



ORDINARY MEETING

Date of meeting: 1 July 2025
Location: Council Chambers
Time: 6:30PM

BUSINESS PAPER

ORDINARY MEETING

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1. WELCOME

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1. WELCOME

a) Acknowledgement of Indigenous Heritage

The Mayor, Councillor Les Sheather will acknowledge the Indigenous Heritage.

b) General Manager's Matters for Mention

The General Manager will address the Council meeting, mentioning:

- Emergency Procedures
- Recording of the Council Meeting
- Statement regarding people addressing the Meeting
- Mobile phones

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OFFICIAL VISITORS TO THE COUNCIL

The Mayor will acknowledge and welcome official visitors to the Council and make any relevant presentations as required.

3. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE OR ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK BY COUNCILLORS

The Mayor will ask for any Apologies or Leave of Absence Requests to be noted.

Attendance

Attending Councillors and Council staff members will be noted for the purposes of the Minutes.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

The Mayor will ask for any Declaration of Interests from the attending Councillors. These will then be addressed at the relevant item.

Statement of Ethical Obligations

In accordance with Section 233A of the Local Government Act 1993, Councillors have taken an oath or made an affirmation of office to undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of the Hawkesbury City Council Local Government Area and the Hawkesbury City Council and to faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in Councillors under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of their ability and judgment. Council's Code of Conduct requires Councillors to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.

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5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
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Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting 10 June 2025

Minutes of Extraordinary Council Meeting 19 June 2025

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6. AGENDA ITEMS SUBJECT TO PUBLIC ADDRESS

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7. CONDOLENCES

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7. CONDOLENCES

Condolence Motion – Charles Casuscelli RFD

Submitted by: The Mayor, Councillor Les Sheather

BACKGROUND

The Chief Executive Officer of the Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (WSROC), Charles Casuscelli, recently passed away suddenly.

Mr Casuscelli had been the Chief Executive Officer of WSROC, of which Council is a member, since 2015 and was a tireless advocate for the Greater Western Sydney Region.

Born in Rome, Italy, he was immensely proud of his Italian heritage and his deep connections to Western Sydney, always working to make it a better place for its community.

He was a State Parliamentarian, representing Strathfield in the NSW Legislative Assembly from March 2011 to March 2015, where he served on the Committee on Law and Safety and chaired the Committee on Transport and Infrastructure.

A former Army Officer (1987–1991), Mr Casuscelli remained an active member of the Australian Army Reserve and was presented with the Reserve Forces Decoration (RFD) in 1993. He was Defence Force Liaison Officer (Army) from 2004, providing advice to the NSW State Government, through the emergency services, on Defence capability and policy as it affects Emergency Management in NSW.

Between 2001 and 2003, he was the General Manager, Field Operations (NSW and ACT) with NRMA Motoring Services.

He was also General Manager, Transport Management Centre, and Project Director, of the Transport Centre Management Project, NSW Roads and Traffic Authority from 1997 to 2001.

Council extends our condolences to Mr Casuscelli's family and friends, and to our colleagues at WSROC.

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8. MAYORAL MINUTES

There was no Mayoral Minute at the time of preparing this Business Paper.

Notwithstanding the above, pursuant to Clauses 9.6-9.9 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice, the Mayor may submit a Mayoral Minute to the meeting without notice in relation to any matter or topic that:

- Is within the jurisdiction of the Council
- Council has official knowledge of.

However, a Mayoral Minute must not be put without notice if it relates to a routine or non-urgent matter.

A matter is considered to be urgent when it requires a decision by the Council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting of the Council.

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**9. EXCEPTION REPORTS - ADOPTION OF ITEMS NOT IDENTIFIED FOR DISCUSSION AND
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10. REPORTS FOR DETERMINATION

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10. REPORTS FOR DETERMINATION

10.1. PLANNING DECISIONS

Nil Reports.

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10.2. GENERAL MANAGER

10.2.1. GM - Councillor Representative to the Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils - (79351, 95496)

Previous Item: 182, Ordinary (15 October 2024)

Directorate: General Manager

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is for Council to appoint an alternate Councillor representative to the Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (WSROC), following the resignation received from Councillor Mike Creed.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the commencement of each term of Council, Council appoints its delegates and representatives to various Committees.

This report seeks Council's consideration to appoint an alternate Councillor representative to the Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils, following the resignation received from Councillor Mike Creed.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council nominate and appoint an alternate Councillor representative to the Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils as outlined in this report to align with the period of the Council Term, from July 2025 to September 2028.

BACKGROUND

The Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (WSROC) is a membership organisation that represents five local Councils in the Greater Western Sydney region, including Blacktown City Council, Blue Mountains City Council, Cumberland City Council, Hawkesbury City Council and Liverpool City Council.

WSROC brings a collective voice to issues which are crucial for Greater Western Sydney's growing population. Their primary role is to represent the Councils and communities of Greater Western Sydney, as well as developing resource sharing and other cooperative projects between member Councils. WSROC also manages a number of projects, which are either funded jointly by its members or from external sources.

As a financial contributor to the Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils, Council may appoint two Councillors and an alternate Councillor to be represented on WSROC.

DISCUSSION

Council, at its meeting on 15 October 2024, considered a report for the appointment of delegates and representatives to various Committees.

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At that meeting, Council resolved to appoint the following Councillors to the Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils for the period of the Council Term, from October 2024 to September 2028:

- Councillor Amanda Kotlash
- Councillor Mary Lyons-Buckett
- Councillor Mike Creed (Alternate).

In June 2025, the General Manager received a resignation from Councillor Mike Creed from his role as alternate to the Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils.

This report seeks Council's consideration to nominate and appoint a replacement alternate delegate to the WSROC for the remainder of the Council Term, being July 2025 to September 2028.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The issues raised in this report concern matters which do not require community consultation under Council's Community Engagement Policy.

CONFORMANCE TO THE HAWKESBURY COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2042

The proposal is consistent with the following Long-Term Community Objectives set out within the CSP.

Reliable Council

4.1 Provide representative, responsive and accountable governance.

4.2 Encourage an informed community.

4.4 Build strong relationships and shared responsibilities.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications applicable to this report.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

There is a minor compliance risk associated with this report.

