



Attachment 1 to Item 4.2.2

Submissions received during the exhibition of the Draft 2023/2024 Operational Plan and Draft 2023-2033 Long Term Financial Plan

Date of meeting: 20 June 2023
Location: Council Chambers
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Your Hawkesbury Your Say Submissions

#	Submission
1	To seal the next section of Wheelbarrow Ridge Road.
2	Woodbury Reserve.
3	<p>Previous representations have been made to Council re the clearing of swamp land along Pitt Town Road border the houses on Ivy Avenue McGraths Hill. Council undertook an ecological study in October 2022 and found no threatened species or habitats. The recommendation was a preclearing activity prior to construction activity.</p> <p>The Director of Infrastructure further recommended working up a couple of options on how to manage this land. On the basis of previous investigation work could consideration be given to allocating some funds for preclearing and options for the land. Adjoining this land council are updating the park on corner of Ivy and Pitt Town Road. Residents also met with Robyn Preston who advised NSW Government may be able to support the remediation of swamp area as it sits primarily on NSW Government land.</p>
4	<p>Council needs to do more to subsidise the cost of pump out services. Our daughter lives at Kurmond and the annual fee is a significant financial burden. They want to leave the area just to avoid this yearly cost on the top of the rates. I know for a fact that Penrith Council has significantly subsidised this cost to their residents for many years through a small rate across the City.</p> <p>Given the semi-rural nature of the areas on pump out they generally don't receive many of the services provided to residential areas and it is only fair that they should receive some financial relief. The Penrith levy is only around .2% which is negligible when applied city wide rather than this excessive pump out fee. Better pump out services provide wider environmental and social benefits as the incentive for illegal emptying of tanks, or the regular overflows are avoided. I can provide further details if required.</p>
5	<p>Is there any proposal to widen the bridge over Buttsworth Creek as there is a lot of foot and bicycle traffic along Wilberforce Road. Also, when this road was recently resurfaced the shoulders were not repaired or swept clean when the Contractor finished.</p> <p>When might the riverbank be restored in Historic Windsor below the Terrace? Thank you for the opportunity to ask these important questions.</p>
6	I would like to see the sporting fields down Bensons Lane open to all public.
7	<p>McQuade Park strategy (maintenance/recovery and development) is a significant gap in the Operational Plan. Following the survey conducted by HCC of options for McQuade Park (in 2022?) I'd expected there would be a strategy for this in the Operational Plan and a budget to being to address the issues and improve the Park.</p> <p>The pond and waterfall - once popular with weddings and picnics - is a dirty, poorly maintained "feature". The oval fence needs cleaning. The children's playground in need of new surface and updated equipment. At the entry to Windsor and a throughway area, the park has none of the welcome features or attraction that parks in other country areas have (e.g. Goulburn, Bowral, Orange).</p>
8	Installation of shade sails to cover the outdoor garden activity area used by our current family services.
9	I would like to see support provided to undertake minor building works to Peppercorn Place to optimise building utilisation. Revamp the building signage and create an open plan inclusive environment that enhances collaboration of services.

10 Dear Councillors and Executives,

Redbank Communities is a thriving master planned estate of over 900 new lots, open spaces, and commercial village. Our 3,000+ residents are proud to call the Hawkesbury home along with all other residents of the Hawkesbury area. They are active and engaged members in their community. Ongoing maintenance of the estate to a quality standard is welcomed as this will maintain and enhance long term value of Redbank houses. The unique design of the estate with retained Heritage Water features has resulted in higher sale prices in comparison to other residential areas within the Hawkesbury LGA.

The Redbank estates open space areas welcomes and is used by many HCC residents who live outside the estate. The VPA requires Redbank Communities to deliver a regional open space area to service the needs of the broader HCC community not solely Redbank residents. It is Redbank residents paying the charge, not the greater community.

I understand the proposed charge will take effect form 1 July 2023 and without any educational information directly to Redbank residents.

I highly recommend council engages with residents to educate the need for a charge and the long-term benefits it provides in helping maintain values.

I am writing to seek clarification to the proposed changes to the 2023 – 2033 long term financial plan tabled at the Ordinary Meeting April 18, 2023, Item 4.2.2.

Correct description of charge

Council refers to the charge as relating to the “Keyline Drainage System”. This is misleading. The Redbank estate drainage system is just like any other urban area, utilising pits, and pipes. The historic “Keyline” offers no drainage to Redbank Estate. The correct description should refer to the items that are over and above normal urban areas. Redbank’s retained dams and associated costs to dams is the better description. 2 of the dams are listed as prescribed dams requiring ongoing monitoring and maintenance. The other dams require maintenance of water quality using pumps and aerators. We recommend council consider renaming the charge as Redbank Dam maintenance and monitoring.

