



**Liverpool
Plains**
Shire Council

BUSINESS PAPER

Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday, 24 September 2025

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

Date: Wednesday, 24 September 2025

Time: 2:30 PM

Location: Council Chambers

**Glenn Inglis
Acting General Manager**

Order Of Business

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- 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND COUNCIL PRAYER OR
AFFIRMATION**
- 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 27 AUGUST 2025

File Number: G2025/0343
Author: Christie Pearson, Executive Services Coordinator
Authoriser: Glenn Inglis, Acting General Manager
Annexures: 1. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27 August 2025

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27 August 2025 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

**MINUTES OF LIVERPOOL PLAINS SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON WEDNESDAY, 27 AUGUST 2025 AT 2:30PM**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Cian Middleton (General Manager), Julie Costa (Director Planning and Community), Daniel Smallwood (Director Corporate Performance and CFO), George Vorobieff (Acting Director Infrastructure and Utilities), Christie Pearson (Executive Operations)

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 Terry Cohen 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

The Mayor invited apologies and applications for leave of absence.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 23 JULY 2025

RESOLUTION 2025/145

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr Shawn Cain

1. That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23 July 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.

Nil disclosures were made

5 MAYORAL MINUTE(S)**5.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - MEETINGS, FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS - JULY 2025**

RESOLUTION 2025/146

Moved: Cr Ken Cudmore

Seconded: Cr Charlie Simkin

That Council:

1. Note the meetings, functions and events attended by the Mayor in an official capacity on behalf of Liverpool Plains Shire Council for the month of July 2025, as detailed in this report.

CARRIED

6 REPORTS OF THE GENERAL MANAGER**6.1 RESOLUTIONS REGISTER UPDATE**

RESOLUTION 2025/147

Moved: Cr Charlie Simkin

Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Resolutions Register as at 17 August 2025 as appended at *Annexure A* and the Resolution Register for 2023 and 2024 as appended at *Annexure B*.

CARRIED

6.2 STATUTORY REVIEW OF THE CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE

RESOLUTION 2025/148

Moved: Cr Charlie Simkin

Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson

That Council:

1. Amend Item 8.1 *Order of Business for Ordinary Council Meetings* of the Code of Meeting Practice to include the following as Item 01: **"Acknowledgement of Country and Council Prayer or Affirmation."**
2. Endorse the draft Code of Meeting Practice noting the above amendment, appended at *Annexure A*, for public exhibition for a period of 28 days and adopt the updated Code of Meeting Practice as exhibited, subject to no submissions being received.

CARRIED

6.3 STATUTORY REVIEW OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

RESOLUTION 2025/149

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr Charlie Simkin

That Council:

1. Pursuant to section 440(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and clause 180(1) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, adopt the draft Code of Conduct appended at *Annexure A*.
2. Repeal the Code of Conduct adopted 26 October 2022.

CARRIED

6.4 STATUTORY REVIEW OF THE COUNCILLOR EXPENSES AND FACILITIES POLICY

RESOLUTION 2025/150

Moved: Cr Jason Allan

Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson

That Council:

1. Pursuant to sections 252 and 253 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, endorse the draft Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy appended at *Annexure B* on public exhibition for a period of 28 days, and adopt the draft policy as exhibited, subject to no submissions being received.
2. Request a further report at the conclusion of the public exhibition period if submissions are received on the draft Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy.

CARRIED

6.5 2024-2025 AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL SELF-ASSESSMENT

RESOLUTION 2025/151

Moved: Cr Terry Cohen

Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson

That Council:

1. Receive and note the results of the 2024 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Self-Assessment, appended at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED

7 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & CFO**7.1 MONTHLY STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS - JULY 2025**

RESOLUTION 2025/152

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Statement of Investments as of 30 July 2025 as appended at *Annexure A*.
2. Receive and note the Imperium Markets Monthly Investment Review Report for Liverpool Plains Shire Council as of 31 July 2025 as appended at *Annexure B*.

CARRIED**7.2 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 1 AUGUST 2025**

RESOLUTION 2025/153

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 1 August 2025 and the recommendations therein be adopted.

CARRIED**7.3 DELIVERY PROGRAM 2022-2026 FULL-YEAR PROGRESS REPORT - JANUARY TO JUNE 2025**

RESOLUTION 2025/154

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr Shawn Cain

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Delivery Program Full-Year Progress Report from January to June 2025, as appended at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED

7.4 REVIEW OF INFORMATION AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT POLICY

RESOLUTION 2025/155

Moved: Cr James Robertson

Seconded: Cr Charlie Simkin

That Council:

1. Place the draft Information and Record Management Policy, appended at *Annexure A*, on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
2. Receive a further report following the conclusion of the public exhibition period or, if no submissions are received, adopt the draft Information and Record Management Policy as exhibited.

CARRIED**8 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES****8.1 REPEAL OF KERB AND GUTTER POLICY, FOOTPATHS POLICY, DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT POLICY, AND CORPORATE PROPERTY AND DISPOSAL OF LAND POLICY**

RESOLUTION 2025/156

Moved: Cr James Robertson

Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen

That Council:

That Council:

1. Lay this item of business on the table.

CARRIED**8.2 MONTHLY WATER AND WASTE WATER STATUS REPORT**

RESOLUTION 2025/157

Moved: Cr Charlie Simkin

Seconded: Cr Jason Allan

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Monthly Water and Wastewater Status Report for July 2025.

CARRIED

8.3 MONTHLY WORKS REPORT

RESOLUTION 2025/158

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr James Robertson

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Monthly Works Report for July 2025.

CARRIED

8.4 MONTHLY SHIRE PRESENTATION REPORT

RESOLUTION 2025/159

Moved: Cr Terry Cohen

Seconded: Cr Charlie Simkin

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Monthly Shire Presentation Report for July 2025.

CARRIED

8.5 TENDER EVALUATION - REGPO012526 ROAD SAFETY BARRIER SYSTEMS

RESOLUTION 2025/160

Moved: Cr Charlie Simkin

Seconded: Cr Shawn Cain

That Council:

1. Adopt the suppliers listed below to be appointed to this contract as Panel Source suppliers to Liverpool Plains Shire Council for an initial period of 24 months from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2027:
 - (a) A1 Highways Pty Ltd
 - (b) Safe Direction Pty Ltd
 - (c) Destraz Pty Ltd t/a D & P Fencing Contractors
 - (d) Guardrail Infrastructure Pty Ltd t/a Guardrail Installations Australia
 - (e) Guardrail Systems Pty Ltd
 - (f) Industrial Galvanisers Corporation Pty Ltd t/a Ingal Civil Products
 - (g) The Trustee for AJ & LJ Irwin Family Trust t/a Irwin Fencing Pty Ltd
 - (h) RBK Pty Ltd t/a RBK Civil t/a Topnotch Fencing
2. Allow provision for a 12-month extension based on satisfactory supplier performance, which may take this contract through to 30 June 2028.

CARRIED**9 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR PLANNING AND COMMUNITY****9.1 MONTHLY DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING STATISTICS REPORT**

RESOLUTION 2025/161

Moved: Cr Charlie Simkin

Seconded: Cr Jason Allan

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Monthly Development and Building Report.

CARRIED**9.2 ADOPTION OF DRAFT GROWTH MANAGEMENT AND HOUSING STRATEGY**

RESOLUTION 2025/162

Moved: Cr Shawn Cain

Seconded: Cr Ken Cudmore

That Council:

1. Adopts the draft Growth Management and Housing Strategy, appended at *Annexure A*.

CARRIED**9.3 CONSTITUTION OF LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

RESOLUTION 2025/163

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr Charlie Simkin

That Council:

1. Extend its appreciation to all members of the Liverpool Plains Shire community who submitted an Expression of Interest to serve on a Local Advisory Committee for the remainder of the current 2024-28 term of Council.
2. Establish the Currabubula Local Advisory Committee for the remainder of the 2024-28 term of Council and adopt the Terms of Reference appended at *Annexure A*.
3. Formally appoint those members of the community who have expressed their interest in serving on the Currabubula Local Advisory Committee to that committee for the remainder of the 2024-28 term of Council.

-
4. Note that Expressions of Interest ("EOI") from members of the Liverpool Plains Shire community to serve on locality-based Local Advisory Committees for the remainder of the current 2024-28 Council term has been extended to Sunday, 14 September 2025.

CARRIED

10 DELEGATES REPORTS

Nil

11 NOTICES OF MOTIONS/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

12 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

RESOLUTION 2025/164

Moved: Cr Terry Cohen

Seconded: Cr Shawn Cain

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:

12.1 Mayoral Minute - Appointment of Acting General Manager

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (a) 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 personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

12.2 Appointment of Independent Member to Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (a) 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 personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

12.3 Rates Legal Proceedings

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (g) 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 advice concerning litigation, or advice as comprises a discussion of this matter, that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege.

12.4 Unsolicited Offer to Purchase Council Property

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.

CARRIED

At 5.01pm the Meeting moved back into Open Council. In accordance with the Liverpool Plains Shire Council Code of Meeting Practice, Sections 14.22 & 14.23, the Mayor provided a summary of the resolutions passed in Closed Council.

REPORT ON CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

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

12 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

12.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - APPOINTMENT OF ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

RESOLUTION 2025/165

Moved: Cr Ken Cudmore

Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson

That Council:

1. Note the General Manager is on annual leave from Monday, 01 September to Friday, 26 September 2025, and is scheduled to return to work and resume duties on Monday, 29 September 2025.
2. Appoint Mr Glenn Inglis as the Acting General Manager of Liverpool Plains Shire Council from 5.00pm on Friday, 29 August 2025 until 8.00am on Monday, 29 September 2025, at which time Mr Middleton resumes duties.
3. Delegate to the Acting General Manager all the functions, delegations and sub-delegations given to the General Manager by the Council for the period of his engagement.
4. Delegate to the Mayor the authority to sign and finalise all documentation as required.

CARRIED

12.2 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER TO AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION 2025/166

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen

That Council:

1. Note the conclusion of Mr Les Hullick's term as an Independent Member of Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee, and extend its appreciation to Mr Hullick for his service on the Committee since his appointment in 2022.

-
2. Appoint Ms Trish Kirkland as an Independent Member of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee for a four-year term, commencing 01 September 2025 and concluding 31 August 2029.

CARRIED

12.3.0 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

RESOLUTION 2025/167

Moved: Cr Charlie Simkin

Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson

That Council:

1. Moves into the Committee of the Whole.

CARRIED

12.3 RATES LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

RESOLUTION 2025/168

Moved: Cr Jason Allan

Seconded: Cr Charlie Simkin

That Council:

1. Receive and note the briefing on the legal matter detailed in this report.
2. Authorise the General Manager to negotiate a settlement of the proceedings at the best possible terms to Council.

CARRIED

12.3.1 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

RESOLUTION 2025/169

Moved: Cr Shawn Cain

Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen

1. Moves out of the Committee of the Whole.

CARRIED

12.4 UNSOLICITED OFFER TO PURCHASE COUNCIL PROPERTY

RESOLUTION 2025/170

Moved: Cr Charlie Simkin

Seconded: Cr Shawn Cain

That Council:

1. Not proceed with negotiations with the interested party in relation to their proposal to purchase or lease the “Old Quirindi Water Tower”, Lot 100 DP 1167687, being 33 Stuart Street, Quirindi.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025/171

Moved: Cr Donna Lawson

Seconded: Cr Charlie Simkin

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 5.04pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 September 2025.

.....
CHAIRPERSON

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

5 MAYORAL MINUTE(S)

5.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - COUNTRY MAYOR'S ASSOCIATION MEETING, 07-08 AUGUST 2025

File Number: G2025/0313

Author: Ken Cudmore, Mayor

Authoriser: Ken Cudmore, Mayor

Annexures: 1. Country Mayors Meeting Minutes - 8 August 2025 [↓](#) 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Country Mayor's Association (CMA) Meeting Minutes from its August General Meeting, appended at *Annexure 1*.

REPORT

The most recent General Meeting of the NSW Country Mayor's Association (CMA) took place at Parliament House in Sydney from Thursday, 07 to Friday, 08 August 2025. The theme of this general meeting was Crime, Law and Order. The CMA meeting included presentations from:

- The Hon. Yasmin Catley MP, Minister for Police and Counter-Terrorism and Minister for the Hunter,
- The Hon. Daniel Mookhey MLC, Treasurer,
- Acting Deputy Commissioner Brett Greentree, acting as Deputy Commissioner – NSWPF Regional NSW Field Operations,
- His Honour Judge Michael Allen, Chief Magistrate of NSW
- The Hon. Paul Toole MP, Shadow Minister for Police

The meeting also featured presentations from other local councils on projects and programs being delivered to address law and order issues and improve public safety within their communities. These included presentations from Warrumbungle Shire Council on the steps being taken within their community to investigate the illegal tobacco trade, and Upper Hunter Shire Council on their road safety initiatives.

The CMA dinner was attended by several members of the NSW Parliament, including representatives of both the Labor Government and Liberal-Nationals Coalition Opposition. The guest speaker for the evening was former Australian Prime Minister, the Hon. Tony Abbott AC.

As always, the CMA meeting provided a valuable opportunity to engage and network with other rural councils and discuss shared priorities and challenges, and advocate directly with both Government and Opposition figures on important issues affecting the NSW local government sector, particularly rural and regional councils.



Cr Ken Cudmore

MAYOR



Image (Above): Bourke Shire Council's Deputy Mayor, Cr Sally Davis, and General Manager, Leonie Brown, with Liverpool Plains Shire Council's General Manager, Cian Middleton, and Mayor, Cr Ken Cudmore, and guest speaker, the Hon. Tony Abbott AC.



The Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES Inc

Chairman: Mayor Rick Firman OAM
C/- Temora Shire Council,
PO Box 262, Temora NSW 2666
Contact: 0429 204 060
Email: admin@nswcountrymayors.com.au
ABN: 92 803 490 533

MINUTES

A General Meeting of the Country Mayors Association of NSW Inc, was held on **Friday 8 August 2025**, in the Theatrette, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, SYDNEY commencing from 8:20am.

THEME: Crime, Law and Order

A warm welcome from CMA Chairman and Temora Shire Mayor Rick Firman OAM;

- **Mayor Firman reflected on an exclusive workshop with NSW Environment Minister the Hon Penny Sharpe MP and her advisors, plus over 100 CMA members took place in the Theatrette NSW Parliament House, 2-5pm Thursday 7 August, 2025.** The topics of Biodiversity Conservation Offsets and Waste were broken up by a CMA catered afternoon tea, which was much needed, due to the intensity of the workshop. Biodiversity offsets as barriers to housing developments and FOGO costs were key concerns discussed. Mayor Firman thanked Deputy Chairman (Mayor Russell Fitzpatrick – Bega Valley Shire) for serving as MC for the session.
- **Mayor Firman reflected on the evening of Thursday 7 August 2025, a dinner with Former PM, the Hon Tony Abbott AC which saw 85 Board, Members and MPs enjoy a first-class venue, cuisine, service and camaraderie.** The CMA catered a special dessert and shouted a drink. Mr Abbott donated his time for the CMA and it was a topical, engaging talk, warmly received by those in attendance.

