



Agenda

Goondiwindi Regional Council
Ordinary Meeting
26 March 2025 commencing at 9.00am
Council Chambers
4 McLean Street, Goondiwindi

DURING THE COURSE OF THE MEETING, PLEASE ENSURE ALL MOBILE TELEPHONES ARE SWITCHED OFF OR IN SILENT MODE.

Opening of Meeting

Attendances: Opening Prayer –

Deputation:

Apologies:

Declaration of Interest:

Condolences/Congratulations:

Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

26 February 2025 Ordinary Committee Meeting

Business Arising from Previous Meeting

Officer Reports

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

01.	EX 004/25	ADOPTION OF COUNCIL POLICY Council is requested to consider implementing a policy for the provision of legal assistance for employees and Councillors in exceptional circumstances. A policy has been drafted and tabled for endorsement.
02.	EX 005/25	POLICY REVIEW A review of two Council policies has been undertaken. The revised policies are tabled for endorsement.
03.	EX 006/25	TEXAS MEMORIAL HALL AUDIO/VISUAL EQUIPMENT This report is seeking council approval of a proposed long term hire agreement subject to the success of an external funding application for the proposal to install audio visual equipment in Texas Memorial Hall.

General Business Executive Office

COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES

04.	CCS 005/25	FINANCE REPORT PE 28 FEBRUARY 2025 The Finance Report for period ending 28 February 2025 is provided for Council's endorsement.
05.	CCS 006/25	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS – 2024/2025 COST RECOVERY FEES AND COMMERCIAL CHARGES – CEMETERIES Council to consider proposed amendments to the 2024/2025 Cost Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges, as set out in the report.

General Business Community & Corporate Services

ENGINEERING SERVICES

06.	ES 004/25	ANNUAL WATER USAGE REPORT In accordance with Council's Raw Water Policy, Council is required to review its Border Rivers (Qld & NSW) water allocations in a bid to make decisions on the best way to utilise any potential excess water allocations prior to the end of the current 2024/25 water year (30 June 2025).
07.	ES 005/25	<u>COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE</u> – EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR EARLY CONTRACTOR INVOLVEMENT – MACINTYRE RIVER RIVERBANK REMEDIATION This report is for council to consider an Expression of Interest process for Early Contractor Involvement for the Reconstruction of the Macintyre River Riverbank supporting the Goondiwindi Levee.
08.	ES 006/25	INGLEWOOD AERODROME POWER CONNECTION – BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST Council has received a request from the state Emergency Service (SES) and the Australian Large Scale Modellers Group to provide a power connection to the Inglewood aerodrome. As this is a new project, Council is required to consider a request for a budget amendment for the project: Inglewood Aerodrome Power Connection; should they wish to proceed with the project.

General Business Engineering Services

Reception of Notice of Motion for Next Meeting

Ordinary Meeting of Council, Wednesday, 23 April 2025, commencing at 9.00am at the Texas Memorial Hall, 50 High Street, Texas QLD 4385

General Business

REPORT DATE: 18 March 2025 **REPORT NUMBER:** EX 04/25
DEPARTMENT: Executive Office
PORTFOLIO HOLDER: n/a
REPORT TITLE: **Adoption of Council Policy**
PREPARED BY: Chief Executive Officer, Mr Carl Manton

SUBJECT:

Council is requested to consider implementing a policy for the provision of legal assistance for employees and Councillors seeking to commence defamation actions. A policy has been drafted and tabled for endorsement.

REPORT:

Council recognises recent changes to the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (Qld) around managing the risks of psychosocial hazards, including hazards presented by interactions between the public and Council's employees and Councillors.

In recent months there has been an increase in regulatory interest in the management of psychosocial hazards and the associated risks. As well as the common psychosocial hazards outlined in the Code of Practice, other considerations include interactions with, and harmful comments from, the public including cyber bullying, particularly when those interactions/comments are in response to Councillors making decisions as part of their roles and responsibilities as Councillors. Council has a positive duty to deal with such matters.

The Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) has published a guide on the provision of legal assistance for defamation matters which recognises that councillors and employees may at times, as a result of their functions and duties, be subject to defamatory publications, which may result in the need to seek to take legal action. It is recognised that in circumstances where there is significant public interest, i.e. reputational damage, it may be appropriate for a council to provide financial assistance to meet the cost of councillors or employees obtaining legal representation to institute defamation proceedings against third parties.

A draft *Legal Assistance (Defamation) Policy* has been created to establish guidelines about the provision of financial assistance by Council to fund defamation actions or contribute to funding where it is in the public interest to do so.

Council is requested to consider adopting the draft policy accordingly.

ASSOCIATED RISKS:

Management of Workplace Health and Safety obligations.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS:

As detailed in the policy.

CONSULTATION:

The policy has been discussed with Council.

LEGISLATION/LLEGAL/POLICY:

Local Government Act 2009
Local Government Regulation 2012

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That Council resolves to adopt the draft Legal Assistance (Defamation) Policy, as tabled.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. *Draft Legal Assistance (Defamation) Policy.*



LEGAL ASSISTANCE (DEFAMATION) POLICY

Adopted Date: 26 March 2025

Policy Type: Strategic

Policy Number: GRC 053

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Department: Executive

Version	Decision Number or CEO Approval	Decision Date	History
1.	GRC 053 – Resolution OM-	26 March 2025	Review as required
2.			
3.			
4.			

1. POLICY STATEMENT

This Legal Assistance (Defamation) Policy is adopted by resolution of the Council to:

- identify the exceptional circumstances in which it may fund or partly fund the cost of providing relevant legal representation to councillors and employees to commence a defamation action against third parties in relation to publications made about councillors and employees in connection with their work with Council; and
- set out the process that Council will follow in dealing with any requests for legal assistance in relation to defamatory publications that are received from councillors and employees.

This Policy is designed to ensure compliance with Council's obligations under the Local Government Act 2009 (Qld) and the Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld).

2. BACKGROUND AND PRINCIPLES

Councillors and employees of Council may, at times, be the subject to defamatory publications in the course of the performance of their functions and duties.

Depending on the nature of these defamatory publications, councillors and employees may seek to take legal action. In exceptional circumstances, it may be appropriate for the Council to provide financial assistance to meet the cost of councillors or employees obtaining the legal representation to institute defamation proceedings against third parties.

Sections 9 and 28 of the Local Government Act 2009 give Council wide powers to take executive action in respect of local government matters, including to fund legal assistance to councillors or employees.

3. SCOPE

This Policy applies to all councillors (including the Mayor) and employees of Council.

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chief Executive Officer is appointed to:

- receive, assess and decide any requests for legal assistance made by a councillor or employee in accordance with this Policy;
- make any other relevant decisions on behalf of Council regarding this Policy.

If the applicant under the Policy is the Mayor, the CEO and the Deputy Mayor (jointly) should receive, assess and decide the request for legal assistance from the Mayor. The CEO and the Deputy Mayor (jointly) are then to make any other related decisions on behalf of Council under this Policy.

If the applicant under this policy is the CEO, the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor (jointly) should receive assess and decide the request for legal assistance from the CEO. The Mayor and the Deputy Mayor (jointly) are then to make any other related decisions on behalf of Council under this Policy.

The CEO (and, as applicable, the Mayor/CEO and Deputy Mayor jointly) have the requisite delegation by Council to make the relevant decisions provided for under this Policy and incur the relevant liabilities on behalf of Council in accordance with this Policy

5. EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

The CEO or (as applicable) the Mayor/CEO and Deputy Mayor (jointly) may only determine that there are exceptional circumstances to authorise approval of an application to undertake defamation proceedings under this Policy if all of the following circumstances exist:

- the publication:
 - is persistent;
 - would seriously harm the councillor or employees' personal or professional reputation;
 - is causing, or is likely to cause, the councillor or employee distress in the workplace; and
 - is causing, or is likely to cause, the Council serious reputational harm;
- a concerns notice under the Defamation Act 2005 (Defamation Act) has been provided by the councillor or employee to the publisher and that concerns notice meets all requirements for a concerns notice specified under the Defamation Act;
- the councillor or employee has not refused to accept a reasonable offer to make amends by the publisher under the Defamation Act;
- the resources of Council have been, or are likely to be, unreasonably directed towards dealing with the publications;
- there is no other reasonable legal cause of action or course available to Council or the person to prevent the ongoing publication or the distress caused by the publication; and
- the CEO or (as applicable) the Mayor/CEO and Deputy Mayor (jointly) is otherwise satisfied that it is in the public interest to fund the proceedings.

6. TYPES OF LEGAL REPRESENTATION COSTS THAT MAY BE APPROVED

If the exceptional circumstances outlined in section 5 exist, and subject to compliance with this Policy, the CEO or (as applicable) the Mayor/CEO and Deputy Mayor (jointly) may approve the payment of legal representation costs for a councillor or employee to institute or consider the institution of a defamation action against a third party.

Exceptional circumstances - Example

Cr A is a councillor. Terry Murphy is a local environmentalist and has made on-going and persistent publications indicating that the councillor has a drinking problem and alleging that he/she is drunk at every Council meeting - which he asserts explains Council's pitiful

response to environmental issues in the town. He also says that the Councillor has no morals and regularly cheats the people of the town, by accepting bribes and gifts from developers. He says that something serious has to be done about the Councillor to save the town from environmental and economic ruin. Terry posts these publications on line and also has been leaving flyers around the town.

