



AGENDA

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

19 SEPTEMBER 2016

MEMBERSHIP:

Mr M Kneipp (Administrator).

The meeting is scheduled to commence at .

		Page
FPC16/1	2015/2016 OPERATIONAL PLAN - JUNE 2016 QUARTERLY REVIEW (ID16/1698)	3
	The Committee had before it the report dated 12 September 2016 from the Acting Interim General Manager regarding 2015/2016 Operational Plan - June 2016 Quarterly Review.	
FPC16/2	DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST RETURNS (ID16/1712)	11
	The Committee had before it the report dated 13 September 2016 from the Acting Interim General Manager regarding Disclosure of Interest Returns.	
FPC16/3	INVESTMENTS UNDER SECTION 625 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (ID16/1714)	13
	The Committee had before it the report dated 13 September 2016 from the Director Organisational Services regarding Investments Under Section 625 of the Local Government Act.	
FPC16/4	DUBBO NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE BIENNIAL ACTIVITIES REPORT (ID16/1713)	17
	The Committee had before it the report dated 13 September 2016 from the Director Community Services regarding Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre Biennial Activities Report.	

FPC16/5	QUARTERLY REVIEW OF THE 2016/2017 DUBBO SOCIAL PLAN (ID16/1679)	25
	The Committee had before it the report dated 7 September 2016 from the Director Community Services regarding Quarterly Review of the 2016/2017 Dubbo Social Plan.	
FPC16/6	QUARTERLY REVIEW OF THE DUBBO DISABILITY INCLUSION PLAN (ID16/1680)	40
	The Committee had before it the report dated 7 September 2016 from the Director Community Services regarding Quarterly Review of the Dubbo Disability Inclusion Plan.	
FPC16/7	QUARTERLY REVIEW OF THE DUBBO AGEING STRATEGY (ID16/1681)	52
	The Committee had before it the report dated 7 September 2016 from the Director Community Services regarding Quarterly Review of the Dubbo Ageing Strategy.	
FPC16/8	AGRICULTURAL TRAILS PROGRAM (ID16/1699)	81
	The Committee had before it the report dated 12 September 2016 from the Economic Development Officer regarding Agricultural Trails Program.	
FPC16/9	ASSIGNMENT OF LEASE FOR HANGAR 11 AT DUBBO CITY REGIONAL AIRPORT (ID16/1703)	86
	The Committee had before it the report dated 12 September 2016 from the Airport Operations Manager regarding Assignment of Lease for Hangar 11 at Dubbo City Regional Airport.	
FPC16/10	KESWICK ESTATE STAGE 4 RELEASE 3A (ID16/1709)	
	The Committee had before it the report dated 13 September 2016 from the Manager Commercial Facilities regarding Keswick Estate Stage 4 Release 3A.	
	<i>In accordance with the provisions of Section 9 (2A) of the Local Government Act 1993 the General Manager is of the opinion that consideration of this item is likely to take place when the meeting is closed to the public for the following reason: commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the Council (Section 10A(2)(d)(ii)).</i>	



**REPORT: 2015/2016 Operational Plan - June 2016
Quarterly Review**

AUTHOR: Acting Interim General Manager

REPORT DATE: 12 September 2016

TRIM REFERENCE: ID16/1698

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The review for the period ending 30 June 2016 of Council's Operational Plan (including budget) has been completed in two parts, Part A Dubbo Branch and Part B Wellington Branch. Both parts show satisfactory implementation with the current financial position being a balanced budget.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

In accordance with the requirements of Clause 203(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, I now advise that the Director Organisational Services, as the Responsible Accounting Officer of the Dubbo Branch and Director of Wellington Branch as the Responsible Accounting Officer of the Wellington Branch, have reported that they consider the attached Quarterly Budget Review Statements indicate that the financial position of the Council is satisfactory. This is on the basis that the *"result"* for the year is a balanced budget.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Budget Review Statements and the Quarterly Financial Statements as at 30 June 2016, as attached to this report, be adopted and such sums voted for such purpose.**
- 2. That the performance review details for each function for the quarter ended 30 June 2016, be noted.**
- 3. That the Statement of the Responsible Accounting Officers that Council will be in a satisfactory financial position at the end of the financial year, having regard to the changes herewith to the original budget, be noted.**
- 4. That the contracts, consultants, legal expenses and cash and investments information for the Dubbo Branch be noted.**

David Dwyer
Acting Interim General Manager

BACKGROUND

The Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 requires the Responsible Accounting Officer to submit on a quarterly basis to Council a budget review statement that shows a revised estimate of the income and expenditure for the year as follows:

Clause 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 provides as follows:

- (1) *Not later than two months after the end of each quarter, the responsible accounting officer of a council must prepare and submit to the council a budget review statement that shows, by reference to the estimate of income and expenditure set out in the statement of the council's revenue policy including in the Operational Plan for the relevant year, a revised estimate of the income and expenditure for that year.*
- (2) *A budget review statement must include or be accompanied by:*
 - (a) *a report as to whether or not the responsible accounting officer believes that the statement indicates that the financial position of the council is satisfactory, having regard to the original estimate of income and expenditure; and*
 - (b) *if that position is unsatisfactory, recommendations for remedial action.*
- (3) *A budget review statement must also include any information required by the Code to be included in such a statement."*

It should be noted that the Audited results for 2015/2016 year have not been finalised, however the attached statements are expected to be close to the final results. Notwithstanding I advise that in regard to the Quarterly Budget Review for the period ending June 2016 and having regard to the changes previously made in September, December and March, it is considered that Council is in a satisfactory financial position at the end of the June 2015/2016.

REPORT

PART A - DUBBO BRANCH

The Director Organisational Services has reported in respect of the June 2016 Quarterly Review of Council's Operational Plan for the Dubbo Branch as follows:

All Operational Plans have been reviewed to identify those projects which need to be carried over to the 2016/2017 financial year. Detail on these projects is provided within the Operational Plans for each function where appropriate, with the major carryover works being as follows:

Project	Project Status	Carryover
Traffic Management - LH Ford Bridge Study	Meeting with Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) on the 22 September 2016 to discuss findings from the Community Consultation on the Duplication of the LH Ford Bridge conducted by the RMS.	108,124

Project	Project Status	Carryover
Urban Roads - Cobra Street / Capstan Drive Roundabout	Project commenced in July 2016	866,776
Urban Roads - Gipps Street Shoulders	Project to commence in October 2016	156,244
Rural Roads - Boundary Road Extension	Project to commence in December 2016	901,004
Stormwater - Erskine Street Sewerage Pump Station Upgrade	Project to commence and due to be complete by April 2017	919,183
Stormwater - Devil`s Hole	Project to commence in November 2016	112,311
Water Supply – South Dubbo Weir	Work has stopped due to repeated minor flooding in the river since June. It is now likely that work will be suspended until after the peak irrigation flows during the summer period. Construction is most likely to not recommence until March 2017. There are expected to be additional delay costs owing to the Contractor but these have not been accurately assessed at this time.	1,586,680
Water Supply - Eumungerie Water Supply Scheme	Work to be complete by end of December 2016.	1,245,166
Livestock Markets - Saleyards Upgrade	Work due to be complete by February 2017	2,062,512
Library - Building Refurbishment	Work due to be complete by September 2016	437,822
DALC - Heater & Pool Joints	Work due to be complete before the Pool opens in September 2016	202,708

Funding for the above works has been transferred to Internally and Externally Restricted Assets as at 30 June 2016.

As part of the State Government’s commitment to the merger of the former Dubbo City Council and Wellington Council, Dubbo Regional Council received \$15 million from the Office of Local Government Stronger Communities Grant. Currently these funds are held in a Restricted Asset to assist with merger costs and infrastructure works in the coming years.

In relation to Council’s Water Supply function, revenue from consumption charges increased by \$612,723 compared with the original budgeted estimate. The summer of 2015/2016 saw a significant reduction in rainfall and higher temperatures when compared to previous years, resulting in significantly higher water usage by consumers. The additional revenue has been placed in Restricted Assets to assist in future shortfalls in water consumption levels during summers that have above average rainfall.

The Dubbo Regional Livestock Markets operating income exceeded the 2015/2016 original budget for Yard Dues and Licences Fees by \$357,876 due to cattle numbers being 21,651 greater than original budget and sheep numbers being 182,335 greater than anticipated, with year end stock numbers being cattle 236,651 and sheep 1,382,335.

Within the Environmental Services Division there are savings for 2015/2016 of \$309,000 and this has mainly been achieved in Building & Development Services of \$189,541 (generally due

to additional income from Development and Construction Certificate Application and Compliance Inspection fees) and Ranger Services functions of \$46,272 (generally due to additional income from Animal Registrations and Animal Shelter fees and Operational Expenditure savings).

The identification of savings as at the 30 June 2016 has allowed for the following additional projects to be funded in 2016/2017 financial year:

Indoor Sports Stadium Master Plan	\$60,000
Zoo Economic Impact Study	\$50,000
Playmates Cottage Development Costs	\$40,000
Street Tree Replacement	\$59,000
Depot Road Fuel Tank investigation	\$20,000

Council, at its Ordinary meeting held on Monday 27 April 2015, resolved as follows:

“That in the event of budget savings being identified at the completion of the 2014/2015 Budget period or throughout 2015/2016, the following projects be funded as appropriate:

- *Decorative Lighting Replacement Poles - \$150,000*
- *Dubbo Branch Library Upgrade - \$600,000*
- *Contribution to Dubbo Turf Club – Road Works - \$60,000”*

Funding was allocated for the Decorative Lighting Replacement Poles along with the Dubbo Branch Library Upgrade in the September 2015 Quarterly Review. Funding has now been provided for the Contribution to Dubbo Turf Club – Road Works of \$60,000 in the June 2016 Quarterly review.

Updates on the various major projects identified within 2015/2016 budget are as follows:

- Darling Street road works (Talbragar to Wingewarra) completed in late April 2016.
- Troy Rail Deviation project is complete.
- Dubbo Sewerage Treatment Plant major upgrade is complete.
- Dubbo Regional Livestock Markets Cattle yards upgrade has commenced with Project 1 (Weighbridge Areas) commenced with the demolition of old amenities complete and preparation of new scale house underway. Project 2 (Holding Yards) has been complete. Project 3 (Cattle Yards) comprising the fabrication of Draft and Sale Pens is underway off-site with installation to commence late August. The total project is on track to be completed by February 2017.
- Dubbo Regional Library Building works are complete.
- Old Dubbo Gaol restoration works are 80% complete and currently waiting on NSW Heritage approval for remaining works.
- Wheelers Lane duplication commenced on the 26th April 2016, with the project originally programmed to require a 3 to 4 month full road closure between Birch Avenue and Douglas Mawson Road. A revised works program as requested resulted in a road closure of only 6 weeks. Such works are now complete with the residual works continuing under traffic conditions.

Having regard to all of the above, and as the Responsible Accounting Officer for Part A (Dubbo Branch) of Council, I advise that I consider that the Quarterly Budget Review Statement indicates that the financial position of the Council is satisfactory. This is on the basis that the “result” for the year is estimated to be a balanced budget.

PART B WELLINGTON BRANCH

The Director Wellington Branch has reported in respect of the June 2016 Quarterly Review of Council’s Operational Plan as follows:

Council is not required to undertake a review of its budget for the June quarter, however one has been undertaken to provide details on its Internal and External Cash Restrictions for the year ending 30 June 2016.

The following operating results (before Grants and Contributions provided for Capital Purposes) have been achieved for 2015/2016. These of course are subject to change during Audit:

Fund	Original Budget		Final Result	
General Fund	Profit	\$44,887	Profit	\$ 59,225
Waste	Profit	\$434,007	Profit	\$ 443,963
Water Fund	Profit	\$112,333	Profit	\$1,079,319
Sewer Fund	Loss	\$284,520	Loss	\$ 72,274
Consolidated	Profit	\$306,707	Profit	\$1,510,233

When comparing the original budget to the final results for Water Fund this result was due to additional revenue received in water consumption charges amounting to approximately \$618,000 due to the dry conditions faced over the summer months. Savings in operational expenditure of approximately \$250,000 also attributed to this result.

Sewer Fund had a turnaround of approximately \$210,000 based on its original forecasted loss. This was due to an increase in non-residential charges revenue of approximately \$60,000 and savings in operational expenditure of approximately \$150,000.

