



LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE
MEETING OF COUNCIL

TO BE HELD AT

THE ADMINISTRATION CENTRE, LITHGOW

ON

02 APRIL 2007

AT 6.00pm

AGENDA

PRESENT

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERY

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 5 MARCH 2007

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

NOTICE OF MOTION - Daintree Lane - Councillor H K Fisher

NOTICE OF RECISSION - Nil

CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

General Manager Reports
Regional Services Reports
Community and Corporate Services Report

COMMITTEE MEETINGS - Nil

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

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NOTICE OF MOTION

ITEM:1 NOTICE OF MOTION - DAINTREE LANE

NOTICE OF MOTION

COMPULSORY ACQUISITION DAINTREE LANE
(Listed by Councillor H K Fisher).

BACKGROUND

Council will recall previous reports and requests for the compulsory acquisition of the Right Of Way at the end of Daintree Lane to create a public road.

The original proponent of the application has requested further investigations into the matter to remove the "uncertainty" in the Minister for Local Government refusal of the application.

Investigation by Council staff indicate that this process is problematic and unlikely to succeed as a compulsory acquisition due to:


- a) Not being able to demonstrate broad community benefit in the compulsory acquisition
- b) Not being the function of local government to utilise public funds to provide access to private property

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council take no further action with respect to compulsory acquisition the Right Of Way at the end of Daintree Lane due to:

- c) Not being able to demonstrate broad community benefit in the compulsory acquisition
- d) Not being the function of local government to utilise public funds to provide access to private property

Signed:


Councillor H K Fisher

GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

ITEM:2 GM - 02/04/07 - CENTRAL WESTERN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

REFERENCE

NIL

SUMMARY

This report outlines correspondence from the Central Western Regional Development Board (CWRDB) regarding their Annual Report.

COMMENTARY

Correspondence was received by Council from the Central Western Regional Development Board relating to their Annual Report.

The CWRDB forwarded a report from the Chair, Mr Sandy Morrison and the Executive Office, Ms Sharon Rabey as well as reports on the CWRDB's projects over the 2005 - 2006 period.

The financial statements for the Board and the Central Tablelands Regional Plantation committee project were also forwarded to Council on a disk.

If Councillors wish to have a copy of this information, please contact the General Managers Personal Assistant.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

ATTACHMENTS

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.

REGIONAL SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM:3 REG - 02/04/07 - DOCTORS GAP SEWER EXTENSION

REPORT BY: GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL SERVICES - ANDREW MUIR

REFERENCE

NIL

SUMMARY

This report advises of the status of a proposal to provide reticulated sewerage to Doctors Gap.

COMMENTARY

At Council's Finance and Services Committee of 5 March 2007, Councillor W McAndrew requested that a report be brought back on the sewerage connections at Doctors Gap. This relates to a previous proposal that evolved through representations from the Doctors Gap Landholders Association to provide reticulated sewerage to their dwellings on the basis that they were able to undertake a subdivision to allow their dwellings to be located on their own individual allotments rather than the one shared 'tenancy in common'. It is understood that this subdivision proposal did not proceed as not all members of the Doctors Gap Landholders Association would give their consent to the lodgement of a development application. Consequently, the sewerage extension project did not proceed.

Funding was provided in the 2003/2004, 2004/2005 and 2005/2006 budgets, based on partial cost recovery from resident contributions, however as the subdivision did not proceed the funding lapsed.

If such a project was ever to proceed in the future then due to the limited number of properties, length of extension required and low likelihood for significant future development, then a low pressure sewer system would likely represent the most cost effective option. Low pressure sewer systems are relatively new in Australia, but have been used extensively overseas. They have been adopted for several new sewerage schemes in NSW and have benefits where the distances and number of properties to be serviced make traditional sewer reticulation cost prohibitive. Further information is being sought in relation to costs on the basis that in due course this option will be utilised either at Doctors Gap or a number of other areas.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

No specific issues arise.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No issues arise at this stage.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

No specific issues arise at this stage.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.

