



GENERAL MEETING

17 November 2021

NOTICE OF MEETING

Date: 17 November 2021

Cr AL Martin
Cr BP Johnstone
Cr PJ Pullos
Cr LP Russell
Cr JH Scobie
Cr DA Hardie
Cr GK Schluter

Please find attached the Agenda for the General Meeting to be held at the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council Chambers in Tambo, 17 November 2021 commencing at 8.30am.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'DA Howard'.

DA Howard
Chief Executive Officer

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 2021

17 November 2021 Council Meeting – Tambo

December 2021

3 December 2021 QTC Education Program – Financial Management in Practice
for Elected Members Workshop
4 December 2021 Tambo CWA Luncheon
7 December 2021 Councillors Luncheon
15 December 2021 Council Meeting – Blackall
19 December 2021 Carols in the Park
25 December 2021 Christmas Day

January 2022

1 January 2022 New Year's Day
3 January 2022 New Year's Public Holiday
12 January 2022 Council Meeting – Tambo
26 January 2022 Australia Day

February 2022

16 February 2022 Council Meeting – Blackall

March 2022

16 March 2022 Council Meeting – Tambo

April 2022

20 April 2022 Council Meeting – Blackall
15 April 2022 Good Friday
18 April 2022 Easter Monday
25 April 2022 Anzac Day

May 2022

2 May 2022 Labour Day
18 May 2022 Council Meeting – Tambo

June 2022

15 June 2022 Council Meeting – Blackall

July 2022

20 July 2022 Council Meeting – Tambo

August 2022

17 August 2022 Council Meeting – Blackall

September 2022

21 September 2022 Council Meeting – Tambo

October 2022

3 October 2022 Queen's Birthday
17-19 October 2022 LGAQ Conference
26 October 2022 Council Meeting – Blackall

November 2022

11 November 2022

Remembrance Day

16 November 2022

Council Meeting – Tambo

December 2022

14 December 2022

Council Meeting – Blackall

25 December 2022

Christmas Day

Held at Tambo Council Chambers
On Wednesday 17 November 2021
Commencing at 8.30am

Order of Business

Blue items are hyperlinked

Leave of absence/Signing of Attendance Book

Apologies:

Condolences:

- Gail Prow

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Deputations

BUSINESS

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**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF
BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL
HELD AT THE BLACKALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON WEDNESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2021
AT 8.30AM**

PRESENT:

Councillors: Cr AL Martin (Mayor), Cr LP Russell (Deputy Mayor), Cr GK Schluter, Cr JH Scobie, Cr BP Johnstone, Cr DA Hardie, Cr PJ Pullos.

OFFICERS:

Mr Des Howard, Chief Executive Officer, Mr Alastair Rutherford, Director of Finance Corporate and Community Services, Mr Garth Kath, Director of Works and Services, Mrs Andrea Saunders, Executive Assistant.

CONDOLENCES:

A minute's silence was observed to mark the passing of:

- Dorothy June Stockwell
- Ivan Oliver

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cr LP Russell for item 5.7 – I, Councillor Russell, inform the meeting that I have a prescribed conflict of interest in item 5.7 Wild Dog Sub-Committee Meeting 17 September 2021. The nature of my interest is as follows:

- I am a member of the Eastwood Syndicate which received funding through the Wild Dog Sub Committee.

As a result of my conflict of interest, I will leave the meeting room while the matter is considered and voted on.

Cr PJ Pullos for item 4.1.11 – I, Councillor Pullos, inform the meeting that I have a declarable conflict of interest in item 4.1.11 RADF Application – Tambo CWA. The nature of my interest is as follows:

- I am a member of the Tambo CWA committee which will receive funding through the RADF program.

As a result of my conflict of interest, I will leave the meeting room while the matter is considered and voted on.

Cr PJ Pullos for item 5.7 – I, Councillor Pullos, inform the meeting that I have a prescribed conflict of interest in item 5.7 Wild Dog Sub-Committee Meeting 17 September 2021. The nature of my interest is as follows:

- I am a member of the Mt Enniskillen Wild Dog Syndicate which will receive funding through the Wild Dog Sub Committee.

As a result of my conflict of interest, I will leave the meeting room while the matter is considered and voted on.

Cr AL Martin for item 4.1.10 – I, Councillor Martin, inform the meeting that I have prescribed conflict of interest in item 4.1.10 RADF Application – Red Ridge Interior QLD Ltd. The nature of my interest is as follows:

- I am the chair of Red Ridge which will receive funding through the RADF program.

As a result of my conflict of interest, I will leave the meeting room while the matter is considered and voted on.

1.1 Confirmation of General Meeting Minutes

MOTION: **Moved: Cr GK Schluter** **Seconded: Cr DA Hardie**

That the minutes of the General Meeting held on 15 September 2021 be taken as read and confirmed, and that the Mayor be authorised to sign same.

Minute No. 01/10A/21

Carried 7/0

Into Closed Session

MOTION: **Moved: Cr AL Martin** **Seconded: Cr PJ Pullos**

That Council close its meeting to the public in accordance with Section 254 (J) (3) (a) of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

Minute No. 02/10A/21

Carried 7/0

The meeting was closed at 8.37am and the Director of Finance Corporate and Community Services, Director of Works and Services and Executive Assistant left the meeting.

The Executive Assistant returned to the meeting at 8.49am.

Out of Closed Session

MOTION: **Moved: Cr AL Martin** **Seconded: Cr PJ Pullos**

That the meeting now be re-opened to the public.

Minute No. 03/10A/21

Carried 7/0

The meeting was opened at 8.51am.

The Director of Works and Services returned to the meeting at 8.52am.

Mayoral Minute

MOTION: Moved: Cr AL Martin

Seconded: Cr LP Russell

That Council:

- 1. note that an Administrative Action complaint has been received which cannot be resolved at Stage 1 in accordance with the General Complaints (Administrative Actions) Procedure, and as such the matter should be dealt with at Stage 2 of the Procedure; and**
- 2. delegate the responsibility of the review of the complaint to the Mayor and the Mayor be authorised to engage and seek assistance of an external advisor.**

Minute No. 04/10A/21

Carried 7/0

The Director of Finance Corporate and Community Services returned to the meeting at 8.54am.

4.1.1 Financial Report for the Month of September

In accordance with s204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* a monthly financial report is required to be presented to Council. The financial report for September 2021 details Council's current financial position and compares its performance against the adopted budget for 2021-2022.

MOTION: Moved: Cr GK Schluter

Seconded: Cr DA Hardie

That Council receive the Financial Report for September 2021.

Minute No. 05/10A/21

Carried 7/0

4.1.2 DFCCS Operations Report – September 2021

The Director of Finance Corporate and Community Services operations report for September 2021 is presented to Council. The report includes housing and administration, community development program, Blackall aerodrome, libraries, visitor information centres, facility bookings, Tambo Multipurpose and Tambo Child Care Centre.

MOTION: Moved: Cr BP Johnstone

Seconded: Cr JH Scobie

That Council receive the DFCCS Operations Report for September 2021.

Minute No. 06/10A/21

Carried 7/0

4.1.3 Environmental Health Officer's Report

The Environmental Health Officer's report is provided to Council.

MOTION: **Moved: Cr PJ Pullos** **Seconded: Cr LP Russell**

That Council receive the Environmental Health Officer's report.

Minute No. 07/10A/21

Carried 7/0

4.1.4 Ranger's Report

The Ranger's report for September 2021 is provided to Council.

MOTION: **Moved: Cr JH Scobie** **Seconded: Cr GK Schluter**

That Council receive the Ranger's report for September 2021.

Minute No. 08/10A/21

Carried 7/0

4.1.5 Arts & Cultural Report – September 2021

The Arts & Cultural report is provided to Council.

MOTION: **Moved: Cr BP Johnstone** **Seconded: Cr JH Scobie**

That Council receive the Arts and Cultural Report for September 2021.

Minute No. 09/10A/21

Carried 7/0

4.1.6 Internal Audit and Risk Management Committee

The Internal Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting on Friday 10 September 2021.

MOTION: **Moved: Cr PJ Pullos** **Seconded: Cr JH Scobie**

That Council receive the minutes of the Internal Audit and Risk Management Committee's meeting 10 September 2021.

Minute No. 10/10A/21

Carried 7/0

4.1.7 60s and Better

After 60s and Better closed in 2020 it was suggested to Council that Churches of Christ, who have vast expertise in managing and supervising programs for the middle aged and elderly residents, should be asked if they could organise the activity. This eventuated with the approval of the State Government Department and a MOU was signed by both parties in September 2021.

MOTION: **Moved: Cr DA Hardie****Seconded: Cr GK Schluter**

That Council receive the MOU and approve of the 60s and Better activity being subcontracted to Churches of Christ.

Minute No. 11/10A/21**Carried 7/0**

4.1.8 RADF Committee Minutes

The first round of the 2021-2022 RADF program closed for applications on September 30th and the Committee met on 11 October 2021.

MOTION: **Moved: Cr LP Russell****Seconded: Cr JH Scobie**

That Council receive the minutes from the RADF Committee's 11 October 2021 meeting.

Minute No. 12/10A/21**Carried 7/0**

At this point, 9.18am Cr Johnstone left the meeting.

4.1.9 RADF Application – Blackall Cultural Association

The first round of the 2021-2022 RADF program closed for applications on September 30th and the Committee recommended the application from the Blackall Cultural Association be approved.

MOTION: **Moved: Cr LP Russell****Seconded: Cr GK Schluter**

That Council endorse the RADF Committee's recommendation to approve the application from the Blackall Cultural Association for \$2,710.00.

Minute No. 13/10A/21**Carried 6/0**

Cr Martin left the meeting 9.19am and Cr Russell assumed the chair.

That Council receive the Director of Works and Services' Operations Report for September 2021.

Minute No. 17/10A/21

Carried 7/0

4.2.2 Work Health and Safety Report

The Work Health and Safety Report has been provided to Council.

MOTION: **Moved: Cr PJ Pullos**

Seconded: Cr JH Scobie

That Council receive the Work Health and Safety Report for September 2021.

Minute No. 18/10A/21

Carried 7/0

4.2.3 Purchase of Padfoot Roller

Quotations were requested from 5 major construction roller dealers for the purchase of a Padfoot Roller.

MOTION: **Moved: Cr GK Schluter**

Seconded: Cr BP Johnstone

That Council accept the quotation from Construction Equipment Australia to supply a new Dynapac CA6000PD for \$197,000.00 (ex GST). This padfoot roller is preferred as it is familiar to the existing operators and represent value for money. Local Buy (NPN 04-13) contract will apply.

Minute No. 19/10A/21

Carried 7/0

4.2.4 Design and Construct – Tambo Truck Museum

Tenders were requested for the design and construct – Tambo Truck Museum from 17 tenderers. Five responses were received and assessed.

MOTION: **Moved: Cr PJ Pullos**

Seconded: Cr DA Hardie

That Council accept the tender from Jenko and Sons for \$361,536.96 (ex GST) as the contractor has proven experience and are located in the Central West.

Minute No. 20/10A/21

Carried 7/0

1. Council offices will close from close of business Wednesday 22 December 2021 and reopen Tuesday 4 January 2022; and
2. Council depots will close from close of business Friday 17 December 2021 and reopen Monday 10 January 2022.

Minute No. 24/10A/21**Carried 7/0****5.5 Council Meeting Dates for 2022**

Section 257 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires local governments to meet at least once in each month and section 254B of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires the meeting dates and places to be published.

MOTION: Moved: Cr LP Russell**Seconded: Cr GK Schluter**

That Council adopt the meeting dates for 2022 as follows and they be advertised as such:

12 January 2022	Tambo
16 February 2022	Blackall
16 March 2022	Tambo
20 April 2022	Blackall
18 May 2022	Tambo
15 June 2022	Blackall
20 July 2022	Tambo
17 August 2022	Blackall
21 September 2022	Tambo
26 October 2022	Blackall
16 November 2022	Tambo
14 December 2022	Blackall

Minute No. 25/10A/21**Carried 7/0****5.6 Consideration for Annual Valuation Effective – 30 June 2022**

The Executive Director of the State Valuation Service has written to Council asking for feedback or advice regarding the support or otherwise for a revaluation. The Valuer-General is required, under the *Land Valuation Act 2010*, to undertake an annual valuation.

MOTION: Moved: Cr LP Russell**Seconded: Cr DA Hardie**

That Council ratify the Acting Chief Executive Officer's request that a revaluation not be undertaken for the 30 June 2022 Revaluation Program.

Minute No. 26/10A/21**Carried 7/0**

At this point, 9.53am Cr Pullos left the meeting.

Cr Russell noted that there is an error in the attendance of the minutes as he is listed as the representative for the Eastwood Wild Dog Syndicate. While he is a member of this syndicate, he attends the meeting as a Council designated representative and does not have a voting right. The Eastwood Syndicate representative is Ian Macdonald.

At this point, 9.53am Cr Russell left the meeting.

5.7 Wild Dog Sub-Committee Meeting 17 September 2021

The Wild Dog Sub-Committee assess applications for funding to assist with the baiting of wild dogs in the Blackall Tambo region. The sub-committee held a meeting on 17 September 2021 to decide on the 4 applications received for the latest round of funding.

MOTION: Moved: Cr GK Schluter Seconded: Cr JH Scobie

That Council receive the minutes from the Wild Dog Sub-Committee meeting held 17 September 2021 and ratifies the Sub-Committee's recommendations to fund the following:

Four active helicopters	\$1000.00 each for the full year
Terrick Terrick Dog Netting Trust	\$11,500.00
Mt Enniskillen Wild Dog Syndicate	\$11,500.00
Goonadee Syndicate	\$11,500.00
Eastwood Wild Dog Syndicate	\$11,500.00

Minute No. 27/10A/21

Carried 5/0

At this point, 9.45am Cr Russell returned to the meeting.

5.8 Conversion to Freehold Tenure- Lot 6 on MX75

The Department of Resources have asked if Council have any objections to the conversion of Pastoral Holding 3/4980 over Lot 6 on MX75.

MOTION: Moved: Cr GK Schluter Seconded: Cr LP Russell

That Council have no objections to the conversion of Pastoral Holding 3/4980 over Lot 6 on MX75.

Minute No. 28/10A/21

Carried 6/0

At this point, 9.57am Cr Pullos returned to the meeting.

5.9 Blackall Industrial Land for Sale by Tender

Council recently advertised 4 lots at the Blackall Industrial Estate for sale by tender. Tenders closed 12 noon, Tuesday 5 October 2021 with 4 submissions received.

MOTION: **Moved: Cr BP Johnstone** **Seconded: Cr JH Scobie**

That Council:

- 1. Accept the offer of \$27,500.00 (inc GST) for Lot 16 on SP210376; and**
- 2. Accept the offer of \$10,000.00 (inc GST) for Lot 26 on SP210376 and decline the offer of \$9,800.00 (inc GST) as the offer is below the reserve; and**
- 3. Decline the offer of \$12,500.00 (inc GST) for Lot 6 on SP210376 as the offer is below the reserve; and**
- 4. Relist Lot 6 on SP210376 and Lot 15 on SP210376 with the local real estate agents.**

Minute No. 29/10A/21

Carried 7/0

5.10 Application for Water Connection – 289 Blackall-Jericho Road, Blackall

A landowner has written to Council requesting approval to connect their property to the Blackall town water supply. The property is outside the defined water area as shown in Appendix C of Council's revenue statement.

MOTION: **Moved: Cr PJ Pullos** **Seconded: Cr DA Hardie**

That Council decline the request to connect 289 Blackall-Jericho Road to the Blackall town water supply.

Minute No. 30/10A/21

Carried 7/0

5.11 Conversion to Freehold Tenure – Lot 6 on LO11

The Department of Resources have written to Council and asked if there would be any objections to the conversion of Lot 6 on LO11 to freehold.

MOTION: **Moved: Cr LP Russell** **Seconded: Cr PJ Pullos**

That Council have no objection to the conversion of Lot 6 on LO11 to freehold.

Minute No. 31/10A/21

Carried 7/0

5.12 Development Application – DA 07-2021-2022 – Mr Matthew James Adams – 23 Violet Street, Blackall

The Applicant, Mr Matthew James Adams, seeks a Development Permit for Material Change of Use for Low Impact Industry and Hardware and Trade Supplies over land at 23 Violet Street, Blackall, formally described as Lot 28 on SP210376. The subject site is in Blackall's industrial estate and is currently vacant. The applicant proposes to establish two prefabricated sheds, which will accommodate a manufacturing business for large steel farming equipment as well as a trade supply shop.

Under the Blackall-Tambo Region Planning Scheme 2020 (the Planning Scheme), the subject site is in the Township Zone (Industrial Precinct). The defined uses for Low Impact Industry and Hardware and Trade Supplies in the Industrial Precinct are subject to code assessment.

There is no conflict between the proposal and the relevant assessment benchmarks. Development conditions are recommended to ensure the development is constructed and operated in accordance with the Planning Scheme. The application is recommended for approval, subject to the conditions stated herein.

MOTION: Moved: Cr LP Russell

Seconded: Cr GK Schluter

That Blackall-Tambo Regional Council approves the application for a Development Permit for Material Change of Use for Low Impact Industry and Hardware and Trade Supplies over land at 23 Violet Street, Blackall, formally described as Lot 28 on SP210376, subject to the following conditions:

1.0 PARAMETERS OF APPROVAL

- 1.1 The Developer is responsible for ensuring compliance with this development approval and the conditions of the approval by an employee, agent, contractor or invitee of the Developer at all times unless otherwise stated.**
- 1.2 Where these conditions refer to "Council" in relation to requiring Council to approve or be satisfied as to any matter, or conferring on the Council a function, power or discretion, that role of the Council may be fulfilled in whole or in part by a delegate appointed for that purpose by Council.**
- 1.3 All conditions, works, or requirements of this development approval must be undertaken and completed prior to commencement of the use and to Council's satisfaction, unless otherwise stated in a development condition.**
- 1.4 The cost of all works associated with the construction of the development including services, facilities and/or public utility alterations required are met at no cost to the Council or relevant utility provider, unless otherwise stated in a development condition.**

1.5 The developer is required to have repaired any damage to existing infrastructure that may have occurred during any works carried out for the development. To the extent the damage is deemed to create a hazard to the community, it must be repaired immediately.

1.6 Unless otherwise stated, all works must be designed, constructed and maintained in accordance with the relevant Council policies, guidelines and standards.

2.0 APPROVED PLANS AND DOCUMENTS

2.1 The approved development must be completed and maintained generally in accordance with the approved plans and documents, except where amended by the conditions of this permit:

Plan/Document Name	Plan/Document Number	Date
Site Plan	Sheet 1 of 1	27-07-2021
Floor & Roof Plan Elevations	Sheet 2 of -	15-09-2021
Elevations	Sheet 3 of -	15-09-2021
Elevations (Storage Shed)	-	30-04-2021

2.2 Where there is any conflict between the conditions of this approval and the details shown on the approved plans and documents, the conditions of approval must prevail.

3.0 ACCESS AND PARKING WORKS

3.1 Provide and maintain a minimum of seven (7) formalised car parking spaces on-site in front of the main workshop building. All car parking spaces must be clearly identified by either line-marking or signage.

3.2 Construct and maintain all car parking spaces and vehicle manoeuvring areas to an all-weather standard, suitable for a two-wheel drive car.

3.3 Design, construct and maintain all car parking and access works generally in accordance with the *Australian Standard AS2890.1 "Parking Facilities"* and *Austroads Publication AP-G34-13 – Austroads Design Vehicles and Turning Path Templates*.

3.4 Construct and maintain two sealed vehicle crossovers from Violet Street generally in accordance with the standard drawing, *Figure 1 – Vehicle Crossover – Non-Piped*, from the General Development Code of the *Blackall-Tambo Region Planning Scheme*. The crossovers must be clearly identified by way of signage for either staff/customer access or heavy vehicle access.

3.5 All vehicles must enter and exit the site in a forward gear.

3.6 All activities associated with the approved development must occur within the boundaries of the site and not on adjoining land or road reserve. This includes, but is not limited to, parking, loading and

unloading of vehicles (including heavy vehicles and staff and customer vehicles).

4.0 STORMWATER WORKS

4.1 All stormwater must drain to a lawful point of discharge, being to Violet Street. All stormwater must not adversely affect adjoining land or infrastructure in comparison to the pre-development condition by way of blocking, altering or diverting existing stormwater runoff patterns or have the potential to cause damage to other infrastructure.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

5.1 Undertake the approved development so there is no environmental nuisance or detrimental effect on any surrounding land uses and activities by reason of the emission of noise, dust, odour, wastewater, waste products, oil or otherwise.

5.2 Maintain outdoor lighting to comply with *AS4282 Control of Obstructive Effects of Outdoor Lighting*.

5.3 Site works must be constructed such that they do not, at any time, in any way restrict, impair or change the natural flow of runoff water, or cause a nuisance or worsening to adjoining properties or infrastructure.

5.4 All waste storage areas must be kept in a clean, tidy condition, and sufficient waste containers and services are to be provided to cater for the containment and removal of all waste generated on the site. Waste must be removed to a lawful landfill.

5.5 Contaminants such as oils or chemicals must not be released into unsealed surface areas (i.e. gravel, exposed soil or landscaped areas).

5.6 Activities in the workshop and involving any washdown area must be undertaken on a sealed surface drained to an oil/water separator for treatment to the regulated standard before entering Council's sewer network.

5.7 Areas for storage of chemicals, fuel or other hazardous materials must be sufficiently bunded.

5.8 Any spillage of environmentally hazardous liquids or other materials must be cleared as quickly as practicable and must not enter Council's network or be hosed or swept onto unsealed ground.

6.0 SERVICES

6.1 The premises must be connected to Council's reticulated water and sewerage networks.

6.2 Electricity and telecommunication services must be provided to the premises in accordance with the standards and requirements of the relevant service provider.

7.0 LANDSCAPING AND FENCING

7.1 Establish and maintain landscaping on the site in accordance with the approved site plan (Condition 2.1). The landscaping must

predominantly contain species that are endemic to the region due to their low water dependency.

7.2 Ensure the landscaped areas are subject to water and maintenance during the establishment phase, and an ongoing maintenance and replanting programme as required.

7.3 Boundary fencing with a minimum height of 1.8 metres must be installed along each boundary of the property, except where allowance must be made for the vehicle access from Violet Street.

8.0 ASSET MANAGEMENT

8.1 Any alteration necessary to electricity, telephone, water mains, sewerage mains, and/or public utility installations resulting from the development or in connection with the development, must be undertaken and completed at no cost to Council.

9.0 CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

9.1 Prior to construction of the vehicle accesses and water and sewer connections, forms for a Minor Works on Road Application and a Water/Sewer Connection Application (as updated) must be completed and submitted to Council to notify the details of work being undertaken.

9.2 Implement and maintain an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) on-site, in accordance with the *IECA 2008 Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control* document (as amended) for the duration of the works, and until such time all exposed soil areas are permanently stabilised. The ESCP must be available on-site for inspection by Council Officers during the works.

9.3 The construction of any works must be undertaken in accordance with good engineering practice and workmanship and generally in accordance with the provisions of any relevant standards under the *Blackall-Tambo Region Planning Scheme*.

9.4 All construction materials, waste, waste skips, machinery and contractors' vehicles must be located and stored or parked within the development site, unless otherwise approved in writing by Council.

9.5 Construction activity and noise must be limited to the hours of 06:30 to 18:30 Monday to Saturday, with no work to occur on Sundays or public holidays.

ADVISORY NOTES

A. Prior to commencing any construction activities, the applicant/developer will be required to obtain further development permits for building work, and plumbing and drainage work, as required under relevant legislation for this work.

B. This approval does not negate the requirement for compliance with all other relevant Local Laws and other statutory requirements. Any provisions contained in this approval relating to the enforcement of any of the conditions shall be in addition to all other rights, powers and privileges that the Council may possess or obtain, and nothing

contained in these conditions shall be construed so as to prejudice, affect or otherwise derogate or limit these rights, powers and privileges of the Council.

- C. General environmental duty under the Environmental Protection Act 1994 and subordinate legislation prohibits unlawful environmental nuisance caused by noise, aerosols, particles, dust, ash, fumes, light, odour or smoke beyond the boundaries of the development site during all stages of the development including earthworks, construction and operation.**
- D. This development approval does not authorise any activity that may harm Aboriginal cultural heritage. It is advised that under section 23 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003, a person who carries out an activity must take all reasonable and practicable measures to ensure the activity does not harm Aboriginal cultural heritage (the “cultural heritage duty of care”).**

Minute No. 32/10A/21

Carried 7/0

CLOSURE:

There being no further business to consider, the Mayor declared the Meeting closed at 10.02am.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Confirmed by Council as a true and correct record at the General Meeting held on Wednesday 17 November 2021.

Signed.....Mayor

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Minute No.	Report Number	Subject	Resolution	Action By	Result
17/08A/21	5.4	Surrender of Land for Overdue Rates	That Council, under section 121(c) of the <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i> , grant a concession by way of accepting a transfer of unencumbered land in full payment of the rates and charges for rate assessment 10783-00000-000, 10778-00000-000, 10776-00000-000 and 10777-50000-000.	CEO	Council's solicitors have lodged the documents and Titles Registry Fees so the registration of the land can be attended to.
18/08A/21	5.5	Proposed Land Swap Under Section 236(1)(c)(v) of the Local Government Regulation 2012	That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is satisfied that section 236(1)(c)(v) of the <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i> applies to Council's proposed disposal, other than by way of tender or auction, of the proposed area of Lot 1 on SP197795 and proposed area of Lot 1 on SP293537, on the basis that it is in the public interest to do so and that it can otherwise be achieved in accordance with the sound contracting principles; and 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to enter negotiations with the owner of Lot 2 on SP293537 for the exchange of land (including monetary payment by the owner to Council for any difference in land value). 	CEO	The application is before Council at the November 2021 meeting.
18/10A/21	4.2.3	Purchase of Padfoot Roller	That Council accept the quotation from Construction Equipment Australia to supply a new Dynapac CA6000PD for \$197,000.00 (ex GST). This padfoot roller is preferred as it is familiar to the existing operators and	DWS	The order has been placed with the supplier.

			represent value for money. Local Buy (NPN 04-13) contract will apply.		
20/10A/21	4.2.4	Design and Construct – Tambo Truck Museum	That Council accept the tender from Jenko and Sons for \$361,536.96 (ex GST) as the contractor has proven experience and are located in the Central West.	DWS	The contract has been signed.
24/10A/21	5.4	2021 Christmas Closure	That Council approve the Christmas closure period for 2021 as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council offices will close from close of business Wednesday 22 December 2021 and reopen Tuesday 4 January 2022; and 2. Council depots will close from close of business Friday 17 December 2021 and reopen Monday 10 January 2022. 	CEO	Staff have been advised and the closure is being advertised.
25/10A/21	5.5	Council Meeting Dates for 2022	That Council adopt the meeting dates for 2022 as follows and they be advertised as such: 12 January 2022 Tambo 16 February 2022 Blackall 16 March 2022 Tambo 20 April 2022 Blackall 18 May 2022 Tambo 15 June 2022 Blackall 20 July 2022 Tambo 17 August 2022 Blackall 21 September 2022 Tambo 26 October 2022 Blackall 16 November 2022 Tambo 14 December 2022 Blackall	CEO	Council meeting dates have been advertised.
28/10A/21	5.8	Conversion to Freehold Tenure – Lot 6 on MX75	That Council have no objections to the conversion of Pastoral Holding 3/4980 over Lot 6 on MX75	CEO	Department of Resources have been advised that Council does not have any objections.

29/10A/21	5.9	Blackall Industrial Lane for Sale by Tender	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accept the offer of \$27,000.00 (inc GST) for Lot 16 on SP210376; and 2. Accept the offer of \$10,000.00 (inc GST) for Lot 26 on SP210376 and decline the offer of \$9,800.00 (inc GST) as the offer is below the reserve; and 3. Decline the offer of \$12,500.00 (inc GST) for Lot 6 on SP210376 as the offer is below the reserve; and 4. Relist Lot 6 on SP210376 and Lot 15 on SP210376 with the local real estate agents. 	CEO	All available lots have since sold.
30/10A/21	5.10	Application for Water Connection – 289 Blackall-Jericho Road, Blackall	That Council decline the request to connect 289 Blackall-Jericho Road to the Blackall town water supply.	CEO	The applicant has been informed of Council's decision.
31/10A/21	5.11	Conversion to Freehold Tenure – Lot 6 on LO11	That Council have no objection to the conversion of Lot 6 on LO11 to freehold.	CEO	Department of Resources have been advised that Council does not have any objections.
32/10A/21	5.12	Development Application – DA 07-2021-2022 – Mr Matthew James Adams – 23 Violet Street, Blackall	That Blackall-Tambo Regional Council approve the application for a Development Permit for Material Change of Use for Low Impact Industry and Hardware and Trade Supplies over land at 23 Violet Street, Blackall, formally described as Lot 28 on SP210376, subject to conditions.	CEO	The applicant has been advised of Council's decision.

BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

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OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 4.1.1

SUBJECT HEADING: Financial Report for the Month of October 2021

Author and Officer's Title: Alastair Rutherford, Director of Finance Corporate and Community Services

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: In accordance with s204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 a monthly financial report is required to be presented to Council. The financial report for October 2021 details Council's current financial position and compares its performance against the adopted budget for 2021-2022.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council receive the Financial Report for October 2021.

Background

In accordance with section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* the financial report of Council must be presented at the monthly meeting of Council. This ensures adequate oversight of Council's financial position and performance against the latest approved budget.

Link to Corporate Plan

Governance

Outcome 4 – Financial

Consultation (internal/external)

CEO

Director of Finance

Manager of Finance

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

Nil

FINANCE REPORT TO A MEETING OF THE BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2021

Contents

- 1. Cash Position**
- 2. Monthly Cash Flow Estimate**
- 3. Comparative Data**
- 4. Capital Funding - budget V's actual**
- 5. Road Works - budget V's actual**
- 6. Rates Arrears Summary**
- 7. Capital Projects Detail**
- 8. Revenue and Expenditure Summary**

FINANCE REPORT TO A MEETING OF BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

HELD ON 17 November 2021

1. Cash Position as at 31 October 2021

Cash at Bank

Operating Accounts \$ 1,907,932

Short Term Investments

Bank of Queensland - Term Deposits \$ 5,000,000

Queensland Treasury Corporation - Cash Fund \$ 15,000,000

\$ 21,907,932

The following items should be backed by cash and investments, plus any increases in the surplus of Debtors over Creditors and unspent grants.

Cash backed Current Liabilities (Employee Entitlements) \$ 2,687,138

Unspent Grants (Restricted Cash) \$ 2,200,214

\$ 4,887,352

	<i>Debtors</i>	<i>Creditors</i>	
Balance of recoverable debtors - estimated creditors :	422,852	20,447	\$ 402,405

Plus cash surplus	21,907,932	4,887,352	\$ 17,020,580
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Working Capital **\$ 17,422,985**

2. Monthly Cashflow Estimate: November 2021

Receipts

Rates & Fees & Charges \$ 50,000

Debtors \$ 200,000

Grants/Subsidies/Loans QTC \$ 520,824

Total \$ 770,824

Expenditure

Payroll \$ 800,000

Creditor Payments \$ 800,000

Loan Payments \$ -

Total \$ 1,600,000

Therefore cash is expected to decrease by -\$ 829,176 in the period.

3. Comparative Data:

	October 2021	October 2020
Cash position	21,907,932	16,352,617
Working capital	17,422,985	13,149,534
Rate arrears	64,231	200,788
Outstanding debtors	422,852	246,664
Current creditors	20,447	33,477
Total Loans	1,605,408	1,702,466

FINANCE REPORT TO A MEETING OF BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

HELD ON 17 November 2021

4. Capital Works Summary: 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

	Budget	YTD Actual	% of Budget
Buildings & Other Structures	1,453,000	376,074	26%
Plant & Equipment	1,800,000	1,782,015	99%
Road Infrastructure	2,668,300	72,850	3%
Water Infrastructure	930,000	-	0%
Sewerage Infrastructure	250,000	-	0%
QTC Loan Redemption	98,900	24,450	25%
Total	7,200,200	2,255,389	31%

5. Road Works Expenditure : 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

	Budget	Expended YTD Actual	% of Budget Expended
Total Roads Expenditure	14,390,114	4,430,684	31%
1. Rural Roads	10,299,500	3,823,671	37%
2. Town Streets	400,000	82,475	21%
3. RMPC Works	3,690,614	524,538	14%

6. Rate Arrears Summary

Total Rates Outstanding Balance \$ **188,244**

Rates Outstanding Breakdown	Total	No. of Assessments
Current	\$ 124,013	111
1 Year	\$ 41,260	25
2 Years	\$ 18,887	14
3 Years and over	\$ 4,084	6

BTRC 2021-22 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROJECTS		1/07/21 to 30/06/22		SOURCES OF FUNDING		
Particulars	Budget 2021-22	Expenditure YTD	% Expended	Capital Grants	Council Contribution	Comments
BUILDINGS & OTHER STRUCTURES	1,453,000	376,074	26%	854,900	598,100	
Tambo Dam Lights	200,000	-	0%	200,000	-	Subject to additional funding
Tambo Aquatic centre shade structure	60,000	56,381	94%	60,000	-	Completed
Tambo 'Truck Museum	494,400	12,460	3%	454,900	39,500	Tender awarded
Tambo Depot Fencing	70,000	2,405	3%	-	70,000	Planning stage
Tambo Sprinkler System - Pump and Electricity	20,000	17,724	89%	-	20,000	In progress
Tambo Racecourse Rock Removal	40,000	-	0%	-	40,000	Planning stage
Tambo Historic House Shed	40,000	-	0%	-	40,000	Planning stage
Blackall Admin Office South Wall	100,000	-	0%	-	100,000	Planning stage
Blackall Rodeo and Campdraft Grounds Upgrade	150,000	7,104	5%	-	150,000	Lighting upgrades undertaken.
Internet BOR STAGE 3	278,600	280,000	101%	140,000	138,600	Completed
PLANT & EQUIPMENT	1,800,000	1,782,015	99%	-	1,800,000	
Plant Replacement including committed orders	1,800,000	1,782,015	99%	-	1,800,000	As per plant replacement program
ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE	2,668,300	72,850	3%	1,808,300	860,000	
Roads to Recovery	808,300	-	0%	808,300	-	Planning stage
Road Reseals	800,000	-	0%	-	800,000	Planning stage
Footpath Coolibah Village - Mitchell to Garden St	60,000	62,160	104%	-	60,000	Completed
Heavy Bypass Stage 2 (Salvia Street)	950,000	10,690	1%	950,000	-	In progress
Tambo Industrial Estate Roads	50,000	-	0%	50,000	-	2nd Seal due for completion in 2021
WATER INFRASTRUCTURE	930,000	-	0%	880,000	50,000	
Water infrastructure renewals and upgrades	930,000	-	0%	880,000	50,000	Planning stage
SEWERAGE INFRASTRUCTURE	250,000	-	0%	200,000	50,000	
Sewerage infrastructure renewals and upgrades	250,000	-	0%	200,000	50,000	Planning stage
LOAN REDEMPTION Qld Treasury Corporation	98,900	24,450	25%	-	98,900	
Saleyards Upgrade - Current Balance \$ 1,252,564 Maturity June 2037 [Drawdown 16/05/2017 \$ 1,500,000]	60,600	14,948	25%	-	60,600	As per loan agreement
Tambo Bore - Current Balance \$ 352,844 Maturity June 2030 [Drawdown 15/06/2020 \$400,000]	38,300	9,502	25%	-	38,300	As per loan agreement
TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAM 21-22	7,200,200	2,255,389	31%	3,743,200	3,457,000	

(Accounts: 0100-0001-0000 to 5250-2000-0000. All report groups. 34% of year elapsed. To Level 2. Excludes committed costs)

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council (Budget for full year)

Financial Year Ending 2022

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		REVENUE			EXPENDITURE				
		31 Oct 2021 ACTUAL		AMENDED BUDGET	ORIGINAL BUDGET	31 Oct 2021 ACTUAL		AMENDED BUDGET	ORIGINAL BUDGET
1000-0001	ADMINISTRATION								
1000-0002	Administration	88,448.78	58%	153,200	153,200	1,088,420.41	30%	3,663,100	3,663,100
1100-0002	Finance	2,014,118.58	32%	6,372,800	6,372,800	92,081.43	123%	75,000	75,000
1200-0002	Oncosts	0.00	0%	0	0	417,262.61	-32%	(1,304,200)	(1,304,200)
1300-0002	Stores/Purchasing	0.00	0%	0	0	13,227.65	19%	69,400	69,400
2000-0002	Corporate Governance	0.00	0%	500	500	207,307.66	28%	729,100	729,100
2100-0002	Business Activities	20,867.14	51%	41,000	41,000	10,385.85	23%	45,700	45,700
2150-0002	Saleyard Operations	682,310.10	47%	1,450,100	1,450,100	305,143.65	32%	952,700	952,700
2200-0002	Tambo Sawmill	0.00	0%	104,000	104,000	14,852.60	14%	103,900	103,900
2350-0002	Airports/Aerodromes	29,991.19	21%	143,700	143,700	58,269.36	17%	351,700	351,700
2450-0002	Tourism	56,380.60	86%	65,200	65,200	141,837.42	33%	425,800	425,800
2500-0002	Planning & Development	8,989.68	30%	30,000	30,000	15,651.33	19%	82,000	82,000
2580-0002	Economic & Community Develop	419,167.15	14%	2,985,900	2,985,900	290,158.35	73%	396,700	396,700
2600-0002	Environmental	32,245.08	40%	80,000	80,000	11,058.30	24%	46,000	46,000
2650-0002	Animal Control	0.00	0%	0	0	(63.64)	---	0	0
3000-0002	Work Scheme and Community	6,267.57	41%	15,300	15,300	43,760.77	44%	100,000	100,000
3100-0002	Council Housing	39,977.00	33%	120,000	120,000	48,391.34	17%	286,000	286,000
3300-0002	Child Care Services	143,080.68	98%	146,600	146,600	150,331.73	45%	335,700	335,700
3350-0002	Sport and Recreation	30,186.48	48%	63,000	63,000	34,504.94	57%	61,000	61,000
3400-0002	Youth Services	0.00	0%	0	0	1,850.00	1%	145,000	145,000
3410-0002	Sixties and Better	19,512.30	32%	60,800	60,800	18.00	0%	60,800	60,800
3415-0002	Tambo Multi-Purpose Centre	209,452.01	39%	530,700	530,700	137,904.64	26%	536,100	536,100
3445-0002	Disability	35,769.51	32%	111,500	111,500	17,378.36	29%	60,000	60,000
3460-0002	Community Services	219,725.03	89%	247,900	247,900	154,727.14	91%	169,400	169,400
3470-0002	Miscellaneous Care Services	0.00	0%	0	0	0.00	0%	2,000	2,000
3500-0002	Libraries, Education and Arts	7,023.79	63%	11,100	11,100	63,205.56	28%	228,300	228,300
3570-0002	Regional Arts Development Fund	55,737.00	74%	75,000	75,000	57,354.64	23%	247,000	247,000
3600-0002	Halls and Cultural Centres	445.46	11%	4,000	4,000	22,573.78	11%	214,200	214,200
3700-0002	Showgrounds & Sports Facilities	5,313.39	177%	3,000	3,000	129,509.06	21%	615,000	615,000
3740-0002	Funerals	19,000.02	25%	75,000	75,000	20,188.78	28%	73,000	73,000
3800-0002	Corporate Buildings	0.00	0%	0	0	39,384.02	38%	104,000	104,000
1000-0001	ADMINISTRATION	4,144,008.54	32%	12,890,300	12,890,300	3,586,675.74	40%	8,874,400	8,874,400
4000-0001	WORKS AND SERVICES								
4001-0002	Works Office and Depot	0.00	0%	0	0	228,535.25	7%	3,050,200	3,050,200
4100-0002	Town Street Maintenance	0.00	0%	0	0	82,474.16	21%	400,000	400,000
4200-0002	Rural Roads Maintenance	158,198.25	13%	1,179,400	1,179,400	142,609.35	18%	800,000	800,000
4500-0002	Recoverable Works	9,148,504.58	33%	27,386,600	27,386,600	6,713,954.53	28%	23,728,300	23,728,300
4550-0002	Plant Operations	1,445,912.89	43%	3,340,000	3,340,000	797,571.87	31%	2,546,000	2,546,000
4600-0002	SES - Disaster Mgmt	22,934.28	100%	23,000	23,000	29,217.78	61%	47,900	47,900
4700-0002	Cemeteries	136.36	3%	5,000	5,000	10,196.86	21%	48,700	48,700
4800-0002	Parks, Gardens and Reserves	0.00	0%	0	0	275,686.19	29%	954,800	954,800
4860-0002	Aquatic Centres	0.00	0%	0	0	123,314.11	27%	452,100	452,100
4900-0002	Animal Control	18,390.00	81%	22,800	22,800	22,686.78	25%	89,000	89,000

(Accounts: 0100-0001-0000 to 5250-2000-0000. All report groups. 34% of year elapsed. To Level 2. Excludes committed costs)

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council (Budget for full year)

Financial Year Ending 2022

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		REVENUE			EXPENDITURE				
		31 Oct 2021		AMENDED	ORIGINAL	31 Oct 2021		AMENDED	ORIGINAL
		ACTUAL		BUDGET	BUDGET	ACTUAL		BUDGET	BUDGET
4950-0002	Stock Routes & Pest Mgmt	53,228.52	57%	94,000	94,000	74,985.03	20%	379,100	379,100
5000-0002	Cleansing	142,044.28	43%	329,300	329,300	64,927.82	25%	261,000	261,000
5100-0002	Water Supply	404,697.74	47%	861,000	861,000	115,076.49	25%	467,600	467,600
5200-0002	Sewerage Services	344,969.08	47%	741,200	741,200	60,806.19	17%	348,400	348,400
		-----		-----	-----	-----		-----	-----
4000-0001	WORKS AND SERVICES	11,739,015.98	35%	33,982,300	33,982,300	8,742,042.41	26%	33,573,100	33,573,100
		=====		=====	=====	=====		=====	=====
TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE		15,883,024.52	34%	46,872,600	46,872,600	12,328,718.15	29%	42,447,500	42,447,500

BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL[Return to Agenda](#)[Next Item](#)**OFFICER REPORTS**

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: **4.1.2****SUBJECT HEADING: DFCCS Operations Report – October 2021**

Author and Officer's Title: Alastair Rutherford, Director of Finance Corporate and Community Services

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: The Director of Finance Corporate and Community Services operations report for October 2021 is presented to Council. The report includes housing and administration, Blackall aerodrome, libraries, visitor information centres, facility bookings, Tambo Multipurpose and Tambo Child Care Centre.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council receive the DFCCS Operations Report for October 2021.

