <i>Annexure C</i> (d) Parks and Recreation Asset Management Plan as appended at <i>Annexure D</i> (e) Transportation Asset Management Plan as appended at <i>Annexure E</i> (f) Centralised Waste Water Asset Management Plan as appended at <i>Annexure F</i> (g) Town Water Supplies Asset Management Plan as appended at <i>Annexure G</i> 2. Adopt the Asset Management Strategy, appended at <i>Annexure H</i> . At 3:28 pm, Cr Donna Lawson returned to the meeting.			
UPDATE: COMPLETE			CARRIED

Action Sheets Report	Division:		Date From: 1/06/2025
	Committee:	Council	Date To: 30/06/2025
	Officer:		Printed: 16 July 2025 9:01 AM

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 30/06/2025	Whitten, Luke Batterham, Rodney	Reports of the Director Infrastructure and Environ	SPT132526LPSC Provision of Control Systems Support
<p>RESOLUTION 2025/124</p> <p>Moved: Cr James Robertson</p> <p>Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt the suppliers listed below be appointed to this contract as Panel Source suppliers to Liverpool Plains Shire Council for an initial period of 36 months from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2028: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 360 Engineering Alliance Automation SAFEgroup Automation Provision be allowed for a 12-month extension based on satisfactory supplier performance, which may take this contract through to 30 June 2029. <p>At 3:28 pm, Cr Shawn Cain left the meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p> <p>UPDATE: COMPLETE</p>			

Action Sheets Report	Division:		Date From:	1/06/2025
	Committee:	Council	Date To:	30/06/2025
	Officer:			
				Printed: 16 July 2025 9:01 AM

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 30/06/2025	Kuru, Sian Frost, Dean	Confidential Matters	Bad Debt Write-off - Rates, Charges and Sundry Debtors
RESOLUTION 2025/127			
Moved: Cr Donna Lawson			
Seconded: Cr James Robertson			
That Council:			
1. Authorise the write-off of Bad Debts of \$2,148.46 being \$921.59 from Rates and Water Charges for postponed rates, \$148.15 from Small Debt Write-offs and \$1,078.72 (including GST) from General User Charges, at <i>Annexure A</i> .			
			CARRIED
UPDATE: COMPLETE			

Liverpool Plains Shire Council Resolutions Register Update 2023 and 2024

Commencing 01 January 2023, Council has made seventy resolutions requiring further action. As illustrated in *Table 1*, below, sixty nine resolutions have been completed and actioned as at the date of this Business Paper being published, and one remains outstanding.

Table 1: Council Resolution Status Summary		
Status	Definition	Number
Complete	Action completed by date of Business Paper publication.	69
Outstanding	Action not completed by date of Business Paper publication.	1
TOTAL		70



Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 22/11/2023	Kitson, David Skelly, Nathan	Reports to Council	Growth Management & Housing Strategy
RESOLUTION 2023/228			
Moved: Cr Ken Cudmore			
Seconded: Cr Jason Allan			
That Council:			
1. Place the Draft Growth Management & Housing Strategy on public exhibition for a 3-month period.			
			CARRIED
Update: Revised strategy to progress to July Councillor Workshop prior to consider at an Ordinary Meeting of Council			

Commencing 01 January 2024, Council has made seventy four resolutions requiring further action. As illustrated in *Table 1*, below, seventy three resolutions have been completed and actioned as at the date of this Business Paper being published, and one remains outstanding.

Table 1: Council Resolution Status Summary		
Status	Definition	Number
Complete	Action completed by date of Business Paper publication.	73
Outstanding	Action not completed by date of Business Paper publication.	1
TOTAL		74

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 11/12/2024	Skelly, Nathan Batterham, Rodney	Reports to Council	Changes to School bus route and installation of bus bay at Quirindi Public School
RESOLUTION 2024/206			
Moved: Cr Donna Lawson			
Seconded: Cr James Robertson			
That Council:			
<div>1. Note that the proposed bus route change (detailed in res 2022/290) for Quirindi Public School is not supported by the Local Traffic Committee and Transport for NSW (TfNSW) and that as a result it is unnecessary to investigate funding options for infrastructure changes that would have been required.</div> <div>2. Note that the Traffic Committee is continuing to investigate options in relation to a crossing on Nowland St, adjacent to Quirindi Highschool.</div>			
			CARRIED
UPDATE: The traffic committee continues to investigate options			

6.3 EXPRESIONS OF INTEREST FOR LIVERPOOL PLAINS SHIRE LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

IP&R Linkage:	Goal: Engage diverse voices to plan for the future
	Strategy: Encourage diverse and inclusive involvement in leadership positions
Author:	Cian Middleton, General Manager
Authoriser:	Cian Middleton, General Manager
File Number:	G2025/0253
Annexures:	A. Draft Terms of Reference - Local Advisory Committee  

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Invite nominations from interested members of the Liverpool Plains Shire community to serve on Local Advisory Committees for the remainder of the current 2024-2029 Council term.
2. Receive a further report and determine the establishment of the Local Advisory Committee at the August Ordinary Meeting following conclusion of the proposed Expression of Interest period as detailed in this report.

BACKGROUND

The *Local Government Act 1993* (“the Act”) provides that Council may establish committees to inform its strategy-setting and decision-making processes and provide a mechanism for community involvement in the provision of Council facilities, services and events. Committees operated by Council can broadly be grouped into four (4) categories, which are summarised in the table below.

Table 1 Types of Council Committees

Committee	Summary
Standing	Established under Clause 20.3 of the Model Code of Meeting Practice, comprising the Mayor and Councillors, for a specific purpose. Such committees are comprised entirely of Councillors.
Statutory	Established to achieve compliance with Council's legislative obligations under an Act of Parliament (e.g. Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee; Local Traffic Committee). Such committees may comprise Councillors, as well as community representatives and other stakeholders, depending on the applicable legislation.
Advisory	Established to provide specialist advice to Council with respect to opportunities and challenges pertaining to a certain issue or locality, or oversee the implementation of a strategy or major plan of Council. Such committees may include community representatives, Councillors and/or members of Council staff.
Section 355	Established under section 355 of the Act to exercise a function of the Council (eg: management of a Council facility or service). Such committees may include community representatives, Councillors and/or members of Council staff.

Historically, Section 355 Committees (“S355 Committees”) were prevalent across the NSW local government sector. Such committees, established under section 355 of the Act and granted delegations under section 377 of the Act, were typically established to manage council-owned

facilities on the council's behalf. Over the past decade, local councils have largely transitioned away from operating S355 Committees to manage their own facilities and assets instead directly. This shift has been influenced by a range of factors, primarily centred around governance, risk management and operational efficiency.

Approximately a decade ago, the Office of Local Government ("the OLG") was alerted to instances of S355 Committees failing to meet basic governance and accounting standards, leading to significant risks for councils and concerns around the delegation of council functions to such committees. On 15 August 2016, the OLG issued [Circular 16-24](#), encouraging councils to review the operation of their S355 Committees and reminding councils of their duty to implement appropriate controls and oversight arrangements for S355 Committees.

Following the release of Circular 16-24, there was a sector-wide review of S355 Committees, with many local councils reviewing their use and operation. Typically, councils found it more affordable to resume direct management of their facilities and services, noting the costs associated with operating S355 Committees and meeting compliance requirements (e.g. managing and training committee members; providing committees access to council-approved budgeting and financial management software; ensuring committees' compliance with record management obligations, etc.). Instead, councils found that operating "Advisory Committees" a preferable course of action, given that they still enable councils to engage with their communities, without the risk and costs associated with Section 355 Committees. The table below summarises the key characteristics of Advisory Committees compared to S355 Committees.

Table 2 Key Distinctions of Section 355 Committees and Advisory Committees

	Section 355 Committees	Advisory Committees
Function	Committee exercises delegated functions of the Council (e.g. managing halls, delivering community services, etc.).	Committee provides advise and community input to Council; does not make operational decisions.
Power	Committee may have operational or financial authority, consistent with delegations from Council.	Committee has a purely advisory role and has no delegated authority to act on behalf of Council.
Governance	Committee must comply with Council's policies, financial procedures, risk management framework, and record keeping obligations.	Committee operates under a more flexible structure, but must still follow Terms of Reference endorsed by Council.
Liability	Members may be covered under Council's insurance, but legal liabilities can arise if duties are breached.	Generally lower risk, as members are not making binding decisions.
Expenditure	Committees are often responsible for handling funds and banking, and subject to financial reporting and audit requirements.	Committee has not authority to manage or spend Council funds directly.
Oversight	Committee able to make binding decisions pursuant to delegations; Council remains ultimately accountable for the Committee's actions.	Committee has no decision-making powers; reports and recommendations submitted to Council; Council makes all decisions.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Following the release of Circular 16-24, Council undertook a review of its committee framework, and as part of this process, abolished S355 Committees and consolidated various other committees to create a two-tiered committee structure, comprising:

- (a) **Local Advisory Groups:** designed to operate as a conduit between Council and individual localities across the Liverpool Plains Shire, and
- (b) **Community Advisory Group:** a committee comprising representatives of the Local Advisory Groups.

The above structure has largely been continued since. Over the previous 2021-24 Council term,

Advisory Committees

For the remainder of the current 2024-29 term, it is proposed that Council establish and support Local Advisory Committees for those localities within the Liverpool Plains Shire that wish to establish such committees. As such, it is recommended that Council formally resolve to invite Expressions of Interest from members of the community to serve on the following locality-based Local Advisory Committees:

- (a) Blackville,
- (b) Currabubula,
- (c) Premer,
- (d) Quirindi,
- (e) Spring Ridge,
- (f) Wallabadah,
- (g) Warrah,
- (h) Willow Tree, and
- (i) Werris Creek

Proposed Terms of Reference for the Local Advisory Committees have been prepared and appended at *Annexure A*. It is intended that these will be formally adopted at the August Ordinary Meeting of Council, pending the outcome of the Expression of Interest process.

It is important to note that the proposed Advisory Committees are just one forum for Council to engage with members of the Liverpool Plains Shire community. In the event that insufficient nominations are received for any of the proposed Local Advisory Committees, Management will consider and propose other mechanisms to facilitate community engagement and communication with those particular localities. Potential mechanisms could include, for example, bi-annual "Town Hall Meetings" or "Community BBQs" in the villages that lack a Local Advisory Committee. However, these options will be explored further once the committee nomination process is finalised.

Section 355 Committees

At this stage, it is not recommended that Council establish any S355 Committees.

However, should Council receive a request from a particular community expressing interest in re-establishing a S355 Committee, then that request would be considered separately. In considering such a request, Council would need to consider a range of factors, such the costs, risks and compliance requirements of establishing a S355 Committee and how those would be managed and mitigated.

Incorporated Associations

It is important to note that various Incorporated Associations operate across the Liverpool Plains Shire that undertake community projects and activities, and serve as a forum for Council to engage with, and seek advice from, specific sections of the broader community. Incorporated Associations are independent registered legal entities usually established for recreational, cultural or charitable purposes. Examples of such Incorporated Associations operating within the Liverpool Plains Shire include Australian Railway Monument (ARM) Inc. and the Wallabadah Community Association. Formation of Local Advisory Groups, as proposed, does not prevent Council from continuing to engage and consult directly with Incorporated Associations.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Any Local Advisory Committees constituted following the proposed nomination process will be required to operate within their endorsed Terms of Reference.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for Council associated with this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

While Advisory Committees carry fewer governance risks than S355 Committees due to their advisory nature and lack of delegated authority; there remains potential risks including role ambiguity, reputational issues, and resourcing pressures. These risks will be mitigated through the development of clear Terms of Reference (refer *Annexure A*), adherence to Council policies, transparent membership processes, and ongoing support from Council Officers.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

It is proposed that Council formally resolve to invite nominations from interested members of the community to serve on the various Local Advisory Committees. If endorsed, a public EOI process will be facilitated via Council's consultation platform, *Your Say Liverpool Plains*, and promoted via public notice and Council's social media platforms.

Proposed key dates are as follows:

- Nominations open: Friday, 25 July 2025
- Nominations close: Sunday, 17 August 2025

The proposed nomination period is slightly more than three weeks, and would allow Council Officers time to collate and review nominations and finalise a report for the August Ordinary Meeting (with the Business Paper scheduled to be finalised and published Wednesday, 20 August 2025).

CONCLUSION

Establishment of Local Advisory Committees will provide Council with an opportunity to directly engage and communicate with members of the Liverpool Plains Shire community on locality-specific matters. It is recommended that Council formally resolve to invite Expressions of Interest from members of the community to serve on Local Advisory Committees for the remainder of the 2024-28 Council term, as detailed in this report, and receive a further report at the August Ordinary Meeting.



Terms of Reference

<Locality> Local Advisory Committee

Date Adopted by Council	DD Month 2025
Resolution No.	Resolution Number
Next Scheduled Review	December 2028
Committee Sponsor	Director Planning and Community

1. Establishment and Term

- 1.1. The <Locality> Local Advisory Committee (hereafter "the Committee") is established by Liverpool Plains Shire Council pursuant to Resolution <Resolution Number> made DD Month 2025.
- 1.2. The Committee shall operate from the date Council adopts these Terms of Reference and will conclude three (3) months after the date of the next Local Government ordinary elections, unless terminated earlier in accordance with these Terms of Reference.

2. Role and Purpose

- 2.1. The Committee is established for the purpose of providing advice and guidance to Council in relation to:
 - (a) Council's strategic and operational planning initiatives, including the development and review of Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework,
 - (b) Opportunities to promote local community and economic development in the locality and surrounds, within the identified constraints and practical limitations of Council's legislative obligations and financial parameters, and
 - (c) Matters affecting the locality and surrounds generally.
- 2.2. The role and purpose of the Committee may be varied by resolution of Council.

3. Authority and Delegations

- 3.1. In carrying out its responsibilities, the Committee must at all times recognise that primary responsibility for management of Council rests with the Council and the General Manager, as provided in the *Local Government Act 1993* (hereafter "the Act").
- 3.2. Neither the Committee nor any of its Members may direct any Council staff member in his or her duties.
- 3.3. The Committee has no executive powers and cannot make decisions on behalf of Council. Furthermore, the Committee has not delegated authority under section 377 of the Act, and therefore cannot exercise powers under section 355 of the Act.
- 3.4. The Committee may make recommendations to Council on all relevant business presented before it. Recommendations made by the Committee may or may not be adopted by Council.
- 3.5. The Committee does not have the authority to raise funds or incur expenditure.



- 3.6. The Committee is not permitted to forward official correspondence to government officials, representatives, departments or agencies. All correspondence issued by Council must only be signed and issued by those Council staff with delegation to do so.
- 3.7. Committee members are not authorised to speak to the media or make public comment on any matters before the Committee. Consistent with the Act and Council's Media Relations Policy, the Mayor and General Manager are Council's authorised spokespeople.

4. Membership

- 4.1. Membership of the Committee shall comprise at least five (5) members of the local community appointed by Council.
- 4.2. Membership is voluntary and Members are not remunerated for their attendance at Committee meetings or participation in Committee business.
- 4.3. Each Member shall remain a member of the Committee until:
 - (a) The Member resigns, or
 - (b) The Committee is terminated pursuant to clause 1.2 of these Terms of Reference.

5. Responsibilities of Members

- 5.1. Members are expected to:
 - (a) Act professionally and with integrity,
 - (b) Work respectfully and cooperatively with one another to achieve positive outcomes for the community and broader Liverpool Plains Shire,
 - (c) Be able to contribute the time needed to attend Committee meetings and participate in Committee business, and
 - (d) Provide advice and feedback on matters brought before the Committee.

6. Responsibilities of Chairperson

- 6.1. The Committee shall elect a Chairperson who shall preside at meetings of the Committee.
- 6.2. The Chairperson will remain until the dissolution date, unless the Chairperson resigns and, in this case, a new Chairperson should be appointed in accordance with this clause.
- 6.3. If the Chairperson is absent from a Committee meeting, a Member of the Committee will be nominated by the Committee to chair the meeting.

7. Responsibilities of Secretary

- 7.1. The Committee shall elect a Secretary who shall provide secretariat support to the Committee, including preparing, circulating and publishing meeting agendas and minutes.
- 7.2. If the Secretary is absent from a Committee meeting, a Member of the Committee will be nominated by the Committee to undertake secretariat duties at the Committee meeting.
- 7.3. The Secretary shall ensure copies of all agendas and minutes and provided to Council in a timely manner.

7. Responsibilities of Sponsor

- 3.1. The Committee Sponsor shall be a suitably qualified Council Officer appointed by the General Manager to undertake the following duties:
 - (a) Act as the principal communication link between the Committee and Council,



- (b) Support the Chairperson and Members in understanding their roles and responsibilities,
- (c) Support the Chairperson to administer the Committee and facilitate Committee meetings,
- (d) Focus the Committee on its responsibilities as outlined in these Terms of Reference and the meeting agenda items and
- (e) Where appropriate, liaise with the Sponsors of Council's other Committees to assist with the collaboration between Committees, the sharing of information and the efficient and effective use of Council and Committee resources.