Hawkesbury City Council is provided with two delegates to the Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils. In October 2024, Council resolved for two delegates and an alternate to be appointed to WSROC. Should Council not resolve a replacement delegate for Councillor Creed, Council will continue to have representation on WSROC from the remaining delegates, being Councillor Kotlash and Councillor Lyons-Buckett.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no supporting documents for this report.

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10.3. CITY PLANNING

10.3.1. CP - Draft Community Sponsorship Program Policy – (95498, 96328)

Previous Item: 10.3.1 Ordinary (10 December 2024)

Directorate: City Planning

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the outcome of a review of the Community Sponsorship Program and the resulting drafting of a Community Sponsorship Program Policy (Policy). The Draft Policy includes an updated assessment matrix by which Community Sponsorship applications would be assessed and encompasses Council's existing 'Guidelines for working with Charitable Organisations' Policy.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In December 2024 Council resolved to review its Community Sponsorship Program. The review was to look at the eligibility and assessment criteria for the Community Sponsorship Program and update the Community Sponsorship Strategy in order to provide greater clarity to the Community Sponsorship Program. It also proposed that a review of the guidelines for working with Charitable Organisations be undertaken.

The Policy is the outcome of the review. The purpose of the Policy is to outline the principles of the Community Sponsorship Program and provide clear and transparent guidance on the provision, assessment and determination of the Community Sponsorship Program.

The Policy outlines the Community Sponsorship Program and the guidelines for working with Charitable Organisations. Section 356 of the Local Government Act, 1993, enables a Council to grant financial assistance to residents and organisations. To meet the requirements of the Act, Councils generally distribute Section 356 financial assistance by way of a grants or donations program. Council has put into place the Community Sponsorship Program to provide a framework for the consideration and approval of sponsorship requests.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Place the Draft Community Sponsorship Program Policy, attached as Attachment 1 to this report, on public exhibition for at least 28 days.
2. At the expiration of the public notification period outline in Part 1 above, the following action be taken:
 - a) Should any submissions be received regarding the Draft Community Sponsorship Program Policy, a further report be submitted to Council, or
 - b) Should no submissions be received, Council adopt the Community Sponsorship Program Policy attached in Attachment 1 to this report.

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BACKGROUND

Section 356 of the Local Government Act, 1993, enables a council to grant financial assistance to residents and organisations, generally administered by way of a grants or donations program.

Since 2007, Council has in place a Community Sponsorship Program that provides the framework by which Council administers the allocation of financial assistance issued under this Program.

In 2018 Council resolved to review the eligibility and assessment criteria for the Community Sponsorship Program, resulting in the development of a Community Sponsorship Strategy.

DISCUSSION

The Community Sponsorship Program and 'Guidelines for Working with Charitable Organisations' Policy has now been reviewed to revise the eligibility and assessment criteria. The Policy is the outcome of the review.

The purpose of the Policy is to outline the principles of the Community Sponsorship Program and provide clear and transparent guidance on the provision, assessment and determination of applications made under the Program.

The review of the guidelines for working with Charitable Organisations saw those guidelines absorbed into the Policy.

Changes to the Community Sponsorship Program as a result of the Draft Policy are as follows:

Participation

The current guidelines for this category states that financial assistance may be provided to support the participation of residents who have been selected to represent the Hawkesbury in Regional, National, or International sporting competitions and cultural events. The level of contribution is \$150 for individuals and \$750 for a team of five or more.

The review has outlined new Guidelines and introduced different levels of funding as below.

Financial assistance may be provided to support the participation of residents who have been selected to represent the Hawkesbury in state, national, or international sporting, artistic, education and musical performance competitions.

Funding is available as follows:

State competitions \$150

National competitions \$250

International competitions \$500

Assessment Matrix

The Assessment matrix has been updated. The updates include additional criteria for accessibility and inclusion.

Funding Rounds

To align with the Events Sponsorship Policy, there will be two funding rounds, instead of three each financial year, noting that overall funding available through the Program remains unchanged.

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The issues raised in this report concern matters which constitute a trigger for community engagement under Council's current Community Engagement Policy. It is proposed that the Draft Community Sponsorship Program Policy attached as Attachment 1 to this report be placed on public exhibition for at least 28 days.

CONFORMANCE TO THE HAWKESBURY COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2042

The proposal is consistent with the following Long-Term Community Objectives set out within the CSP.

Great Place to Live

- 1.1 Enable a shared responsibility for community resilience, community safety and disaster management.
- 1.2 Encourage and enable our community to participate in a healthy lifestyle.
- 1.3 Increase the range of local partnerships and plan for the future.
- 1.5 Provide the right places and spaces to serve our community.
- 1.6 Build on a sense of community and wellbeing.
- 1.7 Encourage broad and rich celebration of our local culture and significant heritage.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial implications arising from the Community Sponsorship Program as identified in the Draft Community Sponsorship Program are provided for in the 2025/2026 Adopted Operational Plan.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

The Draft Community Sponsorship Program Policy will assist Council in managing the risks associated with consideration of funding to community. Council must ensure a rigorous process when completing funding policies to deliver fair, equitable and transparent funding programs. If the provision, assessment and determination of the Community Sponsorship Program is not fair, equitable and transparent, there could be medium reputational risk to Council.

ATTACHMENTS

AT - 1 Draft Community Sponsorship Policy - *(Distributed under separate cover)*.

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10.4. CORPORATE SERVICES

10.4.1. CS – Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Limited – Use of Part of Woodlands Park – (95496, 159585)

Previous Item: 8.1.1, Ordinary (11 March 2025)
10.4.3, Ordinary (8 April 2025)

Directorate: Corporate Services

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report has been prepared following the public exhibition of the proposed lease to Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Limited for part of Woodlands Park, 245 Sackville Road, Wilberforce.