1. Presentation – NSW Police Minister, the Hon. Mrs Yasmin Catley MP

- Reducing Community Crime is about partnership - State and Local Government working together in partnership with First Nations people and the broader community to improve safety in the community and address local challenges.
- The best way to reduce crime is to make sure it is not committed in the first place
- There has been a Youth Command developed - they work with PCYC to support young people.
- The Community Safety Report will be addressed by November 2025.
- 'Operation Soteria' is making significant impacts to date. This strategic initiative by NSW Police focusing on aggravated break, enter and steal offences, stealing motor vehicles and 'post and boast' offences where social media has been used to gain notoriety. It also involves a focus on improving police response to victims of sexual assault.
- Positive results so far - 189 charged and 137 of those charged were juveniles.

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- There is an emphasis on diversion to keep young people out of the justice system - Youth Engagement Officers work in this space - hold Youth Action Meetings in key locations.
- The Minister said she is aware that they need more officers on the ground - Recruitment strategy has been successful with 4600 recruit applications over last 18 months. Improved workforce benefits include a once in a generation pay rise, and the move to flexible working hours (FTE model) and opportunity to job share.
- New Initiative "Be a cop in your hometown" is seeing positive results
- Members questions, brought up changes in Bail legislation, AV bail hearings seem to be missing the regional context, and additional police needed in holiday hot spots.

A token of appreciation was presented to Minister Catley MP by Mayor Firman.

2. Presentation – Acting Deputy Commissioner Brett Greentree, acting as Deputy Commissioner - NSWPF Regional NSW Field Operations.

- The 'perception' of crime, is sometimes as difficult to address as the actual crime.
- Sees Community safety as a joint venture - everyone knows who the criminals are in regional areas.
- Operation Soteria - is working across North and Western NSW.
 - So far they have addressed 340 break and enters
 - 137 juveniles were charged with 34% of them already charged or on bail at the time.
 - 'Boast and Post' - 92 have been charged
- Trends in regional crime - Robbery is down by 8%, Steal from Motor vehicle down 11%, Break and enter is down 4%, Sexual assault and drug related crime is stable, with increase in MV theft up 3.3%, DV related crime up 4%, breach of bail up 12.3% (result of targeted operations).
- Thanked Local Government for the work that they do in the Emergency management space in partnership.
- Re: Crime perception - it is important to communicate with community to instil confidence - there is a big role for the media - everyone needs to spread the good word and highly publicise positive outcomes.
- Members noted concerns about little to no police presence in some regional areas. Advised to report into the district office - more reports highlight the need and allows them to access other resources to ensure that coverage will come from other areas.
- Hoping that the 'Doli Incapax' review will bring about change and some tangible outcomes

A token of appreciation was presented to Acting Deputy Commissioner Brett Greentree by Mayor Firman.

3. Presentation – Chief Magistrate of NSW, His Honour Judge Michael Allen

- A compelling presentation allowing a glimpse into the career and work of the Chief magistrate of NSW, who has an extensive background living and working in regional NSW.
- He stated that NSW is unique - we have an independent judiciary which makes us very lucky.
- Expressed the fact that the Courts do not make the Law, that Parliament makes the Law and the Courts enforce the Laws.
- Local Court has 48 magistrates servicing 109 courts across NSW - Country service policy to be implemented - no more FIFO - suggested that magistrates need to have a min. 2 years in the bush to urge that they feel and understand these communities.

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- Dealing with 45000 bail applications annually.
- DV is the scourge of the nation that needs to be dealt with - there are 80000 matters annually. The voice that HASNT been heard is that of the complainant/ victim. There is a pilot program
- Bail is a concern for a lot of people - Magistrates don't make decisions up - they rely on information from Police. If there is concern that a mistake has been made - there is an inbuilt appeal system available. Less than 0.5% are appealed by the Police.

A token of appreciation was presented to Chief Magistrate of NSW, His Honour Judge Michael Allen by Mayor Sharon Cadwallader.

4. Acknowledgements by Mayor Rick Firman OAM, CMA NSW Chairman

- Acknowledgement and Congratulations to Mayor Abb McAlister and his team for the successful de-merger announcement. Mayor McAlister thanked all Mayors in CMA for their support over this time.
- The CMA Chairman (Mayor Firman) acknowledged Mr. George Cowan, General Manager Leeton Shire Council for 50 years of service to Local Government. Mr. Cowan will retire in September 2025.

5. Excelling CMA Members Segment – Crime, Law and Order Theme

Mr Nick Mamouzelos, Warrumbungle Shire Council Investigator

Detailed presentation on the recent investigation into Illegal Tobacco trade in Warrumbungle Shire, something that is affecting most LGAs.

Mr Greg McDonald, General Manager – Upper Hunter Shire Council

Excellent initiative being delivered to new young drivers involving police, emergency services, heavy vehicle providers and numerous support services to provide a practical educational opportunity for new drivers to understand the reality of being on the road and the brutal reality of accidents and why they can occur.

A token of appreciation was presented to Mr Mamouzelos and Mr McDonald by Mayor Josh Black.

Morning Tea was attended by a broad cross-section of Parliamentarians, from Government, Opposition (including Leader, the Hon Mark Speakman MP), Greens and Independents.

6. Presentation - The Hon. Paul Toole MP - NSW Shadow Police Minister

- Stated there are less Police 'boots on the ground' from when they were in Government
- 86% of stations are closed at nighttime, and some haven't opened in 12 months.
- Stated that there is a reduction in attested classes - dropped from 5 to 4.
- Re the parliamentary enquiry for youth crime - there has been an interim report provided with 19 recommendations - this has been driven by the CMA.
- Where has the funding gone to support Youth programs? E.g. Regional Youth Funding, SCCF
- Bail Laws are being debated in Parliament this week - Many police are frustrated
- Looking to introduce a Bill for 14-18 year olds
 - They want to introduce a curfew
 - Electronic Monitoring
 - Introduce Victim impact statements

A token of appreciation was presented to Shadow Police Minister the Hon Paul Toole MP by Mayor Sue Moore.

7. Presentation -The Hon. Daniel Mookhey MLC – NSW Treasurer

- Re: Disaster Affected Communities - issues with under insurance / no insurance. Natural Disaster funding is driving up premiums.
- Treasurer will seek input / feedback from councils to find a better way to fund emergency services.
- The Treasurer has met with Auditor General about the Red Fleet - he will have a position soon and advised that there will be cause for optimism for the CMA members.
- Workers Compensation - the scheme is NOT sustainable. There will be a minimum 36% increase in premiums in the absence of a reform.
- Members asked questions about:
 - Equitable remuneration for Councillors,
 - The need for NSW Government to support the restoration of FAGS to 1% of GDP from Federal Government,
 - The Southern NSW drought - desperate need for reclassification of drought as disaster - immediate need for freight and fodder assistance - it has been stated by Regional agriculture professionals that this is the worst drought ever experienced.
 - Councils dealing with an extraordinary amount of renewable energy impacts (in a non-REZ zone) What can be done to support councils with dealing with this?
 - What is the appetite of the Government for a combined Emergency Services sector - bringing all under one Department?
- The Treasurer advised that he was the current Chair of the Board of Treasurer's, who are meeting this week.
- GST - needs change, NSW is being short changed, in a significant way

A token of appreciation was presented to Treasurer Mookhey MLC by Mayor Phyllis Miller.

8. Mr. Barry Irvin AM - Chairman of Bega Cheese

Presentation about the growth and development of Bega Cheese Company - and their ability to 'buy back' some Aussie brands e.g. Vegemite, Dare Iced Coffee, Farners Union Yoghurt Their involvement in a significant whole of Community approach to developing a full Circular Economy in Bega Valley.

The Bega Circular Valley video:

[Australia's National Centre for Circular Discovery - Bega Circular Valley](#)

And the website: [Home - Bega Circular Valley](#)

A token of appreciation was presented to Mr Irvin by Deputy CMA Chairman Mayor Russell Fitzpatrick.

General Business;

9. Attendance

Cr. Claire Pontin	Mayor	MidCoast Council
Cr. R Firman OAM	CMA Chairman / Mayor	Temora Shire Council
Melissa Boxall	CMA Secretary / GM	Temora Shire Council
Cr. Greg Whiteley	Mayor	Warren Shire Council
Gary Woodman	GM	Warren Shire Council
Cr. Kevin Beatty	Mayor	Cabonne Shire Council
Brad Byrnes	GM	Cabonne Shire Council
Cr. Kinne Ring	Mayor	Kempsey Shire Council
Andrew Meddle	CEO	Kempsey Shire Council
John Scarce	GM	Murrumbidgee Council
Cr R McRae OAM	Mayor	Murrumbidgee Council
Cr. Susannah Pearse	Mayor	Moree Plains Shire Council
Natalia Cowley	GM	Moree Plains Shire Council
Cr. Bronwyn Petrie	Mayor	Tenterfield Shire Council
Cr. Sharon Cadwallader	Mayor	Ballina Shire Council
Cr. Margot Davis	Mayor	Glen Innes Severn Council
Bernard Smith	GM	Glen Innes Severn Council
Cr. Colleen Fuller	Mayor	Gunnedah Shire Council
Eric Groth	GM	Gunnedah Shire Council
Cr. Sarah Ndiaye	Mayor	Byron Shire Council
Mark Arnold	GM	Byron Shire Council
Cr. Daniel Linklater	Mayor	Wentworth Shire Council
Ken Ross	GM	Wentworth Shire Council
Cr. John Harvie	Mayor	Murray River Council
Stacy Williams	CEO	Murray River Council
Cr. Kenrick Winchester	Mayor	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
Ruth Ormella	Acting GM	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
Cr. Steve Krieg	Mayor	Lismore City Council
Eber Butron	Acting GM	Lismore City Council
Cr. Bruce Reynolds	Mayor	Blayney Shire Council
Mark Dicker	GM	Blayney Shire Council
Toni Averay	GM	Uralla Shire Council
Kathryn Rindfleish	Mayor	Warrumbungle Shire Council
Lindsay Mason	GM	Warrumbungle Shire Council
Cr. Brian Ingram	Mayor	Hilltops Council
Anthony O'Reilly	GM	Hilltops Council
Cr. Sally Davis	Deputy Mayor	Bourke Shire Council
Leonie Brown	GM	Bourke Shire Council
Cr. Ewen Jones	Mayor	Narromine Shire Council
Jane Redden	GM	Narromine Shire Council
Phil Johnston	Director Community and Economic Development	Narromine Shire Council
Cr. Craig Davies	Councillor	Narromine Shire Council
Cr. Nikki Williams	Mayor	Coffs Harbour City Council

Cr. John Burley	Deputy Mayor	Kyogle Council
Cr. Danielle Mulholland	Mayor	Kyogle Council
Cr. Josh Black	Mayor	Dubbo Regional Council
Laura Black	GM	Clarence Valley Council
Cr. Ray Smith	Mayor	Clarence Valley Council
Cr. Tiffany Galvin	Mayor	Gwydir Shire Council
Leeah Daley	Acting GM	Gwydir Shire Council
Cr. Patricia White	Mayor	Shoalhaven City Council
Cr. Andrew McKibbin	Mayor	Oberon Council
Gary Wallace	GM	Oberon Council
Paul Bennett	GM	Tamworth Regional Council
Cr. Kevin Mack	Mayor	Albury City Council
Cr. Doug Batten	Mayor	Gilgandra Shire Council
David Neeves	GM	Gilgandra Shire Council
Cr. Ash Walker	Deputy Mayor	Gilgandra Shire Council
Adam Shultz	Mayor	Lake Macquarie City Council
Lisa Miscamble	Mayor	Wingecarribee Shire Council
Cr. Jesse Fitzpatrick	Mayor	Wingecarribee Shire Council
Greg Tory	GM	Lachlan Shire Council
Cr. Maurice Collison	Mayor	Upper Hunter Shire Council
Greg McDonald	GM	Upper Hunter Shire Council
Cr. D McCann OAM	Mayor	Coolamon Shire Council
T Donoghue PSM	GM	Coolamon Shire Council
Cr. James Angel	Acting Mayor	Nambucca Valley Council
Bede Spannagle	GM	Nambucca Valley Council
Cr. Nina Dillon	Mayor	Goulburn Mulwaree Council
Marina Hollands	Acting Chief Executive Officer	Goulburn Mulwaree Council
Cr. Michael Kidd	Deputy Mayor	Leeton Shire Council
Megan Mulrooney	CEO	REROC
Shaun Elwood	Director of People and Places	Lithgow City Council
Cr. Cassandra Coleman	Mayor	Lithgow City Council
Paul Smith	Mayor	Cowra Council
Paul Devery	GM	Cowra Council
Cr. Kellie Crossley	Acting Mayor	Edward River Council
Jack Bond	CEO	Edward River Council
Cr. Neil Westcott	Mayor	Parkes Shire Council
		Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council
Cr. Abb McAlister	Mayor	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council
		Singleton Council
Roger Bailey	Interim GM	Singleton Council
Cr. Sue Moore	Mayor	Orange City Council
Justin Fitzpatrick-Barr	GM	Orange City Council
Cr. Tony Mileto	Mayor	Yass Valley Council
Barry Omundson	Interim CEO	Yass Valley Council
Cr. Jasmine Jones	Mayor	Bogan Shire Council
Gayleen Burley	CEO	Bogan Shire Council
Cr. Glen Neill	Mayor	
Derek Francis	GM	

Cr. Ken Cudmore	Mayor	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Cian Middleton	GM	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Cr. Eric Noakes	Mayor	Walcha Council
Cr. Tommy Stanton	Mayor	Brewarrina Shire Council
David Kirby	GM	Brewarrina Shire Council
Jane Stroud	CEO	Kiama Municipal Council
Cr. Melinda Lawton	Councillor	Kiama Municipal Council
Cameron Templeton	Council Engagement Manager Riverina & Far South West	OLG
Katrina Annis-Brown	Council Engagement Manager Central West and Far West	OLG
Cr. Jim Hickey	Deputy Mayor	Broken Hill City Council
Jay Nankivell	GM	Broken Hill City Council
	Councillor/LGNSW Board	
Cr. Penny Pedersen	member	City of Ryde Council
Cr. Leah Anderson	Mayor	Port Stephens Council
Cr. Daniel Keady	Mayor	Coonamble Shire Council
	Director Infrastructure Kerrie	
Kerrie Murphy	Murphy	Coonamble Shire Council
Nick Mamouzelos	Investigator	Warrumbungle Shire Council
Cr. Paul Culhane	Mayor	Upper Lachlan Shire Council
Ms Alex Waldron	CEO	Upper Lachlan Shire Council
Cr. Paul Best	Mayor	Weddin Shire Council
Luke Sheehan	GM	Weddin Shire Council
Cr. Darrell Tiemens	Mayor	Narrabri Shire Council
George Cowan	GM	Narrandera Shire Council
Cr. Sam Coupland	Mayor	Armidale Regional Council
Cr. P Miller OAM	Mayor	Forbes Shire Council
Richard Jane	Acting GM	Forbes Shire Council
Cr. Matt Gould	Mayor	Wollondilly Shire Council
	Manager Shire Planning and	
Stephen Gardiner	Head of Advocacy	Wollondilly Shire Council
Cr. Robert Taylor	Mayor	Bathurst Regional Council
Cr. Russell Fitzpatrick	Mayor	Bega Valley Shire Council
Anthony McMahon	CEO	Bega Valley Shire Council
Cr. Steve Allan	Mayor	Bellingen Shire Council
Mark Griffioen	GM	Bellingen Shire Council
Cr. Cheryl Cook	Mayor	Federation Council
Brett McInnes	GM	Inverell Shire Council
Cr. Peter Sharp	Mayor	Lockhart Shire Council
Gavin Rhodes	GM	Lockhart Shire Council
Cr. Adam Roberts	Mayor	Port Macquarie Hastings Council
Jonathan Malota		NRMA
Ms Linda Scott	Chairman	NSW Grants Commission

12. Apologies

Mr Adrian Butler	GM	Federation Council
Mr Murray Wood	CEO	Dubbo Regional Council

Cr. Doug Curran	Mayor	Griffith City Council
Mr Brett Stonestreet	GM	Griffith City Council
Mr Frank Zaknich	GM	Albury City Council
Cr. George Weston	Mayor	Leeton Shire Council
Ms Jackie Kruger	GM	Leeton Shire Council
		Wagga Wagga City Council
Cr. Dallas Tout	Mayor	Bland Shire Council
Cr. Brian Monaghan	Mayor	Bland Shire Council
Mr Grant Baker	GM	Narrandera Shire Council
Cr. N Kschenka OAM	Mayor	Greater Hume Council
Cr. Lea Parker	Mayor	Greater Hume Council
Mr Colin Kane	Acting GM	Uralla Shire Council
Cr. Robert Bell	Mayor	Inverell Shire Council
Cr. Kate Dight	Mayor	Inverell Shire Council
Cr. Greg Kachel	Councillor	Lachlan Shire Council
Cr. John Medcalf OAM	Mayor	Tamworth Regional Council
Cr. Russell Webb	Mayor	CMA
Mrs Julie Briggs	Policy Advisor	CMA
Mr. Gary Fry	Secretariat	Armidale Regional Council
Cr. Sam Coupland	Mayor	NSW Government
The Hon Jenny Aitchison MP	Roads and Transport Minister	

Mayor Fitzpatrick (Bega Valley Shire Council) moved that the apologies be accepted. Mayor Cadwallader (Ballina Shire Council) seconded. CARRIED. Unanimous.