The existing \$30 Redbank drainage management charge was applied by HCC some years ago to Redbank residents.

- How has the \$30 drainage management fee been used to date?
- Please provide evidence of the drainage management services provided to our residents over and above what the developer has delivered to date.

Redbank Communities and HCC entered into a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) in August 2014. The VPA requires Redbank Communities to deliver works in kind in open space and recreational facilities, monetary contributions to roadworks and community facilities and provide 5 years of dedicated maintenance to completed open space areas. To date no open space areas have been dedicated to HCC for maintenance nor have Redbank Communities witnessed HCC providing maintenance services in the estate.

If Redbank Communities are providing a 5-year maintenance program on all open space including the Keyline dams.

- Why did HCC charge a drainage management charge of \$30 to Redbank residents?
- Why is HCC proposing a new drainage management charge to Redbank residents of \$100?

HCC states a sensitivity analysis was used in forming the LTFP.

- What modelling was used in the sensitivity analysis to determine the proposed increased drainage management cost to Redbank residents?

HCC refers to the increased drainage management charge applied to Redbank residents being applicable to the Redbank drainage system, being for ongoing maintenance and renewal costs and legislative obligations.

- Can HCC clarify why an incremental charge is being applied to Redbank residents given the current contemporary drainage system complies with, or exceeds, all current statutory requirements and was certified and approved by HCC?

- Can HCC detail why Redbank estate requires an incremental increase in drainage management charges as opposed to other urban drainage systems in the Hawkesbury LGA?

Scenario 2 as stated in the business paper item 4.2.2. states an increase in 2023/24 to \$100 for each resident with an annual increase of 10% per annum for the duration of the plan. However, P24 of the LTFP draft under scenario 2 states a \$100 increase in 2023/24 with an annual increase for CPI of 2.5% in future years.

- Which is the correct version of Scenario 2 “Likely”?

Based on the information available, I believe that the proposed change unfairly targets and financially burdens Redbank residents. In conclusion and based on the above unanswered questions Redbank Communities cannot support the current proposal.

Western Sydney Health Alliance

For healthy communities in the Western Parkland City

An initiative of the Western Sydney City Deal

Mr Miles Carter
Corporate Planning and Performance Strategist
Hawkesbury City Council

E: miles.carter@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

29 May 2023

Western Sydney Health Alliance (WSHA) Submission

Re: Hawkesbury City Council Public exhibition – Draft Delivery Program 2022 - 2026 and Operational Plan 2023-24

Dear Mr Carter,

I write on behalf of the Western Sydney Health Alliance (WSHA) in response to Hawkesbury City Councils Public exhibition – Draft Delivery Program 2022 -2026 and Operational Plan 2023-24.

The WSHA was formed as a key priority area under the Western Sydney City Deal and is a partnership between the Australian Government, NSW Government, and local governments of the Blue Mountains, Camden, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Liverpool, Penrith and Wollondilly. The involvement of a broad range of Council Officers in the WSHA enables significant benefits to Council by broadening perspectives, informing thinking, building understanding and creating alliances and networks.

The WSHA values Hawkesbury City Council partnership and welcomes the opportunity to have input into the Draft Delivery Program 2022 -2026 and Operational Plan 2023-24. We value the opportunity to work with Council to create healthy communities across the Western Parkland City.

In this context, healthy communities go beyond quality medical care and is reflected in the social and environmental factors that promote well-being. It is a place where all residents feel included and there is equitable access to resources needed for optimal health. Health and wellbeing have enormous influence on our overall quality of life and good health is something that we all want and expect, and many take for granted. Poor health imposes a huge cost on our communities.

Councils are place shapers and place leaders and the WSHA acknowledges the role Hawkesbury City Council has in policy decisions and in the planning, development, and provision of services. This contributes to the health and wellbeing conditions and environments where people live, learn, work, pray, and play.

The WSHA applauds Council for the detailed draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2023-24 that clearly links to the community's aspirations and with Council's vision and long-term strategy. The plan continues to build organisational and resource capability to meet community need and the actions embedded in the Operational Plan have an emphasis on increasing resilience and sustainability outcomes.

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It is welcomed to see the commitment to our current partnership as action 1.2.2 in the Operational Plan 2023-24. Our partnership and the work being undertaken by our Alliance is also a great measure to achieve activity 1.2.1 *Encourage and enable our community to participate in a healthy lifestyle* and 4.4.2 *Achieve higher strategic capacity through strategic alliances and partnerships*.