The report considers the submissions received during the public exhibition period and recommends that Council enter into the Heads of Agreement and Licence Agreement with Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Limited.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its Ordinary Meeting on 8 April 2025, Council resolved to publicly exhibit the proposed Licence Agreement with Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Limited for part of Woodlands Park, 245 Sackville Road, Wilberforce in accordance with Sections 46 and 47 of the Local Government Act, 1993. The proposal was placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days from 28 April 2025 to 26 May 2025 and three submissions were received. The submissions and Council Officer's responses to the submissions are presented to Council for consideration. This report recommends that Council agree to enter in to a Heads of Agreement and Licence Agreement with the proposed tenant, Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Limited in regard to the part of Woodlands Park, 245 Sackville Road, Wilberforce, as outlined in this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council enter into a Heads of Agreement, and subject to development consent, and construction certificate being issued and a funding source being secured, enter into a Licence Agreement with Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Limited, for the use of part of Woodlands Park, 245 Sackville Road, Wilberforce, as outlined in the report.
2. Authority be given for the Heads of Agreement and Licence Agreement and any documentation in association with the matter to be executed under the Seal of Council.
3. Details of Council's resolution be conveyed to the proposed Licensee, together with the advice that Council is not, and will not, be bound by the terms of the resolution, until such time as appropriate legal documentation to put such resolution into effect has been agreed to and executed by all parties.
4. Details of Council's resolution be conveyed to the three parties who made submissions.

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BACKGROUND

Council owns Woodlands Park, 245 Sackville Road, Wilberforce. Council at its meeting on 11 March 2025 considered a Mayoral Minute to enter into a Licence Agreement with Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Limited to use part of Woodlands Park. The proposed lease area is shown in Attachment 1 to this report.

At its meeting on 11 March 2025, Council resolved as follows:

"That:

1. Council commence negotiations with Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative to use part of Woodlands Park, 245 Sackville Road, Wilberforce as shown in Attachment 1 to this Mayoral Minute, for the purpose of a community shed.

2. Following completion of the negotiations outlined in part 1, the matter be reported to a future Council Meeting."

Council staff then negotiated a proposed Heads of Agreement and a proposed Licence Agreement terms with Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Limited for the use of part of Woodlands Park, 245 Sackville Road, Wilberforce. It was proposed to enter into a Heads of Agreement firstly, then once development consent, construction certificate and a funding source have been obtained, it is proposed that both parties enter into a Licence Agreement.

At its Ordinary Meeting on 8 April 2025, Council resolved to publicly exhibit the proposed Licence Agreement with Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Limited for part of Woodlands Park, 245 Sackville Road, Wilberforce in accordance with Sections 46 and 47 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

The proposal was placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days from 28 April 2025 to 26 May 2025 and three submissions were received. A summary of the submissions and Council Officer's responses to the submissions are set out below.

Submission Theme	Submission Comments	Council's Response
Environmental concerns	Construction will disturb local wildlife located in the Park. This includes but is not limited to birds, lizards and frogs. These animals will be greatly impacted by this infrastructure. It will take away their homes, disturb their natural environment and leave them vulnerable. This area connects to a large area of bushland with many trees and animal habitats. Building here will take away a safe way for animals to move areas as they need to.	The impacts on the environment would be considered as part of any Development Application lodged.
	Reference made to the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO Act) and Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. The proposed development would significantly alter the character of the area, disrupting local biodiversity. Over the last 25 years they have witnessed numerous native species, including echidnas,	The impacts on the environment and other relevant legislation would be considered as part of any Development Application lodged.

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Submission Theme	Submission Comments	Council's Response
	frill-neck lizards, frogs and plovers using this area for nesting. The site functions as an active ecological corridor linking 30 acres of nearby forest. Any construction would disrupt these habitats and post a potential threat to threatened species.	
Noise and dust nuisance	Due to their only being five homes located here, all of which are quiet families. Building this structure here would cause a great amount of noise, which will disturb the residents. Even after all construction, there would be constant noise from power tools and heavy machinery that would disrupt their routine. Woodworking jobs will also create a great deal of dust, which would go into their homes.	The impacts of noise and dust would be considered as part of any Development Application lodged.
	Woodworking, especially on a community scale, involves the use of power tools, heavy machinery and other equipment that generates substantial noise, vibration and dust. These emissions are incompatible with the quiet, semi-rural nature of the neighbourhood, where residents have chosen to live for its peace and natural setting. The introduction of such a facility may necessitate legal action, including noise abatement order, to mitigate the nuisance it would create for residents.	The impacts of noise and dust would be considered as part of any Development Application lodged. If the development were to be approved and there were ongoing issues, Council's Regulatory Service Branch would carry out relevant investigations.
	Woodworking machinery, plant and equipment will make considerable noise and dust which will impact both players and spectators.	The impacts of noise and dust would be considered as part of any Development Application lodged.
Loss of public recreation	This space proposed to be used for this building is used by members of the community for things such as training their dogs, teaching children to ride bikes and Wilberforce Rural Fire Service training drills. Replacing a large open space area with a building would take away the ability to use the space for these activities and reduce accessibility.	Woodlands Park consists of an area of 7.462 hectares, the proposed licence area is, subject to final plans, will be approximately 1,500m ² (0.154 hectares) leaving open space of 7.312 hectares. The sporting fields occupy an estimated area of 3.25 hectares. The carpark and buildings occupy an estimated area of 0.4 hectares. This leaves approximately 3.662 hectares for community use, which consists of trees.
	The site in question is actively used by various community groups and residents for a variety of recreational activities, including:	Woodlands Park consists of an area of 7.462 hectares, the proposed licence area is, subject to final plans, will be approximately 1,500m ² (0.154 hectares) leaving

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Submission Theme	Submission Comments	Council's Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – dog obedience training – remote control car activities – casual golf practice – families teaching children to ride bikes and mini-bikes – Wilberforce Rural Fire Brigade training drills <p>Replacing this open space with an industrial-style shed, would deprive the community of valuable recreational land, reducing accessibility for other users and diminishing the recreational value of the area.</p>	<p>open space of 7.312 hectares. The sporting fields occupy an estimated area of 3.25 hectares. The carpark and buildings occupy an estimated area of 0.4 hectares. This leaves approximately 3.662 hectares for community use, which consists of trees.</p>
Visual appeal and shadowing	Five residential homes are located along this strip and placing a large shed here will be visually unappealing and will likely lead to property devaluation.	The impacts of streetscape would be considered as part of any Development Application lodged.
	The proposed structure, a large, metal shed, would create an unappealing visual intrusion in the area. The quiet residential community consists of five homes along Sackville Road, built in the 1960's. The addition of this shed would disrupt the aesthetic character of the streetscape and could potentially lower values in the vicinity.	The impacts of streetscape and shadowing would be considered as part of any Development Application lodged.
	Concerns that there has been no consideration for the structure placement of the proposed shed for sun safe practices. Additionally, the Ironbark Drive of Woodlands 1 oval cricket pitch will be obstructed from a batter's point of view due to the enormity of the proposed shed and its sun glare.	The impacts of shadowing would be considered as part of any Development Application lodged.
Traffic congestion	Due to the already limited parking at Woodlands Park, building a large structure would greatly reduce public access. In addition to this, the proposal suggests that another 20 to 30 people will need access to parking. The Park is already over capacity during peak hour sporting group activities; there is no space for an additional 20 to 30 people.	The impacts of traffic and parking would be considered as part of any Development Application lodged.
	The current parking facilities and access road at Woodlands Park are already under strain, particularly during peak use by sporting groups and community events. The introduction of 20 to 30 additional	The impacts traffic and parking would be considered as part of any Development Application lodged.

