



LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL

A CENTRE OF REGIONAL EXCELLENCE

AGENDA

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

TO BE HELD AT

THE ADMINISTRATION CENTRE, LITHGOW

ON

18 APRIL 2011

AT 7.00pm

AGENDA

APOLOGIES

PRESENT

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 28TH MARCH 2011

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

PUBLIC FORUM

PRESENTATIONS - NIL

MAYORAL MINUTES - NIL

NOTICES OF MOTION - **Councillor M F Ticehurst** - Update on the LCC \$130,000 Fine in the Land and Environment Court
Councillor M F Ticehurst - Sydney media Articles on Councils Proposed Closure of Pearson's Lookout at Capertee
Councillor M F Ticehurst - Funding Agreement for the Lithgow Golf Course Recycled Water Project
Councillor M F Ticehurst - Alleged Police Action against Portland Business Owner involving Lithgow Council
Councillor M F Ticehurst - Future viability of Lithgow registered Cubs in Media
Councillor W McAndrew - State Government grant of \$1M to Lithgow PCYC

NOTICE OF RESCISSIONS - NIL

CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

General Managers Reports
Environment and Development Services Reports
Operations Services Reports
Community and Strategy Services Reports
Finance Services Reports

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Ageing and Strategy Committee
Economic Development Advisory Committee
Crime Prevention Committee
Sports Advisory Committee

REPORTS FROM DELEGATES - NIL

BUSINESS OF GREAT URGENCY

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

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NOTICES OF MOTION

ITEM: 1 NOTICE OF MOTION - 18/04/11 - QWN - UPDATE ON LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL \$130,000 FINE IN THE LAND AND ENVIRONMENT COURT - COUNCILLOR M F TICEHURST

REFERENCE

Listed by Councillor Martin Ticehurst 8 April 2011
Land & Environment Court: (DECCW) Vs the Lithgow City Council 11 February 2011.
Resolution 11 – 52 Ordinary Meeting of the Lithgow City Council 14 February 2011.
Resolutions 11 – 94 and 11 – 95 Ordinary Meeting of the Lithgow City Council 7 March 2011.

COMMENTARY

As Council and Councillors would be aware, Lithgow City Council was fined a total of \$130,000, plus it was required to pay its own legal costs as a result of a recently successful legal action by the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) against the Lithgow City Council in the Land and Environment Court, in respect to offences under the National Parks and Wildlife Act relating to past Council road maintenance activities in the Capertee Valley.

In a report on the matter to the Ordinary Meeting of the Lithgow City Council on Monday 14 February 2011, it was indicated that, "Consideration is now being given to how the Management Plan and budget may be amended to fund the fines and costs."

Q. Could the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with an urgent report to this Meeting of Council on the current status of what "Consideration is now being given to how the Management Plan and budget may be amended to fund the fines and costs." Including the subsequent financial costs incurred for obtaining a legal opinion on the possibility of an Appeal?

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with an urgent report to this Meeting of Council on the current status of what "Consideration is now being given to how the Management Plan and budget may be amended to fund the fines and costs." Including the subsequent financial costs incurred for obtaining a legal opinion on the possibility of an Appeal.

GENERAL MANAGERS COMMENT

Council was advised that the funding of the fine would be considered as part of the Budget review. The Review is to be considered at a future meeting of Council.

ITEM: 2 NOTICE OF MOTION - 18/04/11 - SYDNEY MEDIA ARTICLE ON COUNCILS PROPOSED CLOSURE OF PEARSONS LOOKOUT AT CAPERTEE - COUNCILLOR M F TICEHURST

REFERENCE

Listed by Councillor Martin Ticehurst 8 April 2011
Sydney Sun-Herald article 27 March 2011: "Looking out for a Lookout."
Resolution 11- 40 and related Supplementary Motion and Amendment – Ordinary Meeting of Lithgow City Council 14 February 2011.

COMMENTARY

Q. Could the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with an updated report to this Council Meeting on the current status of Council Resolution 11- 40 and related Supplementary Motion and Amendment made at the Ordinary Meeting of Lithgow City Council 14 February 2011 regarding the closure of Pearson's Lookout at Capertee?

ATTACHMENTS

Sydney Sun-Herald article 27 March 2011: "Looking out for a Lookout."

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with a report to this Council Meeting on the current status of Council Resolution 11- 40 and related Supplementary Motion and Amendment made at the Ordinary Meeting of Lithgow City Council 14 February 2011 regarding the closure of Pearson's Lookout at Capertee.

GENERAL MANAGERS COMMENT

The previous Council resolutions were:

11-40 RESOLVED

THAT:

1. The General Manager provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with a written response to the Question with Notice:
 - *Could the General Manager provide to Councillors and Council, an updated report on the outstanding upgrading of the Pearson's Lookout off the Castlereagh Highway near Capertee; particularly following the written response from Mr David Borger MP, the State Minister for Roads which was recently published on the Capertee Valley Alliance website?*
2. As a matter of urgency after the elections, a delegation with Council representatives and residents of the Capertee Valley seek a meeting with the Premier of NSW with regard to trying to overcome this matter.

11-41 RESOLVED

THAT Council approach the Roads and Traffic Authority to close the Pearson's Lookout as a matter of urgency.

The RTA have been advised of the Council resolution and a letter sent to the local member requesting a meeting with the Premier in relation to the lookout. A staff report has also been included in this business paper.

ITEM: 3 NOTICE OF MOTION - 18/04/11 - FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR THE LITHGOW GOLF COURSE RECYCLED WATER PROJECT - COUNCILLOR M F TICEHURST

REFERENCE

Listed by Councillor Martin Ticehurst 8 April 2011
Resolution 10 -12 Ordinary Meeting of the Lithgow City Council 18 January 2010.
Resolution 10 – 422 Ordinary Meeting of the Lithgow City Council 11 October 2010.

COMMENTARY

At the Ordinary Meeting of the Lithgow City Council on 11 October 2010, the Council resolved:

THAT:

1. Council accept the funding of \$350,000 for the construction of a pipeline to convey recycled water to the Golf Course and the Common seal be authorised to be affixed to the Funding Agreement.
2. Before progressing beyond Milestone 2 of the project that the matter be reported back to Council.

Q. Could the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with an urgent report to this Meeting of Council on the current status of the Funding Agreement for the Lithgow Golf Course Recycled Water Project?

ATTACHMENTS

1. Agenda Item and related Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Lithgow City Council on 11 October 2010 - Item 4 Funding Agreement for the Lithgow Golf Course Recycled Water Project.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with an urgent report to this Meeting of Council on the current status of the Funding Agreement for the Lithgow Golf Course Recycled Water Project?

ITEM: 4 NOTICE OF MOTION - 18/04/11 - ALLEGED POLICE ACTION AGAINST PORTLAND BUSINESS OWNER INVOLVING LITHGOW COUNCIL - COUNCILLOR M F TICEHURST

REFERENCE

Listed by Councillor Martin Ticehurst 8 April 2011
Recent media report in the Lithgow Mercury 'The Saint': "*Storm in a Treecup*'.

COMMENTARY

The following media report was recently published in 'The Saint' column of the Lithgow Mercury under the heading 'Storm in a Treecup'.

"Things have also been a bit exciting, though on a more localised scale at Portland in recent weeks. The kerfuffle revolves an issue where a Portland shopkeeper arranged for an arborist to cut branches off a tree she claimed was obstructing views of her shop. Some other Portland residents were not impressed when they saw what was going on and called Lithgow Council. This resulted in someone, allegedly from Council calling the Police who turned up at the shopkeepers door. She was left with the impression that she was to be prosecuted for malicious damage to a Council tree and was understandably more than a little concerned at the turn of events. The plot thickened when the woman claimed that she had permission to carry out the lopping but the claim was flatly denied by the Council. The Council decided that she would be let off with a warning and no further action would be taken. One might have expected this local issue to have ended there but it is going on an on with demands for apologies from Council to the shopkeeper and input from councillors and out of town residents the rights and wrongs of what appears to be a storm in a treecup will no doubt become clearer down the line."

- Q. Could the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with an report to the next Meeting of the Council in respect of the above subject media report that was recently published in 'The Saint' column of the Lithgow Mercury and that Councillors be provided with all correspondence between the Lithgow City Council, the NSW Police Service and the owner of the Portland Business?

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with an report to the next Meeting of the Council in respect of the above subject media report that was recently published in 'The Saint' column of the Lithgow Mercury and that Councillors be provided with all correspondence between the Lithgow City Council, the NSW Police Service and the owner of the Portland Business?

ITEM: 5 NOTICE OF MOTION - 18/04/11 - FUTURE VIABILITY OF LITHGOW REGISTERED CLUBS IN MEDIA - COUNCILLOR M F TICEHURST

REFERENCE

Listed by Councillor Martin Ticehurst

8 April 2011

Media article in the Lithgow Mercury Saturday 9 April 2011: ***'Lithgow Registered Clubs warn of poker machine dramas'***.

COMMENTARY

Q. Could the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with an report to this Meeting of Council over recent concerns expressed in the Lithgow Mercury on Saturday 9 April 2011 over the future viability of Registered Clubs in the Lithgow City Council Local Government area?

ATTACHMENTS

1. Media article in the Lithgow Mercury Saturday 9 April 2011: ***'Lithgow Registered Clubs warn of poker machine dramas'***.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the General Manager and Council Officers provide the Council Councillors and ratepayers with an report to this Meeting of Council over recent concerns expressed in the Lithgow Mercury on Saturday 9 April 2011 over the future viability of Registered Clubs in the Lithgow City Council Local Government area?

ITEM: 6 NOTICE OF MOTION - 18/04/11 - STATE GOVERNMENT GRANT OF \$1MILLION TO LITHGOW PCYC - COUNCILLOR W MCANDREW

COMMENTARY

Councillor would be aware of claims and counter claims in the local media recently regarding a grant made to the local Lithgow PCYC back in 2044 by the then NSW State Labor Government for a \$1M upgrade of the club.

After a number of articles appeared in the local paper that the grant had been spent elsewhere, I moved as a matter of urgency that PCYC NSW and the Government through the then local member Gerard Martin be asked to explain to Council whether the money had been spent at Lithgow PCYC and if not why not.

I note the email responses to the General Manager from previous Member for Bathurst Gerard Martin and Chris Gardiner CEO PCYC NSW. The response from Gerard Martin is clear and unambiguous however, the response from Chris Gardiner is at the best confusing and at the worst contradictory and does not answer the question asked by Council.

I note also an article by Len Ashworth the Editor of the Lithgow Mercury dated the 15th March this year asking the same questions. That article also quotes a Mr Brian Kinney who was a past committee secretary of the Lithgow PCYC who endorses the views of Gerard Martin on the issue and also provided copies of committee minutes to the Mercury relevant to the issue at that time.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

ATTACHMENTS

1. Lithgow Mercury Article "PCYC lost a million" dated 15th March 2011
2. Email from Chris Gardiner dated 7th March 2011
3. Email from Gerard Martin dated 15th February 2011

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Council immediately seek from the PCYC NSW that the original grant of \$1M be brought back to Lithgow and be used to refurbish the Lithgow PCYC building.
2. If the PCYC does not agree to Councils request, that Council seeks a meeting with the new State Member for Bathurst, Paul Toole for his and Government support in achieving the above outcome; and
3. The \$1M grant be in addition to the \$450,000 already promised by the new coalition Government for the upgrade of the Lithgow Facility

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORTS

ITEM: 7 GM - 18/04/11 - DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2011/12 - 2014/15 - DRAFT OPERATIONS PLAN 2011/12

REFERENCE

NIL

SUMMARY

The Council's combined Draft Management Plan 2011/12 – 2014/15 and Draft Operations Plan 2011/12 has been prepared and is provided for the consideration of Council to place on public exhibition.