Cr A has given Terry a concerns notice under the Defamation Act, but has not received any reasonable offer to make amends from Terry. Cr A has also raised the matter with the police, but no action has been taken because Terry's behaviour is not considered sufficiently threatening.

Cr A has indicated to Council that he/she is concerned about the impact of the publications on his/her family and that it is causing him/her stress in performing his/her duties and functions as a sitting councillor. Council is spending a lot of time responding to Cr A's concerns and in trying to manage the issue. For example, Council is continually fielding calls from journalists and ratepayers about the publications.

Not exceptional circumstances - Example

B is an employee. Bob James, B's neighbour, was dissatisfied at the state of B's garden, which had trees overhanging on Bob's property. Bob sent B an email in which he asked B to get the trees cut, but B did not respond. Bob then complained about the state of B's garden on social media and suggested that the poor delivery of council services was a direct result of B's incompetence as an employee.

B is frustrated that the post was made. Some local newspapers have reported the comments about the neighbourly dispute, but the council have not fielded any calls from residents and ratepayers.

7. APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT

A councillor or employee who seeks assistance for the payment of legal representation costs under this Policy must make an application in writing in the form set out in Attachment 1. If the applicant is the Mayor, the application should be made to the CEO and Deputy Mayor (jointly). If the applicant is the CEO, the application should be made to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor (jointly).

A written application under the policy for the payment of legal representation costs must include the following details:

- the details of the matter for which legal representation is sought;
- how that matter relates to the functions and duties of the councillor or employee making the application;
- the steps that the councillor or employee has taken in respect of the publication (e.g. whether a concerns notice has been served and/or whether an offer to make amends has been received);
- the lawyer (or law firm) who is to be asked to provide the legal representation;
- the nature of legal representation to be sought (such as legal advice, representation in court, preparation of legal proceedings etc);
- an estimate of the cost of the relevant legal representation; and
- why the council should provide the relevant support and assistance (having regard to the requirements for "exceptional circumstances" set out in this Policy, in particular at section 5).

The application must include a declaration by the applicant that they have acted in good faith.

Any application should normally be made before the incurring of any legal costs to which the application relates. The CEO and (as applicable) the Mayor/CEO and Deputy Mayor (jointly) may elect not to approve reimbursement of legal costs incurred before an application is made or approved.

The application must be accompanied by a signed written statement by the applicant that he or she:

- has read, and understands this Policy; and
- acknowledges that any approval of legal representation costs is conditional on the repayment provisions (see section 10 below) and any other conditions which are provided for in any approval given under this Policy.

In relation an applicant's undertaking to repay legal representation costs, if the amount of the legal assistance is material, then the CEO or (as applicable) the Mayor/CEO and Deputy Mayor (jointly) may require the applicant to sign a more formal document which requires repayment of monies to Council in return for the provision of assistance under the terms of this Policy.

8. LIMITATION ON LEGAL REPRESENTATION COSTS

The CEO or (as applicable) the Mayor/CEO and Deputy Mayor (jointly), in approving an application, must set a limit on the legal costs that will be paid.

A councillor or employee may make a further or subsequent application to Council under the policy in respect of the same matter.

9. POSSIBLE DECISIONS

Under the Policy, the CEO or (as applicable) the Mayor/CEO and Deputy Mayor (jointly) may:

- refuse;
- grant; or
- grant subject to conditions,

an application for the payment of legal representation costs. The number of applications granted under this policy will be displayed on Council's website.

The CEO or (as applicable) the Mayor/CEO and Deputy Mayor (jointly) may, in appropriate circumstances decide to approve the provision of legal representation to a councillor or employees but may require that Council's legal team provide the relevant advice or representation using internal or external resources.

The conditions that may be imposed if an application is granted may include, but are not restricted to, setting a financial limit and/or a requirement to enter into a formal agreement, including a security agreement, relating to the payment, and repayment of the legal representation costs paid for by Council under this Policy.

In assessing an application, the CEO or (as applicable) the Mayor/CEO and Deputy Mayor (jointly) may have regard to any insurance benefits that may be available to the applicant under the Council's insurance policies or other similar arrangements.

The CEO or (as applicable) the Mayor/CEO and Deputy Mayor (jointly) may determine that a councillor or employee whose application for legal representation costs has been approved:

- did not act in good faith; or
- provided false or misleading information in respect of their application for assistance under this Policy,

(a **Determination**).

A Determination should be made only on the basis of, and consistently with, the findings of a court, tribunal inquiry, regulatory investigation or other similar independent body.

Where a Determination is made, the legal representation costs paid by Council must be repaid by the councillor or employee in accordance with section 10.

10. REPAYMENT OF LEGAL REPRESENTATION COSTS

A councillor or employee whose legal representation costs have been paid by the Council must, upon issue of a written notice from Council, repay to Council:

- all or part of those legal costs - in accordance with a Determination made under section 9; or
- if the councillor or employee receives monies from costs orders, damages, or any settlement, in respect of the matter for which the Council has paid legal representation costs then the councillor or employee is to repay such sum to the Council up to the amount of legal representation costs that have been paid by the Council under this Policy.

11. DEFINITIONS

approved lawyer means —

- an 'Australian legal practitioner' under the Legal Profession Act 2007 (Qld);
- from a law firm on the Council's panel of legal service providers, unless the Council considers that this is not appropriate in the circumstances; and
- as otherwise approved in writing by the Council or the CEO under delegated authority.

councillor or employee means a current councillor or employee of the Council, or a former councillor or employee of the Council limited to the immediate former term of Council only.

legal representation costs are the costs, including reasonable professional fees and disbursements, that are properly incurred in providing the approved legal representation and the associated legal costs.

legal services includes advice, representation or the preparation of documentation that is provided by an approved lawyer.

payment by the Council of the legal representation costs may be either by:

- a direct payment to the approved lawyer; or
- a reimbursement to the councillor or employee.

Policy means this Legal Assistance (Defamation) Policy.

12. LEGAL PARAMETERS

Local Government Act 2009 (Qld)

Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld)

Defamation Act 2005 (Qld)

13. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Code of Conduct

Councillor Remuneration and Expenses Policy

ATTACHMENT 1 – APPLICATION FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE (DEFAMATION)

APPLICANT DETAILS	
Applicant (Name of Councillor or Employee):	
Current Position:	
Current Department or entity:	
Position at the time of the incident:	
Department at the time of the incident:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Fax:	
Email:	
If applicable, include details of legal representatives:	
MATTER DETAILS	
I am applying for Legal Assistance in relation to the following matter/s:	
<p>(a) [insert the details of the matter for which legal representation is sought];</p> <p>(b) [how that matter relates to council functions and duties of the councillor or employee making the application];</p> <p>(c) [the steps that the councillor or employee has taken in respect of the publication (e.g. whether a concerns notice has been served and/or whether an offer to make amends has been received)];</p> <p>(d) [the lawyer (or law firm) who is to be asked to provide the legal representation];</p> <p>(e) [the nature of legal representation to be sought (such as legal advice, representation in court, preparation of legal proceedings etc)];</p> <p>(f) [an estimate of the cost of the relevant legal representation]; and</p> <p>(g) [why the council should provide the relevant support and assistance (having regard to the "exceptional circumstances" requirements as set out in the Policy)].</p>	
UNDERTAKING	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. I have read and understood the Policy.2. I acknowledge that any approval of legal representation costs is conditional on the repayment provisions and any other conditions which are provided for in any approval given under this Policy.3. I agree to repay any legal representation costs in accordance with the Policy and any conditions.4. I have diligently and conscientiously endeavoured to carry out my Council functions and duties in good faith.5. I have not been convicted of a criminal offence nor had a finding of official misconduct against me in relation to this matter.	

6. I am/ am not aware of any criminal, official misconduct or disciplinary proceedings being brought against me in relation to this matter. Include details if applicable.
7. I have attached a copy of any relevant documents (e.g. copies of publications, concerns notice, offer to make amends, cost estimate from legal representative etc).
8. I agree to provide any further information requested by the decision maker and to keep the decision maker informed of any change in circumstances which may affect my application.

Applicant Signature	Date

DRAFT

REPORT DATE: 19 March 2025 **REPORT NUMBER:** EX 005/25
DEPARTMENT: Executive Office
REPORT TITLE: **Policy Review**
PREPARED BY: Chief Executive Officer, Mr Carl Manton

SUBJECT:

A review of two Council policies has been undertaken. The revised policies are tabled for endorsement.

REPORT:

A review of the following policies has been undertaken:

GRC 100 Development Fee Waiver Policy
GRC 001 Councillor Contact with Lobbyists Developers and Submitters Policy

The policies are considered current there have not been any substantive changes implemented.

Council is requested to adopt the amended policies accordingly.

ASSOCIATED RISKS:

Low

FINANCIAL IMPACTS:

As detailed in policies.

CONSULTATION:

The policies have been discussed with Council.