The following capital works were undertaken in 2015/2016:

Fund	Original Budget	Final Result
General Fund	\$12,583,860	\$6,320,310
Waste	\$67,499	\$13,675
Water Fund	\$1,301,651	\$519,703
Sewer Fund	\$587,000	\$117,498
Consolidated	\$14,540,010	\$6,971,186

Works programmed for Water and Sewer Fund will now need to take place in the future based on the requirements of the Fund and where they sit in terms of their priority.

In General Fund there is a difference of approximately \$6,260,000 when comparing what was expended and the original budget. This is due to either works not being undertaken or having to be carried forward. They include:

- \$ 725,000 – Replacement of Plant & Equipment
- \$5,510,000 – Other Infrastructure

Major works not completed and required to be carried forward are:

- \$ 261,000 – Drainage works scheduled for Apsley Drain
- \$ 30,000 – Design works for a new Wellington Cemetery
- \$ 570,000 – Works at Rygate Park (lighting & playing surface refurbishment)
- \$2,000,000 – Regional Roads Renewals (replacement Dripstone Bridge)
- \$ 302,000 – Urban Roads Reconstruction
- \$ 168,000 – Sealed Rural Roads Reconstruction
- \$ 51,000 – Reseals
- \$ 209,000 – Footpath Reconstruction
- \$ 29,000 – K&G Reconstruction
- \$ 462,000 – CBD Beautification
- \$ 86,000 – Construction of a Washbay at the Depot
- \$ 402,000 – Refurbishment of Wellington Caves Caravan Park
- \$ 65,000 – “Don’t Dump Program” (Waste)
- \$ 90,000 – Landfill Rehabilitation Works (Waste)

Cash and Investments Budget Review Statement discloses the level of Council’s cash on hand as at 30 June 2016 on a consolidated basis (\$34,027,197):

- \$16,682,259 – Externally Restricted Assets
- \$16,900,661 – Internally Restricted Assets
- \$ 444,277 – Unrestricted Cash

For comparison purposes the amount of Externally and Internally Restricted Cash as at 30 June 2015 was \$27,625,978.

Having regard to all of the above, and as the Responsible Accounting Officer for Part B (Wellington Branch) of Council, I advise that I consider that the Quarterly Budget Review Statement indicates that the financial position of the Council is satisfactory. This is on the basis that the **“result”** for the year is estimated to be a balanced budget.

In regard to the Quarterly Review of the following documents are attached:

Under Separate Cover

Appendix 1 – Dubbo Branch Quarterly Budget Review Statements (QBRs) including Quarterly Consultants Report, Vandalism Report to 30 June 2015, and Budget Summary for the quarter ended 30 June 2016 reflecting the quarterly adjustments to the Original adopted Budget by Principal Activity and Function.

Appendix 2 – Wellington Branch Quarterly Budget Review Statements (QBRs)

Appendices:

- | | | |
|---|---|----------|
| 1 | Operational Plan 2015/2016 - June 2016 Quarterly Review - Dubbo Quarterly Financial Statements | Excluded |
| 2 | Operational Plan 2015/2016 - June 2016 Quarterly Review - Wellington Quarterly Financial Statements | Excluded |



REPORT: Disclosure of Interest Returns

AUTHOR: Acting Interim General Manager

REPORT DATE: 13 September 2016

TRIM REFERENCE: ID16/1712

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Local Government Act 1993 requires Councillors and designated persons to lodge Disclosure of Interest returns in accordance with Section 449.

Section 450A requires that the General Manager not only keep a register of the returns, but is to table the returns at the first meeting after the last date for their lodgement.

The Office of Local Government has requested that it be advised of any failures to lodge; in this regard, it is advised that all Councillors and designated persons have lodged their returns.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That the tabling of the Disclosure of Interest Returns as detailed in the report be noted and the Office of Local Government be advised accordingly.

David Dwyer
Acting Interim General Manager

BACKGROUND

The Local Government Act 1993 requires Councillors and designated persons to lodge disclosure of interest returns in accordance with Section 449. Section 450A requires that the General Manager not only keep a register of the returns but is to table the returns at the first meeting after the last date of their lodgement.

REPORT

The purpose of these Sections of the Act is to enhance the accountability and the transparency provisions of the Act. It also ensures that breaches of the Act are brought to notice as soon as they occur. Additionally, it is to assist the Office of Local Government in its investigative role regarding breaches of the Disclosure of Interest provisions.



**REPORT: Investments Under Section 625 of the
Local Government Act**

AUTHOR: Director Organisational Services

REPORT DATE: 13 September 2016

TRIM REFERENCE: ID16/1714

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As required by Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, set out below are the details of all monies that Council has invested under Section 625 of the Local Government Act as at 31 August 2016.

This report is presented in a format which consolidates the previous Dubbo City and Wellington Council investment portfolios.

Investments when placed were in accordance with the Local Government Act, Local Government Regulations and Council's Investment Policy and Strategy.

Interest on investments for the month of August 2016 has been accounted for on an accrual basis for the previous Dubbo and a cash basis for the previous Wellington Councils.

This report details investments and annualised returns for the month of August 2016.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Interest earned on investments has been included within Council's 2016/2017 Operational Plan.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

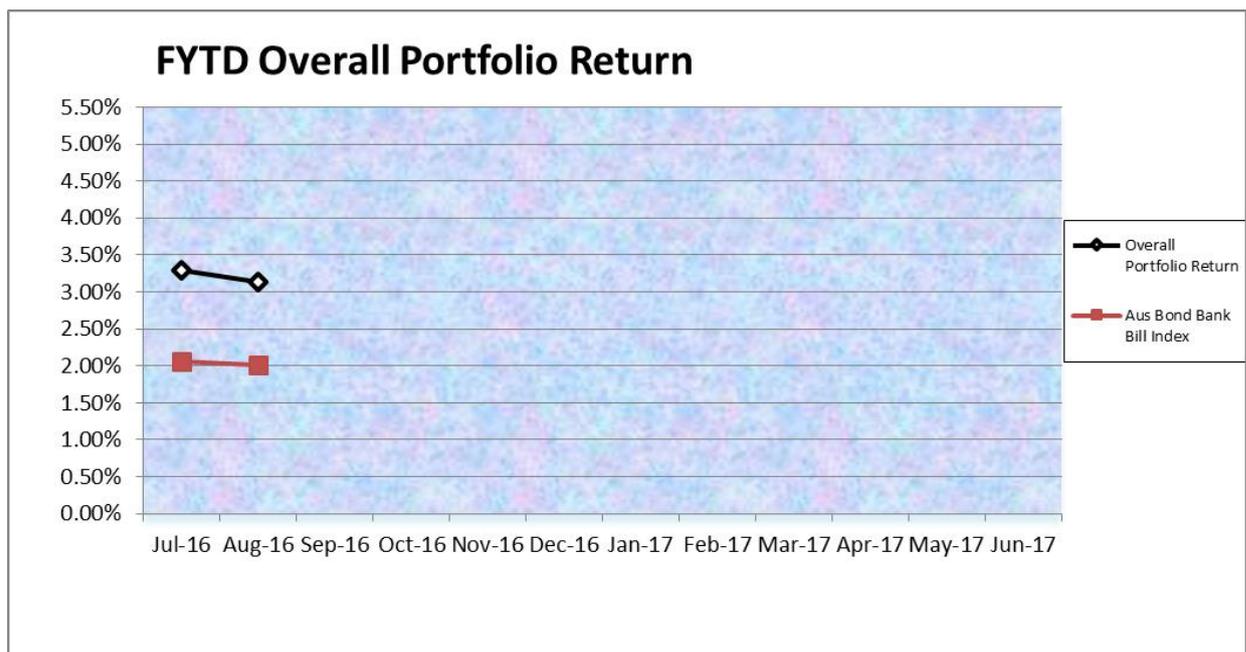
RECOMMENDATION

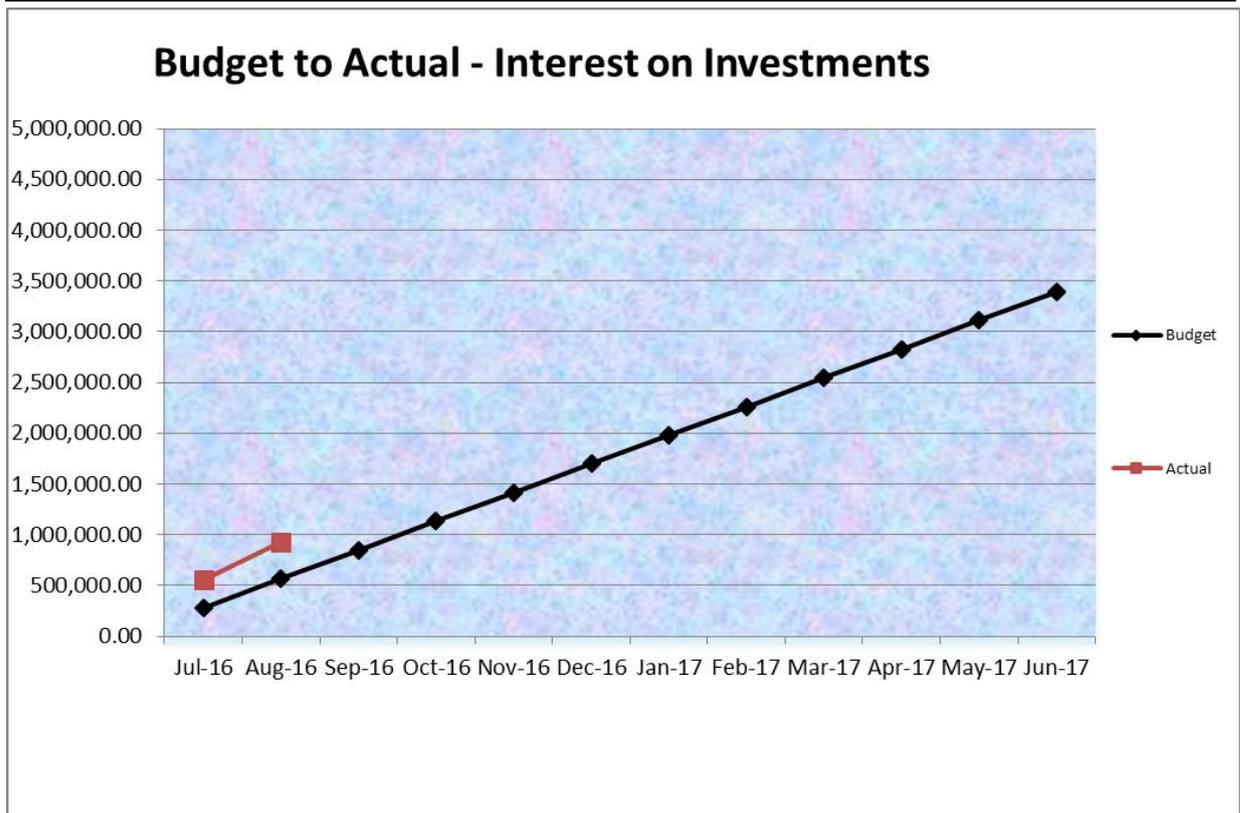
That the information contained within this report be noted

Craig Giffin
Director Organisational Services

Western Plains Regional Council

AUGUST 2016 REPORT					
	Notes	2017 Total	2017 Current	2017 Non-Current	2017 Total
		As at 31/07/2016	Maturity By 30/06/2018	Maturity After 30/06/2018	As at 31/08/2016
Cash & Cash Equivalents (Note 6a)					
Cash on Hand and at Bank		\$916,485.02	\$1,275,043.72	\$0.00	\$1,275,043.72
Cash-Equivalent Assets (1)					
- Deposits At Call		\$19,552,450.29	\$25,885,724.94	\$0.00	\$25,885,724.94
Total Cash & Cash Equivalents	6(a)	\$20,468,935.31	\$27,160,768.66	\$0.00	\$27,160,768.66
Investments (Note 6b)					
- Long Term Deposits > 3 Months		\$124,293,468.96	\$93,479,665.96	\$31,813,803.00	\$125,293,468.96
- NCD's and FRN's > 3 Months		\$22,251,908.46	\$9,500,000.00	\$11,751,932.91	\$21,251,932.91
- CDO's		\$111,677.00	\$111,677.00	\$0.00	\$111,677.00
Total Investments	6(b)	\$146,657,054.42	\$103,091,342.96	\$43,565,735.91	\$146,657,078.87
TOTAL CASH ASSETS, CASH EQUIVALENTS & INVESTMENTS					
		\$167,125,989.73	\$130,252,111.62	\$43,565,735.91	\$173,817,847.53
(1) Those Investments where time to maturity (from date of purchase) is < 3 months					