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	vehicles associated with the Woodcraft Group would exacerbate congestion, further limiting public access to the space. Presently, the existing parking area is frequently utilised by 10 to 20 cars due to shortage of available spaces.	
Zoning concerns	<p>The proposed site is zoned RE1 - Public Recreation, a zoning classification intended to preserve natural environments for community enjoyment and passive recreation. The establishment of a woodworking shed at this location would be in direct conflict with the zoning objectives, which aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protect and enhance the natural environment, - Provide open space for community recreation, - Restrict inappropriate development. 	<p>Hawkesbury City Council's Local Environmental Planning Plan permits community facilities on land zoned RE1 - Public Recreation, such as the purpose of the proposed licence agreement.</p> <p>The proposed tenant would need to address their ability to meet the zone objectives as part of any Development Application.</p>
	<p>The zoning for Woodlands Park is RE1, which is specifically designated for the recreational use and provide space for the community sport and recreational activity originally. The proposed site was originally a netball court and remains a playground for kids, dog handlers and the like.</p>	<p>Hawkesbury City Council's Local Environmental Planning Plan permits community facilities on land zoned RE1 - Public Recreation, such as the purpose of the proposed licence agreement.</p> <p>The proposed tenant would need to address their ability to meet the zone objectives as part of any Development Application.</p>
Lack of transparency and community consultation	<p>It is concerning that many local residents and community sports clubs, including the Wilberforce Soccer Club and Wilberforce Cricket Club, were unaware of this proposal until after the Council Meeting on 8 April 2025. In contrast, the Woodworkers Cooperative appeared to have formal representation at the meeting. I am disappointed by the lack of communication and transparency throughout this process.</p>	<p>The public notification that was undertaken was in regard to the proposed Licence Agreement. At the Council Meeting on 8 April 2025 the matter, Item 10.4.3, was approved by Council by exception. The matter did not have any public speakers.</p> <p>However, there were public speakers when Council considered the matter as a Mayoral Minute at the Council Meeting on 11 March 2025, when the matter was first discussed.</p>
	<p>Disappointment that the consultation process was not as transparent from the Hawkesbury Sports Council as it should have been. The sporting clubs should have been notified via written notification for further discussion on this matter.</p>	<p>Council received advice from Hawkesbury Sports Council that the proposed Licence Agreement was discussed at their meeting in February 2025 as an agenda item and the matter was supported.</p>

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Submission Theme	Submission Comments	Council's Response
Stormwater/Retention	Major concerns about how the proposed footprint will impact surface water and its natural flow to adjacent properties, roof capacity and its volume of catchment and how discharging of stormwater and discharge of water retention tanks and their overflows to the street.	The impacts of stormwater and retention would be considered as part of any Development Application lodged.
Potential future development	The Cooperative's existing facility, approximately 18 metres by 12 metres, with a separate shelter and two containers, raises further questions about the necessity for a new structure measuring 27.5 metres and 23 metres, and 6 metres in height. The potential for future expansion also remains a concern.	If the proposed Licence Agreement and any subsequent Development Application were approved, any future expansion outside of this area would be subject to public notification and consultation.
Theft and damage	Sporting clubs have seen first-hand the damage and theft to Council property over the years and believe this proposal will only enhance property damage and theft.	Any vandalism, damage or theft would be investigated with Council's current procedures. If there were ongoing issues that were caused by the proposed development then Council staff could liaise with the proposed tenant to consider deterrent measures, such as cameras.

Woodlands Park, 245 Sackville Road, Wilberforce is classified as Community Land under the Local Government Act, 1993 (the Act). As such, Council must comply with Sections 46 and 47 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

Section 46 of the Act refers to leases or licences in respect of Community Land. Sections 46(1)(b)(i), 4(a) and 5 are applicable to the proposed licence agreement for the subject property and are as follows:

Section 46

'Leases, licences and other estates in respect of community land-generally (1) A lease, licence or other estate in respect of community land:

(b) may be granted, in accordance with an express authorisation in the plan of management and such provisions of the plan of management as apply to the granting of the lease, licence or other estate:

(i) for a purpose prescribed by subsection (4), or for a purpose prescribed by any of sections 36E to 36N as a core objective of the categorisation of the land concerned, or

(4) The following purposes are prescribed for the purposes of subsection (1) (b) (i):

(a) the provision of goods, services and facilities, and the carrying out of activities, appropriate to the current and future needs within the local community and of the wider public in relation to any of the following:

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(i) public recreation,

(ii) the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of persons,

(5) Purposes prescribed by subsection (4) in relation to the matters mentioned in subsection (4) (a) (ii) include, but are not limited to, maternity welfare centres, infant welfare centres, kindergartens, nurseries, child care centres, family day-care centres, surf life saving clubs, restaurants or refreshment kiosks.'

Council's Generic Plan of Management for Sportsgrounds authorises the granting of a licence for the purposes of engaging in a trade or business. Accordingly, Council can grant a licence of the area within 245 Sackville Road, Wilberforce in accordance with Section 46 of the Act.

The proposed use of the property is consistent with the purposes permitted under Part 4(a) above. Sections 47(1) to (4) of the Act also relates to consultation requirements in regard to leases or licences of Community Land, and are as follows:

*'Leases, licences and other estates in respect of community land-terms greater than 5 years
(1) If a council proposes to grant a lease, licence or other estate in respect of community land for a period (including any period for which the lease, licence or other estate could be renewed by the exercise of an option) exceeding 5 years, it must:*

(a) give public notice of the proposal, and

(b) exhibit notice of the proposal on the land to which the proposal relates, and

(c) give notice of the proposal to such persons as appear to it to own or occupy the land adjoining the community land, and

(d) give notice of the proposal to any other person, appearing to the council to be the owner or occupier of land in the vicinity of the community land, if in the opinion of the council the land the subject of the proposal is likely to form the primary focus of the person's enjoyment of community land.

