



BUSINESS PAPER

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

To be held on

Wednesday, 28 June 2017
9am

at

Armidale Council Chambers

Members

Administrator, Dr Ian Tiley

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

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Item:	7.2.10	Ref: AINT/2017/09270
Title:	FOR DECISION: Adoption of Four Year Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2017-2018	Container: ARC17/1962
Author:	Peter Wilson, Senior Governance Officer	
Attachments:	1. Delivery Program 2017-2021 and Operational Plan 2017-2018 2. Operational Budget 2017-2018 3. Operational Budget 2017-2018 Appendix 1 - Financial Forecast 2017-2027 4. Revenue Policy (Part A) - Fees and Charges 2017-2018 5. Revenue Policy (Part B) - Ordinary Rates and Annual Charges 2017-2018 6. Resourcing Strategy 7. Financial Policy and Strategy 2017-2021	

RECOMMENDATION:

- a) That the community submissions be acknowledged and Council responses to the submissions be noted;
 - b) That the Four Year Delivery Program 2017-2021 and Operational Plan 2017-2018 be adopted;
 - c) That the Operational Budget 2017-2018 be adopted with the following changes:
 - Early payment of the 2017/18 Financial Assistance Grant to be reflected in 2016/17 financial year following the federal budget announcement, and
 - Election Expenses carried forward from 2016/17 to 2017/18 resulting in the following General Fund Operating Result after Capital Grants;
- | | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Net Operating Result after Capital Income | (4,302,490) | (172,322) | (707,562) | (1,213,131) |
- d) That the Revenue Policy (Part A) – Fees and Charges be adopted;
 - e) That the Revenue Policy (Part B) – Ordinary Rates and Annual Charges be adopted;
 - f) That the Resourcing Strategy, incorporating the Long Term Financial Plan, be adopted; and
 - g) That the Financial Policy and Strategy 2017-2021 be adopted.

Background:

The purpose of this report is to endorse the various Draft Plans, required to be prepared under the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) Framework, following the public exhibition periods.

Key Issues and Risks

The Community Strategic Plan (CSP) captures the long term aspirations of our community. It's a blueprint for the future and tells us what is important to the community, where we should allocate Council resources and is a guide for decision making about issues that will impact the region.

The CSP is however a community plan and therefore the entire community, including all levels of government and the business sector are expected to play a role in implementing the strategic directions.

The Delivery Program (DP) and Operational Plan (OP) provide detail of how the community aspirations in the CSP are systematically translated into actions that lie within the responsibility and resourcing (time, money, assets and people) capacity of Council.

The IPR Framework is built on the quadruple bottom line (QBL), that is, the pillars of sustainability of economy, community, environment and civic leadership. The plans reinforce the imperative of the integration of sustainability into Council's core business as outlined in the DP and OP.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

The NSW Local Government Amendment (Planning and Reporting) Act 2009 introduced a new planning and reporting framework for local government including:

- A Community Strategic Plan (10 Years +);
- A Delivery Program (4 Year Plan);
- An Operational Plan (1 Year Plan);
- A Resourcing Strategy – comprising the Long Term Financial Plan (10 Year Plan), Workforce Management Plan (4 Year Plan) and Asset Management Strategy (10 Year Plan)

The IPR suite of documents were prepared in accordance with the Framework and legislative requirements.

The Delivery Program and Operational Plan are synergistic and for this reason have been combined to present the individual actions of the Operational Plan, within the context of the Delivery Program's four year agenda.

Stakeholder Engagement

Under the provisions of the Act the IPR suite of documents must be exhibited for public comment for a period of 28 days. The public exhibition period was 19 May to 19 June 2017. Community engagement was undertaken in accordance with Council's engagement strategy.

The Community Engagement Strategy involved widespread promotion through advertisements, media releases, e-newsletters, Engagement HQ online hub and social media. Hard copies could be viewed at the Armidale and Guyra offices.

A Budget Roadshow was held across the LGA with meetings held at Guyra (6 June), Armidale (7 June) and Wollomombi (13 June). These meetings involved a presentation on the IPR Framework, Budget, Capital Works, Rate Structure, Fees and Charges and allowed question time from the participants.

The Revenue Policy (Part A) – Fees and Charges 2017 – 2018 was endorsed by Council on 12 April 2017 and placed on public exhibition on 13 April 2017 for a period of 28 days.

All submissions received during the exhibition periods are summarised in the Table below together with Council's response.