8. Meetings, Quorum and Voting

- 8.1. Meetings of the Committee shall be held as often as the Committee decides, but not less than two (2) meetings per year.
- 8.2. At all meetings of the Committee, the Chairperson shall occupy the Chair and preside. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Committee shall elect one of its number to preside at the meeting.
- 8.3. Each Committee Member shall be entitled to one (1) vote in respect to any matters before the Committee. The Committee shall aim to make decisions by consensus where possible, and otherwise the decision of the Committee shall be by the majority of votes cast in favour. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.
- 8.4. There are no quorum requirements for Committee meetings.
- 8.5. There are no proxy requirements for Committee meetings.

9. Business Papers, Minutes and Resolutions

- 9.1. The Facilitator will ensure that notice of meetings, including the agenda and business papers, are provided to the Committee at least five (5) business days prior to the day of the meeting. These may be transmitted electronically.
- 8.7. The Committee's resolutions shall be clearly recorded in the Minutes of its meetings.
- 8.8. Draft Minutes will be distributed to the Committee no later than five (5) business after the meeting.
- 8.9. Draft Minutes of the previous meeting are to be adopted by resolution of the Committee at the following meeting.
- 9.3. The General Manager (or delegate) may action resolutions as they deem appropriate in accordance with their individual delegations and authorisations.
- 9.4. A report to the Council for a decision will be required where resolutions fall outside the functions delegated to the General Manager.

10. Amendment


- 10.1. These Terms of Reference may be added to, amended or repealed by resolution of the Council in consultation with, or upon the recommendation of, the Committee.

< END OF DOCUMENT >

6.4 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL DELEGATE TO THE WALLABADAH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

IP&R Linkage: **Goal:** Deliver quality, effective and sustainable civic services
Strategy: Provide the community with opportunities to conduct their business within the local area

Author: Christie Pearson, Executive Services Coordinator
Authoriser: Cian Middleton, General Manager
File Number: G2025/0267

Annexures: A. Correspondence from Wallabadah Community Association Inc (06 July 2025) - Requesting Appointment of Councillor Delegate [↓](#) 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Appoint the following Councillors as delegate and alternate delegate to the Wallabadah Community Association for the for the period of the current Council term:

Committee	Delegate	Alternate Delegate
Wallabadah Community Association		

BACKGROUND

Liverpool Plains Shire Council supports various external committees and advisory groups which include in their membership one or more Councillor representatives. The appointment of delegates to external committees and organisations is traditionally reviewed at the commencement of a newly inducted Council following the Local Government Elections.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Correspondence was received from the Wallabadah Community Association Incorporate (“the Association”) on 6 July 2025, appended at *Annexure A*, requesting that Council appoint a representative to attend meetings and act as a conduit for matters of mutual interest.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no legislative or policy implications associated with this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Attendance by Councillors at meetings of external committees and other organisations may incur a travel cost to Council. Provision for such costs is included in Council’s budget and is subject to the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications associated with this report.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

The Wallabadah Community Association has requested Council appoint a Councillor as a delegate to its Association. As such, it is recommended that Council formally resolve appoint a delegate and alternate delegate to be on the Association for the balance of the current 2024-28 Council term.

Subject: Request to Appoint A LPSC Delegate - Wallabadah Community Association

Dear Councillors

LPSC is currently a financial member of WCA, a status we hope will continue as the engagement continues to be helpful and positive.

Following a discussion at the last WCA meeting on 10 June, it was resolved to request that the Council appointed to attend meetings and act as a conduit for matters of mutual interest with LPSC. Could this be considered. The discussion acknowledged that it was preferable to have a Councillor other than a local Wallabadah resident carry out this role to avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interest. This would be our preference.

We look forward to your response. For the record, our next meeting is the AGM scheduled for 6 pm 17th July.

Yours Sincerely


George Macdonald

Secretary



WALLABADAH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.
E: wallabadahvillage@gmail.com
P: 0414 851 302

6.5 SPONSORSHIP REQUEST - 2025 QUIRINDI SPRING SHOW

IP&R Linkage:	Goal: Promote active lifestyles and strengthen community connections and sense of belonging
	Strategy: Support the delivery of official civic events that promote engaged citizenship and foster civic pride
Author:	Christie Pearson, Executive Services Coordinator
Authoriser:	Cian Middleton, General Manager
File Number:	G2025/0266
Annexures:	A. Quirindi Show Society Sponsorship letter ↓ 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the request from the Quirindi Show Society Incorporated to sponsor the 2025 Quirindi Spring Show, appended at *Annexure A*.
2. Resolve to provide \$5,000 in sponsorship to the 2025 Quirindi Spring Show.

BACKGROUND

The Quirindi Spring Show is a longstanding local event organised by the Quirindi Show Society Incorporated. The event aims to celebrate the community spirit, agricultural heritage and local creativity of Quirindi and the wider Liverpool Plains Shire, and provides a platform for local producers, schools, businesses and community and not-for-profit groups to showcase their work, operate stalls, and generate revenue.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The Quirindi Show Society Incorporated has written to Council requesting sponsorship of the 2025 Quirindi Spring Show, which is being held on Saturday, 13 and Sunday, 14 September 2025. The correspondence is appended at *Annexure A*.

The Quirindi Show Society Inc. has confirmed that the following sponsorship levels are in place for the 2025 event:

Table 1 2025 Quirindi Spring Show Sponsorship Levels

Sponsorship Level	Value
Platinum	\$5,000
Gold	\$2,500-\$4,999
Silver	\$1,000-\$2,499
Bronze	\$500-\$999
Copper	\$100-499

It is proposed that Council support the event as a Platinum Sponsor and contribute \$5,000 to the event. The rationale for this recommendation is based on economic stimulus, and Council's sister city partnership. Commentary is outlined below.

Economic stimulus and community connection

In recent years, the impact of COVID-19 has significantly impacted events and festivals across rural and regional NSW and reduced the number and scale of events in rural communities, including here in the Liverpool Plains Shire. This has led to a loss of opportunities for residents to connect socially, as well as reduced economic activity tied to event tourism and local spending. The Quirindi Spring Show remains one of the few remaining large community events being held in the Liverpool Plains Shire.

20th Anniversary of Blacktown City-Liverpool Plains Shire Sister City Partnership

At its Ordinary Meeting held 30 June 2025, Council resolved to invite the Mayor, Councillors and Executive Staff of Blacktown City Council to attend the 2025 Quirindi Spring Show, in recognition of the 20th anniversary of our two councils' sister city relationship [**res. 2025/109**]. Historically, Council has planned and held its own local events as part of the sister city partnership, such as the Liverpool Plains Military Tattoo and Hangi in the Country. As Council is not holding its own sister city event in 2025, it was determined to utilise an existing local event – the Quirindi Spring Show – for this purpose.

In this context, the request for sponsorship of the Quirindi Spring Show presents a timely opportunity for Council to demonstrate its support for local initiatives that contribute to both community wellbeing and regional economic resilience, while also celebrating the longstanding Blacktown City-Liverpool Plains Shire sister city partnership.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993* provides that Council may, in accordance with a resolution of the council, contribute money or providing financial assistance to others.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council's 2025/26 Operational Plan & Budget includes an allocation of \$20,000 for financial assistance. If sponsorship of the 2025 Quirindi Spring Show is approved, the \$5,000 sponsorship would be drawn from this budget.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Council has historically provided financial assistance to the Quirindi Spring Show, albeit not to the value proposed in 2025/26. For context, Council provided \$1,000 in financial assistance to the event in 2024/25, which is considerably less than the \$5,000 proposed in the current financial year. Approving the \$5,000 may establish a precedent and present the risk that same level of financial support will be expected in future years.

However, the distinction in 2025/26 is that Council has not budgeted any funds or planned to deliver a sister city event, such as the Liverpool Plains Military Tattoo, and so supporting the Quirindi Spring Show is a cost-effective strategy of supporting an existing community event, without incurring significant funds in planning and delivering a separate, standalone event.

Rejection of sponsorship carries the reputational risk that Council does not support local events, festival and initiatives. Further, rejecting sponsorship may lead to a missed opportunity to stimulate local economic activity and community cohesion.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

As detailed in this report, Council has invited the Mayor, Councillors and Executive Staff of Blacktown City Council to attend the 2025 Quirindi Spring Show in recognition of our two councils' sister city partnership. The Quirindi Show Society Incorporated has requested Council provide financial assistance to the event by way of sponsorship, and it is recommended that the request be approved.

**Quirindi Show Society Inc**

To whom it may concern,

Re: Sponsorship Invitation for the Quirindi Show – September 13-14, 2025

I hope this letter finds you well. On behalf of the Quirindi Show Society Inc, we are delighted to invite you to be a valued sponsor for the **2025 Quirindi Show**, which will take place on **September 13 and 14, 2025**. This year, we are excited to announce that the theme of the event will be **“Around the World,”** providing a unique opportunity to showcase diverse cultures, global entertainment, and a wide variety of international activities.

The Quirindi Show is a well-established event that attracts a wide range of attendees from both the local community and beyond. Each year, we host a variety of activities, including live entertainment, agricultural displays, food stalls, craft competitions, and more. With a focus on bringing together people from all walks of life, this year’s theme is designed to reflect the rich diversity and cultural heritage of our global community.

We would be honoured to have you join us as a sponsor for this exciting event. Your support would contribute to the success of the show, and in return, we offer a range of sponsorship opportunities that will allow your business to be prominently featured to a large and diverse audience. The various levels of sponsorship we offer are in the attached.

We would be delighted to discuss these options further and tailor a sponsorship package that best suits your marketing goals and budget.

By partnering with us for the **2025 Quirindi Show**, you will not only demonstrate your support for the local community but also benefit from increased exposure and recognition before, during, and after the event. We are confident that this event will be a memorable and rewarding experience for all involved.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss sponsorship opportunities further, please feel free to contact me at 0403 664 394 or via email at mikkys@hotmail.com. We look forward to the possibility of partnering with you for what promises to be a fantastic event.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to support the **2025 Quirindi Show**. We hope to hear from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Michelle Cortis

Sponsorship Coordinator
Quirindi Show Society Inc
0403 664 394
mikkys@hotmail.com

7 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

7.1 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE REPORT JUNE 2025

IP&R Linkage:	Goal: Demonstrate good governance
	Strategy: Develop and implement a robust governance and integrity framework
Author:	Dean Frost, Director Corporate and Community Services
Authoriser:	Cian Middleton, General Manager
File Number:	G2025/0258
Annexures:	Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Corporate and Community Services Directorate update report for June 2025.

BACKGROUND

Liverpool Plains Shire Council ("Council") adopted its current organisation structure at its Ordinary Meeting held 03 February 2021 [res. 2021/6]. Council's current organisation structure comprises three Directorates, namely Executive Services, Corporate and Community Services and Infrastructure and Environmental Services.

The Corporate and Community Services Directorate comprises four business units:

- Community and Recreation Services;
- Finance;
- Governance and Risk; and
- Customer and Information Services.

This report provides a briefing on activities, services, programs, and projects progressed by the Corporate and Community Services Directorate.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Briefings on activities, services, programs, and projects for each of the Directorate's four business units are detailed in *Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5*, below:

Table 1 – Community and Recreation Services	
Function	Briefing
Strategic Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Drought Resilience Plan – Funding for Stage 2 of the Regional Drought Resilience Plan has been approved. Sefton & Partners have commenced the plan for Stage 2 – Implementations.
Royal Theatre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no bookings at the Royal Theatre in June.

Table 1 – Community and Recreation Services	
Function	Briefing
Eastside Long Day Care Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 41 children attended the Centre in June. As part of our exploration of different cultures, a parent visited and shared insights about their home country of Denmark.
Library Services and Community Development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 2,270 patrons visited Quirindi Library during June and 473 visited Werris Creek Library. Quirindi Library currently have 1,018 (+5) followers and Werris Creek Library have 581 (+1) followers on Facebook. Quirindi Library hosted 10 events during June: Storytimes x 4 = 40 participants, Daytime Book Group x 1 = 6 participants, Evening Book Group x 1 = 8 participants, Sit and Stitch Craft Group x 1 = 7 participants, NBN Scams Awareness talk x 1 = 5 participants, Author Talk: Maya Linnell x 1 = 23 participants, Currabubula Preschool Storytime x 1 = 7 participants. Werris Creek Library hosted 9 events during June: Storytimes x 4 = 10 participants, Knitting Group x 4 = 20 participants, NBN Scams Awareness talk x 1 = 6 participants. Staff are undertaking WHS Mentoring training from State Cover. Staff are undertaking Novelist Readers Advisory training through the State Library. NBN Co attended Quirindi and Werris Creek Libraries to present a talk on Scams Awareness. The participants found the talk very informative and asked many questions. Quirindi Library hosted Maya Linnell for an Author Talk on a Saturday morning. 23 people attended the talk where the author was interviewed by the Library Services Co-ordinator. The talk was very interesting, afterwards Collins Booksellers sold a number of copies of Maya's books and then everyone participated in afternoon tea which included home cooked cakes. Currabubula Preschool attended the Quirindi Library for an outreach Storytime for their children. 7 children enjoyed the story and craft activity and they will return once a term to enjoy a Storytime. Home Library deliveries were completed in June, in partnership with GoCo.Digital Loans: Willow Tree 24 eaudio 3 ebook, Werris Creek 62 eaudio 11 ebook, Currabubula 40 eaudio 6 ebook, Quirindi 283 eaudio 36 ebook. Community Development: Regular meetings with the NAIDOC Group to prepare for NAIDOC Day. All round 2 Community Funding Program grants have been paid. Round 1 grants open July 1st, paperwork has been updated and put on the website. Submitted the Youth Week grant acquittal.
Quirindi Community Hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a total of 20 individual events/bookings in the community Hub during June. 9 of these were to external organisations and individuals, and 11 of there were for the library/LPSC or associated events.

Table 1 – Community and Recreation Services	
Function	Briefing
Plains Fitness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership is at 310. 1097 scans at the door, and 56 casual visits. The daily average of visits was 40. 142 personal training sessions were conducted with 163 participants. 206 participants in group fit classes.
Aquatic Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Werris Creek Pool has been closed for winter and prepared for off season maintenance.
Quirindi Aquatic Centre Redevelopment Project	<p>The Quirindi Aquatic Centre Redevelopment project has moved into the construction phase.</p> <p>During June the following works were undertaken,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue tiling to main pool & program pool Complete framework to picnic structure at northern end Installation of shade sail to both program pool and splash park Continued earthworks preparation of surrounds for concreting backfilling to subgrade height Earthwork preparation of surrounds for drainage installation Construction of plantroom structure Commence roof installation to plantroom Delivery of filtration equipment Delivery of drainage equipment Delivery of Wet Deck grating & Starter Blocks for main pool <p>The project remains schedule for completion prior to the 25/26 Pool season</p>

Table 2 – Information Services							
Function	Briefing						
Information Technology and Business Systems	<p>Total number of helpdesk and general IT support tickets resolved:</p> <table> <tr> <th>IT Support tickets</th><th>June 2025</th></tr> <tr> <td>Internally resolved</td><td>222</td></tr> <tr> <td>RMT Support</td><td>45</td></tr> </table>	IT Support tickets	June 2025	Internally resolved	222	RMT Support	45
IT Support tickets	June 2025						
Internally resolved	222						
RMT Support	45						

Table 3 – Finance	
Function	Briefing
Financial Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statutory returns – including Business Activity Statement (BAS) filed with appropriate statutory bodies.

Table 3 – Finance	
Function	Briefing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of Council's investments in line with approved policy, report for May submitted. • Ongoing Grant acquittals being actioned as required. • External Interim Audit by the Audit office has commenced. • Vanguard Consulting engaged by the GM to oversee the preparation of Financial Statements and to coordinate the External Audit.
Financial Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY26 Operational Budget and LTFP 2026 – 2035 has been on Public Exhibition for 28 days and was adopted by Council at the 30 June Ordinary Meeting.
Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery and Operational Plans has been on Public Exhibition and was adopted by Council at the 30 June Ordinary Meeting. • Community Strategic Plan (CSP) has been on Public Exhibition for 28 days and was adopted by Council at the 30 June Ordinary Meeting.

Table 4 - Governance and Risk	
Function	Briefing
Corporate Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of the annual Disclosure of Interest Returns for Councillors and Nominated Officers
Internal Audit and Risk Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Aquatic Centre Project Control Group Meetings • Review actions from the NSW Resources Regulator Audit of Council's quarries. • Preparation of Council's WHS Committee Bi-monthly meeting • Finalisation of the Internal Audit of the Werris Creek Industrial Precinct Project.

Table 5 – Customer Service		
Function	Briefing	
Customer and Visitor Services		

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no legislative or policy implications for Council associated with this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for Council associated with this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications for Council associated with this report.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended Council receive and note the report on services and activities within the Corporate and Community Services Directorate for June 2025 as detailed in this report.

7.2 STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS - JUNE 2025

IP&R Linkage:	Goal: Model collaborative and transparent leadership
	Strategy: Progress Council's long-term financial sustainability and prudently manage our expenditure
Author:	Katrina Gresser, Manager Finance (Acting)
Authoriser:	Dean Frost, Director Corporate and Community Services
File Number:	G2025/0257
Annexures:	A. Statement of Investments as at 30 June 2025 ↓  B. Imperium Markets Monthly Investment Review Report for Liverpool Plains Shire Council as of 30 June 2025 ↓ 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Statement of Investments as of 30 June 2025 as appended at *Annexure A*.
2. Receive and note the Imperium Markets Monthly Investment Review Report for Liverpool Plains Shire Council as of 30 June 2025 as appended at *Annexure B*.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* ("the Regulations"), the Responsible Accounting Officer must provide Council with a monthly written report setting out details of Council's investments under section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993* ("the Act"). The report must also include certification that these investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

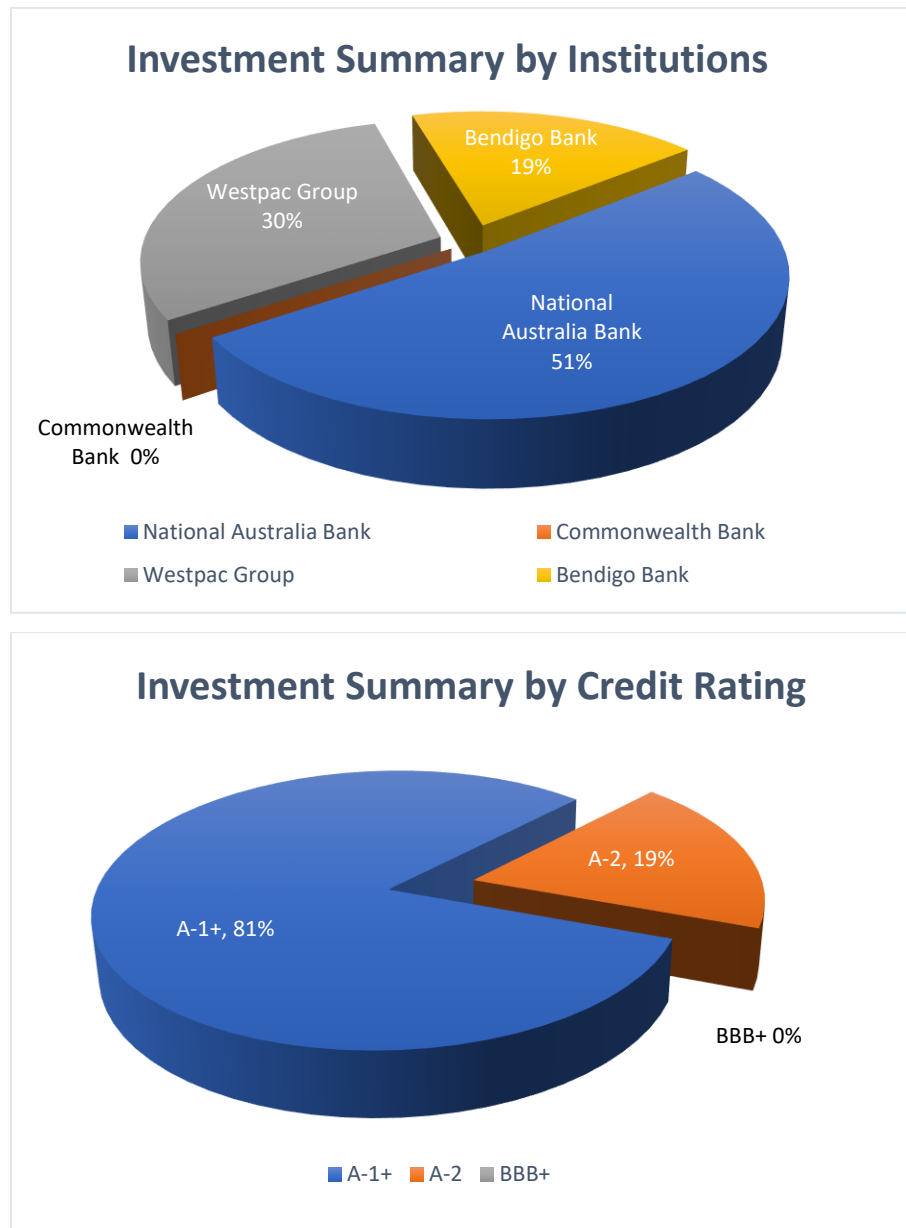
The balance of Council's investments as of 30 June 2025 was \$35.0 million, which was unchanged from the prior month.

The Council weighted average return is above the RBA benchmark rate by 0.75 per cent at 4.6 per cent.

The RBA cash rate is considered the benchmark for evaluating Council's return on investment, which was reduced to 3.85 per cent by the RBA on 21 May 2025. The major banks had factored the expected lowering of the RBA cash rate into their base rates for term deposits well in advance of the RBA's announcement.

Council's investments cover externally and internal restricted cash reserves.

The following charts depict a summary of the investments held by Council based on the individual institutional exposure and credit rating of the institutions with which they are held:



Legislative and Policy Implications

All of Council's investments are held in accordance with Council's Investment Policy which accords with the requirements of the:

- *Local Government Act 1993* – Section 625
- *Local Government Act 1993* – Order (of Minister) dated 16 November 2000
- *The Trustee Amendment (Discretionary Investments) Act 1997*–Sections 14A (2), 14C (1) and 2
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* – Clauses 212 And 21.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications for Council associated with this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

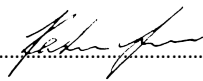
There are no risk implications for Council associated with this report.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

Council's investments continue to focus on capital protection and compliance with its investment policy whilst actively seeking the best return allowable within these parameters. It is recommended that Council receive and note the Statement of Investments as of 30 June 2025.

TERM DEPOSIT LISTINGS							
Liverpool Plains Shire Council Investment Register 30/06/2025							
<u>Acquisition Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Face Value (\$)</u> <u>31/05/25</u>	<u>Face Value (\$)</u> <u>30/06/25</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Financial Reporting</u> <u>Classification</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Credit</u> <u>Rating</u>
12/06/2024	12/06/2025	\$2,000,000	\$0	5.14%	Held to Maturity	Westpac Group	A-1+
20/12/2024	20/06/2025	\$2,000,000	\$0	5.05%	Held to Maturity	Bendigo Bank	A-2
20/06/2025	19/12/2025	\$0	\$2,000,000	4.25%	Held to Maturity	Bendigo Bank	A-2
7/04/2025	7/07/2025	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	4.70%	Held to Maturity	National Australia Bank	A-1+
8/04/2025	7/07/2025	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	4.70%	Held to Maturity	National Australia Bank	A-1+
13/01/2025	14/07/2025	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	5.00%	Held to Maturity	Bendigo Bank	A-2
27/02/2025	30/07/2025	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	4.70%	Held to Maturity	Westpac Group	A-1+
5/05/2025	6/08/2025	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	4.50%	Held to Maturity	National Australia Bank	A-1+
6/02/2025	6/08/2025	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	4.80%	Held to Maturity	National Australia Bank	A-1+
14/03/2025	14/08/2025	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	4.64%	Held to Maturity	Westpac Group	A-1+
6/05/2025	5/09/2025	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	4.40%	Held to Maturity	National Australia Bank	A-1+
5/03/2025	9/09/2025	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	4.65%	Held to Maturity	Bendigo Bank	A-2
12/03/2025	16/09/2025	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	4.65%	Held to Maturity	Westpac Group	A-1+
4/04/2025	7/10/2025	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	4.70%	Held to Maturity	National Australia Bank	A-1+
9/05/2025	9/10/2025	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	4.35%	Held to Maturity	Westpac Group	A-1+
14/04/2025	14/10/2025	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	4.50%	Held to Maturity	National Australia Bank	A-1+
17/03/2025	16/10/2025	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	4.70%	Held to Maturity	National Australia Bank	A-1+
1/04/2025	4/11/2025	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	4.70%	Held to Maturity	National Australia Bank	A-1+
12/06/2025	12/12/2025	\$0	\$2,000,000	4.20%	Held to Maturity	Westpac Group	A-1+
		\$35,000,000	\$35,000,000				
<p>I, Katrina Gresser, Liverpool Plains Shire Council - Manager Finance (Acting), certify as required under Section 212 of the Local Government Regulations 2021, that Council's investments have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and Liverpool Plains Shire Council Investment Policy.</p> <p>Signed </p>							



Monthly Investment Review



**Liverpool
Plains**
Shire Council

June 2025

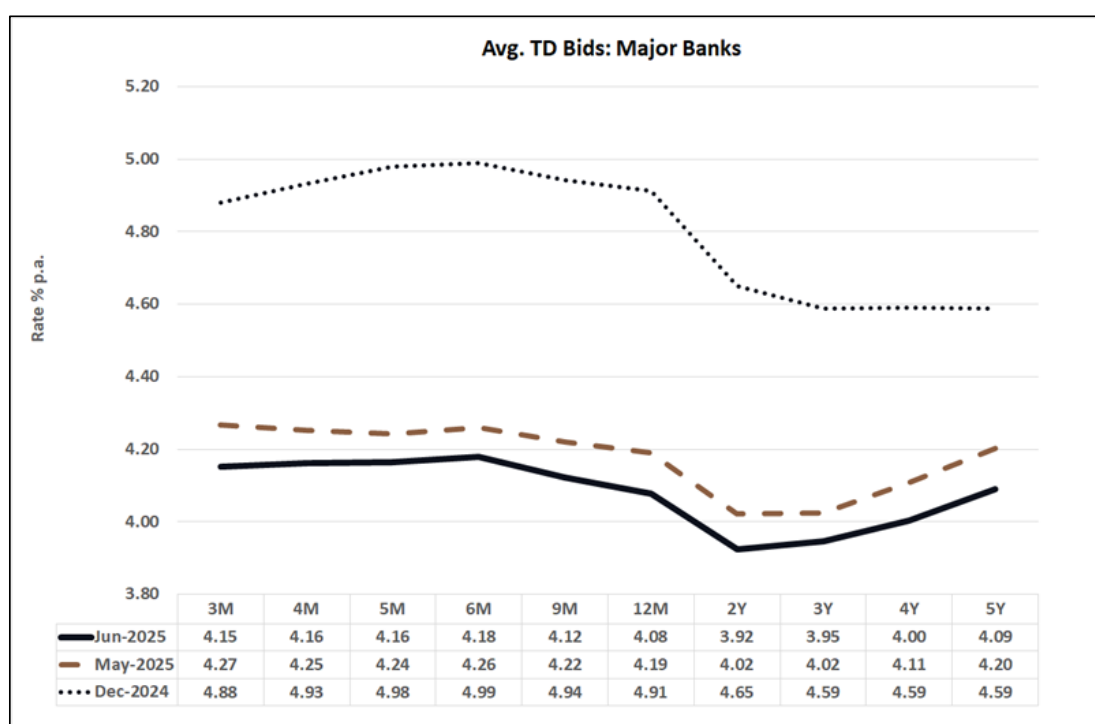
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Market Update Summary

Global equity markets set all-time highs again, despite the escalating tensions in the Middle East throughout the month. The global tariff wars seem to have taken a backburner for now, whilst market expectations are for further rate cuts to be delivered by most global central banks.

In the deposit market, over June, at the very short-end of the curve (less than 6 months), the average deposit rates offered by the domestic major banks fell between 7–10bp compared to the previous month (May). At the longer-end of the curve (1–5 years), the average rates dropped by 10–15bp compared to where they were in May, as the market continues to expect additional rate cuts over the next few months.



Source: Imperium Markets

With additional rate cuts and a global economic downturn priced in over 2025, investors should consider diversifying and taking an 'insurance policy' against a potentially lower rate environment by investing across 1–5 year fixed deposits and locking in rates close to or above 4% p.a. (small allocation only).



Liverpool Plains Shire Council's Portfolio & Compliance

Asset Allocation

As at the end of June 2025, the portfolio was entirely directed to fixed term deposits, with a very short weighted average duration (less than 3 months), which is now susceptible to reinvestment risk in a falling interest rate environment. We strongly recommend Council to extend the weighted average duration of the term deposit portfolio immediately.

Separately, senior FRNs are now trading at a 'fair value' on a historical basis, and new issuances should be considered on a case by case scenario. For fixed interest investments, staggering a mix of fixed deposits between 12 months to 5 years remains a more optimal strategy to maximise returns over a longer-term cycle.

With additional interest rate cuts and a global economic downturn being priced in 2025, investors should choose to allocate a small proportion of longer-term funds and undertake an insurance policy against additional rate cuts by investing across 1-5 year fixed deposits, locking in and targeting yields above 4% p.a. Should inflation be within the RBA's target band of 2-3% over the longer-term, returns around 4% p.a. or higher should outperform benchmark.

Asset Allocation	Invested (\$)	Percentage (%)
Term Deposits	\$35,000,000	100%
	\$35,000,000	100%

Term to Maturity

Overall, the portfolio remains excessively short-dated and liquid from a maturity perspective with the majority of maturing within 3 months. We strongly recommend a more diversified maturity profile to improve the returns of the total investment portfolio in the long-run and to protect interest income from falling more rapidly.

Where ongoing liquidity requirements permit Council to invest a spread of 1-5 year investments (small allocation only), we recommend this be allocated fixed term deposits (refer to respective sections below).

Compliant	Horizon	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Min. Limit (%)	Max. Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	0 – 365 days	\$35,000,000	100.00%	0%	100%	\$0
✓	1 – 3 years	\$0	0.00%	0%	60%	\$21,000,000
✓	3 – 5 years	\$0	0.00%	0%	40%	\$14,000,000
✓	5 – 10 years	\$0	0.00%	0%	10%	\$3,500,000
		\$35,000,000	100.00%			



Counterparty

As at the end of June 2025, the portfolio was highly concentrated with only 3 ADIs utilised. All were within the policy limits. We highly recommend opening up more accounts with other banking counterparties to not only diversify, but in all likelihood, this will increase the overall returns of the portfolio.

Compliant	Issuer	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Max. Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	NAB	A-1+	\$18,000,000	51.43%	80%	\$10,000,000
✓	WBC	A-1+	\$10,500,000	30.00%	80%	\$17,500,000
✓	Bendigo-Adelaide	A-2	\$6,500,000	18.57%	20%	\$500,000
			\$35,000,000	100.00%		

Credit Quality

As at the end of June, the portfolio remains lightly diversified across the investment grade spectrum, with the majority of assets directed to the higher rated banks (rated "A-1+"). All aggregate ratings categories are within the Policy limits, with high capacity to invest with the lower rated banks:

Compliant	Credit Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Max. Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	A-1+ Category	\$28,500,000	81.43%	100%	\$6,500,000
✓	A-1 Category	\$0	0.00%	100%	\$35,000,000
✓	A-2 Category	\$6,500,000	18.57%	50%	\$11,000,000
✓	A-3 Category	\$0	0.00%	30%	\$10,500,000
		\$35,000,000	100.00%		



Performance

Council's performance for the month ending June 2025 is summarised as follows:

Performance (Actual)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	0.31%	0.97%	1.99%	4.21%	4.21%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	0.32%	1.02%	2.10%	4.39%	4.39%
Council's T/D Portfolio [^]	0.39%	1.17%	2.39%	4.95%	4.95%
Rel. Performance	0.07%	0.16%	0.29%	0.56%	0.56%

[^]Total portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings.

Performance (Annualised)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	3.85%	3.93%	4.06%	4.21%	4.21%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	3.94%	4.15%	4.28%	4.39%	4.39%
Council's T/D Portfolio [^]	4.81%	4.79%	4.88%	4.95%	4.95%
Rel. Performance	0.87%	0.64%	0.60%	0.56%	0.56%

[^]Total portfolio performance excludes Council's cash account holdings.

For the month of June, the total investment portfolio (excluding cash) provided a solid return of +0.39% (actual) or +4.81% p.a. (annualised), outperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.32% (actual) or +3.94% p.a. (annualised).

Returns can be improved in the long-run by staggering deposit investments across a mixture of 9-12 months, potentially out to 5 years. The addition of new banking counterparties would also reduce concentration risk, whilst promoting diversification and in all likelihood, increase overall returns.



Recommendations for Council

Term Deposits

Council's interest income can be increased by undertaking a slightly longer duration position (12–24 months), with rates on offer along this part of the curve likely to be offered up to ¼–½% p.a. higher compared to shorter tenors in a normal market environment. There is growing belief that additional rate cuts and a global economic downturn is imminent and so locking in rates above 4% p.a. across 1–3 year tenors may provide some income protection against a lower rate environment.

As at the end of June 2025, Council's deposit portfolio was yielding 4.60% p.a. (down 10bp from the previous month), with a weighted average duration of just 76 days (~2½ months). **We strongly recommend increasing the weighted average duration between 9–12 months over the remainder of the calendar year to address reinvestment risk in the lower rate environment. This can be achieved without jeopardising liquidity requirements by potentially splitting deposit parcels down to \$1m.**

Please refer to the section below for further details on the Term Deposit market.