(2) A notice of the proposal must include:

- information sufficient to identify the community land concerned*
- the purpose for which the land will be used under the proposed lease, licence or other estate*
- the term of the proposed lease, licence or other estate (including particulars of any options for renewal)*
- the name of the person to whom it is proposed to grant the lease, licence or other estate (if known)*
- a statement that submissions in writing may be made to the council concerning the proposal within a period, not less than 28 days, specified in the notice.*

(3) Any person may make a submission in writing to the council during the period specified for the purpose in the notice.

(4) Before granting the lease, licence or other estate, the council must consider all submissions duly made to it.'

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The terms of the proposed Heads of Agreement and Licence Agreement reported to the Council Meeting on 8 April, 2025 are set out below:

1. Heads of Agreement

It was proposed to initially enter into a Heads of Agreement with Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Limited. The purpose of the Heads of Agreement is to set out the general agreed terms of the Licence Agreement to be prepared between Council and Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative (Licensee) in the Licence Agreement in respect to the site and terms agreed to. The Heads of Agreement would expire after two years, from the date of the Heads of Agreement, if the Licensee has not obtained development consent, construction certificate and secured funding for the proposed community shed. The Heads of Agreement is based on the following terms:

Term:	Condition
Licensee:	Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Limited
Premises:	Part of Woodlands Park, 245 Sackville Road, Wilberforce, as shown in Attachment 1 to this Report
Permitted Use:	Community Shed
Term of Licence:	Five years with an option for a further five years (in favour of the Licensee to exercise the option period)
Rental (per annum):	Market rental will apply, unless the Licensor provides evidence (either through registration notice or organisation charter) that they should receive a rental rebate in accordance with Council's Property Management Policy.
Reviews:	Annually by CPI
Outgoings:	Separately metered services- 100% Licensee responsibility
Insurance:	<p>The Licensee will ensure that they have minimum Public Liability Insurance of \$20 million for any one event, in place during the term of the Licence Agreement. The insurance policy will note Council's interest as the Licensor and a certificate of currency to be provided to the Licensor for each year of the term.</p> <p>The Licensee will also be responsible for insuring the building/shed and the contents of the building/shed.</p>
Security Deposit/Bond:	Equivalent to three months' rent
Ownership of Structures:	<p>All structures, including but not limited to a shed, will be owned by the Licensee. At the expiration of the Licence Agreement removal or retention of the structure/s will be determined by the Licensor. Should the Licensor determine that any of the structure/s are to remain in situ, the Licensee will not seek compensation or object to the Licensor retaining ownership of said structure/s.</p> <p>Should the Licensor determine that any of the structure/s be removed, the Licensee will at their own expense, remove the structure/s and make good the site, prior to the final expiration or earlier termination, if required for any reason.</p>
Cost of Development:	<p>The Licensee is responsible for all costs associated with any development application, construction certificate, supply of the community shed and ancillary equipment and any installation/construction and ongoing maintenance.</p> <p>The Licensee is also responsible for the cost of supply of electricity and water, insuring the Site and ensuring the Site is kept clean and free of debris, waste and vermin.</p>
Sub-letting:	The Licensee will seek Council's consent, prior to sub-letting the premises. For the purposes of this Agreement a sub-let occurs when the Licensee intends to

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Term:	Condition
	enter into a Licence Agreement for long term use of all or part of the Site. The Licensor consents to the Licensee hiring the site to appropriate organisations/groups at an appropriate hire fee. Annually, the Licensee will be required to provide a list of hirers for the Site as well as the hire fees paid.
Expiration of Heads of Agreement:	This Heads of Agreement will expire after two years, from the date of this Agreement, if the Licensee has not obtained Development Consent, Construction Certificate and secured funding for the proposed community shed.
Other Conditions:	Any other conditions considered appropriate by Council's Solicitors.

2. Licence Agreement

Once Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Limited has obtained development consent, a construction certificate and secured a funding source for the proposed development, it is proposed to enter into a Licence Agreement based on the following terms:

Term:	Condition
Licensee:	Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Limited
Premises:	Part of Woodlands Park, 245 Sackville Road, Wilberforce, as shown in Attachment 1 to this Report.
Permitted Use:	Community Shed
Term of Licence:	Five years with an option for a further five years (in favour of the Licensee to exercise the option period)
Commencement Date:	Subject to development consent, construction certificate and securing of a funding source for the proposed development.
Rental (per annum):	\$604 plus GST
Reviews:	Annually by CPI
Outgoings:	Separately metered services - 100% Licensee responsibility
Licence Preparation Fees:	100% Licensee
Insurance:	The Licensee will ensure that they have minimum Public Liability Insurance of \$20 million for any one event, in place during the term of the Licence Agreement. The insurance policy will note Council's interest as the Licensor and a certificate of currency to be provided to the Licensor for each year of the term. The Licensee will also be responsible for insuring the building/shed and the contents of the building/shed.
Security Deposit/Bond:	Equivalent to three months' rent
Ownership of Structures:	All structures, including but not limited to a shed, will be owned by the Licensee. At the expiration of the Licence Agreement removal or retention of the structure/s will be determined by the Licensor. Should the Licensor determine that any of the structure/s are to remain in situ, the Licensee will not seek compensation or object to the Licensor retaining ownership of said structure/s. Should the Licensor determine that any of the structure/s be removed, the Licensee will at their own expense, remove the structure/s and make good the site, prior to the final expiration or earlier termination, if required for any reason.
Cost of	The Licensee is responsible for all costs associated with any development

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Term:	Condition
Development:	application, construction certificate, supply of the community shed and ancillary equipment and any installation/construction and ongoing maintenance. The Licensee is also responsible for the cost of supply of electricity and water, insuring the Site and ensuring the Site is kept clean and free of debris, waste and vermin.
Sub-letting:	The Licensee will seek Council's consent, prior to sub-letting the premises. For the purposes of this Agreement a sub-let occurs when the Licensee intends to enter into a Licence Agreement for long term use of all or part of the Site. The Licensor consents to the Licensee hiring the site to appropriate organisations/groups at an appropriate hire fee. Annually, the Licensee will be required to provide a list of hirers for the Site as well as the hire fees paid.
Other Conditions:	Any other conditions considered appropriate by Council's Solicitors.