Table of Submissions

Submissions – Public Exhibition - Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework	
Submission	Council Response
Delivery Program and Operational Plan	
No submissions received	
Operational Plan (Budget)	
No submissions received	
Revenue Policy (Part A) – Fees and Charges	
#1 Guyra Show Society [15 May 2017]	
<p>Suggested that the fees & charges be amended to include individual fees for specific community groups being the main users of the Guyra Showground.</p> <p>Guyra Pony Club \$400.00 per year plus CPI; Guyra Light Horse Group \$0.00 per annual event; Guyra Campdraft \$1,200.00 per year; Guyra Show Society \$750.00 per function plus CPI, with a maximum of \$1,500.00 per year.</p> <p>All users would hire a contractor to clean amenities after events and organise rubbish disposal</p>	<p>Council acknowledges the importance of events organised by community groups and the role that these events play in rural communities.</p> <p>Council must however ensure that proper maintenance programs are funded for the long term sustainability of community assets. Council does not support the inclusion of subsidised fees for specific organisations or events in the Fees and Charges.</p> <p>Community Groups wanting to use community facilities at discounted rates are encouraged to seek funding/sponsorship from Council. Upon receipt of such request the responsible Council Officer would prepare a report for the consideration of Council, which details the cost to Council of forgone revenue. Council would then make a determination on the requested support.</p>
#2 Individual [5 May 2017]	
<p>The previous Guyra Shire managed to meet all government statutory requirements and managed the development of the shire very well.</p> <p>A substantial number of the new charges on the Guyra community are red tape items, providing additional income to ARC, but providing no benefit to the community.</p> <p>On page 31 there is a new charge for the installation of a solid fuel heater for the Guyra community! What is the reasoning behind this charge other than to get money from the public</p>	<p>This is identified as an additional service for the Guyra area as it was not specifically identified by the former Guyra Shire.</p> <p>The installation of solid fuel heaters is specifically identified under Section 68 of the NSW Local Government Act 1993, which requires an approval before they can be installed. This is a mandatory requirement of the Act, except if Council had developed a Local Approvals Policy under the Act which specifically excluded the need to gain approval. The former Guyra Council did not have such policy.</p>

<p>On Page 27 under “Development Control-Project Inspections, I note that there have been small decreases in fees for some activities for the old ADC, whilst Guyra has had significantly higher increases. Why not reduce the new fees and charges so that Guyra has a smaller increase?</p>	<p>During the preparation of the 2016-2017 fees and charges Armidale Dumaresq Council undertook a detailed audit and review of the cost of and number of inspections normally undertaken on various development types. There were several matters that Council took into account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where the bulk of inspections were undertaken in regard to their proximity of the ADC administration building; • the majority of these inspections are contestable as they could be performed by Private Certifiers; • The requirements of the National Competition Policy for local government prohibiting general fund subsidisation for contestable charges; • The average time for an inspection to be undertaken, including the overheads of administration support, record keeping, and associated on-costs. <p>This review identified that the average chargeable hour for inspections was just over \$125. Therefore the inspection charge of \$125 was applied, as was the number of inspections charged at the time of an application. Noting that any additional inspections are charged at the single inspection rate</p>
<p>On page 2, Traffic Classifier installation and reporting, what does this charge relate to?</p>	<p>Council is requested, on occasions, to undertake traffic movement analysis and this charge relates to the installation of traffic counters and reporting of results.</p> <p>Council predominately undertakes this analysis at the request of other government agencies.</p>
<p>In addition to additional charges, there are fees on top of other fees which are frustrating and an unnecessary cost to the public.</p> <p>For example on page 26, under the section Tree Removal, there is an additional fee for Tree Removal Review of Determination. Surely if an application for tree removal had come in and been approved, then why the need for a review?</p>	<p>The tree removal review of determination fee is only charged when Council has refused an application for tree removal.</p> <p>The applicant may if dissatisfied with the determination, request a review of the determination.</p>