COMMENTARY

Lithgow City Council plays an important role in the community by undertaking a wide range of activities and works on behalf of residents and visitors. To inform the community of these planned activities and works, the Council each year prepares a combined four year Management Plan and annual Operations Plan. The Plan provides details of how Council will fund proposed activities and how Council will measure its performance.

The combined Draft Management Plan 2011/12 – 2014/15 and Draft Operations Plan 2011/12 has been prepared and it details Council's activities for the next 4 years and the Revenue Policy for 2011/12. It incorporates the strategies of Council's Strategic Plan for the four year period identifying those activities which are operational (recurrent or annual) activities or capital works and new initiatives to be undertaken.

Should the Council endorse the Draft Management Plan, community forums will be held on the following days and times:

- Thursday 28th April 2011 at 7.00pm – Old School Hall, Hartley
- Tuesday 3 May 2011 at 6pm – Council Chambers, Lithgow
- Wednesday 4 May 2011 at 6pm – Wallerawang Sporting Complex
- Wednesday 4 May 2011 at 8pm – Portland Central School Library.
- Thursday 5 May 2011 at 7pm – Hampton Public School Library
- Wednesday 11 May 2011 at 7pm – Cullen Bullen Progress Hall

The combined Draft Management Plan 2011/12 – 2014/25 and Draft Operations Plan 2011/12 is provide for Council's consideration to place on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days. Closing date for public submissions will be Monday 16 May 2011. This will allow the Plan to be put to the Council on 30 May for adoption.

The following report provides an overview of some of the key features contained in the Council's combined Draft Management Plan 2011/12 to 2014/15 and Draft Operations Plan 2011/12. The aim of the Plan is to provide a solid financial framework to ensure infrastructure and Council services can be provided to meet the requirements of residents and ratepayers as far as is practicably possible.

The 2011/12 Management Plan has been prepared predicting an increase of 3% in wages and material costs. Energy retailers have recommended a minimum increase of 15% to electricity accounts. Council foresees difficulties in meeting escalating costs to ensure current service standards are maintained at the community's high standard for existing assets and infrastructure.

General Rates

The Minister for Local Government, under the rate pegging legislation, has allowed the General Fund to increase by 2.8% for 2011/12. The rate pegging limit has been reflected in the Draft Management Plan and will provide additional income of \$294,299 on the General Rate income received in 2010/11.

As required by Local Government regulations the 'farmland' and 'intensive use' farmland remain the lowest rate in the dollar.

Fees and Charges

The Council has reviewed its fees and charges to ensure that they contribute to ensuring a balanced budget. Some fees and charges are set by legislation and these remain as they are. Other fees and charges are increased in line with CPI, and others, such as the cost to community members for the use of the Union Theatre, have been reviewed downwards. Water and sewerage charges are discussed further in the report.

Parking Rates

The parking rate will remain at 0.00839c in the dollar as an ad valorem rate applied to the valuation of the property. This is unaltered from 2010/2011 and will generate an income of \$216,299.27 on 155 properties identified in Railway Parade, Mort and Lithgow Streets.

Special Rate Variation – Infrastructure Levy

Council resolved in 2009 to make application to the Minister for Local Government for a special rate variation for infrastructure improvements in the local government area. The variation was approved for a 10 year period. Funds raised by this special rate are being used to improve many of the local roads and community buildings.

This is in response to Councillor and the community's concerns. Council continues to apply for grants to both the State and Federal Governments in addition to the special rate to progress improvements as quickly as possible. An example of this is the \$4.1 million received throughout 2009-2011 from the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program for improvements and construction of facilities such as the Lake Wallace Boatshed, Tony Luchetti Sportsground Precinct, Glanmire Oval Hockey Field and numerous halls.

The works funded by the Special Rate Variation in the following table are included in the combined Draft Management Plan 2011/12 – 2014/15 and Draft Operations Plan 2011/12:

PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY: SPECIAL RATE VARIATION SEC 508 (2) OF THE LG ACT 1993

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Roads				
Cox's River Road	40,000		40,000	
Magpie Hollow Road	145,000		157,566	
Mid Hartley Road		80,000		80,000
Glen Davis Road		105,000		139,948
Reseals - 10mm	101,365	101,365	101,365	101,365
Lithgow/ Portland Lanes	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
Total Road Improvements	376,365	376,365	388,931	411,313
Buildings				
Lithgow Swimming Pool Amenities; Roof, Drainage, Toilets	50,000		50,000	
Family History Society Tank St: Roofing	15,000			
Red Cross Hall: Roof, Drainage, Painting		50,000		50,000
Golf Club	20,000	15,000		15,000
Lake Wallace Toilets: Refit Interior & Security		35,948	23,382	
General Asset Building Maintenance	10,000	10,000	25,000	10,000
Total Building Improvements	95,000	112,795	76,950	76,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE SPECIAL RATE	471,365	487,313	487,313	487,313

Waste Charges

Due to the further development of the waste disposal facility at Blackman's Flat and upgrading of the Lithgow Solid Waste Facility during 2011/12 it is recommended that the residential and business garbage charge be increased by \$20.00 per property from \$297.00 to \$317.00.

Waste Charges

Type of Service	Charge (\$)	Estimated Yield (\$)
Residential	317.00	2,549,314
Second Bin	317.00	2,219
Medical Waste/Large Family		
Business	317.00	197,808
Non Rateable	317.00	70,057
Unoccupied Urban	119.00	79,968
Rural	76.50	179,469
Total Estimated Yield		3,078,835

Stormwater Charges

It is proposed that the following stormwater charges will be levied on all residential and business properties within identified urban areas, except those which are vacant land and remain unchanged from the 2010/11 stormwater charges. The levy is used to partly fund the maintenance and improvements to urban drainage as well as the flood mitigation works at Farmers Creek, Lithgow.

Stormwater Charges		
Type	Charge (\$)	Estimated Yield (\$)
Residential	25.00	150,225
Strata Unit (Residential)	12.50	1,087
Business	25.00 per 350sq metres (\$1,500 Cap)	88,325
Total Estimated Yield		239,637

Key Social, Economic and Environmental Strategies

In the Plan Council is continuing to plan for a sustainable future by responding to the needs outlined in its Corporate Strategic Plan 2007 for the development of robust planning instruments. During 2010/11 Council continued to plan for the future with the community and completed the Economic Development Strategy, Crime Prevention Plan, Business and Retail Strategy and Wallerawang Industrial Park Study. Council also developed the Land Use Strategy and Issues Paper, Draft Open Space and Recreation Study and Draft Lithgow Heritage Development Control Plan Study. In addition an Economic Prospectus and Draft Ageing Strategy are currently being finalised and a Tourism Development Strategy is about to be commenced.

All of these plans provide, and will provide, well-informed evidence and have had considerable community input. As such, they inform Council's decisions and are informing the Draft Management and Operations Plan.

During 2011/12 Council will be continuing to work with the community to plan for the future by:

- Completing a review of the Corporate Strategic Plan and audit of newly developed plans prior to consulting with the community to develop a 10-year Community Strategic Plan for the Lithgow local government area.
- Developing a comprehensive Local Environmental Plan for the area and a Comprehensive Development Control Plan.
- Developing an Asset Management Framework for roads, buildings, drainage and other infrastructure.
- Developing Public Lands Plans of Management for 'community' and 'crown' lands.
- Finalising a Tourism Development Strategy
- Developing a Masterplan for Council's major open space areas.
- Developing a Floodplain Risk Management Plan which will identify flood effected areas, evacuation routes and emergency provisions.

Other significant projects will include:

- Developing the Lithgow Heritage Walk, a public art and placemaking project largely funded with \$100,000 from Xstrata Coal. This project was identified in the Cultural Precinct Study as a priority action and will link Eskbank House Museum, Blast Furnace Park and Lake Pillans Wetland.
- Continuing promotion of Lithgow as a place to invest, do business and visit through integrated marketing and promotional strategies utilising such means as the Lithgow Visitors Guide and Economic Prospectus and by working collaboratively with businesses and Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon Tourism, as well as government agencies such as the Department of Industry and Investment.

Council will continue to provide a range of community services that underpin quality of life including:

- Operation of the Council's Libraries in Lithgow, Portland and Wallerawang with Portland Library to receive a much needed new fit-out.
- Financial assistance to community groups.
- Continuing operations of Eskbank House Museum.
- Carrying out of health inspections for food premises, trade waste, septic tanks and water supplies.
- Provision of tourism information services through the Visitor Information Centre.
- Support for youth activities identified by the Youth Council and Youth Forums.

Major upgrades to roads and buildings planned

Significant works need to be undertaken on roads and public buildings to improve their condition. To this end Council is continuing to inject significant funds into infrastructure into the future. Major projects for 2011/12 will include:

Roads to Recovery Program

- Rehabilitation of 1.5-2km of the old sections of the Glen Alice Road in the Mt Marsden area - \$160,000
- Rehabilitation of 1.5-2km of the old bitumen sections on Cuthill Road near Jerrys Meadows Road. - \$150,000
- Rehabilitation of 2.5-3km of the old bitumen sections at the Hampton end of Rydal Hampton Road - \$250,000.

Rural Roads Improvements funded from Revenue

- Gravel resheeting of Thompsons Creek Road - \$40,000
- Gravel resheeting at the Palmers Oakey end of Mt Horrible Road, - \$30,000
- Gravel resheeting towards Turon Gates of the Palmers Oakey Road - \$40,000
- Gravel resheeting of various Glen Davis Streets - \$40,000

Road works fund from the Infrastructure Levy Program

- Heavy Patching of Cox's River Road between the Great Western Highway and Blackheath Creek Road - \$40,000
- Bitumen reseal of Magpie Hollow Road between Rydal Hampton Road and Lake Lyell - \$145,000
- Urban reseals to various streets in Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland - \$191,000

Rural Roads sealed rehabilitation funded from revenue

- Magpie Hollow Road from the Rydal Hampton Road – Lake Lyell - \$100,000
- Glen Alice Road in the Mt Marsden area - \$100,000

Urban Streets, Portland reseals funded from revenue

- Portland street including Payne Street, Bate Street and Portland Road - \$100,000
- Mort Street, Lithgow - \$100,000

Rural reseals funded from revenue

- Cox's River Road between Blackheath Creek Road and Kanimbla Drive - \$100,000

Road Ancillary Facilities

- Pedestrian footpath facilities from South Bowenfels to Dunns Corner - \$35,000
- Kerb and gutter construction – Barton Avenue, Wallerawang - \$65,000
- Drainage improvement in Lithgow to the Tank Street open drain - \$60,000
- Drain improvements in Falnash Street, Portland - \$60,000
- Upgrade of timber road bridges - \$65,000

Improvements to buildings

- Replacing the existing toilet amenities in Queen Elizabeth Park - \$150,000
- Construction of new toilet amenities at Watsford/Conron Ovals - \$95,000
- Upgrade to the dressing area at the rear of the stage in the Union Theatre - \$165,000
- Upgrade Lithgow and Wallerawang Works Depots including replacement of underground diesel and ULP tanks to comply with legislation - \$325,000.

Lithgow Swimming Centre

Continuation of stage 1 of the new Aquatic Centre including new amenities, parking area, disabled access, change rooms and children's' splash park - \$150,000

Recreation Assets Upgrade

Works included in this program are: Top dressing playing fields, vegetation management of natural watercourses in Lithgow, streetscape improvements, cricket wicket replacement, passive parks improvements and cemetery improvements - \$450,000

Flood Mitigation Program

Work will proceed on the design of the next section of Farmers Creek mitigation from Watsford Oval to the Albert Street Bridge. This section will present a number of complex engineering challenges due to the topography and location of existing services. Design costs - \$222,500 which is part funded from grants.