13. Adoption of Minutes from 9 May 2025.

Mayor Allen (Bellingen Shire Council) moved. Mayor Ring (Kempsey Shire) seconded. CARRIED. Unanimous.

14. Nil

15. Correspondence

Mayor Ingram (Hilltop Council) moved. Mayor Roberts (Port Macquarie Hastings) seconded. CARRIED. Unanimous.

16. Media releases

Mayor Cadwallader (Ballina Shire) moved. Mayor Winchester (Queanbeyan–Palerang Regional Council) seconded. CARRIED. Unanimous.

17. Reports

ALGA - Mayor Miller (LGNSW President/Forbes Shire) moved. Mayor Allen (Bellingen Shire) seconded. CARRIED. Unanimous.

LGNSW - Mayor Miller (LGNSW President/Forbes Shire) moved. Mayor Ndiaye (Byron Shire) seconded. CARRIED. Unanimous.

CMA Chairman - Mayor Coleman (Lithgow City Council) moved. Mayor Miller (LGNSW President/Forbes Shire) seconded. CARRIED. Unanimous.

Policy Advisor Report - Received & noted and adopt recommendations - Mayor Allen

(Bellingen Shire) moved. Mayor Whitely (Warren Shire) seconded. CARRIED. Unanimous.
CMA Financial report - Mayor Jones (Yass Valley) moved. Mayor Cadwallader (Ballina Shire) seconded. CARRIED. Unanimous.

18. Business with Notice - CMA Survey

- Mayor Fitzpatrick (Bega Valley Shire) moved. Mayor Miller (LGNSW President / Forbes Shire) seconded that the CMA consider the survey results at its November meeting. CARRIED. Unanimous.

19. Urgent Business - The CMA Chairman asked Members if the Board should consider having the business meeting of CMA on Thursday afternoon, and the Friday morning for Guest speakers. Members agreed overwhelmingly for the Board to consider this action, to spend more time on policy setting/advocacy and lobbying.

The Chairman thanked all for attending and with no further business, declared the meeting closed at 12:48pm.

The next meeting will be held in the Theatrette, NSW Parliament House on 14 November 2025, followed by the AGM.

5.2 MAYORAL MINUTE - 2025 LIVERPOOL PLAINS BUSINESS CHAMBER ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

File Number: G2025/0326
Author: Ken Cudmore, Mayor
Authoriser:
Annexures: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Extend its congratulations to the recently elected Executive Committee of the Liverpool Plains Business Chamber and reaffirm its commitment to working with the Business Chamber on initiatives, projects and events to grow our local economy and support our business community.

REPORT

Liverpool Plains Shire Council ("Council") was pleased to support and attend the recent Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the Liverpool Plains Business Chamber, held at the Quirindi Community Hub, which incorporated a Meet & Greet and Public Forum. This event allowed members and guests to engage with our Councillors and network before and after the AGM.

During the AGM, the following individuals were elected to the Chamber's Executive Committee for the 2025/26 year:

- President – Tammie Clark, RP & TM Clark
- Vice President – Mark Chapple, Fresh 4U
- Treasurer – Ray Lamb, Quirindi Pharmacy
- Assistant Treasurer – Michael Pryor, Quantum Pty Ltd
- Secretary – Jacqui Newman, Interested community member
- General Committee Member – Roslyn Wallis, Manuka Chaff Pty Ltd
- General Committee Member – Graham Bullock, Sunflower on the Plains
- General Committee Member – Tony Ham, Quirindi Arts & Crafts Tourism Shop
- General Committee member – Warren Faulkner, Interested community member

Following the AGM, Council's General Manager presented an update on the strategic priorities of Council for the 2025/26 year, including an overview of major projects planned and underway, including the finalisation of the Growth Management and Housing Strategy and delivery of the Quirindi Aquatic Centre and Willow Tree Waste Management Facility. The General Manager also spoke about Council's ongoing focus on improving the organisation's long-term financial sustainability and strengthening relationships and forging partnerships with our local community.

This was followed by a Public Forum, also attended by Councillors Allan, Cain, Lawson and Robertson, which saw the Chamber's members ask questions on Council's strategic direction and

key issues affecting the local business community. Apologies were submitted from Councillors Cohen and Simkin, who had conflicting engagements and were unable to attend.

Council was pleased to support the event and it is appropriate that we extend our congratulations to the incoming Executive Committee of the Liverpool Plains Business Chamber and reaffirm our commitment to working with the Chamber, along with other business, industry, and government stakeholders, to grow our local economy and support our business community.



Cr Ken Cudmore

MAYOR



Image (Above): The Liverpool Plains Business Chamber's 2025/26 Executive Committee pictured with Council's Mayor, Councillors, General Manager and Director Planning and Community.

5.3 MAYORAL MINUTE - MEETINGS, FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS - AUGUST 2025

File Number: G2025/0334
Author: Deborah Perry-Brown, Executive Support Officer
Authoriser: Ken Cudmore, Mayor
Annexures: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- Note the meetings, functions and events attended by the Mayor in an official capacity on behalf of Liverpool Plains Shire Council for the month of August 2025, as detailed in this report.

REPORT

As Mayor, I am often required to attend various meetings, functions, openings, and events on behalf of Liverpool Plains Shire Council. It is appropriate that these be reported to Council and publicly shared with the Liverpool Plains Shire community.

Date	Meeting, Function or Event
01 August 2025	Teams meeting with Manager – New England Northwest Regional Delivery Preparedness & Recovery Group – NSW Reconstruction Authority
05 August 2025	Wallabadah Community Association AGM
07 August 2025	Meeting with Quirindi Show Association
7-8 August 2025	Country Mayor's Meeting Crime, Law, and Order CMA Meeting CMA workshop with the Hon. Penny Sharpe MLC. Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, and Minister for Heritage [also Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council]
11 August 2025	Real Estate Round Table Round table meeting with local real estate agents at The Gate Cafe
13 August 2025	Rail Safety Week – go live of RAXS level crossing safety technology trial. The official launch/go live of a trial of digital technology designed to improve level crossing safety in rural and regional areas using the Rail Active Crossing System (RAXS) for the first time in NSW. Transport for NSW ran the trial, in partnership with the Australian Government, the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) and technology company that developed the RAXS - Rail Safety Systems.
13 August 2025	Rail Safety Week - Moment of Reflection event While the memorial is dedicated to rail workers who have lost their lives while working on rail, the 2025 Rail Safety Week Moment of Reflection



	recognises all lives lost, people injured and those affected by the trauma of accidents on and around rail.
19 August 2025	DCCEEW Pipelines and Gas Supply Regulations Consultation - Community and stakeholder workshop in Quirindi Community and stakeholder workshop to discuss the changes
19 August 2025	Collaborative Care Meeting
22 August 2025	Meeting with NBN Local Manager – Hunter New England, Regional Development and Engagement
25 August 2025	Host the Liverpool Plains Business Chamber AGM and Bizconnect Event
28 August 2025	Radio interview with ABC New England Northwest
28 August 2025	Northwest Regional Weeds Committee meeting

**Cr Ken Cudmore**

MAYOR

6 REPORTS OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

6.1 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:	Glenn Inglis, Acting General Manager
File Number:	G2025/0345
Annexures:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Resolutions Register Update August 2025 ↓ 2. Resolutions Register Update 2024 ↓ 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Resolutions Register as at 16 September 2025 as appended at *Annexure 1* and the Resolution Register for 2024 as appended at *Annexure 2*.

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 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 fifty seven resolutions requiring further action. As illustrated in *Table 1*, below, forty seven have been completed and actioned as at the date of this Business Paper being published, and ten remain outstanding.

Table 1: Council Resolution Status Summary		
Status	Definition	Number
Complete	Action completed by date of Business Paper publication.	47
Outstanding	Action not completed by date of Business Paper publication.	10
TOTAL		57

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 1 and Annexure 2* lists all Council resolutions requiring further action, and the status of implementing each action, as at 16 September 2025. It is recommended that Council receive and note the Resolutions Register.

Action Sheets Report	Division:	Council	Date From:	1/08/2025
	Committee:		Date To:	31/08/2025
	Officer:		Printed: 16 September 2025 11:12 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:			
1. Appoint the following Councillors to attend each of the following conferences being held in 2025:			
(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:	1/08/2025
	Committee:	Council	Date To:	31/08/2025
	Officer:			
				Printed: 16 September 2025 11:12 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: 1/08/2025
	Committee:	Council	Date To: 31/08/2025
	Officer:		Printed: 16 September 2025 11:12 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:	Council	Date From:	1/08/2025
	Committee:		Date To:	31/08/2025
	Officer:		Printed: 16 September 2025 11:12 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:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (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			

Division:	Council	Date From:	1/08/2025
Committee:		Date To:	31/08/2025
Officer:		Printed:	16 September 2025 11:12 AM
Action Sheets Report			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 23/07/2025	Middleton, Cian Middleton, Cian	Reports of the General Manager	Expressions of Interest for Liverpool Plains Shire Local Advisory Committees
RESOLUTION 2025/136			
Moved: Cr Donna Lawson			
Seconded: Cr Shawn Cain			
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 2024-2028 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.			
CARRIED			
UPDATE: Subject to a separate report			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 23/07/2025	McCulloch, Jared Middleton, Cian	Confidential Matters	Expression of Interest - Sale or Lease of the Royal Theatre Quirindi
RESOLUTION 2025/143			
Moved: Cr Donna Lawson			
Seconded: Cr Shawn Cain			
That Council:			
1. Note that one (1) response was received to the Expression of Interest for the Sale or Lease of the Royal Theatre, 115 Henry Street Quirindi.			
2. Decline to proceed to a Selective Tendering process for the Sale of the Royal Theatre, 115 Henry Street Quirindi in accordance with Section 178 (1)(b) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i> .			
3. Enter into negotiations under Clause 178 (3)(e) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i> for the following reasons:			

	Division: Committee: Council Officer:	Date From: 1/08/2025 Date To: 31/08/2025 Printed: 16 September 2025 11:12 AM
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Action Sheets Report

- (a) that the initial Expression of Interest process resulted in one (1) submission and the process of inviting fresh submissions or applications will likely not result in additional submissions; and
- (b) that the response received to the Expression of Interest requested Council enter into collaborative negotiations, including a discussion around a structured handover, for the Sale of the Royal Theatre, 115 Henry Street Quirindi.
4. Authorise the Mayor and General Manager, under Clause 178 (3)(e) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, negotiate the Sale of the Royal Theatre, 115 Henry Street Quirindi with the Expression of Interest respondent.
5. Following the negotiation of the proposed terms of sale for the Royal Theatre located at 115 Henry Street, Quirindi by the Mayor and General Manager, receive a further report at a future Ordinary Meeting of Council detailing the negotiated terms and seeking Council's approval for the Mayor and General Manager to enter into a Contract of Sale pursuant to Clause 178(3)(e) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

At 3:24 pm, Cr Jason Allan left the meeting.

At 3:57 pm, Cr Jason Allan returned to the meeting.

CARRIED

UPDATE: In progress working with EOI respondent

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 27/08/2025	Middleton, Cian Middleton, Cian	Reports of the General Manager	Statutory Review of the Code of Meeting Practice
<p>RESOLUTION 2025/148</p> <p>Moved: Cr Charlie Simkin Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amend Item 8.1 <i>Order of Business for Ordinary Council Meetings</i> of the Code of Meeting Practice to include the following as Item 01: "Acknowledgement of Country and Council Prayer or Affirmation." 2. Endorse the draft Code of Meeting Practice noting the above amendment, appended at <i>Annexure A</i>, for public exhibition for a period of 28 days and adopt the updated Code of Meeting Practice as exhibited, subject to no submissions being received. 			

Division:		Date From:	
Committee:		Date To:	
Officer:		Printed:	
Council		1/08/2025	
		31/08/2025	
Action Sheets Report		16 September 2025 11:12 AM	

		CARRIED	
UPDATE: Currently on Public Exhibition			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 27/08/2025	McCulloch, Jared Middleton, Cian	Reports of the General Manager	Statutory Review of the Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy
RESOLUTION 2025/150			
Moved: Cr Jason Allan			
Seconded: Cr Donna Lawson			
That Council:			
1. Pursuant to sections 252 and 253 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> , endorse the draft Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy appended at <i>Annexure B</i> on public exhibition for a period of 28 days, and adopt the draft policy as exhibited, subject to no submissions being received.			
2. Request a further report at the conclusion of the public exhibition period if submissions are received on the draft Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy.			
			CARRIED
UPDATE: Currently on Public Exhibition			

Division:	Council	Date From:	1/08/2025
Committee:		Date To:	31/08/2025
Officer:		Printed:	16 September 2025 11:12 AM
Action Sheets Report			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 27/08/2025	McCulloch, Jared Middleton, Cian	Reports of the Director Corporate Performance & CF	Review of Information and Records Management Policy
RESOLUTION 2025/155			
Moved: Cr James Robertson			
Seconded: Cr Charlie Simkin			
That Council:			
1. Place the draft Information and Record Management Policy, appended at <i>Annexure A</i> , on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.			
2. Receive a further report following the conclusion of the public exhibition period or, if no submissions are received, adopt the draft Information and Record Management Policy as exhibited.			
CARRIED			
UPDATE: Currently on Public Exhibition			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 27/08/2025	Vorobieff , George Vorobieff, George	Reports of the Director Infrastructure and Utilities	Repeal of Kerb and Gutter Policy, Footpaths Policy, Disposal of Surplus Equipment Policy, and Corporate Property and Disposal of Land Policy
RESOLUTION 2025/156			
Moved: Cr James Robertson			
Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen			
That Council:			
That Council:			
1. Lay this item of business on the table.			
CARRIED			

	Division: Committee: Council Officer:	Date From: 1/08/2025 Date To: 31/08/2025 Printed: 16 September 2025 11:12 AM
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Action Sheets Report

UPDATE: Currently reviewing with a further report to come to Council

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 27/08/2025	Kumar, Abhijith Vorobieff, George	Reports of the Director Infrastructure and Utilities	Tender Evaluation - REGPO012526 Road Safety Barrier Systems
<p>RESOLUTION 2025/160</p> <p>Moved: Cr Charlie Simkin Seconded: Cr Shawn Cain</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt the suppliers listed below to be appointed to this contract as Panel Source suppliers to Liverpool Plains Shire Council for an initial period of 24 months from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2027: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A1 Highways Pty Ltd Safe Direction Pty Ltd Destraz Pty Ltd t/a D & P Fencing Contractors Guardrail Infrastructure Pty Ltd t/a Guardrail Installations Australia Guardrail Systems Pty Ltd Industrial Galvanisers Corporation Pty Ltd t/a Ingal Civil Products The Trustee for AJ & LJ Irwin Family Trust t/a Irwin Fencing Pty Ltd RBK Pty Ltd t/a RBK Civil t/a Topnotch Fencing Allow provision for a 12-month extension based on satisfactory supplier performance, which may take this contract through to 30 June 2028. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p> <p>UPDATE: COMPLETE</p>			

Action Sheets Report	Division: Committee: Council Officer:	Date From: 1/08/2025 Date To: 31/08/2025 Printed: 16 September 2025 11:12 AM
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Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 27/08/2025	Middleton, Cian Middleton, Cian	Reports of the Director Planning and Community	Constitution of Local Advisory Committees and Appointment of Community Members
<p>RESOLUTION 2025/163</p> <p>Moved: Cr Donna Lawson Seconded: Cr Charlie Simkin</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Extend its appreciation to all members of the Liverpool Plains Shire community who submitted an Expression of Interest to serve on a Local Advisory Committee for the remainder of the current 2024-28 term of Council. Establish the Currabubula Local Advisory Committee for the remainder of the 2024-28 term of Council and adopt the Terms of Reference appended at <i>Annexure A</i>. Formally appoint those members of the community who have expressed their interest in serving on the Currabubula Local Advisory Committee to that committee for the remainder of the 2024-28 term of Council. Note that Expressions of Interest ("EOI") from members of the Liverpool Plains Shire community to serve on locality-based Local Advisory Committees for the remainder of the current 2024-28 Council term has been extended to Sunday, 14 September 2025. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p> <p>UPDATE: Subject to a separate report</p>			

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 27/08/2025	Middleton, Cian Middleton, Cian	Confidential Matters	Appointment of Independent Member to Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee
<p>RESOLUTION 2025/166</p> <p>Moved: Cr Donna Lawson</p>			

Division:	Council	Date From:	1/08/2025
Committee:		Date To:	31/08/2025
Officer:		Printed:	16 September 2025 11:12 AM
Action Sheets Report			

Seconded: Cr Terry Cohen

That Council:

1. Note the conclusion of Mr Les Hullick's term as an Independent Member of Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee, and extend its appreciation to Mr Hullick for his service on the Committee since his appointment in 2022.
2. Appoint Ms Trish Kirkland as an Independent Member of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee for a four-year term, commencing 01 September 2025 and concluding 31 August 2029.

CARRIED

UPDATE: COMPLETE

Meeting	Officer/Director	Section	Subject
Council 27/08/2025	Gresser, Katrina Middleton, Cian	Confidential Matters	Rates Legal Proceedings
RESOLUTION 2025/168			
Moved: Cr Jason Allan			
Seconded: Cr Charlie Simkin			
That Council:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receive and note the briefing on the legal matter detailed in this report. 2. Authorise the General Manager to negotiate a settlement of the proceedings at the best possible terms to Council. 			
CARRIED			
UPDATE: Subject to a separate report			



Liverpool Plains Shire Council Resolutions Register Update 2024

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:			
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.			
2. Note that the Traffic Committee is continuing to investigate options in relation to a crossing on Nowland St, adjacent to Quirindi Highschool.			
			CARRIED
UPDATE: The traffic committee continues to investigate options			

6.2 AMENDMENT TO SCHEDULE OF ORDINARY MEETINGS 2025

IP&R Linkage:	Goal: Demonstrate good governance
	Strategy: Develop and implement a robust governance and integrity framework
Author:	Christie Pearson, Executive Services Coordinator
Authoriser:	Glenn Inglis, Acting General Manager
File Number:	G2025/0356
Annexures:	1. Amendment to Schedule of Ordinary Meetings 2025  

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Amend the Schedule of Ordinary Meetings, appended at *Annexure 1*, to:
 - (a) Amend the date of the Ordinary Meeting in October 2025 to be held on Wednesday, 29 October 2025.
2. Note that the General Manager will provide public notice of the amended Schedule of Ordinary Meetings, pursuant to sections 9 and 418(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and clause 3.1 of the Code of Meeting Practice.

BACKGROUND

Section 365 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (“the Act”) requires Council to meet at least 10 times each year, each time in a different month. Clause 3.1 of Council’s Code of Meeting Practice (“Meeting Code”) provides that Council shall, by resolution, set the frequency, time, date and place of its ordinary meetings.

Section 9 of the Act and clause 3.3 of Council’s Meeting Code requires Council to give public notice of the times and places of its meetings. Clause 3.4 of Council’s Meeting Code provides that the notice must be published on Council’s website, and in such other manner that Council is satisfied is likely to bring notice of the meetings to the attention of as many people as possible.

At its Ordinary Meeting held 11 December 2024, Council resolved to adopt its current Schedule of Ordinary Meetings (“Schedule”) for 2025 [**res. 2024/200**].

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The Schedule appended at *Annexure A* lists the dates, times and locations of all Ordinary Meetings scheduled to be held in 2025. All meetings are scheduled to be held at the Council Chambers at 60 Station Street, Quirindi and commence at 2.30pm.

Council traditionally holds its Ordinary Meetings on the fourth Wednesday of the month, except in December, in which the Ordinary Meeting is held on the second Wednesday of the month.

The Schedule is proposed to be varied to:

1. Amend the date of the Ordinary Meeting scheduled to be held in October 2025.

The amendment is marked in **red** in the appended Schedule, with commentary regarding the amendment detailed below.

Amendment to date of Ordinary Meeting in October 2025

The current Schedule provides that Council's Ordinary Meeting in October 2025 will be held on the third Wednesday of the month, being Wednesday, 22 October 2025.

Is it recommended that the date of the October Ordinary Meeting of Council be changed to the fifth Wednesday of the month being Wednesday, 29 October 2025. Noting that the Official Opening of the Quirindi Aquatic Centre is taking place on Wednesday, 22 October 2025. The change is proposed to give sufficient time for the opening to take place.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

As detailed above, Council's Meeting Code requires Council to set, by resolution, the frequency, time, date and place of its Ordinary Meetings.

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

As detailed above, public notice of the times and venues of Council meetings must be provided under the applicable provisions of the Act and Meeting Code.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council adopts the amended Schedule of Ordinary Meetings, contained at *Annexure A*, to vary the date of its Ordinary Meeting in October 2025, for the purposes and reasons outlined in this report. Consistent with the legislative requirements detailed above, the amended Schedule will be published to Council's website at www.liverpoolplains.nsw.gov.au and promoted via public notice following its adoption.



Schedule of Ordinary Meetings 2025

Per clause 3.1 of the Liverpool Plains Shire Council Code of Meeting Practice

Date	Time	Location
Wednesday, 19 February 2025	2.30pm	Liverpool Plains Shire Council Chambers 60 Station Street, Quirindi, 2343
Wednesday, 26 March 2025	2.30pm	Liverpool Plains Shire Council Chambers 60 Station Street, Quirindi, 2343
Wednesday, 23 April 2025	2.30pm	Liverpool Plains Shire Council Chambers 60 Station Street, Quirindi, 2343
Wednesday, 28 May 2025	2.30pm	Liverpool Plains Shire Council Chambers 60 Station Street, Quirindi, 2343
Monday, 30 June 2025	2.30pm	Liverpool Plains Shire Council Chambers 60 Station Street, Quirindi, 2343
Wednesday, 23 July 2025	2.30pm	Liverpool Plains Shire Council Chambers 60 Station Street, Quirindi, 2343
Wednesday, 27 August 2025	2.30pm	Liverpool Plains Shire Council Chambers 60 Station Street, Quirindi, 2343
Wednesday, 24 September 2025	2.30pm	Liverpool Plains Shire Council Chambers 60 Station Street, Quirindi, 2343
Wednesday, 29 October 2025	2.30pm	Liverpool Plains Shire Council Chambers 60 Station Street, Quirindi, 2343
Wednesday, 26 November 2025	2.30pm	Liverpool Plains Shire Council Chambers 60 Station Street, Quirindi, 2343
Wednesday, 10 December 2025	2.30pm	Liverpool Plains Shire Council Chambers 60 Station Street, Quirindi, 2343

7 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & CFO

7.1 ANNUAL TABLING OF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST RETURNS

IP&R Linkage:	Goal: Demonstrate good governance
	Strategy: Develop and implement a robust governance and integrity framework
Author:	Jared McCulloch, Risk Management Coordinator
Authoriser:	Daniel Smallwood, Director Corporate Performance & CFO
File Number:	G2025/0328
Annexures:	Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Note the annual tabling of the Disclosure of Interest Returns for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 by Councillors, Senior Staff and designated persons.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to satisfy the requirements of the Model Code of Conduct and Section 440AAB of the *Local Government Act 1993*, to satisfy that Disclosure of Interest Returns from Councillors and designated persons have been completed and lodged for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

Section 440AAB requires returns lodged with the General Manager under Section 440AAB must be tabled at a Meeting of the Council, being:

(2) Returns required to be lodged with the general manager must be tabled at a meeting of the council, being the first meeting held after the last day specified by the code for lodgement, or if the code does not specify a day, as soon as practicable after the return is lodged.

Councillors and designated persons have complied with the Model Code of Conduct and Section 440AAB provision of the Act in relation to disclosure of interests.

At its Ordinary Meeting held 30 September 2022, Council resolved to adopt its current Code of Conduct ("the Code") [res. 2022/229]. Part 4 of the Code requires all Councillors and designated persons to complete and submit a written return of pecuniary interests to the General Manager by 30 September each year.

Under the Code, "designated persons" include:

(a) the General Manager;

(b) other Senior Staff of the Council for the purposes of section 332 of the Act;

(c) a person (other than a member of the senior staff of the Council) who is a member of staff of the Council or a delegate of the Council and who holds a position identified by the Council as the position of a designated person because it involves the exercise of functions (such as regulatory functions or contractual functions) that, in their exercise, could give rise to a

conflict between the person's duty as a member of staff or delegate and the person's private interest; and

(d) a person (other than a member of the senior staff of the Council) who is a member of a Committee of the Council identified by the Council as a Committee whose members are designated persons because the functions of the Committee involve the exercise of the Council's functions (such as regulatory functions or contractual functions) that, in their exercise, could give rise to a conflict between the member's duty as a member of the Committee and the member's private interest.

At its Ordinary Meeting held 11 December 2024, Council resolved to identify 21 positions in its organisation structure, as well as the three Independent External Members of its Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee, as designated persons for the purposes of clause 4.8 of the Code [res. 2024/202].

Council is required to keep a Register of Interest Returns and to table the returns at the first Council meeting after the last day of lodgement of returns.

The Register of Disclosure of Interest is available for perusal by any Councillor or member of the public.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

As detailed in *Tables 1, 2 and 3*, below, all Councillors, Senior Staff and designated persons duly completed and lodged their returns for the period:

Table 1 – Councillors		
Position	Occupant	Date Lodged
Mayor	CUDMORE, Ken	28 August 2025
Deputy Mayor	LAWSON, Donna	9 September 2025
Councillor	ALLAN, Jason	27 August 2025
Councillor	CAIN, Shawn	13 September 2025
Councillor	COHEN, Terrence	28 August 2025
Councillor	ROBERTSON, James	9 September 2025
Councillor	SIMKIN, Charlie	27 August 2025

Table 2 – General Manager and Senior Staff		
Position	Occupant	Date Lodged
General Manager – up to 14 February 2025	MURPHY, Gary	Did not lodge
General Manager – 14/2/25 – 28/4/2025	INGLIS, Glenn – <i>Acting</i>	15 February 2025
General Manager – 28/4/25 – 30/6/25	MIDDLETON, Cian	16 July 2025
Director Corporate and Community Services	FROST, Dean	20 June 2025
Director Infrastructure and Environmental Services	SKELLY, Nathan	Did not lodge

Director Corporate Performance & CFO	SMALLWOOD, Daniel	2 September 2025
Director Planning and Community	COSTA, Jule	9 September 2025
Table 3 – Designated Persons (Staff)		
Position	Occupant	Date Lodged
Manager Assets and Property	TUEMA, Cindy	11 August 2025
Manager Civil Infrastructure	SAJU, Alex	Did not lodge
Manager Community and Recreation Services	NEAVE, Ruth	Did not lodge
Manager Customer and Information Services	DRUMMOND, Paul	17 July 2025
Manager Human Resources <i>1 July 2024 – 31 January 2025</i> <i>Maternity Leave from 31 January 2025</i>	COBURN, Kate	9 September 2025
Manager Planning and Regulation	KITSON, David	15 July 2025
Manager Water Services	BATTERHAM, Rodney	1 September 2025
Ranger	ANDERSON, Christine	9 September 2025
Executive Services Coordinator	PEARSON, Christie	1 September 2025
Coordinator Governance, Risk and Corporate Records	McCULLOCH, Jared	15 June 2025
Customer and Visitor Services Coordinator	STACKMAN, Kelly	9 September 2025
Procurement and Contracts Coordinator	<i>Vacant</i>	-
Property and Lands Coordinator	PORTER, Jo	20 June 2025
Stores and Purchasing Officer	RYMAN, Scott	15 July 2025
Biosecurity Officer	WHITNEY, Michael	26 June 2025
Health and Building Surveyor	<i>Vacant</i>	-
Town Planner	<i>Vacant</i>	-

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

As detailed above, Councillors, Senior Staff and those staff and Committee members occupying positions that have been formally identified as designated persons are legally required under the Code to complete an annual written return of interests and disclose certain interests.

The Register of Interest Returns is categorised as open access information for the purposes of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* and *Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2018* and is available for inspection from Council's website at www.liverpoolplains.nsw.gov.au and in person at Council's Administration and Customer Service Centre at 60 Station Street, Quirindi.

Consistent with the Office of Local Government's *Circular 19/21 – Release of IPC Guideline 1 Returns of Interests*, the signatures and residential addresses of all Councillors, Senior Staff and designated persons will be redacted prior to publication.