<p>I was led to believe that a review of all fees and charges (F & C) would be undertaken before they were presented to the public for consultation, looking at the relevance of them with respect to the new council.</p> <p>Overall I have to say, this review has failed badly. There has been integration of the F & C between the old Guyra Shire and ADC, but not a review. I did not detect any F & C that have been removed from the old ADC, but a stack of new F & C added to the old Guyra Shire listing.</p> <p>Comments from the public in the past have regularly scorned the 'over the top' F & C administered by the old ADC and this was the perfect opportunity to look at what F & C would meet the needs of Council, whilst encouraging progress.</p> <p>The financial head of ARC needs to have a new look at these issues, as I see an Armidale culture here, one that is not conducive for the new Council.</p>	<p>Council commenced the review of fees and charges in November 2016.</p> <p>The 2017-2018 Armidale Regional Council Fees and Charges has integrated all fees and charges into one document.</p> <p>There are a number of fees and charges that are location specific.</p> <p>The Draft Fees and Charges 2017-2018 were presented to Council on 12 April 2017 and placed on public exhibition, inviting members of the public to review the document and provide submissions.</p> <p>Further rationalisation of the fees and charges is planned, with analysis on the frequency of fees and charges levied throughout the first half of the 2017-2018 financial year.</p>
<p>#3 Individual [verbal submission]</p>	
<p>The charges relating to the hire and use of playing fields and associated amenities are too numerous and complex and should be rationalised.</p>	<p>A number of individual fees and charges relating to specific use of individual playing fields and amenities have been removed.</p> <p>A commercial booking daily rate of \$183 (inc GST) now applies.</p>
<p>#4 Individual [11 May 2017]</p>	
<p>The closing date for submissions should be clearly stated. Ratepayers should not have to count the days on the calendar. Does the 28 days include the document release?</p>	<p>Legislation requires IPR documents to be publicly exhibited for a minimum period of 28 days.</p> <p>Council's website under "your say" indicated that submissions closed on Monday 19 June.</p> <p>Publicly displayed documents in the CAB also had a label attached detailing the public exhibition period.</p>
<p>Clarification of partial cost recovery is needed</p>	<p>Partial cost recovery means that the income generated by the levying of the fee or charge, for a particular good or service, is less than the cost to Council of providing the good or service.</p>

<p>Charging by vehicle and not volume of “waste deposited.”</p> <p>This is illogical, inequitable, discriminatory and lazy decision making that is obviously more concerned about raising money than about the fairness of the environment.</p> <p>Why should the method of delivery/type of vehicle that transports unsorted garbage to the dump determine the charge for depositing that garbage? If the method of delivery is more important than the volume of non recyclables then where are the levies for delivery by: foot, bicycle, motorbike, drone, truck, bus, plane, helicopter and the full range of other methods.</p> <p>Charging by type of vehicle rather than volume of non-recyclables discriminates against rural ratepayers. In the ex ADC area, there is no size restriction on trucks, sedans, wagons, utilities, and the definition of what are small and large trailers is not provided.</p>	<p>Volumetric waste charging is impractical and can be very time consuming. Vehicle type charges are the industry standard and are not implemented to deliberately impact on rural residents.</p> <p>Vehicles of different type have a varying degree of payload capacity. As such there are varying charges according to payload capacity of the vehicle.</p> <p>Armidale Regional Council’s waste charges are comparable to charges of other regional councils of similar size.</p>
<p>Rural ratepayers pay a garbage levy that is high in comparison with the garbage collection charges of city dwellers and those in some residential non-urban areas. Who pay \$327.00 i.e. \$6.29 a week for collections from their front door and are given three free bins.</p> <p>Rural waste management charge \$109.00 i.e. \$2.10 a week plus the cost of their long distance delivery to and return from the dump plus cost of bins, and who are being disproportionately penalised for using utes to convey their unsorted garbage to the dump.</p> <p>The truck(s) that are named “rural disposal units” with large Armidale and almost invisible regional are seen servicing the CBD and other within Armidale areas. I assume that rural ratepayers are paying the full costs associated with those trucks even though they appear to be sometimes /often servicing within the city limits.</p>	<p>The vehicle referenced in the submission is a vehicle owned by a private operator, not Armidale Regional Council.</p> <p>The income generated by the Rural Waste Management Charge, levied on rural ratepayers, does not cover the cost of employing our rural waste operators and maintaining our rural waste transfer stations.</p>
<p>Council needs to be more creative and less cognitively lazy in its approach. Why does it not actually consult with rural ratepayers about</p>	<p>Council actively encourages interaction with ratepayers and community engagement.</p>

