

# Hawkesbury City Council – Community Services Update

Community Services Branch 02 4560 4444

- 2011-2012 budget process – get involved.
- \$2M Building Works Program for Community Facilities

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## 2011-2012 Draft Council Budget

Council is in the process of putting together its 2011/12 budget.

In April, Council management will present (to the elected Council) a draft budget and proposed maintenance and capital works programs for the coming year. The elected Council will consider the draft budget & works program and then place the final draft of the budget & works program on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

The public exhibition of the draft budget & works program is intended to provide residents and community groups with the opportunity to comment on how Council intends to allocate funds for the 2011/12 financial year. Members of the public can make submissions to suggest changes or additions to the budget & works program.

So if you have a view about how Council should allocate funds, or if you think that the works program should be changed or amended, you can put these ideas in writing and send them to Council.

Council staff are required to report each submission to Council and provide reasons as to why a submission can or cannot be supported. This information is then considered by the elected Council before the draft budget and work programs are formally adopted.

For more information about the budget process, or if your group would like a briefing about the process, and how you may be able to contribute to the process please feel free to contact call Joseph Litwin on 4560 4428.

## 2011/12 Building Maintenance Program

Late last year, the Community Services Branch wrote to all committees with delegated responsibility for the day to day management of one of Council's community centres, halls, child care centres or other buildings to collect ideas and suggestions for repairs and improvements to these buildings.

15 committees wrote back and identified more than \$600,000 of improvements for the buildings they manage on Council's behalf. This information was collated and added it to the works that were already in Council's Building Maintenance and Improvement Program (BMIP) to arrive at a revised BMIP program valued at \$2,155,156 over the next ten years.

The revised community facilities BMIP program was forwarded to Council's Building Services Branch in conjunction with the budget requests for works and repairs to other parts of Council's property portfolio (Council manages well over 200 buildings). Building Services costs and assesses these request to put together a draft 10 year Building Works Program which is included in Council's draft budget. Details of the proposed works in the 2011/12 Program will be included in the next Update.

For more information on the BMIP contact Trisha Sundin on 4560 4576 ([psundin@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](mailto:psundin@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au)).



*"Applications for grants of up to \$3,000 are available under Council's Community Sponsorship Program . Applications for 2011/12 will open in May"*

## GRANTS - Community Sponsorship Program

In July Council approved \$58,000 in community sponsorship grants to 27 community groups and individuals under Round 1 of the 2010/2011 Community Sponsorship Program.

In November a further \$3,225 was distributed under Round 2 of the Program and \$1,000 under Round 3 which was determined in March. Grants in Rounds 2&3 were distributed to;

Group	\$
Rose Family Trust	500
MacDonald Valley Public	500
Ebenezer Rural Fire Brigade	127
Bede Polding College	500
TRI Community Exchange	360
Wisemans Ferry Seniors	500
Maraylya Public School	358
Hawkesbury Servicemen's Assoc	500
Wisemans Ferry Sunshine Group	500

Funds within the Community Sponsorship Program for 2010/2011 have all been fully allocated but fresh applications will be called for in May this year for the 2011/12 Program.

The Community Sponsorship Program supports community partnerships by providing community groups with grants of up to \$3,000. This year Council distributed over \$62,000 in sponsorship grants. The types of projects that can be funded include;

- community events
- community programs
- hire of Council facilities
- reimbursement of DA fees
- minor capital works

For more information about the Program call Trisha Sundin on 4560 4576. Information about the program can be accessed from Council's website [www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](http://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au)

## GRANTS - CDSE Scheme

Council continues to support the Community Development and Support Expenditure (CDSE) Local Committee which administers the CDSE Scheme in the Hawkesbury. The Scheme was established by the NSW Gaming and Racing to assist registered clubs to distribute a percentage of gaming machine profits to local organisations.

Projects which qualify for funding include:

- Community welfare and social services
- Community development
- Community health services
- Employment assistance activities

Requests for recurrent funding are not eligible and priority will be given to projects that meet the needs of disadvantaged groups in the local community.

Last year \$34,225 was distributed to local community groups under this Program.

The Scheme for 2011 will commence on 14 March 2011 with applications closing 13 May 2011 – funding will normally be released in August.

For more information about the scheme call Trisha Sundin on 4560 4576.

*"The local CDSE Scheme will kick-off in March 2011 with applications closing on 13 May 2011"*

Community Development  
Support Expenditure  
CDSE



## Community Building Partnerships and other Grants

In the Winter 2010 newsletter, Council advised that it had submitted for funding under the NSW Government's Community Building Partnerships to refurbish wet areas at the Hobartville and Greenhills Long Day Care centres.

Council has been notified that both applications were successful. Work at the two centres will commence shortly at a total cost of \$140,000

Council has also received a grant of \$15,000 which will be used to begin the drafting of Council's first 'stand alone' Disability Action Plan.

Since July 2010, Council has applied for well over \$1.5M in grants including applications;

- to employ a Co-ordinator to develop and implement a 3 year Healthy Communities Project to reduce obesity in the Hawkesbury;
- to develop and implement a 2 year Active Transport Strategy,
- to establish a community transport volunteer program to increase access to treatment services for people with cancer
- to make Macquarie Park more accessible for people with a disability including the installation of disability friendly playground equipment.

