



Edward River COUNCIL

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT AN ORDINARY
MEETING OF THE

EDWARD RIVER COUNCIL

WILL BE HELD ON

Thursday 21 September 2017

180 Cressy Street, Deniliquin

COMMENCING AT 5.00pm

Adam McSwain
GENERAL MANAGER
Date of Issue: 14/09/2017

AGENDA ENCLOSED

Edward River Council Business Paper

Edward River Council Chambers September 21, 2017

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1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

"I would like to acknowledge that we are here today on the land of the Wamba Wamba Perrepa Perrepa people. I would also like to acknowledge and pay my respects to past Aboriginal Elders, the present Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who reside within this area, and their future generations."

2. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

I have come here as a Councillor freely and without bias to:

- Represent the views of the community in considering the matters before us today
- To vote in a matter I consider to be in the best interest of the community
- To observe the Code of Conduct and respect the rule of the chair and views of my fellow Councillors.

3. APOLOGIES

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

5. SUBJECT: OATH AND AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE

**FROM: ADAM MCSWAIN
General Manager**

In providing this advice to Council, I, Adam McSwain have no interests to disclose in this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. each councillor makes the Oath of Office or Affirmation of Office at or before the first Council meeting in accordance with S233A.
2. the General Manager or delegate receives and maintains the signed Oaths or Affirmations in the corporate records system
3. Council records in the minutes of the Council meeting the making of the Oath or Affirmation by each individual Councillor.

BACKGROUND:

Section 233 A of the *Local Government Act 1993* states:

233A Oath and affirmation for councillors

- (1) A councillor must take an oath of office or make an affirmation of office at or before the first meeting of the council after the councillor is elected.
- (2) The oath or affirmation may be taken or made before the general manager of the council, an Australian legal practitioner or a justice of the peace and is to be in the following form:

Oath I [name of councillor] swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of [name of council area] and the [name of council] and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

Affirmation I [name of councillor] solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of [name of council area] and the [name of council] and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

- (3) A Councillor who fails, without a reasonable excuse, to take the oath of office or make an affirmation of office in accordance with this section is not entitled to attend a meeting as a Councillor (other than the first meeting of the Council after the Councillor is elected to the office or a meeting at which the Councillor takes the oath or makes

the affirmation) until the Councillor has taken the oath or made the affirmation.

- (4) Any absence of a Councillor from an ordinary meeting of the Council that the Councillor is not entitled to attend because of this section is taken to be an absence without prior leave of the Council.
- (5) Failure to take an oath of office or make an affirmation of office does not affect the validity of anything done by a Councillor in the exercise of the Councillor's functions.
- (6) The General Manager must ensure that a record is to be kept of the taking of an oath or the making of an affirmation (whether in the minutes of the Council meeting or otherwise).

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

NIL

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS:

Failure to make an Oath or Affirmation of office by a Councillor results in the Councillor being recorded as absent without prior leave. Absence without leave at three consecutive meetings of the Council will result in the Councillor being ineligible to take office. This will result in a vacancy of office triggered under S234 of the Act.

CONCLUSION:

The templates have been developed for ease of use by the Council and General Manager and are provided to the Councillors to ensure compliance with S233A of the Act.

FOLLOWING THIS REPORT:

- Oath of Office template
- Affirmation of Office template



Edward River
COUNCIL

Oath of Office

I [name of councillor] swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of Edward River Council area and the Edward River Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

Councillor (name)

General Manager Adam McSwain

21 September, 2017



Edward River
COUNCIL

Affirmation of Office

I [name of councillor] solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of Edward River Council area and the Edward River Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

Councillor (name)

General Manager Adam McSwain

21 September, 2017

6. SUBJECT: ELECTION OF MAYOR – SEPTEMBER 2017-2019

**FROM: ADAM MCSWAIN
GENERAL MANAGER**

In providing this advice to Council, I, Adam McSwain have no interests to disclose in this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

That a ballot for Mayor to hold office for two years be conducted using the ordinary ballot system

BACKGROUND:

The Local Government Act provides that when a Mayor is not (popularly) elected by voters at a general election, Councils are to elect a Mayor from their number every two years in the month of September (Section 290).

Councils may also elect a Deputy Mayor from their number for the same or lesser term as the Mayor (Section 231). The election of a Deputy Mayor is the subject of the next report.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION:

Mayor

In accordance with the Local Government Act and Regulations thereunder, if the Mayor is to be elected by the councillors of an area, council must elect one of its members as Mayor for the ensuing two-year term.

Section 226 of the Local Government Act 1993 prescribes the role of the Mayor as follows:

- To exercise, in cases of necessity, the policy making functions of the governing body of the Council between meetings of the Council.
- To exercise such other functions of the Council as the Council determines.
- To preside at meetings of the Council.
- To carry out the civic and ceremonial functions of the mayoral office.

The Mayor commences on the day the person elected is declared to be so elected, and ends when the persons successor is declared to be elected to the office.

In respect of the election procedure, the relevant provisions are laid out in Part 11, Division 12, Schedule 7, of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, see attached.

Nominations for the position must be in writing by two or more Councillors, one of whom may be the nominee. The written consent of the nominee is required for the nomination to be valid.

Councillors may nominate more than one candidate, if they so wish. Nominations will be received by the Returning Officer at any time prior to the ballot. Nomination forms for Mayor have been provided to Councillors and are available in the Chamber.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Schedule 7 Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 – Election of mayor by councillors
-

7. SUBJECT: ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR – SEPTEMBER 2017-2019

**FROM: ADAM MCSWAIN
GENERAL MANAGER**

In providing this advice to Council, I, Adam McSwain have no interests to disclose in this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council elect a Deputy Mayor to hold office for two years and the ballot be conducted by the ordinary ballot system

BACKGROUND:

Councils may also elect a Deputy Mayor from their number for the same or lesser term as the Mayor (Section 231 of the Local Government Act 1993).

The Deputy Mayor may exercise any functions of the Mayor at the request of the Mayor or if the Mayor is prevented by illness, absence or otherwise from exercising the functions of his/her Office. It is customary to elect a Deputy Mayor who is appointed for the same term as the Mayor.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION:

Deputy Mayor

Under the Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, Council may elect one of its members as Deputy Mayor.

The Deputy Mayor may act as the Mayor in his/her absence, and while so acting shall have the powers, authorities, duties, and liabilities of the Mayor.

The term for the Deputy Mayor may be the same as the Mayoral term, or may be for a shorter term as fixed by resolution of Council. It is recommended that the term for the Deputy Mayor aligns with the term for Mayor to ensure stability and continuity of leadership.

In respect of the election procedure, the relevant provisions are laid out in Part 11, Division 12, Schedule 7, of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, see attached.

Nominations for the position must be in writing by two or more Councillors, one of whom may be the nominee. The written consent of the nominee is required for the nomination to be valid.

Councillors may nominate more than one candidate, if they so wish. Nominations will be received by the Returning Officer at any time prior to the ballot. Nomination

forms for Deputy Mayor have been provided to Councillors and are available in the Chamber.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Schedule 7 Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 – Election of mayor by councillors
-



EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE EDWARD RIVER COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS SEPTEMBER 5, 2017 AT 10.00AM

PRESENT

Administrator Mr Ashley Hall

COUNCIL STAFF PRESENT:

Mr Adam McSwain, General Manager, Mr Mark Dalzell, Acting Director Infrastructure, Mr John Harvie, Director Economic and Business Development, Mrs Caroline Wallis, Director Corporate Services, Cian Middleton, Communications, Mrs Belinda Perrett Executive Assistant

GALLERY MEMBERS: One

GUESTS: Nil

CHAIRMANSHIP OF MEETING:

The Administrator, Mr Ashley Hall, chaired the meeting.

INTERPRETATION:

In these Minutes "the Council" means the Edward River Council

DECLARATION OF MEETING OPEN:

The Administrator, Mr Ashley Hall, formally declared the meeting open at 10.01am

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Nil

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Nil

184/17 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – EDWARD RIVER COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD JULY 20 JULY 26, 2017 AND AUGUST 24, 2017

Resolved on the motion of the Administrator that the draft minutes of the Edward River Council meetings held on the 20th July, 2017; 26th July, 2017 and 24th August, 2017 be accepted.

185/17 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – EDWARD RIVER COUNCIL HERITAGE COMMITTEE – AUGUST 18, 2017

Resolved on the motion of the Administrator that the draft minutes of the Edward River Council Heritage Committee held August 18, 2017 be accepted.

186/17 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – EDWARD RIVER COUNCIL COMMUNITY GARDENS COMMITTEE – AUGUST 28, 2017

Resolved on the motion of the Administrator that the draft minutes of the Edward River Council Community Gardens Committee held August 28, 2017 be accepted.

187/17 SUBJECT: RECOVERY OF LOAN PROVIDED TO DONGMUN GREENTECH PTY LTD

**FROM: GENERAL MANAGER
Adam McSwain**

RESOLUTION:

That

1. Council consider a report on this matter while the meeting is closed to the public as it contains information that is considered confidential pursuant to Section 10A(2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1993 as it relates to information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or reveal a trade secret.
2. It is considered the public Interest in preserving the confidentiality of information outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in Councils decision making as publishing confidential information may impact on the willingness of third parties to conduct business with Council in the future.

On the motion of the Administrator

188/17 SUBJECT: SPECIAL EVENT APPROVAL – 2017 DENILIQVIN UTE MUSTER

**FROM: ACTING DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE
Mark Dalzell**

RESOLUTION:

That Council grant approval to the Deni Play on the Plains Festival Committee for the 2017 Ute Muster as a Class 1 Special Event, to be held on 29 and 30 September 2017, subject to the following conditions:

- a) All traffic control measures detailed in the approved Traffic Control Plan and Traffic Management Plan be implemented by suitably accredited persons;
- b) Speed shall be reduced to 50 kph through the site location along Conargo Road (MR 552).
- c) "No Stopping" Signs for both sides of the road from approximately the Moonee Swamp Road to 500 metres towards Conargo from the main entrance on the Conargo Road.
- d) "No Camping" Signs will be erected in both sides of the road. No camping will be allowed on any road side or public reserves in the vicinity of the event. All Campers must be contained within the fenced Ute Muster allocated camping area on the corner of Moonee Swamp Road and Conargo Road (MR 552). Police will monitor and move on any campers not in the designated fenced area of the Ute Muster site.
- e) In the event that traffic starts to impact non-event traffic the reserve between Smart Street and Augustus Street will be used as a holding area. Traffic will then be intermittently (with the use of a traffic controller) directed across Conargo Road into the Ute Muster entrance;
- f) The entrance from Conargo will be controlled by a traffic controller;
- g) Variable Message Signs (VMS) will be located at each end;
- h) The Traffic Control Plans and their impact be advertised prior to the event.
- i) Approval from Roads and Maritime Services in relation to the Special Event Application is received by Council prior to the commencement of the event.