Securities

Primary (new) **FRNs** (with maturities between 3–5 years) are now 'fair value' again and remain appealing (particularly for those investors with portfolios skewed towards fixed assets) and should be considered on a case by case scenario. **Fixed Bonds** may also provide attractive opportunities from new (primary) issuances.

Please refer to the sections below for further details on each market.



Term Deposit Market Review

Current Term Deposits Rates

As at the end of June, we see value in the following:

ADI	LT Credit Rating	Term	Rate % p.a.
ING Bank	A	5 years	4.27%
NAB	AA-	5 years	4.15%
Westpac	AA-	5 years	4.12%
BoQ	A-	5 years	4.10%
ING Bank	A	4 years	4.12%
NAB	AA-	4 years	4.10%
Westpac	AA-	4 years	4.01%
Hume Bank	BBB+	4 years	4.00%
NAB	AA-	3 years	4.00%
ING Bank	A	3 years	3.98%
Suncorp	AA-	3 years	3.93%
Westpac	AA-	3 years	3.92%
State Bank of India	BBB-	2 years	4.00%
NAB	AA-	2 years	3.95%
ING Bank	A	2 years	3.90%
Hume Bank	BBB+	2 years	3.90%

The above deposits are suitable for investors looking to maintain diversification and lock-in a slight premium compared to purely investing short-term.

For terms under 12 months, we believe the strongest value is currently being offered by the following ADIs (*we stress that rates are indicative, dependent on daily funding requirements and different for industry segments*):



ADI	LT Credit Rating	Term	Rate % p.a.
Bank of Sydney	Unrated	12 months	4.22%
State Bank of India	BBB-	12 months	4.15%
Suncorp	AA-	12 months	4.12%
NAB	AA-	12 months	4.10%
ICBC Sydney Branch	A	12 months	4.07%
Suncorp	AA-	9 months	4.29%
BankVIC	BBB+	9 months	4.20%
Bank of Sydney	Unrated	9 months	4.20%
NAB	AA-	9 months	4.18%
State Bank of India	BBB-	9 months	4.15%
Bank of Sydney	Unrated	6 months	4.40%
Suncorp	AA-	6 months	4.27%
State Bank of India	BBB-	6 months	4.25%
Bendigo-Adelaide	A-	6 months	4.25%
NAB	AA-	6 months	4.22%
Bank of Sydney	Unrated	3 months	4.40%
State Bank of India	BBB-	3 months	4.30%
NAB	AA-	3 months	4.25%
BankVIC	BBB+	3 months	4.20%

For those investors that do not require high levels of liquidity and can stagger their investments longer term, they will be rewarded over a longer-term cycle if they roll for an average min. term of 12 months, with a spread of investments out to 5 years (this is where we see current value). In a normal market environment (upward sloping yield curve), investors could earn over a cycle, on average, up to ¼-½% p.a. higher compared to those investors that entirely invest in short-dated deposits.

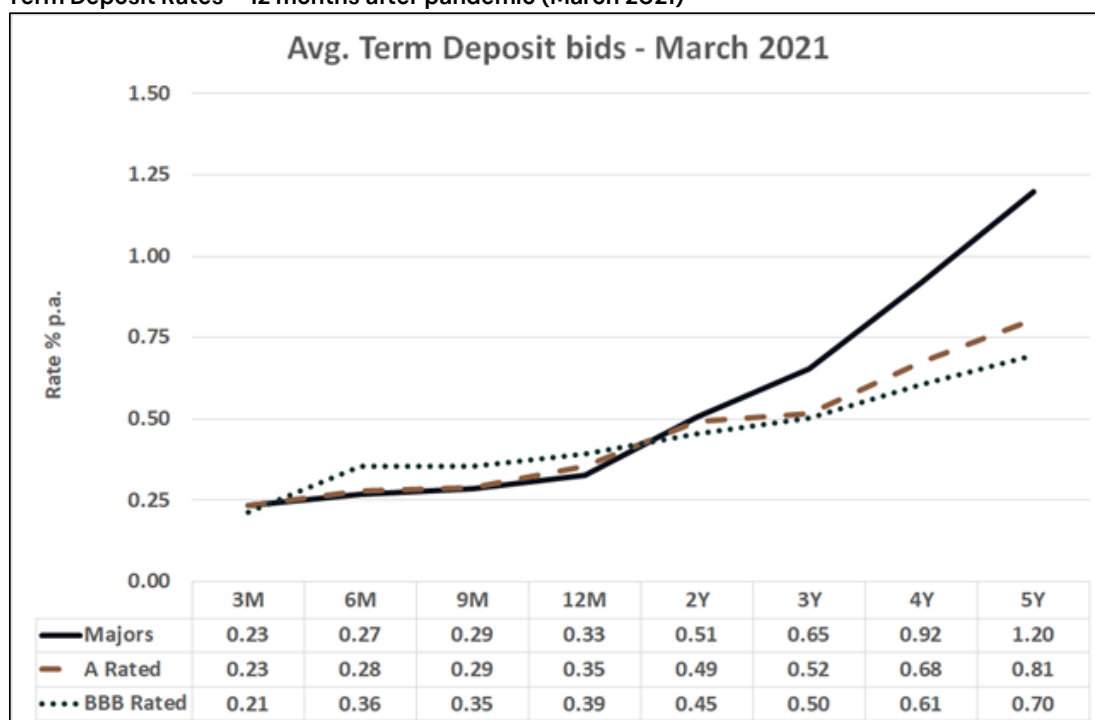
With additional rate cuts and a global economic downturn priced in over 2025, investors should consider allocating some longer-term surplus funds and undertake an insurance policy by investing across 1-5 year fixed deposits and locking in rates close to or above 4% p.a. This will provide some income protection if the RBA decides to continue cutting rates over 2025 and into 2026.



Term Deposits Analysis

Pre-pandemic (March 2020), a 'normal' marketplace meant the lower rated ADIs (i.e. BBB category) were offering higher rates on term deposits compared to the higher rated ADIs (i.e. A or AA rated). But due to the cheap funding available provided by the RBA via their Term Funding Facility (TFF) during mid-2020, allowing the ADIs to borrow as low as 0.10% p.a. fixed for 3 years, those lower rated ADIs (BBB rated) did not require deposit funding from the wholesale deposit. Given the higher rated banks had more capacity to lend (as they have a greater pool of mortgage borrowers), they subsequently were offering higher deposit rates. In fact, some of the lower rated banks were not even offering deposit rates at all. As a result, most investors placed a higher proportion of their deposit investments with the higher rated (A or AA) ADIs over the past three years.

Term Deposit Rates – 12 months after pandemic (March 2021)



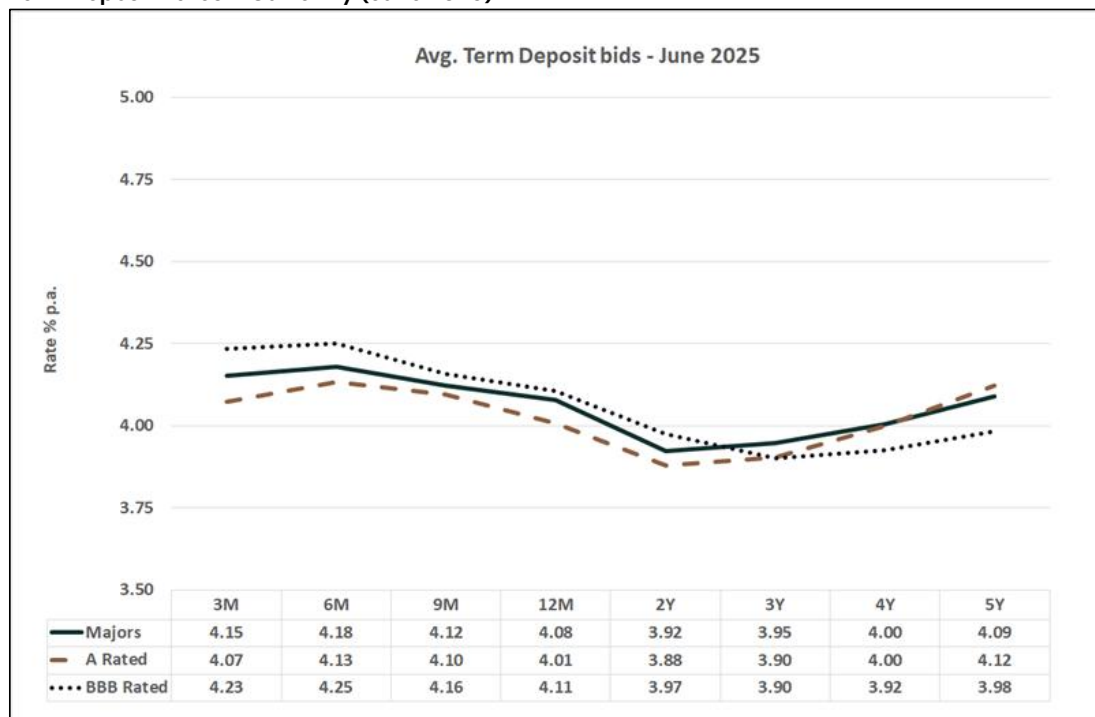
Source: Imperium Markets

The abnormal marketplace experienced during the pandemic is starting to reverse as the competition for deposits slowly increases, partially driven by the RBA's term funding facility coming to an end. In recent months, we have started to periodically see some of the lower rated ADIs ("A" and "BBB" rated) offering slightly higher rates compared to the domestic major banks ("AA" rated) on different parts of the curve (i.e. pre-pandemic environment). Some of this has been attributed to lags in adjusting their deposit rates as some banks (mainly the lower rated ADIs) simply set their rates for the week.



Going forward, investors should have a larger opportunity to invest a higher proportion of its funds with the lower rated institutions (up to Policy limits), from which the majority are not lending to the Fossil Fuel industry or considered 'ethical'. We are slowly seeing this trend emerge, although the major banks always seem to react more quickly than the rest of the market during periods of volatility:

Term Deposit Rates – Currently (June 2025)



Source: Imperium Markets

Financial Stability of the Banking (ADI) Sector

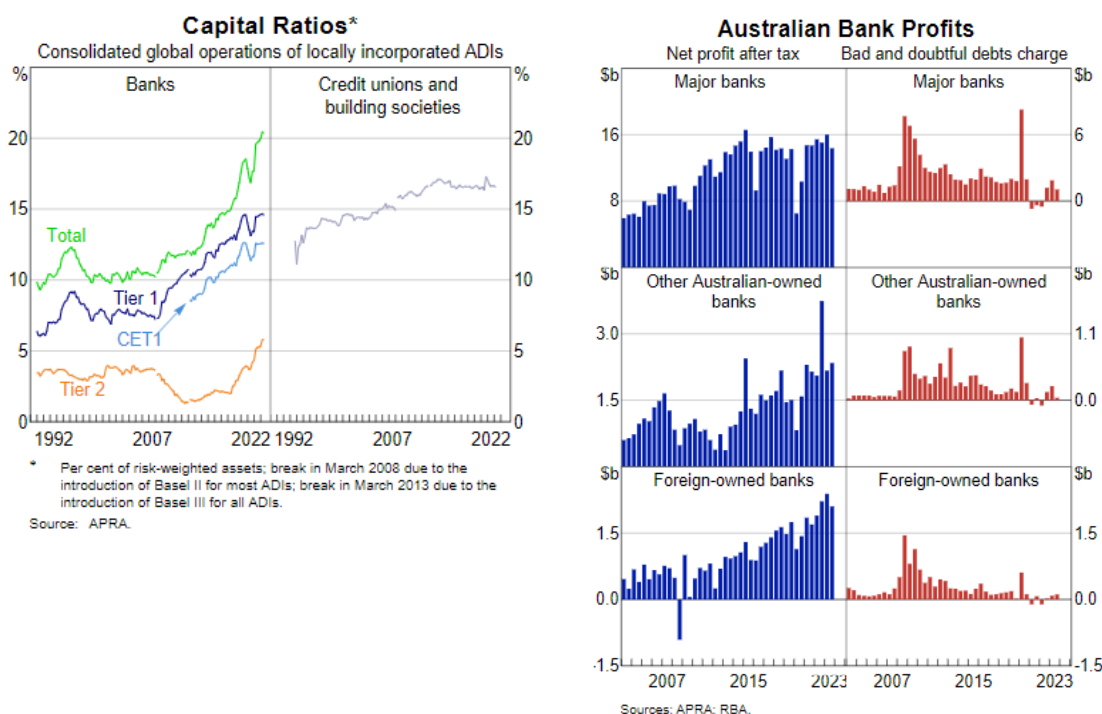
The RBA's latest Financial Stability report of 2024 reaffirms the strong balance sheet across the ADI sector. They noted that the risk of widespread financial stress remains limited due to the generally strong financial positions of most (individual) borrowers. Very few mortgage borrowers are in negative equity, limiting the impact on lenders (ADIs) in the event of default and supporting their ability to continue providing credit to the economy. Most businesses that have entered insolvency are small and have little debt, limiting the broader impact on the labour market and thus household incomes, and on the capital position of lenders (ADIs).

Australian banks (collectively the APRA regulated ADIs) have maintained prudent lending standards and are well positioned to continue supplying credit to the economy. A deterioration in economic conditions or temporary disruption to funding markets is unlikely to halt lending activity. Banks have anticipated an



increase in loan arrears and have capital and liquidity buffers well above regulatory requirements (see *Capita Ratios* chart below). APRA's mandate is to "protect depositors" and provide "financial stability".

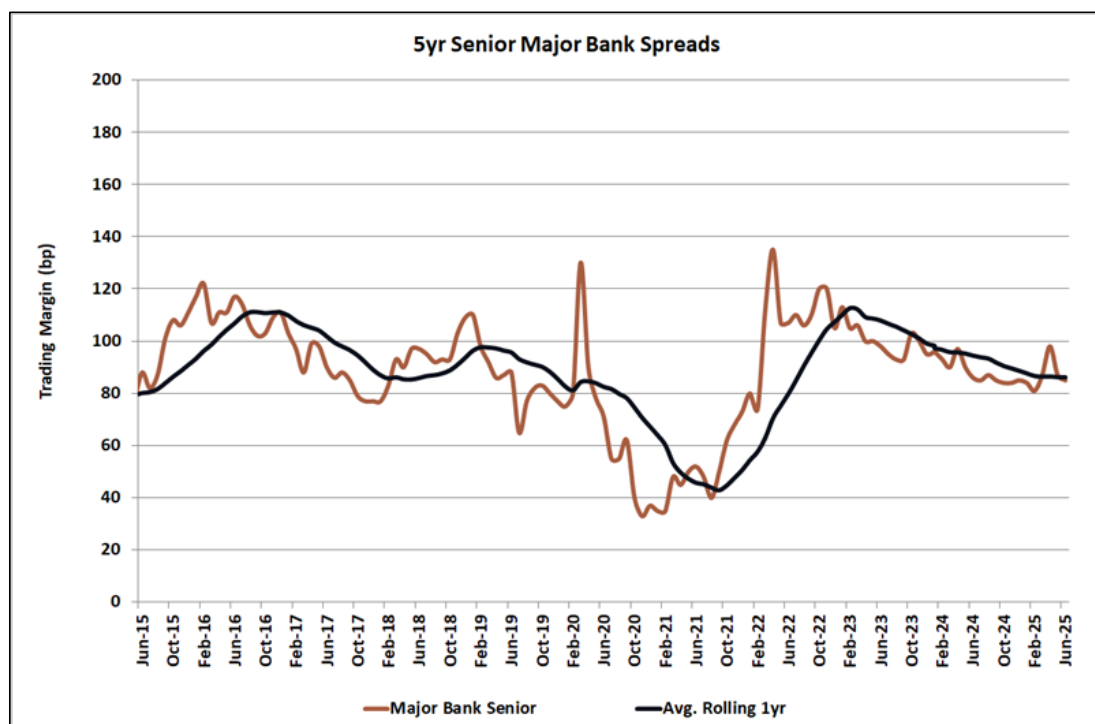
Over the past two decades, both domestic and international banks continue to operate and demonstrate high levels of profitability (see *Australian Bank Profits* chart below), which also includes two stress-test environments being the GFC (September 2008) and the COVID pandemic (March 2020):





Senior FRNs Market Review

Over June, amongst the senior major bank FRNs, physical credit securities tightened up to 2bp at the long-end of the curve. During the month, Westpac (AA-) issued a new 5 year senior security at +83bp. Long-term major bank senior securities are looking slightly expensive on a historical basis, noting the 5yr margin has averaged around the +95-100bp range over a cycle (currently around +85bp).



Source: IBS Capital

There were minimal primary issuances amongst the senior bank market this month, with the only notable lines being the small levels issued by:

- ING Bank Australia (A) 3 & 5 year senior securities at +80bp and +95bp respectively
- Judo Bank (BBB) 3 year senior FRN at +145bp
- Macquarie Bank (A+) 1 year senior FRN at +42bp
- Bank of China Australia (A) 3 year senior FRN at +75bp

Amongst the "A" and "BBB" rated sector, the securities remained relatively flat at the longer-end of the curve.