Performance Benchmark as per Council Policy		Investment % Held as per Council Policy						
		Institution	Amount Invested	% Invested	% Allowable as per Policy	\$ Allowable as per Policy		
<p>August 2016 Interest Rate: 1.50%</p> <p>Aus Bond Bank Bill Index, 2.01%</p> <p>Council's Weighted Average Rate, 3.13%</p>		Cash on Hand and at Bank						
		CASH ON HAND AND AT BANK					1,275,043.72	0.73%
		Direct / Other Investments						
		AMP BANK	11,508,185.04	6.62%	20%	34,763,183		
		ANZ BANK	8,443,977.09	4.86%	30%	52,144,774		
		BANK OF QUEENSLAND	22,993,468.96	13.23%	20%	34,763,183		
		BANKWEST	3,500,000.00	2.01%	30%	52,144,774		
		BENDIGO ADELAIDE BANK LIMITED	6,000,000.00	3.45%	20%	34,763,183		
		COMMONWEALTH BANK	17,050,000.00	9.81%	30%	52,144,774		
		GREATER BANK	1,000,000.00	0.58%	10%	17,381,591		
		HERITAGE BANK	2,000,000.00	1.15%	10%	17,381,591		
		IMB LIMITED	2,500,000.00	1.44%	10%	17,381,591		
		MACQUARIE BANK	1,000,000.00	0.58%	20%	34,763,183		
		MAQUARIE CREDIT UNION	1,000,000.00	0.58%	1%	1,738,159		
		MEMBERS EQUITY BANK	1,000,000.00	0.58%	10%	17,381,591		
NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK	53,683,562.81	30.89%	30%	52,144,774				
NEWCASTLE PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY	2,000,000.00	1.15%	10%	17,381,591				
ST GEORGE BANK	16,500,000.00	9.49%	30%	52,144,774				
SUNCORP METWAY	20,000,000.00	11.51%	20%	34,763,183				
WESTPAC BANK	1,000,000.00	0.58%	30%	52,144,774				
TOTAL AT CALL, TERM DEPOSITS AND FRN'S			171,179,193.90	98.48%				
Grandfathered Investments								
Term Deposits								
WAW CREDIT UNION	250,000.00	0.14%						
FRN's								
QLD TEACHERS MUTUAL BANK LTD	500,000.00	0.29%						
TEACHERS MUTUAL BANK LTD	500,000.00	0.29%						
CDO's								
Lehman Brothers CDO	111,677.00	0.06%						
TOTAL GRANDFATHERED INVESTMENTS			1,361,677.00	0.78%				
TOTAL CASH ASSETS, CASH EQUIVALENTS & INVESTMENTS			173,815,914.62	100.00%				

SUMMARY

Western Plains Regional Council outperformed the 11am Official Cash Rate market benchmark of 1.50%, with an average annualised return of 1.91% for its At Call investments for the month of August 2016. Council also outperformed the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index of 2.01%, with an average annualised return of 3.13% for its overall portfolio return for the month of August 2016.



**REPORT: Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre Biannual
Activities Report**

AUTHOR: Director Community Services

REPORT DATE: 13 September 2016

TRIM REFERENCE: ID16/1713

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre (DNC) is required to submit a biannual report on its activities as a condition of Council funding the organisation. Appended is the DNC report for the period 1 January 2016 to 30 June 2016.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information contained within this report be noted.

John Watts
Director Community Services

REPORT

Council provides significant funding to the Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre (DNC) to enable the organisation to function. For 2015/2016, Council provided the DNC with \$160,000 ex GST for rent and operations and \$5,000 for seniors' activities. The same amounts are allocated in the forward budget for 2016/2017. When Council determined to provide DNC with funding, a condition was imposed on the DNC to provide biannual reports on its activities to Council to enable Council to gauge the level of benefit to the community from the funding provided.

The appended report for the period 1 January 2016 to 30 June 2016 indicates that the DNC has been particularly active in providing services to the community. Of particular note in the DNC biannual activities report are the opening of three (3) new outside school hours care centres with another due to open during the Term 3 school holidays; the significant increase of services provided for domestic violence counselling; the ongoing success of the Winaggaayy Re-engagement Support program to keep Aboriginal children aged 5 -12 at school; and the Centre's Australian Aged Care Quality Accreditation received in early 2016.

With 54,427 services provided during the six (6) months period, the Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre continues to provide vital social and community services to the community. Aboriginal Family Health (5,263 services), Settlement Services (5,690 services), Community Activities Program (4,240 services) and domestic violence counselling (4,169 services) remain particularly sought after services within the community.

Mr Mark Searle of the DNC Board will be in attendance to address the report and answer any questions thereon.

Appendices:

- 1 Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre Report to Western Plains Regional Council for 01/01/2016 to 30/06/2016

REPORT TO Western Plains Regional Council

1st January 2016 to 30th June 2016

Funding from Western Plains Regional Council to Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre Inc.:

The following funding was provided to the Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre by Dubbo City Council for Seniors Week Activities on 23rd March 2016.

Annual Grant this period	\$5 500.00
Total annual	\$5 500.00

COMMUNITY AND ADMINISTRATION SERVICES

During this six month period Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre delivered a total of approximately 54 225 occasions of service. These figures are represented against the relevant services as follows:

SERVICE DELIVERY STATISTICS

<u>Service</u>	<u>Total</u>
Community Transport	252
NHC	9 794
Manager	6 598
Assistant Manager	5 746
Finance	467
Settlement Services	5 690
Night Patrol	107
Community Activities Program	4 240
Community Visitors Scheme	293
Home Modifications and Maintenance Scheme	2 150
Orana Support Services	4 355
Child Youth and Family Service	2 513
Aboriginal Family Health	5 263
Winaggaay Re-engagement Support Program	702
Out of School Hours Care	2 088
Domestic Violence Counselling	4 169
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>54 255</u>

The Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre Inc.

The Neighbourhood Centre hub (including management and internal support services) provides information and referral services to the community. For many people the centre is the main point of contact to get valuable information and help within Dubbo.

The monthly free Community barbeques were held on the first Thursday of each month and open invitations were offered to the general public and visitors alike. This is a chance to have a wholesome lunch and chat to community service organisations. Review to be made of ongoing day to encourage greater attendance.

The Australian Aged Care Quality audit was completed early 2016 for which we received accreditation. DNC is now working towards ISO accreditation by late 2016.

AGED AND DISABILITY SERVICES

Community Transport

DNC is currently looking at how we fund and implement a specialised transport service. We have identified gaps in the current local provisions and hope to be able to meet the needs of the community in the near future.

Community Activities Program

The Community Activities Program delivered support to 4 240 seniors during the six month period. The project aims to keep seniors informed and to provide social outings to remain as active members of our community. The service includes information, advocacy, one on one assistance, referral and social support.

Monthly meetings of the We're Always Grandparents Support (WAGS) group continue to be resourced through CAP. DNC hosts these meetings, and provides printing, advertising and support.

The Seniors Week 2016 was a great success with the highlight being our Seniors Expo. Held at the Dubbo RSL Club with over 40 exhibitors and over 350 community members in attendance. A very special mention goes to Jessica Baker and her volunteers on carrying out the activities throughout the week.

DNC continues to house and support the Senior Citizens which meet every Wednesday. The group reports that member numbers remain steady, occasionally increasing. DNC would like to see the seniors group grow and planning to provide additional transport and activities to encourage new members into the centre on each day of the week.

Community Visitors Scheme

The Community Visitors Scheme (CVS) is a national program initiative funded by the Commonwealth Government, Department of Social Services. The CVS assists with the matching of one-on-one, volunteer visitors to residents of Residential Aged Care facilities in the Orana Far West and under the guidelines of clients receiving Home Care Program Packages and this year we have attended Residential Aged Care facilities to engage residents in Group Visits with activities.

The program continues to recruit and match volunteers to provide the following types of volunteer visits:

- A one on one visit by a volunteer visitor to a care recipient in an Australian Government subsidised aged care home
- A one on one visit by a volunteer to a care recipient in receipt of a Home Care Package Program
- Group visits that consists of two or more care recipients at the same time in an Australian Government subsidised aged care home.

In the last 6 months the CVS dealt with 293 inquiries at the centre whilst supporting 44 visitors who have visited 53 residents in residential care and 7 in the community programs. The scheme has been changed to service the Orana Far West area which includes some 28 towns. We are currently funded to have 26 volunteers in aged care homes and 15 in the community (conditions apply).

Currently we visit all aged care facilities in Dubbo, Wellington and Narromine which cater for approx. 500 local residents. Increasing requests from our local aged care facilities and Home Care Package Providers for CVS volunteers continue in spite of the number of funded visitors remaining unchanged.

CVS volunteers receive orientation and training and are "Matched" one-on-one with a resident at a facility or in their own home and visit on a weekly or fortnightly basis. A volunteer may be recruited as CALD (culturally and linguistically diverse) specific, ie. able to converse in the same language as the resident and be aware of cultural background, or be willing to read to a resident who is sight impaired, or just happy to share a chat and make the client feel valued.

Dubbo Home Modification and Maintenance Service

The Dubbo Home Modification Service continues to provide excellent service to the community. HMMS provides modification and maintenance work for people who are frail, aged, people with disabilities and their carers so that they may live more independently in the community and remain in their own homes longer.

This program covers a large area of our community including the townships of Dubbo, Narromine, Wellington, Gilgandra, and the rural areas that surround those towns. Our clients have received completed HMM services including simple maintenance jobs, numerous handrails and grab rails, ramps, a wheelchair lift, full bathrooms and kitchen modifications.

Settlement Services

The Migrant Support program has delivered 6 730 occasions of service during this six month period. Immediate assistance has been delivered to 52 clients new to our region. Nationalities assisted have been: Asian, Chinese, Egyptian and Syrian.

Issues have included: Education and Training, Pre Schools/Childcare, Employment, Social Participation, Document Help, Citizenship, help with Visas, Domestic Violence and Housing.

Accessing services such as Centrelink, Medicare (Human Services), TAFE, Legal Assistance, Migration Agents, Orana Support Service, GWS Personnel, APM (Advanced Personnel Management), Counselling Services and Employment Agencies.

COUNSELLING AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Child, Youth and Family Service

Child, Youth & Family program is a mediation, referral and support service for children and young people aged 13-18 and/or their families, who are experiencing or at risk of experiencing conflict and disruption within the family. This service delivered 2 513 occasions of service during the six month period.

The service includes individual casework where possible and appropriate, supported referrals, family mediation to work towards restoration and /or reconciliation of the child, youth and their family and group work with other service providers.

Aboriginal Family Health Strategy

The NSW Aboriginal Family Health Branch has secured continuing funding for the program until 2017. The service previously funded by NSW Health, is now under the control of the Ministry of Health Aboriginal Family Health Strategy.

DNC Aboriginal Health worker has provided 5 263 occasions of contact with the community during the six month period.

Domestic Violence Counselling

The Domestic Violence Counselling Service was new to DNC last year. The demand for this service has grown with a waiting list capacity only. This service provides Culturally sensitive counselling via face to face consultation or telephone to women who have experienced Domestic and/or family violence.

We offer Telephone counselling to regional communities including Wellington, Coonabarabran, Coonamble, Gilgandra, Nyngan and Warren.

Over the last 6 months this service has significantly grown with the previous 6 month period total occasions of service to the community being 783 to 4 167 in the current six month period.

Safe Aboriginal Youth (S.A.Y program) formerly Community Night Patrol

Operating hours are 6.00pm to 10.00pm Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings, extending to Wednesday nights during school holidays & 7.00pm to 11.00pm during daylight saving months.

Justice Department, Safe Aboriginal Youth Night Patrol program is continuing to run successfully transporting approx. 300 young people every month. Our staff are linking in with many other services within the community including Soup Kitchen, Schools and various support services. The Team continues to work with the Justice Group and Dubbo Police to ensure that any issues in the community are considered. The funding has been continued for a further 6 months only. It is unclear what the Justice Department intends for this program next year.

Dubbo Homelessness – Orana Support Services

DNC within our partnership with Specialist Homelessness Services, Orana Support Service, has provided 4 355 occasions of service within our centre. The Service provides a broad range of programs supporting Adults and Families who are at risk of being homeless. The support service is funded by Family and Community Services and works closely with Housing NSW and Compass Housing. We are able to offer a safe and friendly environment to these people seeking assistance.

CHILDREN SERVICES SECTION

Winaggaayy Re-engagement Support Program

Winaggaayy (Wiradjuri translation meaning “To Know, To Think, To Understand) has just completed the first full year of service delivery. The program aims to provide intensive support for Aboriginal children aged between 5 and 12 who have been suspended or are at risk of being suspended from School. Early Intervention is essential for:

- Identifying and meeting each students individual needs.
- Identifying and meeting each cultural needs.
- Embedding the blueprint for successful schooling
- Improving cultural, social and educational outcomes
- Improving attendance and
- Reducing suspension rates
- It will also improve family and parenting support at home.

Outside of School Hours Care

OOSH has expanded the program from 2 centres to 5 centres since January this year. Dubbo North After School Care will be opening Term 3 2016 and will be our 6th centre. OOSH has provided 12 825 occasions of service across 5 centre locations during this six month period, servicing 217 families. The program operates from 2.30pm to 6.00pm with students enrolling from 13 primary schools throughout Dubbo. A rebate from Family Assistance Office is available for all families that qualify.

Centre	Open date	Weekly average attendances	Based from
Central ASC	Existing	232	DNC building
St Laurence's	existing	212	School hall
South	8/2/2016	156	School hall
West	27/1/2016	39	School hall
East	28/3/2016	36	School hall
North	19/7/2016		School hall

The After School Care program allows for children to be able to grow within themselves whilst learning in a play based environment. Our After School Care Program offers a weekly activities program to our students which is based on our children's interest and led by our educators.

Vacation Care

The Vacation Care program offers an inclusive environment for primary school aged children from 5 -12 years. The program is operated from 8am to 6pm during school holidays. A rebate from Family Assistance Office is available for all families that qualify.

The program is continually increasing with enrolments. In the April school holidays our service opened two vacation care programs, one based from Central and one based from Buninyong Primary School. As a program, we endeavour to support the local community when planning activities and excursions. The Vacation Care program offered excursions to Reading Cinemas and Inflatable World. Apart of our program was inviting a local business Iki Fit into our centre to interact with the children. Our program also included programmed activities on each day, with some days offering specific themes around activities including State of Origin and the Olympic Games. The children enjoy these activities, as quite often children are not exposed to these attractions within their family unit.

We aim to ensure that the Vacation Care program is fun and enjoyable as after all, it is the children's school holiday.

Educators for both OOSH and Vacation Care are qualified in Children's Services, which allows for quality care to be delivered throughout the program.

Centre	Weekly average attendances	Based from
Dec/ Jan holidays		
Central ASC	300	DNC building
April 2016 holidays		
Central ASC	117	DNC building
Buninyong	301	School hall



**REPORT: Quarterly Review of the 2016/2017
Dubbo Social Plan**

AUTHOR: Manager Social Services

REPORT DATE: 7 September 2016

TRIM REFERENCE: ID16/1679

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report deals with the implementation of the 2016/2017 Dubbo Social Plan. The actions contained within the Plan are being progressively implemented. It is recommended that the implementation progress of the 2016/2017 Social Plan be noted.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information contained within this report be noted.

John Watts
Manager Social Services

REPORT

Each quarter, a report will be submitted on the progress of the implementation of the Dubbo Social Plan to the Finance and Policy Committee for consideration. This report covers the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 September 2016.

Appendix 1 is a report on the implementation of the 2016/2017 Dubbo Social Plan. The actions of the Plan are being progressively implemented and it is recommended that the quarterly review be noted.

Appendices:

1 sep2016 update social plan

SOCIAL PLAN

Objective Statement

To foster and encourage the development of a wide range of high quality services and facilities to meet the social and welfare needs of the residents of and visitors to the City particularly those who are disadvantaged.

Key Performance Indicators

- * The percentage of residents who rate quality and range of social services as satisfactory has increased.

Survey to be completed.

- * The percentage of children entering Kindergarten who are fully immunised.

Survey to be completed.

- * The levels of crime in Dubbo do not increase each year.

Crime figures released in April 2017.

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions(Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.
Children residing in and visiting Dubbo have access to a range of quality care, educational, health and social facilities and services.	The percentage of children fully immunised is at least 97%.	Hold twelve (12) immunisation clinics per annum.	Monthly	DOCS
	Survey to be completed.	Three (3) clinics held to 30 September 2016.		
		Maintain membership of the Western NSW Local Health Network Immunisation Advisory Committee.	Ongoing	DOCS
		Director Community Services is a member of this Committee.		
	No decrease in the availability of child care places in Dubbo	Maintain membership of the Communities For Children Committee	Ongoing	MSS
	No decrease	MSS continues to be a member of this Committee.		
		Monitor the availability of State And Federal Government capital and recurrent funding for additional preschool places.	Ongoing	MSS
		Monitoring ongoing.		
		Encourage more participation by community groups in events held for children.	Ongoing	MSS
		MSS participates in a range of activities that engage the community to participate in children's events.		
	Promotion of the need for the community to support families by participating in family fun days.	Ongoing	MSS	
	MSS actively promotes family fun days within the community.			

		Monitor funding availability for accessible playground equipment.	Ongoing	MSS
		Funding monitored.		
		Report to Council in June each year on the status of childcare in Dubbo	June 2017	MSS
		Not due until June 2017.		
		Monitor impact of Family Day Care ratio changes.	Ongoing	MSS
		No considerable impact made on numbers attending Family Day Care.		
		Develop strategies for Family Day Care to recruit more Educators.	Ongoing	MSS
		FDC have held one prospective educator information session. FDC have advertised via flyers and through Early Education Support Group.		
Young people residing in and visiting Dubbo have access to a range of quality care, educational, health and social facilities and services.	No examples of youth issues being presented to and considered by Council without reference to the Youth Council.	Refer the Draft 2017/2018 Dubbo City Council Delivery Plan to the Youth Council for comment.	Nov 2017	MSS
	Any matters affecting young people are referred to Youth Council.	Not due until November 2017.		
	At least 1 road safety campaign is held each year to target young people	YDO to hold road safety campaign with Dubbo City Council's Road Safety Officer.	May 2017	RSO/ YDO
	Campaign to be developed.	RSO and YDO are planning a bike safety campaign.		

	The percentage of young people who rate quality and range of youth services and facilities as satisfactory is at least 90%.	Undertake a survey of young people every 2 years to gauge the satisfaction level of youth services and facilities in Dubbo.	July 2016	MSS
	Survey to be completed.	Survey to be completed.		
	No decrease in services available to young people in the community.	Encourage and assist young people to apply for funding to hold youth friendly events in Dubbo.	Ongoing	MSS
	No decrease in services.	Dubbo City Youth Council in partnership with Skate Park users has applied and been successful in gaining \$2000 to contribute towards upgrades to skate park.		
		Work with Dubbo Youth Council, Midnite Cafe committee, young people and stake holders to re-establish and promote the Midnite Cafe in Dubbo.	Ongoing	YDO
		YDO continuing to support Midnite Cafe with project support and funding opportunities. The Youth Council ran an event at the Café on the 16th July 2016 which was very well attended. Monthly events are planned to continue.		
		Work with Dubbo Sexual Health and Youth Council to promote a sexual health campaign aimed at young people getting tested for STIs.	Ongoing	YDO

		Dubbo City Council partnered with Dubbo Sexual Health and Family Planning NSW to run the Hump Day promotion during Youth Week as well as attending the Roar Festival to educate young people about safe sex. The Council was nominated for an award at the Local Government Youth Week awards in August.		
		Work with service providers to engage young people in activities in identified disadvantaged areas within the Dubbo Community.	Ongoing	YDO
		YDO continues to work at Pioneer oval in West and Apollo Estate East Dubbo to engage young people and the community.		
		Provide funding in the 2017/2018 budget for Youth Week and participate in the provision of activities and events during Youth Week.	Feb 2017	MSS
		Funding for Youth Week is in Budget.		
		Provide at least one workshop each school term at the Western Plains Cultural Centre aimed at school students.	Ongoing	MGS
		Western Plains Cultural Centre provided July school holiday workshops.		
		Continue to be an active member of the Dubbo Youth Interagency.	Ongoing	MSS / YDO
		YDO is Chairperson for the Youth Interagency. The meeting regularly attracts large number of up to 50 people.		

Women residing in Dubbo suffer no gender disadvantage and have equal access to the Council's services and facilities.	No examples of Council services and facilities being identified as discriminating against women.	Support community awareness campaigns and initiatives on women's issues.	Ongoing	MSS
	No examples	All campaigns supported. Reclaim the Night and White Ribbon Day events being organised for November.		
	Reduction in Domestic Violence against women	Support strategies to address violence against women in the State Plan, Dubbo 2036 Plan and the Dubbo Management Group Action Plan.	Ongoing	MSS
	Domestic Violence crime statistics to be provided in December and June.	All strategies supported. The Manager Social Services is a member of the Domestic Violence Senior Officers Group and the Dubbo Violence Prevention Collective.		
Older people residing in and visiting Dubbo have access to a range of quality care, educational, health and social facilities and services.	No decrease in availability of aged care accommodation in Dubbo	To monitor the supply and demand for the full range of accommodation for older people. To monitor the supply and demand for nursing home and dementia care accommodation and if appropriate to lobby the Federal Government for more places in Dubbo. To continue to participate in planning with all agencies for the provision of such services.	Ongoing	MSS
	No decrease.	Supply and demand monitored. Manager Social Services continues to participate in planning activities.		

	The percentage of seniors who rate quality and range of senior's services and facilities as satisfactory is at least 90%.	Undertake a survey of older people every two (2) years to gauge the satisfaction level of services and facilities in Dubbo.	July 2017	MSS
	Survey to be completed.	Survey to be completed.		
		Encourage more community participation in events.	Ongoing	MSS
		MSS participates in a range of community events.		
		Promote the availability of Community Transport and other services available for older people.	Ongoing	MSS
		Services promoted.		
		To provide one road safety campaign per annum aimed at older people.	Ongoing	RSO
		No action to date.		
		Support strategies to address crime against older people in the State Plan, Dubbo 2036 Plan and the Dubbo Management Group Action Plan.	Ongoing	MSS
		All strategies supported. The Manager Social Services is a member of the Domestic Violence Senior Officers Group and the Dubbo Violence Prevention Collective.		
People with disabilities have equal access to services and facilities and can gain access to places and buildings.	No examples of access issues being considered and resolved by Council without reference to the Community Services Committee.	Monitor the provision of respite care, day care programs and for accommodation for people with disabilities and lobby governments for additional funding for this care.	Ongoing	MSS

	No examples.	Monitoring ongoing. The Youth Development Officer is a member of the Western Interagency. The Interagency investigate issues related to Respite Care, Day Care Programs and accommodation for people with disabilities.		
	No examples of Council or major private/public developments which are outside Council's access guidelines, policies and development control plans being approved without Community Services Committee input.	Support initiatives to address gaps in services as identified by the Western Interagency.	Ongoing	MSS
	No examples	Initiatives supported. Youth Development Officer is a member of the Western Interagency. Strategies contained in Council's Disability Inclusion Plan are being implemented.		
		Raise community awareness of education and employment opportunities for people with disabilities through the media such as radio and newspapers.	Ongoing	MSS
		Manager Social Services participates with FACS in planning activities.		
Aboriginal people residing in Dubbo have access to a range of quality care, educational, health and social facilities and services.	No examples of Council decisions or actions being discriminatory to Aboriginal people.	Continue liaison with the Dubbo Aboriginal Working Party (DACWP) on matters affecting Aboriginal people. Continue to auspice funding allocated to DACWP.	Ongoing	MSS