<p>alternative approaches, better management of garbage practice?</p> <p>Have a rural ratepayers waste management workshop – a real workshop in which there is a genuine exchange of ideas and genuine will of Council to listen rather than alienate.</p>	<p>Council has undertaken a number listening tour engagements with events being held in Ben Lomond, Wards Mistake, Guyra, Black Mountain, Armidale, Ebor, Wollomombi and Hillgrove</p> <p>The Tours are an opportunity for the community to provide feedback and put forward suggestions and ideas about council service delivery.</p>
<p>The document states that the fees and charges associated with the sports fields are full cost recovery; does that cost recovery include the debt servicing of the loans taken out by council? If it does not, then it should.</p> <p>Does that include all costs including council administration costs, maintenance, repair and upgrading?</p> <p>There should be more than full cost recovery, this above cost recovery money can then be spent on other community activities/needs that have been neglected because of the millions of dollars of ratepayer money that have been cascaded into sporting infrastructure.</p>	<p>Full Cost Recovery indicates that the income generated from the fees and charges covers the costs and oncost of council providing the facility.</p> <p>Council considers the provision of safe, well maintained infrastructure for recreational use by the community vital in ensuring the health, wellbeing and vibrancy of the community.</p>
<p>Aquatic Centre fees are only partial cost recovery, these should be full cost recovery.</p>	<p>The vast majority of aquatic centres in regional areas operate at a loss. Council believes that the provision of aquatic centres in Armidale and Guyra is essential. Providing recreation, community interaction, sporting opportunities and the opportunity to learn the life saving skill of swimming.</p>
<p>Revenue Policy (Part B) – Ordinary Rates and Annual Charges</p>	
<p>#1 Individual [19 June 2017]</p>	
<p>This document is not transparent. It denies ratepayers their right to determine whether or not the categorisation that ARC has imposed upon their land is correct.</p>	<p>The Revenue Policy provides direct references to the relevant sections of the NSW Local Government Act 1993 dealing with categorisation of land for rating purposes. Section 525 provides a mechanism for ratepayers to contest the categorisation of their land.</p>
<p>There are no criteria for the ARC sub-category of Farmland Intensive. Why not? Ratepayers are entitled to this information.</p>	<p>Section 529 (2)(a) NSW Local Government Act details that a sub-category may be determined for the category Farmland –</p>

	<p>according to the intensity of land use , the irrigability of the land or economic factors affecting the land.</p> <p>The two properties categorised as Farmland Intensive in the former Guyra Shire Council area, display highly intensive use of the land and also have secure access to water for irrigation.</p>
There are no criteria for the ARC category of Residential - Non Urban	Land that complies with the provisions of Section 516 NSW Local Government Act 1993, that is not located within one of the defined urban centres of population, is categorised as residential Non-Urban.
There are no criteria for the ARC category of Business – Non Urban	Land that complies with the provisions of Section 518 NSW Local Government Act 1993, that is not located within a defined centre of activity is categorised as Business – Non Urban.
Just what categories of pensioners are eligible for rate reductions, must be made explicit in any ARC rating document, given that the ratepayers who fund 45% of each such reduction are forced to bear the cost of those reductions that ARC has chosen to award.	<p>Pensioner concessions apply only to residential and some farmland properties that are used solely as the residence of an eligible pensioner.</p> <p>The rebates are applied to General Rates, Water Rates and Sewerage Rates.</p>
Those pension 'concessions' are not mandated. Council has chosen to force full-rates ratepayers to provide them. The 45% of rate reductions for pensioners was the result of cost shifting of state government election pork barrelling when the cost of its pensioner rates concessions became a liability on the state government budget. The reductions could be replaced by smaller amounts on 8 rates notices, by staggered payments throughout the year, etc. thereby obviating the 'need' for rates reductions	<p>The additional pensioner concession provided in the former Armidale Dumaresq Council area was first considered as part of the 2011 IP&R Framework.</p> <p>The extension of the concession to the former Guyra Shire Council LGA, seeks to provide eligible pensioners relief from the ongoing issues identified in 2011.</p> <p>There are a number of payment options available to all ratepayers. Many ratepayers have set up automatic weekly, fortnightly or monthly payment plans.</p>
Rural Waste Management Charge, The 'dumps' for which this charge pays should be stated. Where are they located?	<p>Rural Waste Transfer Stations are located at Ben Lomond, Tilbuster, Ebor, Wollomombi and Hillgrove.</p> <p>Council's Fees and Charges 2017-2018</p>

	<p>details the charges for depositing waste at these transfer stations.</p> <p>Council's website provides the specific locations and hours of operation</p>
<p>There is no mention of the cost for delivering, and 'depositing', non-recyclables to a 'dump' - with those stated for each 'dump' if the cost varies.</p>	<p>The full list of Council charges for waste are detailed in Council's Fees and Charges 2017-2018.</p>
<p>There is no mention of credits given to people who deposit large quantities (i.e., a ute or larger) of valuable recyclables e.g., metals from which ARC earns income</p>	<p>Council does not provide credits.</p>
<p>Such a charge discriminates against rural ratepayers who currently are able to pay rates bills via internet because of their difficulty in accessing city facilities e.g council offices, because of distance from Armidale city/Guyra township, degraded and unsafe rural roads, and health or occupational demands.</p>	<p>The Revenue Policy states that Council may introduce a surcharge for credit card payments. Council has not introduced a surcharge at this time.</p>
<p>Resourcing Strategy</p>	
<p>No submissions received</p>	
<p>Financial Policy and Strategy</p>	
<p>No submissions received</p>	

Financial Implications

The combined Delivery Program and Operational Plan outline a range of projects, programs and activities to be completed over the four year timeframe of the Delivery Program. The DP/OP is underpinned by the Resourcing Strategy.