The above Heads of Agreement and Licence Agreement terms were accepted by Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Limited.

Woodlands Park is managed on behalf of Council by the Hawkesbury Sports Council Inc. The proposed site at Woodlands Park is close to power and sewer and after discussions with the Hawkesbury Sports Council, they do not have any proposed use for the proposed site and have indicated that the site should be available for Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative to use.

DISCUSSION

The majority of the impacts raised in the submissions would be considered as part of any Development Application lodged by the proposed Licensee. Public notification would occur as part of the Development Application. Given that the land the development would be carried out on is owned by Council, the determination of any Development Application would be made by the Hawkesbury Local Planning Panel.

Should Council agree to enter into the proposed Heads of Agreement and Licence Agreement, it would provide a community shed that could be hired by other community groups. As the upfront and ongoing maintenance costs would be borne by the Licensee, the ongoing maintenance costs would not impact Council's long term financial plan. Additionally, the proposed site is not currently being used for hiring or booking and Hawkesbury Sports Council have no use for the land and have supported the proposal by Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The issues raised in this report concern matters which constitute a trigger for Community Engagement under Council's Community Engagement Policy. The community engagement process occurred through Public Notification on Your Hawkesbury Your Say and letter to adjoining owners. The public exhibition was for a period of 28 days from 28 April 2025 to 26 May 2025, with three submissions being received and those submissions are now being considered as part of this Report.

CONFORMANCE TO THE HAWKESBURY COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2042

The proposal is consistent with the following Long-Term Community Objectives set out within the CSP.

Great Place to Live

1.5 Provide the right places and spaces to serve our community.

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Reliable Council

4.3 Build strong financial sustainability for now and future generations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The matters raised in this report have direct financial implications. Any income applicable is not provided for in the adopted 2025/2026 Operational Plan and will need to be addressed as part of a future Quarterly Budget Review.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Council's Risk Management Framework was consulted in the consideration of this matter and the potential risks are listed below:

- Low Financial Risk: there is a low financial risk if Council does not agree to enter the Licence Agreement due to loss of rental income.
- Moderate Compliance Risk: there is a moderate compliance risk if Council is not compliant with legislation should public notification requirements not be adhered to.
- Public notification was completed and this report is to consider the three submissions received as is required under Sections 46 and 47 of the Local Government Act 1993.
- Moderate Reputational Risk: there is a moderate reputational risk should the Licence Agreement be approved and the proposed development negatively impacts the local community.

ATTACHMENTS

AT - 1 Plan of Licence Area.

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Attachment 1 - AT - 1 Plan of Licence Area

Attachment 1: Plan of Licensed Area



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10.4.2. CS – Investment Report – May 2025 – (95496, 96332)

Previous Item: 10.4.1, Ordinary (10 June 2025)

Directorate: Corporate Services

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide the Council with a written report setting out details of all money that the Council has invested under Section 625 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report indicates that Council held \$109.8 million in investments as at 31 May 2025 and outlines that all investments were made in accordance with the Local Government Act, 1993, the Local Government (General) Regulation, 2021 and Council's Investment Policy.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Monthly Investment Report for May 2025 be received and noted.

BACKGROUND

Council held \$109.8 million in investments as at 31 May 2025. Details on the composition of the Investment Portfolio, and its compliance with Council's Investment Policy are provided below. Details include the financial institutions with which the investments were made, the maturity date (where applicable), the rate of return achieved, the credit rating of the institutions both in the short term and the long term, the percentage of the total portfolio, exposure to credit ratings bands and the spread of maturities.

1. Composition of Investment Portfolio

Tables 1 to 4 below provide details regarding the \$109.8 million in investments as at 31 May 2025.

Table 1: Summary of Council's Investment Portfolio as at 31 May 2025.

Product Type	Face Value	% of Total
Term Deposits - Fixed Rate	\$86,000,000	78%
Floating Rate Notes	\$4,850,000	5%
NSW TCorp Long Term Growth Fund	\$1,191,236	1%
At Call Deposits	\$17,805,515	16%
Grand Total	\$109,846,751	100%

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Table 2: Total Investments by Issuer's Long - Term Credit Rating

Long Term Credit Rating	Face Value	% of Total
AA	\$78,305,515	71%
A	\$29,350,000	27%
BBB	\$1,000,000	1%
NSW TCorp Long Term Growth Fund	\$1,191,236	1%
Grand Total	\$109,846,751	100%

Table 3 - Fixed Term Deposits

Financial Institution	Long Term Rating	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Face Value
Bendigo Adelaide	A-	20-Aug-25	5.15%	\$2,000,000
Bank of Queensland	BB+	9-Jul-25	5.18%	\$2,000,000
		30-Mar-28	4.80%	\$1,000,000
National Australia Bank	A1+	25-Jun-25	5.50%	\$1,500,000
		25-Jun-25	5.45%	\$1,500,000
		9-Jul-25	5.10%	\$2,000,000
		5-Aug-25	4.50%	\$2,000,000
		13-Aug-25	5.10%	\$2,000,000
		17-Sep-25	4.75%	\$1,000,000
		17-Sep-25	4.40%	\$2,000,000
		10-Dec-25	5.00%	\$1,000,000
		7-Jan-26	4.90%	\$3,000,000
		21-Jan-26	4.80%	\$3,000,000
		4-Feb-26	4.80%	\$3,000,000
Rabobank	A2	15-Oct-25	5.15%	\$2,000,000
		29-Oct-25	5.15%	\$2,000,000
		29-Oct-25	4.95%	\$2,000,000
		20-Nov-25	5.16%	\$2,000,000
		20-Nov-25	4.95%	\$2,000,000
		3-Dec-25	5.14%	\$2,000,000
		17-Dec-25	4.52%	\$2,000,000
		25-Feb-26	4.85%	\$2,000,000
		18-Mar-26	4.42%	\$3,000,000
		8-May-26	4.30%	\$2,000,000
Suncorp	A1+	11-Jun-25	5.07%	\$2,000,000
		11-Jun-25	5.12%	\$1,000,000
		9-Jul-25	5.07%	\$2,000,000
		23-Jul-25	5.07%	\$2,000,000
		23-Jul-25	5.12%	\$2,000,000
		17-Sep-25	5.12%	\$1,000,000
		17-Sep-25	5.12%	\$2,000,000