On the motion of the Administrator

189/17 CLOSED COUNCIL

On the motion of the Administrator (Mr A. Hall)

1. That council resolve into closed council to consider business identified.
2. That pursuant to section 10A(1)-(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, the media and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business to be considered is classified confidential under the provisions of section 10A(2) as outlined above.
3. That the correspondence and reports relevant to the subject business be withheld from access to the media and public as required under section 11(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.
4. Public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in Council decision making, as it may prejudice Council's position in its negotiations.

Council closed its meeting at 10.10am and the public and staff left the Chambers.

191/17 OPENING OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

On the motion of the Administrator

That Council move out of closed Council and into Open Council at 10.12am.

The following resolutions of Council, while the meeting was closed to the public, were read to the meeting by the Administrator.

That Council

1. Note and approve the following action taken by the General Manager to recover the loan provided by the former Deniliquin Council to Dongmun Greentech
 - a. Notification provided to Council's lawyers on 1 September 2017 to prepare and send the Default Notice and Demand pursuant to Section 76 of the Transfer of Land Act, requiring payment by 30 September 2017 otherwise Court proceedings and/or forced sale of the subject property
 - b. Notification provided to Council's lawyers on 1 September 2017 to arrange for an auction of the property if the 30 September 2017 date is not met
2. Note that if the loan is re-paid to Council prior to 30 September 2017, that the process to sell the land will cease

The Administrator thanked all staff for their support during his time as Administrator.

Meeting closed 10.14am

9. **SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY**
- FROM: ADAM MCSWAIN**
General Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the Administrators Report to the Community and approves its publication on Council's website.

BACKGROUND:

Under the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, councils must prepare and table an End of Term Report at the final meeting of the term. While merged councils created through the NSW Government's local government reform process were exempt from preparing End of Term Reports; the Office of Local Government requested all Administrators of merged Councils to prepare a report to their respective communities outlining their Council's achievements against the Stronger Councils Framework, which is based on the following five (5) characteristics:

1. Strategic capacity;
2. Outstanding service provision;
3. Robust community relationships;
4. Strong performance; and
5. Sound organisational health.

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on how far we have come in creating a Council for the Edward River region that can better serve the community and advocate effectively on its behalf. In addition to reporting against the Stronger Councils Framework, this report aims to:

- Communicate key milestones and achievements;
- Provide an update on the Stronger Communities Fund projects;
- Inform the community and incoming Councillors about the financial position of Council;
- Support a seamless transition to the elected Council; and
- Demonstrate open and accountable governance.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

The Administrator's Report to the Community has been prepared at the request of the Office of Local Government. While this document reports on Council's progress and achievements between 12 May 2016 and 08 September 2017, it is not a substitute for the Annual Report.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

CONCLUSION:

Nil

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Administrator's Report to the Community

10. **SUBJECT: COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2017-2018**

**FROM: GENERAL MANAGER
Adam McSwain**

In providing this advice to Council, I, Adam McSwain have no interests to disclose in this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. Adopts the Council meeting dates and locations for 2017-2018 meetings of Council as presented in option one.

Proposed Ordinary Meetings Dates and Locations 2017-2018		
Date	Time	Location
Thursday 19 October	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 16 November	9am	Wanganella Hall
Thursday 14 December	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 15 February	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 15 March	9am	Conargo Hall
Thursday 19 April	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 17 May	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 21 June	9am	Pretty Pine Rec Reserve
Thursday 19 July	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 16 August	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 20 September	9am	Blighty Rec Reserve
Proposed Other Meetings 2017-2018		
Date	Time	Location
Thursday 28 June - Extraordinary meeting to adopt Budget and Operational Plan	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers

2. Place a public notice in the local newspaper to advertise the dates and locations for meetings of Council for the 2017-2018 years in accordance with Clause 232 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

3. Makes the Council meeting dates and locations available on Council's website

BACKGROUND:

The Code of Meeting Practice requires Council to determine its meeting dates each year. Section 365 of the Local Government Act requires Council to meet at least ten times each year in a different month. Complementing this requirement, the Code of Meeting Practice requires Council to set the time, date and place of its Ordinary meetings for the next 12 months.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

This report is provided for Council to determine its meeting dates up until October 2018. Following adoption of the meeting dates, public notice will be provided in the local newspaper.

It is proposed that Council adopt a meeting program that is based on the third Thursday of the month subject to changes that are brought about by Local Government NSW Conference, Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly and public holidays.

Set out below are two proposed meeting programs for the consideration of Council.

Option 1 – Option 1 provides a suggested rotation of meeting locations across the Local Government area. The meeting schedule is based off one meeting per quarter being held outside Deniliquin.

The positives of Option 1 are that it allows Council to hold meetings across the Local Government area. This would allow residents of outlying areas to attend Council meetings where they otherwise might not. It also provides the opportunity for Council to arrange meetings or presentations from local community groups in these areas around the Council meeting

The negatives of Option 1 are the increased cost, time and administrative burden of arranging meetings and transporting equipment to many venues across the Local Government area. Option 1 would also reduce Council's ability to 'stream' Council meetings online. This is due to the equipment that would be required and the limited ability to connect to the internet in several locations

Option 1

Proposed Ordinary Meetings Dates and Locations 2017-2018		
Date	Time	Location
Thursday 19 October	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 16 November	9am	Wanganella Hall
Thursday 14 December	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 15 February	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers

Thursday 15 March	9am	Conargo Hall
Thursday 19 April	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 17 May	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 21 June	9am	Pretty Pine Rec Reserve
Thursday 19 July	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 16 August	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 20 September	9am	Blighty Rec Reserve
Proposed Other Meetings 2017-2018		
Date	Time	Location
Thursday 28 June - Extraordinary meeting to adopt Budget and Operational Plan	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers

Option 2 – Option 2 provides for all meetings to be held in the Deniliquin Council Chambers.

The positives of Option 2 are that it provides a consistent location for Council to meet at, reduces administrative burden associated with travelling and setting up several venues and would allow Council to further investigate the opportunity to 'stream' Council meetings online. Live streaming of meetings would help to reduce the travel burden for residents in outlying areas.

The negatives of Option 2 are that it makes it more difficult for residents in outlying areas to attend in person, reduces the opportunity for Councillors to interact with communities across the Local Government area and may provide the perception that Council is more focused on the urban area.

Option 2

Proposed Ordinary Meetings Dates and Locations 2017-2018		
Date	Time	Location
Thursday 19 October	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 16 November	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 14 December	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 15 February	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 15 March	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 19 April	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers

Thursday 17 May	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 21 June	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 19 July	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 16 August	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Thursday 20 September	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers
Proposed Other Meetings 2017-2018		
Date	Time	Location
Thursday 28 June - Extraordinary meeting to adopt Budget and Operational Plan	9am	Deniliquin Council Chambers

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

Council is required to publicise its meeting dates and times in accordance with its Code of Meeting Practice.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:

There is no budgetary implication apart from the cost of an advertisement which can be funded from the existing budget.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS:

Establishing Meeting times and dates, and public notification is a requirement of Clause 232 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

ATTACHMENTS:

- There are no attachments

11. SUBJECT: INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 31 August 2017
FROM: FINANCE MANAGER
Colleen O'Connor

In providing this advice to Council, I, Colleen O'Connor have no interests to disclose in this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. Note and receive the Report on Investments totaling \$43,447,149 inclusive of cash at bank for day-to-day operations;
2. Note that actual interest received for the month of August 2017 was \$61,269.
3. Note that accrued interest earned to 31 August 2017 but not yet received was \$498,506.

Background:

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the investment of surplus funds and interest earned as required in Regulation No 264 (Part 19) of the Local Government Act 1993.

All investments have been made in accordance with Council's Policy, Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, and Regulation No 264.

As at 31 August 2017, Council has a total of \$43,447,149 in invested funds and cash at bank.

Interest received from investments during the month of August 2017 was \$61,269 consisting of \$10,790 for on-call/ bank accounts and \$50,479 for term deposits. Year to date interest received to 31 August 2017 for Edward River Council is \$116,654. Accrued interest of \$498,506 has been earned to 31 August 2017 but is not yet received as these investments mature in later months.

Council is investing surplus funds prudently to optimise returns in authorised financial institutions under current legislation, and to reduce exposure to risk in accordance with the Council's Investment Policy.

Comment:

At 31 August 2017 Council investments had a carrying value of \$43,447,149 as detailed below