A statement on the 2017-2018 Fees and Charges is detailed in a separate Revenue Policy (Part A) document. The Revenue Policy (Part B) provides statements on the 2017-2018 Ordinary Rates and Annual Charges.

Operational Plan - Strategies, Plans and Project Funding Allocations	
G1.1.1	Completion of Economic Development Strategy (and Tourism Strategy) 2017-2021 and 2021-2025
G1.2.1	Implement Stage 1 of the Economic Development Strategy (subject to funding)
G1.3.1	Review legislated planning documents to ensure a variety of appropriate dwellings and housing affordability across the region
G 2.1.1	Strategy for the ongoing promotion, operation and development of livestock selling centres and Stage 1 implementation
G2.2.2	Bi-annual industry forums
G2.3.1	Involvement in Smart Cities, CeBIT, sponsorship of TechFest, support of UNE Incubator, promotion of Centre of Excellence in Agriculture and other opportunities as they arise
G2.3.2	Marketing support for new innovators from the Armidale Region
G3.2.1	Stage 1 of the Tourism Strategy
G4.2.1	Partner with the Chambers of Commerce and Locals 4 Locals
G4.3.1	Provide support for communities lobbying the government for mobile connectivity
G4.5.2	Stage 1 of the strategy with an objective of actively seeking out and encouraging businesses and organisations to locate their operations in the region be implemented subject to funding
G5.5.1	Develop a Strategic Road Asset Management Plan
L1.1.1	Provision of induction training, in particular online training and development learning for safety
L1.1.2	Provision of training, in particular business process training and development learning for software use
L2.3.1	Review Community Strategic Plan by June 2018
P1.1.1	Development and implementation of Community Engagement Strategy and Framework
P1.1.2	Council resident newsletter
P1.1.3	Advertising of Council corporate information eg Council News
P1.2.1	Community Panels
P1.3.1	Engagement Strategy implementation
P1.4.1	Formation of working groups for major issues and/or projects
P2.3.1	Develop a Crime Prevention Strategy in partnership with the NSW Police and NSW Department of Justice
P3.1.1	Deliver Arts & Cultural Strategy recommendations
P3.4.1	Develop Sport and Recreational Plan
P3.5.1	Establish a working partnership with Arts North West to investigate potential opportunities to support the arts across the region
P4.1.1	Deliver Disability Inclusion Action Plan
P4.3.1	Development of a 4 year Community Wellbeing Plan
P4.4.1	Kent House Community Centre and the Armidale Volunteer Referral Service offer a volunteer service and an information service programs
P5.2.1	Support the Youth Councils within the Region
P5.3.1	Develop a strategy in partnership with the local business chambers to promote social inclusion
P5.4.1	Support the Youth Councils within the Region to work with the Local Area Committees
E1.2.1	Promotion of New England High Country
E2.1.1	Identify community partners and opportunities to deliver educational programs to the community.
E2.2.1	Waste Services Guide, City to Soil Users Guide and collection calendars
E2.3.1	Develop Disaster Management Plan (DNP) for each Waste Services' facilities to ensure the sanitary disposal of General Solid Waste
E2.4.1	Development and implementation of a Sustainability Strategy for Council's Operations.
E3.5.1	Review the open space related Asset Management Plans and related service levels annually
	Total Allocation \$1.5 million

Next Steps

Council is required to adopt the Delivery Program and Operational Plan, Operational Budget, Resourcing Strategy and Revenue Policy by 30 June 2017.

Item: 7.2.11 **Ref:** AINT/2017/09456
Title: FOR DECISION: Making of Rates and Charges 2017-2018 **Container:** ARC17/1962
Author: John McIlwain, Revenue Officer
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

a) That in relation to Ordinary Rates, Council apply the 1.5% rate increase as determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal;

b) That pursuant to Section 494 of the NSW Local Government Act 1993, Council make and levy the following Ordinary Rates for the year 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018;