**ITEM:4 REG - 02/04/2007 - CONTRIBUTION TOWARD STORMWATER
UPGRADE - CARY AVENUE WALLERAWANG**

REPORT BY: GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL SERVICES - ANDREW MUIR

SUMMARY

To advise Council of an upgrade to stormwater works at Cary Avenue, Wallerawang and recommend an appropriate contribution by Council toward the upgrade.

COMMENTARY

In July 2004 Van Der Veldon Builders advised of a proposed upgrade to stormwater works that they were proposing that involved the piping of an existing Council stormwater outlet from Carey Avenue away from a natural water course within their property. On the basis that the Council stormwater outlet would need to be piped and infrastructure upgraded, a request was made for Council participation as a 'joint project', i.e. fund part of the works. Considering that the stormwater did not 'have' to be diverted onto the land (ie it was not the only option for Council to dispose of stormwater from Cary Avenue) and the other option involved potentially costly works within the Cary Avenue road reserve, participation in the works was agreed to at the time.

Since this agreement Van Der Veldon Builders have undertaken the works. An initial estimate was provided in the amount of \$20,620.60 and on this basis an amount of \$21,000 was set aside in the September Quarterly budget review. A final invoice has now been provided in the amount of \$30,849.72. This increase is attributed to changes in material costs which have been verified by Council officers.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

No specific policy implications appear to arise.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Should Council resolve to allocate additional funds then an amount of \$9,849.72 (say \$9850) will be required. A corresponding saving would then be required in the March quarterly review.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

No specific legal implications arise.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council pay Van Der Veldon Builders invoice of \$30,849.72 for Stormwater upgrade works and an additional \$9850 be allocated in the March Quarterly review for the project subject to corresponding savings being identified.

ITEM:5 REG - 02/04/2007 - DRAFT EMERGENCY RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

REPORT BY: GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL SERVICES - ANDREW MUIR

SUMMARY

To advise of the preparation of a Draft Emergency Risk Management Plan, prepared by a sub committee of the Local Emergency Management Committee, and recommend the draft Plan be place on exhibition.

COMMENTARY

The Local Emergency Management Committee formed a sub committee including members from the NSW Fire Brigade, Sydney West Area Health Service, Volunteer Rescue Association, Lithgow State Emergency Service, Rural Fire Service and Council to assist Echelon Australia prepare a Draft Emergency Risk Management Plan, for submission to the State Emergency Management Committee. The aim of this plan is to develop and implement a Community Risk Management Plan, in consultation with the wider community.

The Plan considers the risks associated with a range of natural, technological, biological and other hazards that would require a significant and co-ordinated emergency response should they occur. The sub committee discussed numerous hazards that are considered significant for the localised area of the Lithgow Local Government area, and using a standard hazard matrix, determined the rating for these applicable hazards.

In summary, thirty eight (38) hazards were assessed as being applicable for the Lithgow Local Government Area, and of these, five (5) were considered to present an extreme risk, fifteen (15) presented a high risk, ten (10) presented a medium risk and eight (8) presented a low risk to the community.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This Plan will form part of Council's Disaster Plan, which is reviewed annually, or after each significant event.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Once Council adopts this Plan, it will be able to seek financial assistance from the State Government in relation to any of the emergency events identified in the Plan.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Emergency Risk Management Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Draft Emergency Management Plan be advertised and placed on public exhibition for a period of twenty eight (28) days, allowing Council to receive submissions prior to a further report being presented to Council for formal adoption.

COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM:6 COMM - 02/04/07 - COLLECTION PROCESSES UPDATE

REPORT FROM: COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL MANAGER– P. HALL

REFERENCE

Min 05-248: Planning and Development Committee Meeting 30/05/05
Min 06-312: Policy and Strategy Meeting 03/10/06
Min 06-366: Policy and Strategy Meeting 06/11/06

SUMMARY

At Council's Policy and Strategy meeting held on 6th November 2006 it was resolved to "send correspondence to Woolworths requesting that the Trolley Management Plan be reviewed".