Schedule of Investments									
This Report is at date 31-August-2017									
Financial Institution	Account No.	Rating at End of Month (S&P)	Date Invested	Maturity Date	Days	Rate	Face Value Amount	% of Portfolio	Estimated Interest
On-Call/ CMT Accounts									
Westpac Business Cheque Plus Account	032-870 16-6545	A1+	N/A	N/A	365	0.01%	1,470,030.99	3.38%	Monthly
Westpac Business Cash Reserve	032-870 17-9231	A1+	N/A	N/A	365	0.70%	3,000,000.00	6.90%	Monthly
Westpac 31 Day Notice Account	032-870 23-2696	A1+	N/A	N/A	365	2.50%	2,061,127.49	4.74%	Monthly
Commonwealth Bank General Fund	062-533 000 000 10	A1+	N/A	N/A	365	0.00%	350,926.01	0.81%	Monthly
Commonwealth Bank Business On Line Acc	062-533 101 511 17	A1+	N/A	N/A	365	0.00%	1,493,813.32	3.44%	Monthly
NAB Business Cheque Account	89-575-7273	A1+	N/A	N/A	365	0.00%	16,761.49	0.04%	Monthly
Macquarie Bank - Rates	3005-79778	A1+	N/A	N/A	365	0.00%	242,123.20	0.56%	Monthly
Macquarie Bank - Water	2643-18940	A1+	N/A	N/A	365	0.00%	26,148.49	0.06%	Monthly
AMP Business Saver Account	939-200 164957532	A1+	N/A	N/A	365	2.05%	2,036,218.21	4.69%	Monthly
Total On-call/ CMT Accounts							10,697,149.20	24.62%	
Term Deposits									
St George	354032747	A1+	10-Sep-16	10-Sep-17	365	3.00%	1,250,000.00	2.88%	37,500.00
St George	354775348	A1+	07-Oct-16	07-Oct-17	365	3.00%	1,500,000.00	3.45%	45,000.00
St George	355276209	A1+	02-Sep-16	02-Sep-17	365	3.00%	1,000,000.00	2.30%	30,000.00
St George	355296525	A1+	12-Sep-16	12-Sep-17	365	3.00%	1,000,000.00	2.30%	30,000.00
Westpac	033-621 34-8721	A1+	18-Aug-17	17-Sep-17	30	1.65%	3,000,000.00	6.90%	4,068.49
Westpac	032-870 22-6835	A1+	23-May-17	27-Feb-18	279	2.55%	500,000.00	1.15%	9,745.89
Westpac	032-870 22-6448	A1+	18-May-17	19-Dec-17	215	2.55%	1,000,000.00	2.30%	15,020.55
Westpac	032-870 22-2287	A1+	11-Apr-17	10-Oct-17	182	2.65%	1,500,000.00	3.45%	19,820.55
Westpac	032-870 22-8830	A1+	11-Apr-17	10-Oct-17	182	2.65%	1,000,000.00	2.30%	13,213.70
Westpac	032-870 23-4816	A1+	18-Oct-16	18-Oct-17	365	3.00%	1,000,000.00	2.30%	30,000.00
Commonwealth Bank	375436602	A1+	20-Jun-17	17-Oct-17	119	2.45%	500,000.00	1.15%	3,993.84
National Australia Bank	10062666-10668456	A1+	29-Aug-17	27-Feb-18	182	2.50%	1,000,000.00	2.30%	12,465.75
National Australia Bank	24-710-0644	A1+	08-Aug-17	09-Jan-18	154	2.42%	500,000.00	1.15%	5,105.21
National Australia Bank	31-162-5542	A1+	08-Aug-17	08-Aug-18	365	2.45%	750,000.00	1.73%	18,375.00
Total A1+ Deposits							15,500,000.00	35.68%	
AMP Bank	085241479-427214	A1	16-May-17	16-Jan-18	245	2.60%	1,000,000.00	2.30%	17,452.05
AMP Bank	620718403-429092	A1	30-May-17	29-May-18	364	2.60%	1,000,000.00	2.30%	25,928.77
AMP Bank	140536616-417008	A1	14-Mar-17	14-Nov-17	245	2.75%	500,000.00	1.15%	9,229.45
AMP Bank	286870456-429501	A1	30-May-17	27-Feb-18	273	2.60%	500,000.00	1.15%	9,723.29
Total A1 Deposits							3,000,000.00	6.90%	
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	2112060	A2	22-Nov-16	28-Nov-17	371	2.75%	1,000,000.00	2.30%	27,952.05
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	1793598	A2	06-Dec-16	05-Dec-17	364	2.75%	1,000,000.00	2.30%	27,424.66
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank	10 Term Deposits	A2	17-Jun-16	17-Jun-18	730	3.15%	5,000,000.00	11.51%	315,000.00
ING Bank (Curve)	274746	A2	25-Jul-17	26-Jun-18	336	2.60%	1,000,000.00	2.30%	23,934.25
Beyond Bank Australia	123075053	A2	11-Apr-17	10-Oct-17	182	2.70%	500,000.00	1.15%	6,731.51
Bank Australia	138363486	A2	20-Jul-17	16-Jan-18	180	2.85%	1,000,000.00	2.30%	14,054.79
Bank Australia		A2	16-Aug-17	10-Apr-18	244	2.80%	750,000.00	1.73%	14,038.36
ME Bank (RIM)	11379100	A2	09-Jun-17	06-Mar-18	270	2.62%	1,000,000.00	2.30%	19,380.82
Defence Bank Limited	171548852	A2	30-May-17	27-Mar-18	301	2.70%	500,000.00	1.15%	11,132.88
Total A2 Deposits							11,750,000.00	27.04%	
BananaCoast Credit Union	112214	NR	11-Jul-17	10-Jul-18	364	2.80%	500,000.00	1.15%	13,961.64
WAW Credit Union	23438	NR	28-Feb-17	27-Feb-18	364	2.70%	500,000.00	1.15%	27,463.01
Police Credit Union	69759	NR	06-Jun-17	15-May-18	371	2.90%	500,000.00	1.15%	14,738.36
Police Credit Union	25386	NR	13-Jun-17	15-May-18	336	2.85%	1,000,000.00	2.30%	26,235.62
Total Non Rated Deposits							2,500,000.00	5.75%	
							43,447,149.20	100.00%	864,690.48
								Average Interest Rate	
									2.24%

The cash and investments balance is restricted as follows:

Internal Restrictions	
- Infrastructure Replacement	\$ 2,205,412
- Plant Replacement Reserve	\$ 2,147,363
- Recreation Reserves/ Villages	\$ 586,714
- Employee Entitlements	\$ 1,141,768
- Deposits, Retentions and Bonds	\$ 266,450
- Other Internal Reserves	\$ 445,000
Total Internal Restrictions	\$ 6,792,707
External Restrictions	
- Water Supplies Fund	\$ 7,901,817
- Sewerage Services Fund	\$ 5,718,528
- Waste Services Fund	\$ 999,940
- Tip Remediation	\$ 1,300,000
- Unexpended Grants	\$11,082,094
- Library Fund	\$ 401,986
- Other External Reserves	\$ 59,233
Total External Restrictions	\$27,463,598
Unrestricted Funds	\$ 9,190,843
Total Funds	\$43,447,149

Note that Reserve balances above are not yet finalised for the 2016/17 financial year and are subject to change. Will be confirmed once financial audit is completed.

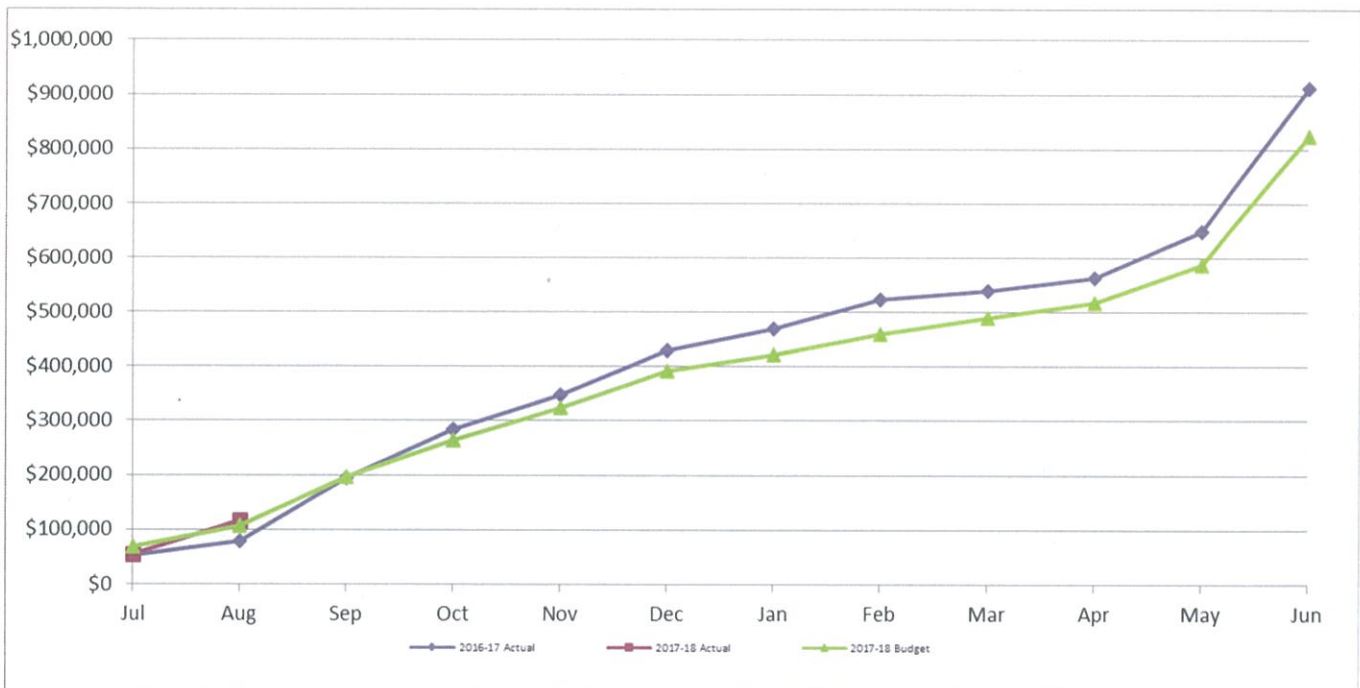
The Total Funds above are held between General, Water and Sewer as follows:

Fund Name	Bank and Investments	Percentage
General	\$29,826,805	68.65%
Water	\$7,901,817	18.19%
Sewer	\$5,718,527	13.16%
Total Funds	\$43,447,149	100.00%

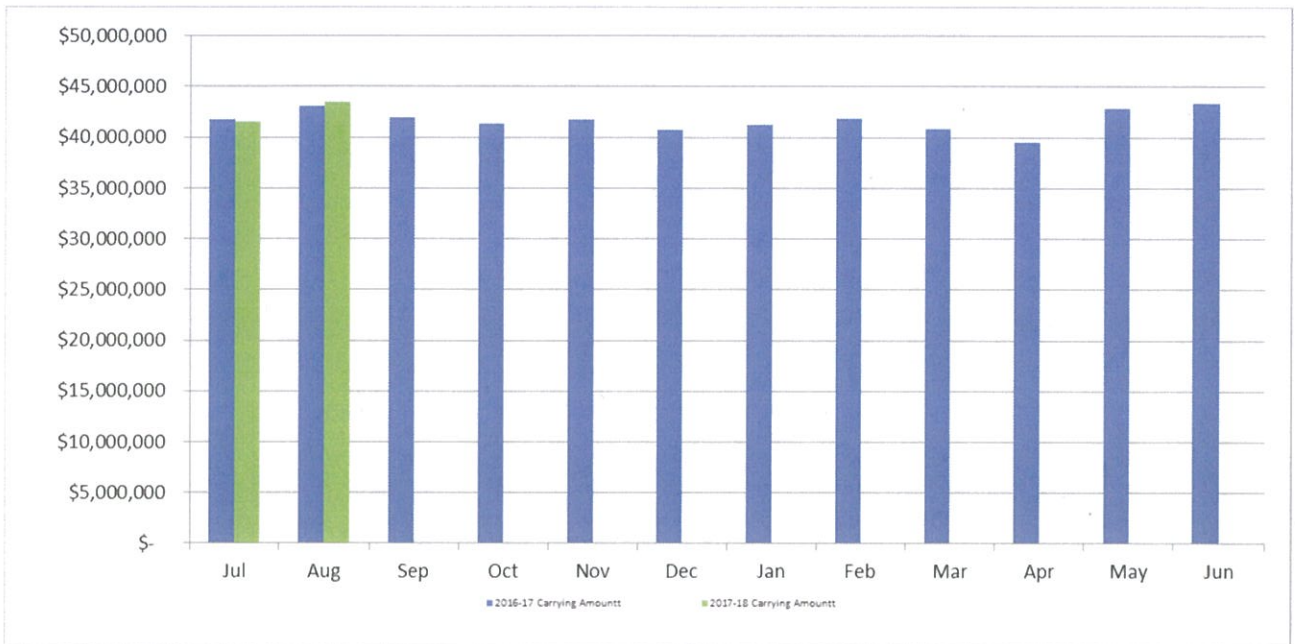
Investments Matured during August 2017

Financial Institution	Date Invested	Maturity Date	Days	Interest Rate	Amount	Actual Interest Received	Action Taken
Aug-17							
Term Deposits							
NAB	07-Mar-17	08-Aug-17	8	154	2.20%	500,000	5,273.98 Rolled over for 262 days @ 2.42%
NAB	05-Oct-16	08-Aug-17	8	307	2.70%	750,000	17,032.20 Rolled over for 365 days @ 2.45%
ING Bank	07-Feb-17	15-Aug-17	8	189	2.80%	750,000	10,873.97 Redeemed and invested with Bank Aust
Westpac	19-Jul-17	18-Aug-17	8	30	1.96%	3,000,000	4,832.88 Rolled over for 30 days @1.65%
NAB	28-Feb-17	29-Aug-17	8	182	2.50%	1,000,000	12,465.75 Rolled over 182 days @ 2.50%
6,000,000						50,478.78	