Background**Blackall Housing and Administration**

Pest Control tender (internal and external spraying) for all Blackall venues and offices awarded.

Cultural Centre Maintenance

- *Monthly fire alarm system inspection complete*

Housing Maintenance

- *Smoke alarm replacement tender for all Council residential buildings on Vendorpanel – successful applicant chosen*
- *Small maintenance carried out on various Council Houses*

Blackall Visitor Information Centre

Considering Covid-19 restrictions, the number of visitors and campers is slightly down compared to October last year. Since recording statistics, these are the second highest recorded numbers for the month of October (with the highest being 941 visitors in 2020); and the third highest being in September 2009 with visitor numbers recorded as 799.

Monthly Statistics:**Visitor Numbers to Blackall Tourist Information Centre**

2020/2021	Visitor Numbers	2021/2022	Visitor Numbers
July	1638	July	3794
August	1985	August	2628
September	1522	September	2100
October	941	October	904
November	174	November	

December	99	December	
January	99	January	
February	95	February	
March	375	March	
April	1217	April	
May	2553	May	
June	3952	June	
Year to Date	14,650	Year to Date	9,426

Issue of Camping Permits

Month	Information Centre	Self - Registration	Total for Month 2021/22
July	560	606	1166
August	382	321	703
September	259	250	509
October	77	101	179
November			
December			
January			
February			
March			
April			
May			
June			
Year to Date	1278	1278	2556
2020/2021	1515	2043	3883

Camping Ground Fees		
Month	\$ Amount	2021/2022 YTD \$
July	11,660	11,660
August	7,030	18,690
September	5,090	23,780
October	1,780.00	25,560
November		
December		
January		
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		

Year ending 2020/2021 \$38859.00

Blackall Library Report

Month	Loans 2020/21	Loans 2021/22	Visitors 2020/21	Visitors 2021/22	Requests 2020/21	Requests 2021/22	Members Added 2020/21	Members Added 2021/22
July	233	248	389	471	14	21	3	8
August	263	367	371	508	26	62	14	6
September	266	346	401	479	29	27	11	9
October	216	277	389	389	21	30	4	14
November	374		378		35		10	
December	315		450		38		4	
January	377		376		16		1	
February	340		318		39		5	
March	226		413		23		7	
April	212		407		40		6	
May	159		387		47		4	
June	249		349		32		11	
Year to Date	3230	1238	4628	1847	360	140	80	37

Council Facility Bookings

Blackall	Memorial Hall		Cultural Centre		Showgrounds		Racecourse		Bus	
	20/21	21/22	20/21	21/22	20/21	21/22	20/21	21/22	20/21	21/22
July	11	0	4	6	4	13	0	1	0	8
August	11	2	11	5	4	15	0	1	12	8
September	11	2	12	5	9	6	0	0	8	5
October	2	2	11	9	11	3	2	2	3	7
November	0		16		0		2		7	
December	3		8		3		0		1	
January	0		1		2		1		0	
February	3		10		1		1		4	
March	7		4		1		0		3	
April	5		7		4		1		3	
May	3		4		5		1		9	
June	4		10		4		0		6	
TOTAL	60	6	98	25	48	37	8	4	56	28

Tambo	Shire Hall		Racecourse		Western Sports		Bus	
	20/21	21/22	20/21	21/22	20/21	21/22	20/21	21/22
July	8	11	0	2	1	2	0	2
August	13	7	0	2	0	0	1	0
September	6	7	1	4	1	0	1	0
October	7	16	1	2	1	2	2	2
November	16		0		0		2	
December	5		1		0		0	
January	8		0		3		1	
February	15		0		0		6	
March	16		0		0		2	
April	16		3		2		6	
May	11		1		6		10	
June	9		1		1		1	
TOTAL	130	41	8	10	14	4	30	4

Tambo Childcare Centre

Attendance	Month 2020-2021	YTD 2020-2021	Month 2021-2022	YTD 2021-2022
July	207	207	255	255
August	214	421	262	517
September	110	531	181	698
October	303	834	191	889
November	261	1095		
December	50	1145		
January	22	1167		
February	180	1347		
March	193	1540		
April	154	1694		
May	230	1924		
June	269	2193		

Finance	Month Receipts 2021-2022	YTD Receipts 2021-2022	Month Expenditure 2021-2022	YTD Expenditure 2021-2022
July	\$16,147.09	\$16,147.09	\$29,844.70	\$29,844.70
August	\$19,482.41	\$35,629.50	\$39,304.44	\$69,149.14
September	\$18,480.71	\$54,110.21	\$29,584.80	\$98,943.94
October	\$12,611.36	\$67,501.52	\$51,387.79	\$150,331.73
November				
December				
January				
February				
March				
April				
May				
June				

Qantas Report

Month	Pax OFF	Pax ON	Total	YTD
July	53	47	100	100
August	67	52	119	219
September	67	48	115	334
October	64	68	132	466
November				
December				
January				
February				
March				
April				
May				
June				
6 Monthly Average	63	51.33	114.33	114.33
YTD	251	215	466	466
Total for 2020/2021	685	598	1283	1283

- The November roster has been distributed for airport employees.

Tambo Multi-Purpose Centre

- Local personal trainer has 35 people join the aqua program with more coming aboard.
- Halloween was a great success, with 35 children attending the festivities.
- We have started a community garden with our NDIS client. We currently have planted our summer garden and shared silver beet with the community.
- The centre is hosting a ICOP (Indigenous Cardiac outreach program) and IROC (Indigenous Respiratory outreach program) information session on the 10th of November at 6pm. All welcome.
- The MPC Coordinator was personally approached by the Steven Oliver company crew to host a yarnning circle on the 12th of November. We are hosting a light lunch at Fanny Mae's with the local Indigenous community and the high school pupils from Tambo State School.
- Allied health session for the month of October.
Physiotherapy – 26 sessions
Podiatrist – 14 sessions
Remedial Massage – 12 sessions

Community Development

- Successful delivery of Seniors Celebration Month and Queensland Mental Health Week initiatives: 'Gardens of Friendship Tour & High Tour' – Total 35 attended (full capacity for tour)
Dusty & the Diva's Show & Seniors Luncheon – 80 people attended Luncheon; 40 x people attended night-time community performance

Big Barcoo Bingo Anglican Church – 45 people attended

Queensland Mental Health Week ‘Beat the Blues’ Community Trivia Night – 120 people attended

- Coordinated first Community Roundtable with Outback Futures Wed 13th October (Localised Mental Health Initiatives Grant Partnership)
- Rollout has begun for Community Drought Support Program – Flexible Financial Hardship, advertisements in local newspaper, email distribution, Council website, social media
- Blackstump Battalion KidFit program has recommenced every Wednesday evening, Blackall Showgrounds
- Wooldscour: Awaiting a site plan to be supplied by Works to proceed with Heritage Exemption
- Due to popular demand from October Big Barcoo Community Bingo & planning a ‘Community Christmas Big Barcoo Bingo Nov 18 Anglican Hall’

Link to Corporate Plan

Economic Development

Outcome 2 – Tourism

Vibrant Communities

Outcome 1 – Arts and culture

Outcome 2 – Health and wellbeing

Outcome 3 – Community Services

Outcome 4 – Youth

Governance

Outcome 5 – Customer service

Infrastructure

Outcome 2 – Airports

Outcome 5 – Council buildings

Consultation (internal/external)

Neighbourhood Centre Coordinator

Tambo Library and Tourism Officer

Community Development Officer

Customer Service Officers

Multi-Purpose Coordinator

Child Care Coordinator

Library Officer

Tourism Officer

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

Nil

BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

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OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 4.1.3

SUBJECT HEADING: Environmental Health/Local Laws Officer's Report

Author and Officer's Title: Alastair Rutherford, Director of Finance Corporate and Community Services

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: The Environmental Health Officer's report is provided to Council.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council receive the Environmental Health/Local Laws Officer's Report.

Background

Food premises

EHO consulted with food business operator in Tambo regarding the completed refurbishment of the premises.

EHO consulted with food business operator in Blackall in regard to expansion of business.

EHO received a food business license application for a mobile food business, application been reviewed, granted and the license has been issued to the applicant.

A food safety assessment at a medium risk operation has been carried out. No issues noted at the time of the assessment.

EHO received a food business license application for an off-site catering business, EHO required additional information from the applicant (a food safety program) information was not provided, license application has therefore lapsed.

EHO consulted with administration officer and food business operators regarding the food business license renewals, communication has been sent out to businesses, 2 businesses (home based business baking cakes) decided not to renew their licenses.

Environmental Management/ Public Health

EHO received a complaint from a resident in Tambo regarding the perceived odour nuisance arising from waste bins at a licensed premise. EHO consulted with food business operator and complainant. Issue resolved at present. To be monitored.

EHO received concerns from a resident in Tambo regarding the potential exposure to asbestos fibres from a demolition site. EHO carried out onsite investigation, consulted with Queensland Work Health and Safety branch, Queensland Health Public Health Unit, the owner of the land and the occupier. EHO directed owner to stop the activity and to employ a dust suppression system in the interim to contain any airborne material. EHO obtained material samples, samples results returned positive for asbestos from a NATA accredited laboratory.

Public Health order issued to the owner of the land. Waste to be removed as regulated waste to an adequate facility outside BTRC Shire area.

Local Laws

LLO received a complaint about perceived odour nuisance arising from a horse kept in the township area in Blackall. LLO consulted with the alleged horse owner. Horse was removed early November by the owner. Non-compliant with local law 2, allotment less than 5000m².

LLO shadowed BTRC Ranger for 1080 baiting process.

Link to Corporate Plan

Environment and Heritage

Outcome 4 – Waste Management

Consultation (internal/external)

Environmental Health Officer

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

Nil

BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

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OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 4.1.4

SUBJECT HEADING: Ranger's Report

Author and Officer's Title: Alastair Rutherford – Director of Finance Corporate and Community Services

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: The Ranger's report for October 2021 is provided to Council.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council receive the Ranger's report for October 2021.

Background

Animal Control

Remove dead roo from 38 Albert Street.

Destroy and remove roo (broken leg) from Barcoo Street.

Remove and destroy sick cat from No 7 Coolibah retirement village.

Complaints

One

Call Outs

One

Weed Control

Nil

Operational

Greendale bore – Replaced pull out chain, replaced plates on centre jacks and service.

Chatham bore – serviced.

Blackall Swan Hill facility – replaced poly fitting in water line to tank and replaced float valve in tank (old float full of water).

Wild Dog Control

Scalps 50 for Tambo, Blackall - nil.

1080 – Baiting campaign completed. Dog – 3,461.5 kgs and Pig – 1,150 kgs (39 properties baited).

Common

Tambo Common muster completed with 201 cows, 72 heifers and 1 steer a total of 274 head, plus 89 calves

Went back onto Common.

110 head went to sale, 30 head went off plus 1 stranger (Laurita) and 7 head came onto Common.

Agistment

Gillespie Reserve – 129 cows, 46 calves & 2 bulls (Coopers Ponds).

Athol Reserve – 50 cows (Benalla).

Orchards Reserve – 130 cows, 109 calves and 3 bulls.

Forest Park Reserve – 92 cows & 3 bulls.
Tambo Swan Hill Reserve – 55 cows & calves & 4 bulls (Swan Hill).
Northhampton Reserve – 100 cows
Gum Holes Reserve – 42 weaner steers
Burr Gully Lane – 70 cows & 1 bull.
Rumleigh Lane – 30 cows.

Link to Corporate Plan

Environment and Heritage
Outcome 3 – Pest Management

Consultation (internal/external)

Ranger Coordinator
Department of Resources

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

Nil

BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

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OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 4.1.5

SUBJECT HEADING: Annual Report 2020/2021

Author and Officer's Title: Alastair Rutherford, Director of Finance Corporate and Community Services

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: The Local Government Regulation 2012 section 182 (2) requires that the Annual Report must be adopted by Council within one month after the day the Auditor-General issues the audit report on the local government's financial statements for the financial year. The Auditor-General's audit report is dated 22 October 2021.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council adopt the Annual Report for the financial year 2020/2021.

Background

The Queensland Audit Office has completed its audit of the annual financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2021. Accordingly, these accounts and the Auditor-General's audit certificates are attached to the Annual Report for 2021.

Link to Corporate Plan

Governance

Outcome 2 – Accountability

Outcome 4 - Financial

Consultation (internal/external)

DFCCS

Manager of Finance

Manager of Assets and Tambo Office Manager

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

Audit Fees \$80,000



Blackall-Tambo Regional Council



Blackall-Jericho Road

ANNUAL REPORT

1 JULY 2020 – 30 JUNE 2021

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Attachments

Audited Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021

QAO Auditor's Report for year ended 30 June 2021

Message from the Mayor

The 2020-2021 financial year proved to be another tumultuous and busy year. The follow-on from the COVID-19 pandemic still has us all living in uncertain times, however, there has been some positive outcomes for the Blackall-Tambo region and the greater region of Central Western Queensland and with all the sadness in the world it is important that we focus on these positive outcomes.

The pandemic has seen Councils working more collaboratively than ever before to ensure that our greatest assets, the people, are protected as best as possible against this disaster and many other disasters that affect our region. One such project was the collaboration between Barcaldine, Blackall-Tambo, Barcoo, Winton, and Longreach to produce a flip book dedicated to natural disasters specific to our region. The flip book was funded by the Queensland Government through the Get Ready Queensland program, an annual program that helps local governments increase awareness and preparedness in the event of local disasters. The five councils involved are all part of the District Disaster Management Group and are hoping to continue to work collaboratively on future projects.

Another collaborative event was the formation of the Western Queensland Alliance of Councils. A memorandum of agreement was signed by the 22 Councils from across the northwest, central west and southwest of Queensland. The area covers 60% of the State. The inaugural assembly was held in Longreach in July 2020 and annual assembly in May 2021. The assemblies are opportunities for the 22 Councils to lobby State and Federal Governments on topics of importance.

Cr Russell, the CEO, and I attended Beef Week in Rockhampton along with representatives of seven other Councils from across Central and Western Queensland to launch a campaign to ensure the cattle industry can continue to grow. This was a chance to join forces to call for action from the State and Federal governments to upgrade Queensland's Beef Corridors. The beef industry is worth approximately \$78M to the Blackall-Tambo region.

Council is continuing to explore ways to increase economic and population growth. Consultants were engaged to undertake a feasibility study for a wool receival and handling facility. The 'Going Beyond Greasy' document is available on Council's website and summarises the outcomes of the study.

With more people having to 'holiday at home' the visitors to the Central West region have seen numbers unprecedented for many years. A great opportunity to promote how wonderful our towns are.

I would like to conclude this message by thanking my fellow councillors, executive management and staff for the support and continual delivery of services to our wonderful community. I look forward to working with you, over the next few years, for the betterment of our region.



Cr. Andrew Martin
Mayor



Chief Executive Officer's Report

The 2020-2021 financial year was another busy year, and the Annual Report provides a summary of Council's performance over this period. It is an overview of our effectiveness in delivering services for the community against council's Corporate Plan.

After consultation with the community, via a Community Views Survey, the new 2020-2025 Corporate Plan was adopted. The Corporate Plan guides allocations of resources and delivery of services to the community whilst allowing Council to undertake a wide range of roles which are not traditionally carried out by local governments.

While the challenges of COVID-19 have persisted, the staff of Blackall-Tambo Regional Council have responded effectively to each challenge as they have arisen. Council has supported the Central West Hospital and Health Service through the provision of venues for vaccination clinics while continuing to lobby, on behalf of the community, for the constant improvement of health services in our region. During 2020/2021 \$174,931 was spent on the prevention of COVID19.

Despite the effects of COVID-19 there has been some positive outcomes to the Blackall-Tambo Region one of which is the dramatic increase of visitors to the area. Some months have recorded the highest numbers since 2007. This is indicative of people holidaying "at home". It has been wonderful to see the towns abuzz with people and many of them enjoying our parks and attractions. There was also a return of some community events such as performance by Queensland Opera at the Blackall Woolscour.

Continued funding through the COVID Works for Queensland Program enabled capital work projects to be undertaken such as the water reticulation and sewerage mains work, expansion of the rugby league dressing shed, additional selling pens for the Blackall Saleyards, Pathway to Health extension and waste oil collection stations. While the Drought Communities Program funded projects included an upgrade at the Blackall Saleyards canteen and Western Sports Complex.

It has been a pleasure working with such committed and supportive councillors and staff over the previous year and I look forward to being able to assist Council to provide sustained high levels of services to the community.

D A Howard
Chief Executive Officer

Community Financial Report (section 184 Local Government Regulation 2012)

The total income received for the year is \$36.2M while the total expenditure is \$33.1M giving a net result of \$3.1M surplus.

Rates, levies, and charges received for the year are \$5.0M compared to \$4.9M for the previous year.

Grants, subsidies, contributions, and donations for the year is \$12.9M compared to \$9.0M for the previous year. A further \$3.8M in grants was received in the year and its recognition has been deferred at year end until the work is done.

Fees and charges received for the year is \$2.0M compared to \$1.9M for the previous year.

Sales revenue from recoverable road works contracts with the Department of Transport and Main Roads for the year is \$11.6M up from \$4.5M last year.

The Federal Government funded \$1.0M for projects under the Drought Communities Program. These are: Back-up Fuel Supply, Blackall-Tambo Park Beautification, Saleyard's canteen upgrade, Entrance to Blackall welcoming sign, Tambo Dam Lights, Water and Sewer Main upgrades, Tambo Western Sports Complex upgrade. All projects are complete except the Tambo Dam lights due for completion in 2021/2022.

The State Government funded \$1.09M for projects under the Work for Queensland program to be completed by 30 June 2021. These projects are Parks Solar Lighting, Shaded Seating for Tambo Cricket Ground, New Fencing for the Tambo Pound, Pathway to Health Extension, Tambo Swimming Pool Plaster and Repaint, Blackall Indoor Cricket, Shamrock Street Widening and Kerbing, Dressing Rooms and Showers for the Tambo Western Sports Complex. All projects are complete.

The State Government funded \$1.07M for projects under the COVID Work for Queensland program to be completed by 30 June 2021. These projects are Extension to Pathway to Health, Blackall Tourism Display, Blackall and Tambo Pools Shade Structure, Tambo Pool Disability Chair, Magpies Club House, Sale Yards Selling Pens, Tambo Weighbridge Upgrade, Blackall Water and Sewerage Upgrade. All projects are complete.

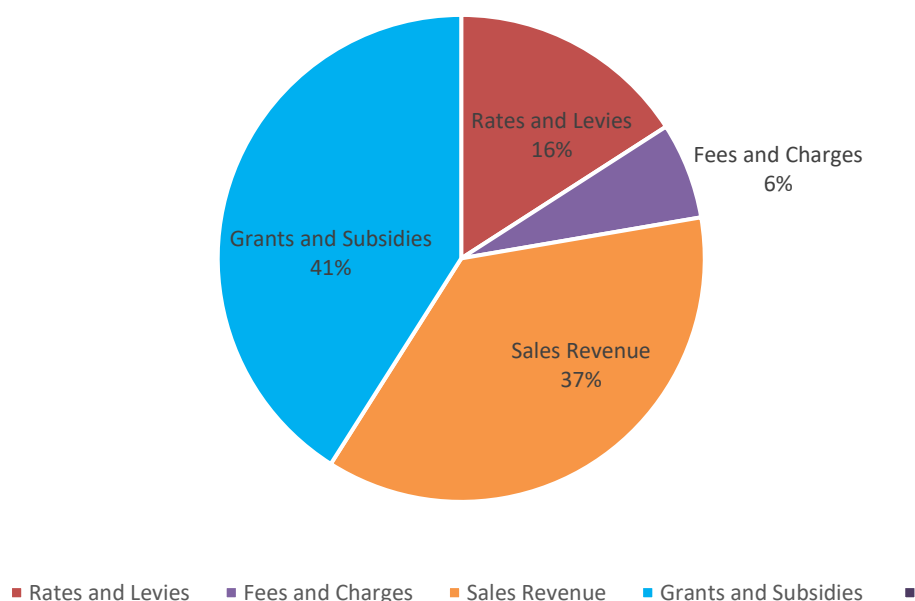
The State government also announced a further round of the Building our Regions program and have provided funding of \$454,900 for the Tambo Trucking Museum and \$200,000 to continue with the rural internet expansion. Both projects are due for completion in 2021/2022.

With the recurrent revenue base under a degree of pressure, Council continues to seek external funds as well as tendering for external roadwork contracts to supplement local funds. Works undertaken by Council under contract to the Department of Transport and Main Roads include sealing the Blackall-Jericho Road, replacement of the Tambo Barcoo River Bridge, rehabilitation of the Isisford and Springsure Roads.

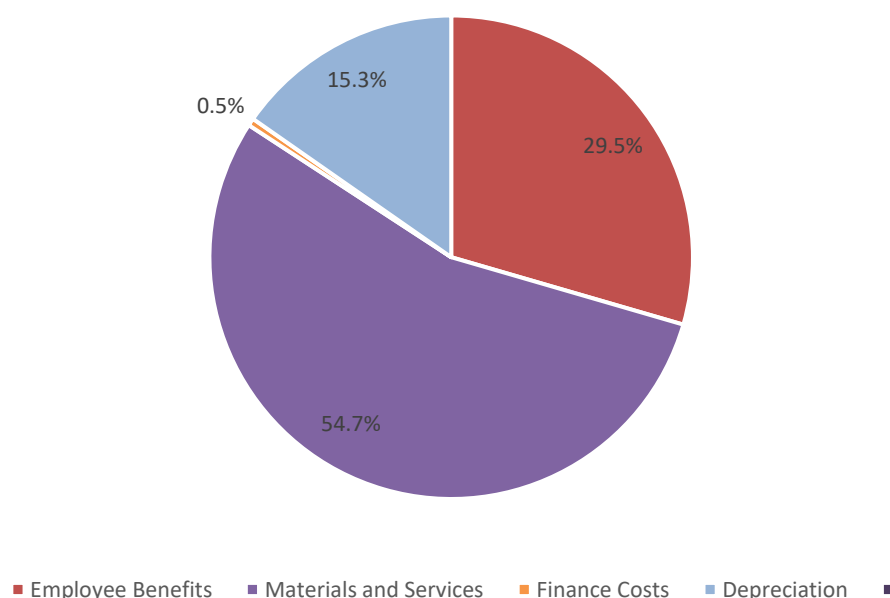
The council road network continues to be maintained through funding from the Financial Assistance Grant, TIDS, TMR, LRCI, HVSP, and the Roads to Recovery program. Council has funded \$1.0M (net) on the replacement and renewal of plant. Water and sewerage infrastructure assets are maintained and renewed to meet service delivery demands.

The increases in fees and charges reflects the movement in the consumer price index where applicable.

Recurrent Revenue 2020/2021

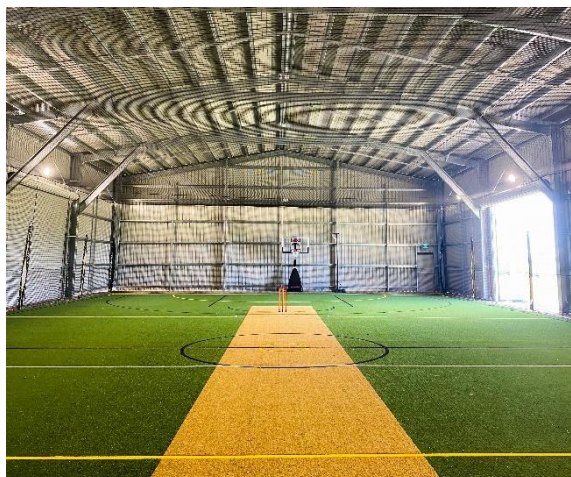


Recurrent Expenditure 2020/2021



Recurrent expenses total \$32.0M; employee costs remain the same at \$9.4M, materials and services have increased to \$17.5M due to the increase in roadwork activity, following the revaluation of all non-current assets depreciation is reduced to \$4.9M, and finance costs are \$11,396. Employee costs include staff and related employee expenses while materials and services include such items as general operating costs to maintain and operate services to the region.

Council's Enterprise Bargaining Agreement with staff expired on the 30 June 2021, a new agreement will be negotiated in 2021/2022.



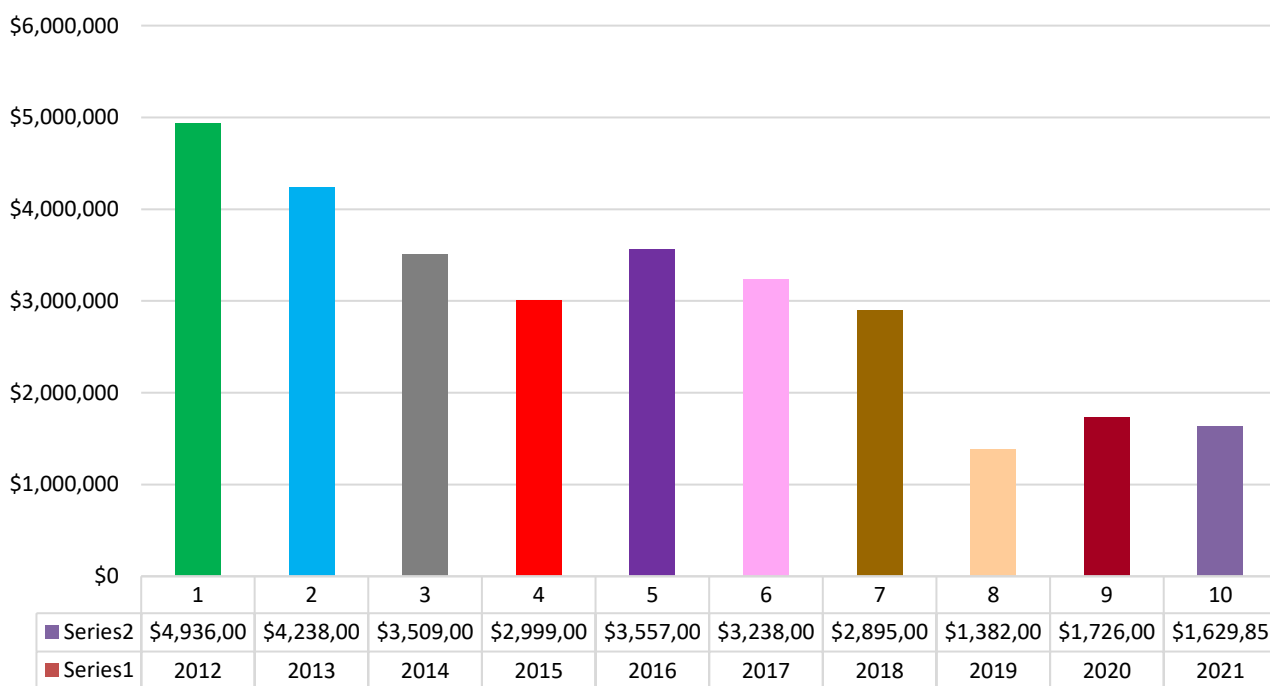
Indoor Cricket Complex

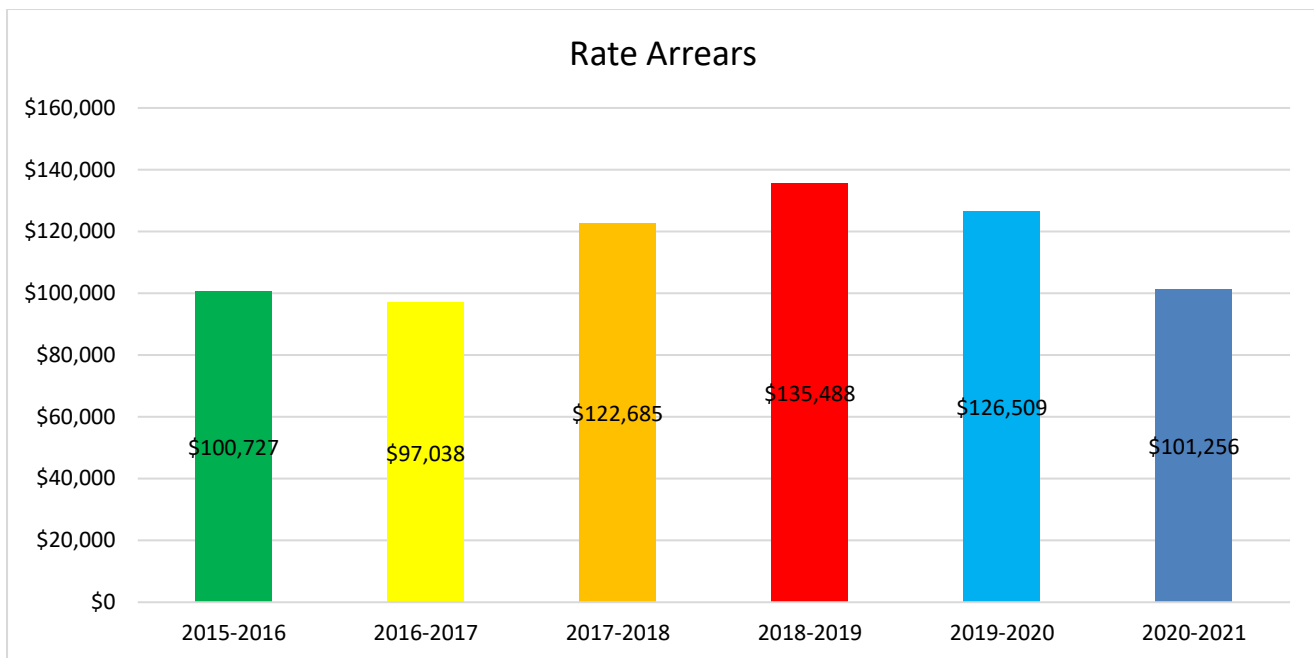
The five-year revaluation of all non-current assets undertaken during the year by APV Asset Valuers became effective 30 June 2020. While depreciation is a non-cash item, it is used as a guide to help Council retain enough funds to meet the costs of future renewal of assets.

Borrowing of funds is used for long term assets to reduce inter-generational inequity and is applicable for new assets and the major upgrade of existing assets. Council borrowings did not increase during the 2020/2021 financial year.

A summary of Council's debt levels is expressed in the figures below indicating that Council debt remains at a manageable level.

Council Debt





Resolutions (section 185 Local Government Regulation 2012)

Council did not make any changes to the policies referred to in sections 250(1) and 206(2) of the Regulation during the 2020-2021 financial year. The policies referred to are the expense reimbursement policy last updated on the 17 July 2019 and the asset recognition thresholds policy last updated on the 18 September 2019.

Councillors (section 186 Local Government Regulation 2012)

(i) Remuneration schedule

The Local Government Remuneration and Discipline Tribunal sets the maximum levels of remuneration that can be paid to Councillors annually.

Position	Annual Remuneration*	Meeting Allowance**	Total Allowance
Mayor Allowance	\$108,222.00	Nil	\$83,293.20
Deputy Mayor Allowance	\$62,435.04	Nil	\$42,154.56
Councillor Allowance	\$36,073.32	\$18,036.72	\$54,110.04

* The allowance is paid in twelve equal instalments at the end of each calendar month.

** One twelfth of the meeting allowance is paid for each monthly meeting attended.

(ii) **Councillor remuneration and meeting attendance – 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021**

Councillor	General Meeting Attendance	Special Meeting Attendance	Remuneration	Superannuation Expenses Incurred	Total Remuneration
Cr A Martin	12	1	\$108,222.00	—	\$108,222.00
Cr L Russell	12	1	\$62,435.04	—	\$62,435.04
Cr G Schluter	12	1	\$54,110.04	—	\$54,110.04
Cr B Johnstone	12	1	\$54,110.04	—	\$54,110.04
Cr P Pullos	11	1	\$52,606.98	—	\$52,606.98
Cr J Scobie	12	1	\$54,110.04	—	\$54,110.04
Cr D Hardie	11	1	\$52,606.98	—	\$52,606.98



Tambo Pool Shade Structure

(iii) **Conduct and performance of Councillors** (section 186 (d), (e), (f) Local Government Regulation 2012)

Section	Details	Number
186(1)(f)(i)	Complaints referred to the assessor under section 150 P(2)(a) of the Act – government entity must refer complaint to the assessor	Nil
186(1)(f)(ii)	Matters, mentioned in section 150 P (3) of the Act, notified to the Crime and Corruption Commission	Nil
186(1)(f)(iii)	Notices given under section 150 R (2) of the Act – local government. official must give the assessor a notice about councillor’s conduct	Nil
186(1)(f)(iv)	Notices given under section 150 S (2)(a) of the Act – inappropriate conduct on 3 occasions during a period of 1 year	Nil
186(1)(f)(v)	Decisions made under section 150 W(a)(b)(c) of the Act – assessors. action after investigating conduct of a councillor	Nil
186(1)(f)(vi)	Referral notices accompanied by a recommendation mentioned in section 150 AC(3)(a) of the Act – referral by assessor to council	Nil
186(1)(f)(vii)	Occasion’s information was given under section 150 AF(4)(a) of the Act. – information provided to the assessor while investigating	Nil
186(1)(f)(viii)	Occasions the Council asked another entity to investigate the suspected inappropriate conduct of a councillor	Nil
186(1)(f)(ix)	Applications heard by the conduct tribunal about the alleged misconduct of a councillor	Nil

Administrative complaints (section 187 Local Government Regulation 2012)

Council has adopted a policy “General Complaints (Administrative Actions) Policy” and a “General Complaints (Administrative Actions) Procedure”.

The procedure is broken down into three stages:

- (i) Complaints are initially managed and resolved by the CEO. The CEO can refer a complaint to a head of department (HOD).
- (ii) Unresolved complaints are referred to council for review and response.
- (iii) People who are not happy with the way council has handles their complaint can contact the Queensland Ombudsman for help.

It is the Council’s intent to provide a level of customer service that does not attract complaints, but acknowledges the rights of persons to provide feedback, both positive and negative, on its services and / or to lodge a complaint about a decision or other action Council takes.

The complaints process has been instituted to ensure that, to the greatest practical extent, any complaint is dealt with fairly, promptly, professionally, in confidence subject to any legal requirement, and in a manner respectful to the complainant.

Administrative complaints made during the 2020/2021 financial year.	2
Number of complaints resolved under the complaint's management process.	2
Number of complaints not resolved under the complaint's management process	Nil

Human Rights (Section 97 Human Rights Act 2019)

During the financial year 2020/2021 Council received two complaints from the Queensland Human Rights Commission where a response was required. Both complaints were resolved; the first on 7 June 2021 and the second on 18 June 2021.

Overseas travel (section 188 Local Government Regulation 2012)

No overseas travel was undertaken during the financial year.

Grant Expenditure to Community Groups (section 189 Local Government Regulation 2012)

In accordance with section 189 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the following information is provided concerning expenditure on grants to community organisations. The Council does not operate discretionary funds.

Description	Amount
Expenditure on grants and sponsorships to community organisations	\$160,209
In-kind support to community organisations	\$60,035
Total	\$220,244

Other Contents (section 190 Local Government Regulation 2012)

Corporate and operational plans

Council is required to adopt a Corporate Plan to guide Council's decision making. This document establishes the framework and identifies goals, objectives, and strategies to be pursued by Council to meet the aspirations and needs of the community. The plan is developed in consultation with the community and can be revised at any time during the life of the plan to ensure council is following its strategic direction.

The Operational Plan is prepared annually and outlines Council's work program for the next financial year including costs and completion timelines. This document is subject to quarterly reviews and must be consistent with the Council's Corporate Plan.

In accordance with legislative requirements, Council reviewed the operational plan each quarter and considered the assessment of its progress in the implementation of the operational plan as being on target. Council receives a written assessment of the implementation of the operational plan at the end of each quarter.

The Corporate Plan for 2020 to 2025 was adopted by Council on 16 December 2020.

Registers and public documents

Item	Description	Access
Register of personal interests of Councillors	To record certain financial and other personal interests of Councillors.	Councillor's interests are available on Council's website.
Register of personal interest of Chief Executive Officer and other specified employees	To record certain financial and other personal interests of the Chief Executive Officer and certain other employees.	Available only to Councillors, the Chief Executive Officer or a person permitted by law.
Register of Delegations of Authority by Council.	To record all powers delegated by the Local Government or the Chief Executive Officer's delegated powers.	Available on Council's website.
Register of Local Laws	To record all local laws set by Council.	Available on Council's website.
Register of Policies	To record the current policies as set by Council.	Available on Council's website.
Register of Legal Documents	To hold a record of all legal documents.	Available to any person.
Register of Fees and Charges	To record all fees and charges levied by Council.	Available on Council's website.
Cemetery Register	To record all burial sites.	Available to any person.
Operational Plan	To document the goals and strategies set by Council for the period specified in each plan.	Available on Council's website.
Annual Report	To document the financial position and report on attainment of goals specified in the Corporate Plan and Operational Plan.	Available on Council's website.

Concessions for rates and charges granted by Council

- (i) A 15 % discount on general rates if paid by the due date.
- (ii) Eligible pensioners in receipt of a full pension and having a State Government Concession Card receive a Council pensioner rate remission up to a maximum of \$340.00 per annum.
- (iii) Council also provides administrative support to the State Government Pensioner Rate Subsidy Scheme.
- (iv) Council considers requests from Community organizations for the waiver of fees for the use of community facilities.

Internal Audit

During 2020/2021 the Audit and Risk Management Committee met three times to:

- (i) approve the external auditors interim report 2020
- (ii) review internal audit reports on human resources and payroll
- (iii) review revaluation of non-current assets, draft annual financial statements 2020, and position papers
- (iv) review audited 2020 annual financial statements
- (v) review external audit plan for 2021
- (vi) review fraud control and risk management documents

Competitive Neutrality

Council has not been required to issue any investigation notices in the financial year under section 49 of the competitive neutrality complaints procedures.

Council has not been required to respond to any Queensland Competition Authority recommendations as per section 52 (3).

Beneficial Enterprises and business activities

There were no significant business activities during the financial year ended 30 June 2021

There was no commercialisation, or full cost pricing of a significant business activity in the financial year ended 30 June 2021

Senior staff remuneration (Local Government Act 2009 section 201)

Total of all remuneration packages payable to senior management \$788,300

One (1) senior contract employee with a total remuneration package in the range of \$200,000 - \$300,000

Three (3) senior contract employees with a total remuneration package in the range of \$100,000 - \$200,000

Public Service Ethics 1994 (section 23)

Council has implemented the code of conduct and undertaken regular education, training, and review of procedures.

The Employee Code of Conduct was amended and adopted by Council on the 20 February 2019.

Joint Activities Section 190 (1) (d) of the Local Government Regulations

Council has a signed agreement with the Longreach and Barcaldine Regional Councils whereby the Environmental Health Officer employed by Longreach Regional Council is required to work for both the Barcaldine and Blackall-Tambo Regional Councils with costs being shared equally.



Saleyards Ramp

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council

Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2021

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Statement of Changes in Equity

Statement of Cash Flows

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Auditor's report on the Financial Statements

Current year Financial Sustainability Statement

Auditor's report on the Current year Financial Sustainability Statement

Unaudited Long Term Financial Sustainability Statement

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Statement of Comprehensive Income
For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Income			
Recurrent revenue			
Rates, levies and charges	3(a)	4,994,806	4,882,981
Fees and charges	3(b)	2,012,813	1,913,598
Sales revenue	3(c)	11,551,193	4,477,818
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	3(d)	12,906,529	8,995,293
Total recurrent revenue		31,465,341	20,269,690
Capital revenue			
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	3(d)	4,200,011	2,695,670
Total capital revenue		4,200,011	2,695,670
Rental income	14	171,080	183,792
Interest received	4	138,963	299,847
Other income		254,995	167,564
Total income		36,230,390	23,616,563
Expenses			
Recurrent expenses			
Employee benefits	6	(9,414,076)	(9,415,721)
Materials and services	7	(17,495,304)	(10,539,153)
Finance costs	8	(156,302)	(75,688)
Depreciation of property plant and equipment	11	(4,882,100)	(6,148,139)
Amortisation of intangible assets	12	(11,396)	(11,396)
		(31,959,178)	(26,190,097)
Capital expenses	5	(1,214,292)	(2,185,254)
Total expenses		(33,173,470)	(28,375,351)
Net result		3,056,920	(4,758,788)
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be reclassified to net result			
Increase in asset revaluation surplus	18	76,079	57,382,001
Total other comprehensive income for the year		76,079	57,382,001
Total comprehensive income for the year		3,132,999	52,623,213

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and Significant Accounting Policies.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Statement of Financial Position
As at 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	9	23,182,204	17,167,909
Trade and other receivables	10	941,677	2,569,244
Inventories		167,491	142,307
Total current assets		24,291,372	19,879,460
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	11	277,833,732	278,121,691
Intangible assets	12	180,161	191,557
Total non-current assets		278,013,893	278,313,248
Total assets		302,305,265	298,192,708
Current liabilities			
Contract liabilities	13	3,753,923	3,193,798
Trade and other payables	15	1,639,517	1,060,533
Borrowings	16	98,916	96,285
Provisions	17	2,400,897	2,412,104
Total current liabilities		7,893,253	6,762,720
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	16	1,530,943	1,629,965
Provisions	17	499,326	551,279
Total non-current liabilities		2,030,269	2,181,244
Total liabilities		9,923,522	8,943,964
Net community assets		292,381,743	289,248,744
Community equity			
Asset revaluation surplus	18	176,972,195	176,896,116
Retained surplus		115,409,548	112,352,628
Total community equity		292,381,743	289,248,744

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and Significant Accounting Policies.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Statement of Changes in Equity
For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Note	Asset revaluation surplus 18 \$	Retained surplus \$	Total \$
Balance as at 1 July 2020		176,896,116	112,352,628	289,248,744
Net result		-	3,056,920	3,056,920
Other comprehensive income for the year				
Increase in asset revaluation surplus		76,079	-	76,079
Total comprehensive income for the year		<u>76,079</u>	<u>3,056,920</u>	<u>3,132,999</u>
Balance as at 30 June 2021		<u>176,972,195</u>	<u>115,409,548</u>	<u>292,381,743</u>
 Balance as at 1 July 2019		119,514,115	117,656,416	237,170,531
Adjustment on initial application of AASB 15 and AASB 1058			(545,000)	(545,000)
Restated balance at 1 July 2019		<u>119,514,115</u>	<u>117,111,416</u>	<u>236,625,531</u>
Net result		-	(4,758,788)	(4,758,788)
Other comprehensive income for the year				
Increase in asset revaluation surplus		57,382,001	-	57,382,001
Total comprehensive income for the year		<u>57,382,001</u>	<u>(4,758,788)</u>	<u>52,623,213</u>
Balance as at 30 June 2020		<u>176,896,116</u>	<u>112,352,628</u>	<u>289,248,744</u>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and Significant Accounting Policies.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers		22,734,438	12,744,040
Payments to suppliers and employees		(28,739,806)	(20,544,984)
		(6,005,368)	(7,800,944)
Interest received		138,963	299,847
Rental income		171,080	184,128
Non capital grants and contributions		13,502,998	11,878,581
Borrowing costs		(52,221)	(49,804)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	22	<u>7,755,452</u>	<u>4,511,808</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(6,557,751)	(4,895,430)
Proceeds from sale of property plant and equipment		749,318	479,878
Capital grants, subsidies, contributions and donations		4,163,667	2,461,180
Net cash outflow from investing activities		<u>(1,644,766)</u>	<u>(1,954,372)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from borrowings		-	400,000
Repayment of borrowings		(96,391)	(56,246)
Net cash (outflow) inflow from financing activities		<u>(96,391)</u>	<u>343,754</u>
Net increase in cash held		<u>6,014,295</u>	<u>2,901,190</u>
Cash at beginning of the financial year		17,167,909	14,266,719
Cash at end of the financial year	9	<u>23,182,204</u>	<u>17,167,909</u>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and Significant Accounting Policies.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

1 Information about these financial statements

1.A Basis of preparation

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council is constituted under the *Queensland Local Government Act 2009* and is domiciled in Australia.

These general purpose financial statements are for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 and have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

These financial statements comply with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB). Council is a not-for profit entity for financial reporting purposes and complies with Australian Accounting Standards as applicable to not-for profit entities.

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the revaluation of certain classes of property, plant and equipment.

1.B New and revised Accounting Standards adopted during the year

In the current year Council adopted all standards which became mandatorily effective for the annual reporting periods beginning on 1 July 2020, none of the standards had a material impact on reported position, performance and cash flows.

1.C Standards issued by the AASB not yet effective

The AASB has issued Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations which are not effective at 30 June 2021, these standards have not been adopted by Council and will be included in the financial statements on their effective date. Where the standard is expected to have a material impact for Council then further information has been provided in this note.

Standard	Effective for annual report periods beginning on or after:
AASB 2020-1 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non Current and associated standards</i>	1 January 2023
AASB 2020-3 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Annual Improvements 2018-2020 and Other Amendments</i>	1 January 2022
AASB 2014-10 <i>Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture</i> (amended by AASB 2015-10 and AASB 2017-5)	1 January 2022

1.D Estimates and judgements

Where necessary, judgements, estimates and assumptions have been used in preparing these financial statements. These are based on the best information available to Council at the time, however due to the passage of time, these assumptions may change and therefore the recorded balances may not reflect the final outcomes. Those that have a significant effect or risk of causing an adjustment to Council's assets or liabilities relate to:

Valuation of property, plant and equipment - Note 11
Provisions - Note 17
Contingent liabilities - Note 20
Financial instruments and financial risk management - Note 25
Revenue - Note 3

1.E National competition policy

Council has reviewed its activities to identify its business activities. Council has resolved not to apply the code of competitive conduct to any of its prescribed activities.

1.F Rounding and comparatives

The financial statements are in Australian dollars and have been rounded to the nearest \$1.
Comparative information is prepared on the same basis as prior year.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 1 Information about these financial statements (continued)

1.G Volunteer services

Council's dependence on volunteer services is not material and is not recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

1.H Taxation

Council is exempt from income tax, however Council is subject to Fringe Benefits Tax and Goods and Services Tax ('GST'). The net amount of GST recoverable from the ATO or payable to the ATO is shown as an asset or liability respectively.

1.I COVID-19

Council has assessed the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on its financial statements for the current year and further impacts are expected to continue into 2021-22.

Council undertook a number of key actions during the current year in response to the COVID-19 pandemic which included the following:

- Increased frequency in cleaning of Council and public facilities.
- Diverted additional resources towards implementing pandemic management strategies in association with health and enforcement authorities. Key measures included implementation of social distancing measures in work spaces and public spaces under Council's control and promotion of good hygiene practices.
- A small number of operations had reduced hours / capacity in facilities during the year to comply with directives from lead agencies.

The impact of these measures are not material to the 2020-21 financial statements of Council and is not expected to be material for the 2021-22 financial year.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

2 Analysis of results by function

2(a) Components of Council functions

The activities relating to the Council's components reported on in Note 2(b) are as follows :

Corporate Services

The corporate services function includes corporate governance and financial administration of Council.

The objective of corporate governance is for Council to be accountable and transparent in delivering value for money community outcomes. This function includes strategic and operational planning, risk management, legal and administrative support. This comprises the support functions for the Mayor and Councillors, Council and committee meetings and statutory requirements.

Finance and information provides professional finance and information services across Council. This function includes internal audit, budget support, financial accounting and information technology services. The objective of this function is to provide reliable information in a timely manner to support decision making and meet statutory obligations.

Community services

The goal of the community services function is to provide effective social, recreational and health services. The function includes libraries, community buildings, recreation venues, social support, care and disability services.

Planning and development

This function manages building and development approvals in the shire. The goal of this function is to ensure compliance with building standards and sustainable development practices. Council's planning scheme aims to service development through trunk infrastructure planning.

Transport infrastructure

This function includes construction and maintenance of Council and State government controlled roads, town streets, stormwater drainage, footpaths and aerodromes. The goal of the transport function is to provide a transport network that is accessible and safe for public use.

Waste management

The waste management function provides refuse collection and disposal services. The goal of the waste management program is to manage waste in a way that protects the community and the environment.

Water infrastructure

The water services function attends to the maintenance of water supply infrastructure with the goal of delivering sustainable water services that meet health standards and minimise waste.

Sewerage infrastructure

The sewerage services function attends to the maintenance of sewerage infrastructure with the goal of delivering a reliable sewerage network that is environmentally friendly.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 2 Analysis of results by function (continued)

(b) Income and expenses defined between recurring and capital are attributed to the following functions:

Year Ended 30 June 2021

Functions	Gross program income				Total income	Gross program expenses		Total expenses	Net result from recurring operations	Net Result	Assets
	Recurring		Capital			Recurring	Capital				
	Grants	Other	Grants	Other							
	2021	2021	2021	2021							
	\$	\$	\$	\$	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Corporate services	3,272,916	5,479,628	614,112	40,596	9,407,252	(6,926,113)	(424,759)	(7,350,872)	1,826,431	2,056,380	47,120,493
Community services	1,084,861	366,688	915,893	-	2,367,442	(4,954,529)	-	(4,954,529)	(3,502,980)	(2,587,087)	33,951,028
Planning & development	-	24,848	-	-	24,848	(88,099)	-	(88,099)	(63,251)	(63,251)	-
Transport infrastructure	8,548,752	11,364,964	2,153,290	-	22,067,006	(18,958,315)	(633,281)	(19,591,596)	955,401	2,475,410	195,755,868
Waste management	-	319,531	-	-	319,531	(238,037)	-	(238,037)	81,494	81,494	554,343
Water infrastructure	-	841,411	150,686	-	992,097	(456,176)	(100,151)	(556,327)	385,235	435,770	10,468,284
Sewerage infrastructure	-	726,780	325,434	-	1,052,214	(337,909)	(56,101)	(394,010)	388,871	658,204	14,455,249
Total Council	12,906,529	19,123,850	4,159,415	40,596	36,230,390	(31,959,178)	(1,214,292)	(33,173,470)	71,201	3,056,920	302,305,265

Year Ended 30 June 2020

Functions	Gross program income				Total income	Gross program expenses		Total expenses	Net result from recurring operations	Net Result	Assets
	Recurring		Capital			Recurring	Capital				
	Grants	Other	Grants	Other							
	2020	2020	2020	2020							
	\$	\$	\$	\$	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020
Corporate services	3,432,878	5,386,804	278,427	-	9,098,109	(7,357,470)	(86,904)	(7,444,374)	1,462,212	1,653,735	42,397,290
Community services	1,040,328	307,865	916,074	-	2,264,267	(4,898,701)	(1,187,946)	(6,086,647)	(3,550,508)	(3,822,380)	34,205,234
Planning & development	-	35,135	-	-	35,135	(94,676)	-	(94,676)	(59,541)	(59,541)	-
Transport infrastructure	4,522,087	4,326,935	1,412,519	-	10,261,541	(12,579,858)	(324,407)	(12,904,265)	(3,730,836)	(2,642,724)	196,036,380
Waste management	-	312,696	-	-	312,696	(255,979)	-	(255,979)	56,717	56,717	575,364
Water infrastructure	-	843,090	88,650	-	931,740	(555,698)	(585,997)	(1,141,695)	287,392	(209,955)	10,642,853
Sewerage infrastructure	-	713,075	-	-	713,075	(447,715)	-	(447,715)	265,360	265,360	14,335,587
Total Council	8,995,293	11,925,600	2,695,670	-	23,616,563	(26,190,097)	(2,185,254)	(28,375,351)	(5,269,204)	(4,758,788)	298,192,708

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

3 Revenue

(a) Rates, levies and charges

	2021 \$	2020 \$
General rates	3,695,655	3,604,254
Water	835,051	823,649
Sewerage	721,375	706,433
Garbage charges	316,272	309,135
Total rates and utility charge revenue	5,568,353	5,443,471
Less: Discounts	(517,737)	(506,736)
Less: Pensioner remissions	(55,810)	(53,754)
	<u>4,994,806</u>	<u>4,882,981</u>

Rates and annual charges are recognised as revenue at the beginning of the rating period to which they relate. Prepaid rates are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period.

(b) Fees and charges

Saleyard fees	1,579,717	1,363,534
Building and development fees	24,848	35,135
Agistment/Town common fees	56,899	87,109
Childcare fees	51,418	32,201
Cemetery/Funeral fees	87,231	72,070
Licences and registrations	7,150	4,239
Commissions	61,896	58,716
Hire of community facilities	5,979	4,324
Airport landing fees	49,340	119,654
Other fees and charges	88,335	136,616
	<u>2,012,813</u>	<u>1,913,598</u>

Revenue arising from fees and charges is recognised at a point in time when the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

The performance obligation relates to the specific services which are provided to the customers and generally the payment terms are within 30 days of the provision of the service or in some cases, the customer is required to pay on arrival, for example camping permits. There is no material obligation for Council in relation to refunds or returns.

Licences granted by Council are all either short-term or low value and all revenue from licences is recognised at the time that the licence is granted rather than the term of the licence.

(c) Sales revenue

Rendering of services

Contract and recoverable works	11,310,561	4,281,235
Private works	199,595	174,089
	<u>11,510,156</u>	<u>4,455,324</u>

Sale of goods

Visitor Information Centre	41,037	22,494
	<u>41,037</u>	<u>22,494</u>
Total sales revenue	<u>11,551,193</u>	<u>4,477,818</u>

Sale of goods revenue is recognised at a point in time when the customer obtains control of the goods, generally at delivery. Revenue from services is recognised when the service is rendered.

Council generates revenue from a number of services including child care and contracts for road and earthworks. Revenue from contracts and recoverable works generally comprises a recoupment of material costs together with an hourly charge for use of equipment and employees. Contract revenue and associated costs are recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract activity based on costs incurred at the reporting date. Where consideration is received for the service in advance it is included as a liability and is recognised as revenue in the period when the service is performed.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 3 Revenue (continued)

(d) Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
(i) Recurrent		
General purpose grants	4,138,268	4,300,453
State government subsidies and grants	583,947	506,932
Flood restoration funding	7,392,119	3,294,615
Commonwealth government subsidies and grants	792,150	893,212
Donations	45	81
	<u>12,906,529</u>	<u>8,995,293</u>
(ii) Capital		
State government subsidies and grants	1,429,699	1,128,293
Commonwealth government subsidies and grants	2,729,716	1,567,377
Other capital contributions	40,596	-
	<u>4,200,011</u>	<u>2,695,670</u>

Capital revenue includes grants and subsidies received which are tied to specific projects for the replacement or upgrade of existing non-current assets and/or investment in new assets.

(iii) Timing of revenue recognition for grants, subsidies, contributions and donations

Revenue recognised at a point in time

Grants and subsidies	6,744,885	5,700,597
Donations	45	81
Contributions	40,596	-
	<u>6,785,526</u>	<u>5,700,678</u>

Revenue recognised over time

Grants and subsidies	10,321,014	5,990,285
Donations	-	-
Contributions	-	-
	<u>10,321,014</u>	<u>5,990,285</u>

Accounting Policy

Grant income under AASB 15

Where grant income arises from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations then the revenue is recognised when control of each performance obligation is satisfied. Performance obligations vary in each agreement, examples include provision of allied health service and targeted children's learning program. Payment terms vary depending on the terms of the grant, cash is received upfront for some grants and on the achievement of certain payment milestones for others. Each performance obligation is considered to ensure that the revenue recognition reflects the transfer of control and within grant agreements there may be some performance obligations where control transfers at a point in time and others which have continuous transfer of control over the life of the contract. Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods being either costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

Grant income under AASB 1058

Where Council receives an asset for significantly below fair value, the asset is recognised at fair value, related liability (or equity items) are recorded and income then is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time the asset is received.

Capital grants

Where Council receives funding under an enforceable contract to acquire or construct a specified item of property, plant and equipment which will be under Council's control on completion, revenue is recognised as and when the obligation to construct or purchase is completed. For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred.

Donations and contributions

Where assets are donated or purchased by Council for significantly below fair value, the revenue is recognised when the asset is acquired and controlled by the Council. Donations and contributions are generally recognised on receipt of the asset since there are no enforceable performance obligations.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

4 Interest income

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Interest received		
Interest received from term deposits	53,871	214,655
Interest received from financial institutions*	62,062	58,430
Interest from overdue rates and utility charges	23,030	26,762
	<u>138,963</u>	<u>299,847</u>

Interest received from bank and term deposits is accrued over the term of the investment.

* - Interest received from financial institutions includes interest from Queensland Treasury Corporation Cash Fund account.

5 Capital income and expenses

Loss on disposal of non-current assets

Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment	570,991	469,081
Less: Book value of property, plant and equipment disposed of	<u>(565,448)</u>	<u>(541,552)</u>
	5,543	(72,471)
 Proceeds from sale of land and improvements	 178,327	 10,797
Less: Book value of disposed land	<u>(200,000)</u>	<u>(25,230)</u>
	(21,673)	(14,433)
 Loss on disposal of infrastructure assets for no consideration*	 -	 (1,187,946)
Write off of infrastructure and building assets	<u>(1,198,162)</u>	<u>(910,404)</u>
	(1,198,162)	(2,098,350)
 Total capital loss	<u>(1,214,292)</u>	<u>(2,185,254)</u>

* - Council transferred ownership of the Blackall-Tambo Internet Connectivity Project assets to contractor Field Solutions Group Pty Ltd upon project completion as per signed agreement in the year ended 30 June 2020.

6 Employee benefits

Total staff wages and salaries	6,903,230	6,812,267
Councillors' remuneration	438,201	297,894
Annual, sick and long service leave entitlements	1,264,841	1,583,966
Superannuation	<u>862,397</u>	<u>851,467</u>
	9,468,669	9,545,594
Other employee related expenses	<u>271,375</u>	<u>242,424</u>
	9,740,044	9,788,018
Less: Capitalised employee expenses	<u>(325,968)</u>	<u>(372,297)</u>
	<u>9,414,076</u>	<u>9,415,721</u>

Employee benefit expenses are recorded when the service has been provided by the employee.

Councillor remuneration represents salary, and other allowances paid in respect of carrying out their duties.

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Total Council employees at the reporting date:		
Elected members	7	7
Administration staff	34	34
Depot and outdoors staff	73	66
Total full time equivalent employees	<u>114</u>	<u>107</u>

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

7 Materials and services

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Administration	918,243	977,857
Audit of annual financial statements by the Auditor-General of Queensland*	150,272	82,977
Community health programs	408,834	456,267
Parks, gardens & reserves	589,666	632,664
Pandemic management	80,015	42,938
Pest management	190,749	238,616
QRA Flood damage repairs	6,952,181	2,948,470
Rentals - operating leases	13,922	13,295
Recoverable road contracts	6,895,488	2,899,967
Road maintenance	237,754	545,978
Saleyards	653,168	505,197
Waste services	142,678	164,780
Water and sewerage	231,562	329,002
Other materials and services	30,772	701,145
	<u>17,495,304</u>	<u>10,539,153</u>

Expenses are recorded on an accruals basis as Council receives the goods or services.

* - Total audit fees quoted by the Queensland Audit Office relating to the 2020-21 financial statements are \$80,900 (2020: \$79,500). Total expensed audit fee of \$150,272 includes \$80,900 accrued fee for 2020-21 yet to be paid and \$69,372 being audit fee expensed for 2019-20 year not accrued in the previous financial year.

8 Finance costs

Finance costs charged by the Queensland Treasury Corporation	52,221	49,804
Bank charges	11,355	11,991
Impairment of receivables	85,130	6,439
Unwinding of discount on landfill restoration provision	7,596	7,454
	<u>156,302</u>	<u>75,688</u>

9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and on hand	6,182,204	1,167,909
Deposits at call	12,000,000	9,000,000
Term deposits	5,000,000	7,000,000
Balance per Statement of Financial Position	<u>23,182,204</u>	<u>17,167,909</u>
Less bank overdraft	-	-
Balance per Statement of Cash Flows	<u>23,182,204</u>	<u>17,167,909</u>

Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of cash flows include cash on hand, all cash and cheques receipted but not banked at the year end, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, and bank overdrafts.

Council is exposed to credit risk through its investments in the QTC Cash Fund. The QTC Cash Fund is an asset management portfolio investing in a wide range of high credit rated counterparties. Deposits with the QTC Cash Fund are capital guaranteed. All investments are required to have a minimum credit rating of "A-", the likelihood of the counterparty not having capacity to meet its financial commitments is low.

Cash and cash equivalents	23,182,204	17,167,909
Less: Externally imposed restrictions on cash	(i) (3,753,923)	(3,193,798)
Unrestricted cash	<u>19,428,281</u>	<u>13,974,111</u>

Council's cash and cash equivalents are subject to a number of external restrictions that limit the amount that is available for discretionary or future use.

(i) Externally imposed expenditure restrictions at the reporting date relate to the following cash assets:

Unspent government grants and subsidies	3,753,923	3,193,798
Total externally imposed restrictions on cash assets	<u>3,753,923</u>	<u>3,193,798</u>

Council did not have internal allocations of cash at the reporting date.

Trust funds held for outside parties

Monies collected or held on behalf of other entities yet to be paid out	90,999	51,225
Security deposits	23,970	20,400
	<u>114,969</u>	<u>71,625</u>

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 9 Cash and cash equivalents (continued)

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a separate bank account and separate accounting records are maintained for funds held on behalf of outside parties. Funds held in the trust account on behalf of outside parties include those funds from the sale of land for arrears in rates, deposits for the contracted sale of land, security deposits lodged to guarantee performance, refundable bond monies for venue and equipment hire and funds held in trust for inactive non profit community clubs. Council performs only a custodian role in respect of these monies and because the monies cannot be used for Council purposes, they are not considered revenue nor brought to account in the financial statements since Council has no control over the assets.

10 Trade and other receivables

Current

Rateable revenue and utility charges
Other debtors
Less: loss allowance
GST recoverable
Prepayments

2021	2020
\$	\$
210,267	304,198
613,078	2,121,188
(1,044)	(10,786)
-	42,582
119,376	112,062
<u>941,677</u>	<u>2,569,244</u>

Receivables are amounts owed to Council at year end and are recognised at the amount due at the time of sale or service delivery. Settlement of receivables is required within 30 days after the invoice is issued.

Receivables are measured at amortised cost which approximates fair value at reporting date. Trade debtors are recognised at the amounts due at the time of sale or service delivery i.e. the agreed purchase/contract price. Settlement of these amounts is required within 30 days from invoice date.

Debts are regularly assessed for collectability and allowance is made, where appropriate, for impairment. All known bad debts were written off at 30 June 2021. If an amount is recovered in a subsequent period it is recognised as revenue.

The loss is recognised in finance costs. The amount of the impairment is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the effective interest rate.

Council applies normal business credit protection procedures prior to providing goods or services to minimise credit risk.

The Council does not require collateral in respect of trade and other receivables.

Accounting policies - Grouping

When Council has no reasonable expectation of recovering an amount owed by a debtor, and has ceased enforcement activity, the debt is written-off by directly reducing the receivable against the loss allowance. If the amount of debt written off exceeds the loss allowance, the excess is recognised as an impairment loss.

Accounting for impairment losses is dependent upon the individual group of receivables subject to impairment. The loss allowance for grouped receivables reflects lifetime expected credit losses and incorporates reasonable and supportable forward-looking information. Economic changes impacting debtors, and relevant industry data form part of the impairment assessment.

Council has identified 2 distinctive groupings of its receivables: Rates & Charges and Other Debtors.

Rates and Charges: Council is empowered under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2009* to sell an owner's property to recover outstanding rate debts and therefore the expected credit loss is immaterial. Impairment of rates and charges will occur only if arrears are deemed to be greater than the proceeds Council would receive from the sale of the respective property.

Other Debtors: Council identifies other debtors as receivables which are not rates and charges, statutory charges or grants. Council has applied a simplified approach for trade receivables and the loss allowance is measured at an amount equal to lifetime expected credit losses.

Movement in accumulated impairment losses (other debtors) is as follows:

Opening balance at 1 July	10,786	4,347
Additional impairments recognised (impaired debts written off or reversed)	(9,743)	6,439
Closing Balance at 30 June	<u>1,043</u>	<u>10,786</u>

The impairment loss relates to other debtors.

Interest is charged on outstanding rates at 8.53% per annum. No interest is charged on other debtors.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

11 Property, plant and equipment

30 June 2021

Basis of measurement

Fair value category

Asset values

Opening gross value as at 1 July 2020

Additions

Assets capitalised from WIP

Disposals

Closing gross value as at 30 June 2021

Land and improvements	Buildings	Plant and equipment	Road, drainage and bridge network	Water	Sewerage	Work in progress	Total
Fair value	Fair value	Cost	Fair value	Fair value	Fair value	Cost	
Level 2	Level 2 & 3		Level 3	Level 3	Level 3		
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2,776,900	62,178,330	14,432,045	268,730,855	13,451,113	19,152,425	2,681,799	383,403,467
-	-	1,905,540	-	-	-	4,652,211	6,557,751
-	2,303,434	-	1,846,483	189,885	378,334	(4,718,136)	-
(200,000)	(639,346)	(1,537,323)	(1,117,696)	(219,127)	(68,592)	-	(3,782,084)
2,576,900	63,842,418	14,800,262	269,459,642	13,421,871	19,462,167	2,615,874	386,179,134

Accumulated depreciation and impairment

Opening gross value as at 1 July 2020

Depreciation expense

Depreciation on disposals

Accumulated depreciation as at 30 June 2021

16,036	17,270,135	6,189,794	74,092,063	2,896,910	4,816,838	-	105,281,776
21,021	1,241,524	929,481	2,311,850	175,653	202,571	-	4,882,100
-	(230,717)	(971,875)	(484,415)	(118,976)	(12,491)	-	(1,818,474)
37,057	18,280,942	6,147,400	75,919,498	2,953,587	5,006,918	-	108,345,402

Book value as at 30 June 2021

Range of estimated useful life in years

2,539,843	45,561,476	8,652,862	193,540,144	10,468,284	14,455,249	2,615,874	277,833,732
Land: Not depreciated.							
Improvements: 15 - 50	5 - 195	2 - 20	8 - 171	15 - 120	23 - 166	-	-

ADDITIONS COMPRISE

Renewals

Other additions

Total additions

-	-	1,905,540	-	-	-	3,674,371	5,579,911
-	-	-	-	-	-	977,840	977,840
-	-	1,905,540	-	-	-	4,652,211	6,557,751

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

30 June 2020

Basis of measurement

Fair value category

Asset values

Opening gross value as at 1 July 2019

Additions

Assets capitalised from WIP

Disposals

Revaluation adjustment

Closing gross value as at 30 June 2020

Land and improvements	Buildings	Plant and equipment	Road, drainage and bridge network	Water	Sewerage	Work in progress	Total
Fair value	Fair value	Cost	Fair value	Fair value	Fair value	Cost	
Level 2	Level 2 & 3		Level 3	Level 3	Level 3		
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
4,221,829	62,570,135	14,227,344	206,846,725	12,179,911	16,552,232	3,837,824	320,436,000
-	-	1,636,643	-	-	-	3,258,787	4,895,430
14,461	1,730,102	-	1,785,702	884,547	-	(4,414,812)	-
(27,630)	(1,187,946)	(1,431,942)	(753,877)	(673,346)	(103,475)	-	(4,178,216)
(1,431,760)	(933,961)	-	60,852,305	1,060,001	2,703,668	-	62,250,253
2,776,900	62,178,330	14,432,045	268,730,855	13,451,113	19,152,425	2,681,799	383,403,467

Accumulated depreciation and impairment

Opening balance as at 1 July 2019

Depreciation expense

Depreciation on disposals

Revaluation adjustment

Accumulated depreciation as at 30 June 2020

2,112	29,477,473	5,959,511	48,825,968	4,990,584	6,524,741	-	95,780,389
20,994	1,671,525	1,120,673	2,841,941	220,849	272,157	-	6,148,139
-	-	(890,390)	(426,416)	(158,200)	(32,624)	-	(1,507,630)
(7,070)	(13,878,863)	-	22,850,570	(2,156,323)	(1,947,436)	-	4,860,878
16,036	17,270,135	6,189,794	74,092,063	2,896,910	4,816,838	-	105,281,776

Book value as at 30 June 2020

Range of estimated useful life in years

2,760,864	44,908,195	8,242,251	194,638,792	10,554,203	14,335,587	2,681,799	278,121,691
Land: Not depreciated. Improvements: 15 - 50	5 - 195	2 - 20	8 - 171	15 - 120	23 - 166	-	-

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

(i) Recognition

Land and improvements, buildings and all infrastructure assets are measured on the revaluation basis, at fair value, in accordance with AASB 116 *Property, Plant & Equipment* and AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement*. Plant and equipment and work in progress are measured at cost.

Purchases of property, plant and equipment are recognised as assets unless they are below the asset recognition threshold or maintenance expenditure.

Items of plant and equipment with a total value of less than \$10,000, and infrastructure assets and buildings with a total value of less than \$20,000 are treated as an expense in the year of acquisition. All other items of property, plant and equipment are capitalised.

Routine operating maintenance, repair costs and minor renewals to maintain the operational capacity and useful life of the non-current asset is expensed as incurred, while expenditure that relates to replacement of a major component of an asset to maintain its service potential is capitalised.

Individual assets valued below the asset recognition threshold are recognised as an asset if connected to a larger network, for example the component of parks.

Land under roads and reserve land under the *Land Act 1994* or *Land Title Act 1994* is controlled by the Queensland State Government and not recognised in the Council financial statements.

Expenditure incurred in accordance with Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements on road assets is analysed to determine whether the expenditure is capital in nature. The analysis of the expenditure requires Council engineers to review the nature and extent of expenditure on a given asset. For example, expenditure that patches a road is generally maintenance in nature, whereas a kerb to kerb rebuild is treated as capital. Material expenditure that extends the useful life or renews the service potential of the asset is capitalised.

(ii) Measurement

Items of property, plant and equipment are initially recorded at cost. Subsequently, each class of property, plant and equipment is stated at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Cost is determined as the fair value of consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition. Direct labour, materials and an appropriate portion of overheads incurred in the acquisition or construction of assets are also included as capital costs.

Property, plant and equipment received in the form of contributions, for significantly less than fair value or as offsets to infrastructure charges are recognised as assets and revenue at fair value.

When Council raises a provision for the restoration of a Council-controlled site, such as a landfill site, the provision is initially recognised against property plant and equipment. Subsequent changes in the provision relating to the unwinding of the discount is recognised against rehabilitation expense. Any increase or decrease in the provision due to change in discount rate is offset against asset revaluation surplus.

(iii) Depreciation

Assets are depreciated from the date of acquisition or, when an asset is ready for use.

Land, work in progress and road formation components are not depreciated.

Depreciation where applicable, is calculated on a straight-line basis such that the cost of the asset less its residual value is recognised progressively over its estimated useful life to Council. Management believe that the straight-line basis appropriately reflects the pattern of consumption of all Council assets.

Where assets have separately identifiable components, these components have separately assigned useful lives.

Depreciation methods, estimated useful lives and residual values of property, plant and equipment assets are reviewed at the end of each reporting period and adjusted where necessary to reflect any changes in the pattern of consumption, physical wear and tear, technical or commercial obsolescence, or management intentions.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Key judgements and estimates:

Straight line depreciation is used as that is consistent with the even consumption of service potential of these assets over their useful life to the Council.

Management reviews its estimate of the useful lives of depreciable assets at each reporting date, based on the expected utility of the assets. Uncertainties in these estimates relate to technical obsolescence that may change the utility of certain software and IT equipment.

(iv) Impairment

Property, plant and equipment held at cost is assessed for indicators of impairment annually. If an indicator of possible impairment exists, Council determines the asset's recoverable amount. Any amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount is recorded as an impairment loss. The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.

An impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit and loss, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount. When the asset is measured at a revalued amount, the impairment loss is offset against the asset revaluation surplus of the relevant class to the extent available.

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised as income unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation surplus increase.

(v) Valuation

Key judgements and estimates:

Some of the Council's assets and liabilities are measured at fair value for financial reporting purposes.

In estimating the fair value of an asset or a liability, the Council uses market-observable data to the extent it is available. Where Level 1 inputs are not available, the Council engages third party qualified valuers to perform the valuation. The Council works closely with the qualified external valuers to establish the appropriate valuation techniques and inputs to the model. Information about the valuation techniques and inputs used in determining the fair value of various assets and liabilities are disclosed within this note.

Council considers the carrying amount of its property, plant and equipment on an annual basis compared to fair value and makes adjustment where these are materially different. Every 5 years, Council performs a full comprehensive revaluation by engaging an external professionally qualified valuer.

In the intervening years, Council undertakes:

A management valuation using internal engineers and asset managers to assess the condition and cost assumptions associated with all infrastructure assets and an appropriate cost index for the region.

A desktop valuation for assets involves management providing updated information to the valuer regarding additions, deletions and changes in assumptions such as useful life, residual value and condition rating. The valuer then determines suitable indices which are applied to each of these asset classes.

An analysis performed by management has indicated that, on average, the variance between an indexed asset value and the valuation by an independent valuer when performed is not significant and the indices used by Council are sound. Further details in relation to valuers, the methods of valuation and the key assumptions used in valuing each different asset class are disclosed below.

Revaluation increases are recognised in the asset revaluation surplus unless they are reversing a previous decrease which was taken through the income statement, in that case the increase is taken to the income statement to the extent of previous decrease.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Revaluation decreases are recognised in the asset revaluation surplus, where there is sufficient amount available in the asset revaluation surplus relating to that asset class. Where there isn't sufficient amount available in the surplus, the decrease is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income. Where the class of asset has previously decreased in value and this reduction was recognised as an expense, an increase in the value of the class is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

On revaluation, accumulated depreciation is restated proportionately with the change in the carrying amount of the asset and any change in the estimate of remaining useful life. Separately identified components of assets are measured on the same basis as the assets to which they relate.

Fair value are classified into three levels as follows:

- Fair value based on quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1)
- Fair value based on inputs that are directly or indirectly observable for the asset or liability (level 2)
- Fair value based on unobservable inputs for the asset and liability (level 3)

There were no transfers between levels 1 and 2. There were two buildings that were transferred from level 2 to level 3. Council's policy is to recognise transfers in and out of the fair value hierarchy levels as at the end of the reporting period.

The fair values of the assets are determined using valuation techniques which maximise the use of observable data, where it is available, and minimise the use of entity specific estimates. If all significant inputs required to fair value an asset are observable, the asset is included in level 2. If one or more of the significant inputs is not based on observable market data, the asset is included in level 3. This is the case for Council infrastructure assets, which are of a specialist nature for which there is no active market for similar or identical assets. These assets are valued using a combination of observable and unobservable inputs.

The summary below categorises fair value measurements as either level 2 or level 3 in accordance with AASB 13. Council does not have any assets or liabilities measured at fair value which meet the criteria for categorisation as level 1.

Council utilises AASB13 *Fair Value Measurement* and has reviewed each valuation to ensure compliance with the requirements of the standard. There have been no changes in valuation techniques as a result of this review.

Valuation techniques used to derive fair values.