Waste Improvements

Council is continuing to upgrade its waste facilities including:

- Major capital works are to be undertaken to construct a new disposal area, and weighbridge at the Lithgow Solid Waste Facility - \$620,000
- Closure of Angus Place and Wallerawang Garbage Depots and commencement of rehabilitation - \$1,135,000
- Construction of a waste transfer station at Capertee - \$85,000

- Installation of remote surveillance equipment at rural landfills - \$20,000

Sewerage Treatment and Reticulation Improvements

Significant works need to be undertaken to Council's Sewerage Treatment and Reticulation systems to improve their condition and maximise efficiencies:

- Completion of major upgrades to the Lithgow and Wallerawang Sewerage Treatment Plants, work was commenced in 2010/11 with expenditure up to \$30million and in 2011/12 expenditure will be \$7million.
- Trunk main lining to minimise infiltration in Lithgow - \$300,000
- Headworks upgrade in the South Bowenfels areas including new pump stations and rising mains to cope with development and existing deficiencies - \$945,000
- Commencement of a study to upgrade the Portland Sewerage Treatment Plant - \$50,000
- Upgrade the existing pump stations, renew electrical switch gear, telemetry and pumps - \$280,000

Water Storage and Reticulation Improvements

Significant works need to be undertaken on to Council's Water Storage and Reticulation systems to improve their condition and maximise efficiencies:

- A major program to renew old water mains is to be undertaken particularly in Wallerawang and Portland to improve security of supply and minimise failure - \$470,000
- Replacement of existing sand filters and upgrading of Oakey Park Water Treatment Plant - \$436,000
- Upgrade the discharge system of waste produced from the Oakey Park Water Treatment Plant to achieve nil discharge into Farmers Creek – 200,000
- Continuation of dam safety works on Farmers Creek No. 2 Dam - \$150,000
- Undertake a Water Reservoir storage upgrade which will include the installation of flow meters and monitoring equipment - \$300,000.

Grant Funding

The Council is continuing to apply for funding from the State and Federal Government and other Sources. Since 2009, funding from the Federal Government's Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program has contributed towards a number of major upgrades: The following projects are continuing as part of this funding during 2011/12.

- Eskbank House Museum – Installation of heating - \$20,000
- School of Arts Building, Portland – Access Improvements - \$10,000
- Lithgow Town Band Hall – New roof - \$20,000
- South Littleton Hall Improvements to amenities - \$15,000
- Wallerawang - Upgrade cricket nets - \$27,000
- Skatepark at Portland – new equipment - \$10,000
- Skatepark at Wallerawang – new equipment - \$10,000
- Lake Pillans Wetlands – Upgrade walkways, signage and viewing areas - \$50,000
- Blast Furnace Park – Upgrade fencing, walkways and viewing platform - \$50,000

In addition it is anticipated that funds from the Department of Industry and Investment will contribute to economic development programs including investor forums and the Tourism Development Strategy.

It is also anticipated that Tourism NSW will contribute towards regional tourism marketing projects. Lithgow can reasonably expect to receive in the vicinity of \$25,000 from this source. As stated above Xstrata Coal is contributing \$100,000 spread over two years towards public art for a heritage walk.

Best Practice Water and Sewer Pricing

In 2010/11 Council was required as part of the funding conditions from the NSW State Government for the upgrade of the Lithgow Sewerage Treatment Plant to introduce major changes to its Water and Sewer Pricing which would see best practice in line with industry standards.

The aim of Best Practice Water and Sewer Pricing is for council to raise at least 75% of the total residential water revenue from user charges and the remaining 25% from access charges.

Sewerage Charges

Recent financial years has seen Council commence a very significant capital works program in particular on sewerage infrastructure and the next three to four years will ensure Council continues to construct and maintain an appropriate level of infrastructure.

Wastewater Major Capital Projects					
Project	2011/12 \$'000	2012/13 \$'000	2013/14 \$'000	2014/15 \$'000	Total Exp. \$'000
Lithgow / Wallerawang: UV	3,000,000		60,000	60,000	3,120,000
Wallerawang: STP	4,000,000				4,000,000
Portland: STP	100,000				100,000
Mains	200,000	200,000	300,000	300,000	1,000,000
Pumping Stations	100,000	10,000	10,000		120,000
Doctors Gap Extension		500,000	500,000		1,000,000
Cullen Bullen Sewer				100,000	100,000
South Bowenfels Infrastructure		577,000	161,000		738,000
Other Infrastructure	905,000				905,000
Total Sewerage	8,305,000	1,817,000	1,461,000	1,119,000	12,702,000

In 2011/12 the following residential or business sewage access charges will be levied on all rateable and non rateable properties which are connected to or within 75 metres of Council's reticulated sewerage system:

Sewerage Access Charges		
Type	Charge (\$)	Estimated Yield (\$)
Residential	431	3,060,100
Less write-off pension rebate		-169,750
Business (main size):		
200mm	880	880
100mm	880	17,600
50mm	775	44,950
20mm	585	205,335
Total Estimated Yield		268,765

The following sewerage usage charges will be levied to all properties using Council's reticulated sewerage system:

Sewerage Usage Charges	
Type	Charge (\$)
Residential	246
Business (95% of water usage)	1.23

Water Charges

Water Major Capital Projects					
Project	2011/12 \$'000	2012/13 \$'000	2013/14 \$'000	2014/15 \$'000	Total Exp. \$'000
Dam Safety works	150,000	100,000	100,000		350,000
Oakey Park WTP	436,000	150,000	100,000	50,000	736,000
Backwash Return	200,000				200,000
Reservoir Improvements	300,000	200,000	200,000		700,000
Mains Renewal	470,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	1,970,000
Other Infrastructure	305,000	50,000	350,000	300,000	1,005,000
Total Water	1,861,000	1,000,000	1,250,000	850,000	4,961,000

The following residential or business water availability charge will be levied on all rateable and non rateable properties which are connected to or within 225 metres of Council's reticulated water supply system:

Water Availability Charges		
Type	Charge (\$)	Estimated Yield (\$)
Residential	145	1,114,035
Less write-off pension rebate		-168,392
Business (main size):		
200mm	880	880
100mm	880	23,760
50mm	775	59,675
20mm	585	239,850
Total Estimated Yield		1,269,808

The following water usage charges will be levied to all properties using Council's reticulated water supply system:

Water Usage Charges	
Kilolitres Used	Charge (\$)
0 – 250 Residential	2.40 / kl
250+ Residential	3.60 / kl
All business – Flat rate	2.76 / kl

Interest charges on outstanding property balances

Interest to be charged on rate and water arrears has been determined by the Department of Local Government at 9%.

Capital projects and discretionary expenditure

To highlight major capital projects and discretionary expenditure in the combined Draft Management Plan and Draft Operations Plan they may be summarised as:

Capital Projects and Discretionary Expenditure			
	Expenditure	Income	2011/12
GENERAL FUND			
<u>EXECUTIVE</u>			
Additional to Reserve for 2012 Election	20,000.00		20,000.00
	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00
<u>TOTAL EXECUTIVE</u>	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00
<u>OPERATIONS</u>			
Bridge Improvements			
Timber Bridge Construction	64,725.50		64,725.50
	64,725.50		64,725.50
Drainage Improvements			
Urban / Rural Drainage: As Below 11/12 Tank St Drain Lithgow 11/12 Falnash St Portland	123,300.00		123,300.00
	123,300.00	0.00	123,300.00
Kerb & Gutter Construction			
Wallerawang / Portland Rd	64,600.00	-21,000.00	43,600.00
	64,600.00	-21,000.00	43,600.00
Footpath Construction			
Great Western Hwy	34,525.00		34,525.00
	34,525.00	0.00	34,525.00
Rural Roads Improvements			
Thompsons Creek Rd	39,500.00		39,500.00
Mt Horrible Rd	29,750.00		29,750.00
Palmers Oakey / Turon Gates	39,625.00		39,625.00

Glen Davis area	39,622.50		39,622.50
	148,497.50	0.00	148,497.50
Roads to Recovery Program	560,000.00	-560,000.00	0.00
Glen Alice Rd Rehab			
Rydal / Hampton Rd Rehab			
Cuthill Rd Rehab			
	560,000.00	-560,000.00	0.00
Infrastructure Levy Program (2009/10 DLG Application 5% Special Rate Variation)			
Infrastructure Levy Program (5% Special Rate: Income in Operating)			
Lithgow / Portland Lanes	90,000.00		90,000.00
Cox's River rd	40,000.00		40,000.00
Magpie Hollow Rd	145,000.00		145,000.00
Reseals - 10mm	101,365.00		101,365.00
General Asset Building Maintenance: 11/12 Wallerawang Grandstand	10,000.00		10,000.00
Lithgow Swimming pool amenities	50,000.00		50,000.00
Family Historical Society Tank St Roofing	15,000.00		15,000.00
Golf Club	20,000.00		20,000.00
	471,365.00	0.00	471,365.00
Urban Roads Reseals			
Mort St Eastern end	110,000.00		110,000.00
Cox' River Rd Hartley	100,000.00		100,000.00
	210,000.00	0.00	210,000.00
Rural Sealed Rehabilitation			
Magpie Hollow Rd	100,000.00		100,000.00
Glen Alice Rd	100,000.00		100,000.00
Portland Sts	100,000.00		100,000.00
	300,000.00	0.00	300,000.00
<u>OPERATIONS MISCELLANEOUS</u>			
Clean and seal Main St Pavers	50,000.00		50,000.00
Guardrail Installations	35,000.00		35,000.00
Line marking	35,000.00		35,000.00

Tree Removal Contract	20,000.00		20,000.00
Village Drainage	35,000.00		35,000.00
Bus Shelters	5,950.00		5,950.00
Cullen Bullen Tidy Towns Gardens	1,000.00		1,000.00
Portland Pool Operations	31,000.00		31,000.00
	212,950.00	0.00	212,950.00
TOTAL ROADS & OPERATIONS MISC	2,187,963.00	-581,000.00	1,606,963.00
<u>FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT</u>			
Flood mitigation Program	222,500.00	-150,000.00	72,500.00
	222,500.00	150,000.00	72,500.00
<u>RECREATION</u>			
Cemetery Improvements	25,000.00		25,000.00
Passive Parks Improvements	75,000.00		75,000.00
Streetscape Improvements	20,000.00		20,000.00
TL Floodlights	12,000.38		12,000.38
QE Park Improvements	49,000.75		49,000.75
Eskbank St Carpark Gardens	6,000.95		6,000.95
Structure Shades	7,000.00		7,000.00
Facilities Lake Pillans	4,975.29		4,975.29
Golf Club Improvements	16,000.00		16,000.00
Water Canon replacement at TL	12,000.00		12,000.00
Synthetic Wicket Replacement	10,000.00		10,000.00
Farmers Creek Vegetation	18,000.00		18,000.00
Top Dressing: Playing Fields	25,000.00		25,000.00
Lithgow Aquatic Centre Min 08.02.10	150,000.00		150,000.00
To Reserve: Infrastructure New Sporting area	250,000.00		250,000.00
TOTAL RECREATION	679,977.37	0.00	679,977.37
<u>PLANT</u>			
Heavy Plant	245,000.00	-19,500.000	225,500.00

