



Gunnedah Shire Council

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

5 September 2018



NOTICE is hereby given that the **EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** of Council will be held on **Wednesday 5 September 2018** in the **Council Chambers, Council Administration Building, 63 Elgin Street, Gunnedah** commencing at **5:00pm**.

AGENDA

1. PRESENT / APOLOGIES
2. PRAYER
3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST
In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice and specifically Section 451 of the Local Government Act, 1993 declarations of interest are required by Councillors and designated staff attending the meeting.
4. PRESENTATIONS
Nil at time of printing
5. MAYORAL MINUTE
Nil at time of printing

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CLOSED MEETING

8. DIRECTOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT TO CLOSED COUNCIL
8.1 Strategic Acquisition of Property – Section 10A(2)(c).....

* See Over

The ordinary, extraordinary and committee open meetings of Council will be audio recorded for minute-taking purposes and may be broadcast live over the internet.

*** Local Government Act 1993 – Definition of Closed Meeting Items**

10A Which parts of a meeting can be closed to the public?

- (1) A council, or a committee of the council of which all the members are councillors, may close to the public so much of its meeting as comprises:
- (a) the discussion of any of the matters listed in subclause (2), or
 - (b) the receipt or discussion of any of the information so listed.
- (2) The matters and information are the following:
- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors),
 - (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer,
 - (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business,
 - (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
 - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
 - (iii) reveal a trade secret,
 - (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law,
 - (f) matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property,
 - (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege,
 - (h) information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on community land.
 - (i) alleged contraventions of any code of conduct requirements applicable under section 440.

VISION

TO BE A FOCUSED COMMUNITY VALUING GUNNEDAH'S IDENTITY AND QUALITY LIFESTYLE.

MISSION

TO PROMOTE, ENHANCE AND SUSTAIN THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN GUNNEDAH SHIRE THROUGH BALANCED ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PEOPLE.

ORGANISATIONAL VALUES

In partnership with the community:

- 1. EQUITY**
- 2. INTEGRITY**
- 3. LEADERSHIP**
- 4. OPENNESS & ACCOUNTABILITY**
- 5. CUSTOMER SATISFACTION**
- 6. COMMITMENT TO SAFETY**
- 7. EFFICIENT & EFFECTIVE USE OF RESOURCES**

Director Corporate and Community Service's Report

ITEM 1	Drought Communities Program
MEETING	Extraordinary Meeting – 5 September 2018
DIRECTORATE	Corporate and Community Services
AUTHOR	Director Corporate and Community Services
POLICY	Nil
LEGAL	Local Government Act 1993
FINANCIAL	Nil
STRATEGIC LINK	Community Strategic Plan 1.2.5 Continue work to ensure Council has good governance and transparent decision making. Operational Plan 1.2.5.4 Promote and support effective open and transparent Council decision making including provision of quality business papers, meeting notices and minutes in accordance with legislative requirements.
ATTACHMENTS	Letter – Minister for Regional Development, Territories and Local Government

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received and noted.

PURPOSE

To provide an update to Council regarding the extension of the Federal Drought Communities Program.

BACKGROUND

On 20 August 2018 Member for the Parkes electorate, Mark Coulton announced the granting of \$1 Million to each Council in his electorate as part of a \$75 million dollar package across drought affected areas in NSW and QLD.

COMMENTARY

The Hon Dr John McVeigh wrote to Council on the 24th of August 2018 (attached), confirming that Council will be the recipient of the funding and noting that the guidelines for funding are yet to be developed.

At the time of writing there had been no further communication regarding the grant guidelines.

Colin Formann
DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES



The Hon Dr John McVeigh MP

Minister for Regional Development, Territories and Local Government
Federal Member for Groom

MS18-002333

Cr Jamie Chaffey
Mayor
Gunnedah Shire Council
PO Box 63
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380

23 AUG 2018

Dear Cr Chaffey

The Coalition Government is standing shoulder to shoulder with farmers and rural, regional and remote communities across Australia to ensure they can survive the severe and widespread drought that has affected so many.

Our drought support package has increased to \$1.8 billion and we will continue to monitor conditions and respond accordingly to ensure we meet local needs.

Recognising that the drought bites just as hard on main street as it does in the paddock, over the weekend I announced a \$75 million boost to the Drought Communities Programme to support communities in the most drought-affected regions of Australia.

This program will provide eligible councils, including your council, with up to \$1 million each to support your small, rural towns through the drought. This funding is intended to provide short-term support to communities facing hardship arising from drought. It will fund projects that provide local employment, keep money flowing through local shops and suppliers and support drought-relief activities.

I am currently finalising the program guidelines, which will provide more information on the roll-out of the program and how to access funding. While I am doing this, I invite you to start thinking about the type of projects that would provide the most benefit to your communities. Some examples might include: employing local contractors to undertake repairs or maintenance; upgrading or building new community facilities; holding events and undertaking drought-relief activities; and carting potable water if required.