Compliance with the Model Code of Conduct and Section 440AAB of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

RISK IMPLICATIONS

By nature of their decision-making responsibilities, financial delegations, or the regulatory, contractual and procurement functions they exercise; it is appropriate for designated persons to disclose relevant pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests via Written Returns of Interest to ensure Council reduces the risk of conflicts of interest being poorly managed or affecting public confidence in its decisions and actions.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

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

CONCLUSION

All staff identified as designated persons for the 2024 – 2025 were required to submit an Annual Disclosure of Interest Return for the period. The above mentioned list includes the staff that provided returns for reporting period. The Register of Interest Returns is categorised as open access information and is available for inspection by members of the public. It is recommended that Council note the tabling of the Register of Interest Returns.

7.2 MONTHLY STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS - AUGUST 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:	Daniel Smallwood, Director Corporate Performance & CFO
File Number:	G2025/0338
Annexures:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Statement of Investments as at 31 August 2025 ↓  2. Imperium Markets monthly Investment Review Report for Liverpool Plains Shire Council as of 31 August 2025 ↓ 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Statement of Investments as of 31 August 2025 as appended at *Annexure 1*.
2. Receive and note the Imperium Markets Monthly Investment Review Report for Liverpool Plains Shire Council as of 31 August 2025 as appended at *Annexure 2*.

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.

Council's Chief Financial Officer monitors the organisation's cash flow daily, with surplus funds being invested in accordance with Council's Investments Policy, as well the statutory requirements outlined in the Act and the Regulation. Subject to those constraints, Council's objective when investing funds is to obtain the most favourable rate of interest, whilst taking into consideration the risks and security associated with the investment, as well as ensuring that Council's liquidity requirements are also being met.

Council seeks independent advice for investments and consults with its investment advisor (Arlo Advisory Pty Ltd) in managing the portfolio to ensure that returns are maximised, considering diversification and risk. A complete analysis of the performance is addressed in the Monthly Investment Review Report, appended at *Annexure 2*, prepared by the investment advisor.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

The balance of Council's investments as of 31 August 2025 was \$31 million, which was a reduction of \$1.5 million from the prior month.

The Council weighted average return remains above the RBA benchmark rate by 0.80 per cent at 4.40 per cent.

The RBA cash rate is considered the benchmark for evaluating Council's return on investment, which was reduced further to 3.60 per cent by the RBA on 12 August 2025. As per the previous reduction in May, 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.

As outlined in the Investment Review attached at *Annexure 2*. Council's investment portfolio remains short-dated and liquid from a maturity perspective. Council will continue to diversify its portfolio to include a wider range of investment counterparties and longer-term maturities to lock in higher interest rate income where possible, while ensuring sufficient operating funds are available if required from a cashflow perspective.

Council's Term Deposit investments cover externally and internally restricted cash reserves.

Table 1 – outlines Councils Investment Portfolio Valuation as at 31 August 2025 based on the individual institutional exposure and credit rating of the institutions with which they are held:

Portfolio Valuation as at 31/08/2025

Issuer	Rating	Type	Allocation	Interest Paid	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Rate (%)	Capital Value (\$)	Face Value (\$)
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	06/05/2025	05/09/2025	4.4000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	05/03/2025	09/09/2025	4.6500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	12/03/2025	16/09/2025	4.6500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	04/04/2025	07/10/2025	4.7000	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	09/05/2025	09/10/2025	4.3500	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	14/04/2025	14/10/2025	4.5000	1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	17/03/2025	16/10/2025	4.7000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	01/04/2025	04/11/2025	4.7000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	12/06/2025	12/12/2025	4.2000	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
Bendigo and Adelaide	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	20/06/2025	19/12/2025	4.2500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	08/07/2025	07/01/2026	4.2400	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	06/08/2025	04/02/2026	4.1900	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	06/08/2025	04/03/2026	4.1500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
BOQ	A-2	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	08/07/2025	07/04/2026	4.1400	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
NAB	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	At Maturity	30/07/2025	27/05/2026	4.1500	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
Westpac	A-1+	TD	GENERAL	Annual	07/07/2025	07/07/2026	4.0700	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
Westpac	AA-	TD	GENERAL	Annual	07/07/2025	07/07/2027	3.8800	500,000.00	500,000.00
TOTALS								31,000,000.00	31,000,000.00

Table 1

Table 2 – outlines Council's Counterparty Compliance by investment term.

Long Term Investments

Compliant	Bank Group	Term	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Limit (\$)	Available (\$)
✓	Westpac	Long	AA-	500,000.00	1.61	50.00	-	15,000,000.00
TOTALS				500,000.00	1.61			

Short Term Investments

Compliant	Bank Group	Term	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Limit (%)	Limit (\$)	Available (\$)
✓	Westpac	Short	A-1+	8,000,000.00	25.81	80.00	-	16,800,000.00
✓	NAB	Short	A-1+	14,500,000.00	46.77	80.00	-	10,300,000.00
✓	BOQ	Short	A-2	4,000,000.00	12.90	20.00	-	2,200,000.00
✓	Bendigo and Adelaide	Short	A-2	4,000,000.00	12.90	20.00	-	2,200,000.00
TOTALS				30,500,000.00	98.39			

Table 2

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

All returns on investments are included in Council's Operating Budget. Any amendment to budgeted interest income is affected through the Quarterly Budget Review ("QBR") process. Both the average level of funds invested, and the rate of return determine returns. In accordance with the Australian equivalent of International Accounting Standards, securities that are classified as held for trading are required to be valued at market value at each balance date. Investments in the form of cash or cash equivalents and held to maturity investments are valued at cost. Floating Rate Notes acquired on the secondary market are valued at cost. Where the purchase consideration is different to face value, the resulting premium or discount are amortised on a straight-line basis over the life of the Note.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

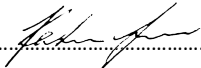
Council's investments are managed in accordance with Council's Investment Policy. As at the end of August 2025, all counterparties were within the Policy limits. Overall, the portfolio is diversified amongst the investment grade spectrum with no exposure to unrated ADI's.

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 31 August 2025.

TERM DEPOSIT LISTINGS							
Liverpool Plains Shire Council Investment Register 31/08/2025							
Acquisition Date	Maturity Date	Face Value (\$) 31/07/25	Face Value (\$) 31/08/25	Rate	Financial Reporting Classification	Institution	Credit Rating
5/05/2025	6/08/2025	\$2,000,000	\$0	4.50%	Held to Maturity	National Australia Bank	A-1+
6/02/2025	6/08/2025	\$2,000,000	\$0	4.80%	Held to Maturity	National Australia Bank	A-1+
14/03/2025	14/08/2025	\$1,500,000	\$0	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	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	4.20%	Held to Maturity	Westpac Group	A-1+
20/06/2025	19/12/2025	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	4.25%	Held to Maturity	Bendigo Bank	A-2
08/07/2025	07/01/2026	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	4.24%	Held to Maturity	Bank of Queensland	A-2
08/07/2025	07/04/2026	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	4.14%	Held to Maturity	Bank of Queensland	A-2
30/07/2025	27/05/2026	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	4.15%	Held to Maturity	National Australia Bank	A-1+
07/07/2025	07/07/2026	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	4.07%	Annual	Westpac Group	A-1+
07/07/2025	07/07/2027	\$500,000	\$500,000	3.88%	Annual	Westpac Group	AA-
6/08/2025	4/02/2026	\$0	\$2,000,000	4.19%	Held to Maturity	Bank of Queensland	A-2
6/08/2025	4/03/2026	\$0	\$2,000,000	4.15%	Held to Maturity	National Australia Bank	A-1+
		\$32,500,000	\$31,000,000				
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.							
Signed 							



Monthly Investment Review



August 2025

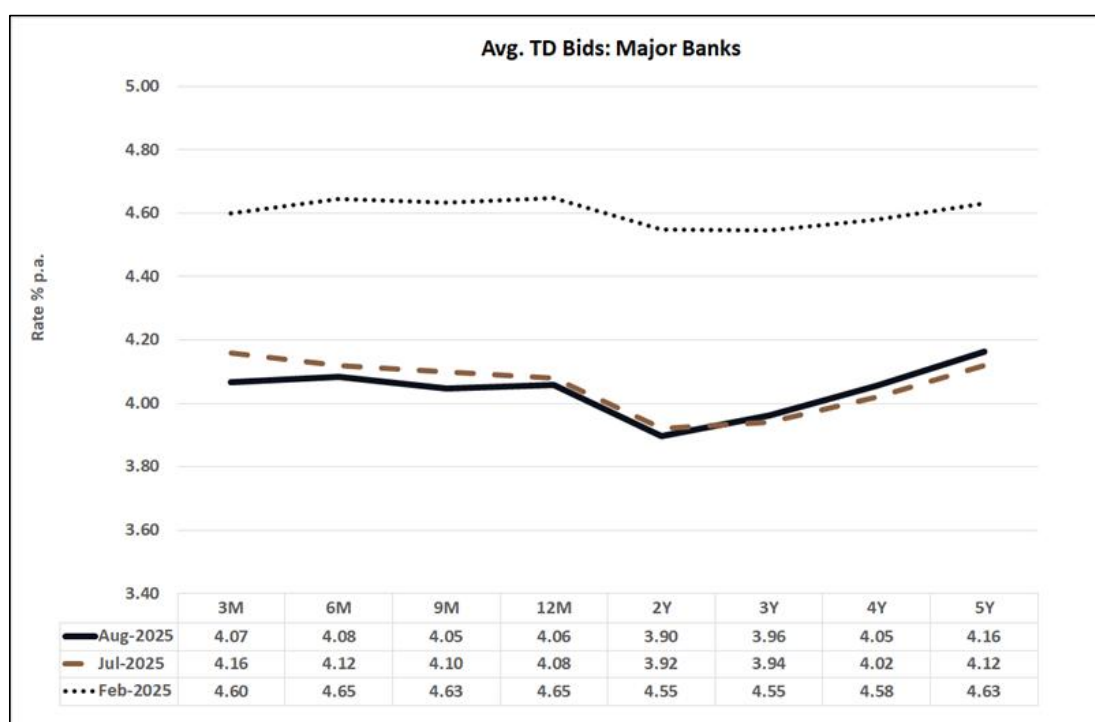
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Market Update Summary

Global equity markets continued to reach new highs over August, despite the ongoing uncertainty with regards to global tariffs and geopolitics. Markets appear to be buoyed by further central bank rate cuts, or expectations of additional cuts in the short-term. Although the risks to growth remain material, the prospect of further policy support (both monetary and fiscal) is likely to provide support to the medium-term growth outlook and valuations.

In the deposit market, over August, at the short-end of the curve (under 9 months), the average deposit rates offered by the domestic major banks fell ~5bp compared to the previous month (July) after the RBA cut official interest rates. At the longer-end of the curve (1-5 years), the average deposit rates remained relatively flat with the market already largely pricing in additional two rate cuts over the next 6-12 months.



Source: Imperium Markets

With additional rate cuts and a global economic downturn priced in over the next 6-12 months, 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 August 2025, the portfolio was entirely directed to fixed term deposits, with a very short weighted average duration (around 3½ 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 considered 'expensive' on a historical basis but new issuances should be considered on a case by case scenario. For fixed interest investments, staggering a mix of fixed assets 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 assets, 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	\$31,000,000	100%
	\$31,000,000	100%

Term to Maturity

Overall, the portfolio remains excessively short-dated and liquid from a maturity perspective with the majority 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	\$30,500,000	98.39%	0%	100%	\$500,000
✓	1 - 3 years	\$500,000	1.61%	0%	60%	\$18,100,000
✓	3 - 5 years	\$0	0.00%	0%	40%	\$12,400,000
✓	5 - 10 years	\$0	0.00%	0%	10%	\$3,100,000
		\$31,000,000	100.00%			



Counterparty

As at the end of August 2025, the portfolio was highly concentrated with only 4 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+	\$14,500,000	46.77%	80%	\$10,300,000
✓	WBC	A-1+	\$8,000,000	25.81%	80%	\$16,800,000
✓	WBC Long Term	AA-	\$500,000	1.61%	50%	\$15,000,000
✓	Bendigo-Adelaide	A-2	\$4,000,000	12.90%	20%	\$2,200,000
✓	BOQ	A-2	\$4,000,000	12.90%	20%	\$2,200,000
			\$31,000,000	100.00%		

Credit Quality

As at the end of August, 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	\$22,500,000	72.58%	100%	\$8,500,000
✓	A-1 Category	\$0	0.00%	100%	\$31,000,000
✓	AA- Category	\$500,000	1.61%	100%	\$30,500,000
✓	A-2 Category	\$8,000,000	25.81%	50%	\$7,500,000
✓	A-3 Category	\$0	0.00%	30%	\$9,300,000
		\$31,000,000	100.00%		



Performance

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

Performance (Actual)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	0.30%	0.94%	1.94%	0.62%	4.10%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	0.32%	0.94%	2.00%	0.62%	4.25%
Council's T/D Portfolio[^]	0.38%	1.14%	2.34%	0.76%	4.85%
Outperformance	0.06%	0.19%	0.35%	0.14%	0.60%

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

Performance (Annualised)	1 month	3 months	6 months	FYTD	1 year
Official Cash Rate	3.60%	3.77%	3.96%	7.59%	4.10%
AusBond Bank Bill Index	3.84%	3.79%	4.07%	7.58%	4.25%
Council's Portfolio[^]	4.56%	4.58%	4.78%	9.30%	4.85%
Outperformance	0.72%	0.79%	0.71%	1.73%	0.60%

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

For the month of August, the total investment portfolio (excluding cash) provided a solid return of +0.38% (actual) or +4.56% p.a. (annualised), outperforming the benchmark AusBond Bank Bill Index return of +0.32% (actual) or +3.84% 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 August 2025, Council's deposit portfolio was yielding 4.40% p.a. (down 7bp from the previous month), with a weighted average duration of just 104 days (~3½ 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 expensive on a historical basis but remains an option (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 August, we see value in the following:

ADI	LT Credit Rating	Term	Rate % p.a.
ING Bank	A	5 years	4.25%
NAB	AA-	5 years	4.20%
Westpac	AA-	5 years	4.15%
BoQ	A-	5 years	4.14%
NAB	AA-	4 years	4.10%
ING Bank	A	4 years	4.10%
BoQ	A-	4 years	4.04%
Westpac	AA-	4 years	4.03%
Australian Military	BBB+	3 years	4.07%
NAB	AA-	3 years	4.00%
ING Bank	A	3 years	3.96%
Police CU	Unrated	3 years	3.96%
Australian Military	BBB+	2 years	4.05%
Police CU	Unrated	2 years	3.96%
NAB	AA-	2 years	3.95%
Arab Bank Australia	Unrated	2 years	3.95%

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.
Police CU	Unrated	12 months	4.15%
Westpac	AA-	12 months	4.12%
ICBC Sydney Branch	A	12 months	4.12%
Bank of Sydney	Unrated	12 months	4.12%
NAB	AA-	12 months	4.10%
ICBC Sydney Branch	A	9 months	4.14%
Westpac	AA-	9 months	4.11%
NAB	AA-	9 months	4.10%
Police CU	Unrated	9 months	4.10%
ICBC Sydney Branch	A	6 months	4.20%
Police CU	Unrated	6 months	4.20%
Bank of China Sydney	A	6 months	4.17%
Westpac	AA-	6 months	4.14%
NAB	AA-	6 months	4.10%
Police CU	Unrated	3 months	4.16%
ANZ	AA-	3 months	4.14%
Bank of Sydney	Unrated	3 months	4.14%
NAB	AA-	3 months	4.11%

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.

