

Hawk ወ sbury City Counci

ordinary meeting business paper

date of meeting: 11 August 2015 location: council chambers time: 6:30 p.m.



mission statement

"To create opportunities for a variety of work and lifestyle choices in a healthy, natural environment"

How Council Operates

Hawkesbury City Council supports and encourages the involvement and participation of local residents in issues that affect the City.

The 12 Councillors who represent Hawkesbury City Council are elected at Local Government elections, held every four years. Voting at these elections is compulsory for residents who are aged 18 years and over and who reside permanently in the City.

Ordinary Meetings of Council are generally held on the second Tuesday of each month (except January), and the last Tuesday of each month (except December), meeting dates are listed on Council's website. The meetings start at 6:30pm and are scheduled to conclude by 11pm. These meetings are open to the public.

When an Extraordinary Meeting of Council is held, it will usually also be held on a Tuesday and start at 6:30pm. These meetings are also open to the public.

Meeting Procedure

The Mayor is Chairperson of the meeting.

The business paper contains the agenda and information on the items to be dealt with at the meeting. Matters before the Council will be dealt with by an exception process. This involves Councillors advising the General Manager by 3pm on the day of the meeting, of those items they wish to discuss. A list of items for discussion will be displayed at the meeting for the public to view.

At the appropriate stage of the meeting, the Chairperson will move for all those items which have not been listed for discussion (or have registered speakers from the public) to be adopted on block. The meeting then will proceed to deal with each item listed for discussion and decision.

Public Participation

Members of the public can register to speak on any items in the business paper other than the Confirmation of Minutes; Mayoral Minutes; Responses to Questions from Previous Meeting; Notices of Motion (including Rescission Motions); Mayoral Elections; Deputy Mayoral Elections; Committee Elections and Annual Committee Reports. To register, you must lodge an application form with Council prior to 3pm on the day of the meeting. The application form is available on Council's website, from the Customer Service Unit or by contacting the Manager - Corporate Services and Governance on (02) 4560 4444 or by email at <u>council@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au</u>.

The Mayor will invite registered persons to address the Council when the relevant item is being considered. Speakers have a maximum of three minutes to present their views. The Code of Meeting Practice allows for three speakers 'For' a recommendation (i.e. in support), and three speakers 'Against' a recommendation (i.e. in opposition).

Speakers representing an organisation or group must provide written consent from the identified organisation or group (to speak on its behalf) when registering to speak, specifically by way of letter to the General Manager within the registration timeframe.

All speakers must state their name, organisation if applicable (after producing written authorisation from that organisation) and their interest in the matter before speaking.

Voting

The motion for each item listed for discussion will be displayed for Councillors and public viewing, if it is different to the recommendation in the Business Paper. The Chair will then ask the Councillors to vote, generally by a show of hands or voices. Depending on the vote, a motion will be Carried (passed) or Lost.

Planning Decision

Under Section 375A of the Local Government Act 1993, voting for all Planning decisions must be recorded individually. Hence, the Chairperson will ask Councillors to vote with their electronic controls on planning items and the result will be displayed on a board located above the Minute Clerk. This will enable the names of those Councillors voting For or Against the motion to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting and subsequently included in the required register. This electronic voting system was an innovation in Australian Local Government pioneered by Hawkesbury City Council.

Business Papers

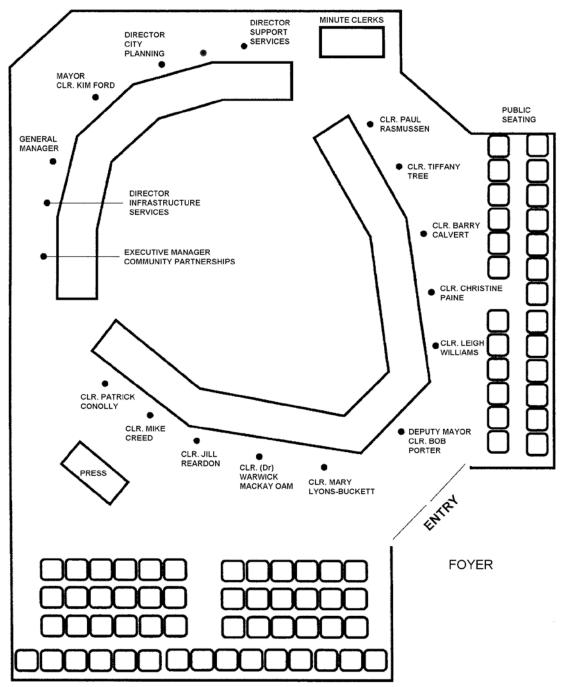
Business papers can be viewed online from noon on the Friday before the meeting on Council's website: <u>http://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au</u>.

Hard copies of the business paper can be viewed at Council's Administration Building and Libraries after 12 noon on the Friday before the meeting, and electronic copies are available on CD to the public after 12 noon from Council's Customer Service Unit. The business paper can also be viewed on the public computers in the foyer of Council's Administration Building.

Further Information

A guide to Council Meetings is available on the Council's website. If you require further information about meetings of Council, please contact the Manager, Corporate Services and Governance on, telephone (02) 4560 4444.





PUBLIC SEATING

Meeting Date: 11 August 2015

AGENDA

- WELCOME

Prayer

Acknowledgement of Indigenous Heritage

- APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE
- DECLARATION OF INTERESTS
- SECTION 1 Confirmation of Minutes
- ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OFFICIAL VISITORS TO THE COUNCIL

Introduction of Sister City Exchange Students and Presentation of Certificates

- SECTION 2 Mayoral Minutes
- EXCEPTION REPORT Adoption of Items Not Identified for Discussion and Decision
- SECTION 3 Reports for Determination
 - Planning Decisions General Manager City Planning Infrastructure Services
 - Support Services
- SECTION 4 Reports of Committees
- SECTION 5 Notices of Motion
- QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING
- REPORTS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

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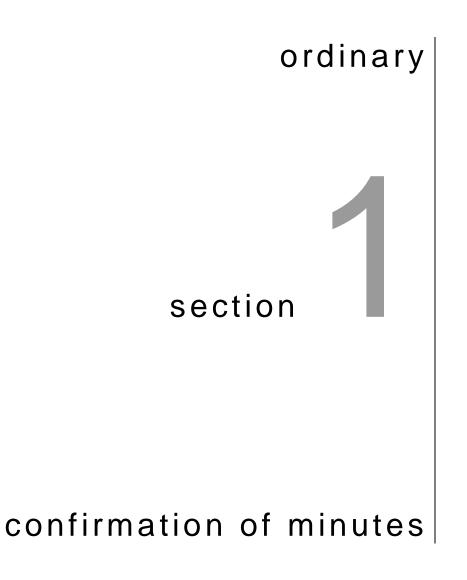
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Confirmation of Minutes

Confirmation of Minutes

SECTION 1 - Confirmation of Minutes

Confirmation of Minutes



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reports for determination

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SECTION 3 - Reports for Determination

GENERAL MANAGER

Item: 126 GM - Australian Local Government Association 2015 National Local Roads and Transport Congress - (79351, 82046)

REPORT:

Executive Summary

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) 2015 National Local Roads and Transport Congress (2015 Roads Congress) will be held from 17 to 19 November 2015 at Ballarat, Victoria. Due to its relevance to Council's business, it is recommended that the ALGA 2015 National Local Roads and Transport Congress be attended by Councillors and appropriate staff.

Consultation

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

Background

The 2015 Roads Congress will be held from 17 to 19 November 2015 at Ballarat, Victoria. The Congress is an annual event, coordinated by the ALGA together with state and territory local government associations and delegates of the National Roads and Transport Congress and has historically built a reputation for influencing significant change. ALGA's advocacy has contributed to some significant outcomes at the Federal level in recent years including new funding for bridges, a longer term commitment to the Roads to Recovery program and the injection of extra funding for Roads to Recovery.

The aim of the 2015 Roads Congress is to highlight the importance of Federal funding to local government in overcoming road and infrastructure challenges. The 2015 Congress program has a strong focus on collaboration between towns, cities, regions and jurisdictions. The theme 'Connecting Communities: Building the Nation' highlights the reality that the national prosperity relies on building networks between communities and linking local roads with regional and national routes.

Cost of attendance at the 2015 Roads Congress is approximately \$1,800 plus travel expense per delegate.

The 2015/2016 Operational Plan contains a provision of \$48,000 for Delegate Expenses.

Budget for Delegate Expenses - Payments made:

•	Total Budget for Financial Year 2015/2016	\$48,000
•	Expenditure to date	\$Nil
•	Outstanding Commitments as at 4 August 2015 (approx.)	\$10,800
•	Budget balance as at 4 August 2015	\$37,200

It should be noted that the outstanding commitments referred to above are in relation to councillor attendance at the 2015 Local Government NSW Water Management Conference and the 2015 Annual Local Government Conference as previously authorised by Council.

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Conformance to the Hawkesbury Community Strategic Plan

The proposal is consistent with the Linking the Hawkesbury Direction Statement

• Have a comprehensive system of transport connections which link people and products across the Hawkesbury and with surrounding regions

and is also consistent with the nominated strategy in the CSP being:

• Facilitate an integrated transport network.