Overall, credit securities remain fair value on a historical basis. FRNs will continue to play a role in investors' portfolios mainly based on their liquidity and the ability to roll down the curve and gross up returns over ensuing years (in a relatively stable credit environment), whilst also providing some diversification to those investors skewed towards fixed assets.

Senior FRNs (ADIs)	30/06/2025	31/05/2025
"AA" rated – 5yrs	+85bp	+87bp
"AA" rated – 3yrs	+68bp	+69bp
"A" rated – 5yrs	+95bp	+97bp
"A" rated – 3yrs	+80bp	+77bp
"BBB" rated – 3yrs	+130bp	+130bp

Source: IBS Capital

We now generally recommend switches ('benchmark' issues only) into new primary issues, out of the following senior FRNs that are maturing:

- On or before early-2028 for the "AA" rated ADIs (domestic major banks);
- On or before mid-2026 for the "A" rated ADIs; and
- Within 6–9 months for the "BBB" rated ADIs (consider case by case).

Investors holding onto the above senior FRNs ('benchmark' issues only) in their last few years are now generally holding sub optimal investments and are not maximising returns by foregoing realised capital gains. In the current challenging economic environment, any boost in overall returns should be locked in when it is advantageous to do so, particularly as switch opportunities become available.



Senior Fixed Bonds – ADIs (Secondary Market)

With global inflation softening and official interest rates starting to drop progressively, investors may look at some opportunities in the secondary market. We currently see value in the following fixed bond lines (please note supply in the secondary market may be limited on any day):

ISIN	Issuer	Rating	Capital Structure	Maturity Date	~Remain. Term (yrs)	Fixed Coupon	Indicative Yield
AU3CB0314763	Bendigo	A-	Senior	24/10/2028	3.33	4.79%	4.18%
AU3CB0308955	BoQ	A-	Senior	30/04/2029	3.85	5.30%	4.35%
AU3CB0319879	Nova Sco.	A-	Senior	21/03/2030	4.74	5.23%	4.80%



Economic Commentary

International Market

Global equity markets set all-time highs again, despite the escalating tensions in the Middle East throughout the month. The global tariff wars seem to have taken a backburner for now, whilst market expectations are for further rate cuts to be delivered by most global central banks.

Across equity markets, the US S&P 500 Index rose +4.96%, whilst the NASDAQ surged +6.57%. Europe's main indices bucked the trend, with slight losses in France's CAC (-1.11%), Germany's DAX (-0.37%) and UK's FTSE (-0.13%).

The US Federal Reserve kept rates unchanged at 4.25%–4.50% where it has been since December. The updated "dot plot" maintained expectations of two rate reductions later this year (though seven FOMC members now forecast no cuts at all, up from four in March) and have revised their 2026 outlook to only one 25bp rate cut.

The US unemployment rate held steady at 4.2%. US CPI report for May showed notably cooler inflation than expected, with both headline and core CPI rising just +0.1% m/m (consensus +0.2% and +0.3% respectively). Core CPI is up +1.7% in 3m annualised terms and +2.6% in 6m annualised terms.

The Bank of Canada kept rates on hold at 2.75% as fully expected, once again noting the uncertainty about the impact of tariffs on the economy. The Bank suggested a further rate cut could be required if the economy weakens and inflation remains contained.

The Bank of England kept the bank rate unchanged at 4.25%, with six members supporting the decision while three members voted for a 25bp rate cut. The UK unemployment rate rose 0.1% to 4.6%, in line with expectations. UK April GDP today was soft at -0.3% m/m vs a -0.1% consensus.

Euro area core CPI for May came in 0.1% lower than consensus at +2.3% y/y vs. +2.4% expected. The ECB cut rates by 25bp as expected to 2.00%, but the messaging was more hawkish, with President Lagarde positioning, *"I think we are getting to the end of a monetary policy cycle"*.

Both the Swiss National Bank and Norway's Central Bank cut their rates by 25bp respectively in June.

China's CPI data remained weak at -0.1% y/y (-0.2% expected) weighed by falling fuel and food prices even as broader inflation also remained subdued with the core measure at +0.6% y/y.

The MSCI World ex-Aus Index rose +3.90% for the month of June:

Index	1m	3m	1yr	3yr	5yr	10yr
S&P 500 Index	+4.96%	+10.97%	+13.63%	+17.91%	+14.89%	+11.64%
MSCI World ex-AUS	+3.90%	+9.20%	+16.00%	+17.70%	+15.50%	+11.00%
S&P ASX 200 Accum. Index	+1.41%	+9.50%	+13.81%	+13.56%	+11.85%	+8.86%

Source: S&P, MSCI



Domestic Market

Australia's monthly inflation eased faster than expected in May, with consumer prices rising +2.1% y/y (versus +2.3% expectations), which is near the bottom of the RBA's target band. Core inflation also fell from +2.8% in April to +2.4% in May (its lowest rate since November 2021). Services inflation on the monthly indicator is running at +3.3% y/y, its lowest since May 2022.

Australia's unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.1% in May, for the fourth consecutive month. Despite a surprise fall in jobs (-2.5k in May versus +20k expectation), the unemployment rate was steady as the participation rate slightly eased to 67.0% (from 67.1%).

Q1 GDP rose just +0.2% q/q and +1.3% y/y, below consensus and the RBA's forecast of +0.4% q/q.

Dwelling prices for May rose +0.5% m/m, further sustaining the turnaround seen since February. Price growth had slowed into April (ahead of the 3 May election), but the combination of election clarity and RBA interest rate cuts were likely the drivers behind the rise seen in May.

The monthly trade surplus was lower than expected with a surplus of \$5.4bn for April vs. \$6.0bn consensus.

Retail spending was up +1.1% in May, +1.5% in 3-month average terms and +6.8% over the past 12 months.

The Australian dollar rose around +1.77%, finishing the month at US65.50 cents (from US64.36 cents the previous month).

Credit Market

The global credit indices marginally tightened in the risk-on environment. They remain near the levels seen in early-mid 2022 (prior to the rate hike cycle from most central banks):

Index	June 2025	May 2025
CDX North American 5yr CDS	54bp	56bp
iTraxx Europe 5yr CDS	57bp	58bp
iTraxx Australia 5yr CDS	76bp	75bp

Source: Markit



Fixed Interest Review

Benchmark Index Returns

Index	June 2025	May 2025
Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index (0+YR)	+0.32%	+0.32%
Bloomberg AusBond Composite Bond Index (0+YR)	+0.75%	-0.40%
Bloomberg AusBond Credit FRN Index (0+YR)	+0.38%	+0.64%
Bloomberg AusBond Credit Index (0+YR)	+0.62%	+0.21%
Bloomberg AusBond Treasury Index (0+YR)	+0.77%	+0.02%
Bloomberg AusBond Inflation Gov't Index (0+YR)	+0.80%	+0.41%

Source: Bloomberg

Other Key Rates

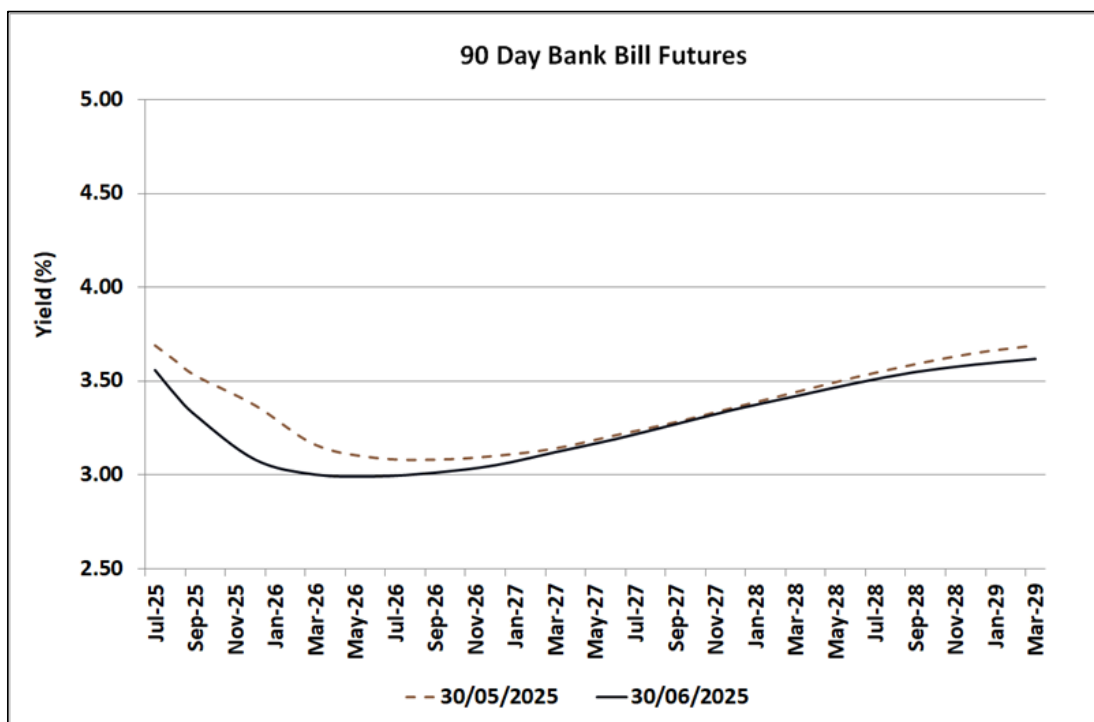
Index	June 2025	May 2025
RBA Official Cash Rate	3.85%	3.85%
90 Day (3 month) BBSW Rate	3.60%	3.73%
3yr Australian Government Bonds	3.25%	3.31%
10yr Australian Government Bonds	4.14%	4.23%
US Fed Funds Rate	4.25%-4.50%	4.25%-4.50%
2yr US Treasury Bonds	3.72%	3.89%
10yr US Treasury Bonds	4.24%	4.41%

Source: RBA, ASX, US Department of Treasury



90 Day Bill Futures

Bill futures fell across the curve this month, with expectations of further rate cuts to be delivered very shortly:



Source: ASX

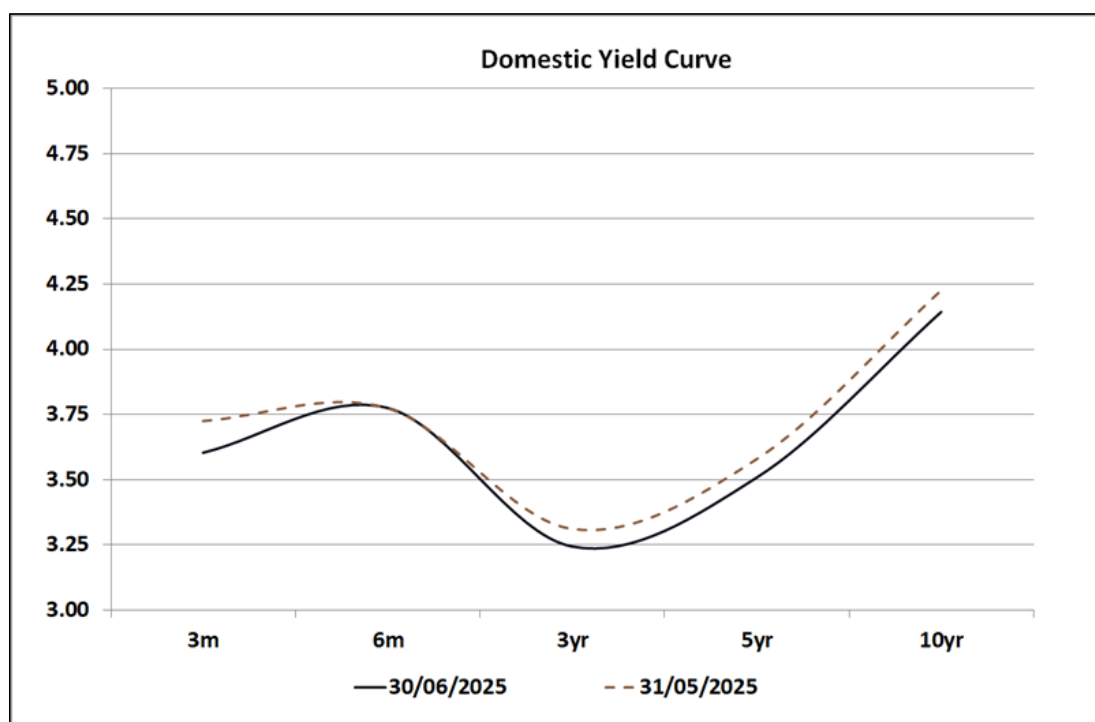


Fixed Interest Outlook

US Fed Chair Powell has recently stated that “if inflation pressures remain contained, we’ll get to a place to cut rates sooner rather than later”. The market continues to factor up to two rate cuts by the US Fed for the remainder of 2025.

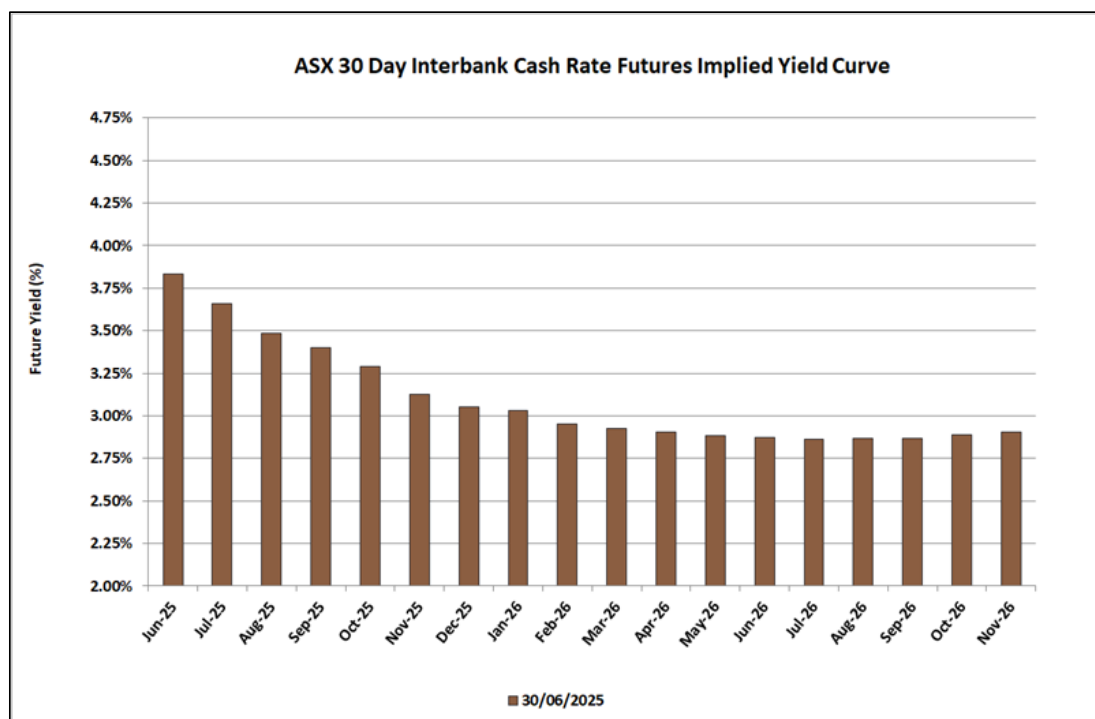
With monthly inflation prints coming in softer than the RBA’s expectations in recent months, the ongoing restrictive policy stance may no longer be appropriate. With services inflation on the monthly indicator running at its lowest since May 2022, this should give the RBA greater confidence that there is further room to ease policy back to a more neutral setting.

Yields fell up to 8bp at the longer-end of the curve:



Source: ASX, RBA

Financial markets are now factoring up to four (4) additional rate cuts by early-mid 2026 after the latest monthly inflation reading. This could potentially take the official cash rate down to 2.85%, although the RBA remains cautious on the potential upside risks to inflation due to international markets, particularly surrounding the ongoing tariff wars and geopolitical tensions in the Middle East:



Source: ASX

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8 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

8.1 INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE REPORT JUNE 2025

IP&R Linkage:	Goal: Plan, deliver and maintain infrastructure that meets our needs
	Strategy: Seek opportunities to implement continuous improvement methodologies to optimise business processes
Author:	Nathan Skelly, Director Infrastructure and Environmental Services
Authoriser:	Nathan Skelly, Director Infrastructure and Environmental Services
File Number:	G2025/0254
Annexures:	Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Infrastructure & Environmental Services Directorate report for the month of June 2025.

BACKGROUND

Liverpool Plains Shire Council ("Council") adopted its current organisation structure at its Ordinary Meeting held 03 February 2021 [res. 2021/6]. Council's current organisation structure comprises three Directorates, namely Executive Services, Corporate and Community Services and Infrastructure and Environmental Services.

