



**Edward  
River**  
COUNCIL

**Date:** Thursday, 21 March 2019  
**Time:** 9am  
**Location:** Council Chamber 180 Cressy Street  
Deniliquin

# **BUSINESS PAPER**

## **Supplementary Reports**

### **Ordinary Council Meeting**

**21 March 2019**

**Adam McSwain  
General Manager**

**Order Of Business**

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**11 REPORTS FROM OFFICERS****11.1 DENILQUIN WATER TOWER PROJECT - CHANGE TO BRIEF**

**Author:** Michelle Cobb, Manager Tourism & Economic Development

**Authoriser:** Adam McSwain, General Manager

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council agree to allocate an additional \$3,316 from the Edward River Community Grants Program to the Denilquin Water Tower Project.

**BACKGROUND**

At the February Council meeting Council appointed 'Adnate' as the artist for the Water Tower project based on his concept of a portrait of a single child. However, Community and Council feedback has indicated that the artwork would be enhanced by including multiple faces.

The actual artwork itself will still cover 180 degrees of the tower with the side to be painted still to be confirmed.

It is expected that the project will begin in mid-May 2019.

**ISSUE/DISCUSSION**

Officers have discussed options to alter the concept from one to two portraits with Juddy Roller Group – the agency that represents Adnate. These discussions have highlighted that there will be a slightly increased cost to allow for two portraits to be painted. The detail required to paint each portrait takes the most time, so by increasing the number of faces painted, it increases the time and cost for Adnate to complete the project.

The cost increase will be \$2,380. At the February Council meeting \$28,820 was approved for the artwork and the updated cost is now \$31,200.

Council officers have identified there is now an underspend of \$3,316 within the 2018/19 Edward River Community Grants Program. Council allocated \$3,316 towards the purchase of partitions for arts events. The Edward River Arts Society (ERAS) have now received funding of \$55,020 through the NSW State Government to cover the cost of screens and partitions for hanging artwork and will not require the Community Grant funds.

As result, it is proposed that these savings be used to cover this increase for the water tower project.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

The Denilquin Water Tower Project aligns with the following strategies adopted by Council:

1. Denilquin Open Space Strategy 2018
2. Edward River Council Open Space Strategy 2018
3. Edward River Council Community Strategic Plan 2030
4. Edward River Council Economic Development Strategy 2018 - 2021

**COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

- Outcome 1.3: Our community and public spaces are accessible and inclusive and reflect our history, heritage and culture.
- Outcome 2.2: We develop our key assets to enhance agriculture, boost tourism and support existing business.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

At its Ordinary Meeting held 20 December 2018, Council resolved to increase the Water Tower Project budget to \$35,000 from the merger funding allocated for arts and culture. This amount included \$6180 for equipment hire.

The increase in cost to paint two portraits is \$2380. It is recommended the extra funding is covered by the identified underspend of \$3316 from the Edward River Community Grants Program. This leaves \$936 to cover any unexpected costs or to launch the project.

**LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

A request for owner's consent, and Development Application (DA) have been lodged with the amended concept.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Deniliquin Water Tower - Adnate - Revised Concept



**11.2 REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - SPEAK UP**

**Author:** Adam McSwain, General Manager

**Authoriser:** Adam McSwain, General Manager

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council

1. Consider the request from Speak Up for a \$2,000 financial contribution
2. If supported, fund the request through Councils 'Quick Response Grants program'

**BACKGROUND**

As per correspondence previously received from Speak Up, they are "a community-based organisation that aims to get a better deal for our region during implementation of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan".

In previous years the former Conargo Shire Council provided annual financial assistance to Speak Up. This financial contribution varied in size but was as much as \$10,000.

In Council's current 2018/19 budget there is no specific line item identified for supporting Speak Up.

**ISSUE/DISCUSSION**

A key focus of Speak Up over the past 12 months has been advocacy at both a State and Federal level. In order to assist with advocacy at a Federal level, Speak Up engaged a consultant based in Canberra to be their 'Canberra Correspondent'.

This consultant has provided Speak Up with a variety of information and contacts to assist them to advocate on behalf of Southern Basin communities. Speak Up believe the consultant has been of great value and provided substantial benefit to the Southern Basin and the Edward River community.

Speak Up are requesting a \$2,000 financial contribution from Council to assist with covering the costs of this advocacy work. The total costs for this advocacy work are well in excess of this amount.

If supported by Council, it is proposed that the financial assistance be provided through the Quick Response Grant program. The aims of this program are:

- Enable council to fund projects that have not previously been considered for funding.
- Enable council to support opportunities that are one-off, or which have arisen outside of application periods for other council grants.
- Assist council to deliver identified objectives, priorities and strategies that align with the Community Strategic Plan.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

Speak Up having a link into Canberra to assist with advocacy efforts for the Southern Basin and Edward River region provides benefit for local industry and the community.

**COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

The provision of support to Speak Up would contribute towards:

- Outcome 1.1, Our community has access to essential services
- Outcome 2.1, Our economy is strong and diverse

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Council has a \$5,000-line item for 'Quick Response Grants'. There is still \$3,000 in unallocated funding within this program that could be utilised to support this request.

The Quick Response program doesn't have a set limit within the Policy as to how much a grant may be.

To date in 2018/19 Council has supported Speak Up through a \$2,500 community grant for the 'Food for Thought' book launch.

Speak Up has previously received funding from the former Conargo Shire Council, Berrigan Shire Council, Murray River Council and RAMROC. Berrigan Shire Council has assisted Speak Up in the current financial year with several one-off projects, Murray River Council have provided \$2,000 financial support.

**LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil