



LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL

A CENTRE OF REGIONAL EXCELLENCE

AGENDA

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

TO BE HELD AT

THE ADMINISTRATION CENTRE, LITHGOW

ON

28 MARCH 2011

AT 7.00pm

AGENDA

APOLOGIES

PRESENT

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 7TH MARCH 2011

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

PUBLIC FORUM

PRESENTATIONS - NIL

MAYORAL MINUTES - Constitutional Recognition of Local Government - A Role for Councils

NOTICES OF MOTION - **Councillor M F Ticehurst** - Malicious Damager to Lithgow Croquet Club
Councillor M F Ticehurst - Council Media Release - Business Assistance Program for CBD
Councillor M F Ticehurst - Lithgow City Council Art Works Collection
Councillor M F Ticehurst - New Walkway / Cycle Path on Farmers Creek in Coalbrook Street, Lithgow
Councillor M F Ticehurst - Lithgow City Council Financial Expenditure under an Emissions Trading Scheme
Councillor M F Ticehurst - Town Clock Main Street Lithgow

NOTICE OF RESCISSIONS - NIL

CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

General Managers Reports
Regional Services Reports
Community and Corporate Services Reports
Internal Services Reports

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Crime Prevention Committee Meeting
Ageing and Strategy Committee Meeting
Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting
Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting

REPORTS FROM DELEGATES - Centroc Meeting

BUSINESS OF GREAT URGENCY

As identified by Clause 241 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

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MAYORAL MINUTES

ITEM: 1 MAYORAL MINUTE - 28/03/11 - CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT - A ROLE FOR COUNCILS

REFERENCE

NIL

SUMMARY

This report is requesting Council to campaign for a referendum on the constitutional recognition of local government.

COMMENTARY

Lithgow City Council was updated in June 2010 of the progress on the Australian Local Government Associations (ALGA's) campaign for a referendum on the constitutional recognition of local government.

Following the 2010 Federal Election, Prime Minister Gillard committed to holding a dual referendum on the constitutional recognition of local government and the recognition of Indigenous Australians. The referendum will most likely be held in conjunction with the 2013 Federal Election.

The challenge for local government is not threefold: to ensure the referendum is held; to ensure that the type of recognition sought meets the ALGA's requirements and to make sure we have a positive result in the referendum itself.

The form of financial recognition of local government proposed by ALGA which will not impact on the relationship between Councils and State Governments, has been endorsed by the Local Government Association and all other state and territory local government associations. The ALGA believes it is now important that this position also be endorsed by all councils to demonstrate to Federal and State Governments, oppositions and political parties that their position has widespread support within local government.

The ALGA is requesting Lithgow Council to pass a resolution of Council endorsing the position that a referendum be held by 2013 to change the Constitution to allow direct funding of local government bodies by the Commonwealth Government and also to include local government in any new Preamble to the constitution if one is proposed.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

ATTACHMENTS

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Declare its support for financial recognition of local government in the Australian Constitution so that the Federal Government has the power to fund local government directly and
2. For inclusion of local government in any new preamble to the Constitution if one is proposed
3. To support a referendum by 2013 to cane the Constitution to achieve this recognition

NOTICES OF MOTION

ITEM: 2 NOTICE OF MOTION - 28/03/11 - MALICIOUS DAMAGE TO THE LITHGOW CROQUET CLUB

COMMENTARY

The following information has been received from the Lithgow Croquet Club situated on the Glanmire Oval, Lithgow:

“As a result of the break-in and destruction that took place on Monday 7th March 2011 at the Lithgow Croquet Club building, we would like to bring to your attention the need to urgently repair the broken window glass and replacement of torn flyscreens.

The Police have noted that this was not a robbery but a deliberate act of vandalism.

A continuing request has been made after other previous break-ins and the misuse of the premises outside, that we would now like the Council to erect a security fence, similar to the fence that surrounds the adjoining Hockey Complex.

When our members arrive at the premises, they have had to clean up vomit or human excrement etc, broken bottles and needles. We have seen some people using the green as a dog run, which can cause damage to the green and make playing the game of Croquet difficult. As the building is isolated, it has provided those who are of ill intent a private place to carry on.

Our members have the right to attend an enjoyable morning of sport and socialising without feeling apprehensive about what they may encounter. Imagine finding someone deceased after overdosing.

In 2006, the plans that went to Council were also passed by the planning department for the CAPS grant, included the installation and use of electronic shutters able to be manipulated from inside the clubhouse. We ask that you address what has happened to these and the plans for the additional windows (subject to reviewed size)?

We ask you to urgently arrange repairs to the broken windows and flyscreens as the security of the building and the forthcoming colder weather mean this is a priority.

We also ask you to consider the erection of a security fence to enable our members, and also the students we coach each week, to feel safe when they attend their chosen sport. We also ask that the fence include an access gate on the western side, to enable us to use the hydrant connection for our water cannon. When the black carpark fence was erected recently, the access gate to the green was moved to the eastern fence – making it impossible to attach the water cannon hose to the hydrant on the western side.

GIO, our provider of contents insurance company has stated that the windows and flyscreens are the responsibility of the owners of the building i.e. Lithgow City Council. The GIO has arranged clean up of the inside and replacement of damaged contents.”

- Q. Could the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with a report on what interim and future physical and financial assistance the Lithgow City Council can provide to the Lithgow Croquet Club on the Glanmire Oval, Lithgow that will avoid future malicious damage to the Lithgow City Councils public property?

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with a report on what interim and future physical and financial assistance the Lithgow City Council can provide to the Lithgow Croquet Club on the Glanmire Oval, Lithgow that will avoid future malicious damage to the Lithgow City Councils public property.

ITEM: 3 NOTICE OF MOTION - 28/03/11 - COUNCIL MEDIA RELEASE - BUSINESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR CBD - COUNCILLOR M F TICEHURST

COMMENTARY

The Lithgow City Council recently released a Media Release titled 'Business Assistance Program for CBD' which indicated:

"Helping CBD businesses to improve the image of main streets is the target of a new Council program.

"To assist business owners in the CBD areas of Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland, Council has commenced a financial program aimed at helping business properties improve the image of their premises" said Chair of the Lithgow City Council Shopfront Committee, Councillor Grahame Danaher "this is aimed at generally brightening up the outlook of the towns" he said.

Councillor Danaher went on to say that "the program, a key initiative of Council's Economic Shopfront Committee, will assist in the restoration of property facades and it is hoped in turn this will uplift and highlight the image of the local area."

"Many of the impressive buildings, in the towns place our local government area on show and display our heritage value."

The program applies to all commercial properties in Main St Lithgow, from the intersection of Lithgow St to Bridge St, Main St Wallerawang from the Black Bridge to the Railway Station and in Portland, Wolgan St, from Wallerawang Rd to Williewa St. Works likely to be funded as part of the program include reinstatement of traditional windows, awnings or other external decorations as well as renewing original colour schemes.

Councillor Castle, Mayor said "an individual project may also receive support from Councils Heritage Advisor who can provide assistance on colour schemes and the external façade of a building at no cost to the property owner."

"The assistance is on a dollar for dollar basis, up to a maximum of \$1,000 and interested businesses should make application to Council detailing their project".

"Council encourages shop owners to contact Council in relation to the program" concluded Councillor Castle, Mayor.

- Q. Could the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with a report at this Council Meeting on how this Council program is to be funded given that there is no financial expenditure currently allocated in the current Lithgow City Council Management Plan for 2010/2011 for the Councils Business Assistance Program, nor has the Draft Policy for the identically named Main Street Facade Restoration Program been formally determined yet for approval or funding allocated by the Lithgow City Council?

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with a report at this Council Meeting on how this Council program is to be funded given that there is no financial expenditure currently allocated in the current Lithgow City Council Management Plan for 2010/2011 for the Councils Business Assistance Program, nor has the Draft Policy for the identically named Main Street Facade Restoration Program been formally determined yet for approval or funding allocated by the Lithgow City Council.

ITEM: 4 NOTICE OF MOTION - 28/03/11 - LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL ART WORKS COLLECTION - COUNCILLOR M F TICEHURST

COMMENTARY

At the most recent Portland Art Exhibition, the Lithgow City Council once again purchased an artwork from the Exhibition.

Additionally, the Lithgow Mercury reported this purchase and that the purchase would also be added to the Lithgow City Councils growing collection of artworks which are either hanging in Council premises or inaccessible or in storage allowing the artworks to be unseen by ratepayers, residents and visitors.

- Q. Could the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with a report to Council on the current status of the full collection of artworks owned and held by the Lithgow City Council, including their individual and collective value and their current locations?

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with a report to Council on the current status of the collection of artworks owned and held by the Lithgow City Council, including their individual and collective value and their current locations?

ITEM: 5 NOTICE OF MOTION - 28/03/11 - NEW WALKWAY / CYCLE PATH ON FARMERS CREEK IN COALBROOK STREET LITHGOW - COUNCILLOR M F TICEHURST

COMMENTARY

Could the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with a report to this Council Meeting on the current works on the new Walkway/Cycle Path on Farmers Creek in Coalbrook Street Lithgow?

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with a report to this Council Meeting on the current works on the new Walkway/Cycle Path on Farmers Creek in Coalbrook Street Lithgow?

ITEM: 6 NOTICE OF MOTION - 28/03/11 - LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL FINANCIAL EXPENDITURE UNDER AN EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME - COUNCILLOR M F TICEHURST

COMMENTARY

Q. Could the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with a report to Council on what is the current and the expected financial expenditure upon the Lithgow City Council should the Federal Government in future introduce and Emissions Trading Scheme?

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with a report to Council on what is current and expected financial expenditure should the Federal Government in future introduce and Emissions Trading Scheme.

**ITEM: 7 NOTICE OF MOTION - 28/03/11 - TOWN CLOCK MAIN STREET
LITHGOW - COUNCILLOR M F TICEHURST**

COMMENTARY

As Council and Councillors would be aware, the Town Clock in Main Street Lithgow last year underwent major repairs and was replaced by Andrew Markerink Master Clockmakers of Camden for a final price of \$21,620.50.

Council, Councillors and ratepayers and residents would also be aware personally and through the Lithgow Mercury that the western side of the Town Clock failed shortly thereafter and still remains so to date.

- Q. Could the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with an urgent report to Council on the current status of the repairs to the inoperative western side of the Town Clock in Main Street, Lithgow; particularly given that the original repairs only carried a 12 months warranty and the repairs and installation were undertaken on the 9 May 2010?

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with an urgent report to Council on the current status of the repairs to the inoperative western side of the Town Clock in Main Street, Lithgow; particularly given that the original repairs only carried a 12 months warranty and the repairs and installation were undertaken on the 9 May 2010.

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORTS

ITEM: 8 GM - 28/03/11 - PORTLAND GOLF CLUB

REFERENCE

Min No 11-38: Ordinary Meeting held on 14th February 2011

SUMMARY

Council has advertised a proposal to provide assistance to the Portland Golf Club. This is outlined in the following resolution:

THAT Council:

1. Advertise a proposal under Section 356 of the NSW Local Government Act 1993 to provide additional financial assistance in 2010/11 to the Portland Golf Club of up to \$10,000 in in-kind works to generally assist with the maintenance of areas of the Portland golf course and car parking areas;
2. Consider in future Council Management Plans a proposal of \$7,000 for works as outlined in above; and
3. Identify in future Council Management Plans specific amounts as sponsorship to the Portland Golf Club.

COMMENTARY

Representations were made from the Portland Golf Club in January with in relation to their current financial position.

It was outlined by those representatives that the Club is suffering financially and requires assistance. It was indicated that the Club had recently sold three poker machines and is presently looking at subdividing and selling some residential parcels.

The assistance requested was for:

- Mowing in areas that require specialist machinery, i.e. a long arm mower. This would be required approximately three times per year
- Gravelling and grading of a carpark area.
- Some bitumen patching of the sealed carpark

This season the major event for the Club, the Open, was cancelled due to scheduling issues.