The Infrastructure and Environmental Services Directorate comprises of four business units:

- Water Services
- Planning and Regulation
- Civil Infrastructure (Parks and Gardens, Roads, Waste)
- Property and Assets

This report provides a briefing on activities, services, programs, and projects progressed by the Infrastructure and Environmental Services Directorate.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Major Projects	
Function	Briefing
Willow Tree Landfill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cost for this project has escalated to \$5,233,508 due to extensive volumes of unsuitable material and a landslip. • This includes a contingency of \$264,706. • The design for the landslip is finalised, and negotiations are ongoing with the neighbouring quarry around reaching an agreement on resolving this matter. • The grant funding under Resources for Regions Round 8 is milestone based and is now being claimed through the construction of the project.
Longfield Oval Lighting Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council continues to work on the energy upgrade. All information has been provided and we are awaiting a response from Essential Energy. • Council has escalated this with Essential Energy and Kevin Anderson's office • The required substations have been ordered for these works. The onsite duration of the work is expected to be two weeks • The Sheoaks on the bank of the Quirindi Creek immediately adjacent to the pool need to be removed for these works. • This project is funded by a grant from NSW Stronger Country Communities (Round 5).
Yarraman Creek Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A draft design has been received and is being reviewed. • The project is funded under the NSW Betterment Funding
Quirindi Swinging Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract has been awarded and design is underway. • Application for extension of time has been submitted under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements • This is funded through Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements
Werris Creek Landfill Rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil to report during the month

Civil	
Unsealed Roads	<p>Maintenance grading completed on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SR 74 Treloar Rd • SR 89 Brunskills Rd • SR 7 Pandoras Pass • SR 31 Warrah Creek Rd • SR 33 Dry Creek Rd • SR 25 Little Jacks Creek Rd • SR 771 Waverley Rd Construction
Pothole Repairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MR 129 Coonabarabran Rd • MR 130 Werris Creek Rd • SH 29 Kamilaroi Hwy
Minor Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fern St Kerb and Gutter • SR 3 Culvert Separation • SR 79 Drainage • Henry St Werris Creek Kerb and Gutter maintenance • SR 174 Currabubula Stock Route Rd Pavement maintenance • Werris Creek Town Street maintenance • Signage in various locations • Flood clean-up Wallabadah Area
Werris Creek Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface damage was raised by a Councillor for the 3-span Werris Creek bridge on Gap Road. The bridge was constructed in 2009 using a M-Lock construction technique. • An inspection by Council staff has indicated that the speed limit should be reduced until repairs to the deck have been undertaken • An inspection by Bridge Knowledge has also been undertaken and the report is being prepared. Bridge Knowledge also conducted an inspection of three other bridges in the Shire. • Council is looking at both short term and long-term options to provide a durable wearing course on the bridge deck.

Slope failure, Merriwa Rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A partial collapse of the cutting has occurred on Merriwa Road near the Shire boundary. • An initial inspection by Council staff and discussion with Public Works engineers delivering the major slope rehabilitation for Upper Hunter Shire Council has indicated that the slope will continue to move, and it is possible that the earth in the cutting may partially block the road during the next major rainfall event. • Council is engaging a Geotechnical Engineer to risk rate the slope and recommend treatments. • It is understood that the Daracon project just west of this site will be completed about November 2025. Council will take advantage of the road closure to undertake the treatment of the slope and general cleaning of the gutters.
Parks and Gardens	
Function	Briefing
Parks and Reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing and routine maintenance of parks and Council owned facilities
Other public spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing of Quirindi main street and Caravan Park, and Showground (including infield) • Slashing at Quirindi Airport • Tree Trimming Quirindi streets and parks • Grave digging – Quirindi, Wallabadah and Werris Creek cemeteries • Assist setting up for NAIDOC day at Quirindi Nancy Gray Pavilion

Property and Assets	
Function	Briefing
Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water usage at the Currabubula Recreation Grounds has been monitored regularly over the past month and at present the situation seems to have settled, with water usage being comparable to the use of the facility. Community members, RFS and council staff will continue to monitor this area until additional water storage and security can be added to reduce the cost of water purchases. User agreements are in the process of being sent to relevant user groups for the 2025/2026 year. Further work is being planned for the survey and investigation for the upgrade of the septic system at Currabubula Recreation Grounds.
Property Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All 12 units of Summerhill Lodge, Werris Creek are now fully tenanted, which has not been achieved in quite some time. Council staff and PRD Liverpool Plains have worked together to have all these units occupied and in a state of good repair. Council's Maintenance Officer has been undertaking many minor maintenance works on these units and work will commence shortly to install automatic garage door openers for tenants.
Building Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work will commence shortly with the replacement of AC Units at Eastside CCC and Spring Ridge Hall, along with an upgrade of electrical wiring at the CWA and Drs Surgery in Church Ave. Work is continuing with the replacement of key/locks on council properties in an effort to improve security and access across facilities in the LGA. The cleaning staff have been working tirelessly maintaining and upkeeping Council facilities to the best of their ability, due to limited staffing for various reasons. It must be noted that the efforts of the remaining staff have been outstanding in recent weeks and they have been commended on their tremendous work ethic. There will be a new cleaning staff member commencing soon and another returning to work, so this will see a full complement of staff once again in this area.
Audit/End of Financial Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All auditor requests are being attended to by property and assets staff when required. Work is almost complete regarding the capitalisation of assets. Final reconciliations are being undertaken in conjunction with the Finance Department
Asset Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Other Assets Revaluation has been completed with the final results being processed in our Asset Management System. The Transportation Revaluation is being prepared and it is anticipated for this to commence mid-late August. Reviews of the asset register continue, and work continues on the internal process to prioritise the replacement of assets which will assist with forward planning in the capital budget area, allowing a clearer assessment of which renewals will be a priority.

Crown Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A meeting was held in June with Crown Lands, Wallabadah Community Members and Council Staff to discuss various Crown Land Parcels in the Wallabadah Area. This was a well-attended meeting and there seemed to be a number of issues clarified for community members by both Crown Lands and Council staff.• The ownership issue of the Wallabadah Hall is still being determined. Crown Lands is seeking legal advice from the Crown regarding this matter, and they will notify Council of any responses. If required, Council staff will then seek any further clarifications at that time.• Discussions continue with Crown Lands regarding halls in the LGA that are currently held in Trust and the required process to finalise any ownership and management issues.
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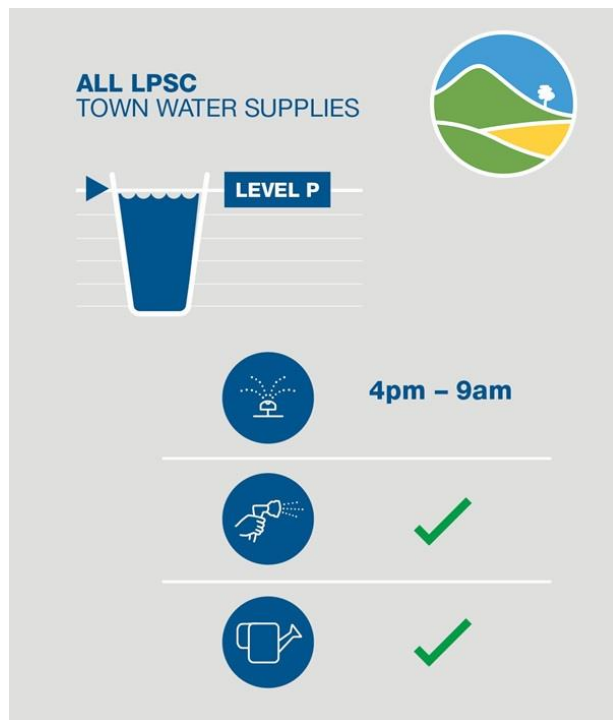
Water Services	
Function	Briefing
Quipolly Dam and Old Quipolly Dam Safety Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current consultancy works: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Survey control and monitoring network – in progress ○ Dam Emergency Plans (DEP): Revision progressing to incorporate latest flood modelling for both dams nearing completion. ○ Automation control and monitoring function requirement review – near completion. ○ Piezometer monitoring review – complete ○ Primary spillway monitoring review - complete ○ Crack monitoring review – complete (further investigations required by Water Services) ○ Surveillance monitoring review – complete ○ Emergency exercise – pending finalisation and external consultation of DEP ○ Majority of deliverables for the current engagement to be completed in July with the emergency exercise anticipated to occur in late August. • Council has received notification from Dams Safety NSW that the risk review and report for Old Quipolly Dam is due 31 December 2025. 6 months is a very tight timeframe for this report and Council staff will discuss an achievable delivery timeframe once we have confirmed the scope of the review with suitable consultants. • Proposed consultancy works: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The comprehensive surveillance inspection and report is scheduled for the 2026 financial year. ○ The timing of the risk review for Old Quipolly Dam is ideal to coincide with the comprehensive surveillance report as there is works required that will contribute to both reports ○ Water Services has commenced seeking a proposal to undertake this work in the 2026 financial year.

Water Main Replacement Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site work is progressing, with work being undertaken at both the Whittaker Street and Ray Carder Drive sites. • Progress has continued to be impeded due to a lack of detail of the exact location of existing infrastructure that is being worked around or connected into. • Work may impact users, and this will be communicated with the public prior to commencement • The project will address key weaknesses in the Quirindi water supply network brought about by aging water mains as well as improve continuity of supply during maintenance and water quality due to treatment or source issues. • Works are expected to be completed in July 2025.
Quirindi Water Supply Automation Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site audit undertaken in January. • Workshop testing completed • Site work completed in June 2025. • Minor adjustments are still underway • Final documentation of completed work is expected during July. • This project marks a significant improvement in the automation and monitoring of the Quirindi Water Supply including less operator intervention, greater flexibility in control which can be performed remotely and improved data capture to aid decision making processes both operationally and strategically.
Quirindi Waste-Water Pump Station 3 and 5 Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council has met with 2 contractors in February and March. • Water Services is currently reviewing options put forward to identify a value for money path to pursue. • The project will address reliability and safety issues with the aging equipment at these sites as well as implement remote monitoring and provide capacity for future growth
Blackville and Premer Bore Upgrades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design basis workshop held in March • Draft Options Assessment draft has been delayed due to consultant resourcing. Once issued it will be circulated to Water Services and Department of Energy, Environment, Climate Change and Water for review. • Current works are 75% grant funded under the NSW Governments Safe and Secure program. • Once complete this will form the basis for NSW Government funding to continue to the next phase. • Timing of the next step will depend on the process for further NSW Government funding.
Quirindi North Reservoir Power Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress is being made with the designer and potential contractors to finalise the power connection to Quirindi North Reservoir. • A solution that satisfies the NSW Service Rules for power connections relating to land status between the transformer and the reservoir has been determined and Council is now awaiting a final design approval. • The connection of power is forecast to occur in November 2025.

Caroona Reservoir roof replacement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A contractor has been engaged to install a new roof on the Caroona Reservoir. • To ensure drinking water quality is maintained a temporary poly tank is currently being arranged to maintain supply during the replacement. • The temporary tank and pipework and control equipment are expected to be onsite in early July for the roof to be replaced.
NSW Leakage Reduction Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pressure Management Zone investigation: An investigation has commenced into the costs and benefits of introducing pressure management zones to address some areas of high water pressure. • High supply pressure is associated with an increase in leaks and breaks in water supplies, both at a distribution level and internal plumbing. However altering supply networks to reduce pressure adds infrastructure costs and can impact other service levels such as continuity of supply during maintenance. • The investigation will look into if the benefits of reduced pressure would justify the cost and service level implications. • Current works are 75% grant funded under the NSW Governments Leakage Reduction program. • The investigation is anticipated to be completed by October 2025.
Major Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quirindi Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP): The gearbox has been overhauled and electric motor replaced on one of the two duty surface aerators at the Quirindi WWTP. This is the first overhaul of the gearbox since the aerators were installed in the 1980's. • Quirindi Waste Water Pump Station 1 (WWPS1): the failed standby pump has been assessed and a replacement has been ordered. • Werris Creek WWTP: the failed Humus Tank pump has been assessed and a replacement has been ordered.
Analytical Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement for analytical laboratory services for the new financial year was undertaken in June. • The process established the same laboratories as remaining the most suitable for the coming year.

Council maintains eight potable town water supply systems. These systems rely on a combination of ground and surface water sources which are susceptible to drought and changing water quality conditions. Water Services staff constantly monitor and adapt with the actions required to provide a continuous supply of quality drinking water as these changes occur.

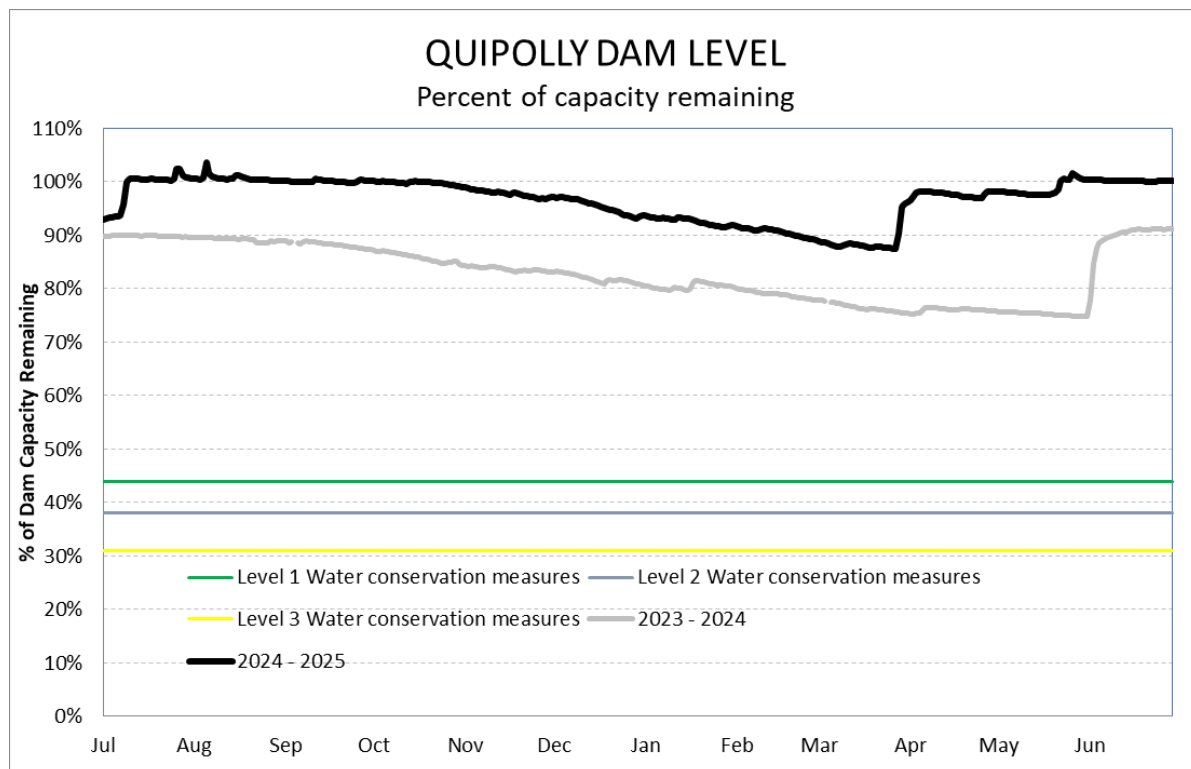
Water Quantity

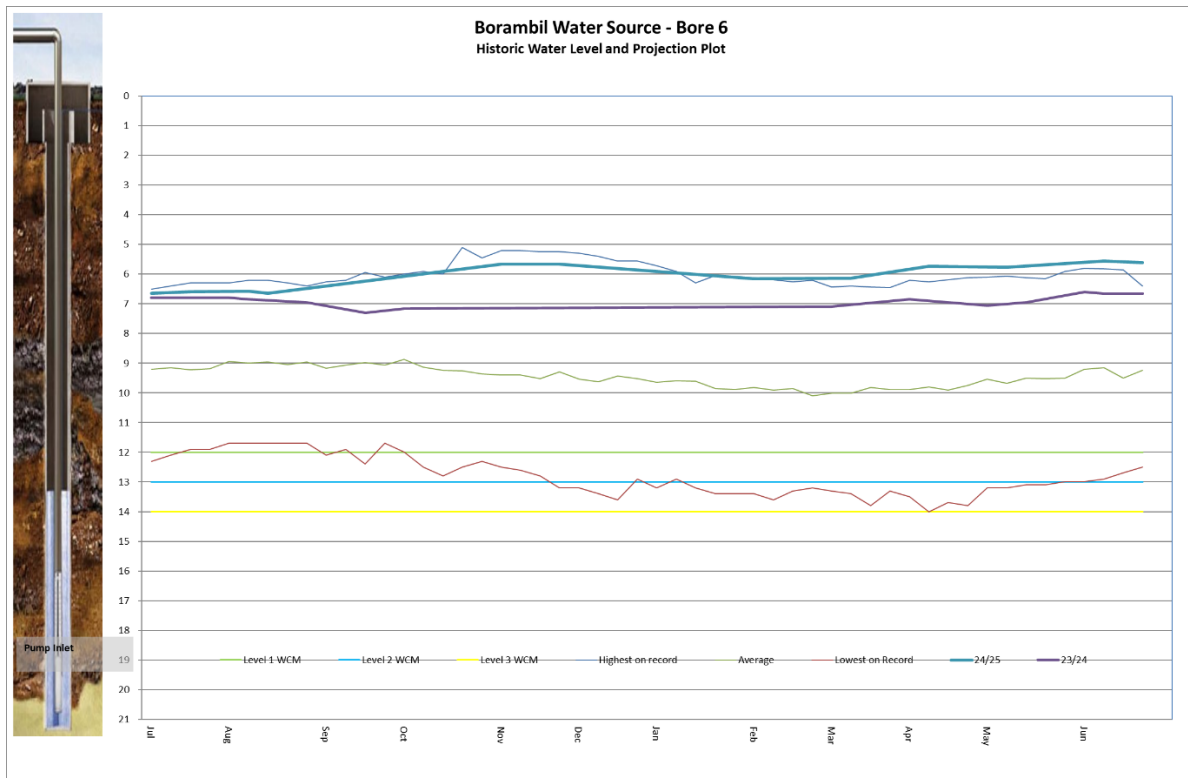


The climate outlook for the Liverpool Plains from the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) is forecasting an above average likelihood of exceeding median rainfall over the next 3 months to October 2025. Demand is therefore forecast to be average into Spring.