Category & Sub-Category	Base Amount \$	Base Amount %	Ad-Valorem Rate in the \$
Residential – Armidale (Non Urban)	485.00	45.69	0.002265
Residential – Armidale	467.60	44.18	0.004442
Residential - Wollomombi	200.00	39.99	0.013783
Residential - Ebor	200.00	39.00	0.008690
Residential - Hillgrove	200.00	34.91	0.014955
Residential – Guyra (Non Urban)	258.80	48.85	0.002374
Residential - Guyra	238.00	48.05	0.004271
Residential - Tingha	242.50	47.91	0.063788
Residential – Village	182.00	48.15	0.005061
Business – Armidale (Non Urban)	737.30	43.22	0.003518
Industrial – Armidale	882.20	19.70	0.011632
Business – Armidale	791.00	19.42	0.011632
Business – Guyra	409.80	48.07	0.007662
Business – Tingha	258.60	47.64	0.061599
Business – Guyra (Village)	106.70	43.17	0.003280
Farmland - Armidale	1,321.60	41.18	0.002170
Farmland – Guyra	468.00	19.74	0.002073
Farmland – Guyra Intensive	1,146.90	19.62	0.009099
Mining - Armidale	995.30	18.22	0.034081
Mining – Guyra	252.30	48.26	0.008717

c) That in relation to water supply charges and pursuant to Sections 501 and 502 of the NSW Local Government Act 1993, Council make and levy the following charges for water supply services for the year 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2017;

Water Service Access Charges	Standing Charge
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Water Service Access - Armidale	\$220.00
Water Service Access – Guyra	\$320.00
Water Service Access – Tingha	\$320.00

Water Consumption Charges	Stepped Tariff Unit Charge \$ per Kilolitre
Armidale Residential	0 – 100kl \$2.47 101 - 250kl \$3.28 251 & Higher \$3.73
Armidale Commercial	0 – 100kl \$2.47 101 - 250kl \$3.28 251 & Higher \$3.73
Armidale Non-Rateable	Flat rate \$3.43
Armidale Non-Profit Sporting	Flat Rate \$2.52
Armidale Untreated Water	0 – 100kl \$1.20 101 - 250kl \$2.14 251 & Higher \$2.63
Armidale Dialysis Users	0-25kl \$0.00 26-100kl \$2.29 101-250 \$3.07 251 & Higher \$3.72
Guyra Residential & Commercial	0-100kl \$1.65 101-250kl \$1.97 250kl & Higher \$2.08
Guyra Dialysis User	0-25kl \$0.00 26-100kl \$1.60 101-250kl \$1.90 250kl & Higher \$2.00
Tingha Residential & Commercial	0-100kl \$1.65 101-250kl \$1.97 250kl & Higher \$2.08
Tingha Dialysis User	0-25kl \$0.00 26-100kl \$1.60 101-250kl \$1.90 250kl & Higher \$2.00

d) That in relation to sewerage service charges pursuant to Sections 501, 502 and 551 of the NSW Local Government Act 1993, Council make and levy the following rates and charges for sewerage services for the year 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018:

Sewerage Service Access Charge	Standing Charge
Armidale – Residential Occupied	\$395.00
Armidale – Unconnected Sewer	\$197.50
Armidale – Commercial (Minimum)	\$395.00
Armidale – Commercial (Ad-Valorem)	\$0.0046

Commercial properties are charged either the Ad-Valorem rate or the Minimum if the calculated Ad-Valorem rate does not reach the minimum charge.	
Guyra – Residential Occupied	\$627.00
Guyra - Unconnected	\$408.00
Guyra - Commercial	\$627.00
Tingha – Residential Occupied	\$438.00
Tingha - Unconnected	\$135.00
Tingha - Commercial	\$438.00

Multiple Sewerage Charges	Unit Charge
Armidale Flats/Units	\$352.00
Armidale WC's – Hotels & Motels	\$129.30
Armidale WC's – Colleges, etc	\$129.30
Armidale WC's – Hospitals	\$58.00
Armidale WC's – Schools & Churches	\$58.00
Armidale WC's – Non-rateable	\$116.00
Armidale – Urinals Rateable	\$55.00
Armidale – Urinals Non-rateable	\$55.00
Guyra – Flats & Units	\$627.00
Guyra – 1 st WC/Urinal	Included in Service Access Charge
Guyra – 2-6 Urinals	\$264.00
Guyra – Each Additional WC/Urinal	\$138.00
Guyra – WC's Non-rateable	\$138.00
Tingha – Duplex	\$876.00

e) That in relation to waste management charges pursuant to Sections 496,501 and 502 of the NSW local Government Act 1993, Council make and levy the following annual charges for waste management services for the year 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018:

Waste Charge Description	Standing Charge	Unit Charge
Waste Services Provided in Armidale		
Domestic Waste Management 140lt		\$327.00
Additional 140lt Domestic Service		\$111.00
Additional Domestic 240lt Organic Service		\$54.00

Commercial Waste Service 240lt		\$320.00
Commercial Organics 240lt Fortnightly		\$121.00
Commercial Organics 240lt Weekly		\$173.00
Commercial Organics 240lt 2 x Weekly		\$277.00
Commercial Organics 240lt 3 x Weekly		\$381.00
Additional Commercial Organics 240lt		\$52.00
Commercial Recycling Service		\$124.00
Vacant Domestic Waste Management	\$111.00	
Rural Waste Management	\$109.00	
New Landfill Charge	\$150.00	
Waste Services Provided in Guyra & Tingha		
Domestic Waste Management 240lt		\$448.00
Domestic Waste Management 140lt		\$272.00
Commercial Waste Management 240lt		\$514.00
Commercial Waste Management 140lt		\$316.00
Vacant Domestic Waste Management	\$64.00	

f) That in relation to stormwater management services (drainage charges) pursuant to Section 496 of the NSW Local Government Act 1993, Council make and levy the following annual charge for stormwater management services for the year 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.