The Club has approximately 275 members.

The assistance above would provide some valuable assistance to the Club but would only have a minimal impact on Council's finances.

Council may provide financial assistance to various organisations. Council considered this assistance under the terms of Section 356 of the Local Government Act which provides that 28 days advertising of the proposal to grant such financial assistance is required.

356 Can a council financially assist others?

- (1) A council may, in accordance with a resolution of the council, contribute money or otherwise grant financial assistance to persons for the purpose of exercising its functions.*
- (2) A proposed recipient who acts for private gain is not ineligible to be granted financial assistance but must not receive any benefit under this section until at least 28 days' public notice of the council's proposal to pass the necessary resolution has been given.*
- (3) However, public notice is not required if:*
 - (a) the financial assistance is part of a specific program, and*
 - (b) the program's details have been included in the council's draft operational plan for the year in which the financial assistance is proposed to be given, and*
 - (c) the program's proposed budget for that year does not exceed 5 per cent of the council's proposed income from the ordinary rates levied for that year, and*
 - (d) the program applies uniformly to all persons within the council's area or to a significant group of persons within the area.*

The proposal has been advertised in the Lithgow Mercury on 4 occasions with the first advert appearing on 24th February 2011. Submissions for the proposal close on 24th March 2011.

At the time of writing this report one submission had been received.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No funding is presently available and additional funding of \$10,000 will be required in the 2010 / 2011 financial year.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

ATTACHMENTS

1. Submission from Portland Golf Club Limited

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council under provide financial assistance in 2010/11 in to the Portland Golf Club of up to \$10,000 in in-kind works to generally assist with the maintenance of areas of the Portland golf course and car parking areas.

REGIONAL SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM: 9 REG - 28/03/11 - WATER REPORT

REPORT BY: ANDREW MUIR – GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL SERVICES

REFERENCE

Min No 10-05 - Ordinary Meeting of 18 January 2010

SUMMARY

This report provides an update on various water management issues as per Minute Number 10-03.

COMMENTARY

In relation to current water management issues the following information is provided.

CURRENT DAM LEVELS FOR BOTH FARMERS CREEK AND OBERON

Farmers Creek Dam #2 capacity on 14 March 2011 was 85%. Oberon Dam capacity on 14 March 2011 was 52.1%.

CURRENT WATER USAGE FROM EACH SUPPLY

Table 1 below indicates total output from the Oakey Park Water Treatment Plant (consumption) and the volume transferred from the Clarence Transfer System for 2011.

Table 1 - Oakey Park Output and Clarence Transfer

Month	Oakey Park WTP (ML)	Clarence Transfer (ML)
January	139	0
February (to 24/2/11)	105	0
Total 2010	1,470	408

Table 2

2010/11	Water Consumption (ML)					
	Delta Electricity	Lithgow Council	Sydney Catchment Authority	Oberon Council	Minor Consum	Total
Jul	425	50	0	55	20	550
Aug	768	54	0	66	20	907
Sep	603	51	0	51	20	726
Oct	555	51	28	50	20	704
Nov	572	58	155	66	20	900
Dec	130	37	40	45	20	273
Jan	148	73	0	50	20	292
Feb	189	95	0	49	20	353
Mar						0
Apr						0
May						0
Jun						0
Total	3,390	468	224	432	160	4,674
1998	7,243	970	3,003	827	192	12,235
1999	7,204	898	3,317	855	171	12,445
2000	7,294	858	3,468	767	179	12,567
2001	8,640	998	3,913	921	180	14,652
2001/2	8,359	1,019	3,677	838	180	14,073
2002/03	8,303	1,183	4,390	911	237	15,023
2003/04	6,734	968	3,005	732	216	11,655
2004/05	4,960	735	1,878	677	162	8,412
2005/06	6,367	959	2,098	725	228	10,378
2006/07	6,590	795	3,115	749	218	11,468
2007/08	4,367	747	1,077	601	150	6,942
2008/09	3,356	699	208	583	240	5,086
2009/10	2,856	554	-	590	158	4,158
MAQ	8,184	2,092	3,650	750	200	14,876

CURRENT WATER RESTRICTIONS UPDATE

Level 1 water restrictions are now in place for all residents through Lithgow and villages receiving water from both the Lithgow and the Fish River water supplies.

WATER SAVING SCHEMES OR PROCESSES UPDATE

Council's Rainwater Tank and Domestic Appliance Rebate Program continued in March with Council receiving 2 applications for a household appliance rebate and 0 applications for a water tank rebate up until 16 March 2011.

ALTERNATE WATER SOURCES UPDATEDrought Relief Project

The pipeline below Cook Street High Level Reservoir has now been connected. After a period to allow the concrete to cure trials will be arranged to try and push water past Marrangaroo laid and fittings to enable the completion of the connection have but it has been ascertained that some fittings have not arrived to enable the final connection to occur

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

No specific policy issues arise as a result of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No specific financial issues arise as a result of this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

No specific legal issues arise as a result of this report.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information in relation to water management issues be noted.

ITEM: 10 REG - 28/03/11 - RAINWATER TANK SUBSIDIES**REPORT FROM: ANDREW MUIR - GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL SERVICES**

REFERENCE

Min No 10-536 – Ordinary Meeting of 13 December 2010

SUMMARY

To provide Council with comparative information about other Council water authorities on the rainwater tanks subsidies and their take up rates.

COMMENTARY

At its Ordinary Meeting of 13 December 2010, Council considered its regular report on Water and in particular considered information on Water Saving Schemes & Processes. It was requested that a report come back to Council on comparative information about other Council water authorities on the rainwater tanks subsidies and their take up rates.

Lithgow City Council currently offers a Rainwater Tank Rebate Program for all rainwater tanks with a capacity of at least 5,000L. The current rebates are \$200 when connected to garden tap only or \$800 when connected to garden tap, toilet & washing machine. The program has been in place since July 2007.

Seven other Council water authorities were contacted as part of the comparison study, being Armidale Dumaresq Council, Bathurst Regional Council, Dubbo City Council, Mid-Western Regional Council, Oberon Council, Orange City Council & Wellington Council. Sydney Water & Department of Environment, Climate Change & Water (DECCW) offer rebates of up to \$1500 under the NSW Rainwater Tank Rebate. Lithgow City Council and Orange City Council also offer an additional rebate. The rebates are available as outlined in the table below:

Tank Capacity (L)	Orange City Council		Sydney Water/DECCW		
	Tank Only Rebate	Connection to Toilet and/or Washing Machine	Tank Only Rebate	Connection to Toilet(s)	Connection to Washing Machine(s)
2000 - 3999	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$500	\$500
4000 - 6999	\$400	\$150	\$400	\$500	\$500
=> 7000	\$500	\$150	\$500	\$500	\$500

Armidale Dumaresq Council, Bathurst Regional Council, Dubbo City Council, Mid-Western Regional Council, Oberon Council & Wellington Council do not currently offer any rainwater tank rebates. Orange City Council has been offering its current Rainwater Tank Rebate Program since 2003; however the policy is currently under review. The following table shows Lithgow City Council & Orange City Council's Rainwater Tank Rebate Program take up rates for the last four calendar years:

Calendar Year	Number of Rebates	
	Orange City Council	Lithgow City Council
2008	201	4
2009	180	14
2010	270	45
2011	29	2

COMMENTS

There may be an argument, given the figures from Orange that a rebate could be provided for tanks of less than 5,000 litres. For example, perhaps a rebate of \$150 for tanks between 2000 and 4,999 litres and a rebate of say \$300 for tanks over 5,000 litres. This could be irrespective of whether the tank is connected to garden taps, toilets and washing machines. Connection to these facilities has not been a popular rebate given the additional plumbing and requisite approval costs. The rebate for standalone tanks has been the option taken up by the majority of residents and for this reason it is recommended that the \$800 rebate for tanks connected to garden tap, toilet & washing machine be discontinued.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The current rebate program has a budget of \$29,250 in 2010/2011 which is approximately 73% expended to date.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. The information on rainwater tank subsidies be received.
2. The program be altered to provide a rebate of \$150 for tanks between 2,000 and 4,999 litres and \$300 for tanks over 5,000 litres.
3. The \$800 rebate for tanks connected to garden taps, toilets, and washing machines be discontinued.
4. The changes take effect for any tanks purchased after 1 April 2011.

ITEM: 11 REG - 28/03/11 - INVESTIGATION INTO THE POSSIBLE EXTENSION OF THE LITHGOW SOLID WASTE FACILITY

REPORT FROM: ANDREW MUIR – GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL SERVICES

REFERENCE

Nil

SUMMARY

To advise Council on the progress of investigations into the possible extension of the Lithgow Landfill.

COMMENTARY

In response to queries in relation to the possible extension of the life of the Lithgow Solid Waste Facility, a report has been commissioned (currently in draft form) investigating the options for the extension of the existing landfill. Geolyse Pty Ltd, who are consultants that have a long history of undertaking monitoring for Council's Landfills were engaged to undertake an investigation and prepare a report on options for Council to proceed with the option of utilising the Lithgow Landfill for a longer period. The Draft report from Geolyse has been received which outlines the following:

Waste Quantities

Landfill surveys and volume calculations between 31 July 2008 and 19 April 2010 were utilised to determine an average annual filling rate at the facility of 33,310m³/year. The landfill volume provided by each stage of any proposed extension was determined using 3-Dimensional modelling with the operational period of each stage then calculated using this average annual filling rate. It should be noted that this operational life could be subject to change depending on the possible increased waste from rural landfills upon their closure and the commencement date of the Blackmans Flat Facility. (It should be further noted that a draft design has been prepared for Blackmans Flat on the basis that some aspect of the development would need to commence in the current calendar year to preserve the development consent.) This modelling was able to then be applied to proposed land filling stages with an estimate then provided as to the likely operational period of each stage. These figures require some recalculation from the draft document, although this is not significant. The proposal in the concept plan indicates a potential for an additional five stages of land filling area which could potentially extend the life out to 2034. However, it should be noted that, stages 1 & 2, which could extend the life by approximately 10 years, appear to be less problematic from an approval sense than the remaining stages. A description of the possible stages is as follows:

- Stage 1 extension would be located over the top of the existing landfill area to a height of RL 958m (southern end) and RL 955m (northern end). Associated works would include:
 - construction of a diversion drain to direct overland flow away from the disposal area;
 - relocating the existing access track;
 - constructing a 2m deep lined leachate collection pond; and
 - installation of a weighbridge.

Stage 1 would provide approximately 148,000m³ for fill and provide service for four (4) years (from 2010 to 2014). (It would be wise to commission geotechnical advice in relation to increasing height and volume of materials to be landfilled as part of any approval process)

- Stage 2 extension would be located over the top of the previously used areas to the north of the current landfill area (including the white goods area). Associated works would include:
 - construction of a new access track;
 - creation of a landscaped screening mound;
 - establishment of a dedicated white goods and green waste areas.

Stage 2 would provide approximately 177,000m³ for fill and provide service for six (6) years (from 2014 to 2020).

- Stage 3 extension would entail filling the valley to the east of the current landfill area and the proposed Stage 1 and 2 areas. Associated works would include:
 - constructing a new access track;
 - lining with a HDPE Leachate liner and installing a 300mm Leachate line to a pump well, and a leachate line to the leachate pond;

- progressively cutting a diversion drain at approximately 1% grade along the eastern interface as waste filling progresses, to direct overland flow away from the disposal area; and
- raising the monitoring piezometer (MB6) to retain its functionality.

Stage 3 would provide approximately 119,000m³ for fill and provide service for three (3) years (from 2020 to 2023).

- Stage 4 extension would entail filling to the north. Associated works would include:
 - constructing a new access track;
 - lining with a HDPE Leachate liner;
 - decommissioning the Leachate pump well and converting it to a junction pit, running a 300mm leachate line from this pit to a new leachate pump well; and
 - continuing to progressively cutting the diversion drain at approximately 1% grade along the interface as waste filling progresses, to direct overland flow away from the disposal area.