	No examples	Liaison continuing. DACWP funds continue to be auspiced. Advise on Council projects to include Heritage trail for an Aboriginal history trail, dual naming of Macquarie River/Wambuul & Victoria Park/Wingewarra, Aboriginal artwork on display at Dubbo Airport terminal		
	The percentage of Council's workforce that is Aboriginal increases.	Continue to involve the local Aboriginal Community in decision making processes by including membership on various Committees and Working Parties.	Ongoing	MSS
	Currently 6.9%	All initiatives supported. The Manager Social Services is a member of the Dubbo Management Group Committee, the Domestic Violence Senior Officers Group and the Dubbo Violence Prevention Collective. Aboriginal Employment Strategy approved December 2014 to include Cultural Awareness Training for the previous Dubbo City Council staff.		
		Continue to participate & support the Dubbo Koori Interagency Network (DKIN).	Ongoing	ALO
		Liaison continuing. DKIN funds continue to be auspiced for NAIDOC Week in September.		
		Support with organising the Red Ochre Festival	Dec 2016	ALO
		At this stage the Red Ochre Festival will not be held in 2016. The Wambuul Freshwater Festival will be held in January 2017.		
		Continue to participate and support the Dubbo Local Aboriginal Lands Council (DLALC)	Ongoing	ALO

		DLALC continues to be supported. The Aboriginal Liaison Officer is the Deputy Chairperson of the DLALC.		
		Continue to support all Aboriginal Medical Centres & Aboriginal Health initiatives in Dubbo subject to ALO's availability.	Ongoing	ALO
		Support provided through DACWP on Dubbo Regional Aboriginal Health Service (DRAHS). ALO is on the Advisory Board for DRAHS.		
		Continue to participate and support the Dubbo Aboriginal Women's Advisory Group Family Planning NSW (AWAG).	Ongoing	ALO
		Liaison continuing.		
		Participate and Support all organisations with NAIDOC events/activities subject to ALO's availability.	Oct 2016	ALO
		DKIN holding an extensive NAIDOC program in September 2016. ALO is a member of the Planning Sub Committee to coordinate events. Aboriginal Liaison Officer is a member of the Interagency and regularly attends meetings.		
		Participate and Support all organisation with National Apology & Sorry Day, National Reconciliation Week, National Close the Gap Day, other events/activities subject to ALO's availability.	Oct 2016	ALO
		DKIN held events for significant dates in 2016. Planning underway for NAIDOC events to be held on 23-30 September 2016. Aboriginal Liaison Officer supports these events as part of organising committee.		

		Participate and Support Apollo House with activities subject to ALO's availability.	Ongoing	ALO
		Ongoing.		
		Participate & Support Dubbo Aboriginal Elders groups with events/activities subject to ALO's availability.	Ongoing	ALO
		Liaison continuing, advise Elders Groups of upcoming events.		
		Liaise and support Aboriginal Elders with Welcome & Acknowledgement to Country subject to ALO's availability.	Ongoing	ALO
		Liaison continuing between Elders and DLALC for Welcome to Country, escort Elders to events.		
		Liaise with Western Plains Cultural Centre and Dubbo Aboriginal Community Working Party to create a permanent Aboriginal Exhibition Area within the Centre, also encourage more Aboriginal participation at the Centre	June 2017	ALO
		Liaison continuing.		
People from Non English Speaking Background residing in Dubbo suffer no racial disadvantage or discrimination.	No examples of racial discrimination by Council or by the community.	Continue to work with the Committee established to organise the Multicultural Festival.	Ongoing	MSS
	No examples.	Council has allocated \$15,000 for the 2016 Festival. There will be no Multicultural Festival held in 2016 due to the Council merger and the Committee not established prior to planning being undertaken. Manager Social Services assists Committee's planning and staging of events.		

		Family Day Care and Rainbow Cottage in association with other Childcare Centres work to conduct multicultural activities. Eg Harmony Day	Ongoing	MSS
		Planning underway for Harmony Day activities to be held at Rainbow Cottage and Family Day Care.		
		Involve the CALD population with the Council's Sister City Program.	Ongoing	MSS
		Council's Sister City Officer has formed a partnership with the Multicultural Festival Advisory Committee.		
Residents and visitors to Dubbo have access to good quality medical and hospital services and facilities.	No examples of decrease in the number and range of qualified medical personnel available in Dubbo.	Continue to liaise with the Council's Manager City Development and Communication and Manager Western NSW Local Health Network on the initiation of programmes to attract and retain medical practitioners and specialists.	Ongoing	DOCS
	No decrease identified.	Liaison undertaken.		
		Lobby the State Government for increased recurrent funding and total redevelopment of Dubbo Base Hospital.	Ongoing	DOCS
		Lobbying undertaken. Funds of \$91.3M provided by the Commonwealth and NSW State Governments for stages 1 and 2 of the hospital redevelopment.		
The personal and property safety of residents and visitors to Dubbo is secure.	No increase in the levels of crime reported for 2015/2016.	Undertake the strategies in the Local Crime Prevention Plan.	Ongoing	MSS
		2015-2018 Dubbo Crime Prevention Plan in the process of being endorsed by State Government.		
		Meet with the local Superintendent of Police quarterly.	Ongoing	DOCS

		1 meeting held to date.		
Residents and visitors to Dubbo have good access to high quality general social and welfare services and facilities.	No examples of social issues being considered by Council without referral to the Community Services Committee.	Continue to provide financial assistance to the Neighbourhood Centre in the 2017/2018 budget.	May 2017	DOCS
	No examples.	\$160,000 proposed in 2017/2018 forward budget.		
Residents have access to a quality, convenient, affordable and accessible public transport system.	No examples of genuine public demand for public transport not being met.	Continue to monitor the provision of public transport in Dubbo.	Ongoing	MSS
	No examples.	Monitoring ongoing.		



REPORT: Quarterly Review of the Dubbo Disability Inclusion Plan

AUTHOR: Manager Social Services

REPORT DATE: 7 September 2016

TRIM REFERENCE: ID16/1680

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2014, the NSW Parliament passed the Disability Inclusion Act, which sets out the need for the NSW Disability Inclusion Plan and the need for each government department, agency and local Council to develop a Disability Inclusion Plan. A Disability Inclusion Plan has been developed by Dubbo Regional Council. The Dubbo Disability Inclusion Plan endeavours to assist in the removal of barriers so that people with a disability have a better opportunity to live a meaningful life and enjoy the full benefits of membership in the community. This Plan details how Council can assist in practical ways to create a more inclusive city. The actions contained within the Plan are being progressively implemented. It is recommended that the implementation progress of the Dubbo Disability Inclusion Plan be noted.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information contained in this report be noted.

John Watts
Manager Social Services

REPORT

In 2014, the NSW Parliament passed the Disability Inclusion Act, which sets out the need for the NSW Disability Inclusion Plan and the need for each government department, agency and local Council to develop a Disability Inclusion Plan. A Disability Inclusion Plan has been developed by Dubbo Regional Council. The Dubbo Disability Inclusion Plan endeavours to assist in the removal of barriers so that people with a disability have a better opportunity to live a meaningful life and enjoy the full benefits of membership in the community. This Plan details how Council can assist in practical ways to create a more inclusive city.

The goals included in this Plan will focus on:-

- Developing positive community attitudes towards people with a disability
- Creating a more liveable community for people with a disability
- Equal access to employment within Council for people with a disability
- Provide appropriate service information for people with a disability

This Plan focuses on the services and facilities provided by Dubbo Regional Council and the actions which can contribute towards the goals of the Plan.

Each quarter, a report will be submitted on the progress of the implementation of the Disability Inclusion Plan to the Finance and Policy Committee for consideration. This report covers the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 September 2016.

Appendix 1 is a report on the implementation of the Disability Inclusion Plan. The actions of the Plan are being progressively implemented and it is recommended that the quarterly review be noted.

Appendices:

- 1 September 2016 update Disability Inclusion Plan



DUBBO DISABILITY INCLUSION PLAN



Introduction

In 2014, the NSW Parliament passed the *Disability Inclusion Act*, which sets out the need for the NSW Disability Inclusion Plan and the need for each government department, agency and local Council to develop a Disability Inclusion Plan. The Dubbo Disability Inclusion Plan endeavours to assist in the removal of barriers so that people with a disability have a better opportunity to live a meaningful life and enjoy the full benefits of membership in the community.

Dubbo is a regional centre catering for a vast geographical region. People view Dubbo as their service centre for a range of services including business, medical and recreational matters.

It is therefore vital that Council and other levels of community as well as community based organisations cater for the needs of people with a disability.

Disability may be acquired at birth or early in life, or may be the result of accident, illness or injury throughout life. People experience a range of impacts due to disability, with over 6% of the population experiencing profound or severe disability. Disability is caused by a range of conditions, including intellectual, physical, cognitive, sensory, neurological impairments or mental illness.

People with a disability have the right to full and effective participation in an inclusive society. An inclusive society benefits the whole community not just people with a disability. Inclusion reduces disadvantage, isolation and discrimination. It also has positive impacts across all aspects of life, including health, welfare, education and employment.

The goals included in this Plan will focus on:-

- Developing positive community attitudes towards people with a disability
- Creating a more liveable community for people with a disability
- Equal access to employment within Council for people with a disability
- Provide appropriate service information for people with a disability

This Plan focuses on the services and facilities provided by Dubbo City Council and the actions which can contribute towards the goals of the Plan.

Throughout the Plan some abbreviations have been used for the titles of Council staff. The following are these abbreviations and their full wording:-

MSS	-	Manager Social Services
MTCC	-	Manager Theatre and Convention Centre
MBDS	-	Manager Building and Development Services
MFAS	-	Manager Financial Accounting Services
MCIS	-	Manager Civil Infrastructure and Solid Waste
TE	-	Traffic Engineer
MRPP	-	Manager Recreation Planning and Programs
RSO	-	Road Safety Officer
MHS	-	Manager Horticultural Services
MHRS	-	Manager Human Resource Services
CDPL	-	City Development Program Leader
YDO	-	Youth Development Officer
MTS	-	Manager Technical Services

Strategy	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at
The community has positive community attitudes towards people with a disability.	Ensure the Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre Community Services Directory is updated regularly.	July each year.	MSS	Council's information recently provided to the Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre.
	Ensure the Council's Social Plan addresses issues of disability raised by the community.	Ongoing	MSS	Issues addressed. The Western Interagency investigates issues concerning people with a disability. Youth Development Officer is a member of the Western Interagency.
	Investigate options to provide assistance to people with disabilities to complete various Council documents.	Ongoing	MSS	No action to date.
	Support and promote various community events for people with a disability.	Ongoing	MSS	All events supported.
	Restructure Community Services Committee to include a member who has a disability.	Ongoing	MSS	Community Services Committee disbanded.

Strategy	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at
	Investigate options for the Chamber of Commerce to introduce a Rhino Award for business with best improvement in disability access.	Ongoing	MSS	Matter to be discussed following the completion of the current Rhino Awards in October 2016.
Dubbo is a more liveable community for people with a disability.	<p>Conduct an annual audit of Council car parks to ensure they are appropriately located and accessible.</p> <p>Ensure hearing loops information is available to patrons of the Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre.</p>	<p>December each year</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>MTS</p> <p>MTCC</p>	<p>Not due until December 2016.</p> <p>There is an audio loop available in the 500 seat theatre and in the Theatre foyer.</p> <p>Tactile pads on the floor.</p> <p>Braille on doors of amenities.</p> <p>Passenger lift to the mezzanine level.</p> <p>Ramps and railings.</p> <p>Signage on doors and website for loud noises, strobe lighting etc.</p> <p>‘Relaxed’ performances for those with special needs.</p> <p>Wheelchair accessible seats</p>

Strategy	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at
	Provide DA applicants with relevant information concerning Disability Discrimination legislation.	Ongoing	MBDS	Information provided.
	Council purchasing – where possible purchase from businesses which employ people with disabilities.	Ongoing	MFAS	No action to date.
	Continue to provide annual financial assistance to the Orana Early Intervention Centre.	Annually	MSS	\$2,500.00 budgeted for future years.
	Conduct an annual review of the Development Control Plan (DCP) – Design for Access and Mobility to ensure it is relevant and up to date and meeting the needs of people with a disability.	December each year	MBDS	Not due until December 2016.
	Ensure signage within Council buildings is clear and easy to read.	Ongoing	Various Asset owners	Matter to be further investigated following new logo being implemented.
	Review pedestrian crossing points on high traffic streets in Dubbo.	December each year	TE	Not due until December 2016.