Charge Description	Standing Charge \$
Armidale Drainage Charge	\$50.00
Guyra Stormwater Management Charge	\$25.00

g) That the interest rate on overdue rates and charges, pursuant to Section 566(3) of the NSW Local Government Act 1993, Council be the maximum rate of interest payable on overdue rates and charges for the 2017-2018 rating year of 7.5% as determined by the Office of Local Government;

Background:

This report is to formally make the rates and charges for the 2017-2018 rating year in accordance with the legislative requirements. Once adopted the recommended rates will be applied to all properties in the Local Government Area.

The general property rates have been prepared in accordance with the Government's Merger legislation to maintain the rate path for the previous Councils.

Note that water and sewer rates are unchanged from the previous financial year resulting in a real reduction in water and sewer charges for our ratepayers.

Key Issues and Risks

Following a rate path for all ratepayers that is in line with expectation given variables in property valuations.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

Forms part of the IPR legislative framework.

Stakeholder Engagement

Revenue policy has been on public exhibition and several forums held with stakeholders.

Financial Implications

Forms an essential component of Councils own source of revenue.

Next Steps

Levy Rates and Charges 1 July 2017.

Item: 7.2.12 **Ref:** AINT/2017/09361
Title: FOR INFORMATION Third Quarter Review - Integrated Planning and Reporting
Container: ARC16/0006
Author: Nathalie Heaton, Service Leader Governance, Risk and Corporate Planning
Attachments: 1. 2016-2017 Third Quarter Operational Plan Review

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report based on the goals from the Delivery Program and Operational Plan be noted.

Introduction:

The document within the attachment is a report based on the goals from the Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

Report:

The *Local Government Act 1993* S 404 (5) states: The General Manager must ensure that regular progress reports are provided to the Council reporting as to its progress with respect to the principal activities detailed in its Delivery Program. Progress reports must be provided at least every six months.

Within the attachment is a copy of a report based on goals from the Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

Community Engagement and Internal Consultation

Responsible Officers were contacted by email to remind them of deadline for the report.

Financial Implications

Financial implications are within the report (attachment).

Good Governance

Complying with the Local Government Act 1993, section 404; Reporting on the progress of the implementation of the Delivery Program.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

Complying with Integrated Planning and Reporting legislation.

Sustainability Assessment

Environmental implications as set out in the Integrated Planning and Reporting documents are found within the attachment.

Item: 7.4.4 **Ref:** AINT/2017/10363
Title: FOR DECISION: Disability Inclusion Action Plan **Container:** ARC17/1504
Author: Jane Guilfoyle, Project Officer PMO
Attachments: 1. FINAL DIAP - JUNE 2017

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopts the Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP).

Background:

A draft DIAP was put on public exhibition for 28 days from 18 May to 15 June 2017. During this period four external public submissions were received. Comments were also received from Local Government NSW and Council's Executive Leadership Team.

Three of the public submissions related to aged care reminding Council that people aged 85 years and over have greater physical and cognitive impairments and should not be forgotten. The fourth submission related to fenced playgrounds. The Program Leader Parks, Recreation and Facilities has responded to this submission. One of the submissions suggested including a photograph depicting the elderly participating in local social support programs. A photograph has been included on page 18 of the DIAP.

Key Issues and Risks

Social inclusion is a right of all citizens and needs to be weaved into the fabric of our community life. Without a DIAP our business and our community may not have the parameters in place to guide the community towards social inclusion.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

The DIAP is linked into the IP&R framework. This is shown clearly in the DIAP. An annual reporting process will be developed inline with the IP&R framework reporting requirements.

Stakeholder Engagement

A comprehensive community engagement process was developed and delivered and this forms the basis of the DIAP Action Plan.

Financial Implications

A 4 year budget will need to be fully developed during the first year of the DIAP. Within the first year of the DIAP there is a lot of scoping of works which needs to be completed. Part of this scoping will be to identify an adequate future budget allocation.

Next Steps

The determination of priorities, the allocation of responsibilities and the identification of the necessary resources are the next key steps in progressing this Plan.