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Financial Institution	Long Term Rating	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Face Value
		15-Oct-25	4.80%	\$3,000,000
		29-Oct-25	4.80%	\$3,000,000
		29-Oct-25	4.80%	\$500,000
		12-Nov-25	5.00%	\$2,000,000
		12-Nov-25	4.80%	\$2,000,000
		3-Dec-25	4.80%	\$2,000,000
		10-Dec-25	4.80%	\$4,000,000
		10-Dec-25	4.80%	\$3,000,000
		10-Dec-25	4.80%	\$3,000,000
		7-Jan-26	5.00%	\$1,500,000
Westpac	A1+	15-Oct-25	4.74%	\$2,000,000
			Grand Total	\$86,000,000

Table 4: Floating Rate Notes

Institution	Maturity	Yield	Face Value
Macquarie Bank	14-Sep-26	4.97%	\$800,000
Suncorp	13-Mar-29	5.09%	\$500,000
Bank of Queensland	30-Apr-29	5.15%	\$2,050,000
Bendigo Adelaide	14-May-27	4.96%	\$500,000
AMP	13-Sep-27	5.39%	\$1,000,000
		Grand Total	\$4,850,000

2. Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Investment

Table 5 below provides the details on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) investments and the proportion compared to the total Investment Portfolio.

Table 5: Summary of Council's Investment Portfolio in Terms of ESG

Product Type	Face Value	% of Total
Non Fossil Fuel Lending ADIs	\$66,050,000	60%
-AMP	\$1,000,000	
-Bank of Queensland	\$5,050,000	
-Bendigo Adelaide	\$2,500,000	
-Rabobank Australia	\$21,000,000	
-Suncorp	\$36,500,000	
Fossil Fuel Lending ADIs	\$42,605,515	39%
-Commonwealth Bank	\$17,805,515	
-Macquarie Bank	\$800,000	
-National Australia Bank	\$22,000,000	
-Westpac Group	\$2,000,000	
Other	\$1,191,236	1%

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Product Type	Face Value	% of Total
-NSW TCorp Long Term Growth Fund	\$1,191,236	
Grand Total	\$109,846,751	100%

3. Compliance to Investment Policy

Tables 6 to 7 below summarise Council's exposure limits to the credit ratings bands, term to maturity parameters and compliance with Council's Investment Policy.

Table 6: Exposure Limits to credit ratings bands

Long-Term Credit Rating	% of Portfolio	Policy Maximum	Compliant with Policy
AA	71%	100%	Yes
A	27%	60%	Yes
BBB	1%	50%	Yes
NSW TCorp Funds	1%	20%	Yes

Table 7: Term to Maturity

Term to Maturity	% of Portfolio	Policy Range	Compliant with Policy
Between 0 and 1 years	95%	40%-100%	Yes
Between 1 and 5 years	5%	0-60%	Yes

4. Portfolio Return

Council's investment portfolio (excluding At Call Deposits and NSW TCorp Managed Funds) provided a weighted average return (running yield) as shown in Table 8 below.

Table 8: Portfolio Return

31 May 2025	Monthly Return (Annualised)	Financial Year to Date (Annualised)
Hawkesbury City Council - Investment Portfolio	4.88%	4.88%
Benchmark - Bloomberg Ausbond Bank Bill Index	4.12%	4.43%
Performance Relative to Benchmark	0.76%	0.45%

Relevant Legislation

According to Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, the Responsible Accounting Officer must provide the Council with a written report setting out details of all money that the Council has invested under Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993. The report must include a certificate as to whether investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulation, and the Council's Investment Policy.

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Investment Certification

The Responsible Accounting Officer hereby certifies that the investments listed in this report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act, 1993, Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation, 2021 and Council's Investment Policy.

DISCUSSION

Council's investments and returns achieved are driven and impacted by economic and market conditions. Council's Investment Advisor, Prudential Investment Services Corp has reviewed Council's investments as at 31 May 2025 and has advised of the following:-

"Council's investment portfolio returned 4.88%pa for the month versus the bank bill index benchmark's 4.12%pa return. Over the past 12 months, the investment portfolio has returned 4.85% versus the bank bill index benchmark's 4.42%.

The NSW TCorp Long Term Growth Fund recorded a strong result during the month, with a gain of 3.01% (actual). The return is reflective of the gains in the domestic and international share markets following the back down of tough tariff talk coming out of the US. Improved valuations on floating rate notes also helped boost returns in the TCorp holding.

Without marked-to-market influences, Council's investment portfolio yielded 4.93%pa for May. This is based on the actual interest rates being received on existing investments and excludes the underlying changes to the market value of the FRNs and growth fund.

During May, Council had maturities of \$10m between four term deposits with original maturities between 6 - 9 months with an average yield of 5.12%pa. Council invested \$11m across five term deposits with maturities ranging from 3 to 12 months yielding an average of 4.43%pa which is now a competitive level given the drop in interest rates.

Council has \$6m in term deposits maturing in June. Looking forward the following is recommended for consideration over the coming month:

- With as much as 75 basis points in rate cuts anticipated from the RBA over the coming 12 months, it is expected that TD rates in the 3-12 months range will continue to trend lower.*
- If market expectations eventuate, and the RBA gradually cuts the cash rate to 3.10% through the 2025/26 Financial Year, then current TD levels in the 6-12 month area will look attractive in the coming months.*
- Levels in the 4.30%pa to 4.40%pa area remain available in the 5-9 month range using Rabobank and Bank of Queensland. The best rates across 9-12 months are now between 4.10%- 4.20%pa, but this still represents a big margin over swap rates for those terms which could tighten sharply with subsequent rate cuts.*
- The NAB and AMP are offering rates in the 3-6 month area at good levels above longer terms. These are good if you know you will need to use the proceeds upon maturity, otherwise reinvestment risk in these terms are high, i.e. having to reinvest at lower rates when a deposit matures.*
- While long term rates (= 12 months) have dropped off sharply, margins on new floating rate note (FRN) issues remain competitive with quarterly rate sets on FRNs paying much more than 12-month TDs. New FRN issues suitable for Council will continue to be monitored and recommended when appropriate.*

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It is expected that Council's portfolio will achieve above benchmark returns over the medium/long term with prudent investment selection and holding the securities for the recommended time horizons of their asset classes."