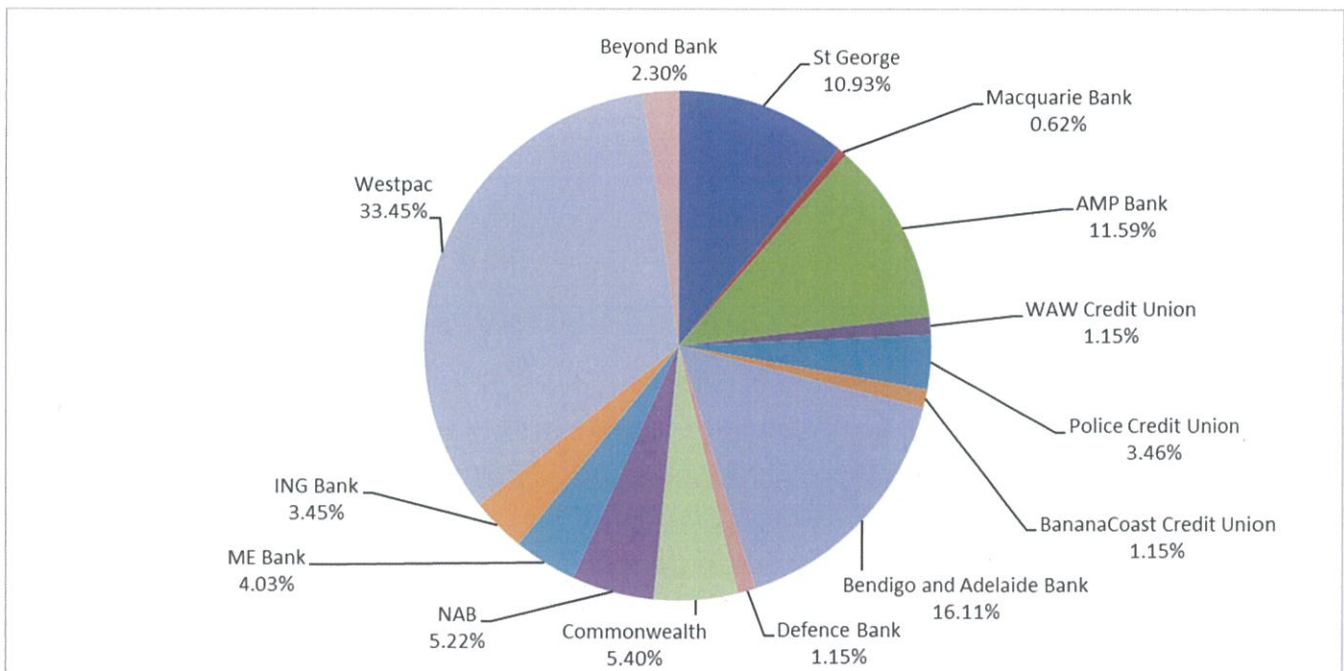
Actual Year to Date Investment Revenue Earned



Total Funds Invested



Cash and Investments Total Breakup by Institution



Strategic Implications:

Nil

Budgetary Implications:

Current low interest rates will reduce expected investment revenue.

Policy Implications:

Investments have been made in accordance with Council's Investment Policy, which was adopted on the 17 May 2017.

Legislative Implications:

All investments have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993 and Regulation No. 264.

Risk Assessment:

Under Council's investment policy, investments are made with a range of banks, with council's funds invested with a single institution not going above a percentage of the total portfolio as follows:

50%	A1+ Rated Institutions
45%	A1 Rated Institutions
40%	A2 Rated Institutions
20%	A3 Rated Institutions
10%	Unrated Authorised Deposit Taking Institutions

Conclusion:

Council has taken the necessary steps to reduce the risk of losing significant investments in the future.

Attachments:

There are no attachments.

12. SUBJECT: PECUNIARY INTEREST RETURNS
FROM: DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES
Caroline Wallis

In providing this advice to Council, I, Caroline Wallis have no interests to disclose in this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council tables the pecuniary interest returns in accordance with S450A of the Local Government Act 1993.

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with Section 450A of the Local Government Act 1993, Council is required to table the pecuniary interest returns at the first meeting held after the last day for lodgement under S449.

The term designated person refers to all councillors and senior staff within Council that are deemed by the general manager as designated persons. On that basis, pecuniary interest returns were distributed to the following designated persons:

Mr Adam McSwain	General Manager
Mrs Caroline Wallis	Director Corporate Services
Mr Mark Dalzell	Acting Director Infrastructure
Ms Colleen O'Connor	Manager Finance
Mr John Harvie	Director Economic Development & Business
Mrs Julie Rogers	Manager Environmental Services
Mr Kris Kershaw	Financial Accountant
Ms Michelle Cobb	Manager Tourism & Economic Development
Mrs Shavaun Tasker	Planning Officer
Mr Nathan O'Connell	Building & Health Surveyor
Ms Marie Sutton	Planning and Continuous Improvement Coordinator
Mr Justin Learmonth	Ranger
Ms Simone Tonkin	Compliance Officer

These designated persons have completed the pecuniary interest returns which are maintained by the general manager in a register.

Pursuant to Schedule 1 of the Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009, all disclosures are freely available. It is to be noted however, that Section 739 of the Local Government Act 1993 provides as follows:

"A person may request that any material that is available (or is to be made available) for public inspection by or under this Act be prepared or amended so as to omit or

remove any matter that would disclose or discloses the person's place of living if the person considers that the disclosure would place or places the personal safety of the person or of members of the person's family at risk."

Should any designated person consider the disclosure of personal information place themselves or family at risk, an appropriate request should be made to the general manager to withhold that information.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

There are no strategic implications that arise from the adoption of this report.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:

This report does not have any implication on the budget.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

This report has no policy implications.

LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS:

As all disclosures have been completed, there are no legislative implications or further action required.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no attachments to this report



**Edward
River**
COUNCIL

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
September 21, 2017**

Report No. 6 & Report No. 7

Election of Mayor & Deputy Mayor
September 2017-2019

General Manager

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

Current version for 7 July 2017 to date (accessed 13 September 2017 at 16:07)

Schedule 7

Schedule 7 Election of mayor by councillors

(Clause 394)

Part 1 Preliminary

1 Returning officer

The general manager (or a person appointed by the general manager) is the returning officer.

2 Nomination

- (1) A councillor may be nominated without notice for election as mayor or deputy mayor.
- (2) The nomination is to be made in writing by 2 or more councillors (one of whom may be the nominee). The nomination is not valid unless the nominee has indicated consent to the nomination in writing.
- (3) The nomination is to be delivered or sent to the returning officer.
- (4) The returning officer is to announce the names of the nominees at the council meeting at which the election is to be held.

3 Election

- (1) If only one councillor is nominated, that councillor is elected.
- (2) If more than one councillor is nominated, the council is to resolve whether the election is to proceed by preferential ballot, by ordinary ballot or by open voting.
- (3) The election is to be held at the council meeting at which the council resolves on the method of voting.
- (4) In this clause:

ballot has its normal meaning of secret ballot.

open voting means voting by a show of hands or similar means.

Part 2 Ordinary ballot or open voting

4 Application of Part

This Part applies if the election proceeds by ordinary ballot or by open voting.

5 Marking of ballot-papers

- (1) If the election proceeds by ordinary ballot, the returning officer is to decide the manner in which votes are to be marked on the ballot-papers.
- (2) The formality of a ballot-paper under this Part must be determined in accordance with clause 345 (1) (b) and (c) and (6) of this Regulation as if it were a ballot-paper referred to in that clause.
- (3) An informal ballot-paper must be rejected at the count.

6 Count—2 candidates

- (1) If there are only 2 candidates, the candidate with the higher number of votes is elected.
- (2) If there are only 2 candidates and they are tied, the one elected is to be chosen by lot.

7 Count—3 or more candidates

- (1) If there are 3 or more candidates, the one with the lowest number of votes is to be excluded.
- (2) If 3 or more candidates then remain, a further vote is to be taken of those candidates and the one with the lowest number of votes from that further vote is to be excluded.
- (3) If, after that, 3 or more candidates still remain, the procedure set out in subclause (2) is to be repeated until only 2 candidates remain.
- (4) A further vote is to be taken of the 2 remaining candidates.
- (5) Clause 6 of this Schedule then applies to the determination of the election as if the 2 remaining candidates had been the only candidates.
- (6) If at any stage during a count under subclause (1) or (2), 2 or more candidates are tied on the lowest number of votes, the one excluded is to be chosen by lot.

Part 3 Preferential ballot

8 Application of Part

This Part applies if the election proceeds by preferential ballot.

9 Ballot-papers and voting

- (1) The ballot-papers are to contain the names of all the candidates. The councillors are to mark their votes by placing the numbers “1”, “2” and so on against the various names so as to indicate the order of their preference for all the candidates.
- (2) The formality of a ballot-paper under this Part is to be determined in accordance with clause 345 (1) (b) and (c) and (5) of this Regulation as if it were a ballot-paper referred to in that clause.
- (3) An informal ballot-paper must be rejected at the count.