Light Vehicle Fleet	320,000.00	-230,000.00	90,000.00
From Reserve	0.00	-310,500.00	-310,500.00
To Reserve	380,000.00		380,000.00
TOTAL PLANT & WORKSHOP	945,000.00	-560,000.00	385,000.00
<u>BUILDINGS</u>			
RECURRENT: Admin / Hartley Building Maintenance	80,000.00		80,000.00
Administration Centre/Hartley Building (Reserve)	70,000.00		70,000.00
Hartley Building Painting	11,000.00		11,000.00
Public Toilets Program: QE Park replace existing	150,000.00		150,000.00
Public Toilets / Park Program: Rydal to Reserve	50,000.00		50,000.00
Union Theatre (From Reserve Past Yrs)	165,416.00	-165,416.00	0.00
<u>DEPOT IMPROVEMENTS</u>			
Wallerawang Depot - Plant Shed	60,000.00		60,000.00
Store - Concrete Floor	40,000.00		40,000.00
Lithgow Depot Yard Seal	60,000.00		60,000.00
Two Way Radio Upgrade	80,000.00		80,000.00
Master Key system	200,000.00		200,000.00
Truck Hoist	15,000.00		15,000.00
Law Enforcement Cameras	10,000.00		10,000.00
EPA Compliance: Upgrade Fuel Bowsers Lithgow	75,000.00		75,000.00
EPA Compliance: Upgrade Fuel Bowsers Wallerawang	75,000.00		75,000.00
To Infrastructure Reserve for Future years	250,000.00		250,000.00
<u>TOTAL BUILDINGS</u>	1,391,416.00	-165,416.00	1,226,000.00
<u>TOTAL OPERATIONS</u>	5,426,856.37	1,456,416.00	3,970,440.37
<u>POLICY & PLANNING</u>			
<u>PLANNING</u>			
Open Space & Recreation Study	40,000.00		40,000.00
LUS / LEP ongoing implementation	100,000.00	-100,000.00	0.00
Development Servicing Plans	24,184.00		24,184.00

Heritage Strategy & Policy	63,000.00		63,000.00
Community Plans Management	22,000.00		22,000.00
Review of Automated 149 System	10,000.00		10,000.00
<u>ECONOMIC</u>			
Economic Promotion Projects	40,000.00		40,000.00
Promote Regional Towns & Shires (Conditional on PORTS Project)	25,000.00		25,000.00
<u>CORPORATE</u>			
Community Banners Program	3,000.00		3,000.00
Xmas: Main St Decorations Duplicated above	3,000.00		3,000.00
TOTAL POLICY & PLANNING	330,184.00	-100,000.00	230,184.00
<u>SEC 94: DEVELOPMENT</u>			
Sec 94 Expected Contributions: Income & To Reserve	60,000.00	-60,000.00	0.00
TOTAL DEVELOPMENT	60,000.00	-60,000.00	0.00
<u>TOTAL DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING</u>	390,184.00	-160,000.00	230,184.00
<u>IT CAPITAL</u>			
<u>INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</u>			
IT Reserve as programmed	417,000.00	-238,000.00	179,000.00
TOTAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	417,000.00	-238,000.00	179,000.00
<u>COMMUNITY CAPITAL</u>			
<u>LIBRARY</u>			
Furniture & fittings	10,600.00		10,600.00
Library Program costs	17,000.00		17,000.00
Purchase Library Resources	53,000.00		53,000.00
Library Special Purpose Grant	14,000.00	-14,000.00	0.00
TOTAL LIBRARY	94,600.00	-14,000.00	80,600.00
<u>COMMUNITY & CULTURAL</u>			
Community & Cultural Events	16,000.00		16,000.00
Noise Monitoring Equipment	8,000.00		8,000.00
Adventure Playground To Reserve	50,000.00		50,000.00

Upgrade Doctors Surgery Wang (opposite Lib)	10,000.00		10,000.00
Contribution to Centenary of Blue Mountains Crossing	5,000.00		5,000.00
Recommend Cult Precinct Study - Directional Signage	30,000.00		30,000.00
Eskbank House Marketing & Public Programs	11,000.00		11,000.00
Eskbank House Development	9,000.00		9,000.00
Cultural Precinct Sculpture Link: Xstrata Grant	130,000.00	-100,000.00	30,000.00
Pound Repairs	5,000.00		5,000.00
Perimeter Fence at Pound	30,000.00		30,000.00
Museum Advisor Program (3yrs Pt Grant)	11,765.00	-6,000.00	5,765.00
<u>DONATIONS</u>			
Donations as resolved	44,900.00		44,900.00
As per Council Resolution Donations annual donations in the recurrent budget			
NOTE: Policy hire facilities to the value of \$3,000	3,000.00		3,000.00
Stormwater Cont: Recreational Areas: Charge to \$1,500 Cap > 350sq m	6,000.00		6,000.00
	369,665.00	-106,000.00	263,665.00
<u>TOTAL COMMUNITY & CULTURAL</u>	464,265.00	-120,000.00	344,265.00
<u>TOURISM</u>			
Promotional Collateral: FORTO (Conditional on receipt of grant funds)	50,000.00	-25,000.00	25,000.00
Marketing Combined with Oberon and Bathurst	10,000.00		10,000.00
VIC Update Maps	7,000.00		7,000.00
On Line Marketing Campaign	8,000.00		8,000.00
Marquee & Shade Shelter	20,000.00		20,000.00
Special Events: Tidy Towns Awards (Grant to Tidy Towns)	10,000.00		10,000.00
Special Events: Tidy Towns Awards (In Kind Assistance)	10,000.00		10,000.00
TOTAL TOURISM	115,000.00	-25,000.00	90,000.00

Loans

In 2011/12 Council intends to borrow up to \$1,608,000 to carryout the following works:

- Completion of the Wallerawang STP: \$1,383,000
- South Bowenfels Infrastructure: \$ 225,000
- **Total 11/12 Loan Program \$1,608,000**

Depreciation

As advised in previous years, Council's treatment of depreciation has altered to previous management plans. Council had previously 'cash funded' depreciation: this Draft Management Plan reflects Council's injection of the depreciable value, \$7,693,299 back into infrastructure improvements.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications of the combined Draft Management Plan 2011/12 – 2014/15 and Draft Operations Plan 2011/12 are detailed in the budgets provided.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 outlines requirements for the preparation, exhibition and adoption of the management plans. The Draft Management Plan must be exhibited for a minimum period of 28 days.

ATTACHMENTS

1. The combined Draft Management Plan 2011/12 – 2014/15 and Draft Operations Plan 2011/12.
2. The Draft Fees and Charges 2011/12.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. The combined Draft Management Plan 2011/12 – 2014/15 and Draft Operations Plan 2011/12 and the Draft Fees and Charges 2011/12 be placed on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days;
2. The closing date for submissions be Monday 16 May 2011.

ITEM: 8 GM - 18/04/11 - NOTICE OF MOTIONS 2008 TO PRESENT

REFERENCE

Min No 11-12: Ordinary Meeting of Council 24th January 2011

SUMMARY

Council previously requested that a quarterly report be provided on Notices of Motion and the progress made in relation to those items.

COMMENTARY

Attached to the Business Paper is a table of notices of motion resolved by Council since 2008 along with resolutions from Business of Great Urgency for Council consideration. Included in the tables is information on action taken to implement the Council resolutions.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

ATTACHMENTS

1. Table of Notices of Motion adopted by Council since October 2008.
2. Table of resolutions of Council from Business of Great Urgency since October 2008.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report on the outstanding Notices of Motions from 2008 to present be noted.

ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM: 9 ENVIRO - 18/04/11 - RURAL LANDFILL CLOSURES - CLOSURES PLANS AND TIMETABLE

**REPORT BY: ANDREW MUIR – GROUP MANAGER ENVIRONMENT AND
DEVELOPMENT**

REFERENCE

Nil

SUMMARY

To advise Council of the timetable for the closure of rural landfills and the preparation of closure plans.

COMMENTARY

Each of Council's rural landfills has a finite life based on the area available at each site. The consent for the proposed Blackmans Flat Waste Disposal Facility which was issued in December 2006 includes a condition imposed by the Sydney Catchment Authority (SCA) requiring the closure of all existing landfills within the Sydney Catchment Area within six (6) months of the commencement of operations at the Blackmans Flat Waste Disposal Facility. Furthermore, there have been long running concerns expressed by the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) about management issues at rural landfills, primarily the lighting of unauthorised fires. With these issues in mind and following Council's decision to pursue the extension of life of the Lithgow Solid Waste Facility, DECCW expressed concern as to the life of the existing rural landfills and in response to this, closure plans have been prepared for each of the rural landfills and a draft timetable prepared indicating the proposed closure sequencing. This also includes a timetable for the construction of transfer stations at key localities. The construction of transfer stations is a matter which will be further explored in the Waste and Recycling Strategy which is currently being finalised.

Attached to this report is a chart indicating the sequence of landfill closures; however they may be summarised in the following table:

Landfill Name	Date of Proposed Closure
Angus Place	June 2011
Cullen Bullen	October 2012
Wallerawang	April 2013
Glen Davis	September 2013
Portland	April 2016
Capertee	March 2018

Whilst operational factors may arise that could alter this timetable, it presents the most accurate information available for strategic planning; public information and advice to DECCW.

It will be necessary to undertake a public information and media campaign to advise the relevant communities of the closure sequence of the landfills and Council's plans for the future in relation to the construction of transfer stations at key sites. As previously mentioned, these key sites will be subject to final consideration in the Waste and Recycling Strategy which will be separately reported to Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The closure, rehabilitation and ongoing monitoring of rural landfills has been estimated in each closure plan and this has been factored into Council's long term financial plan.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Although none of the rural landfills, except Portland, are licensed under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act, there are still concerns about unauthorised fires taking place due to the unattended nature of each landfill. This has the potential for DECCW to take action against Council in the event of unauthorised fires.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Chart indicating closure sequence of rural landfills

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. The report on the closure plans and closure sequence of rural landfills be noted.
2. A public information and media campaign commence, advising the relevant communities of the sequence of closures of rural landfills.

**ITEM: 10 ENVIRO - 18/04/11 - DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION /
CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE 036/10, EXTENSION TO EXISTING
USE - MEALS ROOM AND GARAGE - ACCESS INDUSTRIES**

**REPORT BY: ANDREW MUIR - GROUP MANAGER ENVIRONMENT AND
DEVELOPMENT**

SUMMARY

To assess and recommend determination of 036-10DACC. Recommendation will be for approval subject to conditions.

COMMENTARY

Council is in receipt of DACC 036/10 for the construction of a meal room and garage to the existing Access Industries on land known as Lot 1 Section 3 DP 416 and being located on the corner of Hartley Valley Road and Mort Street, Lithgow.

The proposal seeks to construct a large prefabricated shed on the existing land to provide a training/lunchroom for the current employees, together with a new more secure garage for the company's delivery vehicles.

The proposed training/lunchroom is required to allow removal of an existing, demountable structure that has been on site for some years.

Upon inspection of the site by Council Officers it was found that the 'existing use right' which Access Industries operated under had expanded into a garage that was previously approved by Council for the storage of a vehicle. As such, the applicant sought advice and then amended the current application to increase the area of the existing use in accordance with relevant legislative provisions.

The development proposal was notified to adjoining and adjacent landowners for a period of 14 days. In this period Council received one submission in the form of a petition (19 signatures) indicating that there were concerns by the surrounding landowners that the nature of the current operation was impinging on the quality of life due to 'recent changes'. After the original notification period and as a consequence of Council's thorough investigation, a further notification period was undertaken for an additional 14 days ending 24 September 2010 indicating the amended application and outlining the additional activities sought by the landowner. During this time Council received seven submissions all objecting to the proposal. A summary of the concerns are outlined below:

- Lack of fencing for the premise;
- Public exposure to dangerous vents causing unacceptable health risks;
- Improper and dangerous drainage from building;
- Improper and dangerous storage of chemical bottles;
- Improper and dangerous handling and disposal of chemicals;
- Emissions from western wall of main building and stacks from the compressor building including:
 - sounds
 - fumes

- lint
 - steam
 - smell
-
- Noise problem from existing and newly constructed vents;
 - Lack of grounds and building maintenance;
 - Unreasonable hours of operation placing additional impacts on surrounding residential receptors;
 - Inaccuracies in the acoustic report that require further investigation in accordance with promises made by the applicant at the public meeting;
 - Additional need for landscaping;
 - Increased litter onsite and around the site that is detrimental to the adjoining residential properties;
 - Need for substantial upgrade and maintenance to the external building;
 - Locations of vents accessing a public reserve;
 - No adequate toilet facilities impacting on public facilities;
 - Vibrations from existing machinery;
 - Newly installed baffles do not decrease sound and increase resonance;
 - Safety concerns for general public from easy access to operations within the development;
 - Possible risk to public health; and
 - Negative quality of life issues of adjoining residential receptors.