Restriction of Funds

Council's total investment portfolio as at 31 May 2025 included funds that are restricted as to what they can be expended on.

Table 9: Restriction of Funds

Restriction Type	May 2025	%	April 2025	%
External Restrictions - S7.11 and S7.12 Developer Contributions	\$45,439,919	41.38%	\$45,165,758	44.03%
External Restrictions - Bushfire and Flood Grants	\$5,152,304	4.69%	\$7,886,680	7.69%
External Restrictions - Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants Program	\$12,043,163	10.96%	\$6,085,806	5.93%
External Restrictions - Other (e.g. domestic waste, sewerage, loans)	\$3,172,474	2.89%	\$6,073,531	5.92%
Internal Allocations	\$34,330,969	31.25%	\$34,281,803	33.42%
Unrestricted	\$9,707,922	8.83%	\$3,085,525	3.01%
Total	\$109,846,751	100.00%	\$102,579,103	100.00%

As there are timing differences between the accounting for income and expenditure in line with the Operational Plan, and the corresponding impact on Council's cash funds, a sufficient level of funds is required to be kept at all times to ensure Council's commitments are met in a timely manner. Council's cash management processes are based on maintaining enough cash levels to enable commitments to be met when due, while at the same time ensuring investment returns are maximised through term investments where possible.

In addition to funds being fully allocated to fund the Operational Plan activities, funds relating to closed self-funded programs and that are subject to legislative restrictions cannot be used for any purpose other than that specified. Externally restricted funds include funds relating to Section 7.11 and Section 7.12 Contributions, Domestic Waste Management, Sewerage Management, Stormwater Management and Grants.

Funds subject to an internal allocation refer to funds kept aside for specific purposes, or to meet future known expenses. This allows for significant expenditures to be met in the applicable year without having a significant impact on that year. Internally allocated funds include funds relating to Tip Remediation, Workers Compensation, and Elections.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The issues raised in this report concern matters which do not require community consultation under Council's Community Engagement Policy.

CONFORMANCE TO THE HAWKESBURY COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2042

The proposal is consistent with the following Long-Term Community Objectives set out within the CSP.

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Reliable Council

4.3 Build strong financial sustainability for now and future generations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The matters raised in this report have direct financial implications. The income applicable is provided for in the Adopted 2024/2025 Operational Plan.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation in this report is to receive and note the performance of Council's Investment Portfolio. Should Council not proceed with the recommendation, there is a minimal reputational risk to Council, as legislative compliance is met by the report being tabled to Council. Financial risks are mitigated through the application of Council's Investment Policy when making investment decisions and do not apply to the actual report itself.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no supporting documents for this report.

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10.5. INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Nil Reports.

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11. RECEIPT OF MINUTES OF OTHER COMMITTEES

Meeting Date: 1 July 2025

11. RECEIPT OF MINUTES OF OTHER COMMITTEES

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ORDINARY MEETING
12. NOTICES OF MOTION
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12. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil Reports.

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13. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE
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13. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil Reports.

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ORDINARY MEETING

14. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

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14. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

14.1.1. Responses to Councillor Questions Taken on Notice at the Council Meeting - 10 June 2025

The following questions were raised from Councillors regarding matters on the Council Meeting Business Paper of 10 June 2025. These questions were taken on notice and the responses are provided below:

#	Councillor	Question	Response
1	McMahon	Can we have a reason why the Vineyard Oval project has been delayed 12 months and the cost involved?	<p>The Vineyard Oval project has been met with delays due to ongoing constraints arising from the TransGrid easement and sensitive ecological communities on site.</p> <p>The first approach to field layout could not proceed as it had been envisioned by the Hawkesbury Sports Council due to the constraints of a TransGrid easement. This meant that further consultation was required with the Hawkesbury Sports Council and Club to determine the preferred alternative layout.</p> <p>This layout had a greater potential for impact on the adjoining sensitive ecological community, which has emerged through the development of the Review of Environmental Factors (REF). In order for Council to adequately manage the risk of impacts, a biodiversity development assessment report is required by the REF. This has commenced, but necessarily will result in delays. Council is continuing with the detailed design and other supplementary activities while this report is finalised.</p> <p>The project estimate at the present time is \$960,000.</p>
2	Wheeler	Does the pensioners rebate apply to DVA pension holders or only aged care pension holders?	<p>The Pensioner Rebate is applicable to DVA Pension holders, with some eligibility requirements including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Holders of the PCC (Pensioner Concession Card);- Holders of a gold card embossed with 'TPI' (Totally Permanently Incapacitated);- Holders of a gold card embossed with 'EDA' (Extreme Disablement Adjustment);- War widow or widower or wholly dependent partner entitled to the Pensioner Concession Card <p>The rebate also applies to the Sole Parent and Disability Pensions. In all instances, the physical pension card needs to be presented on lodging the application, noting that Centrelink Healthcare Cards are not accepted.</p>

ORDINARY MEETING**14. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING****Meeting Date:** 1 July 2025

3	Wheeler	What sort of targeted consultation are we going to do with affected Hobartville residents?	<p>Council is presently consulting the wider community on the detailed design at Tamplin Field, for the purpose of obtaining any feedback to guide the detailed design. This includes a letterbox drop for residents in the vicinity of Tamplin Field outlining the project and information on how to lodge feedback through Council's Your Hawkesbury Your Say. Further to this, signage on site and at key locations (Richmond and Hobartville shops) has been deployed to make every attempt to capture stakeholders who might otherwise have been missed.</p> <p>Previously, consultation has included residents' participation in stakeholder meetings and focus groups, through advertisement of consultation via Council's various communication channels.</p>
4	Sheather	The Concept Design for Tamplin Oval details six additional car parking spaces on-street – how are we achieving this?	<p>Additional car parking spaces can be generated through modifications to the street-scape environment including refinement of the existing No Stopping zones and kerb extensions in place of blister islands on the approaches to the pedestrian crossing. This is anticipated to result in up to five additional car parking spaces on the southern side of Laurence Street and up to two new accessible spaces on the north side of the street.</p>

ATTACHMENTS

There are no supporting documents for this report.

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ORDINARY MEETING
15. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS
Meeting Date: 1 July 2025

15. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

Nil Reports.



Ordinary Meeting

End of Business Paper

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