LEGISLATION/LEGAL/POLICY:

Local Government Act 2009

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

<p><i>That Council adopts the following policy which has been reviewed and amended: GRC 100 Development Fee Waiver Policy; and GRC 001 Councillor Contact with Lobbyists Developers and Submitters Policy</i></p>

ATTACHMENTS:

*GRC 100 Development Fee Waiver Policy
GRC 001 Councillor Contact with Lobbyists Developers and Submitters Policy*



DEVELOPMENT FEE WAIVER POLICY

Adopted Date:	23 March 2022
Policy Type:	Statutory
Policy Number:	GRC 100
Responsible Officer:	Chief Executive Officer
Department:	Executive Office

Version	Decision Number or CEO Approval	Decision Date	History
1	Ordinary Meeting of Council (Ref-OM 029/22)	23 March 2022	Adopted by Council
2	Ordinary Meeting of Council (Ref-OM	26 March 2025	Reviewed

1. BACKGROUND

Council supports many organisations and community groups to provide services into the community utilising land under the control of Council. Development fees (Planning, Building and Plumbing and Drainage) are payable on most development. In most cases fees for development carried out on land controlled by Council are waived however to ensure consistency a policy must be developed.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to identify those community projects where development fees will not be payable by a community group.

3. DEFINITIONS

- i). Development Fees – All application fees charged by Council relating to the assessment and approval of the following applications: -
- ii). Planning Fees
- iii). Building Fees
- iv). Plumbing and Drainage Fees
- v). Does not include any infrastructure charges or connection costs for services.

4. POLICY STATEMENT

- i). Council will accept and process without payment of the prescribed fee all development applications from community groups for development on land controlled by Council provided that: -
 - The project has been approved by Council in a Master Plan of the facility; or

- Where a master plan does not exist, specific council approval for the project has been provided; and
 - The community group undertaken consultation with the various departments of Council (Building, Plumbing and Planning) to ensure that all likely conditions of the approvals are understood and acceptable to the group.
- ii). The relevant area of Council will not seek reimbursement of the fees waived from the community grants and donations budget of Council.

5. REVIEW DATE

This policy will be reviewed and amended as and when required to meet the prevailing circumstances of Council.

6. RELATED LEGISLATION

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Local Government Regulation 2012*
- *Planning and Drainage Act 2018*
- *Building Act 1975*
- *The Planning Act 2016*

7. ATTACHMENT

N/A



COUNCILLOR CONTACT WITH LOBBYISTS, DEVELOPERS AND SUBMITTERS POLICY

Adopted Date: 11 May 2012
Policy Number: GRC 001
Policy Type: Strategic
Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer
Department: Executive Office

Version	Decision Number or CEO Approval	Decision Date	History
1.	GRC 0001	11 May 2012	Adopted at Post Election Meeting of Council; Meeting Resolution No. PEM 007/12
2.	Amended	28 May 2014	Adopted at Ordinary Meeting of Council: Meeting Resolution No. OM-075/14
3.	Reviewed Resolution OM – 112/17	28 June 2017	Review June 2020
4.	Reviewed Resolution OM-090/20	24 June 2020	Review June 2021
5.	Reviewed Resolution OM-150/21	21 July 2021	Review July 2024
6.	Reviewed Ordinary Meeting (OM	26 March 2025	Reviewed

1. BACKGROUND

The Councillor Contact with Lobbyists, Developers and Submitters Policy is intended to provide ethical guidance for Councillors when dealing with lobbyists, potential developers or developers who have made a development application and submitters to a development application.

It is always the aim of Council to ensure that all decisions are legal, ethical and impartial. Such principles are reflected in section 4 the Local Government Act 2009 (i.e. the “local government principles”) and section 12 of that Act (the responsibilities of Councillors).

Providing a policy as to how Councillors should interact with lobbyists and the development industry will assist in better decision making. For avoidance of doubt, this procedure is in addition to the requirements and processes imposed upon Councillors and lobbyists by the Integrity Act 2009

2. PURPOSE

Free and open access to Councillors, and Council itself, is vital to efficient and effective local government.

3. POLICY OBJECTIVES

Contact with Councillors is undertaken by many people in the community in relation to a broad range of matters. Lobbyists, developers and submitters seek access to Councillors to discuss potential and existing development applications and other projects. The public has a clear expectation that such contact is carried out ethically and transparently.

This procedure is intended to provide ethical guidance for Councillors when dealing with lobbyists, potential developers or developers who have made a development application and submitters.

4. POLICY COMMITMENT

Meeting or Exchanging Other Communication with Potential Developers and Lobbyists

(Where no proposal presently before Council)

Councillors may encourage responsible and appropriate development in Council's area. Councillors should not feel inhibited, in any communications with potential developers and lobbyists (for a potential development), in promoting the benefits of developing in Council's local government area.

However, even in dealings with potential developers and lobbyists (for a potential development) Councillors:-

- Must make clear to potential developers and lobbyists that they can provide general information on the application process but cannot give definitive advice about the developer's or lobbyists chance of success;
- Should suggest that the developer or lobbyist seeks independent professional advice;
- If applicable, must encourage potential development applications and lobbyists to seek preliminary advice on their proposal by utilising the established process for the pre-lodgement meetings with Council staff;
- Must state that any opinions expressed by the Councillor are personal to the Councillor and do not in any way represent the Council's possible attitude to the potential application.

Similarly, in relation to potential submitters to a development application, Councillors should not feel inhibited about discussing with potential submitters what is publicly known about a potential development application. Again, Councillors:-

- Must make clear to potential submitters that they can provide general information on the application process but cannot give definitive advice about the developer's chance of success;
- Should suggest that the submitter seeks independent professional advice;
- Must state that any opinions expressed by the Councillor are personal to the Councillor and do not in any way represent the Council's possible attitude to the potential application.

In all exchanges of communication with a potential developer, lobbyist (for a potential development) or potential submitter, Councillors should keep and maintain a written record of same. This written record should detail, as a minimum, the date and time of the exchange, the format of the exchange (i.e. face to face meeting, telephone call, exchange of emails or exchange of correspondence), a summary of the matters raised with the Councillor and a summary of the Councillors response.

Meeting with Developers, Lobbyists and Submitters after a Development Application has been Lodged Meetings

After a development application has been lodged, any requests for meetings between Councillors and developers, lobbyists or submitters should only occur by arrangement

through the office of Council's CEO (or his/her delegate) and only in circumstances where a Council officer (with adequate knowledge of the development application) is also present.

At any such meetings, again, Councillors must state:-

- That any opinions expressed by the Councillor are personal to the Councillor and do not in any way represent the Council's possible attitude to the development application; and
- In relation to Council's possible decision on the application, that the Councillors principal obligation is to serve the public interest by ensuring that his/her decision is:-
 1. Consistent with the planning legislation, Council's Planning Scheme and Policies; and
 2. Made after having appropriate regard to any officer's (or Council appointed consultant's) advice; and
 3. Not influenced by any other relevant or inappropriate consideration

Councillors must keep a written record summarizing the matters discussed at any such meeting. This written record should detail, as a minimum, the date and time of the meeting, a summary of the matters raised with the Councillor and a summary of the Councillor's response.

Other Communications

After a development application has been lodged, if a Councillor engages in telephone discussions, email or other correspondence exchange with a developer, lobbyist or submitter (where they are seeking the Councillor's support or opposition (as the case may be) to a development application), any such response from the Councillor must include the following statements: -

- That any opinions expressed by the Councillor are personal to the Councillor and do not in any way represent the Council's possible attitude to the development application; and
- In relation to Council's possible decision on the application, that the Councillor's principal obligation is to serve the public interest by ensuring that his /her decision is: -
 1. Consistent with the planning legislation, Council's planning scheme and policies; and
 2. Made after having appropriate regard to any officer's (or Council appointed consultant's) advice; and
 3. Not influenced by any other irrelevant or inappropriate consideration.

Councillors must keep a written record of any such communications. This written record should detail, as a minimum, the date and time of the exchange, the format of the exchange (i.e. telephone call, exchange of emails or exchange of correspondence), a summary of the matters raised with the councillor and a summary of the Councillor's response.

5. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy, the following terms are defined:-

"Developer" - an applicant for development approval. If the applicant is a body corporate, the term includes officer holders and employees of the applicant. If the applicant is a partnership, the term includes partners and employees of the applicant.

“Development Application” - an application for development that requires assessment against the provisions of Council’s Town Planning Scheme.

“Development Approval” – a development application that has been approved by Council.

“Lobbyist” – has the same meaning as defined in the *Integrity Act 2009*.

“Submitter”- has the same meaning as defined in the *Planning Act 2016*.

6. REVIEW DATE

June 2028

7. NOTE

Prepared by King and Company, Solicitors – August 2010 and endorsed by LGAQ Executive 30 August 2010.

REPORT DATE: 7 March 2025 **REPORT NUMBER:** EX 006/25
DEPARTMENT: Executive Office
REPORT TITLE: Texas Memorial Hall Audio/Visual Equipment
PREPARED BY: Carl Manton

SUBJECT:

This report is seeking council approval of a proposed long term hire agreement subject to the success of an external funding application for the proposal to install audio visual equipment in Texas Memorial Hall.

REPORT:

Council were approached by the Texas State School in 2024 with a proposal to install audio/visual equipment in the Texas Memorial Hall. 'In Principle' approval to support an application for external funding was provided (refer attached letter) with the local P&C Association submitting an application to the Gambling Community Benefit Fund (GCBF). The application was unsuccessful and feedback from GCBF was that a long term usage agreement (minimum 3 years) was required.

A long term hire agreement has been suggested to support a new application, hire agreement application attached. The agreement is conditional on securing external funds and the installation of the proposed system will benefit all users of the Hall including Council for meetings and community forums.