Stage 4 would provide approximately 132,000m³ for fill and provide service for four (4) years (from 2023 to 2027).

- Stage 5 extension would entail filling to the finished levels of RL 950m at the northern end and RL 960m at the southern end. Associated works would include:
 - constructing a new access track; and
 - raising the monitoring piezometer (MB6) to retain its functionality.

Stage 5 would provide approximately 222,000m³ for fill and provide service for six (6) years (from 2027 to 2034).

Discussions have been arranged with officers from the Department of Environment, Climate Change & Water (DECCW) to discuss the best way forward in relation to necessary approvals to proceed in accordance with the stages proposed.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Amounts have been placed in the Draft 2011/12 Budget to try and endeavour to cover the likely pursuit in first instance of Stage 1.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Further will be known on this matter following discussions with the officers of the DECCW, however at the very least it is envisaged that a variation to the existing Environment Protection Licence issued under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act would be likely.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Plans of the landfill site; site survey and conceptual staging plans

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report on the possible extension to the Lithgow Solid Waste Facility be noted.

ITEM: 12 REG - 28/03/11 - FISH WATER SUPPLY SCHEME - REVIEW OF WATER SHARING ARRANGEMENTS**REPORT FROM: ANDREW MUIR – GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL SERVICES**

REFERENCE

Nil

SUMMARY

To advise Council of the results of the review of the Fish River Water Supply Scheme's Water Sharing Arrangements.

COMMENTARY

Councillors would be aware through the regular water reports of the review of the Fish River Water Supply, particularly in relation to Water Sharing Arrangements. The Minister for Water asked the NSW Office of Water (NOW) to undertake a review of the Scheme and develop some recommendations which would provide enhanced water security to the township of Oberon, whilst minimising any impacts on other stakeholders within the Scheme. Now commissioned hydrological modelling of the current Water Sharing Arrangements and potentially the implications on possible alternate arrangements. The results of this modelling then informed a number of possible modifications to the Water Sharing Arrangements of the Scheme. NOW has developed a total of 36 recommendations that it believes will improve the arrangements of the Fish River Water Supply Scheme and these recommendations have been accepted by the Minister. Correspondence from the Minister outlining his decision to implement the recommendations is attached. In summary, NOW claims that the recommendations:

- (a) Secure Oberon's water supply through:
- A bigger share of water in the Scheme;
 - Reduced constraints on Oberon's access at mid range storage levels;
 - Increased constraints on other stakeholders access at very low storage levels, which takes into account that they have alternate water supply options and better take into account their essential requirements during periods of extreme water shortage;
 - Establishment of a new Level 8 constraint on access for other stakeholders when Oberon Dam's net storage drops to 5% of water supply;
- (b) Modify the share of water in the Scheme for Lithgow;

- (c) Enhance access to Duckmaloi Weir for both SCA & Delta to reduce the pressure on Oberon Dam and offset the impacts of reduced access to Oberon Dam for these two stakeholders;
- (d) Do not change access for minor customers;
- (e) Clarify the water licensing arrangements with State Water;
- (f) Provide some guidance for ongoing governance arrangements;
- (g) Provide a framework for longer term water sharing arrangements.

Key Recommendations Impacting on Lithgow

There are two recommendations adopted by the Minister that have particular impacts on Lithgow. These are:

Recommendation 6 – Lithgow City Council's annual share should be immediately reduced by 15% (314ML) to 1,778ML. This reduced allocation should be reviewed again when the Clarence Colliery Augmentation is on line in order to determine if it can be further reduced. Any future significant changes to Lithgow's water supply should also trigger a further review of Lithgow's allocation. (It should be noted that Oberon Council's annual share is to be increased from 750ML to 1064ML, which is an increase equivalent to the allocation reduction for Lithgow.)

Recommendation 21 – In terms of drought management, Lithgow shall have a zero access to the net storage at Level 8 restrictions.

Comments on Recommendations

It certainly was acknowledged through the process, that Lithgow traditionally has had an allocation that has never been realised in terms of annual usage. However, it was also expressed that Lithgow needs to plan for its long term water security and any reduction in allocation may be viewed with some concern by the Council. Furthermore, parts of the report are very general in their conclusions on the consultation process and did not take into consideration concerns that Council may have, particularly in relation to a possible reduction in allocation. Views were also expressed to the officers co-ordinating the review in relation to the upgrade of the Clarence Water Transfer Scheme and the future requirement to forego some allocation to the Commonwealth. The finite life of the Clarence Mine was also raised. No discussion took place on the recommendation that impact on Lithgow at Level 8 in drought restrictions. Having this in mind, it would not be unreasonable to make some representations to the Minister indicating some concern in relation to the recommendations. It is considered reasonable to seek some flexibility for potential reinstatement of allocation in a scenario where Council's long term strategy may be impacted upon, say for example, by the future closure of the Clarence Colliery albeit that this is not likely to occur for many years. Furthermore, the Level 8 drought restriction is not considered to be reasonable and this should be pointed out to the Minister.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council will save \$113,040 per annum due to the reduced allocation from the Scheme.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Fish River Water Supply Scheme Review of Water Sharing Arrangements

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. The information in relation to the review of the Fish River Water Supply Scheme Review of Water Sharing Arrangements be received.
2. A submission be made to the Minister for Water indicating Council's concerns particularly in relation to the re-instatement of part of its existing allocation should the need arise and re-consideration of zero access to the scheme in the event of level 8 restrictions.

ITEM: 13 REG - 28/03/11 - FEASIBILITY OF PROVIDING RETICULATED WATER AND SEWERAGE SERVICES - DOCTORS GAP

REPORT FROM: ANDREW MUIR – GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL SERVICES

REFERENCE

Min No 09-219 - Ordinary Meeting of 1 June 2009

SUMMARY

To provide details to Council on the results of an assessment undertaken in relation to the feasibility of providing water and sewerage services to Doctors Gap.

COMMENTARY

Council would be well aware of the community interest in the potential of providing reticulated water and sewerage services to the Doctors Gap area. In order to investigate the technical and financial feasibility, NSW Public Works – Water Solutions were engaged to undertake an investigation and prepare an assessment report on the feasibility of providing water supply and reticulated sewerage services to Doctors Gap. The assessment report studied options in accordance with the following:

Water Supply

With regard to water supply, the report recommends, if Council wishes to proceed with extending the service to the area; that the mains could be extended to all residences in the area at a total capital cost of \$450,000. Of this, all work to be undertaken on Council land (i.e. not connections within private property, which would be the responsibility of land owners) would cost \$398,000.

Provision of Reticulated Sewerage Scheme

The study examined four potential options for the provision of reticulated sewerage to residences in the area. These options are:

- Option 1 – Conventional Gravity Sewerage System
- Option 2 – Pressure Sewer System
- Option 3 – Pressure Sewer System with Local Treatment and Effluent Reuse
- Option 4 – Common Effluent Drainage System

The estimated costs for these options range between \$1,077,000 for Option 2 and \$2,584,500 for Option 3. In each of the options there would be a mix of work undertaken on Council land and works required on private land. The report also discusses strategies in relation to works and infrastructure being included on a mix of both public and private land. However, until Council formally decides to proceed with a project, it may not be necessary to undertake any further work at this stage in that regard.

The report recommends that should Council proceed with a project of providing sewerage to the area, that Option 1 – Conventional Gravity Sewerage System be the most feasible at a total project cost of \$1,120,500. It would now be in order to provide copies of the report to the residents of Doctors Gap for their review so they may understand the options and potential impacts. Certainly, if Council was to proceed it would have to consider some form of cost recovery and in this regard, the project of \$1,120,000 divided by a maximum of 30 property owners would indicate a very high capital cost per property benefited – i.e. approximately \$38,000 per property. It should also be noted that the land is currently unsubdivided.

Therefore, prior to formally determining whether to proceed, it may be beneficial to investigate what possible external funding sources are available to offset the capital costs. Authorities such as Sydney Catchment Authority have been known to partially sponsor schemes that have the potential to provide beneficial environmental and water quality outcomes. It will also be necessary to further investigate funding options. This is likely to involve a contribution from the landowners themselves and this needs to be discussed with the residents and as the land is not subdivided, there may be concerns of making a reasonable contribution when they have no title to their land.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil at this stage

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Generally outlined in the body of the report. However, it should be noted that in the 10 year financial plan has only allocated a total of \$100,000 reserve funds for the water extension and following community consultation and investigation of funding options it is likely that this amount will need to be increased. In the 10 year financial plan for sewer a total of \$1,000,000 is proposed to be set aside for sewerage works. Once again, these figures will need to be refined once funding options and community consultation has taken place.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil at this stage

ATTACHMENTS

1. Executive Summary – Doctors Gap Water & Wastewater Supply – Assessment Report

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. The report on the Doctors Gap Water & Wastewater Supply – Assessment be received.
2. A meeting be arranged with the Doctors Gap Landholders Association to discuss the findings of the report; options to proceed with the project; and cost sharing.
3. Correspondence be provided to the Sydney Catchment Authority to ascertain the possibility of providing funding to offset the capital costs of a Sewer Reticulation Project to the Doctors Gap area.

ITEM: 14 REG - 28/03/11 - MOTORSPORT AND DRIVER TRAINING FACILITY

REPORT BY: ANDREW MUIR - GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL SERVICES

REFERENCE

F08-145 – Finance and Services Committee Meeting of 2 December 2008

SUMMARY

To assess and recommend determination of 060-08DA. Recommendation will be for approval subject to substantial conditions.

The application was called in on the 2 December 2008. Further information was required from the applicant for Council to finalise the assessment of the application. The final outstanding information was received on the 7 March 2011.

COMMENTARY

Council is in receipt of Development Application 060/08 from the Lithgow District Car Club for the development of an old quarry and disused road as a motorsport park with hillclimb, motorkhana, khanacross and driver training at Lot 5 in DP 1127747, Boulders Road, Portland.

The total site area is 18.2hecatres with the proposed track running along part of the Old Boulder Road.

It is proposed that there will only be one car competing at one time on the hillclimb course, the motorkhana and the khanacross courses. Each course is strictly a single car event, with only one event will be contested on any one day. A maximum of five hillclimbs, five motorkhanas and five khanacrosses events are proposed to be held in any one calendar year. There will be no “race training days” except if the Car Club manages to attract a NSW state round of the hillclimb championship.

A spectator area is also proposed for the motorkhana/khanacross course which is to be located on top of the embankment behind suitable fencing on the eastern side of the old quarry.

It is expected that fifty to sixty competitors to any one of the events, with roughly the same amount of spectators.

Motorsport events will only be conducted on Saturdays and/or Sundays between the hours of 9am and 5pm. Driver Training would be conducted as required on weekdays where local schools are involved and some weekends where necessary but again between the hours of 9am and 5pm.

The driver training facility will be designed to educate drivers in the art of car control, safety and defensive driving. A natural terrain four wheel drive training course will also be featured within the complex.

No major earthworks are required to upgrade the existing roadway which will be used for the hillclimb. Drains will be cleaned out to reduce water flowing across the roadway. Potholes will be cleaned out to reduce water flowing across the roadway. Potholes and washouts will be filled and then the roadway will be hotmix sealed.

The proposal will be set in three stages:

Stage 1: Level out (cut and fill) the first half of the quarry area to be utilised to conduct Driver Training, Motorkhanas and Khanacross with competitors numbers limited to twenty five. The club would have to bring porta-loo’s onto the site for these events until they raise the funds to site and install toilet blocks.

Stage 2: the siting of the two toilet blocks and a septic sewer system along with a water tank.

Stage 3: The hot mix sealing of the Old Boulder Road for use as a hillclimb course. This also includes the installation of the ARMCO safety fencing to the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport (CAMS) standards along with fit for purpose spectator fencing along the high side of the roadway embankment.

The land was previously owned by Lithgow City Council with the Old Boulder Road being used as the main thoroughfare from Portland to the then named Mudgee Road. Delta Electricity became the owners in a land swap deal with the Council but Delta did nothing with the land other than erecting signs to say that dumping of rubbish was prohibited. The Lithgow District Car Club Inc. took ownership of the land in September 2008.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The application was called in under Policy 7.7 – Calling in of Development Applications by Councillors. Accordingly, the application requires determination by the elected Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

In determining a development application, a consent authority is required to take into consideration the matters of relevance under Section 79C of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

ATTACHMENTS

1. A complete Section 79C report.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Council approve DA 060-08 in accordance with the conditions outlined in the attached Section 79C report.
2. A **DIVISION** be called in accordance with the provisions of Section 375(3) of the Local Government Act 1993.

COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM: 15 COMM - 28/03/2011 - DRAFT OPEN SPACE AND RECREATIONAL NEEDS STUDY

REPORT FROM: STRATEGIC LAND USE PLANNER – SHERILYN HANRAHAN

REFERENCE

Min 11.-75 Ordinary Meeting of Council 7 March 2011

SUMMARY

At the Ordinary Council meeting of the 7 March 2011 the Council resolved to defer this item to the next meeting, following further discussion at a Councillor Information Session. This report introduces the Draft Open Space and Recreational Needs Study, including its aims, findings and recommendations.

The purpose of the report is to seek Council endorsement for the Study for joint public exhibition with the Draft Land Use Strategy.

The Study has been undertaken by external consultants Ross Planning Pty Ltd and commenced preparation in the second half of 2010.

The principal purpose of the Study is to provide the strategic framework for the future provision and management of open space and recreational facilities for the next 10-20 years.

The Study will inform Council's Land Use Strategy, Resourcing Strategy, Economic Development Strategy and Social Planning.

COMMENTARY

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The focus of the Study is to provide Council with supporting information to understand the provision of sport and recreational facilities across the Local Government Area (LGA), to assess the demand for open space and develop a list of priorities for the future.

In addition to the above strategic purpose, the Study has the following objectives:

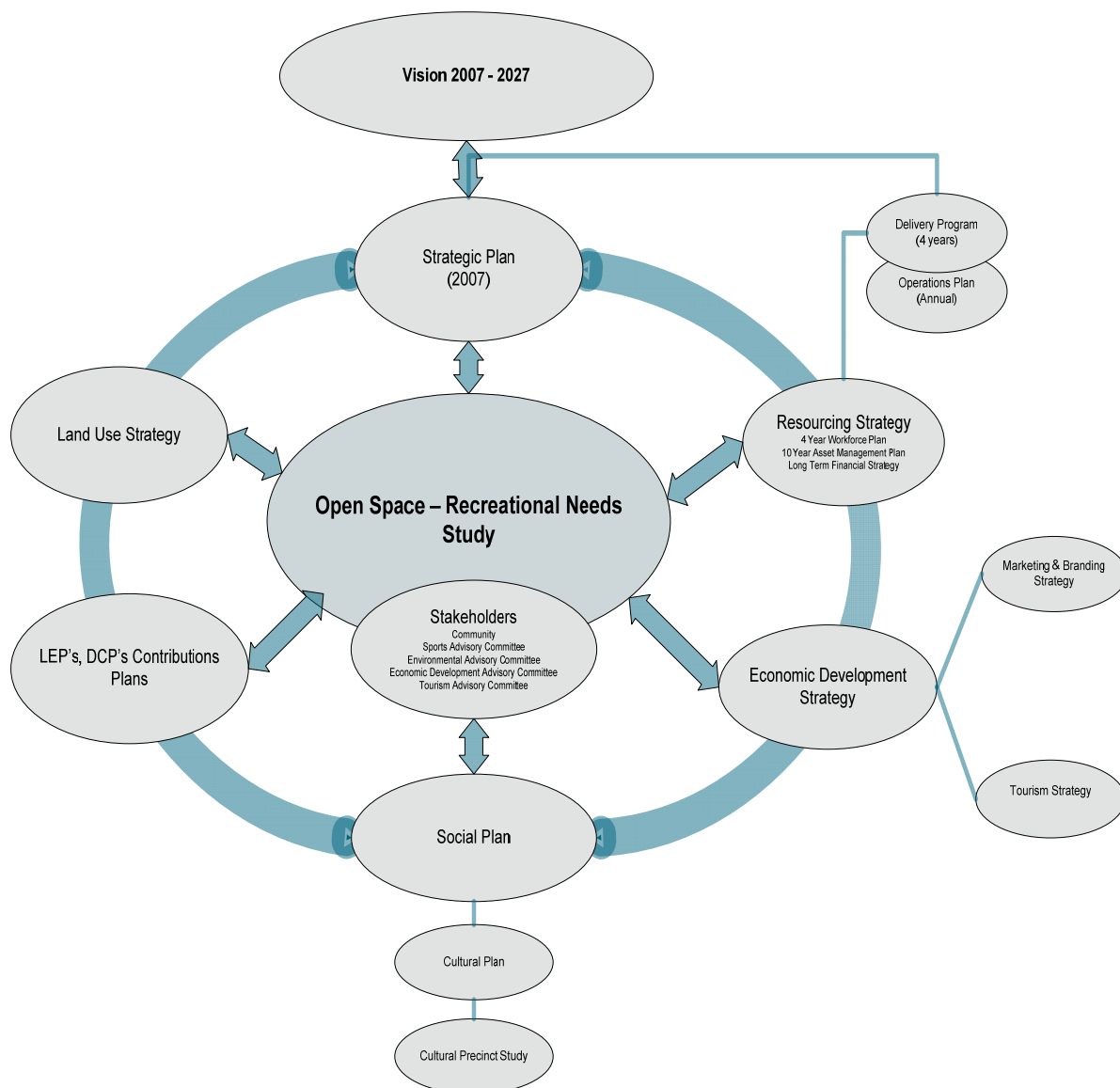
- *To provide the strategic framework for the future provision and management of open space and recreational facilities for the next 10-20 years.*
- *To ensure that open spaces and recreation facilities meet the needs of local people and promote greater social inclusion.*
- *To protect and improve open space and recreation facility provision in terms of quality, quantity, accessibility and safety.*
- *To respond to the community's changing needs for access and use of open space and recreation facilities.*
- *To provide linkages within, and between, the open space network.*

- To ensure open spaces and recreational facilities enhance the quality of the local environment.
- To encourage and facilitate partnerships with community and other public and private stakeholders for the planning, provision, development and management of open space and recreation facilities.
- To provide direction on capital works, priorities and action to ensure “best practice” planning and management of open space and recreation facilities

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

This Study forms a critical component of Council’s strategic planning processes, especially in relation to the development of Council’s Community Strategic Plan, Land Use Strategy and Principal Local Environmental Plan.

The following figure illustrates the context of the Study in relation to other corporate strategies:



CONSULTATION/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Extensive consultation was undertaken during the development of the Draft Study to understand the wants, needs and desires for open space in the community.

A range of tools and techniques were used to engage target groups and the general community, ensuring all interested people has multiple opportunities to comment during the development of the Study.

Broadly, consultation was undertaken with:

- Councillor and Council officers
- General Community through community surveys, workshops and through general discussion at key locations (retail centres and in parks), additional consultation occurred with key target groups such as young people and active adults
- Sport and recreation providers- sport club specific survey, sports forum and interview/discussions
- Key stakeholders – Sports Advisory S. 355 Committee, Environmental Advisory S. 355 Committee, Lithgow Tourism.

WHAT THE COMMUNITY HAS SAID

The key findings of the consultation undertaken can be summarised below:

- Excellent quality and quantity of sporting opportunities
- Parks are well maintained and there are generally enough of them
- Access to natural areas is important
- LGA lacks an indoor, heated pool
- Need more (and better quality) paths for walking and cycling
- Needs more play, shade and picnic facilities
- Need more “recreation” activities

FURTHER CONSULTATION

It is now proposed to consult the community again regarding the Draft Study to confirm the issues and ensure that the findings and recommendations are acceptable to the community.

This consultation phase will be undertaken jointly with the Draft Land Use Strategy.

KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

“The Study is not about telling future generations, forty years from now what to do, but is about ensuring that decisions are taken now that give generations opportunity and choice.”

The key findings of the Study are summarised as follows;

- Broadly the LGA and more specifically each urban centre has an oversupply of open space lands based on the desired standard of service for quantity of land.
- Generally there is good distribution across the LGA

- Some opportunity exists to dispose of some lands that currently do not have an identified contributory role within the open space network either now or in the future. Any money received from this action should be invested in upgrading of other lands.
- Not all lands meet the desired standards of service in regard to visibility, accessibility, land characteristics and level of embellishment.
- Some improvements to park embellishments are required to fulfil their role within the open space network and meet community need.
- The LGA growth projections and the ageing of the existing population will influence the demand for open space and recreation facilities.
- With an older population and a high proportion of low income earners, the provision of low cost and easily accessible recreation and physical activity opportunities is imperative across the LGA.
- Provision of open space and recreational facilities need to recognise and address the changing trends in sport, recreation and physical activity.
- Factors such as age, gender and family life phase can impact on the type of activities and frequency with which people recreate.
- The changing demographics of the LGA and the influence of changing trends will require Council to:
 - Introduce new play experiences to broaden the depth of choice
 - Plan the sites to be managed more effectively
 - Provide space for low cost recreation as well as community celebration
 - Maximise opportunities for walking and cycling, as these are popular activity options
 - Introduce a wide variety of sport, recreation and physical activity opportunities within the sites so that they have broad appeal
 - Adopt CPTED (crime prevention through environmental design) principles to encourage feelings of safety. Lighting of open spaces and facilities to encourage greater numbers of people to the parks and allowing passive observation have been key tools
 - Create naturally and artificially shaded areas
 - Cater for all age groups and consider the needs of the aged and less physically mobile
 - Create opportunities for the development of higher standard recreation spaces and sporting facilities.
- Much of the formal play opportunities across the LGA are plastic kit style playgrounds that do not meet many of the criteria for good engaging play. While this style of equipment is important as a basic level of provision to all residents, some playgrounds should go the next level and offer a greater play experience.
- There is a need to improve and/or develop recreational corridors and links between open space lands and residential lands/community hubs.

The recommendations of the Study are grouped into three strategic areas. These are:

Governance – these relate to Council policies, coordination and management arrangements

Facilities – including maintenance and improvement of existing facilities and new facility needs

Programs and Services – to retain and attract more people to use facilities and be involved in sport and recreation.

The key recommendations of the Study are summarised as follows:

Governance

- Use the framework developed in the Study to appropriately zone and classify lands to accord with Council's legal obligations under the EP & A Act and the Local Government Act.
- Consider the disposal of identified surplus lands and reinvest the proceeds into upgrading other sites.
- Review the role, function and communication protocols of the S.355 Sports Advisory Committee to more effectively manage the supply side of open space planning and administration.
- Adopt the open space framework, including the guiding principles, classifications/hierarchies and desired standards of service for open space supply, range, land characteristics and embellishments.
- Review staff resourcing to consider the employment of an Open Space, Sport and Recreation Planning Officer.
- Undertake a play and shade strategy to guide maintenance and development of play opportunities across the LGA.
- Develop an over-arching plan of management for all recreation parks with additional detailed plans of management for those parks and sporting precincts with a wider appeal.