COMMENTARY

Attached are the minutes of the collection processes meeting held on the 1st March 2007. When the trolley plan was reviewed, Woolworths advised that it was not a consent condition to have coin operated trolleys. With these meetings to improve communication, a new subcontractor collecting the trolleys and the review of the mapped area for pickups there has been a noted reduction in the number of trolleys abandoned.

Because of the improvements in trolley collection it was concluded by all in attendance that the next meeting should take place in six months unless problems re-emerge.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes of the Shopping Trolley Collection Meeting held on 1st March 2007

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.

ITEM:7 COMM - 02/04/07 - RADIOTHERAPY UNIT FOR THE CENTRAL WEST

REPORT FROM: GROUP MANAGER – COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE – K. Woolley

REFERENCE

NIL

SUMMARY

CENTROC resolved at its Board meeting of 14 February 2007 to continue to support a radiotherapy and Cancer Care Centre of Excellence in the Central West and is seeking member Councils provide funds for the development of the project.

This report seeks Council's determination of the level of support to be provided.

COMMENTARY

CENTROC is requesting its member councils provide funding (relative to the income level in each council) to be used to support the Cancer Care Western NSW group who will coordinate fund raising activities to ensure a radiotherapy unit is installed in the Orange Base Hospital. The group has been established as a not-for-profit entity specifically designed to fund raise and promote cancer care services and provide for a radiotherapy unit for Central West NSW residents.

The Cancer Care Western NSW group has a range of strategic activities including the research and provision of information on radiotherapy to be provided to residents in the Central West of NSW (through the production and distribution of a DVD for example), the development and coordination of fund raising activities to secure better services in cancer care, and the facilitation of a lobbying campaign to ensure the medical needs of the Central West's residents are met.

CENTROC has developed a formula for funding based upon the capacity of member councils to pay, which is derived relative to rates and fees and charges income. The formula is based on the actual income of each Council to achieve equity and ensure capacity to pay is achieved. Overall, the group is seeking \$27,000 from CENTROC member councils and the requested amount from Lithgow City Council is \$1,643.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

If Council supports this initiative it will need to be accommodated in an adjustment to the Council's current budget.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

CONCLUSION

Support of the activities of a cancer care and radiotherapy unit for the Central West has broad implications for our community and the request for the provision of \$1,643 is recommended to Council.

ATTACHMENTS

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council resolve to adjust the current Management Plan to accommodate the \$1,643 requested by CENTROC to be used to contribute to the ongoing development of a radiotherapy unit and cancer care centre of excellence.
2. Council advise CENTROC of the outcome of the determination of the issue.

ITEM:8 COMM - 02/04/07 - MATHEW SHARP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

REPORT FROM: COMMUNITY AND CULTURE MANAGER P.HALL

REFERENCE

Nil

SUMMARY

A request has been received from LINC and Westfund asking for Council's assistance to join the committee and financially support the Mathew Sharp Scholarship Fund. The fund is being managed by LINC (Lithgow Information and Neighbourhood Centre) and has accumulated over \$10,000 to date.

COMMENTARY

The Mathew Sharp Scholarship Fund was established in early 2007 to assist disadvantaged young people who live in the Lithgow Council area and whose families are suffering financial hardship that is limiting opportunity to gain an education and to fulfil their potential.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy implications need to be considered in accordance with the Section 356 Donations policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The request does not ask for a specific amount of financial assistance. A number of community programmes are supported by Council through Section 356 donations and this request should be considered in the light of those allocations. The programmes include the Smith Family Learning for Life program which assists disadvantaged families to have the opportunity to create better outcomes for themselves, their children and families through education. In Lithgow there are presently 233 students from 110 families in Lithgow in receipt of financial scholarships.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Pamphlet: Mathew Sharp Scholarship Fund: Providing hope and opportunity!

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. Council determine if support is to be given for the Mathew Sharp Scholarship Fund.
2. Staff be requested to pursue the matter with the group and ask for a more detailed submission as part of the 2007/08 Management Plan.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE