



# **SNOWY VALLEYS COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING**

## **AGENDA**

**Thursday, 19 June 2025**

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 2:00 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS CNR BRIDGE & WINTON STREET  
TUMBARUMBA / VIA VIDEO LINK

**Statement of Ethical Obligations**

Councillors are reminded of the oath or affirmation of office they made under section 233A of the Local Government Act 1993 and the obligation under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.

**Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests at meetings (extract from the Code of Conduct – Section 4)**

- 4.28** Councillor or a council committee member who has a pecuniary interest in any matter with which the council is concerned, and who is present at a meeting of the council or committee at which the matter is being considered, must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable.
- 4.29** The councillor or council committee member must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting of the council or committee:
- (a) at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by the council or committee, or
  - (b) at any time during which the council or committee is voting on any question in relation to the matter.
- 4.30** In the case of a meeting of a board of a joint organisation, a voting representative is taken to be present at the meeting for the purposes of clauses 4.28 and 4.29 where they participate in the meeting by telephone or other electronic means.
- 4.31** Disclosure made at a meeting of a council or council committee must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

**Disclosure of Political Donations and Gifts**

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* places obligations on Councillors, staff, applicants and any person who makes a public submission, to disclose information relating to political donations and gifts during the environmental plan making or development assessment process.

The fact that political donations or gifts have been made by applicants / proponents of a planning application should not affect whether an application is approved or refused. Political donations or gifts should not be relevant in making a determination. The matter should be determined on its merits. Nor do they provide grounds for challenging the determination of any applications.

For further information, visit [www.planning.nsw.gov.au/donations](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/donations)

Furthermore, for each planning decision made at a Council or Committee Meeting, the names of Councillors who supported the decision and those that oppose the decision must be recorded. (Sec. 375A of the *Local Government Act 1993*)

**Use of mobile phones and the unauthorised recording of meetings  
(extract from the Code of Meeting Practice – Section 15)**

- 15.21** Councillors, council staff and members of the public must ensure that mobile phones are turned to silent during meetings of the council and committees of the council.
- 15.22** A person must not live stream or use an audio recorder, video camera, mobile phone or any other device to make a recording of the proceedings of a meeting of the council or a committee of the council without the prior authorisation of the council or the committee.
- 15.23** Any person who contravenes or attempts to contravene clause 15.22, may be expelled from the meeting as provided for under section 10(2) of the Act.
- 15.24** If any such person, after being notified of a resolution or direction expelling them from the meeting, fails to leave the place where the meeting is being held, a police officer, or any person authorised for the purpose by the council or person presiding, may, by using only such force as is necessary, remove the first-mentioned person from that place and, if necessary, restrain that person from re-entering that place for the remainder of the meeting.

**Livestreaming of Meetings (extract from the Code of Meeting Practice – Section 5)**

This meeting is live streamed on Council's website to allow the community to follow Council debates and decisions without the need to attend meetings in person. Members of the public attending or speaking at a meeting agree to have their image, voice and personal information (including name and address) recorded and publicly broadcast. Snowy Valleys Council does not accept liability for any defamatory remarks or inappropriate comments that are made during the course of a meeting. Any part of the meeting that is held in closed session will not be streamed.

- 5.19** All meetings of the council and committees of the council are to be webcast on the council's website.

**Photography**

Flash photography is not permitted at a meeting of the Council or a Committee of the council without the consent of the General Manager.

**Public Forum (extract from the Code of Meeting Practice – Section 4)**

- 4.1** The Council may hold a public forum prior to each Ordinary Council meeting for the purpose of hearing oral submissions on items of business to be considered at the meeting. All public forums will be audio/visual recorded and live streamed as part of the Council meeting.
- 4.2** Public Forums may be held by audio-visual link.
- 4.3** Public forums are to be chaired by the mayor or their nominee.

Those attending must comply with the terms and conditions of the Code of Meeting Practice which can be viewed on Council's website.



**Thursday, 19 June 2025**

**Council Chambers Cnr Bridge & Winton Street Tumbarumba / Via Video Link**

**2:00 PM**

## **AGENDA**

<b>1. PUBLIC FORUM .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3. APOLOGIES, LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND REMOTE ATTENDANCE .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.....</b>	<b>6</b>
5.1. MINUTES - ORDINARY COUNCIL - 15 MAY 2025 .....	6
<b>6. CORRESPONDENCE/PETITIONS .....</b>	<b>23</b>
6.1. PETITION - DIGITAL DOMESTIC WASTE VOUCHERS .....	23
<b>7. MAYORAL MINUTE.....</b>	<b>31</b>
7.1. MAYORAL MINUTE - REQUEST FOR DROUGHT NATURAL DISASTER DECLARATION..	31
7.2. MAYORAL MINUTE - 2025 BATLOW CIDERFEST .....	33
<b>8. NOTICE OF MOTION/NOTICE OF RESCISSION.....</b>	<b>35</b>
8.1. NOTICE OF MOTION - IMPACT OF THE POLYPHAGOUS SHOT HOLE BORER - CR HAYES .....	35
<b>9. URGENT BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE .....</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>10. GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL REPORTS .....</b>	<b>38</b>
10.1. COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS ACTION REPORT - JUNE 2025.....	38
10.2. 2025 REGIONS RISING NATIONAL SUMMIT - 8 OCTOBER - CANBERRA .....	48
10.3. 2025 INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING SUITE - FOR ADOPTION.....	52

10.4. MAKING OF THE 2025/2026 RATES AND CHARGES .....	59
10.5. PROPOSED DONATIONS FOR 2025-2026 .....	65
10.6. ESTABLISHMENT OF ADELONG FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE .....	73
10.7. REQUEST FOR FUNDS TRANSFER FROM TOY LIBRARY RESERVES.....	77
10.8. STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS - MAY 2025 .....	80
<b>11. MANAGEMENT REPORTS .....</b>	<b>84</b>
11.1. MULTIPURPOSE AND EVACUATION CENTRE PROJECT - UPDATE - JUNE 2025 .....	84
11.2. HUMELINK PROJECT UPDATE NUMBER 3 - 19 JUNE 2025.....	90
11.3. DA2024/0141- PROPOSED BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT - SUBDIVISION 170 GOOBARRAGANDRA ROAD, LACMALAC .....	104
11.4. POST EXHIBITION - DRAFT COMPANION ANIMALS AND NON-COMPANION ANIMALS POLICY .....	121
11.5. DRAFT ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT POLICY - FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION.....	126
11.6. WILLIGOBUNG FIRE SHED .....	131
<b>12. MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS.....</b>	<b>138</b>
12.1. MINUTES - AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE - 29 MAY 2025 .....	138
12.2. MINUTES - LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE - 14 MAY 2025 .....	140
12.3. MINUTES - TUMUT AERODROME COMMITTEE - 13 MAY 2025.....	143
12.4. MINUTES - EXTRAORDINARY TUMUT AERODROME COMMITTEE - 27 MAY 2025.....	145
<b>13. CONFIDENTIAL.....</b>	<b>147</b>
<b>14. MEETING CLOSURE.....</b>	<b>147</b>

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## **1. PUBLIC FORUM**

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## **2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

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*Snowy Valleys Council proudly acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of this land and water and pay respects to their Elders past and present.*

## **3. APOLOGIES, LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND REMOTE ATTENDANCE**

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## **4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

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*Pursuant to Section 4 of the Code of Conduct, Councillors are required to declare any direct or indirect pecuniary interest in any matters being considered by Council.*

<h2><b>5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES</b></h2>
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### **5.1. MINUTES - ORDINARY COUNCIL - 15 MAY 2025**

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 15 May 2025 be received and confirmed as an accurate record.

**Attachment 1 - 20250515 - DRAFT Minutes - Ordinary Council**



**ORDINARY MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, 15 May 2025**

THE MEETING WAS HELD AT 4:00PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS 76 CAPPER STREET TUMUT AND VIA  
VIDEO LINK

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Acting General Manager



Thursday, 15 May 2025

Council Chambers 76 Capper Street Tumut and Via Video Link

4:00 PM

## MINUTES

<b>1. PUBLIC FORUM .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3. APOLOGIES, LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND REMOTE ATTENDANCE .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES .....</b>	<b>5</b>
5.1. MINUTES - ORDINARY COUNCIL - 17 APRIL 2025.....	5
<b>6. CORRESPONDENCE/PETITIONS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
11.1. MULTIPURPOSE AND EVACUATION CENTRE PROJECT - UPDATE - MAY 2025.....	5
11.3. MANNUS LAKE BLUE-GREEN ALGAE MANAGEMENT.....	6
11.4. COUNCIL MANAGED CROWN LAND PLAN OF MANAGEMENT - RICHMOND PARK & STOCKWELL GARDENS - FOR ADOPTION.....	6
<b>7. MAYORAL MINUTE.....</b>	<b>7</b>
7.1. MAYORAL MINUTE - HUMELINK HOST COUNCILS PUSH FOR COMMUNITY BENEFIT-SHARING PAYMENTS .....	7
<b>8. NOTICE OF MOTION/NOTICE OF RESCISSION .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9. URGENT BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>10. GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL REPORTS .....</b>	<b>8</b>
10.1. COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS ACTION REPORT - MAY 2025 .....	8
10.2. DE-AMALGAMATION UPDATE .....	8

Page 2

Minutes of the Meeting of the Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting held in Council Chambers 76 Capper Street Tumut and Via Video Link on Thursday, 15 May 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Acting General Manager



## Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 15 May 2025

10.3. REVISED COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN - TOWARDS 2042 - FOR ENDORSEMENT.....	9
10.4. COUNCILLORS AND MAYORAL FEES FOR 2025/2026 FINANCIAL YEAR.....	9
10.5. COUNCILLOR AND COMMUNITY DIRECTORS TO THE HYNE COMMUNITY TRUST .....	10
10.6. STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS - APRIL 2025.....	10
10.7. QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS OF 31 MARCH 2025.....	10
<b>11. MANAGEMENT REPORTS .....</b>	<b>11</b>
11.1. MULTIPURPOSE AND EVACUATION CENTRE PROJECT - UPDATE - MAY 2025.....	11
11.2. VISITOR INFORMATION HUBS - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST OUTCOMES .....	11
11.3. MANNUS LAKE BLUE-GREEN ALGAE MANAGEMENT .....	12
11.4. COUNCIL MANAGED CROWN LAND PLAN OF MANAGEMENT - RICHMOND PARK & STOCKWELL GARDENS - FOR ADOPTION.....	12
11.5. CROWN LAND TRANSFER REQUEST - PADDYS RIVER FLATS RESERVE.....	12
11.6. GOCUP FIRE SHED - DRAFT HEADS OF AGREEMENT .....	12
11.7. TUMBARUMBA CARAVAN PARK - BUSINESS PLAN AND MASTER PLAN .....	13
11.8. SECTION 7.11 DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS ALLOCATION OF PROJECTS .....	13
<b>12. MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS.....</b>	<b>14</b>
12.1. MINUTES - BRUNGLE FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - 8 APRIL 2025 .....	14
12.2. MINUTES - TUMUT FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - 8 APRIL 2025....	15
12.3. MINUTES - YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE - 10 APRIL 2025.....	15
<b>13. CONFIDENTIAL.....</b>	<b>15</b>
13.1. CONFIDENTIAL - ABORIGINAL LAND CLAIMS NOTIFICATION TO COUNCIL .....	16
<b>14. MEETING CLOSURE.....</b>	<b>16</b>

Page 3

Minutes of the Meeting of the Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting held in Council Chambers 76 Capper Street Tumut and Via Video Link on Thursday, 15 May 2025

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 Mayor

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 Acting General Manager

**PRESENT:** Mayor Julia Ham, Cr Grant Hardwick, Cr James Hayes, Cr Michael Inglis, Cr John Larter, Cr Hugh Packard, Cr David Sheldon, Cr Trina Thomson, Cr Andrew Wortes

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Acting General Manager Jessica Quilty, Acting Director Community, Corporate & Development Nick Wilton, Director Infrastructure & Works Duncan Mitchell, Chief Financial Officer Manna Doshii

## 1. PUBLIC FORUM

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The following speakers addressed the meeting:

- John Williams representing the Downstream Users Group spoke for Item 11.3 Mannus Lake Blue Green Algae Management.
- Allan Tonkin, representing Richmond Park Action Group spoke against Item 11.4 Council Managed Crown Land Plan of Management - Richmond Park & Stockwell Gardens - For Adoption.
- Kristin Twomey spoke for Item 11.4 Council Managed Crown Land Plan of Management - Richmond Park & Stockwell Gardens - For Adoption.

## 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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An acknowledgement of the traditional custodians of the land was delivered by Cr Ham.

## 3. APOLOGIES, LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND REMOTE ATTENDANCE

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**M102/25 RESOLVED** that the request received from Cr Hugh Packard for remote attendance to today's meeting be received and granted.

Cr Thomson/Cr Wortes

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

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Nil.

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## 5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

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### 5.1. MINUTES - ORDINARY COUNCIL - 17 APRIL 2025

#### **M103/25 RESOLVED:**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 17 April 2025 be received and confirmed as an accurate record.

Cr Sheldon/Cr Wortes

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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## 6. CORRESPONDENCE/PETITIONS

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Nil.

**M104/25 RESOLVED** to bring forward Item 11.1 Multipurpose and Evacuation Centre Project – Update – May 2025, 11.3 Mannus Lake Blue-Green Algae Management, and Item 11.4 Council Managed Crown Land Plan of Management - Richmond Park & Stockwell Gardens - For Adoption.

Cr Thomson/Cr Sheldon

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### 11.1. MULTIPURPOSE AND EVACUATION CENTRE PROJECT - UPDATE - MAY 2025

#### **MOTION:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the Multipurpose and Evacuation Centre Project - Update - May 2025 Report; and
2. Schedule an Extraordinary Meeting of Council on 31 July 2025 to consider the Construction Tender Award for the project to minimise any delay in the delivery of the project.

Cr Sheldon/Cr Hayes

**M105/25 RESOLVED** to move into Committee of the Whole.

Cr Thomson/Cr Hardwick

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**M106/25 RESOLVED** to move out of Committee of the Whole.

Cr Hardwick/Cr Wortes

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 15 May 2025

**M107/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the Multipurpose and Evacuation Centre Project - Update - May 2025 Report; and
2. Schedule an Extraordinary Meeting of Council on 31 July 2025 to consider the Construction Tender Award for the project to minimise any delay in the delivery of the project.

Cr Sheldon/Cr Hayes

For: Cr Hardwick, Cr Hayes, Cr Larter, Cr Packard, Cr Ham, Cr Wortes, Cr Sheldon

Against: Cr Inglis, Cr Thomson

**CARRIED****7/2****11.3. MANNUS LAKE BLUE-GREEN ALGAE MANAGEMENT****M108/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the report on Mannus Lake Blue-Green Algae Management; and
2. Investigate the feasibility of returning the dam to wetlands.

Cr Hayes/Cr Larter

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY****11.4. COUNCIL MANAGED CROWN LAND PLAN OF MANAGEMENT - RICHMOND PARK & STOCKWELL GARDENS - FOR ADOPTION****M109/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Adopt the updated Site-Specific Council Managed Crown Land Plan of Management for Richmond Park and Stockwell Gardens (Reserves) pursuant to Section 40 of the *Local Government Act 1993* in accordance with 3.23 (6) of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

Cr Hayes/Cr Packard

For: Cr Larter, Cr Hayes, Cr Packard, Cr Hardwick, Cr Wortes, Cr Ham

Against: Cr Sheldon, Cr Inglis, Cr Thomson

**CARRIED****6/3****M110/25 RESOLVED** to return to the order of business.

Cr Thomson/Cr Sheldon

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Page 6

Minutes of the Meeting of the Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting held in Council Chambers 76 Capper Street Tumut and Via Video Link on Thursday, 15 May 2025

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Mayor\_\_\_\_\_  
Acting General Manager

Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 15 May 2025

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**7. MAYORAL MINUTE**

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**7.1. MAYORAL MINUTE - HUMELINK HOST COUNCILS PUSH FOR COMMUNITY BENEFIT-SHARING PAYMENTS****M111/25 RESOLVED:**

## THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the recent media release regarding Transgrid's HumeLink project and the associated host councils' push for community benefit-sharing payments.

Cr Julia Ham

**7.2. MAYORAL MINUTE – CONGRATULATE MICHAEL MCCORMACK****M112/25 RESOLVED:**

## THAT COUNCIL:

1. Congratulate Michael McCormack for his election as the Federal representative to the Riverina now incorporating Snowy Valleys Council.

Cr Julia Ham

**7.3. MAYORAL MINUTE – CONGRATULATE KRISTY MCBAIN****M113/25 RESOLVED:**

## THAT COUNCIL:

1. Congratulate Kristy McBain and Sussan Ley on their elections and for letters to be sent.

Cr Julia Ham

**7.4. MAYORAL MINUTE – SUCCESS OF BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS BAIL OUT****M114/25 RESOLVED:**

## THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the success of the Big Brothers Big Sisters Bail Out with Cr Wortes and Cr Hardwick at Gundagai Goal. A very worthwhile cause for an organisation supporting youth in Snowy Valleys region.

Cr Julia Ham

**7.5. MAYORAL MINUTE – NSW GOVERNMENT IMPROVING CAMPING IN NSW NATIONAL PARKS SURVEY****M115/25 RESOLVED:**

## THAT COUNCIL:

1. Have the NSW Government Improving Camping in NSW National Parks consultation survey added to the Council newsletter and on a social media post, noting that 62% of Snowy Valleys Council is National Park or State Forest.

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Page 7

Minutes of the Meeting of the Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting held in Council Chambers 76 Capper Street Tumut and Via Video Link on Thursday, 15 May 2025

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Mayor

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Acting General Manager

Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 15 May 2025

Cr Julia Ham

**7.6. MAYORAL MINUTE – THANK YOU TO THE FALLING LEAF FESTIVAL EVENT ORGANISERS****M116/25 RESOLVED:****THAT COUNCIL:**

1. Note the letter tabled by the Mayor thanking the Falling Leaf Festival event organisers for their outstanding efforts in putting on a spectacular festival.

Cr Julia Ham

**8. NOTICE OF MOTION/NOTICE OF RESCISSION**

Nil.

**9. URGENT BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE**

Nil.

*Cr Hayes left the Council Chambers at 5.25pm and returned at 5.26pm.***10. GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL REPORTS****10.1. COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS ACTION REPORT - MAY 2025****M117/25 RESOLVED:****THAT COUNCIL:**

1. Note the report on the Council resolution actions as at May 2025.

Cr Thomson/Cr Hardwick

For: Cr Ham, Cr Thomson, Cr Packard, Cr Hayes, Cr Inglis, Cr Hardwick, Cr Wortes, Cr Sheldon

Against: Cr Larter

**CARRIED**

8/1

**10.2. DE-AMALGAMATION UPDATE****M118/25 RESOLVED:****THAT COUNCIL:**

Page 8

Minutes of the Meeting of the Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting held in Council Chambers 76 Capper Street Tumut and Via Video Link on Thursday, 15 May 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor\_\_\_\_\_  
Acting General Manager

Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 15 May 2025

1. Note the report on the De-amalgamation Update as at May 2025; and
2. Only provide future monthly updates when there are progress updates to be reported.

Cr Sheldon/Cr Thomson

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY****10.3. REVISED COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN - TOWARDS 2042 - FOR ENDORSEMENT****M119/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the report on the Draft Community Strategic Plan - Towards 2042 - feedback from public exhibition;
2. Note the submission received for the Draft Community Strategic Plan - Towards 2042;
3. Endorse the Community Strategic Plan - Towards 2042; and
4. Write to the submitter, thanking them for their input and advising them of the outcome of their submission.

Cr Thomson/Cr Sheldon

*Cr Packard left the meeting 5.33pm and returned at 5.33pm.***CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY****10.4. COUNCILLORS AND MAYORAL FEES FOR 2025/2026 FINANCIAL YEAR****M120/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal's determination for a 3% increase in mayoral and councillor fees for the 2025/2026 financial year;
2. Set the annual Councillor Fee for the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 at the amount \$18,890 under the 'Rural Large' Category rate in accordance with the provisions of section 248 of the *Local Government Act 1993*;
3. Set the annual addition Mayoral Fee for the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 at the amount of \$40,530 under the 'Rural Large' Category rate in accordance with the provisions of section 249 of the *Local Government Act 1993*; and
4. Approve to pay the Deputy Mayor the proportion of the additional mayoral fee for such time as the Deputy Mayor acts in the Office of the Mayor, which is to be deducted from the Mayor's annual fee.

Cr Hayes/Cr Packard

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***Cr Sheldon left the meeting at 5.36pm and returned at 5.37pm.*

Page 9

Minutes of the Meeting of the Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting held in Council Chambers 76 Capper Street Tumut and Via Video Link on Thursday, 15 May 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor\_\_\_\_\_  
Acting General Manager

**10.5. COUNCILLOR AND COMMUNITY DIRECTORS TO THE HYNE COMMUNITY TRUST****M121/25 RESOLVED:**

## THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the report on the appointment of a Councillor and community representation to the non-Hyne Director positions to the Hyne Community Trust Board;
2. Write to the Hyne Community Trust to:
  - a. Advise of the 17 October 2024 resolution M198/24 that Mayor Julia Ham has been approved as the Councillor non-Hyne Director, in accordance with the requirements of the Deed (2007) and amendment (2016); and
  - b. Advise that Mr Ian Chaffey, Ms Bernadette Alleyn and Ms Janet Anderson have been approved as community non-Hyne Directors.
3. Request that the Hyne Community Trust review its deed to remove the need for Council to approve community members on the Trust.

Cr Thomson/ Cr Packard

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY****10.6. STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS - APRIL 2025****M122/25 RESOLVED:**

## THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the report on Statement of Investments - April 2025.

Cr Sheldon/Cr Hardwick

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY****10.7. QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW AS OF 31 MARCH 2025****M123/25 RESOLVED:**

## THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and adopt the Quarterly Budget Review as at 31 March 2025; and
2. Adopt the Revenue, Expenditure and Capital Budget adjustments as noted in the 31 March 2025 Quarterly Budget Review.

Cr Sheldon/Cr Thomson

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***Cr Larter left the meeting at 5.43pm and returned at 5.44pm.*



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## 11. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

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### 11.1. MULTIPURPOSE AND EVACUATION CENTRE PROJECT - UPDATE - MAY 2025

This item was brought forward see Minute No.M104/25.

### 11.2. VISITOR INFORMATION HUBS - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST OUTCOMES

#### M124/25 RESOLVED:

##### THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the report on the Visitor Information Hubs Expressions of Interest;
2. Agree to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the following fifteen (15) local businesses and community groups to operate Snowy Valleys Visitor Information Hubs within their establishments:
  - a. Adelong Alive Museum
  - b. Adelong Country Creations
  - c. The Middle Adelong
  - d. Apple Thief Cider House, Batlow
  - e. Inconvenience Store, Batlow
  - f. Talbingo Trading Post
  - g. Ladbrooken Distilling and Brewhouse, Tumbarumba
  - h. Twisted Willow, Tumbarumba
  - i. My Fruit and Veg Shop, Tumut
  - j. Oriental Hotel, Tumut
  - k. Tumut River Brewing Co, Tumut
  - l. Ground Up Tumut
  - m. Tumut Valley Holiday Park
  - n. The Cotton Merchants, Tumut
  - o. Local at Learmonts, Tumut;
3. Write to the submitters, thanking them for their application and advising them of the outcome; and
4. Endorse the provision of Visit Snowy Valleys branded collateral and visitor information materials to the successful candidates.

Cr Thomson/Cr Hardwick

For: Cr Packard, Cr Hayes, Cr Larter, Cr Inglis, Cr Hardwick, Cr Wortes, Cr Thomson, Cr Ham

Against: Cr Sheldon

#### CARRIED

8/1

**11.3. MANNUS LAKE BLUE-GREEN ALGAE MANAGEMENT**

This item was brought forward see Minute No.M104/25.

**11.4. COUNCIL MANAGED CROWN LAND PLAN OF MANAGEMENT - RICHMOND PARK & STOCKWELL GARDENS - FOR ADOPTION**

This item was brought forward see Minute No.M104/25.

**11.5. CROWN LAND TRANSFER REQUEST - PADDYS RIVER FLATS RESERVE****M125/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Write to Crown Lands requesting the transfer and merger of the following Reserves (R) and Travelling Stock Reserves (TSR) that are currently managed by Local Land Services to Council with Council then taking over as Crown Land Manager. These Reserves are as follows:
  - a. Lot 7015 DP 96835- Part of TSR 2921 - Gazetted: 06 March 1882,
  - b. Lot 7014 DP 96858 - Part of TSR 2921 - Gazetted: 06 March 1882,
  - c. Lot 7013 DP 96858 - Part of TSR 2921 - Gazetted: 06 March 1882,
  - d. Part of Reserve 1760 (Duplicate No: R1002815) - Gazetted: 8 August 1877,
  - e. Lot 7012 DP 96858 - Reserve 64321 - Gazetted: 22 Dec 1933,
  - f. Lot 7011 DP 96858 - Part of Reserve 64320 - Gazetted: 22 December 1933.
2. Write to Crown Lands and request the creation of a single Reserve for Camping and Public Recreation be created over all six lots listed above.

Cr Packard/Cr Hardwick

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**11.6. GOCUP FIRE SHED - DRAFT HEADS OF AGREEMENT****M126/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Enter into a new lease arrangement with the landowner of Lot 8 DP880381 on a minimum 20 year (5 x 4) lease;
2. Authorise the Acting General Manager or delegate to enter into direct negotiation and finalise the draft Heads of Agreement with the land owner;
3. Authorise the Acting General Manager at the end of successful negotiations to enter into a new lease arrangement with the landowner;
4. Authorise the Acting General Manager and Mayor to affix the Council Seal and execute all associated documentation to the lease agreement; and
5. Note that the funding provided by Rural Fire Service will cover legal costs associated with the preparation and execution of the lease.

Cr Larter/Cr Thomson

Page 12

Minutes of the Meeting of the Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting held in Council Chambers 76 Capper Street Tumut and Via Video Link on Thursday, 15 May 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Acting General Manager

Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 15 May 2025

For: Cr Larter, Cr Hayes, Cr Packard, Cr Ham, Cr Thomson, Cr Inglis, Cr Hardwick, Cr Wortes

Against: Cr Sheldon

**CARRIED**

**8/1**

## **11.7. TUMBARUMBA CARAVAN PARK - BUSINESS PLAN AND MASTER PLAN**

### **MOTION:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Adopts the Tumbarumba Caravan Park Business Plan and Master Plan; and
2. Forward copies of the Tumbarumba Caravan Park Business Plan and Master Plan to Crown Lands for their information.

Cr Wortes/Cr Thomson

**M127/25 RESOLVED** to move into Committee of the Whole.

Cr Thomson/Cr Sheldon

For: Cr Ham, Cr Thomson, Cr Inglis, Cr Packard, Cr Hardwick, Cr Sheldon

Against: Cr Hayes, Cr Larter, Cr Wortes

**CARRIED**

**6/3**

**M128/25 RESOLVED** to move out of Committee of the Whole.

Cr Hardwick/Cr Sheldon

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **M129/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Adopts the Tumbarumba Caravan Park Business Plan and Master Plan; and
2. Forward copies of the Tumbarumba Caravan Park Business Plan and Master Plan to Crown Lands for their information.

Cr Wortes/Cr Thomson

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **11.8. SECTION 7.11 DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS ALLOCATION OF PROJECTS**

### **M130/25 RESOLVED:**

Page 13

Minutes of the Meeting of the Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting held in Council Chambers 76 Capper Street Tumut and Via Video Link on Thursday, 15 May 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Acting General Manager

## THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note that the current Section 7.11 Development Contribution Plans (Open Space) and (Roads), and Development Contributions - Management, remain in force until close of business Thursday 29 May 2025 at which time the plans will be repealed in accordance with clause 215 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*;
2. Allocate the following restricted funds from the Developer Contributions (General) to the following projects:
  - a. \$30,000 to the General Fund as a reimbursement for the Batlow Pool Accessibility Upgrades;
  - b. \$150,000 to the Bottlebrush Drive Tumut Recreational Space embellishment works and park upgrades and accessibility;
  - c. \$150,000 to the Rotary Pioneer Park, Tumut Recreational Space - Increased Shade Landscaping Embellishment and potential bank reshaping;
  - d. \$60,000 to the Tumut Riverwalk accessibility and directional signage in accordance with the Tracks and Trails Master Plan outcomes (excluding the sections relating to Crown Land);
  - e. \$25,000 to the Tumut Town Centre Traffic Study 2023 Recommendations (Accessibility - Safety);
  - f. \$7,500 to General Fund for Plan Administration of the Section 7.12 Contributions Plan;
  - g. \$142,541 to the General Fund following completion of road projects identified under the Roads Contributions Plans for reimbursement of East Street, Tumut upgrade civil works;
  - h. \$8,804.33 or the residual amount (whichever is greater at the time of transfer) be transferred from the Section 7.11 Development Contributions Reserve to a Section 7.12 Development Contributions Reserve for allocation to projects identified in the plan. Any outstanding section 7.11 contributions payable on any active development consent shall be paid into the section 7.12 Development Contributions Reserve from the nominated date of the repeal of the plans;
3. Note that the repeal of the plans does not negate the requirement for payment of any contribution(s) previously applied and levied on any active development consent in accordance with any notice of determination issued; and
4. Note that the design plans for the capital works items listed above are to be reported to Council for design approval before being implemented.

Cr Hayes/Cr Sheldon

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 12. MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### 12.1. MINUTES - BRUNGLE FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - 8 APRIL 2025

#### M131/25 RESOLVED:

## THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the Minutes of the Brungle Floodplain Risk Management Committee held on 8 April 2025.

Page 14

Minutes of the Meeting of the Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting held in Council Chambers 76 Capper Street Tumut and Via Video Link on Thursday, 15 May 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Acting General Manager

Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 15 May 2025

2. Adopt the following recommendation/s from the minutes; and
  - 2a. Adopt the Brungle Flood Risk Management Committee Terms of Reference.
  - 2b. Change the name of the Committee to the Brungle Flood Risk Management Committee, to be consistent with the Flood Risk Management Manual (2023).

Cr Thomson/Cr Hardwick

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY****12.2. MINUTES - TUMUT FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - 8 APRIL 2025****M132/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the Minutes of the Tumut Floodplain Risk Management Committee meeting held on 8 April 2025; and
2. Adopt the following recommendation/s from the minutes:
  - a. Amend the Title of the Committee to 'Tumut Flood Risk Management Committee', to be consistent with the Flood Risk Management Manual (2023).

Cr Wortes/Cr Hayes

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY****12.3. MINUTES - YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEE - 10 APRIL 2025****M133/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the Minutes of the Youth Council Committee held on 10 April 2025; and
2. Adopt the following recommendation/s from the minutes:
  - a. Acknowledge re-election of chairperson - Aiyana Ironside.
  - b. Acknowledge the resignation of Youth Council member Harry Foster.

Cr Wortes/Cr Hardwick

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY****13. CONFIDENTIAL**

**M134/25 RESOLVED** that Council move into Confidential to consider the matters listed in the confidential section of the agenda in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* for the reasons specified:

**13.1 CONFIDENTIAL - ABORIGINAL LANDS CLAIM NOTIFICATION TO COUNCIL**

Item 13.1 is confidential under the *Local Government Act 1993* Section 10A (2)(h) as it relates to information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on

Page 15

Minutes of the Meeting of the Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting held in Council Chambers 76 Capper Street Tumut and Via Video Link on Thursday, 15 May 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor\_\_\_\_\_  
Acting General Manager

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Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 15 May 2025

community land and Council considers that discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.

Cr Hayes/Cr Hardwick

For: Cr Ham, Cr Hardwick, Cr Wortes, Cr Hayes, Cr Packard, Cr Thomson

Against: Cr Larter, Cr Inglis, Cr Sheldon

**CARRIED**

The meeting was closed to the public at 6.15pm.

### **13.1. CONFIDENTIAL - ABORIGINAL LAND CLAIMS NOTIFICATION TO COUNCIL**

**M135/25 RESOLVED:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the report on Aboriginal land claims notification to Council.

Cr Thomson/Cr Hardwick

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**M136/25 RESOLVED** to move back into open session.

Cr Ham/Cr Thomson

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

At this point, the time being 6.21pm the meeting moved back into open session.

The Mayor provided a verbal report of the resolutions made during confidential session.

## **14. MEETING CLOSURE**

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There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 6.21pm.

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Page 16

Minutes of the Meeting of the Snowy Valleys Council Ordinary Meeting held in Council Chambers 76 Capper Street Tumut and Via Video Link on Thursday, 15 May 2025

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Mayor

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Acting General Manager



## **6. CORRESPONDENCE/PETITIONS**

### **6.1. PETITION - DIGITAL DOMESTIC WASTE VOUCHERS**

**REPORT AUTHOR: RESOURCE RECOVERY OFFICER**

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

On 23 May 2025, Council received a petition with 417 signatures requesting that vouchers return to the quarterly distribution model.

Since July 2021, Snowy Valleys Council (SVC) replaced "Free Waste Weekends" with a digital waste voucher system (Council Resolution M95/21). Initially, eligible residential properties received four (4) vouchers per year, one in each quarter. In January 2025, this was revised to two (2) annual vouchers, one every 6 months, aligning with the SVC Zero Waste Strategy 2024/2030 to reduce landfill volumes, lower Council waste management costs, and improve resource recovery outcomes.

Each voucher can be redeemed for up to 1 cubic metre or 300kg of general waste, green waste or for one bulky item - such as a mattress, three-seater lounge, fridge/freezer, or two car tyres.

As of 2 June 2025, 4,121 vouchers had been redeemed, generating a direct general waste cost to Council of approximately \$300,000. With the current voucher system and redemption numbers, Council is at risk of expending the full waste access revenue on voucher general waste excluding costs associated with bulky items, tyres and administration, transport, waste processing, and system maintenance costs. The waste access revenue of approximately \$500,000 (which also funds the wider communities free recycling services, FOGO caddy liner rolls, education and the operation of six Resource Recovery Centres) is unlikely to offset these combined costs. The full cost per vouchers includes a 38% overhead on top of the landfill and waste management costs.

The estimated increase in operational and management costs for Council to go to a four (4) voucher system is in the order of \$120,000 to \$150,000 per annum. The breakdown of this increased cost is outlined in the financial implications section of this report.

With the potential for budget overruns and increased pressure on operations if voucher usage rises, it is recommended that Council retain the current two-voucher model. To ensure future financial sustainability and alignment with the Zero Waste Strategy, further reductions or alternative waste voucher models be explored via a resource recovery (waste) service review.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

##### **THAT COUNCIL:**

- 1. Note the petition Council has received on the Digital Domestic Waste Vouchers.**
- 2. Note that going to a four (4) voucher system will increase Councils waste management costs by \$120,000 to \$150,000 per annum**
- 3. Maintain the current allocation of two (2) Digital Waste vouchers per annum per eligible property to ensure waste management costs are maintained at current levels**
- 4. Undertake a Resource Recovery (Waste) service review in the 2025/2026 financial year; and**
- 5. Notify the chief petitioner of the resolution of Council.**

## BACKGROUND:

On 23 May 2025, Council received the petition "Waste Vouchers: Request four (4) per Year from 1/7/2025" signed by 417 residents requesting a return to quarterly voucher distribution.

In response to safety concerns, rising waste volumes, and the need for improved operational oversight, Snowy Valleys Council (SVC) replaced "Free Waste Weekends" with a structured digital waste voucher system in July 2021 (Council Resolution M95/21). The program initially issued four (4) quarterly vouchers per eligible residential property. Each voucher could be redeemed for the disposal of up to 1 cubic metre or 300kg of general waste, green waste, or one bulky item such as a mattress, three-seater lounge, fridge/freezer, or two car tyres.

To support the transition away from waste weekends and free general waste, the July 2021 Council meeting included Council Resolution M95/21 - That Council delegate the CEO to undertake reviews and changes to the type and quantity of vouchers within available budgets. This transition has progressed over several years to reduce free general waste to landfill and transition to vouchers for materials that can be recycled. This transition away from general waste is essential to be completed by 2030 in line with Council's Zero Waste Strategy and State/National Action Plans to reduce waste to landfill.

The shift aimed to decentralise bulky waste drop-offs, improve safety and reduce traffic flow at Resource Recovery Centres, and boost material recovery. It also aligned with the SVC Zero Waste Strategy 2024 - 2030, which focuses on intelligent resource management, reducing waste vouchers, increased landfill diversion, and community engagement.

Following council workshops and a media campaign in 2024, the Interim General Manager supported changes to the voucher system that was implemented in January 2025. The voucher system was revised to provide two (2) vouchers annually per eligible property, maintaining the total allowance of 2 cubic metre or 600kg per household. The change supported Council's broader objectives of cost reduction, improved waste data tracking, and enhanced recovery outcomes.

## REPORT:

In July 2021, Snowy Valleys Council (SVC) transitioned from "Free Waste Weekends" to a digital waste voucher system, issuing four (4) quarterly vouchers per eligible residential property. This initiative aimed to improve safety, reduce congestion at Resource Recovery Centres, and enhance recycling outcomes.

Each voucher entitles the holder to dispose of up to 1 cubic metre or 300kg of general waste, green waste, or alternatively, one bulky item such as a mattress, three-seater lounge, fridge or freezer, or two car tyres.

The program was designed to decentralise bulky waste drop-offs, improve site efficiency, and align with the Zero Waste Strategy 2024–2030, which emphasises intelligent resource management and landfill reduction. In January 2025, the voucher system was revised to two (2) annual vouchers per property. This adjustment supports SVC's goals to reduce waste sent to landfill, lower waste management costs, and boost recovery rates.

### The Petition

On 23 May 2025, Council received a petition signed by 417 residents requesting a return to quarterly voucher distribution. The petition requested the change from 1/07/2025. Changes to the system are best undertaken at the start of a Calendar year. This is due to high costs associated with changes to the voucher system. The petition proposed dividing the current annual allowance into four (4) 150kg general waste vouchers. However, the request focused solely on general waste and overlooked the broader value of the system, particularly its support for responsible disposal of tyres, bulky items like whitegoods and mattresses. Signatories were from Adelong (124), Batlow (122), Khancoban (84), and Tumbarumba (87), with no signatures from Talbingo or Tumut. This petition also highlights the use of vouchers for domestic general waste by rural properties which do not have kerbside services available or have not requested to pay for this service and take advantage of free waste disposal using all available vouchers.



**The establishment and use of SVC's Digital Voucher System supports:**

- Cost Efficiency – The system eliminated the need for labour intensive waste weekends, reducing staffing and operational costs. Digital access via the SVC Waste App enhances administrative efficiency and lowers management costs.
- Environmental Performance – Regular access to controlled waste disposal encourages more frequent and mindful sorting and separation of recyclable and green waste, contributing to landfill diversion and increased material recovery.
- Strategic Alignment –
  - The NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041 targets a 10% per capita waste reduction and 80% average resource recovery by 2030, including halving organic waste to landfill.
  - The National Waste Policy Action Plan 2024 supports a circular economy and consistent national resource recovery practices.
  - The voucher system directly contributes to the objectives of SVC's Zero Waste Strategy 2024-2030 by supporting smart, sustainable, and community-led waste solutions.

**Digital Voucher Impact on Waste Management and Resource Recovery**

Challenges and Considerations of the Digital Voucher system include:

- Administrative cost burden – Increasing the number of vouchers from two (2) to four (4) would significantly increase administration and staff costs across Council's customer service teams and Resource Recovery Centres, while also requiring upgrades to the SVC Waste App.
- Limited recycling incentives – Many voucher users dispose of mixed loads containing recyclables, undermining recovery goals.
- Surge in last-minute usage – There is a recurring pattern of voucher redemptions surging at the end of each period, which limits gate inspection accuracy and planning efficiency.
- Operational pressure – High volume redemption windows place added pressure on staff to monitor separation and contamination.
- Ineffective reinforcement of recycling behaviours – Using vouchers for general waste disposal offers little incentive to sort recyclables. Resource recovery staff frequently observe mixed loads, particularly near the end of voucher periods when most drop-offs approach 1 cubic metre - making thorough inspections difficult. Despite ongoing community education, recyclables are regularly found in general waste during processing. If Council is to reward residents through this system, it should reflect environmentally responsible practices - not just convenience.

Positive Outcomes include:

- Resource recovery gains – Since implementation, kerbside recovery rates have risen from below 30% to 55%, surpassing SVC's 2025 target and progressing toward the 80% goal for 2030.
- Landfill reduction impact – Waste sent to landfill decreased from over 7,673 tonnes annually to 2,979 tonnes in 2024/2025 - representing a more than 60% reduction.
- Strategic support from the Zero Waste Strategy – Reducing general waste vouchers aligns with Action 12 of the Strategy, which advocates regular review of system efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and community value.
- Supports strategic waste goals – The voucher program contributes to SVC's 2030 targets of reducing landfill waste by 70% and achieving 80% overall recovery.
- Future refinement potential – As targets intensify closer to 2030, Council is progressively removing general waste from the vouchers system by 2027, guided by recovery trends and financial sustainability.

- Convenience for residents – The system provides flexible, fair access to legal waste disposal.
- Reduction in illegal dumping – Encourages proper waste behaviour by making disposal free and accessible.
- Supports bulky waste diversion – Facilitates appropriate management of large household items.

As of 2 June 2025, a total of 4,121 vouchers had been redeemed, generating a direct general waste cost of approximately \$300,000. With the current voucher system and redemption numbers, Council is at risk of expending the full waste access charge revenue on voucher general waste excluding costs associated with other uses such as bulky items and tyres. This also excludes administration, transport, waste processing, and system maintenance costs. The waste access revenue of approximately \$500,000 funds the wider community's free recycling services, FOGO caddy liner rolls, education, and the operation of six (6) Resource Recovery Centres which are available to the entire community. The vouchers are currently being used by around 2,700 properties out of 7,421 properties. This means vouchers are used by around 36% of the community, where recycling services are used by almost 100% of the community. The revenue generated by the annual waste access charge should better support Resource Recovery Centre operational costs and free recycling services. General waste disposal to landfill is expensive with increasing costs and should be a user-pay system.

#### **Additional Costs to Council of a four (4) Voucher System**

If Council were to adopt a four (4) voucher system as proposed in the recent petition received by Council, the estimated additional annual operational and management cost to Council would be in the order \$120,000 to \$150,000 per annum, depending on uptake and system efficiencies.

The additional costs to Council of a four (4) voucher system are made up of the following components:

Forecast increased Waste Disposal Volumes: \$70,000 – \$90,000

Providing two additional vouchers per household is likely to result in significantly higher waste volumes at the Resource Recovery Centres, leading to increased landfill tipping fees and transportation costs.

Landfill disposal costs could increase by approximately \$40,000–\$60,000, while internal transport and handling may add a further \$30,000.

Administrative and Customer Service Overheads: \$25,000 – \$35,000

Managing a higher volume of voucher transactions will require additional administrative support and customer service resources.

There may also be a need for temporary staffing during peak periods and increased support to assist residents with digital systems.

System Enhancements and Fraud Prevention: \$15,000 – \$25,000

As 2nd June 2025 the direct cost to Council of the current voucher system is approximately \$300,000 with a projected increase of \$330,00 by the 30/06/2025

Enhancements to the digital voucher system to handle increased throughput and prevent misuse will require investment in software updates, training, and compliance checks.

Increasing the number of vouchers may inadvertently encourage residents to dispose of more waste, increasing the temptation to treat vouchers as a default waste solution rather than reducing, reusing, or recycling. This would be counterproductive to Snowy Valleys Council's Zero Waste Strategy 2024–2030, which targets a 70% reduction in landfill and 80% resource recovery by 2030.

It's also worth noting that SVC residents currently have access to a range of private waste collection services, including Bellettes, Cleanaway, and JJ Richards. Many rural residents and local businesses already pay for these services and then use Council vouchers to dispose of overflow waste — effectively accessing the Council's waste facilities without contributing to the kerbside collection service used by 70% of our ratepayers. This creates a financial imbalance and places additional pressure on publicly funded infrastructure.

Resource recovery staff continuously evaluate and adapt waste management practices in response to the dynamic nature of the sector. With evolving regulations and industry standards, the team remains committed to implementing best practices that reduce landfill dependency, increase diversion rates, and protect the environment. This includes continuing to adjust and change the voucher system to enable a broader use of vouchers by the whole community for materials that can be diverted from landfill rather than a small portion of the community who use vouchers for domestic general waste.

### **Petition received by Council 23 May 2025**

A copy of the petition will be made available to Councillors at the Council meeting, on request.

## **LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:**

### **Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:**

#### **Community Strategic Plan Theme**

Theme 3 – Our Environment

#### **Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives**

CSP3 Our natural environment is cared for and protected to ensure future generations can experience and enjoy its beauty

#### **Delivery Program Principal Activities**

3.5 Deliver best practice waste management

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

As of 2 June 2025, a total of 4,121 vouchers have been redeemed, representing a financial impact of approximately \$300,000. This reflects current program uptake and gives insight into the cost burden approaching the end of the 2024/2025 financial year.

The waste access revenue from 7,421 properties currently totals \$504,628 (7,421 x \$68 annual waste access charge for 2024/2025, increasing to \$75 in 2025/2026). However, this revenue is insufficient to fully offset the expenses tied to voucher redemptions and the operational costs of six (6) Resource Recovery Centres, the wider community's free recycling services, FOGO caddy liner rolls, education and overall waste management activities.

Based on updated cost assessments across SVC Resource Recovery Centres, the average true cost per voucher is around \$115, including landfill fees, transport, and site-specific logistics. While 300kg of mixed general waste is \$63, therefore two vouchers at \$126 is well in excess of the \$68 waste access charge. Importantly, the full cost of administering each voucher extends beyond waste disposal to include overheads such as software maintenance, customer service support, and internal charges, collectively estimated at an additional 38%.

If Council were to adopt a four (4) voucher system as proposed in the recent petition received by Council, the estimated additional annual operational and management cost to Council would be in the order \$120,000 to \$150,000 per annum, depending on uptake and system efficiencies.

The additional costs to Council of a four (4) voucher system are made up of the following components:

Forecast increased Waste Disposal Volumes: \$70,000 – \$90,000

Providing two additional vouchers per household is likely to result in significantly higher waste volumes at the Resource Recovery Centres, leading to increased landfill tipping fees and transportation costs.

Landfill disposal costs could increase by approximately \$40,000–\$60,000, while internal transport and handling may add a further \$30,000.

Administrative and Customer Service Overheads: \$25,000 – \$35,000

Managing a higher volume of voucher transactions will require additional administrative support and customer service resources.

There may also be a need for temporary staffing during peak periods and increased support to assist residents with digital systems.

System Enhancements and Fraud Prevention: \$15,000 – \$25,000

As 2nd June 2025 the direct cost to Council of the current voucher system is approximately \$300,000 with a projected increase of \$330,00 by the 30/06/2025

If all 14,842 available vouchers (2 per eligible property) were to be redeemed, the program would incur an estimated cost of \$1.1 million, excluding overheads. With just one month left in the financial year, SVC faces a shortfall and is unlikely to recover the full costs of the program through existing income streams.

Maintaining the current two-voucher system is still more cost-effective than legacy bulky waste models / waste weekends, the voucher system offers improved service equity by making a free service available to all residents to use as desired and improves material recovery by allowing staff to inspect and redirect loads away from landfill. However, the majority of vouchers are used for general waste with little incentive to divert from landfill. Increasing to four (4) vouchers per household would raise administrative and operational burdens and encourage waste disposal in smaller, less efficient volumes, would increase the true cost, provide even less incentive to divert from landfill and would not align with Council's Zero Waste Strategy.

Strategically, a transition away from general waste vouchers could offer Council some financial relief while reinforcing behavioural change - contingent on recovery performance, landfill diversion progress and an emphasis on a user pays model.

## **POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

Clause 4.3 of the Petitions Policy - SVC-COR-PO-042-03 states the following:

*All Petitions received must be forwarded to the Information Management Officer, who will ensure the Petition is registered in Council's record management system and task assigned to the relevant Director.*

*The relevant Director will arrange for the Petition to be included in the Council agenda of the next meeting of Council.*

*For privacy reasons, only the substance of the petition and the number of signatories will appear in the Council business paper; the full petition will be available for viewing by Councillors only at the meeting.*

## **RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

<b>RISK CATEGORY</b>	<b>RISK/REWARD DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COST/RISK</b>	<b>BENEFIT/ REWARD</b>
Legal	Non-compliance with waste policy changes or EPA regulations	Potential fines or corrective actions	Continued regulatory alignment and smoother audits
Environmental & Public Health	Increased waste generation from higher voucher usage may impact landfill targets	Greater environmental impact and pressure on public health	Encourages legal, controlled disposal of bulky and organic waste
Financial	Budget overrun if voucher redemption increases or operational costs rise	Program may exceed allocated funds, financial risk without subsidy	Two-voucher model currently remains manageable; potential reduction to one (1) voucher offers long-term savings

RISK CATEGORY	RISK/REWARD DESCRIPTION	COST/RISK	BENEFIT/ REWARD
People	Staff burden and resource strain during peak redemption periods	Staff burden and resource strain during peak redemption periods Operational fatigue and morale issues	Greater community service and operational learning
Technology	Strain on SVC Waste App infrastructure with more vouchers or increased demand	Possible downtime or service complaints	Enables real-time waste data tracking and voucher access
Stakeholder	Community dissatisfaction if voucher access is restricted or reduced	Reputational risk or petition backlash	Demonstrates commitment to sustainable service access
Service Delivery	Overuse or inconsistent use of vouchers may reduce system efficiency	Less predictable volumes and inspection issues	Supports consistent bulky waste diversion and streamlined recovery centre traffic

## OPTIONS:

1. Adopt as per recommendations set out in this report - preferred option.
2. Amend the recommendations as referred to in this report (suggestions below).
3. Decline the recommendations set out in this report.

The options available are varied and could allow increased community at lower overall costs but certain options could also increase costs and derail Council's reputation and progress towards State and National Goals that must be met by 2030. Additional options include:

- The requested change in the petition. Allocated the same volume across four (4) vouchers instead of two (2). This option does not allow for bulky items to be included in the voucher system and would be limited to mixed general waste. As discussed, this option is not recommended.
- Make changes to the Waste Access Charges. Create two (2) waste access charges (Kerbside/Non-Kerbside). Increase the waste access charge applied to properties which do not have a kerbside collection to allow these properties to have more paid vouchers for domestic general waste disposal or paid vouchers that provides a reduction on the cost of 240L general waste disposals at Council's Resource Recovery Centres.
- Continue to make changes to the voucher system to reduce general waste vouchers and increase vouchers for other materials that can be diverted from landfill. These options include more structured vouchers for specific items, such as fridge de-gassing, batteries, solar panels, tyres, bulky items, collection of compost and other future materials that may become a problematic waste stream. This option can be further developed and consulted with the community about various options and materials that are cost effective and improve environmental outcomes.
- Remove all vouchers and reduce the waste access annual charges from \$75 to \$50 to continue supporting the Resource Recovery Centre operations and free recycling services.
- Increase the voucher allocation to four (4) vouchers per year with changes to gate charges and introducing charges for the recycled materials that are currently free. This is not a recommended option.

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

Following the resolution of Council on the future direction of the waste voucher system, a targeted communication strategy will be implemented to inform residents across the Local Government Area. This will include:

- A formal media release outlining Council's decision and the rationale behind it;
- Updates via the SVC website and SVC Waste App to reflect any changes to the voucher program;
- Direct communication through rates notices, social media, and e-newsletters;
- FAQs and educational materials to address community queries and explain how the system supports the Zero Waste Strategy 2024 - 2030;
- Briefings for front-line customer service and Resource Recovery staff to ensure consistent messaging and public support.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil.

## 7. MAYORAL MINUTE

### 7.1. MAYORAL MINUTE - REQUEST FOR DROUGHT NATURAL DISASTER DECLARATION

**REPORT AUTHOR: MAYOR JULIA HAM**

#### **PURPOSE:**

To advocate on behalf of our farmers for the declaration of a natural disaster.

#### **MAYORAL RECOMMENDATION:**

##### **THAT COUNCIL:**

1. Advocate to the NSW Minister for Agriculture to have the current drought in the Snowy Valleys declared as a natural disaster and facilitate the reinstating of transport subsidies.
2. Collaborate with the National Farmers Federation, NSW Farmers, Country Women's Association, Canberra Region Joint Organisation and the Office of Local Government to form a united approach towards natural disaster declaration for drought.

#### **REPORT:**

Snowy Valleys Council's main industries are agriculture and forestry. For these industries to thrive they need water. Rain is needed. Farmers are in trouble.

The recent rain has made a small change, and we hope for more.

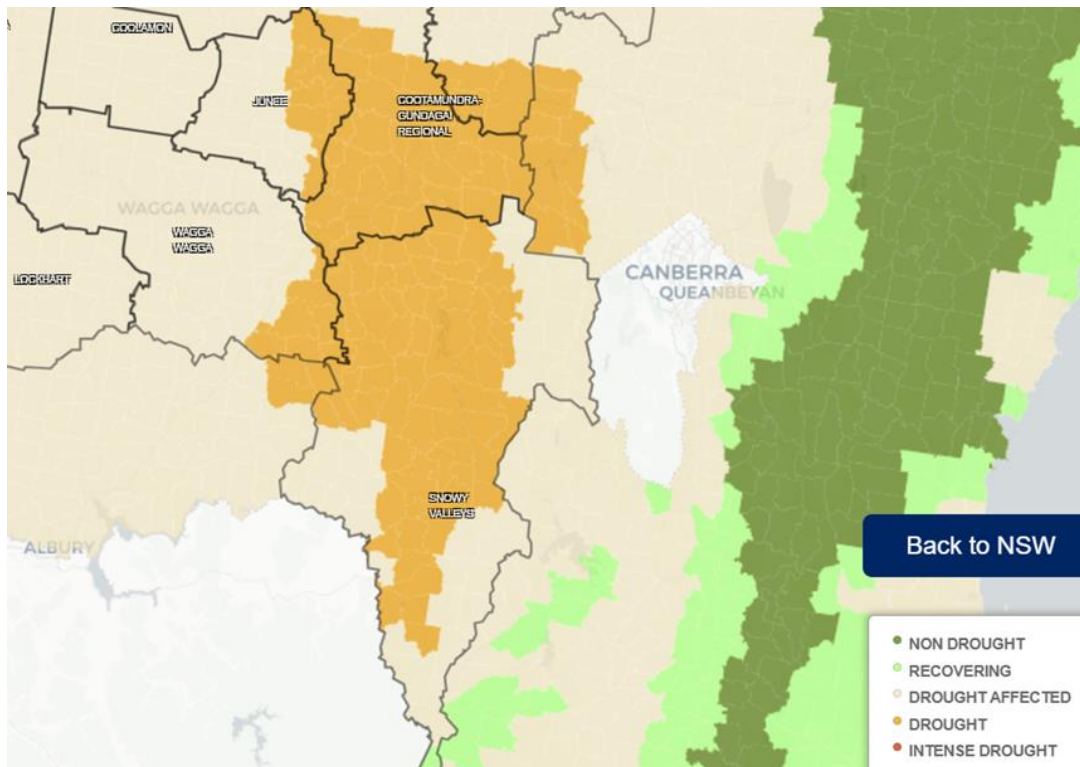


Image: NSW Department of Primary Industries drought map

Looking over the border to the drought in Victoria and South Australia underlines the urgency to get good practical systems and supports in place to support all farmers.

Drought is a slow and insidious disaster. Unlike flood, hurricane, or fires, the federal government is not acknowledging drought as a natural disaster. The Australian Government views drought as distinct from other natural disasters and manages them differently. The philosophy is that droughts are considered a normal part of Australia's climate, and the federal government's focus is on managing the risk associated with them, rather than providing emergency disaster relief.

Floods and fires are now also part of the Australian norm. Our farmers need disaster relief for drought. A natural disaster is when you have no control over what is occurring in your region. Managing risk is not always possible, and if it was, it would be done. There is no controlling the amount of rain.

We need to advocate to the federal Minister for Agriculture, the Hon Julie Collins MP for disaster funding for the people who are producing food, and fibre - our farmers.

Last week Prime Minister Albanese announced some support, but it is not what is needed. New drought support for farmers—channelled through the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) and the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation (ARLF) has been met with deep disappointment among drought-impacted producers in the Snowy Valleys Council area.

The reality on the ground is urgent and acute. After two consecutive failed seasons and rainfall deficits of up to 60%, producers are experiencing escalating costs, depleting reserves, and worsening animal welfare risks. We are not asking for leadership training or community grants—we are asking for immediate, practical support to sustain livestock and operations.

The announced funding is not targeted toward core operational needs such as fodder and freight.

It does not address the cashflow crisis being faced now by producers who are feeding livestock through the autumn and into winter, with no paddock feed in sight.

It ignores the pressing animal welfare risks associated with inadequate nutrition, transport limitations, and delayed destocking.

It does not prevent long-term loss of production. Without support, producers will continue destocking breeding stock, undermining income for the next 2–3 years due to lower fertility, calving delays, and genetic loss.

The drought in the Snowy Valleys Council area needs to be declared a natural disaster to obtain financial assistance for fodder and freight.

Without support, animal welfare will deteriorate as handfeeding becomes unaffordable or unviable. Many producers will be forced to exit the industry or mothball operations, with severe flow-on effects to rural economies and food security. Livestock markets will be further flooded, pushing prices down and reducing long-term viability.

Mental health pressures will escalate in communities already stretched to breaking point.

We urge the Australian Government to reassess its priorities and deliver targeted, immediate assistance to livestock producers by:

- Reinstating a practical, accessible fodder and freight subsidy for verified drought-affected regions;
- Ensuring producers can retain breeding stock and sustain operations until seasonal conditions improve;
- Delivering support that reflects what farmers have asked for, not what others think they need.

The current drought is a disaster in all but name. Long-term leadership programs and community-building initiatives are important—but they cannot feed livestock, pay freight bills, or prevent herd collapse. Time is running out.

## ATTACHMENTS

Nil.



**7.2. MAYORAL MINUTE - 2025 BATLOW CIDERFEST****REPORT AUTHOR: MAYOR JULIA HAM**

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**PURPOSE:**

To note the success of the recent Batlow CiderFest.

**MAYORAL RECOMMENDATION:****THAT COUNCIL:**

1. **Note the correspondence from Mayor Julia Ham thanking the organisers of the 2025 Batlow Ciderfest.**

**REPORT:**

Correspondence has been sent to the organisers of the 2025 Batlow CiderFest offering congratulations on their successful event held on Saturday 20 May 2025.

The event was a credit to the Committee, with the event being well organised with a variety of stalls. The selection of music was excellent showcasing our local talent.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Mayoral letter of congratulations to the 2025 Batlow Ciderfest Committee

**Attachment 1 - 20250602 Batlow Ciderfest - SVC Mayor**

JH:jmf  
Our Ref: 3368798



2 June 2025

Batlow Community and Cultural Association  
CiderFest Sub-Committee  
PO Box 226  
BATLOW NSW 2730

E: [ray.billing@bigpond.com](mailto:ray.billing@bigpond.com)

Dear Organisers of Batlow CiderFest,

Congratulations on your fabulous festival held on Saturday 20 May 2025. What a perfect CiderFest it was. The warmest festival I can recall, though it didn't stop anyone wearing their apple beanie. The number of beanies is multiplying. I am writing this letter in my new Ciderfest Hoody; sure to become a favourite.

The event was well run and organised. The street looked a picture with a huge amount of stalls. Lots of variety and room to move in between.

The selection of music was excellent. I loved Amber Lawrance and the locals "Wildtracks". A great way to show off our local talent. Seeing groups of people singing and dancing in the street with a cider in hand was great to see. I came away thinking this was a festival full of very happy people. A gift to our region.

Thank you to all who have worked so hard to make the festival happen. A real credit to the Association and sub-committee and Karly Flynn of Turnstyle Events. I am sure there were many stressful times, but from the outside it looked effortless. From being greeted at the gate with warm smiles and welcomes, to the set-out of many chairs so there was always a place to sit, to the placement of stalls, stages and food stalls, it was an unforgettable event; a real credit to you all.

I, like most other visitors, walked away thinking the next Ciderfest is a must do in 2026.

People like you and your committee, and events like this, help our region grow and prosper. I am very appreciative of your work and dedication in celebrating the very beautiful Batlow and the Snowy Valleys region. Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'Julia Ham'.

Julia Ham  
**MAYOR**



Leading, Engaging and  
Supporting Strong and  
Vibrant Communities

P: 1300 ASK SVC (1300 275 782)

Tumut Office  
76 Capper Street  
Tumut NSW 2720

Tumbarumba Office  
Bridge Street  
Tumbarumba NSW 2653

E: [info@svc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@svc.nsw.gov.au) [www.svc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.svc.nsw.gov.au)

**8. NOTICE OF MOTION/NOTICE OF RESCISSION****8.1. NOTICE OF MOTION - IMPACT OF THE POLYPHAGOUS SHOT HOLE BORER –  
CR HAYES****COUNCILLOR JAMES HAYES****SUMMARY:****Background**

The polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB) (*Euwallacea fornicatus*) was first detected in Australia in August 2021, discovered in a 30-year-old backyard maple tree in Perth, Western Australia. Since then, the beetle has been identified in 80 suburbs across 25 local government areas within the Perth metropolitan region, though it has not been found outside this area.

PSHB is a small, invasive beetle native to Southeast Asia that attacks a broad range of plant species—over 500 globally—including urban street trees, native forests, plantation timber, and fruit crops. It poses a serious threat to both agriculture and the environment by boring into tree trunks, branches, and stems, often causing dieback and, in severe cases, tree death. The beetle also has a symbiotic relationship with a fungus (*Fusarium euwallaceae*), which it cultivates as a food source. This fungus can obstruct a tree's vascular system, further intensifying the damage. This beetle poses a great risk to the softwoods industry in Snowy Valleys.

Pursuant to Notice, Councillor James Hayes has submitted the following Motion:

**NOTICE OF MOTION:**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Write to the Hon Julie Collins MP (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry) advocating for greater awareness of the Polyphagous shot-hole borer and funding to support ongoing trial treatments.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Notice of Motion - Cr James Hayes

**Attachment 1 - 20250611 - Signed Notice of Motion - Impact of the Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer - Cr James Hayes****NOTICE OF MOTION**

Under Clause 3.10 of Councils Code of Meeting Practice, I give notice that the following motion be placed on the Council Agenda for the Ordinary Meeting of Council, to be held on:

Day and Date of Ordinary Meeting	19 June 2025
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<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Shot Hole Borer</b>
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**Motion -****THAT COUNCIL:**

1. Write to the Hon Julie Collins MP (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry) advocating for greater awareness of the Polyphagous shot-hole borer and funding to support ongoing trial treatments.

Councillor Name: James Hayes

Signature

Date: 11 June 2025

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## **9. URGENT BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE**

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## **10. GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL REPORTS**

### **10.1. COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS ACTION REPORT - JUNE 2025**

**REPORT AUTHOR: EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT - GENERAL MANAGER**

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: ACTING GENERAL MANAGER**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on any active resolutions as at June 2025.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

##### **THAT COUNCIL:**

- 1. Note the report on the Council resolution actions as at June 2025.**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The General Manager is responsible for ensuring that Council's policies, decisions and priorities are implemented in a timely and efficient manner, consistent with the goals and objectives of Council. After a Council meeting, each resolution is allocated to the responsible officer to action in accordance with the intent of the Council decision.

#### **REPORT:**

Each month, a report is presented to Council on the status of any active resolutions. The below report includes resolutions up until the last meeting of Council, that being 15 May 2025, and includes any actions yet to be completed. Resolutions resulting from Council meetings are tracked and distributed via Council's TechOne system.

#### **LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:**

##### **Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:**

##### **Community Strategic Plan Theme**

Theme 5 - Our Civic Leadership

##### **Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives**

CSP5 Our Civic leadership and organisation government fosters open and transparent partnership with our community

##### **Delivery Program Principal Activities**

5.4 Maintain and deliver a governance framework that guides good decision making, accountability and legislative compliance

#### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

Any associated budget and allocated resources have been considered when the matter was first reported to Council.

**POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

Section 335 of the *Local Government Act 1993* states that the General Manager must implement, without undue delay, lawful decisions of the council.

**RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

Nil.

**OPTIONS:**

1. Adopt as per recommendations set out in this report - preferred option.
2. Amend the recommendations set out in this report.
3. Decline the recommendations set out in this report.

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Council Resolutions Action Report as at June 2025.

**Attachment 1 - 20250619 Resolutions Tracker - FINAL**

## Resolutions Tracker – June 2025

Report Date/Item	Status	Assignee	Due Date	Details
<b>Thursday, 15 February 2024</b>				
11.5. REQUEST FOR ROAD CLOSURE AND SALE - PART ALPINE WAY, KHANCOBAN	In Progress	Property & Roads Partner	20/07/2025	<p>M34/24 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approve the partial road closure, subdivision and sale of the formed lot bordering Lot 2 DP 850930 subject to the terms of sale being met including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. compliance with the legislative framework for the closing of public roads contained within the Roads Act 1993, and sale of land contained in the Real Property Act 1900 and the current NSW Registrar General's Land Registry Services Guidelines for the Closure and Sale of Public Roads;</li> <li>b. sale price to be determined by an independent land valuation based on the surrounding land use zoning and not the current zoning of the land as well as the future permissible use of the land under Councils' current Tumbarumba Local Environment Plan 2010 (LEP);</li> <li>c. the area of land (m2) to be sold is to be confirmed in a land survey prepared by a registered land surveyor;</li> <li>d. the brief for the land valuation is to be prepared by Council and the Land Valuer is to be engaged directly by Council;</li> <li>e. 50% of all costs including land valuation costs, land survey costs, preparation of contract for sale costs, land re-zoning costs, consultation costs, notification costs, planning, legal and all other costs associated with the sale and transfer of the land are to be borne by the applicant;</li> <li>f. a bond of \$5,000.00 be sought from the applicant upfront before Council staff undertake any work on the road closure, subdivision and sale of the land. The costs identified above (item e) will be paid for out of the bond with any unused funds returned to the applicant.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Honour the 50% contribution towards the property realignment that was made by Tumbarumba Shire Council;</li> <li>3. Seek concurrence and approval from Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) in writing on the sale of this road before any valuation or sales process is undertaken by any party;</li> <li>4. Notify all adjoining property owners and other relevant stakeholders of any decision of Council to sell the land before any valuation or sales process is undertaken by any party including Council;</li> <li>5. Classify the land as Operational Land for the purpose of sale and the land to remain vested in Council;</li> </ol>



## Resolutions Tracker – June 2025

Report Date/Item	Status	Assignee	Due Date	Details
				6. Authorise the Interim General Manager to obtain an independent valuation of the road corridor and negotiate the sale of the land; 7. Delegate to the Mayor and Interim General Manager to affix the Council seal and execute documents relevant to the closure of the road reserve and sale of the land; and 8. Request a subsequent report to Council on the outcome of the sale of the land.
<b>Thursday, 15 August 2024</b>				
13.1. CONFIDENTIAL - ADELONG SERVICES & CITIZENS AND BOWLING CLUB - ADELONG CARAVAN PARK LEASE AGREEMENT	Complete	Property & Roads Partner	30/04/2025	M184/24 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 1. Enters into a new lease arrangement with the Adelong Services & Citizens and Bowling Club for the Council owned property which is 7,053 m2 of Council owned freehold operational land, located at 11-13 Victoria Hill Road, Adelong; 2. Notes as per the Council Resolution M136/24 at its 20 June 2024 meeting, the lease arrangement with the Adelong Services & Citizens and Bowling Club is for an initial five (5) year period which will commence on 18 August 2024 through to 18 August 2029 with options to renew the lease for further 5 x 5 years; 3. Enters into the new lease arrangement on the lease payment terms and conditions outlined in the attached lease which is \$15,000 per annum with a 2% annual market increase plus a CPI increase applied at the anniversary of the executed lease agreement each year (Annual rental increase); 4. Notes the other capital improvements to the Caravan Park site that the Adelong Services & Citizens & Bowling Club has committed to undertake in the first 18 months of the new lease and which are incorporated as lessee obligations to be fulfilled under the new lease; 5. Authorises the Interim General Manager or delegate to enter into direct negotiation and finalise the draft Lease with the Adelong Services & Citizens Bowling Club; 6. Authorises the Interim General Manager at the end of successful negotiations to enter into a new lease arrangement with the Adelong Services & Citizens & Bowling Club for the Council owned property (L131 - 7,053m2 of Council freehold operational land) located at 11-13 Victoria Hill Road, Adelong; 7. Authorises the Interim General Manager and Mayor to affix the Council Seal and execute all associated documentation to the lease agreement;

## Resolutions Tracker – June 2025

Report Date/Item	Status	Assignee	Due Date	Details
				8. Upon execution of the lease, advertises information relating to the lease / leases in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 - Part 3 Division 5 - Government Contracts with Private Sector; and 9. Treat matters in the Confidential Report specified in Sections 10A(2)(d)(ii) as confidential and remain confidential until Council determines otherwise.
<b>Thursday, 21 November 2024</b>				
8.2 NOTICE OF RESCISSION – SECTION 7.11 DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS UPDATE AND DRAFT SECTION 7.12 DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS PLAN 2024 – CRS SHELDON, HAYES, LARTER	Complete	Acting Director Community, Corporate & Development	31/05/2024	M252/24 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 1. Receive a further report to the February 2025 meeting, including all projects from the section 7.11 plan to enable the allocation of section 7.11 Developer Contributions (Open Space) and (Roads) and Developer Contributions - Management to be subject to further consideration.
8.3 NOTICE OF RESCISSION – SALE OF COUNCIL FREEHOLD REQUEST LAND LOT 1 DP1163661 TUMUT – CRS INGLIS, SHELDON AND HAYES	In Progress	Director Infrastructure & Works	30/07/2025	M256/24 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 2. Receive a further report on the outcome of Expressions of Interest; and 3. Receive a report on potential future uses of the site.
8.4 NOTICE OF MOTION – NEW ADVOCACY PLAN – CR JAMES HAYES	In Progress	Acting General Manager	30/06/2025	M259/24 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 1. Urgently engage with peak community bodies to develop a new advocacy plan for Snowy Valleys Council.
8.5 NOTICE OF MOTION – POTABLE WATER TO AIRPORT PRECINCT – CR JAMES HAYES	In Progress	Director Infrastructure & Works	30/09/2025	M260/24 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 1. Investigate the options of supplying potable water to the airport precinct and beyond including investigating funding sources.
<b>Thursday, 12 December 2024</b>				
10.9 DISSOLUTION OF ADELONG SHOWGROUND COMMITTEE AS A SECTION 355 COMMITTEE	In Progress	Manager Technical Services	30/06/2025	M298/24 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 2. Endorse the establishment of a Maintenance and Operation Agreement with the Adelong Showground Management Committee to be put in place by February 2025.

## Resolutions Tracker – June 2025

Report Date/Item	Status	Assignee	Due Date	Details
<b>Thursday, 20 February 2025</b>				
8.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - SWIMMING POOL ACCESS REVIEW - CR SHELDON, CR LARTER	In Progress	Director Infrastructure & Works	31/05/2025	M10/25 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 1. Conduct a post swimming pool season workshop to investigate opportunities to increase accessibility by the public in preparation for the 2025/2026 season including but not limited to the following: • Pools opening on Public Holidays, i.e. Boxing Day, New Years Day • Potential to offer 10 free entry passes to SVC swimming pools for children under 16 years • Introduction of free adult swimming lessons
11.1 MANNUS LAKE BLUE-GREEN ALGAE MANAGEMENT	Complete	Manager Utilities & Waste Business	19/06/2025	M08/25 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:  8. As a matter of urgency investigate options and costs for the removal of the Mannus Dam wall and the rehabilitation of the dam bed and creek.
<b>Thursday, 20 March 2025</b>				
10.6. DRAFT KERBSIDE COLLECTION POLICY - FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION	In Progress	Manager Utilities & Waste Business	31/05/2025	M54/25 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 1. Endorse the Draft Kerbside Collection Policy SVC-ENG-PO-134-01 for public exhibition for a period of no less than 28 days; 2. Note if submissions are received during the exhibition, a further report will be provided to Council; and 3. Adopt the Kerbside Collection Policy SVC-ENG-PO-134-01 if no submissions are received after the completion of the public exhibition period.
<b>Thursday, 15 April 2025</b>				
10.5. COUNCILLOR AND COMMUNITY DIRECTORS TO THE BOARD - HYNE COMMUNITY TRUST	Complete	Executive Assistant – General Manager	14/05/2025	M83/25 RESOLVED to defer item 10.5 to the 15 May 2025 Ordinary Meeting of Council.

## Resolutions Tracker – June 2025

Report Date/Item	Status	Assignee	Due Date	Details
10.6. DRAFT PAYMENT OF EXPENSES AND PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS POLICY - FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION	Complete	Governance Officer	14/05/2025	M84/25 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 1. Endorse the Draft Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Mayor and Councillors Policy - SVC-EXE-PO-002-07 for public exhibition for a period of no less than 28 days; 2. Note if submissions are received during the exhibition, a further report will be provided to Council; and 3. Adopt the Draft Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Mayor and Councillors Policy if no submissions are received on the day after the completion of the public exhibition period.
10.8. COUNCIL COMMITTEES POLICY - FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION	Complete	Manager Governance	14/05/2025	M86/25 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 1. Endorse the updated Council Committees Policy SVC-GOV-PO-110-02 for public exhibition for a period of no less than 28 days; 2. Note if submissions are received during the exhibition, a further report will be provided to Council; 3. Adopt the Council Committees Policy SVC-GOV-PO-110-02 if no submissions are received on the day after the completion of the public exhibition period.
<b>Thursday, 15 May 2025</b>				
7.2. MAYORAL MINUTE – CONGRATULATE MICHAEL MCCORMACK	Complete	Administration Officer – Office of the General Manager	18/06/2025	M112/25 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 1. Congratulate Michael McCormack for his election as the Federal representative to the Riverina now incorporating Snowy Valleys Council.
7.3. MAYORAL MINUTE – CONGRATULATE KRISTY MCBAIN	Complete	Administration Officer – Office of the General Manager	18/06/2025	M113/25 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 1. Congratulate Kristy McBain and Sussan Ley on their elections and for letters to be sent.
7.5. MAYORAL MINUTE – NSW GOVERNMENT IMPROVING CAMPING IN NSW NATIONAL PARKS SURVEY	Complete	Manager Communications, Activation and Strategy	18/06/2025	M115/25 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 2. Have the NSW Government Improving Camping in NSW National Parks consultation survey added to the Council newsletter and on a social media post, noting that 62% of Snowy Valleys Council is National Park or State Forest.

## Resolutions Tracker – June 2025

Report Date/Item	Status	Assignee	Due Date	Details
10.5. COUNCILLOR AND COMMUNITY DIRECTORS TO THE HYNE COMMUNITY TRUST	Complete	Executive Assistant – General Manager	18/06/2025	M121/25 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 2. Write to the Hyne Community Trust to: a. Advise of the 17 October 2024 resolution M198/24 that Mayor Julia Ham has been approved as the Councillor non-Hyne Director, in accordance with the requirements of the Deed (2007) and amendment (2016); and b. Advise that Mr Ian Chaffey, Ms Bernadette Alleyn and Ms Janet Anderson have been approved as community non-Hyne Directors. 3. Request that the Hyne Community Trust review its deed to remove the need for Council to approve community members on the Trust.
11.1. MULTIPURPOSE AND EVACUATION CENTRE PROJECT - UPDATE - MAY 2025	Complete	Acting General Manager	18/06/2025	M107/25 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 2. Schedule an Extraordinary Meeting of Council on 31 July 2025 to consider the Construction Tender Award for the project to minimise any delay in the delivery of the project.
11.3. MANNUS LAKE BLUE-GREEN ALGAE MANAGEMENT	In Progress	Manager Utilities & Waste Business	18/06/2025	M108/25 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 2. Investigate the feasibility of returning the dam to wetlands.
11.5. CROWN LAND TRANSFER REQUEST - PADDYS RIVER FLATS RESERVE	In Progress	Property & Roads Partner	18/06/2025	M125/25 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL: 1. Write to Crown Lands requesting the transfer and merger of the following Reserves (R) and Travelling Stock Reserves (TSR) that are currently managed by Local Land Services to Council with Council then taking over as Crown Land Manager. These Reserves are as follows: a. Lot 7015 DP 96835- Part of TSR 2921 - Gazetted: 06 March 1882, b. Lot 7014 DP 96858 - Part of TSR 2921 - Gazetted: 06 March 1882, c. Lot 7013 DP 96858 - Part of TSR 2921 - Gazetted: 06 March 1882, d. Part of Reserve 1760 (Duplicate No: R1002815) - Gazetted: 8 August 1877, e. Lot 7012 DP 96858 - Reserve 64321 - Gazetted: 22 Dec 1933, f. Lot 7011 DP 96858 - Part of Reserve 64320 - Gazetted: 22 December 1933. 2. Write to Crown Lands and request the creation of a single Reserve for Camping and Public Recreation be created over all six lots listed above.

## Resolutions Tracker – June 2025

11.8. SECTION 7.11 DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS ALLOCATION OF PROJECTS	Complete	Acting Director Community, Corporate & Development	18/06/2025	<p>M130/25 RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Note that the current Section 7.11 Development Contribution Plans (Open Space) and (Roads), and Development Contributions - Management, remain in force until close of business Thursday 29 May 2025 at which time the plans will be repealed in accordance with clause 215 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021</i>;</li> <li>2. Allocate the following restricted funds from the Developer Contributions (General) to the following projects: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. \$30,000 to the General Fund as a reimbursement for the Batlow Pool Accessibility Upgrades;</li> <li>b. \$150,000 to the Bottlebrush Drive Tumut Recreational Space embellishment works and park upgrades and accessibility;</li> <li>c. \$150,000 to the Rotary Pioneer Park, Tumut Recreational Space - Increased Shade Landscaping Embellishment and potential bank reshaping;</li> <li>d. \$60,000 to the Tumut Riverwalk accessibility and directional signage in accordance with the Tracks and Trails Master Plan outcomes (excluding the sections relating to Crown Land);</li> <li>e. \$25,000 to the Tumut Town Centre Traffic Study 2023 Recommendations (Accessibility - Safety);</li> <li>f. \$7,500 to General Fund for Plan Administration of the Section 7.12 Contributions Plan;</li> <li>g. \$142,541 to the General Fund following completion of road projects identified under the Roads Contributions Plans for reimbursement of East Street, Tumut upgrade civil works;</li> <li>h. \$8,804.33 or the residual amount (whichever is greater at the time of transfer) be transferred from the Section 7.11 Development Contributions Reserve to a Section 7.12 Development Contributions Reserve for allocation to projects identified in the plan. Any outstanding section 7.11 contributions payable on any active development consent shall be paid into the section 7.12 Development Contributions Reserve from the nominated date of the repeal of the plans;</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
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## Resolutions Tracker – June 2025

Report Date/Item	Status	Assignee	Due Date	Details
				<p>3. Note that the repeal of the plans does not negate the requirement for payment of any contribution(s) previously applied and levied on any active development consent in accordance with any notice of determination issued; and</p> <p>4. Note that the design plans for the capital works items listed above are to be reported to Council for design approval before being implemented.</p>

**10.2. 2025 REGIONS RISING NATIONAL SUMMIT - 8 OCTOBER - CANBERRA****REPORT AUTHOR: ADMINISTRATION OFFICER - OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER****RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: ACTING GENERAL MANAGER**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Cr Sheldon has been registered to attend the 2025 Regions Rising National Summit. The Summit is being held on Wednesday, 8 October at Parliament House, Canberra.

The purpose of this report is to endorse the attendance of Cr Sheldon and approve the attendance of other Councillors wishing to attend the 2025 Regions Rising National Summit.

**RECOMMENDATION:****THAT COUNCIL:**

- 1. Endorse the attendance of Cr Sheldon to the 2025 regions Rising National Summit; and**
- 2. Approve the attendance of other Councillors wishing to attend the 2025 Regions Rising National Summit, providing there is sufficient funds within budget allocations at the time of registration.**

**BACKGROUND:**

The Regions Rising National Summit is the Regional Australia Institute's (RAI) flagship event, uniting regional leaders, policymakers, industry, and community champions to shape the next chapter for regional Australia.

The 2025 Summit is an invitation to reimagine what's possible for regional Australia. With a sharp focus on innovation, future-ready skills and productivity, this year's Summit explores how bold ideas, and practical action can shape stronger, more connected and resilient regions.

Through discussions on emerging technologies, skills development and cross-sector collaboration, this must-attend event will highlight the opportunities that can unlock regional potential, enhancing economic growth, quality of life and long-term competitiveness.

With a refreshed format and new energy, the 2025 Summit at Parliament House, Canberra is where national conversations will occur, and regional action starts to take shape. It's a space for bold thinking, fresh perspectives and driving meaningful change.

**REPORT:**

The 2025 Regions Rising National Summit will kick off on the evening of Tuesday, 7 October with an inspiring Welcome Reception followed by the Summit Conference on Wednesday, 8 October. A day of thought-provoking discussions, powerful keynote presentations, and engaging interactive panels, designed to spark fresh thinking and drive meaningful action. The Summit will explore the critical issues and emerging opportunities driving regional prosperity, including:

- Work Development & Skills
- Technology & Digital Transformation
- Population, Planning & Housing
- Local Empowerment & Collaboration



The conference will end with an exclusive National Summit Dinner, an evening of celebration, high-impact networking, and inspiring conversations.

Costs to attend the Summit are shown below:

Registration Details	Earlybird Cost (closes 19 June)	Standard Cost
Full Package (Welcome Reception, Summit Conference & Summit Dinner)	\$704	\$880
Full Day (Welcome Reception, Summit Conference)	\$520	\$650

Cancellation Policy:

- Registrations cancelled more than 60 days before the event will be refunded 80% of the registration fees.
- Registrations cancelled less than 60 but more than 30 days before the event will be refunded 50% of the registration fees.
- Registrations cancelled less than 30 days before the event will not be eligible for a refund.
- Substitute delegates are welcome; however, the RAI must be advised in writing (email) of any substitute delegates who will be attending.

## LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

### Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:

#### Community Strategic Plan Theme

Theme 1 - Our Community

#### Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives

CSP1 Our communities are connected and inclusive. Supported by services that nurture health, wellbeing and identity

#### Delivery Program Principal Activities

- 1.1 Provide services that support our community in all stages of life
- 1.2 Provide and maintain community spaces that encourage activity and wellbeing
- 1.3 Provide services and support to enhance local arts and culture

## FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:

Provision within Council's 2024/2025 Operational Budget have been made for the attendance at conferences and training courses by Councillors.

At the commencement of this term, a pro-rata amount of \$53,500 was allocated for training and conference attendance by the Mayor and Councillors as per below:

Mayor \$7,500

Deputy Mayor \$5,750

Councillors \$5,750 each

The current balance for each Councillor and the costs incurred through attending the conference are detailed below, noting that actual costs will be subject to obtaining the early bird registration rate, and travel and accommodation arrangements.

\*Note, as Cr Sheldon had no available funds and early bird registration closes before 1 July 2025, Cr Larter agreed for Cr Sheldon to use his Councillor training/conference funds to the sum of \$704 to attend the Summit. The below figures reflect this transfer:

Councillor	Opening Balance	Registration Cost	Closing Balance
Mayor Ham	\$1,003	Max \$880 Min \$520	\$123 \$483
Deputy Mayor Packard	\$4,310	Max \$880 Min \$520	\$3,430 \$3,790
Cr Hardwick	\$3,073	Max \$880 Min \$520	\$2,193 \$2,553
Cr Hayes	\$2,252	Max \$880 Min \$520	\$1,372 \$1,732
Cr Inglis	\$4,187	Max \$880 Min \$520	\$4,450 \$4,810
Cr Larter	*\$1,199	Max \$880 Min \$520	\$319 \$679
Cr Sheldon	*\$973	Max \$880 Min \$520	\$93 \$453
Cr Thomson	\$2,768	Max \$880 Min \$520	\$1,888 \$2,248
Cr Wortes	\$3,228	Max \$880 Min \$520	\$2,348 \$2,708

The details above determine all Councillors have sufficient funds to attend the full conference.

## **POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

Council's *Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors Policy* requires Council to make a resolution on conference attendance for those Councillors seeking Council's financial support to attend.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

Councillors need to consider financial costs to attend, cancellation fees, and the remaining Councillor funds available to ensure Council stays within budget.

## **OPTIONS:**

1. Adopt as per recommendations set out in this report - preferred option.
2. Amend the recommendations.
3. Decline the recommendations set out in this report.

## **COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

Councillors' attendance at the conference requires a further report to Council which will document the learnings/outcomes from the attendance in accordance with the *Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors Policy*.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil.

### **10.3. 2025 INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING SUITE - FOR ADOPTION**

**REPORT AUTHOR: CORPORATE PLANNING OFFICER**

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: ACTING DIRECTOR COMMUNITY, CORPORATE & DEVELOPMENT**

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Council resolved [M82/25] at its April 2025 Ordinary Meeting, to place the new suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting documents on public exhibition.

The exhibition period is now closed, and Council must consider the submissions and make relevant amendments to the documents prior to adoption.

This report presents the combined Delivery Program (2025-2029) and Operational Plan (2025-2026), Revenue Policy (2025-2026), Fees and Charges (2025-2026), Long-Term Financial Plan (2025-2029), Asset Management Strategy (2025-2029) and Workforce Management Strategy (2025-2029) for adoption by Council.

Legislation requires that the Integrated Planning and Reporting Suite must be adopted before 30 June 2025.

For the 2025-2026 financial year, Council has allocated a budget of \$81.1 million to fund the delivery of services and capital works. While Council's budget for 2025-2026 shows total revenue of \$81.1 million, there are a range of costs that Council must pay that take up a significant portion of the budget such as Loan repayment (\$361K), Employee and Councillor cost (more than \$23M).

Despite the total revenue matching the budgeted expenditure of \$81.1 million, the operating result before capital grants and contributions is forecast to be a deficit of \$3.1 million (consolidated).

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

##### **THAT COUNCIL:**

- 1. Adopt the attached Integrated Planning and Reporting Plans and Strategies with suggested amendments as per attached feedback summary:**
  - a. Combined Delivery Program (2026-2029) and Operational Plan 2025-2026) including the operational budget.**
  - b. Revenue Policy (2025-2026).**
  - c. Fees & Charges (2025-2026).**
  - d. Long-Term Financial Plan (2025-2035).**
  - e. Asset Management Strategy (2025-2035).**
  - f. Workforce Management Strategy (2025-2029).**
- 2. Note the community submission made in relation to the Integrated Planning and Reporting documents; and**
- 3. Respond to the community member who made the submission, advising of the Council Resolution.**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework changed the way councils in NSW plan, document and report on their plans for the future. The Framework came into practice in 2009 to refine the way councils create and review these plans over the subsequent years.

IP&R documents comprise a series of inter-related documents that together provide a rigorous, consistent approach to community planning across all NSW Local Governments, while also ensuring alignment with regional and state priorities.

The key components of the IP&R Framework are the Community Strategic Plan (CSP), Delivery Program (DP), Operational Plan (OP) and Resourcing Strategy (RS). They should be read and understood by everyone with responsibility for developing, delivering, adopting and reporting on the IP&R Suite.

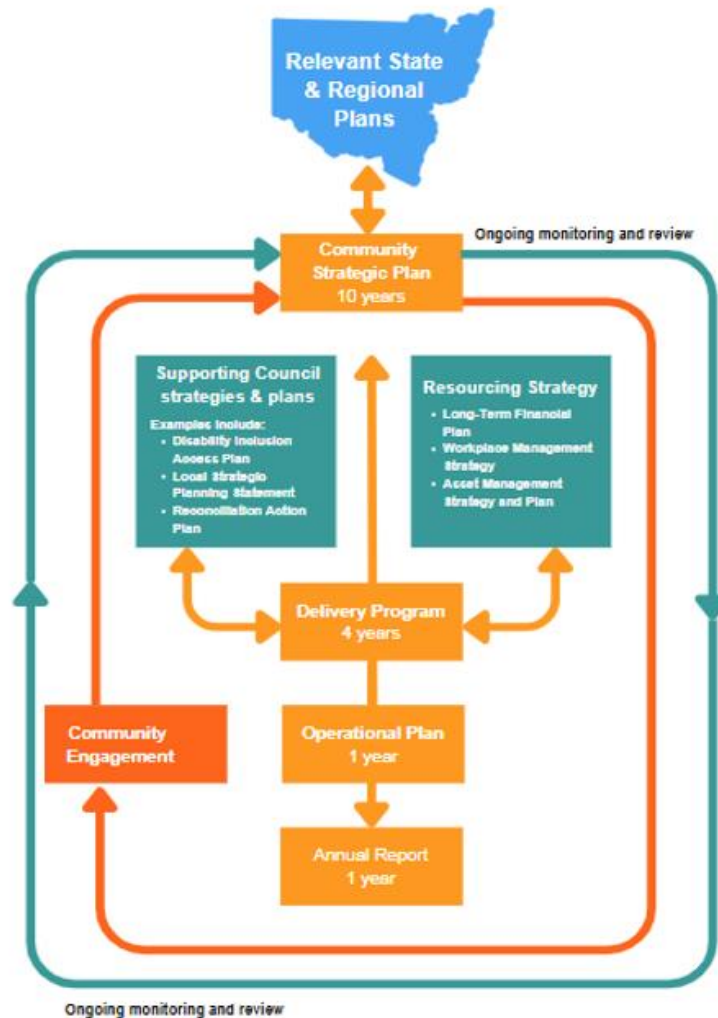


Diagram: Integrated Planning & Reporting Framework

## REPORT:

At its Ordinary Meeting on 17 April 2025, Council resolved [M82/25] to place the draft Integrated Planning and Reporting documents on public exhibition for 28 days. However, the documents were actually placed on public exhibition for 29 days, from 28 April to 27 May 2025.

As part of the exhibition period, a variety of communication methods were used to not only publicise the public exhibition period, but also promote the purpose of the plans. This was carried out through various mechanisms, including:

- Council's 'Have Your Say' Web Page;
- SVC Community Newsletter;
- Sounds of the Mountains Radio Station;
- Council's Facebook Page;

- Media Releases; and
- Direct email to local Community Groups.

Council's online engagement platform recorded the following activity:

- 76 total visits to the draft Integrated Planning and Reporting 'Have Your Say' page;
- 28 downloads - draft Delivery Program (2025-2029) / Operational Plan (2025-2026), including Operational & Capital Works Budget;
- 15 downloads - draft Revenue Policy (2025-2026);
- 16 downloads - Fees & Charges (2025-2026);
- 12 downloads - Long - Term Financial Plan (2025-2035);
- 11 downloads - Asset Management Strategy (2025-2035); and
- 9 downloads - Workforce Management Strategy (2025-2029).

Council received a total of one (1) formal submission during the exhibition period, as well as four (4) internal submissions. The table below provides a summary of the submissions received and the responsible Council Manager's response.

A full copy of the public submission has been provided to Councillors separately.

Submission	Topic	Summary of Submission	Internal / public submissions	Council response to submission
1.	<b>Fees &amp; Charges</b>	<b>Pool Fees (Family Pass) (Page 69)</b>  Pool Fees Increase. May reduce the number of visitors to the pools. Families cannot justify the expense. Why not make family passes a significant saving? More families would choose this option (reduced family pass) if the cost was less than \$10 per visit/per family. The fee increase will drive people away from using the pool and council will lose money on maintenance and upkeep.	Public	The reintroduction of pool entry fees during the 2023/2024 season resulted in a notable increase of 12,000 patrons compared to previous seasons with free entry. Council will continue to monitor attendance closely and will review entry fees as needed to ensure accessibility and sustainability. No change was made to the document.
2.	<b>Fees &amp; Charges</b>	<b>Cemetery Fees (Page 21)</b>  <i>Correction Notice</i> An error was identified in the fee schedule for the 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 financial years. The fees for the following burial services	Internal	The Fees and Charges schedule has been updated to reflect errors identified

Submission	Topic	Summary of Submission	Internal / public submissions	Council response to submission
		<p>were entered into the wrong columns and have been inadvertently switched.</p> <p>The correct fees for 2025/2026 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burial – First Internment – New Grave (Monumental): Total: \$4,040.00 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ GST Applicable: \$1,243.00</li> <li>○ GST Free Component: \$2,797.00</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Burial – First Internment – New Grave (Plaque): Total: \$6,112.00 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ GST Applicable: \$1,243.00</li> <li>○ GST Free Component: \$4,869.00</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Kerbside Bin Collection Charges - Domestic (Page 70)</b></p> <p><i>Correction Notice:</i> There was a typographical error in the waste bin charge information. The additional waste bin, in addition to the standard collection bin, is charged annually per bin. Please note that fortnightly collection applies only to 140L bins, as waste bins are only available in the 140L size – not 240L.</p>		
3.	<b>Delivery Program and Operational Plan</b>	<p><b>Service Reviews (Page 14 &amp; 61)</b></p> <p>In response to public interest and a petition regarding Digital Waste</p>	Internal	A Resource Recovery Management Service Review has been added to the Delivery Program and 2025-2026 Operational Plan to

Submission	Topic	Summary of Submission	Internal / public submissions	Council response to submission
		Vouchers, Council's Executive Leadership Team has requested the inclusion of <i>Resource Recovery Management</i> in the Service Reviews within the Delivery Program and Operational Plan.		access the current mode of service delivery, identify areas for improvement, and ensure services continue to meet community needs.
4.	<b>Operational Plan</b>	<p><b>People &amp; Culture (Page 66)</b></p> <p>Action 2.2.1 - Implement entry level program with a target of 1 x Traineeship, Apprenticeship and Cadetship offered.</p> <p>Target changed to: A minimum of two (2) entry level positions offered.</p> <p>Cadetships are not available every year, and apprenticeships are offered approximately every 3 to 4 years. Council remains committed to creating entry-level opportunities annually, that support young people in gaining valuable experience and developing their skills.</p>	Internal	Document updated with new target.
5.	<b>Operational Plan</b>	<p><b>Waste Management (Page 72)</b></p> <p>Request to change the Service Area name from 'Waste Management' to 'Resource Recovery Management', in alignment with Council's commitment to reducing waste.</p> <p>The proposed name change reflects a broader trend towards viewing discarded materials as valuable resources rather than simply waste. The change in terminology highlights the increasing</p>	Internal	The Service Area Name was updated in the Operational Plan from 'Waste Management' to 'Resource Recovery Management'.



Submission	Topic	Summary of Submission	Internal / public submissions	Council response to submission
		focus on recycling, reuse, FOGO (Food Organics and Garden Organics), and energy recovery, aiming to move towards a circular economy where materials are kept in use as long as possible.		

## LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

### Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:

#### Community Strategic Plan Theme

Theme 5 - Our Civic Leadership

#### Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives

CSP5 Our Civic leadership and organisation government fosters open and transparent partnership with our community

#### Delivery Program Principal Activities

5.1 Communicate with our community and provide opportunities for participation in decision making

5.4 Maintain and deliver a governance framework that guides good decision making, accountability and legislative compliance

5.5 Provide effective short and long term financial management to deliver financial sustainability

## FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:

Council's financial position was included in detail in the initial report to Council (Item 10.4, 17 April 2025 Ordinary Meeting) prior to public exhibition and in the Integrated Planning and Reporting documents.

The cost of delivering these draft plans is outline in the draft 2025-2026 budget.

These plans continue to deliver on Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting obligations and attempt to fulfil the expectations of the Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program in these areas within Council's span of control and influence.

## POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:

Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council must develop and publicly exhibit documents in the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework for 28 days and consider submissions made. Section 402-406 of the Act outline the requirements of:

- s403 Resourcing Strategy
- s404 Delivery Program
- s405 Operational Plan
- s406 Integrated Planning & Reporting Guidelines (2021)

**RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

There is a risk that the draft plans provided with this report are not understood well by the community and councillors, are not adopted, and Council fails to meet its legislative requirements.

There is also the risk of unanticipated financial shocks.

Forward estimates in the Long-Term Financial Plan are particularly exposed to the changing economic conditions over the extended life of the plan. Cash flow estimates are subject to timing of payments and receipts.

**OPTIONS:**

1. Adopt the proposed documents including the proposed amendments.
2. Amend the proposed documents prior to adoption and communicate to the community the rationale and impacts of change.

The Integrated Planning and Reporting documents presented to Council are required under section 403-406 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and must be adopted by Council by 30 June each year.

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

An Engagement Plan was implemented to ensure that the community was aware of the public exhibition period and how they could make a submission. The output of engagement activities included:

- 'Have Your Say' (Council Website) - Opened from 28 April to midnight 27 May 2025.
- Snowy Valleys Council Community eNewsletter (database of 664); Hard copies of newsletter were also made available at SVC Customer Service Centres and Libraries (Batlow, Tumut & Tumbarumba)
- Social Media (Facebook & Instagram):
  - Views (3,747), Reach (2,236)
- Tumut & Adelong Times and Tumbarumba Times
- Sounds of the Mountains - Local Radio Station
- Hard copies of the IP&R Suite were made available at SVC Libraries (Batlow, Tumut & Tumbarumba) and Tumut and Tumbarumba Customer Service Centres.
- Direct email to local community groups (11 in total).

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Delivery Program (2025-2029) and Operational Plan (2025-2026) - For Adoption (Under separate cover)
2. Revenue Policy (2025-2026) - For Adoption (Under separate cover)
3. Fees & Charges (2025-2026) - For Adoption (Under separate cover)
4. Long-Term Financial Plan (2025-2035) - For Adoption (Under separate cover)
5. Asset Management Strategy (2025-2035) - For Adoption (Under separate cover)
6. Workforce Management Strategy (2025-2029) - For Adoption (Under separate cover)

## 10.4. MAKING OF THE 2025/2026 RATES AND CHARGES

**REPORT AUTHOR: SENIOR RATES/WATER OFFICER**

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The making of the rates and annual charges is a legislative requirement under sections 494 and 535 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. (the Act) Annual charges for Waste Management, Water Access, Sewer Access, Liquid Trade Waste and Stormwater Charges will be levied on the Rates Notice.

In October 2024, IPART announced the rate peg to apply in the 2025/2026 financial year will be 4.3% for the Snowy Valleys Council. The amount applies to general rate income in total, and not to individual ratepayers' rates. Council intends to increase rating income by 4.3% in accordance with the maximum allowable increase. The 4.3% increase includes base cost change for all councils including labour, assets and other operating costs. Emergency Services Levy and recovery costs of the 2024 Local Government elections.

### RECOMMENDATION:

#### THAT COUNCIL:

1. Note the report on Making of the 2025/2026 rates and charges.
2. Approve the making of the rates and charges and make and levy the following Rates and Annual Charges for the year 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 pursuant to section 535 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.
3. In accordance with section 494 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council hereby make the ordinary rates for the year 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 as follows:
  - a) An ordinary rate on all rateable land categorised as FARMLAND in accordance with Section 515 of the *Local Government Act 1993* within Snowy Valleys Council LGA comprising of a base amount of \$502.87 in accordance with Section 537 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and estimated to realise 17% of the total yield of this rate which is in conformity with section 500, and an ad valorem rate of 0.1829 cents in the dollar.