ASSOCIATED RISKS:

Low

FINANCIAL IMPACTS:

Ongoing maintenance of equipment, offset by the additional hire of the hall.

CONSULTATION:

Discussions between Texas P-10 State School and Council. Feedback from Texas Arts Council.

LEGISLATION/LEGAL/POLICY:

Local Government Act 2009

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That Council resolves to approve the long term hire agreement with Texas P-10 State School for hire of the Texas Memorial Hall subject to a successful application for external funding.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. GRC Letter of Support
- B. Application for long term hire agreement
- C. Letter of Support Texas Arts Council

File: Letter Support
Date: 29 May 2024

Texas State School Parents and Citizens Association
TEXAS QLD 4385

Application for funding – Projector and Screen for Texas Memorial Hall

The Goondiwindi Regional Council is pleased to support the application from Texas State School P&C Association to assist with purchase and installation of a projector and screen in the Texas Memorial Hall. The Texas Memorial Hall is the main function facility in Texas and is used by many organisations for activities ranging from theatre productions to school awards ceremonies.

This project will provide video and live streaming options to complement the existing audio and lighting at the hall. The equipment will allow greater use of the hall with opportunities to host conferences and community meetings that require video conferencing or audio-visual presentations.

Council is committed to support initiatives and partnerships that enhance education and learning opportunities for the benefit of communities. Council also recognises the importance arts and culture plays in our region and the proposed installation of a projector and screen system at the Texas Hall will enable a greater range of performance based activities and workshops.

The project will benefit the whole community and encourage greater use of an important community facility. As owners of Texas Memorial Hall, Goondiwindi Regional Council has given permission for the proposed installation to enhance this community space.

This project is a great initiative from the Texas P&C Association and will enhance the capacity of the community to better utilise current technology and increase use of the Memorial Hall.

Favourable consideration of the application is strongly supported.

Yours faithfully



Carl Manton
Chief Executive Officer
Goondiwindi Regional Council

Multi-Season Venue Hire Agreement

APPLICANT DETAILS

Organisation Name:	Texas P-10 State School	
Position within Organisation:	Business Manager	
Contact Full Name:	Larissa Baker	
Mobile:		07 4653 3333
Email:	lbake237@eq.edu.au	
Public Liability Insurance Cover:	Please attach copy of Certificate of Currency	

AGREEMENT DETAILS

Facility:	Texas Memorial Hall	
Type of Activity:	School Functions	
Licensed Function: (any function where alcohol is consumed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Details: <i>Note: The hirer is to notify the Police that alcohol will be consumed in the facility prior to the event.</i>	
Areas Requested:	X Kitchen	X Bar
	X Hall	
LENGTH OF AGREEMENT:	Start Date:	February 2025
	End Date:	December 2028
ANNUAL HIRE FEE:	\$0	
BOND:	\$0	
DATE GROUP WILL PROVIDE BOOKING BY:	<p>As this Facility is available for others to hire, the hirer must provide written advance notice to Council regarding requested booking/s. Bookings are first-in, first-served, and confirmed bookings are essential to secure date/s.</p> <p>Bookings and updates to relevant contact details to be provided by: February each year for known function dates such as annual Speech Night and Graduation Dinner. All other bookings of the Texas Memorial Hall to be arranged with staff at the Texas Customer Service Centre (Texas Library).</p>	
ADDITIONAL AGREED TERMS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In lieu of an Annual Hire Fee, the Texas State School will source funding to install Audio/Visual equipment in the Hall area. Goondiwindi Regional Council will organise any upgrade to the WiFi connectivity and/or asbestos abatement required for Audio Visual equipment installation. Goondiwindi Regional Council will arrange regular maintenance of the Audio/Visual equipment. Texas State School agrees to the use of the Audio/Visual equipment by other community organisations hiring the Texas Memorial Hall. 	
KEY:	The Texas P-10 State School to collect Hall keys from the Texas Library prior to agreed booking dates.	

Multi-Season Venue Hire Agreement

HIRE CONDITIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION	
The premises and all facilities are hired to the Hirer on the basis that the Hirer is competent to operate all such facilities and indemnifies Council against any loss, damage or liability from such use.	
DECORATIONS:	The Hirer shall not decorate the internal walls or ceiling of the facility unless permission is first obtained from the Goondiwindi Regional Council (Council). The hirer shall not cause any nails, tacks, adhesives, or other articles to be driven into the floor, walls or ceilings. No decorations are to be attached to any ceiling fans, light fixtures or curtains. The hirer shall immediately after the function remove all decorations from the area/s to the satisfaction of the Council.
SMOKING:	Prohibited in all areas of the facility other than designated smoking areas and definitely not indoors.
CLEANING:	The hire charge of the facility does not allow for any cleaning by staff. The Hirer is responsible for ensuring that the facility is left in a clean and tidy condition. Should any cleaning be required, an invoice will be forwarded to the Hirer.
DAMAGES:	During their use, the Hirer shall be liable to repair/replace any damage to the grounds, buildings, furniture, equipment and fixtures and such damage cost shall be invoiced to the Hirer.
ALCOHOL:	Alcohol is only to be consumed in the designated areas. Glass bottles are also prohibited, the use of cans is allowed. Bar to close & cease serving alcohol at midnight.
LIQUOR LICENCING:	Any event held where alcohol is served/provided must seek Council approval and if requested provide Council with a copy of license obtained.
FOOD LICENCING:	Any event held where food is served/provided, the hirer must check with Council if any additional licensing is required.
VACATING THE PREMISESES:	Premises must be vacated by 12:30am, failure to do so will alert Security Monitoring and the Hirer will be invoiced for the callout fee.
SPORTING FIELDS:	N/A
PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE:	<p>Council has Liability Insurance for Council owned facilities and this does not extend to incorporated associations, high risk sports, or users that access the facility more than 12 times per year.</p> <p>Therefore your organisation must have Public Liability Insurance in place to cover their occupancy of the premises, including the activities being conducted.</p> <p>Council does not take responsibility for community group items left at the premises.</p>
FIRE SAFETY:	The Hirer acknowledges he/she will inform all the occupants of the fire safety procedure and show/inform all occupants where emergency exits and assembly area are located prior to the commencement of the function. Emergency Exits must not be obstructed. In the event of fire occupants will leave the building safely and with haste and gather at the designated assembly area.
MAINTANENCE REQUESTS:	<p>All maintenance requests are to be submitted to Council in writing for consideration.</p> <p>Any urgent requests are to be lodged with Council's Customer Service Team on 4671 7400 to be delegated to the appropriate on-duty officer.</p>
IMPROVEMENT WORKS:	All improvement works request are to be submitted to Council in writing for consideration. Depending on the type of works required, the hirer as an organisation, may be required to apply for external funding to assist in carrying out these works.
ADDITIONAL TERMS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hirer must give at least minimum of fourteen (14) days' notice for any key activities that require Council personnel input (eg. mowing, changes to watering schedule etc.) • Items that are left and/or stored onsite will be the hirers responsibility. • The Hirer will require contents insurance and/or insurance for their own contents, shed, containers, equipment etc.. • Workplace Health & Safety measures must implemented and adhered to, and any incident/s that occur must be reported to Council in a timely manner. • The Hirer agrees to not share the key with any authorized persons not associated with the delivery of this Agreement. • Lost keys will incur a fee.

Multi-Season Venue Hire Agreement

DECLARATION AND SIGNATURE

I, the applicant, declare that I have read and understood the Multi-Season Hire Conditions and General Information and confirm that I am responsible and can fulfil all the requirements of hiring the facility, including ensuring that I comply with all federal, state or local legislation relevant to the activity that I wish to undertake.

Name: <u>Lanissa BAMEL</u>	Signature: <u>[Handwritten Signature]</u>	Date: <u>26/2/2025</u>
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Texas Arts Council

PO Box 123

Texas Qld 4385

Texas State School Parents and Citizens Association

TEXAS QLD 4385

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Application for funding – Projector and Screen for Texas Memorial Hall

The Texas Arts Council is pleased to support the application from Texas State School P&C Association to assist with purchase and installation of a projector and screen in the Texas Memorial Hall. The Texas Memorial Hall is the main function facility in Texas and is used by our organisation for theatre productions and live music performances.

This project will provide video and live streaming options to complement the existing audio and lighting at the hall. We have recently hosted a theatre performance that required the use of a projector and screen and while we were able to use a small portable system the impact of the performance was limited by the lack of a professional “in house” video system.

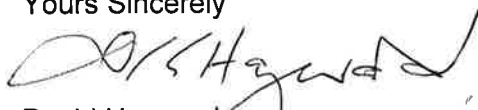
Texas Arts Council also partner with Topology to deliver cultural workshops for the community. At present the workshops are limited to a couple per year based on availability of the teaching artists to visit Texas. The ability to live stream workshops from other locations would complement the existing program and enhance the cultural development of our community.

The project will benefit the whole community and encourage greater use of an important community facility.

This project is a great initiative from the Texas P&C Association and will enhance the capacity of the community to better utilise current technology and increase use of the Memorial Hall.

Favourable consideration of the application is strongly supported.

Yours Sincerely



David Hayward

President, Texas Arts Council

REPORT DATE: 19 March 2025 **REPORT NUMBER:** CCS005/25
DEPARTMENT: Community and Corporate Services
REPORT TITLE: **Finance Report Period Ending 28 February 2025**
PREPARED BY: Manager Finance, Mr Bradley Pyle

SUBJECT:

Finance Report CCS-005/25 for period ending 28 February 2025 is provided for Council's endorsement.