All potable water supplies within the Shire are currently on Level P Water Conservation Measures. This recommends that the use of sprinklers and other fixed surface watering systems is from 4pm to 9am AEST. Handheld hoses, buckets and watering cans can be used at any time except during the warmer parts of the day. Consumers are always encouraged through the Level P measures to follow common sense water use practices to help maintain a sustainable water supply.

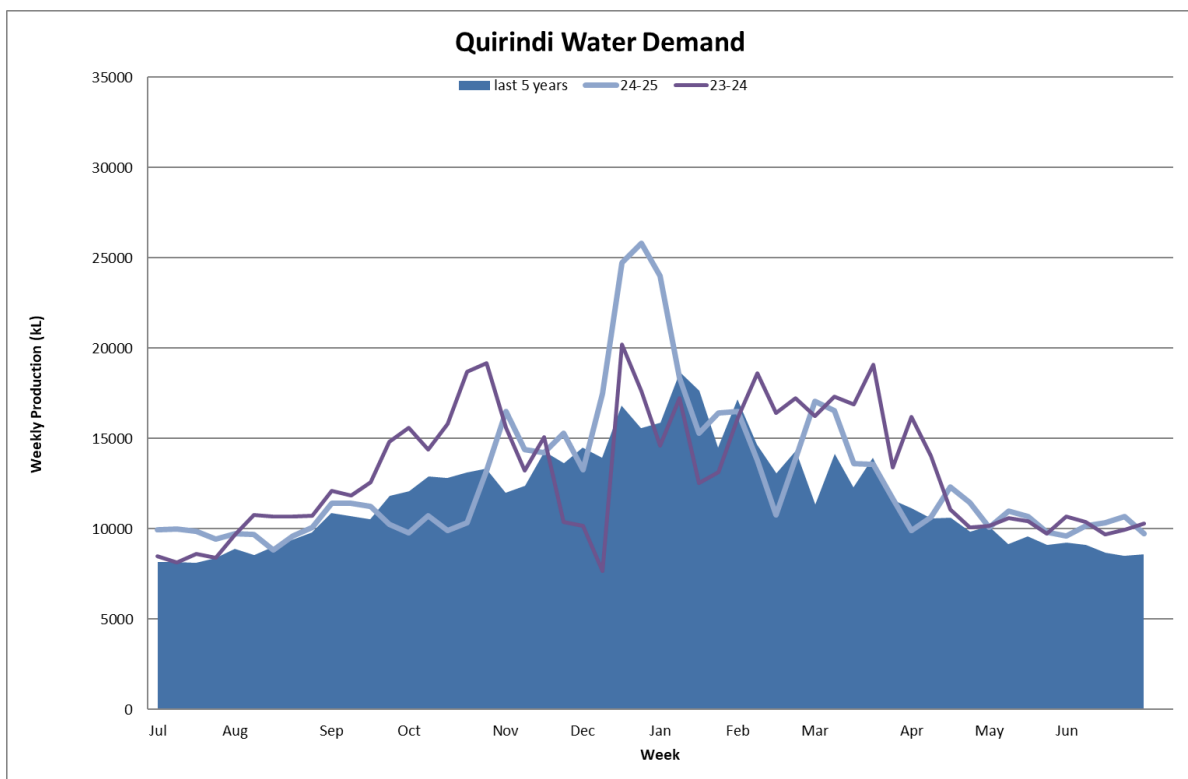
Major Water Source Summary

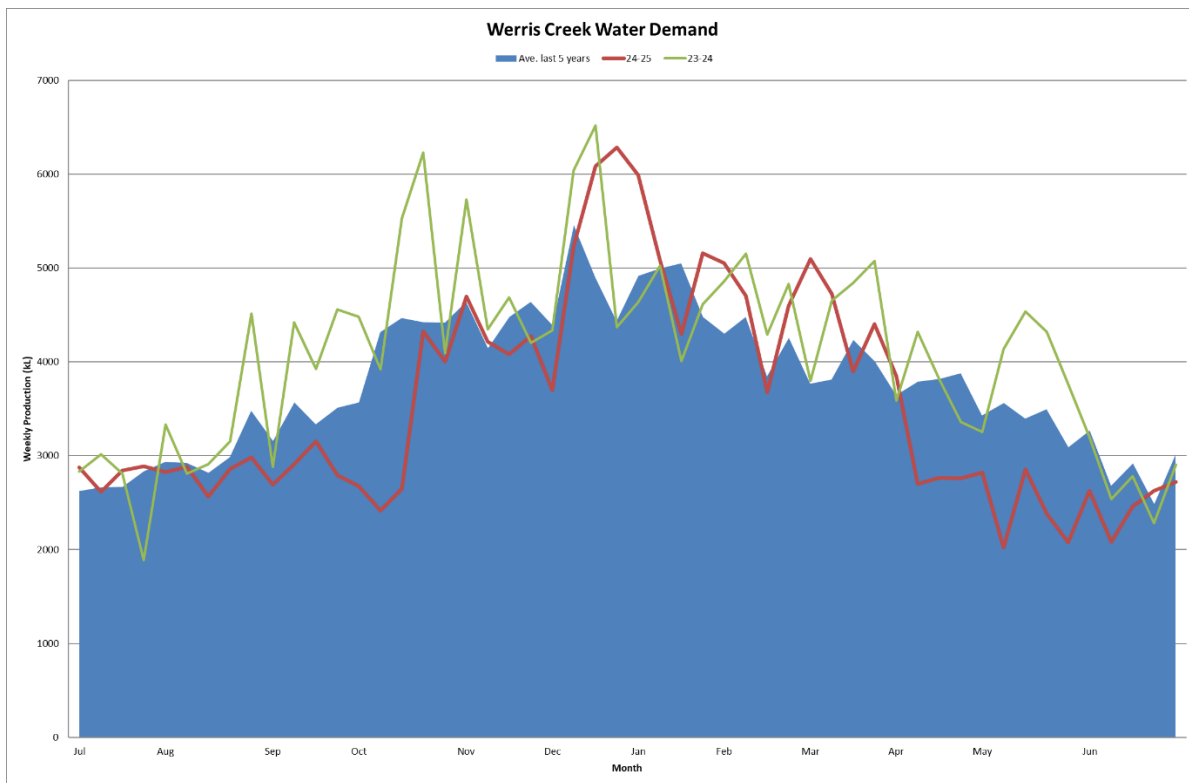




Quipolly Dam was at 100.2% at the end of June down 0.2% over the month. The groundwater level in the Borambil system has remained near capacity, remaining at a record for this time of year.

Town Usage Trends





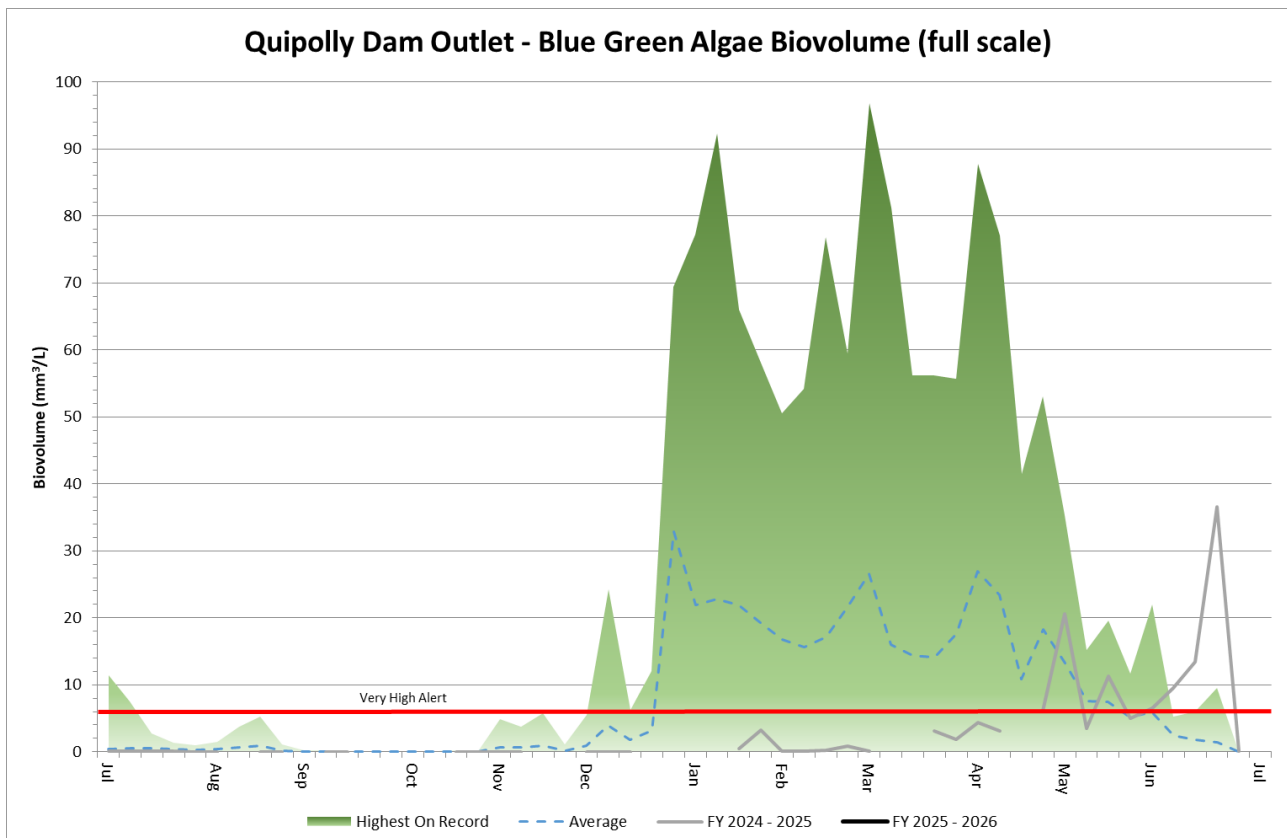
Demand has been consistent during June at typically low levels.

Villages Systems

The water source and usage trends in the villages were much the same as for the town systems.

Water Quality

Blue Green Algae (BGA) at Quipolly Dam



Drinking Water Alert: LPSC Peak Alert (increase)

Recreational Alert (Fishing): Red Alert (steady)

BGA has remained at very high alert for drinking water and red alert for fishing. Operations staff will continue to respond in accordance with established response protocols when required.

Drinking Water Quality Events:

There was one instance of detection of coliforms in a water sample at Caroona. The system was checked in accordance with the established NSW Health protocol and no issues were identified and normal operation continued.

There were no water quality events reported to NSW Health since the last report to Council.

Environmental Services

Regulatory Approvals

The following Development and Complying Development Applications were issued in the month of June 2025.

These applications are advertised on Council's website in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.59 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* and Sections 97 and 161 of the Regulation.

Development Applications – June 2025

Applic. No	Address	Land Title	Development	Determination
10.2025.15.1	89 Single Street Werris Creek	Lot 3 DP 26206	Alterations & Additions to a Dwelling (Patio)	Approved Under Delegation
10.2025.14.1	40 Eurunderee Road Quirindi	Lot 4 DP 1141415	Alterations & Additions to a Dwelling (Screen Enclosure)	Approved Under Delegation
10.2025.12.1	94 Swinging Ridges Road Ardglen	Lot 81 DP 751028	Attached Dual Occupancy	Approved Under Delegation
10.2025.7.1	30 Uren Street Quirindi	Lot 279 DP 40125	Dwelling	Approved Under Delegation
10.2023.51.2	144 Deeks Road Werris Creek	Lot 21 DP 1241929 Lot 1 DP 603605	MODIFICATION (remove conditions) Boundary Adjustment	Approved Under Delegation
10.2024.99.1	7 Pezzutos Road Colly Blue	Lot 4 Sec 2 DP 758267	Manufactured Dwelling	Approved Under Delegation
10.2024.77.1	11303 New England Highway	Lot 189 DP 751014 Lot 193 DP 39535 Lot 2 DP 606151 Lot 1 DP 90628 Lot 188 DP 751014	Consolidate 5 Rural Lots into 2 Rural Lots	Approved Under Delegation
10.2025.17.1	719 Warrah Creek Road Warrah Creek	Lot 2 DP 1184083	Replacement of Existing Dwelling with a Manufactured Dwelling	Rejected

Complying Development Applications – June 2025

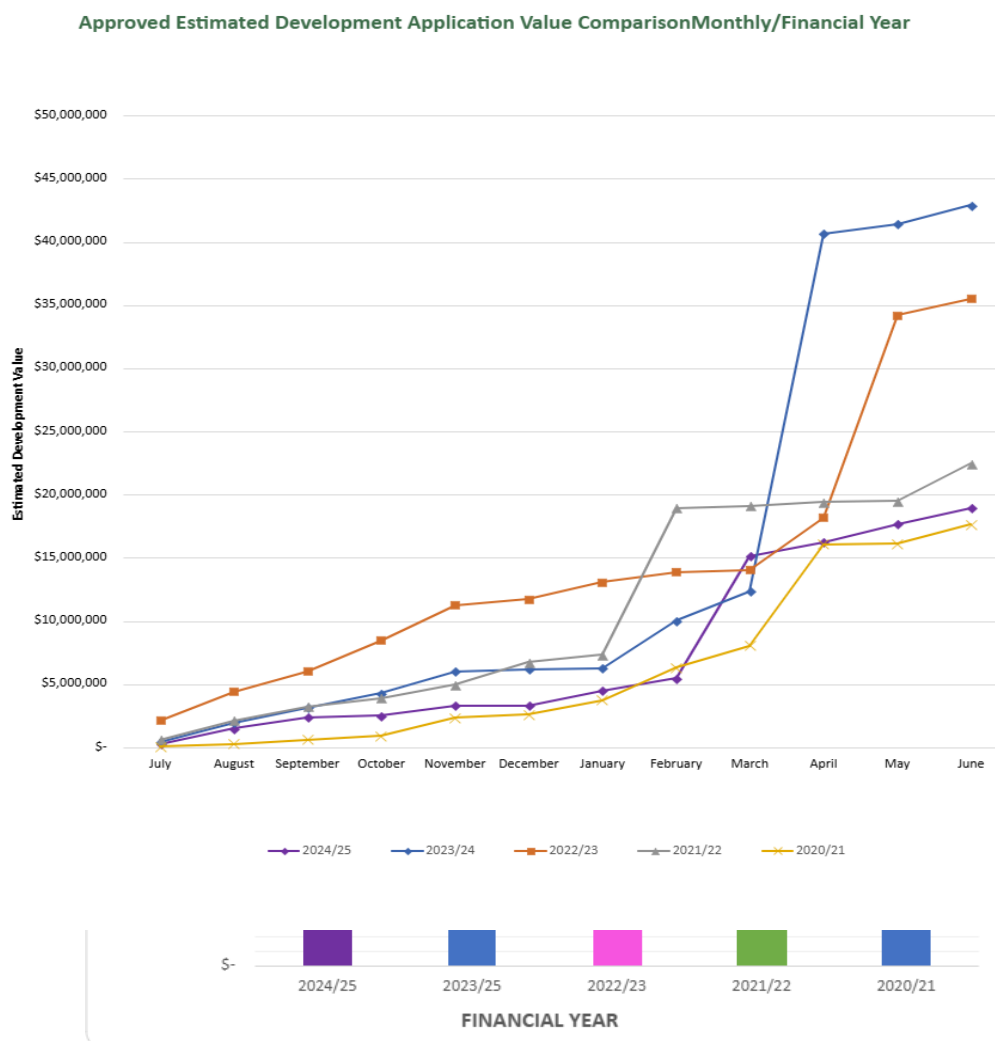
Nil

Estimated Approved Development Value

The following graphs show the estimated cost of development approved for the 2024/25 financial year. The data includes development and complying development approvals issued by Council or by way of private certification. The graph does not include any large infrastructure projects such as roads, bridges, rail, water and sewer scheme/improvements.