In accordance with Section 543 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this ad valorem rate be named Ordinary Farmland Rate and base be named Farm Base.
  - b) An ordinary rate on all rateable land categorised as RESIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 516 of the *Local Government Act 1993* within Snowy Valleys Council LGA comprising of a base amount of \$490.19 in accordance with Section 537 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and estimated to realise 50% of the total yield of this rate which is in conformity with section 500, and an ad valorem rate of 0.4271 cents in the dollar.

In accordance with Section 543 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this ad valorem rate be named Ordinary Residential Rate and base be named Residential Base.
  - c) An ordinary rate on all rateable land categorised as BUSINESS in accordance with Section 518 of the *Local Government Act 1993* within Snowy Valleys Council LGA comprising of a base amount of \$224.74 in accordance with Section 537 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and estimated to realise 10% of the total yield of this rate, and an ad valorem rate of 0.9791 cents in the dollar.

In accordance with Section 543 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this ad valorem rate be named Ordinary Business Rate and base be named Business Base.
  - d) An ordinary rate on all rateable land categorised as MINING in accordance with Section 517 of the *Local Government Act 1993* within Snowy Valleys Council LGA comprising

of a base amount of \$368.78 in accordance with Section 537 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and estimated to realise 11% of the total yield of this rate, and an ad valorem rate of 0.8043 cents in the dollar.

In accordance with Section 543 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this ad valorem rate be named Ordinary Mining Rate and base be named Mining Base.

4. Pursuant to sections 496 and 501 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council hereby make the following waste charges for the year 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026:

a) A domestic waste management annual charge of \$590.00 per annum be made for the provision of domestic waste removal services for each rateable parcel of land for which the service can be supplied and contains a dwelling, whether occupied or vacant.

In accordance with Section 543 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this charge be named Domestic Waste Service.

b) A business waste management annual charge of \$670.00 per annum be made for the provision of business waste and recycling waste removal services for each rateable parcel of land for which the service can be supplied and requested.

In accordance with Section 543 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this charge be named Business Waste Service.

c) A school waste management annual charge of \$590.00 per annum be made for the provision of business waste and recycling waste removal services for each parcel of land for which the service can be supplied and requested.

In accordance with Section 543 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this charge be named School Waste Service.

d) A waste access management annual charge of \$75.00 per annum be made for each rateable parcel of land within the LGA, other than Brindabella and vacant farmland.

In accordance with Section 543 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this charge be named Waste Access Charge and Waste Access Vacant Land.

e) A Special Recycling Only – Commercial charge of \$190.00 per annum be made for the provision of additional recycling waste removal services for which the service can be supplied and requested.

In accordance with Section 543 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this charge be named Waste Commercial Recycling Only.

f) A Special Recycling Only – Domestic charge of \$135.00 per annum be made for the provision of additional recycling waste removal services for which the service can be supplied and requested.

In accordance with Section 543 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this charge be named Waste Domestic Recycling Only.

g) A Waste Only – Domestic charge of \$225.00 per annum be made for the provision of additional domestic waste removal services for which the service can be supplied and requested.

In accordance with Section 543 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this charge be named Waste only – Domestic.

h) A Domestic FOGO weekly charge of \$155.00 per annum be made for the provision of additional domestic FOGO removal services for which the service can be supplied and requested.

In accordance with Section 543 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this charge be named Non-Standard Dom 1 x 240L FOGO Weekly.

- i) A Commercial FOGO weekly charge of \$210.00 per annum be made for the provision of additional commercial FOGO removal services for which the service can be supplied and requested.

In accordance with Section 543 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this charge be named Non-Standard Com 1 x 240L FOGO Weekly.

- j) A Commercial waste 240L fortnightly charge of \$475.00 per annum be made for the provision of additional commercial waste removal services for which the service can be supplied and requested.

In accordance with Section 543 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this charge be named Non-Standard Com 1 x Waste 240L Fortnightly.

- k) A Commercial waste 240L weekly charge of \$950.00 per annum be made for the provision of additional commercial waste removal services for which the service can be supplied and requested.

In accordance with Section 543 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this charge be named Non-Standard Com 1 x Waste 240L Weekly.

- l) A Commercial waste 140L weekly charge of \$535.00 per annum be made for the provision of additional commercial waste removal services for which the service can be supplied and requested.

In accordance with Section 543 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this charge be named Non-Standard Com 1 x Waste 140L Weekly.

- m) A Commercial waste 140L fortnightly charge of \$270.00 per annum be made for the provision of additional commercial waste removal services for which the service can be supplied and requested.

In accordance with Section 543 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this charge be named Non-Standard Com 1 x Waste 140L Fortnightly.

- n) A Commercial waste 3 x 240L Bins charge of \$850.00 per annum be made for the provision of additional commercial waste removal services for which the service can be supplied and requested.

In accordance with Section 543 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* this charge be named Commercial Waste - Services 3 x 240L Bins.

5. In accordance with section 501 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council hereby make the following annual Liquid Trade Waste Charges for where the program exists:

Category 1 Charge	\$208.00
Category 2 Charge	\$450.00
Category 3 Charge	\$825.00

6. In accordance with section 496A of the *Local Government Act 1993* and the LG Circular 05/69, Council levy an annual Stormwater Management Charge of \$25.00 for each residential property excluding vacant land in the Tumbarumba area and a maximum of \$75.00 for commercial properties excluding vacant land in the Tumbarumba area.

7. Council pursuant to section 501, 552 and 535 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, hereby make the following sewer charges for the year 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026:

Residential access charge	\$915.00
Unoccupied Sewerage Charge	\$915.00
Commercial access charge - 20mm	\$650.00
Commercial access charge - 25mm	\$1,020.00

Commercial access charge - 32mm	\$1,670.00
Commercial access charge - 40mm	\$2,600.00
Commercial access charge - 50mm	\$4,070.00
Commercial access charge - 65mm	\$6,870.00
Commercial access charge - 80mm	\$10,400.00
Commercial access charge - 100mm	\$16,250.00
Sewer Access Charge – 50mm + 100mm	\$20,320.00

8. Council pursuant to section 501, 552 and 535 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, hereby make the following water charges for the year 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026:

Vacant land within access water charge area	\$275.00
Water Access Charge - 20mm	\$275.00
Water Access Charge - 25mm	\$430.00
Water Access Charge - 32mm	\$705.00
Water Access Charge - 40mm	\$1,100.00
Water Access Charge - 50mm	\$1,720.00
Water Access Charge - 65mm	\$2,910.00
Water Access Charge - 80mm	\$4,400.00
Water Access Charge - 100mm	\$6,880.00
Water Access Charge - 150mm and above	\$15,470.00
Raw Water Access Charge - 20mm	\$275.00
Raw Water Access Charge - 25mm	\$430.00
Raw Water Access Charge - 32mm	\$705.00
Raw Water Access Charge - 40mm	\$1,100.00
Raw Water Access Charge - 50mm	\$1,720.00
Raw Water Access Charge - 65mm	\$2,910.00
Raw Water Access Charge - 80mm	\$4,400.00
Raw Water Access Charge - 100mm	\$6,880.00
Raw Water Access Charge - 150mm and above	\$15,470.00

9. That the rates as made be levied for the 2025/2026 year by service of a Rates and Charges Notice pursuant to section 546 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

10. Adopts an interest of 10.5% on overdue rates and charges for period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 as determined as the maximum interest rate in accordance with section 566 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

## BACKGROUND:

Council is required to adopt the rates and charges as per sections 494 and 535 and related sections of the *Local Government Act 1993*. Currently the rating structure is effective 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

## REPORT:

The Minister of Local Government has approved the rate pegging increase of 4.3%.

The 2025/2026 rates for the Snowy Valleys Council have been set in accordance with the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*. The rate pegging increase announced by IPART will be applied. The rating structure uses a base amount component and an ad-valorem component for each rating category.

Under section 500 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the amount specified as the base amount of a rate (or the base amount of the rate for a category or sub-category of an ordinary rate) must not be such as to produce more than 50 percent of the total amount payable by the levying rate (or of the rate for the category or sub-category concerned) on all rateable land subject to the rate (or the rate for the category or sub-category concerned).

That the rates as made be levied for the 2025/2026 year by service of a Rates and Charges Notice pursuant to section 546 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

## **LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:**

### **Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:**

#### **Community Strategic Plan Theme**

Theme 5 - Our Civic Leadership

#### **Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives**

CSP5 Our Civic leadership and organisation government fosters open and transparent partnership with our community

#### **Delivery Program Principal Activities**

5.1 Provide effective short and long term financial management to deliver financial sustainability.

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

Levying Ordinary Rates provides approximately \$25M towards the provision of services to the Snowy Valleys community.

## **POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

The making of the rates and charges complies with legislative requirements. In addition to the adoption of the annual Operational Plan, Council must resolve to 'make' the rates and charges as per the Statement of Revenue Policy, before those rates and charges can be levied in accordance with section 535 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

Legislative regulations are being fulfilled by setting and levying annual rates and charges.

## **OPTIONS:**

1. Adopt as per recommendations set out in this report - preferred option.
2. Amend the fees, noting that this went on public display with no changes requested.

## **COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

Council's draft Revenue Policy has been put on public display after Council's 17 April 2025 meeting for 28 days as a part of the public exhibition of Council's IP&R documents, this ended 27 May 2025. Presented to Council for adoption with IP & R documents report #10.3.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Office of Local Government - Circular to Councils - Information about ratings 2025/26 - (Under separate cover)



## 10.5. PROPOSED DONATIONS FOR 2025-2026

**REPORT AUTHOR: MANAGER GOVERNANCE**

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: ACTING DIRECTOR COMMUNITY, CORPORATE & DEVELOPMENT**

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to present to Council the proposed donations for 2025/2026. A thorough review of Council's donations processes has been conducted. Traditionally, the donations Council provided to various community groups and organisations have been approved based on individual and historic approvals. In 2024/2025, Council contacted all previous donation recipients to ensure that any monetary and in-kind support is still relevant and required.

Council recognised and will continue to meet obligations under donation agreements or arrangements that are subject to previous standing resolutions of Council. The recommended donations form part of Council's overall Community Assistance Program, totalling \$45,456.00 for 2025/2026.

### RECOMMENDATION:

#### THAT COUNCIL:

1. **Note the report on proposed donations for 2025/2026.**
2. **Endorse all donations recommended for funding in the 2025/2026 financial year of \$45,456.00:**

Organisation	Purpose of Donation	\$ Requested 2025
Tumbarumba Men's Shed	2025 - waiver of water and sewer	\$1,100.00
Landcare (Tumut)	2025 - 2000 kl allowance as per resolution 2012	\$5,600.00
Brungle Hall	2024 - Cost of Insurance - resolution 2012	\$4,000.00
Montreal Community Theatre	Rates - agreement in place	\$4,768.00
School Book Awards	End of School Year Awards	\$1,350.00
Batlow Historical Society	Rates	\$1,525.00
Tumut Lawn Tennis Club	Rates - request for \$500 off their rates	\$500.00
Adelong Community Enterprises Inc	Rates - Recovery for rates for 23/24	\$2,434.00
Batlow Search and Rescue	Rates / Water / Sewage / Garbage and Fire Extinguishers checked and replaced	\$2,204.00
Tumut District Historical Society	Utilities and Insurance	\$1,000.00
Khancoban United Volunteers Association Inc	Rates	\$2,279.00
Tumbarumba Historical Society Inc	Basic Annual establishment costs for insurance	\$892.00
Adelong Theatre Inc	Rates/ongoing costs for insurance/electricity	\$2,000.00
Racecourse LLM Tumbarumba Racecourse	Water	\$1,100.00
Adelong Alive Museum	Assistance with maintenance and payment of rates	\$1,000.00
Tumut Town Band	Rates and charges 2024	\$3,396.00
Adelong Men's Shed	Rates and charges 2024	\$1,670.00

Organisation	Purpose of Donation	\$ Requested 2025
Brungle Memorial Hall	Rates and charges 2024	\$852.00
Gilmore Hall and Fire Services - Gilmore Hall	Rates and charges 2024	\$1,128.00
St Vincent De Paul	Rates and charges 2024	\$2,548.00
Jingellic Hall	Waste (Bins) 2024	\$1,495.00
Tumut Scout Group	Rates and Charges 2024	\$2,615.00
<b>Total for 2025</b>		<b>\$45,456.00</b>

**3. Tumut Rugby Club, Turf Club and the Showground Trust for a further five (5) years for a maximum amount of \$20,000 per year:**

Organisation	Purpose of Donation	\$ Requested 2025
Tumut Rugby Leagues Football Club, Turf Club and Showground Trust	\$20K allocation inclusive of water with agreement inclusive of the service charge	\$20,000

**4. Extend the financial assistance for former Section 355 Committees at \$10,000.00 with \$1,000.00 per organisation upon application for one (1) additional year, during which Council will write to the former Section 355 Committees to notify them that financial assistance via donation will no longer be available after the 2025/2026 financial year.**

Community Assistance Type	Budget 2025/2026
Previous S355 Committees	\$10,000 Budget / Maximum of \$1,000 per organisation upon application

## BACKGROUND:

Snowy Valleys Council (SVC) recognises and values the strengths of the Snowy Valleys community, including the strong sense of belonging demonstrated through participation in a range of community and cultural events. Council provides support to assist the community in a number of ways, including assistance of a financial nature through donations, awards, scholarships and community, sport and heritage grants.

Council's Community Assistant Program describes how Council recognises and values the strengths of the Snowy Valleys community, including the strong sense of belonging demonstrated through participation in a range of community and cultural activities. Council aims to draw on these strengths and provide support to assist the community to grow. Council acknowledges the important role of community and private organisations in developing projects and coordinating and managing activities. The Community Assistance Policy (SVC-FIN-PO-127-01) covers monetary and in-kind support provided to individuals, community organisations, community groups, Council committees and businesses.

Council's Donations Procedure (SVC-COR-PR-017-02) aims to develop a robust, open, and transparent decision-making process for requests of support from Council to ensure that finite public funds for community causes are allocated in a manner that achieves the greatest public benefit.

A detailed list of donations is included in this report.

**REPORT:**

Snowy Valleys Council is committed to supporting community groups, organisations, projects, activities and events that reflect a vibrant community in the Snowy Valleys Local Government Area (LGA).

In adopting the annual budget, Council may approve the provision of community assistance that aligns with Council's strategic priorities as detailed in the Delivery Program. Council's Community Assistance is categorised as:

- Donations
- Grants
- Event Sponsorship
- Scholarships
- Street Banners.

To ensure Council's approach to donations remain relevant and of the greatest benefit to the community, Council conducted a large-scale review of the donations that have been approved by Council in recent years. The review indicated that many donations were essentially being "rolled over" from previous years without any direct communication from the recipients. As a result, Council contacted all organisations which had received a donation for the 2024/2025 financial year and requested that they contact Council should they wish to continue to receive a donation for the upcoming year. They were also requested to complete and submit a Donation Application, in line with Council's Community Assistance Policy and Donations Procedure.

The following Tables provide details of the various types of Community Assistance that Council provides as well as an indication as to whether they are being recommended for payment for the 2025/2026 year.

**Table 1: Donations by Community Assistance Type**

Community Assistance Type	Budget 2024/2025	Proposed Budget 2025/2026
Charles Sturt University Scholarships	\$0 - Paused	\$0 - Paused
SVC Community Grants	\$0 - Paused	\$0 - Paused
SVC Capital Sports Grants	\$0 - Paused	\$0 - Paused
SVC Heritage Grants	\$0 - Paused	\$0 - Paused
Event Sponsorship	\$0 - Paused	\$0 - Paused
Previous S355 Committees	\$10,000	\$10,000 Budget at a maximum of \$1,000 per organisation
Donations by Agreement/Resolution	\$29,674	\$16,818.00
Donations - Applications received	\$40,075	\$14,934.00
Donations - No application received	N/A	\$14,704.00
School Book Rewards	\$1,350	\$1,350.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$45,456.00</b>

**Table 2: Donations with Current Agreements / Resolutions in place:**

Organisation	Purpose of Donation	\$ Paid 2024	\$ To Be Paid 2025
Tumbarumba Men's Shed	2025 - waiver of water and sewer	\$880.00	\$1,100.00
Landcare (Tumut)	2025 - 2,000 kl allowance as per resolution 2012	\$5,257.70	\$5,600.00

Organisation	Purpose of Donation	\$ Paid 2024	\$ To Be Paid 2025
Brungle Hall	2024 - Cost of Insurance - resolution 2012	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Montreal Community Theatre	Rates - agreement in place	\$4,535.97	\$4,768.00
School Book Awards	End of School Year Awards	\$1,350.00	\$1,350.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$16,818.00</b>

Under the Community Assistance Policy, donations are defined as "money, goods or services that are given to help a person or organisation." Categories available for submission under Council's donations program are as follows:

- Art prizes
- Fee waivers
- In-kind donations
- One-off donations
- Rates and charges payment relief
- School bursaries, awards and prizes
- Special purpose donations.

Council may resolve to make a continuing annual contribution to a relevant applicant to facilitate continuity of the provision of a community service or benefit or the staging of an event or festival that contributes significantly to the cultural, social, recreational or economic wellbeing or the general community, however, approval of ongoing annual contributions cannot exceed any given Council term.

**Table 3: Proposed donations for 2025/2026**

Organisation	Purpose of Donation	\$ Paid 2024	\$ To Be Paid in 2025	Application Received
Batlow Historical Society	Rates	\$1,400.00	\$1,525.00	Yes
Tumut Lawn Tennis Club	Rates - request for \$500 off their rates	N/A	\$500.00	Yes
Adelong Community Enterprises Inc	Rates - Recovery for rates for 23/24	\$2,308.04	\$2,434.00	Yes
Batlow Search and Rescue	Rates / Water / Sewage / Garbage and Fire Extinguishers checked and replaced	\$2,086.45	\$2,204.00	Yes
Tumut District Historical Society	Utilities and Insurance	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Yes
Khancoban United Volunteers Association Inc	Rates	\$1,883.93	\$2,279.00	Yes
Tumbarumba Historical Society Inc	Basic Annual establishment costs for insurance	\$1,252.00	\$892.00	Yes
Adelong Theatre Inc	Rates / ongoing costs for insurance / electricity	\$1,573.00	\$2,000.00	Yes

Organisation	Purpose of Donation	\$ Paid 2024	\$ To Be Paid in 2025	Application Received
Racecourse LLM Tumbarumba Racecourse	Water	\$1,630.00	\$1,100.00	Yes
Adelong Alive Museum	Assistance with maintenance and payment of rates	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Yes
Tumut Town Band	Rates and charges	\$4,482.08	\$3,396.00	No
Adelong Men's Shed	Rates and charges	\$1,573.00	\$1,670.00	No
Brungle Memorial Hall	Rates and charges	\$811.51	\$852.00	No
Gilmore Hall and Fire Services - Gilmore Hall	Rates and charges	\$1081.42	\$1128.00	No
St Vincent de Paul	Rates and charges	\$2,280.00	\$2,548.00	No
Jingellic Hall	Waste (Bins fees)	\$2,374.00	\$1,495.00	No
Tumut Scout Group	Rates and charges	\$1,833.00	\$2,615.00	No
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$45,456.00</b>	

Note: Church groups are exempt from paying rates under the *Local Government Act 1993* but are required to pay utilities and are therefore not considered donations or community assistance. As such, they have not been included in this report.

#### **Tumut Rugby League Football Club - Raw Water Provision - Request for a new on-going in-kind agreement**

On 20 February 2020, an agreement by resolution M28/20 (see below) was reached with Twickenham Rugby League Complex to supply up to \$10,000 per annum for up to 5 years for the supply of raw water to the Twickenham Rugby League Complex.

#### **M28/20 RESOLVED: THAT COUNCIL:**

1. Receive this report on the supply of raw water for the irrigation of the Twickenham Rugby League Complex.
2. Approve the installation of a new raw water pipeline, suitable access point and connections required to supply raw water to the Twickenham Rugby League Complex, noting that this will be subject to the land managers approving the installation of the infrastructure.
3. Endorse funding the installation of a new raw water pipeline and associated infrastructure as referred to in item 2 above from the water fund.
4. Approve an internal budget allocation of up to \$10,000 per annum for up to 5 years for the supply of raw water to the Twickenham Rugby League Complex, noting that this equates to approximately 10 Megalitres of raw water per year plus the service charge based on Council's current fees and charges.
5. Endorse funding the allocation of \$10,000 for the supply of raw water as described in item 4 above as a donation, noting that this will result in lost income for Council.
6. Note that the provision of raw water will be subject to water restrictions and compliance with Council's raw water user agreement.

7. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate the above as necessary, this includes ceasing the supply of raw water for the irrigation of Twickenham Rugby League Complex if deemed necessary.

Cr John Larter/Cr Margaret Isselmann

In early 2024, the Tumut Rugby League Football Club contacted the Interim General Manager requesting an "advance" on their 2024/2025 allocation to support their increased water usage for the establishment of the new grass coverage after re-development of the fields. As part of the Tumut Rugby League Football Club donation request for 2024, a donation was approved for \$15,000.00 and was allocated for the football club, Turf Club and the Showground Trust.

More recently, the Tumut Rugby League Football Club has applied for a donation for the following:

*That Council reconsider extending the agreement that was in place for 5 years ending on 30 June 2025 - to preferably indefinitely, (to prevent the need to have these negotiations every five years) and to cap the allocation at \$20,000 in water allocation inclusive of all costs per year.*

Careful consideration is recommended due to the water restrictions currently in place and Council's current financial situation.

### **Previous S355 Committees**

Council by resolution on the 17 June 2021 elected a budget of \$20,000 was set for former Section 355 (S355) Committees for the 2020-2021 financial year only. This was considered following dissolution of the S355 Committees for a 12-month period.

In the past couple of years after the dissolution of many of the committees, Council has approved inclusion of a budget of \$10,000.00 donation for ongoing support to former S355 Committees.

Given Council's current financial status and Council's resolution for a one-year only donation to former S355 Committees, any ongoing donation must be carefully considered.

## **LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:**

### **Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:**

#### **Community Strategic Plan Theme**

Theme 5 - Our Civic Leadership

#### **Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives**

CSP5 Our Civic leadership and organisation government fosters open and transparent partnership with our community

#### **Delivery Program Principal Activities**

5.1 Communicate with our community and provide opportunities for participation in decision making

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

The Draft Operational Budget 2025/2026 includes \$75,000 agreement/resolution donations and requested donation via the application form as per the Donations Procedure.

## **POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

Council administers donations in line with its Community Assistance Policy (SVC-FIN-PO-127-01) and the Donations Procedure (SVC-COR-PR-017-02).

Any new applications for donations will be considered after formal written application is received.

An application for donation needs to include:

- An Application for Donation Form
- An accompanying letter
- Any other relevant documents including quotes etc.

The accompanying letter, on appropriate letterhead, needs to be included with the application and needs to state:

- Purpose of the donation or financial assistance requested
- Benefit to the residents of Snowy Valleys Council.

Previous recipients were given sufficient opportunity to submit an application form, and reminder letters were sent out to the organisations as a courtesy in February 2025.

Council has reviewed the list of donations in line with its Community Assistance Policy and Donations Procedure (section 3.5). Council's procedure was updated to include a clear set of principles and guidelines for organisations that wish to apply for donations.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

<b>RISK CATEGORY</b>	<b>COST/RISK</b>	<b>BENEFIT/ REWARD</b>
Environmental & Public Health	Increased waste from events and impact on facilities being used.	Events utilise our parks and gardens, recreational facilities, and buildings.
Financial	Impact on budget. Financially supporting community organisations and events can limit the likelihood of them becoming financially sustainable.	Events provide an economic boost by bringing people to the region and utilising local businesses. Enabling local organisations and groups supports our community.
People	Some requests may be refused as they do not meet the criteria, or the budget has already been exhausted.	Council providing financial support to local organisations enhances the external image of Council and shows that we support the local community. Events that bring people together and promote the region encourage volunteering and participation.

### **OPTIONS:**

1. Adopt recommendations set out in this report - preferred option.
2. Amend recommendations set out in this report.
3. Decline recommendation set out in this report.

### **COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

Letters were sent in February 2025 to all donation recipients from the previous financial year, requesting they contact Council should they wish to continue receiving a donation by submitting an application.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil.



**10.6. ESTABLISHMENT OF ADELONG FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE****REPORT AUTHOR: COORDINATOR GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT****RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: ACTING DIRECTOR COMMUNITY, CORPORATE & DEVELOPMENT**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Flood Risk Management Program seeks to provide financial support to local councils and also eligible public land managers to assist in the management of flood risk in their communities. The Program supports the implementation of the NSW Government's Flood Prone Land Policy and, in 2024, awarded more than \$10 Million to councils to undertake projects to assess the risks and reduce the impacts of flooding in New South Wales.

Snowy Valleys Council was successful in 2024/2025 in obtaining a grant to undertake a flood study review of the Adelong Creek catchment, given the recent flooding impacts on the catchment and also the susceptibility of the village to localised flooding events. As part of the terms of the funding agreement, Council is required to form an Advisory Committee to assist in providing advice to the Council on the proposed Adelong Flood Study Review.

**RECOMMENDATION:****THAT COUNCIL:**

- 1. Formally establish the Adelong Flood Risk Management Committee - being an Advisory Committee of Council;**
- 2. Accept the funding offer from the Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water in the amount of \$112,000, (ex GST) dated 22 October 2024, with a funding ratio of 4:1;**
- 3. Allocate the funding from the NSW Government Severe Weather Grant of \$23,181, to comply with its obligations to provide a 4:1 funding ratio contribution plus additional contract price for the Adelong Flood Study Review;**
- 4. Appoint two (2) Councillor representatives to the proposed Adelong Flood Risk Management Committee; and**
- 5. Appoint Lyall and Associates to undertake the Adelong Flood Study Review, contract price \$115,905 (ex GST).**

**BACKGROUND:**

In 2024, the then New South Wales Department of Planning and Environment (the Department), provided an opportunity for NSW councils and public land managers to apply for grant funding to undertake flood studies and other mitigation works as part of a \$10 Million budget to address flood impacts on NSW communities.

A number of recent flood events that have occurred in the Adelong Creek catchment have warranted a recalibration of the existing 2017 Adelong Flood Study prepared by Lyall and Associates. Catchment inputs such as changes in the landscape from bushfires in 2020 has increased runoff in the catchment and has changed the behaviour of flooding in the catchment area. Also changes within the town urban area such as earthworks has also created challenges on floodplain storage.

Council is now seeking to review the existing 2017 flood study of the Adelong Creek catchment which was undertaken by Lyall and Associates. Council staff investigations with the studies will provide Council with a complete revised set of studies for the greater urbanised areas of the Local Government Area. The flood studies will also provide underpinning constraints mapping to inform a comprehensive Local Environment Plan review.

Development pressures will continue to be experienced within the floodplain catchments of Adelong and, in the absence of a recalibration, Council's ability to respond to strategic planning to provide for future growth, and confidently assess development applications for housing, commercial and industrial development, agricultural pursuits and other land uses is impaired. This study will assist in making more informed choices with respect to development of these lands. Council has been previously awarded grants in 2021/2022, 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 to undertake a flood study of the Tumut River and Tumberumba Creek Catchment areas and Brungle; these studies are currently being undertaken by Council's consultant WMA Water.

In compliance with the grant funding conditions issued by the Department, Council has received approval to appoint via direct engagement Lyalls and Associates, the author of the 2017 flood study. It was deemed that given their detailed knowledge of the catchment and given that they have an exiting hydraulic model for the area, it would be most cost effective to re-engage the previous author. The pricing provided is consistent with other flood studies being undertaken by Council.

## **REPORT:**

As part of the funding agreement issued by the New South Wales Department of Climate Change, Energy, The Environment and Water, Council is required to develop a Flood Risk Management Committee to provide a level of support as per the draft Terms of Reference (TOR) to Council in the development of the Adelong Flood Risk Management Study. A draft Terms of Reference (TOR) has been developed to provide a governance framework for the Council to review.

The Committee is expected to be established as an Advisory Committee for the study, and therefore will not have any decision making powers nor shall it be able to direct the Council on matters associated with the study. Council will be required to appoint two (2) Councillor representatives to the Committee with the remainder of the appointments being designated positions within various organisations or members of the community. Appointed members are not expected to be remunerated for any attendance at any committee meetings, briefing or other work outside of required meeting dates.

Given current changes in the catchment area including floodplain storage and behaviour, this study will help reduce the impact of flooding and flood liability on individual owners and occupiers of flood prone property, as well as reduce private and public losses resulting from floods.

## **LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:**

### **Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:**

#### **Community Strategic Plan Theme**

Theme 3 - Our Environment

Theme 5 - Our Civic Leadership

#### **Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives**

CSP3 Our natural environment is cared for and protected to ensure future generations can experience and enjoy its beauty

CSP5 Our Civic leadership and organisation government fosters open and transparent partnership with our community

#### **Delivery Program Principal Activities**

3.1 Create climate resilience through our actions and advocacy

3.3 Provide a planning and development framework that enhances local amenity through sustainable growth

3.4 Partner with other agencies to protect our natural spaces and environment

5.1 Communicate with our community and provide opportunities for participation in decision making

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

As part of the funding agreement, the Department has awarded Council \$112,000, (ex GST) on a 4:1 funding ratio. Council currently has funding allocation for the co-contribution within the Operational Plan in the 2025/2026 financial year period to comply with the terms of the funding agreement. The co-contribution of \$23,181 (ex GST) will be funded through the NSW Severe Weather Grant.

It is not expected that any member appointed to the Committee will receive any remuneration and therefore no budget allocation has been made towards the establishment of the Committee.

**POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

The establishment of the Adelong Flood Risk Management Committee will comply with the requirements of both the terms of the funding deed and also the New South Wales Flood Risk Management Manual Guidelines.

**RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

<b>RISK CATEGORY</b>	<b>RISK/REWARD DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COST/RISK</b>	<b>BENEFIT/ REWARD</b>
Legal	Potential litigation	The absence of a updated Adelong Flood Study will likely increase the risk to Council of litigation relating to development matters on floodprone land.	The development of a updated floodplain study for Adelong will decrease Council's risk to litigation primarily due to increased certainty around development matters and also better infrastructure planning to protect the community from the effects of flooding.
Financial	Increased co-contribution	As part of the funding agreement, the Department has awarded Council \$112,000, (ex GST) on a 4:1 funding ratio. Council currently has funding allocation for the co-contribution within the Operational Plan in the 2025/2026 financial year period to comply with the terms of the funding agreement. The co-contribution of \$23,181 (ex GST) will be funded through the NSW Severe Weather Grant.	Project will be able to be completed and will likely reduce challenges for development matters in the NSW Local Environment Court and reduce Council's risk exposure in flood events.
Stakeholder	Stakeholder Engagement	Nil	The establishment of a committee will enable greater stakeholder participation in the project outcomes.

RISK CATEGORY	RISK/REWARD DESCRIPTION	COST/RISK	BENEFIT/ REWARD
Service Delivery	More informed decision making and strategic planning	Nil	The project will likely lead to more informed decision making processes surrounding development assessment / infrastructure planning and strategic land-use planning throughout the Local Government Area.

## OPTIONS:

Option 1:  
THAT COUNCIL:

1. Formally establish a Adelong Flood Risk Management Committee - being an advisory committee of Council;
2. Accept the funding offer from the Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water in the amount of \$112,000, (ex GST) dated 22 October 2024, with a funding ratio of 4:1;
3. Allocate the funding from the NSW Government Severe Weather Grant of \$23,181, to comply with its obligations to provide a 4:1 funding ratio contribution plus additional contact price for the Adelong Flood Study Review;
4. Appoint two (2) Council representatives to the proposed Adelong Flood Risk Management Committee; and
5. Appoint Lyall and Associates to undertake the Adelong Flood Study Review, contract price \$115,905 (ex GST).

Option 2:  
THAT Council not accept the grant funding offer by the New South Wales Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water and not formally establish an Adelong Flood Risk Management Committee, or Appoint Lyall and Associates to undertake Adelong Flood Study Review.

**Option 1 is recommended**

## COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:

No

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:

There is no expected community engagement requirements as part of the establishment of the Committee and acceptance of the funding agreement. Council will undertake engagement with a number of stakeholders and government agencies as the project progresses. Council will provide a media release identifying that Council has been successful in the recent grant applications for 2024/2025 funding round.

## ATTACHMENTS

1. Terms of Reference (SVC-TofR-0000) - Adelong Flood Risk Management Committee (Under separate cover)
2. Floodplain Management Program - 2024-2025 (Doc ID 3368784) - Funding Agreement (Under separate cover)

## **10.7. REQUEST FOR FUNDS TRANSFER FROM TOY LIBRARY RESERVES**

**REPORT AUTHOR: MANAGER COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: ACTING DIRECTOR COMMUNITY, CORPORATE AND DEVELOPMENT**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The New South Wales (NSW) Department of Education (the Department) provides grant funding to Child Care Organisations on an annual basis to support their operations. The funding also extends to supporting materials such as toys and toy library operations. Council has traditionally pooled the unspent funds in a restricted account and released the funds as required to purchase new equipment and toys on an as required basis subject to Council resolution.