Asset class and fair value hierarchy	Valuation approach	Last comprehensive valuation date	Valuer engaged	Key assumptions and estimates (related data sources)	Index applied (change in index recognised this year)	Other interim revaluation adjustment
Land and improvements (level 2)	Market value	30/06/2020	APV Valuers & Asset Management	Land - Current zoning and sales price of comparable properties per square meter, adjusted for differences in key attributes such as property size. Assumption that contaminants do not exist on these parcels. Waste Landfill Cells - Valued at current replacement cost by reference to cell area and volume. Accumulated depreciation determined through assessment of remaining cell space.	Nil	Nil
Buildings (level 2) 2021: \$10,933,592 2020: \$ 8,344,185	Market value	30/06/2020	APV Valuers & Asset Management	Sales prices of comparable properties in close proximity, adjusted for differences in key attributes such as property size.	Nil	Nil

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Asset class and fair value hierarchy	Valuation approach	Last comprehensive valuation date	Valuer engaged	Key assumptions and estimates (related data sources)	Index applied (change in index recognised this year)	Other interim revaluation adjustment
Buildings (level 3) 2021: \$37,654,032 2020: \$36,564,010	Current replacement cost	30/06/2020	APV Valuers & Asset Management	Gross replacement cost, indexed for subsequent changes in construction costs. Unit rates for construction as at the comprehensive revaluation date: building and construction indices issued by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and project costs from recently completed buildings.	Nil	Nil
Road, drainage and bridge network (level 3)	Current replacement cost	30/06/2020	APV Valuers & Asset Management	Assumption that environmental factors such as soil type, climate, and topography are consistent across each segment. Also assumes that a segment is designed and constructed to the same standard using a consistent amount of labour and materials. Existing supply contract rates for raw materials appropriate for the asset based on age, size, location and condition. Labour rates based on Council's EBA, Average cost of outsourced projects, Remaining life of assets including existing conditions.	Nil	Nil
Water and sewerage assets (level 3)	Current replacement cost	30/06/2020	APV Valuers & Asset Management	Development, soil and depth factors taking into account to determine replacement cost. Gross replacement cost per m2 based on appropriate materials using schedule of rates for construction of similar assets, building price index tables and recent procurement data. Aged based approach to determining remaining useful lives with condition assessment undertaken by exception.	Nil	Nil

All Council asset classes except for plant and equipment were subject to an indexation assessment as at 30 June 2021. The valuation indices report supplied by APV Valuers showed cumulative change in index for the 2020-21 year in the range of 0% to 2.69%. Council's asset and services management policy requires a desktop revaluation adjustment where asset values have a cumulative change of 5% or greater. Other indicators of change in fair value of assets considered included condition, useful life, residual values, pattern of consumption and use.

There were no other changes that have a material impact on the value of the assets, such as impairment. Management resolved that no indexation be applied for the 2020-21 year.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

(vi) Changes in Fair Value Measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)

Buildings disclosed in the notes comprise both level 2 and level 3 assets, the movement in level 3 buildings are detailed below.

Changes in buildings (Level 3)	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Opening gross value as at 1 July	50,861,940	47,553,198
Transfers between Levels	493,660	-
Additions	2,175,394	542,155
Disposals	(622,167)	-
Revaluation adjustment	-	2,766,587
Closing gross value as at 30 June	52,908,827	50,861,940
Accumulated depreciation and impairment		
Opening balance as at 1 July	14,297,930	19,222,886
Transfers between levels	187,344	-
Depreciation provided in period	996,817	1,283,791
Depreciation on disposals	(227,296)	-
Revaluation adjustment	-	(6,208,747)
Accumulated depreciation as at 30 June	15,254,795	14,297,930
Book value as at 30 June	37,654,032	36,564,010

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

12 Intangible assets

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Asset values		
Opening gross value as at 1 July	225,000	225,000
Closing gross carrying value as at 30 June	225,000	225,000
Accumulated amortisation		
Opening balance as at 1 July	33,443	22,047
Amortisation provided in period	11,396	11,396
Closing accumulated amortisation as at 30 June	44,839	33,443
Book value as at 30 June	180,161	191,557

Intangible assets with a cost or other value exceeding \$10,000 are recognised as intangible assets in the financial statements, items with a lesser value being expensed.

It has been determined that there is not an active market for any of the Council's intangible assets. Therefore, the assets are recognised and carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Where an intangible asset has a finite life, the cost of the asset is amortised over that period on a straight line basis.

Council acquired a Sales Permit (No. 201304400) for \$225,000 in 2016-17 under which the State of Queensland agrees to sell and Council agree to purchase cypress sawlogs according to the terms of the permit. The permit allows for the harvesting of 142,500 tonnes of cypress sawlogs over 20 years from 2017 to 2037.

13 Contract balances

Contract assets represents the excess of costs incurred in relation to a contract with a customer or construction of an asset over the amounts that Council has invoiced the customer or grantor. Where Council has invoiced the customer or the grantor amounts in excess of what it has incurred in relation to a contract or in constructing an asset, this gives rise to a contract liability.

Contract liabilities

Grants received upfront to construct Council controlled assets*
Non capital performance obligations not yet satisfied**

274,166	310,510
3,479,757	2,883,288
<u>3,753,923</u>	<u>3,193,798</u>

Certain revenues are held as contract liabilities until performance obligations are met. Revenue is deferred and treated as a liability at year end.

* Capital grants received to construct Council controlled assets has been deferred where revenue is recognised in line with costs incurred and the construction of the asset.

** Includes grants received in advance with funding agreements which are enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations. Revenue is recognised as performance obligations are met.

Significant changes in contract balances

Council received advanced funding from Queensland Reconstruction Authority for flood damage restoration works which has contributed to the increase in contract liabilities.

14 Leases

Council as a lessee

Where Council assesses that an agreement contains a lease, a right-of-use asset and lease liability is recognised on inception of the lease. Council does not separate lease and non-lease components for any class of assets and has accounted for lease payments as a single component.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises: the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration, less any lease incentives received and is depreciated over the lease term on a straight-line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of asset accounting policy.

The lease liability is initially recognised at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the Council's incremental borrowing rate for a similar term with similar security is used.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The lease liability is re-measured whether there is a lease modification, or change in estimate of the lease term or index upon which the lease payments are based (e.g. CPI).

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 14 Leases (continued)

Where the lease liability is re-measured, the right-of-use asset is adjusted to reflect the re-measurement.

Exceptions to lease accounting

Council has applied the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. Council recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Office Equipment Leases

Council enters into leases for photocopiers in use at administration offices. These leases are for low-value assets and are therefore not subject to lease accounting. Council recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Council does not have any other agreements containing a lease and no right of use assets and lease liabilities were recognised.

Council as a lessor

When Council is a lessor, the lease is classified as either an operating or finance lease at inception date, based on whether substantially all of the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the asset have been transferred to the lessee. If the risk and rewards have been transferred, then the lease is classified as a finance lease, otherwise it is an operating lease.

If the lease contains lease and non-lease components, then the non-lease components are accounted for in accordance with AASB 15 *Revenue from Contract with Customers*.

Operating Leases

Council leases residential properties consisting of private rentals and aged housing. Residential properties comprise of one, two and three bedroom units and houses available for community housing on an ongoing periodic agreement. Other properties leased include a building used for storage space and part of a building used for retail catering.

If the lease contains lease and non-lease components then the non-lease components are accounted for in accordance with AASB 15 *Revenue from Contract with Customers*.

Rent from investment and other property is recognised as income on a periodic straight line basis over the lease term. These assets are included in the statement of financial position as property, plant and equipment as the rental property is only incidental or the asset is only held to meet Council's service delivery objectives.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Rental income		
Commercial property rental	50,065	61,897
Accommodation rental	121,015	121,895
	<u>171,080</u>	<u>183,792</u>

Assets classified as property, plant and equipment leased out by Council under operating leases:

Buildings	3,980,356	4,084,395
Total property, plant and equipment leased out by Council under operating leases	<u>3,980,356</u>	<u>4,084,395</u>

Council residential properties are leased out on a periodic ongoing agreement that are cancellable with minimum notice. Commercial buildings and land paddocks are leased out on fixed term agreements.

The minimum lease receipts are as follows:

Not later than one year	168,800	171,080
Between one and two years	24,300	-
Between two and three years	24,300	-
	<u>217,400</u>	<u>171,080</u>

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

15 Trade and other payables

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Current		
Creditors and accruals	1,080,376	741,337
Prepaid rates	168,379	165,004
Fees & charges received in advance	-	21,870
GST payable	201,848	-
Other entitlements	188,914	132,322
	<u>1,639,517</u>	<u>1,060,533</u>

Trade creditors are recognised upon receipt of the goods or services ordered and are measured at the agreed purchase/contract price net of applicable discounts other than contingent discounts. Amounts owing are unsecured and are generally settled on 30 day terms.

16 Borrowings

Current		
Loans - Queensland Treasury Corporation	98,916	96,285
	<u>98,916</u>	<u>96,285</u>
Non-current		
Loans - Queensland Treasury Corporation	1,530,943	1,629,965
	<u>1,530,943</u>	<u>1,629,965</u>
Loans - Queensland Treasury Corporation		
Opening balance at beginning of financial year	1,726,250	1,382,496
Loans raised	-	400,000
Principal repayments	(96,391)	(56,246)
Book value at end of financial year	<u>1,629,859</u>	<u>1,726,250</u>

The QTC loan market value at the reporting date was \$1,791,253. This represents the value of the debt if Council repaid it at that date. As it is the intention of Council to hold the debt for its term, no provision is required to be made in these accounts.

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition these liabilities are measured at amortised cost. Principal and interest repayments are made quarterly in arrears.

No assets have been pledged as security by the Council for any liabilities, however all loans are guaranteed by the Queensland Government.

All borrowings are in \$A denominated amounts and carried at amortised cost, interest being expensed as it accrues. No interest has been capitalised during the current or comparative reporting period. Expected final repayment date is 16 March 2037.

Council adopts an annual debt policy that sets out council's planned borrowings for the next nine years. Council's current policy is to only borrow for capital projects and for a term no longer than the expected life of the asset. Council also aims to comply with the Queensland Treasury Corporation's borrowing guidelines and ensure that sustainability indicators remain within acceptable levels at all times.

17 Provisions

Current		
Provision for annual leave	1,263,271	1,281,800
Provision for long service leave	1,137,626	1,130,304
	<u>2,400,897</u>	<u>2,412,104</u>
Non-current		
Provision for long service leave	159,614	143,084
Provision for waste landfill rehabilitation	339,712	408,195
	<u>499,326</u>	<u>551,279</u>

Liabilities are recognised for employee benefits such as annual and long service leave in respect of services provided by the employees up to the reporting date. Short-term benefits which are expected to be settled within 12 months are calculated on wage and salary levels which are expected to be paid and includes related employee oncosts. Amounts not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months are calculated on projected future wage and salary levels and related employee costs, and are discounted to present values. Liabilities for employee benefits are assessed at each reporting date. Where it is expected that the leave will be paid in the next twelve months the liability is treated as a current liability. Otherwise the liability is treated as non-current. As Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the annual leave beyond twelve months after reporting date, all annual leave liabilities are classified as current.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 17 Provisions (continued)

Long Service Leave

A liability for long service leave is measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. The value of the liability is calculated using current pay rates and projected future increases in those rates and includes related employee on-costs. The estimates are adjusted for the probability of the employee remaining in Council's employment or other associated employment which would result in Council being required to meet the liability. Adjustments are then made to allow for the proportion of the benefit earned to date, and the result is discounted to present value. The provision is discounted using the Commonwealth Bond yield rates published on the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning website.

Refuse dump restoration

A provision is made for the cost of restoring refuse dumps where it is probable the Council will be liable, or required, to do this when the use of the facilities is complete. As refuse dumps are situated on Council controlled/owned land the cost of the provision constitutes an asset.

The provision for refuse restoration is calculated as the present value of anticipated future costs associated with the closure of the dump sites, decontamination and monitoring of historical residues and leaching on these sites. The calculation of this provision requires assumptions such as application of environmental legislation, site closure dates, available technologies and engineering cost estimates. These uncertainties may result in future actual expenditure differing from amounts currently provided. Because of the long-term nature of the liability, the most significant uncertainty in estimating the provision is the costs that will be incurred. The provision recognised for dump sites is reviewed at least annually and updated based on the facts and circumstances available at the time. Management estimates that the site will close in 2069 (48 years time) and will have aftercare costs for the subsequent 20 years.

A provision is made for the cost of restoring refuse sites where it is probable that Council will be liable or required to incur such costs on cessation of use of facilities.

The provision represents the present value of the anticipated future costs associated with the closure of the landfill sites, decontamination and monitoring of historical residues and leaching on these sites.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Details of movements in long service leave provision		
Balance at the beginning of financial year	1,273,388	1,129,392
Long Service Leave entitlement arising	186,578	331,271
Long Service Leave entitlement paid	(162,726)	(187,275)
Balance at end of financial year	<u>1,297,240</u>	<u>1,273,388</u>
Details for movements in landfill restoration provision		
Balance at beginning of financial year	408,195	393,367
Increase in provision due to unwinding of discount	7,596	7,454
(Decrease)/increase in provision due to change in discount rates	(76,079)	7,374
	<u>339,712</u>	<u>408,195</u>

18 Asset revaluation surplus

Movements in the asset revaluation surplus were as follows:

Balance at beginning of financial year	176,896,116	119,514,115
Net adjustment to non-current assets at end of period to reflect a change in current fair value:		
Land and improvements	-	(1,424,691)
Buildings	-	12,944,902
Road, drainage and bridge network	-	38,001,736
Water	-	3,216,324
Sewerage	-	4,651,104
	-	57,389,375
Net adjustment to landfill restoration provision to reflect change in discount rate - land and improvements	76,079	(7,374)
Balance at end of financial year	<u>176,972,195</u>	<u>176,896,116</u>
Net increase in Asset Revaluation Surplus	<u>76,079</u>	<u>57,382,001</u>

Asset revaluation surplus analysis

The closing balance of the asset revaluation surplus comprises the following asset categories:

Land and improvements	1,928,497	1,852,418
Buildings	19,788,714	19,788,714
Road, drainage and bridge network	136,786,736	136,786,736
Water	8,433,155	8,433,155
Sewerage	10,035,093	10,035,093
	<u>176,972,195</u>	<u>176,896,116</u>

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 18 Asset revaluation surplus (continued)

The asset revaluation surplus comprises adjustments relating to changes in value of property, plant and equipment that do not result from the use of those assets. Net incremental changes in the carrying value of classes of non-current assets since their initial recognition are accumulated in the asset revaluation surplus. Increases and decreases on revaluation are offset within a class of assets.

Where a class of assets is decreased on revaluation, that decrease is offset first against the amount remaining in the asset revaluation surplus in respect of that class. Any excess is treated as an expense. When an asset is disposed of, the amount in the reserve in respect of that asset is retained in the asset revaluation surplus and not transferred to retained surplus.

19 Commitments for expenditure

Capital commitments

Commitments by assets class contracted at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities:

Buildings and other structures

Water infrastructure assets

Plant and equipment

2021	2020
\$	\$
156,090	188,389
-	73,554
13,750	-
<u>169,840</u>	<u>261,943</u>

Capital commitments include contracts for the purchase or construction of assets.

The capital commitment expenditures are payable within one year.

20 Contingent liabilities

Details and estimates of maximum amounts of contingent liabilities are as follows:

Local Government Mutual

The Council is a member of the local government mutual liability self-insurance pool, LGM Queensland. In the event of the pool being wound up or it is unable to meet its debts as they fall due, the trust deed and rules provide that any accumulated deficit will be met by the individual pool members in the same proportion as their contribution is to the total pool contributions in respect to any year that a deficit arises.

As at 30 June 2021 the financial statements of LGM Queensland reported an accumulated surplus and it is not anticipated any liability will arise.

Local Government Workcare

The Council is a member of the Queensland local government worker's compensation self-insurance scheme, Local Government Workcare. Under this scheme the Council has provided an indemnity towards a bank guarantee to cover bad debts which may remain should the self insurance licence be cancelled and there was insufficient funds available to cover outstanding liabilities. Only the Queensland Government's workers compensation authority may call on any part of the guarantee should the above circumstances arise. The Council's maximum exposure to the bank guarantee is \$410,755.

21 Superannuation - Regional Defined Benefit Fund

Council contributes to the LGIAsuper Regional Defined Benefits Fund (the scheme), at the rate of 12% for each permanent employee who is a defined benefit member. This rate is set in accordance with the LGIAsuper trust deed and may be varied on the advice of an actuary. The Regional Defined Benefits Fund is a complying superannuation scheme for the purpose of the Commonwealth Superannuation Industry (Supervision) legislation and is also governed by the *Local Government Act 2009*.

The scheme is a pooled defined benefit plan and it is not in accordance with the deed to allocate obligations, plan assets and costs at the Council level.

Any amount by which the scheme is over or under funded may affect future contribution rate obligations, but has not been recognised as an asset or liability of the Council.

Council may be liable to the scheme for a portion of another local governments' obligations should that local government be unable to meet them. However the risk of this occurring is extremely low and in accordance with the LGIAsuper trust deed changes to Council's obligations will only be made on the advice of an actuary.

The last completed actuarial assessment of the scheme was undertaken as at 1 July 2018. The actuary indicated that "At the valuation date of 1 July 2018, the net assets of the scheme exceeded the vested benefits and the scheme was in a satisfactory financial position as at the valuation date." The measure of vested benefits represents the value of benefit entitlements should all participating employees voluntarily exit the scheme. The Council is not aware of anything that has happened since that time that indicates the assets of the scheme are not sufficient to meet the vested benefits, as at the reporting date.

No changes have been made to prescribed employer contributions which remain at 12% of employee salary or wages and there are no known requirements to change the rate of contributions.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 21 Superannuation - Regional Defined Benefit Fund (continued)

The next triennial actuarial review is not due until 1 July 2021.

The most significant risks that may result in LGIA super increasing the contribution rate, on the advice of the actuary, are:

Investment risk - The risk that the scheme's investment returns will be lower than assumed and additional contributions are needed to fund the shortfall.

Salary growth risk - The risk that wages or salaries will rise more rapidly than assumed, increasing vested benefits to be funded.

There are currently 62 Councils contributing to the scheme and any changes in contribution rates would apply equally to all 62 Councils. Blackall-Tambo Regional Council made less than 4% of the total contributions to the plan in the 2020-21 financial year.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Superannuation contributions made to the Regional Defined Benefits Fund	83,942	84,965
Other superannuation contributions	778,455	766,502
Total superannuation contributions paid by Council for employees	862,397	851,467

22 Reconciliation of net result for the year to net cash inflow (outflow) from operating activities

Net result	3,056,920	(4,758,788)
Non-cash operating items:		
Depreciation and amortisation	4,893,496	6,159,535
	4,893,496	6,159,535
Investing and development activities (non cash):		
Net loss on disposal/write-off of non-current assets	1,214,292	2,185,254
Capital grants and contributions	(4,200,011)	(2,695,670)
	(2,985,719)	(510,416)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Decrease/(increase) in receivables	1,627,567	(105,877)
(Increase)/decrease in inventory	(25,184)	3,330
Increase in payables	575,373	689,285
Increase in contract liabilities	596,469	2,883,289
Increase in other provisions	16,530	151,450
	2,790,755	3,621,477
Net cash inflow from operating activities	7,755,452	4,511,808

23 Reconciliation of liabilities arising from finance activities

Borrowings		
Opening balance as at 1 July	1,726,250	1,382,496
Cash Flows	(96,391)	343,754
Closing balance as at 30 June	1,629,859	1,726,250

24 Events after the balance date

There were no material adjusting events after the balance date.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

25 Financial instruments and financial risk management

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council has exposure to the following risks arising from financial statements.

- interest rate risk
- credit risk, and
- market risk

Risk management framework

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council is responsible for the establishment and oversight of the risk management framework, together with developing and monitoring risk management policies.

The Council's internal audit and risk management committee approves policies for overall risk management, as well as specifically for managing credit, liquidity, and market risk.

The Council's risk management policies are established to identify and analyse the risks faced, to set appropriate limits and controls and to monitor these risks and adherence against limits. The Council aims to manage volatility to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Council.

The Council's internal audit and risk management committee oversees how management monitors compliance with the risk management policies and procedures, and reviews the adequacy of the risk management framework in relation to the risks faced by the Council. The committee is assisted in its oversight role by internal audit. Internal audit undertakes reviews of risk management controls and procedures as per audit plan, the results of which are reported to the audit committee.

Council does not invest in derivatives.

Credit risk exposure

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss if a counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. These obligations arise principally from the Council's investments and receivables.

Exposure to credit risk is managed through regular analysis of credit counterparty ability to meet payment obligations.

Investments in financial instruments are required to be made with Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) or similar State/Commonwealth bodies or financial institutions in Australia, in line with the requirements of the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982*.

No collateral is held as security relating to the financial assets held by Council.

The carrying amounts of financial assets at the end of the reporting period represent the maximum exposure to credit risk for the Council.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Council may encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset.

The Council's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when they are due, under both normal and stressed conditions, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the Council's reputation.

Exposure to liquidity risk

Council is exposed to liquidity risk through its trading in the normal course of business and borrowings from the Queensland Treasury Corporation for capital works.

Council manages its exposure to liquidity risk by maintaining sufficient cash deposits and undrawn facilities, both short and long term, to cater for unexpected volatility in cash flows.

The following table sets out the liquidity risk of financial liabilities held by Council in a format as it might be provided to management. It represents the remaining contractual cashflows (principal and interest) of financial liabilities at the end of the reporting period, excluding the impact of netting agreements:

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 25 Financial instruments and financial risk management (continued)

	0 to 1 year	1 to 5 years	Over 5 years	Total contractual cashflows	Carrying amount
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2021					
Trade and other payables	1,639,517	-	-	1,639,517	1,639,517
Loans - QTC	148,611	594,446	1,310,285	2,053,342	1,629,859
	<u>1,788,128</u>	<u>594,446</u>	<u>1,310,285</u>	<u>3,692,859</u>	<u>3,269,376</u>
2020					
Trade and other payables	1,060,533	-	-	1,060,533	1,060,533
Loans - QTC	148,611	594,446	1,458,896	2,201,953	1,726,250
	<u>1,209,144</u>	<u>594,446</u>	<u>1,458,896</u>	<u>3,262,486</u>	<u>2,786,783</u>

The outflows in the above table are not expected to occur significantly earlier and are not expected to be for significantly different amounts than indicated in the table.

Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market indices, such as interest rates, will affect the Council's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments.

Interest rate risk

Council is exposed to interest rate risk through its investments and borrowings with Queensland Treasury Corporation and investments held with financial institutions.

Council has access to a mix of variable and fixed rate funding options through QTC so that interest rate risk exposure can be minimised.

Sensitivity

Sensitivity to interest rate movements is shown for variable financial assets and liabilities based on carrying amount at reporting date.

The following interest rate sensitivity analysis depicts what effect a reasonably possible change in interest rates (assumed to be 1%) would have on profit and equity, based on carrying values at the end of the reporting period. The calculation assumes that the change in interest rates would be held constant over the period.

	Net Carrying Amount	Effect on Net Result		Effect on Equity	
	\$	1% increase	1% decrease	1% increase	1% decrease
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2021					
Cash on Deposit	23,182,204	231,822	(231,822)	231,822	(231,822)
Loans QTC	1,629,859	(16,299)	16,299	(16,299)	16,299
Net Total	<u>24,812,063</u>	<u>215,523</u>	<u>(215,523)</u>	<u>215,523</u>	<u>(215,523)</u>
2020					
Cash on Deposit	17,167,909	171,679	(171,679)	171,679	(171,679)
Loans QTC	1,726,250	(17,263)	17,263	(17,263)	17,263
Net Total	<u>18,894,159</u>	<u>154,416</u>	<u>(154,416)</u>	<u>154,416</u>	<u>(154,416)</u>

Fair value

The fair value of trade and other receivables and payables is assumed to approximate the value of the original transaction, less any allowance for impairment.

The fair value of borrowings with QTC is based on the market value of debt outstanding. The market value of a debt obligation is the discounted value of future cash flows based on prevailing market rates and represents the amount required to be repaid if this was to occur at balance date. The market value of debt is provided by QTC and is shown in Note 16.

QTC applies a book rate approach in the management of debt and interest rate risk, to limit the impact of market value movements to clients' cost of funding. The book value represents the carrying value based on amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Measurement of Fair Value

The valuation technique used in measuring financial liabilities is discounted cash flows. This valuation model considers the present value of expected payments, discounted using a risk-adjusted discount rate.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2021

26 Transactions with related parties

(a) Transactions with key management personnel (KMP)

KMP include the Mayor, Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and Executive management.

The compensation paid to KMP comprises:

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Short-term employee benefits	1,154,877	1,060,271
Post-employment benefits	78,998	81,664
Long-term benefits	15,947	16,906
Total	1,249,822	1,158,841

Detailed remuneration disclosures are provided in the annual report.

(b) Transactions with other related parties

Other related parties include the close family members of KMP and any entities controlled or jointly controlled by KMP or their close family members. Close family members include a spouse, child and dependent of a KMP or their spouse.

The Council did not employ any close family members of key management personnel.

Details of transactions between council and other related parties are disclosed below:

Details of Transaction	2021 \$	2020 \$
Purchase of materials and services from entities controlled by key management personnel - Note 26(b)(i)	14,311	12,686
Personnel services provided by a related party to Council - Note 26(b)(ii)	80,431	117,911

(i) Council purchased materials and services from entities controlled by members of key management personnel. All purchases were at arm's length and were in the normal course of Council operations. The following table outlines the breakdown of goods and services acquired.

Goods and services acquired	2021 \$	2020 \$
Building and construction materials and services	-	3,952
Catering services	9,591	1,102
Uniforms and protective clothing	4,390	2,647
Livestock handling services	-	4,985
Real estate services	330	-

(ii) Council incurred \$80,431 in engineering service fees paid to George Bourne and Associates for technical services provided by Amanda Turlan who is an employee of the firm. Amanda Turlan is on Council's related party list being the wife of John Turlan - Director of Works and Services.

(c) Transactions with related parties that have not been disclosed

Most of the entities and people that are related parties of Council live and operate within the Blackall-Tambo region. Therefore, on a regular basis ordinary citizen transactions occur between Council and its related parties. Examples include payment of rates and animal registration. Council has not included these types of transaction in its disclosure, where they are made on the same terms and conditions available to the general public.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council

Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2021

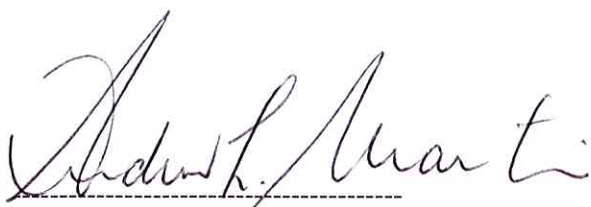
Management Certificate

For the year ended 30 June 2021

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared pursuant to Sections 176 and 177 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (the Regulation) and other prescribed requirements.

In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that:

- (i) the prescribed requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012* for the establishment and keeping of accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
- (ii) the general purpose financial statements, as set out on pages 1 to 30, present a true and fair view, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, of the Council's transactions for the financial year and financial position at the end of the year.



Mayor
Andrew Martin

Date: 20 / 10 / 21



Chief Executive Officer
Des Howard

Date: 20 / 10 / 21

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the councillors of Blackall-Tambo Regional Council

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Blackall-Tambo Regional Council.

In my opinion, the financial report:

- a) gives a true and fair view of the council's financial position as at 30 June 2021, and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended
- b) complies with the *Local Government Act 2009*, the Local Government Regulation 2012 and Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial report comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements including significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the certificate given by the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report* section of my report.

I am independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Other information

Other information comprises financial and non-financial information (other than the audited financial report) in an entity's annual report.

At the date of this auditor's report, the available other information in Blackall-Tambo Regional Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2021 was the current year financial sustainability statement and long-term financial sustainability statement.

The councillors are responsible for the other information.

My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. However, as required by the Local Government Regulation 2012, I have expressed a separate opinion on the current year financial sustainability statement.

In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report and my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the councillors for the financial report

The councillors are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, the Local Government Regulation 2012 and Australian Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as the councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The councillors are also responsible for assessing the council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is intended to abolish the council or to otherwise cease operations of the council.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the council.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the council's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the council's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. I base my conclusions on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

In accordance with s.40 of the *Auditor-General Act 2009*, for the year ended 30 June 2021:

- a) I received all the information and explanations I required.
- b) I consider that, the prescribed requirements in relation to the establishment and keeping of accounts were complied with in all material respects.

Prescribed requirements scope

The prescribed requirements for the establishment and keeping of accounts are contained in the *Local Government Act 2009*, any other Act and the Local Government Regulation 2012. The applicable requirements include those for keeping financial records that correctly record and explain the council's transactions and account balances to enable the preparation of a true and fair financial report.



Lisa Fraser
as delegate of the Auditor-General

22 October 2021

Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council

Current-year Financial Sustainability Statement For the year ended 30 June 2021

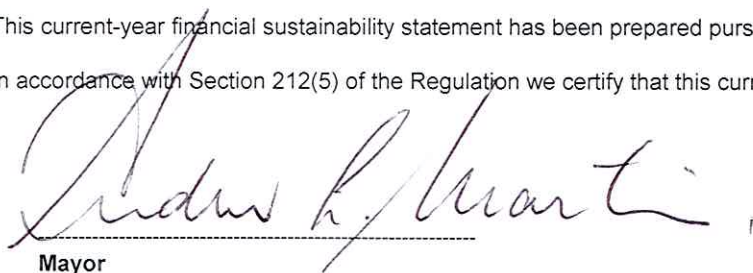
Measures of Financial Sustainability	How the measure is calculated	Actual	Target
Council's performance at 30 June 2021 against key financial ratios and targets:			
Operating surplus ratio	Net result (excluding capital items) divided by total operating revenue (excluding capital items)	0%	Between 0% and 10%
Asset sustainability ratio	Capital expenditure on the replacement of assets (renewals) divided by depreciation expense.	93%	greater than 90%
Net financial liabilities ratio	Total liabilities less current assets divided by total operating revenue (excluding capital items)	-45%	not greater than 60%

Certificate of Accuracy

For the year ended 30 June 2021

This current-year financial sustainability statement has been prepared pursuant to Section 178 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012 (the regulation)*.

In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that this current-year financial sustainability statement has been accurately calculated.



Mayor

Andrew Martin

Date: 20 / 10 / 21



Chief Executive Officer

Des Howard

Date: 20 / 10 / 21

Note 1 - Basis of Preparation

The current year financial sustainability statement is a special purpose statement prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and the *Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2013*. The amounts used to calculate the three reported measures are prepared on an accrual basis and are drawn from Council's audited general purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2021.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the councillors of Blackall-Tambo Regional Council

Report on the current-year financial sustainability statement

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying current-year financial sustainability statement of Blackall-Tambo Regional Council for the year ended 30 June 2021, comprising the statement, explanatory notes, and the certificate of accuracy given by the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer.

In accordance with s.212 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, in my opinion, in all material respects, the current-year financial sustainability statement of Blackall-Tambo Regional Council for the year ended 30 June 2021 has been accurately calculated.

Basis of opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the current-year financial sustainability statement* section of my report.

I am independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the statement in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Emphasis of matter – basis of accounting

I draw attention to Note 1 which describes the basis of accounting. The current-year financial sustainability statement has been prepared in accordance with the Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2013 for the purpose of fulfilling the council's reporting responsibilities under the Local Government Regulation 2012. As a result, the statement may not be suitable for another purpose. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other Information

Other information comprises financial and non-financial information (other than the audited financial report) in an entity's annual report.

At the date of this auditor's report, the available other information in Blackall-Tambo Regional Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2021 was the general purpose financial statements and long-term financial sustainability statement.

The councillors are responsible for the other information.

My opinion on the current-year financial sustainability statement does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

However, as required by the Local Government Regulation 2012, I have expressed a separate opinion on the general purpose financial report.

In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report and my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the councillors for the current-year financial sustainability statement

The councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the current-year financial sustainability statement in accordance with the Local Government Regulation 2012. The councillors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the statement that is accurately calculated and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the current-year financial sustainability statement

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the current-year financial sustainability statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this statement.

My responsibility does not extend to forming an opinion on the appropriateness or relevance of the reported ratios, nor on the council's future sustainability.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the council.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the statement, including the disclosures, and whether the statement represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



Lisa Fraser
as delegate of the Auditor-General

22 October 2021

Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
Unaudited Long-Term Financial Sustainability Statement
Prepared as at 30 June 2021

Measures of Financial Sustainability	Measure	Target	Actuals at 30 June 2021	Projected for the years ended								
				30 June 2022	30 June 2023	30 June 2024	30 June 2025	30 June 2026	30 June 2027	30 June 2028	30 June 2029	30 June 2030
Operating Surplus Ratio	Net result divided by total operating revenue	Between 0% and 10%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Asset Sustainability Ratio	Capital expenditure on the replacement of assets (renewals) divided by depreciation expense.	greater than 90%	93%	110%	125%	123%	123%	123%	123%	123%	123%	123%
Net Financial Liabilities Ratio	Total liabilities less current assets divided by total operating revenue	not greater than 60%	-45%	-30%	-35%	-36%	-37%	-37%	-37%	-38%	-37%	-39%

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council's Financial Management Strategy

Council measures revenue and expenditure trends over time as a guide to future requirements and to make decisions about the efficient allocation of resources to ensure the most effective provision of services. Council ensures that its financial management strategy is prudent and that its long-term financial forecast shows a sound financial position whilst also being able to meet the community's current and future needs.

Certificate of Accuracy

For the unaudited long-term financial sustainability statement prepared as at 30 June 2021

This unaudited long-term financial sustainability statement has been prepared pursuant to Section 178 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012 (the regulation)*.

In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that this unaudited long-term financial sustainability statement has been accurately calculated.




Mayor
Andrew Martin

Chief Executive Officer
Des Howard

Date: 20 / 10 / 21

Date: 20 / 10 / 21

BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

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OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 4.2.1

SUBJECT HEADING: Director of Works and Services' Operations Report – October 2021

Author and Officer's Title: Garth Kath, Director of Works and Services

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: The Director of Works and Services report for October 2021 is presented to Council.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council receive the Director of Works and Services' Operation Report for October 2021.

Background

Construction

- Blackall Jericho Road – Narbethong Realignment – Subgrade and Culvert Works
- Barcoo River Bridge Project – Tambo – Subgrade and Culvert Works

Flood Damage Crews/Maintenance Grader Locations

- Flood Damage Graders
 - Coolatai Road
 - Ravensbourne Road
 - Evora Road
 - Alva Road
 - Tumbar Road
 - Romulus Road
 - Mt Playfair Road
 - Caldervale Road
 - Mount Calder Road
- Flood Damage Gravel Haulage
 - Caldervale Road
 - Langlo Road
 - Colart Road
 - Romulus Road
 - Idalia Road
 - Rivington Road
 - Juary Road
 - Springleigh Road
 - Wooroolah Road

Maintenance Crews

- Blackall Barcaldine Road – Surface Correction and Pavement Repair
- Town Street Bitumen Patching

Upcoming Works

- Flood Damage - Tralee, Mount Enniskillen, Idalia, Mount Calder, Allawah, Mount Edinburgh, Rivington, Springleigh, Wooroolah, Juray, Bexhill, Wyanga, Mount Macquarie (November - December)
- Heavy Vehicle Bypass – Awaiting Ergon Infrastructure (May 2022)
- Blackall Jericho Road – Narbethong Realignment – Pavement, Batter Protection and Sealing (November - December)
- Barcoo River Bridge Tambo – Formation, Concrete Works and Pavement (November - December)

Water and Sewerage**Water Services**

Number of interruptions to services	30
Water consumption total ML	24783
Number of customer requests received	2
Number of customer requests actioned	2

Sewerage Services

Number of interruptions to services	10
Number of customer requests received	0
Number of customer requests actioned	0

Parks and Gardens

- Maintenance of council facilities, town streets, parks and gardens

Workshop/Fleet

- Preventative/Routine Maintenance
- Minor Breakdowns
- Side tipper brakes and bearings
- NHRV Roadworthy for accreditation

Monthly Statistics

Number of plant items services	17
Number of plant breakdowns	3
Hours downtime due to servicing	44.5
Hours downtime due to breakdown	27
Hours downtime due to parts availability	8

Link to Corporate Plan

Infrastructure

Outcome 1 – Roads

Outcome 3 – Water and sewerage systems

Consultation (internal/external)

CEO

DWS

Works Supervisors

Parks & Garden Supervisors

Water Supervisors
Sewerage Supervisor
Fleet Manager

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

Nil

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OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 4.2.2

SUBJECT HEADING: Work Health and Safety Report

Author and Officer's Title: Garth Kath, Director of Works and Services

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: The Work Health and Safety Report has been provided to Council.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council receive the Work Health and Safety Report for October 2021.

Background

Safety Observations

- A Safety observation was conducted at the Narbethong Road works site of the construction of the 2 scrapers removing material from the borrow pit. The operators had a situational awareness and understanding of where each machine was in dusty conditions, through being aware of their surroundings, a good understanding of traffic management and positive radio communications.
- A Safety observation was conducted of the operation of heavy equipment on the Narbethong Access Road. All Operators showed great expertise in the operation of the equipment, communication was clear and concise, with everyone knowing what the other machine was doing at that moment. The radio instructions from one operator to another was clear and concise.
- A Safety observation was conducted of the erecting of the signposts on the Blackall/Ivy Street junction. This was a very trying task due to the high winds that the crew experienced during the completion of this task. The crew used an elevated work platform and wore fall restraint devices and were competent in the use of this piece of equipment.
- All instructions from workers were clear and concise with machinery operators using slow and steady movements of machine implements and the area was clear of personnel during this period of the tasking.
- A Safety observation was conducted of the use of the Reclaimer to stabilise the site for road construction to be completed. Communication between operators was good, safe steady speed maintained throughout.

Daily Job Pre – Starts

- Gardeners - 19
- Works Department combined Plumbers/Handy man -31
- Maintenance Crew - 13
- Construction Crew - 58
- Workshop - 17

Plant Pre – Starts

- Light Vehicles – 123
- Mechanics – 15
- Trucks (MR, HR, HC) - 187

Inductions

- Employees: 2 x (EHO, and Labourer)
- Saleyards: 0
- Contractors: 1 x GBA
1 x AJE Contracting
- WORK camp: 2 x workers

Training

Works and Services Supervisors and emerging Supervisors attended an IPWEA Supervisors Training Course in Longreach.

Link to Corporate Plan

Governance

Outcome 1 - Workforce

Consultation (internal/external)

Work Health and Safety Advisor

Policy Implications

Work Health & Safety Policy

Budget and Resource Implications

Nil

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OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 4.2.3

SUBJECT HEADING: Loading Zone – Mitchell Street Tambo

Author and Officer's Title: Garth Kath, Director of Works and Services

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: Community members have requested the installation of a loading zone in Tambo for the safe unloading/loading of goods for local businesses. Consultation has occurred with various parties and a location selected.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council approve the location of the Loading Zone in Tambo as an area in Mitchell Street adjacent to Lot 1 on RP607434.

Background

Community members have requested the installation of a loading zone in Tambo for the safe unloading/loading of goods for local businesses. Consultation has occurred with a variety of stakeholders and a location selected.

The selected location has taken into account existing infrastructure such as driveways, hydrants and width of carriageway.



Figure 1 - Tambo Loading Zone



Figure 2 - Parking area with inclusion of Loading Zone

Link to Corporate Plan

Economic Development

Outcome 1 – Business Investment

Consultation (internal/external)

CEO

Director of Works and Services

QPS

Local Businesses

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

Nil

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OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 4.2.4

SUBJECT HEADING: Stock Grids and Gates Policy

Author and Officer's Title: Garth Kath, Director of Works and Services

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: The Stock Grids & Gates Policy has been developed to ensure that all private infrastructure on road reserves remains in a safe and serviceable condition.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council adopt the Stock Grids and Gates Policy.