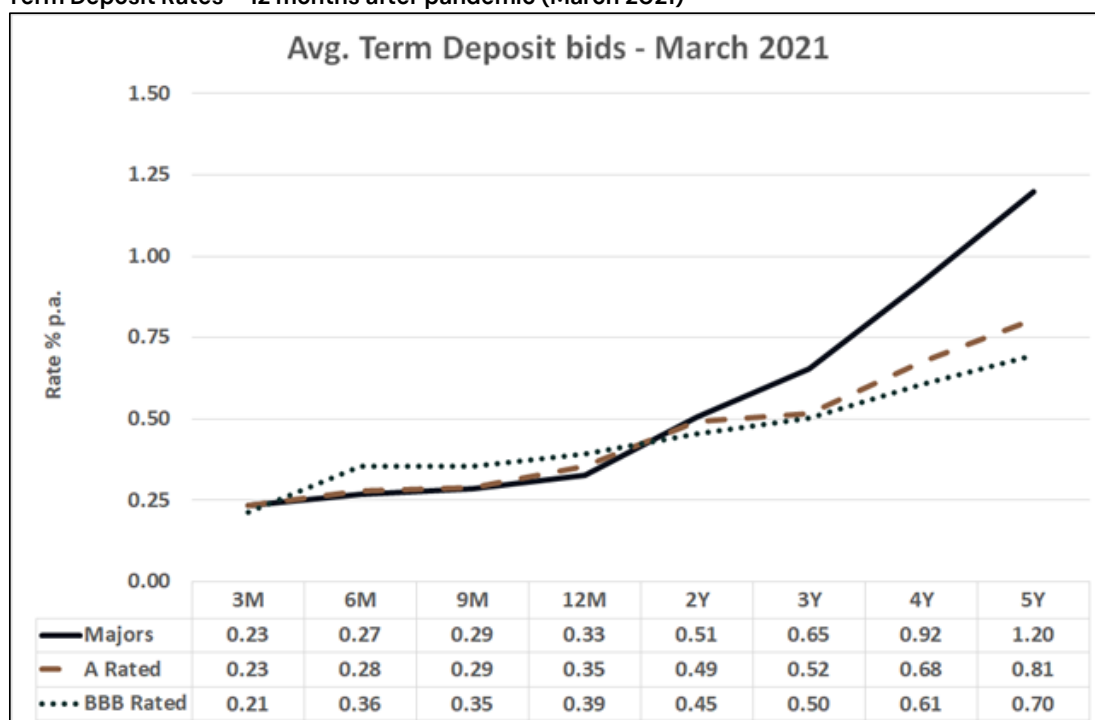
With additional rate cuts and a global economic downturn priced in over the next 6–12 months, investors should consider allocating some longer-term surplus funds and undertake an insurance policy by investing across 1–5 year fixed deposits and locking in rates close to or above 4% p.a. This will provide 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)



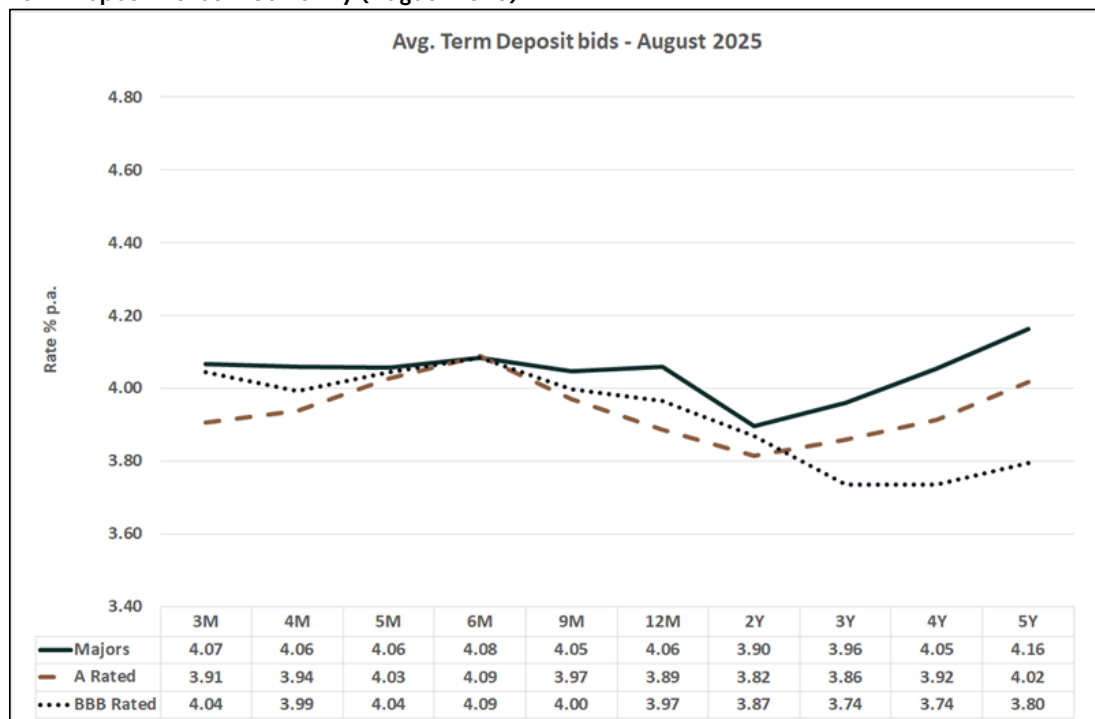
Source: Imperium Markets

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 (August 2025)



Source: Imperium Markets

Financial Stability of the Banking (ADI) Sector

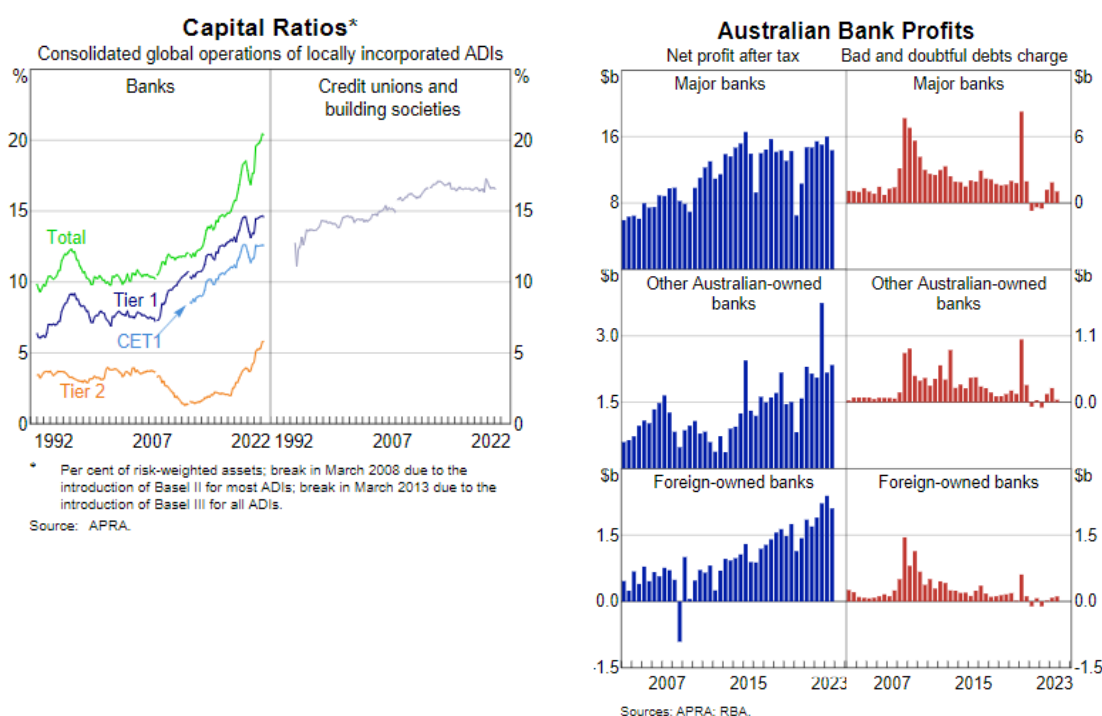
The RBA's latest Financial Stability report of 2024 reaffirms the strong balance sheet across the ADI sector. They noted that the risk of widespread financial stress remains limited due to the generally strong financial positions of most (individual) borrowers. Very few mortgage borrowers are in negative 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".

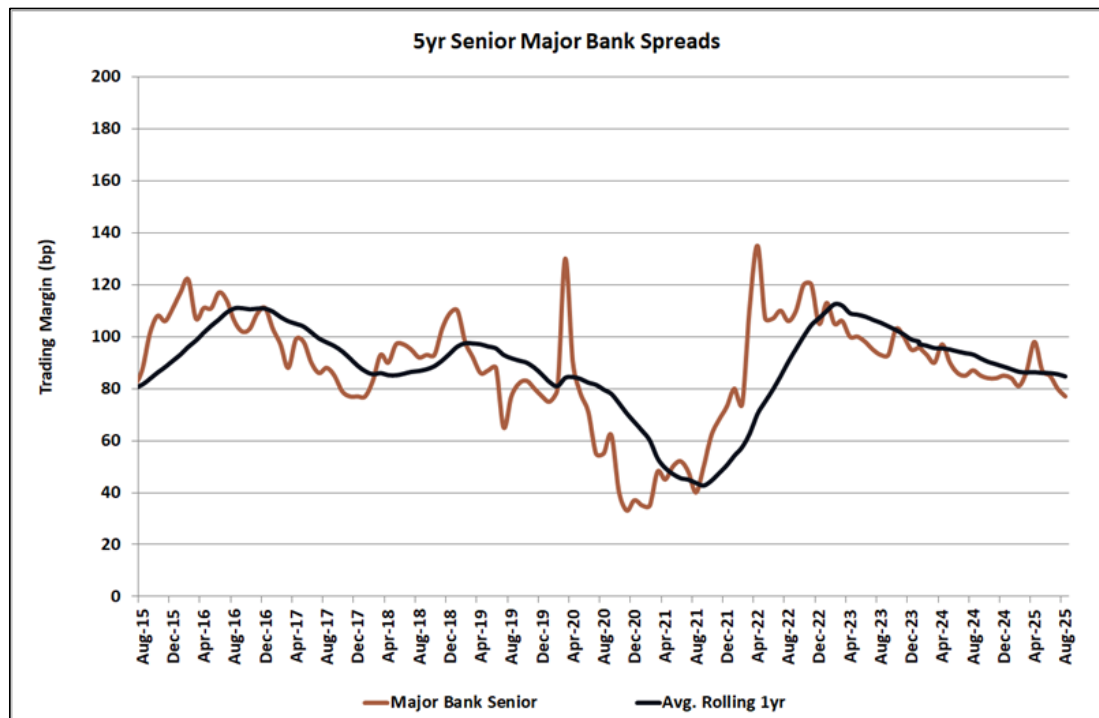
Over the past two decades, both domestic and international banks continue to operate and demonstrate high levels of profitability (see *Australian Bank Profits* chart below), which also includes two stress-test environments being the GFC (September 2008) and the COVID pandemic (March 2020):





Senior FRNs Market Review

Over August, amongst the senior major bank FRNs, physical credit securities tightened up to 3bp at the long-end of the curve. During the month, CBA (AA-) issued a dual 3¼ and 5 year senior security at +67bp and +77bp respectively. Long-term major bank senior securities are looking slightly expensive on a historical basis, noting the 5yr margin has averaged around the +87-90bp level over a cycle (currently around +77bp).



Source: IBS Capital

During the month, outside of CBA, only ING Bank Australia issued a new covered 5yr security (AAA) at +78bp. Amongst the "A" and "BBB" rated sectors, the securities tightened between 3-5bp at the longer-end of the curve.



Overall, credit securities are slightly expensive on a historical basis but remain a good option for diversification purposes. 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)	31/08/2025	31/07/2025
"AA" rated – 5yrs	+77bp	+80bp
"AA" rated – 3yrs	+62bp	+65bp
"A" rated – 5yrs	+85bp	+90bp
"A" rated – 3yrs	+72bp	+75bp
"BBB" rated – 3yrs	+120bp	+125bp

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 mid-2028 for the "AA" rated ADIs (domestic major banks);
- On or before 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	3.16	4.79%	4.23%
AU3CB0308955	BoQ	A-	Senior	30/04/2029	3.68	5.30%	4.36%
AU3CB0319879	Nova Sco.	A-	Senior	21/03/2030	4.57	5.23%	4.80%



Economic Commentary

International Market

Global equity markets continued to reach new highs over August, despite the ongoing uncertainty with regards to global tariffs and geopolitics. Markets appear to be buoyed by further central bank rate cuts, or expectations of additional cuts in the short-term. Although the risks to growth remain material, the prospect of further policy support (both monetary and fiscal) is likely to provide support to the medium-term growth outlook and valuations.

Across equity markets, the US S&P 500 Index rose +1.91%, whilst the NASDAQ gained +1.58%. Europe's main indices were mixed, with gains in UK's FTSE (+0.60%), whilst France's CAC (-0.88%) and Germany's DAX (-0.68%) both fell.

The July US FOMC minutes showed most officials still prioritising inflation risks over labour market softness. US core CPI came in at consensus at +0.32% m/m in July, to be +3.1% y/y annually. US unemployment rate rose to 4.2% from 4.1% in line with consensus, whilst there was a 0.1% drop in the participation rate from 62.3% to 62.2%.

Canada's July labour market data showed an unexpectedly sharp fall in employment (-40.8k), but there was no change to the unemployment rate at 6.9%, thanks in large part to a 0.2% drop in the participation rate to 65.2%.

As expected, the Bank of England (BoE) cut rates by 25bp at its early August meeting, taking Bank Rate down to 4.00%, the fifth cut in the easing cycle that started a year ago. UK wages growth came in as expected with the key private excluding bonuses at +4.8% y/y vs. +4.8% consensus and +4.9% previously.

The RBNZ cut rates by 25bp to 3.00% as expected, but the dovish tone surprised, with two members voted for a 50bp cut, with the market forecasting a terminal rate of 2.50%.

China published its July inflation data, showing CPI avoiding a return to outright deflation, printing at 0.0% down from 0.1% against an expected -0.1%. In contrast PPI deflation held at its -3.6% June rates - the weakest in two years. Retail sales slowed to +3.7% y/y, industrial production decelerated to +5.7%, whilst new home prices fell -0.31% m/m - the sharpest drop since October.