This graph represents all development work approved by private developers and Council work that does not require development consent. The charts present a five-year comparison of the approved

estimated development value and reflect broader market trends and the impact of major developments in specific years.



The value of approved development has undoubtedly declined

The 2024/25 financial year recorded a considerable decline in the total approved estimated development value compared to the last three financial years, falling to \$18.95 million. This represents a 57% decrease compared to the record high of \$44.33 million in 2023/24. The sharp drop can be attributed to the absence of large-scale industrial or Council-driven projects that heavily influenced last year's figures.

When compared to the five-year period, the 2024/25 figure is still above the 2020/21 value (\$17.63 million) but is lower than the 2021/22 and 2022/23 years. Despite the decline, this year's figures remain within the typical range seen prior to the peak in 2023/24, indicating a potential return to more regular development activity levels.

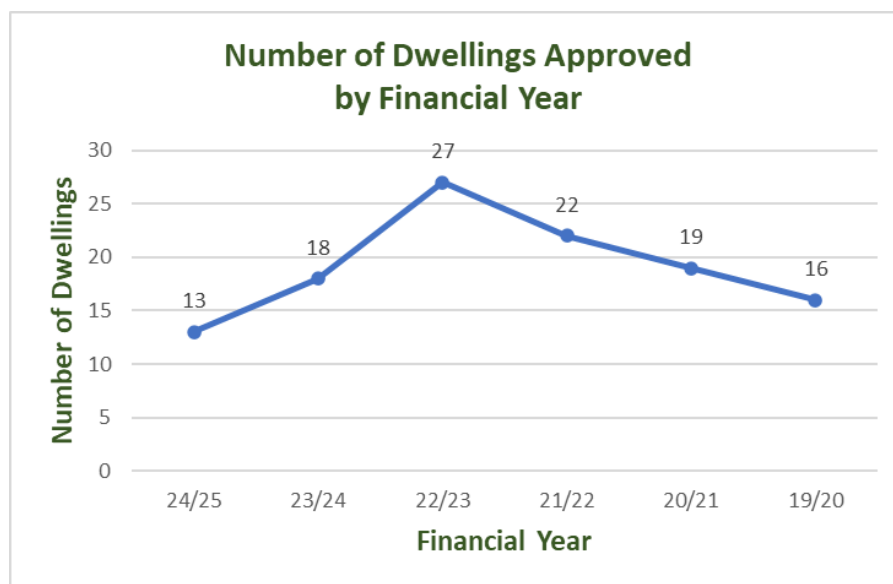
A more detailed breakdown between Development Applications and Complying Development Certificates, including volume and average/median values, is available in the following section.

	DA & CDC Estimated Approved Development Value Breakup				
	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
DA Value	\$17,960,702	\$40,469,802	\$29,970,170	\$21,556,244	\$16,686,451
CDC Value	\$986,036	\$2,424,482	\$5,506,848	\$897,665	\$940,209
Total Value	\$18,946,738	\$42,894,284	\$35,477,018	\$22,453,909	\$17,626,660
DA & CDC No.	69	81	104	106	95
Average Value	\$274,590	\$529,559	\$341,125	\$211,829	\$185,544
Median Value	\$22,000	\$50,000	\$38,000	\$27,000	\$24,500

Dwelling Development Data

While the overall approved development value for 2024/25 remained within a typical range, the number of dwelling approvals dropped to just 13, the lowest figure in the past six financial years. This represents a 51.9% decrease compared to 2022/23, which recorded the highest number of dwelling approvals at 27. In addition, the total average dwelling value for the 2024/25 saw an increase of 19% from the 2024/25 financial year.

Overall, this decline may indicate a shift in development activity away from residential dwellings, or may be reflective of broader market conditions, particularly with rising construction costs increasing the overall cost of building a home. While the total number of development applications has remained relatively steady, residential approvals appear to have slowed this year, as illustrated in the graph and chart below.



	Dwelling Cost Estimated Approved Development Value Breakup				
	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
Number	13	18	27	22	19
Total Value	\$ 4,630,014.75	\$ 5,377,580	\$ 12,008,569	\$ 7,558,379	\$ 4,667,224
Average Value	\$ 356,154.98	\$ 298,754	\$ 444,762	\$ 343,563	\$ 245,643
Median Value	\$453,372.00	\$ 475,928	\$ 485,915	\$ 240,460	\$ 250,000

Dwellings	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
R1	2	4	4	11	5
R5	1	4	6	3	8
RU1	6	4	10	5	10
RU5	1	1	0	5	2
B2	0	0	0	0	0
Total	9	13	20	24	25
Average Dwelling Build	\$ 475,167	\$ 457,086	\$ 433,626	\$ 443,849	\$ 318,192

Consistent with dwelling approval data for the 2023/24 financial year, RU1 Primary Production zone remains the most popular area for dwelling construction at the close of 2024/25.

Application Processing Numbers

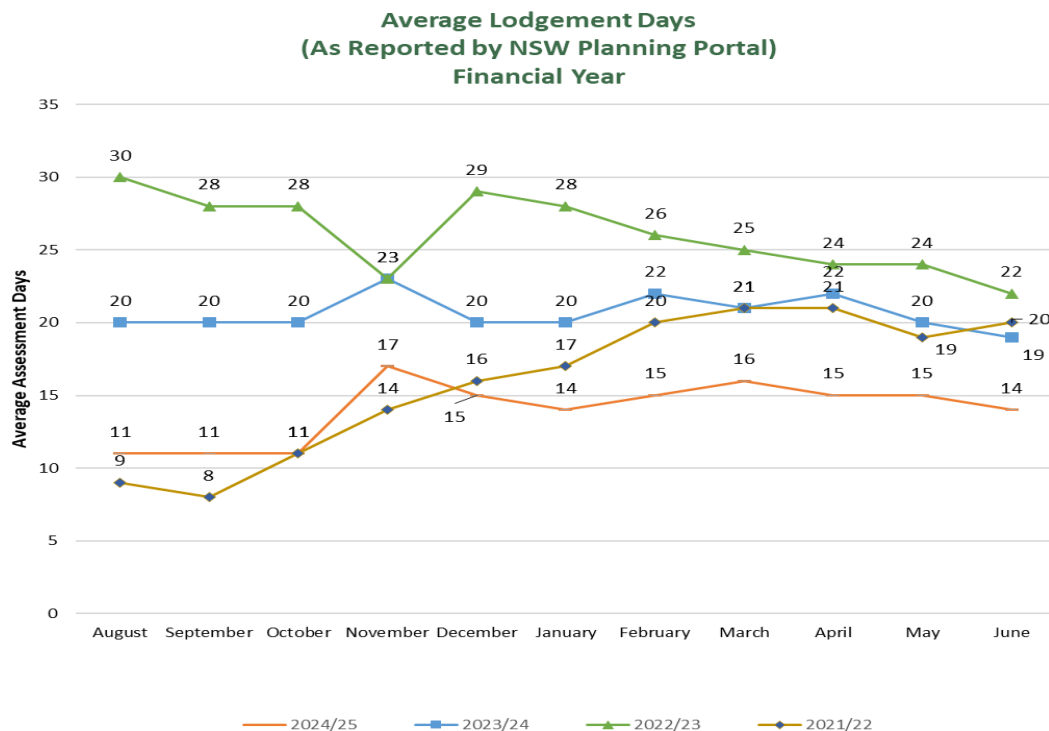
Below is a breakdown of the actual applications which have been fully completed by application type from 2021 up to the 30 June 2025.

Application Type	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
Development Applications	61	61	81	87	81
Complying Development Certificates	8	20	23	19	14
Construction Certificates	20	25	45	35	45
Section 68 Certificates	35	35	63	55	25
Occupation Certificates	36	48	18	30	37
Subdivision Certificates	4	3	4	9	4
Sub Total	164	192	234	235	206
Section 10.7	517	679	586	726	390
Sewer Plans	223	272	243	376	309
Swimming Pool	17	26	7	5	11
Notices & Orders	21	11	49	62	17
Building Certificates	5	6	6	2	4
Dwelling Entitlement	0	9	16	14	3
Sub Total	783	1003	907	1185	734
Total	947	1195	1141	1420	940

Development Lodgement Time

Presented below is the cumulative average development assessment released by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for the overall 2024-25 financial year.

The target set by the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Statement of Expectations) Order 2024 for the 2024/25 financial year for Liverpool Plains Shire Council was 14 days, Council is currently meeting this target.



In 2025/26 the expectation is Council lodge development applications within 7 days.

In comparison to our neighbouring local government areas, and the state, we are above the state average, and sit midrange. The following table shows the monthly cumulative average lodgement days.

Council	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
Gunnedah	7	10	11	10	10	10	10	9	9	9	9	9
Liverpool Plains	13	11	11	11	17	15	14	15	16	15	15	14
Tamworth Regional	11	9	10	11	11	11	12	11	11	11	11	11
Upper Hunter	19	33	31	28	28	27	31	31	31	29	29	27
Warrumbungle	74	73	71	65	67	77	88	74	76	69	60	55
State	16	15	14	14	13	13	14	14	13	13	13	13

The Office of Local Government groups Councils based on its classification. These categories include large rural, metropolitan, metropolitan fringe, regional town/city, and rural. The groupings are based on broad demographic variables and help in comparing councils, though it's important to note that significant differences can exist within the same group.

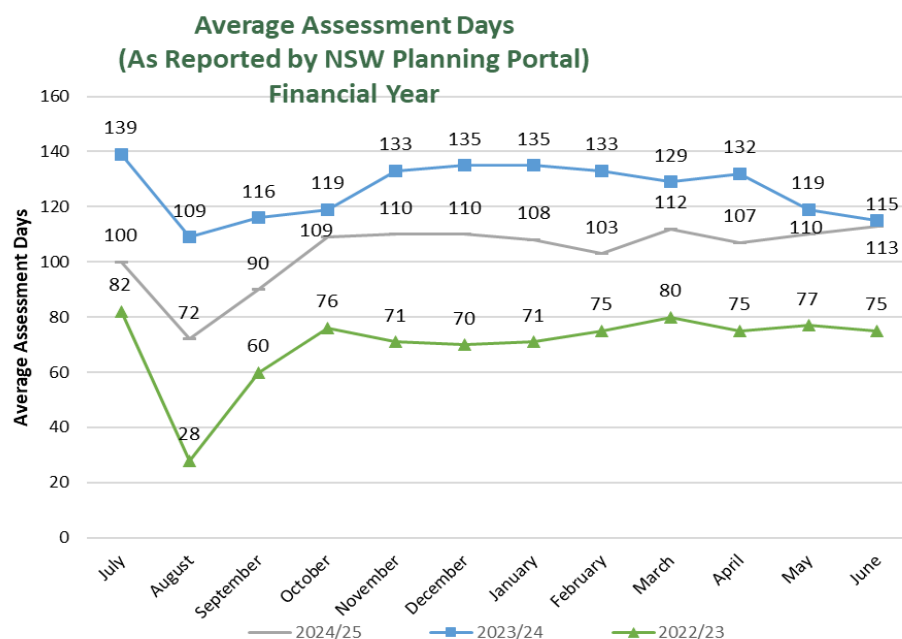
A performance table has also been gathered for our Council Grouping, and a ranking against each criteria has been applied to show Council's performance. Council is meeting the expected timeframe 68% of the time and is ranked 5th in the group.

Lodgement 2024/25	No Applications Lodged		Estimated Cost of Development		Average Lodgement Days		No Applications & % Meeting Expectation		
	Rank		Rank		Rank		Rank		
Berrigan	110	4	\$59,772,448	2	18	11	55	50%	6
Bland	58	17	\$11,217,363	19	28	19	31	53%	9
Blaney	74	8	\$27,097,824	11	17	8	42	57%	11
Cobar	31	22	\$7,368,216	21	22	16	24	77%	20
Dungog	171	2	\$38,566,394	5	11	3	133	78%	21
Edward River	89	6	\$23,668,808	12	30	21	39	44%	3
Forbes	93	5	\$44,409,011	3	18	12	49	53%	8
Glen Innes Severn	78	7	\$28,198,602	10	22	15	44	56%	10
Gwydir	40	19	\$6,361,988	22	24	17	17	43%	2
Junee	69	12	\$42,706,806	4	7	2	61	88%	22
Kyogle	64	14	\$14,987,186	17	16	7	38	59%	13
Lachalan	37	21	\$4,155,746	23	27	18	19	51%	7
Liverpool Plains	38	20	\$8,923,748	20	14	5	26	68%	17
Narrandera	42	18	\$12,720,723	18	11	4	31	74%	19
Narromine	68	13	\$32,214,862	7	17	9	43	65%	15
Oberon	71	10	\$30,805,204	8	16	6	42	59%	12
Temora	74	9	\$34,966,361	6	6	1	68	92%	23
Tenterfield	137	3	\$19,299,974	14	29	20	85	62%	14
Upper Lachlan	70	11	\$29,385,953	9	32	22	13	19%	1
Uralla	64	15	\$19,025,770	15	17	10	32	50%	5
Walgett	19	23	\$15,826,261	16	20	13	13	68%	18
Warrumbungle	59	16	\$22,071,317	13	55	23	29	49%	4
Wentworth	202	1	\$104,559,735	1	22	14	132	65%	16

Development Assessment Time

Presented below is the culminative average development assessment released by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for the overall 2024-25 financial year.

The target set by the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Statement of Expectations) Order 2024 for Liverpool Plains Shire Council is 115 days, we are currently meeting this target.



In comparison to our neighbouring local government areas, and the state, we are above the state average, and sit midrange. The following table shows the monthly cumulative average assessment days.

Council	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
Gunnedah	107	226	216	191	174	168	172	159	157	151	147	143
Liverpool Plains	100	72	90	109	110	110	108	103	112	107	112	113
Tamworth Regional	205	156	138	136	134	139	130	127	132	127	122	120
Upper Hunter	78	109	86	86	82	79	66	60	66	66	70	73
Warrumbungle	64	70	70	76	70	66	66	62	66	66	69	72
State	109	108	106	104	103	103	103	103	102	102	102	101

A performance table has also been gathered for our Council Grouping, and a ranking against each criteria has been applied to show Council's performance. Council is meeting the expected timeframe 66% of the time and is ranked 18th in the group.

Assessment 2024/25	No Applications Assessed		Estimated Cost of Development		Average Days		No Applications & % Meeting Expectation		
	Rank		Rank		Rank		Rank		
Berrigan	99	6	\$23,205,620	7	47	7	82	83%	3
Bland	56	16	\$7,105,890	21	70	13	30	54%	21
Blaney	85	7	\$33,091,159	5	115	21	68	80%	5
Cobar	30	22	\$8,922,675	19	59	11	21	70%	14
Dungog	165	2	\$30,683,482	6	130	22	113	68%	17
Edward River	84	8	\$16,599,338	13	43	6	71	85%	2
Forbes	102	4	\$49,683,056	2	37	3	83	81%	4
Glen Innes Severn	71	10	\$18,880,867	10	74	15	50	70%	15
Gwydir	42	20	\$6,368,679	22	58	10	32	76%	6
Junee	71	11	\$21,911,214	8	35	2	52	73%	8
Kyogle	65	12	\$15,820,742	15	75	16	30	46%	23
Lachalan	31	21	\$2,590,246	23	80	17	22	71%	12
Liverpool Plains	44	18	\$16,298,026	14	113	20	29	66%	18
Narrandera	44	19	\$8,597,349	20	23	1	32	73%	9
Narromine	64	13	\$14,053,606	16	37	5	56	88%	1
Oberon	63	14	\$21,736,931	9	113	19	44	71%	13
Temora	80	9	\$36,815,100	3	37	4	47	59%	20
Tenterfield	122	3	\$18,020,370	12	58	9	93	76%	7
Upper Lachlan	101	5	\$33,725,874	4	137	23	55	54%	22
Uralla	58	15	\$12,154,284	17	55	8	41	73%	10
Walgett	18	23	\$10,905,072	18	90	18	13	72%	11
Warrumbungle	49	17	\$18,142,927	11	69	12	30	61%	19
Wentworth	172	1	\$58,784,206	1	74	14	118	69%	16

It should be noted these figures were impacted by two factors being:

- reduced staffing resources during the period from November 2024 until April 2025
- the inclusion of Joint Regional Planning matters, one of which had a gross assessment figure of over 250 days. The gross assessment day number was high for all 3 matters as there was extended wait period for the applicant to provide requested additional information, and the constant rescheduling of the Planning Panel Meetings by the Department of Planning.

However, based on Council's internal tracking, the median assessment days overall for the 2024/25 year was 60 days.

	DA Assessment Days		
	2024/25	2023-24	2022-23
Average Days	115	72	61
Median Days	60	28	37

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no legislative or policy implications for Council associated with this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All works are undertaken within current budget allocations.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Report is for Council information only.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are no community consultation requirements for Council associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

The above report is provided as information for Council.

9 DELEGATES REPORTS

Nil

10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

11 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

RECOMMENDATION

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993:

11.1 Expression of Interest - Sale or Lease of the Royal Theatre Quirindi

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (c) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.