10 Count

- (1) If a candidate has an absolute majority of first preference votes, that candidate is elected.
- (2) If not, the candidate with the lowest number of first preference votes is excluded and the votes on the unexhausted ballot-papers counted to him or her are transferred to the candidates with second preferences on those ballot-papers.
- (3) A candidate who then has an absolute majority of votes is elected, but, if no candidate then has an absolute majority of votes, the process of excluding the candidate who has the lowest number of votes and counting each of his or her unexhausted ballot-papers to the candidates remaining in the election next in order of the voter’s preference is repeated until one candidate has received an absolute majority of votes. The latter is elected.
- (4) In this clause, *absolute majority*, in relation to votes, means a number that is more than one-half of the number of unexhausted formal ballot-papers.

11 Tied candidates

- (1) If, on any count of votes, there are 2 candidates in, or remaining in, the election and the numbers of votes cast for the 2 candidates are equal—the candidate whose name is first chosen by lot is taken to have received an absolute majority of votes and is therefore taken to be elected.
- (2) If, on any count of votes, there are 3 or more candidates in, or remaining in, the election and the numbers of votes cast for 2 or more candidates are equal and those candidates are the ones with the lowest number of votes on the count of the votes—the candidate whose name is first chosen by lot is taken to have the lowest number of votes and is therefore excluded.

Part 4 General

12 Choosing by lot

To choose a candidate by lot, the names of the candidates who have equal numbers of votes are written on similar slips of paper by the returning officer, the slips are folded by the returning officer so as to prevent the names being seen, the slips are mixed and one is drawn at random by the returning officer and the candidate whose name is on the drawn slip is chosen.

13 Result

The result of the election (including the name of the candidate elected as mayor or deputy mayor) is:

- (a) to be declared to the councillors at the council meeting at which the election is held by the returning officer, and
- (b) to be delivered or sent to the Director-General and to the Secretary of the Local Government and Shires Association of New South Wales.



**Edward
River**
COUNCIL

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
September 21, 2017**

Report No. 9

Administrators Report to the
Community

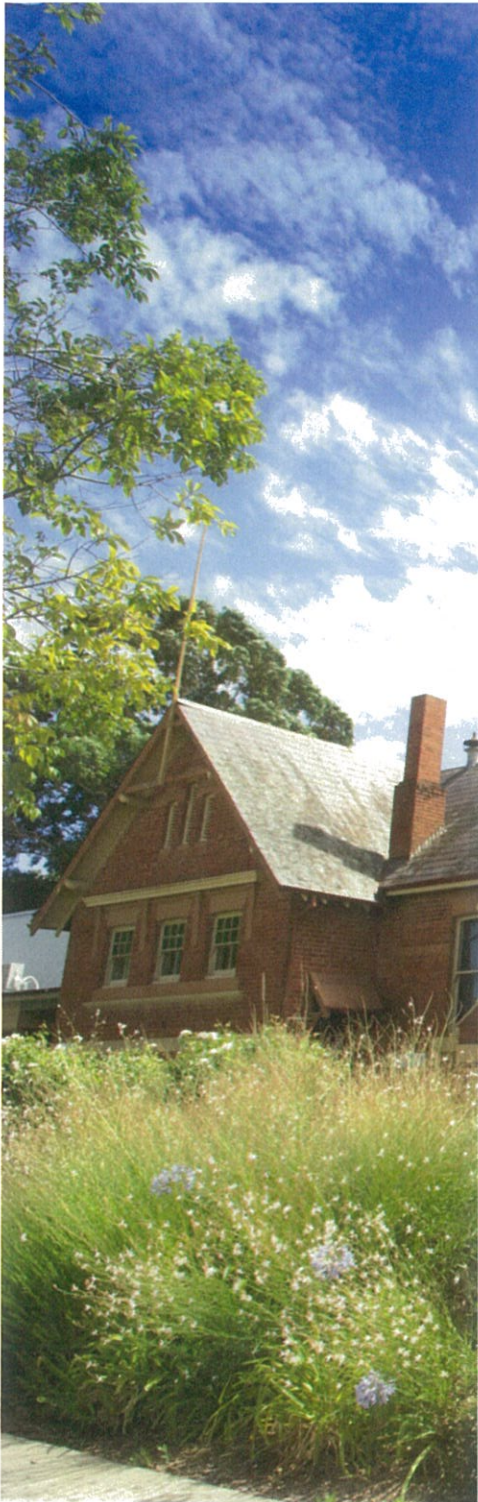
General Manager



Edward
River
COUNCIL

Implementing the Edward River Council

Administrator's Report to the Community
Prepared September 2017



Edward River Council

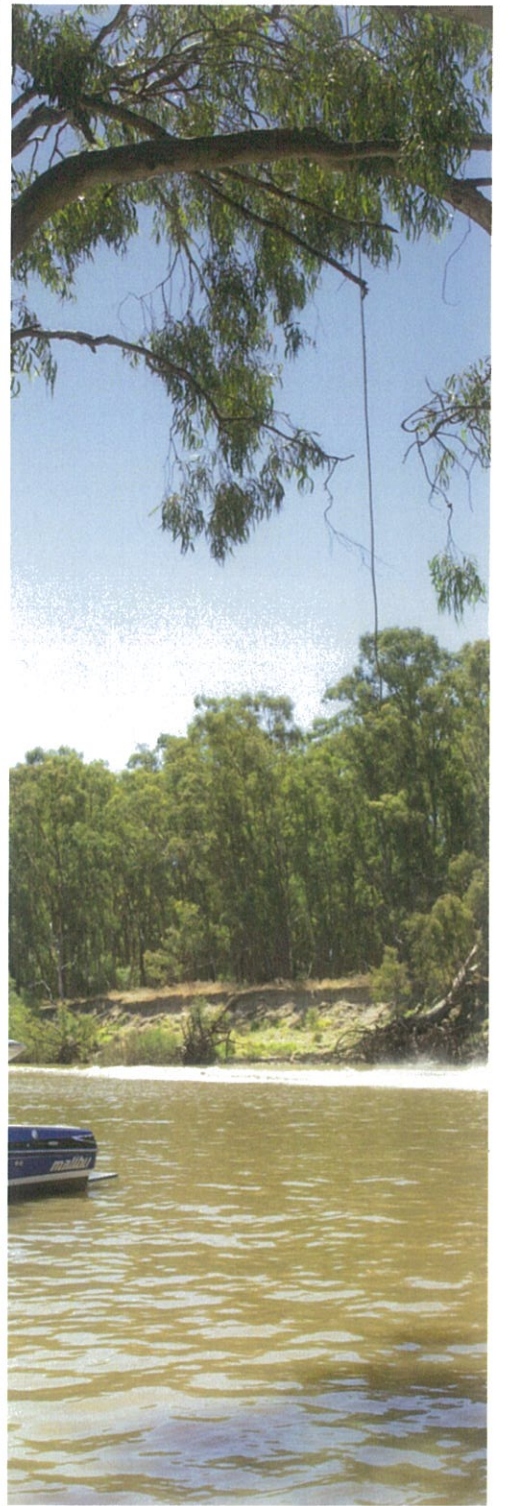
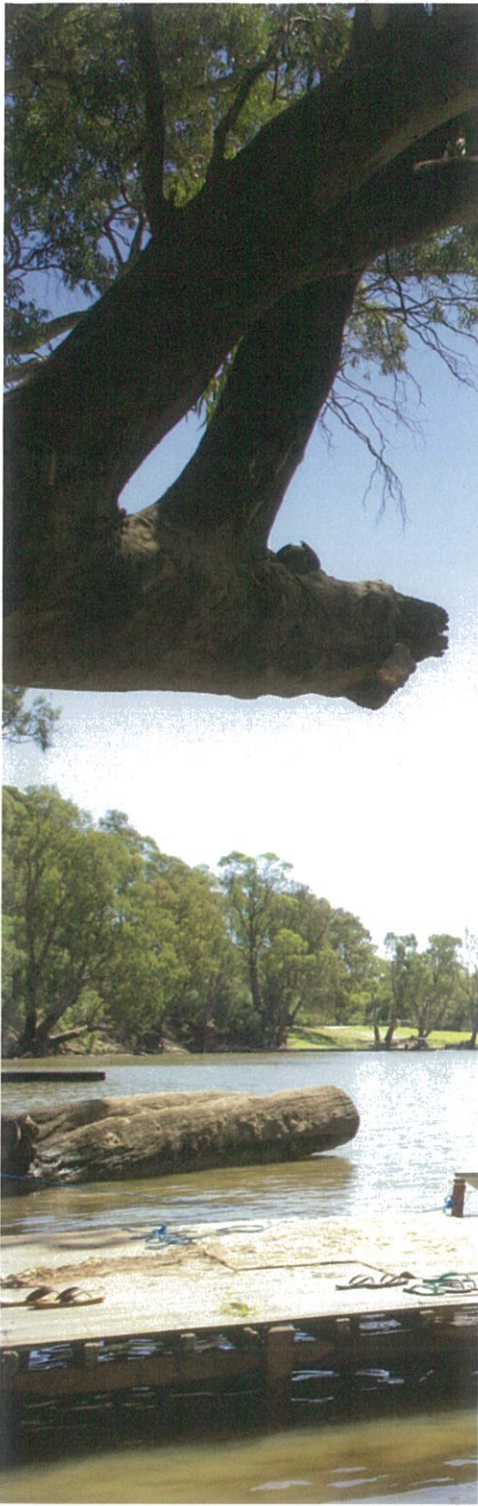
180 Cressy Street (PO Box 270)

Deniliquin NSW 2710

Phone: 03 5898 3000 | Fax: 03 5898 3029

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www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au





Executive Summary

The end of Edward River Council's administration period is an important milestone and provides us with an opportunity to report on our progress and achievements in delivering the 10 key results to September 2017.

There is no statutory requirement for newly created councils to prepare an End of Term Report. However, the Office of Local Government has requested all Administrators of merged councils to prepare a report to their community outlining their council's achievements against the five enduring characteristics of a stronger council.

The purpose of this Report is to:

- communicate key milestones and achievements;
- communicate the way Stronger Communities funding has been expended and allocated;
- inform the community and Councillors about outstanding implementation priorities;
- inform the community and Councillors about the financial position of the council and its assets;
- support a seamless transition to the elected council; and
- demonstrate open and accountable governance.

Message from the Administrator

As Administrator of Edward River Council, I am proud to present this Report to the Community, summarising our organisation's progress and achievements over the past 16 months.

Edward River Council was proclaimed by the NSW Governor on 12 May 2016 following amalgamation of the former Conargo Shire Council and Deniliquin Council.

The provisions for Edward River Council made in the proclamation included my appointment as the Administrator for the interim period until elections for the new Council held on Saturday, 9 September 2017. As Administrator, I have assumed the functions of the former Mayors and Councillors in that I have been able to make formal and binding decisions on the Council as well as represent Council in the community.