Facilities

- Undertake a walkability and bikeability audit and use such to develop a Walk Cycle Strategy.
- Consider the provision of the following new facilities as budget constraints allow:
 - A district level park in Portland – preferred location Saville Park
 - More play opportunities in Glen Davis and Rydal
 - Dirt jumps for BMX in Lithgow, Portland and Wallerawang
 - Adventure play for older children in Lithgow (Endeavour Park), Portland (Saville Park) and Charles Darwin Park (Wallerawang)
 - Upgrades to existing small parks to local park standard
 - Access to a multi-purpose court in Lithgow (Emora Park and near the Skate Park), Portland (Kremer Park of Saville Park), Wallerawang (Charles Darwin Park, Glen Davis (upgrade to tennis court to multi purpose court) and consider a tennis court in Capertee
 - Consider outdoor fitness equipment in Lithgow, Portland and Wallerawang
 - Upgrade the skate facilities in Portland and Wallerawang with consideration being given to their appropriate location
 - Review options for walking tracks in Lithgow, Portland and Wallerawang

- Develop a local recreation park and one district recreation park within the South Bowenfels Release Area
- Develop the utility open space in Thornton Avenue to a local recreation park standard.
- Over time, develop concept master plans for all district recreation parks (or town feature parks) with the following priority
 - Endeavour Park
 - Blast Furnace Park
 - Saville Park

- Undertake an assessment of the aquatic needs across the LGA.
- Provide assistance to sporting groups to access funding opportunities.
- Complete the first stage of the walkway along Farmers Creek and commence detailed design of Stage 2.
- Encourage community use of existing facilities by providing community fields and courts not hindered by complicated key and hire systems
- Develop an exciting playground in Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland incorporating elements that are not provided in other parks.

Programs and Services

- Consider a travelling program of movies throughout the LGA, particularly in school holiday periods.
- Facilitate partnerships to develop a range of physical activity programs for target groups.
- Develop a range of regular youth activities, events and school holiday programs throughout the LGA using existing service providers and facilities.

It should be noted that it is not Council's responsibility to implement all recommendations of the Study. The Study should be seen as one owned by the community and one both the Council and the community, generally through sport and recreation clubs or community organisations, can deliver in partnership.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil arising from this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil arising from this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil arising from this report

ATTACHMENTS

1. The Draft Open Space and Recreational Needs Study was included as an attachment to the Council Report of 7 March 2011.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council endorses the Draft Open Space and Recreational Needs Study (February 2011) for public exhibition purposes to be undertaken jointly with the Draft Land Use Strategy.

ITEM: 16 COMM - 28/03/2011 - DIGITAL TELEVISION TRANSMISSION

REPORT FROM: MATTHEW JOHNSON

REFERENCE

Min 10-199 of the Ordinary Meeting of Council dated 24 May 2010

SUMMARY

Council resolved at the Ordinary Meeting of Council dated 24 May 2010 (Min 10-199) that:

1. Council notes the information in this report including the timetable for the switchover to digital only television and the implications for residents of Glen Davis.
2. Council further investigate options for the provision of terrestrial digital television to the Glen Davis area.

The following report details recent advice from Regional Broadcasting Australia that no final decision has been made on the digital upgrade of transmission towers within the Lithgow LGA.

COMMENTARY

1. Advice dated 30 March 2010 from the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, Senator Conroy.

The following is a summary of a report to Council at the Ordinary Meeting of Council dated 24 May 2010 (Min 10-199) based on correspondence from the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, the Hon Stephen Conroy advising of new arrangements for the upgrade of analogue to digital television.

Lithgow City Council currently manages four retransmission towers under the Television Blackspot program servicing Hartley, Capertee, Portland and Glen Davis.

Lithgow City Council also jointly manages with Blue Mountains City Council (BMCC) a fifth television transmitter in the Megalong Valley.

Senator Conroy's letter to Council advised that commercial broadcasters had identified the Capertee and Hartley transmitters as being suitable for upgrade to digital. Further, the broadcasters did not propose to upgrade the Glen Davis and Portland transmitters.

Senator Conroy advised that residents in areas not scheduled for digital upgrade, would be able to receive digital television from a new satellite service by installing satellite reception equipment including a dish and digital set top box. The Federal government will provide a subsidy of \$400 towards the cost of purchasing satellite reception equipment to each household which cannot receive digital television from terrestrial sources. Where signal quality at individual locations is poor, some residents living in areas nominally served by a digital transmission tower, may still need to convert to satellite reception. The number of householders needing to go satellite is likely therefore to be greater than only those in the Glen Davis area.

Council will continue to have some financial responsibility for the upkeep of the transmitters identified for upgrade including electricity, air-conditioning, site leasing costs (where appropriate) and any access charges. Council will however no longer pay maintenance costs, currently approximately \$18,500 per year for the five transmitters as these costs will be met by the broadcasters.

Senator Conroy advised that broadcasters will as far as possible ensure that digital coverage is at least as good as the existing analogue coverage and will maintain the upgraded equipment for at least 10 years.

It would be open to Council to seek to upgrade and maintain the Glen Davis transmitter to digital as an alternative to satellite transmission although the costs and benefits of this for a small population (estimated at 200 people) would need to be assessed. Council would need to seek the agreement of the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) and would be responsible for all upgrade and future maintenance costs. The costs of the upgrade to digital are unknown at this stage.

The switchover to digital-only TV will take place progressively on a region to region basis from 30 June 2010 until 31 December 2013. There will be no simulcast period during which both analogue and digital television will be broadcast, so all residents within each transmission area would need to be ready to receive digital television by the time of the changeover.

Capertee, Hartley and Portland Town will switch to digital only in the first half of 2012. Glen Davis and Megalong will switch to digital only in the second half of 2013.

Residents, including those on the satellite service, will receive all free to air digital television services, including the original three commercial and two national channels as well as new digital services such as ABC2, ABC3, SBS TWO, GO! and ONE HD.

1. Current Situation

The previous advice from Senator Conroy was that although the commercial broadcasters had identified the Hartley and Capertee transmitters as being suitable for upgrade to digital, no final decision had been made. Advice just received from Regional Broadcasting Australia, which has responsibility for the digital upgrades, is that engineering assessments are currently being undertaken in the Southern NSW broadcast region, in which Lithgow is located, and no definite decision has been made on whether the 4 transmitters maintained by Council will be upgraded to digital.

These assessments will be completed in the next couple of months at which time Council will be informed of which transmitters are to be upgraded.

Council will then be in a better position to assess options for the remaining transmitters that are not to be upgraded including Council upgrading and maintaining the transmitters or allowing householders to adopt the satellite service. Some householders in these localities may still receive the new digital television feed from alternative transmitters (eg Garlands Hill in the case of Portland and Lithgow in the case of Hartley Valley). There is likely however to be a number of households in these localities that will receive no terrestrial television feed and will therefore need to rely on the satellite service.

Senator Conroy's office has separately advised that the Megalong Valley transmission transmitter will be upgraded to digital and will receive feed from metropolitan Sydney.

The Glen Davis transmitter is the least likely to be upgraded to digital due to its remote location and small population. It would be open to Council to meet the cost of upgrading this transmitter to digital and to meeting the ongoing maintenance and other costs. The Glen Davis transmitter has however provided a particularly unreliable service as no mains power is available so the transmitter has received power via solar panels and battery/diesel generator backup. This has been very unreliable and costly system for Council to maintain and the subject of ongoing community complaint. Master Antenna Systems, who maintain the transmitters on Council's behalf, advise that the cost of upgrading the Glen Davis transmitter to digital would be in the order of \$30,000 and that it would only be recommended if mains power were available. No costing is available to supply mains power, the estimated 300 metres from the nearest power supply to the transmission site however this could be expected to be substantial.

Master Antenna Systems have also advised that the cost of conversion to the "Vast" 15 channel satellite service will be approximately \$300 to each participating householder in the Glen Davis reception area after the \$400 government subsidy is taken into account.

Regional Broadcasting Australia also advise that the digital switchover will occur around June 2012 although it will not occur in Glen Davis until the second half of 2013.

Master Antenna Systems have requested that Council write to the Minister for Broadband encouraging his department to bring forward provision of the satellite service in view of the ongoing problems with the Glen Davis transmitter. This has been done. An announcement is likely soon that a subsidised satellite service will become available well before the digital switchover occurs.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be financial implications for Council from upgrading to digital, the transmitters that are not upgraded by Regional Broadcasting Australia (estimated \$30,000 per transmitter) and the ongoing maintenance of transmitters (estimated \$4,000 per year per transmitter). There would also be a significant uncosted amount for Council to connect the Glen Davis transmitter to mains power.

In relation to upgraded transmitters, Council will continue to bear financial responsibility for electricity, air-conditioning (where appropriate), site leasing costs (where appropriate) and any access charges. Council will however no longer pay maintenance costs, currently approximately \$4,000 per year, per transmitter as these costs will be met by the broadcasters.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

ATTACHMENTS

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Notes the report on the status of the upgrading to digital television transmitters.
2. A further report be presented with once the advice is received from Regional Broadcasting Australia.

ITEM: 17 COMM - 28/03/11 - BRANDING

REPORT BY: GROUP MANAGER COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE – SUZANNE LOLLBACK

REFERENCE

Min No 008-204	Ordinary Meeting of Council 15 December 2008
Min No 09-199	Ordinary Meeting of Council 14 May 2009
Min No 07-199	Ordinary Meeting of Council 14 May 2009
Min No 09-234	Ordinary Meeting of Council 1 June 2009
Min No 09-530	Ordinary Meeting of Council 14 December 2009
Min No 09-531	Ordinary Meeting of Council 14 December 2009
Min No 09-533	Ordinary Meeting of Council 14 December 2009
Min No 10-17	Ordinary Meeting of Council 18 January 2010
Min No 10-512	Ordinary meeting of Council dated 13 December 2010

SUMMARY

This report summarizes the feedback received from the general public in relation to the logo which has been on public exhibition.

COMMENTARY

On the 13 December 2010 Council resolved the following:

THAT

1. *Council endorses in principle the concept designs for branding for Lithgow as presented in Concept 3.*

2. Council endorses in principle the development of a logo for Lithgow based upon Concept 3B which depicts three “hill” shapes.
3. Council endorses in principle the use of the five colours for general use in the branding strategy as described in Concept 3.
4. Council seek public interest on the above concept for the logo for Lithgow.

Advertising

- The notice regarding public exhibition of the proposed logo was advertised in the Council Column in the Lithgow Mercury on:
 - 27 January 2011
 - 3 February 2011
 - 10 February 2011

The new branding concept has been available for viewing on Council’s website as well as at the front counter and libraries.

SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED

Letters of Support

10 individual letters of support were received from members of the public and staff.

Supported with Qualification

2 letters were received which supported a change with some qualifications.

Objections

There were 39 separate letters of objection.

List of Submissions

The following provides a summary of all submissions received following advertising.

Submission
<p>10 letters were received from individuals in support of the new branding.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We as a committee (Tidy Towns) would like to offer support for the proposed new brand for Lithgow. We endorse the concept and congratulate Council on this and also the production of the Tourist Information booklet. It is an excellent production and makes good use of the new brand on each page. We are pleased with the sign in front of the Visitors Centre and the Great Western Highway. Also the signs for the Village areas of Lithgow are very impressive. 2. We would like to say how impressive the new proposed Lithgow Brand is. The colours are very bright, warm and welcoming and the shapes are outstanding where one can read different areas of Lithgow into it. It is not busy and very eye catching. The current logo has been used since 1998 when Lithgow won New South Wales Tidiest Town and was designed for our weekend by members of Lithgow Tidy Towns. Council “adopted” the current logo after that. Lithgow needs to keep up with the times and as these logos are disappearing for this era a new one has to be accepted.