The Hon Dr John McVeigh MP
Parliament House Canberra | (02) 6277 7990 | minister.mcveigh@regional.gov.au
216 Margaret Street, Toowoomba QLD 4350

There is no requirement for your council to match funding under the program. Funding is only available this financial year and you must be able to complete any projects by 30 June 2019.

I encourage you to make the most of this support. AusIndustry will contact you in the near future when applications open. In the interim, if you have any questions please contact my office on 02 6277 7990 or at minister.mcveigh@regional.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John McVeigh', written in a cursive style.

Dr John McVeigh MP

Chief Financial Officer's Report

ITEM 1	Draft 2017-18 Financial Report
MEETING	Extraordinary Meeting – 5 September 2018
DIRECTORATE	Finance and Business
AUTHOR	Chief Financial Officer
POLICY	2017/18 Operational Plan, Budget and Long Term Financial Plan
LEGAL	Local Government Act 1993, Australian Accounting Standards, Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting
FINANCIAL	As detailed in the report
STRATEGIC LINK	Community Strategic Plan 1.2.10 Support Council's operation by providing financial, human resources and information technology services. Operational Plan 1.2.8.6 Ensure Council meets all of its statutory requirements in a timely manner with regard to external funding reporting, returns and internal compliance processes.
ATTACHMENTS	Draft 2017/18 Financial Statements – UNDER SEPARATE COVER

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS:

That:

1. Council's Draft Financial Report is prepared in accordance with:
 - the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) and the regulations made there under;
 - the Australian Accounting Standards; and
 - the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.
2. The report presents fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the year;
3. The report accords with Council's accounting and other records;
4. Council is not aware of any matter that would render this report false or misleading in any way;
5. Council's Draft Financial Report be referred to audit;
6. Councils Draft Financial Report be presented to the October meeting of Councils Audit Committee;
7. Council delegate authority to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer to sign the 'Statement by Council and Management' for inclusion within the report;
8. Council delegate authority to the General Manager to finalise the date at which the auditor's report and financial statements are to be presented to the public; and
9. Council delegate authority to the General Manager to set the authorised for issue date upon receipt of the auditor's report.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present to Council the Draft 2017-18 Financial Reports for endorsement and referral to audit for finalisation.

In accordance with S416 of the Local Government Act, 1993 Council is required to pass a resolution to this effect along with the making of a number of other conformance statements.

BACKGROUND

Council is required annually to complete year-end financial statements in accordance with S413 (1) of the Local Government Act. These reports are to be completed as soon as practicable after the end of financial year in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and must include, a general purpose financial report, special purpose financial reports for all of councils business activities, special schedules and the prescribed councillors statement.

Council has four months from the end of financial year to prepare, adopt and have audited the financial reports in accordance with S416 (1) of the Local Government Act.

Attached to this report is councils draft Financial Report for the financial year ending 30 June 2018.

COMMENTARY

In order to continue to progress toward lodgment of the financial report with the appropriate bodies, it is now required that council refer the attached draft Financial Reports to audit for finalization and that it make a resolution in accordance with S413 (2c) of the Local Government Act, that the report is in accordance with:

- the Local Government Act 1993 and the regulations made there under,
- the Australian Accounting Standards, and
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting,
- that it presents fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the year,
- that the Council is not aware of any matter that would render this report false or misleading in any way, and
- the report accords with Councils accounting and other financial records.

Additionally council is also required to delegate authority to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer to sign the 'Statement by Council and Management' that forms part of the financial report in accordance with Clause 215 of the Local Government (General) Regulation.

Given the timeframes within which the audited financial reports need to be lodged with the Office of Local Government and the timing for the auditor's report to be presented to the general public, it would also be prudent at this time to delegate authority to the General Manager to execute the following:

- Finalise the date at which the auditor's report and financial statements are to be presented to the public in compliance with S418 (1) of the Local Government Act.
- Set the authorised for issue date upon receipt of the auditor's report in accordance with AASB 110.

Following the completion of the aforementioned processes, a subsequent report will be presented to council containing the final audited Financial Report for analysis and information.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Community Engagement/ Communication

Once finalised the financial statements are to be publicly exhibited in accordance with the Local Government Act, including advertising of the key results in the local print press and on Councils website.

Council's external auditor is also required to make presentation on the reports to Council's Audit Committee Meeting in October, following the completion and audit of the report.

Policy and Regulation

- Local Government Act 1993;
- Local Government Regulations (General) 2005;
- Australian Accounting Standards;
- Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

Financial Strategy (LTFP)

The draft Financial Report is a report on the financial outcomes for the organisation for the 2017-18 financial year and accordingly represents the outcomes delivered with regard to financial performance and position for the financial year in comparison with those forecast in Councils long term financial plan and annual budget.

Asset Management Strategy (AMS)

No changes recommended

Workforce Management (WMS)

No changes recommended

Legal and Risk Management

Nil

Performance Measures

Results for key macro financial indicators are contained within Note 13 of the Financial Report.

Project Management

N/A

Damien Connor
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Shire of
Gunnedah
Land of Opportunity