REPORT:

ASSOCIATED RISKS:

FINANCIAL IMPACTS:

CONSULTATION:

LEGISLATION/LLEGAL/POLICY:

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That Council resolves to receive Finance Report CCS-005/25 for the period ending 28 February 2025.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Finance Report for the period ending 28 February 2025



Finance Report

Month Ending 28 February 2025

Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held Wednesday, 26 March 2025

REPORT TYPE: DECISION **REPORT NUMBER:** CCS-005/25
REPORT DATE: 19 March 2025 **FILE REFERENCE:** Financial Management
DEPARTMENT: Finance and Corporate
PREPARED BY: Manager Finance, Bradley Pyle

SUMMARY

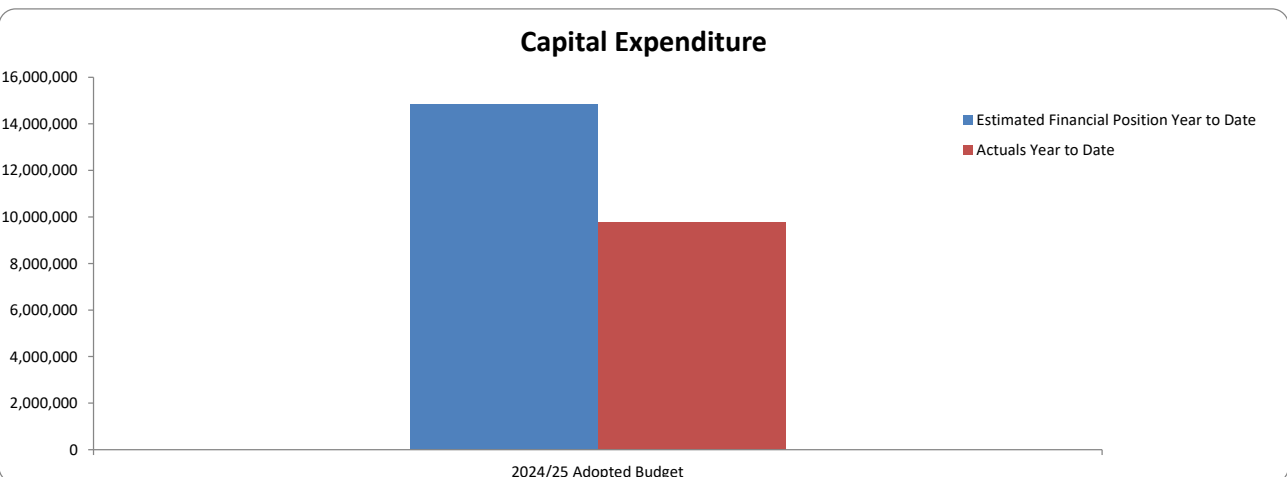
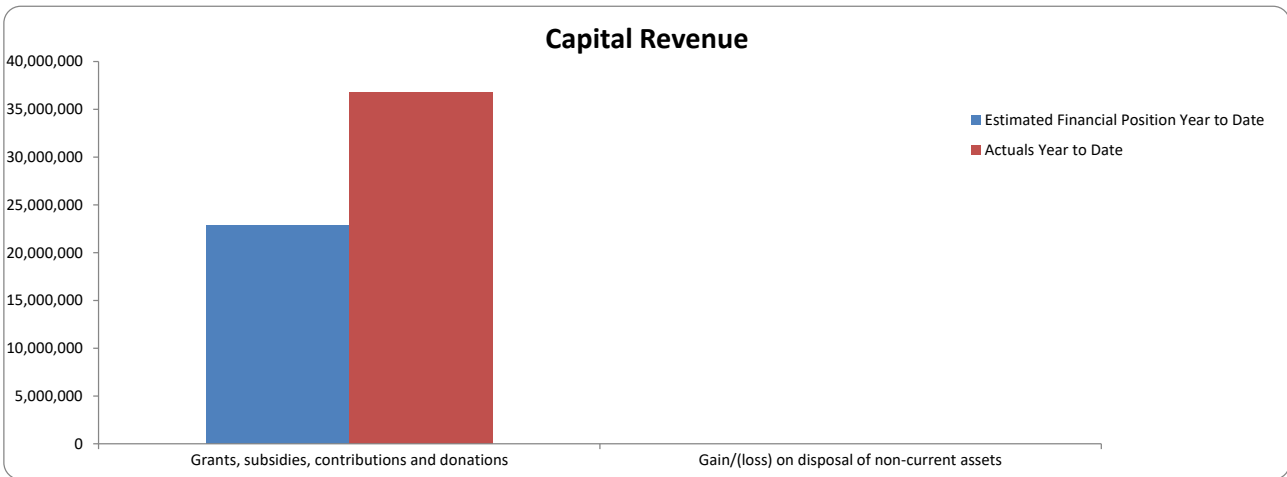
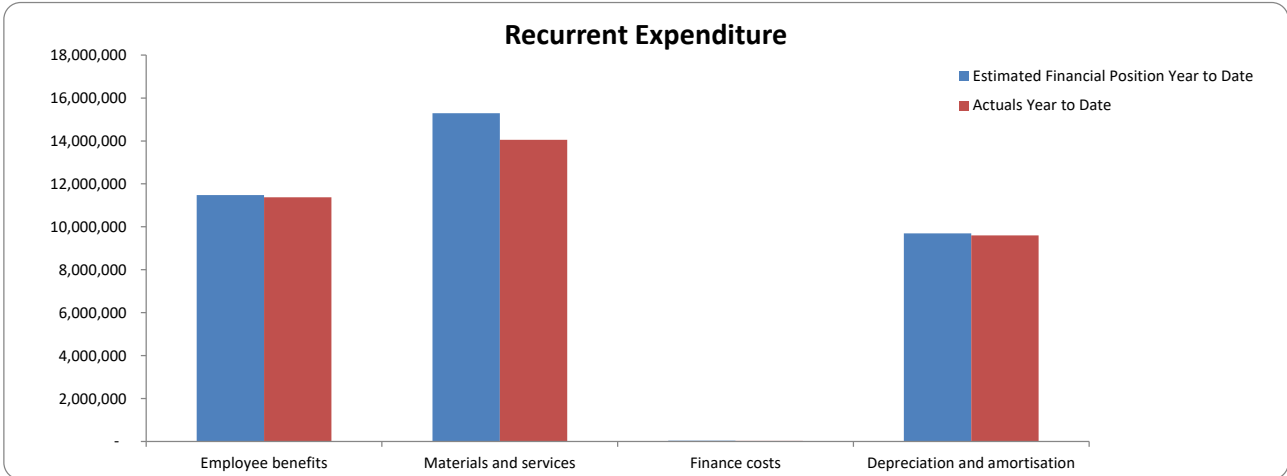
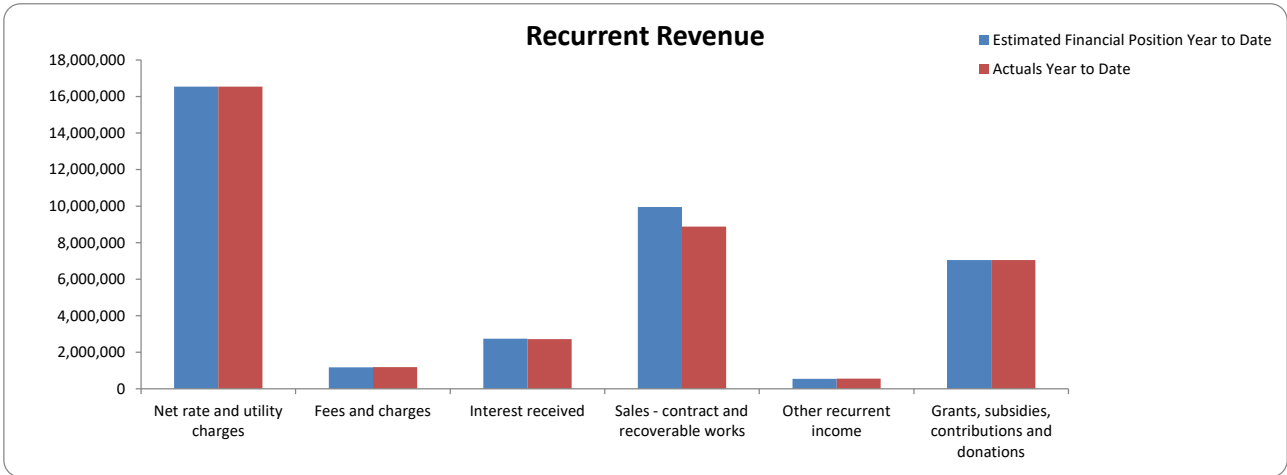
Page Number

Statement of Comprehensive Income	3
Graphical representation:-	
<i>Recurrent Revenue</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Recurrent Expenditures</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Capital Revenue</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Capital Expenditure</i>	<i>4</i>
Statement of Financial Position	5
Statement of Cash Flows.....	7
Statement of Changes in Equity	8

Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held Wednesday, 26 March 2025
Statement of Comprehensive Income
for the month ended 28 February 2025

	Estimated Financial Position		Actuals			Explanation
	2024/25	Year to Date 28-Feb-25	Year to Date 28-Feb-25	Variance \$	Variance %	
OPERATING						
Income						
Recurrent Revenue						
Net rate and utility charges	24,816,035	16,544,023	16,543,973	(50)	0%	
Fees and charges	1,766,245	1,177,497	1,187,982	10,486	1%	
Interest received	4,116,959	2,744,639	2,719,255	(25,384)	-1%	
Sales - contract and recoverable works	14,934,461	9,956,307	8,883,784	(1,072,523)	-11%	- Contract income not linear
Other recurrent income	825,000	550,000	559,514	9,514	2%	
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	10,578,606	7,052,404	7,052,404	0	0%	
Total Recurrent Revenue	57,037,306	38,024,871	36,946,914	(1,077,957)		
Expenses						
Recurrent Expenses						
Employee benefits	17,448,188	11,475,539	11,373,501	(102,038)	-1%	
Materials and services	22,724,101	15,295,068	14,050,721	(1,244,347)	-8%	- Leave provisions/Contract expenditure
Finance costs	56,000	37,333	29,389	(7,944)	-21%	-\$3.8K Refund of NAB Connect Fees
Depreciation and amortisation	14,547,054	9,698,036	9,596,765	(101,271)	-1%	
Total Recurrent Expenses	54,775,343	36,505,976	35,050,376	(1,455,600)		
NET OPERATING RESULT	2,261,963	1,518,894	1,896,537	377,643		
CAPITAL						
Capital - Related Revenue						
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	34,279,222	22,852,815	36,757,423	13,904,608	61%	- Grant income not linear
Gain/(loss) on disposal of non-current assets		0	0	0		
Total Capital - Related Revenue	34,279,222	22,852,815	36,757,423	13,904,608		
Capital - Related Expenditure						
2024/25 Adopted Budget	22,276,441	14,850,961	9,763,961	(5,086,999)		
Total Capital - Related Expenditure	22,276,441	14,850,961	9,763,961	(5,086,999)	-34%	
NET CAPITAL RESULT	12,002,781	8,001,854	26,993,462	18,991,608		

Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held Wednesday, 26 March 2025
Statement of Comprehensive Income Graphical Representation



Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held Wednesday, 26 March 2025

Statement of Financial Position
as at 28 February 2025

	Notes	28 February
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1	14,343,204
Investments	2	75,000,000
Receivables	3	5,877,853
Inventories	4	140,276
Contract Assets	5	18,750
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		95,380,083
NON CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, Plant and Equipment	6	609,577,623
Intangible Assets	7	5,003,500
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS		614,581,123
TOTAL ASSETS		709,961,205
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Payables	8	2,648,273
Provisions	9	4,602,201
Other Liabilities	10	9,883,178
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		17,133,651
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Provisions	12	2,906,828
Other Liabilities	13	1,071,997
TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		3,978,825
TOTAL LIABILITIES		21,112,476
NET COMMUNITY ASSETS		688,848,729
COMMUNITY EQUITY		
Accumulated Surplus		362,925,235
Asset Revaluation Reserve		287,269,534
Retained Operating Surplus This Year		38,653,961
NET COMMUNITY EQUITY		688,848,729

Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held Wednesday, 26 March 2025

**Statement of Financial Position
as at 28 February 2025**

	Notes	28 February
1 Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash at Bank		<u>14,343,204</u>
2 Investments		<u>75,000,000</u>
		<u>89,343,204</u>
Less Restricted Cash		
Creditors and accruals		-2,648,273
Employee provisions		-4,734,428
Waste Levy Refund received in advance		-1,014,399
Rates received in advance		-6,870,270
Landfill Restoration		-2,774,601
Flood works advance payment		-33,402,663
Plus Receivables		5,877,853
Capital projects not completed		-12,512,480
Total Unrestricted Cash		<u>31,263,944</u>
3 Receivables		
Rates, Debtors & others receivable		2,387,214
Accrued income		2,966,760
GST Recoverable		235,060
Sundries		288,818
		<u>5,877,853</u>
4 Inventories		<u>140,276</u>
5 Contract Assets		<u>18,750</u>
6 Property, Plant and Equipment (Including Works in Progress)		<u>609,577,623</u>
7 Intangible Assets		<u>5,003,500</u>
8 Payables		
Creditors and accruals		<u>2,648,273</u>
9 Provisions - Current		
Employee entitlements - Annual leave		1,418,028
Employee entitlements - Long service leave		2,413,013
Other employee entitlements		739,129
Landfill Restoration		32,032
		<u>4,602,201</u>
10 Other Liabilities - Current		
Rates		6,870,270
Unearned Revenue - Gdi Bowls Club		8,000
Waste Levy Refund Received in Advance		168,402
Other		2,836,506
		<u>9,883,178</u>
12 Provisions - Non Current		
Employee entitlements - Long service leave		164,259
Landfill Restoration		2,742,569
		<u>2,906,828</u>
13 Other Liabilities - Non Current		
Unearned Revenue - Gdi Bowls Club		226,000
Waste Levy Refund Received in Advance		845,997
		<u>1,071,997</u>

Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held Wednesday, 26 March 2025

Statement of Cash Flows
for the month ended 28 February 2025

	\$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities	
Receipts from Customers	37,856,171
Payments to Suppliers and Employees	- 35,079,825
	<hr/> 2,776,346
Receipts:	
Interest Revenue	1,942,400
Recurrent Grants, Subsidies and Contributions	9,888,910
Payments:	
Finance Costs	- 29,389
	<hr/> 14,578,267
Net Cash - Operating Activities	
Cash Flows from Investing Activities	
Receipts:	
Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment	842,241
Capital Grants, Subsidies and Contributions	36,473,655
Payments:	
Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment	- 15,601,357
Purchase of Intangible Assets	-
	<hr/> 21,714,539
Net Cash - Investing Activities	
Cash Flows from Financing Activities	
Payments:	
Repayment of Borrowings	-
	<hr/> -
Net Cash Flow - Financing Activities	
	<hr/> 36,292,806
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	
Plus: Cash and Cash Equivalents - Beginning	53,050,398
Cash and Cash Equivalents - Closing	<hr/> 89,343,204 <hr/>

Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held Wednesday, 26 March 2025

**Statement of Changes in Equity
for the month ended 28 February 2025**

	Asset Revaluation Surplus	Retained Surplus	Total Community Equity
	\$	\$	\$
2025			
Balance as at 1 July 2024	287,269,534	362,925,235	650,194,769
Net Result	-	38,653,961	38,653,961
Other Comprehensive Income			
- Revaluations: Asset Revaluation Surplus			-
Total Comprehensive Income	<u>-</u>	<u>38,653,961</u>	<u>38,653,961</u>
Balance as at 28 February 2025	<u>287,269,534</u>	<u>401,579,196</u>	<u>688,848,729</u>

REPORT DATE: 14 March 2025 **REPORT NUMBER:** CCS-006/25
DEPARTMENT: Community and Corporate Services
PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Cr Susie Kelly
REPORT TITLE: **Proposed Amendment – 2024/2025 Cost Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges – Cemeteries**
PREPARED BY: Manager, Cultural and Customer Services, Ms Sarah Little

SUBJECT:

Council to consider proposed amendment to the 2024/2025 Cost Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges, as set out in the report.

REPORT:

Change to GST:

Following the release of a final Taxation Determinate by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) the GST on burial rights is now exempt. As the interment costs in all GRC cemeteries are bundled into one single fee which includes purchase of plot, grave digging and ongoing maintenance a separate fee must be adopted to outline GST exclusive burial rights charge to comply with the determination.

Current Fees:

Charged in all cemeteries excluding Yelarbon.

Excavate and interment on a weekday

- Infant/Child Burial \$1,520
- Adult \$2,360
- Second Interment \$1,520
- Interment of Ashes in a grave \$475, plus \$1,785 if the interment or memorial has not been preceded by a burial in the plot.
- Reservation of Niche \$420
- Reservation of Grave \$440
- Reservation of Grave – Yelarbon \$130

Proposed Additional Fee:

- Right to Burial \$75

The addition of the fee is administrative to record within the Cemetery register, and reference when assessing future burial applications.

ASSOCIATED RISKS:

Communication to funeral directors and new information sheets for families will be circulated to outline the changes and convey understanding of the right to burial.

Public opinion, as cemeteries are often attached to grief.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS:

- If not introduced the full interment and reservation fee for the remainder of the financial year will be GST free.
- Burial fee to negate the additional administration time taken to record and reference burial information or make a determination on future burial applications where the right to burial wasn't previously outlined.
- All cemetery forms relating to reservations and interment must be updated to included right to burial.

CONSULTATION:

- There was no consultation held with GRC; this action takes place following notification from the Local Government Finance Professionals QLD of the ATO determination.
- The changes will be conveyed to Funeral Directors who are currently utilising GRC cemeteries.

LEGISLATION/LEGAL/POLICY:

- *Local Government Regulation 2012*
- *Subordinate Local Law 1.09 (Operation of Cemeteries) 2011*
- *Taxation Administration Act 1953 – Goods and Services Tax Determination 2024/2*

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Council resolves to amend the 2024/2025 Cost Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges to include:

- i. Right to Burial - \$75.00 excluding GST.*

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

REPORT DATE: 14 March 2025 **REPORT NUMBER:** ES004-25
DEPARTMENT: Engineering Services
PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Cr Julia Spicer
REPORT TITLE: 2024/25 Water Allocations Review
PREPARED BY: Manager Water and Sewerage, Mr Adam McMahon

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In accordance with Council's Raw Water Policy, Council is required to review its Border Rivers (Qld & NSW) water allocations in a bid to make decisions on the best way to utilise any potential excess water allocations prior to the end of the current 2024/25 water year (30 June 2025).