Merging two organisations into one was never going to be a simple task. Both former councils were well established organisations that had their own structures, systems and processes and their own unique way of providing services and infrastructure to their communities. This process has brought enormous change for our staff, who had to learn new ways of doing things, help establish new processes, move new offices or change teams, and help play an integral role in implementing the new Edward River Council.

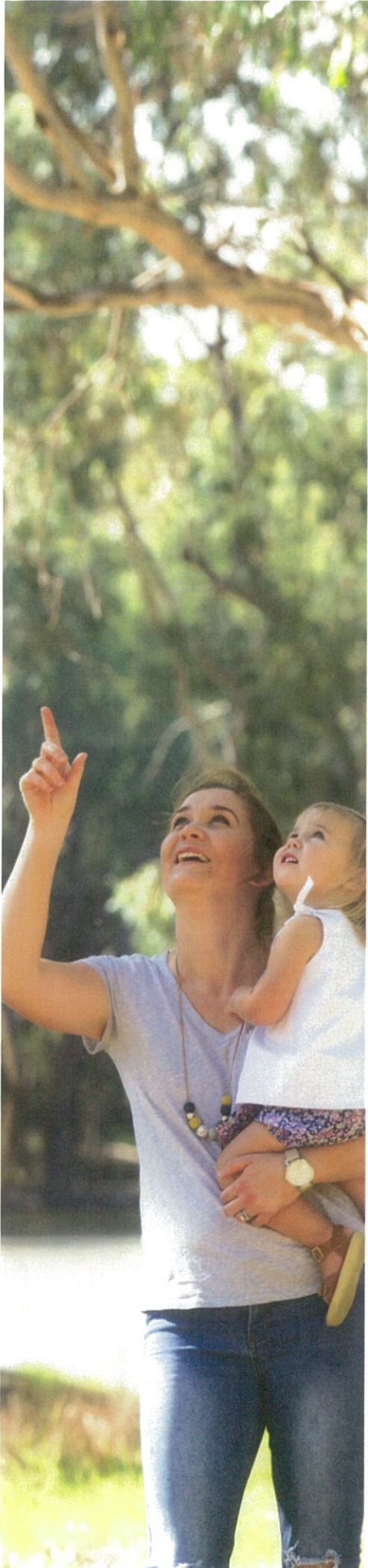
Over the past 16 months, I have been aided by the advice and assistance provided by the former Conargo and Deniliquin Councillors in their capacity as members of Council's Local Advisory Committee (LAC). The LAC was constituted following the merger and, under the committee's terms of reference, ceased operation on 30 June 2017. While, as an advisory committee, the LAC was not a decision-making body; the members of the LAC provided strong representation for their respective communities throughout this interim period and I have relied heavily upon their advice in discharging my responsibilities as Administrator.

This interim period has been a time of extraordinary progress for both Edward River Council and our community. Our achievements to date would not have been possible without the invaluable efforts of Council's staff, and I acknowledge Council's General Manager, Adam McSwain, as well as our Directors, managers and officers, who have all worked tirelessly to ensure the implementation of the Edward River Council has been a success.

The Edward River region has a proud past, and an exciting future. I am just as convinced now as I was when I was appointed Administrator that our best days are ahead of us, and not behind us. I look forward to Council continuing to work cooperatively and collaboratively with our community - as well as State and Federal Governments - to deliver positive results for our region and its residents.

A new era starts with the election of Councillors on 9 September 2017. Nine Councillors will be elected to represent the entire Edward River region, rather than individual wards, and it will be their responsibility to ensure the whole of Edward River Council is considered in their deliberations and decision-making. I look forward to seeing Edward River Council continue to grow, develop and provide for our community.

Ashley Hall
Administrator



About Edward River Council

Edward River Council is an innovative and community-focused local government responsible for delivering a comprehensive range of services to support and improve the lives of our over 8,800 permanent residents.

Edward River Council was established on 12 May 2016 through the merger of the former Conargo Shire Council and Deniliquin Council

The Edward River Council Local Government Area (LGA) encompasses a total land area of 8,881 square kilometres, including the town of Deniliquin and the surrounding rural villages of Blighty, Booroorban, Conargo, Mayrung, Pretty Pine and Wanganella.

Deniliquin is the administrative, commercial and services centre of the Edward River region, with the Cobb Highway and Riverina Highway serving as the region's main transport corridors.

Council's Customer Service Centre, incorporating the Council Chambers, is located at 180 Cressy Street, Deniliquin.

Our Region

The Edward River region is located at the heart of the Riverina-Murray, in the centre of the Adelaide-Melbourne-Sydney triangle, and borders the Berrigan, Hay, Murray River and Murrumbidgee council areas.

The Edward River region is recognised as one of the most agriculturally versatile regions in New South Wales. With a Gross Regional Product of around \$566 million, the Edward River region supports a thriving and diverse economy driven by the agriculture, health care, retail, education, tourism and manufacturing sectors.

Our region supports a growing population, with over 2,200 families calling the Edward River home. The region has close to 150 parks, gardens, and public spaces, including the renowned Waring Gardens, and boasts a number of excellent sport and recreation facilities, perfect for getting out and getting active. Our community provides excellent education and training pathways, with seven primary schools, one secondary school and a campus of TAFE NSW all operating in the region.

Home to the iconic Guinness World Record-holding Deni Ute Muster, the Edward River region is the events capital of the Riverina-Murray. Our packed annual events calendar also includes the Deni Fishing Classic, the Easter Rhythm, Blues and Jazz Festival and Cruising Nationals, to name a few.

The Edward River LGA is easily accessible to the major regional centres of Albury-Wodonga, Echuca-Moama, Shepparton and Wagga Wagga.

A Snapshot of the Edward River:

As told by the 2016 Census and Council's REMPLAN Economic Profile.



Population

Approximately 8,851 people live in the Edward River region

45

Median Age

The median age of our population is 45 years



Gross Regional Product

The Edward River region has a GRP of \$0.567 billion



Housing

4,284 private dwellings in the local government area



Families

Our community is home to 2,212 families



Jobs

Our economy supports over 3,300 jobs



Businesses

Over 800 businesses currently operating in the Edward River region



Employment by Industry

The agriculture sector is the region's largest employer

Our Organisation

As a new council, Edward River Council's highest priority is to ensure we continue to deliver the many local services valued by our community, while continuously striving to improve the way we do business.

Council provides a wide range of services to local residents, businesses, developers and investors, and tourists and visitors to our region, including:

- Town planning;
- Construction and maintenance of local roads, streets and bridges;
- Preservation of historic and heritage places;
- Public safety, food and health services;
- Waste management;
- Supervision of building and development control;
- Environment, animal and pest management;
- Maintenance of public spaces, parks and gardens and sporting facilities;
- Provision of library services through the Central Murray Regional Library;
- Tourism and regional promotion; and
- Economic development and investment attraction.

Council currently employs 108 staff to ensure we are able to meet our responsibilities as a local government and deliver the wide range of services and infrastructure our community expects.

Corporate Image

Edward River Council formally adopted its Corporate Logo and Brand at a Council meeting held on 31 August 2016, following an extensive public consultation process.

Inspired by the shared community values and natural attributes of the Edward River region, our Corporate Logo features three intertwining elements:



**Edward
River**
COUNCIL

Orange grain:
Representing the importance of agriculture to the region and its economy.

Blue droplet:
Representing the Edward River, which winds its way through the region.

Green leaf:
Representing the region's unique natural environment and growing community.

Organisational Structure

Edward River Council is organised into three Departments, each with a range of service delivery responsibilities. Together, the General Manager and the three Directors comprise the organisation's Executive Management Team and are responsible for providing the organisation with strong and effective leadership.



Corporate Values

Values form the basis of our culture; they add meaning to work and they provide a basis for consistent planning and decision-making across the organisation. Edward River Council has adopted a set of values which were developed through a consultative process involving staff across the whole organisation.

The desired values and behaviours that every employee of Edward River Council is expected to demonstrate in their daily activities, in the way they conduct themselves, and the way they make decisions are:

Leadership

We seek to provide strong leadership for our community and our customers. We lead with empathy and integrity.

Excellence

We strive for excellence and continuous improvement: In who we are, in how we work, and in how we deliver results for our community.

Accountability

We are open, honest and transparent in how we do business, the decisions we make, and the actions we take.

Delivery

We are committed to delivering results for our community and outstanding service to our customers.

Stronger Councils Framework

The NSW Government has worked collaboratively with new councils to prepare the Stronger Councils Framework, which is founded on five key characteristics of a council that is better able to deliver results for its community, build successful partnerships, and has the leadership, culture, people and capabilities to make this happen. This section describes our progress against each of these characteristics.



Strategic Capacity

Edward River Council is a strong partner in the system of government, with a strategic outlook, confidently representing and progressing matters of local and regional significance.



Outstanding Service Provision

Residents and businesses have an efficient, convenient and satisfying experience when using Edward River Council services, information and infrastructure.



Robust Community Relationships

Residents and businesses have a voice in the vision for their community and there is meaningful, open dialogue between Edward River Council and community on solving local issues.



Strong Performance

Edward River Council is a robust, flexible and capable organisation that delivers on the needs of the community.



Sound Organisational Health

Edward River Council staff, leadership and culture directly contribute to the council's success and to positive, customer-centric culture and delivery.



Strategic Capacity

Edward River Council is a strong partner in the system of government, with a strategic outlook, confidently representing and progressing matters of local and regional significance.

Snapshot of Progress

Industry partnerships to advance regional interests

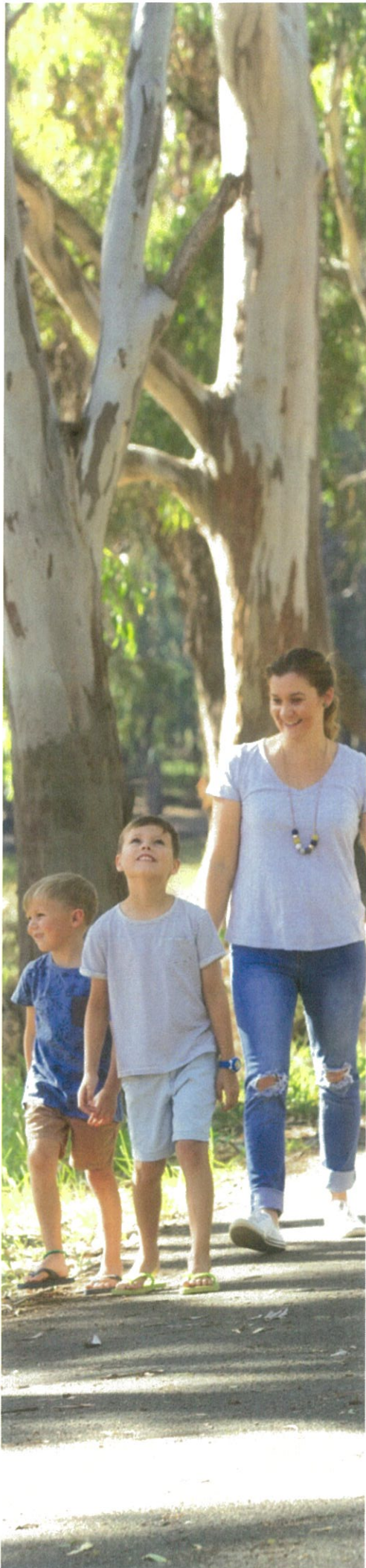
- ✓ Edward River Council has partnered with the Deniliquin Business Chamber and Murray Irrigation Limited to develop a region-wide Economic Development Strategy, which will identify opportunities and gaps to address the future growth and development of the Edward River region, including industry growth, business support, employment-generating projects and innovation and export opportunities.