Hawkesbury's commitment to the health and wellbeing of its community is commendable and the Councils leadership in health and wellbeing is demonstrated in the Operational Plan 2023-24 through initiatives such as:

- The development of an Active Transport Plan.
- Councils' commitment to partner with businesses, community, and public health agencies to promote access to safe, nutritious, affordable and sustainably produced food.
- The commitment to quality active and passive recreational spaces
- Partnerships to implement community resilience and mental health programs.

This work is praiseworthy.

This submission is proposing the following additional items for Council to consider and address in the Operational Plan 2023-24:

- the application of a health lens to activities in the Operational Plan 2023-24,
- measurement tools in the operational plan for social health and well-being, and
- piloting actions from the Western Sydney Health Alliance Climate, Health and Wellbeing Guideline developed through the Increasing Resilience to Climate Change grant.

The application of a Health Lens to activities in the Operational Plan.

The Western Parkland City has elevated rates of behaviours that have been linked to poorer health status and chronic disease prevalence. Health outcomes are poorer generally across the region and for different groups within the community. Many chronic conditions can be prevented or at least improved, but this cannot be achieved by the health system alone.

In our present government structures, sectors other than health are responsible for many policy decisions that shape the social determinants of health (see attachment 1), and therefore the impact these determinants have on health and wellbeing. Addressing the social determinants of health through planning approaches and decision making can achieve many positive public policy outcomes.

To address this, it is essential to identify the structural barriers that prevent or impact the ability of an individual to adopt behaviour that is supportive of good health. This includes walkable suburbs, active transport options including cycleways, footpaths and 'inclusive or disability' access to healthy food and access to affordable medical support.

Loneliness and social connectedness influence health and quality of life - Strong social support and sense of belonging enable improved wellbeing, sense of purpose, and enhance physical and psychological health outcomes. Social isolation is associated with a 50% increased risk of dementia, 29% increased risk of heart disease and 32% increased risk of stroke, 68% increased risk of hospitalization and 57% increased risk of emergency department visits. Opportunities that provide safe, healthy, and productive social interactions in neighbourhoods and communities will lead to positive health outcomes for Hawkesbury residents.

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Council is a leader in the Hawkesbury Community, influences the changes needed in our social, physical and economic environments, and impacts on our day to day activities. Council can contribute to health outcomes that enable healthy environments and choices for all living in Hawkesbury, through the implementation of healthy frameworks, guidance documents and planning strategies in the planning and design of healthier, liveable neighbourhoods and communities.

For this to happen planning must include health and wellbeing during design, implementation, policy development and review of current and future development.

A health lens cast over the priorities and functional areas of Council will also expose Council Officers to a greater understanding of the intersection and impacts between health and wellbeing and the priority areas of Council. This will also result in greater inclusion of health considerations in the work program, targets and milestones of a number of priority areas. The WSHA can provide staff with more practical information about interventions and tools to evaluate those interventions.

The WSHA can further enhance Council's activities in these areas through the WSHA Liveability and Connections working group and Healthy Lifestyles working group. These groups are currently collaborating across the 8 Parkland Councils and exploring opportunities with each other, to ensure there is:

- an integrated and connected Cycleway network across the Western Parkland City,
- an audit to promote and encourage partnerships to increase the usage of open spaces for recreational walking, and
- the development of a Healthy Food and Drink Policy to facilitate and encourage healthy food and drink choices for staff, volunteers, and the community.

The WSHA is recommending a health lens is applied to the following activities in the Operational Plan:

- Development of the Active Transport Plan
- Development of the Community and Human Services Outcomes Framework
- Development of the Disability Inclusion Action Plan and Cultural Plan
- The Social Infrastructure Strategy
- The enhancement of active and passive recreational spaces
- Review of the Library, Gallery, and Museum spaces
- the Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Action Plan.
- the Hawkesbury Local Environmental Plan Review Planning Proposal
- the amendments to the Hawkesbury Local Environmental Plan and Development Control Plan and the development of Hawkesbury Place Plans
- standards for new development and capital works
- piloting actions from the WSHA Climate, Health and Wellbeing guideline developed through the Increasing Resilience to Climate Change grant,
- use of Health Impact Assessments in the City-wide upgrades, WestInvest funded initiatives, and the Major works program, to enhance the quality and accessibility of community infrastructure, open spaces, and community corridors across Hawkesbury,

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and

- the essential works and Asset Management programs

By considering health impacts across all Council functional areas such as strategic planning, development assessment, community development, community and children's services, service design and delivery, waste, environmental services, asset development and maintenance, the health of the overall population can be improved.

Measurement tools in the operational plan for social health and well-being.

The Operational Plan is silent on what measures are to be used to demonstrate the effectiveness of the services and activities detailed. It is noted these measures are in the Delivery Program and linkages to these measures would enhance the Operational Plan.

Councils' performance measures and indicators would benefit from a greater inclusion of health indicator considerations in the work program targets, and milestones of the priority and functional areas. There are minimal performance indicators and qualitative measurement tools in relation to social health and well-being.

The inclusion of measurements such as the Social Infrastructure Index, Walkability Index, Heat Vulnerability Index, Air Quality, Urban Vegetation Cover, Metro Aria scores, Digital Inclusion Index and incidents of crime in public open spaces would provide a healthy balance to the quantitative measures identified in the Delivery Program and linked to the Operational Plan. This balance would assist Council to understand and then adapt and respond to changes in community needs and the business environment.

It is acknowledged the monitoring and evaluating action in relation to the social determinants of health is a complex and challenging task, however qualitative measures allow and encourage voices of the most vulnerable to be heard adequately and place people at the centre of policy development, service design and implementation.

WSHA can assist with the collection of health measures, stories, and best practice outcomes through our partnership, strengthening the reporting of healthy community outcomes to the residents of Hawkesbury and other stakeholders.

Piloting actions from the Western Sydney Health Alliance Climate, Health and Wellbeing Guideline developed through the Increasing Resilience to Climate Change grant.

Viewing the changing climate through a health lens, places people at the centre of decision-making and actions. The health lens recognises the human face of the changing climate – poor air quality, leads to young children developing chronic respiratory conditions and low-income households struggling with no air-conditioning during heat waves and malnutrition because of fresh food shortages during extreme weather events. Applying a health lens puts knowledge, advocacy, and control in the hands of our community. It allows policy makers and communities to make changes which will provide resilience dividends and result in net positive benefits for everyone.

The Councils of the Western Parkland City have taken leadership in this area resulting in the development of a resource providing practical recommendations to increase community resilience to the health impacts of a changing climate. Hawkesbury City Council was involved in the development of this resource.

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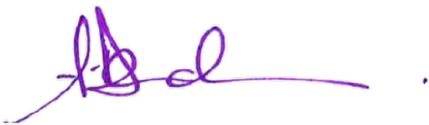
As part of the participation in the WSHA there is an opportunity to socialise the guidance document with Council officers which will assist in the implementation of 1.1 and 2.4 of the Operational Plan.

The WSHA is recommending Hawkesbury City Council's involvement in the implementation and piloting of recommendations and actions from the Western Sydney Health Alliance Climate, Health and Wellbeing Guideline, developed through the Increasing Resilience to Climate Change grant.

The Western Sydney Health Alliance thank you for your consideration of this submission and look forward to the outcomes of this review.

For further information on the Western Sydney Health Alliance or this submission, please contact me on 0418 976 973 or email ally.dench@wshealthalliance.nsw.gov.au

Kind regards,



Ally Dench
Program Manager
Western Sydney Health Alliance

Defenders of Thompson Square Incorporated (INC1801233-TM)

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Ms Elizabeth Richardson
General Manager
Hawkesbury City Council

Dear Ms Richardson

I write on behalf of Defenders of Thompson Square, a community organisation committed to preserving the historic integrity of Windsor. We appreciate the Council staff and Councillors who have supported us and listened to our concerns over many years.

Our ongoing commitment to preserving and highlighting Windsor's heritage has motivated us to propose items for Council's consideration in the 2023-2024 budget cycle. As the third European settlement in Australia, heritage is a vitally important aspect of Windsor's appeal to visitors from across Australia, and indeed the world. The items listed below are focused on enhancing the heritage appeal of Windsor.

Items for consideration in the Hawkesbury City Council Budget for 2023-2024

- Refurbishment of the Phillip Cunningham memorial in Thompson Square. This memorial commemorates an important historical event and should have landmark qualities. March 2024 will mark the 220th anniversary of Cunningham's hanging in Thompson Square, so refurbishment during 2023 would be timely.
- Replacement of the fencing at the lower end of Thompson Square near its junction with The Terrace. We are concerned that the existing fence poses risks to public safety. We request that a like-for-like approach be adopted, with the use of updated, sustainable materials to create the appearance of the style of fence that currently exists in the space.
- Restoration of the remains of the police/military compound in front of the former police station site.

For further information or to discuss this correspondence, please call me on 0409 846 382.

Yours sincerely

Cheryl Ballantyne

Dr Cheryl Ballantyne
Chairperson
Defenders of Thompson Square Inc.

30 March 2023