Strategy	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at
	Ensure all new footpath developments include the latest in pedestrian accessibility aids including tactile sensors and gutter ramps.	Ongoing	MCIS	No action to date.
	Investigate funding opportunities to enhance Council playgrounds to include accessible equipment.	Ongoing	MHS	Ongoing funding opportunities investigated.
	Investigate funding opportunities to enhance accessibility of outdoor sporting and passive areas.	Ongoing	MSF	Ongoing funding opportunities investigated.
	Encourage the DALC Contract Manager to conduct activities at the Centre for people with a disability.	Ongoing	MSF	DALC Master Plan being undertaken to examine options for activities for people with a disability at the DALC.
	Pool facilities to be accessible (toilets, change rooms, showers, swimming pool)	Ongoing	MRPP	Facilities accessible.
	Conduct a biannual survey of service providers to people with a disability to garner information on access issues in Dubbo.	July	MSS	Survey to be completed

Strategy	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at
Equal access to employment within Council for people with a disability	Relevant discrimination legislation to be included in EEO Policy, Staff Induction and Recruitment Training.	Ongoing	MHRS	No action to date.
	Investigate modifications of Council buildings to make them accessible for staff with a disability.	Ongoing	MBDS	No action to date.
	Investigate options for Council to provide assistance to services providing employment for people with a disability.	Ongoing	MHRS	No action to date.
	Investigate options for Council to provide work experience for people with a disability.	Ongoing	MHRS	No action to date.

Strategy	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at
	Investigate how Regional Development Australia/Economic Development Branch can encourage new business which employs people with a disability.	Ongoing	MSS, CDPL	In September 2016 facilitated Glenray Industries presentation encouraging Accommodation Network Group members to use their Linen Service (all run by staff with a disability) looking to expand into Dubbo market. Breakthru People Solutions provided overview of their disability employment services and how businesses can become involved in September 2016.
Appropriate service information for people with a disability is provided	Ensure information concerning public toilet locations is available for people with a disability. Investigate options for the production of a Mobility Map. Ensure information concerning accessible public transport including Community Transport is readily available.	Ongoing December 2016 Ongoing	MSS MSS MSS	National Toilet Map recently updated. A Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) is being prepared. Information available.

Strategy	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at
	<p>Assist in planning processes that can facilitate allocation of more resources for education, early intervention and childcare for children with a disability.</p> <p>Ensure information is available for users of scooters and electric wheelchair on footpaths. Pedestrian safety information should also be made available.</p> <p>Maintain a level of large print and audio books to meet demand. Continue to conduct the Home Library Service (HLS).</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>MSS</p> <p>RSO</p> <p>Dubbo Branch Library</p>	<p>Assistance is provided.</p> <p>Information is provided.</p> <p>Large print collection totals 5,407 items. Spoken word collection totals 2,256 items.</p>
	<p>Discuss with the Dubbo Youth Council any ideas they may have for young people with a disability.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>YDO</p>	<p>Matter being investigated with the Youth Council.</p>



REPORT: Quarterly Review of the Dubbo Ageing Strategy

AUTHOR: Manager Social Services

REPORT DATE: 7 September 2016

TRIM REFERENCE: ID16/1681

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report deals with the implementation of the Dubbo Ageing Strategy. The actions contained within the Strategy are being progressively implemented. It is recommended that the implementation progress of the Dubbo Ageing Strategy be noted.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information contained in this report be noted.

John Watts
Manager Social Services

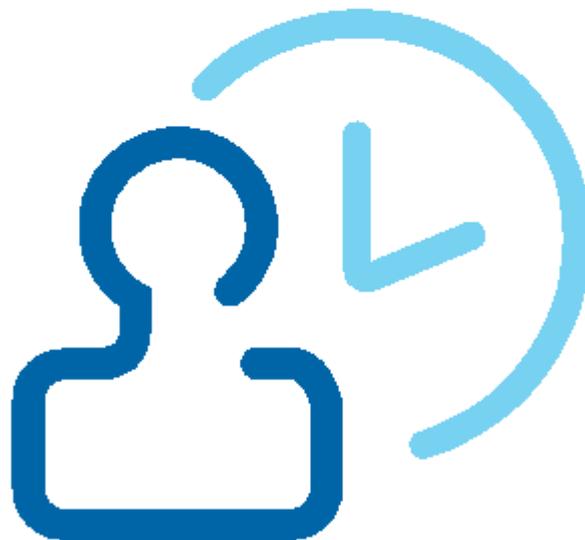
REPORT

Each quarter, a report will be submitted on the progress of the implementation of the Dubbo Ageing Strategy to the Finance and Policy Committee for consideration. This report covers the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 September 2016.

Appendix 1 is a report on the implementation of the Dubbo Ageing Strategy. The actions of the Strategy are being progressively implemented and it is recommended that the quarterly review be noted.

Appendices:

1 sep2016 update Dubbo Ageing Strategy



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Pages 9-19	Recreation and Leisure – Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centre, Western Plains Cultural Centre (WPCC), Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre (DRTCC), Macquarie Regional Library, Dubbo Parks, Showground.
Page 20-23	Safety – roads, crime prevention.
Page 24-26	Public Infrastructure – footpaths/ramps, accessible facilities, car parking, Cemeteries, public toilets.
Page 27-30	Volunteering – Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre (DRTCC), Western Plains Cultural Centre (WPCC), Macquarie Regional Library (MRL), Parks and Landcare (P&L), City Information Centre (CIC), Dubbo City Animal Shelter.

Introduction

Dubbo is a regional centre catering for a vast geographical region. Dubbo's population as well as the Region's is ageing. People view Dubbo as their service centre for a range of services including business, medical and recreational matters. Regional people view Dubbo as a potential area for retirement as do those seeking a tree change and those retreating from the larger metropolitan areas.

It is therefore vital that Council and other levels of community as well as community based organisations cater for the growing numbers of people above the 55 + age range. The provision of the services and facilities needed to cater for the ageing population will be a great challenge over the coming decades. These needs of older people are not just about physical and mental impairment and the difficulties that this brings to older people but the quality of life needs as well. In retirement there is increased time for recreation and leisure, increased capacity to return something to the community, increased desire to continue to learn and embrace new technology, a change in income (sometimes increased and sometimes decreased) and often a desire to down scale housing requirements. Hence the need to start planning at an early stage to meet these challenges.

This report focuses on the services and facilities provided by Dubbo City Council. These services and facilities have been separated into four (4) broad categories of:-

- 1) recreation and leisure
- 2) safety – roads and crime prevention
- 3) public infrastructure
- 4) volunteering

These four (4) broad categories suitably cover the range of services and facilities provided by Council.

Dubbo Demographics and Future Ageing trends

In the 2010/2011 Management Plan there is an action to develop a draft Ageing Strategy for the future provision of Council services and facilities to the aged population.

This strategy focuses on Council facilities and services and not the broader community services and facilities provided by other levels of government and the private sector.

Various Council service providers were interviewed to determine what measures needed to be made to cater for an ageing population.

The definition for seniors and the aged population vary. A NSW State Government Seniors' Card can be obtained at age 60 years. An aged pension is currently not applicable until 65 years for men and 64 years for women – these ages are set to increase in the coming few years. A National Seniors' Card, which is basically a private discount card at various retail outlets, can be obtained at age 55 years. There is no retirement age for workers. 55 + and 65 + are the beginning ages for age groups used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. However, the concept of ageing should not be considered in terms of age but in terms of physical and mental ability or impairment and the services required by people suffering these impairments. A young person can just as easily have walking problems due to juvenile arthritis as may a healthy 90 year old.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics projections show that by 2022 the 65+ population in Dubbo will grow from its current 4,909 to around 8,235 (an 68% increase), and the 85+ population to increase from 699 to around 983 (a 41% increase).

In 2011, the 55+ age group comprises 10,062 people or 26% of the population.

Dubbo continues to service and support satellite communities which do not have access to appropriate facilities. As these communities' demands increase, the stress placed on Dubbo City Council's services and facilities will get much stronger. Accommodation services (whilst outside the role of Council) are already reporting large waiting lists particularly from communities outside of Dubbo.

A further issue worthy of consideration is the differing needs for the Aboriginal community. Whilst 70 years may be a reasonable figure to generalise the average community age around which people start requiring aged services, it is certainly not the general case with the Aboriginal community. Due to many socio economic and lifestyle issues, Aboriginal people in general require aged services well before they reach 70 years.

Other service providers within the community that provide assistance to older people are reporting demand rising and ongoing problems in either recruiting volunteers or accessing appropriate funding to carry on their services. Services such as Meals on Wheel and the Community Visitors Scheme report that their volunteer base is ageing, therefore those undertaking these activities are now becoming reliant themselves on those same services. There will also be implications for Council's facilities with some provisions to be made to provide better access for the aged.

The following is an extract from Appendix A - 2011 NSW Parliamentary Research Service; Key Issues and Regional Profiles; Ageing Population; pages 19 & 20.

POPULATION AGEING

A major demographic challenge facing Australia is the ageing of the population. The Federal Government's *Intergenerational Report* of 2010 observes that population ageing has implications for health care, labour force participation, housing and the demand for skilled labour.

NATIONAL TRENDS

The ABS projects that, as a result of sustained low fertility and increased life expectancy, the proportion of people aged 65 years and over will increase from 13% of the Australian population in 2007 to between 23% and 25% in 2056, while the proportion of people aged under 15 years is projected to decrease to between 15% and 18%.

The Federal Treasury estimates that the proportion of working age people to support each Australian aged 65 years and over will fall to 2.7 by 2050, compared to 5 working age people today and 7.5 in 1970.

NSW TRENDS

In a 2008 report, the NSW Government projected that, with average life expectancy set to increase by approximately 9 years by mid-century, the number of people aged over 65 in NSW will increase from 0.9 million (or 13.9% of the State's population) to 2.4 million (or 26.3% of the State's population) by 2051. In January 2011, the Government reported that by 2024 the proportion of people aged 65 years and older will, for the first time in the State's history, exceed those aged under 15 years.

According to the NSW Department of Planning while all regions in NSW will undergo population ageing, the extent will vary significantly across different regions of the State.

Coastal regions are expected to experience the largest percentage increase in people aged between 65 and 84 and over 85 years, with the Mid-North Coast, Nowra Bomaderry, and Illawarra statistical areas projected to experience the greatest increases. The ABS attributes this trend partly to "sea change" and "tree change" movements as older people move away from employment centres in their retirement.

According to the NSW Department of Planning, while Sydney will also undergo population ageing, Sydney's population is projected to be younger than the overall population of NSW, with people aged over 65 comprising 18% of Sydney's population by 2036, compared to 21% of the NSW population.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The ageing of the population has significant implications for all levels of government across a wide range of policy areas. Chief among those are:

- Slower economic growth as a result of declining workforce participation rates;
- Fiscal pressures resulting from increased government spending on health care, aged care and age-related pensions;
- The need for appropriate housing and transport infrastructure;
- The need for quality care and support services to meet the needs of an increasingly diverse ageing population;
- A need to ensure social sustainability by tackling entrenched disadvantage and enhancing skills, opportunities and community participation; and
- Changing societal attitudes towards ageing.