Council has maintained these restricted funds in accordance with the obligations of the grant funding memorandum of understanding for the Khancoban Toy Library, however, following recent contact from the Department, Council has been requested to repay any unspent grant allocations which have been provided over consecutive number of financial years.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### **THAT COUNCIL:**

- 1. Approve the request for transfer of funds being \$8,055 from the Toy Library Reserve Account to the Education Cost Centre.**

### **BACKGROUND:**

The NSW Department of Education has been providing funding for the Khancoban Toy Library for a number of years. The funding amount received for the Toy Library is \$26,932 annually. The Toy Library was relocated to Tumbarumba and grant funding is used to purchase educational toys and equipment. A staff member is paid to operate the Toy Library once a week for four (4) hours. The Toy Library would not operate unless it received funding from the Department of Education as it is fully funded by the grant. The current users of the Toy Library are SVC Children's Services, Batlow Apple Learning Centre and families within the Snowy Valleys Council area.

### **REPORT:**

Over recent years, Snowy Valleys Council (SVC) Children's Services, including the Toy Library, have experienced reductions in usage at times due to the Covid pandemic and other varying factors. The government funding received for the Toy Library was not fully expended each year and the NSW Department of Education are requesting repayment of \$8,055 inclusive of Goods and Services Tax (GST) that has not been spent. There is \$39,399 in the Reserve Account for the Toy Library and a request is made to the Councillors to approve the use of \$8,055 from the Reserve Account to repay this underspent amount.

### **LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:**

#### **Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:**

##### **Community Strategic Plan Theme**

Theme 5 - Our Civic Leadership

##### **Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives**

CSP5 Our Civic leadership and organisation government fosters open and transparent partnership with our community

**Delivery Program Principal Activities**

5.4 Maintain and deliver a governance framework that guides good decision making, accountability and legislative compliance

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

The unspent funding was allocated to the Reserve Account and repayment of the outstanding amount will not adversely affect current expenditure. Non-compliance with the request to repay the unspent funds would be in breach of the funding agreement, and this would jeopardise future funding and potentially expose SVC to legal action. The Toy Library will not operate without this grant funding.

**POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

The Deed of Agreement conditions need to be adhered to as it is a binding legal agreement and Snowy Valleys Council could face negative legal consequences if terms of the agreement are not met.

**RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

<b>RISK CATEGORY</b>	<b>RISK/REWARD DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COST/RISK</b>	<b>BENEFIT/ REWARD</b>
Legal	Compliance with terms of agreement and continuation to receive funding.	SVC may be pursued for grant funding compliance and funding ceased which may affect other children's services that rely on government funding to deliver services.	Funding continuation from NSW Department of Education is required to allow Toy Library to continue to operate.
Financial	Funding continues for Toy Library.	Funding for Toy Library ceases.	Toy Library continues operation funded by NSW Department of Education.
Service Delivery	Toy Library services continue with business as usual.	Toy Library is not funded to continue service delivery. Service ceases. Other children's services may have their funding impacted as a result.	Toy Library continues operations providing a vital service to the communities of SVC.

**OPTIONS:**

1. Adopt as per recommendations set out in this report - preferred option.
2. Amend.
3. Decline the recommendations set out in this report.

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

N/A

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

**10.8. STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS - MAY 2025****REPORT AUTHOR: COORDINATOR FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING****RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report provides an overview of Council's cash and investment portfolio performance as at 31 May 2025.

**RECOMMENDATION:****THAT COUNCIL:**

1. Note the report on Statement of Investments - May 2025.

**BACKGROUND:**

In accordance with section 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, a monthly report is required to be submitted to Council detailing all investments of the Council.

**REPORT:**

This report provides analysis and commentary on investment performance metrics.

As at 31 May 2025, the following table provides a comprehensive snapshot of Council's cash, at-call Investments, and term deposits:



Combined Cash & Investments 31/5/25						
Financial Institution	Current Month	Last Month	Movement	Type	Interest Rate%	Maturity Date
Commonwealth Bank	\$ 10,820,909	\$ 8,593,186	\$ 2,227,723	W/Acct	4.35%	-
Commonwealth Bank	\$ 3,572,457	\$ 6,797,722	-\$ 3,225,265	At Call (BOS)	4.40%	-
Commonwealth Bank	\$ 275	\$ 275	-\$ 0	Gen-Roth	4.35%	-
Sub-total Cash Accounts	\$ 14,393,641	\$ 15,391,183	-\$ 997,542		3.99%	
Financial Institution	Current Month	Last Month	Movement	Lodgement Date	Interest Rate%	Maturity Date
ICBC Sydney Branch	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	-\$ 1,500,000	27/09/2024	5.01%	27/05/2025
Bank of Queensland	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	-\$ 1,000,000	28/11/2024	5.15%	28/05/2025
Bank of Queensland	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	-\$ 1,000,000	28/11/2024	5.15%	28/05/2025
Bank of Queensland	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	18/12/2024	5.20%	18/06/2025
Bank of Queensland	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	18/12/2024	5.20%	18/06/2025
Bank of Queensland	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	18/12/2024	5.20%	18/06/2025
ICBC Sydney Branch	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	15/01/2025	5.00%	15/07/2025
National Australia Bank	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	31/07/2024	5.30%	31/07/2025
National Australia Bank	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	29/08/2024	5.00%	29/08/2025
Australian Military Bank	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	1/08/2023	5.35%	1/08/2025
National Australia Bank	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	9/09/2024	4.95%	9/09/2025
AMP Bank	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	18/12/2024	5.15%	18/09/2025
Westpac	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	29/09/2023	5.21%	29/09/2025
ICBC Sydney Branch	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	30/09/2024	4.92%	30/09/2025
Westpac	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	3/04/2024	4.95%	15/10/2025
ICBC Sydney Branch	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	31/10/2024	4.95%	31/10/2025
Australian Military Bank	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	2/12/2024	5.05%	2/12/2025
Suncorp	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	22/12/2023	4.93%	22/12/2025
ICBC Sydney Branch	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	15/01/2025	5.01%	15/01/2026
Suncorp	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	20/01/2025	4.96%	20/01/2026
National Australia Bank	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	29/01/2025	4.90%	29/01/2026
ICBC Sydney Branch	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	30/01/2025	4.85%	30/01/2026
Westpac	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	10/02/2025	4.75%	10/02/2026
ICBC Sydney Branch	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	10/02/2025	4.84%	10/02/2026
Westpac	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	26/02/2025	4.67%	6/03/2026
Westpac	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	3/03/2025	4.65%	7/04/2026
Suncorp	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	31/03/2025	4.60%	14/04/2026
Westpac	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	3/03/2025	4.65%	12/05/2026
National Australia Bank	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ -	8/04/2025	4.31%	9/06/2026
National Australia Bank	\$ 1,026,153	\$ 1,026,153	\$ -	17/03/2025	4.56%	17/06/2026
Westpac	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	8/04/2025	4.30%	8/07/2026
ICBC Sydney Branch	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	27/05/2025	4.22%	27/05/2026
Westpac	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	22/05/2025	4.23%	23/06/2026
Sub-total Term Deposits	\$ 47,026,153	\$ 45,026,153	\$ 2,000,000		2.06%	
Total Cash & Investments	\$ 61,419,794	\$ 60,417,336	\$ 1,002,458		2.51%	

As at the end of May 2025, applying long-term ratings only, all individual banks were within the Policy limits. Overall, the portfolio is lightly diversified across the investment grade credit spectrum, with no exposure to the unrated institutions.

Compliant	Issuer	Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Max. Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	CBA	AA-	\$ 14,393,641	23.43%	30%	\$ 4,032,298
✓	NAB	AA-	\$ 8,526,153	13.88%	30%	\$ 9,899,785
✓	ANZ	AA-	\$ 4,000,000	6.51%	30%	\$ 14,425,938
✓	Westpac	AA-	\$ 16,500,000	26.86%	30%	\$ 1,925,938
✓	ICBC	A	\$ 10,500,000	17.10%	20%	\$ 1,783,959
✓	BOQ	A-	\$ 4,000,000	6.51%	20%	\$ 8,283,959
✓	AMP	BBB+	\$ 1,000,000	1.63%	15%	\$ 8,212,696
✓	Australian Military Bank	BBB+	\$ 2,500,000	4.07%	15%	\$ 6,712,969
			\$ 61,419,794	100.00%		

Note: The available (\$) is the amount of funds left available to invest with the financial institution before the maximum investment limit is reached. The maximum investment limits are set by Council's *Investment Policy*.

Currently, the portfolio has 47.22% of investments maturing within 365 days and 37.27% maturing within 90 days.

Compliant	Horizon	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Min. Limit (%)	Max. Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	0-90 days	\$ 22,893,641	37.27%	10%	100%	\$ 24,500,000
✓	91 - 365 days	\$ 29,000,000	47.22%	0%	100%	\$ 32,484,248
✓	1 - 2 years	\$ 9,526,153	15.51%	0%	70%	\$ 39,888,974
✓	2 - 5 years	\$ -	0.00%	0%	50%	\$ 28,492,124
✓	5 - 10 years	\$ -	0.00%	0%	25%	\$ 14,246,062
		<b>\$ 61,419,794</b>	<b>100.00%</b>			

It is hereby certified that the above investments have been made in accordance with section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and the regulations thereunder, and in accordance with Snowy Valleys Council's *Investment Policy*. Cash and Investments increased by \$1M in May 2025.

Major cash receipts received during May 2025 included:

- Department Of Primary Industries - Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Package - Tumut Aerodrome Improvements - \$2.7M
- Transport for NSW - RMCC Contract - \$446K
- Office of Local Government - Financial Assistance Grant instalment - \$305K

Main cash disbursements (excluding employee costs) during the month included:

- Road Maintenance Council Contract (RMCC) - Slope Remediation - \$905K
- CAT 930 Loader (Plant) - \$380K
- Essential Public Asset Restoration Works (EPARW) - Earthmoving - \$201K

Each month, Council's investments are assessed against portfolio risk. Portfolio risk refers to the overall risk of the portfolio of investments. This includes the combined risk of each individual investment.

Currently, all aggregate ratings categories are within the Policy limits ensuring Council remains compliant across the institutional credit framework outlined in Council's *Investment Policy*.

Compliant	Credit Rating	Invested (\$)	Invested (%)	Max. Limit (%)	Available (\$)
✓	AAA Category	\$ -	0.00%	100%	\$ 56,984,248
✓	AA Category	\$ 43,419,794	68.37%	100%	\$ 18,026,153
✓	A Category	\$ 14,500,000	25.49%	60%	\$ 19,664,396
✓	BBB Category	\$ 3,500,000	6.14%	60%	\$ 13,595,274
✓	Unrated ADIs	\$ -	0.00%	15%	\$ 8,547,637
		<b>\$ 61,419,794</b>	<b>100.00%</b>		

## LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

### Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:

#### Community Strategic Plan Theme

Theme 5 - Our Civic Leadership

#### Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives

CSP5 Our Civic leadership and organisation government fosters open and transparent partnership with our community

#### Delivery Program Principal Activities

5.5 Provide effective short and long term financial management to deliver financial sustainability

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

Investments are undertaken based upon the best rate on the day and after consideration on spreading Council's Investment risk across various institutions as per the *Investment Policy* and section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

**POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

The information provided complies with Council's *Investment Policy* and section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

**RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

Monthly reporting of investments keeps Council informed of current cash holdings and return on investments.

**OPTIONS:**

Nil.

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

Matters arising from this report that require further communication will be addressed at the meeting or taken on notice and a response will be provided.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil.

## **11. MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

### **11.1. MULTIPURPOSE AND EVACUATION CENTRE PROJECT - UPDATE - JUNE 2025**

**REPORT AUTHOR: MAJOR PROJECTS - PROJECT MANAGER**

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report provides an update regarding the Snowy Valleys Multipurpose and Evacuation Centre Project at Richmond Park, Tumut.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

##### **THAT COUNCIL:**

- 1. Note the Multipurpose and Evacuation Centre Project - Update - June 2025 Report; and**
- 2. An Expression of Interest be called for a 'Management Agreement' operating option for the Multipurpose Centre.**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Snowy Valleys Council (SVC) is to complete construction of the Snowy Valleys Multipurpose and Evacuation Centre under grant funding received from the State and Federal Government Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund (BLERF).

The outcomes of this project will be:

1. A multipurpose facility to cater for multiple indoor sports, the size of two basketball courts, to accommodate local, regional and state sporting competitions as well as a facility to host conferences, local school and community events, which can also serve as an emergency evacuation centre.
2. Local employment outcomes, including apprenticeships and indigenous employment opportunities, through the building and construction of the facility.
3. Local employment outcomes, through the ongoing management of the facility.
4. An increase in community wellbeing and cohesion through the provision of an indoor sporting facility equipped with a large stadium, changerooms, amenities and spectator seats with disability access, where sport can be played and watched 12 months of the year, in any climate.
5. Natural disaster readiness for the community, where many people can shelter in the facility and access emergency services.

Council progressed the planning for the facility at Richmond Park, Tumut, and awarded a tender for the design at the Ordinary Meeting on 21 November 2024, and unanimously resolved:

**13.4. CONFIDENTIAL RFT 2024/11 DESIGN OF THE TUMUT EVACUATION AND MULTIPURPOSE CENTRE – TENDER REPORT****M279/24 RESOLVED:****THAT COUNCIL:**

1. Note that this resolution is subject to the endorsement of expenditure by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development;
2. Resolve in accordance with Section 55 of the NSW *Local Government Act 1993* to accept the tender RFT 2024/11 from Facility Design Group Pty Ltd to prepare documentation for the Design of the Snowy Valleys Emergency Evacuation Centre and Multipurpose Facility for the tendered lump sum amount of \$469,523.75 excluding GST;
3. Authorise the Interim General Manager to enter into a contract with Facility Design Group Pty Ltd to prepare documentation for the Snowy Valleys Emergency Evacuation Centre and Multipurpose Facility;
4. Once Council has executed the Contract, information relating to the successful tender be published in Council's Register of Contracts as required by *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* - Part 3 Division 5 - Government Contracts with the Private Sector;
5. The Confidential Report relating to matters specified in Sections 10A(2)(d) be treated as confidential and remain confidential until Council determines otherwise; and
6. Write to the unsuccessful tenderers advising of the outcomes of the tender process.

Cr Packard/Cr Wortes

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The contract requires Facility Design Group to:

1. Undertake investigations, consultation, and design development of the current option
2. Prepare all documentation and lodgement of a Development Application (DA)
3. Prepare all required documentation for both a Construction Certificate (CC) and a Construction Tender
4. Provide Design Services during construction.

At its Ordinary Meeting held on 20 February 2025, Council resolved:

**11.2. SNOWY VALLEYS MULTIPURPOSE AND EVACUATION CENTRE PROJECT - CONCEPT DESIGN****M32/25 RESOLVED:****THAT COUNCIL:**

1. Note the Concept Design for the Snowy Valleys Multipurpose and Evacuation Centre at Richmond Park, which subject to minor improvements as a result of consultation feedback, will be progressed to a Development Application; and
2. Note the continued community consultation opportunities as part of the Development Application process.

Cr Hayes/Cr Packard

For: Cr Thomson, Cr Packard, Cr Hayes, Cr Hardwick, Cr Wortes, Cr Ham

Against: Cr Sheldon

**CARRIED**

6/1

At the same meeting, Councillors indicated a desire to receive monthly update reports on this project.

**REPORT:****The program and progress status update**

Work completed to date:

**Phase 1 – Undertake investigations, consultation, and design development of the current option**

Reported to Ordinary Meeting of Council on 20 February 2025.

**Phase 2 – Prepare all documentation and lodgement of a DA**

Submitted through the NSW Planning Portal on 6 March 2025.

**Phase 3 - Planning Approvals**

The project underwent an independent assessment before being referred to the NSW Southern Regional Planning Panel (SRPP) for a final determination. The SRPP will consider the independent assessment report, public submissions, relevant planning legislation, and a public hearing held on 11 June 2025, before making its decision. At the time of writing this report the outcome is unknown.

Work in Progress:

**Phase 4 - CC and Construction Tender Documentation**

Facility Design Group has been working on the CC and Construction Tender documentation. The project was detailed and developed for inclusion into a formal Tender Document and progression through Phase 5 Construction. Tender documentation was prepared and will be released to market following a planning approval. Any documentation changes required due to conditions of consent will be incorporated and issued as tender addendums if necessary.

As documented in the May project update report, a revised schedule for the tender and construction phase was established in line with the SRPP determination date:



<b>Phase 5 - Construction (External resources)</b>
Review and release RFT to market on 12 June 25
Tender period closing 15 July 25
Tender assessment by 22 July 25
Prepare report for Council by 24 July 25
Council meeting determination 31 July 25
Engagement and site possession 6 August 25
Construction period 6/8/25 to 25/5/26

Further, Council resolved to hold an Extraordinary Meeting for the purpose of determining a construction tender for the construction on 31 July 2025, in lieu of waiting for the Ordinary Meeting in August:

**M107/25 RESOLVED:**

**THAT COUNCIL:**

1. Note the Multipurpose and Evacuation Centre Project - Update - May 2025 Report; and
2. Schedule an Extraordinary Meeting of Council on 31 July 2025 to consider the Construction Tender Award for the project to minimise any delay in the delivery of the project.

Cr Sheldon/Cr Hayes

For: Cr Hardwick, Cr Hayes, Cr Larter, Cr Packard, Cr Ham, Cr Wortes, Cr Sheldon

Against: Cr Inglis, Cr Thomson

**CARRIED**

7/2

## **Communications**

The project page remains a great resource for Councillors and community to keep up to date with the project [Multipurpose and Evacuation Centre | Your Voice Snowy Valleys](#).

You will note that during May there were 2 publications. Council also shared communications from the Southern Regional Planning Panel regarding their public meeting via social media and the newsletters.

## **Multipurpose Centre Operational Business Plan**

Council officers and the community working group have been working on potential operational business plan models. Professional assistance was provided from Mr Simon Haire, Director of Xypher Sport and Leisure. Mr Haire is an expert in business planning in the operation of sports facilities. He has previously worked with Tamworth Regional Council, where he oversaw operating the multipurpose sports facility and has completed numerous feasibility studies and business cases for indoor sport facilities.

A Councillor Workshop was held on 3 June 2025, at which Mr. Haire presented draft Operating Options and Models. The review of the Multipurpose and Evacuation Centre management and operating models had established a range of options and potential financial scenarios. It was found that the most cost-effective option is likely to be the Management Agreement approach, which could save Council approximately \$200,000 over 10 years. Sensitivity modelling demonstrated that the likely range of annual

operating costs could be from \$0 (under the best performing management agreement model) up to approximately \$40,000 (under the worst performing direct management model). It was recommended that Council prioritise pursuing the 'Management Agreement' model and test the market by preparing an Expression of Interest. A copy of the report from Xypher Sport and Leisure, *Tumut Multipurpose and Evacuation Centre Operating Options and Models*, is an attachment.

### **Essential Energy**

Council has received advice from Essential Energy in regard to the power supply requirements via a design information pack. The detailed design is being prepared by contractor Delta Star to meet Essential Energy requirements in accordance with the design information pack issued.

### **Playground Relocation**

In line with the adopted Plan of Management, plans have been developed for the relocation of the playground. Works will be undertaken by Council staff in the coming month, subject to a planning approval. The community will then have uninhibited access to the playground at the new location, during the construction phase of the project. It also allows for the site to be ready for handover to a main contractor following the tender process.

### **Demolition of Old Clubhouse Facility**

One of the first tasks associated with the project will be the demolition of existing infrastructure. In preparation, All Clear Group were engaged by Council to undertake a Hazardous Materials Survey at Richmond Park Clubhouse. All identified hazardous materials are recorded in the Hazardous Materials Register. The report documents removal practices required for all hazardous materials, prior to demolition. This work will now be progressed via a separate procurement process, subject to a planning approval.

### **Trees**

Relocation of some Golden Elms within the park, where practicable, will be undertaken by contractors in the coming month, subject to a planning approval. The winter timing presents the best opportunity for successful reestablishment.

## **LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:**

### **Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:**

#### **Community Strategic Plan Theme**

Theme 1 - Our Community

Theme 4 - Our Infrastructure

Theme 5 - Our Civic Leadership

#### **Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives**

CSP1 Our communities are connected and inclusive. Supported by services that nurture health, wellbeing and identity

CSP4 Our infrastructure includes Council services that plan, manage, maintain and renew our community infrastructure and transport networks

CSP5 Our Civic leadership and organisation government fosters open and transparent partnership with our community

#### **Delivery Program Principal Activities**

1.2 Provide and maintain community spaces that encourage activity and wellbeing

1.4 Plan, manage and support the response and recovery of communities from natural disasters and economic shocks

4.4 Plan and deliver a capital works program to responsibly manage and maintain community infrastructure



5.1 Communicate with our community and provide opportunities for participation in decision making

5.6 Proactively support and advocate for the needs of the community to other level of government and organisations

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

The project is fully funded from grant funding received from the State and Federal Government Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund (BLERF).

### **POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

Council has resolved on a project site and the design development of the facility is currently underway at this site to meet a tight project delivery schedule. Any significant delays to the project at this stage will most likely see the funding withdrawn and the project cancelled.

The grant funding and the associated 12-month extension of time to 30 June 2026 is approved for the project at the Richmond Park site only.

There is ongoing significant financial and reputational risk associated with this project.

### **OPTIONS:**

1. Adopt as per recommendations set out in this report - preferred option.
2. Amend the recommendation set out in this report.
3. Decline the recommendations set out in this report.

### **COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

As detailed in the "Snowy Valleys Emergency Evacuation Centre and Multipurpose Facility at Richmond Park - Communications and Engagement Plan" and "Snowy Valleys Emergency Evacuation Centre and Multipurpose Facility at Richmond Park - Communications Action Plan".

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. MEC Operating Options and Models (Under separate cover)

## 11.2. HUMELINK PROJECT UPDATE NUMBER 3 - 19 JUNE 2025

**REPORT AUTHOR: INTERFACE MANAGER - HUMELINK**

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS**

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the *HumeLink* Project, and the activities undertaken by the Interface Manager whose responsibility is to oversee all coordination activities between Snowy Valleys Council and the project's joint venture partners in relation to the delivery of the project that is being delivered by an international consortium headed by Transgrid.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### **THAT COUNCIL:**

1. **Note the HumeLink Project Update Report Number 3 - 19 June 2025**

### **BACKGROUND:**

On 29 May 2024, Snowy Valleys Council and Transgrid entered into a mutually beneficial partnership to create an Interface Manager position for the HumeLink Project. Council, in its approach to Transgrid, identified that to enable the efficient delivery of the HumeLink Project across multiple sites within the Snowy Valleys Local Government Area (LGA), a dedicated staff resource at Council would be required.

Council and Transgrid executed an agreement on 29 May 2024 whereby this position (HumeLink Interface Manager) would be 100% funded by Transgrid, with joint agreement on the selection and recruitment process for the position which would be on a 12-month trial with options to extend the role if mutually agreed to by both parties.

Further background on the Interface Manager position can be found in the [HumeLink Project Update Number 1 - 12 December 2024 Report](#) [M301/24].

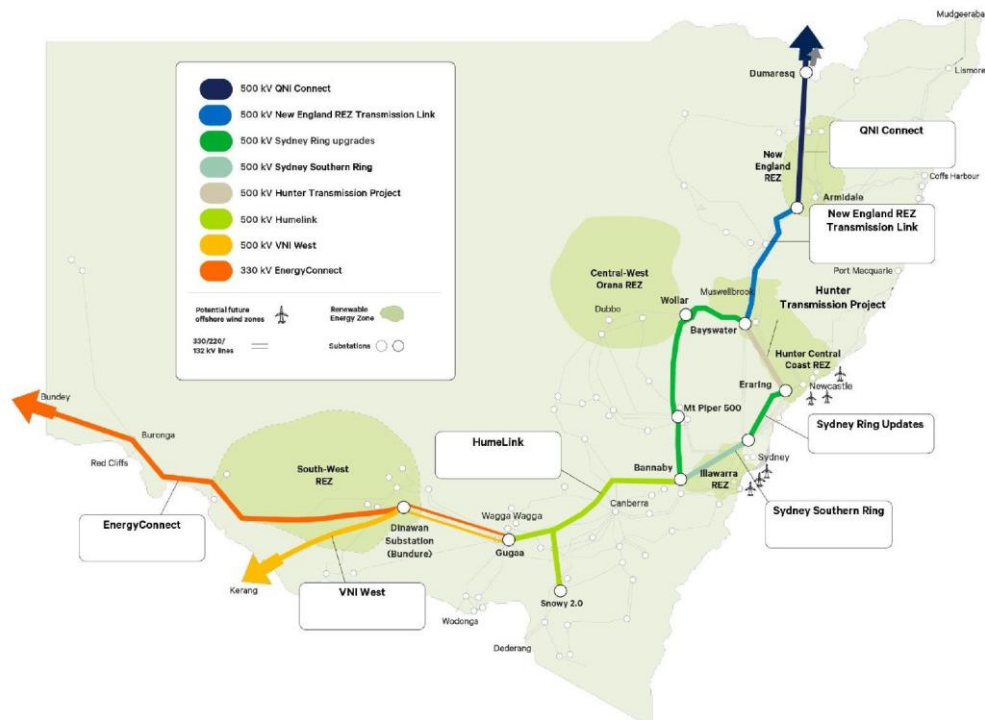
The second update was presented to the March 2025 Council meeting and can be found in the [HumeLink Project Update Number 2 - 20 March 2025 Report](#) [M58/25].

This is the third update report to Council from the HumeLink Interface Manager on the activities that have been undertaken between Council and the HumeLink joint venture partners HumeLink East (Acciona and GenusPlus Group Ltd JV) and HumeLink West (UGL and CPB Contractors JV).

### **REPORT:**

HumeLink is a new 500kV transmission line which will connect Wagga Wagga, Bannaby and Maragle, totaling around 360km of transmission lines. The project traverses six Local Government Areas including Wagga Wagga City, Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional, Snowy Valleys, Yass Valley, Upper Lachlan Shire and Goulburn-Mulwaree. Transgrid are the overarching organisation responsible for the delivery of the HumeLink project.

HumeLink will have a direct interface with the Snowy 2.0 – Transmission Connection project at the future Maragle 500kV substation and with Project EnergyConnect (NSW – Eastern Section) at the existing Wagga 330kV substation. Both of these projects have received planning approval by the NSW and Commonwealth Governments. See Map 1 for an overview of Transgrid's Major Projects.



**Map 1 - Transgrid Major Projects**

The HumeLink project will be delivered by two joint venture partners with strong experience in infrastructure projects in regional NSW. The two joint ventures (JV) will each deliver a section of the route:

- HumeLink East: Acciona and GenusPlus Group Ltd (JV); and
- HumeLink West: UGL and CPB Contractors (JV).

The two JV organisations report directly to Transgrid for all delivery works.



**Map 2 - HumeLink Transmission Lines**

The Snowy Valleys LGA is the interface (junction) point for the HumeLink West and HumeLink East transmission lines and has interactions with both East and West project teams. The yellow line on Map 2 indicates the West project and the blue line on Map 2 indicates the East project.

Snowy Valleys Council has 134km of transmission lines in the LGA and will have approximately 330 towers across 58 properties in the Snowy Valleys LGA.

Transgrid received NSW State Government approval for the HumeLink project on 14 November 2024 by the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces.

On 18 December 2024, HumeLink reached its final major planning milestone and received Commonwealth Government approval. A final decision was made by Transgrid's Board and allowed their Enabling Works to begin. The Enabling Works phase includes road and property condition surveys, construction of laydown areas, accommodation facilities and access tracks which includes implementing traffic management and controls.

### Project Update - Interface Manager Activities

The HumeLink Interface Manager has been the primary contact point between Snowy Valleys Council and Transgrid, and the Joint Venture partners from HumeLink East (Acciona and GenusPlus Group Ltd JV) and HumeLink West (UGL and CPB Contractors JV) for the delivery of the project.

The primary work that has been undertaken during the last quarter, March 2025 to end May 2025, is the facilitation of the following activities which are summarised in Table 1 and explained in more detail in this section of the report.

**Table 1 – Summary of Interface Manager Activities - March 2025 to end May 2025**

Activity	Number	Time Frame Undertaken
<b>Responding to Requests for Information (RFIs)</b>		
119 x RFIs responded to:		
HumeLink West	77 RFIs	March 2025 to May 2025
HumeLink East	31 RFIs	March 2025 to May 2025
Transgrid	11 RFIs	March 2025 to May 2025
<b>Review of Management Plans</b>		
Various Management Plans submitted to SVC	7 x Management Plans reviewed: 2 x HumeLink East 5 x HumeLink West (4 plans were secondary reviews)	March 2025 to May 2025
<b>Assessment of Vehicle Movement Plans</b>		
HumeLink West	51 x Roads in SVC LGA – 165km of Council-owned Roads will be used to deliver this project (39 Council roads)  Continued use of the Live Traffic notification system - input by Council staff - 22 notices	March 2025 to May 2025
HumeLink East	20 x Roads in SVC LGA – 100km of Council-owned	March 2025 to May 2025

Activity	Number	Time Frame Undertaken
	Roads will be used to deliver this project (12 Council roads)  Notification system has been established using Live Traffic input by Council staff	
<b>Road Condition and Maintenance Requirements</b>		
HumeLink West	1 x Road Maintenance Agreement - Draft issued	May 2025
HumeLink East	1 x Road Maintenance Agreement - Draft issued	May 2025
<b>Dilapidation Reports – Road Infrastructure</b>		
HumeLink West	Report received on 14 May 2025	May 2025
HumeLink East	Report yet to be received	May 2025
<b>Section 138 Applications - Engineering Construction Certificate Review</b>		
HumeLink West	11 Applications approved by SVC  6 in progress - pending concurrence from TfNSW (1 x resubmitted to TfNSW)  3 points to be resubmitted to Council  5 remaining pending landowners consent  Invoice issued for 18 remaining S138 permits - paid by HumeLink West	August 2024 to May 2025
HumeLink East	11 Applications approved by SVC  3 received concurrence from TfNSW  2 remaining pending landowners consent  Invoice issued for 13 remaining S138 permits - paid by HumeLink East	August 2024 to May 2025
<b>Section 45 Notices</b>		
Pursuant to section 45 of the <i>Electricity Supply Act 1995</i> , Transgrid provided formal notification of Transgrid's intention to enter upon and occupy Land to carry out Electricity Work.  No new notices have been issued.	7 x Water Course Crossing lots  2 x Crown Land lots  65 x Forestry Land lots  4 x Paper Road lots  Council is mapping these points to monitor impacts.	February 2025
<b>Easement Access Requests - Transgrid Property Team</b>		

Activity	Number	Time Frame Undertaken
Council is consulting with Transgrid on temporary easement access to land which Council has a minor interest. No new requests have been issued.	6 x requests received	August to November 2024
<b>Water Usage Agreement</b>		
Council has negotiated and executed a water supply agreement with HumeLink West. Council proposed an agreement with HumeLink East - in draft.	1 x new water standpipe installed in Adelong - March 2025 2 x new water standpipes installed in Batlow - April 2025 1 x new water standpipe installed in Tumbarumba - May 2025 1 x new water standpipe proposed in Tumut	May 2025
<b>Waste Agreement</b>		
Council has continued discussions on waste arrangements for the HumeLink West accommodation camp - particularly FOGO and recycling. Council has continued discussions on project related waste with HumeLink East & HumeLink West.	1 x proposal for waste collection for HumeLink West Discussions underway for effluent and wastewater from accommodation camp to be processed through Tumut's facility.	May 2025

### Responding to Requests for Information

Council has received a variety of enquires relating to a range of topics from Transgrid, HumeLink West JV and HumeLink East JV which have been responded to and actioned.

Since March 2025 there have been 119 separate requests relating to the topics detailed in this report, of these HumeLink East JV are around 26%, with the majority relating to HumeLink West JV.

Each request has been responded to and actioned with multiple rounds of correspondence required in most cases. These requests are in relation to a range of matters which are described in more detail in the following sections of the report.

Council's Interface Manager facilitates monthly update meetings (6) between HumeLink East JV, HumeLink West JV and Council staff in relation to the project, and one (1) Council workshop was undertaken this quarter with Councillors. The Interface Manager also attended 4 community consultation sessions led by the project.

A key component of the Interface Manager position is to provide regular updates to Council on the progress of the HumeLink project.

### Review of HumeLink East & HumeLink West draft management plans

Council's Interface Manager has reviewed the following plans from March to May 2025:

HumeLink East:

- Social Impact Management Plan

- Local Business Employment Strategy

HumeLink West:

- Social Impact Management Plan
- Waste Management Plan (Secondary review)
- Out of Hours Protocol (Secondary review)
- Traffic & Transport Management Plan (Secondary review)
- Accommodation Camp Management Plan (Secondary review)
- Soil & Water Management Plan (Secondary review)

This includes the consultation with, and assessment alongside, Council's staff and stakeholders in the various teams associated with each management plan. Feedback is then collated and sent back to HumeLink JV teams for further review and action.