Background

Council has the responsibility to ensure that the construction and maintenance of all grids and gates within the Council, whether on Council or gazetted State Roads are carried out to a safe and serviceable condition, to minimize as far as possible the danger grids and gates pose to the travelling public.

To this end, Council, in conjunction with Landowners, aims to:-

- Ensure that all existing gates, grids and respective signage are in a safe and serviceable condition.
 - Ensure that all new grids are constructed to a specified minimum standard.
 - Limit and gradually reduce the number of grids and gates on roads.
-

Link to Corporate Plan

Infrastructure

Outcome 1 – Roads

Consultation (internal/external)

CEO

DWS

Works Supervisor

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

Nil



Blackall-Tambo
Regional Council

Stock Grids and Gates Policy

Version Number: One	Effective Date:
Procedure Compiled by: Director of Works and Services	Review Date:
Procedure Approved by: Chief Executive Officer	

General

Council has the responsibility to ensure that the construction and maintenance of all grids and gates within the Council, whether on Council or gazetted State Roads are carried out to a safe and serviceable condition, to minimize as far as possible the danger grids and gates pose to the travelling public. To this end, Council, in conjunction with Landowners, aims to:-

- Ensure that all existing gates, grids and respective signage are in a safe and serviceable condition.
- Ensure that all new grids are constructed to a specified minimum standard.
- Limit and gradually reduce the number of grids and gates on roads.

Documents and Materials that must accompany an application for an approval

- (1) If the installation of a gate or a grid, are proposed –
 - (a) A plan detailing the design of the proposed gate or grid, or gate and grid, including all dimensions, alignments and structural elements; and
 - (b) A plan identifying the location within the road of the proposed gate or grid; and
 - (c) Particulars of all warning or similar signage proposed to be erected by the applicant.
- (2) If a gate or a grid, are installed across a road –
 - (a) A plan detailing the design of the gate or grid, including all dimensions, alignments and structural elements; and
 - (b) A plan identifying the location within the road of the gate or grid; and
 - (c) Details of all warning or similar signage erected about the gate or grid.
- (3) If the gate or grid, are proposed to be installed across a road – details of the time when the prescribed activity will be undertaken.
- (4) The proposed term of the approval.
- (5) The impact, if any, of the prescribed activity on pedestrian or vehicular traffic.
- (6) The materials, equipment and vehicles to be used in the undertaking of the prescribed activity.

Additional criteria for granting of an approval

The installation of a gate or a grid, across a road; and/or being a responsible person for a gate or a grid, installed across a road. These activities must not –

- (a) Result in –
 - (i) Harm to human health or safety, including the safety of vehicular or pedestrian traffic; or

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Stock Grids and Gates Policy

- (ii) Property damage or loss of amenity; or
 - (iii) Nuisance; or
 - (iv) Unreasonable obstruction of vehicular or pedestrian traffic; or
 - (v) Unreasonable prejudice to the proper maintenance of a road; or
 - (vi) Environmental harm; or
 - (vii) Environmental nuisance; or
- (b) Adversely affect the amenity of the area in which the prescribed activity is to be undertaken.

Conditions that will ordinarily be imposed on an approval

- (1) The conditions of an approval may require the approval holder to take specified measures to –
 - (a) Prevent harm to human health or safety of persons involved in, or affected by, the undertaking of the prescribed activity; and
 - (b) Prevent loss of amenity or nuisance resulting from the undertaking of the prescribed activity; and
 - (c) Ensure that the undertaking of the prescribed activity does not cause unsafe movement or obstruction of vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
- (2) If the approval relates to the installation of a gate or a grid; – the conditions of the approval may –
 - (a) Require compliance with specified safety requirements; and
 - (b) Regulate the time within which the installation of the gate or the grid, must be carried out; and
 - (c) Specify standards with which the installation of the gate or the grid, must comply; and
 - (d) Require the approval holder to –
 - (i) Carry out specified additional work such as earthwork and drainage work; and
 - (ii) Take out and maintain public liability insurance as specified by the local government and produce documentary evidence of the insurance to the local government before the installation of the gate or the grid; and
 - (iii) Give the local government specified indemnities; and
 - (iv) Construct the gate or the grid, in accordance with standard plans and specifications which the local government may develop or adopt from time to time; and
 - (v) Maintain structures erected or installed, or vegetation planted, under the approval, in good condition; and
 - (vi) Clear and maintain the road in the vicinity of the gate or the grid, (including the destruction of plants and vegetation); and
 - (vii) Remove a gate, grid or structure erected or installed, under the approval, at the end of a stated period; and
 - (viii) Remove a gate, grid or structure erected or installed, under the approval, if the gate, grid or structure –

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Stock Grids and Gates Policy

- (A) Is not effective for its intended purpose; or
- (B) Is causing a nuisance, or poses a risk of a nuisance; or
- (C) Constitutes an actual, or potential safety hazard; and
- (ix) If the approval relates to the installation of a grid – also erect a gate at the location of the grid to a standard, and in accordance with the requirements of, the local government; and
- (x) Maintain the road, for a distance of 5m on each side of the gate or the grid, as the case may be, in good and sufficient repair –
 - (A) So that vehicular and pedestrian traffic is not impeded or obstructed; and
 - (B) To prevent or minimise the risk or personal injury or damage to property; and
- (xi) Exhibit specified signage warning about the conduct of the prescribed activity on the road; and
- (xii) Take specified measures to ensure the unrestricted movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic along the road during construction and installation of the gate or the grid, as the case may be, and minimise obstruction of vehicular or pedestrian traffic or the risk of personal injury or damage to property
- (3) If the approval relates to being a responsible person for a gate or a grid, installed across a road – the conditions of the approval may –
 - (a) Require compliance with specified safety requirements; and
 - (b) Require the approval holder to –
 - (i) Carry out specified work such as earthwork and drainage work; and
 - (ii) Take out and maintain public liability insurance as specified by the local government and produce documentary evidence of the insurance to the local government within a stated period; and
 - (iii) Give the local government specified indemnities; and
 - (iv) Maintain the gate or the grid, in accordance with standard plans and specifications; and
 - (v) Maintain structures erected or installed, or vegetation planted, under the approval, in good condition; and
 - (vi) Clear and maintain the road in the vicinity of the gate or the grid, (including the destruction of plants and vegetation); and
 - (vii) Remove a gate, grid or structure identified in the approval, at the end of a stated period; and
 - (viii) Remove a gate, grid or structure identified in the approval if the gate, grid or structure –
 - (A) Is not effective for its intended purpose; or
 - (B) Is causing a nuisance, or poses a risk of a nuisance; or
 - (C) Constitutes an actual, or potential safety hazard; and

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Blackall-Tambo Regional Council

Stock Grids and Gates Policy

- (ix) If the approval relates to a grid – also erect a gate at the location of the grid to a standard, and in accordance with the requirements of, the local government; and
- (x) Maintain the road, for a distance of 5m on each side of the gate or the grid, as the case may be, in good and sufficient repair –
 - (A) So that vehicular and pedestrian traffic is not impeded or obstructed; and
 - (B) To prevent or minimise the risk of personal injury or damage to property; and
- (xi) Exhibit specified signage warning about the conduct of the prescribed activity on the road.

Term of an approval

- (1) The term of an approval must be determined by the local government having regard to the information submitted by the applicant
- (2) The term of the approval must be specified in the approval.

6. Term of renewal of an approval

- (1) The term for which an approval may be renewed or extended must be determined by the local government having regard to the information submitted by the approval holder.
- (2) If the local government grants the application, the local government must specify in the written notice, the term of the renewal or extension.

1. New Construction (on new fence lines)

- 1.1. Landowners must obtain approval in the form of a Grids and Gate application form from Council to locate or erect a grid on a road prior to commencing any work on the fence or grid.
 - (a) An application for a grid or gate permit must include those items listed in the section 'Documents and materials that must accompany an application for an approval' as well as proof that the payment of the Grid application permit has been made.
 - (b) Conditions that will ordinarily be imposed on a Grid Permit Approval are listed in the section 'Conditions that will ordinarily be imposed on an approval'.
- 1.2. The grid, fence and associated signage shall be constructed at the landowner's expense in accordance with the following:-

1.2.1. Drawings

- (a) State Roads
 - SD1353 - Road Furniture - Vermin and dog proof fence of Motor Grid
 - SD1561 - Road Furniture - Motor Grid – General Arrangement
 - SD1562 - Road Furniture - Motor Grid – Cast Insitu Abutment
 - SD1563 - Road Furniture - Motor Grid – Cast Insitu Base Slab
 - SD1564 - Road Furniture - Motor Grid – Precast Base Slab
 - SD1565 - Road Furniture - Motor Grid – Steel Works

Note 1: For signage refer to MUTCD

- (b) Council Roads
 - 140278-1/01 – 4000x2700 Stock Grid (with no centre pier)
 - 140278-1/02 – Stock Balk and Gate Plan

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1.2.2. Specification

- (a) State Roads – MRS 11 as amended in particular:
- MRS14A/MRTS14A – Supply and installation grids, road signs and sign faces
 - MRS14/MRTS14 – Supply and installation of fencing and gates

- (b) Council Roads

Position and Arrangement

- Steel Grids (supplied by the Landowner) shall be sited and constructed as specified on the Grid Permit from Council or as directed on site by Councils Representative.

Excavation

- All excavation and the disposal of material shall be carried out as directed by Councils Representative
- The ground shall be excavated to the required depth below the natural surface and required dimensions. The excavated trench shall be neatly trimmed and all loose material removed.

Concrete

- The grid foundation shall be so constructed that the centre line of the grid shall coincide with the centre of the pavement, and shall be truly aligned with same, the grid bearers being truly parallel to the road centre line.
- The concrete shall have a characteristic strength of 30Mpa. The concrete in each abutment shall be completed in one operation. The piers shall be completed in one operation. Steel reinforcements shall consist of steel mesh, of the number and size shown in the standard drawing, accurately positioned as shown in the drawing. Such steel shall be free of grease, oil and rust.

Vertical Alignment

- After construction of the foundations the grid shall be placed in the correct position. The grade of the grid is to conform to the grade of the road unless otherwise ordered by Council's Representative, and the level of the grid surface is to be at the grade line of the road pavement. The crossfall shall conform to the super elevation of the curve.
- The vertical alignment of the road formation across the grid will conform standard drawing as listed in 2.2.1 of this policy.

Road Surface

- The surface of the grid is to be fixed by Council's representative at such a height as will allow suitable drainage of the pit. Generally the grid will not be greater than 450mm above the road surface.
- The road surface or the approach to the grid abutments will be a

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Stock Grids and Gates Policy

minimum of 150mm thick ridge gravel or other suitable locally available material which displays resistance to abrasions.

Grid Guard Posts

- Grid Guard Posts shall be provided as shown on the plan, guard posts shall not exceed 750mm above the top of the grid.

Rails

- Rails shall be fitted between the guard post with the ends securely fixed with no protrusions facing oncoming traffic.

Alteration to Fencing

- Alignment of fencing adjacent to grid shall be approved by the Council's Representative. On both sides of the grid an approved gate 4 metres wide shall be provided as detailed on the drawings referred to in Section 2.2.1 of this policy.

Workmanship

- All work shall be executed in a thorough and workmanlike manner and to the complete satisfaction of the Council's Representative.

Alternative Designs

- The standard drawings provided are for a structure steel section grid. Alternative arrangements may be approved. Standard Department of Transport design grids will be approved without investigation but nonstandard designs will require a design check and engineered drawings supplied.

Note 2: Specification above a minimum standard. Precast abutments and piers are acceptable.

2. Replacing, repairing or renewing existing grids (on existing fence lines)

- 2.1. Damaged grids shall be replaced, renewed or repaired by the Landowner at his/her expense.
- 2.2. Replacement grids shall be installed as per Section 2: New constructions (on new fence lines), of this policy

3. Existing Grids

All existing grids must meet the requirements listed below:

1. Grids must meet the signage requirements and be erected on metal posts as specified in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.
2. Rideability - Grids must be able to be driven over at a minimum of 40kph on gravel roads and 80kph on bitumen roads without undue vertical movement of the vehicle.
3. Abutments must be stable, secure, structurally sound and capable of supporting the grid deck and "normal" traffic loads. If the grid incorporates a drainage structure it must be, free from obstructions, which may inhibit the free flow of drainage water.
4. Grid Deck - The grid deck must be constructed in such a manner as to allow it to carry the loads of normal traffic for the road. The deck must not have any broken or cracked

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members, rails or welds. It must be fixed securely to the abutments and be straight and distortion free.

5. Grid width. Grids must be a minimum of 3.6 metres wide.
6. Approaches - Approaches must allow a safe and straight approach to the grid from both approaches to the grid.
7. Grid Post - Grid posts etc. shall be free from any protrusions, which may affect the traffic or traffic flow and shall not be higher than 750mm above the grid deck.
8. Blackall-Tambo Regional Council accepts no responsibility for the maintenance of the grids or approaches within 5 metres.
9. Permit Approval – Blackall-Tambo Regional Council reserves the right to apply additional conditions to a Grid Permit, should it deem fit and to refuse a Grid Permit at its discretion. The applicant will be notified in writing of the reason/s for Council decision.
10. Indemnity - The grid owner shall indemnify the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council against any claims that may arise from any claims relating to the grid or its installation.
11. Specifications - Council reserves the right to alter these terms and conditions at any time, it also reserves the right to add or remove conditions to any Grid Permit as it deems fit.

4. Fencing and signage

Following construction of the grid, pre-existing fencing shall be pulled up to a stockproof standard approved by Council.

All permanent fencing shall be the responsibility of the landowner and shall be constructed according to Drawing No. 06-002/1A (including supply and installation of 4m wide removable fence panels) within 6 months of grid construction.

All signage shall be the responsibility of the Landowner and done as specified on the drawings for Council Roads or in the MUTCD for State Controlled Roads.

5. Removal of grids that are unfenced

After written notification by Council that a grid is not effectively fenced, Council shall remove the grid, if the fence is not reinstated to Council's specification (Drawing No.06-002/1A) within 2 months of the date of the notification.

6. Gates on Shire Roads

- The landowner shall maintain all gates on their property in a neat and usable state.
- Council shall not be required to enter into an arrangement to replace any gate.
- Advance warning sign on a road shall be provided by the sign GATE (W5-14). Width markers may also be necessary if the gate clearance is less than formation width.
- 6 x 50mm diameter red circular reflectors shall be attached to each side of the gate.

7. Grid Dimensions

All new grid construction within the Council shall have a minimum span of 1.8m for internal grids and 2.7m for boundary grids and conform to the following minimum widths:

- Main Roads - 8m (Refer to drawing 1561 for minimum grid dimensions on State Controlled Roads.)

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Blackall-Tambo Regional Council

Stock Grids and Gates Policy

- Council roads - LRRS & Category 1 6m
- Category 2 & 3 4m

Note 3: Where roads are sealed the minimum grid width will be equal to the seal width or as specified above, whichever is the greater.

8. Road Aesthetics (Appearance)

All grids in the Council (new or existing) shall be free of extraneous items (such as bags, iron or tyres) for a distance of 30m each side of the road. Grids shall be maintained in accordance with the drawings and specifications.

9. Routine Maintenance

All grids in the Council (new or existing) shall be kept free of dirt and maintained in a safe state at all times to the satisfaction of the Council.

10. Condition Assessments / Grid Compliance Certificate

Council will carry out periodic condition assessments on grids. Grids will be rated as indicated below and the appropriate Grid Compliance Certificate issued:

Rating	Condition	Description
1	Full compliance	Meets all the requirements including any existing recognised standards e.g. Ausroads, Aust Standard, Main Roads etc (must be marked)
2	Substantial compliance	Meets some, but not all, of the engineering standards but is visibly sound in the deck and abutments, has no history of problems
3	Limited compliance	Does not meet any engineering standards, but is visibly sound, has little or no history of problems
4	Very limited compliance	Does not meet any engineering standards, is not visibly acceptable but is not "dangerous/unsafe"
5	Dangerous/Unsafe	Is dangerous/unsafe requires immediate action.

Rating 1 – Full compliance

Full Compliance Certificate - No conditions

Rating 2 – Substantial compliance

Full Compliance Certificate – Council will accept due to the fact that the existing grids has substantial compliance

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Blackall-Tambo
Regional Council

Stock Grids and Gates Policy

Rating 3 – Limited compliance

Restricted Compliance Certificate- Grid must be replaced/modified within 3 years to bring the grid to an acceptable standard or remove the grid. Council must be notified 12 months prior to the expiration of the 3-year period of the Compliance Certificate or at the time of replacement or removal of the grid.

Rating 4 – Very limited compliance

Restricted Compliance Certificate – Grid must be replace/modified within 18 months to bring the grid to an acceptable standard or remove the grid. Council must be notified 12 month prior to the expiration of the 18-month period of the Compliance Certificate or at the time of replacement or removal of the grid.

Rating 5 – Dangerous/Unsafe

No Compliance Certificate – Through road to be made safe immediately by means of a detour (signed) or filling in grid. Grid must be replace/modified within 3 months to bring the grid to an acceptable standard or remove the grid.

NB: Council reserves the right to remove any grid, at the expense of the owner, issued with a restricted Compliance Certificate (rating 3 or 4) after the expiration of their Compliance Certificate, or where a Compliance Certificate has been refused (rating 5).

11. Grid Licence Fees

Landowners are responsible for the payment of the application for permit, payable in accordance with the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council Fees and Charges. (Please note this licence fee is applicable per grid and gate).

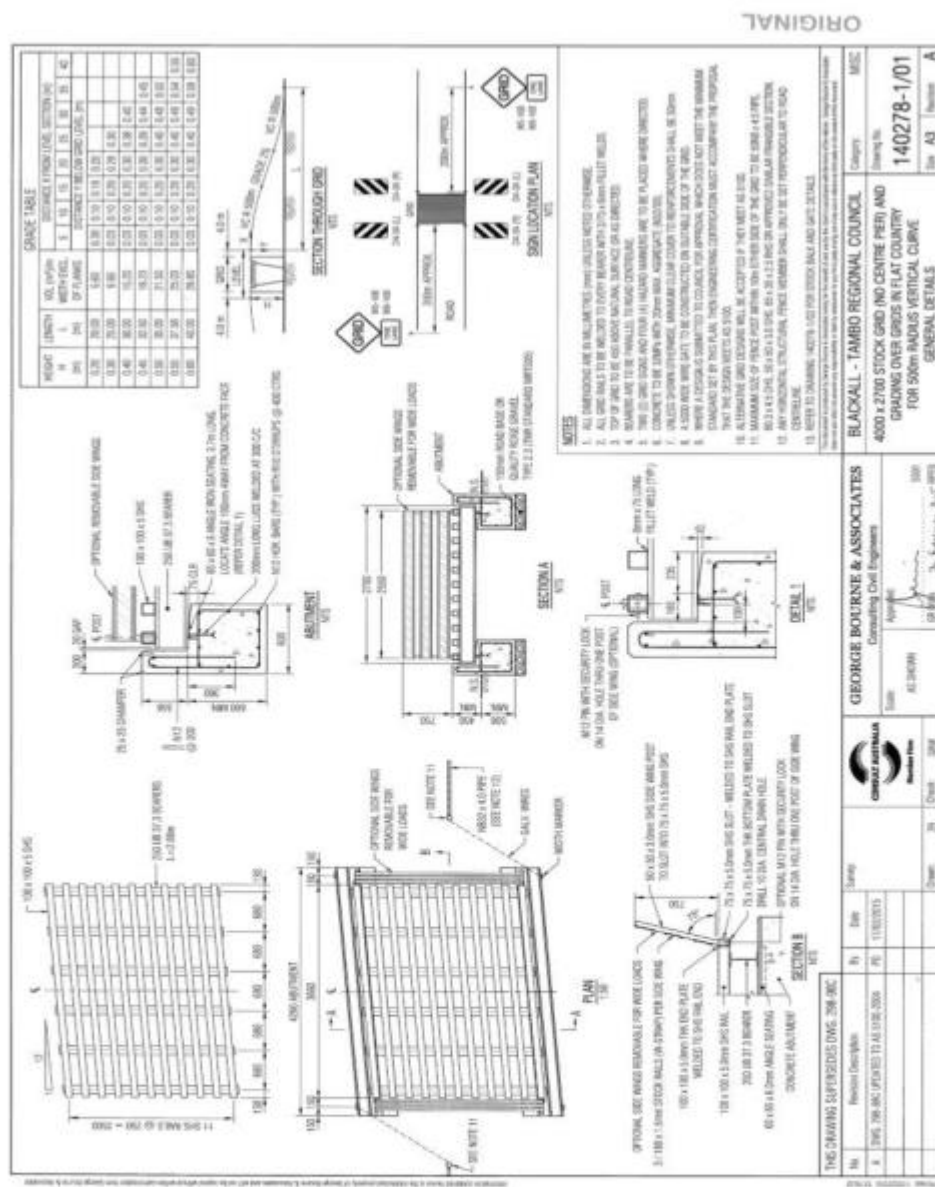
Council will maintain a register of all grids and gates, which will include the Compliance Certificate rating.

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Blackall-Tambo
Regional Council

Stock Grids and Gates Policy

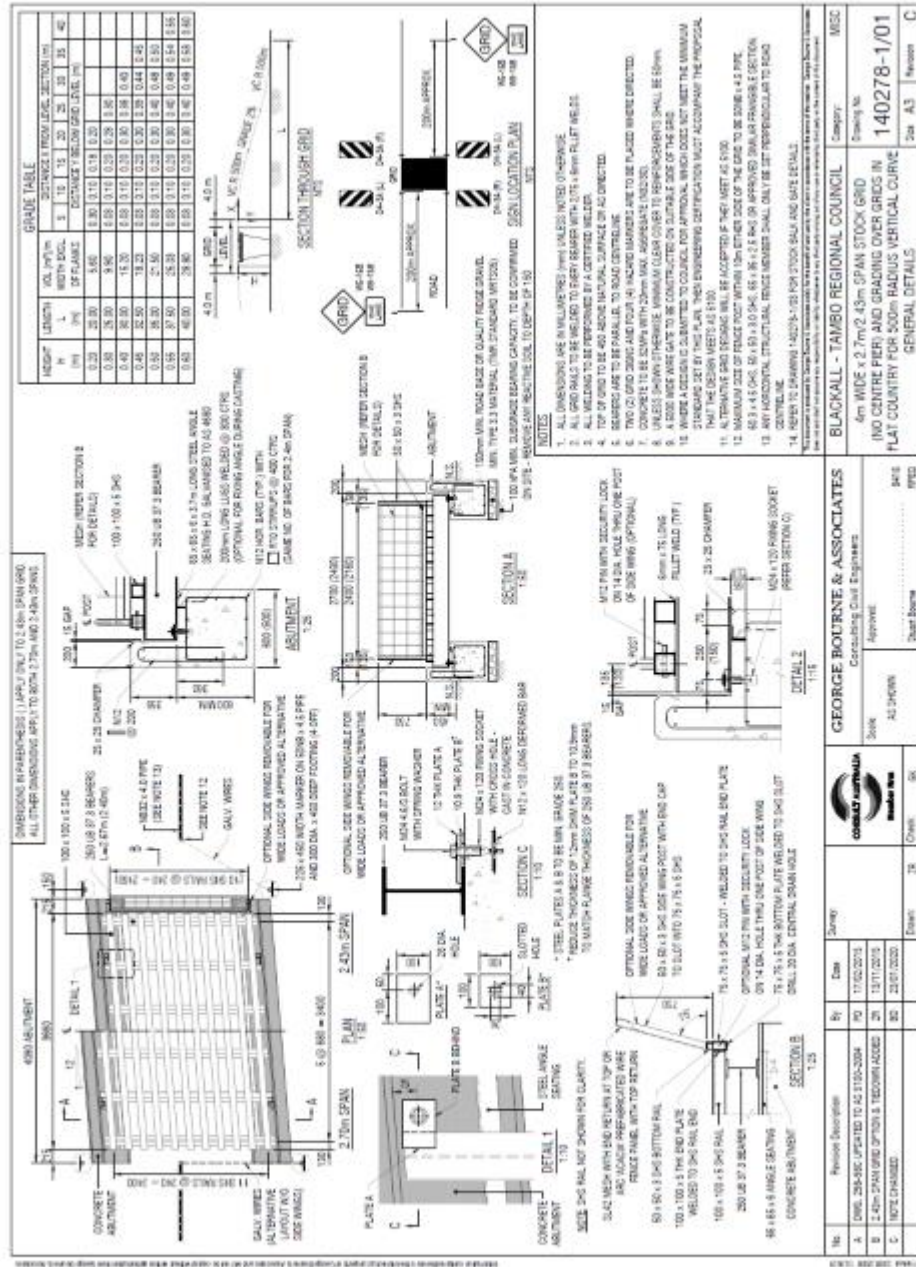


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Blackall-Tambo
Regional Council

Stock Grids and Gates Policy

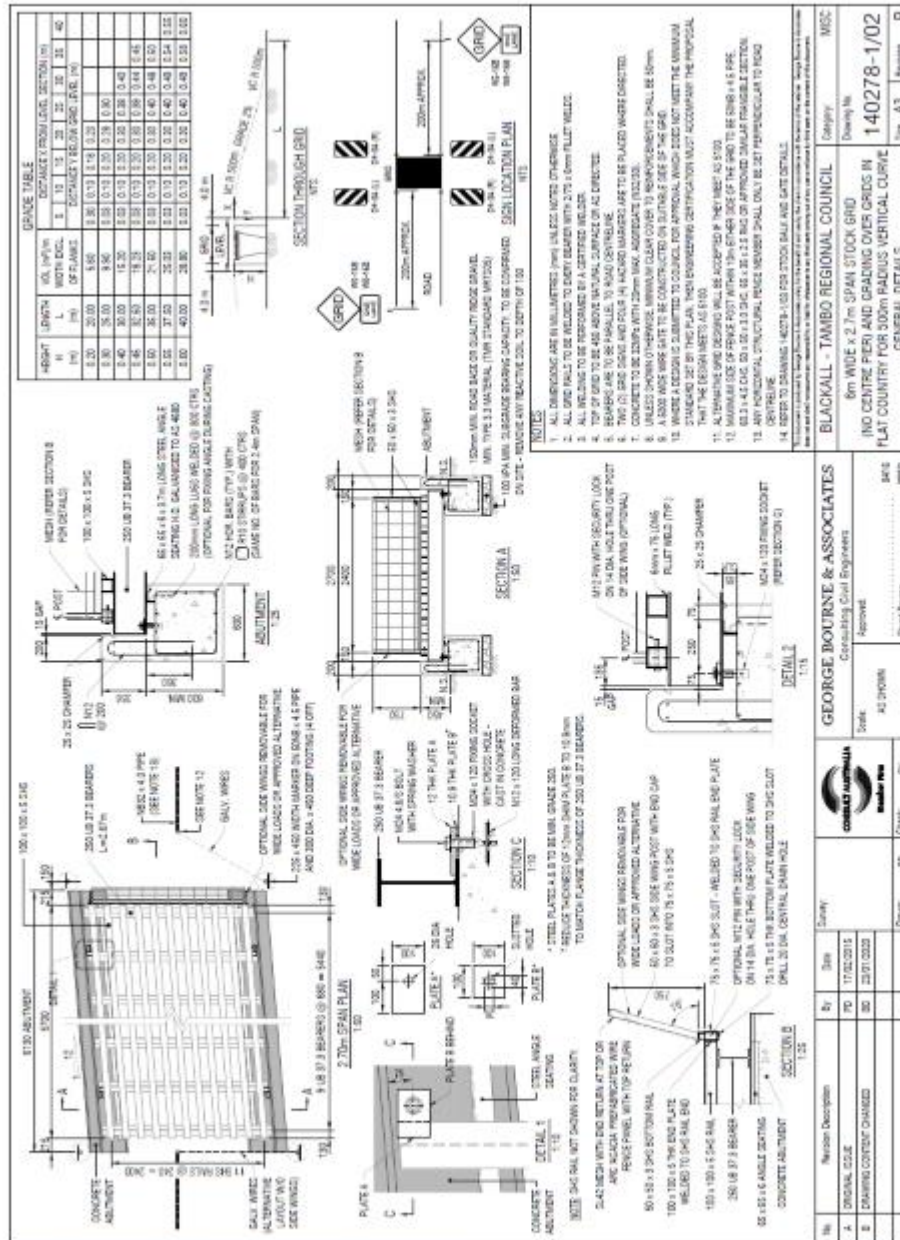


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Blackall-Tambo Regional Council

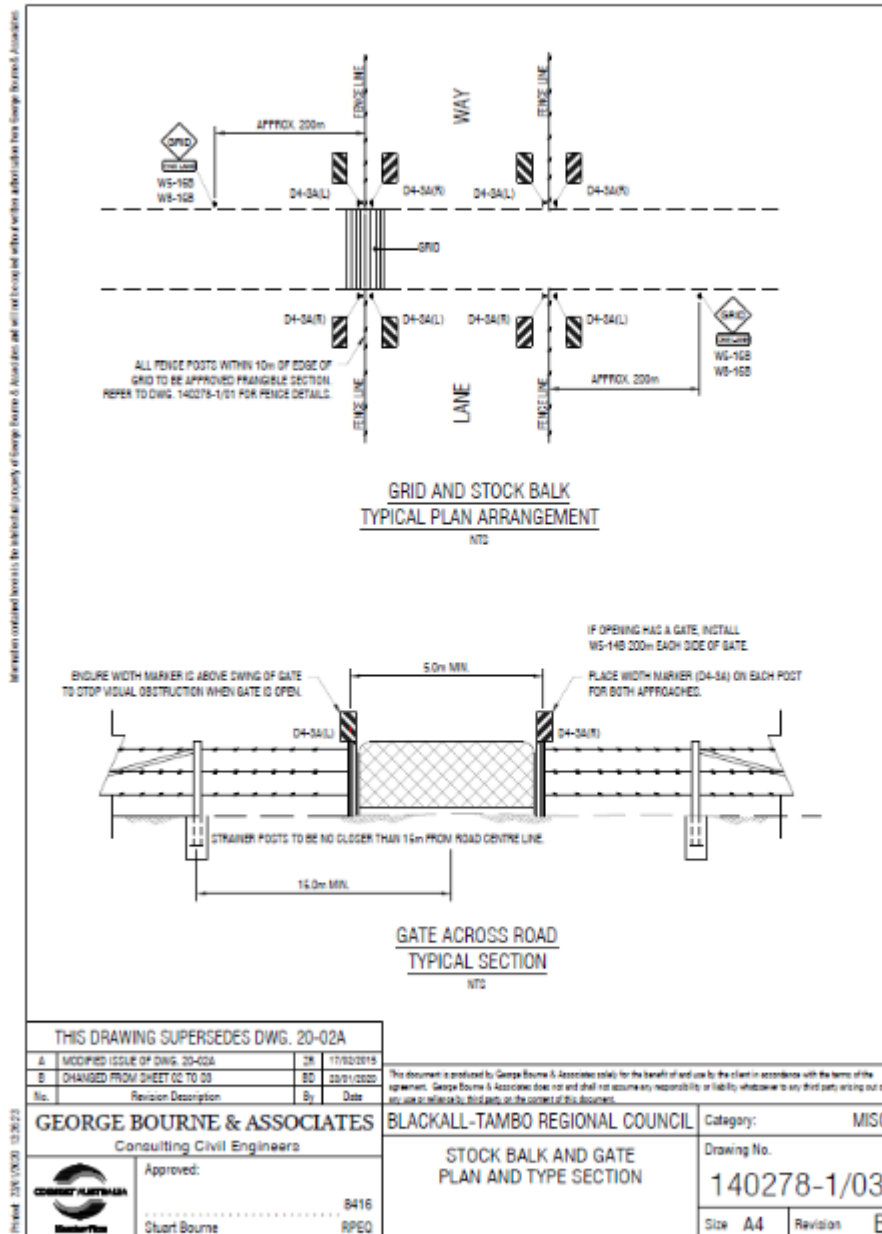
Stock Grids and Gates Policy





Blackall-Tambo
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Stock Grids and Gates Policy



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Blackall-Tambo
Regional Council

Stock Grids and Gates Policy



Blackall-Tambo
Regional Council

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Blackall, QLD 4472
Phone: (07) 4021 0000 Fax: (07) 4057 8855
Email: admin@btro.qld.gov.au
www.btro.qld.gov.au

Licensed Gates and Grids

Application to install a gate or grid across a road (including renewal) or remove a grid and fence that section of road out

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council collects the personal information you supply on this form in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009. The personal information collected on this form will be used to ensure compliance with the Local Government Act 2009 and to maintain a register of approvals. Your personal information will be accessed by persons who have been authorised to do so. Your information will not be given to any other person or agency unless required by law. Your personal information is handled in accordance with the Information Privacy Act 2009.



Applicant Details

Name:			
Postal address:			
Town:		Postcode:	
Phone (h):		Phone (w):	
Phone (m):		Fax:	
Email address:			



Gate/Grid Details

Name of owner(s):			
Location (Name of road):			
Does the proposed gate or grid conform to Council's standard design? (See notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Dimensions of grid (if applicable):			
Location and type of fence to be installed (if applicable):			
Materials to be used:			
Grid abutments:			
Grid frame, rails, etc:			
Gates:			



Notes

Council expects that all new or replacement grids installed on Council's road network meet the following specifications:

- ☐ Are design certified by a Registered Professional Engineer of Queensland to Australian Standard AS5100
- ☐ Are certified with a traffic loading of SM1600
- ☐ Have grid abutments constructed from reinforced concrete
- ☐ Comply with Council's standard designs - Plan 140278-1/01 - 4000 x 2700 stock grid (no centre pier) and/or Plan 140278-1/02 - stock bulk and gate plan and type section

A rebate is available to property owners who upgrade existing grids to meet rating one specifications or remove a grid and fence the section of road out. The rebates is not available for new grids installed at a new location.

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Blackall-Tambo Regional Council

Stock Grids and Gates Policy



Attachments

- ☐ Plan showing the location of the proposed gate or grid
- ☐ Details of all warning or similar signage proposed or required by local law to be erected
- ☐ For a proposed grid that does not conform to Council's standard design, a plan detailing the proposed grid including its dimensions, alignment and structural elements and engineering certification showing compliance with Australian Standard AS5100



Applicant Signature

Signature:	Name:	Date: / /
------------	-------	-----------



Office Use Only

Amount paid:	\$	Date paid: / /	Receipt number:
Authorized officer:			Inspection date:
Recommendation:			
Removing grid and installing fence:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Grid compliant (i.e. meet rating one grid specifications):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Eligible for rebate (Only available for replacement grids or where grids have been removed and the road fenced out):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Signature and date:	

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BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

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OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 5.1

SUBJECT HEADING: Blackall Saleyards Monthly Report

Author and Officer's Title: Des Howard, Chief Executive Officer

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: The Blackall Saleyards monthly report for October is presented to Council.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council receive the Blackall Saleyards monthly report for October 2021.

Background

SALES	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	YTD	Totals 2020/21
Spelling Cattle	4125	6704	4002	5701									20532	67043
Spelling Sheep	-	-	-	-									-	-
Prime & Store Sales	5800	7424	6958	4914									25096	65877
Weaner & Store Sales	5081	4642	6396	5709									21828	38210
Private Weigh (Same Day)	1772	3541	1592	1397									8303	19725
Private Weigh (Over-night)	695	1178	1138	1204									4212	17292
Private Scan	-	59	-	-									59	618
Bull Sales	-	-	55	189									244	306
TOTALS 2021/22	17473	23545	20141	19114									80273	
TOTALS 2020/21	31048	20467	10848	21390	18496	8393	622	10634	19571	19285	28159	20118	209071	

- Advertising has commenced for the tour operator.

Link to Corporate Plan

Economic Development

Outcome 1 – Business investment

Outcome 2 – Tourism

Outcome 3 - Employment

Consultation (internal/external)

CEO

Saleyards Manager

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

Nil

BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL[Return to Agenda](#)[Next Item](#)**OFFICER REPORTS**

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 5.2

SUBJECT HEADING: Planning and Development Report

Author and Officer's Title: Des Howard, Chief Executive Officer

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: The Planning and Development monthly report provides a summary of building applications and planning and development activity in the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council area.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council receive the Planning and Development Report for October 2021.

Background

DATE	NUMBER	APPLICANT	DEVELOPMENT TYPE	DEVELOPMENT DETAILS	TOWN
14/10/2021	DA - 10-2021-2022	Cameron Russell	BUILDING	Shed/Garage	6 Salvia Street Blackall

This information report provides a monthly update on the planning services that Council provides to support planning and development activity across the local government area.

1. DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT

One new development application was lodged during October. There is one application due for decision and another application in the Appeal Period.

1.1	Council reference:	To be confirmed
	Application:	Development Application – Development Permit for Material Change of Use for Short-term Accommodation (13 cabins)
	Street address:	36 Shamrock Street, Blackall
	Property description:	Lot 1 on RP616018
	Day application was made:	28 October 2021
	Category of assessment:	Impact Assessment
	Public notification required:	Yes
	Applicant:	Shane Robinson
	Status:	Application Stage

An application has been made by Shane Robinson, seeking a development permit for material change of use for short-term accommodation at 36 Shamrock Street, Blackall, which is occupied by the Coolibah Motel. The proposal is for 13 additional cabins at the rear of the motel, to be developed over five stages.

The subject site is in the Township Zone. Short-term accommodation in the Township Zone is subject to Impact Assessment, which means public notification of the application will be required.

The application will be properly made to Council once all required material is submitted. Reel Planning is advising the applicant on outstanding items.

1.2	Council reference:	DA 09-2021-2022
	Application:	Development Application – Development Permit for a Reconfiguring a Lot (subdivision of 4 lots into 5 lots, new access easement and new road)
	Street address:	10 Star Street, and 18, 20 and 22 Arthur Street, Tambo
	Property description:	Lot 2 on RP605624, Lot 2 on SP293537, Lot 1 on SP293537 and Lot 1 on SP197795
	Day application was made:	21 September 2021
	Category of assessment:	Code Assessment
	Public notification required:	No
	Applicant:	Blackall-Tambo Regional Council C/- Murray and Associates Surveyors and Town Planners
	Status:	Decision Stage

Murray and Associates, acting on behalf of Council, has lodged an application seeking to reconfigure four lots in Tambo. The proposal will improve the saleability of land that Council may wish to dispose of and will result in a land exchange with other owners to improve accessibility to the rear of the main street lots. The land is located in the Commercial Precinct of the Township Zone, wherein any reconfiguring a lot is subject to Code Assessment. The proposal complies with applicable assessable benchmarks. Public notification will not be required.

The State Assessment and Referral Agency has issued its response (approval with conditions). The application is therefore now in the decision stage. A decision report is tabled for Council's consideration at this General Meeting (November).

1.3	Council reference:	DA 07-2021-2022
	Application:	Development Application – Development Permit for a Material Change of Use for Low Impact Industry and Hardware and Trade Supplies
	Street address:	23 Violet Street, Blackall
	Property description:	Lot 28 on SP210376
	Day application was made:	10 August 2021
	Category of assessment:	Code Assessment
	Public notification required:	No
	Applicant:	Matthew James Adams
	Status:	Appeal Period

The application above was approved at the October General Meeting and the approval package was issued to the applicant shortly thereafter. The Applicant has a 20 business day Appeal Period within which they can request to negotiate conditions or file an appeal. At this stage, there has been no indication that the Applicant will pursue this course. The Appeal Period for this application is expected to finish around 25 November 2021.