If Council do as they say to keep the cost to rate payers to a minimum and gradually introduce the new brand on stationery, uniforms and signs and anywhere else it goes around the towns and villages we think people will gladly accept

3. Just writing to express my opinion about the logo. I like it very much. I think the way it has been used on the front and back cover of the new tourism magazine “Lithgow Surprisingly Diverse” is very effective. I also like the way each colour has been used throughout the magazine to highlight different areas and subjects. It is a creative logo that could be used in many creative ways, as you have already shown in the magazine. I think it would be a pity to change the logo (sic. new concept). If people start seeing it everywhere it will grow on them. It also seems a waste of money to change it again at this stage.
4. I wish to make a very simple comment on the suggested branding of Lithgow. It is a bright step forward and should in my opinion be adopted as the new look. To make changes (when already in use on Tourism mag) is ludicrous as it instantly makes the new look Tourism obsolete and creates yet another sense of confusion. Let’s move forward and be cohesive in our approach. Not just on our branding but in the future for our area. How about a proactive approach for 2011.
5. I would like to congratulate all those involved in coming up with this new Brand or Logo for Lithgow. Both my wife & I think it is an outstanding new concept and hope that it will be widely accepted by the people of our community. To us it has a new modern look and should look great at the various locations on flags or banners that should be displayed throughout our district.
6. The brands are fantastic - maybe we could use the banner template etc for Heritage and History week documents with historic photos etc.
7. I think the new logo design is great! We need an image that can be easily replicated in a number of formats such as full colour, grey scale and black and white. We also need something that is easy to use on a variety of mediums eg signs, clothing, car stickers, street signs, even balloons. Council will probably receive comments from people saying the logo is too simplistic, but it is this fact that allows for such design versatility, as demonstrated in the new Visitors Guide that has received such rave reviews.
8. We saw the new proposal for the Council’s new logo and we are very impressed and think it will be good. The new sign for the approach to Lithgow is very eye catching too. We will vote for this. Hope it is approved.
9. I like the wings/waves design concept (dynamic) and the colours (clean, smart, bright, keen sharp). Also supports signage for villages (prefers curved one), banners and flags, tourist destinations.
10. The visual branding of a city is fundamental to its future prosperity. Lithgow’s existing logo clearly symbolises a town locked in an imaginary past that it cannot escape. There is nothing in its sad amateurish and unreadable design

that relates to youth or the future. The two issues that Lithgow must address if it is not to decline into senile ruin. The new logo whilst quite conservative at least appears to have been produced in the twenty first century rather than the 1940s. Its symbolic image which can be read either as receding hills or the leaf of the Wollomi Pine presents a far more contemporary representation of our area. The new logo and visual style should be aggressively promoted as visual branding for the area. It should be used as it recently has been, for all public documents that promote the area to the outside world. The recent documents using this graphic style (such as the tourism pamphlet) have been the first sign in decades of Lithgow displaying a progressive image to the world. It is crucial that this new youthful and progressive image is reinforced and built on. Without this positive image Lithgow will stagnate, lose its identity and continue its long slow decline.

2 letters were received from individuals in support of the new branding/or change to the branding with qualification.

1. Having worked with logos for the last 40 years, we would like to acknowledge the importance that branding has to a company/community. The new “wave” logo is the symbol that takes Lithgow from the last century into the present, and it represents the many and varied aspects of the area. Its simplicity and bold design is instantly recognisable and will stand as a beacon to the opportunities offered by the region. Well done to all those involved in its inception. It will also work well in tandem, alongside the current emblem - a much loved and traditional logo. Why can't we use both? Surely there is a place for our history and our future.
2. As a qualified graphic designer and proud Lithgow resident I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Lithgow City Council branding proposal. I agree that it is in the best interests of Lithgow to promote the community as effectively as possible. A consistent approach in the visual identification of the City is essential to this concept. I agree with Cr. Castle that a “brand is not just about a logo. It is how we look, what we say and what we do”. We want to encourage people and businesses to come here. What our logo looks like is vital in attracting people....The current logo is quaint, unique and screams tradition. It highlights Lithgow's cultural history, but it does nothing to promote future growth.... I urge councillors who are happy with the current logo to think beyond their personal views to the future of the town with a thought to attracting others to the area instead of sticking with the status quo. The new proposed logo certainly looks more modern than the current one. It is a design typical of a 1980's beachside suburb. If the modernisation of the logo is intended to take us into that decade, then I think it has achieved that goal. The typeface used is fun and quirky but doesn't seem appropriate for the main image of Lithgow. It is too frivolous. I suggest we use a more traditional and official looking font for the word Lithgow, and use the “fun” font for a slogan or promotion publications. My suggestion is to modify the proposed logo design to have three lines representing hills...Should the proposed new logo not be approved, I believe a potential solution could be to stylise the current logo to accommodate both people who like the current logo, and those wanting to achieve a more modern look. In summary I hope you will adopt a modified version of the proposed logo to make it look more like hills. I also

hope you would consider adopting the slogan “It’s a Go”.

A total of 39 submissions were received being objections to the new branding.

The reasons noted for the objections were stated as follows:

1. I think the logo we already have is adequate to promote Lithgow & District. The money could be better spent repairing the roads and cutting grass along the sides of the roads to make the district more attractive to visitors?
2. Why would we change from an internationally recognised branding showing the world famous Zig Zag to a branding that could mean anything and just copies branding from so many other bodies, particularly local government bodies. It does not matter where you travel in Australia, you see similar line groupings. I am National Secretary of an organisation that deals several times a year with hundreds of members from overseas and as soon as I put my address on a document I receive comments like “I know where you come from - the Zig Zag Railway is in your area” or “you come from the famous Blue Mountains.” As a third generation Lithgowite I realise we must progress to try and save our dying region, but I can see no advantage in a few lines my five year old grandson could come up with and feel this would be a backward step.
3. For what it is worth I do like the new brand, I feel that Council could have better spent the money on more important things than this. Such as improving our parks, roads etc or most important of all encourage business, so most of the population doesn’t have to travel to Bathurst for goods and services. I believe the Lithgow Council needs to start thinking more outside the box about improving and growing the region, especially to avoid amalgamation, which could lead to job losses.
4. Whilst the new proposed logo is very smart and looks great, I cannot look at it and see that it depicts, rolling hills, birds in flight, Wollemi pine, an open book, historic railway viaducts, and the environment in general, along with the further, growth, transparency, a welcoming community, and environmental values. Do you really think people would take a look, even a second look and see any or all of these things. Our most popular tourist attractions (Zig Zag Railway, Black Fellows Hands, our native life) should be depicted if there is to be a change.
5. The new logo proposed for Lithgow is disappointing. This logo reflects nothing of Lithgow - it is generic and bland. The rolling hills and valleys - this could be most towns in Australia. A bird in flight - hardly unique to Lithgow. The Wollemi Pine - unless the council has planted an avenue of these trees, which can only be found in the garden section of Bunnings within a 50km radius of the town - this is hardly Lithgow’s claim. Reminds me of Bathurst council using the Copperwing butterfly - mostly found in another council area. An open book - most towns have a library. Reading isn’t specific to Lithgow. I do recall Lithgow being one of the first areas to have a technology centre but that is hardly our claim to fame, and is hardly well known. Historic railway

- ducts - any similarity of this drawing to railway ducts is done to a huge leap of imagination. The rest is every Council's dream for the future - not only Lithgow. We have a "big miners lamp" - yes dear tourist, we need to explain what is it - and we have a current logo which at least is relevant to our surroundings. This current logo is too fussy, too much to see, but show tourists the railway (Zig Zag) or viaducts they can at least recognise Lithgow. The kangaroo shows we are in the country.
6. Whatever happened to tradition? Who thought a change of logo/brand for Lithgow was required after the last fiasco? Leave well enough alone.
 7. We saw your new logo on TV and thought it looked rather like the logo for Denison College Bathurst. Now we are comparing them on line and the Denison one is very fine. The Lithgow one is flamboyant, on the move, very informal, no finesse. Is that what you want to say about Lithgow?
 8. I believe Lithgow's existing Logo is a beautiful representation of what we are and that the logo does not need changing. I do appreciate all the work that went into the development of the new logo. The wavy lines look good and they would go well in any flash marketing magazine advertising a "dynamic perfume, sportswear or handbags". But they have got only an abstract connection to Lithgow. The flowers, the sandstone country, the wallaby and the arches of the Zig Zag Railway on the existing logo - that's us.
 9. I think the proposed "brand" logo is devoid of any appeal that demonstrates a relevance to the area. The money that such a change would require would be better spent on updating the filthy polluting work trucks that all the council manual labour workers use. The logo with the kangaroo is relevant to the area as it is to its native country. Secret Creek in Lithgow is also home to the endangered wallabies which adds appeal to the area for its ecosystem activities.
 10. Why should we change for five squiggly lines of different shades which mean nothing but five squiggly lines on all our Council property. Who is going to explain to visitors on first sight of these lines what they mean. In supporting our current logo it explains itself immediately with the Zig Zag arches and our surrounding mountains to the east and the Kangaroo. Only Lithgow has the Zig Zag railway and from the west we have the open spaces where the kangaroos graze. The Zig Zag is world renowned and it is advertising Lithgow in itself and is recognised as such.
 11. I do not think Lithgow District need a new logo. There is nothing wrong with the one we already have. The new logo would be of no use unless accompanied by a written letter explaining what each colour is for.
 12. I agree with Councillor Howard Fisher on the new logo. Its just a few coloured lines and its not anything like the thing the Mayor said. Tourists come down Victoria Pass. They see the signs (Greater City of Lithgow). That is all they read, not anything else on the sign. The coloured lines will not mean a thing to them. The areas surrounding Lithgow are very nice to see, but when you reach the CBD what you see is a very depressing little coal mining town with

- nothing going for it. When you talk to people who have been here they say the best part of Lithgow is leaving the place.
13. It has been brought to the attention of a Bathurst School that the new branding is quite similar in some aspects to their brand. Concerns were viewed as to the close proximity of Lithgow and Bathurst.
 14. I do not believe Lithgow needs a new logo. There are many things I feel the money could be better spent on to encourage tourists to our beautiful area.
 15. I wish to object to the new branding to promote Lithgow. Most people associate the Zig Zag Railway with Lithgow and this should remain as our crucial identity, not several bird shaped lines which specify nothing and could be from anywhere. Further, the money spent on changing our letterheads, business cards, banners, vehicle names etc could be put to better use on roads and infrastructure.
 16. Lithgow Council is adopting a new branding which I am objecting to. In my travels throughout Australia, whenever I mention Lithgow, people say "That's the place with the Zig Zag Railway." Why do we want to change something uniquely ours. Especially for a few wavy lines which could be from anywhere. Council has already spent a lot of time and money on this branding, going by the booklet given to me by Council, and the new branding advertisements are already in out of town magazines.
 17. We were asked to give our opinion of the new logo. Our opinion of it is money could be spent in other areas such as the disgusting roads in and out of Portland. We can't see why we need a new one. With the lovely arches of the Zig Zag, the flowers and wallaby. It looks good and tourists would stop and look at it. A few coloured abstract lines. We fail to see what it means. Our opinion is keep the old forget the new and spend our rate money more wisely on the roads.
 18. I find it most offensive that Lithgow Council has resolved to consider changing our logo. Council was given resounding information from the residents that we did not want to change the logo. A new logo will not attract business to the area, service from Council will go a long way towards investment in this community.
 19. I wish to lodge the Society's strongest objection to the proposal for the change of the logo for Council. The proposed logo would not identify with Lithgow in any way and does not reflect any connection with the rich cultural history of the Lithgow district. The current logo, with its many identifying features, is easily identified as Lithgow, mainly because of the Zig Zag Viaduct, an iconic landmark known throughout Australia.
 20. As a ratepayer I think my money could be spent on better things than a new logo. There is nothing wrong with the one we have, at least you know what you are looking at, as with the new logo we have to be told what the contours and wavy lines mean. How are visitors going to know what they are looking at.

21. I personally do not agree with the key themes concept. The most important item that should be on your logo, is the Wollemi Pine and of course the Platypus, discovered by Charles Darwin all those centuries ago.
22. We would like to register our total opposition to and abhorrence of the proposed new logo for Lithgow Council. It is a bunch of meaningless wasteful totally irrelevant garbage which has no obvious connection to anything remotely connected to anything anywhere in Lithgow.
23. Why change the Council logo? I do not see any reason to go to the trouble, and expense, of changing a perfectly good and apt symbol of the Lithgow area. Surely there are better ways to spend our money.
24. I think the proposed “brand” logo is devoid of any appeal that demonstrates a relevance to the area. The logo with the kangaroo is relevant to the area as it is to its native country.
25. The new logo proposed for Lithgow is disappointing. This logo reflects nothing of Lithgow. It is generic and bland.
26. I have been a resident and ratepayer of Lithgow for 62 years. The wording for the new branding is very poor. The new design is a disgrace and an insult to Lithgow. The one we had was of good size for use on all stationery and could be enlarged for outdoor signs. I don’t recall the ratepayers being asked their opinion.
27. Although we agree that it is time to update the Lithgow logo, we believe that the new proposed logo looks generic, uninspiring and has the sameness of many other trendy logos of the present day. Any attempts that we have heard to describe it have been stilted and unpersuasive with the presenter themselves struggling with the concept. There is nothing about the new logo that uniquely identifies Lithgow.
28. I disagree with the proposed logo. I like the one we have now with the Zig Zag railway on it. It means something to the area. The three or five wavy coloured lines are meaningless. They are just coloured lines.
29. The proposed new logo is a waste of money and is meaningless. We have a perfectly good logo which depicts the area in which we live. The 3 or 5 coloured lines mean nothing. We have several different logos so if we have to have a change, then pick the one that we already have and stick to it.
30. I wish to formally object to the changing of the Lithgow logo. Not so long ago the council attempted to change the logo and the ratepayers instructed them not to.
31. I don’t like the proposed new logo. I don’t think that a collection of coloured lines best represents our local area. We should have a logo that is recognizable and represents our area.

32. Here we go again with a waste of ratepayers money. The new logo is terrible. Looks just like a bunch of coloured lines. With the zig zag logo on the council chambers door there is an important part of the local area that can be seen at a glance. With 3 or 5 coloured lines there is no meaning unless it is explained. A logo should be something that represents the local area and should be something that is easily recognisable. This is not the case with a bunch of coloured lines.
33. I don't like the proposed new logo. The coloured lines are meaningless to us living in the area let along tourists. We have a perfectly good logo that depicts what the district is about and I'm sure that visitors and potential investors would be more interested in decent amenities than a bunch of meaningless coloured lines.
34. I totally disagree with the proposed new logo. Not only is it a waste of money the proposed 3 or 5 coloured lines mean nothing. They just look like coloured lines.
35. I am writing to the council spending money on a new logo. Just a couple of years council was told very strongly by the community that we do not want a new logo.
36. As a local resident and ratepayer. I am writing to you to lodge my objection to the proposed new branding for Lithgow. Firstly, the present one is quite sufficient, it is an iconic representation of our natural and cultural heritage. It clearly states that we are an area proud of what we have been blessed with, and what we have achieved and contributed to our nation. Something that needs explanation is not simple, it is not effective and yes it will be a waste of money to implement the change.
37. I am writing to express my objection to the proposed new logo for Lithgow and to support retention of the current one which has been in use for some years. The change will do nothing to enhance the prosperity of the people who live in Lithgow and pay the land taxes.
38. I wish to add my voice to the opinion against the new logo for our Council. The new logo might look impressive and be more modern than our present one however I believe there would be a need to put an explanation on each sign, piece of paper, envelope, etc on which it appears for people to understand what it stands for.
39. Although the current one has too much in it, it is preferable to the one put forward. This latter one looks more like a seaside logo though I would still not like it, for Pittwater for example. Lithgow is a very historic town and needs some realism in the logo, say, at least, the miner's lamp and a kangaroo.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The concept designs were prepared 'in-house'.

Funds have been set aside over the past few years for the upgrading of signage in the local government area in response to council resolutions including resolution O08-204 15 December 2008.

Should Council adopt the new concept, items as far as practicable, will be replaced when required. Documents, banners and other promotional items will be implemented with the new brand as they are being replaced or implemented.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Local Government Act 1993

ATTACHMENTS

1. Copy of branding document as distributed for public comment.
2. A copy of public comments has been tabled at this meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Endorses the concept designs for branding for Lithgow as presented in the branding document distributed for public comment.
2. Endorses the development of a logo for Lithgow based upon the concept which depicts three "hill" shapes.
3. Endorses the use of the five colours for general use in the branding strategy as described in the concepts.

INTERNAL SERVICE REPORTS

**ITEM: 18 INTS - 28/03/11 - COUNCIL INVESTMENTS HELD TO 28TH
 FEBRUARY 2011**

REPORT FROM - INTERNAL SERVICES MANAGER C FARNSWORTH

REFERENCE

Min No 10-308: Ordinary Meeting held on 02 August 2010 (June 2010)
Min No 10-400: Ordinary Meeting held on 20 September 2010 (July 2010)
Min No 10-401: Ordinary Meeting held on 20 September 2010 (August 2010)
Min No 10-428: Ordinary Meeting held on 13 October 2010 (September 2010)
Min No 10-490: Ordinary Meeting held on 22 November 2010 (October 2010)
Min No 10-543: Ordinary Meeting held on 20 December 2010 (November 2010)
Min No 11-31: Ordinary Meeting held on 24 January 2011 (December 2010)
Min No 11-55: Ordinary Meeting held on 14 February 2011 (January 2011)

SUMMARY

To advise Council of investments held as at 28 February 2011 for the 2010/11 financial year.

COMMENTARY

Council's total investment portfolio, as at 28 February 2011 when compared to 31 January 2011, has decreased by \$426,701.58 from \$12,558,169.34 to \$12,131,467.76.

Investments fluctuate as part of the normal process depending on the particular month and the extent of expenditure on major works.

At the meeting of the 24 January 2011 Council requested additional reporting in relation to investments.

The comments have been noted and research is being conducted with similar Councils to ensure our reporting is comparable to benchmark standards. Changes to the report will be presented to the Council meeting of 7 March 2011.

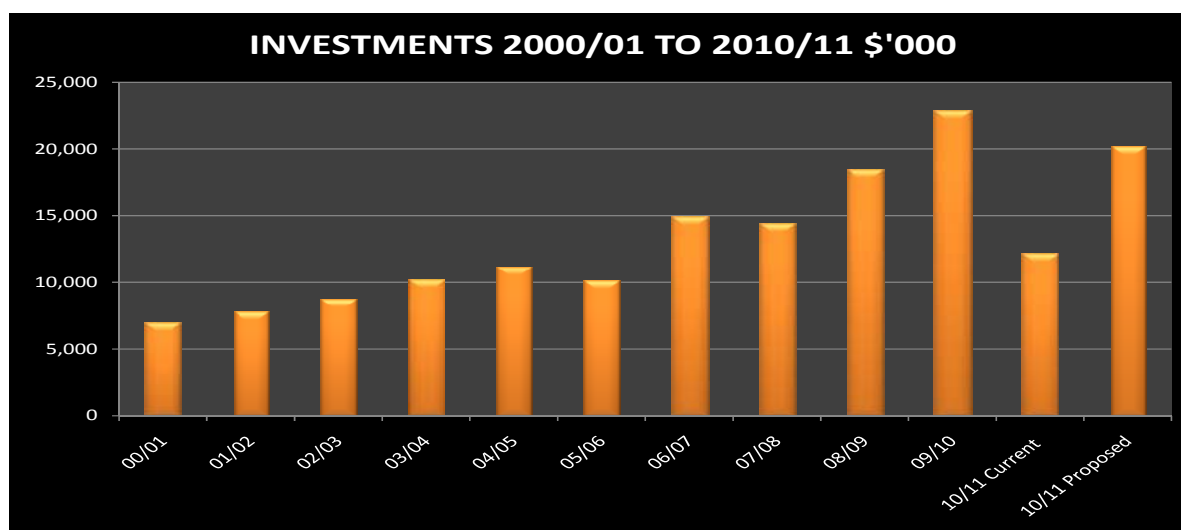
INVESTMENT REGISTER 2010/11								
INSTITUTION	INV TYPE	DATE LODGED	DATE DUE	DAYS	INT	VALUE 31.01.11	VALUE 28.02.11	% OF TOTAL
ANZ	TD	07.02.11	07.03.11	30	5.32	1,012,968.57	500,000.00	4.12%
	TD	14.02.11	16.03.11	30	5.28	2,044,504.21	2,072,946.90	17.09%
CBA	On Call				4.70	43,520.22	1,068,695.22	8.81%
	TD	19.11.10	17.02.11	90	5.51	1,009,090.41	0.00	0.00%
LGFS	On Call				4.40	7,159.79	7,159.79	0.06%
IMBS	TD	28.02.11	30.05.11	91	5.90	1,029,640.94	1,045,043.24	8.61%
	TD	01.12.10	01.03.11	90	6.00	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	8.24%
NAB	TD	11.02.11	12.05.11	90	5.78	1,028,057.10	1,037,808.16	8.55%
	TD	02.12.10	02.03.11	90	5.90	800,000.00	800,000.00	6.59%
WESTPAC	TD	08.12.10	08.07.11	212	6.20	266,799.30	266,799.30	2.20%
	TD	08.12.10	08.07.11	212	6.20	533,598.63	533,598.62	4.40%
	TD	17.09.10	17.04.11	212	6.00	1,069,994.05	1,069,994.05	8.82%
	TD	08.12.10	08.07.11	212	6.20	808,030.20	808,030.20	6.66%
ST GEORGE	On Call				4.70	49,772.66	50,170.81	0.41%
	TD	19.06.10	19.02.11	252	5.85	770,547.94	786,736.14	6.49%
SUNCORP	TD	08.12.10	09.03.11	90	5.70	1,084,485.33	1,084,485.33	8.94%
			TOTAL			12,558,169.34	12,131,467.76	100.00%
INTERNAL LN (Commercial Loan Int Rate)	Gen to Sew	15.01.11	On Receipt of Ext Loan		7.31	0.00	2,750,000.00	

I, Carol Farnsworth, Lithgow City Council's Internal Services Manager (Responsible Accounting Officer) certify as required under Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, that Council's investments have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Regulations and Lithgow City Council's Investment Policy.

At the meeting of the 24 January 2011 Council requested additional reporting in relation to historical and proposed investments.

Current investments are shown for 2010/11 as well as the proposed investment balance as at 30 June 2011.

It should be noted that the 2010/11 loan borrowing program will be drawn down in coming months and are currently being funded by an internal loan from General to Sewerage Fund.



POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Investments are held in accordance with the Lithgow City Council's Investment Policy at the date of investing the funds. On 21 October 2008 Council adopted the current version of the Investment Policy as Policy 8.2. The policy is currently under review following the Ministers Order on Circular 11-01.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Interest received to 31 December 2010 is \$518,433.27 of an estimated \$553,375.00 shown in the 2010/11 Management Plan which will be reviewed in conjunction with the March review. Interest is paid on the maturity date of the investment.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Investments are held in accordance with the Lithgow City Council's Investment Policy at the date of investing the funds. On 21 October 2008 Council adopted the current version of the Investment Policy as Policy 8.2 and all future investments will comply with this Policy which accords with the requirements of the:

- Local Government Act 1993 - Section 625
- Local Government Act 1993 - Order dated 31 July 2008
- Local Government (General) Regulation 2005
- Trustee Amendment (Discretionary Investments) Act 1997 Section 14A(2), 14c(1) & (2)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Investments of \$12,131,467.76 for the period ending 28 February 2011 be noted.

ITEM: 19 INTS - 28/03/11 - GENERAL INFORMATION (PUBLIC ACCESS) ACT 2009 PUBLICATION GUIDE AND DRAFT POLICY 9.17: ACCESS TO INFORMATION HELD.

REPORT FROM - INTERNAL SERVICES MANAGER C FARNSWORTH

REFERENCE

Min No 11-30: Ordinary Meeting held on 24th January 2011

SUMMARY

Council at the meeting of 24 January 2011 resolved to advertise Draft Policy 9.17 'Access to Information Held' and the Draft Publication Guide as required by the General Information (Public Access) Act 2009. The advertising period has now concluded and a recommendation is included for the adoption of the documents.