### **Road Condition & Maintenance Requirements**

Council has placed traffic counters out on roads that will be used by the HumeLink project partners to determine baseline data on current usage levels and to enable accurate comparison data to be compiled over the life of the project in relation to vehicle movements and types of vehicle movements (Heavy and Light vehicles). Council has currently completed 70% of the road counts - unfortunately there were some count failures which required roads to be re-counted which delayed completion of this task. The current batch of counters are now due to be collected, these counters will then be reissued and continue collecting data.

### **Road Maintenance**

Council has been in ongoing discussions regarding the best process to maintain road condition requirements to ensure that maintenance is undertaken throughout project delivery and roads remain safe for the community.

Council has prepared and issued a Standard Road Maintenance Agreement which requires both HumeLink East & West Joint Venture Partners to pay Council a monthly maintenance fee to keep the roads in a condition that is equal to the pre-commencement works condition. This would require Council to undertake all works to maintain the roads and have sole responsibility for the works. The Roads Maintenance Agreement has been issued in draft to both HumeLink East & West Joint Venture Partners for comment - HumeLink West JV have almost reached final agreement while HumeLink East JV is beginning negotiations.

### **Dilapidation Reports & Road Infrastructure**

Both HumeLink East & West have both undertaken road dilapidation surveys across all roads that will be used for the project.

HumeLink West provided Council with their full dilapidation report on 14 May 2025.

At this stage Council is awaiting to be issued the reports from the survey work from HumeLink East.

### **Section 138 Applications - Engineering Construction Certificate Review**

Access tracks will be built for all of the HumeLink Towers, which require a Construction Certificate. Council will assess all Section 138 applications as they are submitted and will provide feedback to HumeLink East & West JV Teams.

The HumeLink West project has, to date, submitted 20 applications to Council, 11 have been processed and approved, 6 are in progress, pending concurrence from Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) and 3 points are to be resubmitted. 5 of the remaining applications are also pending landowner consent.

The HumeLink East project has submitted 13 applications to Council, 11 have been processed and

approved, 3 of which were given concurrence from TfNSW and 2 of the remaining applications are pending landowner consent. All S138 applications have been paid for by HumeLink West JV & HumeLink East JV as per Council's fees and charges.

Council is also facilitating the discussions with TfNSW who will provide approvals on State Roads, Council has been supportive and assisting in the negotiations to receive concurrence from this agency and provide their feedback to both HumeLink East JV & HumeLink West JV.

### **Establishment of Waste Arrangements**

Council is currently in discussions with HumeLink West JV and HumeLink East JV to understand the waste requirements for the project delivery. Council will be seeking to benefit from the utilisation of waste generated to assist in the current FOGO and recycling process at the Gilmore Composting Facility.

Council is also investigating the possibility of waste collection at the HumeLink West JV accommodation camp. Council is awaiting agreement on its proposal from HumeLink West JV for this service at the accommodation camp.

Council is also facilitating discussions regarding wastewater and effluent processing through its Tumut Treatment Plant which would be charged as per Council's standard fees & charges.

### **Community Investment Proposals**

HumeLink West JV, HumeLink East JV and Transgrid representatives met with Councillors on 1 May 2025 to present an overview of the proposed Community Investment and Benefits Program that will be undertaken to determine the best investment for legacy projects for the Snowy Valleys community.

The new process will be rolled out in the coming months and extensive consultation is planned to allow project owners to submit expressions of interest for project initiatives. These projects will then be assessed against eligibility criteria and will follow the process proposed by HumeLink, with Community input, to determine the best investment decisions.

### **Establishment of Water Usage Agreement**

Council has successfully negotiated a Water Usage agreement with HumeLink West JV to purchase water from Council for the purposes of the project. To successfully access the water supply, HumeLink West JV has funded the design, construction and installation of all water connection infrastructure that is required.

Council has undertaken all procurement, design, construction, installation and commissioning activities of the water connection infrastructure. Council will then maintain ownership of all of the water connection infrastructure once it has been installed.

The three (3) site locations that have been nominated and agreed to are:

1. Adelong Raw Water Fill Station at Todds Road – Adelong
2. Batlow Raw and Potable Fill Station at Memorial Avenue – Batlow
3. Tumbarumba Potable Water Fill Station at McMeekin Street – Tumbarumba

Works in Adelong were completed in March and all works were completed in Batlow in April. The Tumbarumba site is almost complete with only the road sealing to be finished, which is expected in the coming weeks.

Council is currently in negotiations with HumeLink East JV to develop a Water Usage Agreement, sourced from Tumut and Adelong. This will include connection infrastructure required in Tumut for Raw water supply.

To date, HumeLink West JV have been utilising the Adelong Raw Water and Batlow Raw Water sources, with the volumes indicated in the below table (to Wednesday, 28 May).

### **Table 2 - HumeLink West JV Water Usage**



Week starting	Adelong Raw (kL)	Batlow Raw (kL)
31/03/2025	95.38	10.00
7/04/2025	144.34	100.00
14/04/2025		143.00
21/04/2025		62.66
28/04/2025		590.53
5/05/2025		1004.89
12/05/2025	10.33	675.22
19/05/2025		651.41
26/05/2025		26.75
Total	250.04	3264.46
Combined Total (kL)		3514.50

Current agreements with HumeLink West JV allows the following water usage:

- Adelong Raw - 34,219kL annually
- Batlow Potable - 25,076kL annually
- Batlow Raw - 28,437kL annually
- Tumbarumba Raw - 32,643kL annually

Given this, HumeLink West have used 0.73% from Adelong Raw Water supply and 11.48% of the allocation from Batlow Raw Water. The allocations are identified in Schedule 1 of the Water Usage Agreement between Council and Hume Link West.

With the introductions of water restrictions to the Snowy Valleys LGA, Council will restrict water usage for the HumeLink project at Level 3 restrictions, as the agreement will prioritise community use over project use.

Conversely, the water used by all other contractors during this period is outlined in Table 3. To the 28 May, water was only taken from Adelong site by other contractors.

**Table 3 - Water Use - Others (kL)**

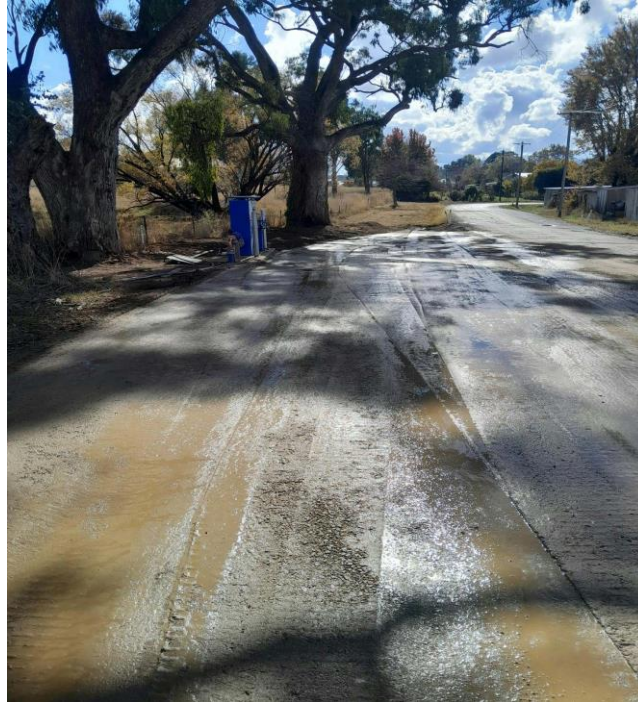
	All Other Users
Week starting	Adelong Raw (kL)
31/03/2025	49.595
7/04/2025	226.159
14/04/2025	50.293
21/04/2025	
28/04/2025	137.979
5/05/2025	44.467
12/05/2025	
19/05/2025	
26/05/2025	
Total	508.49
Total (kL)	508.49

Table 4 shows the combined total of all water used.

**Table 4 - All Water Users - Total kL**

All Users (kL)			
	Adelong Raw (kL)	Batlow Raw (kL)	
April	594.66	609.42	
May	163.90	2655.04	
Total			4022.99

**Image 1 - Completed Batlow Potable and Raw Water filling station installed at Memorial Avenue – Batlow - March 2025****Image 2 - New Adelong Raw Water filling station at - Todds Road - Adelong - completed March 2025****Image 3 - New Tumbarumba potable water filling station McMeekin Street - Tumbarumba - civil works underway May 2025**

**LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:****Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:****Community Strategic Plan Theme**

Theme 2 - Our Economy

Theme 3 - Our Environment

Theme 4 - Our Infrastructure

Theme 5 - Our Civic Leadership

**Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives**

CSP2 Our diverse economy supports community longevity, vibrancy and a sustainable future

CSP3 Our natural environment is cared for and protected to ensure future generations can experience and enjoy its beauty

CSP4 Our infrastructure includes Council services that plan, manage, maintain and renew our community infrastructure and transport networks

CSP5 Our Civic leadership and organisation government fosters open and transparent partnership with our community

**Delivery Program Principal Activities**

2.4 Attract and support local business and industry

3.4 Partner with other agencies to protect our natural spaces and environment

4.2 Manage and plan for affordable infrastructure to meet current and future community needs

4.3 Plan and provide a program to maintain the local road network

5.1 Communicate with our community and provide opportunities for participation in decision making

5.6 Proactively support and advocate for the needs of the community to other level of government and organisations

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

The Interface Manager position has been specifically created in response to the increasing amount of Council staff time and resources that were being requested by Transgrid for the delivery of the HumeLink project. The creation of the position is mutually beneficial to both Council and Transgrid through the time, cost and communication efficiencies it brings to both parties during the implementation phase of the project.

The role is 100% funded by Transgrid and is for an initial 12 month period, ending August 2025.

**POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

Council has no statutory authority in this process as the project is classified as Critical State Significant Infrastructure.

The HumeLink project is assessed by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) under Part 5, Division 5.2 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). The project has also been declared a “controlled action” under the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and will be assessed by the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) under the assessment bilateral agreement, which accredits certain NSW processes to reduce assessment duplication by the Commonwealth Government. The approval authorities are the NSW Minister for Planning and the Commonwealth Minister for Environment and Water.

**RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

RISK CATEGORY	RISK/REWARD DESCRIPTION	COST/RISK	BENEFIT/ REWARD
Environmental & Public Health	Transgrid has prepared the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with the Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs), the Supplementary SEARs, the requirements of the EP&A Act and EPBC Act, the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021, and the State Significant Infrastructure Guidelines. Transgrid further submitted the Amendment Report in response to the submissions raised during the public exhibition of the EIS.	This assessment is undertaken by Transgrid.	This assessment is undertaken by Transgrid.

<b>RISK CATEGORY</b>	<b>RISK/REWARD DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COST/RISK</b>	<b>BENEFIT/ REWARD</b>
Financial	The Interface Manager role is 100% funded by Transgrid.  The HumeLink project is a \$4.8 billion investment.	Nil cost to Council.	Externally funded position enables a dedicated resource to Council.
People	The HumeLink project requires Council staff resources and time.	Potential reduction in services as staff resources are required for the HumeLink project tasks.	The Interface Manager provides a dedicated resource to take pressure off staff and manage the workload created by the HumeLink project.
Technology	The HumeLink project is classified as a state significant infrastructure and required to provide power to the National Electricity Market (NEM).	Transmission lines installed across the project footprint.	Reliable and sustainable renewable energy for the NEM.
Stakeholder	The Snowy Valleys Community, Landholders and Council are key stakeholders in the HumeLink project.	Community concerns regarding the impacts of the project.	Potential for Community Investment funding or Community Grants.  Employment opportunities for local businesses and subcontractors to supply product and services to the project.
Service Delivery	The Interface Manager role has been established to enable the delivery of services between Snowy Valleys Council and HumeLink.	Council has a statutory responsibility to facilitate the needs of the project.	Council has the ability to advocate for the Community to ensure the best outcome and benefit and is provided through the project delivery.

**OPTIONS:**

1. Adopt as per recommendations set out in this report - preferred option.
2. Amend recommendations set out in this report.
3. Decline the recommendations set out in this report.

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No



**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

Community consultation relating to the HumeLink project is led by Transgrid and the Joint Venture partners. During March and May 2025 consultation was undertaken by HumeLink partners from both East and West to provide project updates and obtain feedback on their Social Impact Management Plan.

Attendance at each session in the Snowy Valleys LGA was between 10-30 community members.

**Image 4 - HumeLink East Consultation on the SIMP - Tumut - 27 March 2025****Image 5 - HumeLink East Project Update - Tumut - 14 May 2025****Image 6 - HumeLink West Project Update - Batlow - 21 May 2025**



**Image 7 - HumeLink West Project Update - Tumbarumba - 28 May 2025**



## ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

### **11.3. DA2024/0141- PROPOSED BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT - SUBDIVISION 170 GOOBARRAGANDRA ROAD, LACMALAC**

**REPORT AUTHOR: TOWN PLANNING CONSULTANT**

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: ACTING DIRECTOR COMMUNITY, CORPORATE & DEVELOPMENT**

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

An application was lodged with Council under DA2024/0141 seeking development consent for a boundary adjustment / subdivision between Lot 335 DP 750991 & Lot 2 DP 851064 at 170 Goobarragandra Road, Lacmalac. The application seeks consent utilising the provisions of clause 4.2C of the Tumut Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2012. The proposed development does not fall within the meaning of a "boundary adjustment" under clause 4.2C of the LEP. The proposed subdivision would result in the wholesale reconfiguration of Lot 335 DP 750991 and Lot 2 DP 851064 into two entirely new lots, being Lot 170 and Lot 171.

These proposed lots bear no resemblance to the pre-existing configuration and effectively erase the original boundary and lot layout. The extent of the change is substantial and cannot be characterised as a minor adjustment to an existing boundary line. Council has assessed the application in accordance with the provisions of section 4.15 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and recommends that the proposal cannot be supported in its current form for the reasons outlined within the recommendation section of this report.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

##### **THAT COUNCIL:**

- 1. Determine Development Application 2024/0141 for a boundary adjustment between Lot 335 DP 750991 & Lot 2 DP 851064 at 170 Goobarragandra Road, Lacmalac, by way of refusal for the following reasons:**
  - a. Pursuant to Section 4.15(1)(a)(i) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, the proposed development is inconsistent with the objectives of the RU1 Primary Production zone of the Tumut Local Environmental Plan 2012.**
  - b. Pursuant to Section 4.15(a)(i) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, the proposal is unsatisfactory in respect to the matters for consideration under Clause 4.1, 4.2, 4.2A, 4.2B, 4.2C of the Tumut Local Environmental Plan 2012.**
  - c. Pursuant to section 4.15(a)(i) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, the proposal is incapable of compliance with clause 4.2C of the Tumut Local Environmental Plan 2012 as:**
    - i. The change to the boundary of Lot 335 and Lot 2 to create Lots 170 and 171 is so significant that the proposed development cannot be considered to be "adjusting" the boundary;**
    - ii. The two (2) resulting lots do not bear any resemblance to the lots currently in existence; and**
    - iii. The size of the new allotment (being the former Lot 335 DP 750991) is increased through the proposal so significantly that it is more than simply a slight or marginal adjustment to boundaries.**
  - d. Pursuant to Section 4.15(1)(a)(i) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, insufficient information has been provided in the application to satisfy the requirements of Clause 5.21 of the Tumut Local Environmental Plan 2012, in**



**particular the flood susceptibility, associated flood risk or behaviour of the Goobarragandra River.**

- e. Pursuant to Section 4.15(a)(iii) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, the proposal is unsatisfactory in respect to Clause 3.2.10, Objectives of Chapter 9, and Clauses 9.8.1, 9.8.4, 9.8.5 and 9.8.6 of the Snowy Valleys Council Development Control Plan 2024.**
- f. Pursuant to Section 4.15(1)(c) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, insufficient information has been provided to determine the suitability of the proposed development.**
- g. Pursuant to Section 4.15(1)(a)(i) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, insufficient information has been provided in the application to satisfy Clause 6.4 of the Tumut Local Environmental Plan 2012 relating to groundwater vulnerability. No geotechnical analysis has been undertaken to ensure that the land is capable of disposal of onsite sewerage waste relating to any proposed lot that will be utilised for the purposes of a residential dwelling.**
- h. Pursuant to Section 4.15(1)(e) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, the development is not considered to be in the public interest.**

## **BACKGROUND:**

### **Site Description / Context**

The development site is located within the Lacmalac locality of the Snowy Valleys Local Government Area (LGA). The site comprises of Lot 2 DP 851064 and Lot 335 DP 750991 and is commonly described as 170 Goobarragandra Road, Lacmalac. Lot 2 DP 851064 is an irregular shaped allotment with an area of approximately 99.98 hectares. Lot 335 DP 750991 is a rectangular shaped allotment with an area of approximately 1.02 hectares.

The development site is located approximately 11.7 kilometres east of Tumut township on the Goobarragandra Road. The site is adjoined by rural lands which are utilised for agricultural production and rural residential purposes. Tourist and visitor accommodation is also located in close proximity to the south of the site on Little River Road (Elm Cottage & Little River Lodge) and to the east on Goobarragandra Road (Robyne's River Retreat). Numerous dwellings are located within a two-kilometre radius of the site. Dwellings are located to the north, south, east & west of the site. The highest concentration of dwellings is located on Little River Road, south of the site, on the opposite side of the banks of the Goobarragandra River.

See Figure 1 and 2 for an aerial of the site and context.

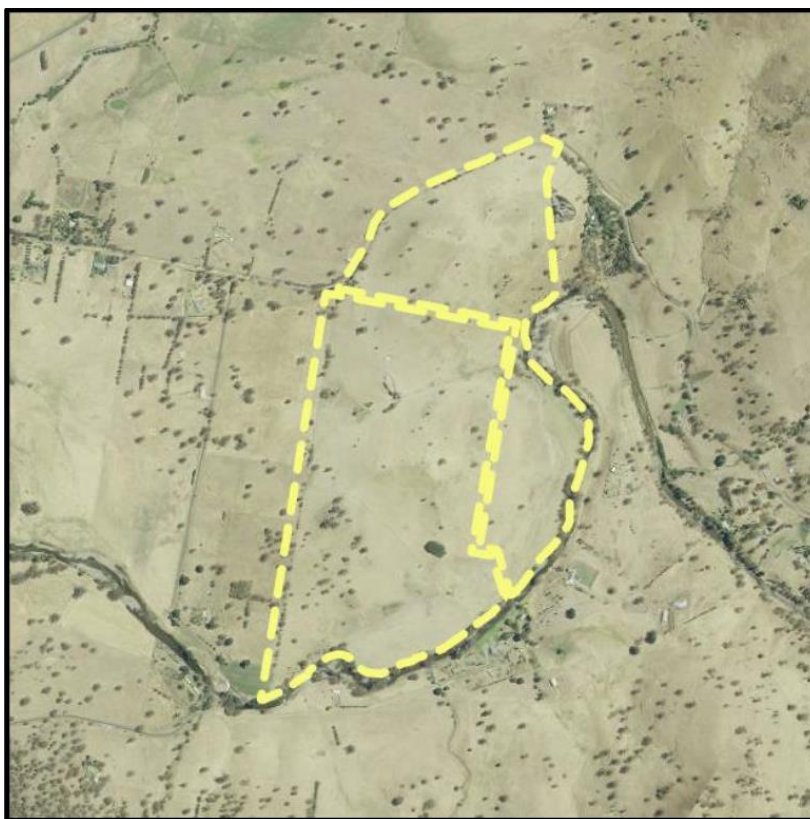
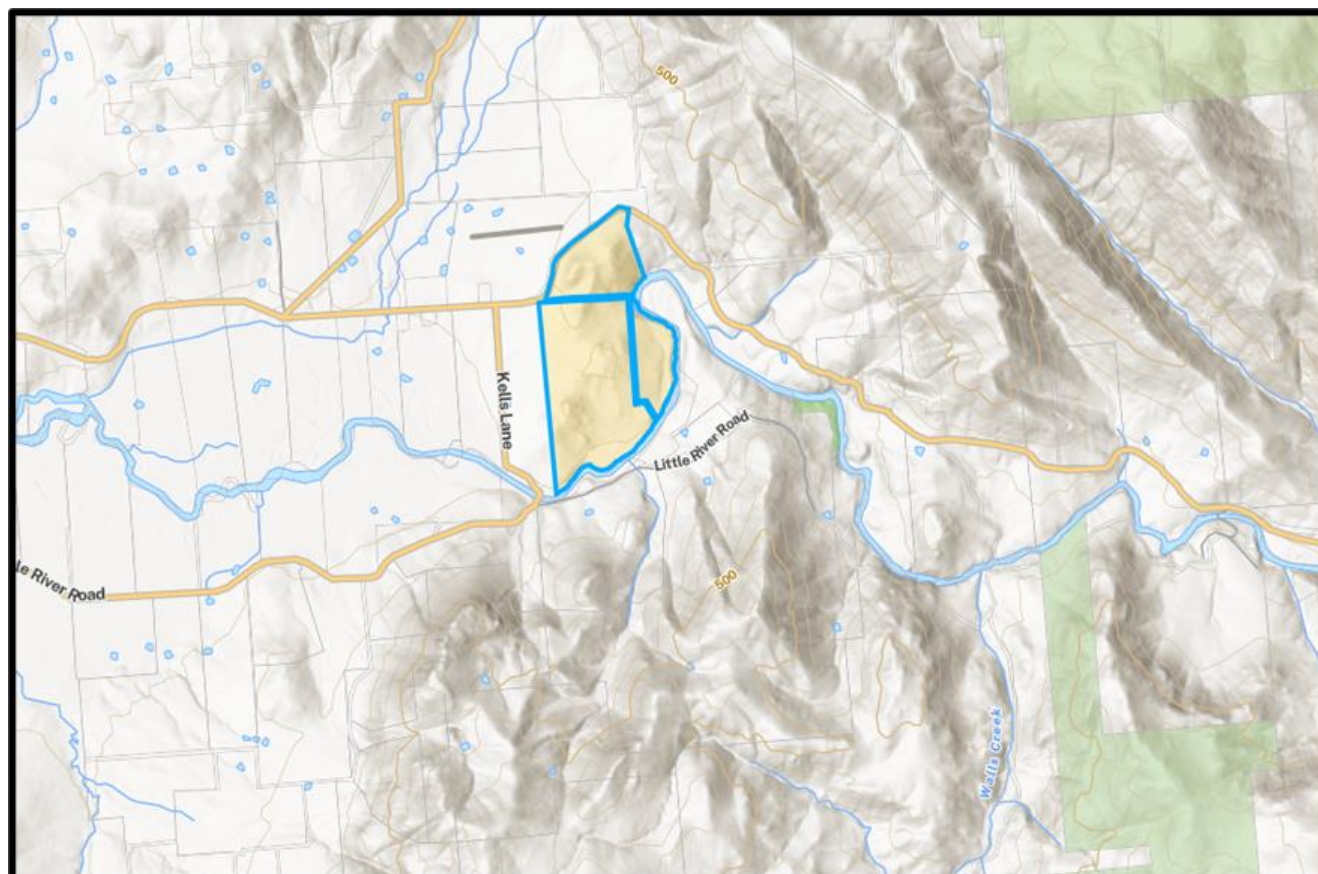


Figure 1 (above): Development Site (Source: SixMaps)

Figure 2 (below): The subject site location and context (Source: SixMaps)

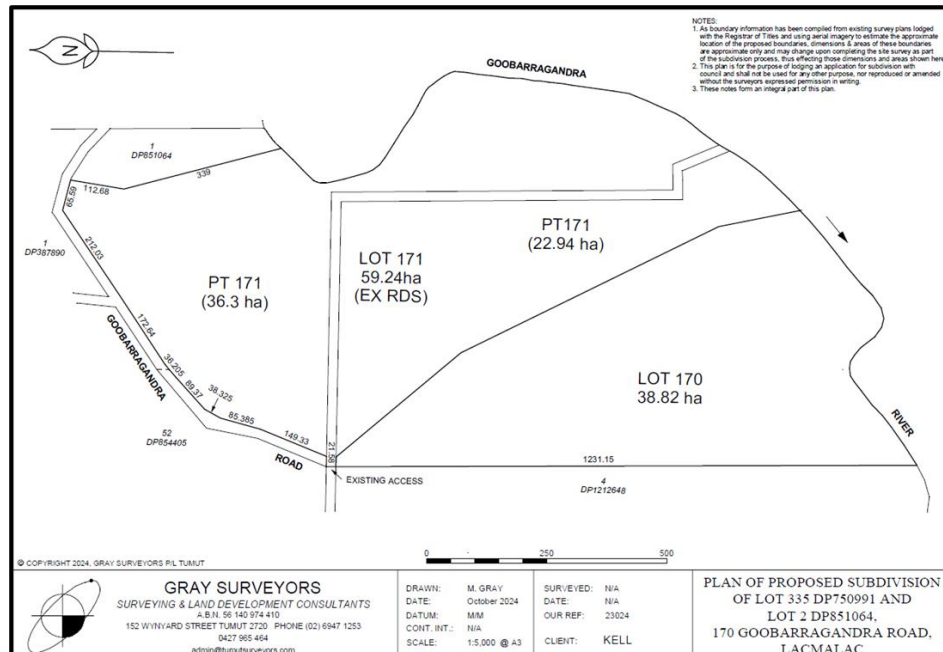


## Proposed Development

A development application has been submitted to Council seeking development consent under DA 2024/0141 for a 'rural boundary adjustment' / Subdivision between Lot 335 DP 750991 & Lot 2 DP 851064 at 170 Goobarragandra Road, Lacomalac.

As detailed above, currently Lot 2 DP 851064 has an approximate area of 99.98 hectares and Lot 335 DP 750991 has an approximate area of 1.02 hectares.

As can be seen in Figure 3, which is the applicant's proposed plan of subdivision, the two existing lots would be created into proposed Lot 170 which would have an area of 38.82 hectares and proposed Lot 171 would have a total area of 59.24 hectares.



**Figure 3: Applicant's Proposed Subdivision Plan (Source: Applicant)**

### Application Summary:

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Kerry Kell c/o Gray Surveyors</b>
Landowner(s)	Kerry Kell
Zoning Context	RU1– <i>Tumut Local Environmental Plan 2012</i>
Capital Investment Vale(\$)	\$10,000
Notification Period	6 November – 20 November 2024
Number of submissions	One (1) Submission
Political Donations declaration	Nil
Reason for referral to Council	Significant departure – Non-compliance with statutory controls

## REPORT:

### Statutory Provisions

Pursuant to Section 4.15 (1)(a)(i) and (ii) Any Environmental Planning Instrument / Draft Environmental Planning Instruments applying to the land:

## State Environmental Planning Policies

The application has been considered with regard to the relevant provisions of applicable State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs) as outlined and discussed below:

- **State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021 (B&C SEPP)**

Note: This chapter applies to RU1 Primary Production, RU2 Rural Landscape and RU3 Forestry in a Local Government Area (LGA) specified in Schedule 2.

**Table 1 - Chapter Three: Koala Habitat Protection 2020 Assessment:**

Question	Development	Outcome
Clause 3.5 - Does the site have a site area greater than 1.0 Ha or does the site form part of a landholding greater than 1.0 Ha in area?	Yes	Assessment under B&C SEPP required (Clause 3.5).
Clause 3.5 – Step 1 – Is the land potential koala habitat?  Note: 'potential koala habitat' are areas of native vegetation where trees of the types listed in Schedule 2 of the SEPP (feed tree species) constitute at least 15% of the total number of trees in the upper or lower strata of the tree component	No	Development satisfactory under B&C SEPP
Clause 3.6 – Step 2 – Is the land core koala habitat?	No	Development satisfactory under B&C SEPP

The development has been assessed against the requirements of Chapter 3 of the B&C SEPP (see Table 1), and it has been determined that the development would meet the requirements and objectives of the B&C SEPP as the land is not considered to be core koala habitat and no land clearing has been proposed as part of this application.

- **State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021 (R&H SEPP)**

### Chapter 4: Remediation of Land

Chapter 4 of the R&H SEPP applies to the site pursuant to clause 4.4 and aims to promote the remediation of contaminated land for the purpose of reducing the risk of harm to human health or any other aspect of the environment. Clause 4.6 requires that consent must not be granted to the carrying out of any development on land unless the consent authority has considered whether the land is contaminated or requires remediation for the proposed use to be carried out.

A search of Council's records and aerial photos indicates the site has a history associated with agricultural use including livestock grazing. A site inspection has not identified any animal dips, chemical storages or other potentially hazardous activities. The land is not identified as contaminated on Council's contaminated land register or the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) register of contaminated sites.

It is therefore unlikely that the site has experienced any known contamination. As such, the site is considered suitable for residential use and further assessment is not necessary.

The development has been assessed against the requirements of Chapter 4 of the R&H SEPP and it has been determined that the development as proposed would meet the requirements and objectives of the R&H SEPP.

- **State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021**

**Chapter 2: Infrastructure**

Chapter 2 - State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 (T&I SEPP) applies to the development pursuant to clause 2.2 and aims to facilitate the effective delivery of infrastructure across the State.

**Clause 2.119 - Development with frontage to a classified road**

Clause 2.119 of the T&I SEPP requires that the consent authority must not grant consent to development on land that has a frontage to a classified road unless it is satisfied that:

- where practicable, vehicular access to the land is provided by a road other than the classified road, and
- the safety, efficiency and ongoing operation of the classified road will not be adversely affected by the development as a result of:
  - (i) the design of the vehicular access to the land, or
  - (ii) the emission of smoke or dust from the development, or
  - (iii) the nature, volume or frequency of vehicles using the classified road to gain access to the land, and
  - (iv) the development is of a type that is not sensitive to traffic noise or vehicle emissions, or is appropriately located and designed, or includes measures, to ameliorate potential traffic noise or vehicle emissions within the site of the development arising from the adjacent classified road.

The existing access to the land is not proposed to be altered by the proposed subdivision of land (cited in the application as a boundary adjustment). Any notice of determination in support of the development will require submission of a section 138 application to upgrade any access to the subdivision.

**Draft State Environmental Planning Policies**

There are no current draft State Environmental Planning Policies that apply to the development.

**Local Environmental Plans**

Section 4.15(1)(a)(i) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* requires the consent authority to consider the provisions of Environmental Planning Instruments (EPIs), which include Local Environmental Plans (LEPs). The Tumut Local Environmental Plan 2012 (hereafter the 'LEP') applies to the northern part of the Snowy Valleys LGA. An assessment of the development against the relevant sections of the LEP is provided below:

**Tumut Local Environmental Plan 2012**

- **Clause 1.2 Aims of the Plan**

The development complies broadly with respect to the overall aims and objectives of the Tumut Local Environmental Plan 2012.

- **Clause 1.4 Definitions**

The land is zoned as RU1 Primary Production under the Tumut Local Environmental Plan 2012. As defined within the RU1 Land use Table, subdivisions are permissible with development consent of the Council.

The development has been defined as a 'subdivision' (two lots into two lots).

- **Clause 2.2 Zoning to which the plan applies**

The land is zoned RU1 - Primary Production and subdivisions are permissible with the development consent of the Council.

- **Clause 2.3 Zone Objectives and Land Use Table**

The proposal is inconsistent fragmentation of resource lands including potential provision of a dwelling entitlement to an undersized allotment and creation of a separate agricultural allotment.

- **Clause 4.1 Minimum Allotment Size**

The site is subject to a minimum lot size of 150 hectares. Both proposed lots will not meet the minimum required. The applicant seeks to rely on Clause 4.2C, see below for further discussion.

#### **4.2 Rural Subdivision**

1. The objective of this clause is to provide flexibility in the application of standards for subdivision in rural zones to allow landowners a greater chance to achieve the objectives for development in the relevant zone.
2. This clause applies to the following rural zones—
  - a. Zone RU1 Primary Production,
  - b. Zone RU2 Rural Landscape, (baa) Zone RU3 Forestry,
  - c. Zone RU4 Primary Production Small Lots,
  - d. Zone RU6 Transition.
3. Land in a zone to which this clause applies may, with development consent, be subdivided for the purpose of primary production to create a lot of a size that is less than the minimum size shown on the Lot Size Map in relation to that land.
4. However, such a lot cannot be created if an existing dwelling would, as the result of the subdivision, be situated on the lot.
5. A dwelling cannot be erected on such a lot.

Note — A dwelling includes a rural worker's dwelling (see definition of that term in the Dictionary).

The development is not capable of compliance with clause 4.2 as the development is not seeking to subdivide the land solely for the purposes of agriculture.

#### **4.2A Exceptions to minimum lot sizes for certain rural subdivision**

1. The objective of this clause is to enable the subdivision of land in rural areas to create lots of an appropriate size to meet the needs of permissible uses other than for the purpose of dwelling houses or dual occupancies.
2. This clause applies to land in Zone RU1 Primary Production.
3. Land to which this clause applies may, with development consent, be subdivided to create a lot of a size that is less than the minimum size shown on the Lot Size Map in relation to that land, if the consent authority is satisfied that the use of the land after the subdivision will be the same use (other than a dwelling house or a dual occupancy) permitted under the existing development consent for the land.
4. Development consent must not be granted for the subdivision of land to which this clause applies unless the consent authority is satisfied that—
  - a. the subdivision will not adversely affect the use of the surrounding land for agriculture, and
  - b. the subdivision is necessary for the ongoing operation of the permissible use, and
  - c. the subdivision will not increase rural land use conflict in the locality, and
  - d. the subdivision is appropriate having regard to the natural and physical constraints affecting the land.

This clause is not applicable to the proposal.