2. GENERAL PLANNING SERVICES, ENQUIRIES AND ADVICE

2.1 CUSTOMER REQUESTS

The following customer requests have been received and responded to over the past month:

PLANNING ENQUIRIES			
Date received	Customer Details	Details of Enquiry	Status
05/10/21	Surveying Consultant	<p><u>Proposal</u> Proposed subdivision of a rural property (one into two lots) so that new boundary line is aligned with an existing fence line.</p> <p><u>Planning details</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The property is in the Rural Zone • Minimum lot size is 5,000ha in the Rural Zone • A development application for reconfiguring a lot (subdivision of 1 into 2 lots) would be required and would be subject to Code Assessment. • Proposed lot sizes are below the minimum lot size and therefore any application would likely be recommended for refusal. <p><u>Advice</u> In light of the conflict with minimum lot size, advice recommended an alternative application strategy that Council would likely support and would still achieve the same development outcome (i.e. new boundary following the fence line), being a boundary realignment between the two lots (i.e. two lots into two lots such that part of the common boundary follows the fence line), instead of a subdivision which would further fragment rural land. A Code Assessable application would still be required.</p>	Closed
19/10/2021	Council's Environmental Health Officer	<p><u>Proposal</u> EHO required planning comments on proposed footpath dining for an existing hotel.</p> <p><u>Planning details</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpath dining not considered a material change of use of premises. • It also will not result in operational work or building work given the new seating area does not involve any permanent fixtures. • The footpath dining therefore does not constitute development and is not assessable against the Planning Scheme. <p><u>Advice</u> No planning approval/s required for the proposed footpath dining.</p>	Closed

PLANNING ENQUIRIES			
Date received	Customer Details	Details of Enquiry	Status
22/10/2021	Interested buyer	<p><u>Proposal</u> Tourism facility offering entertainment (horse work and meals) and at a later stage, short-term accommodation in the form of cabins.</p> <p><u>Planning Details</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject site is in the Rural Zone and is not affected by any notable overlays • The development would be a new use of the land and therefore would constitute a material change of use of premises (i.e. a MCU) • The entertainment component could be defined as 'Tourist Attraction' or 'Outdoor Sport and Recreation' • The accommodation component could be defined as 'Short-term Accommodation', 'Nature-based Tourism' or a 'Tourist Park' • Depending on the nature of the proposal, a development application for MCU will be required and will be subject to either Code or Impact Assessment. <p><u>Advice</u> It was advised that under the Planning Scheme, development that value-adds to the regional tourism economy is generally encouraged. Based on the small scale nature of the proposal, and the proximate location of the site to Blackall, Recreation and Open Space zoned land and other tourism destinations, the proposed development is likely to be supported by Council, subject to the submission of a high quality development application.</p>	Closed
25/10/2021	Building surveyor	<p><u>Proposal</u> New dwelling to replace an old burnt out dwelling. The new dwelling is small and transportable but will be a permanent fixture on the property.</p> <p><u>Planning details</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site is in the Township Zone • The site is not affected by flood or bushfire overlays and will not exceed 8.5m in building height • The new dwelling meets the Accepted Development requirements under the Planning Scheme, which means a 	Closed

PLANNING ENQUIRIES			
Date received	Customer Details	Details of Enquiry	Status
		development application is not required to Council. <u>Advice</u> Planning approval is not required and the owner can proceed with obtaining plumbing and building permits.	
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES			
Date received	Customer details	Type	Status
Nil			
SURVEY PLAN APPROVALS			
Nil			

Link to Corporate Plan

Economic Development

Outcome 4 – Land development

Consultation (internal/external)

CEO

Rates Officer

Town Planners

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

Nil

BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

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OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 5.3

SUBJECT HEADING: 2021 Garden Competition

Author and Officer's Title: Des Howard, Chief Executive Officer

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: Council has received correspondence from an entry of the 2021 Garden Competition.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council:

1. note the comments; and
 2. forward the comments to the Garden Competition Working Group; and
 3. donate \$500.00 to the Royal Flying Doctor Service.
-

Background

Council recently received a letter from Ricky and Sandra Richardson regarding the 2021 Garden Competition. They have chosen not to accept the prize money of \$500.00 for the category they won but have asked that the money be donated to the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

The entrants have also made some suggestions towards future garden competitions:

- an encouragement garden should be a garden that is starting off and no older than two years old and can only be entered once in a lifetime.
 - Keep categories the same each year. This allows entrants to build their gardens around the categories.
 - Award \$250.00 per category and bring back some of the old categories. This may encourage more people to enter.
 - Keep the prize money at \$500.00 for the best regional garden category.
 - Some previous categories were flower garden, neighbourly, landscape, native, footpath and encouragement.
 - More time and effort from Council towards the competition.
-

Link to Corporate Plan

Nil

Consultation (internal/external)

CEO

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

\$500.00 budgeted

BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

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OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 5.4

SUBJECT HEADING: **Stock Route Discussion Paper**

Author and Officer's Title: Des Howard, Chief Executive Officer

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: RAPAD had engaged AEC Group to prepare a report on the Queensland Stock Route Network in the RAPAD region.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council:

1. **Receive and endorse the Sustainable Funding Options for Stock Route Network prepared by AEC Group; and**
 2. **Provide comment to RAPAD.**
-

Background

The RAPAD Board resolved at the November 2020 meeting; Given the state and national cultural, social and environmental significance of stock routes, investigate the development of a discussion paper into a state-based levy for purposed of stock route environmental management, maintenance and operation.

RAPAD engaged AEC Group to prepare a discussion paper that:

- Investigates a state-based levy as one option to fund stock route environmental management, maintenance and operation of the network.
- Provides alternate funding options to achieve a more equitable solution to funding the Stock Route Network.

AEC Group provided a discussion paper to RAPAD outlining potential funding options for consideration:

- 1 Option One - Increase the Price of Permits and the Use of Application Fees
- 2 Option Two - Rationalisation of the Stock Route Network
- 3 Option Three - Introduction of a Stock Route Network Levy
- 4 Option Four - Local Government Stock Route Network Operational Grant

The *Stock Route Management Act 2002* prescribes the local government responsibility for day-to-day management of the Stock Route Network and travel or agistment permit fees are payable to the local government issuing the permit. These fees are set by the *Stock Route Management Regulation 2003*. The revenue retained by local governments is disproportionately lower than the costs of maintaining the network.

The Sustainable Funding Options for Stock Route Network paper prepared by AEC Group investigates and provides recommendations on potential funding options to assist with the costs of the Stock Route Network.

Councils have been asked by RAPAD to provide comment on the discussion paper for the 24, 25 November RAPAD Board meeting.

A copy of the discussion paper is attached to this report.

Link to Corporate Plan

Environment & Heritage
Outcome 3 – Rural Lands

Consultation (internal/external)

Cr Martin
CEO
RAPAD

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

Nil

SUSTAINABLE FUNDING OPTIONS FOR STOCK ROUTE NETWORK

JULY 2021

aecgrouppltd.com

DOCUMENT CONTROL

Job ID: J002100
Job Name: Statewide Stock Route Management Levy
Client: LGAQ
Client Contact: Kristy Gooding
Project Manager: Graham Jarvis
Email: graham.jarvis@aecgrouppltd.com
Telephone: 0408166636
Document Name: AEC Final Report - LGAQ Stock Route Funding Options
Last Saved: 27/8/2021 10:04 AM

Version	Date	Reviewed	Approved
Working Draft	1 st July 2021	GJ	
Draft Report v1.0	8 th July 2021	GJ	ARP
Final Report	16 th August, 2021	GJ	ARP

Disclaimer:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

In Queensland, the stock route network (SRN) covers 72,000km of roads, reserves and corridors as well as water assets and dedicated reserves for travelling stock. The SRN facilitates on-foot travelling of stock, pasture for emergency agistment and long-term grazing (through Permits to Occupy under the Land Act 1994). The network also contains major infrastructure for the transport of water, power and communication as well as serving a broad range of cultural, heritage and environmental purposes – supporting native flora and fauna and indigenous and non-indigenous heritage.

Access to the SRN requires a travel or agistment permit from the appropriate local government. Fees are payable to the local government issuing the permit and are set by the *Stock Route Management Regulation 2003 (Regulation)*. While the fees established by the *Regulation* are considered a user charge, the *Regulation* restricts the amount a local government can charge.

The SRN provides a range of benefits to both users and to the broader community that extend beyond the use by the pastoral industry. The network has been found to be beneficial to a range of interests, including the cultural, heritage and environmental value that benefits the community more broadly. Therefore, it is logical to assume the grazing sector should only pay for the proportion of the network for which it receives benefit, not reflective of the total value provided by the network to a range of beneficiaries.

Of concern to local governments is that a large majority of the current cost of operating the SRN is born by the ratepayers in their respective regions. This burden is considered to be inequitable, particularly given the material impact the costs have upon a relatively small rate base of western Queensland local governments.

PURPOSE & APPROACH

The Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPAD) is the key stakeholder audience for the preparation of this report. The origins of this report stem from the RAPAD board meeting on the 25/26 November 2020 where it was resolved that:

Resolution: Given the state and national cultural, social and environmental significance of stock routes, investigate the development of a discussion paper into a state-based levy for purposes of stock route environmental management, maintenance and operation.

Moved: Cr Britton, Seconded: Cr Dillon, Carried

However, it must be noted that all local governments who have SRN within their LGA will be interested in the outcomes of this report.

AEC understands the purpose of the report is to provide a discussion paper that:

- Investigates a state-based levy as one option to fund stock route environmental management, maintenance and operation of the network.
- Provides alternative funding options to achieve a more equitable solution to funding the SRN.

KEY FINDINGS

Background and Previous Studies

- While the *Stock Route Management Act 2002 (the Act)* prescribes the local government responsibility for day-to-day management of the SRN, the Act is clear that the State Government is responsible for developing a strategy that is consistent with the principles outlined in the Act. The State Government is responsible for preparing a Stock Route Management Strategy that sufficiently addresses the sustainable and equitable funding of the network consistent with the Act.

- The Stock Route Network Management Strategy acknowledges the need for a sustainable funding model but does not explicitly outline a funding model for the operation of the SRN or provide detail regarding how the strategy will be resourced. Without appropriate funding of the Network the goals and objectives outlined in the Strategy will not be achieved. While the Strategy outlines the responsibility for resource allocation is shared between the Local Government Working Group and the Department of Resources (the Department), the Department is responsible for the development of the Strategy and the Department has the adequate powers to implement a sustainable funding model for the Strategy.
- The Stock Route Review Report (published in 2019) identified that 21% of the benefits of the SRN can be attributed to the grazing sector and that the grazing sector should be responsible for funding 21% of the network. The report estimated the funding required to be raised through the grazing sector to be between \$1.06 million and \$2.54 million, suggesting that fees (through permits and application fees) for the use of the SRN should be between 3.3 and 7.8 times higher than current (assuming the same level of demand for the SRN). The development of alternative funding options acknowledges the state and national cultural, heritage and environmental significance of stock routes as well as the current cost burden to local governments. However, the report does not provide options to fund the remaining 79% of the network costs.
- A document prepared by AEC and SKM in 2006 identified fees recovered from the grazing sector are approximately 4.0% of the actual cost of operating, managing and maintaining the SRN. The report recommends actions to reduce the cost of the network and to increase the revenue, including a range of use pricing and rating regimes or a combination in the form of a two-part tariff to ensure the sustainability of the SRN into the future.

Assessment of Stock Route Management Costs

- It is important to consider the individual council net costs and the capacity to increase revenue. Previous reports have presented financial considerations for the network in total, however when the network is analysed at a local government level (as is presented in this report) it is clear that the financial burden on individual councils (particularly western Queensland councils) is significantly greater and is required to be funded from a smaller rate base to defray the costs. The inequity needs to be addressed through adequately funding the network and a distribution of the funds through an efficient model that recognises the net cost of individual Councils.
- The total funding required by all sources to meet the operational costs (including depreciation) of the SRN is \$6,570,041 – based on 2017-18 expenditures. The revenue received (\$324,117) is 5.2% of the estimated operational costs, if all costs of the SRN are allocated to the grazing benefits of the network. Assuming that local government only retains 50% of the revenue (or \$162,056), the revenue retained by local government is 3.3% of local government operating costs (\$4,845,161). This analysis is from a network perspective, with some councils worse off when considering specific council costs.
- To understand the full costs of maintaining the network it is suggested an audit and condition inspection is completed. This could in turn result in informed decision making about acceptable levels of service for the categories on the SRN - primary, secondary and minor/unused.
- Applying 21% to the estimated total costs of the SRN, the grazing sector benefits from \$1,379,709 of the costs of operating the network (21% multiplied by \$6,570,041). The contribution from the grazing sector through fees and charges is estimated to be \$324,117 which is 23.5% of the estimated benefits (\$1,379,709). The total permit fees received would need to increase by 426% to achieve the \$1,379,709 in revenue from the grazing sector.
- The costs incurred by individual Councils does not correlate to the demand on the network, but rather the amount of the network to be maintained within the local government area. Longreach Regional Council, Barcaldine Regional Council and Winton Shire Council are examples of Councils with high operating costs but very little revenue earned. An adequate and equitable funding model needs to reflect the efficient cost of operating the network, and not a distribution model based on grazing usage of the network.

- The proposed funding model should be simple by design and efficient to avoid unnecessary administrative costs. This is particularly important given the total funding requirement is not large when compared to other revenue streams from State Government levies (e.g., waste management levy, emergency management levy).

Historical Cost Recovery Processes Implemented in Queensland

- It is most likely that the establishment of the Community Ambulance Cover Levy was inefficient in that it impacted upon the service consumption decisions, increasing the use of the ambulance services compared to the prior user-pays model. The levy achieved some administrative efficiencies, such as avoidance of debt management for unpaid service charges.
- The cost of administering and collecting the Emergency Management Levy is either \$2.89 or \$3.46 per property, depending on how many levies are being administered by the local governments.

Potential Funding Options

The following options are outlined for consideration:

- 1 Option One – Increase in the Price of Permits and the Use of Application Fees
- 2 Option Two – Rationalisation of the Stock Route Network
- 3 Option Three – Introduction of a Stock Route Network Levy
- 4 Option Four – Local Government Stock Route Network Operational Grant

It is recommended that Option One is implemented to ensure there is an appropriate price signal to market participants and ensure efficient future use of the SRN. Increased user-pays revenue may also be achieved through additional fees from landholders on leasehold land. This could be captured by local governments through either additional land rental on Crown land (currently collected by the State Government through Permit to Occupy fees) or through a new rate differential category for leasehold land that is identified as being adjacent to the SRN and unfenced. This option would require further investigation on the extent of costs that could be recovered via this mechanism.

Option Two is also recommended to reduce the total cost of the network.

Option Three is not recommended, primarily due the administrative inefficiency in collecting the levy.

Option Four would result in the additional funding required to meet the full net cost of the SRN to be sourced from the State's consolidated revenue and is therefore the preferred to option to avoid the burden on local government to fund the Stock Route Network Management Strategy. Option Four would enable the State Government to fund the Stock Route Network Management Strategy adequately and to address the current inequitable burden on individual local governments to fund the operation and maintenance of the network through general rates.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

In Queensland, the stock route network (SRN) covers 72,000km of roads, reserves and corridors as well as water assets and dedicated reserves for travelling stock – see Appendix A for a map of the current network and Appendix B for the area (in hectares) of network within each local government area. The SRN facilitates on-foot travelling of stock, pasture for emergency agistment and long-term grazing (through Permits to Occupy under the Land Act 1994). The network also contains major infrastructure for the transport of water, power and communication as well as serving a broad range of cultural and environmental purposes – supporting native flora and fauna and indigenous and non-indigenous heritage.

Currently, the stock routes are managed by local governments on behalf of the State Government, under the *Stock Route Management Act 2002* and *Stock Route Management Regulation 2013*. Local governments are responsible for day-to-day administration and management, including issuing of stock route agistment permits and stock route travel permits, and some maintenance activities. Local governments with the highest usage of the SRN (as prescribed in Schedule 1 of the Regulation) are required to have local management plans.

State government is responsible for:

- providing policy and legislative advice
- operational guidelines
- compliance support
- reviewing decisions
- managing asset maintenance
- training local government stock route officers.

Access to the SRN requires a travel or agistment permit from the appropriate local government. Fees are payable to the local government issuing the permit and are set by the *Regulation* in Schedule 2. While the fees established by the *Regulation* are considered a user charge, the *Regulation* restricts the amount a local government can charge. Schedule 2 establishes the minimum and maximum fee for the agistment of large and small stock and a regulated fee for travelling stock for large and small stock, based on the distance to be travelled and the number of stock. While the fee for agistment has increased with indexation, the indexation on the travel permit is immaterial, therefore since the implementation of the *Regulation* in 2003 there has not been any indexation applied to the travel permit fees.

Local governments acquit half the revenue collected from agistment permits, a travel permit or a water facility agreement to the Department of Resources and use the balance for the administration, maintenance or improvement of the stock route in its area. The current Stock Route Management Strategy (SRMS) aims to increase the revenue retained by local governments to 100% of the fees collected.

While fees under the legislation are charged to the users of the SRN for agistment and travelling of stock, the SRN provides a range of benefits to both users and to the broader community that extend beyond the use by the pastoral industry. A previous report prepared by Nine Squared identified that the value of the network is beneficial to a range of interests, including the cultural, heritage and environmental value that benefits the community more broadly. The report suggests that the costs paid by the grazing sector should reflect the value received by the sector through use of the network..

Of concern to many local governments is that a large majority of the current cost of operating the SRN is born by the ratepayers in their respective regions. This burden on the ratepayers is considered to be inequitable, particularly given the material impact the costs have upon a relatively small rate base of western Queensland local governments.

1.2 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

The Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPAD) is the key stakeholder audience for the preparation of this report. The origins of this report stem from the RAPAD board meeting on the 25/26 November 2020 where it was resolved that:

Resolution: Given the state and national cultural, social and environmental significance of stock routes, investigate the development of a discussion paper into a state-based levy for purposes of stock route environmental management, maintenance and operation.

Moved: Cr Britton, Seconded: Cr Dillon, Carried

However, it must be noted that all local governments who have SRN within their LGA will be interested in the outcomes of this report.

AEC understands the purpose of the report is to provide a discussion paper that:

- Investigates a state-based levy as one option to fund stock route environmental management, maintenance and operation of the network.
- Provides alternative funding options to achieve a more equitable solution to funding the SRN.

1.3 APPROACH

The following report has been prepared based upon the available literature and information made available. While the scope of the review has not included any substantial research or gathering of data from interested parties, effort has been made to verify assumptions with evidence from the available literature.

The options identified in this report are based upon the analysis of the literature and the experience and expertise of AEC Group Pty Ltd (AEC) in local government revenue management.

The structure of the report begins with a synopsis of relevant literature and other sources of information to provide an understanding of the current management of the SRN and a summary of past reviews, analysis and recommendations provided to improve the financial sustainability of the SRN.

The second section of the report uses the data collected in previous reports to estimate the current net cost of operating the SRN. Net cost is the total cost less revenue received.

The final section identifies and discusses options that may provide a more sustainable approach to the management of the SRN.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Known otherwise as the “long paddock”, the SRN was gazetted in Australia’s pioneering history prior to the advent of truck and railway transport to allow for the movement of livestock (McKnight, 1977)¹. Between the 1860s and 1890s, established stock routes were recognised and dedicated as roads. Since the 1950s and 1960s use of the SRN has declined due to road improvements that have made road transport more convenient and efficient.

Recently, continuing drought has made the SRN a vital source of pasture for emergency grazing. Today, the SRN is an interconnected system of stock routes, roads, reserves and facilities across the State. The network covers approximately 72,000kms across 48 local government areas. The stock routes have no separate title or tenure from the underlying road reserve. Reserves for travelling stock include camping and water reserves, pasture reserves and trucking reserves.

More recently, many stock routes of Queensland are experiencing a decline in use by travelling stock, with local councils responsible for their management struggling to administer them in an economically viable manner. In response to problems that arose during the drought of 2002-2003, a review recommended that the Queensland network be classified into ‘active’ and ‘inactive’ sections, with ‘inactive’ stock routes being leased to private graziers and subjected to Annual Grazing Agreements (Department of Natural Resources and Water 2008).

The following provides a synopsis of relevant legislation, plans, previous reviews and relevant academic literature that inform consideration of options for future financial sustainability of the SRN.

2.1 STOCK ROUTE MANAGEMENT ACT 2002

The Queensland Government manages the SRN in partnership with local governments under the *Stock Route Management Act 2002* (the Act). Some grazing is administered under the *Land Act 1994*, while the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994* and the *Stock Act 1915* also include relevant provisions.

In accordance with the Act, local governments are responsible for:

- Preparing a SRN management plan
- Day-to-day administration and management, including accepting applications and, if approved, issue permits for the travelling and agistment of stock.
- Compliance with permit conditions and other requirements associated with use of the stock route.
- Monitoring pasture and asset condition, identifying and prioritising capital investment and maintenance requirements at the local level, and undertaking maintenance of the SRN and its facilities.

The Queensland Government is responsible for:

- Preparation of the Stock Route Network Management Strategy
- Providing policy and legislative advice
- Operational guidelines
- Compliance support
- Hearing appeals and reviewing decisions of local government in relation to SRN permits
- Managing asset maintenance
- Training local government officers.

¹ McKnight (1977), *The long paddock : Australia's travelling stock routes*. University of New England.

The Act outlines the principles of SRN management including:

- Public awareness – public awareness and knowledge of the network's multiple uses, environmental values and cultural values must be raised to increase the capacity and willingness of individuals to protect the network.
- Commitment – effective management of the SRN requires a long-term commitment by the community to management of the network.
- Consultation and partnership – consultation and partnership arrangements between local communities, industry groups, state government agencies and local governments must be established to achieve a collaborative approach to SRN management.
- Management – the SRN is to be managed to:
 - ensure it remains available for public use
 - maintain and improve the network's natural resources and travelling stock facilities for use by travelling stock and for other purposes.
- Payment for use – a person who benefits from using the network must pay a reasonable amount for its use.
- Planning – SRN management must be consistent at local, regional, and state levels to ensure resources for managing the network are used to target management priorities.
- Monitoring and evaluation – regular monitoring and evaluation of the network's natural resources and travelling stock facilities are necessary to improve SRN management practices.

Finding 1 – While the Act prescribes the local government responsibility for day-to-day management of the SRN, the Act is clear that the State Government has the responsibility for a sustainable strategy that achieves the principles of SRN management. The State Government is responsible for preparing a Management Strategy that sufficiently addresses the sustainable and equitable funding of the network.

2.2 STOCK ROUTE NETWORK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2021-2025

In compliance with the Stock Route Management Act 2002, the Queensland Government has developed the *Stock Route Network Management Strategy 2021-2025* (the Strategy). The purpose of the Strategy is to direct and coordinate management of the Network.

The Act provides for six provisions that may be included in the strategy:

- 1 Recognise the network's multiple uses with the main use being for travelling stock
- 2 Preserve land corridor connections to ensure the integrity and viability of the network
- 3 Manage natural resources on the network in a sustainable way
- 4 Maintain and improve travelling stock facilities on the network
- 5 Resolve competing and conflicting interests in relation to the network's use
- 6 Seek community input into the management of the network.

The vision of the Strategy is:

The network is managed for the responsible use for travelling stock while supporting the inherent natural and cultural values on the network.

The goals of the Strategy are:

- Goal 1 There is a common understanding of the purpose, extent attributes and values of the network to enable its effective management and use
- Goal 2 There is accountable administration and use of the network

Goal 3 Facilities, infrastructure, and systems support and improve administration and use of the network within a resource constrained environment

Goal 4 Natural resources on the network are sustainably managed

Goal 5 Safety is a key factor in the use of stock routes

Goal 6 Culturally appropriate management of cultural values

The Strategy outlines the actions required to achieve the vision and defines the responsibility for implementing the actions. Of particular note is the inclusion of the responsibility for Objective 2.2 – Resource allocation is reasonable and appropriate to maintain a viable stock route (see Table 2.1).

Table 2.1. Extract from Actions Identified for Consideration by Agencies

Goal	Objective	Actions	Responsibility
Goal 2: There is accountable administration and use of the network	Objective 2.2 Resource allocation is reasonable and appropriate to maintain a viable stock route	2.2.1 Develop a policy to ensure resource allocation for maintenance of infrastructure to support travelling stock, aligns with stock route categories.	Local Government Working Group, Dept of Resources
		2.2.2 Seek to maintain an appropriate level of capital works funding to maintain necessary travelling stock facilities on the network.	Dept of Resources
		2.2.3 Seek to increase the percentage of permit fees retained by local governments to 100% for the purpose of maintaining the network	Dept of Resources

Finding 2 -The strategy does not adequately address the resource constraints that will prevent the goals and objectives from being achieved. A strategy that can not be adequately resourced is simply not an achievable strategy. While the Strategy outlines that the responsibility for resource allocation is shared between the Local Government Working Group and the Department of Resources, the Department is responsible for the development of the Strategy and the Department has the ability to implement a sustainable funding model for the Strategy.

2.3 SYNOPSIS – STOCK ROUTE REVIEW – ANALYSIS OF FEES

The report dated 18 July 2019 was prepared by Nine Squared for the Department of Natural Resources Mines and Energy. The following is a synopsis of the key findings from the report.

2.3.1 SRN provides benefits to a range of users and the community

While fees are only charged for the permitting of travelling and agistment of stock, the SRN provides a range of benefits to both users and the broader community beyond its use by the pastoral industry.

2.3.2 Fees under the legislation

The fees for travelling permits have not changed since 1989. In addition, no indexation has applied due to annual indexation requiring a change of at least one cent in order to change the price. The resulting low price for travelling stock places a burden on local councils as fee revenue does not cover the necessary stock route management and maintenance. Furthermore, the low cost of obtaining a travelling stock permit in comparison to grazing incentivises users to obtain a travel permit with the intent of using it to graze their stock.

The fees for grazing are subject to regular indexation but are still significantly below commercial agistment fees and are not representative of the true cost incurred by State and local governments.

Fee revenue varies with demand for the SRN and has varied between just under \$200,000 in 2015-16 to a high of \$324,000 in 2017-18 when the number of travelling and agistment permits issued across Queensland hit a five-year peak of 851. Unsurprisingly, fee revenue also varies between local government areas, with stock producing LGAs experiencing the greatest demand and receiving higher fees. It should be noted that those councils with higher levels of travelling stock also have much higher costs, including compliance and enforcement activities.

2.3.3 Cost of the SRN

Costs are incurred by both State and Local Governments in relation to the SRN. Fees charged under the *Regulation* cover only a fraction of the cost associated with the administration, licensing, compliance and maintenance activities that are undertaken in relation to the SRN. Based on the data provided by State and Local Governments the estimated total cost (2017-18) of operating the SRN network in Queensland is estimated to be between approximately \$6.3 and \$7.3 million. This includes State and Local Governments' operating costs for administration, planning, maintenance and operations as well as capital expenditure of \$800,000 a year by the State and a further \$1.036 million in depreciation. The State operating costs are estimated to be \$688,880, while the total local government operating costs are estimated to be \$4,845,161.

2.3.4 Allocation of costs to beneficiaries

Based on the revenue outcomes from 2017-18 and the estimated cost incurred by both the State and Local Governments (LGAs), the level of cost recovery from permit fees for use of the SRN is approximately 4.3%. This is consistent with the level of cost recovery outlined in the AEC and SMEC (2006) report which noted a level of cost recovery of 4.0%. With the addition of administration fees charged by several LGAs, cost recovery increases to approximately 5.0%. While this level of cost recovery may seem low, it needs to be recognised that the grazing sector is not the only beneficiary of the network, and therefore the grazing sector should not be responsible for funding all the costs.

The benefits provided by the SRN to the broader community should be considered when determining the appropriate allocation of costs between beneficiaries. Taking the benefits received into consideration, most of the value of the SRN is accrued by the community. Considering the services provided by the SRN as a potential carbon sink and the value of native vegetation compared with the value from grazing use, the community benefit accounts for 79% of the value provided by the SRN while the grazing industry's use accounts for just 21% of the value provided by the SRN. These figures should be considered as indicative only given the partial nature of the analysis and the absence of other use and non-use values which have not been quantified.

The allocation of 21% of the benefits to the grazing sector suggests that the grazing sector should be responsible for 21% of the cost of administering, maintaining and planning the SRN.

Sensitivity testing of the level of benefits by increasing and decreasing the proportion of benefits allocated to grazing by 10% provides a range of possible outcomes from a low of \$1.06 million to a high value of \$2.54 million suggesting that fees for the use of the SRN should be between 3.3 and 7.8 times higher than current (assuming the same level of demand for the SRN). Using these adjusted figures, it is estimated that the current level of cost recovery is between 13% and 30% when attributing costs recovered to the benefits received by the grazing industry.

2.3.5 Future fee options

A number of fee options have been considered in relation to the pricing of both grazing permits and travelling permits. The following options were modelled:

Grazing Options

- Increase current fee, leaving the structure of the fees to remain the same.
- Increase current fee consistent with the high fee implemented in NSW.
- Increase current fee consistent with the low fee in NSW.
- Replace the maximum and minimum fee with a fee based on an average of 1.5% of the value of grazing leasehold land (equates to around \$2.40 per head per week).

- Fees for a grazing permit set at a commercial rate that reflects the cost of private agistment.

Travelling Options

- Increase current fee to full cost recovery, leaving the structure of the fees to remain the same.
- Travel permit fees to increase in line with those applying in NSW.
- Increase the basis of 20 head per large stock (or part thereof) to 100 or 200 head (or part thereof).
- Amend travel distance rates to reflect an average rate travelled.
- Travel permits would be priced at a standard rate per day rather than on the distance travelled.

Other Options

- Application fees would apply to all local governments for a stock route permit.

2.3.6 Recommendations

The report does not provide any recommendations, however consultation by the former Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy in 2019 with key stakeholders allowed a large degree of consensus for preferred future fee options.

Finding 3 – The Stock Route Review Report identified that 21% of the benefits of the SRN can be attributed to the grazing sector and that the grazing sector should be responsible for funding 21% of the network. The report estimated the funding required to be raised through the grazing sector to be between \$1.06 million and \$2.54 million, suggesting that fees (through permits and application fees) for the use of the SRN should be between 3.3 and 7.8 times higher than current (assuming the same level of demand for the SRN). The report does not provide options to funding the remaining 79% of the network costs, other than to define the beneficiaries of the cultural, heritage and environmental value to be the community more broadly. The conclusions are based on a network perspective, not an individual Council perspective.

2.4 SYNOPSIS – OPTIONS FOR IMPROVING THE ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS OF THE QUEENSLAND STOCK ROUTE NETWORK

The report was prepared by AEC and SKM² for the Local Government Association of Queensland in June 2006. The following is a synopsis of the key findings from the report.

Detailed consultation and data collation was undertaken to provide the background context and base data for the analysis. Input was gathered from the full range of stakeholders, which included drovers, pastoralists, Stock Routes Supervisors, Local and State government representatives and representatives of the community and the environment.

2.4.1 Who bears the cost of administration and management of the SRN?

In reference to annual expenditure, local government incurs approximately 65% of the operating cost of the SRN, but with the inclusion of the capital works and depreciation funded each year by State Government, it is estimated that the State Government contributes 52.6% of the annual expenditure on the SRN.

The annual full cost of managing the SRN in 2004-05 was estimated to be approximately \$5.69 million.

43.5% of the full cost of the SRN is attributed to facilities that are on either minor (23.8%) or unused stock routes (19.7%).

² AEC & SKM, Options for Improving the Administration and Management Arrangements of the Queensland Stock Route Network, June 2006.

The SRN also provides some negative social and environmental outcomes that impact stakeholders such as road safety (community) and providing weed transport corridors (environment).

2.4.2 Who should pay?

Private landholders pay travelling stock and agistment fees for the use of the SRN as well as water agreement fees. These fees recover approximately 4.0% of the actual cost of operating, managing and maintaining the SRN. For the SRN to be maintained into the future this cost differential must be addressed.

A fully equitable cost sharing arrangement would see a user pays full cost recovery system being cost neutral for Local and State Government.

A range of use pricing and rating regimes or a combination in the form of a two-part tariff is available to ensure the sustainability of the SRN into the future such as:

- Rating all landholders annually to contribute to the maintenance cost of the SRN, this rate should be viewed as a rate for the right of the pastoralists to access the network.
- Variable charging regimes for the use of the SRN by travelling stock as well as agisted stock, based on the quality of pasture and productive potential of the land.

A breakeven revenue of approximately \$0.29 per head per day (based on current travelling stock and agistment usage) is required to recover the full cost of providing the SRN. This compares with an average daily fee of approximately \$0.01 per head per day for travelling stock to use the SRN and approximately \$0.19 per head per day for agistment stock use. There is an obvious need to address this short fall in the provision of the SRN if it is to be sustained into the future.

The point at which the use charge should be set is dependent on the level of community service obligation deemed appropriate.

2.4.3 Recommendations

2.4.3.1 Cost Reduction

- Infrastructure on unused stock routes should be disposed of to decrease the maintenance burden on Local Government and depreciation requirement of the State Government. However, prior to disposal the strategic nature and current classification (Primary, Secondary, Minor and Unused) of the asset should be reviewed.
- Where possible, particularly in areas where Minor and Unused routes are unfenced, adjoining landholders be encouraged to obtain permits to occupy. Landholders should also be encouraged to undertake the maintenance of water facilities in these areas.
- A Statutory Body is the most desirable management model for the management and administration of Primary and Secondary routes as it provides the greatest net benefit to stakeholders.

2.4.3.2 Increase Revenue

- Access and use fees for network users for both travelling stock and agistment should be increased as they are currently well below market rates and do not recover the full cost of the management and administration of the SRN. Ideally, full cost recovery would be implemented as the vast majority of benefit is derived by the private sector, with the full cost charging regime to take into account seasonal use variations to cover the full cost over time.
- Alternative methods to increase revenue generation over the entire SRN should be explored to offset the cost of operating the SRN, such as:
 - Leasing reserves.
 - Agistment of routes.
 - Bailing/harvest of pasture for sale.

- A variable two-part tariff comprising an access and use fee be introduced to facilitate greater management effectiveness (\$/head/day).
- Overall the SRN be operated on a cost neutral basis with revenue surplus generated in some regions to be used to offset deficits in other regions.
- Where full cost recovery for the management and administration of the SRN is deemed inappropriate, the component not recovered should be considered a Community Service Obligation (CSO) and have appropriate performance indicators to ensure the CSO meets policy objectives and is not used as a balancing item (to offset losses).

Finding 4 – The AEC and SKM Report identified fees recovered from grazing sector is approximately 4.0% of the actual cost of operating, managing and maintaining the SRN. The report recommends actions to reduce the cost of the network and to increase the revenue, including a range of use pricing and rating regimes or a combination in the form of a two-part tariff to ensure the sustainability of the SRN into the future. The conclusions are based on a network perspective, not an individual Council perspective.

2.5 SYNOPSIS – AUSTRALIA'S STOCK ROUTE NETWORK: A REVIEW OF ITS VALUES, AND IMPLICATIONS FOR FUTURE MANAGEMENT

The researchers (Lentini et al., 2011³) identified an increasingly apparent overarching problem is that the multiple-use nature of the SRN does not fit into the single-use management structures of NSW and QLD, whereby different departments manage land for different purposes. Therefore, it is unclear how management of the SRN can integrate traditional uses of grazing and droving with emerging uses, such as conservation and recreation. The researchers provide several approaches that might be feasible:

- Local councils could continue to manage stock routes, but in recognition of their responsibility to protect and conserve threatened species and communities they would receive additional financial support from State and Federal governments. Permit pricing schedules for use of the stock routes would need to be adjusted to better represent a user-pays system. This would reflect not only the benefits derived by private enterprises which drove and agist livestock, but also the benefits to the rest of Australian society, including recreation and conservation.
- Alternative SRN management options are available but may restrict the use of the SRN to certain groups. For instance, management of portions of the network could be transferred to adjacent landholders, and market-based instruments (such as reverse auction) could be employed to promote the protection of stock route values. However, this would inhibit the accessibility of stock routes to the public. A similar approach has been successfully employed by the Australian Government in their Environmental Stewardship Program, which has made significant gains in the conservation of box-gum woodland on private land across south-eastern Australia via the implementation of a tender system.
- Another alternative for the future management of the SRN is to incorporate it into the current National Reserve System, which could be appropriate given its significance for biodiversity and cultural heritage.

Finding 5 – The Authors of the paper suggest that local Councils could continue to manage stock routes, but in recognition of their responsibility to protect and conserve threatened species and communities they would receive additional financial support from State and Federal governments.

³ Lentini, Fischer, Gibbons, Lindenmayer & Martin (2011), Australia's Stock Route Network: A review of its values and implications for future management. *Ecological Management & Restoration*, 12(2).

3. THE USE OF TAXES & LEVIES TO FUND GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES

The Councils in the central west of Queensland (the key stakeholders) are seeking to investigate the implications of a potential application of a levy system to fund the SRN maintenance. It is therefore important to understand the use of levies and the current and past use of similar levies.

One facet of the public financial system is the use of special levies to fund government activities. Typically, levies are used to finance specific programs, often which have finite lives but not always. A common feature of a government levy is they are, in effect, a tax on consumption of a particular industry to fund expenditure within that industry. The levies alleviate the need to raise broader taxes and as such are more suitable to fund expenditure with a finite period. Levies can be targeted at users of the service (e.g., waste levy) or indiscriminate of whether the service is used or not (e.g., emergency services levy). Levies generally are a more targeted approach than general taxes or local government general rates. The compulsory nature of a levy, particularly when targeted at users, ensures that the beneficiaries contribute equitably.

Some researchers have commented that it is not clear why previous governments have chosen a levy to fund particular expenditure as opposed to funding through the consolidated budget revenue⁴.

3.1 STAKEHOLDERS OF A LEVY SYSTEM

There are many people and organisations that have an interest in the introduction of a levy system that are important to consider when proposing to use a levy. The stakeholder of a levy on the SRN would include:

- Levy payers – individual, businesses, and other organisations responsible for paying the levy
- Collection agents – responsible for the collection of the levy and submitting levy returns to the relevant department managing the program expenditure, the more narrow the collector is in the supply chain or industry, the more cost-effective the way of collecting the levy will be. The collection agents must also have the legislative powers to collect and enforce the levy.
- Department managing the program expenditure – responsible for the governance and allocation of the funds based upon a funding model.
- Levy recipients – those who are reliant upon the adequate and equitable allocation of the funds for the financial sustainability of the program.

3.2 AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT LEVY PRINCIPLES

The Australian Government developed a list of principles⁵ to assist an industry or a group when considering a new levy. The following list is of interest to the proposed new levy for the SRN.

- 1 The proposed levy must relate to a function for which there is a market failure.
- 2 A request for a levy must be supported by industry bodies representing, wherever possible, all existing and/or potential levy payers, the relevant levy beneficiaries and other interested parties. The initiator shall demonstrate that all reasonable attempts have been made to inform all relevant parties of the proposal and that they have had the opportunity to comment on the proposed levy. A levy may be initiated by the government, in the public interest, in consultation with the industries involved.

⁴ Special Levies: Taxes by Another Name, Research Note, 2002. Information, analysis and advice for the Parliament. Department of Parliamentary Library.