BACKGROUND:

The Council holds multiple water allocations within the Border Rivers System, spanning across Queensland and New South Wales. These allocations, with the exception of the NSW general security B licence from Pindari Dam, are accessible throughout the system, extending from Texas to Goondiwindi, encompassing water treatment facilities located in Texas, Yelarbon, and Goondiwindi, as well as various water storage sites such as Goondiwindi Natural & Heritage Water Park, Clarkes Lagoon and the Botanical Gardens.

The water consumption table provided as **Attachment A** shows actual usage to date as well as projected raw water consumption for the period of March 2025 to June 2025, as indicated by highlighted yellow. The projected raw water usage is based on averages of the previous three (3) years for each month over this period. The calculations give projected accumulative water consumption for the entire water year based on an average for the remaining period.

As can be seen from the consumption table, with average usage from March through to the end of the water year Council will have approximately 565 megalitres of high priority water remaining. This water is unable to be carried over and if not used is returned to the system.

This volume could be contained within the Goondiwindi Natural & Heritage Water Park, Clarkes Lagoon and the Botanical Gardens, if we have an opportunity to pump to it, and still be used for recreational uses at Council facilities. Council does have works planned for the Water Park this year and it is anticipated that these works can be completed with sufficient time left in the financial year to pump any remaining water into the facility.

Pindari dam level has also decreased to around 35% so it is likely to only be small allocations, if any, from this dam next water (financial) year. Council only has approximately 200ML of water in this water account and this is the primary water used in the water park.

Based on the water projected to be available, the available capacity at Council facilities, the likely lack of allocation water from Pindari dam next year and in accordance with Council's Raw Water Policy, it is recommended that Council not sell any of its water allocation for the 2024/25 water year.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS:

There would be an identifiable unbudgeted financial benefit should any water be sold, but a potential harder to determine community benefit should the water be used in Council facilities.

CONSULTATION:

Nil

LEGISLATION/LEGAL/POLICY:

- GRC 0087 Raw Water Management Policy

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Water Allocation Usage Calculation

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That Council resolves that based on the water projected to be available, the available capacity at Council facilities, the likely lack of allocation water from Pindari dam next year and in accordance with Council's Raw Water Policy that Council not sell any of its general security water allocation for the 2024/25 water year.

ATTACHMENT A:

Meter Readings

**24
25**

24-25	Yelarbon		Talwood		Bungunya		Toobeah				Texas		Inglewood			Goondiwindi										
	Raw	Bore	Raw	Bore	Windamall	Yarilwana	Pump 1	Pump 2	Bore	Truck Fill	Raw	Bore	Town WS	Lions Park	Football Fields	Town RAW	Hutton Bore	Gubber Bore	Gilbert Oval	Riddles Oval	Cultural Centre	High Flow WTP	Clarks Lagoon	Water Park	Botanical Gardens	High Flow Totals
June	182,354	99,850	220,222	66,325	1,267	21,008	58,405	55,088	158,250	46,409	93,978	140,743	2,591,160	119,332	29,899	39,862,639	84,978	80,987	736,892	227,056	3,462		766	7,936		
July	184,723	101,942	224,578	66,832	1,267	21,587	58,449	55,137	157,586	46,431	98,389	145,456	2,601,828	119,332	29,856	39,737,133	86,340	83,455	736,935	227,499	3,462		766	7,936		
Aug	186,710	103,384	228,833	66,855	1,267	22,248	58,552	55,274	158,417	46,562	103,702	150,529	2,612,598	119,332	29,984	39,822,218	87,948	86,423	736,997	227,718	3,462		766	7,936		
Sep	189,289	105,530	229,508	66,884	1,989	22,515	58,831	55,800	159,231	46,809	109,817	155,784	2,628,318	119,332	30,016	39,937,550	90,024	90,232	737,186	228,741	3,515		766	7,936		
Oct	191,334	108,946	233,556	68,600	2,759	22,752	58,705	56,182	160,447	48,272	117,255	161,434	2,646,883	121,328	30,340	40,058,288	92,068	93,947	737,634	231,188	3,718		766	7,936		
Nov	193,716	113,316	236,723	70,254	3,240	23,173	58,952	451	161,403	49,064	129,985	166,298	2,665,401	122,807	30,841	40,200,029	92,963	95,472	738,820	238,852	4,257		766	7,936		
Dec	194,196	119,828	4,879	71,885	3,833	23,971	59,143	748	163,077	49,128	146,577	166,298	2,685,897	123,897	31,358	40,359,077	95,540	100,307	739,774	242,470	4,835		766	7,936		
Jan	194,196	127,432	9,328	73,754	3,702	25,148	59,717	1,294	164,092	49,185	171,853	166,379	2,708,303	126,665	31,934	40,540,659	97,436	103,549	740,930	248,429	5,338		766	8,288		
Feb	12,997	133,123	12,153	74,985	4,356	25,283	59,988	1,552	164,703	49,201	190,987	166,391	2,731,993	128,008	33,057	40,709,851	99,499	107,170	741,479	253,225	5,704		766	8,288	53	
Mar	16,783	136,114	15,784	75,919	4,378	26,411	60,431	1,967	166,810	49,211	198,888	170,574	2,747,827	128,615	33,684	40,864,989	99,499	107,170	743,310	255,127	5,877		766	8,288	53	
Apr	18,878	138,208	17,927	76,851	4,378	27,304	61,403	2,267	167,475	49,252	206,863	178,551	2,762,152	129,356	34,197	40,971,321	99,499	107,170	745,063	257,029	5,944		766	8,288	53	
May	21,137	140,511	20,102	77,458	4,378	27,879	61,803	2,467	168,312	49,277	216,681	181,707	2,775,295	129,807	34,387	41,068,748	99,499	107,170	745,902	259,459	5,957		766	8,288	53	
Jun	23,289	142,070	22,149	78,078	4,378	28,601	61,747	2,803	168,933	50,233	225,451	182,943	2,787,173	129,807	34,805	41,150,589	99,499	107,170	746,694	260,113	5,978		766	8,288	53	

Consumptions

24-25	Yelarbon			Talwood			Bungunya		Toobeah				Texas			Inglewood			Goondiwindi												
	Raw	Bore	Bore Blend Ratio	Raw	Bore	Bore Blend Ratio	Windamall	Yarilwana	Pump 1	Pump 2	Bore	Truck Fill	Raw	Bore	Bore Blend Ratio	Town WS	Lions Park	Football Fields	Town RAW	Hutton Bore	Gubber Bore	Bore Blend Ratio	Gilbert Oval	Riddles Oval	Cultural Centre	High Flow WTP	Clarks Lagoon	Water Park	Botanical Gardens	High Flow Totals	
July	2,369	1,992	45.68%	4,356	507	10.43%	0	580	44	49	1,316	21	4,411	4,713	52%	10,668	0	157	74,494	1,362	2,488	4.91%	43	443	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Aug	1,987	1,522	43.37%	2,055	23	1.09%	0	661	104	137	851	161	5,313	5,073	49%	10,770	0	128	85,085	1,608	2,968	5.10%	62	219	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Sept	2,579	2,166	45.65%	2,873	9	0.33%	702	267	79	526	814	18	6,115	5,235	46%	15,720	0	32	115,332	2,076	3,809	4.85%	169	1,023	53	0	0	0	0	0	
Oct	2,045	3,316	61.85%	4,050	1,736	30.00%	791	237	74	382	1,216	1,662	7,438	5,670	43%	18,365	1,994	324	118,718	2,044	3,615	4.55%	468	2,445	203	0	0	0	0	0	
Nov	2,382	4,470	65.24%	3,167	1,854	34.31%	481	421	248	501	956	792	12,730	4,862	28%	18,718	1,481	501	143,761	895	1,625	1.72%	1,186	7,666	539	0	0	0	0	0	
Dec	480	6,312	92.93%	5,612	1,611	22.30%	393	798	191	297	1,674	64	16,592	0	0%	20,496	1,090	517	159,048	2,577	4,835	4.45%	954	3,618	578	0	0	0	0	0	
Jan	0	7,804	100.00%	4,449	1,889	29.80%	69	1,178	574	546	1,014	57	25,276	83	0%	22,406	2,768	576	181,582	1,896	3,242	2.75%	1,156	5,959	503	0	0	350	0	0	
Feb	1,568	5,691	78.40%	2,825	1,231	30.35%	654	134	272	258	611	16	19,114	12	0%	23,690	1,341	1,123	169,192	2,063	3,621	3.25%	549	4,796	366	0	0	0	53	0	
Mar	3,886	2,991	43.49%	3,631	934	20.46%	20	1,128	443	415	1,907	10	7,919	4,183	35%	15,834	609	627	155,118	0	0	0.00%	1,831	1,902	173	0	0	0	0	0	
Apr	2,095	2,094	49.99%	2,143	932	30.31%	0	893	972	300	865	41	7,977	7,977	50%	14,325	741	513	106,352	0	0	0.00%	1,753	1,902	67	0	0	0	0	0	
May	2,259	2,303	50.48%	2,175	607	21.81%	0	576	200	200	837	25	9,818	3,156	24%	13,143	451	200	97,427	0	0	0.00%	839	2,430	13	0	0	0	0	0	
June	2,133	1,559	42.23%	2,047	621	23.27%	0	722	144	135	621	956	8,770	1,236	12%	11,878	0	408	81,821	0	0	0.00%	792	654	22	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	23,782	42,220		39,383	11,753		3,109	7,594	3,342	3,747	12,683	3,823	131,473	42,200		196,013	10,475	5,106	1,487,930	14,521	26,203		9,802	33,057	2,516	0	0	350	53	0	
Total's	23,782	42,220		39,383	11,753		10,703		7,089		16,506		173,673			211,595		1,533,305													
Licence	106,000	130,000		120,000	300,000		6,500	26,500		26,500		50,000		270,000	350,000			320,000		2,100,000	240,000	140,000									
Remaining	82,218	87,780		80,817	288,247		3,391	11,818		11,818		33,494		138,527	307,800			108,405		586,885	225,479	113,797									
% Remaining	77.6%	67.5%		67.2%	96.1%		52.2%		44.6%		67.0%		51.3%	87.9%			33.9%		27.0%	93.9%	81.3%										
Time Remaining	0%						Combined Bungunya/Toobeah- Yarilwana				44.6%																				