The MSCI World ex-Aus Index rose +2.60% for the month of August:

Index	1m	3m	1yr	3yr	5yr	10yr
S&P 500 Index	+1.91%	+9.28%	+14.37%	+17.77%	+13.04%	+12.60%
MSCI World ex-AUS	+2.60%	+8.60%	+16.30%	+19.20%	+13.50%	+12.30%
S&P ASX 200 Accum. Index	+3.10%	+7.03%	+14.74%	+13.04%	+12.32%	+9.87%

Source: S&P, MSCI



Domestic Market

The RBA cut the official cash rate by 25bp as expected to 3.60% in its meeting in August, encouraged by a further decline in core inflation and a slight easing in labour market conditions. There were no changes to the unemployment rate or inflation forecasts in the August Statement on Monetary Policy. The RBA has downgraded their longer-term productivity assumptions and now see Australian trend GDP growth at around 2%.

The Q2 wage price index (WPI) printed broadly as expected at +0.8% q/q vs. +0.8% consensus. The annual rate though was slightly stronger at +3.4% y/y vs. +3.3% consensus.

Monthly CPI indicator jumped to +2.8% in July from +1.9% in June, above expectations. The annual trimmed mean also jumped to +2.7% from +2.1%. The outcome of the July indicator was always going to come down to measurement of electricity subsidies and travel prices. Those components drove the surprise.

Employment rose +24.5k in July, with the unemployment rate ticking down 0.1% to 4.2%.

APRA formalised a three-tiered approach for prudential regulation for 'large', 'medium' and 'small' banks. This could allow a more nuanced regulatory approach and see reduced regulatory costs for medium banks.

The Australian dollar gained around +1.07%, finishing the month at US65.38 cents (from US64.69 cents the previous month).

Credit Market

The global credit indices remained relatively flat this month. They remain near the levels seen in early-mid 2022 (prior to the rate hike cycle from most central banks):

Index	August 2025	July 2025
CDX North American 5yr CDS	50bp	51bp
iTraxx Europe 5yr CDS	54bp	53bp
iTraxx Australia 5yr CDS	67bp	69bp

Source: Markit



Fixed Interest Review

Benchmark Index Returns

Index	August 2025	July 2025
Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index (0+YR)	+0.32%	+0.30%
Bloomberg AusBond Composite Bond Index (0+YR)	+0.28%	-0.04%
Bloomberg AusBond Credit FRN Index (0+YR)	+0.46%	+0.43%
Bloomberg AusBond Credit Index (0+YR)	+0.60%	+0.26%
Bloomberg AusBond Treasury Index (0+YR)	+0.24%	-0.23%
Bloomberg AusBond Inflation Gov't Index (0+YR)	+0.83%	+0.03%

Source: Bloomberg

Other Key Rates

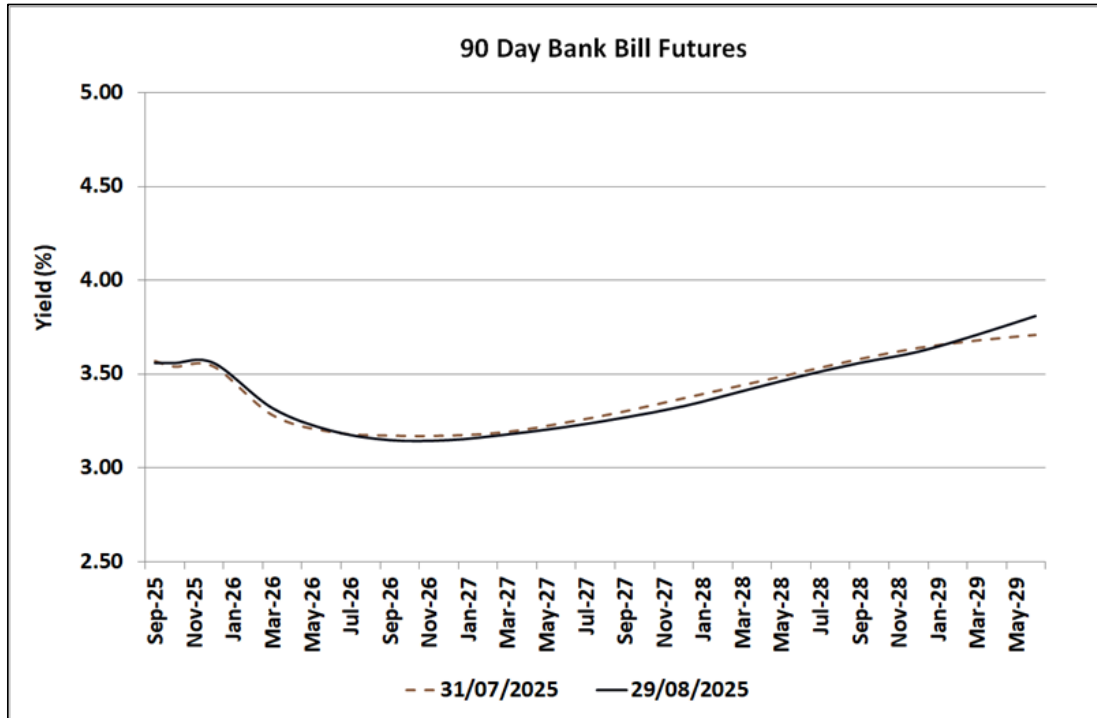
Index	August 2025	July 2025
RBA Official Cash Rate	3.60%	3.85%
90 Day (3 month) BBSW Rate	3.57%	3.68%
3yr Australian Government Bonds	3.37%	3.39%
10yr Australian Government Bonds	4.26%	4.26%
US Fed Funds Rate	4.25%-4.50%	4.25%-4.50%
2yr US Treasury Bonds	3.59%	3.94%
10yr US Treasury Bonds	4.23%	4.37%

Source: RBA, ASX, US Department of Treasury



90 Day Bill Futures

Bill futures remained relatively flat this month, consistent with the movement in the bond market:



Source: ASX

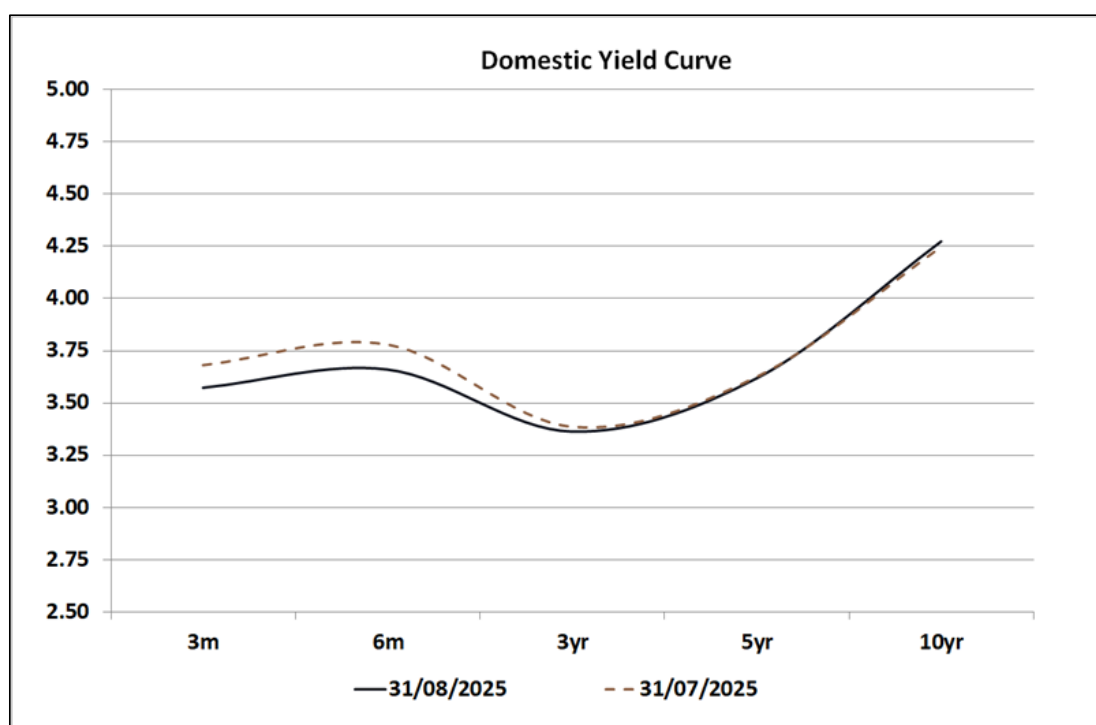


Fixed Interest Outlook

US Fed chair Powell recently commented *"the balance of risks may be shifting"* (in relation to the Fed's dual mandate) and *"with policy in restrictive territory, the baseline outlook and the shifting balance of risks may warrant adjusting our policy stance"*. The market continues to factor at least two rate cuts by the US Fed for the remainder of 2025.

The latest RBA Minutes concluded *"some further reduction in the cash rate over the coming year"* was likely, with the pace of that easing being contingent on the data flow. Inflation is expected to settle close to the mid-point of the target band of 2-3%, and growth remaining subdued with little gains in productivity. This outlook assumes that the cash rate reaches 3%; the RBA notes in their Statement of Monetary Policy (SoMP) that this path for the cash rate *"...is consistent with sustaining balance in the economy, although this assessment is uncertain"*.

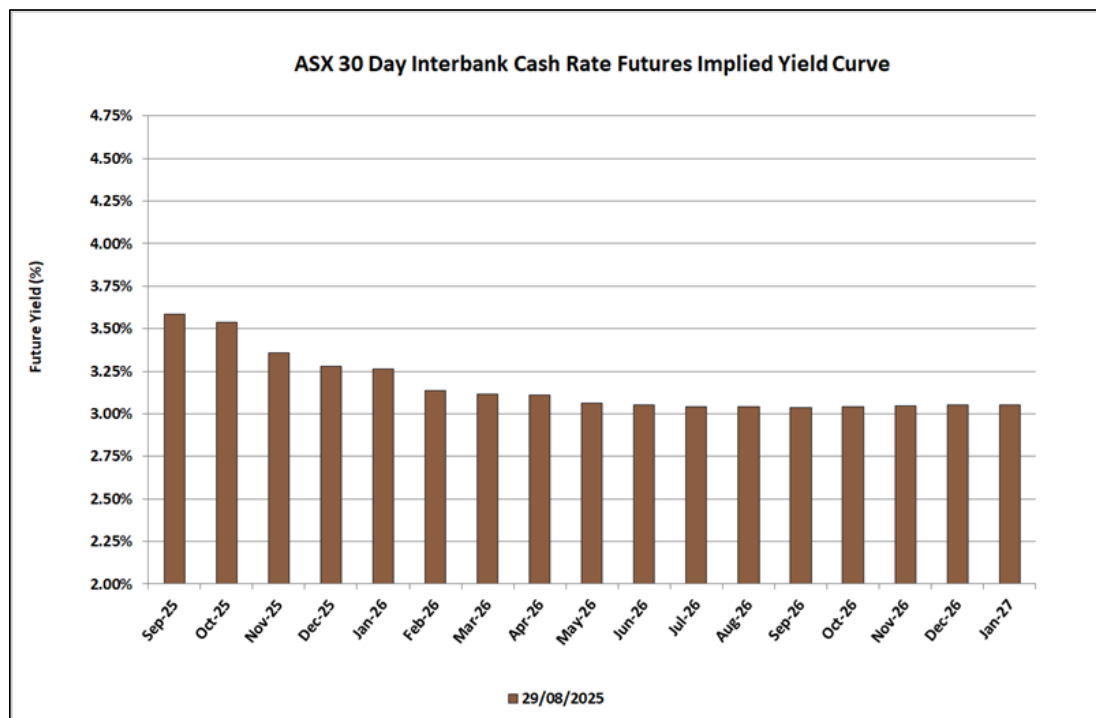
Yields remained flat at the longer-end of the curve this month:



Source: ASX, RBA



Financial markets are factoring up to two (2) additional rate cuts by early-mid 2026, taking the official cash rate down to 3.10%:



Source: ASX

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8 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

8.1 MONTHLY WORKS REPORT

IP&R Linkage:	Goal: Plan, deliver and maintain infrastructure that meets our needs
	Strategy: Develop and implement an asset management strategy that proactively plans maintenance, aligns long-term planning with community needs, and delivers maintenance and renewal works in accordance with the adopted plans
Author:	George Vorobieff, Director Infrastructure and Utilities (Acting)
Authoriser:	Glenn Inglis, Acting General Manager
File Number:	G2025/0340
Annexures:	Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Monthly Works Report for August 2025.

BACKGROUND

Liverpool Plains Shire Council (Council) manages and maintains a vital road network of 1,300 kilometres that underpins the economic prosperity and social connectivity of our community. This report provides a snapshot of road works undertaken by Council during the previous month.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Location	Update
Merriwa Road Rehabilitation	RNR commenced rehabilitation works on Merriwa Road, between Little Jacks Creek Road and Tourles Road, on 7 July 2025. The works consisted of 3 km of road rehabilitation and the first section of work measuring 1.1 km in length was completed in 21 August. The next section of road rehabilitation has commenced and should be completed by mid September.
Maintenance Grading	Maintenance grading was carried out on the following roads: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Wandobah Road • Brunskills Road • Weavers Road • Nowley Road • Tribella Road • 4D Road • Windy Road

Resheeting	<p>Resheeting was carried out on the following roads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barnbrook Road
Merriwa Road Slope Remediation	<p>The partial failure of the slope 600 m near the boundary with Upper Hunter Shire Council (UHSC) became evident after the July storm event. An assessment of the slope was undertaken by a Geotechnical Engineer which recommended that the loose material be removed from the slope, an upper bench installed on the slope and concrete barriers installed at the road shoulder to act as a barrier to the potential further movement of loose material on the steep slope.</p> <p>Treatment worked on the failed slope commenced on 8 September to remove the loose material and this is likely to take 2 to 3 weeks of careful work.</p> <p>With the opening of the Merriwa Road remediation works on the UHSC likely to be in mid-November, the Council took advantage of the road closure to complete two sections of pavement rehabilitation and clean the gutter of rocks and debris to allow improved surface water flow during rain events.</p> <p>The use of Merriwa Road by Daracon for the delivery of gravel and concrete has resulted in some existing sections of sealed pavement to be damaged. While these potholes will be repaired before the road is open to through traffic, there are sections that need rehabilitation within the next 1 to 2 years.</p>
Swinging Bridge	<p>The design of the pedestrian bridge continues, and it is expected that the drawings at 80% stage will be delivered to Council for review and feedback on 15 September 2025.</p>
Yarraman Creek Bridge, Coonabarabran Road	<p>The design of the multi-cell culvert bridge continued in August and feedback on the design drawings was provided to the designer. It is anticipated that the drawings will become available in the next 2 weeks. Work on the bridge is still scheduled to commence in early October.</p>
Mooki River Bridge, Bundella Road	<p>The bridge guard rail has been replaced in late August, and one warning sign is to be replaced and some support to the embankments will be undertaken in September.</p>



Figure 1 View of Merriwa Road after rehabilitation



Figure 2 View of slope failure on Merriwa Road (photograph taken on 8 September 2025)



Figure 3 View of cleaned shoulders and gutters on Merriwa Road (photograph taken on 8 September 2025)



Figure 4 View of Mooki Creek Bridge after guard rail repairs (photograph taken on 4 September 2025)

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All works are undertaken within budgetary allocations made in Council's Operational Plan & Budget.

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

It is recommended that Council receive and note the Monthly Works Report as detailed above.