⁵ Levy guidelines: How to establish or amend agricultural levies. Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment - <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/levy-guidelines.pdf>

- 3 The initiator of a levy proposal shall provide an assessment of the extent, the nature and source of any opposition to the levy, and shall provide an analysis of the opposing argument and reasons why the levy should be imposed despite the argument raised against the levy.
- 4 The initiator is responsible to provide as follows:
 - a an estimate of the amount of levy to be raised to fulfil its proposed function.
 - b a clear plan of how the levy will be utilised, including an assessment of how the plan will benefit the levy payers in an equitable manner.
 - c demonstrated acceptance of the plan by levy payers in a manner consistent with levy principle 2.
- 5 The initiator must be able to demonstrate that there is agreement by a majority on the levy imposition/collection mechanism or that, despite objections, the proposed mechanism is equitable under the circumstances.
- 6 The levy imposition must be equitable between levy payers.
- 7 The imposition of the levy must be related to the inputs, outputs or units of value of production of the industry or some other equitable arrangements linked to the function causing the market failure.
- 8 The levy collection system must be efficient and practical. It must impose the lowest possible 'red tape' impact on business and must satisfy transparency and accountability requirements.
- 9 Unless new structures are proposed, the organisation/s that will manage expenditure of levy monies must be consulted prior to introduction of the levy.
- 10 The body managing expenditure of levy monies must be accountable to levy payers and to the Commonwealth.
- 11 After a specified time period, levies must be reviewed against these principles in the manner determined by the government and the industry when the levy was first imposed.

Amendments to existing levies:

- 12 The proposed change must be supported by industry bodies or by levy payers or by the government in the public interest. The initiator of the change must establish the case for change and where an increase is involved, must estimate the additional amount which would be raised. The initiator must indicate how the increase would be spent and must demonstrate the benefit of this expenditure for levy payers.

3.3 QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT TAXATION REVENUE

In proposing a new levy, it is important to understand the current use of levies by the Queensland Government. Included in the recently released Queensland Government Budget 2021-22 are the State taxation revenues, outlined in Table 4.2 of the Budget Strategy and Outlook 2021-22⁶. The following is an extract from this table and shows the current levies established by the Queensland Government and the amount of quantum of revenue received by each levy.

Table 3.1. Queensland Government State taxation revenue (\$M) – Extract from the Budget Strategy and Outlook 2021-22

Component	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Est. Act	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Projection	2023-24 Projection	2024-25 Projection
Payroll tax	4,211	4,192	4,484	4,741	5,011	5,263
Duties						
Transfer duties	3,041	3,693	4,598	4,100	3,796	4,040
Vehicle registration duty	533	668	663	625	644	663
Insurance duty	1,016	1,072	1,136	1,182	1,241	1,303
Other duties	34	32	32	32	33	33

⁶ Queensland Budget 2021-22 – Budget Paper 2 – Budget Strategy and Outlook - <https://budget.qld.gov.au/budget-papers/>

Component	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Est. Act	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Projection	2023-24 Projection	2024-25 Projection
Gambling taxes and levies						
Gaming machine tax	617	816	795	819	843	869
Health services levy	77	122	107	109	117	127
Lotteries taxes	332	351	361	372	383	395
Wagering taxes	118	152	155	161	167	174
Casino taxes and levies	97	103	114	124	139	143
Keno tax	17	21	21	22	22	23
Other taxes						
Land tax	1,406	1,493	1,617	1,686	1,802	1,931
Motor vehicle registration	1,910	1,987	2,044	2,103	2,169	2,242
Emergency management levy	562	581	605	630	657	686
Waste disposal levy	295	291	317	334	341	348
Guarantee fees	282	289	305	311	318	319
Other Taxes	46	45	46	47	49	50
Total taxation revenue	14,585	15,907	17,399	17,397	17,731	18,608

Source – Queensland Budget 2021-22 – Budget Paper 2 – Budget Strategy and Outlook

3.4 PRINCIPLES OF A GOOD TAX

In designing a tax (or levy) there are fundamental principles of tax policy that a tax or levy system should exhibit. The widely shared principles form the Queensland Government's Guidelines on Equity and Fairness in Rating for Queensland.

The principles are detailed below:

- Equity – distribution of the burden of the tax (or levy) should be fairly across the population, taxpayers in the same position should pay the same amount and taxpayers in different position should pay a different amount based on a tax base that reflects the different position.
- Efficiency – taxes (or levies) should not skew resource allocation decision across the economy, including administrative efficiency – an efficient tax does not influence the taxpayers actions by any taxation effect, unless it is an intended impact of the tax.
- Simplicity – the design and administration should minimise uncertainty and compliance cost for taxpayers and taxpayers should be able to understand their obligations.
- Certainty – taxpayers should know in advance that they have a tax liability so they can make provisions for it.
- Neutrality – the impact of taxes should not influence taxpayers' choices by artificially distorting or altering the costs of alternative goods, different modes of investment or different activities.

3.5 EXAMPLE OF PAST LEVY – QUEENSLAND AMBULANCE COVER

Queensland introduced a unique funding strategy in 2003, termed the Community Ambulance Cover (CAC). The CAC was a broad-based charge that aimed to spread the cost of providing ambulance services across the community. Almost all residents were levied through an add-on to retail electricity bills.

An aim of introducing the CAC was to simplify funding arrangements and reduce the costs of revenue collection. The CAC arrangement replaced a mixed funding model – public funds, public subscription and fees for service – with a 100% consolidated revenue funding model, partly financed by a levy collected through electricity accounts.

The CAC was reported⁷ to raise around 30% of the annual \$494.6 million budget for ambulance services in 2009-10. This scheme was abolished from July 2011, removing the levy which was \$112.98. The government now funds the full cost of the ambulance service through consolidated revenue in the annual budget.

Each electricity bill included one levy, regardless of the number of people who live in each household. Hence, arguably single person households were paying an inequitably higher amount in comparison. Exemptions applied to certain accounts and account holders including pensioners and senior card holders.

The introduction of the CAC meant that all Queensland residents were exempt from a direct invoice for specific ambulance usage. A benefit of the CAC was that it largely eliminated bad debts for the use of ambulances.

While statements provided by the then Premier Anna Bligh and Treasurer Andrew Fraser refer to easing the financial burden of electricity accounts on households⁸, prior to the abolishment, the CAC was of interest to several studies and attracted criticism that the introduction of the levy resulted in increased use of ambulances (from use that would not have otherwise occurred), leading to problems within hospital emergency departments. Pricing was referred in some literature as a driving force to use or not use the ambulance (Tippet *et al.*, 2013). They argued that there was a net increase in ambulance arrivals of what might “represent an increase in unnecessary ambulance use” which they attributed to the CAC introduction.

A *Queensland Ambulance Service Audit Report* (2007)⁹ concluded that the introduction of the levy was likely to have had an impact on demand as individuals are aware that they have already paid for the service and are therefore more inclined to use it. In addition, households receive a quarterly reminder that they are paying the levy when they receive their electricity bill, which maintains awareness of the levy.

While the CAC improved the simplicity of the funding model for ambulance services, it was observed by some to lack in the taxation principles of efficiency and neutrality by artificially increasing the demand for the services.

The CAC was removed in 2011 by the *Community Ambulance Cover Levy Repeal Act 2011*.

Finding 6 – It is most likely that the establishment of the Community Ambulance Cover Levy was inefficient in that it impacted upon the market decisions, increasing the use of the ambulance services compared to the prior user-pays model. There were some administrative efficiencies, such as avoidance of debt management for unpaid service charges.

3.6 EXAMPLE OF A CURRENT LEVY – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEVY (EML) AND RURAL FIRE SERVICE LEVY

The Emergency Management Levy (EML) is applied to all Queensland properties via council rates to ensure there is a sustainable funding base for fire and emergency services. The levy has been changed and evolved since the initial Urban Fire Levy Scheme that was introduced in 1984 to partially fund the Queensland Fire Service.

The Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990 (the Act) and *Fire and Emergency Services Regulation 2011* apply a levy on properties within levy districts and placing obligation on local governments to administer the levy, which is collected through local government rate notices. Under the Act, the local government is entitled to an administration fee of \$3.46 for each property that receives a levy notice if the number of properties is below 40,000. If the local government has more than 40,000 properties that receive a levy, the formula is \$138,400 + (total number properties less 40,000) * \$2.89.

With a few exceptions, the Levy is applied to all properties within Queensland, recognising that all Queenslanders are at risk from a wide range of emergencies.

⁷ Tippet, Toloo, Eeles, Tin, Aitken and Fitzgerald, Universal access to ambulance does not increase overall demand for ambulance services in Queensland, Australia. *Australian Health Review*, 2013; 121-126.

⁸ For example, <https://www.couriermail.com.au/news/queensland/sunshine-coast/sport/budget-to-cut-power-bills-by-113/news-story/8567d445082693eede31a337fe6734f3>

⁹ Queensland Ambulance Service Audit Report, December 2007.

The levy applies to each individual lot except where lots are used as bona-fide primary producing land. More than one levy may appear on a rates notice that is for multiple lots.

A 20% discount is available on the EML for a principal place of residence of a ratepayer with a Commonwealth Pensioner Concession Card or a Repatriation Health Card (Gold Card).

Rural Fire Brigades do not receive direct funding from the EML, rather the Queensland Government has retained the provision for local councils, at their discretion, to continue to raise a rural fire levy to fund the operational costs for brigades and ensure the ongoing support to Rural Fire Brigades.

Support is provided by the Queensland Government to emergency service volunteers by providing personal protective clothing; communications equipment; co-funded and fully funded fire fighting equipment; fully funded appliances; station construction grants; training; insurance, and other assistance.

Considering the taxation principles, the use of the EML to fund emergency services is appropriately aligned to the equity principle, particularly given that the levy is collected from all properties (with some exceptions) and the benefit of the services are received by all (noting that some may view the services to be less than equitable). While not all may use the services, the services are made available to all.

Finding 7 – The cost of administering and collecting the Emergency Management Levy is either \$2.89 or \$3.46 per property, depending on how many levies are being administered by the local governments.

3.7 EXAMPLE OF A CURRENT LEVY – WASTE MANAGEMENT LEVY

Queensland's *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy*¹⁰ provides a strategic framework to reduce the amount of waste Queenslanders generate, grow the resource recovery and recycling industry, and create new jobs. The introduction of a waste disposal levy commenced in 2019 to provide a clear price signal to divert valuable material away from landfill. The design of the levy is to be accompanied by a series of companion measures that will subsequently create an alternative pathway for these materials to be recycled or recovered.

The levy is applied to identified levy zones, which includes 39 out of 77 local government areas. The levy does not apply to areas outside the levy zone, unless the waste that is generated outside the levy zone is disposed of in a levy zone. This covers around 90% of Queensland's population and is where the majority of waste is generated and disposed.

The planned use of the revenue collected by the Queensland Government through the levy is to be allocated to facilitate industry development and the expansion and evolution of the state's waste management and resource recovery industry.

Landfill operators (local councils and private businesses) pay the levy to the Queensland Government based on the amount of waste disposed of to landfill.

The Queensland Government committed to ensuring the levy had no direct impact on households and delivered this through providing annual payments to Councils to offset the direct costs of the waste levy. Commitment to this funding has been provided for in the 2021-22 budget but no provision has been made beyond this period as yet.

¹⁰ Queensland Government, *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy* - https://www.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0028/103798/qld-waste-management-resource-recovery-strategy.pdf

4. ESTIMATED NET COST OF PROVIDING THE STOCK ROUTE NETWORK

4.1 IDENTIFYING THE NET COST OF THE NETWORK

The Nine Squared, Stock Route Review is a suitable source for identifying the current costs of providing the SRN. The Review was prepared based on the data provided by State and Local Governments for the 2017-18 financial year.

4.1.1 State Government

The State Government reported the following expenses for the 2017-18 financial year:

- \$688,880 of operating expense, of which approximately two thirds was associated with employee costs and the remainder with maintenance, repairs, permitting, mapping and other minor operational expenses.
- \$800,000 in capital expenditure, which is generally allocated to local governments for upgrading of water and other facilities supporting the SRN.
- \$1,036,000 in depreciation expense, calculated from around 4,300 assets, of which approximately 95% by value are water related assets.

4.1.2 Local Government

Each of the 24 local governments that had issued a travelling or grazing permit in 2017-18 were requested by Nine Squared to provide expenditure information. Only 11 of the 24 local governments responded. Nine Squared used the information provided to provide a benchmark costing for each of the 24 local governments. Assumptions were applied, including factoring economies of scale for local governments with higher levels of permitting.

The benchmark costing provided by Nine Squared would most likely reflect the current level of service for maintaining the network. It is common for local government to establish a hierarchy of level of service, with constrained resources allocated to higher hierarchies of assets. It can be concluded that the cost estimates are not the full cost to maintain all network assets but rather reflects the current practices. An audit and condition inspection of the network would be required to identify the full cost of maintaining the network, following from which decisions could be made on acceptable levels of service for the different hierarchy of network assets (i.e., primary, secondary and minor/ unused network assets).

The methodology implemented by Nine Squared provided the best estimate of expenditure by each local government. The estimates were compared to the costs prepared by AEC and SMEC in 2006 which were considered by Four Squared to be comparable, after factoring in cost indexation. Table 4.1 below outlines the travelling permits issued and revenues collected by local governments in 2017-18.

Table 4.1. Number of permits issued, and revenue collected by LGA, (2017-18)

Local Government Area	Travelling Permits Issued	Traveling Revenue	Grazing Permits Issued	Grazing Revenue	Total Revenue
Balonne Shire	19	1,985	0	0	1,985
Banana Shire	7	788	66	18,713	19,501
Barcaldine Regional	14	1,383	21	19,619	21,002
Barcoo Shire	1	140	0	0	140
Blackall Tambo Regional	18	1,759	127	137,971	139,730
Central Highlands Regional	20	2,965	12	6,632	9,597
Charters Towers Regional	0	0	1	64	64
Diamantina Shire	1	203	0	0	203
Flinders Shire	2	24	3	1,776	1,800
Goondiwindi Regional	53	1,600	149	42,153	43,753

Local Government Area	Travelling Permits Issued	Traveling Revenue	Grazing Permits Issued	Grazing Revenue	Total Revenue
Isaac Regional	6	0	3	1,344	1,344
Longreach Regional	3	619	0	0	619
Maranoa Regional	125	7,355	49	37,664	45,019
McKinlay Shire	2	449	0	0	449
Murweh Shire	12	828	3	4,408	5,236
North Burnett Regional	1	0	2	131	131
Paroo Shire	3	40	5	222	262
Richmond Shire	1	129	0	0	129
Somerset Regional	0	0	2	188	188
South Burnett Regional	0	0	2	143	143
Southern Downs Regional	0	0	15	1,716	1,716
Toowoomba Regional	0	0	12	3,298	3,298
Western Downs Regional	41	3,055	44	22,835	25,890
Winton Shire	5	794	1	1,124	1,918
Total	334	24,116	517	300,001	324,117

Source – Nine Squared, Stock Route Review

Table 4.2 outlines the network costs as reported by local governments for 2017-18 and Table 4.3 provides the respective estimated net cost by local government.

Table 4.2. Network Costs by LGA (2017-18)

Local Government Area	Water Facilities	Weed & Pest Control	Fencing	Monitoring	Permitting	Total Costs
Balonne Shire	14,351	107,656	38,196	9,616	46,000	215,819
Banana Shire	24,794	27,959	9,920	9,596	6,188	78,457
Barcaldine Regional	34,330	170,535	60,506	28,061	14,438	307,870
Barcoo Shire	26,701	37,493	13,303	176	1,056	78,729
Blackall Tambo Regional	72,475	182,163	64,631	124,180	86,762	530,211
Central Highlands Regional	66,753	73,901	26,220	11,118	11,690	189,682
Charters Towers Regional	55,310	32,386	11,491	152	1,056	100,395
Diamantina Shire	24,794	53,285	18,906	251	1,056	98,292
Flinders Shire	51,496	93,232	33,079	2,192	5,280	185,279
Goondiwindi Regional	30,516	73,661	26,135	69,954	97,201	297,467
Isaac Regional	15,258	54,760	19,429	2,317	41,090	132,854
Longreach Regional	70,568	158,708	56,310	2,238	3,168	290,992
Maranoa Regional	135,414	165,685	58,785	135,536	204,166	699,586
McKinlay Shire	30,516	95,311	33,816	896	2,112	162,651
Murweh Shire	68,661	70,292	24,939	4,957	15,840	184,689
North Burnett Regional	24,794	16,584	5,884	234	1,844	49,340
Paroo Shire	19,072	169,247	60,049	6,366	8,448	263,182
Richmond Shire	32,423	56,765	20,140	267	1,056	110,651
Somerset Regional	0	1,745	619	16	2,112	4,492
South Burnett Regional	13,351	5,146	1,826	48	20,000	40,371
Southern Downs Regional	0	2,467	875	174	15,840	19,356
Toowoomba Regional	0	1,280	454	72	12,672	14,478
Western Downs Regional	85,826	48,870	17,339	19,529	35,063	206,627
Winton Shire	66,753	333,348	118,272	9,403	55,918	583,694
Total	964,156	2,032,479	721,124	437,349	690,056	4,845,164

Source – Nine Squared, Stock Route Review

Table 4.3. Net Costs by LGA, (2017-18)

Local Government Area	Total Costs	Total Revenue	Net Cost
Balonne Shire	215,819	1,985	213,834
Banana Shire	78,457	19,501	58,956
Barcaldine Regional	307,870	21,002	286,868
Barcoo Shire	78,729	140	78,589
Blackall Tambo Regional	530,211	139,730	390,481
Central Highlands Regional	189,682	9,597	180,085
Charters Towers Regional	100,395	64	100,331
Diamantina Shire	98,292	203	98,089
Flinders Shire	185,279	1,800	183,479
Goondiwindi Regional	297,467	43,753	253,714
Isaac Regional	132,854	1,344	131,510
Longreach Regional	290,992	619	290,373
Maranoa Regional	699,586	45,019	654,567
McKinlay Shire	162,651	449	162,202
Murweh Shire	184,689	5,236	179,453
North Burnett Regional	49,340	131	49,209
Paroo Shire	263,182	262	262,920
Richmond Shire	110,651	129	110,522
Somerset Regional	4,492	188	4,304
South Burnett Regional	40,371	143	40,228
Southern Downs Regional	19,356	1,716	17,640
Toowoomba Regional	14,478	3,298	11,180
Western Downs Regional	206,627	25,890	180,737
Winton Shire	583,694	1,918	581,776
Total	4,845,164	324,117	4,521,047

Source – Nine Squared, Stock Route Review

4.1.3 Total Costs of Network

Based on the expenditure information outlined above the following table summaries the total costs of the network for 2017-18.

Table 4.4. Total cost estimate

Cost Type	2017-18 Estimate
NET OPERATING COSTS	
State Government	
Staffing and operational costs	\$688,880
Depreciation	\$1,036,000
Total Estimate	\$1,724,880
Local Government	
Operational Costs	\$4,845,161
Less revenue	-\$324,117
Total Estimate	\$4,521,044
Estimated Total Net Operating Cost	\$6,245,924
State Government Capital Costs	\$800,000

Source: AEC

It should be noted that the funding provided by the State Government for capital costs should be sourced from full cost recovery of the operating costs (including depreciation). If depreciation expense is fully funded by cash revenues, the capital costs do not need to be cash funded as well.

Finding 8 - The total funding required by all sources to meet the operational costs (including depreciation) of the SRN is \$6,570,041 – based on 2017-18 expenditures. The revenue received (\$324,117) is 5.2% of the estimated operational costs, if all costs of the SRN are allocated to the grazing benefits of the network. Assuming local government only retains 50% of the revenue (or \$162,056), the revenue retained by local government is 3.3% of respective costs (\$4,845,161).

Finding 9 - It can be concluded that the cost estimates are not the full cost to maintain all network assets but rather reflects the current practices. An audit and condition inspection of the network would be required to identify the full cost of maintaining the network, following from which decisions could be made on acceptable levels of service for the different hierarchy of network assets (i.e., primary, secondary and minor/unused network assets).

4.2 CURRENT DEMAND OF THE NETWORK

The current supply of stock routes within the network has been estimated at 800 separate routes, classified as either primary, secondary or minor/unused. There are other routes that are not documented or where use does not require a permit. The following table was provided in the Stock Route Review completed by Nine Squared to report the estimated stock route usage from 2013 to 2018:

Table 4.5. Stock Route Usage, 2013-2018

Stock route usage	Primary Stock Routes	Secondary Stock Routes	Minor or Unused Stock Routes
Number of times route used to travel stock	38	46	213
Total number of routes	48	61	735
Percentage of total used to travel stock	79%	75%	29%
Average number of times a route was used	33	18.4	9.6

Note - Numbers are approximate and exclude routes that are not classified under these three categories
Source: Nine Squared, Stock Route Review

Furthermore, Nine Squared commented that:

“Although the majority of local government areas outside of northern Queensland (excluding coastal and metropolitan areas) have stock route activity, the vast majority of stock route activity is centred in the South and central regions, with limited activity in the far west of the State. Travelling of stock is highly concentrated within the Maranoa Regional Council area and its surrounding regions, with very little activity happening in government areas that are not within a close distance to Maranoa. Grazing activity is slightly more spread out and prevalent, with Goondiwindi, Blackall-Tambo, Western Downs, Banana and Maranoa having the most activity.”

Using data from the Stock Route Management System (SRMS) Nine Squared also reported that a total of 1,209 travelling permits were issued between 2013 and 2018 (1,198 for travelling large stock and 11 for small stock) and 2,553 grazing permits were issued during the same period (2,450 of which for large stock, and 103 for small stock).

It is important to note that the western areas of the State have lower stocking rates and have been in drought for long periods of time (during the 2013 and 2018 reported above) and pastoralists may have destocked prior to the commencement of the data reported above, which may have had an impact on the level of stock route use, and the type of usage, in these areas.

4.3 CURRENT PRICE OF USING THE STOCK ROUTE NETWORK

The *Regulation* prescribes the charges that are applied by local governments when issuing of permits. A maximum and a minimum fee is prescribed by the *Regulation* for an agistment permit and applied per head for seven days of grazing. The local government will assess the application by considering:

- pasture levels on the route.
- availability and suitability of water.
- likelihood the stock's travel will spread a declared pest or notifiable disease.

- whether the minimum travel rate of 10km per day can be met by the stock or if a lesser rate is permitted, whether the lesser rate can be sustained for the entire journey.
- impacts on road traffic infrastructure and road safety.

The current fees for use of the SRN are outlined below.

Table 4.6. 2020-21 Fees for Use of the SRN

Permit Type	Stock Type	Fee	
Travelling Stock Permit	Large stock	\$0.02	Per km per 20 head or part of 20 head
	Small stock	\$0.02	Per km per 100 head or part of 100 head
Agistment Stock Permit	Large stock	\$1.16	Minimum fee per head per week
		\$2.80	Maximum fee per head per week
	Small stock	\$0.10	Minimum fee per head per week
		\$0.44	Maximum fee per head per week

Source – Regulation:

4.4 BENEFICIARIES OF THE STOCK ROUTE NETWORK

In 2019, Nine Squared report highlighted that while fees are only charged for the permitting of activities under the Act the SRN provides a range of benefits to both users and the broader community beyond its use by the pastoral industry. Other beneficiaries noted in the report include beekeepers, the tourism industry, recreational users and the community more broadly for environmental, historical and cultural benefits.

In considering the multiple users of the SRN and a diverse range of benefits the SRN provides, Nine Squared concluded that value provided by the SRN to the broader community should be considered when determining the appropriate costs between the beneficiaries. The report concluded that the community benefits accounted for 79% of the value provided by the SRN, while just 21% of the value can be attributed to the grazing industry. Note, Nine Squared cautioned that the estimates should be indicative only given the partial nature of the analysis and the absence of other uses which have not been quantified. In concluding, the report suggests that the grazing sector should be responsible for 21% of the cost of administering, maintaining, and planning the SRN.

Finding 10 - Applying 21% to the estimated total costs of the SRN, the grazing sector is benefiting from \$1,379,709 of the costs of operating the network (21% multiplied by \$6,570,041) and contributing 23.5% to these costs (\$324,117 divided by \$1,379,709). The total permit fees received would need to increase by 426% to achieve the \$1,379,709 in revenue.

5. NEW OPTIONS FOR FUNDING THE STOCK ROUTE NETWORK

The literature review provided in Section 2 outlines numerous reviews and academic studies that have recommended that funding be increased for the maintenance and operations of the SRN, for this is primarily the responsibility of local governments.

Section 4 of this report has highlighted the net cost to local governments, particularly western Queensland Councils that have a significantly lower revenue base from which to fund the maintenance and operations of the SRN.

There is a clear need for a new funding model that increases the total funding and distributes the funding to local governments, particularly the western Queensland Councils, where the burden is currently being met inequitably by the ratepayers.

In developing options and selecting the most appropriate, the following learning should be considered from the information previously outlined in this report:

- The Act defines the responsibility of the State Government to prepare a Stock Route Management Strategy. The current Strategy prepared by the State Government includes the objective that *resource allocation is reasonable and appropriate to maintain a viable stock route*. The State Government also establishes the legislation which regulates the fees and charges for the use of the network. The responsibility to improve the funding lies with the State Government.
- The total funding from all sources required to cover total costs is \$6,570,041 based on 2017-18 cost estimates (including depreciation).
- Local government is currently funding approximately 96.7% (or \$4,683,105) of the operational costs incurred by local government through general rates, which is an inequitable burden upon western Queensland Councils in particular.
- The costs incurred by individual Councils does not correlate to the demand on the network, but rather the amount of the network to be maintained within the local government area. Longreach Regional Council, Barcardine Regional Council and Winton Shire Council are examples of Councils with high operating costs but very little revenue earned. An adequate and equitable funding model needs to reflect the efficient cost of operating the network, and not a distribution model based on grazing usage of the network.
- Inclusion of user charges to ensure the users of travelling and agistment permits contribute to the funding model is likely to improve the efficiency of the funding model. A price signal is an important factor in the funding model to ensure the efficient use of the network (demand management). Funding models where the price is used as a demand management instrument are most likely to be more efficient and equitable, compared to funding models where there is no price signal to influence demand on the SRN – or worse, incentivises increased use of the network transferring demand from other more efficient alternatives.
- The proposed funding model should be simple by design and efficient to avoid unnecessary administrative costs. This is particularly important given the total funding requirement is not large when compared to other revenue streams from levies (e.g., waste management levy, emergency management levy).
- Given that a majority (as much as 80%) of the value of the SRN has been suggested to be beneficial to the wider community for environmental, biodiversity, historical and cultural, responsibility for funding the SRN operations should reflect the statutory responsibility for that benefit. From this perspective, local government is currently burdened with funding the SRN from local government revenue sources when it may be more appropriate for the funding to be sourced from State Government revenues.

The options outlined below are not intended to be stand alone but rather a combination of the options is likely to provide the best outcome.

Option 1 – Increase in the User Charges through Increased Price of Permits, Fees for Long Term Grazing on Roads and Use of Application Fees

Price for traveling and adjustment permits are increased in the *Regulation* by the State Government to reflect the benefit attributed to the grazing sector for use of the SRN, with the remaining component funded through other options. This option also encourages local governments to explore the opportunity to permit long term grazing on roads for a fee and adopt an application fee to recover the administration cost of processing permits.

Option 2 – Rationalisation of the Stock Route Network

Conduct an audit on the network, in particular the minor or not used assets, and reduce the responsibilities required of local government to operate and maintain the assets. Local government would prepare the management plans and establish cost-effective levels of service according to the hierarchy of assets.

Option 3 – Introduction of a Stock Route Network Levy

Creating a new levy applied to all ratepayers, collected by local governments and redistributed by the State Government to the local governments based on the proportion of the SRN by hierarchy (primary, secondary and minor/not used) within each respective local government area.

Option 4 – Local Government Stock Route Network Operational Grant

State Government funds local governments (and potentially private landholders as stewards) through an annual operating grant distributed based on the proportion of the SRN by hierarchy (primary, secondary and minor/not used) within each respective local government area (or privately owned land).

5.1 OPTION ONE - INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF PERMITS AND USE OF APPLICATION FEES

Under this option the fees for both agistment and travelling permits would increase to achieve the grazing sectors 21% share of the estimated total costs of the SRN – that is \$1,379,709 in revenue. The schedule of fees received would need to increase by 426% to achieve the \$1,379,709 in revenue.

This option does not provide a solution to the total funding required to maintain and operate the SRN.

Increased user-pays revenue may also be achieved through additional fees from landholders on leasehold land. This could be captured by local governments through either additional land rental on Crown land (currently collected by the State Government through Permit to Occupy fees) or through a new rate differential category for leasehold land that is identified as being adjacent to the SRN and unfenced. Furthermore, recent changes to the Transport Infrastructure Act may also provide an opportunity for Councils to authorise long term grazing on local roads, including stock routes, with the revenue retained by the Council. The option to increase revenue through long term grazing on crown land and local roads would require further investigation on the extent of the revenue that could be collected via these mechanisms.

It should be recognised that this option does not improve the equitable funding of the network. Councils such as Longreach Regional Council, Barcaldine Regional Council and Winton Shire Council will continue to rely heavily upon the general rate to fund the costs of the network, whereas Council that receive significant revenue from higher use of the network (such as Blackall Tambo Regional Council and Goondiwindi Regional Council) would benefit greatly from this option.

This option should be considered as a necessary option to ensure there is a price signal for demand management purposes and that a user charge continues to be a part of the funding model.

Introduction of other options will also be required to ensure the full cost of the network is funded and that the funding is distributed equitably.

5.2 OPTION TWO – RATIONALISATION OF THE STOCK ROUTE NETWORK

This option would include an audit of the current network, in particular the minor or not used assets, with the aim to reduce the size of the network assets and reduce the responsibilities required of local government to operate and maintain the assets. The strategic nature of the assets should be reviewed with infrastructure on unused stock routes disposed of to decrease the maintenance burden.

The previous report prepared by AEC and SKM included an option to reduce the current approximately 72,000km down to a core network of approximately 12,000km. This was estimated to reduce the full cost by 9.9%. Access costs to the grazing sector was anticipated to increase with a reduction in the network. There may also be some impact on the historical and culture significance of the network, however the proposed audit would identify the likely impact given primary and secondary routes most likely to be retained.

Local government would prepare revised management plans and establish cost-effective levels of service according to the hierarchy of assets and reduced operational requirements.

5.3 OPTION THREE – INTRODUCTION OF A STOCK ROUTE NETWORK LEVY

Under this option the Queensland Government would implement a new levy that is collected by local government authorities for all rateable assessments and redistributed to local government authorities based on proportion of the SRN by hierarchy (primary, secondary and minor/not used) within each respective local government area – See Appendix B.

Based on the 2016 Census data and assumptions relating to state population growth (pre-dating the COVID-19 pandemic), Australian Bureau of Statistics estimates Queensland to have 2,042,099¹¹ total households by 2021.

Collecting sufficient funding for the SRN total costs of \$6,570,041 equates to a levy amount of \$3.22 per household. Given rateable property assessments would be significantly more than total households, including the commercial, industrial, farming and other non-residential properties, a levy for each rateable assessment is likely to be approximately \$2 per assessment.

If Option One is implemented together with this option, a total of \$5,190,332 would need to be recovered through the levy – or a levy of approximately \$2.54 per household.

A proposal to introduce a levy per rateable assessment simply would not be cost-effective, particularly given that local governments are paid between \$2.89 and \$3.46 per property to raise the emergency management levy.

Should the total amount required to be collected increase to improve the level of service provided (for example, increasing the maintenance costs two-fold) it would not improve the administrative efficiency significant enough to justify a levy program.

This option is not recommended.

5.4 OPTION FOUR – LOCAL GOVERNMENT STOCK ROUTE NETWORK OPERATIONAL GRANT

This option would be implemented with Option One, and assumes that the Queensland Government funds the net cost of each local government for operating and maintaining SRN through the allocation of an operational grant. Under this option, the Queensland Government may fund Councils using a distribution model based on the quantum of SRN by hierarchy within the region (see Appendix B), as well as other targeted funding to address known issues across the network. Councils would be required acquit the expenditure of the grant, similar to other grants provided to local government. This would provide the State with a much greater awareness of the use, operation and maintenance of the network, as well as monitoring the achievements against the objectives outlined in the Strategy.

¹¹ Source: Queensland Treasury, Queensland Government household projections, 2018 edition; Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016 Census of Population and Housing.

Based on the objectives outlined in the Strategy, and through engagement with the Local Government Working Group, the Queensland Government would be able to fund the operational needs of the grazing sector as well as the cultural, heritage and environmental benefits to the broader community.

As per the current revenue estimates outlined earlier in this report, the net cost to Councils to be funded by a grant would be approximately \$4,521,047, assuming that Councils retain 100% of the current permit fees. This would be reduced by an increase in the user charges and application fees introduced by Option One.

The added advantage of this Option is that a portion of the grants could be provided to private landowners, acting as stewards for portions of the network, to address network issues on private land. Local governments would be best positioned to identify and verify the needs of private landowners and to administer the State Government funded program locally.

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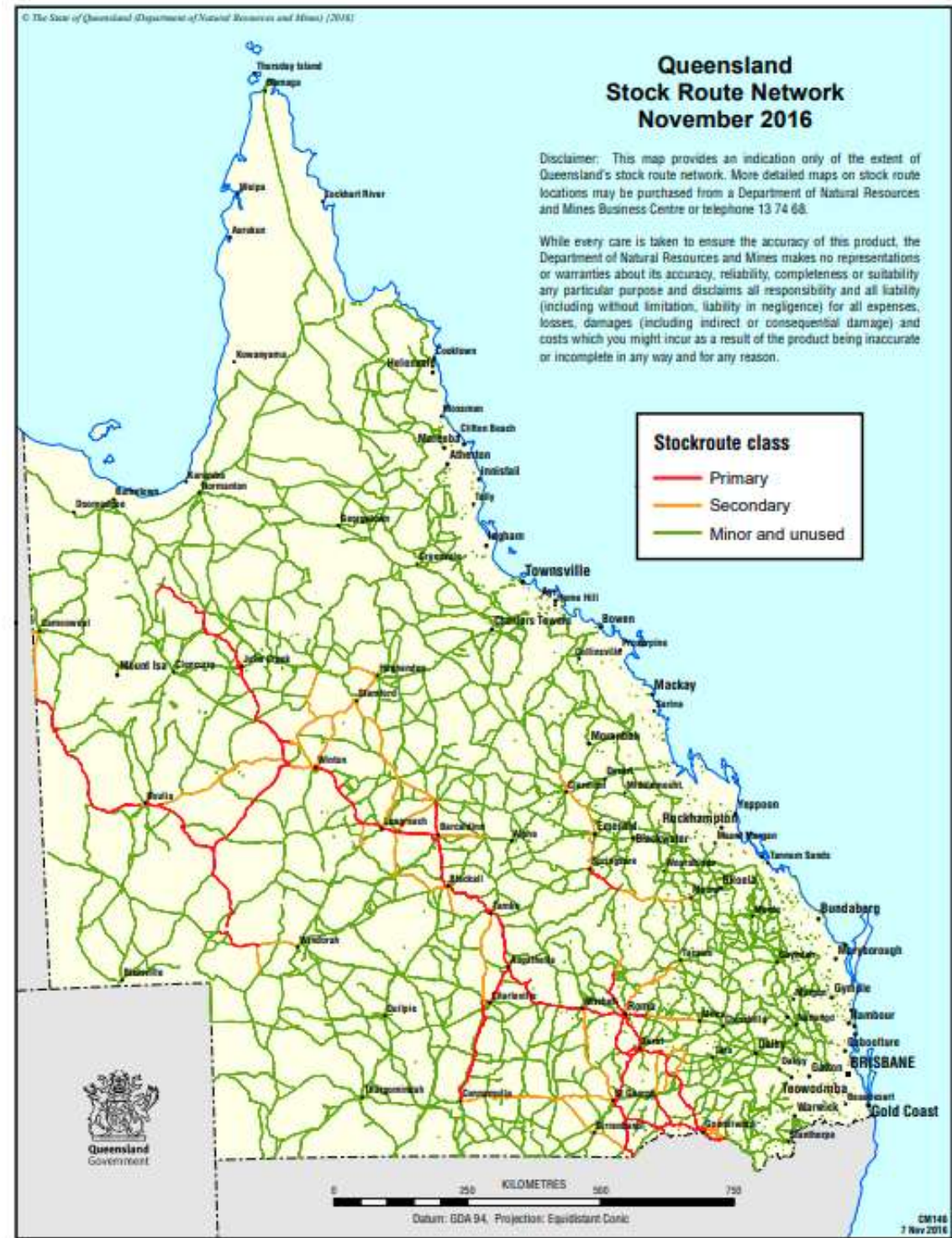
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APPENDIX A: STOCK ROUTE NETWORK MAP



APPENDIX B: STOCK ROUTE AREA STATISTICS FOR ROAD PARCELS ONLY (AREAS IN HECTARES)

LGA	Current Stockroutes							
	Minor and Unused	%	Primary	%	Secondary	%	TOTAL	%
Balonne	61,365	3.7%	9,704	4.0%	19,191	7.9%	90,260	4.2%
Banana	22,771	1.4%		0.0%	942	0.4%	23,713	1.1%
Barcaldine	96,290	5.9%	20,322	8.4%	16,870	7.0%	133,482	6.3%
Barcoo	75,434	4.6%	4,168	1.7%	2,467	1.0%	82,069	3.9%
Blackall Tambo	58,330	3.5%	10,888	4.5%	12,446	5.1%	81,664	3.8%
Boulia	33,490	2.0%	18,086	7.5%	979	0.4%	52,554	2.5%
Bulloo	54,511	3.3%		0.0%		0.0%	54,511	2.6%
Bundaberg	964	0.1%		0.0%		0.0%	964	0.0%
Burdekin	593	0.0%		0.0%		0.0%	593	0.0%
Burke	9,642	0.6%		0.0%		0.0%	9,642	0.5%
Carpentaria	16,289	1.0%		0.0%		0.0%	16,289	0.8%
Cassowary Coast		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%	0	0.0%
Central Highlands	34,803	2.1%	1,376	0.6%	4,270	1.8%	40,449	1.9%
Charters Towers	60,278	3.7%		0.0%		0.0%	60,278	2.8%
Cloncurry	41,475	2.5%	611	0.3%		0.0%	42,086	2.0%
Cook	16,614	1.0%		0.0%		0.0%	16,614	0.8%
Croydon	5,577	0.3%		0.0%		0.0%	5,577	0.3%
Diamantina	25,658	1.6%	25,124	10.4%		0.0%	50,782	2.4%
Doomadgee Aboriginal	197	0.0%		0.0%		0.0%	197	0.0%
Douglas	202	0.0%		0.0%		0.0%	202	0.0%
Etheridge	17,651	1.1%		0.0%		0.0%	17,651	0.8%
Flinders	100,268	6.1%		0.0%	32,002	13.2%	132,270	6.2%
Fraser Coast	1,818	0.1%		0.0%		0.0%	1,818	0.1%
Gladstone	2,128	0.1%		0.0%		0.0%	2,128	0.1%
Goondiwindi	12,786	0.8%	8,784	3.6%	1,995	0.8%	23,564	1.1%
Gympie	1,682	0.1%		0.0%		0.0%	1,682	0.1%
Hope Vale Aboriginal	19	0.0%		0.0%		0.0%	19	0.0%
Isaac	47,863	2.9%		0.0%	1,487	0.6%	49,349	2.3%
Livingstone	871	0.1%		0.0%		0.0%	871	0.0%
Longreach	118,524	7.2%	21,627	9.0%	33,513	13.8%	173,663	8.2%
Maranoa	63,023	3.8%	11,316	4.7%	9,028	3.7%	83,368	3.9%
Mareeba	11,785	0.7%		0.0%		0.0%	11,785	0.6%
Mckinlay	110,025	6.7%	24,188	10.0%		0.0%	134,213	6.3%
Mount Isa	9,050	0.6%	122	0.1%	5,072	2.1%	14,244	0.7%
Murweh	76,031	4.6%	24,691	10.3%	13,299	5.5%	114,021	5.4%
North Burnett	18,187	1.1%		0.0%		0.0%	18,187	0.9%
Northern Peninsula Area	276	0.0%		0.0%		0.0%	276	0.0%
Paroo	124,827	7.6%	15,809	6.6%	8,379	3.5%	149,015	7.0%
Quilpie	134,992	8.2%		0.0%		0.0%	134,992	6.3%
Richmond	46,328	2.8%		0.0%	7,618	3.1%	53,946	2.5%
Rockhampton	75	0.0%		0.0%		0.0%	75	0.0%
Somerset	2,699	0.2%		0.0%		0.0%	2,699	0.1%
South Burnett	7,592	0.5%		0.0%		0.0%	7,592	0.4%
Southern Downs	2,295	0.1%		0.0%		0.0%	2,295	0.1%
Tablelands	6,832	0.4%		0.0%		0.0%	6,832	0.3%
Toowoomba	7,128	0.4%		0.0%		0.0%	7,128	0.3%
Torres	134	0.0%		0.0%		0.0%	134	0.0%
Western Downs	33,745	2.1%	2,212	0.9%	3,203	1.3%	39,160	1.8%
Whitsunday	20,701	1.3%		0.0%		0.0%	20,701	1.0%
Winton	50,150	3.1%	41,787	17.4%	69,860	28.8%	161,796	7.6%
Woorabinda Aboriginal	142	0.0%		0.0%	27	0.0%	169	0.0%
TOTALS	1,644,109		240,814		242,646		2,127,569	

Source – Department of Resources



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BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

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OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 5.5

SUBJECT HEADING: Shire Rural Lands Officers Group

Author and Officer's Title: Des Howard, Chief Executive Officer

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: The Shire Rural Lands Officers Group of Western Queensland have asked Blackall-Tambo Regional Council to host their next meeting.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council host the Shire Rural Lands Officers Group of Western Queensland on 8th and 9th March 2022 and provide a venue and catering for the meeting.