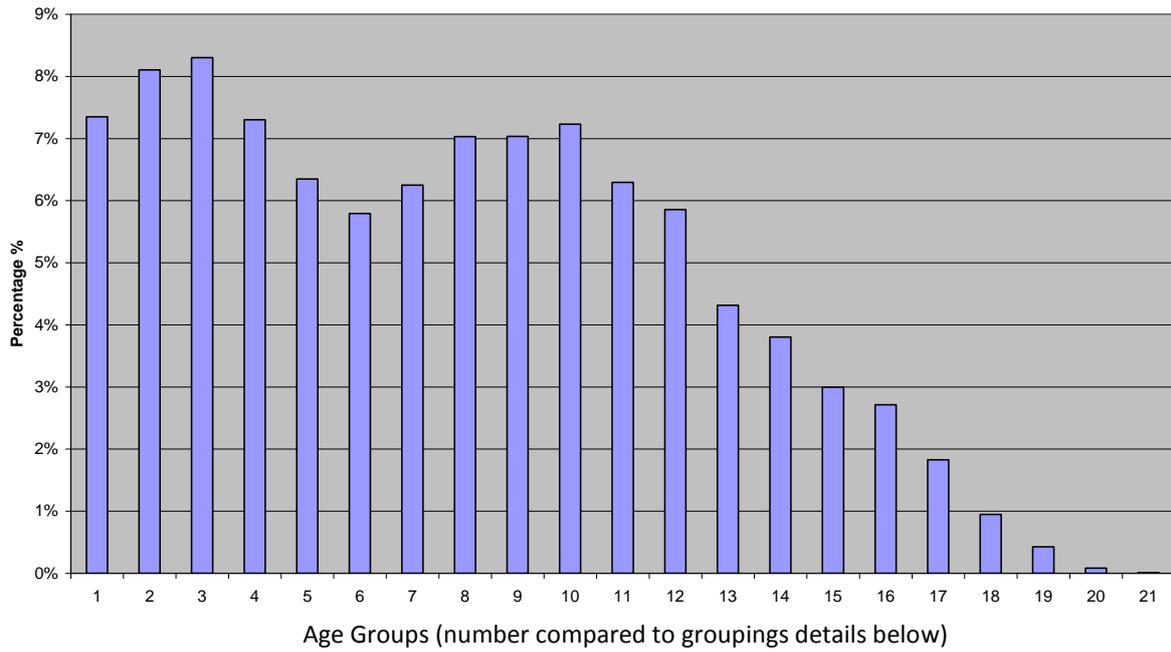
While the primary responsibility for aged care lies with the Commonwealth, a key role is also played in many policy areas by State and local governments. In respect to NSW, the major articulation of government strategy is found in *Towards 2030: planning for our changing population*. This is complemented by measures in a number of other State strategies, such as the NSW State Plan, Sydney's Metropolitan Strategy and Regional Strategies, in combination with infrastructure, transport, health and housing strategies. The key priorities identified in *Towards 2030* are: early planning for change; improved prevention and early intervention; workforce productivity and adaptability; facilitating participation in society; and the provision of quality care and support services.

KEY DOCUMENTS

Productivity Commission, *Caring for Older Australians, Productivity Commission Draft Report*, 2011

G Griffith, *A Commissioner for Old People in NSW*, Briefing Paper 3/2008

AGE STRUCTURE OF DUBBO POPULATION 2006



POPULATION BY AGE GROUP/SEX

	AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1)	0-4	1,410	1,371	2781
2)	5-9	1,567	1,500	3067
3)	10-14	1,626	1,515	3141
4)	15-19	1,406	1,356	2762
5)	20-24	1,134	1,268	2402
6)	25-29	1,034	1,157	2191
7)	30-34	1,153	1,212	2365
8)	35-39	1,246	1,414	2660
9)	40-44	1,269	1,393	2662
10)	45-49	1,313	1,423	2736
11)	50-54	1,160	1,221	2381
12)	55-59	1,104	1,112	2216
13)	60-64	786	846	1632
14)	65-69	694	745	1439
15)	70-74	485	649	1134
16)	75-79	479	548	1027

POPULATION BY AGE GROUP/SEX CONTINUED

	AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
17)	80-84	260	431	691
18)	85-89	142	216	358
19)	90-94	38	123	161
20)	95-99	10	21	31
21)	100+	0	4	4
	Total	18,316	19,525	37,841

Recreation and Leisure – Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centre (DALC), Western Plains Cultural Centre (WPCC), Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre (DRTCC), Macquarie Regional Library (MRL), Parks, Showground, Senior Citizens Centre

It is well known that access to local government provided leisure and recreation activities make an important contribution to enable a community to age well. As the percentage of the population over 55 years increases so too will the demand from an expectant and well educated community of the leisure and recreational services and facilities provided by Councils. Planning for this increase in demand is essential if Dubbo is to maintain its regional centre role. Planning needs to look not only at expanding existing services and facilities but also needs to include the potential for new services and facilities. Planning needs to look not only at the physical amenity but also accessible by transport, cost to the customer and operational aspects such as the time of service.

Recreation and leisure also play vital roles in socialisation for seniors. For many seniors it may be their sole activity which provides them with contact with other seniors. Leisure and recreation are also a means of providing people with an enjoyable outlet and purpose in life. They enrich lives and provide freedom to individuals to pursue interests.

The population as it ages will be better educated, more demanding and more aware of the health and well being benefits of participation in a range of activities. With improved health and fitness, the over 55s will be able to pursue physical activities to an even greater age than their predecessors.

Council provides a range of facilities that offer leisure and recreation activities to seniors. There are facilities that have been built to accommodate paid entertainment and activities along with numerous sporting fields, walking and cycling tracks that are accessible by seniors at little or no cost.

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
Recreation facilities and services meet the requirements of the aged population.	No reasonable unmet recreational needs are identified.	Conduct a survey each year of older people to ascertain their recreational needs.	July each year	MSS	Survey to be completed
The leisure and educational needs of the	The number of seniors attending library technology workshops	Conduct technology workshops to educate older people on the use of	1. Seniors Week each	Dubbo Branch	2. Technology

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
older population are met.	increases annually.	new computer technologies.	year 2. Regular technology workshops provided that all members of the community can access including older members of the population	Library - MDB	workshops 2 workshops 2 attendees
		Continue to conduct the Home Library Service (HLS). Advertise/ promote the service widely to older people in Council publications and via the media.	Ongoing	Dubbo Branch Library - MDB	Service continues to operate with 6 volunteers. Promotion at the annual Seniors Week Expo, in house and at Dubbo Nursing Homes.
		Maintain a level of large print and audio books sufficient to meet the demand	Ongoing	Dubbo Branch Library	Large Print collection totals 5,407 items.

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
					Spoken word collection totals 2,256 items.
		Range of E-Resources to meet the needs of the aged population	Ongoing	Dubbo Branch Library	E-Audio/E-Books/E-Magazines resources available online
		Prepare plans for the development of a new public amenities block at the Dubbo Showground including accessible toilets.	June 2014	DCD	2016/17 budget has allocated \$60,000 for amenities upgrading and grant funding also being pursued. These amenities will include disabled accessible toilets.
		Investigate additional sporting activities that older people may participate in.	Ongoing	MSS	Matter being investigated through the Recreation (Strategy) Master Plan for Dubbo which was adopted by Council in

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
					November 2014.
		Investigate facilities at the Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre that will benefit older people's visiting experience.	Ongoing	MTCC	<p>There is an audio loop available in the 500 seat theatre and in the Theatre foyer.</p> <p>Tactile pads on the floor.</p> <p>Braille on doors of amenities.</p> <p>Passenger lift to the mezzanine level.</p> <p>Ramps and railings.</p> <p>Signage on doors and website for loud noises, strobe lighting etc.</p> <p>'Relaxed' performances for those with special</p>

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
					needs. Wheelchair accessible seats.

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
		Investigate and secure entertainment that appeals to seniors at an affordable price	Ongoing	MTCC	<p>Throughout the year entertainment that will appeal to seniors is scheduled.</p> <p>Most theatre shows offer a Concession ticket price on presentation of a Government Issued Pension Card.</p>

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
					<p>Three 2016 Season shows have been programmed as a matinee as a direct result of feedback from the Subscriber Survey.</p> <p>Direct email marketing to aged care facilities and Seniors' Villages is ongoing.</p>
		Investigate facilities at the Western Plains Cultural Centre that will benefit older people's visiting experience.	Ongoing	MCC	U3A and Family History Society operate from Community Arts Centre. Significant support given to these organisations in terms of administration and facilitation. Both the main building and Community

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
					Arts Centre are wheelchair accessible. The CAC has a lift available. A wheelchair is available for casual use. Disabled toilets are available in both buildings.
		Continue the WPCC Ambassador and Guides Programme as a social and activity outlet for seniors.	Ongoing	MCC	WPCC is no longer recruiting volunteers but continues to use the pool of volunteers already engaged.
		Provide exhibitions, workshops, lectures and other activities at the WPCC which appeal to seniors	Ongoing	MCC	The WPCC also holds monthly Dementia sufferers and U3A tours through the guiding programme. Monthly coffee meetings are held with the

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
					Schizophrenia Foundation.
		Prepare a Recreation (Strategy) Master Plan for Dubbo including services/facilities for seniors.	June 2014	MRPP	The Recreation (Strategy) Master Plan for Dubbo adopted by Council in November 2014.
		Encourage the DALC Contract Manager to conduct activities at the Centre for seniors such as aqua aerobics.	Ongoing	MRPP	DALC Master Plan being undertaken to provide greater sport and recreation services for the ageing population at the DALC.

Safety – roads, crime

Media reports of crime and violence can often lead to seniors worrying about their personal safety. Research has shown that older people have the lowest rate of crime victimisation when compared to the rest of the population. There is a growing recognition that creating safer communities relies on both traditional law enforcement as well as a whole of government and community approach to the issue of crime. This approach recognises that most of the work of the police and the criminal justice agencies is reactive, that is, they deal with the crime after the event. It acknowledges that if we want to prevent crime and thereby reduce its impact on the community, we have to intervene before it is committed.

As Australia's population grows older, both in terms of average age, and also as a percentage of the total population, the issue of individual rights of elderly persons, and the extent and nature of the physical, financial and emotional protection which should be afforded to them, has received increasing attention from a number of Government and non-Government agencies, including the police.

Dubbo City Council works in partnership with law enforcement and human service agencies to address crime in the community. Council prepares and implements a 3 year Crime Prevention Plan which sets out strategies to address nominated crime categories. Council also has responsibility for Alcohol Free Zones and the Safety Camera System that operates in the Central Business District of Dubbo.

Road safety for seniors both in terms of road conditions and education for users is an important issue for Council to consider. Council has a responsibility to ensure that the roads that people travel on are of a standard that affords optimum safety. Ongoing education programs are also developed and delivered to seniors by Council staff in relation to driving and walking around and on roads.

The issue of increasing use of seniors' mobility scooters and their safe use will become more prevalent with an ageing population. Council should consider including education programs to address this increasing use.

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
Older people are safe on public roads.	The number of older people involved in road accidents is less than the NSW State average.	Conduct an annual road safety programme to educate older people on the safe use of roadways.	September each year	RSO	Regular road safety presentations are delivered throughout the

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
					year to Dubbo Seniors groups. General road safety, pedestrian safety and community mobility presentations were delivered to seniors.
		Prepare and distribute a brochure on the safe use of roads by older people.	December each year	RSO	RSO provides brochures at various community gatherings.
Older people feel safe living in Dubbo.	The number of crimes committed against older people in Dubbo is lower than the NSW average.	Implement actions within the Dubbo Crime Prevention Plan that have an impact on seniors.	Ongoing	MSS	Steal from Motor Vehicle and Residential Break and Enter are the crime categories in the draft Crime Prevention Plan. Seniors needs are considered.
		Consider crime impacting seniors	Ongoing	MSS	Orana Crime

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
		in the Orana Crime Prevention Partnership.			Prevention Partnership disbanded.
		Ensure seniors' interests are considered when reviewing the effectiveness of Safety Cameras and Alcohol Free Zones.	Ongoing	MSS	Seniors' interests considered when reviewing the Safety Cameras and Alcohol Free Zones.
		Ensure street lighting (particularly within the vicinity of aged accommodation facilities) meets the needs of seniors.	Ongoing	MCI	There have been no street lighting issues raised in relation to areas with aged accommodation so far this year.
		Ensure the principles of Safer by Design are considered when assessing Development Applications for seniors' accommodation.	Ongoing	MBS	Principles are considered when assessing Development Applications for seniors' accommodation.
		Regularly liaise with Dubbo Police on issues to prevent crimes against	Ongoing	MSS	Consideration given in the Crime Prevention

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
		older people.			Plan.
		Conduct an annual audit of the safety of roads within the vicinity of aged accommodation facilities.	December each year	MCI	Not due until December 2016.

Public Infrastructure – footpaths/ramps, disabled facilities, car parking, cemeteries, public toilets

Public infrastructure supporting quality of life is important to meet the needs of older people. This, in conjunction with reliable, accessible, affordable and safe public transport, will enable older people to be socially active within community life, thus supporting inclusion and reducing isolation. Council works in partnership with transport providers to ensure that accessible transport options are available for seniors.

Council has responsibility for the provision and maintenance of footpaths, public car parks and public toilets.