8.2 MONTHLY SHIRE PRESENTATION REPORT

IP&R Linkage:	Goal: Enhance our landscapes, town centres and villages
	Strategy: Enhance and maintain public spaces and landscapes whilst protecting and celebrating local identity
Author:	George Vorobieff, Director Infrastructure and Utilities (Acting)
Authoriser:	Glenn Inglis, Acting General Manager
File Number:	G2025/0341
Annexures:	Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Monthly Shire Presentation Report for August 2025.

BACKGROUND

Liverpool Plains Shire Council (Council) manages and maintains many facilities that underpins the economic prosperity and social connectivity of our community. This report provides a snapshot of facilities and works undertaken by Council during the previous month.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Location	Update
Sporting Grounds	Mowing of parks was completed, including the showground for the pony club event and caravan parks.
Town Maintenance	General street and parks litter collection was completed in Quirindi and the Village, with a more focused street sweeping in both Quirindi and Werris Creek towns. Fencing at the rear of the Quirindi Aquatic Centre was completed. Illegal rubbish dumping continues, and collection of dumped rubbish occurred at Pine Ridge, Ardglan, Colly Creek and Breafield.
Vegetation Control	Weed spraying was completed at the Village, Quirindi, showground and cemeteries. Tree inspections and maintenance occurred in major towns, along Merriwa Road and at Werris Creek Swimming Pool.
Playground Inspections	Playground Inspections were carried out, and the repairs to the flying fox at Bell Park is underway with the final parts arriving in mid-September.
Cemetery Maintenance	Activities this month included grave diggings at Quirindi, Werris Creek and Spring Ridge. At some grave sites sunken grave top ups from recent rain event have been completed.

	Ash internments and plaque fitting was completed at Quirindi Cemetery.
Aerodrome	Eight inspections completed to ensure compliance with safety regulations and operational standards. Other activities included the replacement of the Windsock, broken runway edge light, and sweeping of a small section of the apron, cross runway and threshold.





**LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All works are undertaken within budgetary allocations made in Council's Operational Plan & Budget.

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

It is recommended that Council receive and note the Monthly Shire Presentation Report as detailed above.

9 REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR PLANNING AND COMMUNITY

9.1 MONTHLY DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING REPORT

IP&R Linkage:	Goal: Deliver quality, effective and sustainable civic services
	Strategy: Development and planning services meets all statutory requirements regarding the development and other applications and certificates
Author:	Ben Kirk, Cadet Town Planner
Authoriser:	Cian Middleton, General Manager
File Number:	G2025/0337
Annexures:	Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receive and note the Monthly Development and Building Report.

BACKGROUND

The Development and Building Statistics Report is provided to Liverpool Plains Shire Council on a monthly basis and offers a snapshot of development activity within the Liverpool Plains Shire local government area for the preceding month.

ISSUES AND COMMENTARY

Development and building statistics for August 2025 are provided as follows:

Development Applications – August 2025

Application No.	Address	Land Title	Development	Determination
10.2023.22.2	272 Dry Creek Road Warrah Creek	Lot 47 DP 1122286	Modification – Condition for Fire Safety Schedule Removed	Approved Under Delegation
10.2025.22.1	1262 Pialloway Road Currabubula	Lot 7 DP 751025	Replacement of an Existing Rural Workers Dwelling with a Manufactured Dwelling	Approved Under Delegation
10.2025.19.1	141 Henry Street Werris Creek	Lot 5 DP 11333	Demolition of Existing Shed and Construction of a New Shed	Approved Under Delegation

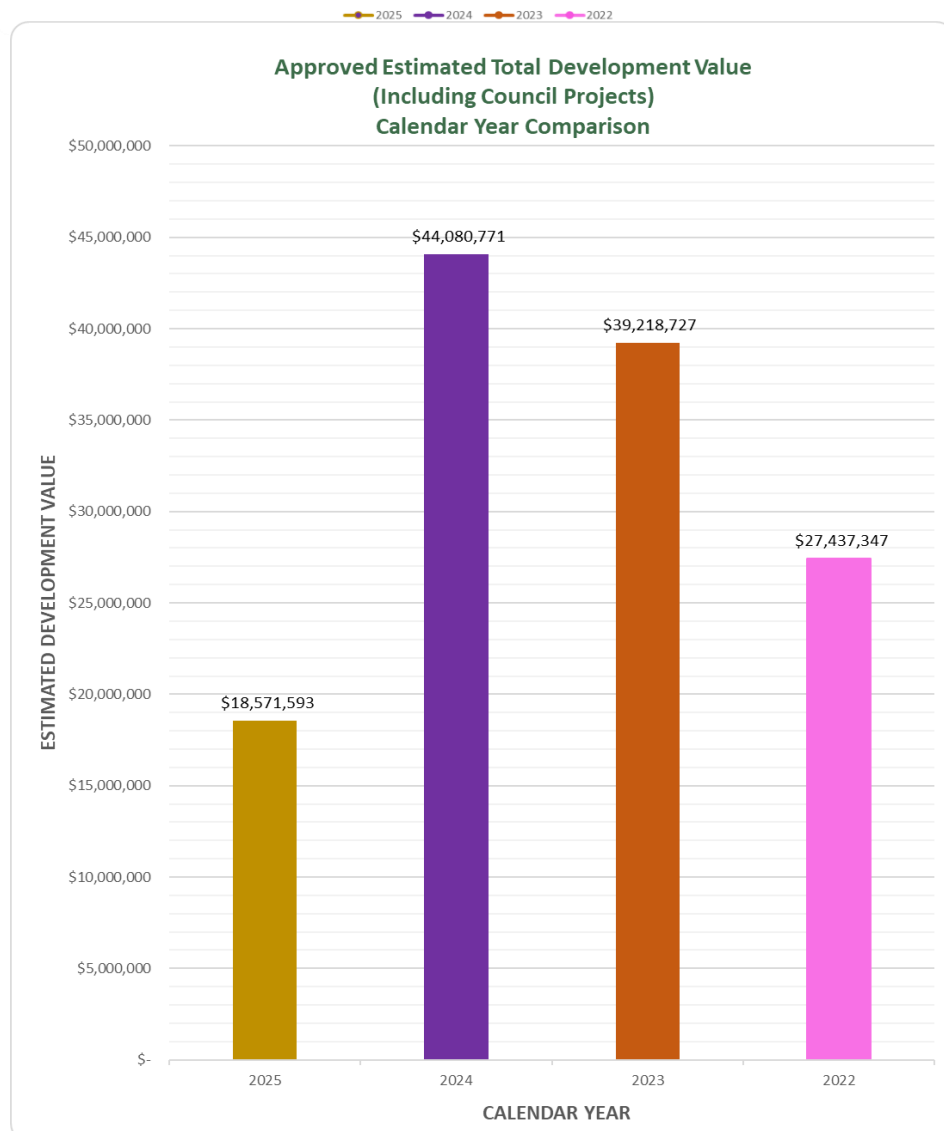
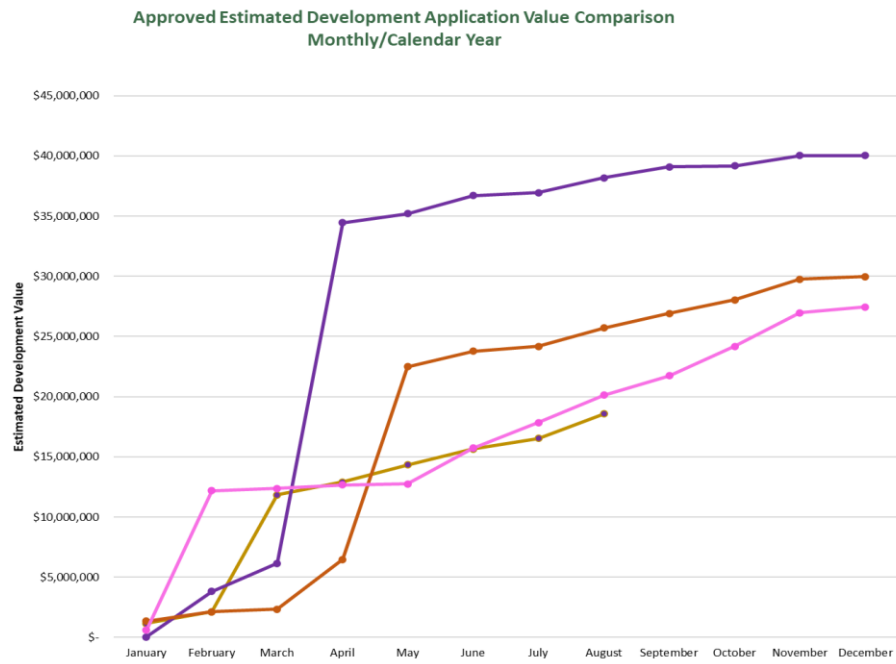
10.2025.20.1	104 West Warrah Road Blackville	Lot 1 DP 751037	Change Use of Primary Dwelling to Rural Worker's Dwelling and Construction of a New dwelling	Approved Under Delegation
10.2025.9.1	15 Bomera Street Premier	Lot 8 Sec 2 DP 758856	Unmanned Service Station - Diesel Fuel Only	Approved Under Delegation
10.2023.41.1	33 New England Highway Willow Tree	Lot 11 DP 613155	Detached Dual Occupancy	Withdrawn

Complying Development Applications – August 2025

Application No.	Address	Land Title	Development	Determination
16.2025.5.1	143 Loder Street Quirindi	Lot 143 DP 1212828	Shed & Water Tank	Council Certification
16.2025.7.1	906 Kamilaroi Highway	Lot 7 DP 735950	Demolition of Existing Shed and Construction of a New Shed and Attached Carport	Withdrawn

Estimated Approved Development Value

The following graphs displays the estimated cost of development approved for the 2025 calendar year up until 31 August 2025. 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.



Application Processing Numbers

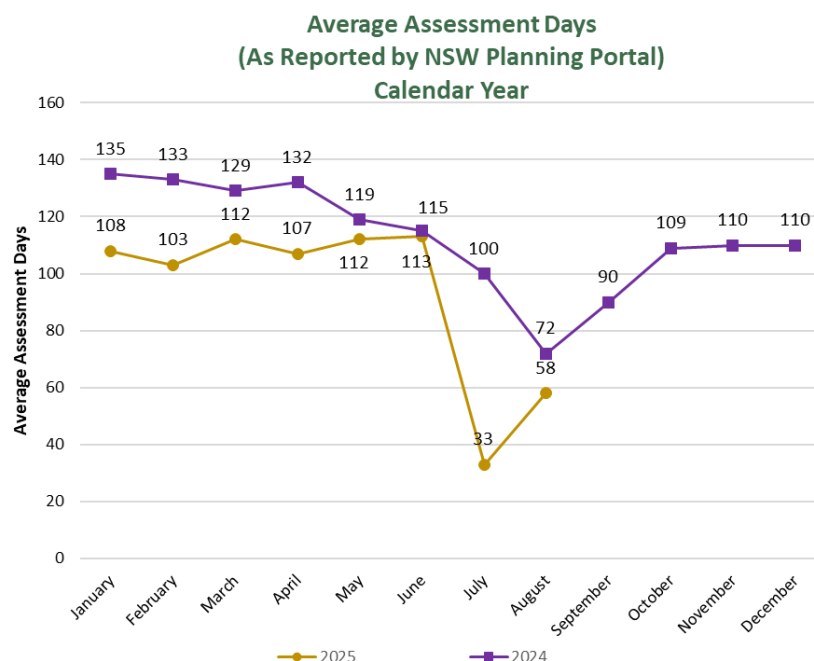
Below is a breakdown of the actual applications which have been fully completed by application type from 2021 up to the 31 August 2025.

Application Type	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Development Applications	40	59	69	79	95
Complying Development Certificates	8	15	18	25	15
Construction Certificates	13	29	30	35	53
Section 68 Certificates	27	41	43	52	49
Occupation Certificates	19	32	35	19	28
Subdivision Certificates	2	4	3	7	7
Sub-Total	109	180	198	217	247
Section 10.7	239	519	449	658	429
Sewer Plans	128	205	216	236	375
Swimming Pool	5	17	16	5	6
Notices & Orders	20	52	49	90	17
Building Certificates	5	3	7	3	3
Dwelling Entitlements	0	6	8	22	1
Sub-Total	397	802	745	1014	831
Total	506	982	943	1231	1078

Development Assessment Time

Presented below is the cumulative average development assessment released by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for the 2025 Calander year.

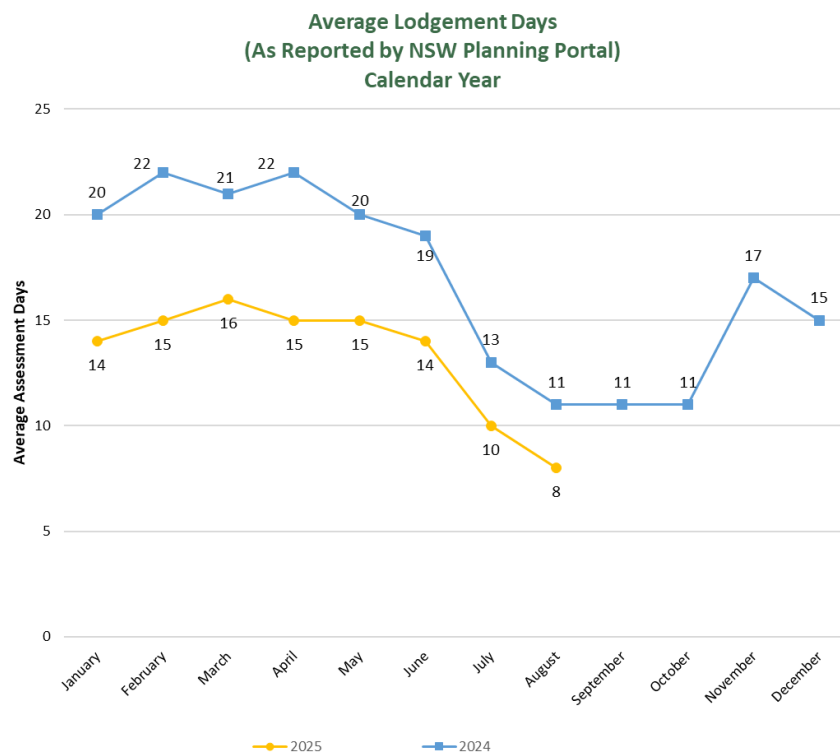
The target set for Liverpool Plains Shire Council under the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Statement of Expectations) Order 2024 is 115 days. We are currently meeting this target.



Development Lodgement Time

Presented below is the cumulative average lodgement time for all development applications received, as released by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for the 2025 calendar year.

The Environmental Planning and Assessment (Statement of Expectations) Order 2024 reduced the target lodgement time for Liverpool Plains Shire Council to 7 days, effective from July 2025. At present, our average lodgement time slightly exceeds this target.



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 that Council receive and note the Monthly Development and Building Report for August 2025 as provided.

10 DELEGATES REPORTS

Nil

11 NOTICES OF MOTIONS/QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

12 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:

12.1 Rates Legal Proceedings

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (g) 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 advice concerning litigation, or advice as comprises a discussion of this matter, that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege.

12.2 RFT123/2025 Kamlaroi Mass Action Safety Barrier Program - Shoulder Widening (R2 Prequalified Contractors)

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (d)(i) 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 commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.