Background

A representative of the Shire of Rural Lands Officers Group (SRLOG) of Western Queensland has asked if Blackall-Tambo Regional Council would host their next meeting on 8th and 9th March 2022 in Tambo.

The SRLOG consists mostly of Rural Lands Officers from local governments across Queensland. The group is supported by officers from the Department of Resources, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Department of Environment and Science, Agforce, Desert Channels Queensland and other stakeholders.

The Group allows officers to gather and impart the latest methods and information in industry work practises and glean knowledge from peers and other attendees.

The Group is asking Council to provide a venue in which to hold the meeting and catering for morning and afternoon teas, lunch and an evening meal.

Link to Corporate Plan

Environment & Heritage

Outcome 3 – Pest Management

Consultation (internal/external)

CEO

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

\$1500.00 approx

BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

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OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 5.6

SUBJECT HEADING: Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand Fund

Author and Officer's Title: Des Howard, Chief Executive Officer

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: An application for grant funding through the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand Fund for the Blackall-Tambo's Carnival of Circus has been submitted.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council endorse the application for funding through the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand Fund for the Blackall-Tambo's Carnival of Circus.

Background

To be eligible to receive funding from the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund the primary purpose must be arts and entertainment. An application was recently made to obtain funding for the Blackall-Tambo Carnival of Circus.

It is proposed that Blackall-Tambo's (the birthplace of the Australian circus industry), Carnival of Circus would present an event celebrating Circus as a vital and vibrant part of Australia's arts and cultural landscape.

The program would include:

- Residencies and creative development in Blackall-Tambo in acrobatics, dance and puppetry.
 - Presentation of Flipside Circus performances.
 - Develop and present an iconic aerial performance at the Blackall Saleyards.
-

Link to Corporate Plan

Vibrant Communities

Outcome 1 – Arts and Culture

Consultation (internal/external)

CEO

Director of Finance Corporate and Community Services

Red Ridge

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

\$40,000.00 Council contribution

BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL[Return to Agenda](#)[Next Item](#)**OFFICER REPORTS**

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 5.7

SUBJECT HEADING: Development Application – DA 09-2021-2022 – 10 Star Street & 18, 20 and 22 Arthur Street, Tambo

Author and Officer's Title: Des Howard, Chief Executive Officer

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: The Applicant, Blackall-Tambo Regional Council, seeks a Development Permit for Reconfiguring a Lot (four into five lots, new access easement and new road) involving land at 10 Star Street and 18, 20 and 22 Arthur Street, Tambo, formally described as Lot 2 on RP605624, Lot 2 on SP293537, Lot 1 on SP293537 and Lot 1 on SP197795, respectively.

The proposal involves four lots, three of which have frontage to Arthur Street and one with frontage to Star Street. A 'land exchange' between the subject lots will better reflect the current use of the land and improve vehicle access to lots fronting Arthur Street. The proposal involves both a subdivision and boundary realignment to create the five lots, new access easement and new road.

Under the Blackall-Tambo Region Planning Scheme 2020 (the Planning Scheme), the subject site is in the Township Zone (Commercial Precinct). Undertaking the proposed development in the Township zone is code assessable, requiring a Development Permit for Reconfiguring a Lot (Subdivision of four (4) lots into five (5) lots, new access easement and new road).

The minimum lot size and lot frontage in the Commercial Precinct of the Township zone is 600m² and 15m respectively. Four of the five lots created meet the minimum lot size/frontage requirements of the Reconfiguring a Lot code, except for the lot containing the tourism display of the vintage fire truck on Arthur Street (proposed Lot 4); this lot will be 272m². The conflict with the 600m² minimum lot size can be justified on account of the long-standing use of the land for passive tourism purposes, for which a standard lot size is not required due to visitors appreciating the display from the main street. An access easement is proposed to benefit this lot for maintenance purposes or in the event the fire truck ever requires removal.

Development conditions are recommended to ensure the reconfiguration of lots complies with all assessment benchmarks. The application is recommended for approval, subject to the conditions stated herein.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council approves the application for a Development Permit for Reconfiguring a Lot (Subdivision of four (4) lots into five (5) lots, new access easement and new road) on land located at 10 Star Street and 18, 20 and 22 Arthur Street, Tambo, described as Lot 2 on RP605624, Lot 2 on SP293537, Lot 1 on SP293537 and Lot 1 on SP197795 subject to the following conditions:

1.0 ENDORSEMENT OF SURVEY PLAN

1.1 Council will not endorse or release the survey plan for this development until such time as:

- (a) All conditions attached to this development approval for Reconfiguring a Lot have been fully satisfied;**

- (b) A statement demonstrating compliance with all conditions attached to this development approval has been submitted to Council; and
- (c) All outstanding rates and charges relating to the site have been paid.

2.0 APPROVED PLANS AND DOCUMENTS

- 2.1 The approved development must be completed and maintained generally in accordance with the approved plan of development *Plan of Lots 1-5 and Emt B in Lot 3*, prepared by Anthony Scott Morcom and dated 9-09-2021.
- 2.2 Where there is any conflict between the conditions of this approval and the details shown on the approved plans and documents, the conditions of approval must prevail.

3.0 ACCESS

- 3.1 The proposed new road must be constructed to Council's satisfaction, involving a six (6) metre width and at a minimum, a gravel surface treatment.
- 3.2 A non-piped crossover must be installed to Council's satisfaction for each new access point between the new road and approved lots.

4.0 SERVICES

- 4.1 Maintain existing services and utility connections (reticulated water and sewerage, electricity and telecommunications) to approved lots 1, 4 and 5, where applicable.
- 4.2 Approved lots 2 and 3 must provide and maintain separate connections to reticulated water and sewerage networks (to Council's satisfaction) and electricity and telecommunication services (in accordance with the standards of the relevant service provider). Each connection point must be wholly contained within the respective lot boundary.
- 4.3 Any service connection to an existing building that traverses a lot boundary is to be:
 - 4.3.1 removed; or
 - 4.3.2 relocated so that it does not traverse a lot boundary; or
 - 4.3.3 covered by an easement.

5.0 PUBLIC UTILITIES

- 5.1 The applicant is responsible for the cost of any alteration to public utilities as a result of complying with conditions of this Development Permit.
- 5.2 Any alteration of any public utility or other facilities necessitated by the development of the land or associated construction works external to the site shall be at no cost to Council.
- 5.3 Any damage caused to any public utility during the course of construction shall be repaired to the satisfaction of Council's Delegated Officer and at no cost to Council prior to the sealing of the Survey Plan.

ADVISORY NOTES

- E. The Developer and his employee, agent, contractor or invitee is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions of this development approval.**
- F. Where these Conditions refer to “Council” in relation to requiring Council to approve or to be satisfied as to any matter, or conferring on the Council a function, power or discretion, that role may be fulfilled in whole or in part by a delegate appointed for that purpose by the Council.**
- G. Prior to commencing any construction activities, the applicant/developer will be required to obtain further development permits for building work, and plumbing and drainage work, as required under relevant legislation for this work.**
- H. This approval does not negate the requirement for compliance with all other relevant Local Laws and other statutory requirements. Any provisions contained in this approval relating to the enforcement of any of the conditions shall be in addition to all other rights, powers and privileges that the Council may possess or obtain, and nothing contained in these conditions shall be construed so as to prejudice, affect or otherwise derogate or limit these rights, powers and privileges of the Council.**
- I. General environmental duty under the Environmental Protection Act 1994 prohibits unlawful environmental nuisance caused by noise, aerosols, particles, dust, ash, fumes, light, odour or smoke beyond the boundaries of the development site during all stages of the development including earthworks, construction and operation.**

Background**1.0 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION SUMMARY****TABLE 1 – OVERVIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION**

PROPERTY DETAILS	
Site address	10 Star Street and 18, 20 and 22 Arthur Street, Tambo
RPD	Lot 2 on RP605624, Lot 2 on SP293537, Lot 1 on SP293537 and Lot 1 on SP197795
Site Area	10,340m ² (combined)
Landowner	Blackall Tambo Regional Council and Landmark Operations LTD A.C.N. 008 743 217
Existing use of land	Council administration buildings, Warehouse, Agricultural supplies store and shed containing tourism display (vintage fire truck).
APPLICATION DETAILS	
Application No.	DA 09-2021-2022
Applicant	Blackall Tambo Regional Council
Application description	Development Application seeking Development Permit for Reconfiguring a Lot (Subdivision of four (4) lots into five (5) lots, new access easement and new road)
Date application was made	21 September 2021
Decision due date	17 December 2021

Proposal	Subdivision of four (4) lots into five (5) lots, new access easement and new road	
Main Issues/Resolution	Issue	Resolution
	The lot size of proposed Lot 4 on SP327551 (272m ²) is below the minimum lot size prescribed for the Commercial Precinct of the Township zone (600m ²).	Lot 4 will contain the tourism display of a vintage fire truck on Arthur Street. The conflict with the 600m ² minimum lot size can be justified on account of the long-standing use of the land for passive tourism purposes, for which a standard lot size is not required due to visitors appreciating the display from the main street. An access easement is proposed to benefit this lot in the event the fire truck ever requires removal.
STATUTORY DETAILS		
Mapped matters of interest under PR 2017	Water Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water resource planning area boundaries • Great artesian water resource plan area State Transport Corridor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State-controlled Road Areas within 25m of a State Transport Corridor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area within 25m of a State-controlled road 	
State agency referrals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule 10, Part 9, Division 4, Subdivision 2, Table 1, Item 1 - State transport corridors and future State transport corridors • Schedule 10, Part 9, Division 4, Subdivision 2, Table 3, Item 1 – State transport corridors and future State transport corridors 	
State Planning Policy	State Planning Policy (July 2017)	
Regional Plan	Central West Regional Plan (September 2009)	
Planning Scheme	Blackall-Tambo Region Planning Scheme 2020	
Zone	Township Zone (Commercial Precinct)	
Overlays	Nil	
Level of Assessment	Code Assessment	

2.0 PROPOSAL BACKGROUND

Application lodged	21 September 2021
Application properly made	21 September 2021
Referral response received	29 October 2021
Decision Due	17 December 2021

3.0 SITE AND SURROUNDS DESCRIPTION

The site is located at 10 Star Street and 18, 20 and 22 Arthur Street, Tambo, formally described as Lot 2 on RP605624, Lot 2 on SP293537, Lot 1 on SP293537 and Lot 1 on SP197795 (refer **Figure 1**). The subject site has the following characteristics:

- Lot 1 on SP197795 contains two buildings owned by Blackall Tambo Regional Council.
- Lot 1 on SP293537 contains an open shed which houses a vintage fire truck.
- Lot 2 on SP293537 contains Nutrien Ag Solutions, owned by Landmark, which involves the sale of rural supplies.
- Lot 2 on RP605624 contains a shed, owned by Blackall Tambo Regional Council.

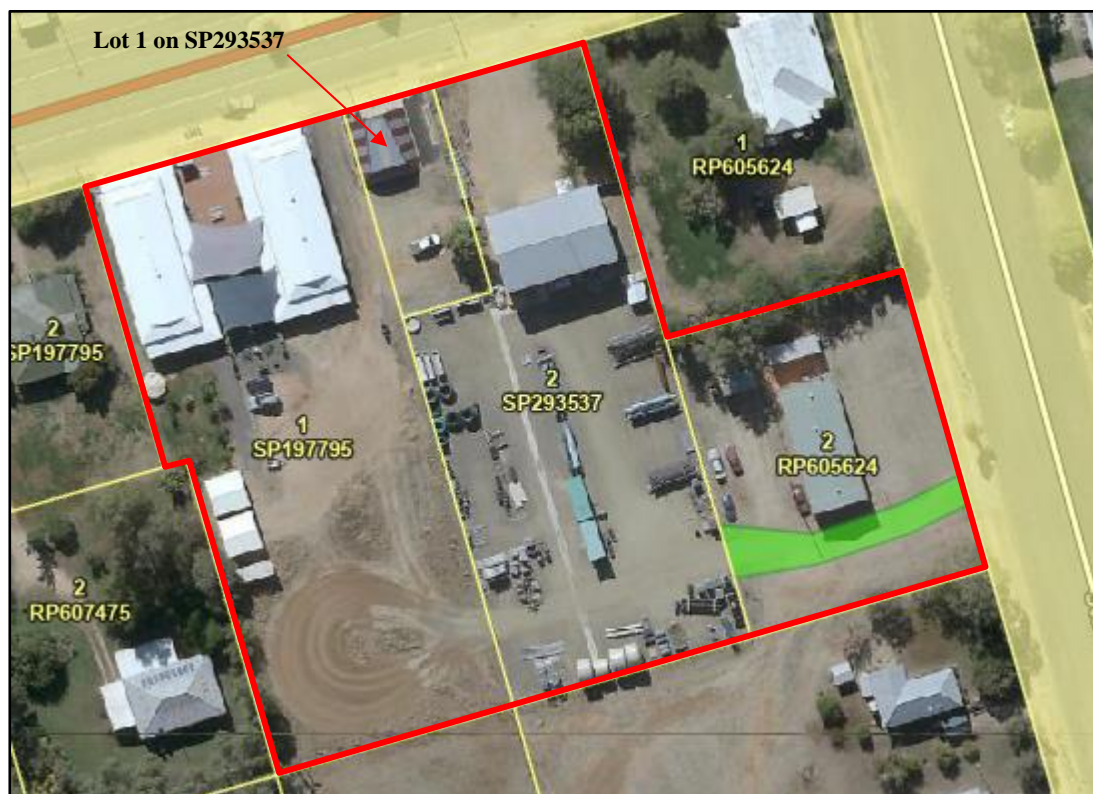


FIGURE 1 – AERIAL OF SUBJECT SITE

The lots containing the council buildings and Nutrien contain an existing vehicle crossover to Arthur Street, which facilitates access to car parks at the rear of the respective lots. The lot containing the fire truck also appears to have a small crossover from Arthur Street. The lot fronting Star Street has an existing vehicle crossover to this street, and is also burdened by an access easement which provides a secondary access to the rear of the Nutrien lot.

4.0 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL

The proposed subdivision results in the creation of five (5) lots, an access easement and new road along the rear of the lots (branching off Star Street). Following approval of the proposed development, the following areas will apply for each newly created allotment:

lot	Proposed	Area
1		4,317m ²
2		1,945m ²
3		1,125m ²
4		285m ²
5		1,702m ²

The purpose of the proposed subdivision is to enable a 'land exchange' between the subject lots to better reflect the current use of the land and improve vehicle access to lots fronting Arthur Street. As part of the proposed survey plan, an extra lot is created through the subdivision of Council-owned land, which is currently occupied by two separate buildings, being the Tambo multi-purpose centre and a commercial building. The subdivision will place each building/land use within its own lot, providing an opportunity for Council to dispose of the lot containing the commercial building should this be desired in the future. Further, through the rearrangement of boundaries, Landmark will also acquire additional land to expand their existing operations (also to make up for land lost to the new road).

No change is proposed to the existing access arrangements to proposed Lots 1, 3 and 4, which are facilitated via existing crossovers from Arthur Street. Existing access will also be retained from Star Street for proposed Lot 5. Proposed Lot 2 will be accessed via the proposed new road at the rear of the site. The proposed access easement from Arthur Street is to provide vehicle access to proposed Lot 4 which houses a vintage fire truck (**Figure 2**).

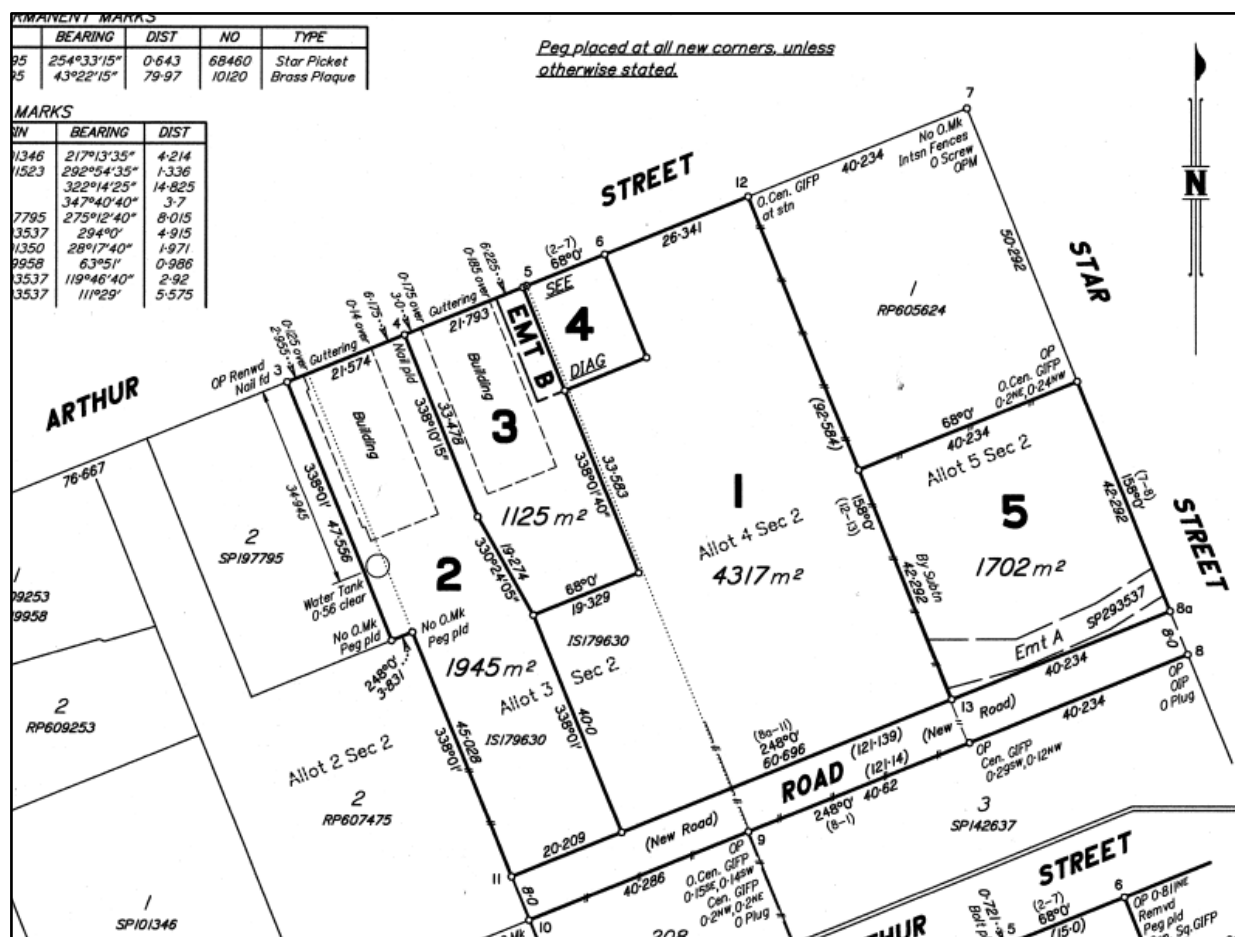


FIGURE 2 – EXCERPT OF PROPOSED PLAN OF SUBDIVISION

Each proposed lot has existing services suitable for the existing activity occurring on the land and can connect to the necessary urban infrastructure services, including reticulated water, reticulated sewer, and reticulated telecommunications and electricity.

The plans recommended for approval in the conditions are provided in **Attachment 1** to this report.

5.0 PLANNING ASSESSMENT

In accordance with section 45 (3) of the *Planning Act 2016*, Code Assessment is an assessment that must be carried out only –

- (a) Against the **assessment benchmarks in a categorising instrument** for the development; and
- (b) Having regard to **any matters prescribed by regulation** for this paragraph.

This framework for assessing Code assessable applications is explained as follows –

Code assessment is a ‘bounded assessment’ which means only the applicable assessment benchmarks and matters can be considered by Council in deciding the application.

The categorising instrument for the development is the *Blackall-Tambo Region Planning Scheme 2020*, under which the applicable assessment benchmark is the Reconfiguring a Lot Code and the Township Zone Code.

The Central West Regional Plan

The regional plan is identified as being appropriately integrated in the Planning Scheme and therefore, does not require further assessment. The assessment of the proposal against the Planning Scheme in section 5.1 below also functions as an assessment of the Regional Plan.

The State Planning Policy

The State Planning Policy (July 2017) (SPP) has been identified as being appropriately integrated with the Planning and Scheme and therefore an assessment against the Planning Scheme is considered to be an assessment against the SPP.

The Local Government Infrastructure Plan

There is no Local Government Infrastructure Plan in place for the Council Area and Council ceases to charge Adopted Infrastructure Charges for any new development. In turn, these assessment benchmarks do not apply to the development and an Infrastructure Charges Notice does not form part of this recommendation.

Schedules 9 and 10 of the Planning Regulation

The planning application triggers State agency referral under Schedule 10 for the following reasons:

- Schedule 10, Part 9, Division 4, Subdivision 2, Table 1, Item 1 - State transport corridors and future State transport corridors
- Schedule 10, Part 9, Division 4, Subdivision 2, Table 3, Item 1 – State transport corridors and future State transport corridors

Approval history / lawful use of the premises

No approval records for the subject land were available for review.

Common material

All material about the application that Council has received since lodgement has been considered in this report.

The following sections consider the above assessment benchmarks and matters to the extent relevant to the application.

5.1 **BLACKALL-TAMBO REGION PLANNING SCHEME 2020**

Under the Planning Scheme the development is defined as Reconfiguring a Lot. Under the *Planning Act 2016* (the Planning Act), the definition of Reconfiguring a Lot relates to (emphasis added):

- (a) **Creating lots by subdividing another lot;** or
- (b) *Amalgamating 2 or more lots;*
- (c) **Rearranging the boundaries of a lot** by registering a plan of subdivision under the *Land Act or Land Title Act;* or
- (d) *Dividing land into parts by agreement rendering different parts of a lot immediately available for separate disposition or separate occupation, other than by an agreement that is:*
 - (i) *A lease for a term, including renewal options, not exceeding 10 years;* or
 - (ii) *An agreement for the exclusive use of part of the common property for a community titles scheme under the Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997;* or
- (e) **Creating an easement giving access to a lot from a constructed road.**

In accordance with Table 4.5.1 of the Planning Scheme, the relevant assessment benchmarks for the development application include the Reconfiguring a Lot Code and Township Zone Code.

The development complies with the purpose, performance outcomes and acceptable outcomes of the Reconfiguring a Lot Code. The purpose of the Code is encompassed by a set of outcomes prescribed under section 6.3.2 of the Planning Scheme. The proposed development does not compromise the purpose of the Code in that:

- The proposal creates lots that are functional, suitable and consistent with the existing zone and precinct intent. While the lot size of proposed Lot 4 (272m²) is below the minimum lot size prescribed for the Commercial Precinct of the Township zone (600m²), it is of adequate size to wholly contain the existing open shed and vintage fire truck. The easement on the western boundary of proposed Lot 4 has adequate dimensions to enable the fire truck to be removed from the building and wheeled to Arthur Street if required. As such, the establishment of proposed Lot 4 will not drastically alter the subdivision pattern of the locality, nor will it conflict with the reasonable development expectations for the site.
- There are no flood impacts or environmental values mapped over or near the subject site that would be compromised by the proposal.
- There are no national, state, local or Aboriginal cultural heritage values identified over the site that would be compromised by the proposal.
- Each lot will continue to be adequately serviced. Conditions of approval have been recommended that ensure that all water and sewerage connection points benefiting each use are wholly contained within their respective lots.
- The proposal improves the current access arrangement for the sites, creating a new road at the rear of the site for access to Lot 2 and an access easement from Arthur Street to proposed Lot 4 (site of the vintage fire truck). No new crossovers will be created from Arthur Street (state-controlled road).

The development complies with the purpose, performance outcomes and acceptable outcomes of the Township Zone Code. The purpose of the Code is encompassed by a set of outcomes prescribed under section 5.2.1.2 of the Planning Scheme. The proposed development does not compromise the purpose of the Code in that:

- The proposal does not compromise the current uses of the subject site, which are consistent with the zone and precinct intent under the Zone Code for a mix of town services, facilities and businesses along the main street.
- The proposal also will not prejudice the future use of the subject site for uses preferred in the Township Zone.
- Each lot will continue to be serviced by reticulated infrastructure. In the instance the subdivision results in service connection points being located outside the lot they are meant to be benefiting, the service connection points will need to be relocated.
- The proposal will not result in any perceivable difference to the layout of the subject site when viewed from Star Street or Arthur Street.

In summary, this planning assessment concludes that the proposal is consistent with the Reconfiguring a Lot Code and Township Zone Code, being the applicable assessment benchmarks under the Planning Scheme. Conditions of approval reflect the elements of the assessment benchmark to ensure on-going compliance in terms of land use and amenity.

6.0 REFERRALS

6.1 INTERNAL

The application was internally referred to the Development Engineer to carry out the engineering assessment. The Development Engineer provided advice on the conditional approval contained in the recommendation at the beginning of this report.

6.2 EXTERNAL

The proposed lots are mapped as having matters of state interest. The application was referred to the State Assessment and Referral Agency (SARA) for the following reasons:

- Schedule 10, Part 9, Division 4, Subdivision 2, Table 1, Item 1 - State transport corridors and future State transport corridors
- Schedule 10, Part 9, Division 4, Subdivision 2, Table 3, Item 1 – State transport corridors and future State transport corridors

Confirmation of referral was received on 30 September 2021. SARA provided a referral agency response with conditions on 29 October 2021, which forms part of the development approval. The Department's Referral Agency Response is appended as **Attachment 2**.

7.0 CONCLUSION

This Code Assessable Development Application for a Development Permit for Reconfiguring a Lot (Subdivision of four (4) lots into five (5) lots, new access easement and new road) on land located 10 Star Street and 18, 20 and 22 Arthur Street, Tambo, described as Lot 2 on RP605624, Lot 2 on SP293537, Lot 1 on SP293537 and Lot 1 on SP197795, is recommended for approval, subject to the conditions outlined in this report.

This recommendation is based on an assessment of the proposal in accordance with the *Planning Act 2016* for applications requiring code assessment, which demonstrates the proposal's consistency with relevant matters and assessment benchmarks.

In accordance with the requirements for a decision notice under section 63 the Act, the notice must state the reasons for the decision. For this development, the statement of reasons, being the grounds for approval, will feature on the decision notice as follows:

- a) The proposal creates lots that are functional, suitable and consistent with the existing zone and precinct intent. While the proposal results in one (1) lot (proposed Lot 4) that does not

comply with the 600m² minimum lot size requirement for the Township zone (Commercial precinct), the proposal can be justified on account of the long-standing use of the land for passive tourism purposes, for which a standard lot size is not required;

- b) The subdivided lots will continue to be consistent with the subdivision pattern of the locality and have sufficient area to accommodate the existing buildings and structures on the premises;
 - c) The subdivided lots will continue to be serviced by all necessary infrastructure services;
 - d) There are no flood impacts or environmental values mapped over or near the subject site that would be compromised by the proposal; and
 - e) The proposal does not conflict with the needs of the local community or the reasonable development expectations for the subject site and land within the Township zone (Commercial precinct).
-

Link to Corporate Plan

Economic Development

Outcome 4 – Land Development

Consultation (internal/external)

CEO

Rates Officer

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

Nil

BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL[Return to Agenda](#)[Next Item](#)**OFFICER REPORTS**

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 5.8

SUBJECT HEADING: Write Off of Debt

Author and Officer's Title: Des Howard, Chief Executive Officer

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: Council recently acquired two properties for overdue rates and charges, and it is recommended that the debt be written off.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council write off the debt in sum of \$118,579.70 consisting of the following amounts for overdue rates and charges:

Lot 1 on RP607613	\$81,584.18
Lot 1 on RP602469	\$36,995.52

Background

At the May 2020 general meeting Council resolved the following in regard to Lot 1 on RP607613:

That Council acquires the land known as Lot 1 on RP607613 under Section 148 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (Acquiring land for overdue rates and charges).

Moved: PJ Pullos Seconded: LP Russell

Minute No. 19/05A/20 Carried 7/0

Prior to the acquisition of the land for overdue rates Council had attempted to sell the land by auction.

At the September 2020 general meeting Council resolved the following in regard to Lot 1 on RP602469:

That under section 140(2) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council sell Lot 1 on 604227 & Lot 1 on RP605161 (dwelling at 47 Clematis Street Blackall), Lot 1 on RP619296 (dwelling at 8 Ivy Street Blackall), Lot 28 on RP906903 (dwelling at 3 Rose Street Blackall), Lot 1 on RP817732 (dwelling at 35 Garden Street Blackall), Lot 7 on B13849 (dwelling at 4 Rose Street Blackall), Lot 2 on RP603893 (residential flats at 14 Hawthorn Street Blackall), Lot 8 on B13856 (Vacant land at 110 Rose Street Blackall) & Lot 1 on RP602469 (commercial premises at 67 Shamrock Street Blackall).

Moved: PJ Pullos Seconded: BP Johnstone

Minute No. 17/09A/20 Carried: 7/0

Council followed the process as per the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council's Rate Recovery Policy and Council's solicitors, King & Company advised and assisted Council in the acquisition of Lot 1 on RP607613 and Lot 1 on RP602469. The process was finalised on 7 September 2021.

Council can now write off the debts as follows:

Lot 1 on RP607613	\$81,584.18
Lot 1 on RP602469	\$36,995.52

Link to Corporate Plan

Governance

Outcome 4 - Financial

Consultation (internal/external)

CEO

Director of Finance Corporate and Community Services

Manager of Finance

Rates Officer

King & Company Solicitors

Policy Implications

Rates Recovery Policy

Budget and Resource Implications

\$118,579.70

BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

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OFFICER REPORTS

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: 5.9

SUBJECT HEADING: Queensland's Electric Superhighway – Stage 3

Author and Officer's Title: Des Howard, Chief Executive Officer

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: Yurika, part of Energy Queensland, has written to Council regarding the Queensland Electric Super Highway Stage 3. They have advised that Blackall is to receive a charging station for Electric Vehicles.

Officer's Recommendation: That Council:

1. receive the letter from Yurika dated 5 October 2021; and
 2. request that Lot 4 on SP157692 (140-144 Shamrock Street, Blackall) be identified as a site for the charging location.
-

Background

Council has received correspondence from Yurika, part of Energy Queensland, regarding Stage 3 of the Queensland Electric Super Highway.

Stage 3 will extend the Queensland Electric Super Highway to link with more regional and rural locations. Once completed, Stage 3 will connect Electric Vehicle drivers across a range of routes including Brisbane to Mount Isa, via the Dinosaur Trail locations. Blackall has been identified as one of the towns for a charging location.

Charging an Electric Vehicle using a DC charger can range from 10-60 minutes depending on the size of the battery, type of charger and type of vehicle.

It is suggested that an area at Lot 4 on SP157692 be identified as an appropriate site for the charging point. This would allow users of the charging station to be able to walk to the shops and town centre. This lot is freehold owned by Council and the land use is sewerage pump station.



Link to Corporate Plan

Economic Development
Outcome 2 - Tourism

Consultation (internal/external)

CEO
Director of Works and Services

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

Nil



Att; Ken Timms
 CEO
 Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
cei@btrc.qld.gov.au

5 October 2021

RE: Queensland Electric Super Highway – Stage 3

Dear Ken,

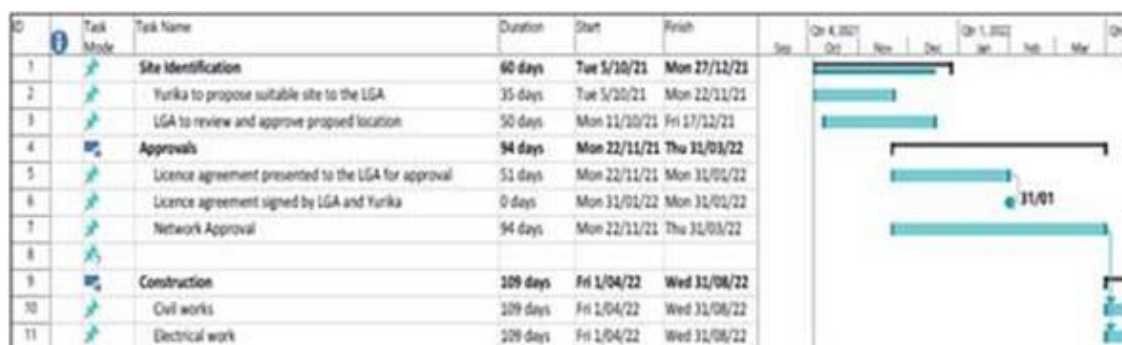
Yurika, part of Energy Queensland, are in partnership with the Department of Transport & Main Roads to deliver the extension of the Queensland Electric Super Highway (QESH) Stage 3.

The Honourable Mark Bailey MP, Minister for Transport and Main Roads, announced in June 2021 that there will be an additional 18 charging locations throughout the state of Queensland. We are pleased to inform you that one of these locations fall within Blackall-Tambo Regional Council

As an integral part of this project, Yurika request a nominated representative from Blackall-Tambo Regional Council. This representative will be your contact for myself and support any requirements for planning or approvals to ensure this infrastructure can be fully delivered. Completion of Stage 3 in this network is targeted to be completed September 2022.

Yurika believes that that this can be achieved successfully with the full support from the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council. Given the short timeline for completion, please nominate your key representative as soon as possible

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE



The aim is to have site identification activities completed by the end of 2021 and our experience has shown that this approval processes may have a broad open timeline, we therefor ask for your support through this process

The above timeline is presented as guidance of the scope of works. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

We look forward to working with Blackall-Tambo Regional Council in the expansion of the QESH.

Regards,

Madeleine Pavlides
Project Manager



Yurika
Level 4, 26 Reddacliff Street, Newstead QLD 4006
M 0409 480 453
E madeleine.pavlides@yurika.com.au
yurika.com.au

ENERGY | INFRASTRUCTURE | METERING | TELECOMMUNICATIONS

BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL[Return to Agenda](#)**OFFICER REPORTS**

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 17 November 2021

Item No: **5.10****SUBJECT HEADING: Regional Drought Resilience Program**

Author and Officer's Title: Des Howard, Chief Executive Officer

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

Summary: The Director-General of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries has written to Council about the pilot year of the Regional Drought Resilience Planning program in Queensland

Officer's Recommendation: That Council receive the letter from the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and note that the Central West will be targeted in the next phase of the Regional Drought Resilience Planning program.

Background

The Australian Government is working with state and territory governments to support regions to develop a regional drought plan to prepare for and manage future drought risks.

The Director-General of the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries has written to the Mayor and CEO to advise that the Central West region will be targeting in the next phase of plan development commencing after 30 June 2022.

While Council is not required to undertake any action at present, the Department is encouraging Council to continue any resilience planning that is currently underway.

Link to Corporate Plan

Environment & Heritage

Outcome 1 – Disaster Management

Consultation (internal/external)

CEO

Mayor

Policy Implications

Nil

Budget and Resource Implications

Nil



Department of
Agriculture and Fisheries

Our ref: CTS 20070/21

8 November 2021

Councillor Andrew Martin
Mayor
Blackall-Tambo Regional Council

Mr Des Howard
Chief Executive Officer
Blackall-Tambo Regional Council
admin@btrc.qld.gov.au

Dear Councillor Martin

Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program

I am writing to inform you about the pilot year of the Regional Drought Resilience Planning program in Queensland. This program is jointly funded through the Queensland Government and Federal Government's Future Drought Fund (FDF).

The Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries has partnered with the Rural Economies Centre of Excellence (RECoE) who will lead the consultation to work with regional communities to develop regional drought resilience plans to prepare for and manage future drought risks.

The program acknowledges the work already completed under the Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience and its implementation plan *Resilient Queensland* led by the Queensland Reconstruction Authority, in which you may have been involved.

There are five pilot regions identified to develop Regional Drought Resilience Plans by 30 June 2022. The **Central West** region will be targeted in the next phase of plan development commencing after 30 June 2022. We understand drought might be impacting you now and encourage your region to think about how you would like to approach this long-term drought planning in 2022. In the meantime, RECoE will be sharing the findings and learnings from the pilot regions to help inform the development of Regional Drought Resilience Plans in your region in the future.

1 William Street, Brisbane
GPO Box 46, Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Business Centre 13 25 23
Website www.daf.qld.gov.au
ABN 06 934 346 189

Next steps

While there is no action required from your region at present, as part of the RDRP Program, we encourage you to continue any resilience planning currently underway, with a view to applying a focus on drought resilience priorities and actions in the future.

If you require any further information, please contact Mr Vern Rudwick, Director, Drought Policy and Response on 0472 863 899 or by email at vern.rudwick@daf.qld.gov.au or Associate Professor Ben Lyons, Director, RECoE on 0428 230 031 or via email at Ben.Lyons@usq.edu.au.

Information on the Queensland Regional Drought Resilience Program can be found at www.ruraleconomies.org.au and information on the FDF can be found at www.agriculture.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Robert Gee
Director-General
Department of Agriculture and Fisheries