Financial Implications

Funding of the cost of attendance at this Congress will be provided from the Delegates Expenses within the 2015/2016 Operational Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

That attendance of nominated Councillors and staff as considered appropriate by the General Manager, at the Australian Local Government Association 2015 National Local Roads and Transport Congress at an approximate cost of \$1,800 plus travel expenses per delegate be approved.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

0000 END OF REPORT 0000

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CITY PLANNING

Item: 127 CP - Heritage of Western Sydney - Colonial Heritage Mobile App - (95498, 124414)

REPORT:

Executive Summary

This report has been prepared to advise Council of a current project being developed by a regional heritage group of Council employees and heritage advisors who periodically meet to discuss information on heritage related matters within Western Sydney. This group is collectively known as the 'Heritage of Western Sydney' (HoWS).

Currently the HoWS group are in the process of developing a colonial heritage mobile application (app) for the Western Sydney area and Council has been invited to be included as part of this project.

In participating, Council will be required to contribute to funding of the project to help with development costs. Given the Hawkesbury's importance in Australia's early colonial heritage, it is recommended that Council participate in this project based on the benefits discussed in this report.

Consultation

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

Background

The HoWS group was formed on 3 August 2011, as an initiative of Penrith City Council to provide a regular forum for member councils to develop a collaborative approach to the promotion of early settlement history and heritage of Western Sydney. The HoWS member councils are:

- 1. Penrith City Council
- 2. Liverpool City Council
- 3. Campbelltown City Council
- 4. Camden Council
- 5. Hawkesbury City Council.

These council areas contain significant early colonial settlements, many early pre-1850 historic sites which represent the era of colonial development of Sydney and Australia. These settlements developed along the waterways of the Hawkesbury-Nepean River systems and created the major colonial road networks radiating from Sydney and Parramatta including the Great Western Highway, the Southern Road/Cowpasture Road, The Northern Road, Windsor Road and Richmond Road.

The objectives of the HoWS group are to:

- demonstrate the benefits of promoting colonial settlement as economic heritage tourism opportunities
- increase awareness of the collective value, unique nature and historic significance of heritage within Western Sydney
- collectively explore opportunities to promote the specific identity of the shared early colonial history and heritage of Western Sydney
- provide inter-council officer and heritage advisor communication to encourage integrated understanding, support and management of history and heritage
- provide member council officers and heritage advisors with support to address common challenges.

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The group meets bimonthly and utilises existing Council and local heritage group resources to minimise costs of operation. Group achievements to date include exchanging updates on heritage studies, auditing heritage properties and sharing information on programs and activities.

All councils continue to exchange information, resources, and ideas and updates on relevant heritage studies such as the Hawkesbury Barn Study, Cemeteries, Heritage Development Control Plans, and National Broadband Network Protocols etc.

To encourage the appreciation of colonial heritage in Western Sydney the HoWS Group has focused their attention towards developing an app which could be used to map some of the most significant early colonial sites of Western Sydney.

The HoWS group decided that promoting the Region as a first step may be more successful than each Council individually creating their own individual app. The regional approach was considered superior as there would be a larger number of stops to visit and a wider variety of places to satisfy special interests (e.g. homesteads, churches, cemeteries, etc.) and will also recognise existing heritage trails within each respective local government area.

Colonial Heritage Application Project

The proposed app is aimed at encouraging regional tourism focussing on State listed heritage sites from the colonial period. The concept of a heritage tourism app meets the objectives of the HoWS group to *"Collectively explore opportunities to promote the specific identity of the shared early colonial history and heritage of Western Sydney"*.

The project has relevance to State level objectives for tourism, heritage, community, recreation and broader planning goals for the future of Western Sydney.

This project seeks to promote and raise awareness of Western Sydney's heritage and related tourism experiences by providing a simple, self-drive access tool for individuals, tour providers, universities, schools, and other interest groups. This will, in turn increase overnight stays by providing a route across a region rather than an individual destination.

Considering the increasing uptake of smart phone technology, an app is considered to be the best avenue for marketing regional heritage trails.

Although the content of the app is heritage based, the focus of the app is to encourage general tourism and the appreciation of the rich colonial period heritage of Western Sydney. In the future there is scope for expansion of the data to incorporate other items of interest to tourists.

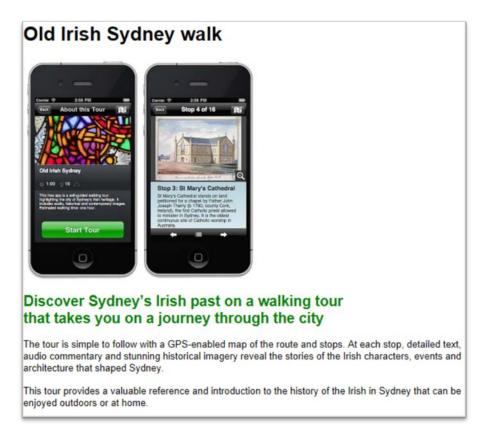
The initial app would provide:

- an overall map of the Colonial Heritage of Western Sydney trail
- a location map
- current and historical photographs and/ or pictorial representations of the heritage place
- historical information
- information about why the place is considered significant
- information on the best vantage points to view the item and whether it is publically accessible
- links to the State Heritage Register listings for further information
- links to Councils and other relevant heritage trails or websites.

It is envisaged that the app will initially focus on identifying historic early colonial settlements such as Richmond, Windsor, St Albans, Wilberforce and Ebenezer. The app is intended to be used as part of a strategy to connect people with historic sites across Western Sydney by providing points of interest on a map based application with interactive links which will connect people with historic information associated with early colonial sites that are available to the public.

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The proposed app will be developed in a similar manner to other heritage apps such as the 'Old Irish Sydney walk' shown in the figure below.



To date funding has been provided for the development of the app by Penrith City Council, Liverpool City Council and Camden Council. Campbelltown Council have decided not to participate as they currently have developed their own tourist/heritage guide at www.macarthur.com.au

It is anticipated that the app will be launched by the end of the year with the current participating councils who have already engaged the services of a Historian who will review the early colonial historical sites and information which will be included in the app. It is expected that there would be a maximum of 20 early colonial sites per council initially as part of the launch of the app.

In addition to the engagement of an historian, the participating councils have shortlisted the app developers, professional photographers and audio artists which will be used.

The benefit of Council participating in this project at this stage of the project will be that the costs will be shared across all participating councils.

In participating, Council will be required to contribute \$5,000 that will ensure that Hawkesbury's early colonial sites are included as part of stage 1 of the project which will be to launch the app. This amount is equivalent to the contributions of the other participating councils.

Should Council miss the opportunity to be included at this stage of the project the costs associated with engaging the individual consultants identified above would significantly increase.

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Conformance to the Hawkesbury Community Strategic Plan

The proposal is consistent with the Looking After People and Place Theme:

• Be a place where we value, protect and enhance the historical, social, cultural and environmental character of Hawkesbury's towns, villages and rural landscapes

and is also consistent with the nominated strategy in the CSP being:

 Recognise, protect and promote the values of indigenous, natural and built heritage through conservation and active use

Conclusion

The Heritage of Western Sydney group has been running since 3 August 2011, meeting four times per year. It has provided an opportunity for Western Sydney councils to share resources and knowledge to enable better regional management of heritage items and promote heritage tourism on a larger scale.

It is anticipated that the development of an app would be one of the best ways to showcase and promote pre1850 historic sites and settlement of Western Sydney.

The end goal is to encourage heritage tourism opportunities in Western Sydney by promoting the cultural, natural and built heritage of Western Sydney through the use of new technology such as smart phones.

Financial Implications

Research in respect to the feasibility of the project is currently being undertaken by the participating HoWS group Councils of Penrith, Liverpool and Camden. Council's staff resources have been utilised under the existing salaries budget to participate in these meetings.

Council's contribution of up to \$5,000 for the development of the app is available and would be funded from the existing Heritage Reserve.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received and noted and that Council's participation in the project as outlined in the report be endorsed.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

0000 END OF REPORT 0000

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SUPPORT SERVICES

Item: 128 SS - Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2015 - (95496, 96328)

Previous Item:	NM1, Ordinary (8 April 2008) 212, Ordinary (21 October 2008) 233, Ordinary (10 November, 2009) 30, Ordinary (23 February 2010)
	55, Ordinary (29 March 2011) 175, Ordinary (9 October 2012)

REPORT:

Executive Summary

This report has been prepared to advise Council of the findings and recommendations of the Hawkesbury Youth Summit held on 31 March 2015. The report also outlines the outcome of the recommendations of the previous Youth Summit held in 2012 which were adopted by Council for implementation.

Consultation

The issues raised in this report concern matters which do not require community consultation under Council's Community Engagement Policy. The report outlines the outcomes of a consultation process undertaken pursuant to a previous resolution of Council.

Background

The Young People - Community Participation and Civic Leadership Report was commissioned in response to a request from Council to identify options for supporting youth services and young people to plan and deliver events, programs and activities for young people, and to increase their involvement in Council's policy-making processes.

The report was prepared in conjunction with the Hawkesbury Youth Interagency and documented the outcomes of focus groups and interviews held with young people and youth workers. The results of consultations informed the eight recommendations in the Report which were adopted by Council in October 2008.

Three of the eight recommendations in the Young People - Community Participation and Civic Leadership Report related to the staging and funding of a regular youth summit. The first Hawkesbury Youth Summit was held on 24 November 2009, the second on 29 March 2012.

In response to the recommendations in the 2012 report presented to a Council meeting a Youth Summit was held to continue the dialogue between Council and Young People. This reports details the outcomes of the Summit held on 31 March 2015.