**Clause 4.2C Boundary adjustments in certain Rural Zones**

The proponent seeks to rely on the utilisation of Clause 4.2C to create two undersized lots with dwelling entitlements.

**4.2C Boundary adjustments of land in certain zones**

1. The objective of this clause is to facilitate boundary adjustments between lots if the adjustment will result in the lot size of one or more of the lots being less than the minimum lot size shown on the Lot Size Map in relation to that land and the objectives of the relevant zone can be achieved.
2. This clause applies to land in the following zones—
  - a. Zone RU1 Primary Production,
  - b. Zone RU3 Forestry,
  - c. Zone RU4 Primary Production Small Lots,
  - d. Zone R5 Large Lot Residential.
3. Despite clause 4.1, development consent may be granted to subdivide land by adjusting the boundary between adjoining lots if one or more resultant lots do not meet the minimum lot size shown on the Lot Size Map in relation to that land, and the consent authority is satisfied that –
  - a. the subdivision will not create additional lots or the opportunity for additional dwellings, and
  - b. the number of dwellings or opportunities for dwellings on each lot after the subdivision will be the same as before the subdivision, and
  - c. the potential for land use conflict will not be increased as a result of the subdivision.

The proposed development does not fall within the meaning of a “boundary adjustment” under clause 4.2C of the LEP.

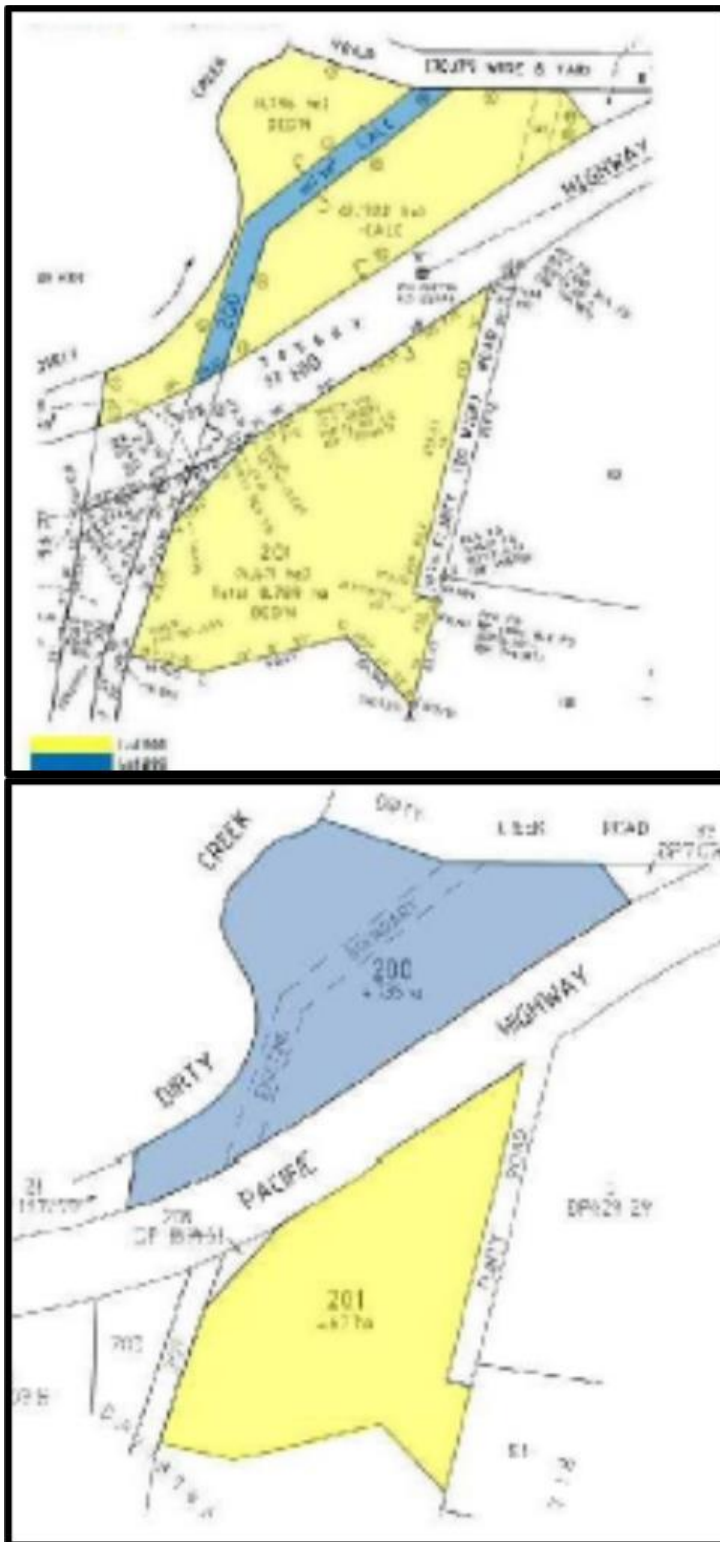
The proposed subdivision would result in the wholesale reconfiguration of Lot 335 DP 750991 and Lot 2 DP 851064 into two entirely new lots, being Lot 170 and Lot 171.

These proposed lots bear no resemblance to the pre-existing configuration and effectively erase the original boundary and lot layout. The extent of the change is substantial and cannot be characterised as a minor adjustment to an existing boundary line.

There are a number of cases in the New South Wales Land and Environment Court (LEC) that provide case law around what is considered to be a “boundary adjustment”.

In *Johnson v Coffs Harbour City Council [2018]* NSWLEC 1094 (Johnson), the Court considered a proposed development which purported to be a “boundary adjustment”. The subject land of the proceedings is depicted in Figure 4 below, showing both the pre-existing and proposed boundary configurations.





**Figure 4: Images showing existing boundaries & proposed boundaries of site in recent case law as an example** (Source: caselaw)

The Court considered the relevant authorities in relation to what constitutes a boundary adjustment. These are explained in further detail below as follows:

1. In *Ousley Pty Ltd v Warringah Shire Council* [1999] NSWLEC 143 (Ousley), the Court considered the meaning of an adjustment to a boundary in the context of the now repealed State Environmental Planning Policy 4 (SEPP 4) and found that within the context of SEPP 4, an adjustment to a boundary (with emphasis added): ...must be construed as being a re-



arrangement of a boundary so that no significant changes are made to the configuration of any existing allotments...The extent of any changes must pay respect to the existing subdivision design and fit the prescription of an adjustment to a boundary between allotments so that the resulting parcels of land bear some resemblance to the lots which existed before the subdivision...

2. In *McCabe & Others v Blue Mountains City Council [2006]* NSWLEC 176 (McCabe), Justice Jagot found that in the absence of a definition of boundary adjustment within the Blue Mountains Local Environmental Plan 1991 (Blue Mountains LEP) : *I do not accept that the “ordinary and grammatical meaning” of the phrase “...for a boundary adjustment” embraces any and all alterations of a boundary that make land suitable for an applicant’s requirements. I consider that the primary meaning conveyed by the clause, construed in its immediate and more general context, accords with the notion of an alteration of a boundary by correction or regularisation, whether that correction or regularisation is to reflect actual conditions (such as physical features of the land or its zoning) or to achieve some other requirement or objective (for example, to render the use of land feasible or more practical). Hence... questions of fact and degree are involved.*
3. In *Barnes v Dungog Shire Council [2012]* NSWLEC 1021 (Barnes) the Court applied the principles of the above cases, stating that that the difference in wording of SEPP 4 and the Blue Mountains LEP did not negate that the Ousley principle that land should “bear some resemblance to the lots... before the subdivision”. Furthermore, this judgment went on to consider provisions relating to dwelling entitlements and relevantly stated: *Under cl 28(6) subdivision for the purpose of a boundary adjustment must create no additional lots and no additional dwelling entitlements. The parties agree that no additional lots will be created but their submissions are unclear in respect of whether additional dwelling entitlements would be created. The term ‘dwelling entitlement’ is not defined in DLEP. The parties agree that the ‘established holding’ is 271ha. The council submits that having regard to cl 27(5)(d) of DLEP the ‘established holding’ has four dwelling entitlements (based on one dwelling per 60 ha). The applicant appears to agree that the dwelling entitlements ‘based on the provisions of the LEP’ is one dwelling per 60 ha and would be 4.5 dwellings. However, Mr Bennett submits that the wording of cl 28(6) that ‘nothing in this plan’ overrides cl 27(5)(d). It is therefore unclear upon what Mr Bennett bases his estimate of dwelling entitlements. Further, the parties disagree on the number of entitlements that have already been utilised by the ‘existing holding’. Their disagreement centres on the number of approved dwelling on the holding and whether a rural workers dwelling is a dwelling. While it is clear that the creation of Lot 40 is for the purpose of a future dwelling it is unclear from the submissions whether this would create ‘no additional dwelling entitlements’. The proposed development does not satisfy the requirements of clause 28(6) of DLEP because the subdivision is not for the purpose of a ‘boundary adjustment’ and it is unclear whether the subdivision will create no additional dwelling entitlements. The application is therefore not permissible under cl 28(6) of DLEP and it must be refused and the appeal dismissed.*

Following consideration of these authorities, the Court determined that the proposed development could not be properly considered a “boundary adjustment” due to the significant degree of change required and that the proposal was in reality “a consolidation of two lots and subsequent subdivision”.

The development application does not fall within the meaning of a “boundary adjustment” under clause 4.2C of the LEP. The proposed subdivision would result in the wholesale reconfiguration of Lot 335 DP 750991 and Lot 2 DP 851064 into two entirely new lots, being Lot 170 and Lot 171. These proposed lots bear no resemblance to the pre-existing configuration and effectively erase the original boundary and lot layout. The extent of the change is substantial and cannot be characterised as a minor adjustment to an existing boundary line.

This proposal is factually analogous to the situation in Johnson, where the Court rejected a subdivision that purported to be a “boundary adjustment” on the basis that the proposed lots were so different from the original parcels that the result was not a true adjustment, but rather a de facto consolidation and re-subdivision. As in Johnson, the proposed development here introduces significant changes to the size, shape, and configuration of the lots, and does not meet the requirements to be a “boundary adjustment.”

The case law, particularly Ousley, McCabe, and Barnes, emphasises that a boundary adjustment should preserve, to some degree, the identity and physical layout of the original lots. The consistent theme is that the resulting lots must "bear some resemblance" to the pre-existing parcels. That resemblance is entirely absent in the development application currently being considered by Council. Accordingly, the application cannot be assessed under clause 4.2C.

While clause 4.2C(3) includes provisions that no additional lots or dwelling opportunities may be created, those provisions only become relevant once it has been established that the subdivision qualifies as a boundary adjustment. Relevantly, in Barnes, the Court considered whether additional dwelling entitlements would result from a proposed adjustment, reinforcing that the presence of a new dwelling entitlement may be a ground for refusal. However, as the threshold issue in this matter has not been met, Council is not required to consider whether an additional dwelling entitlement would arise.

In such circumstances, the proposed development cannot be characterised as a 'boundary adjustment' and Clause 4.2C cannot be relied upon in considering the permissibility of the proposed development.

For completeness, in respect of Clause 4.2C(3)(a) – (c) of the LEP:

- in respect of (a) the subdivision does not create any additional lots.
- In respect of (b) the application identifies that the number of potential dwelling permissibility's will be the same as previous following any proposed subdivision. Council has been unable to establish an additional dwelling permissibility pathway on any residual lot despite undertaking relevant searches under the former Tumut LEP 1990 and its associated clauses.
- In respect of (c) given the nature of the development it is not expected that land-use conflict would increase as a result of the subdivision.
- **Clause 5.21 Flood Planning**

The applicant considers that Clause 5.21 is not applicable. The proposed development seeks to retain dwelling entitlements and it is noted that the site is adjacent to the Goobarragandra River.

The applicant has not provided any information in the application in relation to flood susceptibility, flood risk or flood behaviour and as a result, Council cannot be satisfied of the matters relating to the provisions contained within Clause 5.21(2)(a-d) and also 5.21(3)(a-d). As the consent authority must be satisfied of these matters prior to granting of consent, the application cannot be supported in its current form.

- **Clause 6.3 Terrestrial Biodiversity**

A portion of the site is identified on the Terrestrial Biodiversity Map. The proposed development is for a boundary realignment with no physical works proposed. The development does not generate any adverse environmental impacts.

- **Clause 6.4 Groundwater Vulnerability**

The site has been identified as an area of groundwater vulnerability. Any future development application for a dwelling house would require a section 68 application under the *Local Government Act 1993* for wastewater management. Any such application would be supported by a wastewater report prepared by a qualified and professional geotechnical engineer. No information has been provided in the current application with respect to the proposed location of any future dwelling house by identification of a building envelope. In the absence of the location of proposed building envelope and without a geotechnical analysis being submitted to identify that the land is capable of supporting an onsite sewer management system, groundwater vulnerability is unable to be assessed in accordance with the provisions of clause 6.4.

- **Clause 6.5 Riparian Lands and Watercourses**

Lots 2 and 335 both sit along the Goobarragandra River which is identified on the Riparian Lands and Watercourse Map. Since the application has not proposed any changes in use or physical works, Council is satisfied that the proposal will not create substantial impact on the subject watercourse.

- **Clause 6.8 Landslide Risk**

The land is not identified as being impacted by landslide risk.

- **Clause 6.11 Essential Services**

The development is capable of being able to access electricity following enquiries with Essential Energy. Provision of electrical infrastructure is also located within close proximity to the development and telecommunications are available for connection within proximity of the land.

Static water supplies will be required for the purposes of providing water to the development as reticulated water is not available due to the location of the proposal. No investigations have been made to ascertain whether onsite sewer management is capable of being undertaken on the subject land via a land capability assessment undertaken by a qualified and professional geotechnical engineer.

### **Development Control Plans**

Pursuant to section 4.15 (1)(a)(iii) – any development control plans applying to the land.

The application has been assessed in accordance with provisions of the Snowy Valleys Council Development Control Plan 2024 that applies to the land. The controls relating to Subdivisions in the RU1 Primary Production and requirements relating to all development are considered to be the most relevant and will be utilised for the assessment of the application.

Clause	Prescriptive Control / Performance Standard	Commentary	Compliance
<b>Chapter 3 Requirements applying to all types of development</b>			
3.2.1	Vehicle access standards.	The proposal seeks to utilise existing access arrangements to the development. Any approval of the application will require a section 138 application to be lodged to upgrade the accesses.	Complies
3.2.2	Bushfire	The application was referred to the NSW RFS who have issued GTAs.	Complies
3.2.3	Carparking	The two lots are of sufficient size to accommodate future car parking, subject to future applications.	Complies

Clause	Prescriptive Control / Performance Standard	Commentary	Compliance
<b>Chapter 9.0 Subdivisions</b>			
	Subdivision Objectives	These controls relate more broadly to all types of subdivisions.  The proposed lots incorrectly utilise the provisions of clause 4.2C of the LEP and therefore the development is not (in part) considered to be in accordance with the overall broader objectives of the controls.	Compliant–in part
<b>Chapter 9.8 Rural Subdivisions</b>			
9.8.1	General Considerations	The proposed boundary realignment could be considered consistent with the general considerations.	Complies in part

Clause	Prescriptive Control / Performance Standard	Commentary	Compliance
9.8.2	Adjoining development	The proposed development is not expected to result in land use conflicts with adjoining or nearby developments.	Complies
9.8.3	Fencing	Additional fencing would be required should the application be approved.	Complies
9.8.4	Lot size, Shape and Orientation	<p>The proposed lots within the application identify areas which are below the minimum allotment size on the minimum lot size map. The application seeks to incorrectly utilise the provisions under clause 4.2C of the <i>Tumut Local Environmental Plan 2012</i>.</p> <p>The proposed orientation and shape of the allotments complies with the controls identified with the relevant controls of the clause.</p>	Complies in part
9.8.5	Natural Hazards and Risks	<p>The proposed development seeks to retain dwelling entitlements, and it is noted that the site is adjacent to the Goobarragandra River.</p> <p>The applicant has not provided any information in the application in relation to flood susceptibility, flood risk or flood behaviour.</p>	Non-compliant
9.8.6	Onsite sewer wastewater management	<p>The proposed development seeks to retain two dwelling entitlements over each lot.</p> <p>No geotechnical information has been submitted with the application to identify whether the land is capable of disposal of onsite sewer wastewater.</p>	Non-compliant
9.8.7	Roads and Access	The application identifies that the existing access arrangements will be retained. Should the application be supported, an application under Section 138 of the <i>Roads Act 1993</i> will be required to upgrade the accesses.	Complies
9.8.8	Rural Addressing	An application for Rural Addressing will be made should the application be supported. Rural addressing is capable of being supplied in accordance with Council Policy and the Australian Standard.	Complies
9.8.9	Services	The provision of services such as electricity and telephone is available within the area for connection. No water or sewer reticulation is available	

Clause	Prescriptive Control / Performance Standard	Commentary	Compliance
		and therefore will require on-site static supplies and on-site disposal (subject to Geotech investigations and approvals)	
9.8.10	Water Supply	Reticulated water is not available to the site and accordingly any water requirements will be required to be met via on-site static water supply (i.e. tanks).	Complies

It is considered that the main departures from the Development Control Plan (DCP) relate primarily to natural hazards and risk, on-site sewer management and the overall objectives relating to the incorrect use of Clause 4.2C of the Tumut Local Environmental Plan 2012. No additional information has been requested at this time, due to the significant departures from the statutory controls and accordingly that the application cannot be supported in its current form.

### Planning Agreements

Pursuant to section 4.15(1)(a)(iia) - any planning agreement that has been entered into under section 7.4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

Council records indicate that no planning agreements have been entered into in relation to this development.

### Contribution Plans

Section 7.11 Contributions plans have been repealed as at 29 May 2025. Accordingly, any future development of the land would be subject to the section 7.12 Development Contributions Plan 2025.

### Regulations

Pursuant to section 4.15(1)(a)(iv) any regulation that applies to the development for the purposes of this paragraph.

Section 4.15(1)(a)(iv) of the EP&A Act requires the consent authority to consider any prescribed matters under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021 (EP&A Regulation). Council has assessed the development in accordance with all relevant matters prescribed by the EP&A Regulation.

### Coastal Management Plans

Pursuant to section 4.15(1)(a)(v) any coastal management plan (within the meaning of the Coastal Protection Act 1979) that applies to the land to which the development relates.

There are no coastal management plans that apply to the subject land.

### Impacts of the Development

Section 4.15(1)(b) of the EP&A Act requires Council to consider “the likely impacts of that development, including environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments, and social and economic impacts in the locality”.

- Natural Environment - Context and Setting

The proposed development is not expected to have significant negative impacts on the locality context and setting with particular regard to the existing and desired scenic qualities and features, the character and amenity of the locality and the character and density of the development in the locality. The development as proposed is not considered to be out of context of the rural setting.

The development as proposed is not expected to have any unmanageable impacts on the natural environment with the exception of flooding and groundwater vulnerability in the case where a geotechnical

analysis has not been provided to identify whether the land is capable of on-site waste management. Such report is required to enable Council to appropriately assess the suitability of the land for disposal of on-site sewerage management waste.

No land clearing is proposed as part of this development and accordingly, it is not expected that the subdivision will have any unmanageable impacts on natural vegetation on either of the proposed lots.

- *Built Form*

It is not expected that the development as proposed will have any impact on the built environment. The site is not identified as an item of heritage in accordance with Schedule 5 of the Tumut Local Environmental Plan 2012 nor is the site listed on the State Heritage Register. No heritage significance has been identified on the subject site as part of the assessment of this application.

- *Social*

It is not expected that the development as proposed will have any expected social impacts.

- *Economic*

It is not expected that the development as proposed will have any expected broader economic impacts.

### **Suitability of the site for the development**

*Pursuant to section 4.15(1)(c) the suitability of the site for the development*

The proposed development is not considered to be incompatible with the localities existing or desired character and amenity.

The application has not nominated any proposed building envelope of any potential dwelling entitlement beyond stating that a dwelling would likely be constructed on Lot 170 or 171 in the future.

The suitability of the site for on-site sewerage disposal has been unable to be assessed as a result of insufficient information being provided in support of the application.

The site will retain its existing access arrangements, however, if supported, an application will be required under section 138 of the *Roads Act 1993* to upgrade the accesses

### **Submissions made in accordance with the Act or Regulations**

*Pursuant to section 4.15(1)(d) any submissions made in accordance with the Act or Regs.*

No submissions were received in relation to the proposal (See Community Participation Plan section of this report).

### **Public Interest**

*Pursuant to section 4.15 (1)(e) whether the proposal is within the public interest.*

The application seeks to incorrectly rely upon the Clause 4.2C of the Tumut Local Environment Plan 2012 which is considered to not be in the public interest.

### **Consultation**

Pre-lodgement Meetings Internal Consultation

There is no record of any pre-lodgement meetings having been undertaken with Council staff in relation to this proposal.

### **External Referrals**

Referrals	Advice/Response/ Conditions
New South Wales Rural Fire Service (s100B of the <i>Rural Fires Act 1997</i> )	The New South Wales Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) reviewed the information provided and advised that they support the application, subject to compliance with the GTAs dated 4 February 2024)

**Internal Referrals:**

Referrals	Advice/Response/ Conditions
N/A	N/A

**Community Participation Plan – Notification**

The application was notified from 6 November – 20 November 2024, with one (1) submission received. The substance of the submission has been outlined below including Council's response to the submission:

Submission	Comment
Understands that the minimum lot size is 150 hectares and not 59 hectares and 38 hectares as proposed and what dwelling entitlement exists.	The proposed development does not comply with the minimum lot size under the LEP, the applicant is proposing to use Clause 4.2C which is not supported for the reasons contained in the report.
Concern over the applicant's description of surrounding uses.	Noted. This DA assessment has considered surrounding uses, and it is not supported for the reasons contained in the report.
The proposed development will create access conflict with 2 potential new owners.	Noted. The current DA does not propose to alter existing access. Any future change to access would need to be undertaken via a S138 application which would be also considered by Council.

**LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:****Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:****Community Strategic Plan Theme**

Theme 3 - Our Environment

**Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives**

CSP3 Our natural environment is cared for and protected to ensure future generations can experience and enjoy its beauty

**Delivery Program Principal Activities**

3.3 Provide a planning and development framework that enhances local amenity through sustainable growth

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

The financial implications of Council's decision in this matter are directly related to the legal implications. The possibilities are detailed below:

- Should the applicant choose to appeal a determination by way of refusal or pursue a deemed refusal by Council through the NSW Land and Environment Court and lose, the question of cost with regard to Council's Legal representation would be determined by the extent of the reasons for refusal;
- Should the applicant choose to appeal a refusal, or deemed refusal by Council through the NSW Land and Environment court and win the question of costs be dependent on the extent of the reasons for refusal;

- Should any person choose to pursue proceedings against Council to the Land and Environment Court and lose, the question of costs with regards to Council's legal representation would be calculated at the appropriate time by either costs incurred or by costs assessment in favour of Council.
- Should any person choose to take out proceedings against Council to the Land and Environment Court and win the costs would be calculated at the appropriate time by either costs incurred or by costs assessment against Council.
- Should the applicant make no appeal, or proceedings not to be taken out by another party to the NSW Land and Environment Court regardless of determination, the application would result in no further financial implication on the Council.

### **POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

The assessment of the proposal has been carried out in accordance with the relevant provisions of section 4.15 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

N/A

### **OPTIONS:**

#### **OPTIONS:**

Council has the following options with respect to Development Application 2024/0141:

1. Determine Development Application 2024/0141 for a boundary adjustment of two (2) lots located at Lot 355 DP 750991 and Lot 2 DP 851064, by way of **refusal** for the reasons as outlined in the recommendation section of this report.
2. Determine Development Application 2024/0141 which seeks consent for a boundary adjustment (subdivision) two (2) lots to create proposed lots 170 and 171, by way of **approval** with conditions to be provided by the elected Council, noting that the application of conditions to any proposed consent cannot be delegated to the Acting General Manager.
3. Defer any decision relating to Development Application 2024/0141 pending additional information.

**OPTION 1 is recommended.**

### **COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

Any community engagement / notification requirements have been identified within the body of this report.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Development Application DA2024/0141- Proposed Subdivision Plan – Gray Surveyors (Under separate cover)
2. Development Application DA2024/0141- Statement of Environmental Effects - Gray Surveyors (Under separate cover)



## **11.4. POST EXHIBITION - DRAFT COMPANION ANIMALS AND NON-COMPANION ANIMALS POLICY**

**REPORT AUTHOR: ACTING DIRECTOR COMMUNITY, CORPORATE & DEVELOPMENT**

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: ACTING GENERAL MANAGER**

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Council has responsibilities under the *Companion Animals Act 1998* (the act) to appropriately regulate and control companion animals including cats and dogs throughout the Local Government Area. The Act provides the fundamental statutory basis in which animals should be managed and also prescribes certain requirements on pet owners to identify, register and control animals in public places. Local Laws Policies such as the Draft Companion and Non-Companion Animal Policy (the Draft Policy) seeks to provide additional guidance to both companion animals owners, animals including livestock and poultry and game owners.

In 2023, Council exhibited a draft of the document in accordance with the standing resolution of Council which received a strong response from the community. Given the community feedback received, a review of the draft policy has been undertaken and it is recommended that Council utilise the existing statutory provisions under the *Companion Animals Act 1998* and the *Local Government Act 1993* and associated Regulation 2021 to regulate companion and non-companion animals standards within the Local Government Area.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### **THAT COUNCIL:**

- 1. Not proceed with the draft policy and instead utilise the provisions of Order 18 under Section 124 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Companion Animals Act 1998* and Division 3 Schedule 2 Part 13 of the *Local Government Regulation 2021* in the case where Council is required to regulate animal numbers or standards on a property;**
- 2. Develop an internal operating guideline to assist Regulatory Services Staff in the application of these statutory provisions identified in recommendation 1; and**
- 3. Write to the submitters, thanking them for their input and advising them of the outcome to their submission.**

### **BACKGROUND:**

Council has responsibilities under the *Companion Animals Act 1998* (the Act) to appropriately regulate and control companion animals including cats and dogs throughout the Local Government Area. The Act provides the fundamental statutory basis in which animals should be managed and also prescribes certain requirements to permanently identify, register and control animals in public places. The Act also regulates issues surrounding dangerous and menacing dogs.

Likewise, Council has responsibilities under the *Local Government Act 1993* and the Local Government Regulation 2021 to regulate the keeping of non-companion animals within the Local Government Area. This includes the regulation of amenity, health and sanitary conditions of animals held on premises. The Regulation also enables Council to consider enforcement where animals are kept which can affect amenity within the community.

Council previously developed a draft policy framework due to an increase in the number of reported incidents relating to companion animal complaints. These complaints were overrepresented when it came to the number of dogs that were held on a property increased. Complaints relating to cats were more geographically centralised, however, the majority of complaints received by Council involved cats at

nighttime and in the evenings. Council also has no policy framework for the keeping of livestock and poultry in residential areas.

In March 2023, Council undertook a benchmarking exercise reviewing a number of other rural and regional Local Government Area Policies to determine the best approach to regulating standards and numbers of companion animals in residential areas. Following the review, Council developed a draft policy position that sought to provide guidance to regulatory staff in the application of the relevant statutes and prepared a draft report to Council seeking adoption which was endorsed at the April 2023 Council meeting for public exhibition. Council publicly exhibited the document in May and June 2023 and in response received a strong community response to the draft policy. The response warranted a rethink of how the policy could be amended in line with community sentiment but was later decided that the draft policy should not proceed and instead Council rely upon the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the associated Regulation (2021) and the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.

In February 2024, Council staff delivered a Council workshop on the draft policy and further provided an overview of the submissions received during the exhibition period. In June 2024, alternatives were considered including amending the draft policy position to remove livestock provisions and potential options for a more subjective merit-based regulatory approach on the number of animals kept in residential areas.

In March 2025 Council staff considered altering the draft policy to a draft procedure guideline to support the issue of an Order 18 under the *Local Government Act 1993* and removing the standards relating to livestock control in residential areas. An additional workshop was held with Councillors in May 2025 to appraise new Councillors of the draft policy and provide a forum to discuss issues that had presented through the community engagement process.

## REPORT:

In 2023, Council received 137 submissions following the public exhibition of the draft policy including receipt of a petition against the draft policy containing 1,336 electronic signatures and 53 hand signed signatures through change.org. 72% of the submissions received, or 98 submissions, opposed the draft policy with key themes outlining:

- Concerns relating to over-reach / abuse of power.
- Policy was for city areas and not rural lifestyle.
- Property owners have the right to have animals.
- Concerns relating to the standards for housing of animals including aviary birds.
- Potential issues for increasing euthanasia rates.
- Enforcement issues relating to cat curfews.
- Animals will be required to be taken by Council.
- Restrictions on animals relate to all areas.
- Emotive negative sentiment towards Council and the policy.

A total of 11% of submissions received were in support of the proposed draft policy, or 15 submissions. Key themes presented in those submissions which supported the draft policy included:

- Initiative should be pursued.
- Cats should be restricted.
- Animal numbers should be restricted to prevent nuisance.
- Too many roaming animals in towns and villages.
- Amenity concerns relating to animals, excessive barking and smell.

- Welfare issues of animals requiring regulation.
- Support for policy with suggested policy amendments from professional organisations.

A total of 16% of submissions were neutral in relation to the draft policy being either not in support and not opposing the policy.

Some misunderstanding of the draft policy existed in the early stages of its exhibition including that its application was limited to only when Council received a complaint, and only in cases where such complaints were verified and that all other avenues being explored to resolve the issue were exhausted, Council Regulatory Staff would only then seek to apply the provisions of the policy. Similarly, it wasn't clearly understood by submitters as identified within the key themes that the draft policy only applied to residential zoned land within the urban areas of the Local Government Area and not Rural Zoned areas. Additional information was provided to address these issues during the exhibition period, however, it appeared that concerns relating to the draft policy had gained momentum despite clarifications being provided to commentary made to Council prior to the exhibition period concluding.

Given the overwhelming and sometimes emotive community opposition to the draft policy, this has prompted a rethink in terms of the application of the restrictions on both Companion and Non-Companion Animals. Accordingly, it is recommended that Council not proceed with the draft policy position and that instead Council Regulatory Services Staff rely upon the Order 18 provisions under section 124 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Division 3 Schedule 2 Part 13* of the *Local Government Regulation 2021* standards where complaints are received and have been investigated and those complaints warrant a restriction on the number of animals (and standards) kept at a property.

Seeking to maintain a level of consistency and predictability in the application of these provisions, Council should instead develop an internal guideline or procedure for use by Regulatory Services Staff.

## **LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:**

### **Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:**

#### **Community Strategic Plan Theme**

Theme 5 - Our Civic Leadership

#### **Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives \**

CSP5 Our Civic leadership and organisation government fosters open and transparent partnership with our community

#### **Delivery Program Principal Activities**

5.4 Maintain and deliver a governance framework that guides good decision making, accountability and legislative compliance

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

## **POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

Orders exist under section 124 of the *Local Government Act 1993* that enables Council to control the numbers of animals on a property. Order 18 under section 124 specifically relates to '*not to keep birds or animals on premises other than such kinds or in such numbers or in such manner specified in the order*'. The order is issued in the case where there is an inappropriate kind or number of animals or (Catchment districts) if they have a communicable disease and such orders are issued on the owner of the property.

The *Local Government Regulation 2021* contains provisions under Division 3 Schedule 2 Part 13 which provides standards for the (i) Keeping of Swine, (ii) Keeping of poultry; (iii) Keeping of horses and cattle. It only applies in the case of the issue of an Order 18 on a property and the Order doesn't provide guidance

for the standards for other types of animals or guidance on the numbers of animals, this guidance is usually provided in a local policy.

The development of an internal guideline in the application of an Order 18 would have no statutory basis but would provide guidance to regulatory service staff in the application of the relevant statutory provisions.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

<b>RISK CATEGORY</b>	<b>RISK/REWARD DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COST/RISK</b>	<b>BENEFIT/ REWARD</b>
Legal	Consistent guidelines are established for the management of companion animals and animals throughout the Local Government Area.  Greater community understanding of Council's requirements leads to increased compliance with minimum standards.	Absence of guidelines can lead to inconsistent approaches to the management of companion animals and other animals throughout the Local Government Area.	Provides consistent guidelines for the management of animals within the Local Government Area.
Environmental & Public Health	Minimum standards of both environmental and public health can be achieved including animal welfare standards.	Negative outcomes with respect to welfare standards, public health and sanitary conditions and amenity can be affected in the case where guidelines are not established.	Increased compliance associated with standard of environmental and public health.  Establishment of standards of environmental and public health and amenity.