On the 1st July 2017 Council's DIAP can be found on the NSW Disability Council website [NSW Disability Council](#)

Item: 7.4.5 **Ref:** AINT/2017/10320
Title: FOR INFORMATION: Acknowledgement of presenters for Armidale Regional Council presentation to Telstra Corporation Board **Container:** ARC16/0146
Author: Lindsay Woodland, Group Leader, Organisational Services
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

- a) **Council acknowledges and thanks the Stakeholders and Businesses from the Armidale Region who participated in the forum and presentation to the Telstra Corporation Board and Executive Management Team at NERAM on 15 June 2017;**
- b) **Council acknowledges and thanks the Telstra Corporation Board and Executive Management Team for providing the opportunity to allow Council and our Community members to engage with them on their recent visit to Armidale.**

Background:

On 15 June 2017, the Telstra Corporation Board and Executive Management Team held their Board Meeting in Armidale. While not a unique event for the Telstra Board as they routinely hold Board meetings in regional Australian centres, their visit to Armidale provided a unique opportunity for Armidale Regional Council and key stakeholders from across our region to engage directly with the Telstra Board and Management Team.

To ensure that this opportunity was maximised, Armidale Regional Council requested and secured two hours with the Telstra Corporation Board and coordinated a forum involving a series of presentations from a range of invited stakeholders and businesses from the Armidale Region to discuss the opportunities and challenges created by emerging new technologies and the digital world. The participants also provided the Telstra Board with an understanding of the technology, smart community and ag.tech. initiatives already in place or being progressed within the Armidale Region, and to explore the potential to partner with Telstra to advance these initiatives and collaborate with them on future opportunities.

The purpose of this forum was to present our case for the Armidale Region as a highly attractive region for future technology investments and to create an environment for stronger collaboration with Telstra and other partners to better meet the technology and digital economy challenges that face our Region; leverage our NBN connectivity and progress other regional opportunities created by technological change; and to work with organisations such as Telstra to achieve our vision for Armidale Region to be a Nationally significant Smart Community, providing global reach and local benefits. Our goal is to work in partnership with organisations such as Telstra to create a stronger regional digital economy and build a technologically advanced community for the Armidale Region. The presentations were performed at NERAM by:

- **University of New England (UNE):** Dr Lou Conway, Partnerships and Business Development Manager, UNE Business School
- **TAFE NSW:** Jon Black, Managing Director
- **ICT International:** Susan Cull, Director
- **The Armidale School:** Murray Guest, Headmaster
- **Costas Horticulture – Guyra Tomato Farm:** Paul Andersen, Manager Guyra Tomato Farm
- **Regional Australia Bank:** Darren Schaefer, Chief Marketing Officer

- **Armidale Regional Council:** Peter Dennis, CEO; and Lindsay Woodland, Group Leader Organisational Services
- **NERAM:** tour of NERAM and hosting of the event – Robert Heather, Museum Director.

The forum and presentations were a resounding success with the Chairman of Telstra Corporation, Mr John Mullin and Managing Director, Mr Andrew Penn congratulating the presenters for delivering high quality and compelling presentations with enthusiasm and positivity.

Armidale Regional Council will continue to work with Telstra as well as other organisations to explore potential opportunities for further collaboration and to support the advancement of technology initiatives within our Region and develop Armidale Region's Smart Community Strategy.

Armidale Regional Council will also continue to facilitate these types of forums on behalf of the Armidale Region as opportunities with other visiting organisations, their Boards and Management Teams arise.

We wish to acknowledge and sincerely thank all of the abovementioned organisations and representatives for their participation in this forum and to the Management Team and Staff at NERAM for hosting the event.

We also wish to acknowledge and sincerely thank the Telstra Corporation Board, Executive Management Team and staff for providing Armidale Regional Council the opportunity to engage with them.

Key Issues and Risks

Nil.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

The progression and advancement of technology and digital initiatives aligns with Armidale Regional Council's Community Strategic Plan, particularly the Growth, Prosperity and Economic Development section.

Stakeholder Engagement

Key stakeholders from across the Armidale Region including UNE, TAFE NSW, The Armidale School, Regional Australia Bank, ICT, Costas Guyra Tomato Farm and NERAM, were invited to participate in the Telstra Board Forum and asked to prepare and deliver presentations to the Telstra Board. All stakeholders were positive about their involvement in the forum.

Financial Implications

There are nil financial Implications.

Next Steps

Follow up with Telstra Management and Telstra Armidale Office is required to further explore potential partnering opportunities to advance our regional technology initiatives and explore digital opportunities, and to assist in the development of Armidale Regional Council's Smart Communities Strategy.