REPORT DATE: 17 March 2025 **REPORT NUMBER:** ES006-25
DEPARTMENT: Engineering Services
PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Cr Jason Watts
REPORT TITLE: **Inglewood Aerodrome Power Connection - Budget Amendment Request**
PREPARED BY: Director Engineering Services, Mr Dion Jones

SUBJECT:

Council has received a request from the State Emergency Service (SES) and the Australian Large Scale Modellers to provide a power connection to the Inglewood aerodrome. As this is a new project, Council is required to consider a request for a budget amendment for the project: Inglewood Aerodrome Power Connection ; should they wish to proceed with the project.

REPORT:

Currently, the Inglewood Aerodrome does not have an electrical connection with the runway & apron lights being solar powered. Council has received requests from both the Australian Large Scale Modellers and the State Emergency Service (SES) to provide power to the aerodrome. Council sees benefit in providing power to the Inglewood Aerodrome particularly for Emergency Services disaster response and the Australian Large Scale Modellers host an annual, week-long festival attracting local, interstate and international competitors and enthusiasts who participate in what is recognised as the largest remote controlled aeromodelling air show in Australia* (*Goondiwindi Argus article 06/07/2023).

The nearest power pole is located on the road reserve about midway along the northern frontage of 16 Aerodrome Road (Lot 14 SP225455). Council has received a quote from a local contractor to undertake works. (**Attachment B**) in two parts consisting of;

- extending this connection adjacent to 16 Aerodrome Road into the Inglewood Aerodrome (Lot 15 SP212924) to a pole and then trench to a meter board beside the terminal structures next to the apron.
- Trenching an internal connection from the meter board to the Australian Large Scale Modellers' shed located to the south of the terminal building.

Staff have also received an additional verbal quote of around \$600 to install two power points and a light within the terminal building in conjunction with these works and there may be some other complementary works identified at the time of the works.

The general arrangement of these works is indicated in **Attachment A**

Given the works are relatively minor and the contractor is local it is therefore recommended that *Council approve a budget amendment of up to \$12,500.00 (Incl. GST) for the Inglewood Aerodrome Power Connection to meet costs of providing power to the facility for users of the airport.*

ASSOCIATED RISKS:

Non-compliance with electrical standards and CASA requirements.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS:

These works were not budgeted for in Council's 2024-25 Budget. These works require a budget amendment of up to \$12,500, which this report is seeking.

CONSULTATION:

LEGISLATION/LEGAL/POLICY:

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Local Government Regulation 2012*
- *Civil Aviation Safety Regulations (CASR) 1998*
- *GRC Capital Works Budget 2024/2025*

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

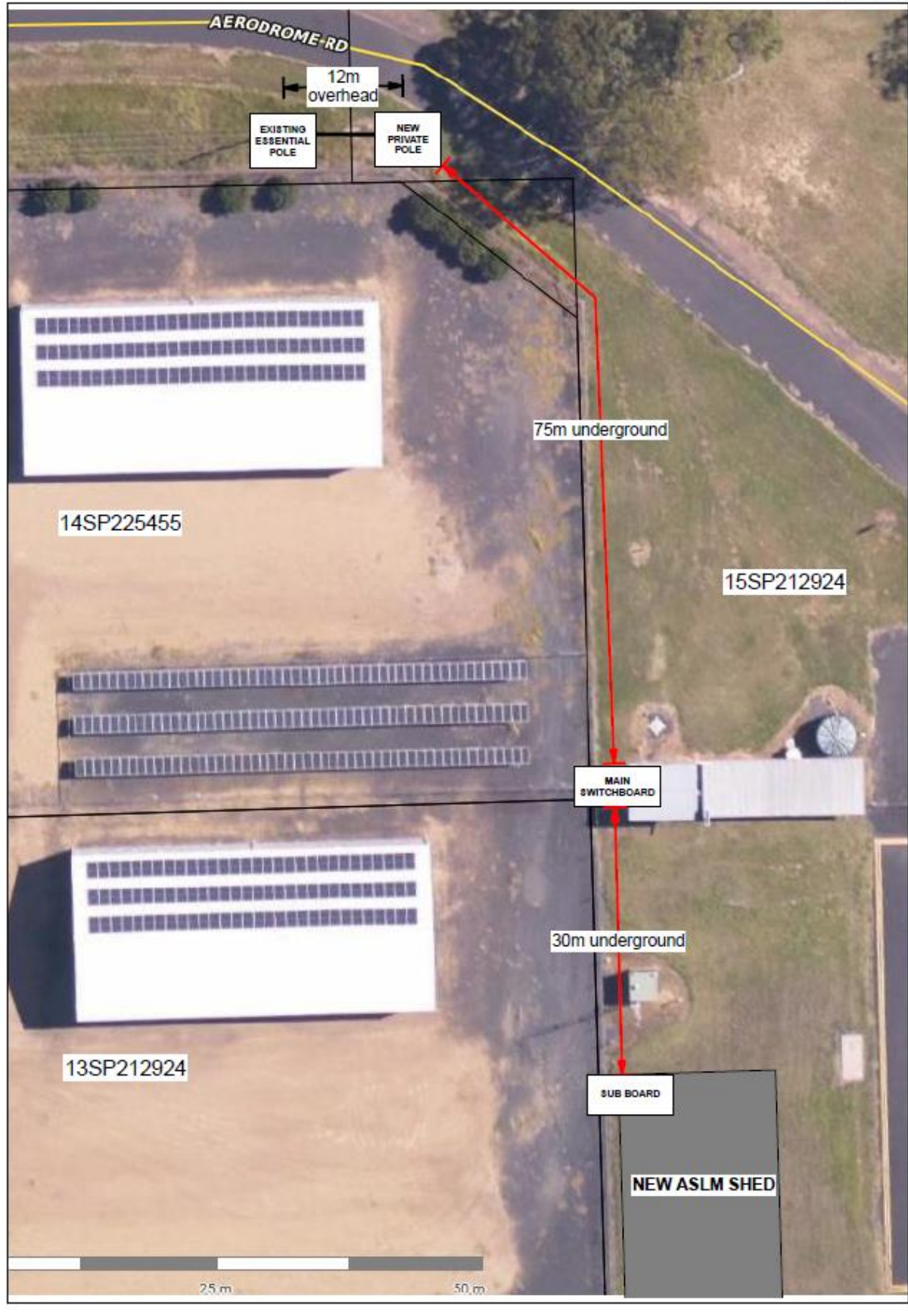
That Council approve a budget amendment of up to \$12,500.00 (Incl. GST), for the Inglewood Aerodrome Power Connection to meet costs of providing power to the facility for users of the airport.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Proposed works site image

Attachment B – Renners Electrical and Air Conditioning Pty Ltd – Quote No. IV2279

Attachment A – Proposed works site image



Attachment B – Renners Electrical and Air Conditioning Pty Ltd – Quote No. IV2279



Renner's Electrical & Air Conditioning Pty Ltd

29 Princess St Inglewood Qld 4387
Phone: 0418720327
AU NO : AU15657
ABN: 73 105 262 806

Quote	Quote number	Issue date	Expiry date
	IV2279	13/03/2025	20/03/2025

Bill to

Goondiwindi Regional Council - Quotes
Goondiwindi QLD
Australia

Item ID	Description	UoM	Qty	Unit price (\$) <i>excluding tax</i>	Tax	Amount (\$) <i>excluding tax</i>
	Inglewood aerodrome club Supply and Install power pole. Supply and install 3 Phase 16mm 4 core cable from pole to council office. Supply and install Metering point and switchboard at council office. Supply and install 3 x 15amp socket outlets in switch board	Qty	1	6,770.00	GST	6,770.00
	Install 3 phase power to Aerodrome club shed from council office switchboard including trenching, 16 mm 4 core cable and conduit, supply and install 3 phase sub board in shed to main switch.	Qty	1	2,165.00	GST	2,165.00
Subtotal (<i>exc. tax</i>)						\$8,935.00
Tax						\$893.50
Total amount <i>including tax</i>						\$9,828.50