### **OPTIONS:**

1. Adopt as per recommendations set out in this report.
2. Decline the recommendations set out in this report.

**Option 1 is recommended.**

### **COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

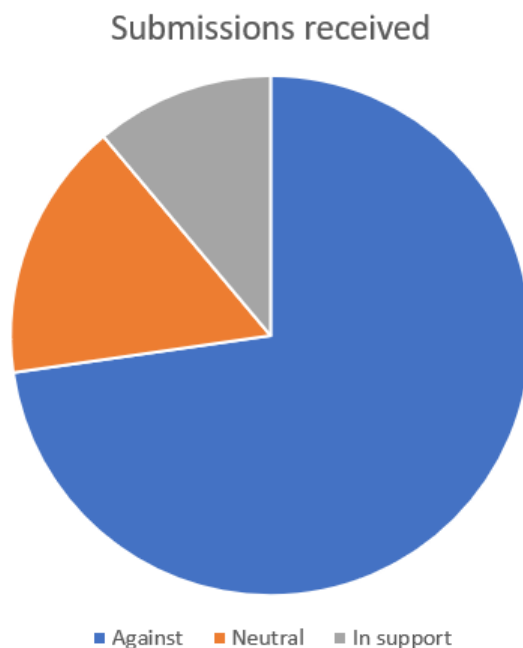
No

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

The draft policy was publicly exhibited for a period of 28 days in April / May 2023 through the following media channels:

- Local Newspapers including Tumut and Adelong Times and the Tumbarumba Times
- "Have your Say" website
- Media Releases
- Council's website
- Social Media including Instagram and Facebook
- ABC Riverina Radio Interview with the Executive Manager Growth and Development.

137 Submissions were received as a result of the community engagement with 1 electronic petition provided with 1,336 electronic signatures and 53 hand signed petitions objecting to the proposal.



Of the 137 submissions received, 72% of the submissions received were opposing the draft policy, 16% of submission received were neutral in relation to the proposed policy and 11% were in support of the proposed policy.

## ATTACHMENTS

Nil

## **11.5. DRAFT ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT POLICY - FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION**

**REPORT AUTHOR: DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS**

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: ACTING GENERAL MANAGER**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this report is to present to Council the draft Asbestos Management Policy for public exhibition and adoption. The Policy sets out the role of Council and other organisations in managing asbestos, Council's relevant regulatory powers, general advice for residents on renovating homes that may contain asbestos, Council's approach to managing asbestos containing materials in Council workplaces and other sources of information relating to asbestos management in the Snowy Valleys Local Government Area.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### **THAT COUNCIL:**

- 1. Endorse the Draft Asbestos Management Policy - SVC-ENG-PO-148-01 for public exhibition for a period of no less than 28 days;**
- 2. Note if submissions are received during the exhibition, a further report will be provided to Council; and**
- 3. Adopt the Asbestos Management Policy - SVC-ENG-PO-148-01 if no submissions are received on the day after the completion of the public exhibition period.**

### **BACKGROUND:**

Snowy Valleys Council acknowledges the serious health hazard that exposure to both manufactured and naturally occurring asbestos (NOA) poses when it is handled, demolished or moved. Council has an important dual role in minimising exposure to asbestos, as far as is reasonably practicable, for both residents and the public within the Local Government Area (LGA), and workers (employees and other persons) in council workplaces.

In Australia, asbestos was gradually phased out of building materials in the 1980's and the supply and installation of asbestos containing goods has been prohibited since December 2003. Where material containing asbestos is in a non-friable (bonded) form (that is, cannot be crushed by hand into a powder), undisturbed and painted or otherwise sealed, it may remain safely in place. However, in asbestos containing material that are broken, damaged, disturbed or mishandled, fibres can become loose and airborne posing a risk to health. Breathing dust containing asbestos fibres can cause asbestosis, lung cancer and mesothelioma. It is often difficult to identify the presence of asbestos by sight. Where a material cannot be identified or is suspected to be asbestos, it is best to assume that the material is asbestos and take appropriate precautions.

#### **Internal Consultation**

This policy in draft form was presented formally to Council's Executive Leadership Team on Tuesday, 25 March 2025 and then distributed to all SVC staff for review and comment. The internal exhibition was conducted from 15 April - 29 April 2025. Feedback received during the internal consultation period has been incorporated into the Policy.

**Note:** The Director Infrastructure & Works has provided the United Services Union (USU) a copy of the draft Policy for feedback - to date no feedback has been received.

#### **External Consultation**

As per this report, the Draft Asbestos Management Policy SVC-ENG-PO-148-01 is being recommended to be advertised for a minimum of 28 days seeking community comment.

Any responses or submissions received will be considered in a future report to Council.

## REPORT:

Council has an important dual role in minimising exposure to asbestos, as far as is reasonably practicable, for both:

- residents and the public within the Local Government Area (LGA)
- workers (employees and other persons) in council workplaces.

Council's legislative functions for minimising the risks from asbestos apply in various scenarios including:

- as a responsible employer
- contaminated land management
- council land, building and asset management
- emergency response
- land use planning (including development approvals and demolition)
- management of naturally occurring asbestos
- regulation of activities (non-work sites)
- waste management and regulation.

This Policy applies to friable, non-friable (bonded) and naturally occurring asbestos (where applicable) within the Snowy Valleys Council LGA. The Policy outlines Council's commitment and responsibilities in relation to safely managing asbestos and contains general advice. For specific advice, individuals are encouraged to contact Council or the appropriate organisation. Detailed information on Council's procedures and plans may be found in other documents, which are referenced in under section 18.1 of the Policy.

### Staff Allowances

The Policy also includes provisions for Council staff to receive an allowance (time and a half pay) when working on job sites in areas where it has been formally identified that Naturally Occurring Asbestos (NOA) occurs.

Council workers who are working where NOA has been identified, are to wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in accordance with the Naturally Occurring Asbestos (NOA) Management Plan.

Council workers who are working in areas where NOA occurs are entitled to **time and a half pay** due to the requirement to wear specified PPE. Workers must adhere to the Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) & NOA Management Plan.

Naturally occurring asbestos on worksites must be managed in accordance with the NOA Management Plan that has been prepared by the Manager Works.

Overall, other key aspects of this Policy include but are not limited to:

### Part 1 – Scope and Content

- Educating Residents
- Regulatory Responsibilities
- Responsibilities for naturally occurring asbestos
- Managing naturally occurring asbestos
- Management of naturally occurring asbestos by council – Worker and Manager responsibilities

- Removing asbestos, refurbishments and demolitions
- Removing asbestos at domestic premises
- Handling asbestos waste for disposal
- Disposing of asbestos waste at waste facilities
- Illegal dumping of asbestos waste

## **Part 2 – Management of asbestos risks within Council**

- Rights and responsibilities of workers at the council workplace
- Council's general responsibilities
- Education, training and information for workers
- Managing asbestos-related risks in the council workplace
- Sites contaminated with asbestos that are council workplace
- Clearance inspections and certificates
- Council's role in the disposal of asbestos waste
- Responding to illegal dumping
- Advice to tenants and prospective buyers of council owned property
- Variations to this policy

## **Appendices include**

Appendix A – General information and guidance

Appendix B – Further information

Appendix C – Definitions

Appendix D – Acronyms

Appendix E – Relevant contacts

Appendix F – Waste management facilities that accept asbestos wastes

Appendix G – Asbestos-related legislation, policies, standards and references

Appendix H – Agencies roles and responsibilities

Appendix I – Scenarios illustrating which agencies lead a response in NSW

Appendix J – Asbestos containing materials

Appendix K – Asbestos licences

Appendix L – Known areas of naturally occurring asbestos in SVC

## **LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:**

### **Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:**

#### **Community Strategic Plan Theme**

Theme 1 - Our Community

Theme 3 - Our Environment

Theme 4 - Our Infrastructure



**Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives**

CSP1 Our communities are connected and inclusive. Supported by services that nurture health, wellbeing and identity

CSP3 Our natural environment is cared for and protected to ensure future generations can experience and enjoy its beauty

CSP4 Our infrastructure includes Council services that plan, manage, maintain and renew our community infrastructure and transport networks

**Delivery Program Principal Activities**

1.1 Provide services that support our community in all stages of life

1.2 Provide and maintain community spaces that encourage activity and wellbeing

1.4 Plan, manage and support the response and recovery of communities from natural disasters and economic shocks

3.2 Deliver best practice water and wastewater services

3.4 Partner with other agencies to protect our natural spaces and environment

3.5 Deliver best practice waste management

4.4 Plan and deliver a capital works program to responsibly manage and maintain community infrastructure

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

There is no direct cost associated with the adoption of this Policy.

This Policy outlines the parameters under which Council workers who are working in areas where Naturally Occurring Asbestos (NOA) occurs are entitled to additional remunerations due to the requirement to wear specified Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) adhering to the Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) and NOA Management Plan.

Council workers who are working in areas where naturally occurring asbestos occurs are entitled to **time and a half pay** due to the requirement to wear specified PPE. Workers must adhere to the SWMS & NOA Management Plan.

Naturally occurring asbestos on worksites must be managed in accordance with the NOA Management Plan that has been prepared by the Manager Works.

**POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

Council has regulatory responsibilities under the following legislation, policies and standards in situations where Council is the appropriate regulatory authority or planning authority:

- *Code of Practice Demolition Work SafeWork NSW (catalogue no. SW08289)*
- *Contaminated Land Management Act 1997*
- *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*
- *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*
- *Local Government Act 1993*
- *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*
- *Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2022*
- *Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2014*
- *State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008*

- *State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience & Hazards) 2021.*

Additional legislation, policies and standards relating to the safe management of asbestos are listed in Appendix G of the Policy.

The situations in which Council has a regulatory role in the safe management of asbestos are listed in Table 1 of the Policy.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

Council has a duty to exercise due diligence to ensure Council complies with the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* and the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017.

This includes taking reasonable steps to ensure Council uses appropriate resources and processes to eliminate or minimise risks associated with asbestos.

## **OPTIONS:**

1. Adopt as per recommendations set out in this report - preferred option.
2. Amend.
3. Decline the recommendations set out in this report.

## **COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

### **Internal Consultation**

This Draft Policy has been presented formally to Council's Executive Leadership Team on Tuesday, 25 March 2025 and then distributed to all SVC staff for review and comment. The internal exhibition was conducted from 15 April - 29 April 2025. Feedback received during the internal consultation period has been incorporated into the Policy.

**Note:** The Director Infrastructure & Works provided the United Services Union (USU) a copy of the draft Policy for feedback - to date no feedback has been received.

### **External Consultation**

As per this report, the Draft Asbestos Management Policy SVC-ENG-PO-148-01 is being recommended to be advertised for a minimum of 28 days seeking community comment.

Any responses or submissions received will be considered in a future report to Council.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Draft Asbestos Management Policy SVC-ENG-PO-148-01 (Under separate cover)

## 11.6. WILLIGOBUNG FIRE SHED

**REPORT AUTHOR: MANAGER TECHNICAL SERVICES**

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS**

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to advise Council that the Riverina Highlands Rural Fire Service (RFS) has received seed funding for the construction of a second brigade shed at Willigobung. This report is recommending that the Willigobung brigade shed remain in its existing location and that the seed funding received for a second brigade shed be utilised to upgrade the existing shed in its current location.

### RECOMMENDATION:

#### THAT COUNCIL:

1. Advise the Riverina Highlands Rural Fire Service of Council's preference for the existing Willigobung Fire Shed to remain in its current location due to the significant financial implications for Council in building a new brigade shed nearby;
2. Advise the Riverina Highlands Rural Fire Service that the seed funding received for a second brigade shed be used to upgrade the existing facility;
3. Enter into a formal lease arrangement with the landowner for the land that the existing Shed is located on;
4. Approve the Draft Heads of Agreement for the Willigobung Fire Shed located on Batlow Road; and
5. Approve the Fixing of the Council Seal to the lease documents once a formal lease is negotiated and entered into by all parties.

### BACKGROUND:

The existing Willigobung Fire Brigade shed is located between Tumbarumba and Laurel Hill and is serviced by one Category 2 fire tanker. The brigade is bordered by the Courabyra, Tumbarumba and Batlow RFS Brigades. The area where the brigade shed is located was almost completely burnt during the Black Summer fires of 2019/2020.



Figure 1. Map of existing Willigobung RFS Shed on Batlow Road



Members of the Willigobung Brigade have raised concerns with the RFS over the access and egress to the brigade shed on Batlow Road due to the existing speed limit of the roadway (100Km) and driver behaviour.

Council and the RFS have worked with Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) to lower the risks identified in a Road Safety Audit undertaken in July 2023 by Rigore Engineering Services (Rigore). Refer to Attachment 1 of this report. (RES 2305.42.117 - Initial).

The risks identified on page 11-14 of the Road Safety Audit Report have been addressed through additional signage warning motorists of the proximity of the fire brigade shed and emergency vehicles coming onto Batlow Road, clearing of vegetation to improve sight lines and line marking.

These works were undertaken in 2024, and photos of the completed works are attached below and can also be found on pages 18-24 of the Road Safety Audit Final Report, Attachment 2. (RES 2405.42.168 - Existing)



Photo 1: Signage and cleared vegetation at exit



Photo 2: Signage adjustment and line marking at intersection





Photo 3: Signage on northbound approach



Photo 4: Willigobung Fire Shed and Amenities

The cost to Council to implement the road safety works at the existing shed location were \$5,000.

The existing Willigobung Brigade Shed located on Batlow Road was constructed in 2002/2003. It is a single bay shed that WorkSafe NSW have inspected, resulting in minor alterations and issues being addressed by the RFS in relation to the shed itself. The building has a useful life of 50 years.

The existing shed is located on private land and for which there is currently no existing lease or licence agreement between Council and the Private Property owner and the RFS. This report is recommending that this issue be addressed through a formal lease being drawn up and agreed to by all parties (RFS-Council and the private Property owner). A draft Heads of Agreement has been prepared and is attached to this Report.

## REPORT:

RFS have received seed funding to a value of \$50,000 in the 2024/2025 financial year for the establishment of a new Willigobung Rural Fire Service Brigade Shed at the corner of Willigobung Road and Willigobung South Spur Road. The design and construction cost of the proposed new building on this alternative site has not been fully costed but would be in the order of \$400,000 - \$500,000 based on recent builds of similar sheds in the area.

As outlined in this report, current RFS brigade members at Willigobung have approached the RFS and stated that they believe the existing shed on Batlow Road is unsafe from an operational point of view due to the shed's proximity to the road, speed limit on Batlow Road and driver behaviour.

The proposed site for the new brigade shed is at the corner of Willigobung Road and Willigobung South Spur Road. Refer to Figure 2 below:



Figure 2. Map of proposed Willigobung RFS Shed at the corner of Willigobung Road and Willigobung South Spur Road

A Road Safety Audit has been undertaken by Rigore Engineering (Specialist Traffic Engineering Consultants) in August 2024 of the alternative site at the corner of Willigobung Road and Willigobung South Spur Road, Attachment 3 (RES2405:42.168 - alternate). This road safety audit identified the following safety issues (pages 16-17):

- Intersection site distance is limited to the east from the proposed intersection/access to the site
- Pavement delineation is an issue at this location

**Note:** Pavement delineation, particularly during wet and night conditions, is a significant road safety issue. Faded or missing pavement markings can reduce visibility and increase the risk of accidents. Adequate and consistent pavement delineation helps drivers navigate roadways, particularly at

intersections and in areas with potential hazards, and can also help to guide drivers' paths, especially at night

The cost to address the safety concerns raised in the road safety audit prepared by Rigore in 2024 for the proposed location of the new Fire Brigade Shed at the corner of Willigobung Road and Willigobung South Spur Road are estimated at a minimum **\$40,000** to address the embankment, road width, pavement delineation issues and site distance related issues.

#### **Lease or licence arrangement for the current fire brigade shed on Batlow Road**

The existing shed adjacent to Batlow Road is located on private property and was constructed in agreement with the private property owner, the RFS and Council. Unfortunately, there are no records of any lease or licence agreement for this shed from 2002.

In the absence of any lease or licence agreement the responsibility to remove or demolish the existing shed on Batlow Road and then "make good" the land to its former condition would rest with Council and the RFS. This cost would be in the order of \$50-\$75,000.

The cost to demolish and make good the existing shed site are identified in the Financial Implications section of this report.

**Note:** The current fire brigade shed adjacent to Batlow Road has received recent additions (last 12 months) with a modular toilet and changeroom facility provided by the RFS. These recent additions have improved the overall amenities previously available to brigade members when responding to incidents.

The identified cost implications for Council to address safety concerns through facilitating the construction of a second Fire Brigade Shed located on the corner of Willigobung Road and Willigobung South Spur Road are significant and, therefore, it is recommended in this report that Council not support the construction of a second RFS shed at this location. It is being recommended that the seed money that the RFS has received to scope a second shed to be used to undertake further improvements to the existing shed on Batlow Road.

**Note:** The property owner of the proposed site for a second Fire Brigade Shed located on the corner of Willigobung Road and Willigobung South Spur Road is not opposed to a brigade shed being located on their property.

### **LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:**

#### **Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:**

##### **Community Strategic Plan Theme**

Theme 4 - Our Infrastructure

##### **Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives**

CSP4 Our infrastructure includes Council services that plan, manage, maintain and renew our community infrastructure and transport networks

##### **Delivery Program Principal Activities**

4.2 Manage and plan for affordable infrastructure to meet current and future community needs

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

The cost to Council to engage the specialist Traffic Consultant (Rigore Engineering) to prepare the initial Road Safety Audit undertaken in July 2023 for the existing shed on Batlow Road was **\$5,000**.

The cost to Council to implement the road safety works at the existing shed location as per the recommendations of the Traffic Consultants Report was **\$5,000**.

The Rural Fire Service has received seed funding of **\$50,000** for the scoping of a new brigade shed at the corner of Willigobung Road and Willigobung South Spur Road. It is being recommended in this report that this funding be used to upgrade the existing shed on Batlow Road.

The estimated design and construction cost of the proposed new building on the alternative site at the corner of Willigobung Road and Willigobung South Spur Road (has not been fully costed) would be in the order of **\$400,000 - \$500,000** based on recent builds of similar sheds in the area.

The cost to Council to engage the specialist Traffic Consultant (Rigore Engineering) to prepare the second Road Safety Audit undertaken in August 2024 for the proposed new shed at the corner of Willigobung Road and Willigobung South Spur Road was **\$5,000**.

The cost to address the safety concerns raised in the second Road Safety Audit prepared by Rigore in 2024 for the proposed location of the new Fire Brigade Shed at the corner of Willigobung Road and Willigobung South Spur Road are estimated at a minimum to be **\$40,000** to address the embankment, road width, pavement delineation issues and site distance related issues.

In the absence of a lease or licence agreement the responsibility to remove or demolish the existing shed on Batlow Road and then "make good" the land to its former condition would rest with Council and the RFS. This cost would be in the order of **\$50-\$75,000** and would likely have to be shared between Council and the RFS. This cost would be subject to a future negotiation and agreement between Council and the RFS, the outcome of which is currently unknown.

The cost to survey the land and establish new lease and or licence agreement for the proposed location of the new Fire Brigade shed on the corner of Willigobung Road and Willigobung South Spur Road is in the order of **\$15,000**.

The cost to establish a lease for the shed on the existing site at Batlow Road is in the order of **\$5,000**.

## POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:

Under Section 120 of the *Rural Fires Act 1997*,

(1) Any of the following purposes are purposes to which the consolidated fund of a council may be applied under section 409 of the *Local Government Act 1993* -

- (a) the purchase, distribution, maintenance and storage of fire fighting apparatus for the prevention, mitigation and suppression of bush and other fires,
- (b) the organising of rural fire brigades and such matters as are relevant to doing so, including the establishment of fire stations and fire control centres,
- (c) the establishment and maintenance of fire breaks,
- (d) the removal or destruction of combustible matter,
- (e) the taking of measure generally for the prevention, mitigation or suppression of bush fires.

## RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:

Risk Category	Risk / Reward Description	Cost/Risk	Benefit / Reward
Financial	There is significant financial cost and risk for Council to support and enable a new Fire Brigade Shed to be constructed at the corner of Willigobung Road and Willigobung South Spur Road. The cost and financial risk to Council must also consider the disposal and "make good" costs of the existing shed in its current location on Batlow Road.	High Risk	For Council - None For RFS it has two sheds in close proximity to each other
People	The Brigade has members who actively respond to incidents in the area	Medium Risk	The RFS would potentially have two



Risk Category	Risk / Reward Description	Cost/Risk	Benefit / Reward
			brigade sheds in close proximity to each other
Stakeholder	RFS loses funding for the redevelopment of a new Brigade shed in the area.	Low Risk	The seed funding of \$50,000 is already approved and would require a variation to have that money directed to the refurbishment of the old shed on Batlow Road.

**OPTIONS:**

1. Adopt as per recommendations set out in this report - preferred option.
2. Amend the recommendations set out in this report.
3. Decline the recommendations set out in this report

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

Yes.

The Council Seal will be required to be affixed to the lease between Snowy Valleys Council and the landowner once the lease has been finalised.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

No Community Consultation is required.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. RES2305.42.117 Willigobung Brigade Station Access - Recommendations FINAL Original with design (Under Separate Cover)
2. RES2405.42.168 Existing Willigobung Brigade Station - Audit Safety Audit FINAL (Under Separate Cover)
3. RES2405.42.168 Alternate Willigobung Brigade Station - Road Safety Audit FINAL (Under Separate Cover)
4. Draft Heads of Agreement for the Willigobung Shed on Batlow Road (Under Separate Cover)

## 12. MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### 12.1. MINUTES - AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE - 29 MAY 2025

**REPORT AUTHOR: MANAGER GOVERNANCE**

**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: ACTING DIRECTOR COMMUNITY, CORPORATE & DEVELOPMENT**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee (ARIC) was established by Council in August 2016 and is pursuant to Section 428A of the *Local Government Act 1993*. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 29 May 2025 are attached for Council's information.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

##### **THAT COUNCIL:**

1. **Note the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee held on 29 May 2025.**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The objective of the ARIC is to provide independent assurance and advice to Council on risk management, control, governance, and external accountability responsibilities. At the ARIC meeting held on 29 May 2025, key agenda items were discussed, and details are included in the attached minutes.

#### **REPORT:**

All information including notes and actions has been captured in the ARIC minutes which are attached to this report.

#### **LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:**

##### **Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:**

##### **Community Strategic Plan Theme**

Theme 5 - Our Civic Leadership

##### **Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives**

CSP5 Our Civic leadership and organisation government fosters open and transparent partnership with our community.

##### **Delivery Program Principal Activities**

5.4 Maintain and deliver a governance framework that guides good decision making, accountability and legislative compliance.

#### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

The approved budget for the operation of the ARIC for 2024/2025 is \$47,000 and includes member remuneration, training and the engagement of the internal auditor.

#### **POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

Council has established an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee which functions under the Internal Audit Guidelines, September 2010 issued under Section 23A the *Local Government Act 1993*.

**RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

ARIC is charged with the responsibility of:

- Reviewing Council's Enterprise Risk Management Framework and associated procedures for effective identification and management of Council's business and financial risks.
- Making a determination as to whether a sound and effective approach has been followed in managing Council's major risks including those associated with individual projects, program implementation and activities.
- Assessing the impact of the Council's Enterprise Risk Management Framework on its control environment and insurance arrangements.

**OPTIONS:**

Nil

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

Nil

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Minutes - Audit Risk and Improvement Committee - 29 May 2025 (Under separate cover).

**12.2. MINUTES - LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE - 14 MAY 2025****REPORT AUTHOR: ROAD SAFETY OFFICER****RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Local Traffic Committee is a statutory Committee with representatives from NSW Police, Transport for NSW (TfNSW), Local Members of Parliament, Councillors and Council staff.

The purpose of the Committee is to update Council on matters related to prescribed traffic control devices and traffic control facilities for which Council has delegated authority.

**RECOMMENDATION:****THAT COUNCIL:**

1. **Note the Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held on the 14 May 2025.**
2. **Adopt the following recommendations from the Minutes:**

**ITEM 8.1 REQUEST - ADDITIONAL PARKING SPOT - PIE IN THE SKY BAKERY**

**That the committee recommend to Council:**

1. **That additional parking space be timed for 2 hours (Loading Bay) period based on the scheduled delivery times in Wynyard Street, Tumut.**

**ITEM 8.2 REQUEST - ADDITIONAL PARKING SPOTS - TUMUT COMMUNITY PRE-SCHOOL**

**That the committee recommend to Council:**

1. **That the Local Traffic Committee approves the additional two parking spaces in Howick Street Tumut**

**ITEM 8.3 EXCESSIVE SPEEDING - CAMP STREET ADELONG**

**That the committee recommend to Council:**

1. **That "STOP" signs be installed as an immediate measure at the southwestern end of Camp Street & subject to concurrence with TfNSW on the other end of Camp Street; and**
2. **That further consultation with the community be undertaken on further traffic calming measures on Camp Street, Adelong.**

**ITEM 8.4 PARKING SIGNAGE REQUEST - 32 ADELONG ROAD TUMUT**

**That the committee recommend to Council:**

1. **The Traffic Committee endorses that a 1-hour parking restriction be put in place during the hours of 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday and that Council consults with the business houses in the area on these proposed changes adjacent to 32 Adelong Road, Tumut**

**ITEM 8.5 PARKING SIGNS REQUEST - FITZROY STREET TUMUT**

**That the committee recommend to Council:**

1. **That 2 hour parking 7 days a week be considered as per the request.**
2. **That Council consult with the business houses and residents within this area on the proposed changes.**

**ITEM 8.6 SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION - HUME AND HOVEL ULTRA MARATHON - 11 OCTOBER 2025**

**That the committee recommend to Council:**

1. Support the application for the Hume and Hovel Ultra Marathon event to be held on 11 October 2025, subject to Councils standard conditions.

**ITEM 8.7 SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION - SOMA MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL - 7 NOVEMBER 2025**

**That the committee recommend to Council:**

1. Support the application for the Soma music and Arts Festival event to be held on 7 November 2025, subject to a Road Occupancy Licence be submitted to TfNSW including flood lighting at the entrance, the speed reduction from 60km/hr to 40km/hr along with traffic control leaving from the property.

**ITEM 8.8 SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION - SNOWY VALLEYS CYCLE CHALLENGE - 9 NOVEMBER 2025**

**That the committee recommend to Council:**

1. Support the Special Event Application for the Snowy Valleys Cycle Challenge to be held on 9 November 2025, subject to Councils' standard conditions
2. That Council seek to request that Humelink be advised of the Event and be encouraged not to work during the time of the Event.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Local Traffic Committee is primarily a technical review Committee with representatives from Transport for NSW, NSW Police, representatives of elected members of Parliament and Council representatives, related to traffic control devices, facilities and Events related to roads and transport within the Local Government area that are not Federal, State nor private roads.

**REPORT:**

The Local Traffic Committee meeting held on the 14 May 2025, key agenda items were discussed and details are included in the attached Minutes.

**LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:****Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:****Community Strategic Plan Theme**

Theme 4 - Our Infrastructure

Theme 5 - Our Civic Leadership

**Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives**

CSP4 Our infrastructure includes Council services that plan, manage, maintain and renew our community infrastructure and transport networks

CSP5 Our Civic leadership and organisation government fosters open and transparent partnership with our community

**Delivery Program Principal Activities**

4.1 Plan and provide sustainable transport infrastructure, including footpaths, walking tracks and cycleways

4.3 Plan and provide a program to maintain the local road network

5.1 Communicate with our community and provide opportunities for participation in decision making

5.4 Maintain and deliver a governance framework that guides good decision making, accountability and legislative compliance

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

External resources are utilised to prepare the reports for the Local Traffic Committee and the provision of Executive Staff of the Committee.

The delivery of traffic safety initiatives proposed by the Local Traffic Committee are subject to the availability of funding. Council has an allocated budget for the commencement of agreed road safety initiatives. The items outlined in this report will be actioned as time and resources are available.

### **POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

The requirements for Council to maintain a Local Traffic Committee are obtained within the *Roads Act 1993* with Terms of Reference being provided by Transport for NSW (A Guide to the Delegates to Council's for the Regulation of Traffic (including the operation of Traffic Committees) RTA 2009.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

Risk Management Assessments are provided with Special Event Applications.

Risk Management is considered as part of the roles to the Local Traffic Committee.

### **OPTIONS:**

Council may choose to:

1. Endorse the recommendations made by the Local Traffic Committee as described in this report and the Minutes, as attached.
2. Endorse some of the recommendations made by the Local Traffic Committee as described in this report and the Minutes, as attached.
3. No endorse the recommendations made by the Local Traffic Committee as described in this report.
4. Reject or defer the report.

### **COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Minutes - Local Traffic Committee Meeting held 14 May 2025 (Under separate cover)

**12.3. MINUTES - TUMUT AERODROME COMMITTEE - 13 MAY 2025****REPORT AUTHOR: DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS****RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: ACTING GENERAL MANAGER**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Tumut Aerodrome Committee is an advisory committee of Snowy Valleys Council. The purpose of the Committee is to advise Council in strategic matters concerning the Tumut Aerodrome.

**RECOMMENDATION:****THAT COUNCIL:**

- 1. Note the Minutes of the Tumut Aerodrome Committee held on 13 May 2025**

**BACKGROUND:**

At its meeting on 13 May 2025, the Tumut Aerodrome Committee considered the following matters:

- The purpose of the Pecuniary / Non-Pecuniary Interests Forms
- The Minutes of the Tumut Aerodrome Committee meeting held on 11 February 2025
- Construction Works - update
- Land Acquisitions - update
- Communications – CASA and Notams
- New RFS Fire Control Centre - Tumut Aerodrome
- Softwoods Working Group - Plantations Fire Protection Fund
- Extraordinary meeting of the Tumut Aerodrome committee
- Resolution of Council from 11 February Meeting
- Financial Sustainability Workshop
- Request for Radio Frequency to be changed at Tumut Aerodrome
- Re-nomination of Committee Members
- General Business Questions from Committee Members
  - Runway Pavement Strength
  - Unused Lighting Stanchions
  - New windsocks
  - Official Re-Opening
  - Hangar Lease Fees and Airpark (Aerodrome Access Fees) Lease fees

**REPORT:**

At the Tumut Aerodrome Committee meeting held on 13 May 2025, key agenda items were discussed, and details are included in the attached minutes.

**LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:****Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:****Delivery Program and Operation Plan Strategic Directions**

Theme 4 - Our Infrastructure

**Community Strategic Plan Objectives**

CSP4 Our infrastructure includes Council services that plan, manage, maintain and renew our community infrastructure and transport networks

**Delivery Program Principal Activities**

4.2 Manage and plan for affordable infrastructure to meet current and future community needs

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

None identified.

**POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

None identified.

**RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

None identified.

**OPTIONS:**

1. Adopt as per recommendations set out in this report.
2. Amend the recommendations set out in this report prior to adoption.
3. Decline the recommendations set out in this report

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

The Tumut Aerodrome Committee is a form of community engagement.

Multiple other community engagements have taken place for the various projects discussed in the committee meeting.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Minutes - Tumut Aerodrome Committee - 13 May 2025 (Under separate cover)



**12.4. MINUTES - EXTRAORDINARY TUMUT AERODROME COMMITTEE - 27 MAY 2025****REPORT AUTHOR: DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS****RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: ACTING GENERAL MANAGER**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Tumut Aerodrome Committee is an advisory committee of Snowy Valleys Council. The purpose of the Committee is to advise Council in strategic matters concerning the Tumut Aerodrome.

**RECOMMENDATION:****THAT COUNCIL:**

1. **Note the Minutes of the Extraordinary Tumut Aerodrome Committee Meeting held on 27 May 2025; and**
2. **Adopt the following recommendations from the Minutes:**
  - a. **The RFS Deputy Commissioner confirm why a new hangar facility at Tumut Aerodrome is required; and**
  - b. **The RFS Deputy Commissioner confirm the status of the proposed Fire Control Centre at Tumut Aerodrome and the existing Heads of Agreement that Council and the RFS have signed but Forestry Corp NSW have not signed.**

**BACKGROUND:**

At its extraordinary meeting on 27 May 2025, the Tumut Aerodrome Committee considered the following matters:

- Proposed construction of a new hangar facility at the Tumut Aerodrome

**REPORT:**

At the Extraordinary Tumut Aerodrome Committee meeting held on 27 May 2025, key agenda items were discussed, and details are included in the attached minutes.

**LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:****Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework:****Delivery Program and Operation Plan Strategic Directions**

Theme 4 - Our Infrastructure

**Community Strategic Plan Strategic Objectives**

CSP4 Our infrastructure includes Council services that plan, manage, maintain and renew our community infrastructure and transport networks

**Delivery Program Principal Activities**

4.2 Manage and plan for affordable infrastructure to meet current and future community needs

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS:**

None identified.

**POLICY, LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS:**

None identified.

**RISK MANAGEMENT / COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS:**

None identified.

**OPTIONS:**

1. Adopt as per recommendations set out in this report.
2. Amend the recommendations set out in this report prior to adoption.
3. Decline the recommendations set out in this report

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

The Tumut Aerodrome Committee is a form of community engagement.

Multiple other community engagements have taken place for the various projects discussed in the committee meeting.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Minutes - Extraordinary Tumut Aerodrome Committee Meeting - 27 May 2025 (Under separate cover)
2. RFS - Forestry - Joint Development - Fire Control Centre - Tumut Aerodrome - SVC Signed Heads of Agreement 2 May 2024 (Under separate cover)
3. Helicopter Hangar - Floor Plan (Under separate cover)
4. Helicopter Hangar - Site Diagram (Under separate cover)
5. Enquiry and Response - Tumut Aerodrome Hangar - Mayor & Deputy Commissioner Strategic Cap NSW RFS - Redacted (Under separate cover)

### **13. CONFIDENTIAL**

Nil

### **14. MEETING CLOSURE**