Advocacy to State and Federal Governments

- ✓ After signing a Memorandum of Understanding with Brisbane West Wellcamp Airport to pursue air freight services between Deniliquin Airport and Brisbane West Wellcamp Airport at Toowoomba; Edward River Council has progressed preliminary planning for the Deniliquin Airport Runway Upgrade Project through deputations with Ministers and Government Departments at both State and Federal levels. We also hosted Wagner Group Director John Wagner at a business forum at Deniliquin, allowing local residents and business and industry stakeholders to hear first-hand our shared vision for the Deniliquin Airport.

Strategic direction for open and public spaces

- ✓ The development of both an Edward River Region Open Space Strategy and Deniliquin Public Space Strategy has commenced, with significant community consultation being undertaken to support the preparation of both strategies. Our Open Space Strategy will provide a holistic direction for the future planning, provision, design and management of open space - including sporting recreations and reserves - in the Edward River region, while our Public Space Strategy will serve as a long-term strategic plan to guide the delivery of improvements to the local streetscape and our town entrances.



Outstanding Service Provision

Residents and businesses have an efficient, convenient and satisfying experience when using Edward River Council services, information and infrastructure.

Snapshot of Progress

High levels of community satisfaction during transition

- ✓ An independent survey undertaken by the Department of Premier and Cabinet in September 2016 revealed strong community satisfaction with Edward River Council's performance during the transition period, identifying the quality of recreational facilities, ease of access to Council services, and communication between Council and our community, as our top three performing areas. The survey revealed that one third of residents rate our performance as 'good' or 'very good'.

Putting the customer at the centre of our business

- ✓ The customer is at the centre of the way Edward River Council does business. Through centralising our customer service operations at our Customer Service Centre at 180 Cressy Street, Deniliquin, residents and ratepayers have been provided a one-stop shop for doing business with Council. Funds have been allocated for the development of a new Customer Relationship Management System which, once implemented, will allow Council to respond to customer requests more efficiently.

A new digital front door for Council

- ✓ With customers increasingly preferring doing business with Council online, Edward River Council has delivered a new, accessible and customer-friendly website at www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au. Predictive search enables customers to easily locate information, forms and publications, and our new homepage design allows customers to quickly access key services and information.

Robust Community Relationships

Residents and businesses have a voice in the vision for their community and there is meaningful, open dialogue between Edward River Council and community on solving local issues.

Snapshot of Progress

Engaged residents having their say on our future

- ✓ The 2016 Community Satisfaction Survey commissioned by the Department of Premier and Cabinet revealed that Edward River Council is performing at a statistically significantly higher level than rural, regional and metropolitan local governments in consulting and engaging with our community, and informing our community on the decisions we take and actions we take. We have actively sought to engage our community on important decisions facing our local government area, including our 8.6 million Major Projects Program, and have launched a new online community and stakeholder engagement hub, OurSay Edward River, providing residents with an easy way to have their say on Council's decisions, projects, programs and events.

A more inclusive community

- ✓ The first Disability Inclusion Action Plan for the Edward River region has been delivered. The plan outlines 14 actions Edward River Council will undertake across all functions of our organisation to improve accessibility and inclusivity within our community.

Collaboration with community, business and industry

- ✓ Edward River Council has partnered and collaborated with a range of local community, business and industry groups to sponsor and deliver major community events across the region, including the annual Deni Ute Muster, Elders Riverina Sheep Expo, Cruising Nationals, Deniliquin Fishing Classic, and Deniliquin Truck Show & Industry Expo. We have also hosted or supported important local civic events, such as Australia Day celebrations, Anzac Day services, and Citizenship ceremonies.

Our Region, Your Say

- ✓ Through Edward River Council's Our Region, Your Say consultation, our community will be given the opportunity to have its say on the future of the Edward River local government area. This consultation will be aimed at identifying the community's vision for our region and will lay the foundations for our Community Strategic Plan and our community Vision Statement.

Strong Performance

Edward River Council is a robust, flexible and capable organisation that delivers on the needs of the community.

Snapshot of Progress

Improved Asset Management

- ✓ Edward River Council has commenced the consolidation and integration of the former Conargo Shire and Deniliquin councils' asset management strategies and plans. We have also made progress in mapping all of our assets across the Edward River local government area.

System improvement and efficiency

- ✓ Internal systems and processes that are critical to the effective and efficient operation of Edward River Council have either been implemented, are being rolled out, or are scheduled to be rolled out. These include corporate records, finance, and asset management systems as well as internal plans and processes. By improving our systems, we are improving our performance and supporting well-informed decision-making across all levels of our organisation.

Commitment to excellent customer service

- ✓ Edward River Council has commenced the development of a Customer Service Charter which, once delivered, will establish clear standards for the level of customer service our community can expect from us. The charter will include key performance indicators that will be measured and reported on regularly.

Responsive to community needs

- ✓ Following the 2016 flood event, Edward River Council delivered an Edward River at Deniliquin Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan, which contains 12 recommendations to mitigate the risks of flooding in Deniliquin. Over the coming years, we will implement these recommendations to ensure community preparedness and resilience to future flood events.



Sound Organisational Health

Edward River Council staff, leadership and culture directly contribute to the council's success and to positive, customer-centric culture and delivery.

Snapshot of Progress

Effective, Efficient Organisational Structure

- ✓ Edward River Council has adopted its new organisational structure following extensive consultation with our staff. Our structure is focused on effectiveness and efficiency and reflects our commitment to holistic planning, outstanding service delivery and excellent customer service.

Strong Leadership

- ✓ Following the adoption of Edward River Council's new organisational structure, our Executive Leadership Team - comprising the General Manager, Director Corporate Services, Director Economic Development and Business and Director Infrastructure - was selected following an extensive recruitment process.

Positive Workplace Culture

- ✓ Supporting a positive and cohesive workplace culture which resonates with staff is essential to achieving real organisational reform. Following the establishment of Edward River Council, all staff were invited to participate in a cultural assessment and given the opportunity to help build a successful, sustainable organisation. This cultural assessment informed the development of our organisational structure, and we will continue to conduct staff surveys and pulse tests to ensure we are successfully meeting our goal of achieving a positive and cohesive culture.

Shared Values

- ✓ Through ongoing internal consultation with staff, Edward River Council has developed our new corporate values - LEAD: Leadership, Excellence, Accountability and Delivery - which underpin our workplace culture and to which all staff are committed to upholding. These shared values will be an integral part of how our organisation operates, including the way we deliver services to our community. Our values will also be incorporated into our recruitment and staff performance appraisal processes, making sure all staff are continually embodying the values of Leadership, Excellence, Accountability and Delivery.

Our Financial Position

Financial benefits have been delivered for residents and ratepayers through duplication reduction and greater efficiency which come from increased scale. With the merger savings, and the NSW Government's funding of \$15 million, the new Council will be better able to provide the services and infrastructure that are important to our community.

Financial Position 2017-2021

	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21
Income	\$28,269,840	\$25,680,035	\$26,161,295	\$26,791,235
Operational Expenditure	\$27,591,200	\$25,505,455	\$25,791,260	\$26,618,940
Capital Expenditure	\$17,492,325	\$12,635,785	\$9,113,830	\$7,680,640

Stronger Communities Funding

Capital Works Program	16/17 Actual	17/18	18/19
Deniliquin Ute Muster	\$200,000	-	-
Council s355 Committees	\$200,000	-	-
Major Projects Program	-	\$4,948,825	\$3,651,175
Stronger Communities Grants Program	\$1,000,000	-	-
Total	\$1,400,000	\$4,948,825	\$3,651,175



Stronger Communities Fund

The Stronger Communities Fund was established by the NSW Government to provide all newly merged councils, including Edward River Council, with funding to kick start the delivery of projects that improve community infrastructure and services.

Edward River Council received \$10 million through the Stronger Communities Fund, which was allocated as follows:

- \$8,600,000 for the Edward River Council Major Projects Program;
- \$1,000,000 for the Edward River Council Stronger Community Grants Program;
- \$200,000 for projects identifies by council committees; and
- \$200,000 contribution to the 2016 Deniliquin Ute Muster.

In determining which projects should be funded through the Stronger Communities Fund, Council was required to follow an open and transparent process and apply high governance standards set by the NSW Government. This included the appointment of a Stronger Communities Fund Assessment Panel to oversee the funding process.