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Outcomes of Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2012

The Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2012 referred six recommendations for Council's consideration, all of which were subsequently adopted by Council. The following table documents the 2012 recommendations and their current status.

Recommendation	Current Status	
Recommendation 1 - Council work with Hawkesbury Youth Interagency to investigate a suitable anti bullying program and make available to all Hawkesbury High Schools.	Completed. Youth Participation Officer worked with Hawkesbury Youth Interagency to deliver anti bullying programs in Hawkesbury High Schools.	
Recommendation 2 - The Youth Safe program 'are we there yet' continue to be delivered to schools and widened to include youth projects accessing young people not engaged in education.	Completed. Seven <i>Are we There Yet</i> sessions delivered in schools and youth services.	
Recommendation 3 - Council continue to work with Peppercorn Services Inc. to promote and enhance existing youth transport initiatives.	Completed and Ongoing. Peppercorn Services Inc. Youth Transport Program utilised and promoted widely during Hawkesbury Youth Week activities. Youth Participation Officer worked with Hawkesbury Youth Interagency and its sub groups to provide opportunities for promotion of the program within schools and with service providers.	
Recommendation 4 - A Council education strategy be developed to provide youth friendly information to young people about the role of local government and how to contact various departments within Hawkesbury City Council.	Completed. Youth Participation Officer conducted eight visits to Hawkesbury Schools to continue the dialogue with young people about making contact with Council. Youth Participation Officer Facebook page utilised widely to promote Council events and activities and to provide information to young people.	
Recommendation 5 - Contact to be maintained with young people to provide opportunities for young people to be involved in civic leadership and Council process.	Achieved in part. There was a disruption in Council communication with young people due to staff maternity leave. Contact has been re-established and young people involved in the planning group have been involved in ongoing discussions and opportunities	
Recommendation 6 - Council to determine measures to support young people in accessing employment services or events.	Achieved. Contributed to the resourcing of Hawkesbury Job shop forum. Transport provided to three job expos for young people in the Penrith region.	

Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2015

The third Hawkesbury Youth Summit was held on Tuesday, 31 March, 2015. The Summit was attended by 60 young people from across the Hawkesbury. Participants represented six Hawkesbury High Schools, including Richmond, Hawkesbury, Colo and Windsor High Schools, Bede Polding College and Kuyper Christian School. Following the Summit, Council's Youth Participation Officer has worked with the young people involved in organising the 2015 Summit and the Hawkesbury Youth Interagency to prepare a report documenting the outcomes of the Summit. *The Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2015 Outcomes: 'It Starts With Us' Report* is appended as Attachment 1 to this report.

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The six Key Findings and six Recommendations in the Summit Report are outlined below:

Youth Summit Key Findings:

1. Participants indicated that the primary issue young people are facing in the Hawkesbury is Mental Health, particularly a lack of resources and support in managing Mental Health issues.

This was followed by the below top issues:

- alcohol and drugs
- public transport
- stress and pressure from school (HSC) and at home and family
- homelessness
- social acceptance (or being socially excluded)
- lack of effective support and safe places to go for young people
- cyber bullying
- youth unemployment.
- 2. Alcohol and drug usage continues to be a concern raised at each Summit as a major concern for young people in the Hawkesbury. Bullying was also raised as an ongoing concern. The feedback from young people indicated that there is not currently adequate service provision for young people facing these concerns in the Hawkesbury.
- 3. Feedback highlighted that many participants felt they had a voice and that Council was truly listing to them. Many added that there were many opportunities available at Council, that they were now aware of.
- 4. Participants were given opportunities to feedback on possible new programs, which highlighted that many are still unaware of programs already available to them at Council.
- 5. Young people indicated that their preferred communication method for communicating with Council continues to be Facebook. This was followed by the newspaper and advertising within the school setting such as utilising school assemblies and newsletters.
- 6. The young people indicated overwhelmingly that they are interested in consulting with Council, in civic leadership and in being involved in Council process.

Youth Summit Recommendations:

- 1. As bullying was identified as an ongoing issue, Council to work with the Risky Business Working Group of the Hawkesbury Youth Interagency to resource a suitable anti bullying program and make available to all Hawkesbury High Schools. Council to also investigate how this program can be provided to young people not engaged in mainstream education.
- 2. Council to contribute to the resourcing of a Youth Mental Health Forum based in the Hawkesbury.
- 3. Council continues to work with Peppercorn Services Inc. to promote and enhance existing youth transport initiatives.
- 4. Contact to be maintained with young people to provide opportunities for young people to be involved in civic leadership and Council process. Youth Participation Officer to support Council staff by promoting opportunities for young people to have ongoing involvement with Council projects.

- 5. Council to determine measures to support young people in accessing employment services or events.
- 6. Youth Participation Officer to assist Cultural Services to investigate Careers programs and enhance existing Higher School Certificate revision programs.

Proposed response to Youth Summit

The 2015 Youth Summit has continued to provide a successful mechanism for young people to talk with Council and to express their views and experiences of living in the Hawkesbury. The staging of the Summit gives rise to the reasonable expectation (by young people and youth workers) that Council will consider the recommendations of the Summit and, if endorsed, authorise Council staff to work with relevant stakeholders to implement these recommendations. To facilitate this process it is proposed that Council:

- 1. Receive The Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2015 'It Starts With Us' Report.
- 2. Adopt the six recommendations within the report for implementation.

Conformance to the Hawkesbury Community Strategic Plan

The proposal is consistent with the Shaping Our Future Together Directions statement;

• Have transparent, accountable and respected leadership and an engaged community

and is also consistent with the nominated strategy in the CSP being:

• Achieve community respect through good corporate governance and community leadership and engagement.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising out of this report. Implementing the 2015 Youth Summit recommendations will require the allocation of staff hours and resources which will be negotiated in conjunction with the normal development of Council work plans and within Council's budget planning processes. Where a requirement for additional budget allocations is identified, this requirement will be reported to Council for Council's consideration and determination.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1. Receive The Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2015 'It Starts With Us' Report.
- 2. Adopt the six recommendations within Youth Summit Report for implementation.
- 3. Extend its appreciation to the members of the Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2015 planning group for their work in assisting Council staff in organising the 2015 Youth Summit and preparing the 2015 Youth Summit Report

ATTACHMENTS:

AT - 1 The Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2015 Outcomes: It Starts With Us Report

Г Dutcomes 5 ()HAWKESBURY YOUTH WEEK 'It starts with us'

AT - 1 The Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2015 Outcomes: It Starts With Us Report

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Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2015 Outcomes

Executive Summary, Key Findings and Recommendations

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 In response to the recommendations presented to a Council meeting by young people following the 2012 Youth Summit, another forum was held in March 2015 to continue the dialogue between Council and Young People.
- 1.2 On Tuesday 31 March, sixty young people from across the Hawkesbury met together for the 2015 Hawkesbury City Council Youth Summit. Participants represented six Hawkesbury High Schools, including Richmond, Hawkesbury, Colo and Windsor High Schools and Bede Polding College and Kuyper Christian School.
- 1.3 The Summit was designed to be an opportunity for young people to raise with Councillors and Council staff issues of importance to them and to begin to offer ideas and solutions to these issues.
- 1.4 Council engaged a group of interested young people to form the Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2015 planning group. The Summit was a success in large part due to the commitment and interest from this group. Their involvement and insight in the lead up to the day and involvement in delivering the program was crucial to the meaningful engagement of young people in this process.
- 1.5 There were both opportunities for young people to raise varied concerns and information and feedback sessions by chosen departments within Council. These areas were selected by the 2015 Youth Summit planning group with support from Council staff.
- 1.6 The access to a Youth Participation Officer Facebook page continues to assist in the planning of the 2015 Summit.

2 Youth Summit Key Findings

2.1 Participants indicated that the primary issue young people are facing in the Hawkesbury is Mental Health, particularly a lack of resources and support in managing Mental Health issues.

This was followed by the below top issues:

- alcohol and drugs
- public transport
- stress and pressure from school (HSC) and at home and family
- homelessness
- social acceptance (or being socially excluded)
- lack of effective support and safe places to go for young people
- cyber bullying
- youth unemployment.
- 2.2 Alcohol and drug usage continues to be a concern raised at each Summit as a major concern for young people in the Hawkesbury. Bullying was also raised as an ongoing concern. The feedback from young people indicated that there is not currently adequate service provision for young people facing these concerns in the Hawkesbury.
- 2.3 Feedback highlighted that many participants felt they had a voice and that Council was truly listening to them. Many added that there were many opportunities available at Council, that they were now aware of.
- 2.4 Participants were given opportunities to feedback on possible new programs, which highlighted that many are still unaware of programs already available to them at Council.

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Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2015 Outcomes

- 2.5 Young people indicated that their preferred communication method for communicating with council continues to be facebook. This was followed by the newspaper and advertising within the school setting usch as utilising school assemblies and newsletters.
- 2.6 The young people indicated overwhelmingly that they are interested in consulting with Council, in civic leadership and in being involved in Council process.

3 Youth Summit Key Recommendations

- 3.1 As bullying was identified as an ongoing issue, Hawkesbury City Council to work with the Risky Business Working Group of the Hawkesbury Youth Interagency to resource a suitable anti bullying program and make available to all Hawkesbury High Schools. Council to also investigate how this program can be provided to young people not engaged in mainstream education.
- 3.2 Council to contribute to the resourcing of a Youth Mental Health Forum based in the Hawkesbury.
- 3.3 Hawkesbury City Council continue to work with Peppercorn Services Inc to promote and enhance existing youth transport initiatives.
- 3.4 Contact to be maintained with young people to provide opportunities for young people to be involved in civic leadership and Council process. Youth Participation Officer to support Council staff by promoting opportunities for young people to have ongoing involvement with Council projects.
- 3.5 Hawkesbury City Council to determine measures to support young people in accessing employment services or events.
- 3.6 Youth Participation Officer to assist Cultural Services to investigate Careers programs and enhance existing Higher School Certificate revision programs.