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*"Since July 2010, Council has applied for more than \$1.5M in grants for a number of projects including a Healthy Communities Project and an Active Transport Strategy".*

## Hawkesbury Mobility Plan

The implementation of the Hawkesbury Mobility Plan has begun! Council has established a Mobility Plan Implementation Committee to oversee the roll-out of the cycleway & pedestrian improvements in the Plan.

The design of an off-road cycleway (to complete the link between Richmond and Windsor) has been completed and Council has secured matching funding from the RTA to begin the construction of the first phase of this project.

The Hawkesbury Mobility Plan Implementation Committee will also be turning its attention to establishing priorities for footpath and pedestrian improvements so that these can be included in Council's works program.

For more information about the Mobility Plan call Denise Oakes on 4560 4498




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*"Implementation of the Hawkesbury Mobility Plan has begun".*

## Hawkesbury Macquarie 2010 Celebrations

2010 was the bicentenary of the swearing in of Lachlan Macquarie as Governor of NSW and his naming of the townships of Windsor, Richmond, Wilberforce and Pitt Town. In December 2008, Council established the Hawkesbury Macquarie 2010 Committee to co-ordinate community celebrations to mark this significant milestone.

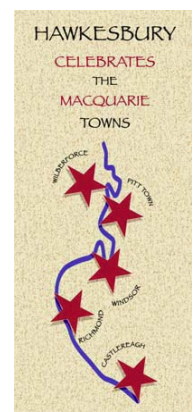
Council asked the Committee to trial a new approach to community celebrations by supporting community groups to plan & stage a decentralised program of events and activities across the Hawkesbury rather than organising a single large event which had been the practice in the past.

Over 2010, Council & the Committee worked with the community to successfully deliver 77 separate Macquarie 2010 events, both large and small in different locations across the Hawkesbury.

The Committee surveyed participating community groups to gauge the success of the new approach. The outcomes of the survey were a strong endorsement of Council and the Committee's 'capacity building' approach to the 2010 Celebrations. The survey results also suggested that the Celebrations were a resounding success with high levels of community participation.

The success of the approach provides Council with a template to maximise community involvement in similar community celebrations in the future

For information about the Hawkesbury Macquarie 2010 Celebrations call Joseph Litwin on 4560 4428




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*"In 2010, over 70 Macquarie 2010 events were successfully held".*



*"The Youth Participation Officer has commenced at Council and will provide a point of contact between Council and young people"*

## COMMUNITY + CUSTOMER SERVICES

**Joseph Litwin**  
Executive Manager  
Community Partnerships

**Kaylene Kelland**  
Customer Services  
Manager

**Trisha Sundin**  
Customer Support  
Coordinator

**Meagan Ang**  
Community Programs  
Coordinator

**Denise Oakes**  
Community Safety  
Coordinator

**Amy Bond**  
Youth Participation  
Officer

## Community Planning Snippets

### 1. Community Strategic Plan (CSP).

The Community Strategic Plan 2010-2030 has been adopted by Council. It was prepared following an extensive community engagement process with a particular focus on seeking input from young people.

Council is currently preparing a Service Delivery Plan to drive the implementation of the CSP over the next 4 years. Council staff are available to brief community groups on the CSP and its implementation.

For information in the CSP or to arrange a briefing contact Joseph Litwin on 4560 4428

### 2. Youth Participation Officer

Amy Bond has joined the Community Services team.

Amy will provide young people with a point of contact with Council and will be investigating how Council can best use social media to communicate with young people.

Amy will also support the Youth Services sector to work together to improve services for young people. Amy can be contacted on 4560 4562

### 3. 2011 Community Events

In 2011, Council will continue to support community events including Seniors Week, International Women's Day and Harmony Day.

Contact Meagan on 4560 4502 for more information

## Community Engagement – Committees

### 1. Disability Advisory Committee.

The Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) met for the first time in February. In response to a request from Council, the DAC formulated some recommendations for improving access to sporting programs by people with disabilities. The recommendations have been reported to Council.

Members are currently putting together a list of improvements to the Seniors Centre in Richmond to provide input into the design brief for the expansion of the Centre. Up to \$1.5M is available for this project

For information about these committees call Meagan on 4560 4502.

Prevention Working Party to develop a draft crime prevention plan for public exhibition and adoption by Council.

The Plan will target the priority crime categories of malicious damage to property (including graffiti), steal from motor vehicle, and alcohol related crimes, and will focus on the crime hot spots of the Windsor & Richmond CBDs.

### 2. Seniors Working Party.

This Working Party met for the first time late last year.

### 3. Crime Prevention Working Party

Council has recently established a Crime

For information on the Working Party call Denise Oakes on 4560 4498.

## New Council Policies

### 1. Community Banner Poles Policy.

Council has updated its Community Banner Poles policy

The Policy provides guidelines for community groups wishing to display promotional banners at the Council managed banner poles sites in Nth Richmond, Clarendon and McGraths Hill.

For information about the Policy call Joseph Litwin on 4560 4428.

The policy can also be downloaded from Council's website

[www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](http://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au)