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
Older people are able to visit the New and Old Dubbo Cemeteries in a more comfortable environment.	No reasonable complaints relating to the facilities available at the New and Old Dubbo Cemeteries.	Investigate the possibility for the provision of toilets and more shaded seating at the New and Old Dubbo Cemeteries.	June 2014	MBSC	A Master Plan for the installation of toilets at the New Dubbo Cemetery has been completed. No approval for funding provided. Additional seating and further landscaping requirements will be addressed in a proposed beautification plan currently being drafted internally.
Older people are able to utilise Council controlled	No reasonable complaints relating to the parking	Investigate the possibility for the provision of more accessible	March each	MSS	Matter investigated, all

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
public halls because of more accessible parking.	facilities available at Council controlled public halls.	parking at Council controlled public halls.	year		hall parking is deemed to be accessible and appropriate for seniors.
Older people are able to safely use and access public spaces.	No reasonable complaints relating to the condition of civil infrastructure affecting the access of older people.	Monitor the condition of footpaths, roads and pedestrian ways in the proximity of aged accommodation premises.	Ongoing	MCI	Footpaths inspected as per the Defined Asset Management Policy.
		Ensure all new footpath developments include the latest in pedestrian accessibility aids including tactile sensors and gutter ramps.	Ongoing	MCI	This standard is required as a condition of development consent as and when they arise.
	No incidences of public buildings being approved not in accordance with the DCP – Design for Access and Mobility	Conduct an annual review of the Development Control Plan (DCP) – Design for Access and Mobility - to ensure it is relevant and up to date and meeting the needs of older people with accessibility problems.	December each year	DEVS (lead agent) / MSS	A review of the DCP has commenced and is due for completion in 2016/2017.
		Conduct an annual survey of older people to garner information on access issues in Dubbo.	July each year	MSS	Survey to be completed.

Volunteering – Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre (DRTCC), Western Plains Cultural Centre (WPCC), City Information Centre (CIC), Dubbo City Animal Shelter, Parks and Landcare Services and Library.

Volunteering (both formal and informal) has many benefits. Volunteers in formal arrangements provide benefits to the local economy. Many significant services in Dubbo (including Dubbo City Council) could not operate without volunteers. Older people with skills and a desire to share their talents receive considerable social benefits from volunteering, especially if they have the time and resources to do so. Volunteering then becomes a win-win situation for the community and the individual.

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
Older people are provided opportunities to utilise their skills and experience by volunteering.	Opportunities exist within Council services / functions for older volunteers.	Conduct an annual campaign to attract older people to volunteer.	June each year	MSS (lead agent) and Managers of DRTCC, WPCC, CIC, P&L, Library.	Opportunities for volunteers to assist at library are available within Home Library Service as delivery drivers, to take material to housebound borrowers and aged care institutions. WPCC is no longer recruiting volunteers but continues to use the pool of volunteers already engaged.
	Numbers of older volunteers	Work in partnership with the	Ongoing	MSS	Dubbo

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
	is maintained / increased.	Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre to increase their volunteer base.			Neighbourhood Centre has information relating to volunteering on their website. dnc.org.au Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre also has printed information available.
		Conduct an annual ceremony in Volunteers week to recognise the DCC volunteers.	11 - 16 May 2015	Managers of WPCC (lead agent), DRTCC, CIC, P&L, Library	This event is now coordinated via the Administrator's office. Identified managers assist by providing names from respective databases.
		Survey seniors annually to gauge the needs for and barriers to volunteering.	March each year	MSS	No issues raised by seniors.
		Include a section on Council's and the MRL's websites devoted	Ongoing	MSS (lead agent) /	Dubbo Regional Councils Website

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
		to volunteering to assist seniors to more easily select a volunteer activity and engage in volunteering.		Marketing and Communication	directs volunteers to a comprehensive volunteering page on the Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre (DNC) website. The DNC website is broken down into different agencies that people can assist in.
		Develop a volunteer's training package to assist seniors to develop the skills to undertake volunteer activities.	Ongoing	MSS (lead agent) / Managers of DRTCC, WPCC, VIC, P&L, Library	Volunteering package was developed during 2011-2012 in collaboration with all cultural organisations within DRC. The package has been implemented in Dubbo library, Dubbo Regional Theatre, Western Plains Cultural Centre, Visitors Information Centre

Strategy	Performance Target	Actions (Statement of Means)	By When	Resp.	Actions Taken at 30 September 2016
					and Parks and Land care. Volunteer numbers among Councils cultural services are at or near capacity.
		Continue to provide annual funding for the Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre to conduct seniors' activities.	Ongoing	MSS	\$5,000 provided in budget.



REPORT: Agricultural Trails Program

AUTHOR: Economic Development Officer

REPORT DATE: 12 September 2016

TRIM REFERENCE: ID16/1699

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Regional Platters Agriculture Project is an integrated business development and visitor experience development program. The project includes development of a framework to better connect the region's producers with a range of key visitor and investor markets including group travel, private tours and interstate and international investors.

There is currently no coordinated framework in the Dubbo Regional Council Local Government Area (LGA) or broader region to connect agricultural networks with the visitor economy. 'Agri-tourism' has remained largely untapped in the region however its potential for development is identified as a key opportunity in the region's adopted Destination Management Plan.

The Project is a collaboration between Dubbo Regional Council and eight surrounding LGAs and is being funded through a successful Murray Darling Energise Enterprise funding application for \$20,000. The Project is being expanded with financial support from Dubbo Regional Council of \$5,000. Council is currently awaiting an indication of financial support from Regional Development Australia Orana for \$10,000, which will go towards expanding the industry development workshop component.

Linked to the region's Destination Management Plan, and aligned with local government economic development strategies, the Regional Platters Agriculture Project will support agricultural enterprises to develop through a stepped level of training to ensure the delivery of quality, sustainable and educational experiences for investors and visitors.

The development of this experience will be supported by professional marketing collateral including a digital guide which will promote self-guided trails, farm stays, tour operators and local produce.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The project identified within the report will be funded by \$20,000 through the Murray Darling Energise Enterprise Fund. Council's contribution of \$5,000 to the project is contained within the City Development 2016/2017 budget.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information contained in this report be noted.

Jacki Parish
Economic Development Officer

BACKGROUND

With the change in people's attitudes to food and desire to know where their food is coming from, how it is farmed and continued growth in food trends, the timing for the region to embrace the paddock to plate experience, encourage agricultural diversification and increase regional visitation has never been more pertinent.

As a result of a successful collaborative Murray Darling Energise Enterprise funding application, the Regional Platters Agriculture Project will develop a framework to connect the region's producers with a range of key target markets including group travel, private tours and investors.

Approximately 50 primary producers (across nine local government areas) have indicated interest in showcasing "their product" to the group tourism sector, and/or interest in being better positioned to support the region's investor market. Interested businesses are located in the Warren, Cobar, Coonamble, Bogan, Warrumbungle, Narromine, Gilgandra, Mid-Western and Dubbo Regional Local Government Areas. Businesses range from beef, lamb, pork and goat producers, cotton and grain farmers, grazing stations, farmstays, dairy producers, poultry breeders, abattoirs, stock feed producers, grain merchants, native nursery, wine producers and a scotch distillery.

The project aims to target the agricultural sector encouraging diversification, through creating additional business by educating consumers and showcasing the diversified industries they support. It will leverage the agricultural ebbs and flows to create efficiencies in shoulder and off peak farming periods, providing business expansion and additional income opportunities.

Linked to the region's Destination Management Plan, and with the support of the region's Economic Development Managers, Tourism Managers, Chambers of Commerce and business leaders, the Regional Platters Agriculture Project will promote visitation to a range of communities providing experiences that are sustainable, compelling and real.

REPORT

Through the destination management process, Dubbo Regional Council has driven a collaboration with eight surrounding LGAs to design and deliver a Regional Platters Agriculture Project. Dubbo Regional Council will act as the project lead, with Warren Shire Council being responsible for budget management and funding acquittals.

The collaborative Regional Platters Agriculture Project will deliver three key components:

- 1) Engage, educate, enable and empower primary producers and agribusinesses through targeted workshops and one on one development.
- 2) Showcase the region's produce through a digital guide which will act as an information source and motivate visitors and potential future investors to utilise the trail,

experience smaller rural communities and engage face to face with producers. The guide will also contain an Agricultural Events and Where to Buy section.

- 3) Create an ongoing framework for industry development and funding.

A local business services firm, with extensive agricultural management and business development experience has been engaged to deliver two streams of workshops and develop initiatives across the region.

One stream will focus on the businesses that are customer ready or near ready. The second stream will focus on enabling interested businesses to further develop so they can position themselves to participate in the guide project in 12 months time. (Businesses being primary producers, agri-businesses and existing and potential tour operators).

The first stream of workshops will focus on understanding and addressing the industry needs in order to deliver a high quality group visitor experience, for example

- WHS
- Public Liability
- Identifying and understanding your value proposition
- Defining price and products
- Meeting visitor needs and expectations
- How to present product to the group tourism market
- Connecting with visitors beyond the farm gate
- Online opportunities
- Packaging
- Imagery
- Identify unique experiences

Project outcomes will include:

- sustainable economic development and diversification opportunities.
- group tour experiences that are both compelling and real.
- a stepped level of training for the delivery of quality and educational experiences for investors and visitors to the region.
- indirect boost in income to tourism related industries (accommodation, retail, transport and hospitality sectors).
- direct boost in income for farm producers and agribusinesses.
- additional awareness and educating visitors on the processes used to deliver food or produce to their plates.
- training for business to connect with customers and visitors online.
- identification of ongoing training for industry.
- fostering and encouraging industry collaboration and community pride.

Needs and opportunities identified through the Regional Platters Agriculture Project will inform the next stage of the region's agriculture experience development. Council will ensure the ongoing development of this niche tourism experience and investment attraction opportunity through the inclusion in the LGA's longer term economic development strategy.

SUMMARY

The Regional Platters Agriculture Project will be undertaken in October and November 2016 with the guide expected to be in the market in January 2017. Beyond the delivering of the initial development workshops and production of the guide, targeted support and development opportunities for Agri-businesses and primary producers will be considered in an ongoing framework.

The project has been developed in consultation with nine LGAs, various government agencies and agriculture business and industry contacts. The success of the Project will be founded on a further collaborative effort in project implementation, including effective, engaging and relevant workshops, creation of informative and motivating content and a high level of industry communication and stakeholder engagement.



**REPORT: Assignment of Lease for Hangar 11 at
Dubbo City Regional Airport**

AUTHOR: Airport Operations Manager

REPORT DATE: 12 September 2016

TRIM REFERENCE: ID16/1703

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A request has been received from the new owner of Hangar 11 at the Dubbo City Regional Airport to have the existing lease on the land assigned to them.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

That the legal fees associated with the preparation of the lease be borne by the lessee.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council approve the request to assign the lease of land for Hangar 11 from Smythes Structural Steel to B & G Pettiford with the existing terms applying to the assigned lease until its expiry on 31 March 2017.
2. That Council agree to enter into 2 consecutive 5 year leases to be executed on 1 April 2017 with the second lease commencing upon the expiry of the first lease, with both leases signed at the commencement of the first lease.
3. That the new lease fee commence at \$1628.30 and increase by 3% p.a. for the term of the 2 consecutive leases.
4. That the legal fees associated with the preparation of the lease be borne by the lessee.
5. That all necessary documentation in relation to this matter be executed under the Common Seal of the Council.

Lindsay Mason
Airport Operations Manager

BACKGROUND

It is customary for Council to assign the lease of land under properties at the Dubbo City Regional Airport to the new owners upon sale of buildings occupying the land.

REPORT

A request has been received from the new owner of Hangar 11 at the Dubbo City Regional Airport to have the existing lease on the land assigned to them. The ownership of the hangar is in the process of being transferred from Smythes Structural Steel to Barry and Gabrielle Pettiford. The assignment of the lease is required to transfer the lease of the land under the hangar to the new owners. This lease will expire on 31 March 2017, whereby the new owners of the hangar are requesting 2 consecutive leases of 5 year terms to be entered into from 1 April 2017. These terms are in line with other leases that have been entered into recently with other lessees. The terms of the existing lease with Smythes would remain in place with the new lessees until the end of the original lease in 2017.

The terms of the new leases would be as follows:

Lease 1. 01/04/17 to 31/03/22 commencing rent \$1628.30 with increases of 3% p.a.

Lease 2. 01/04/22 to 31/03/27

Both leases signed prior to the commencement of Lease 1

SUMMARY

That Council agree to the assignment of this lease and also prepare 2 x 5 year consecutive leases to apply from 1 April 2017.

Appendices:

1 Airport - Building Precinct