Due to the nature of the concerns, Council forwarded the summary to the applicant and sought comment in relation to the concerns.

In its response the applicant indicated that it was not the intention of Access Industries to negatively affect adjoining landowners through their operations and were undertaking several amelioration techniques to minimise the concerns raised. They include, but are not limited to:

- Removal of overhanging tree which divided adjoining land and replacing the dividing fence with new fencing.
- External vents had always been associated with Access Industries and are a requirement of any operations for a commercial laundry.
- The additional work has arisen from the additional contracts sourced through Lithgow Council with Emirates Resort.
- Contrary to concerns raised, Access Industries has been operating 7 days a week since April 2006 and the additional plant sourced in March 2010 was the only additional plant purchased within that time.
- Noise studies have been completed and the recommendations outlined within that report are being implemented to minimise any impacts caused by the operation.
- Detailed assessment into potential air pollution has also been undertaken to minimise the affect of the operation on, not only adjoining landowners, but the employees of Access Industries. The recommendations outlined within that assessment are also being implemented within the operation.

In the period of time since the initial application, Council has been in contact with both the concerned landowners and the proponent with an understanding of resolving perceived concerns and working through issues. It is considered that all parties have been open in relation to working through issues. Given the existing use provisions that Access Industries are operating under, this current application is seen as a way of placing controls on a currently unlimited operation.

As such, given the information provided and the amendments made through the assessment process, the development can be supported in this case, subject to conditions outlined in the attached Section 79C report.

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. Complete 79C Assessment in accordance with the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 (copies of all submissions have also been provided to Councillors with their business papers).

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Combined Development & Construction Certificate Application 036/10DACC be approved subject to conditions specified in the attached Section 79C assessment.
2. A **DIVISION** be called in accordance with the requirements of Section 375A(3) of the Local Government Act, 1993.

ITEM: 11 ENVIRO - 18/04/11 - LITHGOW TOWN CLOCK REPAIR

REPORT BY: ANDREW MUIR – GROUP MANAGER ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

REFERENCE

Min No 11-110 – Ordinary Meeting of 28 March 2011

SUMMARY

To advise of the repairs necessary to the Lithgow Town Clock.

COMMENTARY

The western face of the Lithgow Town Clock has been losing time since early January. A number of attempts at resetting the clock have failed and it has become necessary to arrange an imported replacement motor from the manufacturer. A delivery date for the motor is uncertain but will be installed by the contractor as soon as it is received.

Although the clock was vandalised not long after it was initially installed, it is expected that this repair will be carried out under warranty as the clock operated correctly for some time after this occurred. Vandals gained access to the hands of the clock from the roof of the building when the ground floor door was left unlocked by a tenant. Work has been carried out to prevent any further access to the clock from the roof.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil, subject to the work being carried out under warranty.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

THAT report in relation to the Lithgow Town Clock be noted.

ITEM: 12 ENVIRO - 18/04/11 - PLANNING AGREEMENTS

REPORT FROM: ANDREW MUIR - GROUP MANAGER ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

SUMMARY

To advise Council of Planning Agreements prepared as part of recent Development Applications in the Lithgow area in relation to contributions and/or works for open space, community facilities and parking facilities.

COMMENTARY

A planning agreement is a negotiated voluntary agreement or other arrangement between a planning authority and a developer under which the developer is required to dedicate land free of cost, pay a monetary contribution, or provide any other material public benefit, or any combination of them, to be used for or applied towards a public purpose.

Under the legislation and Council's Planning Agreements Policy, Planning Agreements may be entered into for a number of reasons. This includes meeting demand created by development. An example in the Lithgow Main Street area is providing a contribution towards car parking where it is physically impossible to provide. The funds can then be utilised, for example, for the embellishment of existing Car parking areas.

The following agreements have been negotiated on two recent development approvals.

DA NO.	DESCRIPTION	NAMES OF PARTIES	LAND	COST
062/10 DA	For parking facilities	Lithgow City Council and George Epenian of GPM Investments Pty Ltd	Lot 12, Sec A, DP 360 and Lot B DP 344638 known as 7 Grey Street and 176 Main Street, Lithgow	\$1500 Per Park, Shortage of 6 parks
O33/10 DACC	Shortfall in parking	Lithgow City Council and Mr J Tighe	Lot 31 Sec 39 DP 3466 being known as 27-29 Railway Pde, Lithgow.	\$800 Per Park, Shortage of 16 parks

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy 7.12 – Planning Agreements applies.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications for Council are the receipt of monetary contributions totalling \$21,800.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Planning Agreements are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council note the report on Planning Agreements.

ITEM: 13 ENVIRO - 18/04/11 - REQUEST FOR CONSENT - DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION AT BLACKMANS FLAT WASTE DEPOT

REPORT FROM: ANDREW MUIR – GROUP MANAGER ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

REFERENCE

Nil

SUMMARY

To provide Council with information on a request from Weston Matrix Pty Ltd to lodge a 'fixed trial period' Development Application for a Mobile Road Base Blending Facility on the site of the proposed Blackmans Flat Waste Depot.

COMMENTARY

Council has received correspondence dated 9 March 2011 from Weston Matrix Pty Ltd, requesting that Lithgow City Council, as the land owner of the site proposed for the Blackmans Flat Waste Management Facility, give its consent for the lodgement of a Development Application to establish a mobile road base blending facility.

Weston Matrix Pty Ltd converts industrial by-products into road base products. The main intended raw material input streams in the Lithgow region are (1) Coal Wash Reject – by product of Centennial Coal; and (2) Fly Ash Residue – by product of Delta Electricity.

Weston Matrix, Centennial Coal & Delta Electricity are all members of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW)'s Sustainability Advantage Program and believe there is great potential to utilise the above materials for a significant reduction in the local area by product stream.

Weston Matrix currently has the opportunity to supply road base materials for two projects to trial the performance characteristics of the product, being (1) RTA – Aarons Pass; and (2) Lithgow City Council – Back Cullen Road.

The intent of the Development Application is for a fixed trial period of 6 months, which will allow the undertaking of the trials and assessment of the operation.

The two trial areas have been located with the minimisation of truck movements in the Blackmans Flat Area in mind. Furthermore, as part of the development, it may be possible to undertake the earthworks construction of the access road into the Blackmans Flat Waste Management Facility site. This infrastructure could then be utilised into the future and may be helpful in activating the development consent. Any other commercial considerations, e.g. rental would need to be considered separately as would the development application itself which would also be reported to Council in accordance with Council policy. If the Council agrees, consent to lodging the application provides nothing more than allowing the development application itself to be processed.

At Council's meeting of 28 March 2011 the matter was deferred. Further information was provided to Councillors at the Budget workshop of 1 April 2011.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

A development application can only be lodged for a development on land if the owner of the land agrees to its lodgement. The land is classified as Operational under the provisions of the Local Government Act.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Correspondence from Weston Matrix Pty Ltd, dated 9 March 2011.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. The report on the request to provide landowners consent for a development application at Blackman's Flat be received.
2. Lithgow City Council, as the land owner, provide its consent to the lodgement of a Development Application.
3. The General Manager be authorised to negotiate a lease of the land for a period of up to 9 months. Commercial terms may include civil construction works on Council's behalf.
4. The Common Seal be authorised to be affixed for any lease entered into.

OPERATION SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM: 14 OPER - 18/04/11 - WALLERAWANG SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT

REPORT BY: GROUP MANAGER OPERATIONS - IAIN STEWART

REFERENCE

Min No 11-67: Ordinary Meeting of Council 7th March 2011

SUMMARY

Organise an inspection of the construction of the augmentation of the Wallerawang Sewerage Treatment Plant

COMMENTARY

Following the receipt of a detailed report from the Group Manager Regional Services at the Council Meeting held on the 7 March 2011, concerning progress with regard to the construction of the Wallerawang STP upgrade, it is considered appropriate that now that the works are significantly advanced that an inspection be carried out by Councillors of this particular project.

This inspection would be organised along the same lines as the recent inspection of the Lithgow STP upgrade, however it is noted that there is significant difference between the Lithgow and Wallerawang STP upgrades as Wallerawang's current STP is being totally replaced by the new works, whereas the Lithgow STP is a combination of the existing works and new works.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

THAT a site inspection of the construction augmentation of Wallerawang STP be arranged for Councillors at a convenient time.

**ITEM: 15 OPER - 18/04/11 - FLOOD DAMAGE TO COUNCILS ROAD
 INFRASTRUCTURE**

REPORT BY: GROUP MANAGER OPERATIONS - IAIN STEWART

REFERENCE

Min No 11-21: Ordinary meeting of Council held 24 January 2011

SUMMARY

To provide an updated report on the submission being made with regard to the flood damage caused to Council's Road and Drainage Infrastructure during the recent heavy storms.

COMMENTARY

As Council recalls, following the declaration of Lithgow City Council as a natural disaster area the funding arrangements with Roads & Traffic Authority for the restoration of roads will include restoration work on local roads, 75% up to \$116,000 and 100% thereafter.

As previously indicated this would imply that Councils maximum commitment to the restoration of flood damage will be \$29,000 and the balance will be funded by the State and/or Federal Government.

A detailed submission has now been completed and this is attached indicating that the total cost of flood, storm, and bushfire damage restoration to Councils road infrastructure following storm damage in November and December 2010 totals \$780,017.65.

This submission has been forwarded to the Roads and Traffic Authority for consideration and advice will be received in due course as to the level of funding of the restoration to be received under the natural disaster arrangements.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Submission report

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report on flood damage to Council's infrastructure be received.

ITEM: 16 OPER - 18/04/11 - WATER REPORT

REPORT BY: GROUP MANAGER OPERATIONS - IAIN STEWART

REFERENCE

Min No 11-13: Ordinary Meeting of 24 January 2011
Min No 11-47: Ordinary Meeting of 14 February 2011
Min No 11-65: Ordinary Meeting of 7 March 2011
Min No 11-112: Ordinary Meeting of 28 March 2011

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 4/4/11 was 90%. Oberon Dam capacity on 1/4/11 was 53.99%.

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)	121	0
March	122	0
Total 2011		

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	493	67	0	52	20	632
Apr						0
May						0
Jun						0
Total	3883	335	224	484	181	5306
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

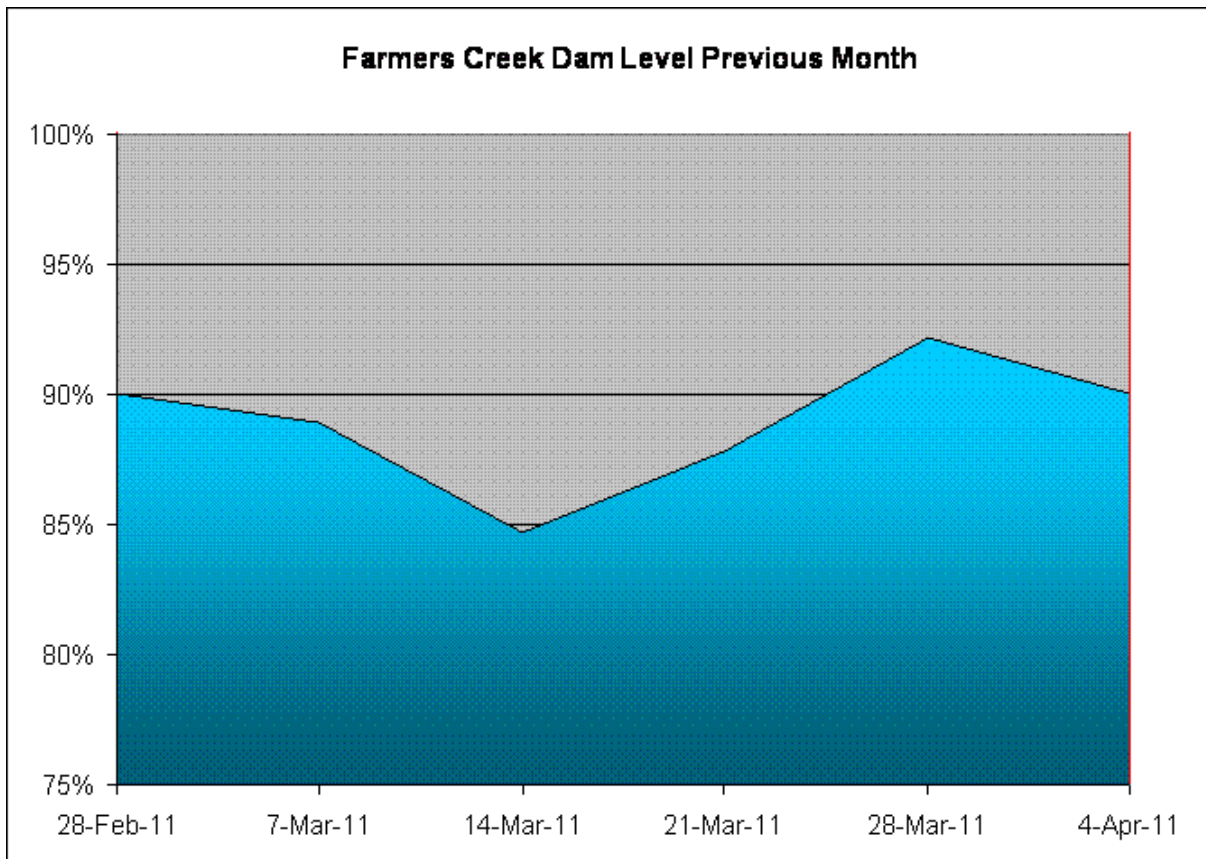
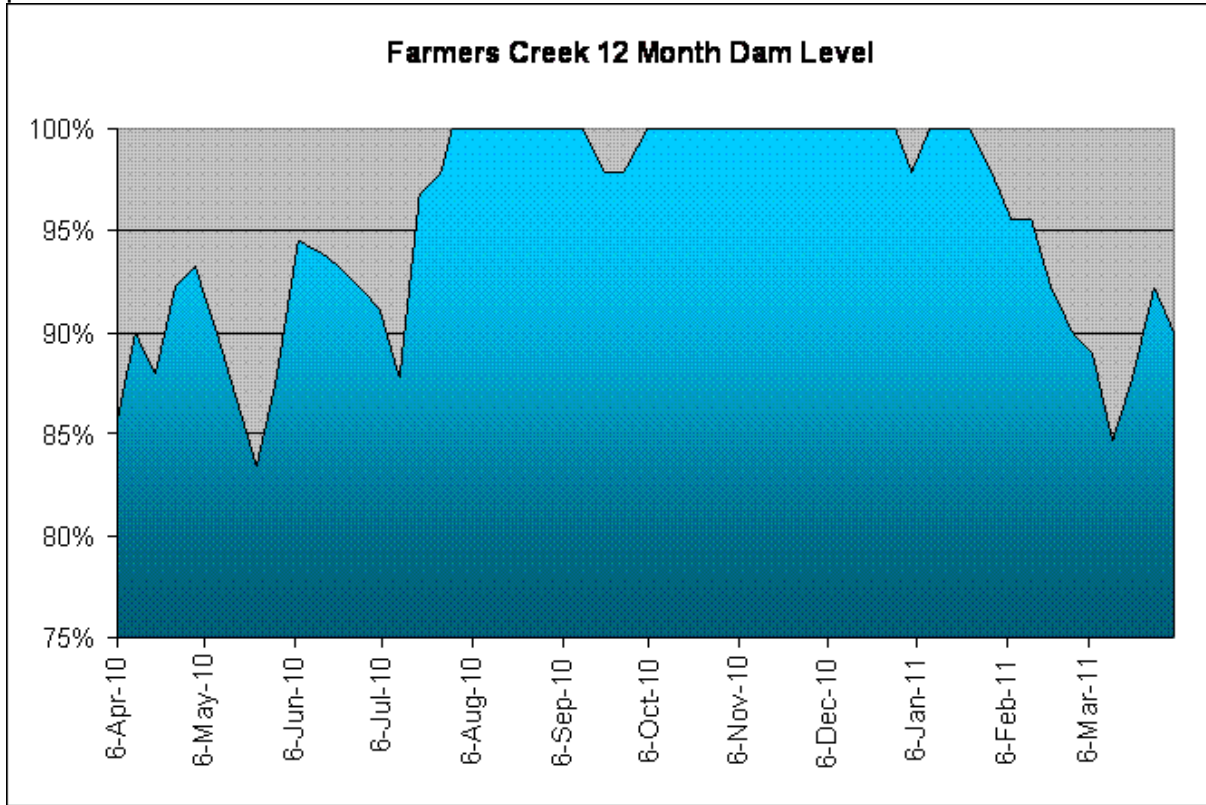
Level 1 water restrictions are now in place for all residents through Lithgow and villages receiving water from both the Lithgow and the Fish River water supplies.

WATER SAVING SCHEMES OR PROCESSES UPDATE

Council's Rainwater Tank and Domestic Appliance Rebate Program continued in March with Council receiving 24 applications for a household appliance rebate and 2 applications for a water tank rebate.

FARMERS CREEK DAM 12 MONTH LEVELS

The attached chart shows the storage tanks to date for the last twelve months and for the previous month.



Oakey Park Water Treatment Plant Average Daily Use

February 2011	4330 kilolitres
March 2011	3923 Kilolitres
Week Ending 1/4/11	5563 Kilolitres
Week Ending 25/3/11	3953 Kilolitres

ALTERNATE WATER SOURCES UPDATE

Marrangaroo Fields area is currently being supplied from the Oakey Park Water Treatment Plant via Cook St High Level Reservoir and the trial delivery of water from this source to Wallerawang and Portland is programmed to take place after Easter.

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: 17 OPER - 18/04/11 - NEW WALKWAY / CYCLE PATH ON FARMERS CREEK IN COALBROOK ST LITHGOW

REPORT FROM: GROUP MANAGER OPERATIONS - IAIN STEWART

REFERENCE

To advise on the technical issues relating to the Notice of Motion re the walkway/cycle path on Farmers Creek

SUMMARY

Nil

COMMENTARY

Reference is made to the request for a report on the current works on the new walkway/cycle path on Farmers Creek in Coalbrook St, with particular reference to the possibility of flood damage being caused to the walkway/cycle path during periods of extreme storm events.

It should be noted that as the footpath/cycle way runs parallel to Farmers Creek and indeed will be at the extremities of a normal flood it is anticipated that the velocities of the floodwaters at the cycleway/path way will be minimal and therefore will not cause any significant damage to the walkway/cycle path.

However in an extraordinary flood it is impossible to guarantee nil damage being caused to the footpath/cycleway as it is impossible to predict the impact of natural events across the world.

The rationale for the location of the walkway/cyclepath in its location was to avoid traffic on Geordie St and also to avoid a number of services and utilities which are located in the nature strip between Geordie St and Farmers Creek.

It is considered that the walkway/cycleway will perform adequately during periods of wet weather and normal floods will have little or no affect on the walkway/cycleway.

However it should be noted that even such structures as the Geordie St Crossing could in fact be washed away during periods of extreme storm events, however it has to be realised that Geordie St Crossing is at right angles to the flow direction and under considerably greater pressure than the walkway/cycleway path will be in a flood event.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report on new Walkway/Cycleway adjacent to Farmers Creek Lithgow be received.

COMMUNITY AND STRATEGY SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM: 18 COMM - 18/04/11 - REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA FUND

REPORT BY: GROUP MANAGER COMMUNITY AND STRATEGY – SUZANNE
LOLLBACK

REFERENCE

NIL

SUMMARY

This report provides an overview of the Regional Development Australia Fund and possible projects for consideration.

COMMENTARY

The Regional Development Australia Fund is a national program to support Australia's regions and enhance the economic development and liveability of their communities. The program is administered by the Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development, and Local Government.

As part of the Commitment to Regional Australia component of the Agreement, around \$1 billion will be allocated to a Regional Development Australia Fund. The Fund is an umbrella program which comprises \$450 million from the priority Regional Infrastructure Program and \$573 million from the Regional Infrastructure Fund, which is subject to the passage of the Mineral Resource Rent Tax.

The first funding round has opened. Funding of between \$500,000 and \$25 million (GST exclusive) is available per project. Up to \$100 million is available in total in Round 1.

Local governments and incorporated not-for-profit organisations can apply.

Partner funding will be expected from sources other than the Australian Government for all project grants, except where extenuating circumstances prevent co-funding. Project grants over \$5 million will be required to be matched on at least a dollar for dollar basis (excluding funding from other Australian Government sources).

Applications close on the 13 May 2011 for the first round. Proposals that are not ready or applications which cannot be completed by 13 May 2011 can be lodged in Round 2 which is expected to take place in late 2011.

To quote, outcomes of the program will include:

- *Identification of regional priorities by local communities and investment in those priorities;*
- *Support for Regional economic development by assisting regions to develop and implement projects with broad based local support and which have identified potential to deliver lasting economic and community benefits;*
- *Sustained increases to the economic output of local and regional economies;*

- *Increased social capital, amenity and/or liveability within the community*
- *Communities which achieve sustainable growth;*
- *Integrated Australian, state and local government programs, activities and investment;*
- *New opportunities for private sector participation and partnership;*
- *Removal of barriers and/or a direct incentive for business investment in regional locations; and*
- *Addressing specific areas of disadvantage faced by regional Australia.*

Projects must support one of the following national priorities:

- *Skilling Australia*
- *Lifting productivity*
- *Maximising the opportunity of broadband;*
- *Sustaining our environment*
- *Social inclusion; and*
- *Water and energy efficiency.*

Funding is available for projects which are predominantly capital in nature, such as new infrastructure and upgrades to existing infrastructure. Examples include new bridges, community or child care centres and sporting facilities, and economic infrastructure projects that support local regional economies, including sustaining and supporting growth in local tourism and other small businesses. Projects must be ‘investment ready’, that is ready to proceed within six months of signing the Funding Agreement – ie, all planning, rezoning environmental approvals are in place.

Possible Projects for Funding

- Infrastructure development including purchase of land (if applicable), provision of water, sewer, electricity and road to the proposed Wallerawang Industrial Park on the Castlereagh Highway. Discussions with Delta and various State Government Departments would be required to progress this project.
- Enhancement for infrastructure, water, gas, upgrade of road, to Reserve Road.
- Rail heritage projects including support for projects under the management of the Zig Zag Railway and project coordinators in Lithgow itself.
- Cullen Bullen Sewerage works
- Lithgow Swimming Pool upgrades.

Councillors may also recommend projects for funding.

Note: the above projects may not be ‘investment’ ready for Round 1, however may be ready for Round 2.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Depending on the projects, some financial input may be required from the Council.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Local Government Act 1993

ATTACHMENTS

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council notes the projects being investigated for funding from the Regional Development Australia Fund.

ITEM: 19 COMM - 18/04/2011 - APPOINTMENT OF REPLACEMENT COUNCILLORS TO COUNCIL COMMITTEES

REPORT FROM: MANAGER COMMUNITY AND CULTURE - MATTHEW JOHNSON

REFERENCE

Min No 10-382: Ordinary Meeting of Council dated 20 September 2010.