Stronger Communities Grants

Through the NSW Government's Stronger Communities Fund, Council has directed \$1 million in funding to a series of projects across the Edward River community. Projects funded include:

- Blighty School P&C - Playscape development, \$40,000
- Blighty Football Club - Timekeepers' box upgrade, \$6,900
- Bush Poets - Mobile stage, sound and light, \$7,500
- Boat Club - Riverbank Redevelopment, \$30,000
- Deniliquin Aero Club - Redesign/ rebuild outdoor roof area, \$15,000
- Deniliquin & District Cricket Association - Replace and upgrade facilities, \$30,000
- Deniliquin & District Historical Society - Rejuvenation of museum, \$13,000
- Deniliquin Bowling Club - Installation of disabled toilets, \$20,000
- Bridge Club - Chairs, \$6,000
- Clay Target Club - Amenity block upgrade, \$16,225
- Deniliquin CWA - Maintenance and renovations, \$12,000
- Deniliquin Drovers - Lighting, \$44,000
- Deniliquin Field and Game - Relocation shooting range, \$35,000
- Genealogy Group - Updating outdated equipment, \$8,000
- Deniliquin Girl Guides - Hall maintenance, \$20,000
- Golf Club - Fairway mower, \$40,000
- Gymnastics Club - Equipment for safety and development, \$20,000
- Deniliquin High School P&C - Kitchen appliance upgrade, \$6,740
- Deniliquin Lawn Tennis Club - Court lighting, \$30,000
- Little Athletics - Timing equipment, \$7,500
- Deniliquin Men's Shed - Upgrade facilities, \$25,000
- Deniliquin Netball Committee - Shelter shed, \$5,000
- Deniliquin North Public School P&C - Irrigation system, \$32,250
- Deniliquin Outdoor Pools Inc. - Pool ladder and lane ropes, \$10,456
- Pistol Club - Clubhouse/air pistol range, \$10,000
- Deniliquin Pony Club - Shed, \$35,650
- Deniliquin Racing Club - Machinery and equipment storage shed, \$25,000
- Rams Football and Netball Club - Storage shed/ seating, \$44,000
- Deniliquin Rhinos - Equipment upgrade, \$7,571
- Deniliquin Sports Park - Storage building, \$30,000
- Deniliquin Truck Show & Industry Expo - Wall of Fame, \$10,000
- Deniliquin Ute Muster - Purpose-built event sales facility, \$40,000
- Edward School P&C - Shade shelter, \$40,000
- Kurrajong Waratah - Yallamee: Cool room/ freezer, \$35,000
- Mayrung Public School P&C - Safety development and enhancement, \$18,921
- Navorina Ladies Auxiliary - Equipment upgrade, \$10,000
- Navorina Nursing Home - Flood beds, \$17,000
- Outback Theatre for Young People - While You Were Sleeping, \$50,000
- Pastoral & Agricultural Society - Public Announcement (PA) system, \$5,855
- Riding for the Disabled - Concreting and uniforms, \$22,730
- Rotary Club, Lions Club, Soroptomist International, Deniliquin RSL Joint Project - Liberty Swing, \$20,000
- Rovers Football Club - Construction of change rooms, \$44,000
- South West Music - Instruments for kids, \$30,055
- Deniliquin South Public School - Deniliquin South Public School project completion, \$10,000

Major Projects Program

Over the next two years, Council will be investing \$8.6 million into delivering larger-scale priority infrastructure and services projects that deliver long-term economic and social benefits to our community.

Edward River Council's Major Projects Program was adopted at an extraordinary Council meeting held on Thursday, 20 July 2017.

Council undertook significant consultation with our community in determining which projects were funded through the Stronger Communities Fund Major Projects Program. Funding allocated under the Major Projects Program must be spent or committed by 30 June 2019 and acquitted by 31 December 2019.

Over three consultation phases, members of the community were asked to provide submissions on projects they believed should be funded through the Major Projects Program, and to have their say on which proposals would provide greatest community benefit and should be funded. The consultation program comprised:

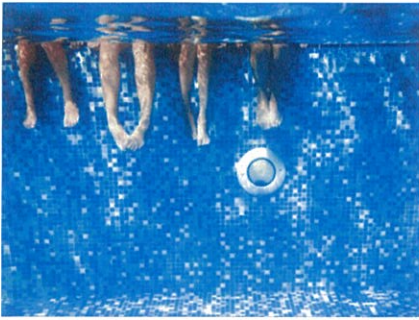
- Targeted meetings with stakeholders and project proponents;
- Public forums; and a
- Community survey

This community consultation informed the Stronger Communities Fund Assessment Panel's decision-making process, with the data collected by Council playing a key role in determining the composition of our Major Projects Program.

The Stronger Communities Fund Assessment Panel comprised Administrator Ashley Hall, Member for Murray Adrian Piccoli MP and former mayors Norm Brennan and Pat Fogarty, along with a representative of the Department of Premier and Cabinet and an independent probity adviser.

PROGRAM LAUNCH: Council's Major Projects Program was officially launched at a reception held on Thursday, 20 July 2017

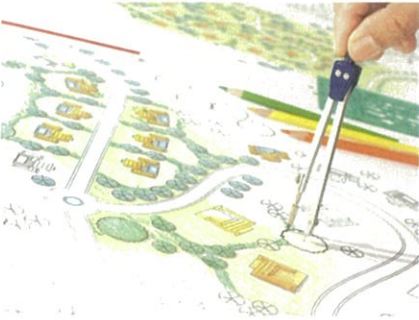




Deniliquin Swim Centre Revitalisation

\$880,000

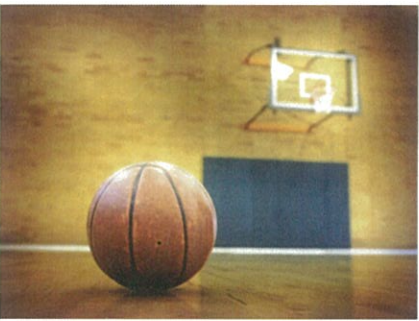
The Deniliquin Swim Centre will be revitalised through an \$880,000 investment, including the addition of an all-abilities Water Play Facility, creating a fun family-friendly aquatic environment for locals and visitors alike. Other improvements will include the re-lining of the main pool, the construction of a wet-deck and the installation of solar heating to the medium pool.



Community Masterplans and Initial Works

\$2,105,000

Over \$2 million will be invested into developing and delivering on the first stage of works on long-term strategic plans for the Deniliquin River Front (\$750,000), the Deniliquin Town Centre Streetscape (\$750,000), an Arts and Culture Precinct (\$475,000) and a multi-use Deniliquin Sports Precinct (\$130,000).



Deniliquin Sports and Entertainment Stadium Extension

\$540,000

An allocation of \$540,000 will go towards extending the Deniliquin Regional Sports and Entertainment Stadium and ensuring that it remains fit for use. This project will allow more sport and recreation programs to be facilitated at the Stadium through the installation of new flooring and additional court space.



Blighty Community Netball and Tennis Facility

\$550,000

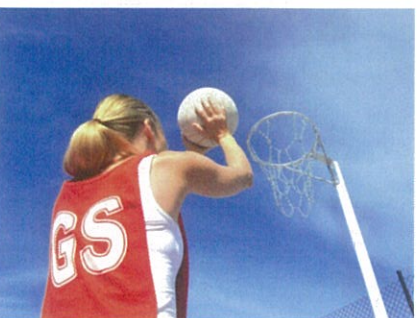
Council will construct a new purpose-built community Netball and Tennis Clubhouse at the Blighty Sport and Recreation Reserve. With the addition of the new Clubhouse, the Blighty Reserve will cement its place as one of the region's premier sporting facilities.



Deniliquin Children's Centre Extension

\$500,000

Through a \$500,000 contribution to the Deniliquin Children's Centre expansion project, Council will assist local families to enjoy improved access to local childhood education services. Once delivered, this project will increase the number of childcare places in region by 11 per cent.



Deniliquin Netball Facility Improvement Works

\$320,000

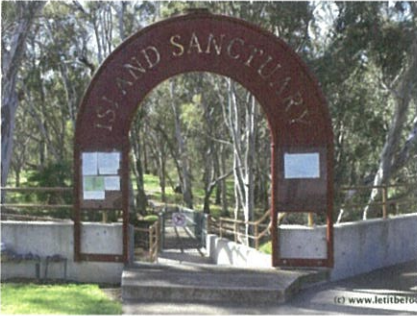
Upgrades to the Deniliquin Oval and Memorial Park netball facilities will be achieved through a \$320,000 investment. Both facilities' courts will be resurfaced, improving players' safety, with additional fence realignment works and the construction of a spectator shelter at the Deniliquin Oval courts.



Rural Villages Beautification Project

\$300,000

Council will invest \$300,000 into achieving positive economic and social outcomes for our rural residents through our Rural Villages Beautification Project. Over the coming months, Council will engage in targeted consultation with rural residents to identify suitable projects from the Rural Village Masterplans prepared by the former Conargo Shire Council which can be funded through this allocation.



Beach to Beach Walk Connectivity Improvements

\$300,000

Connectivity to the Beach to Beach Walk and Island Sanctuary – two of our local tourism drawcards – will be improved through a \$300,000 investment. These funds will provide for the construction of additional footpath connections to the Beach to Beach Walk, as well as the refurbishment of both bridges into the Island Sanctuary.



Deniliquin Community Facility Refurbishments

\$165,000

Creating accessible and inclusive community spaces is a priority for Council, as demonstrated by our \$165,000 improvement works to two local community facilities: the Edward River Boat Club, which will gain an accessible toilet, and the Deniliquin Scout Hall, which will be refurbished for use as an Army Cadet Parade Hall.



Urban Road Infrastructure Program

\$2,390,000

Through our \$2.39 million Urban Road Infrastructure Program, Council will deliver much-needed upgrades to more than two kilometres of streets and over 500 metres of footpaths throughout the Deniliquin town area, going a long way to improving our urban road network.



Deniliquin Airport Heritage Centre Development

\$50,000

The second and third stages of the Deniliquin Heritage Centre Development Project, which celebrates the rich history of the local airport as a Royal Australian Air Force station during World War II, will be delivered through Council's \$50,000 contribution.



Unallocated Funding for New Council

\$500,000

Half a million dollars has been set aside for the new Edward River Council to allocate to an eligible project following the election taking place on Saturday, 9 September 2017. As with all other funded projects, the project selected by our new Councillors will need to be delivered by 30 June 2019.



Moving Forward

Following the conclusion of the interim administration period and the election of a new Council, the principal priority for Edward River Council will be delivering a full suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (IP&R) documentation, including our first Edward River Council Community Strategic Plan.

Council must adopt its suite of IP&R documentation (the Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program, Operational Plan and Resourcing Strategic) by 30 June 2018. These documents are statutory requirements and, once adopted, will set a vision and long-term strategic direction and budget for Council.

Maintaining Momentum

The IP&R Framework legislation is embedded in the Local Government Act 1993 and requires all councils to prepare and implement a Community Strategic Plan, which is the highest level strategic plan that Council prepares.

During the transition period, Edward River Council – along with all merged councils – has continued to implement and operate in accordance with our predecessor councils' Community Strategic Plans.

The development of our Community Strategic Plan must be guided by significant community consultation. As such, a comprehensive consultation process, entitled Our Region, Your Say, has been planned and is scheduled to commence following the September election.

Welcoming Elected Councillors

Nine (9) Councillors will be elected in September to represent the entire Edward River region, rather than individual wards, on Council.

Following the elections, the Councillors will vote to elect a Mayor for a two-year term. The New South Wales Government has extended the length of the Mayor's term from one year to two years in order to offer the new Council extra stability and encourage a focus on long-term strategic planning.

Council's General Manager and Executive Leadership Team has planned a comprehensive induction and training programme for new Councillors to ensure that they are able to effectively discharge their responsibilities under the Local Government Act.

Continuing to Report Progress

This Report details Edward River Council's progress against the Stronger Councils Framework over the past 14 months. We will continue to report against the Stronger Councils Framework measures, as well as our Community Strategic Plan and other IP&R documentation, in our Annual Reports.