Introduction

4 Background to Summit

The Young People - Community Participation and Civic Leadership Report was commissioned in response to a request from Council to identify options for supporting youth services and young people to plan and deliver events, programs and activities for young people, and to increase their involvement in Council's policy-making processes.

The report was prepared in conjunction with the Hawkesbury Youth Interagency and documented the outcomes of focus groups and interviews held with young people and youth workers. The results of consultations informed the eight recommendations in the Report which were adopted by Council in October 2008.

Three of the eight recommendations in the Young People - Community Participation and Civic Leadership Report related to the staging and funding of a regular youth summit. The first Hawkesbury Youth Summit was held on 24 November 2009, the second on 29 March 2012.

In response to the recommendations in the 2012 report presented to a Council meeting a Youth Summit was held to continue the dialogue between Council and Young People. This reports details the outcomes of the Summit held 31 March 2015.

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Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2015 Outcomes

5 The Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2015

The 2015 Hawkesbury Youth Summit was held on Tuesday 31 March 2015 at The Deerubbin Centre. The Summit was attended by 60 young people representing six schools. The Summit was also attended and delivered by a planning group of seven young people who met for five months prior to the event to advise Council on the implementation of the day.

6 Planning Group

As part of the Youth Summit Project, Hawkesbury Council brought together a group of young people from across the Hawkesbury to work with Council's Youth Participation Officer. This group met for five months prior to the event and acted as a steering committee for all decisions that were made pertaining to the planning and content of the Summit program.

This group was made up a combination of young people who had contacted Council interested in being involved in youth activities, extending invitations to schools and youth services and from contacts made at the previous Youth Summit.

This group spent many hours planning the details of the event and were crucial to the success of the event and to ensuring the Youth Summit was an event in which young people engaged well with.

7 Participants

The planning group determined to focus the day on a particular age group, to assist with planning and to ensure the workshops that were delivered were presented to meet a certain need. Invitations were extended to young people from Year nine upwards and participants were selected by the attending schools. The young people who were invited and attended ranged from 14-17 years of age, with a close to equal balance in gender.

8 Aims and Objectives

The main aim of the Hawkesbury Youth Summit was developed by the planning group in the early stages of planning the Summit. Their hope was for young people to leave with the message that: 'Hawkesbury City Council considers the ideas and contributions of young people to be of great importance and are eager to find ways for them to have ongoing input and influence in our future plans and in doing so, their communities.' This message shaped the Summit program.

The above aim was to be achieved by:

- participants will have opportunities provided at the Summit for ongoing communication with Council
- participants will have a greater understanding of the role of local government and departments within Council
- participants will have opportunities for their concerns to be raised and for them to offer workable solutions to these issues which Council will endeavour to action. All aspects of the Summit will include an emphasis on hearing the voice of young people.
- a concern raised in consultations was that Council often consults young people but it is hard to see action from these consultations. This message also shaped the planning of the day.

Meeting Date: 11 August 2015

Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2015 Outcomes

Other objectives included:

- To provide a safe, youth friendly environment for young people to raise issues of concern to them and to have an opportunity to provide possible solutions to these issues
- For young people to connect with youth workers and to find out more information about service provision available to them

Youth Summit Methodology and Section Findings

The Youth Summit Planning Group worked with Council staff to determine the departments or areas within Council they felt would be most of interest to young people to hear more about. Representatives from this group and the Youth Participation Officer then worked with these departments to develop a program with clear aims and objectives.

These areas included:

- Human Resources
- Parks
- Town Planning
- Information Services
- Companion Animal Shelter
- Waste Education
- Strategic Planning
- Cultural Services
- Community Services.

9 Human Resources

The participants were informed by Human Resources as to the different employment and training opportunities available at Council. The purpose of this session was for young people to have an opportunity to hear more about employment possibilities available at Council, tips on interviewing successfully and to have an opportunity to ask questions of the Human Resources Manager. An interview was also conducted with two current Council trainees about their employment experiences.

There was also an opportunity for students to meet Council staff in a speed networking activity. The feedback highlighted that this enabled them to understand in greater depth exactly what Council does as well as the opportunities within Council. Participants included:

- Human Resources
- Cultural Services
- Events and Communications
- Community Services
- Strategic Planning
- Town Planning
- Information Services
- Companions Animal Shelter.

5

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Hawkesbury Youth Summit 2015 Outcomes

10 Cultural Services

In this session, participants had the opportunity to hear more about Council's Library, Gallery and Museum programs. They were able to discuss in detail about how to make these programs more youth friendly and accessible.

Workshop Feedback on Library, Gallery and Museum Programs

	Statements	
Γ	Number of students who had heard of Council's services and programs	76%
	Number of students who have used some of Council's services and programs	70%

Participants were asked to workshop answers to a number of questions. The feedback received as follows:

What other information would you like to know about these programs and services?

- 1. Provide more information on:
 - names and details of programs
 - what they do
 - dates of programs
 - how they can help us
 - more information on transport options
 - details on speakers
- 2. More advertising especially at schools so that we know when programs are running
- 3. Send us the name of the Facebook page so that we can access more information
- 4. Create an instagram page especially for Art Gallery programs

How can Council promote these programs and services to young people?

- 1. Social media
- 2. Newspaper (Hawkesbury Gazette)
- 3. School newsletter and advertising at schools including homeroom notices
- 4. Announcements at school assemblies
- 5. Leaflets during roll calls at schools
- 6. During meetings or roll call have a SRC member promote these services to students
- 7. Have a bus service from schools
- 8. Have guest speakers at school assemblies
- 9. Promote on school Facebook pages
- 10. Send information to school email addresses
- 11. Local radio station announcements
- 12. All services should have their own Facebook page
- 13. Snapchat
- 14. Twitter
- 15. Have open days
- 16. Posters and flyers

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What other programs do you think young people will find useful? Do you have any suggestions for new programs or services?

- 1 Have more interactive events
- 2. Make events more appealing to youth
- З. Have events that inspire (e.g. politicians, authors)
- 4. Have easy access Wi-Fi
- 5. Courses for career skills e.g. barista courses, as well as programs promoting job opportunities in the Hawkesbury area (most popular)
- 6. Have a bullying program or service
- 7 Use the school syllabus to structure an exhibition
- 8. Have school excursions
- 9. Use school works in the gallery (e.g. paintings by art students)
- 10. Have better transport options
- 11. Have a writing program
- 12. Have an arts program
- Hold an inter-school talent contest 13.
- 14. Have an app/game development program
- HSC guides, lectures and revision days(most popular) 15.
- 16. School study groups (most popular)
- 17. Free book day or Library Fun Day
- 18. Free sausage sizzle
- 19. Bingo
- 20. Have a book club
- 21. Ping pong tournament, where you have to borrow books to enter
- 22. 23. Colour Runs
- Music Festival

11 General Feedback Session

Top Issues identified by Young People

- 1 Mental Health (including lack of resources and support)
- 2. Alcohol and Drugs (including at parties)
- З. Public Transport
- 4. Stress and Pressure from school (HSC) and at home and family
- 5. Homelessness
- 6. Social acceptance (or being socially excluded)
- Lack of effective support and safe places to go for young people 7
- 8 Cyber bullying
- 9 Youth Unemployment

Summary of Issues Facing Young People in the Hawkesbury

- Alcohol and Drugs 1
- 2.
- Smoking Public Transport З.
- 4 Youth Unemployment
- 5. Financial issues and rising cost of living
- 6. Social Media
- 7. Cyber bullying
- 8. Traffic
- 9. Graffiti
- Self-harm and suicide 10.
- 11. Reckless drivers (including drink driving and speeding)
- 12. Suicide rates
- 13 Homelessness
- 14. Depression and anxiety
- 15. Mental Health (including lack of resources and support)

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- Price of housing 16.
- 17. Weight issues and obesity
- Lack of effective support and safe places to go for young people 18.
- 19. Stress and pressure from school (HSC) and at home/family
- 20. TAFE and University costs
- 21. Body image and self-esteem issues
- 22. Teen pregnancies
- 23. 24. Unprotected sex
- Domestic violence
- 25. Religion
- 26. Relationships
- 27. Balancing lifestyles and responsibilities
- 28. Peer pressure and bullying
- 29. Poverty
- 30. Social acceptance (or being socially excluded)
- 31. Status
- 32 Increasing responsibilities
- Wagging/absent from school frequently 33
- Lack of understanding on bigger issues (politics, human rights, history) 34
- 35. A lack of practical aspirations that can be turned into an achievable path

What did you learn from the Summit overall?

- Finding out about the issues in our area and how we can stop them 1
- 2. Always remember that your voice can be heard
- Get involved in the community З.
- 4 The local council wants community feedback
- 5. The council is actually easily accessible (as are all the services it offers) and they are actively seeking feedback and ideas
- 6.
- The council cares about what us youth care about
- To always participate and take up opportunities 7
- 8. Young people in this society are able to have a voice in Council. There are a lot of opportunities to improve the future of the Hawkesbury
- 9 How much work council does
- 10. Find out more information about council and how to get a job in council
- 11. To care about the future of the Hawkesbury
- 12. People can make change by doing one thing
- 13. We have a voice and I now feel like I have an opportunity to use it
- 14. Be confident and get involved
- 15. Others share what they feel to be important
- Getting youth to become more engaged in council, by promoting and increasing awareness 16.
- 17. That everyone can help in the community and there are things that need to be improved in the Community.
- 18. That my opinion is valuable and that my ideas are going to be heard and documented
- 19. Don't be scared to speak up
- 20. That there are lots of opportunities in life
- 21. Use and explore council facilities and services
- 22. Council wants to improve the Hawkesbury
- 23 How the council helps the community - there was a lot about volunteering work, jobs and us contributing our ideas
- 24 Depression and suicide
- 25. That there's a solution to everything

0000 END OF REPORT 0000

Meeting Date: 11 August 2015

Item: 129 SS - Impact of Freeze on Indexation of Financial Assistance Grants - (95496, 96332)

REPORT:

Executive Summary

At the Council meeting on 30 June 2015, Council considered a Notice of Motion regarding the freeze by Federal Government on the indexation of Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) over the three year period commencing 2014/2015, and the on-going reduction resulting from a lower base amount.

At that meeting, Council resolved that a report be submitted to Council regarding the impacts of the freeze on Council's operations and its ability to remain financially sustainable.

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of how FAGs are distributed amongst councils and to highlight the financial impact freezing of these funds have on Council's operations and its options to remain financially sustainable. The report also makes reference to the latest correspondence received from the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) also regarding the freezing of the FAGs.

Consultation

The issues raised in this report concern matters which do require community consultation under Council's Community Engagement Policy.

Background

At the Council meeting on 30 June 2015, Council considered a Notice of Motion regarding the freeze by Federal Government on the indexation of FAGs over the three year period commencing 2014/2015, and the on-going reduction resulting from a lower base amount.

At that meeting, Council resolved:

"That Council:

- 1. Call on the Federal Government to restore Financial Assistance Grants to their funding level prior the 2014/2015 Federal Budget cuts.
- 2. Produce a report documenting the direct impacts that cuts in the Financial Assistance Grants have had, and will continue to have, on the operations of Council, its capacity to serve its community and to develop options to become financially sustainable."

In accordance with part 1 of the above resolution, correspondence was forwarded to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development and the Federal Member for Macquarie.

In accordance with part 2 of the resolution above, this report provides an overview of how FAGs are distributed amongst councils as background information, and highlights the financial impact the freezing of these funds have on Council's operations, its services to the community and its options to remain financially sustainable.

Correspondence dated 1 July 2015 has also been received from ALGA regarding the importance of the FAGs to local government and their campaign to restore the indexation of FAGs and to address their adequacy. A copy of this correspondence is included as Attachment 1 to this report for Council's information.

Meeting Date: 11 August 2015

Determination of FAGs allocation to respective councils

FAGs are a significant source of funding for councils in Australia with these funds supplementing rating revenue to maintain local infrastructure including local roads, bridges, parks, recreational facilities, libraries and community buildings, as well as providing a wide variety of services to their communities. In 2014/2015, total grants allocated to NSW councils amounted to \$715.7 million, made up of \$510.5 million for general purpose and \$205.2 million being the local roads component. From 2003/2004 to the current financial year Council has received on average around \$4.2 million each year in total FAGs.

The FAGs are currently provided under the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995 and consists of two components:

- 1. a general purpose component which is distributed between the states and territories according to population (i.e. on a per capita basis), and
- 2. an identified local road component which is distributed between the states and territories according to fixed historical shares.

Both components of the FAGs are untied in the hands of local government, allowing councils to spend the grants according to local priorities.

In NSW, the Grants Commission makes recommendations to the Minister for Local Government on the allocation of the FAGs to individual councils.

The two components of the FAGs are distributed to individual councils on the basis of principles developed in consultation with local government and consistent with the national principles of the Commonwealth Act. The approach taken considers cost disadvantage in the provision of services on the one hand (expenditure allowances) and an assessment of revenue raising capacity on the other (revenue allowances).

Expenditure allowances are calculated for each council for a selected range of council functions, such as libraries, health, building control, recreation, roads, etc. Expenditure allowances attempt to compensate councils for the extent of their relative disadvantage resulting from issues that are beyond their control. A disability factor is the Commission's estimate of the extent of relative disadvantage, expressed as a percentage, of providing a standard service due to issues that are beyond a council's control. A council may have a disability due to inherent factors such as topography, climate, traffic, duplication of services, etc.

The calculation of revenue allowances involves determining each council's theoretical capacity to raise revenue by comparing land values per property to a State standard and applying the State standard rate in-the-dollar.

The local roads component allocation is based on a method developed by NSW Roads and Maritime Services whereby each council receives funding based on their proportion of the State's population, local road length and the length of bridges on local roads.

Detailed explanations of the calculation used by the Commission to recommend the amount attributable to each council can be accessed at the following link:

https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/commissions-and-tribunals/grants-commission/grants-resources

Whilst the amount of the overall FAGs pool has changed annually in line with changes in population and the Consumer Price Index, the amount allocated to respective councils within each State fluctuates from year to year. As detailed above, movements in the grants are caused by annual variations in property valuations; standard costs; road and bridge length; disability measures; and population.

This annual calculation often results in a redistribution of funding amongst councils, with some councils potentially receiving more or less than the previous year, as has been experienced by Council over a number of years, and as shown in Chart 1 below.

Meeting Date: 11 August 2015

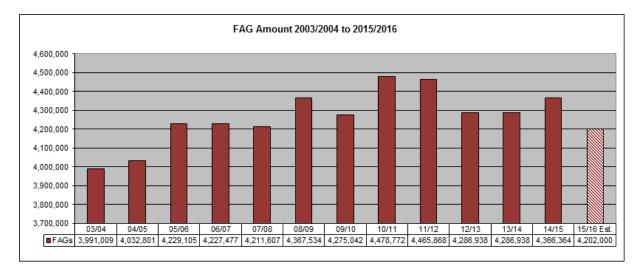


Chart 1: FAGs received between 2003/2004 and 2015/2016

Over recent years the amounts allocated to Council have fluctuated, with amounts being received in some years being less than that received in the previous year. With disability factors generally not improving from one year to the next, it can be concluded that reductions can be attributed to the change in the relativity of Council's measure to the standard measure and/or a change in the weighting of respective disability factors. It is also to be noted that Council has made a number of submissions to the Grants Commission regarding its allocation. Advice on the latest submission indicates the Grants Commission considered the current level of allocation adequate within the context of Council's disability factors.

The annual redistribution of funding makes it difficult to estimate the annual amount expected each financial year and consequently the total impact of the decision to freeze the indexation of the FAGs on this revenue source for Council over the period to which the freeze applies.

Impact of FAGs indexation freeze on funding pool

As part of the Budget announced in May 2014, the Federal Government made the decision to freeze the indexation of the FAGs paid to local government for three years. The ALGA has indicated that it is estimated that this decision will cost councils across Australia in the vicinity of \$925 million. The financial impact of this reduction will continue beyond the freeze period, as even if indexation was restored after this period, the reduction in the base level, being a permanent reduction of over 12%, would continue to have an on-going impact.

The ALGA has indicated that in 1996 the FAGs were at a level equivalent to 1% of the tax revenue. In recent years the FAGs have slipped to 0.7% and will further decline to just 0.53% by the end of the freeze period.

By the end of the freeze period, the estimated reduction for all councils in Australia in the FAGs will be \$321 million. Even if indexation is restored after the three years' freeze, (at an estimated 4.2%, which reflects the Consumer Price Index and population movements), the gap will continue to widen resulting in FAGs being approximately \$334 million less in 2018/2019 and almost \$350 million less in 2019/2020.

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Impact of FAGs indexation freeze on Council

In 2014/2015, Council's total FAGs allocation was \$4,366,364. The NSW Local Government Grants Commission has recently advised that Council's total estimated 2015/2016 Financial Assistance Grant entitlement is \$4,202,000. It is noted that this is an estimated amount and Council has not to date been advised of its exact 2015/2016 Financial Assistance Grant allocation. This is an estimated reduction of over \$160,000 from the previous year's allocation due mainly to the indexation freezing of the FAGs. With the overall pool of funds getting lesser each year in real terms, it is highly likely that Council will be faced with reductions in this source of funding in the next two financial years.

Whilst it is difficult to estimate the level of these reductions due to potential changes in the relative amounts allocated to each State and council, using the estimated reduction experienced for the 2015/2016 year as an assumed annual reduction, over a period of three years Council could receive at least approximately \$480,000 less than it would have if the freeze was not in place. This is assuming no further reductions due to redistribution of funds amongst councils, and ignoring the compound effect of the indexation freeze. Even in the event of the freeze being abolished after the three year period, the impact of the freeze would be reflected in future allocations due to the base amount for Council having been reduced by at least \$480,000.

The FAGs are a significant source of revenue to Council and supplements rating and other revenue required to fund essential expenditure on asset maintenance and renewal and provision of services in the Hawkesbury. The estimated reduction is the annual allocation to Council for 2015/2016 and the following years as a result of the decision to freeze the indexing of the Grants, will have a corresponding negative impact on funding available for necessary expenditure in future years.

Reduced revenue will impact on Council's operations, and consequently its capacity to serve the community. There will be less funds available to be allocated to Council's various operations such as roads maintenance and renewal works, parks maintenance, community buildings works, libraries, community services etc. Reduced funding will potentially be reflected in reduced service levels such as less potholes being able to be fixed, reduced scope for some works, parks mowed and cleaned less frequently, community buildings not being maintained to a satisfactory standard, reduced opening hours etc.

Council's ability to provide roads, facilities and services to the standard expected by its community will be hindered. The ability to respond to complaints and other requests will also be limited.

Income from grants, including, but not limited to FAGs, is outside Council's control and should therefore not be relied on as a strategy to remain financially sustainable. Whilst Council will continue to lobby for significant grants such as the FAGs, it may not be able to control other levels of governments' financial management strategies in the longer term. In the event FAGs are further reduced, or even withdrawn in the future, Council should ensure it is in a position to fill the revenue gap to enable the continuation of asset maintenance and renewal and services offered to its community.

As previously reported to Council, financial projections indicate that Council's current revenue base, including current FAGs levels, is not sufficient to meet on-going asset and services funding requirements.

This projected funding shortfall was addressed through strategies recommended in Council's Fit for the Future proposal endorsed by Council at its meeting on 30 June 2015. These revenue generation strategies include additional rating revenue, special rates, annual charges and sale of properties. The reduction of a significant revenue source like the FAGs further emphasises the need to investigate these alternative sources of income which, unlike the FAGs, are within Council's control. Council will need to rely increasingly on revenue generation options that are certain and on-going to make up the shortfall in the FAGs.

In the absence of the shortfall in FAGs revenue being made up through other sources, essential expenditure on asset maintenance and renewal and services provided to the community will be negatively impacted.

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Conformance to the Hawkesbury Community Strategic Plan

The proposal is consistent with the Shaping Our Future Together Directions Statement:

• The Council be financially sustainable to meet the current and future needs of the community based on a diversified income base, affordable and viable services.

Financial Implications

The financial implications of the Federal Government's decision announced in the 2014/2015 Budget regarding the freezing of the indexation of the FAGs on Council cannot be reliably estimated due to the fluctuations experienced in the past and expected to be continued to be seen with regard to the amount allocated to Council from year to year.

As detailed in this report, any reduction in the FAGs amount received will have a corresponding negative impact on funding available to Council to maintain its assets and provide services to its community. Council will need to rely on other stable revenue sources, including, but not limited to rating income, to make up the shortfall in funding to ensure that essential expenditure on asset maintenance and renewal and provision of services in the Hawkesbury is not impacted negatively due to the reduction in FAGs.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received and noted.

ATTACHMENTS:

AT - 1 Correspondence from the Australian Local Government Association dated 1 July 2015

Meeting Date: 11 August 2015

AT - 1 Correspondence from the Australian Local Government Association dated 1 July 2015



AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

1 July 2015

Hawkesbury City Council PO Box 146 WINDSOR NSW 2756

Dear Mr Peter Jackson

Financial Assistance Grants to Local Government

We are writing to thank you for attending the recent National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra and to ask for your help in ensuring your council passes a resolution acknowledging the Commonwealth's Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) for local government, as part of our campaign to restore the indexation of FAGs and to address their adequacy.

FAGs are an important untied payment to councils from the Australian Government which are invested in essential community infrastructure and services ranging from local roads and parks to swimming pools and libraries. Councils will receive \$2.3 billion from the Australian Government in 2014-15 under this important program.

FAGs funding is not currently keeping pace with demand for services and infrastructure in local communities, and the freeze of indexation will worsen this. Freezing FAGs at their current level until 2017-18 will result in a permanent reduction in the FAGs base by 13%.

ALGA is calling for FAGs indexation to be restored immediately and for the Federal Government to consider the adequacy of the quantum of FAGs and the indexation methodology in the future.

While the FAGs are paid through each state's Local Government Grants Commission, the funding originates with the Commonwealth and it is important it is recognised as such. We are asking your council, and every other council in Australia, to pass a resolution acknowledging the importance of the Commonwealth's Financial Assistance Grants in assisting councils to provide important community infrastructure. We are also asking councils to acknowledge the receipt of Financial Assistance Grants from the Commonwealth in media releases and council publications, including your annual report.

The FAGs are paid quarterly and it would help to illustrate the importance and impact of the grants if councils identified an individual project of a similar size to their annual or quarterly FAGs payment and highlighted this to the media and your local Federal Member and Senator in a positive story on the grant funds.





27 JUL 2015

8 Geils Court Deakin ACT 2600 лем 31 008 613 876 РНОМЕ 02 6122 9400 FAX 02 6122 9401 ЕМАН alga@alga.asn.au WEB www.alga.asn.au

ORDINARY MEETING Meeting Date: 11 August 2015

Falling levels of FAGs threaten the provision of important services in all local communities. The financial sustainability of Local Government is of utmost importance for our communities, and we urge you to support the campaign to maintain FAGs and restore indexation of the grants by passing a resolution similar to the draft resolution attached. Once your council has passed this resolution, please advise ALGA by emailing alga@alga.asn.au. This will allow us to compile a national list. The proportion of councils which have passed the resolution continues to rise and has now reached about 25 per cent nationally, but surely all councils share our goal of better and more secure funding from the Commonwealth.

Full details on FAGs payments for the current financial year are available on the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development website at

www.regional.gov.au/local/assistance.

Thank you for your commitment to the local government sector and your assistance in our campaign to restore the indexation of Financial Assistance Grants.

Yours sincerely

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- Louis La La

Meeting Date: 11 August 2015

Attachment

Council Resolution

That the Council:

- Acknowledges the importance of federal funding through the Financial Assistance Grants program for the continued delivery of councils services and infrastructure;
- 2. Acknowledges that the council will receive \$X.Y million in 2014 15; and
- Will ensure that this federal funding, and other funding provided by the Federal Government under relevant grant programs, is appropriately identified as Commonwealth grant funding in council publications, including annual reports.

Rationale

FAGs are a vital part of the revenue base of all councils, and this year councils will receive \$2.3 billion from the Australian Government under this important program.

The Government's decision in the 2014 Federal Budget to freeze the indexation of FAGs for three years beginning in 2014-15 will unfortunately cost councils across Australia an estimated \$925 million by 2017-18.

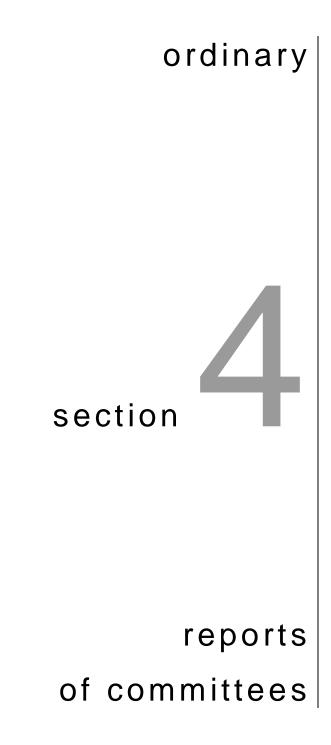
ALGA and the state local government associations are seeking the support of Council for advocacy to have the Federal Government reverse the decision to freeze the indexation of FAGs.

While the FAGs are paid through each state's Local Government Grants Commission, the funding originates with the Commonwealth and it is important it is recognised as such. Council, and every other council in Australia, have been asked to pass a resolution acknowledging the importance of the Commonwealth's Financial Assistance Grants in assisting Council to provide important community infrastructure.

Council is also being asked to acknowledge the receipt of Financial Assistance Grants from the Commonwealth in media releases and council publications, including our annual report and to highlight to the media a council project costing a similar size to the FAGs received by Council so that the importance and impact of the grants can be more broadly appreciated.

0000 END OF REPORT 0000

ORDINARY MEETING Reports of Committees



Reports of Committees

Reports of Committees

SECTION 4 - Reports of Committees

ROC Hawkesbury Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee Minutes - 7 May 2015 - (124569, 96328)

The meeting commenced at 4pm.

Present:	Ms Debbie Court, Community Representative Mr Desmond Crane, Community Representative Mr Ken Ferris, Community Representative Mr Gary London, Community Representative Ms Mary-Jo McDonnell, Community Representative Ms Kate Barlow, District Health Service Representative Councillor Barry Calvert, Hawkesbury City Council
Apologies:	Mr Alan Aldrich, Community Representative Mr Robert Bosshard, Community Representative Ms Carolyn Lucas, Community Representative Ms Melanie Oxenham, Community Representative Councillor Leigh Williams, Hawkesbury City Council
In Attendance:	Joseph Litwin - Executive Manager - Community Partnerships Meagan Ang - Community Development Co-ordinator Shari Hussein – Strategic Planning Manager Chris Amit – Design & Mapping Services Manager Neil Baily – Technical and Restorations Officer Ian Clark – Design and Investigation Coordinator Craig Johnson - Parks Project Officer

REPORT:

RESOLVED on the motion of Mr Desmond Crane and seconded by Ms Debbie Court that the apologies be accepted.

Attendance Register

Member	25/9/2014 [Postponed from 28/8/2014]	23/10/2014	26/2/2015	7/05/2015 [Postponed from 16/4/2014]
Councillor Barry Calvert	~	А	~	~
Councillor Leigh Williams	~	\checkmark	~	А
Mr Alan Aldrich	~	√	✓	A
Ms Alison Baildon	N/A	√	✓	~
Mr Robert Bosshard	~	А	А	A
Ms Debbie Court	~	√	✓	~
Mr Desmond Crane	~	√	✓	~
Mr Ken Ferris	А	А	А	~
Ms Carolyn Lucas	~	✓	✓	A
Mr Gary London	~	А	✓	~
Ms Mary-Jo McDonnell	✓	✓	A	✓
Ms Melanie Oxenham	✓	✓	✓	A

Reports of Committees

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED on the motion of Mr Gary London and seconded by Ms Debbie Court that the Minutes of the Hawkesbury Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee held on the 26 February 2015, be confirmed.

SECTION 2 - Presentations to the Committee

An update was provided by Council's Technical and Restorations Officer, Neil Bailey and Strategic Planning Manager, Shari Hussein on the scheduled works for surrounding heritage sites.

DISCUSSION:

- Thompson Square is State Heritage listed site including Thompson Square buildings and curtilage. State Heritage identified sites requiring State Heritage Office consent prior to works being undertaken.
- New works all must comply with Access to Premises, Building Code of Australia and Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.
- All development applications approved by Council for extensions require compliance against relevant legislation. Developers are required to comply with relevant legislation for all new development.
- Legislation relevant to road reserve covers footpath areas. If works were to affect heritage listed items they are required to go to the Heritage Advisory Committee.
- Council received a grant to develop a conservation management plan for Thompson Square which will enable Council to identify required works. Council will consult with the Heritage Advisory Committee to seek further approval exemption for minor rectification works such as footpath repairs as identified in the plan.
- The grant does not allow for funds to undertake works. Heritage funding for capital works programs require Council to have a plan prior to submitting and grants are regularly awarded on a 50/50 basis.
- HAIAC not have input into the development of the plan as it is a technical plan however, the next step following plan would is building a case for exemptions the Committee will be invited to have input then.
- The plan will assist to determine heritage value and then weigh these against need for accessibility.

Councillor Calvert thanked Council staff for the presentation. Shari Hussein and Neil Bailey left the meeting

Reports of Committees

SECTION 3 - Reports for Determination

Item: 1 HAIAC - Construction Plan - Capital Works Smith Park at Francis Street (Pughes Lagoon)

DISCUSSION:

- Works are being undertaken at Pugh's Lagoon to create better access through site and to picnic areas. Car park capacity has also been increased.
- Stage 1 complete. Stage 2 is Northern Side. Long Term aim is to put path behind car park and copper logs will be removed.
- The entire site had previously gone to community consultation to close area to through traffic however outcome was for road to remain open future works include speed humps
- Continuous kerb has replaced former barriers to prevent cars from driving onto grassed area.
- Car parking spaces have been designed to allow people to walk behind parking spaces.

Feedback from committee

- Paths needed on grass area to eating area etc.
 Response: That is intent of design it's just awaiting funds a large portion of budget has been used to address drainage issues on site.
- A lot of carers like to use that area.
 Response: This was considered and have allowed for bus parking
- Garden beds on proposed design can be moved. There is a lot more leniency in design with landscaping than there is in roads.
- Council is seeking funding for access within Governor Phillip reserve. One design criteria is that there is equal access. Council has applied for further funding to undertake design for entire site.
- When building wharf people how can people who use wheelchairs access them? Answer: all designs access and mobility are taken into account. Recent upgrades in George St resulted in loss of parking but the width of paths was maintained.
- Is it possible to put hoist to assist people to access boats? Answer: Windsor wharf design was in works for 2 years but there are still challenges presented by variations in vessels. You would have the lifting device on portable vehicle rather than fixed on site.
- Chris Amit advises that Committee feedback always welcome.
- Craig Johnson will make up larger plans for the site and will forward to the Committee via Meagan Ang

ORDINARY MEETING Reports of Committees

RECOMMENDATION TO COMMITTEE:

That:

- 1. The information be received.
- 2. The Committee review the plans for proposed construction at Smith Park at Francis Street.

MOTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Mr Crane, seconded by Gary London.

Refer to COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That:

- 3. The information be received.
- 4. The Committee review the plans for proposed construction at Smith Park at Francis Street.

Item: 2 HAIAC - Draft Capital Works Program 2015/2016 - (124569, 96328)

DISCUSSION:

Capital Works Program

- The Committee were issued the draft works plan to identify relevant works to which relevant Council manager can be invited to discuss the design of works.
- Works will not commence until July 2015.
- Items in question -
 - 159 North Richmond Neighbourhood Centre
 - Maraylya Public School Access further information to be provided
 - Playground equipment Governor Phillip Park
 - Upgrading toilets at Ham Common
 - Cycle ways at moment continuing cycleway through South Windsor and Bligh Park. Reason that Council has gone there is because it is not possible to continue Richmond to Windsor shared pathway due to some insurmountable technical issues.
 - Section 94 some details of upgrades to parks and childcare centres. Once plan adopted Craig Johnson can provide more info on parks upgrades
 - All committee members to peruse and feedback to Meagan and relevant managers can be invited to attend.

ORDINARY MEETING Reports of Committees

RECOMMENDATION TO COMMITTEE:

That the Committee review the attached Draft Capital Works Program 2014/2016.

MOTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Desmond Crane , seconded by Gary London

Refer to COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. That the Committee review the attached Draft Capital Works Program 2014/2016.
- 2. The Committee feedback items of interest to Meagan Ang by 30 May 2015

Item: 3 HAIAC - Access and Inclusion Committee Audits - (124569, 96328)

DISCUSSION:

Desmond Crane noted access issues around Glossodia shopping centre.

RECOMMENDATION TO COMMITTEE:

That matters raised by the Committee in relation to Access and Inclusion Committee audits, be noted.

MOTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Desmond Crane , seconded by Gary London.

Refer to COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That:

- The information be received
- Meagan Ang and Desmond Crane undertake an access and inclusion audit of specified sites.

Reports of Committees

Item: 4 HAIAC - Progress on Access and Inclusion Plan - (124569, 96328)

DISCUSSION:

Due to working party absences there was no progress report on actions.

RECOMMENDATION TO COMMITTEE:

That matters raised by the Committee relating to the progress of the Access and Inclusion Plan, be noted.

MOTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Desmond Crane , seconded by Gary London

Refer to COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That matters raised by the Committee relating to the progress of the Access and Inclusion Plan, be noted.

SECTION 4 - General Business

Ken Ferris would like noted that Alan Aldrich was disappointed that the weather prevented him from attending the Hawkesbury Show.

The meeting terminated at 5:40pm.

Submitted to and confirmed at the meeting of the Hawkesbury Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee held on 27 August 2015.

0000 END OF REPORT 0000

Notices of Motion



notices of motion

Notices of Motion

Notices of Motion

SECTION 5 - Notices of Motion

NM1 Fencing Around Grandstands - McQuade Park and Richmond Park - (79351, 105109, 80104)

Submitted by: Councillor Paine

NOTICE OF MOTION:

That:

- 1. Subject to approval from the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, appropriate fencing or barriers be installed to secure the grandstand in McQuade Park to regulate access to the grandstand and protect this heritage item.
- 2. An appropriate adjustment be made in the September 2015 Quarterly Budget Review for funding to install fencing or barriers at the McQuade Park grandstand.
- 3. A further report be submitted to Council providing options for the fencing of the grandstand in Richmond Park, in order to protect this heritage item.

BACKGROUND:

Both the McQuade Park and Richmond Park grandstands are significant heritage items and are currently being affected by various acts of vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

The two structures currently have unrestricted access, which places both grandstands at risk. I previously raised the issue in Council and was advised that the likely cost of securing the McQuade Park grandstand would be in the order of \$35,000 and would be subject to heritage approvals.

This Notice of Motion seeks to advance this matter, through a direction to proceed with obtaining designs and statutory approvals, and making the necessary budget adjustments in the September 2015 Quarterly Budget Review to allow this to occur.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Notices of Motion

NM2 Coal Mining in the Liverpool Plains Area - (79351, 105109, 125612, 80104)

Submitted by: Councillors Lyons-Buckett and Paine

NOTICE OF MOTION:

That Council:

- 1. Acknowledge its concerns regarding proposals and approvals for coal mines in the Liverpool Plains area (Shenhua Watermark mine) and the greater Sydney water catchment area.
- 2. Express support for the NSW Farmer's Association in its attempts protect the interests of farmers in the Liverpool Plains area, and the food and water security of the people of NSW and Australia.
- 3. Write to the Premier of NSW, Mike Baird MP; the NSW Minister for Resources, Anthony Roberts MP; the NSW Minister for the Environment, Mark Speakman MP and the NSW Farmer's Association outlining Council's position on the Shenhua Watermark mine.
- 4. Support motions raised at the 2015 LGNSW Conference which align to Council's position on this matter.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Notices of Motion

NM3 Rates from Commonwealth and State Government Owned Properties - (79351, 105109, 125612, 80104)

Submitted by: Councillors Lyons-Buckett and Paine

NOTICE OF MOTION:

That Council:

- 1. Investigate the feasibility of obtaining rates from properties within the LGA owned by the Commonwealth and State Governments (for example, University of Western Sydney, Hawkesbury Campus, RAAF Richmond Air Base, Department of Education properties, emergency service facilities, etc.).
- 2. Submit a notice of motion to the 2015 LGNSW Conference seeking support for this for all LGAs with similar establishments in their area.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Notices of Motion

NM4 Review of Hawkesbury Residential Land Strategy - (79351, 105109, 125612)

Submitted by: Councillor Lyons-Buckett

NOTICE OF MOTION:

That Council expand the review of the Hawkesbury Residential Land Strategy(HRLS) to include consideration of:

- 1. lowering the targeted number of dwellings from 5,000-6,000 to 4,000, or alternatively
- 2. placing a cap on the number of dwellings west of the Hawkesbury River.

BACKGROUND:

The inadequacy of infrastructure provision and upgrades west of the river is apparent. The HRLS has failed to ensure the infrastructure is adequate to support the development which has been allowed to proceed to date.

There is no allocation of funding or commitment from the State Government to provide additional road upgrades beyond the current works on the Bells Line of Road. Uncertainty remains regarding the Windsor Bridge. The community is faced with increasing vulnerability due to a lack of emergency services west of the river and difficult access during peak times.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

Questions for Next Meeting

QUESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

Councillor Questions from Previous Meetings and Responses - (79351)

REPORT:

Questions - 28 July 2015

#	Councillor	Question	Response
1	Reardon	Enquired if Council could apply for a NSW Health and Community Sharps Management and Infrastructure grant to allow Council to manage sharps disposal at locations such as the weighbridge at the Waste Management Facility or the Library.	The Director Support Services advised that following the August Councillor Briefing Session presentation from representatives of the Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District in relation to Community Sharps Disposal, a report is being prepared for Council's consideration into this issue.
2	Williams	Requested that development application objectors be notified, as a matter of procedure, of an impending site visit.	The Director City Planning advised that objectors can be advised when a Councillor inspection of a site, the subject of a development application, is to be held. However, it must be remembered that the objectors cannot enter the development site unless permitted by the owner of the site. Council's power of entry does not extend to permit other individuals to enter private property.
3	Williams	Requested that the toilets at McQuade Park be made available for public use.	The Director Infrastructure Services advised that the toilets are under the control of the Hawkesbury Sports Council and are made available for sporting groups only due to the need to ensure cleanliness and vandalism do not restrict these events.
4	Paine	Requested to be notified when Nova employment seeks support for employment placements.	The General Manager advised that the request has been noted and will be actioned as necessary.

Questions for Next Meeting

#	Councillor	Question	Response
5	Paine	Requested an update on the progress of inviting Dominic Perrottet, MP to a meal before a Council meeting.	The General Manager advised that an invitation has been issued to Mr Perottet MP, to join Council for dinner prior to a meeting, in accordance with the previous request.
6	Paine	Enquired about the approved units in Macquarie Street, Windsor asking how to upgrade the development from a two to three story to five story buildings and also to look at building density in Macquarie Street, Windsor.	The Director City Planning advised that existing development consents for these properties cannot be 'upgraded' to five stories as the height limit for the sites is defined in the LEP 2012 as 12 metres (four story equivalent). To amend the LEP a number of studies, including housing and commercial demand (economic and social); streetscape assessment; noise assessments (traffic and aircraft); traffic study; obstacle height (aircraft) assessments would be required to inform an amendment to the Residential Land Strategy (RLS) prior to preparing a planning proposal for the LEP change. An LEP change must be consistent with a State or Local Strategy. Whilst much of this work is not currently budgeted or proposed in the current Operational Plan, a housing demand analysis is currently being undertaken as part of the current review of the RLS and Rural Land Strategy preparation.

Questions for Next Meeting

#	Councillor	Question	Response
7	Paine	Enquired how to have Oakville considered as a centre for development.	The Director City Planning advised that the release of land in any locality must be justified by a State or Local Strategy. Oakville is not currently identified in the Local Strategy (Residential Land Strategy) and the southern portion only is currently identified in the State Strategy (NW Growth Centre). As part of the precinct planning for Vineyard and Box Hill the expansion of the precincts into Oakville were investigated and not further considered at that time due to servicing constraints (infrastructure will not be available to the locality for some time) and lack of demand justification for the release of that land at this time due to the proximity of the Growth Centre. In this regard it is not considered that the release of this locality could be sufficiently justified in the short to medium term. This locality could be further investigated for long term release depending on the progress of the adjoining Growth Centre.
8	Calvert	Enquired if the RMS has declared the existing Windsor Bridge as unsafe and how much has the NSW Government spent on the proposed bridge in the last financial year.	The Director Infrastructure Services advised that the matter has been referred to the RMS and their response will be provided when received.
9	Tree	Enquired if 'Hawkesbury Helping Hands' were moved on from the location that they use and if there is a permit that is required for the group to operate from that location.	The Director City Planning advised that 'Hawkesbury Helping Hands' have not been requested to move from Howe Park. As explained in the responses to the questions at the Ordinary meeting on 28 July 2015, Council requested that the vehicle used as part of their operations not be parked within Howe Park as it was obstructing the disabled access to the Park.

Questions for Next Meeting

#	Councillor	Question	Response
10	Rasmussen	Requested a commencement date for the Rural Land study.	The Director City Planning advised that some background work, within existing budget constraints, has already commenced. Council has recently applied for grant funds to assist in the mapping of local "food sheds" to determine the location and extent of agricultural food production in the Hawkesbury.
11	Rasmussen	Asked when damage caused to Yarramundi Lane would be repaired.	The Director Infrastructure Services advised that the works currently being undertaken by Endeavour Energy aren't complete and restoration will be carried out as soon as they are finalised. Endeavour Energy have been requested to maintain a satisfactory road surface in the meantime.
12	Rasmussen	Enquired if Council is aware of how much money was spent on the intersection of Yarramundi Lane and Kurrajong Road.	The Director Infrastructure Services advised that RMS, through various communications, have indicated the cost of the projects to upgrade the three intersections at Kurrajong Road and Yarramundi Lane, Bells Line of Road and Grose Vale Road and Kurrajong Road and Bosworth Street is approximately of \$18 million. A request for information regarding the cost of the upgrade of this particular intersection has been forwarded to RMS and their response will be provided when received.

Questions for Next Meeting

#	Councillor	Question	Response
13	Rasmussen	Enquired if Council is aware that Hawkesbury District Health Service does not accept for admission people classified as morbidly obese and directs these people to Penrith.	The Director Support Services advised that a representative of Hawkesbury District Health Service confirmed that Hawkesbury District Hospital as a regional hospital does not have the equipment, facilities or specialist staff to undertake surgical procedures where a patient is classified as morbidly obese (bariatric patients with a body mass index [BMI] of 45 or above or who weigh more than 180kg). Where patients within this category present at emergency their acute medical issues are stabilised and then they are re-directed to Nepean Hospital. For similar reasons the HDHS also redirects bariatric patients for elective surgery where they have a BMI of 45 or above or who weigh more than 150kg. The Hospital only performs surgery on patients assessed as low risk, with high risk patients redirected to Nepean Hospital where the equipment and specialists to support surgery for bariatric patients are located.

0000 END OF REPORT 0000

CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

Item: 130 IS - Tender No. 00958 - Provision of Graffiti Removal to Various Council Assets - (95495, 79340) CONFIDENTIAL

Reason for Confidentiality

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 of Chapter 4 of the Local Government Act, 1993, and the matters dealt with in this report are to be considered while the meeting is closed to the press and the public.

Specifically, the matter is to be dealt with pursuant to Section 10A(2)(d) of the Act as it relates to tenders for the provision of cleaning of various Council buildings and the information is regarded as being commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council, or reveal a trade secret and, therefore, if considered in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

ORDINARY MEETING CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

Item: 131 IS - Tender No. 00962 - Operation, Maintenance and Expansion of a Landfill Gas Flare Project at Hawkesbury City Waste Management Facility - (95495, 112179) CONFIDENTIAL

Reason for Confidentiality

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 of Chapter 4 of the Local Government Act, 1993, and the matters dealt with in this report are to be considered while the meeting is closed to the press and the public.

Specifically, the matter is to be dealt with pursuant to Section 10A(2)(d) of the Act as it relates to details concerning tenders for the supply of goods and/or services to Council and it is considered and the information is regarded as being commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council, or reveal a trade secret and, therefore, if considered in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

Item: 132 SS - Property Matter - Lease to Hui Liang Chen - Shop 1 McGraths Hill Shopping Centre - (119085, 112106, 89525, 95496) CONFIDENTIAL

Reason for Confidentiality

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 of Chapter 4 of the Local Government Act, 1993, and the matters dealt with in this report are to be considered while the meeting is closed to the press and the public.

Specifically, the matter is to be dealt with pursuant to Section 10A(2)(c) of the Act as it relates to details concerning the leasing of a Council property and it is considered that the release of the information would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person or organisation with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business and, therefore, if considered in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

Item: 133	SS - Tender for the Sale of 139 Colonial Drive and Sale of 139 Colonial Drive and 85 Rifle Range Road, Bligh Park - (95496, 112106) CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Item:	 85, Ordinary (13 July 2004) 26, Ordinary (26 February 2008) 240, Ordinary (12 October 2010) 63, Ordinary (29 March 2011) 64, Ordinary (8 May 2012) 45, Ordinary (12 March 2013) 187, Ordinary (10 September 2013)

Reason for Confidentiality

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with the provisions of Part 1 of Chapter 4 of the Local Government Act, 1993, and the matters dealt with in this report are to be considered while the meeting is closed to the press and the public.

Specifically, the matter is to be dealt with pursuant to Section 10A(2)(d) of the Act as it relates to the potential sale of a Council property and the information is regarded as being commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council, or reveal a trade secret and, therefore, if considered in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.



ordinary meeting

end of business paper

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