SUMMARY

Councillor Grahame Danaher has submitted his resignation to a number of Council Committees.

Council is requested to appoint a replacement Councillor to each of these committees.

COMMENTARY

Councillor Grahame Danaher has submitted his resignation to a number of Council Committees. This is because of work related commitments.

The Committees are Crime Prevention Committee, Youth Advisory Committee, Business Enquiry Committee, Service Committee, Traffic Authority Local Committee and Economic Development Shopfront Committee.

Councillor Danaher has advised that he will continue to be a member of the Ageing Strategy Advisory Group.

Crime Prevention Committee

Currently the other appointed Councillor is Councillor McAndrew.

The principal responsibilities of the Committee are to:

- Provide advice to Council on crime issues in Lithgow.
- Assist in the identification and implementation of crime prevention strategies.
- Provide input into the implementation of the Lithgow Crime Prevention Plan.
- Monitor the implementation of the Lithgow Crime Prevention Plan
- Actively contribute and participate in local crime prevention initiatives.

Youth Advisory Committee

Currently the other appointed Councillor is Councillor Marshall.

The principal responsibilities of the Committee are to:

- Advise Council on a strategic direction for youth services in the local government area
- Assist in the development of a positive image of youth in the community
- Be a voice for youth to community leaders
- Raise awareness of youth issues in the community;
- Help the Council address youth issues and work towards a better community for youth by working directly with youth representatives
- Promote youth in a positive way through community and youth events
- Represent youth and promote youth leadership opportunities to schools and service clubs such as Lions Club, Rotary and Quota

- Develop leadership skills among young people in the Lithgow LGA

Business Enquiry Committee

Currently the other appointed Councillors are Mayor Castle, Councillor Fisher and the General Manager.

On the 14 December 2009, the Council resolved to “form a new committee to assist in the process of business enquiries to the area”.

Service Committee

Currently the other appointed Councillor is Councillor Fisher.

On the 14 December 2009, the Council resolved to “form a Service Committee to provide Service Standards and an Action Plan that allows development of improved service through training and system support. A Committee formed with two (2) Councillors (plus the Mayor), two (2) front line service staff, the General Manager and the Operations Manager with the purpose of improving service by Council”.

Economic Development Shopfront Committee.

Currently the other appointed Councillor is Mayor Castle.

The principal responsibilities of the Committee are to:

Receive and review applications from community groups in the order in which they were received and determine the eligibility of that organisation to use a Council owned property using the following criteria:

- The organisations community involvement
- The status of the organisation being either a ‘for profit’ or a ‘not for profit’ group
- The organisations demonstration of how their activity will assist Council in achieving actions identified in Council's corporate planning process, the Strategic Plan, Management Plan, Social Plan and State of the Environment Report.

Traffic Authority Local Committee

No Councillors are currently appointed to this committee.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Local Government Act 1993, s355

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council appoint a replacement Councillor to the following committees:

- Crime Prevention Committee
- Youth Advisory Committee
- Business Enquiry Committee, Service Committee
- Economic Development Shopfront Committee
- Traffic Authority Local Committee.

FINANCE SERVICE REPORTS

ITEM: 20 FIN - 18/04/11 - PEARSON'S LOOKOUT CASTLEREAGH HIGHWAY,
CAPERTEE

REPORT FROM – FINANCE MANAGER CAROL FARNSWORTH

REFERENCE

Min No 11-40 & 11-41: Council Meeting of 14 February 2011

SUMMARY

To advise Council of the status of Pearsons Lookout, Castlereagh Highway at Capertee, following the meeting of 14 February 2011.

COMMENTARY

Council at the meeting of 14 February 2011

11-40 RESOLVED

THAT:

1. *The General Manager provide the Council, Councillors and ratepayers with a written response to the Question with Notice:*

Could the General Manager provide to Councillors and Council, an updated report on the outstanding upgrading of the Pearson's Lookout off the Castlereagh Highway near Capertee; particularly following the written response from Mr David Borger MP, the State Minister for Roads which was recently published on the Capertee Valley Alliance website?

2. *As a matter of urgency after the elections, a delegation with Council representatives and residents of the Capertee Valley seek a meeting with the Premier of NSW with regard to trying to overcome this matter.*

11-41 RESOLVED

THAT *Council approach the Roads and Traffic Authority to close the Pearson's Lookout as a matter of urgency.*

Following the meeting of 14 February 2011 discussions were held with the RTA regarding closure of the lookout. Previous advice was confirmed from the Minutes of the 'Tourist Attraction Signposting Assessment Committee & South Region Subcommittee' (TASAC), held 16 March 2011 Item 5.3: Signage for Pearson's Lookout which states:

"Signage for Pearsons Lookout off the Castlereagh Highway was discussed at the January TASAC meeting. Access to the lookout was considered to be unsafe and Steve, (Steve Anyon-Smith, Network Services Directors Road and Traffic Authority) advised that following TASAC's recommendation, the RTA has recently removed the signage for the lookout. Steve also noted that the lookout is on Crown land."

Council can confirm that the Tourist signs have been removed.

Council also contacted Land & Property Management on 15 February 2011 who verbally advised that Pearsons lookout is Crown land located on, Lot 7308 DP 1130828, 21.97H, owned by the 'State of NSW' and is not gazetted to Council control.

Additional searches were conducted:

- Certificate of Title: Folio 7308/1130828 owner "The State of New South Wales"
- Land & Property Management Authority: Valnet enquiry property 3461324 owner "The State of New South Wales" Crown Reserve
- GIS Mapping: Department of Lands (Crown Land)
- Deposit Plan 1130828: Plan of Crown Land being reserve

Further advice, dated 7 March 2011, was received from the Land & Property Management Authority, via the Capertee Valley Alliance, stating that *"the reserve is for future public requirements managed by Crown Lands."*

A map provided with this advice is attached to this business paper and states.

- Lots 7308 (Pearsons Lookout) & 7309 DP 1130828 marked yellow:
Reserve for future public requirement: CROWN LANDS
- Lots 7007, 7008, 7006 DP 1124442 marked green:
Reserve 53410 for Public Recreation managed by LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

Map provided by Land & Property Management:

- Lots 7308 (Pearsons Lookout) & 7309 DP 1130828 marked yellow: Reserve for future public requirement: CROWN LANDS
- Lots 7007, 7008, 7006 DP 1124442 marked green: Reserve 53410 for Public Recreation managed by LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Council notes that Pearson's lookout is a Crown Reserve located on, Lot 7308 DP 1130828, 21.97H, owned by the 'State of NSW.'
2. The RTA have removed Tourist Signs at the location in February / March 2011.

ITEM: 21 FIN - 18/04/11 - DRAFT POLICY MAIN ST FACADE RESTORATION PROGRAM

REPORT FROM – FINANCE MANAGER C FARNSWORTH

REFERENCE

Min 10-435: Economic Development Shopfront Committee meeting of 16 September 2010

SUMMARY

To provide Council with the Draft Policy for the Main St Façade Restoration Program with a recommendation that it be advertised for public comment for a period of 21 days prior to final consideration by Council.

COMMENTARY

At the Council meeting of 11 October 2010 Council accepted the Minutes of the Shopfront Committee meeting of 16 September 2010. Item 17 of the Minutes included the 'DRAFT Policy of the Main St Façade Restoration Program' and a copy of the Draft Policy was attached for Councillors information.

The recommendation to the meeting of 11 October 2010 should have indicated that the policy be advertised and adopted but due to the oversight this was not included and is now resubmitted for Council consideration.

The draft policy will provide a framework for Council staff to administer the objectives of the policy which are to:

- Provide financial assistance to the owners of commercial properties within the CBD areas of Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland, defined as follows to assist in the restoration of the external building facades:
 - Main St Lithgow from the intersection of Lithgow and Main Sts to the intersection of Bridge and Main Sts
 - Main St Wallerawang from the Black Bridge to the Railway Station
 - Wolgan St Portland from Wallerawang Rd to Williewa St.
- Assistance for the purpose of restoration of the external building facades
- Works likely to be funded as part of the program include repair, maintenance, or reinstatement of traditional windows, awnings or decoration as well as reinstatement of colour schemes. Works that would not meet the requirements of the program would include additions or alterations, internal decoration and the construction of new buildings.
- A Development Application may be required depending on the work to be undertaken.
- A property is defined under this program as either a lot with a Torrens Title or a Strata Title unit.

- Funds will be allocated to a successful applicant on a \$2 spent for a \$1 to be granted, following completion and inspection of pre approved works to a maximum of \$1,000 and Council will cap its total expenditure as per the value allocated by Council in the Management Plan.
- Applications will be considered on an individual property only once every five years or sooner if Councils total allocation for the year has not been fully expended and the project is considered a high priority on its merits.
- The project may also receive support from Council's Heritage Advisor who may provide specific advice on colour schemes and / or the external façade of a building at no cost to the property owner.
- A written application must be completed and submitted to Councils Economic Development Shopfront Committee detailing the project, description of the colours or materials to be used, written quotations from suppliers or licensed tradesperson, a timeframe of when the work will be undertaken and written owners consent if applicable.
- Successful applicants will be formally advised in writing from Council
- Payment will be made after satisfactory completion and inspection of the work and upon the supply of a valid GST Tax invoice from the applicant.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Draft Policy 8.7 Main St Façade Restoration Program

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

\$10,000 allocation in the 2010/11 Management Plan

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Policy 8.7 Main St Façade Restoration Program

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council advertise Draft Policy 8.7 Main St Façade Restoration Program for a period of 21 days prior to further consideration by Council at a future meeting.

ITEM: 22 FIN - 18/04/11 - COUNCIL INVESTMENTS HELD TO 31 MARCH 2011

REPORT FROM - FINANCE MANAGER C FARNSWORTH

REFERENCE

Min 10-308: 02 August 2010 (June 2010)
 Min 10-400: 20 September 2010 (July 2010)
 Min 10-401: 20 September 2010 (August 2010)
 Min 10-428: 13 October 2010 (September 2010)
 Min 10-490: 22 November 2010 (October 2010)
 Min 10-543: 20 December 2010 (November 2010)
 Min 11-31: 24 January 2011 (December 2010)
 Min 11-55: 14 February 2011 (January 2011)
 Min 11-121: 28 March 2011 (February 2011)

SUMMARY

To advise Council of investments held as at 31 March 2011 for the 2010/11 financial year.

COMMENTARY

Council's total investment portfolio, as at 31 March 2011 when compared to 28 February 2011, has decreased by \$238,306.57 from \$12,131,467.76 to \$11,893,161.19

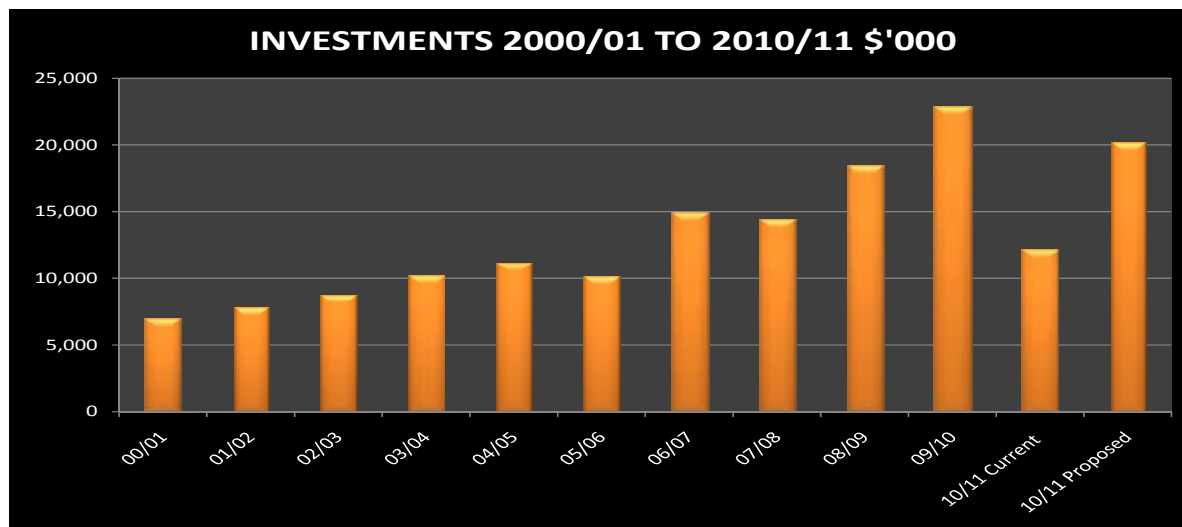
Investments fluctuate as part of the normal process depending on the particular month and the extent of expenditure on major works.

INVESTMENT REGISTER 2010/11								
INSTITUTION	INV TYPE	DATE LODGED	DATE DUE	DAYS	INT	VALUE 28.02.11	VALUE 31.03.11	% OF TOTAL
ANZ	TD	07.03.11	08.04.11	30	5.31	500,000.00	502,186.30	4.22%
	TD	16.03.11	15.04.11	30	5.31	2,072,946.90	1,281,942.92	10.77%
CBA	On Call				4.70	1,068,695.22	570,441.13	4.79%
LGFS	On Call				4.40	7,159.79	0.00	0.00%
IMBS	TD	28.02.11	30.05.11	91	5.90	1,045,043.24	1,045,043.24	8.78%
	TD	31.03.11	02.05.11	32	5.50	1,000,000.00	1,019,381.95	8.57%
NAB	TD	11.02.11	12.05.11	90	5.78	1,037,808.16	1,037,808.16	8.72%
	TD	02.03.11	02.04.11	30	5.35	800,000.00	811,638.36	6.82%
WESTPAC	TD	08.12.10	08.07.11	212	6.20	266,799.30	266,799.30	2.24%
	TD	08.12.10	08.07.11	212	6.20	533,598.62	533,598.62	4.48%
	TD	17.09.10	17.04.11	212	6.00	1,069,994.05	1,069,994.05	8.99%
	TD	08.12.10	08.07.11	212	6.20	808,030.20	808,030.20	6.79%
ST GEORGE	On Call				4.70	50,170.81	550,351.70	4.63%
		30.03.11	30.04.11	30	5.28	0.00	500,000.00	4.20%
	TD	19.02.11	19.10.11	241	6.05	786,736.14	800,805.14	6.73%
SUNCORP	TD	09.03.11	09.06.11	90	5.91	1,084,485.33	1,099,727.55	9.24%
			TOTAL			12,131,467.76	11,897,748.62	100.00%
INTERNAL LN (Commercial Loan Int Rate)	Gen to Sew	15.01.11	On Receipt of Ext Loan		7.31	2,750,000.00	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.

On the graph below historical and 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 for major Sewerage and Water construction will be drawn down in coming months and are Sewerage works 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 March 2010 is \$593,825.62 of an estimated \$553,375.00 shown in the 2010/11 Management Plan which will be reviewed in conjunction with the March quarter 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 \$12,393,161.19 for the period ending 31 March 2011 be noted.

ITEM: 23 FIN - 18/04/11 - FIRST INTERIM AUDIT FOR THE 2010/11 FINANCIAL YEAR

REPORT FROM – FINANCE MANAGER C FARNSWORTH

REFERENCE

Nil

SUMMARY

To advise Council of the completion of the first interim audit visit by the Morse Group for the 2010/11 financial year with a recommendation that the report be received.

COMMENTARY

During the first week of February 2011 Auditors, the Morse Group, completed the first interim audit of Council's records.

The audit covered, but was not limited to, the period 1 July 2010 to 31 January 2011 and a report in relation to this was received on 03 March 2011. A copy of the report is attached for information.

The Auditors advised that the purpose of the visit was to obtain sufficient, appropriate audit evidence to enable the Morse Group to express an opinion on Council's annual financial report. The procedures adopted achieve this purpose in a cost effective and efficient manner while concentrating on areas of materiality and high risk.

The scope of the audit did not include a comprehensive review of all procedures and systems and comments are limited to the operational areas examined which include:

- Purchase & general expenditure transactions
- Receipting system and cashier processes
- Councils reconciliations and sub ledger accounts
- Journals
- Plant
- Water Billing
- Council's minutes

Taken into account was the extent of Council's internal control measures which consisted of:

- The control environment, incorporating managements policies and procedures
- The information systems, incorporating the final reporting process used to prepare the Council's financial reports: and
- Internal control, being those policies and procedures which management has established to provide reasonable assurance that specific organisation objectives will be achieved

The audit established that the financial management procedures and systems have been controlled effectively in a manner appropriate for Council's structure and resources.

There were no matters raised during the course of the review which the Auditors felt necessary to bring to Councils attention at this time.

Management Comments

Management are pleased with the first interim audit for the 2010/11 financial year.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter from The Morse Group dated 3 March 2011. Dataworks Document 674856

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Council note the first interim audit report letter, for the 2010/11 financial year, dated 3 March 2011 from Auditors The Morse Group.
2. And the audit established that the financial management procedures and systems have been controlled effectively in a manner appropriate for Council's structure and resources and no issues have been addressed.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

ITEM: 24 COMM - 18/04/2011 - AGEING STRATEGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - 17 MARCH 2011

REPORT FROM: MANAGER COMMUNITY AND CULTURE - MATTHEW JOHNSON

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
Min No 11-124:	Ordinary Meeting of Council held 28 March 2011

SUMMARY

This report details the Minutes of the Ageing Strategy Advisory Committee Meeting held on 17 March 2011 and includes a recommendation to Council that the Committee Terms of Reference be altered.

COMMENTARY

At the Ageing Strategy Advisory Committee held on 17 March 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. Community Profile
5. Draft Strategy Report Structure
6. Community Consultations
7. Survey Report
8. General Business

In General Business, Item 8.3, the Committee recommends that in view of there be no current representative from the Department of Ageing and Disability and there being only one community representative, the committee membership be reduced to make it easier to form a quorum. This will involved removal of the NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care and 1 Community representative positions.

The committee membership is currently comprised of the following:

- Two Councillors
- Lithgow City Council General Manager or his nominee (Manager Community and Culture).
- Lithgow Health Service
- NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care

- Lithgow Information and Neighbourhood Centre
- Lithgow Community Transport
- Lithgow Uniting Care
- 2 community representatives

Recommendation

It is recommended that the committee membership be altered to the following:

- Two Councillors
- Lithgow City Council General Manager or his nominee (Manager Community and Culture).
- Lithgow Health Service
- Lithgow Information and Neighbourhood Centre
- Lithgow Community Transport
- Lithgow Uniting Care
- 1 community representative

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes from the Ageing Strategy Advisory Committee meeting of 17 March 2011.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Notes the Ageing Strategy Advisory Committee minutes from 17 March 2011.
2. Amend the committee membership to the following:
 - Two Councillors
 - Lithgow City Council General Manager or his nominee (Manager Community and Culture).
 - Lithgow Health Service
 - Lithgow Information and Neighbourhood Centre
 - Lithgow Community Transport
 - Lithgow Uniting Care
 - 1 community representative

**ITEM: 25 COMM - 18/04/2011 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY
 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - 17 FEBRUARY 2011**

**REPORT FROM: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER - ARABELLA
PERUGINI-SHEERE**

REFERENCE

Min No 10-432: Ordinary Meeting 11 October 2010.

SUMMARY

This report details the Minutes of the Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting held on 17 February 2011.

COMMENTARY

At the Economic Development Advisory Committee held on 17 February 2011, there were nine (9) items discussed by the Committee.

1. Attendance and apologies.
2. Confirmation of minutes from previous meeting.
3. Business arising from previous minutes.
4. Investment Prospectus.
5. New residents brochure.
6. Creative industry cluster and business workshops.
7. Economic Development Update.
8. Other business.
9. Next meeting.

The minutes contain full details on the Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting with recommendations for Council.

OFFICER COMMENT

Discussions have been held with the Department of Industry and Investment and Innovative Regions and a grant application has been submitted to assist with the design, printing and a launch of the Lithgow Investment Prospectus. Plans are to launch the Investment Prospectus and to conduct a forum for local businesses on how they can benefit by identifying and filling the gaps in local supply of goods and services. Further information will be provided when plans have been further formulated.

Following a request from the Economic Development Advisory Committee, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Group Manager Community and Corporate met with the Manager of Thales's Lithgow plant to discuss their future plans for the site. It was explained that some land had been sold to other companies and that the buildings behind the Small Arms Factory Museum were currently for sale.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes from the Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting of 17 February 2011.
2. Key milestones and timelines for the implementation of the Economic Development Strategy.
3. Detailed listing of the Economic Development Strategy implementation.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Notes the minutes of the Economic Development Advisory Committee held on 17 February 2010.
2. Notes that the Investment Prospectus is to be printed before the end of May 2011.

**ITEM: 26 COMM - 18/04/2011 - CRIME PREVENTION COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES - 28 MARCH 2011**

REPORT FROM: MANAGER COMMUNITY AND CULTURE - MATTHEW JOHNSON

REFERENCE

Min No 09-396:	Ordinary Meeting 14 September 2009
Min No 09-397:	Ordinary Meeting 14 September 2009
Min No 10-76:	Ordinary Meeting 01 March 2010
Min No 10 -145:	Ordinary Meeting 12 April 2010
Min No 10-208:	Ordinary Meeting 10 May 2010
Min No 10-254:	Ordinary Meeting 21 June 2010
Min No 10-360:	Ordinary Meeting 23 August 2010
Min No 10-409:	Ordinary Meeting 20 September 2010
Min No 11-123:	Ordinary Meeting 28 March 2011

SUMMARY

This report details the Minutes of the Crime Prevention Committee Meeting held on 28 March 2011.

COMMENTARY

At the Crime Prevention Committee held on 28 March 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. Election of Chairperson
5. Transport
6. Domestic Violence Initiatives
7. Crime Audit
8. General Business

Councillors are requested to note Item 5 Transport on initiatives that involve Lithgow Taxis and licensees; Item 7 on a proposed CBD Crime Audit in the early hours of Saturday 18 June 2011, and; Item 8.1 General Business where the Police presented a report on Lithgow Sector policing statistics for the 3 months from December 2010 to February 2011.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes from the Crime Prevention Committee meeting of 28 March 2011.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council notes the minutes of the Crime Prevention Committee meeting of 28 March 2011.

ITEM: 27 OPER - 18/04/2011 - SPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES 28 MARCH 2011

REPORT BY: PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR – LEANNE KEARNEY

SUMMARY

Details of the Minutes of the Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held on Monday, 28 March 2011 for Council adoption.

COMMENTARY

At the Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held on Monday, 28 March 2011, there were eight (8) items discussed by the Committee, with all items actioned under the Committee's delegated authority, and requiring Council to note the items.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes of the Sports Advisory Committee Meeting held on Monday, 28 March 2011.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council note the minutes of the Sports Advisory Committee meeting held on Monday, 28 March 2011.

CLOSED REPORTS

ITEM: 28 ENVIR - 18/04/11 - CONFIDENTIAL REPORT - HARTLEY RHYOLITE QUARRY MODIFICATION APPLICATION APPEAL CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT BY: ANDREW MUIR - GROUP MANAGER ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Reason for Confidentiality

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following: -

- (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege

SUMMARY

To inform Council that an appeal has been lodged in relation to DA 103/94 Modification of Consent for Hartley Rhyolite Quarry.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council consider this report in closed Council pursuant to Section 10A(2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1993.

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.*