COMMENTARY

As previously advised the General Information (Public Access) Act legislation came into effect on the 1 July 2010, replacing the former Statement and Summary of Affairs under the Freedom of Information law and s 12 of the Local Government Act. The Council information that is publically available is recorded in a Council 'Publication Guide' and dealt with by an Access to Information policy.

Council at the meeting of 24 January 2011 resolved:

11-30 RESOLVED

THAT:

1. Under the provisions of s 20 of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 Council endorse the Publication Guide.
2. The Publication Guide be posted on the Right to Information page of Lithgow City Council's website
3. Council advertises Draft Policy 9.17 Access to Information Held for a period of 21 days prior to further consideration by Council at a future meeting.

Draft Policy 9.17 Access to Information Held and the GIPA Act Publication Guide was advertised for a period of 21 days and at the conclusion of the advertising period no submissions were received. It is recommended that the documents be adopted without alteration.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Lithgow City Council 'Publication Guide'
2. Policy 9.17 Access to Information Held

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Draft Policy 9.17 'Access to Information Held' and the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, reported to Council on the 24 January 2011, be adopted as the final version following the required advertising period with no submissions received.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

**ITEM: 20 COMM - 28/03/2011 - CRIME PREVENTION COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES - 13 DECEMBER 2010 AND 14 FEBRUARY 2011**

REPORT FROM: MATTHEW JOHNSON

REFERENCE

Min No 09-396:	Ordinary Meeting of Council held 14 September 2009
Min No 09-397:	Ordinary Meeting of Council held 14 September 2009
Min No 10-76:	Ordinary Meeting of Council held 01 March 2010
Min No 10-145:	Ordinary Meeting of Council held 12 April 2010
Min No 10-208:	Ordinary Meeting of Council held 10 May 2010
Min No 10-254:	Ordinary Meeting of Council held 21 June 2010
Min No 10-360:	Ordinary Meeting of Council held 23 August 2010
Min No 10-409:	Ordinary Meeting of Council held 20 September 2010

SUMMARY

This report details the Minutes of the Crime Prevention Committee Meetings held on 13 December 2010 and 14 February 2011.

COMMENTARY

At the Crime Prevention Committee held on 13 December 2010, there were eight (8) items discussed by the Committee.

1. Present and Apologies
2. Confirmation of Minutes From The Previous Meeting
3. Business Arising From Previous Minutes
4. Domestic Violence Initiatives
5. Kronoberg Model
6. Crime Audit
7. Transport
8. General Business

At the Crime Prevention Committee held on 14 February 2011, there were eight (8) items discussed by the Committee.

1. Present and Apologies
2. Confirmation of Minutes From The Previous Meeting
3. Business Arising From Previous Minutes
4. Domestic Violence Initiatives
5. Crime Plan Actions
6. Crime Audit
7. Transport
8. General Business

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes from the Crime Prevention Committee meetings of 13 December 2010 and 14 February 2011.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council notes the minutes of the Crime Prevention Committee meetings of 13 December 2010 and 14 February 2011.

ITEM: 21 COMM - 28/03/2011 - AGEING STRATEGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - 16 DECEMBER 2010

REPORT FROM: GROUP MANAGER COMMUNITY & CORPORATE SERVICES, SUZANNE LOLLBACK

REFERENCE

Min No 09-352: Ordinary Meeting of Council held 24 August 2009
Min No 10-80: Ordinary Meeting of Council held 1 March 2010
Min No 10-144: Ordinary Meeting of Council held 12 April 2010
Min No 10-252: Ordinary Meeting of Council held 21 June 2010
Min No 10-408: Ordinary Meeting of Council held 2 September 2010
Min No 10-456: Ordinary Meeting of Council held 1 November 2010
Min No 10-547: Ordinary Meeting of Council held 13 December 2010

SUMMARY

This report details the Minutes of the Ageing Strategy Advisory Committee Meeting held on 16 December 2010.

COMMENTARY

At the Ageing Strategy Advisory Committee held on 16 December 2010, there were seven (7) items discussed by the Committee.

1. Present and Apologies
2. Confirmation of Minutes From The Previous Meeting
3. Business Arising From Previous Minutes
4. Community Profile
5. Draft Strategy report Structure
6. Community Consultations
7. General Business

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes from the Ageing Strategy Advisory Committee meeting of 16 December 2010.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council notes the Ageing Strategy Advisory Committee minutes from 16 December 2010.

**ITEM: 22 COMM - 28/03/2011 - ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES - 9 FEBRUARY 2011**

REPORT FROM: MATTHEW JOHNSON

REFERENCE

Min No 07-389	Policy & Strategy Committee Meeting 3 September 2007
Min No F08-21	Finance & Services Committee of Council Meeting 3 March 2008
Min No 008-153	Extraordinary Meeting of Council 29 September 2008
Min No 008-198	Ordinary Meeting of Council 18 November 2008
Min No 09-381	Ordinary Meeting of Council 14 September 2009
Min No 10-137	Ordinary Meeting of Council 12 April 2010
Min No 10-309	Ordinary Meeting of Council 2 August 2010
Min No 10-454	Ordinary Meeting of Council held 1 November 2011

SUMMARY

This report details the Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting held on 9 February 2011 and includes two (2) recommendations for Council's consideration.

COMMENTARY

At the Environmental Advisory Committee held on 9 February 2011, there were eleven (11) items discussed by the Committee.

1. Present and Apologies
2. Confirmation of Minutes From The Previous Meeting
3. Business Arising From Previous Minutes
4. Council Management Plans
5. Office of the Hawkesbury Nepean
6. Development of a Council Community Consultation Policy
7. Sewage and Stormwater in Farmers Creek
8. National Greencorps Project
9. Members Update
10. General Business
11. Historic Items

In relation to item 4, the EAC made the following recommendation to Council:

The EAC recommends that Council imposes a moratorium on approving Development Applications on Council owned or managed reserves that are predominantly bushland until a Plan of Management is developed.

Officer Note:

Some matters that Council may need to consider include:

- *In some cases, should the land be 'community' classified, a Plan of Management may need to be in place with a categorisation allowing for the particular activity to take place.*
- *The level of community engagement required relating to the lodgement should there be other stakeholders and/or users may need to be considered on Council owned or managed land.*
- *Council may need to consider its legal position on the determination of development applications on any land given its obligations and legal requirements under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.*
- *Council could decide, if it so desired, as owner of land, not to give its approval to the lodgment of an application.*

In light of the above, officers consider that it is more appropriate to consider each case on its merits.

The EAC made a further recommendation under item 10 General Business that:

The EAC Terms of Reference be amended to allow for an additional community member, Mr Jeff Thurlow, the Manager of Lithgow Centrelink.

Officer Note:

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held 1 November 2011 (Minute 10-454, item 4) Council resolved to revise the EAC Terms of Reference to remove the school teacher, adult education and alternate community representative positions and increase the number of community representatives from 1 to 3 and that one of the three be a rural representative. Following that resolution, the community representatives to the EAC are Ms Sarah Childs (a rural representative), Mr Ian Millis and Ms Fiona Joy. It is recommended that the number of community representatives now be increased to four (4) and that Mr Jeff Furlow be appointed Community Representative.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes from the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting of 9 February 2011.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Notes the minutes from the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting of 9 February 2011.
2. Prior to approving Development Applications on Council owned or managed reserves that are predominantly bushland, Council considers each Development Application on its individual merits with consideration for the following:
 - The classification of the land.
 - The level of community engagement that may be required.
 - Council's legal position on the determination of development applications on any land given its obligations and legal requirements under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.
 - Council could decide, as owner or manager of land, not to give its approval to the lodgment of an application.
3. Increases the number of community representatives from the current three (3) to four (4).
4. Appoints Mr Jeff Furlow as a community representative to the EAC.

**ITEM: 23 COMM - 28/03/2011 - TOURISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES - 8 MARCH 2011**

REPORT FROM: TOURISM MANAGER - KELLIE BARROW

REFERENCE

Min No 09-234 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 1 June 2009
Min No 09-338 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 3 August 2009
Min No 09-381 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 14 September 2009
Min No 09-338 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 14 September 2009
Min No 09-463 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 2 November 2009
Min No 09-464 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 2 November 2009
Min No 09-515 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 23 November 2009
Min No 10-21 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 18 January 2010-06-30
Min No 10-74 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 1 March 2010
Min No 10-210 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 24 May 2010
Min No 10-311 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 2 August 2010
Min No 10-363 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 23 August 2010
Min No 10-458 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 1 November 2010
Min No 10-492 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 22 November 2010
Min No 11-35 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 24 January 2011
Min No 11-83 - Ordinary Meeting of Council 7 March 2011

SUMMARY

This report details the Minutes of the Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting held on 8 March 2011.

COMMENTARY

At the Tourism Advisory Committee held on 8 March 2011, there were nine (9) items discussed by the Committee.

1. Present and apologies.
2. Confirmation of Minutes from the Previous Meeting.
3. Business Arising from Previous Meeting.
4. Regional Tourism Profile - Tourism Research Australia.
5. Upcoming Events.
6. Tourism Workshops.
7. Tourism Advisory Committee Meetings.
8. Tourism Manager's Report.
9. General Business.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes from the Tourism Advisory Committee meeting of 8 March 2011.
2. Any other attachments relevant to Council decision making process.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Notes the minutes of the Tourism Advisory Committee held on 8 March 2011.
2. Endorses the Tourism Advisory Committee be held on the first Tuesday of every second month.
3. Notes that staff will meet with Mr Michael Forbes and Mr Michael Wilson to discuss grant options for the Zig Zag Railway, in particular, from Regional Development Australia Fund.
4. Notes that the development of a Lithgow Tourism Strategy has commenced with the compilation of available information.

DELEGATES REPORT

ITEM: 24 DELEGATES REPORT - 28/03/11 - CENTROC MEETING HELD ON 24TH FEBRUARY 2011

REPORT FROM: THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR NEVILLE CASTLE

COMMENTARY

This meeting was the first meeting of Centroc to be held in the Harden Shire, which continues the aim of Centroc to represent all areas and to be able to have meetings over time in all council areas that are members of Centroc.

One of the reports was a priority of member councils and interesting to note that the top two priorities for when considering all councils, was the Bells Line project and transport and water infrastructure for the region. As such Centroc has reaffirmed these two areas as being their priority areas over the ensuing couple of years.

As for the Bells Line project it has been noted that member Councils should lobby State and Federal representatives to commit to the next step in securing the corridor for the project, which is to establish route options, selection of a preferred route and the reservation of the route on LEP's. As such Centroc has sent letters to the Minister responsible and are also sending letters to the relevant Opposition members.

Centroc received a financial statement report which indicated that a fee rise is likely for the upcoming year. Lithgow's fees will go from nearly \$19,000 to just over \$20,000. A rise of approx \$1400. This figure should be balanced by the fact that in the last financial year Lithgow Council has had a benefit of being in Centroc in savings of nearly \$50,000.

The next meeting of Centroc will be asking a representative from the Central West Division of General Practitioners to address them in regard to health issues that have become apparent in recent months.

From the "weather" report of Centroc some interesting pieces of information were shown to Centroc. This included that December was the 8th wettest December on record for NSW and it was the second wettest January since 1996 and the 5th coldest December on record for NSW. It was also pointed out that January was the 7th consecutive month with above average rainfall for NSW. Additional information will be available on the Centroc website.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

ATTACHMENTS

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report on the Centroc Meeting held on 24th February 2011 be received and noted.

BUSINESS OF GREAT URGENCY

In accordance with Clause 241 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 business may be transacted at a meeting of Council even though due notice of the business has not been given to the Councillors. However, this can happen only of:

- a) *A motion is passed to have the business transacted at the meeting: and*
- b) *The business proposed to be brought forward is ruled by the Chairperson to be of great urgency.*